

ROBERT E BUCHAN

Chairman 1985–88
Vice-Chairman 1982–85
Committee member 1982–95



When Robert (Bob) Buchan died suddenly on 3 December 1995 TAFAC lost not only one of its longer standing members but also a good, loyal friend and supporter.

He was born in rural Perthshire, near Madderdy, where he lived and farmed for most of his life. His great interest in archaeology began when, in Crieff, he attended some lectures given by (the late) Dr Margaret Stewart. This set in motion a chain of events, actively encouraged by Dr Stewart, which led to Bob becoming, in 1970, the founding chairman of the still flourishing Strathearn Archaeological Society.

From 1983 until 1994 he represented the Strathearn ward on Tayside Regional Council, where with great dedication and commitment he dealt with the needs and concerns of his constituents and also keenly promoted the cause of Tayside's rich archaeological heritage.

Bob was persuaded by me to join TAFAC in 1982 and from then he served on the committee

without a break until his untimely death. Along with his obvious enthusiasm for archaeology he brought his invaluable experience as a farmer and local councillor to the deliberations of the committee and could always be relied upon to provide sound advice and opinion quietly and with modesty. He was a most supportive vice-chairman to me during my chairmanship when TAFAC set up and managed the Lunan Valley Project. During his own period as chairman, Bob ably steered the committee to focus on important issues such as the archaeological implications of afforestation and to provide unified responses to both Regional Structure and Local Plans.

He was a generous-hearted, hospitable man with an outgoing and gregarious personality. He is sorely missed but will be long remembered with affection and respect for his contribution to TAFAC.

Lisbeth M Thoms