



Her Honour enjoying the newly styled Prince of Wales Room.

RESIDENT STYLE

PERFECT TIMING FOR RESTYLING

PHOTOGRAPHED BY MARK AND TIM WORDS BY NANNETTE HOLLIDAY

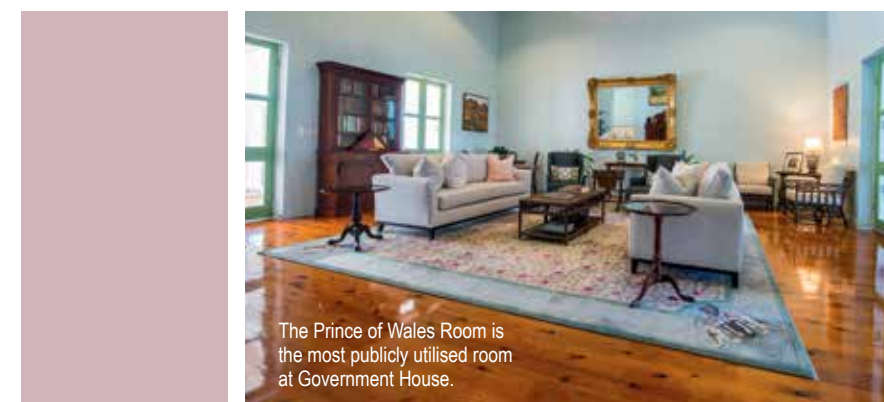
Just six months into office, Her Honour the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AM, Administrator of the Northern Territory has hosted her first Royal guest. After opening the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast, His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales spent the final two days of his Australian visit in Gove and Darwin with Her Honour.



The newly styled Prince of Wales Room elegantly restyled by Z Furniture.



Her Honour the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AM, Administrator of the Northern Territory has given a fresh new energy to Government House.



The Prince of Wales Room is the most publicly utilised room at Government House.



Her Honour looking radiant in red.

At Government House on Darwin's Esplanade, he was hosted in the Prince of Wales Room, named in his honour after he and Diana, Princess of Wales stayed in the same room, then a bedroom, 30 years ago during their bicentennial visit to Australia. The Prince of Wales Room is now a sitting room adjoining The Drawing Room, which is the main reception room and is used for various events hosted by the Administrator to showcase Territory hospitality and produce. The Drawing Room is the oldest room in Government House, surviving the bombing of Darwin and many cyclones. 'His Royal Highness remembered the room and loved its diversity, function and presentation now,' said Her Honour. 'He was impressed with how beautiful and grand the building still is, how it has been meticulously maintained and any modifications have been respectful of its heritage and origins.' All modifications and acquisitions for rooms at Government House are undertaken and guided

by a Conservation and Management plan. The Government House Foundation of the Northern Territory raises funds to support the conservation, maintenance and enhancement of the House, including the acquisition of furnishings that complement the styling of the House but are practical and serviceable for many years. Shortly after the Administrator assumed office in October 2017, new furniture within the Prince of Wales Room was acquired through the Foundation. The previous purchases made by the Foundation 20 years ago include the antique gold-framed mirror and custom designed hand-woven Sturt Desert Rose and Northern Territory Crest rug, which have remained. 'Many furniture items were original purchases from the late 80s and have been relocated to other rooms in the house,' she said. 'The Prince of Wales Room is the most publicly utilised room here. Recently I received the Consul General of America in this room, and then we hosted bingo here with COTA members, which we will do

again before year's end. 'My team, with funding from the Foundation used locally owned company Z Furniture for the restyling. They've adhered to the Conservation and Management plan, yet created an extremely practical, tropical, modern-feeling room.' Her Honour is passionate about opening Government House to Territorians and has many more functions and events in the pipeline to increase public access and awareness of this historic home, including Tai Chi classes on The Terrace and placing two European and one native beehive in the gardens. 'Not only will it assist in honeybee survival, but also any excess honey we produce will be offered to not-for-profit organisations for their fundraising activities.' During his visit, His Royal Highness also planted a native tree (Syzygium nervosum) in the front garden along with a time capsule containing a message to Territorians, to be opened in another 30 years, in what would be his 100th birth year.