



### ***Franklin Ernest Randall - continued***

almost every corner of the home. This would then be repeated in years to come on both his daughters' homes.

His major lifetime employment commenced back in 1971, when he joined the conservation team at KAVHA. He was a key member of the Restoration Team, working for Skeet Anderson, then under Puss Anderson – with special mention of his comradeship with close mate Rug, and so many fond memories of all the Restoration Crew. It was here where he earned his name “Shanks” – with his employment continuing for some 45 years. He would often talk about the fun times had with all of his work mates down at restoration.

Shank's quick wit and cussard nature led to him being a master of nicknames, with no doubt plenty sullen here today - having the privilege of one - courtesy of Shanks. En plenty sullen gut one, en dem nor ewen know et.

Uncle Frank loved fishing with Bas, Darren and his mates. And always looked forward to their annual OVERSEAS trip to Phillip Island – and was an integral part of the building of The Hut and its many furnishings.

Whether it was carting out the sacks and sacks of fire wood (wink-wink), or heading round to the bond with a printed up “OVERSEAS” ticket, courtesy of Tan, for their 30% discount orf dems drink – there are just too many stories to share.

In the early '90s he spent time in Lightning Ridge in outback Australia. He often shared fond memories of the trips outback bush safari travelling with his mate Rug and Debbie-Jane, visiting places such as Cameron's Corner, Birdsville & Longreach to name a few.

On one occasion, Deb recalls being out where she was asked to leave the main bar due to her age, with her Dad having to take her around to the family-friendly section. To their surprise, the entire bar emptied out, following Frank and Deb, and joining them in the new section.

One of Uncle Frank's life's mantra was “do as much as you el, while you el” – and he practised this daily through his hard work ethic. He had such respect for his land and worked hard to ensure it was looked after and passed down the generations. Seeing him on a tractor slashing, on a bulldozer clearing land, with a mattock in hand, or trailering cattle were such familiar sights.

Uncle Frank loved being able to live off the land and held a strong satisfaction of Norfolk Islanders being self-sufficient. Whether growing his own vegetables or rearing cattle, stocking the freezer full of meat or plunting more than enough – then sharing it all around. He was generous to the core and would put other people always ahead of himself.

He could also be a hard task master at times, with high standards and expectations. Sometimes, you just had to be a mind reader! Whether it would be mustering a cattle, or on a work job, plenty sullen bin cetch et, “ef you gwen stand dere, du stand ena road”.

His dedication to Norfolk, especially public holidays, knew no limits, including supplying his neat and tidy wooden boat in perfect condition for Bounty Day and Foundation Day, corn planted the exact number of days to fill and decorate All Saints Church and other Churches for Thanksgiving Day, and 40 years of voluntary service at the cemetery, grave digging and so much more.

Uncle Frank's meticulous craftsmanship and leadership was recognised with an Order of Australia Medal, in the 2011 Queens Birthday Honours List.

In his true humble nature, awards were just not his thing. The nomination letter was left sitting around the house for weeks, in the end Kev and Deb accepted the nomination on his behalf and posted it off, unbeknownst to him.

The award quotes in part, “Mr Randall has contributed over many years to your way of life on Norfolk Island and has done so quietly and without fanfare...” He always considered this award was a team effort and it took some time and convincing for him to accept it.

Uncle Frank was blessed with 6 grandchildren, who he adored:

Tiana, Kyran, Mitchell, Daniella, Azziana & the youngest, Frankie-May, whom he was very chuffed that she was named after him. He loved them all, a true family man, they were his world, and he lived for them.

When retirement came in 2016 – this certainly didn't slow him down as he undertook a range of projects – beginning with the construction of Tanya's cottage followed by Puppa Will's Hutt. It also allowed him to spend time with his much-loved grandchildren, where he enjoyed showing them round the cattle, riding their motorbikes, tekking dem up Twiglets, building their glory boxes, plunt a corn, tekking dem lorn g f' hem orna tractor, camping and more.

One of his many pleasures was getting the family together f'cook up. Always the instigator – he firmly believed no reason was needed. Always prepared, dar blue esky on hand with the essentials - ready to roll at the drop of a hat.

Now, to a separate note - despite strong public opinion, we can confirm – thanks to Tan – as she du one bin usa cutta hair – that at no time any boot polish was ever used. All natural!

Almost anywhere you look around Norfolk, you're bound to see some of his craftsmanship in carpentry, shingle splitting, or stonework. Whether that's a house he'd built, a building he'd restored, a fence or memorial seat he'd built, or a pine he'd planted.

Uncle Frank's health took a turn for the worst in more recent times, with him passing away last Thursday.

Over the past few days, there have been so many funny stories shared – I'm certain every person here today could tell a story about their time with Uncle Frank that would bring a smile to your face. And we know this is how he would like to be remembered.

*(continued overleaf)*

### ***Franklin Ernest Randall - continued***

A proud and dedicated Norfolk Islander, loving and loyal family man, a Norfolk icon, a role model and mentor for many – and a friend to all.

Never forgotten - may he rest in peace.



### **Thank You**

Kevin, Tanya, Debbie-Jane, along with their families, would like to give their heartfelt thanks the following sullen for all their loving support:

- Aunty Bren, Uncle Bas & Aunty Sue, Mum & Bunt;
- Aunty Lyn & Uncle Rob;
- Kaye Rug;
- Raymond and Denise Jarvie;
- The Gatehouse Family;
- Rev. David Fell;
- Will Randall;
- The Hon. Justice Graeme Crow;
- Rusty;
- St John Ambulance crew;
- Kath Bowman and the Norfolk Island Hospital Doctors, Nurses and staff;
- The accomodating staff at Air New Zealand & Burnt Pine Travel;
- Auntie Edie Syd;
- The ladies who have created the beautiful wreaths
- Diddles;
- Tardy;
- Shane and the Grave diggers;
- Pall Bearers - Gadge, Doodus, Mattress, Zoob, Darren & Jay;
- Jodie Williams;
- Toni Wilson;
- Kelly, Megan, Livvy, T'Sharn & Mandy;
- George Douran;
- Chris & Darls for providing the sound;
- Lizzy McCoy and the RSL Women's Auxiliary;
- President Luke Howlett and the RSL Club;

- Wayne Bedford;
- To all who visited or contacted Dad whilst in the Prince of Wales Hospital;
- The staff from the Prince of Wales Hospital who were absolutely amazing;
- Friends and family who have traveled many miles to be with us at this time, we are truly humbled;
- To all dem caring sullen who have showered us with love, support and who have sent condolences, flowers, and sweet wettles - we are so very thankful;
- To those who have posted the beautiful messages on social media, have sent cards, and made phone calls, your kind thoughts and reflections have been so much appreciated.

To know how much our dad has touched the hearts of so many is a fantastic tribute to his life.

### ***In Memoriam***

### **Franklin Randall OAM**

As Chair of the KAVHA Advisory Committee, and on behalf of KAVHA staff and committee members past and present, I pass on our respects to Franklin Randall's family at his passing.

Franklin was passionate about the care and preservation of KAVHA. He started at KAVHA in 1971 as a carpenter, and was promoted to foreman in 1978. In 2011 he was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for his services to KAVHA following more than 40 years with the restoration team. The medal citation read, "For service to the community of Norfolk Island, particularly through the preservation of the Kingston and Arthur's Vale historic capital area".

Franklin was a true gentleman. His workmanship and dedication to Norfolk Island's history and culture was from the heart, something for which we are all grateful.

*Eric Hutchinson*

*Chair, KAVHA Advisory Committee*

*August 2019*

