



Administrator's update



Since our inaugural meeting, the NIGC has met with Jim Betts (Secretary DITRDC&A) and David Smith MP (Member for Bean). There is a shared optimism to harmonise the agenda for the future of our island. The committee has begun the work of reviewing service delivery and consulting with the community in developing a new governance model. Our next meeting is on December 6th.

Shipping has been busy! We have been able to successfully disembark all cruise ship passengers this season, with more than 6,500 day visitors over a 14-day period. After a great day visit, many are saying they want to come back for longer holidays. As well, the BBC Emsland has unloaded essential equipment and the island's first electric vehicles. Currently we are examining the incentives available to make electric vehicles more affordable to the community.

Also, I'd like to welcome my new Executive Officer Annie Pike and her husband Cooper to the island. Annie has a wealth of departmental experience and is a great support to the office.

George Plant

Apprenticeships and traineeships on Norfolk Island: one year on

In the twelve months since the Australian and Queensland Governments expanded state service delivery to support new apprenticeship and traineeship contracts on Norfolk Island, there have been 66 enrolments across a diverse range of industries including electrical, construction, butchery and plumbing, childcare and beauty therapy.

The service has enabled Norfolk Island residents to register apprenticeship and traineeship training contracts for full time, part time and school-based training contracts with the Queensland Government. It's the first time that school-based apprenticeships and traineeships have been supported on Norfolk Island. The support provided by the Queensland Department of Youth Justice, Employment, Small Business and Training and Asuria in registering and managing new apprenticeships and traineeships on Norfolk Island has provided locals with opportunities to gain professional qualifications in vitally important areas — with the potential to stay on island as qualified technicians in their fields.

Through the program, new apprentices and trainees have had opportunities comparable to those on the mainland — including access to placements mandatory to completing their qualifications, and face-to-face engagement and mentoring with others in their fields.

The Queensland and Australian Governments have also recently made improvements to the travel and accommodation funding process for VET students wishing to attend TAFE or work placement on the mainland.

Congratulations to all who have already enrolled in one of these programs and investing in the skills and qualifications to help our island, and our community grow and thrive into the future.

Celebrating our South Pacific Games competitors

A formal reception for the Norfolk Island 17th Pacific team was held at Government House on Tuesday, 9 November.

Every four years, the Pacific comes together in celebration of sport and culture.

This Pacific Games is taking place in Honiara, the capital city of the Solomon Islands. Kicking off on 19 November, the Games go through to 2 December, with more than 5,000 participants joining our local men and women.

The Norfolk Island team consists of athletes in the fields of Va'a, Netball, and Touch Football.

I would like to congratulate all the local athletes who were chosen to represent Norfolk Island and wish them safe travels and luck in their chosen sport. I know that you will all do Norfolk Island proud.



Office of the Administrator

New Military Barracks, Kingston, Norfolk Island 2899

Government House Open Days an opportunity to raise funds for charities on Norfolk

If you are a member of a community group which fundraises for charities and non-profit organisations, you can apply for an Open Day at Government House and use the entry fees to raise money for your worthwhile cause.

We hold open days each month on a Wednesday between 1.00pm – 3.30pm, allowing opportunities for people to visit and experience a piece of Norfolk Island's rich history first-hand, while supporting our volunteer charity and service organisations.

Before applying, you must obtain an information brochure on Government House Open Days from the Office of the Administrator (Ph. 22152), to understand the responsibilities of the successful applicants during the Open Days.

Let us know in writing how your organisation is able to meet the requirements in the brochure, by emailing us at: office.administrator@infrastructure.gov.au by COB Thursday, 30 November 2023.



Heaps of Halloween fun at Government House

The cellar at Government House transformed into a magically eerie Halloween wonderland on 31 October for more than 370 parents and children who attended the event. Children dressed as pint-sized pumpkins, pirates and witches were greeted by chain-saw wielding ghosts at the gates, before they made their way along the Trick-or-Treat trail into the dark cellar.



Here, some hair-raising experiences awaited them!

Having survived the spooktacular experience, families emerged to treasures of sweets, much to the delight of the children.

We hope everyone enjoyed the fun-filled, family experience — and look forward to welcoming you back next year for another ghostly evening.

Governance Committee community drop-in sessions

Following our inaugural meeting on 18 October, the Norfolk Island Governance Committee members are engaging regularly ahead of the next formal meeting on 6 December.

As part of their community engagement, your elected community representatives will be at the Supper Room, Rawson Hall every Wednesday from 4-6pm (other than public holidays), to meet with residents.

Any community organisations wishing to meet with the community representatives, or any person wanting to have a private discussion, please contact either Chris Magri (50367), Chelsea Evans (50432) or Alma Davidson (50486) or email NIGCcommunityreps@gmail.com

Written submissions on future governance models can be provided directly to the community representatives or through the Office of the Administrator. Submissions will be welcome until 1 March 2024.

HMS Sirius history returns

Recently, 44 objects loaned to the National Maritime Museum have returned home to Norfolk Island. These items – recovered from the wreck site of HMS Sirius, flagship of the First Fleet – include bottle fragments, sheathing nails, bolts, ceramic shards and pieces from musket guns such as a trigger guard and ramrod.

Some of these remarkable pieces are now displayed at HMS Sirius Museum (open 11am-3pm, Monday-Saturday) which is free for locals to visit.

