



MEDIA RELEASE

BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY VISIT

This week Emergency Management Norfolk Island (EMNI) welcomed to the island Jane Golding, Weather Services Manager from the Bureau of Meteorology. The main purpose of Ms Golding's visit was to provide EMNI with the annual season briefing of climatic expectation for the summer as we move into cyclone season. This is usually conducted via skype or other means, however, this year it was great to be able to undertake the briefing in person.

Ms Golding provided an overview of the weather over the past 12 months with some interesting statistics. This October was the second driest October on record; less than two thirds of the September average rain was received; highest mean daily maximum August temperature in 78 years of record; April and May had less than half the average rain; highest April temperature on record; and February and March had below average rainfall.

Tropical cyclone season runs from November to April each year. Fairly neutral climate drivers at present means no strong push towards above or below average tropical cyclone numbers for the upcoming season.

Look out for cyclone season preparation posters soon to assist the community in minimizing the effect should a cyclone occur. Remembering that it is always important to plan for the worst but hope for the best.

During the week, the opportunity was also taken to discuss the Bureau of Meteorology's standard weather forecast wording for Norfolk Island. Relevant stakeholders were invited to attend this specific meeting to work towards Norfolk specific standard wording. Discussions will continue with Ms Golding on this matter.

'I would like to thank the Bureau of Meteorology and Ms Golding for providing our seasonal briefing on island this year. It is invaluable to have these sessions face to face from time to time. I also thank the local staff of the island's Met Office not only for their day to day work for our community, but also the work they do with EMNI if there is any potential weather emergency', Mr Milton Bradley said.

Milton Bradley
CONTROLLER

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