

ROSAMUND IRENE MARGARET MACKAY

RHS Edin

Miss Mackay who had been Consultant Paediatric Surgeon at ~~this hospital~~ for 30 years, died on 7th August 1995, after a protracted illness.

Rosamund (known as Rosie to scores of her junior staff), was born in 1909 in Durham where her father was a general practitioner. She graduated from UCH, London, in 1933 and became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1939. Her initial posts in Edinburgh were as Resident Assistant Obstetrician at Elsie Inglis Hospital and as Resident Assistant Surgeon at Bruntstfield Hospital with Gertrude Herzfeld, who had encouraged her to follow a career in surgery.

In March 1940, she accepted one of the two posts of Interim Honorary Assistant Surgeons at Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, pending the "return of the Assistant Surgeons who were presently absent on military service". Rosamund continued in post, however, until her eventual retiral in 1970, working in both the Children's and Bruntstfield Hospital.

She was the third woman to be appointed as Consultant Paediatric Surgeon ⁱⁿ of the United Kingdom. She was a founder member of the Scottish Surgical Paediatric Club and of the British Association of Paediatric Surgeons.

She closely supervised all aspects of the care of her patients and her junior colleagues were often grateful to have advice from such a perceptive clinician.

At home she cared for her mother and sister, who pre-deceased her. She gained much pleasure from her garden and her dogs.

The other applicant was Andrew Lockwood
who was well in post until he joined the
RHS in 1942.