



# Tweed Link

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## All systems go for expo and Lights on the Tweed

**Get the advice and products you need for a more comfortable and cost-effective home, then celebrate the Tweed River and the natural environment this Saturday, when two of Council's most popular public events join forces.**

The fifth annual Living for the Future Home Expo, being held at seagulls club in Tweed Heads West from 10am to 4pm, will again offer a one-stop shop for solutions to make your home more functional and cheaper to run.

"A day of workshops and a long list of display stalls will share practical information about everything from innovative building materials, renewable energy and easy vegetable gardens, to ethical financial assistance, environmentally-friendly cleaning products and even keeping native bees," Council's Sustainability Program Leader, Deb Firestone, said.

"Attention will then turn to the nearby riverbank and the inaugural Lights on the Tweed festivities, which feature the most popular activities from the former Tweed River Festival.

"Family activities will continue into the evening, with the seagulls grounds to be lit up by the spectacular lantern parade." Individuals and groups keen to carry a lantern can contact Council on (02) 6672 2400.



This year's Home Expo attractions feature a Tesla display of its Model S vehicle and Powerwall, as well as cooking demonstrations to prepare simple and nutritious meals that can save families hundreds of dollars each year.

"As part of the 2017 Sustainable Home Design competition and exhibition, visitors to the expo will have the opportunity to 'speed date' a designer," Ms Firestone said.

"Anyone looking to build or renovate their home can pick the brains of some of the district's leading designers to get valuable tips for their building or DIY projects."

For more Home Expo stories see page 2 or for the full 2017 Living for the Future Home Expo and Lights on the Tweed family celebration itinerary, visit [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/HomeExpo](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/HomeExpo)

## Advice for going off the grid

**Advancements in battery technology are giving households greater opportunity to buffer themselves from escalating power prices.**

AN Technologies representative Andrew Nicholls and sustainable building engineering Roman Spur will present workshops on options for solar and battery systems.

Mr Spur will talk about practical and inexpensive options for Living Off the Grid at 11am, while Mr Nicholls will offer guidance for homeowners to calculate if now is the time to invest in a solar battery system at 12.30pm.



## This is no nursery rhyme

**Fancy a house built of straw, bamboo or even hemp? Award-winning designers Jaye Irving and Michael Leung will huff and puff and blow down reservations about green building materials when they present workshops at this Saturday's Living for the Future Home Expo.**

Mr Irving has been on a global search for natural building products such as bamboo, earth and straw, and will deliver the workshop Building With Bamboo from 10.30am.

The architect, artist, builder and keen permaculturist has been a champion of sustainable building for almost 20 years.

Hemp building is a carbon negative, breathable wall system that is totally natural and perfect for the Northern Rivers' sub-tropical environment, according to Mr Leung, who will talk on Building with Hemp from 11.30am.

The UK architect, now part of Balanced Earth Building, has designed residential and hospitality projects in Asia, Europe and Australasia, with a focus on the health of building occupants and the environment.

## Breath-less biking made e-zzy

**Imagine having the best of both worlds for bicycle commuting, the health benefits of pedalling where you need to go without the strain of riding up hills.**

E-bikes are becoming an increasingly popular transport option because they make cycling accessible and appealing to more people for commuting and recreation.

Bicycle Queensland Development Officer Andrew Demack said their electric motors, providing power-assisted pedalling when required, have greatly increased the potential of cycling for sustainable, low-cost commuting.

"They offer the same benefits for easy storage and parking, without the need to arrive at your destination sweaty and out of breath," Mr Demack said.

"E-bikes make it even easier for people of all fitness levels to ease back into cycling."

Mr Demack will provide further insight to e-bikes and other cycling options when he delivers the first workshop at this year's Living for the Future Home Expo from 10.15am.

The seagulls club's Jacana Room will host a series of workshops from 10am to 3.30pm, including kids' workshops and cooking demonstrations.



# Shopping locally to build that dream house

See what happens when some of the region's cleverest designers turn their minds to using local materials for sustainable home construction.

This year's Living for the Future Home Expo is hosting the 2017 Sustainable House Design competition, which has challenged professional, amateur and junior designs to 'Build It Local'.

All of the entries will be on display at the Home Expo, showcasing how environmentally, socially and economically sustainable homes can be built entirely from materials and labour sourced within a 100-kilometre radius.

The winners of each category will then be announced in a ceremony from 2.30pm, wrapping up the workshops program in the seagulls club's Jacana Room.

Andia Cally, from Sustainable House Day Northern Rivers, said this would be a fantastic opportunity for people to consider the extent of amazing materials that are available in our back yard.

"We have access to plantation timber, bamboo, straw bales, rammed earth and mud building systems and a wide range of recycled materials that can be transformed into a perfect energy-efficient family home," Ms Cally said.

"It's a very exciting competition that always generates a lot of interest because it stimulates ideas and conversations about what is possible when it comes to designing a house that is not only energy efficient, but takes into account our communities."

Council's Sustainability Program Leader, Deb Firestone, said the competition display and awards presentation also tied together many of the home design concepts on show at the day's workshops and stalls.

"They really help to show how the building materials, energy systems and other concepts can be incorporated into overall home designs," she said.

## Plenty to keep the kids busy

**Kids will have plenty to do and learn at this year's Home Expo, with a series of children's workshops throughout the day.**

"They can design and build their own sustainable home, learn to grow their own food or use microscopes to see the hidden life in soil," expo coordinator Deb Firestone said.

"A Connect to Country activity will teach kids about traditional Aboriginal science such as fire sticks and fish traps, as well as hands-on learning about boomerang making, tools and Aboriginal knowledge about plants and seasons.

"There is also face painting, chalk art and the chance to build lanterns for the evening's Lights on the Tweed lantern parade."

Tweed Landcare will be inviting children to contribute to a large mural being produced throughout the day.

## Patience on the roads

**Council has begun a spring campaign to remind motorists to watch for cyclists on the roads.**

"As we get more beautiful sunny days, there'll also be more and more cyclists out enjoying what the Tweed has to offer," Council Road Safety Officer Alana Brooks said.

"While the Tweed has a good network of dedicated cycleways, both on and off road, cyclists are legitimate road users and motorists should expect them any time on all our roads."

To remind both motorists and cyclists to share the road, electronic signs have been placed on some popular cyclist routes this month, such as Clothiers Creek, Numinhah, Tomewin and Dulguigan roads.

Whether they are riding alone or in a pack, motorists must wait until it is safe before overtaking a pushbike.

To be safe, they need to give cyclists at least one-metre's clearance in speed zones up to 60km/h, and one-and-a-half metres in higher speed zones.

Remember, you are now permitted to cross a double unbroken centreline to give a cyclist due clearance. Use your indicator to signal your intentions before overtaking.

"Be patient," Ms Brooks said. "If it isn't safe to pass a cyclist, wait until it is safe. Dangerous overtaking puts all road users at risk, particularly oncoming traffic and could cost someone their life."

Some sections of road present greater danger to cyclists and motorists are asked to take extra care when entering and exiting driveways and at intersections and roundabouts.

"When travelling on roads where the sight distance is limited, slow down so you can stop safely if there is something around the bend, such as a cyclist, horserider, broken down vehicle or debris."

Cyclists seeking out those dedicated cycleways and shared-user paths can download Council's updated Cycleway Map at [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/CyclewayMap](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/CyclewayMap)

**Be patient: Stay behind cyclists until it is safe to overtake and allow at least one metre's clearance in 60km/h zones (1.5m in zones with higher speed limits).**



## Shout out for local reps

**Tweed Shire Council is calling for nominations for Council's representatives on the Northern Regional Planning Panel for the next three years.**

The Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP) system was established by the NSW Government in 2009. Council first appointed its two representatives, and an alternate, for the Northern Panel in July 2009. Council reviewed its representatives in 2012. Temporary extensions of these appointments have been granted so the current elected council can decide on new panel appointments.

"Given the expiry of these appointments, Council has endorsed an expression of interest process to appoint local panel members for a further three-year period," Council's Director Planning and Regulation, Vince Connell, said.

The JRPP will consist of three state members and council-appointed members. Tweed Shire Council nominees will be required by the JRPP for matters concerning Tweed Shire.

"The objective of the JRPPs is to create a panel of people with appropriate expertise to determine development proposals of regional significance," Mr Connell said.

Selection criteria for the JRPP members include:

- Senior-level experience in dealing with multiple stakeholders
- High-level communication skills
- Capability to drive high profile outcomes in a creditable and authoritative manner
- High-level analytical skills
- Knowledge and assessment of complex development and planning matters.

At least one of the panellists must have high-level experience in one or more of the following fields: planning, architecture, heritage, the environment, urban design, land economics, traffic and transport, law, engineering or tourism.

The term of appointment for council nominees to the JRPP is up to three years and the successful candidates will be remunerated, including travel and allowances.

"Council-appointed existing panel members are welcome to re-nominate themselves for a further appointment," he said.

For more information about the panels, visit [www.planningpanels.nsw.gov.au](http://www.planningpanels.nsw.gov.au). Enquiries on the nomination process should be directed to the Director Planning and Regulation, Vince Connell, on phone (02) 6670 2423.

Submissions close at 4pm on Friday, 29 September 2017 and should be made in writing and forwarded by post to: The General Manager, Tweed Shire Council, PO Box 816, Murwillumbah NSW 2484 or by email to [tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au)

# Tweed Laboratory Centre turns 30 this week

**It began operations with one person, rudimentary equipment and an annual budget of \$5000. Now it has 12 staff and earns Council \$2 million a year from the multitude of soil, water and waste tests it does for councils, industry, developers and the public.**

For Tweed Shire, it tests the town water supply, wastewater outputs and catchment and estuary waterways to ensure the health of our environment.

It also does all the compliance testing of ground and surface waters at the Tweed's waste and quarry sites to ensure strict environmental protection standards are met.

Over the past 10 years, the lab has tested 192,000 samples of water, soil and waste. It has served more than 1100 clients and written 48,000 reports.

The lab is accredited by the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA). Back in 1997, it was accredited for five water tests. Now, it has accreditation for almost 200 tests on water and soil.

The lab is regarded as a leader in testing blue-green algae. Samples are initially examined to determine whether they are potentially toxic species. If they are, the sample can be checked genetically to determine whether that particular population has toxin genes. In 2009, the laboratory became the first in Australia to offer genetic testing of blue-green algae.

Early last year, the lab received accreditation for a methodology it developed to test for taste and odour compounds in the Tweed water supply. Using this test method, results are known within 48 hours allowing Council to make timely decisions on powdered activated carbon and chlorine dosing, reducing both the cost of treating our drinking water supplies and the amount of chlorine used. Prior to that, it took two weeks to get results.

More recently, the lab played a vital role in responding to the tidal inundation of the Bray Park Weir by testing to determine the nature and degree of salt levels throughout the Tweed supply. These tests allowed Council to have confidence the drinking water supply at no time posed a risk to human health.

Also, the accurate and timely test results enabled management to make the best decisions to resolve the issue quickly. Dredging of salt water from the weir was due to be completed late last week.

There is currently a high demand for the lab's services because of the extended dry period. A lot of households not connected to the water supply rely on the lab to test alternate water sources and advise them whether their water is safe to use.

To learn more about our lab and the range of test services it provides, visit [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/TweedLab](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/TweedLab)



**Lab technician Tracey McGrath collects a water sample from the Banora Point Wastewater Treatment Plant lagoon for testing at the lab. Over the past 10 years, Tracey and her colleagues have collected nearly 10,000 water and wastewater samples from the Tweed.**



**The Tweed Coast's most northern park reopened to the public last week, following an eight-week project to update facilities and landscaping. Council installed three new shelters, barbecue facilities, showers and walkways as part of the \$80,000 upgrade of Lovers Rocks Park, next to Duranbah Beach. Work also included upgrading the park's power supply and other necessary underground infrastructure.**

## ADVERTISING IN THE TWEED LINK

The Tweed Link is a cost-effective way to get your message delivered directly to 40,000 households and subscribers with more than 80 per cent readership. Certain groups such as not-for-profit and state and commonwealth departments are eligible to take paid advertising in the Tweed Link however Council does not take advertising from commercial businesses or individuals. Please check the Tweed Link Policy online for more information. For advertising in the Tweed Link, advertising deadlines and our useful online advertising calculator please visit Council's website, [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/TweedLink](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/TweedLink) call (02) 6670 2400 or email [tweedlink@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tweedlink@tweed.nsw.gov.au)

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Road closure: Battle Recharge Cycle Racing** – Cycle racing in Tweed Shire, 23–25 September 2017. The following roads are under police supervision for racing:

**Saturday 23 September, 6am to 12 noon** – Queensland Road; Numinbah Road; Nobbys Creek Road. Time Trial – roads will be closed.

**Saturday 23 September, 10am to 5pm** – Mooball Street; Rous Street; Ewing Street; Queensland Road; Murwillumbah Street; Mooball Street. Criterium – roads will be closed.

**Sunday 24 September, 6.30am to 5pm** – Coodgie Street; Brays Creek Road; Wollumbin Street; Tyalgum Road; Kyogle Road; Park Avenue; North Arm Road; Numinbah Road; Zara Road; Limpinwood Road; Coolman Street. Multiple races – rolling road closure on all roads, expect delays.

**Monday 25 September, 6.30am to 5pm** – Limpinwood Road; Zara Road; Numinbah Road; North Arm Road; Park Avenue; Kyogle Road; Bakers Road; Mistral Road; Tweed Valley Way; Stokers Road; Smiths Creek Road; Tyalgum Road; Wollumbin Street; Coodgie Street; Coolman Street. Multiple races – rolling road closure on all roads, expect delays.

For all traffic enquiries please visit [www.battlerecharge.org](http://www.battlerecharge.org) or contact Michael Crawley at NXsports on 0402 226 333.

**Tweed Valley Triathletes** will be conducting events each Saturday morning using roads in and around Murwillumbah from 6am to 8am commencing on 23 September 2017 and concluding on 17 March 2018. The roads that will be used are Tumbulgum Road, Racecourse Road, Kane Road, Queensland Road, Murwillumbah Street, Wharf Street, Reynolds Street, Charles Street, George Street, York Street and Martin Street.

**Outdoor Movie Night** – The community is invited to attend an outdoor movie night at Bogangar Public School (Tweed Coast Road, Bogangar) this Friday 15 September. The movie is the G-rated Australian classic, *Paper Planes*, and the event will feature a paper plane throwing competition, food vans, a huge raffle and a bake sale. Gates open at 5pm, movie screens around 6pm. Tickets are \$20 for a family (2 adults/2 children), \$7 per adult, \$5 per child (4 and over) and are available at Drift (Cabarita Beach), Cabarita Kebabs and Casuarina Chemist. Tickets will also be available on the night. This is an alcohol free event.

## DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION DETERMINATIONS

Notification of Development Application Determinations for the purposes of Section 101 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* (as amended).

### Application details

#### Approved

**DA17/0463** – Home business for cosmetic tattoo  
Lot 18 DP 245958, No. 11 Rutile Street, **Chinderah**

**DA17/0246** – Deck addition to existing clubhouse at Murwillumbah golf course  
Lot 6 DP 866255, No. 233 Byangum Road, **Murwillumbah**

**DA17/0254** – Alterations and additions to create detached dual occupancy and 2 lot strata subdivision  
Lot 4 DP 520792, No. 7 Anne Street, **Pottsville**

**DA17/0074** – Replacement of bottle shop roof  
Lot 1 DP 848875, No. 2-14 Henry Lawson Drive, **Terranora**

**DA17/0416** – Addition of internal wall to existing building to create a new tenancy  
Lot 3 DP 31857, No. 26 Minjungbal Drive, **Tweed Heads South**

**DA17/0436** – Illuminated pole sign  
Lot 4 DP 539750, No. 146-150 Minjungbal Drive, **Tweed Heads South**

**DA17/0454** – Alterations to existing Aldi store  
Lot 1 DP 619868, No. 9-11 Machinery Drive, **Tweed Heads South**

**CDC17/0107** – Demolition of partially completed dwelling house  
Lot 52 DP 1182600, No. 6 Vanda Lane, **Casuarina**

**DA17/0529** – In-ground swimming pool  
Lot 46 DP 1214044, No. 9 Drift Court, **Kingscliff**

**DA17/0460** – Carport  
Lot 9 DP 35929, No. 21 William Street, **Murwillumbah**

**DA17/0507** – Dwelling with attached garage  
Lot 454 DP 1218535, No. 24 Talganda Terrace, **Murwillumbah**

**DA17/0407** – Two storey dwelling house with attached garage and 1.5m front fence  
Lot 2 DP 253861, No. 51 Elanora Avenue, **Pottsville**

**DA17/0499** – Use of existing enclosed patio and new patio roof  
Lot 95 DP 1013131, No. 111 Overall Drive, **Pottsville**

**DA17/0516** – Two storey dwelling with attached garage  
Lot 395 DP 1052083, No. 38 Macadamia Drive, **Pottsville**

**DA17/0493** – Boundary fence and gates  
Lot 7 Section 7DP 2974, No. 25 River Street, **South Murwillumbah**

**DA17/0495** – Shed  
Lot 35 DP 737064, No. 89 Parkes Lane, **Terranora**

**DA17/0474** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling comprising boat shed and 1.5 m front fence  
Lot 44 DP 264646, No. 25 Plover Place, **Tweed Heads West**

**DA17/0427** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling  
Lot 3 DP 774793, No. 194 Stoddarts Road, **Tyalgum Creek**

The above development determinations are available for public inspection free of charge at the Planning and Regulation Division, Murwillumbah Civic Centre, during ordinary office hours OR viewed on Council's DA Tracking site located at [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/datracking](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/datracking)

## VACANCIES

### Business Systems Administrator (Contract)

For more information and to apply:

- Visit Council's website [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/careers](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/careers)
- Contact Human Resources on (02) 6670 2495
- All positions close at 12 noon (NSW time)
- Late applications not permitted.

## REQUEST FOR OFFER

### RF02017133 Sportsfield Renovation at Casuarina Rugby Sporting Ground, Casuarina

**Offers close:** Wednesday 4pm 20 September 2017

### RF02017118 Water Mains Cleaning and Hydrant Testing

**Offers close:** Wednesday 4pm 11 October 2017

Offers must be lodged as specified in the offer documentation.

Request For Offer documentation is available at no charge from Council's website at [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/tenders](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/tenders). Hard copy documentation is available and costs will be in accordance with Council's advertised photocopying fees.

All Offers will be opened at closing time and will be considered by Council in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. The lowest or any offer is not necessarily accepted and canvassing of Councillors or staff will disqualify.

For further information please contact Sandy Zietlow (02) 6670 2604.

## ROAD WRAP

**Temporary traffic lights:** Clothiers Creek Road, Tweed Valley Way (Blacks Drain) for flood repair works.

**Road closures:** Major upgrade of Tumbulgum Road, between Sunnyside Lane and Old Ferry Road, Murwillumbah (to Christmas 2017).

**Stop/slow flagmen, expect delays:** Roadworks Duranbah Road, Duranbah, between Loders Road and Andersons Road. Drainage upgrade Nullum Street, from Lavender Creek to Condong Street, Murwillumbah. Drainage, kerb and gutter, and road construction, Gray Street, Tumbulgum. Constructing sewer main Fraser Drive, from Botanical Circuit to Amaroo Drive, Banora Point. Stormwater drainage, kerb and gutter and new pavement Hillcrest Avenue, between James Road and Ridgeway Street, Tweed Heads. Road patching Kyogle Road near Mount Burrell. Culvert reconstruction Palmvale Road, Palmvale. Revetment works Tweed Valley Way, South Murwillumbah. Footpath closure Wharf Street, Tweed Heads. Stormwater culvert construction, Spring Valley Road, Cudgera Creek. Cycleway construction Fraser Drive (most work off shoulder but some delays). Limited delays on Henry Lawson Drive, between Coach Road and the Tennis Courts, due to road reconstruction associated with subdivision works.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Tweed Theatre Company Inc.** – *Dick Whittington and his Cat*, a pantomime for all the family. 23 September to 8 October 2017, all Saturday and Sunday matinees 2pm (NSW time), Tweed Heads Civic Centre. Allocated theatre seating. Tickets available online at [www.tweedtheatre.com.au](http://www.tweedtheatre.com.au), by phone 1800 674 414, over the counter at Tweed and Murwillumbah Information Centres, or limited tickets at the door.

**Pottsville Beach Markets** – Always the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Next market 17 September.

**Piggabean Valley Market** – 3rd Sunday of the month, February to November. Next market Sunday 17 September, 9am to 2pm. Enquiries to 0409 596 983.



Readers who are unsure of when their meter is read can look up their water week at:

[www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/MeterReading](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/MeterReading)

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