

IN MEMORIAM

RICK ALLEN

Many worthy obituaries were written following the tragic death of Rick Allen on July 25, 2021, in an avalanche on K2.

Rick joined the Cairngorm Club in 1982. He was also a member of the Scottish Mountaineering Club and belonged to the Cosmic Hill Bashers, an Aberdeen based hill running club.

In her *The Cairngorm Club 1887-1987*, Sheila Murray wrote “*three young members have been preoccupied with serious climbing and more arduous expeditions to the Himalayas*”. The list of 3 included Rick. Sheila noted that all 3 “*will doubtless contribute more to climbing history and the next Club’s history will surely have further achievements of theirs to report*”: in 2012 Rick and Sandy Allan climbed Nanga Parbat via the Mazeno Ridge which earned both a Piolet d’Or, Alpinism’s highest honour.

Anne Cordiner noted him to be “*a quiet young man*” as recorded in Club Proceedings, CCJ 101. This did not stop Rick regularly attending Club Zoom talks and social meets and indeed giving a talk in May 2021 just a few months before his final trip to K2.

Rick died on K2 on a new summit route to raise money for the educational and health needs of refugees fleeing Myanmar via the Partner’s Relief and Development Charity.

He is remembered by those who knew him as an extraordinarily kind and generous man as well as a daring climber.

ELIZABETH HARDY

Elizabeth was born in Hamilton in 1929 and grew up in Falkirk and Edinburgh before training as a teacher at Moray House College of Education. During her student days she youth-hosteled around Scotland by bicycle and spent summers working as an assistant warden at Loch Lochy Youth Hostel in the Great Glen, a defining point in her lifelong love of the Highlands.

After starting work as a teacher, she met her future husband Denis through the Edinburgh Mountaineering Club. A brief sojourn in the East