

In 1976 at the AGM Sheila presented to the then outgoing President, Sandy Black, a beautiful Presidential badge of office. The centrepiece of the badge is the club coat of arms with a Cairngorm stone above. Each president since then has been proud and privileged to wear the badge on formal club occasions.

As well as time at Muir with family and friends Sheila spent a lot of her holidays on trips abroad, usually cross-country skiing or walking, including trekking in Nepal. She visited North Africa, Australia, North and South America, the Azores as well as the many of the mountain areas in mainland Europe, including Switzerland, Austria and Italy. These foreign trips started in the 60's when foreign travel was a bit of a novelty. Nearer home Sheila completed her Munros on Ben More in Mull in 1985, being No 449 on the list. When trips to climb the hills were no longer possible Sheila enjoyed time spent close to the hills such as the one described by her good friend Donald Hawksworth in CCJ No 109 entitled "Gourmandising in Skye" where good times and good food was shared with Donald, Leonora and Gordon McAndrew and Alan Bell. In the same issue of the Journal is Sheila's excellent account of her trip to Cortina in the Dolomites at the age of 89 along with a group of Club members. Other interests included attending orchestral concerts in Aberdeen's Music Hall and Sheila was an enthusiastic supporter of the national rugby team.

To mark the centenary of the club Sheila took on the momentous task of writing a wonderful book entitled "The Cairngorm Club 1887 - 1987". This contains a huge amount of information about the Club and its place in the development of so many hill going activities, especially Mountain Rescue. The book is out of print but from time-to-time copies appear for sale on-line and in second-hand book shops.

Sheila often said that joining the Cairngorm Club was the best thing she ever did in her life. Those of us who have benefited from her friendship and appreciate her massive contribution to the Club could only agree.

Sheila died at home in April 2020 within weeks of her 100th birthday, those close to her miss her greatly. A life well lived.

NORMAN SHEPHERD

Norman was born in Aberdeen in October 1947 and died on 8th December 2021.

After training at Gray's School of Art he spent his entire working life in Aberdeen first working for Mearns and Gill latterly as Head of Graphic Design and then in a self-employed capacity.

Norman joined the Cairngorm Club in 1971 and remained a member until his death in December 2021, just after receiving his 50-year membership certificate. His creative flair provided the Club with many illustrations, prints and paintings, most memorable being the watercolour on the wall at Muir (1971), (see page 111) and his detailed drawing of the Shelter Stone reproduced in a limited-edition print run of 200 for the Club Centenary (1987), (see page 112).

Although active in the Club for a relatively short time he was a very regular attender of Day Meets with his friend and colleague Guy Scott. In the days before weekend meets Norman and Guy were part of a group who regularly went to the hills for weekends away, camping or staying at Muir or other Club huts.

Norman was also a climber and one of a group who helped several members reach the summit of the "In Pinn". Norman and Guy did much of their climbing in the early days on Skye and in Torridon, which became Norman's favourite place. They and two other climbing friends also went to the Alps where Guy and Norman were successful in climbing the Matterhorn with a guide.

On as well as off the hill Norman was excellent company, his quiet sense of humour never far from the surface, an excellent attribute on long walkouts or when the going was getting tough.

Although latterly no longer an active Club member, Norman continued with his love of the hills, getting out with his family and passing this love on to his daughters, one of whom is now Munro bagging.

Norman is survived by his wife Sheila.

HAZEL ANNE WITTE (NEE COUBROUGH)

Hazel who died suddenly on 16 October 2020 after a long fight with cancer, was born in Glasgow in 1943 and grew up in a Lanarkshire