

Duncan James McKichan, OBE (1942) died on 30th November 2013, aged 89. He read Natural Sciences.

Duncan McKichan matriculated in 1942, reading Natural Sciences, but left in 1943 to join the RNVR, where he achieved the rank of Lieutenant. Following his demobilization in 1946 he decided to study law at Glasgow University. For forty years, 1952–1992, Duncan was a partner, latterly Senior Partner, in Maclay, Murray and Spens, Solicitors in Glasgow. He was awarded the OBE in 1990 for his services to the legal profession.

For ten years, 1982–1992, he also served as Honorary Consul for Canada in Scotland.

A fuller obituary can be found in the *Scotsman* at <http://www.scotsman.com/news/obituaries/obituary-duncan-james-mckichan-solicitor-and-canadian-consul-1-3281833>.

Michael Barrie Mencher (1955) died on 22nd August 2013, aged 78. He read



English. His wife, Elaine, writes:

Barrie Mencher was born in 1935 and died on Thursday 22nd August 2013, just twenty-five days before our fifty-fifth wedding anniversary.

He was educated at Roundhay School, Leeds, and Downing College, Cambridge, reading English with F R Leavis as Director of Studies. After graduation he became a lecturer in English Literature at successive colleges of further education.

A superb teacher in his own right, he imparted his love of the English classics to successive generations of students. As one former pupil testifies, “No one who had the privilege of being taught by him could fail to recognise and admire the freshness and originality of thought and exceptional depth of understanding he brought to every topic.”

Another once said to me, “Mr Mencher begins to think where other people leave off.”

Barrie Mencher was a gifted author, whose novels and short stories reveal his keen eye for detail, profound awareness of human relations and fine command of language. He was also a talented critic, who produced an impressive body of essays on a wide range of subjects. His favourite author was D.H. Lawrence, on whom he wrote extensively. Much of this work has been published, and is a permanent and enduring contribution to the study of Lawrence.

He was closely involved with The Brynmill Press from 1970 and was Company Secretary, effectively in charge, for some years from 1992 onwards when otherwise the company would have liquidated.

He had an exquisitely-nuanced pure-toned tenor voice and sang operatic arias and folksongs. As a student he sang at Downing College Music Society, accompanied at the piano by his future wife. In later life, he sang as cantor regularly in the Norwich Synagogue, where he was President from 2003 to 2006.

With all these gifts, he remained throughout a gentle, modest, sensitive and courteous human being.

He leaves behind him, as well as grieving friends, a loving wife who thanks God for his life and deeply mourns its passing.

Dr Marc Moldawer (1955) died on 7th February 2007, aged 84.

Marc served in World War II as a US Army Air Force Captain and was later awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. After graduating from Harvard Medical School, he came to Downing, where he undertook postgraduate work in biochemistry. On his return to the USA he became the Chief of Endocrinology at Baylor College of Medicine.

Jens-Eirik Nergard (2004) died in January 2009, aged 26. He studied for an MPhil in Polar Studies.

Sir Michael Jon Neubert (1954) died on 3rd January 2014, aged 80. He read Modern Languages. The following is an abridged version of his Wikipedia entry http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Neubert:

Sir Michael Jon Neubert was Conservative MP for Romford from 1974 until 1997.

He was educated at Bromley Grammar School and Downing College, Cambridge and worked as a travel and industrial consultant. He was a local councillor and alderman in Bromley 1960-1974 being Council Leader for a time and Mayor of Bromley in 1972.

He contested the parliamentary seat of Hammersmith North in 1966, and Romford in 1970, before being elected in February 1974. From 1983 he held several junior government posts, and was Under-Secretary of State for Defence Procurement at the Ministry of Defence 1989-1990.

Geoffrey Nigel Oakeshott (1950) died on 22nd December 2012, aged 83. He read Natural Sciences, followed by a Certificate of Education. **Frank Weiss (1950)** writes:

One of four children, he spent his childhood in Chile where his father was a missionary. He spent his whole life as a teacher in New Zealand - except that after his retirement he travelled the world to anywhere there was a total eclipse of the sun.