



Vale

Aunty Puttie – Patricia Connolly (1943-2019)

Aunty Puttie was born Helen Patricia Adelyn Adams on 8th September 1943 on Norfolk Island. Her mother was Muriel Adams, who was affectionately known as Gan. Gan married Ted Davies in 1949 and Ted became her legal father through adoption. She carried his name until she married Peter Connolly in 1978. As was not uncommon at that time, she lived with Ma and Dada Adams for a while prior to the family moving to Yass and she later holidayed with them during her childhood.

Patricia has an older brother - Henry Menzies - who was born Henry Adams to Gan in 1935. Now commonly known as Peet he was adopted by Tierney and Lil Menzies as a child. Peet is unable to be here today due to health reasons and has contributed the following recollection of Patricia.

"My earliest memory of my dear sister Pat was in 1947. We were in the Methodist Church up Middlegate, I was 12. The Minister, I'm not sure it wasn't Pat Adams, was giving all ucklun gip about the meaning of the 'Parable of the Sower'. Being so interested, I started to look around to see what else was happening.

Sitting across the isle was this little kid – about 4 – who spent the rest of the service pulling faces and poking her tongue out at me, later I found out she was my sister Pat. We both grew up head-strong, both rarely, if ever, wrong and not suffering those we consider fools lightly. No doubt passed down by our birth mother Gan. Rest in peace with Pete, my darling." - Peet Menzies

Patricia was about ten years old when the family left Norfolk and moved to Yass in New South Wales. She completed her schooling there before moving to Sydney where she lived in a flat in Paddington with Steggles LeCren. During her time there, she began swimming competitively under the tutelage of future Olympic Gold Medallist Murray Rose. However, despite her potential she chose to pursue a career in Nursing and undertook her training at the Royal Women's Hospital in Sydney, graduating in 1966. She worked in Sydney for several years before coming home to Norfolk Island where she worked at the local hospital.

I was born on the 3rd of January 1970 and mum then began working at the Eastern Suburbs Hospital. During this time, she shared a house with Joss and Stegs at number 20 Nelson Street in Woollahra, an establishment frequented by numerous Norfolk Islanders throughout the years. All three were loyal members of the Eastern Suburbs Football Club and would often enjoy the club's facilities on weekend evenings. She also enjoyed attending concerts and was particularly proud to have seen Kris Kristofferson, Johnny Cash and Roy Orbison live. In 1977 mum and Gan returned to Norfolk Island where they would reside for the rest of their lives.

At a party at Prim and Ian McCowan's, she met and later married Peter Connolly. Peter had his daughter Gillian living with him at the time. Their wedding took place on the 26th August 1978, (the day after Gillian's birthday) at her Uncle John's house at Rocky Point and Sashie Connolly was born in July the following year.

(continued overleaf)



JACKPOT

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NORFOLK MALL

Aunty Puttie - continued

The four of them lived at middle gate until the present house down Webb Adams road was built. Along with Gillian, Mum also had two other stepchildren from Pete's previous marriage, Michael and Lisa Connolly.

In 2003 I was able to come to Norfolk Island and have my first meeting with mum and was immediately welcomed by mum and Peter into the extended family. The following October I met my sister Sashie and her family then went to Brisbane to meet my father and other siblings.

During the 90s and early 2000s Patricia and Pete enjoyed several trips to Hawaii with their dear friends Father and Bubba and Bob and Joan Humphries. She considered these trips a highlight and loved Hawaii, where on one occasion she was offered a "locals discount" for entry into the Honolulu Aquarium. Pete was a tad perturbed when she answered she was not in fact a local while father found it nothing short of hilarious.

Over the years mum dabbled with numerous hobbies and interests including scuba diving, swimming, snorkelling and tennis. Later in her life she developed a deep love for crossword puzzles and constantly had a magazine or crossword book to hand.

Patricia worked at the Norfolk Island Hospital from 1977 until her retirement a few years ago – representing some 40 years of continuous service to the Norfolk Island Community. She worked in outpatients for most of that time, but later in her career she also worked on the ward. Being a midwife, she helped deliver numerous Norfolk Islanders.

Her beloved "Petie" passed away in 2018 and mum followed him 1 year, 1 month and 1 day later. She is survived by her brother Peet Menzies, her two children Sashie and myself and her 5 grandchildren, Kaylee, Cassie, Michael, Gilbert and Ellie.

The family would like to thank the community for their love and support over the last fortnight and for helping us to celebrate mum's life. Special thanks also to Shane and his voluntary crew, Diddles and Eadie Syd, ladies at the usual place, Helen and Kaye for the mound, Don Reynolds and the group for music and hymns, hospital staff for their care and guard of honour, Tardy, David Buffet, Milton and the Lions, the staff at the Bowling club for all their assistance, Mark and Leah for distribution of order of service, Jonno and Toni for compiling and printing the order of service and of course Clinton, Lyle and Ponna for their care and generosity.

Thanks Yorlye,

Sashie, Matt and families.

There's more to
NORFOLK ISLAND



Watawieh yorlyi and a big welcome to all our visitors



Oxley Travel Famil

It was lovely to welcome back Rosie Proust (Sales representative with Oxley Travel) with a group of travel agents from Castle Hill, North Shore in Sydney, Penrith, Corrimal, Top Ryde and Caloundra.

Photo taken at Captain Cook Monument left to right: Kim Earle, Mary Kent, Sadie Jebrine, Leica Marek, Rosie Proust, Nicole Harrison, Naomi Alexander, and Ben Chin.

Oxley Travel arranged their accommodation and hire cars and the group enjoyed the hospitality at Highlands Norfolk Island (thank you to Dee and Dani) and for the cars and mokes, thank you to David at Eldoo Hire Cars.

Itinerary inclusions were provided free of charge from the Norfolk Island Museums, Fletcher's Mutiny Cyclorama, Helen at Pinetree Tours, George for the Glass Bottom Boat, the Two Chimneys Winery for tasting and Burnt Pine Boutique Apartments for a breakfast.

The agents were very impressed by the standard of accommodation properties, the friendliness of the people they met, how the island appeals to all age groups and the cleanliness and natural beauty of the island. The travel agents are very keen to share their experience with clients, and will provide feedback and reviews to Oxley Travel and Norfolk Island Tourism.

Tania @ N.I. Tourism #norfolkisland



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