

C. I. Farmer

1939 – 2001



The death occurred at the Erne Hospital, Enniskillen on the 9th of February 2001 of Charles Ignatius Farmer. Charlie was admitted to hospital shortly after returning from the Society's Millennium Study Tour to British Columbia and later underwent a major operation. Apart from a short break over Christmas and New Year he remained in hospital until his death.

Charlie was a native of Boho in West Fermanagh and was educated at the local Tullyholvin School and St. Michael's Grammar School, Enniskillen before taking up employment with the Northern Ireland Forest Service.

He was first employed in the local Belmore Forest office before gaining practical experience at other Fermanagh forests as part of the Forester Trainee Scheme.

He received his formal forestry training at Benmore Forester Training School in Argyll, Scotland from 1962-1964. On his return to Ireland he served as Assistant Forester at a number of forests including Somerset Forest in North Derry and Killeter and Baronscourt in Tyrone. In the period 1968 – 1972 Charlie was part of a team that produced the Soils Survey of the Forests of Northern Ireland. He went on to take charge of Gortin Glen Forest Park and later Kesh Forest.

As Forester-in-charge with the Rural Improvement Campaign he gained much satisfaction from carrying out the preparation work for the establishment of Florencecourt as a Forest Park. He then moved to Omagh to take charge of Tyrone District Harvesting, returning to Fermanagh in the mid 90's on promotion to assistant District Officer with responsibility for Establishment and Maintenance. Charlie remained in this post until his retirement in February 1999.

Aside from his forestry career Charlie gave willingly of his time and talents in the service of his parish and local community. He was a founder member and served as treasurer and administrator for a wide range of organisations. These included the local Gaelic Football Club, the Camogie Club, the Credit Union at local, regional and national level, the Board of Governors of the local school and the Boho Community Association. He worked tirelessly to establish a Cross-Community Hall and was proud to see such a centre open in 1999.

Courteous and diplomatic in all his dealings his death has left a void that is felt by many.

As a long time member of the Society Charlie was a regular participant at Field Days and Study Tours. He will be particularly missed by those who shared his company and valued his friendship on the overseas tours of the past decade. Those who visited him in hospital greatly admired his fortitude and calmness as his physical health declined. All his colleagues and friends greatly mourn his passing.

To his sister, brothers and the family circle we extend our sincere sympathy.

*No more to hear the linnet green
That wakes the groves of Boho*

T.W.