

# A Gathering on the Norfolk Plains 2013

Tasmania's Norfolk Plains were named to acknowledge the Norfolk Islanders expelled from the island in 1813, and resettled in this part of Tasmania (the area comprising the towns and rural properties around Longford, Cressy, Bishopsbourne, Illawarra and Perth).

A full program of events is planned over the weekend of 1–3 March, 2013. 'A Gathering on the Norfolk Plains' will be held to commemorate 200 years since the Norfolk Islanders settled the plains.

## PROGRAM

### Friday 1st March

#### Evening

- Music Hall, by G-String Productions at the Longford Town Hall

### Saturday 2nd March

#### All day

- Descendants Day, venue in Longford TBA
- Display of the local schools' student work on 'Discovering the Norfolk Plains': the outcome of a year's study of the area's heritage and people.

#### From 10 am

- Old time music and dancing on the Village Green, Longford

#### 11 am

- Official launch of the Gathering by the former Governor of Tasmania, the Hon W J E Cox, AC, RFD, ED, QC, including the launch of the 200 years book and medallion. (To secure your medallion or copy of the book, please contact us. You'll be kept informed of production progress. Update: Medallions can now be pre-ordered & pre-paid).
- "Voices from the Graves" theatrical performance in the adjacent Christ Church graveyard
- Community photograph on the Village Green

#### Early afternoon

- Matinee: Music Hall, by G-String Productions at Longford Town Hall

#### Evening

- Colonial themed dining experiences in local eateries
- Music Hall, by G-String Productions at Longford Town Hall

### Sunday 3rd March

#### Morning and early afternoon:

- Guided bus tours of Pateena Road

#### 10am - 3pm

- Longford Blessing of the Harvest Festival with a colonial theme on the Village Green

#### Afternoon

- Matinee: Music Hall, by G-String Productions at Longford Town Hall
- Interdenominational church service at Christ Church, followed by farewell function and the placement of a time capsule.

### Throughout the weekend

- Self-guided tours of the Norfolk Plains: maps and booklets available to guide you to historic graveyards, churches and old schools and trade businesses.
- "Art of the Norfolk Plains" themed art exhibition at Eskleigh Home, Perth (open early February to early March)
- National Trust Heritage Centre in Longford, open 10am - 4pm Saturday and Sunday
- Woolmers, Brickendon & Clarendon open for guided or self-guided tours
- Toosey Resident's Memories of the District & Photo Display, 10am - 2pm, Toosey, Longford
- Christ Church open Sunday for services and viewings
- National Trust Properties in close proximity are well worth a visit (Clarendon & Franklin House)
- "Roses from the Heart" convicts' babies bonnet exhibition. Venue TBA.



To register your interest in participating in Descendants Day please contact the Northern Midlands Council's Tourism Officer, Fiona Dewar, on email: [fiona.dewar@nmc.tas.gov.au](mailto:fiona.dewar@nmc.tas.gov.au) or phone: 03 6397 7321.

This program is current on 18 September 2012. It's a work in progress and may be updated. Please stay tuned!