



*Vale*  
**David Sinclair South**

*16th July 1945 - 24th May 2019*

David was born in New Zealand and grew up on the family farm at Otorahanga. From an early age he was called upon to share the many daily chores; he cut ragwort, baled hay, milked cows, collected firewood, cooked meals and organised siblings. He once asked his mother, Lorna, why so many of the chores fell to him? Lorna said "Because David, you never complain".

David was an enthusiastic student who excelled throughout his schooling life, particularly in the areas of Mathematics and the Sciences. He always sought knowledge and read his way through many libraries from a young age.

Shortly after he arrived at Norfolk Island he was employed by Greg Quintal and spent years fencing, digging wells, renovating houses for island people returning home, growing vegetables and playing Jaero. He often said he got his work ethic from Greg and never forgave him for it!

It was Greg who encouraged Dave to buy the land at Mission Road where, for the rest of his life, he grew vegetables. Dave took particular pride in the quality and availability of his produce, the dozens and dozens of show prizes; often first, second and third for tomatoes, are testament to the quality of the food he grew.

Dave loved farming and the constant challenges that arose from farming. He consistently implemented new technologies, always staying up to date with the latest varieties and management strategies with meticulous attention to detail. On one trip to New Zealand for farm supplies, Dave spotted a roll of "T-Tape". He asked the sales people about it but, as it was a first time import, they couldn't tell him very much about the product. Dave could see the application and immediately bought the lot.

He once visited a hydroponics shop in Sydney and chuckled when he saw a photograph of his cucumber hydroponics on display. The way he grew cucumbers way back then was unheard of..."impossible" they said.

Dave loved animals. A succession of unique dogs brought him much joy. Not so much joy though to Dick Cavill of the Garrison. One afternoon Dave's dog Tuffy helped himself to all of Dick's scotch fillet. Dick found Tuffy on his back, in the fish pond, resting after

*(continued overleaf)*

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**David Sinclair South - continued**

his impromptu feast. Dick phoned to say Tuffy was lucky this time....next time he would shoot him!

Dave's flock of wild ducks would come to his call and sit all over him eating chook food from his hands and from between Zilka's paws.

One mumma duck would, each season, deliver her babies to Dave to raise.

Dave had a life-long love affair that gave him both stimulation and relaxation....with his chessboard. He mentored many young people and won much respect and some prestigious prizes, playing top level chess. When Bron heard too many winning beeps coming from his chess computer she would tell him it was time to raise the level of difficulty.

Dave was a keen traveller who visited over 33 countries. He travelled solo, with friends, with nieces and nephews and with Bron, Brancker and Oliver. He travelled to the places we all go to and then some more obscure locations; Zimbabwe, Botswana, Tahiti, Rapa Nui, Albania, Poland, The Slovak Republic, Norway, Morocco, Mongolia, Chile and Peru, fascinated to experience and discover histories, cultures and scenery.

He frequently accompanied Brancker to shooting competitions, including the recent Commonwealth Games where both David and Brancker proudly represented Norfolk Island.

David was also proud to represent Norfolk Island as an active, well respected and engaging President of the P&C. He worked closely with all parties to try to secure the very, very best for all our children and the dedicated staff at NICS.

Dave starred in many NATS productions over the years, often not as a man, remember Milly Muffet? It was a NATS production of Jack and the Beanstalk that Dave had agreed to play the giant, where Bron and Dave first met. Bron asked her mum, who was playing the role of Jack, "Who is THAT guy?"

Dave was sitting writing letters wearing Ruffy Steven's gridiron shoulder pads, tight jean shorts and big boots. It was truly love at first sight! And, a love not deterred when Dave slurped Oak stew from a jumbo can of Chum dog food, as difficult as it was to watch. Being the wise man that he was, Dave resisted Bron's advances (sort of) and told her to get to university and go see the world!

In 1999, a decade later, Bron and Dave were married at the Norfolk Island Golf Club and a new chapter in Dave's life began. Bron and Dave welcomed two sons into the world, Brancker in 2001 and Oliver in 2006. Dave's fatherhood was, to him, his greatest achievement. He recently said "I wouldn't have missed this melee for the world!"

David made a success of himself.

He was a man of complete integrity and unswerving generosity. He gave of himself.

Husband, father, brother, uncle and friend.

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## Thank You

We are so blessed to live among this Norfolk Island community. The love, kindness and support that has been offered throughout these last weeks has made our journey more bearable.

Special thanks to the nurses, doctors, social worker and director of the Norfolk Island Hospital, the Norfolk Island Clay Target Association for their guard of honour, the Norfolk Island Central School leaders for their guard of honour, the grave diggers, the pall bearers, the wreath makers, the St. John's Ambulance volunteers, the medivac teams, Tardy for driving the hearse, Shane Quintal our sextant, Oliver's friends for handing out the sheets, Kath King and friends for the musical accompaniment, Stacy Chapman, Rochelle Clifford, Mason Wilkinson & Wayne Mendham for reading the tributes, Vicky Jack for reading the eulogy, Trent Christian for leading the anthem, The Lions Club of Norfolk Island for the sound system and their support, The Sunshine Club, The Lions Club of Arthur's Vale, NATIN, Eldoo for the vehicle, The Norfolk Island Golf Club, the school community at NICS, Lorraine Bataille and Margaret Kiernan for the family floral tributes, Mr David Buffett, for leading the service and Jodie Williams for everything.

Heartfelt thanks from Bron, Brancker & Oliver



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