Shirley Andrew

In 1985 Isobel White, Diane Barwick and Betty Meehan dedicated their book *Fighters and singers* to Shirley Andrew Rosser. Their words: '... who knows about books and cares about people' were an elegant tribute to both her professional standing and her personal qualities.

Shirley Andrew had a distinguished career as an editor. Her major contributions in the field of Aboriginal studies were as director of the publication section of the Institute of Aboriginal Studies. These were the section’s formative years; under her leadership it established its position as a leading international publisher on Aboriginal Australia. It also encouraged the work of Aboriginal writers.

After her marriage to writer William Rosser, Shirley lived in southern Queensland for some years and then moved to northern New South Wales. Throughout she maintained her professional interests, and in spite of serious illness continued to edit works for publication and to advise and encourage local writers. In this she made important contributions to local history. She also assisted Aboriginal researchers and organisations, continuing a lifelong commitment.

Shirley Andrew was for many years a correspondent to *Aboriginal History*. The Editorial Board has valued her expertise and her commitment to Aboriginal studies. It grieves her death in December 1999. Those of us who knew her personally will always remember her courage, integrity and grace. To her family we extend our sincere sympathies.

Isabel McBryde