

In Memoriam

Shirley Shelton

Quota International of Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia

17 April, 2016



From the pages of our Quota Toowoomba club booklet, in Shirley's own words, "I was born and raised in Murgon in the South Burnett, I am the second eldest in a close-knit family of 7. I spent my years of secondary education as a boarder at I.G.G.S (Ipswich) and then returned to Murgon to work with my Father and 2 Uncles in a Real Estate and Auctioneering Firm. I married Neil –my one true love – in 1956 and we moved on to 800 acres at Hivesville, 23 miles from Murgon. We had Illawarra Dairy Cows and then added Braford and Droughtmaster Beef Cattle. Neil exhibited cattle at every show in the district and judged cattle at shows all over Australia and New Zealand.

Ill health forced our move to Toowoomba in 2002, so Neil could be closer to Drs and hospitals. Sadly Neil passed away in 2006 and I have moved to a small unit from our previous 5 acres. I joined Quota as a Charter Member of Murgon Quota club in 1984, transferred to Toowoomba Club in 2002 and it has been a source of great friendship for me. I have travelled extensively overseas and in Australia, but Toowoomba is now my home."

Shirley was a Charter member of the Quota Club of Murgon when it formed in 1984; and she transferred to Quota Toowoomba in 2002. So her Quota career spanned some 32 years of community service – a formidable achievement. Shirley was a true and valued member of Quota International, both at a District and at club level. Shirley always had a positive greeting and a friendly smile for everyone. She was a mainstay of our Toowoomba club – having been Club President, Chair of Development and Growth a number of times and an active recruiter of new members; a quiet but very supportive Vice President; an efficient Correspondence Secretary; and a great fellow worker for Quota causes.

Shirley kept us amused with her initial struggles with Microsoft Word tables as she took on the Club Correspondence Secretary role and mastered that drat computer! She looked fabulous in her Roman toga at our last District 30 Conference; she was fiercely competitive at our Aussie Day quiz; packed endless Christmas Cake slices for Meals on Wheels for a number of years; was a willing helper at decorating the Quota Christmas tree each year for the Christmas Tree Festival; sold lots of raffle tickets with Gwenda and Irene; reshelved school library books at Grantham after the 2011 floods; shared in the joy of donations to Toowoomba West Special School for flood repairs, to the GAP House for new linen, and to Careflight for care bears for patients.

Shirley always looked lovely; she shone in her glamour gear at our Melbourne Cup lunches; and yet she was prepared to look foolish in our social night games. Shirley had a great sense of humour and enjoyed wicked email jokes and cartoons. Shirley was always an integral part of any Quota activity or community effort – a quiet but firm member never afraid of stating her opinion but convincing with charm and common sense. Shirley was the essence of true countrywoman – practical, gracious, thoughtful, strong minded but tactful and always positive. She will always be remember, treasured and valued by her vast number of Quota friends – across the Quota world.