

## Administrator's update



The best thing about holidays away, is returning home to Norfolk! That's how I felt after our recent holiday. Spring is here, we have had a good winter, the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Show was on last week, "dem wettles houw goode" and as you will read, the community is alive with activity.

The NIGC has had several meetings. We have now made our recommendations on the Electoral Ordinance and these are available for comment on the NIGC website. As we work on the recommendations for the Assembly Ordinance these will also be put up on the website for community comment.

Next month I am very pleased that we will have my counterpart Administrator for the Indian Ocean Territories Farzian Zainal and her family visiting the island. Since becoming Administrator, I visited with Farzian, the Cocos Keeling and Christmas Islands. Seeing both these places made me realise that while all three island territories are very different, we all share the love of place and community. Farzian and I have since then continued to work together on the common issues that we face in being able to continue to live on our island homes. I am really looking forward to showing her our island, the way we do things here and opportunities to help each other.

### Farewell to our Year 12 Graduates

On 20 October, we gathered at Government House to celebrate and farewell our 2025 Year 12 graduates. These events are always filled with pride, joy and a touch of sadness as we reflect on the journeys these students have taken together and the exciting new chapters ahead.

Graduation marks a significant milestone, the culmination of years of learning, friendship and growth.

I encourage our graduates to embrace challenges as opportunities, to continue learning and growing and to always remember the positive impact they can have on the world around them. Your potential is limitless, and I have every confidence that each of you will go on to achieve great things.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025 Year 12 graduates – we are so proud of you and look forward to seeing all that you will accomplish. A huge thank you to all the teachers and parents on Norfolk Island who have supported our Year 12 graduates every step of the way. You have made a world of difference in helping them reach this important milestone!



#### **Government House Community Gardens Open**

It was an honour to recently open the new Government House Community Gardens. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who came along and to all the wonderful volunteers who helped bring this project to life – especially Karen Innes-Walker for her leadership and dedication.

The gardens are more than just a place to grow plants. They are a space for connection, learning and sharing fresh produce. They bring people together, strengthen our community, and encourage healthy, sustainable living.

It was fantastic to see everyone enjoying the day, swapping stories, ideas and gardening tips. Keep an eye on social media for details about the next working bee – or reach out to Karen Innes-Walker if you'd like to get involved and get your hands in the soil!





## **Honouring 50 Years of Sterling Service!**

It was a privilege and joy to celebrate an extraordinary milestone – Dennis Sterling's remarkable 50 years of service with the Lions Club of Norfolk Island.

Dennis has given his time, energy and passion to our community in ways that are both quiet and powerful. His commitment has never been about recognition, but about genuine care for the well-being of Norfolk Island its people.

It was with great admiration that I presented Dennis with the Australian Lions Foundation 50 Years of Service Medal. More than just a symbol, the medal represents a lifetime devoted to service, friendship and community spirit.

Congratulations Dennis on this incredible achievement.

Your legacy of leadership, generosity and unwavering commitment is deeply valued. On behalf of the Norfolk Island community, thank you for all that you have given and continue to give.



### **Celebrating our Year 10 Students**

On 9 October, we gathered at Government House to celebrate the achievements of our Year 10 students with a special luncheon. It was a wonderful opportunity to recognise their hard work and the exciting journeys ahead.

Many of our students are continuing their studies, taking on new challenges and preparing for future opportunities. For others, this marks the beginning of employment, a change to gain real-world experience and contribute to our community in meaningful ways.

I reminded the students that learning never truly ends. Each new experience, whether in the classroom or the workplace, helps shape who we are and who we will become.

Congratulations to the Year 10 Class of 2025 on reaching this milestone, and best wishes for the exciting paths ahead.

A heartfelt thank you to the teachers, families and community members who have supported these students along the way. Your encouragement and guidance play such an important role in their success.



# Recognising Success and Community Spirit at NICS Awards

Norfolk Island Central School (NICS) celebrated its Sports and Citizenship Awards Presentation on 15 October 2025.

It was a wonderful opportunity to recognise the achievements and efforts of our students throughout the year.

I had the privilege of presenting sporting trophies, including the 'Major General Sellheim Cup' for the 100m sprint to Alickson Kalsrap, the 'Athlete of the Meet' award to Alba Menghetti, and the 'Inter-House Champion Trophy' to Norfolk House.

The Office of the Administrator also sponsors awards that recognise efforts in schooling, participation in sports and school carnivals, positive behavior, and contributions to the school and wider community. This year's recepients of these special awards were Arlo Robinson, Grace Wills, and Zaria Evans.

Congratulations to all our winners! A heartfelt thank you goes to the teachers and parents whose guidance, support and encouragement are at the heart of our student's successes. Your dedication helps make moments like these possible.



# Stay connected to the news that matters

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The Office of the Norfolk Island

Administrator Facebook page is your go-to source!

From important announcements to local events and initiatives, it's the easiest way to stay informed and connected. Like and follow the page today, and make sure you never miss a thing happening on our island.