

**Waste tip of the month**

**Save space in your red lid landfill bin**  
Squeeze all the air out of your bin bags before placing them in the bin, it'll make a significant difference to the space available.  
*Tarra Martel, Waste Education Officer*

**Do you have a waste tip?**  
Email [education@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:education@tweed.nsw.gov.au) and it could be chosen as the next 'waste tip of the month'.



## Funding for rail trail opens new tourism possibilities

**The Tweed Valley Rail Trail has received a full funding commitment with the announcement of Federal funding to match the NSW State Government's commitment.**

The Federal Minister for Regional Development visited Murwillumbah on Friday to announce \$6.5 million in funding had been approved from the Regional Jobs and Investment program.

The announcement means the project to build a 24km long rail trail from Murwillumbah to Crabbes Creek is now fully funded, with more than \$13 million committed.

Tweed Shire Council Director Engineering David Oxenham said while the announcement is great news, there is still lots of work to do before the project gets underway.

"Getting to this point has taken a lot of hard work from people in all areas of our community and I would like to say thank you for all

of their efforts," Mr Oxenham said.

"Studies have shown the Rail Trail will have a wide range of benefits for the region, first and foremost being the economic boost it will provide to the villages along the Tweed Valley.

"This will be a significant and special asset which will add value not only by attracting tourists looking to experience the natural beauty of the area but also as a recreational space for local residents."

Council will be responsible for delivering the project and Mr Oxenham said the next step is to begin work on detailed concept designs.

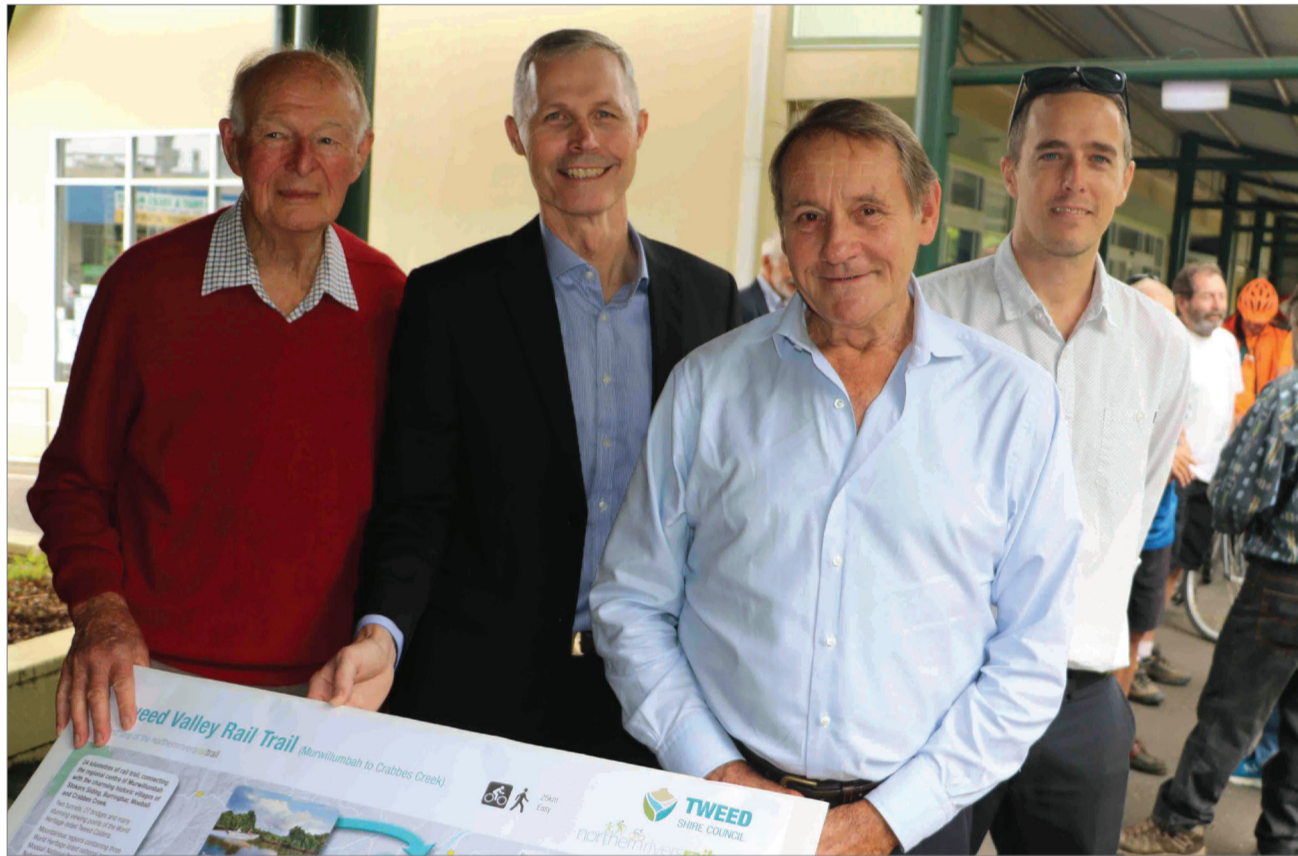
The NSW State Government announced in August 2017 that it would commit \$6.5 million to the Rail Trail in Tweed Shire, which it sees as Stage 1 of a larger Northern Rivers Rail Trail along the full

length of the Murwillumbah to Casino rail line.

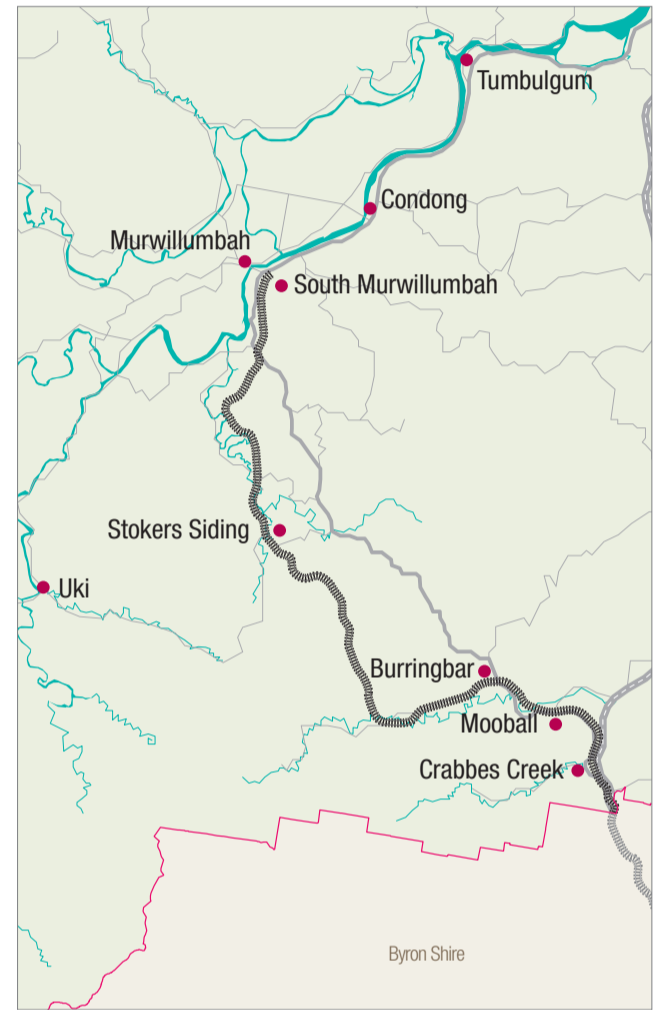
Chairman of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail (NRRT) Board Pat Greer, said the rail trail was the best way to keep the land the rails are on intact and preserve it for community use.

"What is really special about this day is seeing federal, state and local government representatives getting behind a project which will have so many positive outcomes," Mr Greer said.

"This shows what can be achieved when different levels of government work together and are focused on a common goal."



Former Deputy Prime Minister and Rail Trail Patron Doug Anthony AC, Council Director – Engineering David Oxenham, NRRT Chairman Pat Greer and Council Engineer Leon McLean at Friday's announcement at Murwillumbah's railway station.



The proposed rail trail route from Murwillumbah to Crabbes Creek covers approximately 24km.

## Kingscliff's Marine Parade to close at night for resurfacing

**Council contractors will undertake night works to resurface Marine Parade, between Turnock and Seaview streets, Kingscliff, this month.**

The road will be closed to all traffic during the work, which will take seven nights over two weeks starting on Sunday 18 February.

The road closure will be from 6pm to 6am nightly from Sunday 18 to Tuesday 20 February (and possibly Wednesday 21 February) and again from Tuesday 27 February to Thursday 1 March.

All vehicles will need to be removed from the worksite, which includes the off-street carpark, by 7.30pm when the contractor will take possession of the road for the night.

Traffic control will be on site from 6pm each night to stop vehicles entering the section and to close the carpark as vehicles leave.

Pedestrian access will still be available for diners on the busy strip but they are advised to park outside the work zone and walk to their venue. The heavy machinery will not fire up until 8.30pm, allowing most restaurants to maintain near normal trading hours.

Prior to scheduling the work, Council sought advice from the Kingscliff Chamber of Commerce and Kingscliff Ratepayers and Progress Association who nominated that the works be undertaken at night.

Council has advised all the businesses in the work zone of the works and road closure.

Nearby residents and holiday lets will be affected by noise, and possibly dust, during the works.

Signs advising of the road closure and works will be placed on Marine Parade and at the carpark entrance this week.



The new holiday park at Kingscliff takes shape with cabins facing the beach. Central Park is completed and is awaiting commissioning of the electricity supply for various components before it can open to the public. By that time, Marine Parade's tourist strip will have a shiny new road surface.



## Slow down on the roads

**Council is urging motorists in the shire to slow down and obey all road signs as road repair and construction projects ramp up across shire roads.**

Since the March 2017 floods, Council has let four packages of repair works to external contractors and will soon let another two. This week, Hazel Bros QLD is expected to mobilise to start work on 66 shire roads to repair flood damage while contractor Brown Bros is continuing repairs on 20 flood-damaged roads. Then, Skeen Constructions is working on the major repair of Tweed Valley Way at Blacks Drain, South Murwillumbah.

When the fifth and sixth packages of works are let next week, repair works will start on another 26 roads within weeks. Council also has received funding for Black Spot projects on Tweed Valley Way at Tumbulgum and Kyogle Road near Uki, which will commence soon.

“Add to this our normal program of works on our roads installing and repairing stormwater drainage, water mains and wastewater mains and you realise that workers are out there in great numbers and motorists should expect to see them on their daily travels throughout the shire,” Manager Roads and Stormwater Danny Rose said.

“We urge all motorists to slow down and obey all signage as the safety of our contractors and staff is put at risk every time a motorist ignores the signs.”

Council is receiving reports on a daily basis of motorists speeding through roadworks and even ignoring red light signals, especially at night.

“Not only are these motorists risking their own lives and that of their passengers but they are a real threat to our workforce and other road users.

“Every week we publish details of our programmed roadworks in the Road Wrap in Tweed Link and online at [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/RoadWorks](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/RoadWorks) and advise motorists to check this before they travel.”

All up, the March 2017 flood left more than 1500 damage items across the Tweed’s road and bridge network at an estimated repair cost of \$28.9 million. To date, more than 1000 damage items have been repaired. See ‘Road wrap’ on the following page.

## Safety mentors needed



**SafeWork NSW is looking for businesses in the Tweed to be part of the 2018 SafeWork Mentor Program.**

Mentoring involves an experienced business helping a small business to identify new ways to address safety.

If you are an experienced business professional with expertise in workplace health and safety and/or injury management, becoming a mentor will enhance your leadership skills and provide an opportunity to network with like-minded professionals.

For more information, call 13 10 50, apply online at [www.safework.nsw.gov.au/forms/mentor-form](http://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/forms/mentor-form) or send an email to [mentorprogram.business@safework.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mentorprogram.business@safework.nsw.gov.au)

SafeWork NSW also offers rebates for small businesses in NSW to improve their safety.

The small business rebate gives up to \$500 back to small business owners who buy and install eligible safety items to address a safety problem in their workplace.

You can find a list of eligible items and how to apply at [www.safework.nsw.gov.au/health-and-safety/how-we-can-help-small-business-rebates](http://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/health-and-safety/how-we-can-help-small-business-rebates)

# New phase for Tweed Heads Museum

**The Tweed Regional Museum on Kennedy Drive at Tweed Heads has enjoyed a new lease of life over the summer following the first stage of an ongoing upgrade.**

Extended summer opening hours will come to an end this week after a busy holiday season with regular opening hours returning from Tuesday 6 February to accommodate ongoing redevelopment of the site.

Museum Director Judy Kean said the feedback received from visitors to the refurbished Court House, originally located in Wharf Street, has been very positive.

“New displays emphasising the history of the Court House have been particularly well received and the large projections featuring film footage from the 1950s and historic images from the Museum collection have also been a real hit with visitors,” Ms Kean said.

“We are also delighted that members of the Tweed Heads Historical Society, now relocated to their purpose-built research centre and office, are once again able to offer important research services to members of the public.”

Regular opening hours until the end of June 2018 will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10am – 4pm and the fourth Sunday of each month, 10am – 4pm.

Work will begin in mid-March on a new entry into the Museum precinct and the Court House building from the carpark.

The site will remain open during these works however there may be some inconvenience and alternative temporary paths of entry to the Court House.

Ms Kean said other work taking place on site over the next six months includes the refurbishment and reopening of Boyd’s Shed.

“This wonderful building, long used by the famous Boyd family, has a rich history and is full of stories,” she said.



**The next phase of the Tweed Heads Museum refurbishment will begin in mid-March with work starting on the precinct entry, carpark and the historic Boyd’s Shed.**

“Thanks in part to a grant received under the NSW Department of Environment and Heritage grant program, we’ll be bringing these stories to life again.

“These works will be ongoing in stages between now and June and we’re very much looking forward to having this beautiful and historic site and its heritage buildings fully open to the public again from June.”

For further information about opening hours and displays, visit the Museum website [museum.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://museum.tweed.nsw.gov.au) email [trm@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:trm@tweed.nsw.gov.au) or phone (02) 6670 2493.



**Instead of using the car for your daily commute, maybe skate, jog, Segway®, cycle or walk to work.**

## Find an alternative and go car free this February

**A Northern Rivers social justice organisation is challenging residents to get a clear perspective on local transport options by going car free for a day.**

Social Futures, an organisation that works closely with councils in the region including Tweed, is calling on locals to walk, share a ride or travel by public transport on Tuesday February 27 to promote Car Free February.

The promotion aims to get participants to consider what they would do if suddenly they didn’t have a car to get around – a situation that is everyday reality for many Tweed residents.

Council’s Program Leader – Sustainability Debbie Firestone said Car Free February also served as an opportunity to reflect on sustainable options and reducing emissions.

“On average, about one-third of our greenhouse gas emissions come from transport fuels, so carpooling to school or work, taking community transport or using the bus where its available

is an important way to reduce our carbon footprint,” Ms Firestone said.

“Public and active transport options are a great way to lighten our impact on the planet.

“While many of us living in a rural or regional area find it very difficult to find alternative travel arrangements, Car Free February offers everyone a chance to look for more social options such as reaching out to a friend or a neighbour for a ride.”

Participants who share their experiences online go into a draw for prizes including travel vouchers, premium music service subscriptions and free weekly bus passes.

For more information or to download a supporter’s pack, visit [www.goingplaces.org/carfreefeb](http://www.goingplaces.org/carfreefeb)

To get regular updates about sustainable initiatives in Tweed Shire, sign up for our Environment and Sustainability newsletter by visiting [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe)

## Get your kids active and reap the \$100 incentive

**Council is getting behind a NSW Government initiative to help get young people involved in organised sports and other physical activities.**

The Active Kids program offers \$100 vouchers which can be used towards the cost of registration fees for sports clubs or other organised activity groups, such as dance classes or swimming lessons.

Every NSW student 18 and under is eligible for one voucher a year, which can then be redeemed with any registered Active Kids provider.

Council’s Operations Coordinator – Parks Matt McCann said the voucher system was a great opportunity to increase participation in local sports and other organisations.

“Not only does this program support active and healthy lifestyles by getting young people involved in physical activity but it also helps to strengthen our community,” Mr McCann said.

“The clubs, classes and organisations which will benefit from this program are an important part of many people’s lives in Tweed Shire.

“The cost of organised sports and activities can easily be a burden for families, especially those with multiple children involved,

and hopefully this program relieves some of that pressure.”

Eligible providers must offer structured activities of no less than eight weeks’ duration that provide moderate to vigorous levels of physical activity.

Providers must register with the Active Kids program prior to accepting vouchers, which can be done at [www.sport.nsw.gov.au/activekids](http://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/activekids) after 1 March.

Council’s Supervisor – Aquatic Programs Jeff Collier said vouchers will definitely be able to be used for Tweed Regional Aquatic Centre learn-to-swim programs.

“I believe that the Active Kids program is a great way for the NSW Government to subsidise school-aged children to learn to swim,” Mr Collier said.

“Drowning is still one of the most common causes of accidental death in children, so being able to swim is an essential lifesaving skill.

“Swimming is also just lots of fun for people of all ages and children especially love getting in the water and enjoying themselves.”

For more information, including how to obtain vouchers, visit the website or call the Active Kids enquiry line on 13 77 88.

