

SPRING 2005

In July last year, our much-loved Life President, Linford Rees died after a long and distinguished career. His memorial service was held in November at St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge. During the service, members of his family took part and Mike Shooter spoke on behalf of the College and the psychiatric profession. Dafydd Alun Jones and I represented the Society. After the service there was a reception at the College, which was near to the Church. The service was memorable, with music playing an important part, and the many tributes reflected Linford's devotion to his family, his achievement as a psychiatrist and his links with his homeland.

This year much progress has been achieved. The death of our Life President, after many years' unstinting devotion and support to the Society, is a cue to think of the way forward at the beginning of this new century. Suggestions for a new constitution are being considered and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Johannes Thome has set up our website: - www.wps.swan.ac.uk It looks good and is very professional. It gives the history of the society and sets out where we are now.

The other major achievement is the planning and preparation for our one-day conference on June 10th. Keith Lloyd and his secretary Alison Lewis have done an excellent job. The theme of the meeting is Psychological Therapies in the Mainstream. It is a fitting topic. Psychotherapy needs to be promoted in a culture that emphasises drug treatment while the topic is also relevant to all psychiatric disciplines. The choice also reflects the Society's wish to be an umbrella organisation for all mental health personnel. The programme and an application form can be downloaded from our website. This is a watershed meeting and we want a good turnout. Slots are available – please phone Alison Lewis ASAP on 01792 602206 to secure a place.