

THE PRESIDENT

Richard Shirreffs was elected President of the Club at the 1997 AGM in succession to Judy Middleton. He first took an interest in the hills in his latter schooldays, and after gaining experience with University musical friends, joined the Club on leaving University in 1970. Two years later, in a weak moment on the return journey from an overnight hill walk, he agreed to take on the secretaryship, a position which he then held for twenty five years.

He and his wife Gillian, who was President from 1991 to 1994, are amongst those who remember being on the 'permanent list' for bus meets before the booking system had to change. Even the arrival of their twin daughters (who are also now members) in 1976 did not unduly reduce their support for Club activities, though it took them until June 1994 to finish their Munros together on An Teallach.

The Secretary's role expanded considerably while Richard held that position, primarily with the increasing prevalence of environmental issues on which it was felt that the Club should express a view. As President, he is still the main compiler of submissions on such matters, with National Parks the predominant current issue.

