

NORFOLK



ISLAND

THE GOVERNMENT OF NORFOLK ISLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

Anniversary Day commemoration and celebration

Chief Minister Geoff Gardner has reaffirmed the importance of the traditions of Anniversary Day and Bounty Week.

“This year is especially significant, as it marks the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Pitcairn settlers in Norfolk Island”, Mr Gardner said. “The commemoration of their lives and the celebration of the success of the Norfolk Island community which they inaugurated is central to our way of life”.

Mr Gardner said that the sesquicentenary celebrations would include a vice-regal visit by the Governor-General, Major General Michael Jeffery. “We will also welcome the families and friends of Norfolk Islanders and visitors from many places including Tahiti, Rarotonga, New Zealand and Australia”, the Chief Minister said.

“Traditionally, the events of Anniversary Day are not politicised in any way, and the Norfolk Island Government wishes to see that important tradition continue”, Mr Gardner said. “I know that there has been much discussion about this year’s events, but I ask everyone in our community to show respect for the real meaning of Anniversary Day and to unite in the celebration of 150 years of Norfolk Island achievement”.

Geoff Gardner
Chief Minister

19th May 2006