

NORF'K FUSS



The Norfolk Island Regional Council Newsletter

November 2021

EASY ACCESS SORTED



Norfolk Island Regional Council (NIRC) advise that works have been completed to significantly upgrade access to Bumbora Reserve. Following the recent addition of the boardwalk at Bumbora, Council has continued its plan to upgrade the facility by significantly improving the access road. Council recognises access has been an ongoing concern for residents and tourists over time.

Where practically possible, and within consideration of local and tourist access, Norfolk Island Regional Council Road Crews undertook works from Thursday 4th to Tuesday 9th November 2021.

Council has upgraded the existing access road through a combination of grading, re-levelling, shaping, adding specialised aggregate, and pressure rolling to create a smooth and accessible road surface.

The new surface extends from the entrance to the reserve, traversing the length of the old access road and culminating in a turning circle at the base of the reserve adjacent to the creek and beach access points.

In addition, Council recognises that large water events have impacted the gradient and stability of the road previously, therefore a series of water run off points, have been installed alongside the upgraded access road to prevent erosion where practically possible.

Norfolk Island Regional Council is pleased to inform residents that Bumbora Reserve is now a safer and more accessible location. We look forward to welcoming more visitors to this beautiful part of our island.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf>





The way in which freight has been transported to and from Norfolk Island via lighterage has been a unique pastime and spectacle for many years. Our Lighterage teams have been in action this week with the recent arrival of a transport vessel from Brisbane via New Zealand. From Thursday 11th to Saturday 13th of November, a crew of 24 local lighterage specialists have been working in unison, to move items to shore at Kingston jetty.

Of particular interest in this shipment were a number of buses, which will be used to the benefit of local tourist operators. Lightering these buses to shore, was an impressive operation which required precision, skill and generational knowledge of the prevailing waters and conditions close to Kingston jetty. Tourist and locals alike were also treated to a rare spectacle on Thursday morning, when HMAS Sirius passed by in close proximity to the ongoing operations.

NIRC welcomed the presence of the Commonwealth in the assessment of the skill required to undertake this work, which forms a special part of Norfolk Islands history.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf>

Catch the bus to NI!

Bringing tunes to NI since the 60s

V L2NI, now Radio Norfolk has been broadcasting island wide and coast to coast since the early 1960's covering a wide mix of programming and music for all eras and genres. Over the years through subscriptions with BBC, Deutsche Welle, Rick Dees and other production companies, the Station has accumulated a huge collection of music material. In addition, various members of the community have donated vinyls and CDs over the years, and still do to enhance the collection. There two (2) fully operational studios (Studio 1 and Studio2) equipped with turntables which all announcers still utilise for playing the vinyls. The Radio Station houses approximately 20,000 LP's, Vinyls and CD's from all eras and genres.

The Station is open to visitors

and many have been in awe of the extensive music collection, which are still in use on a daily basis. Many tourists have never visited a radio station before and are welcome to take photos (and selfies) at the panel behind the mic or in front of the record collection. An added bonus is when the Announcers invite them into the studio and welcome them to the radio station and to Norfolk Island 'live on air'.

Radio Norfolk broadcasts island wide on 89.9FM and 1566AM from 7am to 12.15pm. An interesting fact to be mindful of is whenever we have major power outages and the FM frequencies go off the air, we never lose 1566AM. It is a good idea to ensure everyone has a battery operated AM & FM radio especially in an emergency situation.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf>



Argentine Ant Eradication

NIRC has kicked-off eradication efforts for the invasive Argentine Ant for the 2021/22 season. This season, the focus will be the Steele's Point/Two Chimneys area, known as Zone 9 in the Argentine Ant Eradication Program. When treating a zone, the AAEP Team use both aerial and ground-based methods. A large petrol-driven drone (pictured below) is used for aerial treatment, which drops hydrogel baits in areas which are difficult to access by foot. This activity takes place well away from houses and other sensitive land uses. For

ground baiting, sugar bait is distributed using backpack or trailer-mounted blowers, which takes place in open and easy-to-access areas. Sugar bait can also be distributed by hand adjacent to buildings and crops. The AAEP Team have had ongoing communications with residents in Zone 9 during treatment preparations, and we thank them for their support.

Treatment for this season is progressing well. Weather is a large factor in treating a zone, with activities paused during high winds or around rain periods. The program has been

running for 10 years and has been adapted over time to keep pace with available technology. The impacts of Argentine Ant on the Norfolk Island environment are substantial, affecting both crops and nesting bird species. Funding for the program is provided by the Commonwealth Government, and delivered in partnership with the CSIRO, Yamaha Motor Australia, and numerous island stakeholders. We look forward to updating the community on the success of this season's treatment.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf>



Norfolk Telecom 4G

Norfolk Telecom is being impersonated on Instagram. Customers may have noticed that they have received discounts or offers if they have selected to follow this fake profile. Council advises that the only social media communications from Norfolk Telecom are made via the Norfolk Island Regional Council Facebook page (NIRC2899). Customers are advised not to follow any social media profile by the name of Norfolk Telecom. Council is working with social media platforms to have this impersonator disabled.

Norfolk Telecom mobile phone SIM cards are valid for a period of six months without any activity. If you have not 'topped-up' your phone within a six-month period it will automatically be deactivated due to inaction. If you are uncertain about the status of your SIM card, please contact Customer Care.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf>



Waste Management Update

A reminder to the community that the Headstone Waste Facility will no longer be used for delivery of waste, commencing Tuesday 23rd November. All waste types will be delivered to the Waste Management Centre, with dedicated areas for construction, demolition and other bulky waste. Other operational changes include an honesty system for waste disposal tickets on delivery and the closing of the Waste Management Centre to the public on Thursdays. These measures have been employed to reduce costs and to allow greater processing of waste.

We thank the community for their understanding in implementing these changes. If you have any questions, please ask a Waste Management Staff member or direct questions via Customer Care.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf>

Bond gears up for festive season

It's a very exciting time of year at The Norfolk Island Liquor Bond as we prepare for the Norfolk festive season. Typically the four months of Nov, Dec, Jan and Feb equate to almost 50% of the Liquor Bonds sales so it's vital that we're prepared with healthy stock supplies to meet the intended festive season demand. As most businesses on Norfolk will attest, given the current local shipping challenges this is more easily said than done.

The COVID pandemic in Australia and New Zealand anecdotally has caused a global surge in online sales and the corresponding international shipping bottlenecks, the logistical road transport issues of moving freight interstate in Australia, even down to a shortage of pallets have all added to an incredibly volatile sea freight environment. Sea freight of eight (8) twenty foot containers unloaded from the November barge were ordered with Australian liquor suppliers as far back as March this year.

The Bond looks forward to serving our residents and visitors over the festive months.



Have a good read



The new Public Library opened on 15 October. The reaction to the space by members has been an overwhelmingly positive one.

The new facility was made possible by Economic Stimulus funding received from the Commonwealth Government. The modern space will enable the Council to increase the number, and range, of services it can offer the community. Already, three public PCs have been installed in the Library to allow the community – and visitors – access to free Wifi.

To have your say on the types of services that you would like delivered, complete the survey online at link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NI-Library> on or before 30 November 2021 or collect a hardcopy from the Library.

Council wishes to acknowledge the incredible work of all those involved in the build of the new facility, including Trevor Gow (Councils Project Manager), Keg and his team of builders, Darren from Avoca Painting, Island Plumbing and Gas, Kiernan Electrical, Pendo and Ryan (flooring), Joe Williams (plastering), Kristen Jenkins (tiling) and Island Cabinets (joinery). Council also wishes to thank the staff who worked tirelessly to complete the move, including Simone James, Andrea Greenwood, Kellie Ryan and Kim Van Der Kevie. A special mention to our wonderful volunteers Wendy Morrice and Brian James for their assistance.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf>



Glorious send off for our HMAS Sirius

The HMAS Sirius has been on Island this week as part of its decommissioning tour. The Norfolk Island Flag has flown on the Navy's ship since it commenced operations, which is one of many close connections between ship and Island.

The Councils General Manager was lucky enough to lead the parade as a piper in the miniband from the Cenotaph to Government House on Monday 8 November as part of the official program of events.



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