

A Tribute

Lottie Gregory



From Dorothy Kelly

I always remember Lottie as a graceful, helpful person in my 30 years as secretary at the University.

From Mike Snell

I was impressed with her determination and thoughtfulness. It's great that she 'bagged' all the Munros she wanted to do while, at the same time, putting a lot of effort into ensuring the continued success of the group.

Ann Dunbar

Lottie was a very nice friend and very easy to get along throughout my years in Stirling Uni. She will be sadly missed.

From Bill and Valerie Inglis

Valerie and I have known Lottie since we arrived in Dunblane in 1971. We quickly learnt that Lottie was in the same class at Dollar as Valerie's bridesmaid Helen Muirhead. Throughout the school the girls were in a class labelled G while the boys were differentiated into A and B!

Then we got to know Lottie as Andrew's mother when Andrew and David became close friends early in Secondary School and of course they continue to be on excellent terms with both their families being in Manchester. Then Lottie became a colleague of mine in the Education Department as the Administrator/Librarian for SCILT (Scottish Centre for Information on Language Teaching). Finally of course Valerie and I have both greatly enjoyed the walks with Lottie which she has organised for SURSA with such ability and enthusiasm. Throughout, we have very much appreciated our varied relationship and friendship with Lottie and are very sad and shocked at her sudden death.

From John Stewart

(For the last 42 years, Lottie's sister-in-law has been our neighbour - and she has always spoken highly of her in all sorts of ways!) At a personal level however, I feel I only got to know Lottie during the last decade or so through the SURSA Steering Committee, and in that context I always found her thoroughly pleasant, well-organised, helpful, and supportive of what we were all trying to accomplish. She also seemed to have a quiet sense of humour, which is helpful on any committee!

From Eileen and Bill Kidd

It has taken a while to sink in, but today's walk was a timely reminder of how central Lottie was to SURSA as a whole and the walks group in particular, both as a member of the coordinating foursome and an enthusiastic walker, inclusive, leading by example and always happy to suggest a challenging variant on some familiar routes. We shall miss her.

From Angela Smith

Whenever I think of Lottie I think of her energy – I used to see her walking vigorously on the campus when she worked in the MacRobert, and whisking along the corridors in Pathfoot when she subsequently worked in the Education department. Her dark hair changed colour but was still so curly that it seemed to express her vitality. Before she became co-ordinator of the SURSA Walks Group she came on a walk and Keith asked her to lead it with me, while he waited for late-comers. It began with a climb and Lottie shot off, talking and laughing about friends we had in common while I puffed along behind her. On a later occasion she, Maureen and I were the only members to tackle East Lomond Hill, starting from Falkland. Icy rain fell and an icy wind blew – I tried to suggest that they, who were much sturdier walkers than me, should go ahead and climb the hill without me but they cheerfully walked at my pace and eventually we got to the top, though we couldn't stand up straight because of the wind. I was delighted to have made it. Lottie's characteristic kindness and thoughtfulness combined with her imaginative apprehension of what we could achieve as a walking group made her an invaluable successor to Keith Smith, who had started the group so successfully. We shall miss her wise advice at SURSA Steering Group meetings and vividly remember her vibrant presence as an inspired walker and a friend.

From Maureen Mitchell

A few years ago, Lottie invited me to climb West Lomond with her along with her teenage grandson, Duncan. In mixed weather, we walked from Falkland to the top of the hill and I was making my weary way back with coffee and cake in mind, when we came to the path leading to East Lomond. 'Since we are here', says Lottie, 'we might as well climb East Lomond as well' - and we did. For me this typified Lottie, there was always another mountain on the horizon, another challenge - whether it was teaching Spanish, teaching English to Syrian refugees, teaching Bridge, playing golf or climbing every mountain in

Scotland over 2,500ft., she always went that extra mile, made that extra effort. I will miss her kindness, friendship, enthusiasm and encouragement to do that bit more.

From Sandi and Ian Grieve

Our main memory, and our first memory, of Lottie was as an inspiring teacher at the Spanish classes we both attended. She was always good humoured, patient and encouraging no matter how poor our attempts at Spanish were. She made it fun!

From Alastair Duncan

She had always been so fit, and had such a pleasant personality. I was in one of her Spanish classes. She created a wonderfully agreeable, supportive atmosphere. We shall all miss her.

From Carol Salt

I will always associate Lottie with climbing the Munros and Corbetts. A few years ago she told me that I should not leave it too late to tackle the most difficult peak, the Inaccessible Pinnacle on the Cuillin ridge, Skye, ideally before I reached 60. I was getting rather nervous last year when I turned 60 and it was still outstanding. What a relief when I finally climbed it this year. In Lottie's memory I will climb as many Corbetts as possible but I will never match her achievement.

From Jim Valentine

My abiding memory of Lottie is a feeling of happy anticipation whenever I saw her approaching. She was so vibrant and positive and had a lovely sense of humour. You knew she would brighten your day.