

Gladys Ethel Stone

Mrs Gladys Stone was elected a member of the Association in 1950. She served as Business Secretary from 1972 to 1976, and as a Vice-President in 1977-79. She was a native of Dorset and as a girl developed a keen interest in astronomy. Later she attended courses organised by the W.E.A. in Weymouth and conducted by Dr A. F. O'D. Alexander, Director of the Saturn Section from 1946 to 1951. She was of considerable assistance to him with research for his important book *The Planet Saturn*.

Until recent years, during which she suffered several periods of illness, Gladys Stone seldom missed a meeting. She was also seen at most of the weekend courses and out-of-town meetings. She was particularly interested in variable stars, comets and asteroids and contributed to the programmes of some of the observing sections. She was also a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and a frequent attender at its meetings.

Thirty years ago she came to live in Surrey and travelled daily by car to London for her work with the Inland Revenue. After her retirement she continued to live in the attractive village of Westcott until her sudden death in 1986 May, shortly before her intended departure to spend some time with her daughter and family in Canada.

The presence and tributes of many of her neighbours at her funeral in Dorking testified to the high esteem and warm regard in which she was held, and members of her family appreciated the representation of the British Astronomical Association by its Librarian.

J. L. White