



MEDIA RELEASE

ANNUAL CYCLONE BRIEFING

This week Emergency Management Norfolk Island (EMNI) welcomed to the island Jake Phillips, NSW RFC Senior Forecaster, from the Bureau of Meteorology. The main purpose of Mr Phillip's visit was to provide EMNI with the annual season briefing of climatic expectation for the summer as we move into cyclone season.

Norfolk's tropical cyclone season runs from December to April each year. Mr Phillips explained that there are no strong climate signals that show there will be more or less tropical cyclones in our region than usual during this upcoming season.

'Whilst we have generally been very lucky here on Norfolk Island in the past, it is still very important to always be prepared, I encourage the community to look at the cyclone season preparation posters on display around town and prominent areas to assist the community in minimizing the effect should a cyclone occur. The information is also contained on page 8 of your Telephone Directory. Remembering that it is always important to plan for the worst but hope for the best', Mr Bruce Walker said.

During the week, the opportunity was also taken to discuss the Bureau of Meteorology's standard tropical cyclone alert and briefing times and how these fit into the Norfolk Island Disaster and Emergency Management Plan (NORDISPLAN). Relevant stakeholders were invited to attend this specific meeting to ensure that Norfolk is best prepared in any such events.

'I extend thanks to the Bureau of Meteorology and Mr Phillips for providing our seasonal briefing on island, it is so valuable for us to have this information. Thanks is also extended to the stakeholders that attended the meetings with Mr Phillips during the week, it is important we hear this information and learn and engage as much as we can with such experts whilst on the island, many of the attendees are volunteers and I thank everyone for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend', Mr Walker said.

Bruce Walker
CHAIR EMNIC
DEPUTY CONTROLLER EMNI

29 November 2018