William Eldon Tucker, CVO, TD, FRCS

The recent death of 'Bill' Tucker at the age of 87 years has taken from the British Association of Sport and Medicine one of its last remaining founder members.

William Eldon Tucker was born on 6 August 1903. The son of Dr W. E. Tucker, England rugby international, he successfully followed in his father's footsteps. Educated at Sherbourne and Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, where he captained the University team in 1925 and later won three England caps between 1926 and 1930, he turned out regularly for Blackheath. He studied clinical medicine at St. George's Hospital and embarked on a career in orthopaedics.

He became Director of the Park Street Clinic in 1936 and ran this until 1980. His interest in sporting injuries may have arisen from the numerous traumas he suffered himself on the sporting field, and he wrote *Sportsmen and their Injuries* with his second wife, Molly Castle, the journalist.

He served in the Royal Army Medical Corps as a Major in the second World War and was taken prisoner at Dunkirk

and did sterling work for British POWs. He later joined the Territorial Army Medical Corps and served as Colonel in Charge of the 17th General Hospital.

He had a pioneering spirit and imported the first arthroscope into Britain. Amongst his most famous patients was Denis Compton, whose knee he operated upon at regular intervals, eventually doing away with the joint by arthrodesis. He finally returned to Bermuda – the island where his ancestors were sugar growers and whose main town is named Tuckersville. He saw his days out at his beautiful home on Trunk Island in Harrington Sound, in which he entertained many of his orthopaedic colleagues. It was only in recent years that his friends missed receiving at Christmas time the account of the year's activities written in rhyming doggerel.

A large, genial, always generous man with a kind, friendly and gentle manner, he will be missed by his many friends and patients.

Basil Helal

Last chance!

BASM's forthcoming Annual congress at Low Wood Hotel, Windermere in the heart of the English Lake District; includes the FIMS NW Europe Chapter, academic sessions of BASM and ACPSM and plenty of sport, including 10 km run.

A few places may still be available — minimum day fee from £20: board and food according to demand.

Urgent applications: Congress Organiser, Mr John Clegg JP LDS
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