

Obituary – Percy Hale Sheaffe - 14/12/1917 – 21/12/2008

Percy Sheaffe died on 21st December, just a week after his 91st birthday.

He was born & grew up on the Dairy Farm at Goonengerry with his 4 brothers & a sister, where they also attended Goonengerry Primary School, & Goonengerry Anglican church.

As a young man he took a job as a Truck driver for a local carrier before purchasing the local bus service. As he grew & expanded the bus service, Sheaffes Comfort Coaches, to become the second largest in the area, so did his involvement in & commitment to the communities of Lismore & Mullumbimby.

Residing & headquartering the bus service in Mullumbimby, he served this community as a member of Mullumbimby Municipal Council for a number of years. One of his initiated projects, with some prompting from his new City Bride, June, was to get the cows off the streets in town!

He served the community through Rotary from 1951, was twice President of the Mullumbimby club, District Governor on 1975 & a Paul Harris Fellow. When he was awarded Honorary Life Membership earlier in 2008, he held the remarkable record of 100% attendance for over 56 years!

The Sheaffe family attended St Martins Anglican Church in Mullumbimby & Percy was the first Lay Reader in the area.

Retiring from the bus business in 1969, the family moved to Brunswick Heads where his life long love of horticulture opened the opportunity to start a nursery & so Sheaffe's Orchid Nursery was born.

He was an active member of Lismore Orchid Society, founding member of Byron District Orchid Society, & a key judge in the North Coast area.



Percy continued to serve the community through Rotary, the Brunswick Anglican Church & Brunswick Heads Progress Association, to which he was also awarded Life Membership. Percy was key in implementing the Torakina Beach project & the Brunswick bypass.

Percy is survived by wife June, son Paul, daughter Debra Ferguson & 8 grandchildren.