



*Vale*  
**Doreen (Joy) Lilian Lillico**  
*nee Whittingham*

**3rd December 1931 - 12th September 2015**

The funeral of Joy Lillico was held at the Kingston Cemetery at 3.00 p.m. on Friday, 18th September. The service was conducted by Joy's friend, Jim Kiernan and the following Eulogy was delivered by her daughter Jane

“Doreen Lillian Whittingham, affectionately known over the years as Joy, Whit, Mum, Nanny Joy and Grandy was born in Meerut, India where her father was stationed in the Air Force. She had five siblings and is survived by her older sister Evelyn, younger sister Shirley and half sister Maureen. Her other siblings were her two older brothers. She didn't have a happy childhood and wouldn't speak of it very much. When she was three her father's posting came to an end and he sent his pregnant wife and four children home to England and instead of following them he abandoned them. Thus the boys were sent to one orphanage and the girls to another. Mum said she didn't see much of her older sister because of the age gap. All she would say about this time in her life was that they were forced to drink the water the vegetables had been cooked in, and that she never had a new pair of shoes. The hand me downs when they got to her were well worn and too small. She had to wear them for a minimum period of three months, and those close to her know that her feet were quite deformed. She also said that they were evacuated to the country when London was being bombed in World War II. This was a period of her life she could share with her good friend Peter Guile as they both lived through the experience as children.

When she was 16 she and a friend left the orphanage and got a flat together. She worked at Selfridges for 2 years and as soon as they were 18 they enlisted in the Air Force as WAAFs and were trained as nurses.



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**ONLY \$190,000**

**“OAKLEIGH”**

Seldom does the opportunity come to buy a property in Rocky Point area. Large 5 bdrm house, 2 bthrm + xtra toilet. Large kitchen with pantry. Open plan spacious dining/lounge with fireplace. Grazing land for stock with a creek boundary. Sheds + plenty storage. Private and peaceful. Sea views. Approx 5 acres Great buying **Asking only \$445,000**

**LAND AHOY**

Elevated partially cleared acreage. Land area 9210m<sup>2</sup> (approx. 2.27acres). Rectangular in shape. Dimensions approx. 47m x 195m. Some stonefruit trees.

Private location down an easement off Stockyard Rd.

**MAKE AN OFFER - LISTED AT \$150,000**

**HOMELY**

3 bedroom timber clad dwelling on nearly 4 acres with lovely hillside & valley views. Large open plan lounge/dining/kitchen, high pitched timber beam ceiling, Norfolk pine features throughout the house. Main bedroom with Juliet balcony, walk-thru robe & ensuite bathroom. Approx. 2.1Kw photovoltaic solar panels on roof.

**Good Buying at \$330,000**

**PRIVACY PLUS**

Anson Bay - sought after location. Large family home includes s/c living area. Lovely Norfolk Island pine kitchen & floors. Fantastic orchard with wide range of fruit trees. Solar hot water and shedding. Large water tank.

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1 bedroom cottage, out of town, car port	\$130p/w
3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, garage	\$250p/w
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### ***Doreen (Joy) Lilian Lillico - continued***

Malta, Addis Ababa and Germany to name a few. She loved life in the Forces and told me that she would do Rock'n Roll dancing in her free time. After four years of service she and her colleagues were put into hospitals throughout London. She was a Theatre Nurse at North Middlesex Hospital when she met my Dad, Bill Lillico. She had actually been engaged before she met Dad, but his parents wouldn't let them marry as she wasn't a Catholic. Dad and his mates would ride up to the Nurses quarters on their motor bikes and yell out "who's coming out tonight?" They married in 1956 after a short courtship and had three children, David, Paul and Jayne. She didn't have a mother to help her but she did have Bryan Nunn and Lily Fowler who became our Godparents, but we saw them as our Grandparents as we grew up. They were a huge part of our lives.

Mum didn't drive in England and I can recall doing a lot of walking, bus and train travel. Mum relived her childhood through me. She made sure I had everything that she had missed out on. Pretty clothes, ballet lessons, horse riding and tennis lessons, excursions to the ballet, movies, museums, pantomimes and always had my shoes properly fitted. Summers were spent in Majorca at Bryan Nunn's family villa and she loved to sun bake and even tried to water-ski one year. We have some very embarrassing footage of her attempts at this. She was no good in boats and got very sea sick.

We moved from England in 1971 to Norfolk Island. We came out on a cruise ship and of course Mum was sea sick, so Bryan got her to drink brandy and dry and the rest is history. She still loved to have her daily brandy. This is also how she came to have the name Grandy for her great grandchildren.

She loved life on Norfolk. She fished, mainly off the top of Headstone and down the pier with us, played bowls for a while and later took up golf. She worked in many retail outlets on the island including Miltons, Franks, Max's, Prouds and Paton Place. She also learnt to drink wine. She became known as the last one to leave the party. This started at the Garrison Restaurant, Dick and Paddy Cavill would go to bed, leave Mum and her friends to lock up. They would write down on a napkin what drinks they had consumed and would rock up the next day to pay. This trend continued and she was well known in later years for being the last one to leave the Golf Club on golf days.

At one time, after she and Dad had divorced, she got a night time job at Hillcrest as the Hostess in th Restaurant. She worked alongside Tighe and they became life long friends. She told me of some of the nights when they would have to crawl along the floor behind the couches hiding from a certain party who would be trying to get back in to drink and hang out with them. Tighe and her current husband Rod also recalled, drawing the curtains, and switching off most of the lights after Rotary meetings with the policeman sitting outside to monitor whether they were breaking the licensing laws. He wasn't game to knock on the door and they would stay there until the early hours. Tighe also recalled Mum's older sister putting a notice in the Post magazine, asking if anyone knew of the

whereabouts of her sister Doreen. Mum wouldn't reply, so I asked her if I could write to my aunt, she said you can if you want. This led to me meeting my aunt and cousins in Chicago in 1990 and later in 2001. Mum was reunited with her sisters at my house in Glasshouse Mountains after not seeing each other for 40 years. It was like three strangers sitting there to start with, but Shane and I saw a bond form over the time they were together.

Mum also had a great friend in Helen Brown who she worked with in Miltons. Helen saved her when she got caught in a rip and nearly drowned one New Year's morning after going skinny dipping with a group of friends at Anson Bay. She was having the time of her life and I can remember her hosting 'Christmas in July' one year, it was very enjoyable. She got me to crochet 'Peter Heaters' for the male guests which caused a lot of hilarity.

By this time she had three grand children, Paul, Dion and Talae. They were her life and she absolutely adored them. She went on to have four more grand children but she never got to meet them as she was estranged from my brother David. She lost her son Paul in 1979 after a motor cycle accident. Her grandson Paul was born two weeks later and this is why they had a very special bond, as Mum said lovingly my son Paul saved her sanity. She did however, gain another son in Shane, she grew to love him and they had a very special bond.

In September 1988 she went on a 5 week trip with Odette Ombler. They had a wonderful time travelling through Europe and they even rode donkeys.

She introduced Paul to golf and she would sit on the Golf Club verandah with Mae Anderson and cheer him and Darren, Mae's son on. She was extremely proud when Paul won the amateur grouping in the Classic one year. I found a photo of her and Paul at the Presentation Dinner and she was actually smiling, which she wouldn't do for photos. She was there when Dion caught his blue Marlin with Ian Kenny and one of Dion's fondest memories is of the week he and Mum spent on Lord Howe Island together. He had spent all summer in plaster after breaking his leg, so Mum took him as a treat. Mum would attend Talae's gymnastic displays and gymkhanas with me and would be proud when Talae would win ribbons. Mum, Talae and Lizzie, her beloved dog, would take lots of walks through the Hundred Acre Reserve and along Cemetery beach.

She loved her golf and her and Mae's antics were legendary, being the last ones to leave and keeping the younger ones like Shorty, Richard and Brad from going home to their wives and families. My son Paul recalled that they would turn on the music, crank it right up, get out the pots and pans from the kitchen and the vacuum cleaner hose and form the greatest band in town. Some nights neither she or Mae could remember driving home. She was pulled over one night and asked for her licence. She rooted around in the glove box and gave them her electricity bill!! I know her dog Lizzie fell out of the window of the car a couple of times when she took corners too sharply.

*(continued overleaf)*

### ***Doreen (Joy) Lilian Lillico - continued***

Unfortunately, she had to give up golf once the pain in her shoulder and neck became a problem. She loved her garden, especially her roses, and would spend many hours tending to it until she no longer could, which wasn't until very recently.

Mum made even more great friends over the years through the Golf Club and her jobs. Paddy, Tane, Jim, his late wife Euleen, Margaret, Col, Kath, Sam and Anne and their families, to name a few.

She was always invited to family gatherings by Jim and Margaret and thoroughly enjoyed being with their families she had a real affection for Brancker and Oliver South.

Paddy Buffett was a great friend to Mum also and they enjoyed many lunches and shopping together. If Mum wasn't feeling well, they just went for a drive. Mum really got depressed after Paddy passed away, she missed her terribly. Rhonda and Cara, Paddy's daughters, took over from Paddy and was a great help to Mum also. Having my family and myself here in December/January gave her the pick up that she needed.

She could always rely on Tane to turn up with a bottle of wine and they shared many nights having dinner and many bottles of wine. The revenue at the Bond is going to be down considerably. Mum would send different people to get her supplies so that no one knew it was for her.

Mae's family were also very close to Mum and

Tania has always called around with magazines, treats and to have a chat.

She went on to embrace the births of four beautiful great grandchildren, Aiyana, Phoenix, Ivy and just recently Riva, who unfortunately she didn't get to meet.

She spent her days in the garden, playing Solitaire, Scrabble, doing cross words and watching quiz shows and sport. She would always barrack for the English, and if they were losing against Australia, she would blame the umpires. The fact that England retained the Ashes this year gave her great pleasure. She loved living on Norfolk. She used to enjoy sun baking and swimming in Emily Bay and we spent many hours there with my children, walking through Hundred Acres and the bridle tracks, and of course having a great social life. She has never felt the slightest bit Australian, and wouldn't get citizenship. She would always say, "I'm British" and that was that.

Her health took a down turn in the last month and in her true style of true British stiff upper she wouldn't let her close friends tell her family. When we did find out, it was too late for us to come to her aid. She hated anyone to fuss, but that doesn't make it any easier for us who have loved and lost her from our lives.

She was headstrong, set in her ways, but she loved her family, she was very happy to have had seen her great grandchildren, Paul, Dion and Talae in December/January and to have cooked them a roast lamb dinner

*(continued overleaf)*



**COMING TO NORFOLK ISLAND  
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***Doreen (Joy) Lilian Lillico - continued***

in her home. She told me then before I left, not to bring them back if she did pass away as seeing them while she was still alive was more important than them coming after she had gone. She was a loving Mum, Nanny and Grandy, a loyal friend, had charisma, a great sense of humour and would be the life of the party. She will be sadly missed. I deeply appreciate and thank all those who have helped her when I couldn't be here, and those who have helped me give her the send off she deserved."

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***Talae's Letter***

Trying to single out my fondest memory of Nanny Joy is almost impossible. She was a huge part of my childhood and I can't recall any important family times where Nan wasn't included.

As a kid there was always fun to be had hanging out with Nan. Whether it was swimming at Cemetery Bay with her dog Lizzie, being treated to a donut and the latest Arabian Horse magazine, or playing golf with her and her best friend Mae. I'll never forget one particular game where I was playing rather well for a 12 year old and Nan just kept repeating "who brung her?"

As I grew up my relationship with Nan changed and matured. At 18 the time came to introduce her to my now fiancé Jeff and get her tick of approval. Needless to say they hit it off with their love of a good glass of red and their mutual dislike of the Australian cricket team. From then on dinner at Nan's became about drinking wine and playing Scrabble whilst listening to Neil Diamond and his greatest hits. To this day, Jeff and I can't hear "Cherry Cherry" on the radio without smiling and thinking cheerfully of Nan.

Nan never missed a birthday of Christmas and she always called to chat on the phone in between. So when the time came for my first daughter Ivy to be born, to Nan was the first phone call that was made regardless of it being 5.00 a.m. From that moment on she loved and adored Ivy and was over the moon when we brought her over at 7 months old for a formal introduction and again last Christmas as a chatty toddler. Then came the arrival of my second daughter Riva and whilst they didn't get to meet, I know her Grandy loved her just as much.

Every time Nan and I have spoken over the last 2 years, she has never failed to tell me what a wonderful mother I am and how proud she was of me. That I will never, ever forget. I love you Nan and will treasure you in my heart always. You may be gone but you will never, ever be forgotten.

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**Thank You**

The family of the late Joy Lillico would like to acknowledge and thank the many people who have supported Mum and helped us give her the send off she deserved.

The Doctors and Staff at the Hospital for their care; the local Radio Station; the Sexton and the wonderful

volunteers who always turn up to hand dig the grave; the ladies who created the beautiful floral tributes and those who donated flowers from their gardens; the Hearse driver and the Police escort; the respect shown by the shop workers and the visiting bowlers; the Pall bearers and the Ushers; the staff at Photopress for the printing of the service sheet; Simone James and Milton Bradley for the music and sound system; Terence for leading us in singing the Pitcairn Anthem; the Golf Club, especially Aiden Bruce, Chris Magri and Richard Cottle for the fish fry, and all those who brought down plates of food; Louise and Jimbo for providing me with a car free of charge; all my friends and family for their love and support at this difficult time and mostly a huge thank you for those who looked after Mum when I couldn't be here.

One thing however spoiled the service. The Australian Navy survey plane flew right over us half way through the service and drowned us out. I would suggest in future that they contact the Radio Station and find out if a funeral is going to be held and when and I'm sure they could show the same respect and skirt around the cemetery at this time.

As Executor of the Will of the late Doreen Lilian (Joy) Lillico, please send any accounts for moneys owing to - Jane Buffett, 11 Outlook Drive, Glasshouse Mountains, Queensland 4578.

Email [Jaynebuff@hotmail.com](mailto:Jaynebuff@hotmail.com).

Thank you, Jane Buffett.

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**In Memoriam**

**Moyna Irene Craig**

*(nee Christian)*

6 : 11 : 27 (NZ) - 23 : 9 : 12

Sadly missed by family and friends.

Proverbs 31 : Epilogue

*The wife of noble character*

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