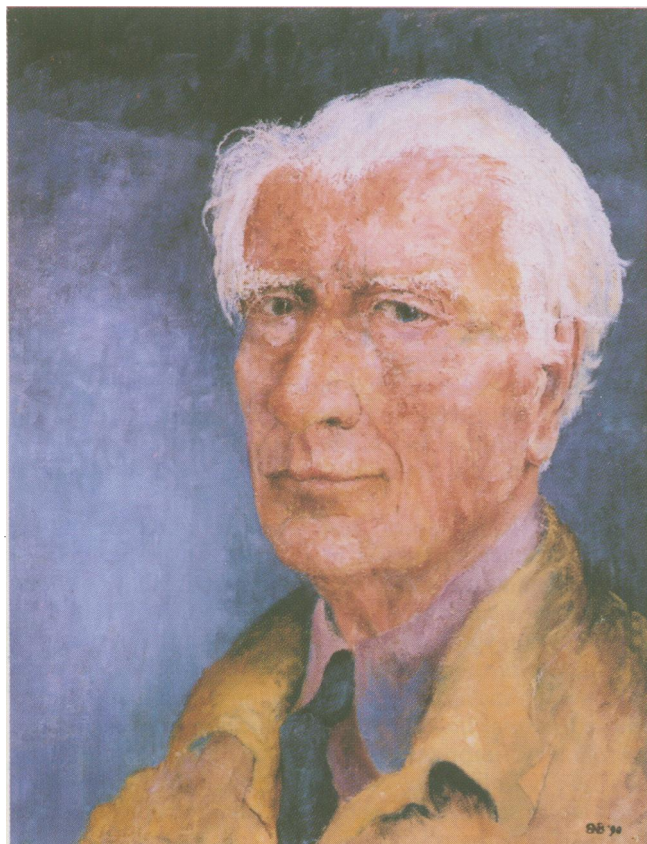


A PORTRAIT

Bryan Brooke



We reproduce a commissioned portrait with a difference. The Norman Tanner Unit of Gastroenterology has recently been transferred from St James's Hospital, Balham, to St George's Hospital, Tooting. John Kirkham, wishing to depict those associated with the development of the unit, commissioned this self portrait from Professor Bryan Brooke.

Bryan Brooke graduated from Cambridge and Barts in 1940. After military service in the second world war he was appointed senior lecturer in Aberdeen in 1946, and reader in surgery in the University of Birmingham in 1947. He was elected to the chair of surgery, St George's Hospital in 1963 and retired in 1976, having moved to St James's Hospital, Balham, for the last four years of his professional life. He has a zest and enthusiasm for life, coupled with great good humour. Seminal contributions to the literature include eversion ileostomy ('The Brooke stoma') *Lancet* 1952; ii: 102. He was founder, and president for 26 years, of the Ileostomy Association of Great Britain and Ireland.

He has held numerous one man exhibitions of his paintings and his work has been exhibited by invitation in Birmingham, East Anglia, Milan, and Sydney. Individual paintings in oil and water colours have been acquired for private collections in the United Kingdom and overseas and by various public bodies including the Royal College of Surgeons in London and Australia, St Mark's Hospital, London, and the RAMC HQ Mess, Millbank.

He has recently developed new techniques of pictorial creation using sheets of handmade paper modifying methods originating in Japan. This new art form *peinture en papiere* was exhibited for the first time at the Digby Gallery, Colchester in 1987.

The artist comments that obtaining a physical likeness in a self portrait is not difficult. The achievement lies in portraying facets of the persona which is seen quite differently by the artist in a self portrait than by those who gaze upon him.

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