

# Dad's last great adventure as his ashes wash up in Norway

By Robert Kellaway

A DEVOTED daughter who gave her father a poignant send-off by floating his ashes out to sea was stunned to find they had washed up 600 miles away...in Norway.

After Brian Lynn died almost two years ago, his daughter Nicci Welsh decided to give him one final adventure.

Nicci, 30, cast the ashes into the North Sea at South Shields pier, Tyne and Wear, on July 26 last year.

She filled a tub with his ashes, a letter, a photo of Brian from a cruise to Norway and a penny for good luck, and waited to find out where he would wash up.

Nicci said that when she discovered it was Norway she "freaked out". She said: "I was jumping around and screaming 'I just can't believe it'."

"It has been nearly a year since we cast him off. He washed up in southern Norway and the photograph that I put in the jar with his ashes was taken of him on a Norwegian cruise. It is so strange. I keep getting goosebumps.

"The lady who found my dad has sent me photos and it looks beautiful. I would love to go there one day and just sit there."

Former coal miner Brian, 76, fell in love with cruises after he retired from work 10 years ago and travelled all over the world



Ashes tub before its sea voyage

with his wife Annette, 68. Nicci, a regional administrator, from Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear, posted Brian's story online and created a dedicated Facebook page so people could follow his journey.

Norwegian Junina Van der Hagen stumbled across Brian's ashes near her home in Ramsøy and is planning to float him back out to sea in the next few weeks.

Nicci said: "He always loved his travelling and the idea just came



Nicci, with son Keiran, 'freaked out' when the ashes were found

to me one day, I wanted to do something special for him.

"Dad did a lot of cruises. His main love was Egypt and he said to me before he died, 'Just stick us in your pocket, with a little hole in the pocket, and walk around the Pyramids scattering my ashes'."

"I'm not sure you're allowed to do that but I would love it if at some point he ended up there."

Nicci traced the ashes through website Lostbox.



Brian on a Norway cruise

Pictures: MERCURY PRESS & MEDIA

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