

*Rob Nelson.*

*July 2022*

Rob Nelson – an amazing bloke-he's such a gifted man.

If anyone can do the task then Rob most surely can.

He started teaching smaller schools and slowly up to vice  
and then became school principal – a fountain of advice.

His talents shone, the perfect role for such a quiet man.

Not just at school or after-school but early he began.

Ferntree Gully was the school – his home for many years.

And Rob was held in great esteem especially by his peers.

A teacher and a counsellor required wisdom sound.

His warmth, his humour, empathy were always to be found.

Connecting with the children won him awe and great respect

Long lasting ethics and great values all left their effect.

He worked with many wayward kids, the cops would often call.

He instilled trust from many lads, no challenge was too small.

A driving force with Bendigo and Kilmore Rail Trail

like any project or endeavour Rob would never Fail

His poison has been cycling, an addict over time

And Handlebar come Harriers his partners in the crime.

Then here we got to love the man along with all his style.

The TT riders won't forget the man and his great smile.

Now Lady Fortune's had her day in dealing out a hand  
That didn't have a flush or straight, one might say poorly planned  
But Rob has fought with great resolve, sheer guts is his vast song  
He's never heard of giving up – no choice, just soldier on.

Six months without a word to speak, the slow work with rehab  
But Rob was sure to persevere, made sure he paid the tab.  
And so this father, husband, mate and friend to many folk  
Is standing with us here today, a robust sturdy oak.

Now behind ev'ry brilliant man there stands a brilliant other  
and Bronwyn holds that strong position -Partner, wife and mother.  
Pushing, pulling, coaxing, catching, faith is her great strength.  
A true support and greater love – stretched out to any length.

And so they're headed off to Broome we wish them all the best  
we know they'll handle any challenge, any blessed test.  
Please raise your helmets and your glasses from the cycling mob  
All the best, bon voyage and here's to Bron and Rob.

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