scanned the recently published Barrington Atlas of classical geography, seeking 'From *Vobrix* to *Sabrina*: objectivity and subjectivity in the identification of Continental Celtic place-names'. His prize exhibits were apparent evidence of a Celtic tribe settled in Morocco and a tributary of the Euphrates perhaps named by Galatians. Dr. Kay Muhr (Queen's University, Belfast) spoke on 'Surnames from saints' names in Ireland and Scotland', concentrating mainly on those in Gaelic *Mac Gille-*, many of which she found current on both sides of the Irish Sea so that it was hard to say where they began.

On Sunday the Annual General Meeting was followed by an excursion to the Anglo-Saxon burial ground at Sutton Hoo, partly guided by Professor Simon Keynes and partly by National Trust personnel. In the evening Dr. Paul Russell (Pembroke College, Cambridge) spoke on '*Cunedda, Briafael*: fossilized phonology in Brittonic personal names'. Dr. Máire Ní Mhaonaigh (St. John's College, Cambridge) spoke on '*Lochlann*, an Irish literary place-name' and its historical antecedents. Finally Mr. Peter Kitson (Stoke Prior, Worcs) examined how a North British dynast, likeliest the one called in Welsh Dyfnwal Moelmud, became a Middle Dutch Arthurian character '*Duvengael*'.

P.R.K.

Gordon Anderson (1922–2004)

Although he was not an onomast, our Society owes so much to Gordon Anderson that he well deserves to be commemorated here. As the husband of Cecily Clark he supportively encouraged her work on early English anthroponymy (see *Nomina* 15, 130–31); and he was himself treasurer of *Nomina*, and in charge of its production, for several years.

Gordon Rae Anderson was born in Aberdeen in 1922, the only son of Gordon Anderson and Margaret Rae. He was effectively an only child, having only a younger sister who died in childhood. In 1941 he entered the University of Aberdeen on a scholarship to read radio-physics, but already his heart was in English literature, which he studied on his return from wartime service in 1943–46 as a signals officer in the R.A.F. He then went on to Keble College, Oxford, for postgraduate work on Byron under Helen Gardner, and it was there that he met Cecily Clark through having digs in the same house. (He first won her affections by presenting her with an egg, of which he had, despite rationing, a good supply through his Scottish contacts.) After a brief spell as a schoolmaster, he returned to the University of Aberdeen in 1954 as a member of its administrative staff. Cecily's career brought her to the English Department at Aberdeen in 1957, and they married in 1959.

Six years later they moved to Cambridge when Gordon was appointed to a post in the Office of the General Board of the University. He enjoyed relating how, as part of their move, Cecily had brought her collection of rose-bushes southwards in a sleeping-compartment on the train. He worked in that department for fifteen years, and then as Secretary to the School of Biological Sciences until his retirement in 1983. (He later agreed, when it was suggested to him, that when computers came in he went out.) Gordon provided protection and support which helped Cecily to carry out the fine series of anthroponymic and other studies which belong to this period; and in the preface (dated 1969) to the second edition of her *Peterborough Chronicle*, Cecily wrote, 'To my husband, who allows one room of our house to revert to the twelfth century, my debt is incalculable'. His

lively appreciation of the absurd was a close bond between them; characteristically, in telling a friend that Cecily was taking part in an onomastic congress, he commented, 'It sounds like a sexual perversion!'—though he never showed apprehension in attending our own conferences himself. He remained in Cambridge in retirement, moving house after Cecily's death in 1992, but always retained his close links with Aberdeen and with friends from there.

Through Cecily's connection with the Council for Name Studies, Gordon became Subscription Secretary of *Nomina* in 1985–86, at the same time as an editorial team headed by Cecily took over the journal from its founder, Peter McClure. His administrative experience, combined perhaps with Aberdonian financial care, ensured the soundness of the journal's finances. He also played a major role in the production of the journal. Their home in Chesterton became the base for receipt and distribution of the finished volumes, with the two of them performing the considerable task of packing and postage.

When the Council became the Society for Name Studies in Britain and Ireland in 1991, Cecily was already terminally ill, but Gordon generously remained for a while as financial secretary for the journal, and continued to oversee its production until 1993. The Society's gratitude was recorded in *Nomina* 16 (1992–93), but it deserves to be emphasised here that his stoical and continued assistance, given at a very difficult time for himself personally, did much to ensure that this Society came into existence with a sound journal and on a reliable financial footing.

Gordon was a modest and unassuming man, so that it was easy not to be aware of how much the arts meant to him. In addition to literature, he maintained a close interest in painting and in music, especially opera; he was for many years treasurer of the Granta Opera Goers Society. He was also very active in his younger years, despite his lameness due to polio in his youth. He was a loyal friend, maintaining his interest in people and their news right up to the end: two of the fifteen guests present at his eightieth birthday party had also been at his twenty-first. He always retained his enthusiasm for Cecily's scholarly work, continuing his own active membership of our Society, and by a generous bequest to the University of Oxford he has created the Cecily

Clark Fund, for furtherance of research in the university (including the support of post-graduate students) in Middle English anthroponymy and related disciplines. The Society has lost a valued member and a hard-working supporter.

O. J. PADEL (with thanks to Peter Jackson).