

Wed, Nov 20, 2002

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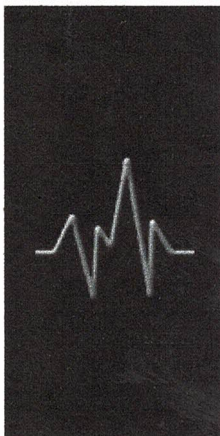
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NEWS

Sun, Jul 14, 2002

Audrey's life full of community service

THE death of Audrey Edmonson last month brought to an end a lifetime of community service.

Her friend Mr Alex McCullough said Mrs Edmonson had a great sense of humour and a desire to be of assistance in a positive way.

"Her membership of any organisation in the community was dynamic in every way," Mr McCullough said.

Mrs Edmonson was born in Yackandandah on April 5, 1930, the daughter of Ernest and Olive Arnold.

She went to school at Yackandandah State School, followed by a stint at the Beechworth Brigidine Convent.

On leaving school, Mrs Edmonson undertook a business course at Hassetts Business College at Prahran.

She then gained her first job

as a secretary with Tietyens, Angel and Jackling.

She retired from the company in 1949 after the death of her mother and completed the bookwork at her father's garage at Yackandandah.

As a result of her support of the local football club she met farmer Bob Edmonson at Tawonga and later married him, to live at Tawonga.

The Edmonsons raised a family of four boys and a girl - Geoffrey, Diane, Brian, David and Ken.

Mrs Edmonson's involvement with the Tawonga Primary School, brownies, cubs, guides and scouts created a hectic life.

Mr McCullough said that in the eulogy presented by a friend, Mr Bill Sutton, he commented that in her lifetime, Audrey "had more irons in the fire than any four blacksmiths".

She received an outstanding service award from the school mother's club and the Tawonga scouts, after serving as treasurer for 33 years.

She was also a member of the Red Cross for 20 years, following its formation in

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Tawonga.

Mrs Edmonson was the co-ordinator for blood bank visits to Mt Beauty.

She was an elder and parish councillor with the Uniting Church in Mt Beauty and a tireless worker for the church opportunity shop.

In 1978, she continued to support her husband when he became the Bright Shire president after eight years on the council.

Bob Edmonson was a foundation member of the UKV Lions Club and upon his death, Mrs Edmonson became the club's acting secretary, although she was not officially a member.

In 1988, she was one of only two women to be inducted as a full member of the Lions Club in Victoria.

In 1994 she received the Kiewa Valley Citizen of the Year award and in her latter years she took up line dancing.

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