



## Slaughter Bay Seawall remediation works complete

Remediation works on the Slaughter Bay Seawall section from Kingston Jetty to Lime Kiln are now complete, better protecting the World Heritage site from inundation and erosion.

The Australian Government invested some \$1.4 million in the completion of this important project, with all construction work undertaken by local contractors.

The remediation works included rebuilding and reinforcing sections of the wall that had collapsed during construction activities, as well as stabilising the sea wall and rock flagging in the Kingston Jetty area, helping secure the wall during future weather events.

You may notice shifting sands will come and go in the area along the foreshore.

Thank you to everyone who worked on this important project, and to the community for your patience as we made these vital upgrades to protect Kingston into the future.



## Administrator's update

Following the very productive recent meeting with the Minister, the Norfolk Island Governance Committee has published the timeframe to complete its work. Designing a bespoke governance model for the island is unique and is probably new in Australia. It is a complex task and we are now well advanced in completing the committee's recommendations on both the initial Electoral Ordinance -which will allow for the first election of the Assembly's members and the actual Assembly Ordinance - providing the legal framework for the new governance body to operate. We are releasing our recommendations progressively so that the community can provide feedback to Chris and Chelsea.

After this we will work on completing our recommendations on a financial model. In doing this the committee is working closely with the NIRC Administrators Scott Mason and Gary Mottau. As a community we have all experienced previous governance arrangements eventually failing financially. This is the opportunity to learn from our experience and to provide the new model with a financial framework that is sustainable and demonstrates the durability of our community.

Providing a smooth transition from our current arrangements to the new model is a key part of the committee's work and in parallel with our current work, committee members are bringing together all the facets that need to be considered so we have a single document that provides clear guidance and support for this process. We expect our recommendations for this important transition to be commenced in December and completed in the first half of next year and again shared with the community.

With the recent announcement that Phil Reid is finishing up with NIRC and moving with his family to a new role in Tasmania, I extend my thanks to him. We appreciated the experience and local understanding Phil has brought to NIRC as Acting General Manager. He has done a great job in improving the work environment at NIRC and we look forward to the new leadership guiding NIRC through transition.

## Repairing Bounty St Bridge

This spring, structural repair and conservation works will begin on the Bounty Street Bridge in the Kingston and Arthurs Vale Historic Area (KAVHA). The contract for these important works has been awarded to David W Evans with on-island support provided by AECOM Australia Pty Ltd (AECOM), who have experience and knowledge of the distinct environmental and heritage needs of the island.

The works will include the temporary diversion of Watermill Creek around the bridge during the construction, reinforcing the bridge and conservation stonework using traditional lime render techniques, and all undertaken in accordance with environmental and heritage laws. During construction, the bridge will be closed to vehicles and pedestrians. Once conservation and structural upgrades are complete, the bridge will re-open including to vehicle traffic.

Constructed in 1835, Bounty Street Bridge is one of only a small number of remaining architecturally designed stone bridges from the early nineteenth century, and these works will be undertaken with great respect to its heritage and cultural significance. We appreciate the community and visitors' understanding as we work to ensure the bridge remains a symbol of our island's rich history for generations to come.



Office of the Administrator

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## H5 Bird Flu Preparedness for Norfolk Island

H5 bird flu (avian influenza) is a serious viral disease that mainly affects birds. The current risk to the public is low.

In July, staff from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) H5 Bird Flu Taskforce and Northern Australian Quarantine Strategy (NAQS) were on Island, as part of the Australian Government's preparation for any potential outbreak.

Australia remains the only continent free of this serious and highly contagious strain, which has spread rapidly around the globe. Overseas, H5 bird flu has caused:

- extensive losses of poultry
- mass deaths in wild birds and mammals, especially marine mammals and those that prey or scavenge on birds.
- impacts on over 560 bird species and more than 100 mammal species, including dairy cattle, cats, goats, alpacas, and pigs

Norfolk Island National Park staff have been assisting NAQS to conduct regular bird flu sampling on Norfolk Island and Philip Island. While Norfolk Island is currently free from H5 bird flu, wild birds can carry bird flu over long distances. This poses a risk, especially with large numbers of migratory birds that stop to rest, feed, or breed, on Norfolk, Napean, and Phillip Islands, and nearby rocky outcrops.

DAFF is working closely with multiple stakeholders on Island to develop response plans that will help the community prepare for and respond to any future outbreak.

Further information will be shared with the community as preparedness efforts progress.

## Government House Open Days postponed due to restoration works

The August Open Days for Government House have been temporarily postponed due to urgent repair works currently being undertaken.

While the repairs are ongoing, Government House will remain closed to visitors.

We understand this may disappoint those planning to attend the Open Days, and we sincerely thank people for their understanding and patience during this time.

Once the restoration is complete, new dates for Open Days will be announced. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to Government House soon.



## Spotlight on Success – Isabelle Randall

Isabelle Randall was proudly named a School-based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year finalist for South East Queensland in the 2025 Queensland Training Awards.

As a student completing a Certificate III in Beauty Services via TAFE Queensland, with practical experience at Serenity Day Spa and Beauty, Isabelle represents the very best of vocational education and training in this region.

Her journey showcases the transformative power of hands-on training and dedication. Balancing school and a trade qualification is no small feat – with her drive and professionalism, Isabelle has become a role model for other aspiring students considering vocational pathways.

We wholeheartedly celebrate and congratulate Isabelle on this remarkable achievement. Your story embodies the strength of VET and inspires others to believe in what they can achieve.

## Australia Post Delivery Deadlines

Australia Post continues to work hard to meet delivery deadlines for the Norfolk Island community, particularly with express post packages. While delays can sometimes occur, their commitment remains strong.

Express post items are generally delivered within 1-3 weeks. However, factors such as limited aircraft capacity, weather events and other unforeseen circumstances can affect delivery timeframes. These challenges are often beyond the control of Australia Post but are considered when planning and managing logistics.

The community are encouraged to provide this office with their tracking numbers for packages that appear to be delayed. This office will continue to support the Norfolk Island community and work with Australia Post to improve delivery services wherever possible.