Bob attended Coffs Harbour High School from 1957 to 1959 before moving to Sydney, where he was school captain at Blacktown Boys’ High. He graduated in Medicine from the University of Sydney, and then worked in hospitals in Canberra, Darwin, Alice Springs and London before moving to Tasmania in 1972.

His 40 year political career began with pioneering involvement in environmental and human rights campaigns and these remained his constant focus. He served for 10 years in the Tasmanian Parliament and for 16 years as a Senator in Canberra. He led the Australian Greens Party from its foundation until 2012 and was instrumental in its development from a marginal movement to a major force in Australian politics.

Bob Brown’s public profile was characterised by exceptional integrity, compassion and courage. In all matters of public policy, both national and international, he placed ethical considerations above economic and sectional interests. His unwavering advocacy of progressive policies made his career controversial and he was frequently the target of often brutal criticism from the media and the major political parties.

Bob Brown also founded the Australian Bush Heritage Fund and has published nine books. He has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Australian Peace Prize 2009 and Australian Humanist of the Year 2010.