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EDITOR'S CHOICE



When it comes to palliative medicine Britain can hold its head high. Twenty one years after Dame Cicely Saunders's pioneering work terminal care became recognised as a new subspecialty of internal medicine, and there is now an association and a journal (p 874). Even so, knowledge still needs diffusing and many doctors who find breaking bad news to cancer patients

and answering their difficult questions a problem will welcome the how to do it feature by Maguire and Faulkner (p 907). And at p 927 Tony Davies, a Welsh gynaecologist, paints a moving picture of a slow recovery from personal tragedy. "While I knew how to treat dying people, I knew nothing about caring for them. I learnt as I went along."