

Mavis Melville Davidson (nee Gedye)
Life Member 420 Auckland Section
Joined: 1/1/1949
Member for: 55yr 4mth
Date of Birth: 10/2/1910 Te Karaka, Poverty Bay
Date of Death: 27/5/2004 Leigh, Auckland

Married William (Bill) Davidson August 1939 (died 1990)

Joined the army in 1942 and commissioned as an officer in 1943
Second in command at Palmer Head for Wellington's Coastal Defence.

Led the first all-women team to make an ascent of Mount Cook 6/1/1953,
With Sheila MacMurray and Doreen Pickens.

Climbed the most during 1950-56 often with Rodney Hewitt.
They worked together two books, the guide "Mount Cook Alpine Regions" (1953 –
was revised in 1972) New Zealand Alpine Club Inc., publisher and "The Mountains of
New Zealand" (1954) AH and AW Reed Publishers

Made the summit of Tasman via Syme's Ridge with Rod Hewitt and Priestly
Thomson

Made an ascent of Green 30/12/1953 (started from the South Ridge from Climber's
Col and over to the the West Ridge). Returning to Malte Brun Hut with Hewitt and
Thomson

Climbed the Ledenfeld Saddle to the summit of Elie de Beaumont 1953 with Hewitt
and Thomson

Made an Ascent of Haast from Pioneer Pass 1954 with Hewitt and Alan Reid

Won awards for her photographs (some in the NZAC Hocken collection)

Obituary in NZAC Journal 2004, pages 144-146