

Dr Michael Scales

Colleagues will be sorry to learn of the death, in April, of Dr Michael Scales. The following obituary has been contributed by Professor Laura Stroud and Dr Scales' family.

Michael retired from the University of Leeds in July last year, after working in the Academic Unit of Primary Care for over a decade. He was very active in developing and supporting GP practice placements for medical students in Bradford and with his team, across West Yorkshire. As academic sub-dean for Year 5, he played a vital role in supporting students as they reached finals.

Michael was also a dedicated GP in Batley for many years. He joined Wellington House Surgery in Batley in March 1991, at which time he also became a Police Surgeon within West Yorkshire, which he continued for several years until changes to the provision of this service. As a partner in Batley he is remembered by his colleagues as a shrewd, skilful clinician who enjoyed keeping his skills up to date. He was instrumental in developing undergraduate teaching in their practice and was always keen to motivate his colleagues to continue learning. With his enthusiasm and skills as a teacher, he also inspired many medical students to enter general practice. His patients remember him as a kind and compassionate doctor, who stood no nonsense but supported them through their illnesses.

In recognition of his longstanding service, he received a School of Medicine award at the Professionalism Ceremony in October 2019.

Laura Stroud, Professor of Public Health and Education Innovation, said:

"Michael is remembered with great affection by many of us for his stalwart support, collegiality and humour. He was a wonderful colleague who was a passionate advocate for primary care and undergraduate medical education."

Michael had many friends and colleagues who greatly valued his insight, wisdom and ability to always see the brighter side of life. He leaves behind a wife Sally, son Matthew and daughter Hannah, of whom he was very proud and who in turn have been proud to share their life with him.