



Vale
Audrey Pearl Robinson

20th October 1917 - 3rd September 2018

Audrey Pearl Robinson was born on 20th October 1917 at her parent's home at Rocky Point Norfolk Island, who were Enoch Cobcroft (called Cobby) and his wife Jemima Louisa.

Audrey Pearl was the youngest of seven other siblings of Wade, Ion, Graham and Ken, and Olga,

Ruby, Sylvia called Girlie and Kenneth. Girlie was in the house when a 'big' baby, was born and asked by her mother to 'look after baby Audrey' all her life.

Audrey was educated at the local school until age 18 years, and afterward became an Assistant in Nursing at Bishop's Court. Jean Nash was one of her many friends.

At 19 years she married Douglas Rutherford Scott at St Barnabas Church in September 1937. Doug was an Australian called to Norfolk Island by his sister Jessie Scott who was a school teacher on Norfolk. Doug and Audrey made their home in a little cottage on Pine Avenue, and were visited frequently by Jessie and her husband Frank Christian. Doug became the first manager of the local Butter Factory at the top end of The Village. Sadly Audrey lost her first baby late into her pregnancy. After that Doug took Audrey back to Australia where daughter Annette was born in Wagga Wagga NSW.

Due to wartime, the family moved to Sydney where their son Douglas Wade known as 'Boy' was born. Doug Sen. became involved in munitions to help the war effort. In 1946 Audrey brought her children 'home' to meet their grandparents and experience Norfolk life, until Doug took the children back to Sydney. Audrey followed a little time later.

The family moved to Grafton due to Doug returning to his profession as Dairy Officer for the district.

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Audrey Pearl Robinson - continued

Audrey knew money was tight due to wartime rations and started earning money with her excellent domestic skills as a ladies' stocking repairer, ironer at a commercial laundry, and seamstress as an alterationist with lady's clothes. Audrey had an excellent eye for style and harmonizing colours in dress and indoor design. The money she earned was used to return home to nurse her father through a troubling bout of Rheumatic fever in his very senior years. He recovered against all odds, no doubt due to Aud's 24 hour loving tender care. Her days off were spent at her cousin Boy-Sat and Ruth's home at Steels Point, where she would sleep away her exhaustion.

After Audrey returned to Grafton she and Doug decided to separate. It was agreed by both that the children would remain with Doug their father, who by now had a position in the Riverina District of NSW. Audrey settled on life in Cairns, Queensland. Three years later Annette joined her mother there then both travelled to Brisbane where Audrey was selected for training as a Head Waitress in one of the leading hotels. After training they both returned to Deniliquin to catch up with son and brother Douglas (Boy).

When Boy moved to Sydney to enter university Audrey moved also, to be near him. She continued working as a Head Waitress, now at Cahills Restaurants North Sydney. She came across Mary and Bernie Christian-Bailey when they had just announced their engagement, and was also seen there by our own Joe Adams.

In Sydney Audrey met Lloyd Munroe who became her partner of 30 years. They retired to Byron Bay where Audrey established herself among many friends who were sad to see her return alone to her Norfolk 'home' permanently at age 89 years.

Her nephew Ric and wife Colleen insisted Audrey remain on their property at One Hundred acres, near Rocky Point, and around the corner from where her sister Girlie used to live.

Unfortunately Audrey's hip was broken with a fall at home. She was taken to Sydney by medical evacuation where doctors were a little apprehensive to operate on her at age 99 years. Annette assured doctors and staff that Audrey was made of 'tuff stuff' and would be 'fine'. And so she was.

Audrey returned to Norfolk Island hospital to receive good and loving care from local hospital staff. They gave her a wonderful hospital party on the day of her 100th birthday, and she was up to a public celebration the next day. And again a party put on by the Administrator one week later, she just thrived on all the attention. Audrey continued receiving excellent care at the hospital until she died:

People of all stations in life and nationality, were drawn to her good looks and tall stature even when using a walking stick in later years. "Aunty Aud." had a beautiful and compassionate, empathetic nature. She once told great-niece Melinda (nee Robinson) her life's motto had come from a poem by Adam Lindsay Gordon,

"Life is mostly froth and bubble, Two things stand like stone.

Kindness in another's trouble, Courage in your own."

Audrey found herself the centre of attention wherever she went, all her life. She had leadership skills as a Guide when young, was an excellent horse woman and beat adults in horse riding competitions in her early teenage years. When young she was a concert singer trained by Brooky on Norfolk. At another time it is believed she would have been a star on the stage anywhere, singing light and popular song classics with her rich and beautiful voice. This was in the family tradition as her mother Jemima had a wide vocal range, along with her cousins Greg and Kik Quintal: She made lasting friends everywhere she lived, was an honest working woman who gave good value, and was a wise and loving mother to her children.

Audrey loved family, and Norfolk Island as her home, and made sure anyone who spoke to her heard about where she came from. She had a full zest for life, and a very cheeky disposition, along with good taste in quality beer, wine, and spirits. Her Grandfather Isaac Ion-Robinson had been a member of Royalty in England and he was the instigator of "Thanksgiving" on Norfolk due to his affiliation with the American Whalers of the time; hence Audrey was a true Royalist supporter all her life, believing earnestly they were put in their position by God. Her Christian faith was private but very real.

From Carolyn and Doug

Kent, United Kingdom, September 5, 2018.

"Audrey - my mother - was a spectacularly beautiful lady, always the best looking woman in the room, but incredibly flirtatious, and that got her into trouble sometimes. But for me, she represented a mother's love, undiminished over the years, and no matter where we were, physical distance didn't matter. I'll miss her and I'll miss the thought of her, but she'll remain in our hearts beyond her lifetime: Love is all.

From Grandson James on behalf of his siblings.

A joy grandchildren have over their parents is a more relaxed relationship with their grandparents than what their parents had with them and so it is that my brothers and sisters also have good memories of Audrey our grandmother. We count ourselves as privileged to have had the short times that we had with her. In my twenties I used to visit grandma at Byron Bay and loved to recount to my friends just how relaxed she was about life. It was under her roof that I eventually asked my now wife Kelly to marry me, knowing that they both got on. Thank you to Ric and Colleen for giving Audrey a place to stay when she

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Audrey Pearl Robinson - continued

came back home. Thank you also to the nurses who cared for her in later years. Rest easy Grandma till we meet again.

Thank You

My brother and I would like to thank all people who have been involved in the hospital care of our mother Audrey, to also include auxiliary, ambulance, medical evacuation team, and Prince of Wales hospital and staff in NSW:

I particularly give thanks to my cousin Joseph for his assistance when called upon many times. Also to my cousins Ric and his wife for their absolute support of Mum, and to Ruth and Christine - always in the caring background. There have been many other significant folk in our lives and if I am not naming you today does not mean that I have not appreciated what you have done or have been to Mum in the past; and to include the people who attended her funeral (or wanting to and unable) as a last good bye.

She truly is 'The Last Rose of Summer', to her family and to an Norfolk Island era.

A Stolz (Mrs) nee 'Scott', Norfolk Island 7/9/2018.



Sometimes it isn't necessarily the people you know the best who have an important lesson that you take forward in your life. I didn't know Auntie Aud well at all - in fact when I spent some time with her in December 2013, she asked "kawaa whose you?" I told her

I was Wayde's sister - Ric's daughter - same come-from. She grinned, and gave me that saucy look I got to know quite well over the next fortnight, "nor necessarily" she winked.

Now that wasn't the important lesson I took away from my great-aunt, but it did give me an insight into the vibrant, cheeky, irrepressible woman I'm sure you all knew well. We had a few 'cups of tea' while I was on Norfolk that visit, and it wasn't the only time her humour brightened a difficult time. She told me about her school days and a quote that she kept to heart from a poem by Adam Lindsay Gordon:

*"Life is mostly froth and bubble,
Two things stand like stone.
Kindness in another's trouble,
Courage in your own."*

I was so heartened by this, I asked her to write it

down for me, and so I still have the words in her hand, signed by Auntie Aud on Norfolk Island.

Wayde has many delightful memories of Auntie Aud, some involving cheeky comments about his love life, and more often than not a glass or two of wine - but those aren't my stories to tell. In his eyes, Great Aunt definitely emphasizes the 'Great'.

Auntie Aud, life may be mostly froth and bubble (preferably in a glass, aye), but your passing isn't one of those times. We will always remember your courage, your kindness and the way you spoke truth with a glint in your eyes. We know you'll be making mischief wherever your spirit chooses to linger and when our courage wanes, you'll no doubt find a way to remind us to do the same. Thank you for you.

Thank You.

The family of Ian Hamilton McCowan and their families would like to thank you all for the heartfelt support, offers of assistance, the food, phone calls, texts, cards, flowers and hugs.

For the Celebration of Dads Life we would like to thank:

The Norfolk Island community for being there with us.

Jodie and Photopress for the service sheets.

Gavin for the coffin and creative freedom.

The Lions and Bowling Club members for the guard of honour.

The wonderful ladies at the Usual Place for the floral wreaths.

The posy makers and mound decorators. Shane and the volunteer grave diggers for the extra finer detail touches.

The Pall Bearers who did Dad proud.

Tim for the Police escort.

Mal for the lift and we got Dad there on time!!!!

David Fell for his great recovery skills and opening of the Pearly Gates.

The Norfolk Island RSL Sub Branch members for the moving tribute.

Milt for the sound system.

Anson and Cassidy for handing out the service sheets.

Tet and the RSL Club for the wake.

Our amazing extended families (the ones that could make it and the ones who couldn't) and friends here and overseas who have been such a support.

We would also like to express how grateful we are to the Drs, Nurses and **All** the staff at the **Norfolk Island Hospital** through Dads regular visits in his later years. Dad did always brag for the friendly, caring, miracle workers there. You know who you are. !!! He was fond of telling everyone that he was getting so royally treated by the nurses and that he was just waiting for the coronation. !!!!!!!

If there is anyone we have missed we are sorry and we thank you!

David, Bruce, Lyn, Leon and their families.
