

## Thomas Kilner – His Personal Life

Thomas (Tommy) Kilner was the son of a schoolteacher at Manchester Grammar School. He attended the Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School in Blackburn before studying Medicine at the University of Manchester.

Kilner was a quick-witted man, keen on photography, gardening, fishing and bee keeping. It is recorded that he would occasionally be summoned home from the hospital to deal with his bees which were swarming.

His family life was not untouched by tragedy. His first wife, Olive Brown whom he married in 1915, died following an acute abdominal emergency when their son Hugh, was a young child. Hugh (known as "Young Pomf.") also studied medicine, at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, before joining the Royal Air Force medical service. He died whilst on deployment in Egypt. Kilner re-married in 1926 to Florence Brennan, a widow with whom he had a daughter. Two further children, Peter and Michael both outlived their father.

He died in 1964 having stepped down from his Oxford chair in 1957.