

## IN MEMORIAM

The Club records with regret the death of the following members :

Mr Robert Bain (OH 1934)	Mrs Isabel M. Mitchell (OL 1961)
Dr Stanley A.B. Black (O 1965)	Mrs Brenda Nisbet (O 1968)
Miss Jean A. Callendar (OH 1951)	Mr Ian F. Roberts (OL 1946)
Mr George F. Collie (OL 1929)	Dr Richard L.M. Syngé (O 1953)
Mr Kenneth W. Fraser (O 1965)	Mr Alexander R. Willox (OL 1954)
Miss Christian Merson (A 1968)	Mr Colin Wilson (O 1971)

### ROBERT BAIN

Robert Bain was born in Crieff on 8th May 1903. He was educated at Morrison's Academy there and later at Glasgow University where he gained a BSc in Agriculture. On completion of his degree he worked for a short time as manager of a farm near Foyers in Inverness-shire, before moving into an estate management post at Chapel on Leader near Earlston in the Borders. He came to Aberdeen in 1931 to take up the post of Assistant Manager of Experiments at Craibstone where he spent the rest of his working life, rising to be head of the Crop Husbandry Department. He also lectured in crop husbandry at the Agriculture Department of the University of Aberdeen. During the war years he served as a captain in the Home Guard based at Stoneywood. On his retirement he moved back to his native Crieff where he spent the rest of his days.

He joined the Club in 1934 and became a regular participant in its activities. He was first appointed to the Committee in 1948, and a year later became the first ever Huts Custodian, the year that the Club obtained a lease of Muir. He continued in this office until 1959. When a further lease was obtained of Derry Lodge in 1951 he had two huts to look after. In addition to the normal duties of huts custodian he played his full part in the numerous work parties that were arranged in the early days to make both these properties more habitable. He also assisted with the reconstruction of Luibeg Bridge after it was damaged by the flood of August 1956. He was Vice-President from 1952 to 1955 and President from 1959 to 1962, and continued thereafter as an ordinary member of the committee from 1962 to 1964 and 1965 to 1968. Over the years he was a major contributor to the Club's journal writing at least seven major articles, most of them of a humorous nature. On his retirement to Crieff in 1968 he ceased to be an active member of the Club, although he did occasionally put in an appearance when we had meets to Perthshire. He was appointed Honorary President of the Club in 1989 and thereafter made a point of attending the Annual Dinner. His other interests included skiing and gardening. As a young man he played rugby for Glasgow University and later for the local Earlston team. He died on 18th June 1994.

G.E.

**STANLEY A.B. BLACK**

Born in 1909, Sandy graduated from Aberdeen University in 1931. He worked in the medical service in Nigeria, then became Medical Officer of Health in Shetland. He was a medical administrator with the North East Regional Hospital Board for twelve years before retiring in 1974, and it was during this time that his love of hillwalking fully developed. He served as Vice-President of the Club from 1970 to 1973, then as President the following three years. He was one of a group of enthusiastic 'Munro-baggers', including the late Kenneth Fraser, who thrived on the fellowship of shared interests and lively debate.

H.A.W.

**JEAN A. CALLENDAR**

Jean was a geography teacher who was able to say to her pupils, referring to many places in the world "I was there". She was an indefatigable traveller and had friends in several countries. She kept up an extensive correspondence with them, and a chance visit might well find her answering air mail letters, which were carefully filed in an old shoe box. A keen hill walker, she was a swift mover in the hills, but had to slow down after a heart attack. This did not deter her from giving the Club much needed and well appreciated service as librarian from 1970 to 1986. To quote from Sheila Murray's 1987 history of the Club 'This energetic lady soon set to work methodically checking the catalogue, disposing of out of date handbooks and other publications, selling surplus numbers of the Club Journal, having volumes of our own and other journals bound, and putting transparent covers on all new books. In an attempt to redress the marked drop in numbers of borrowings since the peak period in the 1950's, she began to take several boxes of selected or requested books to indoor meets in 1974. This service immediately increased the borrowings four-fold.'

J.C.A.

**KENNETH W. FRASER**

Kenneth Fraser was born in Coventry, descended from a family of Little Loch Broom. He worked for the Inland Revenue and ended his professional life as Inspector of Taxes. He had an immense fund of expert knowledge and was much loved and respected. He and his wife Isabella (Tibbie) joined the Cairngorm Club in 1965 and were regular and enthusiastic participants in Club bus meets and other events. They moved to near Perth in 1968, but maintained contact with the Club and rejoined its activities on return to Aberdeen when he retired. Kenneth took on the job of Huts Custodian in the days of the old Muir cottage, with its wooden annexe resembling Siberia.

Only he and Tibbie could have persuaded some of the younger Club members to sleep in the place after covering themselves with creosote, while trying to preserve both the annexe and the fuel shed. Kenneth was auditor of the Club's finances for a short period before moving to Perth. He was a good listener and became a voluntary visitor to Craiginches prison, an elder of the church and a keen bowler.

Many a Club member was made warmly welcome on their first meet by Kenneth and Tibbie, and will have happy memories of their good humour and kindly interest. They completed their Munro's together and celebrated the centenary of the Tables with other Club Munroists in 1991. Kenneth Fraser died in August 1995 after a short illness.

R.P.

#### CHRISTIAN MERSON

First memories of Cis are of a Ben Lawyers bus meet in May 1968. In those days the 'President's Party' did not exist and Cis asked if she could join our group. We were young then and saw her as a little old lady who would probably deter us from our intended exploits, but being good Club members we welcomed her. How wrong we were! Cis was a formidable walker and good company. She knew the hills intimately, particularly those of Don and Deeside and was happy to enjoy them on her own. In later years, when unable to come on bus meets, she was often seen awaiting a local bus after a shorter day out in her beloved hills. She died in February 1994 aged eighty one.

J.M.M.

