**The brilliant chemist who dropped out**

RICHARD Hilary Kemp, 45, died at his home in London, the son of an engineer. Described by his academic colleagues as "undeniably one of the most brilliant organic chemists in the world," he began work as a doctorate in philosophy, but never submitted his thesis.

He was educated at St Andrews, Pitt, and Liverpool universities, and graduated with a BSc, honours degree. He met his wife, Dr. Daphne Solomon, at Cambridge, and became attracted by the American's idea for selling homemade LSD.

He then provided the technical know-how, coupled with a driving sense of personal ambition, and a passion for the mind-disturbing properties of the drug.

Kemp believed that LSD, if used in an adiabatic controlled environment, could become a major industry. He devoted his entire working career promoting a "super" acid, stronger than any LSD hitherto known.

He discovered a unique process for making the highly refined drug, which he claimed was safer than alcohol, tobacco or aspirins.

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**OUTSTANDING**

Police who investigated his career at the two universities were unanimous that an outstanding career would have been his "forever after" if he didn't make LSD of 99.99 per cent purity. Even his intellectual fastidiousness prevented him from claiming total purity. Even Rome Daily scientists who initially liked the product professed this professional skill.

He was a direct descendant of the great master chemist, and a son of the great chemist. His lab was his life, his life's work. He was a man who was studying for a PhD.

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**ALSTON HUGHES**

Just at the time when they had seemingly established a viable drug in the profession, a chemical technician at the Hope Street department of Glasgow University, was found dead at his desk, apparently by suicide.

The suicide victim had been working on the development of a new LSD derived from psilocybin, a type of mushroom. The death was a blow to the ethical pharmaceutical industry.

AN ARMY officer's daughter, Christine Belt (22), was shot in the back at Richmond, Surrey. She showed her early interest in medicine, studying sciences at A level at the St John Leonas High School at Beecles, Suffolk.

Described as a conscientious girl who was close to her parents, Belt joined Cambridge University in 1966 and graduated in six years with degrees in biochemistry and engineering.

While at Liverpool she met the man who was to become her husband. He was a doctor at the University Hospital, her husband was the chief medical officer at the hospital.

A kind, compassionate woman, she supported her husband and helped him through the tough times of his career.

Police were touched by one of the last remarks she made after confessing her involvement with the drug. "If I don't suppose I will be digging my garden for a few years now," she said.

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**WHILE KEMP and Belt were establishing their own outlet on the world drug market, Aston Hughes had his own corner of the empire from his home at Llanddewi Brefi, near Tregaron, where he dealt with anything from cannabis to LSD.**

He passed hundreds of thousands of tablets made at the Hampden Wick factory back to London, even to as far as Portugal, and made his fortune from the venture.

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**JANINE SPENCELEY**

RUSSELL and Janine Spenceley were in partnership as the third rank of the drug distribution network, operating from their joint-owed farm at Maes-y-cribyn near Pancracy. Both admitted their part in the conspiracy to supply LSD.

Spenceley (28) was born at Chobham, Kent, and after studying sciences at secondary school went on to London University where he gained a degree in biology. He never completed this, and dropped out of his college after his first year.

He took several jobs, all self-employed, and occasional work as a builder,0 in London offices. He moved to Wales in 1972, after he had become part of the drug network, and set up his own business as a recovery agent, doing back-related work and supplying drugs to dealers and wholesalers.

**WARDROBE**

After a brief chat and a drink, they would go outside and the conversation continued. The transaction were the Black Sheep, Llanberris, the 600 Arms, Ruthin and the Three Cranes, Rhydymwyn.

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**RUSSELL SPENCELEY**

It was a good, conventional start to a promising career - one woman sailed with a blow as drug squad officers found 56,000 tablets of Kemp's LSD in his garden during the Operation Julie raids.

He admitted running a total of 12,000 tablets for Solomon in London, but did not get much more out of the deal. The LSD was a cheap substitute than the real thing.

He was well liked by his patrons, and was on the verge of entering a partnership with a new doctor before his role was discovered. However, he was not a happy man, although he has now set himself up in business because of his involvement with the drug.