

PARISH REGISTER

George Albert Livingstone. 1943 - 2007

The second eldest of eleven children, George Albert Livingstone was born in Dundee on the 12th January 1943. He was brought up in the Glenisla and Blackwater area and attended Ruthven Primary School. He then went on to Kirriemuir High School.

When he left school he began to work at the pony-trekking business based at the Glenisla Hotel. His father had been a first-class fiddle player and his musical gifts were passed on to other members of the family.

George received a classical training in the piano, although later he was to play mostly Scottish country music, such as Strathspeys and Reels. He played in the Mod at Strichen and received first prize for playing the piano. He was to win many trophies. While his father was alive he played with his father and one of his brothers at many gatherings.

In 1971 he married Mary and they had four children – Eoin, Murray, Valerie and Heather, who between them have twelve children. The family lived at first in the Bridge of Cally area and then in Kirkmichael. He took over the pony-trekking business at Drummore and became the pony-trekking school proprietor.

In 1973 he began work with the then Blairgowrie District Council, which later became Perth and Kinross Council. He was employed in road maintenance. He retired in 1996.

He will be remembered for his outstanding ability as a musician, playing frequently at venues such as the Kirkmichael Hotel and the Log Cabin Hotel. A very difficult piece called 'High Level' was his forte and he played it so well that he was known as 'High Level Geordie'. He played frequently at weddings, concerts, barn-dances, and the country dancing lessons held in Kirkmichael Village Hall over the winter months and also the Primary School Christmas parties. He was also a member of the Kirkmichael Village Hall Committee, and will be remembered as their great seller of 'Duck Numbers' at the annual Summer Festival.

The family feel very indebted to the nurses at Blairgowrie Cottage Hospital, who made his last few weeks very comfortable. To the family and all sorrowing friends we extend our sympathy.

Fergus McGregor Fleming 1930 - 2007

Fergus was born in the Glen in Leyhillock and lived and worked all his life on the family farm at Leyhillock and Coldrach, following on after his father and grandfather and generations of Flemings before him.

His education took place first at Blackwater Primary School, then Blairgowrie High School followed by a move to Edinburgh College where he studied agriculture. After the Second World War Fergus, as a farmer, was well placed to play his part in supplying food for the nation and its people and on the lower slopes of Mount Blair he grew oats, and potatoes and reared beef and lamb.

Always a forward thinking and forward looking man he was ever ready to embrace new ideas, techniques and labour saving devices into his farming business.

He was happy and contented with his life but never more so than when he was with his family. He enjoyed walking and skiing throughout his life but particularly skiing. The first skiing in the Glen was on Ben Gulabin with a tractor and tow rope and Fergus, keen to have a go, made his own skis from fence posts, even managing to curve the point!

This inventiveness was a trade mark of Fergus throughout his life. He even looked through the bags left out for the bin men in case Sheila had disposed of a rusty piece of metal which he could possibly use to mend something at sometime in the distant future.

Fergus was always willing to share his knowledge and ideas and was always ready to lend or assist with an implement, spanner or even a tractor.

Fergus was made an Elder about forty years ago and worshipped regularly at Cray and then Glenshee. Never one to push himself forward as a leader, he was a man you would wish to follow. Quiet and gentle in his manner, Fergus none the less had a lively and wry sense of humour and was respected by all who knew him.

Fredriksstad Mandssangerforening Choir.

Fredriksstad Mandssangerforening male voice choir from southern Norway, gave a wonderful recital in Kirkmichael Church on Sunday 8th September. With a varied programme of folk music, spirituals and Norwegian pieces ending with their national anthem. The audience was encouraged to join in with 'Go Tell It On The Mountain' and 'Swing Low'. Choir members were in formal dress brightened up with medals commemorating tours and special concerts at which they had performed. They sang almost entirely unaccompanied, allowing the audience to fully enjoy the interweaving of the different elements of the choir. Many thanks go to all who helped in providing and serving refreshments and of the cleaning of the Church the following day. Thanks also go to 'Something Special Florists' who once again gave the use of their large silk floral displays.

The sum of £335.44 was raised towards the on-going repairs to the church.

Like a Flower

Just like a flower in the garden,
I spring into action,
And then I wait and harden.
Just like a leaf falling from the tree,
My imagination is so free.
Just like grass on the ground,
I hate to be stepped on,
And left without a sound.

By Stephanie Curtis aged 11