



Vale
Ken Nobbs
'Plunny'

10th April 1938 - 20th October 2017

It will be difficult to express in a few words the history of this remarkable man – his journey through life was to take him to incredible heights and lows and to relate to them all at this time would be impossible.

Kenneth John Nobbs was born on Norfolk Island on the 10th April 1938 – he was 79 years of age. He apparently later decided to add John as his middle name just because he didn't have one!

Ken was the 6th child from Dick and Girlie Nobbs and with the exception of a few years away from Norfolk for education and work he lived most of his life here on this beautiful Island which was to him the greatest place on earth and a place he treasured dearly – he continuously campaigned for the rights of the Norfolk Island people and was deeply saddened and disappointed at the changes that have occurred, particularly in the last two years.

Ken's early education was on Norfolk but Girlie decided that Ken should be given the opportunity for a better education and to achieve this she sold one of Dick's horses to raise the money to send Ken away to NZ to study at Longburn Seventh Day Adventist College in Palmerston North – it was here he was to meet Ray Sills, a person who was to become one of Ken's many life long friends.

There may have been other reasons that Ken was the only one of her seven children selected to be educated away from Norfolk.

Ken loved to party – he loved music and his vacant place in the church choir and in the Nobb's band will be sorely missed - Girlie often said - how one night when Ken still lived at home, Steve his elder brother, pulled a horse up under the boys bedroom window and helped Ken sneak out to a dance.

When Girlie found out he had gone she was so angry she ripped a piece of weatherboard of the side of the house and waited on the back step for him to come home and "catch a flog"

One of the most important times of Ken's life was when he graduated from College with an Accountancy Degree and was offered employment in New Guinea which saw him become Post Master in Mt Hagen and
(continued overleaf)



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'Plunny' - continued

later at Madang. It was during this time that he met and married Pam.

They had two children Debbie and Tony who in turn provided 6 grandchildren Larrin Jake, Kaitlin, Matt, Royce and Rogey and one great grand child Nate.

Ken brought his family home in 1964 and from then on he was to become a driving force in this community, some of you may not have shared Ken's views but he never denied your right to oppose him – but you had better have a good argument ready if you did.

Ken was elected to the old NI Advisory Council and it was during this time he realised how unjust and wrong the system of administration was at that time. Ken was to dedicate the remainder of his life with the aim to return democracy to Norfolk.

He together with others started the Society of the Pitcairn Settlers to further this objective. He was fundamental in bringing the injustices of the system to the attention of the United Nations.

Ken was a foundation member of Rotary on Norfolk.

He was involved and initiated many new business's and supported Norfolk's fledgling tourist industry. He established one of the first duty free stores "Goodlines" later to become "Cameralines" with his long time friend Harold Goodman.

My association with Ken started in 1966 when Peter Kerrish was appointed Travel Manager with Burns Philp. Peter and Ken were to become life long friends and I was privileged to have been part of that relationship – Ken was a great traveller and his experience was invaluable when he was appointed Chairman of the NIGTB Board when I was CEO in 1990.

Ken made many friends in aviation, in particular Don Reidpath whom Ken met when Don flew a chartered aircraft through Norfolk. Don and his family moved to Norfolk and was to become partners with Ken and supported Ken's love of photography and filming.

Ken made friends with many crew members of Qantas and many kept in touch with Ken - Aden Wicks, Bill, Robbie and many others. He made life long friends in other areas – Ken Herford and Joe Langley from AMP Insurance.

Ken was involved in a number of important developments on Norfolk. He helped inaugurate the Country Music festival - with his long time friend and associate Geoff Bennett they established "Norfolk Mall".

To the great pleasure of his mother, Ken was also to become actively involved in the SD religioand served his faith well.

After Debbie and Tony reached adulthood Pam and Ken decided to take separate paths – Ken was later to remarry and Barbara was to become his partner and friend and carer.

In recent years Ken was diagnosed with early stages of dementia a cruel blow to someone who had such physical and mental ability and was so immaculate and meticulous in everything he did. Ken passed away at home on Friday night after a dinner out with Roy and Alec.

He passed as he would have wished – quietly with

no fuss or bother.

to his family and many friends we share your sorrow – Ken will be sadly missed.

I am sure he would like me to conclude with a reading from the bible – Ecclesiastes Chapter 3 in small part it reads " *To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the Heaven*"

A time to be born and a time to die – Ken's time had come.

Thank You

Deb, Tony and families would like to extend their most sincere 'thank you' to everyone who has helped during Ken's passing.

To Pastor Dion for the church and graveside services and Lisle for been a gem and doing the eulogy.

To Shane Quintal, Tardy, Grave diggers and Pallbarers for getting Ken to his final resting place.

The special ladies and wreath makers at the usual place, and those who provided flowers.

Everyone who have bought food, food & more food, sent messages and taken care of awa, Norfolk is a special place.

The family would also like to especially thank all yorlye who have kept Dad entertained since the closing of Cameralines, yorley es truly beautiful.

Deb, Tony and their families, and the Nobbs family.

Ken...

More than 50 years ago, my good friend and business partner, Joe Langley and I decided to pioneer an insurance visit to the island called Norfolk.

What a delight it was!

One of our new friends was Ken Nobbs and his then wife, Pamela. Great couple who I found to be honest, hospitable and part of your beautiful island.

Subsequently, together with our wives, we toured Europe.

Ken and I have kept in touch by letter after letter.

Over the years and after many visits Kens' death comes as a shock.

Norfolk Island will miss his talent as a self taught pianist and a strong Norfolk Islander. His love of and loyalty to Norfolk Island never wavered and he will be missed by all.

To the Nobbs family, Pam and Barbara, our deepest sympathy at your time of loss of a good family man and father to Debbie and Tony and their families.

Sincerely,

Ken Herford and family.

In Memorium.

Robin Mark Smith

1955 to 4th November 1989.

Sadly missed by all the Smith families'.
