

WE CHOSE OAK TREE

Moving into the Oak Tree Retirement Village at Toowoomba was a lifestyle choice for Stephen and Robyn Beasley who wanted to age with independence and dignity without placing a burden on their children.

Stephen, 70, and Robyn, 65, had lived in the same house at Gatton for 39 years and realised they needed to be prepared for the future.

“Both of our fathers died before our mothers leaving them all at sea,” Robyn said.

“We didn’t want to do that to each other, especially when our three children were living overseas.”

When Stephen retired from the Gatton Campus of the University of Queensland the couple were keen to downsize while they were still young enough to make new friends and embrace a different way of life.

They had been looking at retirement villages for quite a while and were impressed by the ethos of the Oak Tree group.

“We liked the mature way they kept in touch without hounding us,” Robyn said.

“When our son moved back to Australia and settled in Toowoomba it seemed the right choice for us as well.

“We waited 20 months for our unit to be built at the Toowoomba village and felt comfortable that it was going to be a smaller village, mainly for like-minded country folk.

“For us retirement village living is all about safety, security and companionship. You are not buying real estate in the hope that it will make lots of money up the track.

“Going into a retirement community provides peace of mind and, at the end of the day, you cannot put a price on that.”

Throughout their married life Stephen and Robyn had been a single income family concentrating on educating three bright children.

Their finances couldn’t stretch to moving into a smaller house for a few years before eventually going into a village.

“We could only afford to make one move and it had to be the right one,” Robyn said.



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