

### **In Memoriam**

**John Michael Argyle,  
social psychologist, born 11<sup>th</sup> August 1925; died 6<sup>th</sup> September 2002**

Michael Argyle was a Reader in Social Psychology at Oxford University and a Fellow of Wolfson College. He was promoted to a readership and on retirement joined Oxford Brookes University as a professor. Michael Argyle was born in Nottingham, went to Nottingham High School and Emmanuel College, Cambridge and was a navigator in the RAF. He was a pioneer in the study of Social Psychology in Britain (his academic career began in 1952, when he was appointed to the first lectureship in social psychology at the University of Oxford). He has been engaged in research in various aspects of non-verbal communication and social skills. With a series of hypotheses and experiments to examine which non-verbal cues served which interactive social functions and how, Michael Argyle opened up a whole new field of inquiry.

He wrote more than 25 books on a wide variety of topics (cooperation, happiness, leisure, social interaction, social relationships, body language, gaze, mutual gaze and religious faith). Michael Argyle is the author of *The Scientific Study of Social Behaviour, Psychology and Social Problems, Social Interaction, The Social Psychology of Work, Bodily Communication, Gaze and Mutual Gaze* (jointly with Mark Cook), *The Social Psychology of Religion* (jointly with B. Beit-Hallahmi), *Social Skills and Mental Health* (jointly with P. Trower and B. Bryant), *Social Situations* (jointly with A. Furnham and J.A. Graham). He helped to found the *British Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*. He was the Social Psychology Editor (1961-1967), the editor of the Pergamon Press *International Studies in Experimental Social Psychology*. He was Chairman of the Social Psychology Section of the British Psychological Society (1964-1967 and 1972-1974). Michael Argyle was a member of the editorial board of Scientific Journal *Facta Universitatis* (Philosophy, Sociology and Psychology Series), University of Nis, Yugoslavia (2002).

Michael Argyle was a strong family man who enjoyed being with his four children Miranda, Nicholas, Rosalind and Ophelia.

*Aleksandra Kostić*