

MUSEUMS AND RESEARCH CENTRE

A big thank you to the Foundation Day team!

We celebrated the 234th anniversary of Foundation Day on Sunday and even got a glimpse of blue sky! The anniversary marks the beginning of the first British settlement on Norfolk Island when a party of 23 people landed at the south of the island on the 6 March in 1788.

Each year Norfolk Island welcomes many visitors for a week of activities surrounding Foundation Day, and this year was no different with all available space filled with spectators for the re-enactment. The crowd was able to enjoy the boats bringing to shore the first twenty-three people, among them were six women convicts, nine male convicts, three seamen, two marines, a surgeon and a surgeon's mate together with their appointed Commandant, Lieutenant Philip Gidley King.

The event began with Don Christian-Reynolds entertaining the crowds with old English songs and a welcome from the Administrator Eric Hutchinson. The performance was followed by food provided by Rotary. It was a wonderful day of celebration – a big thank you goes to Lou Tavener and the team at *Go Norfolk Island* for their seamless management and delivery of the event.

Together with *Go Norfolk Island*, the Norfolk Island Regional Council wish to convey a thank you to all involved:

- The wonderful cast: Brooke Watson, Pete Randell, Rob Rowston, Snoop Glen Williams, Mammy Caine Henderson, Malcolm Dowling, Croyden Snell, Akasha Adams, John Christian-Bailey, Mitch Randall, Dylan Quintal-Christian, Kev Randall, Ben Elliott, Theo Watson, Dustin Menzies, , Jaylon Williams, Sarah Randall, Tanya Randall, Cherie Nobbs, Jasmine Watson, Flynn Watson, Helen Jackson, Daniella Randall.



- Don Christian-Reynolds for the sound, compering, lectern, and entertainment.
- Louci Reynolds and Ngaire Chrystal for training the speakers, and a special thanks to Louci for also narrating with Don Christian-Reynolds.
- The star speakers - McKenzie Davies, Xavier, Hayley Laffan, Tiare Buffett, Leilani Eales, Nate Christian-Bailey, and Ryan Cooper-Buffett.
- Setup & packup crew – Danny Forsythe, Jimbo Tavener, and Trish Le Mura
- Mammy for putting the boats in with his digger.
- Tim Pearson for Rhonda boat & Kev Randall for Shanks boat.
- Arthur Evans for supplying the chook cage.
- Lee Irvine for the handcrafted replica Brown Bess Musket guns.
- St John Officer - Jimbo Tavener.
- Community Arts for the use of the chairs.
- Norfolk Island Rotary Club and Norfolk Island Lions for setting up their stalls and selling delicious food.
- Radio Norfolk, and the *Norfolk Islander* for advertising our event.
- Foodlands, Visitors Information Centre and P & R for allowing us to put up posters.
- And finally, to everyone who supported the event by helping behind the scenes to ensure the day went off smoothly! Our apologies if we have missed anyone!

It was a fabulous day with incredibly positive feedback received from visitors and locals. We look forward to celebrating it again next year!



Bethany Holland
COLLECTIONS OFFICER

12 March 2022