

Administrator's update

Isn't it great to have some fresh green grass to welcome the embryo-transfer and AI calves to the island! The work that Madeline and Di from Regional Development Australia MNC and the local cattle owners have done to solve the herd's genetic diversity has been exceptional and shows how when we get the right people together, anything is possible.

A great example of this was the recent International Women's Day celebration. Meliame and I brought together an inspiring set of local women who demonstrate how capable we are as a community in nurturing and developing talent to help run our island. Volunteerism is a further example of this and the recent award to the Volunteer Rescue Squad for the 2022 cliff rescue was well deserved. A reminder to everyone that nominations for this year's five volunteer awards close on May 1st.

It was very interesting talking to the recent Tourism Australia delegation to the island about their impressions. The beauty and history of Norfolk are self-evident to all our visitors however they said the community and its obvious love of this place and desire to maintain this uniqueness was its defining feature.

During the current caretaker period, both Kim Forbes (as the DITRDCA representative) and myself (as the Minister's representative and Chair) sit as observers on the Norfolk Island Governance Committee. Both Chris and Chelsea are continuing their work in consulting with the community each fortnight and providing feedback to the Committee. We'll have more news for you after the election outcome on next steps.



Office of the Administrator
New Military Barracks, Kingston, Norfolk Island 2899

International Women's Day

International Women's Day (IWD) has been marked for more than a century. IWD celebrates women's achievements, raises awareness of discrimination, acts for equality, and rejoices inclusivity.

On Saturday 8 March 2025, Meliame and I hosted an afternoon tea for a number of women in our community.

Together we celebrated the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women on our island.

As a father and husband, I celebrate all women, in all their diversities.

We have come a long way from a time when women were not allowed to vote, equal pay was unheard of – if women were even allowed to work – and reproductive rights were non-existent.



Let's not forget, that we were among the first communities ever, to afford women the vote.

It was a privilege to witness the solidarity of women in our community at the event.

They are inspiring, energised and stand together.

Norfolk Island Volunteer awards nominations

This year, for the first time, we are hosting a Norfolk Island Volunteer awards ceremony to recognise those local people who go above and beyond in their community service. Nominations are currently open in five categories:

- Young volunteer of the year
- Adult volunteer of the year
- Senior volunteer of the year
- Volunteer team of the year
- Emergency volunteer of the year

Nominations close Thursday, 1 May 2025, and the ceremony will be Wednesday, 14 May 2025.

Nominating a volunteer is one of the most meaningful ways to offer public recognition for their service to our community. I look forward to reading all of the nominations.

Newsletter

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Caretaker conventions now formally in place

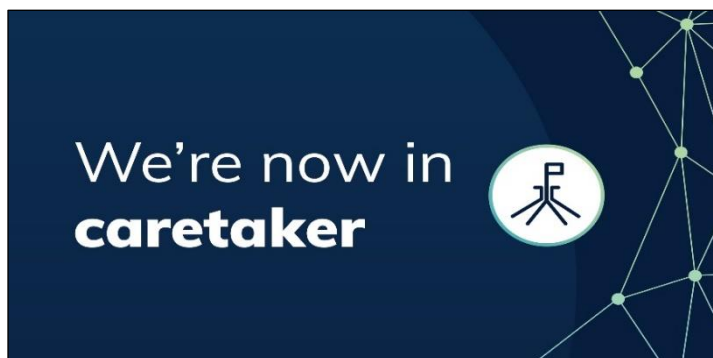
On Friday 28 March, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese formally announced the 2025 federal election will take place on Saturday, 3 May 2025.

Following the announcement, and the dissolution of the House of Representatives by the Governor-General, caretaker conventions are now in place until the new government is appointed by the Governor-General.

During the caretaker period, the business of government continues and ordinary matters of administration will still be addressed by the Department.

For more information on caretaker conventions go to:

www.pmc.gov.au/resources/guidance-caretaker-conventions



Norfolk makes the headlines

My office had a bit of excitement on Wednesday, 2 April when the Trump tariffs were announced!

No matter the reason, it was great to see Norfolk Island highlighted through broadcast, print and online media all over the world.

Rescue Squad reception

This month the Norfolk Island Rescue Squad were awarded with the Commissioner's Unit Citation for Service in recognition of their efforts to save the life of a rock fisherman on 22 August 2022.



We have a stunning coastline on our island, with enviable fishing spots however these spots come with risks including unstable cliff edges, high swells, rogue waves and poor weather conditions.

Sometimes it doesn't matter how aware you are, or how well prepared, accidents still happen.

Chris Ryder, Deputy Commissioner for VRA NSW travelled to Norfolk to assist in presenting the awards at a reception at Government House.

Our local volunteers dedicate their time and efforts, making positive impacts on the lives of our community.

Tourism Australia visit

The Island hosted a group of delegates from Tourism Australia in the first week of April.

To end their visit, we held a small reception at Government House.

Local tourism businesses came together at the event to network and share ideas. It was obvious that the Tourism Australia delegates loved our remote paradise as much as we do. They swam at Emily Bay, walked through our stunning forests, and were intrigued by our history.

We all agreed that Norfolk Island has something for every traveller and our success as a destination has been built on world-class natural beauty, unique wildlife, exceptional food, enviable history and the warmth of our community.

I am confident that after their visit here, Tourism Australia will be encouraging more people to travel to Norfolk.



Keep up to date with the latest from my office

Make sure to like and subscribe to my new Facebook page – Office of the Norfolk Island Administrator – for the latest, up-to-date information straight from my desk.

It's the best way of keeping across the news that matters to the community!

