



AUCKLAND MEDICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

THE JAMES NEWMAN LECTURE 2026

James Lister Newman MD (Cam) DPH(Eng) FRCP FRACP 1903-1983

James Newman's family established the James Newman Fund which generously supports the Society.

James Newman was born in London in 1903. Educated at Shrewsbury School, he was a brilliant classics scholar and left Magdalen College, Cambridge with Hons. National Sciences Tripos. After qualifying in Medicine at Kings College Hospital in 1927, he became a Visiting Physician in Chichester and was later given wartime responsibility for the Coventry Ambulance Services.

He emigrated to New Zealand in 1947 to the Department of Health in Whangarei but tired of the bureaucracy and moved to Green Lane Hospital as medical registrar, 1951, then Medical Tutor and Physician there, and later Medical Superintendent, Cornwall Geriatric and Green Lane Hospitals. He championed the cause of the elderly and became known as the “Father of Gerontology” in New Zealand.

For many years, James, was also Editor of the *New Zealand Family Doctor*, and wrote a weekly Medical Column in the *New Zealand Herald* until the time of his death on October 17, 1983.

He presented a number of papers to the Society, which is generously supported by the James Newman Fund, established by his family in 1984. His interest in medical history is given substance in his fascinating collection of old Apothecaries’ Jars which graces the foyer of the Ernest and Marion Davis Library.

