



Vale
John Fraser

John Fraser, known affectionately to us all as Jack was born in County Carlow in the south of Ireland and was the second eldest of seven children.

He lived his first 17 years in Ireland and did all his schooling there being taught by the Catholic nuns. He then migrated to England with his Mum and siblings where his father had gone earlier to seek work.

His first job in England was as a stoker on the steam trains and when he applied for the job at British Rail

the boss said sorry son you are not old enough to work for the railways, you have to be at least 16. Jack was not impressed when he had to produce his Birth Certificate to get the job but get it he did and enjoyed many years with British Rail working out of the sheds at Crewe where his family had settled.

One night whilst out with his family in England after they had all watched a video of Australia featuring Bondi Beach they decided to migrate to Australia where they thought it would be a beautiful place to live. After saving all his money for a year Jack, his wife and 2 sons were the only ones who eventually made it out.

He worked at many varied jobs in Australia including that of Garbo and finally came to live on Norfolk Island where he first worked on the roads with some real tricksters naming a few, Chris Pedel, Tardy, Snitch, Max Hobbins and Paw Paw. It is hard to believe he stayed after some of the tricks they played on him but he is Irish what would you expect.

He then went to work at the Bond Store with Dougie Jackson and Sybie. During the week he was in the storeroom and on Saturday mornings he would work in the shop. A lot of people left their trip to the Bond for when Jack was out front just to hear him laugh and tell a joke or two.

(continued overleaf)



Social

Cuban Salsa Dance

Classes

We are back! – incorporating social distancing

Dani will be providing a modified dance program for people of all ages and abilities.

Wear comfy shoes and bring your water bottle.

Note change in day, time and venue.



When: **Saturdays, 4pm – 5pm**

Where: **Kingston Compound**

Cost: **\$5/person**

All dances will be solo, no contact.



*For more information contact Karen Innes-Walker,
Health and Wellbeing Coordinator
on 53969 or karen.walker@hospital.gov.nf*

John Fraser - continued

There was one Kiwi lady who used to ask him for sex bottles of red wine and sex bottles of white wine and he teased her so much in the end she used to ask for either five or seven.....never sex

Jack was a staunch member of the leagues club for many years and was Manager of the team on some of their trips away where I am sure they got up to more mischief than football.

Jack then joined the Bowling Club where there was more mischief to be had with Coop, Rowdy, Goof, Gary Ryan, Spindles, Dan Yager and Dave Smith and at one time despite all the mischief, Jack was the best lead in the club. He also served as President for a time and was very passionate about the game and was a stickler regarding the dress code. No-one dare wear the wrong colour cap or he would soon let them know.

IN 1989 Jack went to Lord Howe Island to play in the quadrangular where he met Marg and by 1992 had finally convinced her he was the love of her life and she should come to live with him on Norfolk, smooth talking Irishman that he was she came but he did get barred from Lord Howe for poaching.

Together they set up what is now known as Greenhaven Palm Nurseries where they propagated our local kentia palm seed and sold them all over the world including Holland, Spain, Belgium, Canary Islands, America and South Africa.

Because of the strict quarantine rules getting plants into New Zealand Jack overcame the problem by building his own certified quarantine green house and successfully sent many plants to growers in New Zealand.

Over the years Jack and Marg travelled extensively and met all the growers who up until then had only been a voice at the other end of the phone and they saw their palms growing and thriving all over the world. The only place Jack didn't manage to get to was South Africa but I am sure his palms are thriving there also.

Jack retired around 4 years ago but was still quite active . He would go for his walk every morning come rain hail or shine down to the Bowlo for a cuppa with his mates and always had a wave and smile for everyone who didn't run him over on the road.

He would always stop to chat with any visitors out walking and tell them the best places to go and always told them the very best place on the Island to eat was at the Bowlo.

Jack loved to garden and he would grow some amazing vegies and some not so amazing because he believed a meal wasn't complete without at least four or five vegies on the plate.

Jack is survived by his 2 sons Ian and Andrew and 2 grandchildren Abby and Sean who all live in Sydney and are so sorry not to be here today because of the covid19 virus

Jack will be sadly missed not only here on Norfolk but by his family in Ireland, England and America.

Thank You

Marg and all Jack's family would like to sincerely thank Mat Reeves who has been my rock, a big man with an even bigger heart. Matty, I could not have coped without you.

Two Amazing policemen who went above and beyond their duty to ease my burden..... Josh and Brad.....Thank You

The paramedics who worked so hard to try and bring Jack back to me.

Tardy for driving Jack safely to his final resting place.

Shane Quintal for all his help.

The pallbearers - Mat, Ernie, Culla and Spindles.

Moochie for reading the eulogy.

David Buffett for conducting the service.

The grave diggers, the ladies for the beautiful flowers.

Milton Bradley for the sound system and Sim for supplying the music.

To all the wonderful people who rang, sent cards and flowers.

Dave and Kate Smith for driving me to Jack's final resting place.

Nancy, Jackie and Joybel for handing out the service sheets.

Your support has been overwhelming. I have always known that Norfolk was a very special place and this has really brought it home to me. Words fail me I just don't know how to thank you all. GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

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SLOW DOWN FOR HORSES!**