

## SHELAGH LAWSON

Shelagh was the third generation of her family to be a member of The Cairngorm club. She joined as a Junior member aged 16 in 1961 and was recognised in 2011 for her 50 years of membership.

Shelagh was born and brought up in Aberdeen, educated at the Girls High and then 'Dunf' (Dunfermline College- a specialist college for young people talented in sport or wanting a career in sports training). Thereafter she taught in various schools in Aberdeen.

Her sporting prowess was evident on the hill in her speed on ascents, always at the front along with Richard (Shirreffs) and Guy (Scott), also her fearless speed running down hills as well as her enjoyment of scrambling and some rock climbing. Shelagh loved being out in the Scottish hills and as a young woman spent most weekends with Cairngorm Club friends and her trusty Mini, wild camping in order to get close to the hills.

It was Shelagh, who with some others made Richard and I so welcome when we first joined, including us in the 'young' group. We were the youngest active members at that time and Shelagh was close to us in age. We had so much fun in her company exploring the hills and of course doing our Munros. Easter Meets were memorable not just for the walking but also the Scottish Country Dancing in the evenings - Shelagh directing those of us who were new to many of the dances. Laughter was never far away when Shelagh was around.

Her love of Scottish Country dancing reflected her passion for all things Scots, the music, dance, literature as well as the countryside.

Shelagh was a committee member 1965 -70, 76-79 and remained active in the Club until family and other commitments began to demand more of her time. However she never lost her loyalty for, or interest in, the Club and its activities. She took an active part in the original renovations of Muir Cottage and was a key player in the original Families week at Muir. Shelagh and I also used to enjoy having a day out when she was a very new mum, (Fred child minded), and I was ante natal. We would have a walk, meeting up with the bus for High Tea and chat with friends before heading back home.

Although ill health finally resulted in her having to give up walking she always retained her love of life and the countryside. She loved going up Deeside; she and Fred had a house in Ballater they visited regularly, she also looked forward to the week they had in Speyside in addition to various other trips to the west. More recently she turned her hand to writing poetry and was delighted when some of her verse was published.

Shelagh is survived by her husband Fred and daughter Jennifer – who continues the family tradition of membership of the Club. She is much missed by those of us who knew her.

*Gillian Shirreffs*

### **ANGUS MIDDLETON**

Angus was an Associate member of the Club since 1963. He was born in Stoneywood, Aberdeen in 1931 and after leaving school he started work at the Cooperative Drapery Department in Loch Street. Thereafter he went on to study History at Aberdeen University and subsequently taught History at Hazlehead Academy and at Summerhill Academy. Apart from hill walking his other interests included researching the ships built in Aberdeen and he was a member of the Aberdeen Historical Society. Additionally he was Canon and organ player at St. James Episcopal Church, Holburn St. Aberdeen. He died in 2011, aged 80.

*John Henderson*