



*Vale*  
**Leo Vincent Nola**

**23rd April 1924 - 26th April 2016**

On Saturday afternoon, 30th April 2016, members of his family, their friends and other residents of Norfolk Island, especially those who had travelled in his taxi on their way to the airport to meet, or to farewell someone on the plane, gathered at St. Philip Howard Catholic Church and the Norfolk Island Cemetery at Kingston, to say farewell to Leo Vincent Nola, a well respected member of Norfolk Island for some 72 years.

Fr. Don Richardson conducted the service at St. Philip Howard Catholic Church with Colleen White reading the First Reading Wisdom 3.1-9 with the Responsorial Psalm Ps 23 and the Response: The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want and the Second reading - 2 Corinthians 5.16-10.

The Alleluia Verse: Alleluia, Alleluia. Come, you whom my Father has blessed, says The Lord: inherit the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading John 14.1-6; Homily and Intercessions were delivered by Fr. Don Richardson.

The Lord's Prayer was then recited and the Hymn "Gethsemane" was sung.

There then followed the Final Commendation and the Prayer of Commendation. The music chosen for this occasion was from Ensemble Dalmatia Auckland, in recognition of Leo's Dalmatian heritage.

The funeral cortege then proceeded on its way to the Kingston Cemetery where Fr. Don Richardson extended a welcome and an invitation to Prayer to everybody at the Kingston Cemetery.

The Kingston service commenced with the singing of the Hymn "In the Sweet Bye and Bye" and Brent Hattersley then delivered the following Eulogy"-

"Dad was born Leo Vincent Nola in Epsom, Auckland, New Zealand on 23 April 1924 to proud parents Mate Nola and Elsie May Nola (nee Brown). The eldest of four children, he had three younger sisters, Peggy and Marie who have pre-deceased him and Betty who lives with her family in Auckland. He was proud of

*(continued overleaf)*



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### *Leo Vincent Nola - continued*

his heritage. His Dad being Dalmatian and Mum being Irish. He had also been part of a Dalmatian band in Auckland playing the double bass. Perhaps it was the extended family and community upbringing that he had that helped him to fit in and feel at home here on Norfolk.

After schooling in Auckland he joined the military. First the Army then the Air Force and it was with the Air Force that he served in the Pacific which eventually brought him to Norfolk in approximately 1944. After the war he stayed and then married Mum, Pamela (Et) Christian. All four of the offspring are here today together with many of his eight grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren. At this time he bought the first of a succession of taxis he drove for the next 25 + years. The vehicle that has lead the procession today, has been proudly driven by Ralph Holloway, one of his fellow taxi drivers. This was Dad's first taxi back in 1947. Leo McCoy was another of his taxi colleagues.

After he and mum separated, he married Joan with whom he set up Nola Stamps. During this period he also worked at Burns Philp in Burnt Pine and still drove the taxi part time. He continued to operate the stamp shop and chauffeuring when needed until his licence was taken off him. A lot of you may have noticed that the average speed on the island dropped after this happened!

During the 1960s Dad served on the Norfolk Island Council (which he always called "The Goon Show") and also became a founding member of the Norfolk Island Lions Club.

He would have touched the lives of many of you in various ways. Driving families around, playing cards, his dancing skills, his driving skills...he was a bit of a lead foot, his endless supply and love of jokes...he was still telling them to the end, his colour blindness, his love of socialising...Dad loved a party, he enjoyed White Oaks.

Dad didn't like the cold weather, this is part of the reason why he came to Norfolk. As a renowned food lover, he didn't enjoy avocados, sauce or condiments but wouldn't baulk at them if already included in the recipe! He wasn't keen on water whether it be in the ocean, a pool or in his wine glass! He loved his food, he loved his red wine and the odd flutter at the TAB. But most of all he loved his family and he would have been overwhelmed with today.

On behalf of the family present today and those who could not be here and the many whose lives he played a special part in we would like to thank Shane and the grave diggers, the wreath makers, Jodie Williams and Photopress for the program, Milton for the PA, the Uke Band, Sue and Kissard for all their help, close family friends, Fr. Don Richardson, all the people who have offered or given help and assistance through recent times and well-wishers. A special thank you to Dr. Bob and the hospital staff. Dad was a little apprehensive with his new environment last year but soon realised that he was part of yet another caring family. And I quote, he called the hospital "The best hotel ever"!

The assembled members of the Norfolk Island

R.S.L. then paid their tribute to their comrade Leo and this was followed by the following Tribute recited by Leo's Great-grand daughter Telania Schmitz:-

*"All our special memories  
All our special moments too  
Always in my heart Grandad  
Remember me and you.*

*I know it hurt you  
It hurt me too  
But now that you're gone  
All I know is I miss you.*

*Dida you were many things  
Our Grandad most of all  
Your mind was strong, your heart was kind  
And those legs were oh so tall!*

*You always made us smile  
You loved to make us laugh  
You loved food and wine and funny jokes  
You always drove too fast!  
There are stories we still laugh about  
Your appetite – oh my gosh!  
And that you could never work your mobile phone  
And how your teeth went through the wash!*

*You were there for so long Dida  
I never thought you would leave  
I really thought you had  
Another year up your sleeve.*

*I know you loved me  
And I still love you  
So I'm trying to be strong  
Just for you.*

*The day you left us  
Was the saddest day of my life  
I still remember sitting at home  
Crying all day and night.*

*But I'm glad your body's out of pain  
And I hope that heaven's fine  
I hope the music's right for dancing  
And I hope they have good wine!*

*And I just want to tell you  
That you're always in my heart  
Even though I still cry  
I know we're not apart.*

*So rest easy now Big Buddy  
You've lived an amazing life  
You will always be remembered  
And your soul will never die."*

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*(continued overleaf)*

*Leo Vincent Nola - continued*

## Thank you

Leo's Norfolk and Auckland families would again like to sincerely thank all those who have helped in any way over the past two weeks. Special mention and appreciation to Shane Quintal and the grave diggers, Tardy for driving the hearse, the wreath makers at the usual place and all those who provided flowers last Saturday morning, Jodie Williams for her time, care and understanding designing the service sheet and Photopress for the printing, Fr Don Richardson and members of the Catholic Church for the beautiful service, Leo's long-time friend Ralph Holloway for leading the procession in Leo's old taxi, Milton for the PA and the Uke Band for the music at the grave side, Sue and Kissard for all their help on the day, the Norfolk Island RSL for all their assistance including the guard of honour at the grave side and for providing the venue afterwards where we all enjoyed sharing special memories of Leo, the Ladies Auxiliary for the sweet wetls at the wake, the many close family friends who have helped in different ways and all the other people who have offered or given help and assistance through recent times including those who have sent

cards, flowers, food and well wishes. Thanks also to those who have shared personal memories and stories of our amazing Dad, Brother, Grandad, Great-Grandad, Uncle, Great-Uncle and special friend, over the last two weeks. We are sure his memory will long remain. Lastly a special, special thank you to Dr. Bob and all of the hospital staff who have not only lovingly cared full time for Leo in the last 12 months but who have also given him unconditional companionship and support. Leo was very grateful to each one of you, so thank you.

*Vale*

## Bob Green.

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Bob Green. Bob served as pastor to the Uniting Church on Norfolk Island on many occasions over the past nine years with great dedication. He will be greatly missed.

Our sympathy goes out to his wife, Gwen, and children Allyson, Janelle and Adrian and their families.

Gwen's address is 13 Old Bathurst Road, Blaxland, NSW, 2774.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

### COUNSELLOR - FREE & CONFIDENTIAL

8.30am - 5.00pm Weekdays : Ph 23190 or 56400  
After hours contact,  
for emergency or crisis only is via the Hospital 22091  
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For further help, go to the online chat at  
[www.cancerconnections.com.au](http://www.cancerconnections.com.au)

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9.30am-1.00pm weekdays : Ph22447

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### KARITANE

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