

Jackie Mosedale

SI Yeovil, Sherborne and District

Jackie Mosedale is an enterprising woman of many talents. A registered nurse and Health Visitor she joined SI Yeovil (as it was then called) in 1978. She was soon elected Vice President (whilst working full time and with two young children), becoming President a year earlier than planned when the President Elect had to stand down. Whilst on a residential course she ensured she remained an active Soroptimist by attending meetings of SI Cheltenham.

She became Club President again in 1985 and continued to study part time for a BA hons in Sociology and Education, FETC and Health Ed certificates followed by an MSc from Exeter University.

In 1990 in spite of having sustained a severe ankle injury, requiring later surgery, she completed her sponsored walk on the Great Wall of China as part of her Club's 50th charter celebrations.

Having been Regional President in 1998 – 1999 she became the Region's first Councillor very ably and conscientiously representing the Region in this new and evolving role.

At the end of four years she was elected to the SIGBI Federation Executive Committee as Extension Officer for four years and became SIGBI President in 2009, a role she undertook with characteristic enthusiasm and commitment and, despite exhausting and hectic visits to many countries in the Federation (often requiring barely a night's turnaround before setting off for a different continent with time and temperature difference) with no thought of personal status or self-publicity which has endeared her to many.

It was a privilege to be part of Jackie's SIGBI Conference Committee in 2010. Whenever possible Jackie made herself available to attend meetings – by teleconference if necessary – to provide pro-active suggestions yet was happy to let the committee 'get on with the job'.

She became Club President for the fourth time in 2017 and has just completed two years as Club Programme Action Officer. In 2019 she shared the role of Regional President with four others.

Despite all she has achieved professionally and for Soroptimists, locally, regionally and for the Federation she has been a long-term volunteer with Victim Support, Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse teams – including work with children, only standing down when being SIGBI President meant she might be unavailable for urgent work and support when away or out of the country.

She was appointed a General Commissioner for tax and sat on tribunals until a change in the system in 2003-4.

She served as Secretary of Somerton Beekeepers Association for 13 years, was County Vice Chairman 2011 – 2014 and Chairman from 2014 – 2017. She was elected Vice President then President in 2019 for three years. In 2016 she was awarded the West Country Honey Farms Award for her 'outstanding contribution to beekeeping in Somerset'.

As if all that wasn't enough, she enthusiastically uses her green fingers to grow and sell plants for Soroptimist charities and, since moving to a former farm in Somerset has done her bit for conservation by planting over 60 trees, mostly native, and encouraged wild flower paddocks.

