

# Dr Richard Bertram Coles OBE

## 27.3.19 - 29.12.99



**Dr Richard Bertram Coles**

**D**ick Coles studied at the Institute of Human Relations at the Tavistock Clinic under Michael Ballint and brought his interest in human relationships into his medical career. Qualifying during the war, he joined the troops after the Normandy landings and was one of the first doctors to enter Belsen and treat survivors.

He became consultant dermatologist in Northampton in 1958, setting up a countywide service and working there until his retirement in 1979. His observation of the emotional impact of skin disease led to him setting up group therapy sessions in his own home with clear benefit to patients with eczema and psoriasis. This developed into the Psoriasis Association, which continues to provide support for psoriasis sufferers and funding for research. He was awarded the OBE in 1987 in recognition of his work. He was a musician of great talent founding the Northampton School of Music, teaching children and adults to play instruments and conducting a number of groups including the Nene Consort of early instruments. His wife, Monica, his three daughters and one son continue the musical inheritance.

**Dr Kate Dalziel**

Honorary Secretary