

NORFOLK ISLAND



THE GOVERNMENT OF NORFOLK ISLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

**“A worthy memorial to Toon”:
First Environment Trust grants awarded**

The Minister for the Environment, the Hon Stephanie Jack MLA, paid tribute to the memory of the of the late Ivens (Toon) Buffett at today’s ceremony to present cheques to the first recipients of Ivens F Buffett Environmental Trust grants. Mrs Shelly Buffett presented the cheques to two of the four successful applicants at a ceremony hosted at Government House by the Administrator, Hon Grant Tambling.

“I owe much to Toon, who was a mentor to me when I first joined the Assembly”, Mrs Jack said. “It is wonderful to be part of a programme which will carry on the environmental protection work for which he was such an important advocate. I am sure that the projects we can now support will prove to be a worthy memorial to Toon”.

Mrs Jack thanked His Honour for hosting the presentation ceremony and acknowledged the generosity of the Commonwealth Government, through Minister Jim Lloyd, for making the funds available from the proceeds of converting leasehold Norfolk Island land to freehold title. The Minister also thanked the members of the Trust, members of the advisory panel and officers from Norfolk Island and Canberra for their work in establishing the scheme and administering the grant application process.

Mrs Jack said that work on the four projects approved had either already started or would commence almost immediately. Most would be completed in 2007, although one would continue for two years. The grants issued were as follows:

Norfolk Island Golf Club - \$15,000

Projects to install an environmental management system for the golf course and equipment to assist in delivering a more effective, economical and efficient chemical application in all weather conditions.

Norfolk Island Boardriders and the Youth Assembly - \$10,800

Upgrading the Bumboras track, including a safe crossing of the creek, erosion mitigation and stepped pathways.

Bounty Divers - \$7,200

Monitoring of coral reefs, protection of indigenous marine life and education and awareness programmes in Norfolk Island and internationally. Representatives of Bounty Divers were unable to attend to accept their cheque.

Alan Summerscales - \$1,500

Planting and promoting growth of native grasses, pines and hardwood trees and control of woody weeds at Anson Bay, adjacent to a public reserve. Mr Summerscales is currently off-island and was unable to attend the presentation ceremony.

Mrs Jack thanked all applicants who had applied for grants in 2007, and said that a further funding round would be advertised later this year. "I am sure that Toon would have been proud of these projects if he was here to see them", Mrs Jack said.

Stephanie V Jack
Minister for the Environment

6th July 2007