

Riding of Yorkshire followed, but in 1967 they returned north to Aberdeen, where they both joined the Cairngorm Club.

Elizabeth was very involved in all the Club's activities; Ordinary Life Member since 1967 and serving three times on the committee, 1968-1971, 1973-1976 and 1977-1979. Her entire family spent many weekends and working holidays at Muir Cottage during the 1970s when Denis was Hut's Custodian. Bus meets were Elizabeth's great enjoyment, and she continued to join these meets for many years after her move away from Aberdeen to walk the hills in the company of her many friends who were Club members.

Elizabeth and Denis retired in 1984 and moved to an old croft above Beaully where they constructed an alpine garden, planted a lot of trees, and travelled widely in Europe and northwest America. Elizabeth cared selflessly for Denis throughout his long last illness, and she never lost her own youthful spirit, sleeping under canvas in her 89th year and still taking immense pleasure in walking in wild places and ascending modest hills.

Elizabeth died in January 2020 and is survived by her daughter, her son and three grandchildren.

#### *ERIC F. JOHNSTON*

With the death of Eric Johnston on 21 January 2020, the Club lost one of its most devoted members. Born and brought up in Aberdeen, he embarked upon a career in banking. This was interrupted by his war service; his spirit of adventure leading him to volunteer for the Royal Armoured Corps and to join the tank crews of the 4/7 Royal Dragoon Guards. His experiences of the D-Day landings were later to be the subject of a book which he wrote and were to earn him the French Légion d'Honneur as well as UK medals. He was amongst those war veterans who had their portrait painted by Catherine Goodman on commission from the Prince of Wales; this now hangs in the Royal Collection in Buckingham Palace.

Resuming his banking career after the war, he took a keen interest in climbing. On a trip to the Alps, he met his wife-to-be, Joan, with whom he had a long and happy marriage and brought up two daughters, Sheila and Helen.

His career in banking led eventually to Eric becoming an area manager with Trustee Savings Bank (Scotland). He did not allow this to detract from his passion for climbing and the hills. In the early 1950s, before he joined the Club, and when there were no organised mountain rescue facilities, he assisted in occasional mountain rescues which happened to be needed where he was climbing. He joined the Club in 1954 and evidently made an immediate mark, as he took on the position of Meets Secretary in 1956, serving in that role for eleven years. During this time, he helped with the establishment of more organised mountain rescue facilities. Later he took on the Club Secretaryship for five years from 1967 to 1972. But his service with the Club was far from over, and after two terms as Vice-President he became President for three years from 1982-1985 and Honorary President from 1994 to 2003; he was also elected an Honorary Member in 1997.

On the hills he did much climbing, including new routes, with other members, but he also enjoyed just walking the hills, both with Club members and with his wife and family. He also enjoyed ski mountaineering, an activity which he kept up even into his 70s.

### *EDDIE MARTIN*

Eddie was born in Middlesbrough on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1928, and brought up in York. He was a bright pupil at school, was a Scout, a member of the Clifton Church Choir and a founding member of York Mountaineering Club. Upon leaving school Eddie went straight into National Service after which he passed the Civil Service entrance exam and joined HM Revenue and Customs. Posted to Stornoway in 1949 he met a pharmacist called Irene who lived in the same digs, which they also shared with a young TSB banker called Eric Johnston. After Eddie & Irene married in 1952, the Martins and Johnstons were to become lifelong friends and between them they helped form over 60 years of Club history.

Eddie joined the Club in 1961 serving as Auditor 1967-70, Committee member 1978-80, Hut Custodian 1980-93, Vice President 1985-88 and President 1988-91. During his time as Hut Custodian, he was responsible for many exciting projects at Muir such as new heating, a new water supply and fencing off Pipers Wood. After passing on the baton of Hut