

The Honourable Miss Jean Galbraith

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the death of The Honourable Miss Jean Galbraith of Barskimming at the age of 96. Miss Jean as she was known to all was a great supporter of carriage driving, for many years as a competitor at driving trials with her Shetland pony Blackie and also in showing classes in Scotland.

Miss Jean was a great friend of carriage driving in Scotland and of BDS West of Scotland in particular. She was a very generous hostess, always delighted to host events at Barskimming, her beautiful family estate near Mauchline. Her delicious teas after drive outs at Barskimming were eagerly looked forward to with often as many 'foot followers' and friends coming to tea as drivers.

Miss Jean was a great raconteur with a host of stories and anecdotes about her life. Firstly as a small child at the family's estate at Auchendrane, south of Ayr and then after their move to Barskimming. Always a keen horseman Miss Jean hunted from an early age with the family's hunters stabled in a multi-storey hunt livery stables in the middle of Ayr. At Barskimming her sister Miss Heather and she became interested in eventing and to this day host an annual British Eventing trial.

During the war Miss Jean joined the WRENS and worked as a signaller. After the war she returned to Barskimming and helped run Barskimming for the rest of her life. Always keen to point out the hedges that she planted, or how after the war she cut the grass at the side of the drive into Barskimming with a push along mower which entailed pushing the mower for six miles back and forth Miss Jean was an entertaining passenger on a drive out at Barskimming. Miss Jean had an endless supply of tales about her long life and she leaves a great hole in BDS West of Scotland.