

# **Brenda Irene Ann Bates**

12th March 1939 - 19th September 2023

Brenda Irene Ann Bates, nee Randall, affectionately known as Mum, Ma, and Aunty Bren, was born on the 12th of March 1939 at Bishops Court, Norfolk Island, christened here at St Barnabas, 3 months later. The only daughter of Edie & Wilfred Randall, Brenda was the eldest of three children, with her two adored younger brothers, Franklin, and Basil – with their playful, loving relationship to endure for years to come.

Brenda grew up at Ma Anna's down Mill Road, until the age of 15, when the family moved into the newly built family home, Mahana, at Cascade Road. Growing up, Brenda made many wonderful memories, many involving running down to Cascade on foot to fish with her good mate Peter Christian.

When Brenda came of age, she met and fell in love with bank boy, Brian Bates. Their story was one of love. They courted for a couple of years, before getting married here at St Barnabas Chapel, on the 7th of November 1962. They were married for 46 happy years. St Barnabas Chapel would then continue to theme throughout Brenda's life, from regularly attending Sunday church services, to being an active volunteer, cleaning the chapel for decades.

Soon after their marriage, they moved to Brisbane to pursue Brian's work opportunities. The time then came to purchase a house. Despite looking high and low, Brian struggled to satisfy Brenda's need for a big kitchen. Then finally, along came 41 Arnold Street, Holland Park – having a big, open plan kitchen, and reminding Brenda of Mahana on Norfolk. With Ann & Ron Moran up the street, and Norfolk Islander Josie & Bert not far away, this would become their home – with so many happy times ahead.

2 years to the day from their wedding, Brenda would become a loving mother. 3 boys; David, Darren and Wayne, and 2 late twin girls, all of who she loved and cherished.

Raising the boys kept them on their toes, with Brenda and Brian often having to take them down Emily for a run and swim every morning, attempting to burn off all that excess energy before school. Whilst Brenda and Brian were building their house, they stayed at Gabbits – and as a family, it was a daily task for the boys to help produce no less than 80 bricks before school. Brenda would often recount happy memories of holidays on Uncle Ernie & Aunt Ivy's launch, along with the many Phillip Island camping trips, with different crews of young kids.

Brenda would go on to work in many different jobs over her life, from the Exchange to the Post Office, to World Traders with the Goslings, to Cargo with Leonie & Pam Berling, onto Max's – where she was loved by all. In her younger days, Brenda was often complimented on her stylish dresses, many of which were Sears Roebuck hand me downs from Dolly.

In 1995, Brian and Brenda built Ocean View – which would keep Brenda busy for many years to come, offering warm hospitality and many chats to hundreds of guests over the decades.

Brenda and Brian would go on to see many different corners of the world, from Korea, Scotland, Europe, Guam, Solomon Islands, and so many more.

(continued overleaf)

# HEAD FOR THE SHED Norfolk Island Men's Shed Inc

### NIMS has recently moved into new/alternate premises at 10 Taylors Rd.

(Adjacent to Kienan Agency)

We plan to recommence our meetings, important individual and community projects as soon as renovations and upgrades have been completed.

#### Wednesday's 1 pm get together and working bees have recommenced.

Any residents or visitors to the island, wishing to make contact with NIMS members, please use any of the following phone numbers :- Bruce 53058; Paul 23431 or David 23694

#### Social events and fundraisers will continue as planned.











#### Brenda Irene Ann Bates - continued

Brenda lived life to the fullest and was happy to show the world who she really was. Often described as the "life of the party" – lord knows she never liked to miss out on anything – du mine what's et.

Brenda loved tennis, both to watch and play. Starting from a young age of listening to Nanna Edd's radio, this would continue throughout her life, staying up to all hours of the night, rarely missing the grand slam matches. Brenda could also hold her own on the court, with her name featuring many times up on the championship boards up Cheryl Tennis Club, along with being a valuable player for Cascade in many Vide cups.

A mighty cook, a staunch supporter of Cascade, a staunch supporter of Nepean, Brenda was a loyal Norfolk Islander, keeping strong so many of Norfolk's traditions. Anyone down Cascade could attest to regularly sighting Brenda & Leonie walking the block, before heading down Emily for their morning swim.

It was also one of her greatest joys in life to be there for Brian and Darren to put Advance 1 and 2 in and out of the water. Rarely a day missed, Brenda was a regular sight at either Cascade or Kingston pier. Living up to her "Queen of the Crane" title, only using the green Land Cruiser, it was not uncommon fe her cetch for some while longer, as she'd have a queue of boats lined up for her magic touch. At the young age of 80, Bren would become oh so proud to officially be "certified" – receiving her official crane operator licence.

Brenda had many things to be proud of in life, but she was most proud of her sons and knew they were each special in their own ways. She loved dearly her in-laws, Alan, Haidee & Oliva and adored being a grandmother, to her much loved three grandchildren, Ashlan, Nova & Oscar. And she particularly loved all of her nieces and nephews.

#### **Thank You**

The Sunshine Club would like to sincerely thank the community and the NICS Year 12 Class of 2023 for their amazing donation of \$4706 and take this opportunity to wish the students all the very best for the future.

We would also like to thank the NICS SRC for their donation of \$297.95 for the wellbeing day they held at NICS.

In Memoriam In Loving Memory of Jemima Laurie Quintal "Dottie" 3.10.21 - 2.10.06

Forever in our hearts. ~ Love from all ucklun

## Royal A & H Show 2023 Garden Section Winners

**Relaxing Garden over 1/8 acre - Class 654 -** 1st McDonald, Ken & Amanda Keats; 2nd Music Valley, Jane Rutledge; 3rd McKenzie, Brian

**Cottage Garden 1/8 acre or less - Class 655 -** 1st Buffett, Irene; 2nd Elliott, Joanne; 3rd Keeping, Jan

Senior citizens flower garden - Class 656 - 1st Vincent, Colleen; 2nd Buffett, Irene; 3rd Roper, Barbara

Senior citizens vegetable garden - Class 657 -1st Broadbridge, Craig; 2nd Keeping, Jan

Newly established garden, less than 2 years old - Class 658 - 1st Trade Winds, Rachel; 2nd Wheeler, Deb; 3rd Evans, Gaye

**Commercial grounds - Class 659 -** 1st Music Valley, Jane Rutledge; 2nd Evans, Dids; 3rd Elliott, Joanne

Garden viewed from the road - Class 660 - 1st Leagues Club; 2nd Trade Winds, Rachel; 3rd Meers, Meg

Banana plantation - Class 661 - 1st Evans, Dids

Mixed orchard - Class 662 - 1st McKenzie, Brian; 2nd Evans, Dids

**Commercial vegetable garden - Class 663 -** 1st Evans, Dids

**Domestic vegetable garden - Class 664 -** 1st Patel, Tara

**Pocket in your garden - Class 665 -** 1st Evans, Gaye; 2nd Music Valley, Jane Rutledge; 3rd McKenzie, Brian

**Fern garden - Class 666 -** 1st Wood, Kay & Co; 2nd McDonald, Ken & Amanda Keats

Rockery - Class 667 - 1st Evans, Dids; 2nd McKenzie, Brian

Best use of native plants less than 1/4 acre -Class 668 - 1st McDonald, Ken & Amanda Keats; 2nd Evans, Dids

Herb garden - Class 670 - 1st Evans, Dids; 2nd Meers, Meg

Flower garden kids under 16 - Class 671 - 1st Elliott, Joanne

**Tourist Accommodation up to 5 units - Class 673** - 1st Trade Winds Rachel; 2nd Elliott, Joanne

Tourist Accommodation over 14 units - Class 675 - 1st Governors Lodge (Josh Nicolai)

# I. Pest Control

For all your pest control needs Domestic and Commercial Services

CONTACT DUNCAN GRAY

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