

## THE PRESIDENT

Since the last issue of the Journal in 1977, the past President, Mr H. M. R. Watt, has been succeeded by Mr P. F. Howgate, who was elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club on the 21st November 1979.

Peter Howgate was born in Liverpool and later gained a degree in Chemistry at Liverpool University. His first hill walking and climbing experience was gained in Wales and the Lake District, starting in 1948 and his first visit to Scotland was in 1951 when he climbed on Ben Nevis and in Skye. He moved to Aberdeen in 1955 in order to be nearer the Scottish hills but also to take up a post at the Torry Research Station where he is now a Principal Scientific Officer. Fairly recently, his work enabled him to be seconded to Malaysia for sixteen months.

Mr Howgate and his wife, Pamela, joined the Club as Ordinary members in 1956 and quickly established themselves as active participants in Club activities. Reference is made to a description in the Journal, Vol. 17, No. 91, 1957, regarding a route (D) on Juniper Ledges, Stac Polly which Mr and Mrs Howgate climbed in July 1956 and which was believed to be a new route.

Peter Howgate was elected to the Committee in 1957 and served until 1959 when he was appointed Huts Custodian, an office which he held until 1967 and again from 1970 until 1972. He was, therefore, very closely involved in the alterations to and the enlargement of Muir of Inverey which culminated in the official opening on the 1st July 1973. He was elected a Vice-President in 1972, an office which he held until 1975.

Mr Howgate becomes the 31st President and his election is to the great good fortune of the Cairngorm Club.

## THE PAST EDITOR

The 98th edition of the Journal and the first of Volume 19 sees a change of editorship. The past Editor, Donald Hawksworth, was Librarian from 1969 to 1970 and Editor from 1969 to 1979 and during that time, he edited the four editions of the Journal which make up Volume 18. The Club is grateful to Mr Hawksworth for maintaining the high standards of the Journal, which is due in no small part to his intimate knowledge of the hills at home and abroad and also to his other wide-ranging interests which, in the end, persuaded him (but not the Club) that he would not do full justice to another volume. Club members will recall that Donald Hawksworth has long since reached the PM ('Post Munro') stage, as described in characteristic fashion in a joint article - CCJ, Vol. 18, 94, having climbed his first Munro in 1951 and his last in 1967, with all the 'new' Munros being added since then.

When not working as Music Adviser to Grampian Regional Council, Donald Hawksworth continues to be very involved in Aberdeen music-making — as conductor of youth ensembles, pianist and organist. Still he manages time for the hills and the acquisition of a cottage near Strathdon a few years ago, encouraged him to enjoy the delights of lesser known lower hills and to set off on his next target of Corbett-bagging. The present Editor, having drawn on Mr Hawksworth's editorial experience, has quickly extracted the promise of additional assistance in the form of an article based on his more recent adventures in the hills.

