



Norfolk Island | Issue no. 05 | 1 April 2021

## Update on Norfolk Island Regional Council matters

It will be great to have Norfolk Island Regional Council interim Administrator Mike Colreavy back on island next week, ahead of the next Council meeting. He will also be meeting with community groups and individuals again.

As you may have seen, the independent Commissioner appointed to conduct the public inquiry into NIRC, Carolyn McNally, will also be on Norfolk Island this month.

Ms McNally will visit from 13–15 April 2021.

While on-Island, she will be conducting community sessions to help inform the inquiry within its Terms of Reference.

The Inquiry's Terms of Reference focus on whether the NIRC has performed its financial and asset management roles in accordance with relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) (NI).

For information on the inquiry and the sessions on 14 April, you can go to:

[www.regional.gov.au/territories/norfolk\\_island/public-inquiry-nirc/](http://www.regional.gov.au/territories/norfolk_island/public-inquiry-nirc/)

To register for a session, contact [NIRCpublicinquiry@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:NIRCpublicinquiry@infrastructure.gov.au) by 6 April 2021.

As this is an independent inquiry, ongoing communications relating to the Inquiry will come out from the NIRC public inquiry Commissioner or secretariat.

## Kingston update

It was fantastic to welcome the Advisory Committee for the Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area (Kingston) back to island last week. Due to COVID-19 impacts in 2020, it was the first face-to-face meeting for new members Susan Prior and Dr Jane Harrington. Sadly, it was also the final meeting for Ms Kristal Buckley. Kristal's vast knowledge and experience of cultural heritage management around the world has proven extremely valuable in guiding the management and future direction of Kingston. Unfortunately, Dids Evans was unable to join us and we wish him a full and speedy recovery.

The Committee took the opportunity to see and hear first-hand the achievements and challenges of Kingston, with Jimmy Quintal showing the members the incredible restoration work being undertaken by the site maintenance team, and demonstrating the process of shingle-making.

Rose Evans discussed Norfolk's enviable tourism recovery, and the opportunities and challenges that presents for Kingston, the museums and the island as a whole. Following consultation with several on-island groups, an excited Maree Evans shared the vision for new interpretation at the site to better unlock its diverse and intriguing history.

Archaeologist Tom Sapienza impressed the group with new maps and knowledge obtained using historical images and sketches, GIS data and lidar imagery and the potential this provides for underpinning site interpretation and the planning of capital works projects.

The Committee visited several key buildings to discuss future opportunities and challenges for use and activation to inform future site master plan discussions. Members were able to meet with Helen Pedel, Chair of the Community Advisory Group (CAG), and informally with other members of CAG to hear about their experiences, goals and challenges for the site.

## Administrator's message...

I am truly honoured to have been reappointed as Administrator of Norfolk Island for the next two years. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many local people who have gone out of their way to contact me directly offering their support and best wishes.

It was good to see the Southern Tiare unloading at Kingston this week. We have more work to do in the coming years - and freight remains my first priority.



I will continue to do all I can to work with local businesses and Government to deliver a regular, reliable and cost-effective sea freight service for the island.

As the Australian Government's senior representative on Norfolk Island, part of my role is to represent the views of the community back to my Minister and again, I thank those within this community who engage with me and my office in a constructive way. My experience is that better outcomes are achieved for the communities we live in when constructive engagement is at the centre of decision-making. My office welcomes all those with ideas who are willing to work collaboratively to achieve good outcomes for Norfolk Island.

Easter is a special time that brings families together, so I take this opportunity to wish all those who call this beautiful island home, a safe and holy Easter.



Office of the Administrator

New Military Barracks, Kingston, Norfolk Island 2899

## Economic stimulus package update – tourism projects

As part of the tailored COVID-19 package announced in July 2019, the Australian Government committed \$475,000 to promote tourism on Norfolk Island ensuring that, as borders continue to slowly reopen, we are well placed as a world-class destination for domestic travellers looking to tour their own backyard.

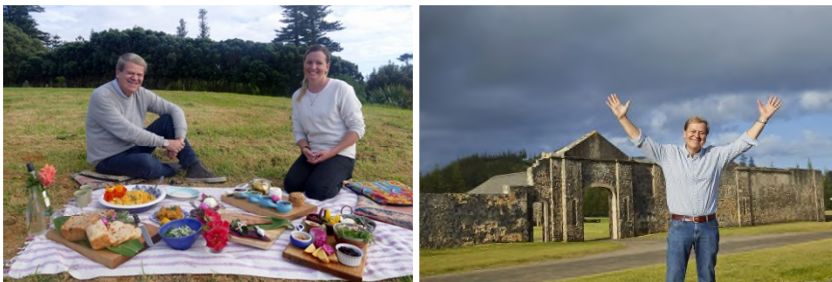
Since then, significant progress has been made on the three projects funded through the tourism aspect of the stimulus package.

These include the White Tern project to deliver a digital platform and marketing campaign for the Norfolk Island Regional Council (NIRC) to target and drive digital campaigns. The campaigns have commenced and initial data indicates they are generating considerable interest and travel to the island.

Another initiative is the production of a documentary hosted by Ray Martin and filmed by award-winning landscape photographer Ken Duncan. This project is in partnership with Tourism Australia. Ray, Ken and the production crew are on-Island this week to begin filming.

Another exciting promotional tool is the production of four 30-minute episodes on Norfolk Island, featuring six stories per episode, for broadcast on Channel 9, 9Life and 9Now. The broadcast will be complemented by an advertising campaign that includes commercial airtime, billboards and TV commercials. The production team have been delayed on two occasions due to COVID-19 events on the mainland, and at this stage are expected in May.

Thanks to Unique Tourism Collection (UTC) for its support of the production team both off and on island to ensure the Ray Martin documentary and the Channel 9 travel series are available for marketing later this year.



## Water quality update

Following Senversa's recent visit on island to progress the detailed environmental investigation into PFAS, I am pleased to update you that the water freighted to the island in 2019 as part of the initial PFAS response is no longer required. It will now be made available to local not-for-profit community and sporting groups for their use. The water is available in 10 litre containers, 1.5 litre and 600ml bottles. The 10-litre containers are able to be re-used and all are encouraged to get creative with re-purposing containers and bottles in your groups, homes and maybe even your 'Wearable Art' entries. If you would like to express an interest in obtaining some of this water, please contact Kelly Quintal on 22152.



## Current consultations

Following stakeholder consultation last year on options for the infrastructure and long-term management of Norfolk Island ports, the Norfolk Island Ports Management Strategy – Narrowed Options Paper is being prepared, providing options for ports management at Norfolk Island.

These options will be available on the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communication's webpage.

From 27 April through until 7 May, the community will be invited to have their say on each long-term option for the effective management of Norfolk Island's ports.

Further information on how you can have your say will be released shortly.

## Did you know?

There is a one-stop location for all Australian Government business opportunities, as well as annual procurement plans and contracts awarded, through Austender.

Local businesses seeking to bid for Government works and contracts for Norfolk Island can stay up to date with the latest opportunities through the AusTender site.

If you are an interested supplier, AusTender offers:

- Automatic notification of business opportunities (approaches to market and Planned Procurements)
- Electronic lodgement of tender responses into a secure electronic tender box
- Access 24 hours a day 7 days a week
- Online access to information about standing offers and contracts awarded

For more information, visit:

<https://www.tenders.gov.au/>

