



*Vale*  
**William Arthur Blucher AM**  
*12 December 1931 – 01 January 2017*

Our father can be described as a very proud Norfolk Islander with a seriously cheeky sense of humour.

Born on Norfolk Island to Hagar Louise and Adolph Leslie Blucher, he was the grandson of Daddy Bill and Mummy Lou Quintal. He was one a dem Steeles Point sullen and often talked of the times he would ride Dainty the cow to school. Maev Hitch is Dad's older sister – jes by lettle bit. The island families were generally large and helped each other with looking after all the children. Julie, one a dem fe Pearl's, came into the family semes dems younger sister fe some time.

Dad's mother, our Mah, came to be a single mother. In 1942 she took Maev and Dad to Sydney arriving into Sydney Harbour the day after it was torpedoed by a Japanese sub. They returned to Norfolk Island after a couple of years then Dad returned to Sydney where he finished his schooling and began his career. He enjoyed a career in the wool industry as a wool buyer, and was able to lay claim to the most expensive bail of Australian wool ever to be sold to an Italian firm within the context of that time.

Dad met our mother Joan in Sydney; they enjoyed their courtship in the Sydney area - dances at the YMCA and days at Maroubra and Bondi beaches. Dad was a keen basketballer; he recalled playing an entertaining match against the Harlem Globetrotters, he said, the skill and tricks the trotters played on his team were just incredible.

Married in 1954, Mum and Dad established their first home in a tiny flat in Moore Park, Sydney; without running water or other usual home conveniences. They had five children, Paul, Greig, Glenn, Linda and Janelle.

*(continued overleaf)*



## Norfolk Island Real Estate

**Deal with the Professionals**  
*Immigration changes provide opportunity for  
Australian and New Zealand citizens to live  
permanently on Norfolk Island*

### **ANSON BAY LODGE — REDUCED**

Popular tourist accommodation property. Situated close to the National Park and the stunning secluded Anson Bay area. 1.34 acres of a rural land. The property consists of 5 separate self-contained units – 3 bedroom house, 2 x 2 bedroom apartments, 2 x 1 bedroom cottages surrounded by subtropical gardens. Includes recent \$30,000 upgrade. Home business setting.

**Good Buying at \$570,000**

### **“LATITUDE 29”**

#### **GREAT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY**

Busy café located in prime position at entry of Norfolk Mall, benefiting from the high foot traffic of both locals and tourists. Seating capacity for approx. 48. This café is well equipped and staffed with trained employees. Outstanding take-away trade. Showing good returns.

**ONLY \$110,000**

### **DELIGHTFULLY ELEVATED HOME**

Well presented with beautiful garden, views & solar power. Upstairs 3 bdrms with tiled bathroom plus ensuite.

Downstairs self contained flat. Land area: 2 acres.

**HEAVILY REDUCED TO \$445,000**

### **HIGH ON THE HILL**

High on a hill with panoramic ocean, valley & mountain views. 3 bedroom residence. Main bedroom with ensuite, walk-in-robe & sitting room. Spacious lounge, formal dining room, library, expansive kitchen. Front & rear timber deck. 2 car garage + workshop. Land area: 3562m<sup>2</sup>

**\$720,000**

### **LAND**

#### **NEW LISTING—EXCLUSIVE**

- ◆ **Cliff Top at Steeles Point**
- ◆ **Variety of building sites available**
  - ◆ **1.314ha in size**
  - ◆ **Priced at \$360,000**

### **LAND**

Attractive portion of land ready to build on. Tucked away down a cul-de-sac. Handy to school. 2 titles. Area 607m<sup>2</sup>.

**Asking \$75,000**

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**William Arthur Blucher AM - continued**

Dad's career as a woolbuyer took him off on buying trips away from the family. He was presented with the opportunity to manage Martins Agencies here on Norfolk, at that time it was owned by a consortium of Australian and French New Caledonian people. Augustus and Euginie Martin, Odette Omblor's parents, actually started Martin's Agencies in 1924. Dad ended up buying the business.

He was a founding member of Rotary on Norfolk Island and was awarded recognition as a Paul Harris Fellow. He could always be seen at the end of a pair of tongs at those Rotary barbeques, donned with a terry towelling hat, he especially enjoyed the old Rotary Beach Carnival days. He was still regularly attending Rotary meetings.

He felt a strong connection with his heritage stemming from Field Marshall Blucher of Battle of Waterloo fame. Only last week he was talking of planning another visit to the Blucher Palace in Poland - he se hot furret.

Here on Norfolk, he was passionate about self governance. Dad was President of Committees in the last Norfolk Island Advisory Council and was instrumental in securing a democratic form of government for Norfolk Island.

Along with fellow Council members, and others, he was a driving influence in establishing the Norfolk Island Legislative Assembly and negotiated many of the local self government reforms we enjoyed until July last year. In reference to the legislation contained within the 1979 Norfolk Island Act he is quoted - "We will work with this for the best interest of the people. However, it contains inbuilt injustices which will cause further difficulties until they are removed". This fear was well founded, he had hoped for collaboration and improvements to build upon such a unique model of governance. Dad was a member of the 7th, 8th and 9th Norfolk Island Council from 1974 to 1979 and Vice President of the 1st Legislative Assembly in 1979, continuing as an assembly member for many years.

He loved to play tennis and he would be glued to the television during all the major tennis competitions.

They say you can measure the character of a man by the way he treats his animals - Dad loved animals, especially his beloved Milly whom he devoted himself too and has missed dreadfully for the past year and a half, her photograph went every where with him, it is with him now.

And semes plenty Norfolk sullen he had a sweet tooth, his bedside table se full up fe Bounty bars and Maltesers and he lowe a lemon pie.

He had an affinity with Emily Bay, for many years he'd be down there to swim the channel every day, in more recent times he was renown to park up at the far end of Emily, to eat his lunch or have a beer, and feed the pigeons - his latest continual statement was to say "those pigeons are the only birds that wait for me now".

Since the 1st of January the resounding comments in respect to our father are - that we was a pioneer - he gave of himself - he was one a dem pine tree - he was one good sullen - one Norfolk icon - he made a difference. To you Dad - the majority of Norfolk Islander's say thank you - we all gwen miss you.



**Thank you**

The family sincerely thank all yorlye wonderful sullen for so much comfort, support and generosity. So many messages and phone calls and plenty sweet wetls - we are blessed for this island and the people of it. Special thanks must be said to Shane Quintal and the grave diggers, Edie and all the ladies at the usual place, Tardy and Gavin and the works depot, Jodie Williams, Simone James and Milton Bradley, the uke group, Phil McDowell, Julie South and our Reverend David Fell.

Also to Joss Adams, Dee and Earl, Jerry Cook, Jan and Vince Reeves, Louise and all dem Bigg girls, Hen, Monica and Julie Evans; Del, Margaret and John Smith, Boo, Colleen, Val and Alex, Sue and Kissard and plenty more sullen - thank you.

Thanks to our family and friends who have travelled to Norfolk to be with us all today, including Leo DeChesne, Russ Hodder, Becky Davis and Dad's best friends Bob and Narelle Little ..... and to our mother, Joan Blucher, for so much strength.

From Paul, Greig, Glenn, Linda and Janelle



**When driving... be considerate  
SLOW DOWN FOR HORSES!**