

## ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE



At the beginning of this year the community response to the Asian Tsunami disaster was exemplary. The emergency relief implemented on Norfolk Island and throughout Australia were excellent examples of generosity and meaningful contributions by many people for those in need.

In the past 6 months Norfolk Island has also experienced financial strain. Declining tourism numbers and airline problems have caused complications for the commercial sector and for government budgeting. To achieve a local economic recovery determined efforts by political leaders, public servants and business operators will require trust, appreciation and responsibility to produce stronger and sustainable relationships.

There are many social, cultural and economic benefits to be gained by all of us working to strengthen the Norfolk Island community.

Community challenges across many issues are being addressed by the Norfolk Island Government in partnership with the Australian Government, where appropriate. In addition to stimulating business and tourism industries, local attention is being applied to health and social service issues, and other areas

such as employment, skilled migration and telecommunications.

This newsletter canvasses some of the issues that are currently being considered in my office, and various Australian Government agencies with particular Norfolk Island interests.

Sandy & I are thoroughly enjoying our community and social involvements. Sandy's activities at the Blood Bank, Red Cross, Hospital Auxiliary & RSL Women's organisations are proving most engaging.

GRANT TAMBLING  
ADMINISTRATOR  
July 2005

## NORFOLK ISLAND 'SIRIUS' FRIENDSHIP

The Royal Australian Navy has agreed to accept the kind offer by the community of Norfolk Island to 'adopt' the most recent navy ship to carry an important historical name that has such close ties with Norfolk Island.



HMS Sirius

The original HMS Sirius was part of the First Fleet to Australia in 1788. It sank after striking the reef of Norfolk Island's Sydney Bay in 1790.

The Norfolk Island community will 'adopt' the new HMAS Sirius after the ship's launch, scheduled for mid 2006.

## NORFOLK ISLAND CROWN LEASE TRANSFERS COMMENCE

The first offers of freehold title for Crown lessees began in July with the Australian Government making formal offers on 63 residential, rural residential and rural Crown leases. The offers to existing Crown Lessees, which are optional, have been made as part of a joint Commonwealth/Norfolk Island Government Land Initiative first announced in June 2000.

In making the first stage offers the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, the Hon Jim Lloyd, said that; "The Land Initiative reflects the commitment of the Commonwealth and Norfolk Island Governments that residents of the Island, like other Australians, should have the opportunity to own the land on which they live."

Minister Lloyd also announced that a further 66 Crown leases planned for transfer, that were subject of a Commonwealth Heritage List nomination, are also to be offered to Crown lessees after the Federal Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator the Hon Ian Campbell, decided not to include these leases on the Commonwealth Heritage List. Offers to these Crown lessees are expected to be made in the near future.

Agreement has been reached between the Australian and Norfolk Island Government that the revenue generated from the transfer will be placed in an Environmental Trust Fund in honour of the late Ivens (Toon) Buffett, the former Norfolk Island Government Minister for Land and the Environment. Toon was instrumental in seeing the land initiative prerequisites completed, which in turn has allowed the Australian Government to consider the transfer of the Crown leases. The trust in his name will be used for environmental projects for the Island. Funding of up to \$400,000 is expected to be provided to the trust from the land transfer.

Further information on the land transfer can be obtained from Mr Jim Kichenside in the Office of the Administrator, telephone 22152.

# ADMINISTRATOR'S *Mid Year* NEWSLETTER

JULY 2005



## GOVERNMENT HOUSE OPEN DAYS

Monthly Open Days at Government House continue to prove very successful with almost 3000 visitors in 2004-05, raising over \$16,200 for local charities and other organisations. The January Open Day contributed \$2100 which was provided to Care Australia, Oxfam and World Vision - to assist with the special Tsunami appeal. From 1 July 2005, admission is \$7.00 per adult. A big thank you must go to all the Open Day volunteers who have contributed to another successful year!

There are 20 wonderful Norfolk Island "sitters" who supervise Open Days.

So far this year Government House has hosted 30 community functions, receptions, dinners and special luncheons hosting 1000 guests.



*Picture shows a few who attended a Thank You High Tea*

## CAPITAL WORKS

The 5 year conservation and restoration program at Government House has now been completed. The fine heritage work has been a credit to the KAVHA/Restoration works team. Outdoor gardens, electrical and gas facilities are now being upgraded by local Norfolk Island tradesmen and contractors.

## AUSTRALIA DAY 26 JANUARY 2005 - GOVERNMENT HOUSE



*Julie Anthony & Minister Jim Lloyd MP*

## GOVERNOR GENERAL OF THE SOLOMON ISLANDS - APRIL 2005



*Administrator & His Excellency Sir Nathaniel Waena*

## BOUNTY DAY PARADE - 8 JUNE 2005



*Traditional Pitcairn families*

# ADMINISTRATOR'S *Mid Year* NEWSLETTER

JULY 2005

## AUSTRALIAN PASSPORT ALERT

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) recently advised of changes to Australia's passport system, particularly regarding persons who may misplace or lose their Australian passport.

From 1 July 2005, the Australian Passports Act 2005 came into force. The new changes will require you to report the loss or theft of your passport or document of identity as soon as possible to a Passports Office and it will be immediately and permanently cancelled. Any attempt to use a cancelled passport for further travel will be illegal. An additional fee, on top of the normal passport processing fee will be charged to replace the document.

The amount of the extra fee will depend on how many travel documents you have reported lost or stolen in the previous five years. If it's one the fee will be \$50, if two it will be \$153 and if three or more \$306. If it's three or more the validity of your new passport will also be reduced to five years.

DFAT have advised these measures are aimed to reduce the number of passports reported lost or stolen each year and to improve security arrangements. Further enquiries can be directed to the Office.

## THE HON GREG HUNT MP

Parliamentary Secretary the Hon Greg Hunt (Environment and Heritage) was accompanied by his family (wife and infant daughter), personal staffer [Katrina Flannery], and Assistant Secretary (DEH) Mary Cochrane for 4 days of activities associated with Norfolk Island Bounty Day celebrations and his portfolio responsibilities National Parks/ Bureau of Meteorology.



*Picture of the Hon Greg Hunt MP and family at Government House morning tea on Bounty Day*

## NORFOLK ISLAND METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

The Australian Bureau of Meteorology operates and maintains the Norfolk Island meteorological office located off Douglas Drive (adjacent the airport). The new office was opened on 17 July 2003 at a cost of approximately \$2.5 million, and collects continuous weather information for national and global dissemination, with particular input into the south-west Pacific region. Mike Triggs, Officer in Charge, arrived from Weipa (Qld) in May 2004 (and has held two previous postings on-island), while Adam Jauczius arrived from Eucla (WA) in January 2005 and Ray Hegarty in April 2005. Ray's previous posting was at Mawson in Antarctica, where he saw plenty of penguins and giant icebergs! Some useful satellite information on Norfolk Island weather patterns is found at: [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)



*Norfolk Island Meteorological staff  
L-R ~ Adam Jauczius, Mike Triggs, Ray Hegarty*

## AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND RELATED VISITORS BOOK FOR 2005 (so far)

### Federal MP's . . .

- The Hon Jim Lloyd
- The Hon Warren Truss
- The Hon Greg Hunt
- Annette Ellis MP
- Sophie Panopoulos MP
- The Hon Barry Jones [PAHSMA Board]
- Rev John Woodley [former Senator]

### Other Visitors . . .

- Jane Lennon [Heritage]
- Kirsty Altenburg [DEH]
- Ann McGregor [DEH]
- Michael Shultz [DEH]
- Bob Peters [AFP]
- Mark Bayliss [AFP]
- Phyl Sherlock [Customs]
- "Crash" [Customs Dog]
- Mary Porter MLA [ACT]
- Philip Bignell [Treasury]
- John McCarthy [ATO]
- Anthony Johnson [ABS]
- Con Boekel, [AS-DEH]
- Mary Cochrane [DEH]
- Julia Mulligan [DEH]
- Liz Boyle [DEH]
- Sema Varova [FAS - DOTARS]
- Richard Magor [DOTARS]
- Jim Mallett [DOTARS]
- Anna Gough [DOTARS]
- John Abel [Minister's Staff]
- Leonie Burke [Minister's Staff]
- Katrina Flannery [Minister's Staff]
- Robyn West [DFAT]
- Bevan Cootes [Aviation Consultant]
- Robert Ness [Conservation Architect]
- Eric Martin [KAVHA Architect]
- Graham Watson [KAVHA Archaeologist]
- Simon Batt [Pier Consultant]
- Peter Coltman [Pier Consultant]

### Other Important Visitors . . .

- Governor-General of the Solomon Islands Sir Nathaniel Waena & Lady Waena [as guests of Speaker the Hon David Buffett AM MLA]
- Austrian Ambassador Dr Hans Demel
- PAHSMA Board

## AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FUNDING

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Examples of Australian Government agencies recent support or funding activities for Norfolk Island are listed below. Several of these measures have been at the request of the Norfolk Island Government:

- provision of a Commonwealth interest free loan for the resurfacing of the airport (\$12 million);
- a \$2.6 million grant for the refurbishment of the Kingston Pier, plus \$50,000 toward the cost of a project engineer;
- funding provision for an expert aviation consultant (Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation) to assist with airline planning and service delivery following the liquidation of Norfolk Jet Express;
- a \$150,000 grant for the preparation of an Asset Management Plan to identify future island infrastructure requirements;
- a \$650,000 grant under the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) to assist with implementation of a green waste management system including the purchase of a "tub grinder";
- provision of technical advice from visiting officials (Treasury, Australian Tax Office and Australian Bureau of Statistics) to assist the Norfolk Island Government in its investigations of a Norfolk Sustainability Levy;
- funding of \$17,365 to the Cat Welfare and Wildlife Protection Association of Norfolk Island, through their successful application for a NHT Envirofund grant, to conduct a comprehensive bird survey;
- funding under the Historic Shipwrecks Program to the Norfolk Island Museum to assist with maritime collections, including \$11,500 in 2004-05 and \$10,000 in 2003-04; and
- ongoing annual funding of over \$500,000 to assist with heritage management and the maintenance program for the Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area (KAVHA), plus an additional \$70,000 for an accelerated asbestos removal program in 2004-05 and \$7,500 toward the cost of preparing draft licensing policy guidelines within KAVHA.



## ROLE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

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The Administrator acts as the symbolic head of the Norfolk Island Government and as the Australian Government's senior representative in the Territory. The Administrator carries out ceremonial duties and exercises powers under a range of Commonwealth and Territory laws on the advice of relevant Ministers and officials, in accordance with the Norfolk Island Act 1979. The Office of the Administrator is maintained by the Australian Government Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS) and also provides Australian travel document (e.g. passport) and immigration services on behalf of other Australian Government Departments.

## OUR CONTACTS

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### Enquiries

Phone: 22152 Facsimile: 22681

Website: [www.dotars.gov.au/terr/norfolk/administrator.aspx](http://www.dotars.gov.au/terr/norfolk/administrator.aspx)

### Postal Address

Office of the Administrator, PO Box 201, Norfolk Island 2899

### Street Address

Office of the Administrator, New Military Barracks, Kingston, Norfolk Island

### Government House - Kingston

Phone: 22000 Staff: 22220

## HELPFUL LINKS

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### Norfolk Island Government

Norfolk Island Administration: [www.norfolk.gov.nf](http://www.norfolk.gov.nf)

### Australian Government

Department of Transport and Regional Services: [www.dotars.gov.au](http://www.dotars.gov.au)

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade: [www.dfat.gov.au](http://www.dfat.gov.au)

Department of the Environment and Heritage: [www.deh.gov.au](http://www.deh.gov.au)

Australian Fisheries Management Authority: [www.afma.gov.au](http://www.afma.gov.au)

Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs:  
[www.dimia.gov.au](http://www.dimia.gov.au)

Australian Government Grants (GrantsLINK): [www.grantslink.gov.au](http://www.grantslink.gov.au)

## OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR STAFF

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### Administrator

The Hon Grant Tambling

### Official Secretary and Deputy Administrator

Michael Stephens

### Policy and Projects Officer

Jim Kichenside

### Finance/Immigration Officer

Anne Wright

### Administrative Officer

Darlene Buffett