

*Tweed Shire Council wishes to recognise the generations of the local Aboriginal people of the Bundjalung Nation who have lived in and derived their physical and spiritual needs from the forests, rivers, lakes and streams of this beautiful valley over many thousands of years as the traditional owners and custodians of these lands.*



On site at the Stotts Creek Organics Processing Facility are Soilco's Shane Morgan, Council's Resource Recovery Education Officer Tarra Martel, Director Sustainable Communities and Environment Tracey Stinson, Resource Recovery Acting Unit Coordinator Wesley Knight, Project Manager Wayne Harris, Soilco General Manager Charlie Emery and Soilco employee Lance Jeffrey.

## Turning food and garden organics into compost

**Work is commencing on a new \$7 million organic processing facility on the Tweed which will turn green organic waste into useful compost, while reducing the amount of waste which goes to landfill.**

The facility, to be constructed and operated by NSW organics recycling business Soilco Pty Ltd at Council's Stotts Creek Resource Recovery Centre, represents a significant investment in waste reduction and management and will be the largest organic processing plant on the Northern Rivers.

Capable of dealing with nearly 21,000 tonnes of food and garden organics (FOGO) annually, the facility will complement Council's green kerbside collection program.

The Tweed's organics recycling facility will function as an enclosed composting facility using state-of-the-art technology.

It will be environmentally sustainable, with features such as a 99KW solar power system, which is expected to offset 22 per cent of the facility's power consumption. Rainwater will be captured for processing operations and all wastewater generated in the processing of organics will be reused in the composting process.

Soilco General Manager Charlie Emery said collected FOGO was

currently transferred to a facility outside the Tweed Shire.

"Since Council's FOGO collections began, the reduction in organic waste to landfill shows that residents are actively embracing the process," Mr Emery said.

"We are also looking to work with local businesses and food producers, such as hotels and resorts in the area, to help them better manage their green waste.

"Once the facility is up and running, Council will be able to process its own food and green waste, right next to the existing recycling and landfill centre."

The facility, due to be operational by September 2021, will be run by Soilco for 10 years with an additional five-year option for Council to extend.

The project is supported by the NSW Environmental Trust as part of the NSW EPA's Waste Less, Recycle More initiative, funded from the waste levy, which provides funding support to councils and other organisations to build facilities to increase the amount of organic waste diverted from landfill in NSW.

The reintroduction of the green organics bin in the Tweed has reduced household waste to landfill by approximately 20 per cent. To find out goes in your green bin, visit [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/greenbins](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/greenbins)

## Banora Point walker's golden award is FABulous

**Stepping out to help seniors improve their fitness while enjoying a fun social outing at the same time has proved to be a winning move for Leoni Warren from Tweed Heads South.**

Leoni, 66, is one of the Banora Point Walkers Heart Foundation Walking Group organisers, a role she has enjoyed since the group started in April 2011.

Her dedication to the Walkers has seen her honoured with the Heart Foundation's Golden Shoe Award, a national award which recognises her commitment to walking and encouraging others to become more physically active.

She is one of four recipients Australia-wide to receive the award.

Based at the Banora Point Community Centre (BPCC), the Banora Point Walkers are part of Tweed Shire Council's COVID-Safe Fun Activities for Banora Seniors (FABS) program (see box, right).

As a walk organiser, Leoni helps to plan the route for each walk, researching new places to explore and creating plenty of interest for each challenge.



From left: Heart Foundation Golden Shoe Award recipient Leoni Warren is congratulated by fellow walkers Norma Robertson, Marilynn Andrews, Lee Swindells and Julie Taylor at the Banora Point Community Centre where the group is based.

"We have discovered some interesting walking tracks and waterways," Leoni said.

"I also enjoy watching members' health and fitness improve through regular walking. We have had people join us after a heart attack or to help with their mobility. It is very rewarding to see their confidence and ability grow week by week."

Council's FABS program aims to provide retirees and seniors with a range of activities to meet new people and make friends.

Heart Foundation Director of Active Living, Adjunct Professor Trevor Shilton, congratulated this year's Golden Shoe Award winners, including Leoni, for their roles in promoting physical activities as a measure in combating heart disease.

Anyone interested in the Banora Point Walkers or activities in the FABS program can contact Council on 07 5569 3110 or email [communityservices@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:communityservices@tweed.nsw.gov.au)

### Get involved with FABS

**Fun Activities for Banora Seniors have started up again at the Banora Point Community Centre.**

Activities are organised through The Hub at the centre which is open Tuesday and Friday from 9am to 4pm.

Some of the COVID-Safe weekly activities include:

- Needlework
- Qigong (an ancient Chinese exercise and healing technique)
- Scrapbooking
- Mosaics
- Yoga
- Gentle exercise
- Art with Pauline
- Card making
- Crochet

There are also monthly meetings of the Book Club, Menz Group and Wrapped With Love.



Last week we each used

**178L a day**

as at 28 August 2020

## Waste tip



### Have you 'bin' alarmed?

**Set a weekly alarm on your phone (the night before bin collection) as a reminder to put your bins out.**

Name it with something that makes you smile or better yet, put the reminder on your partner's or kid's phone!

## Pool reopens as weather starts to warm up

**The 50-metre swimming pool at Tweed Regional Aquatic Centre in Murwillumbah reopens to the public from next Monday, 7 September 2020.**

The pool has been shut over the winter months but with the water temperature on the rise, it's time for the spring reopening.

To comply with the current COVID-19 restrictions, everyone must pre-book their lane prior to attending.

In addition, swimmers and aqua program participants are asked to come dressed for the pool as change rooms are not currently open to comply with restrictions.

"We're asking swimmers to continue to do the right thing when visiting our facilities. That means staying home if unwell, using cashless payments if you can, observing physical distancing and making sure you sanitise your hands," Operations Coordinator – Aquatic Facilities Joanna Hogg said.

To book your next visit to a TRAC facility at either Murwillumbah, Kingscliff or Tweed Heads South, visit [trac.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://trac.tweed.nsw.gov.au)

Bookings open for the 50-metre pool on Wednesday 2 September from midday, with a maximum of two swimmers per lane.



**The 50-metre swimming pool at TRAC Murwillumbah will reopen on Monday 7 September 2020.**

## Library services review

**Richmond Tweed Regional Library (RTRL) is currently undertaking a review of outreach services offered through its mobile library.**

The Library is looking for input from current users and other interested community members.

If you would like to participate in the review process, you can complete the online survey running until September 6 or participate in an upcoming focus group.

Regional Library Manager Jo Carmody said the purpose of the review was to uncover community needs so that services could be adapted accordingly.

"RTRL has been providing the community with outreach services through a mobile library since 1980. During that time the service has evolved to meet changing community needs and expectations," she said.

"We want to ensure we are offering the most relevant service to meet community needs. We won't know what, if any, changes need to be made to the service until the consultation process is complete."

The survey can be taken online at [www.rtrl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rtrl.nsw.gov.au) or by visiting any RTRL branch during opening hours. You can register your interest for the focus groups by completing the contact details section in the online survey.

In the Tweed, RTRL has branches at Tweed Heads, Kingscliff and Murwillumbah.



**The Richmond Tweed Regional Library has been running its mobile library since 1980.**



# Asbestos contaminates truckload of green bin organics

**A truckload of green bin food and garden waste has had to be landfilled due to asbestos contamination.**

The hazardous material was placed in a residential green bin last week and led to the contamination and landfilling of organic material collected from more than 400 households on the bin truck's round.

Contamination like this costs all ratepayers money because placing organic material into landfill costs significantly more than turning it into compost.

It also creates unnecessary risk to the health and safety of Tweed Shire Council staff, undermines the community's recycling efforts and increases greenhouse gas emissions from landfill.

"Everyone is responsible for their own waste – especially if it is hazardous and unsafe. Not only has this thoughtless act wasted a truckload of green organic material, it could have put people's health at risk," Director Sustainable Communities and Environment Tracey Stinson said.

"With at least one in three Australian homes containing asbestos, if you think an item might be asbestos, it probably is. If you're unsure of what to do, then please call Council on 02 6670 2400 and we can help."

Bin collection trucks in the Tweed are fitted with cameras and drivers are on the lookout for items that are unsafe or may cause contamination.

Council is now investigating the incident and close monitoring of bins will continue.

"Asbestos can be safely disposed of at Council's Stotts Creek Resource Recovery Centre by residents, providing strict guidelines are followed and it is less than 10 metres square – which is about the size of four standard double mattresses," Ms Stinson said.

If disposing of asbestos at the resource recovery centre, it must be wrapped in manageable bundles with two layers of plastic and sealed using adhesive packaging tape to ensure no particles escape into the air.

If you have more than 100 kilograms or 10 square metres of asbestos waste to dispose of, this can only be undertaken by a licenced asbestos removal contractor. In addition, the person transporting the load for disposal must report it to the NSW Environment Protection Agency using WasteLocate ([wastelocate.epa.nsw.gov.au](http://wastelocate.epa.nsw.gov.au)).

For more information go to [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/asbestos](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/asbestos)



The upgraded intersection on Tweed Valley Way at Bartletts Road.

## Roadworks complete after contractor gets border exemption

**Tweed Shire Council has completed the rebuild of several sections of Byangum Road, Murwillumbah.**

Completion of the work was delayed due to the asphalt contractor being Ipswich-based and unable to cross the border without triggering mandatory quarantine on their return to Queensland.

The contractor successfully sought an exemption and has now completed works on Byangum Road and Acacia and James streets in Tweed Heads.

### Tweed Valley Way

**Council has also recently upgraded a section of Tweed Valley Way.**

As it's one of the Tweed's busiest roads, the works to upgrade the intersection at Bartletts Road took place overnight.

The section now has a smooth surface and clearly marked lanes.

Visit [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/roadworks](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/roadworks) for the latest on roadworks in the Tweed.

## Celebrated for championing workplace change

**Tweed Shire Council's Manager Human Resources Suzanne Richmond has been announced as the winner of the Champion of Change Award (Regional/Rural) at the annual NSW Ministers' Awards for Women in Local Government.**

At a virtual ceremony held this week (Monday 31 August) the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP, Minister for Local Government commended Ms Richmond for her work in increasing workforce diversity and inclusivity at Council.

This has included promoting the benefits of flexible working hours at Council, developing learning opportunities to progress more women into leadership roles and supporting the annual International Women's Day event.

In addition, she is developing strategies to increase the employment of women at Council, in particular in non-traditional roles. This includes the Young Women in Construction Pilot Program - a partnership scheme to increase opportunities for young women locally.

On receiving the award, Ms Richmond acknowledged the women of Tweed Shire Council, and across the local government sector, that had supported and inspired her.

"My advice for all women in local government is to follow your dreams and know they can be achieved. We can all do this through supporting each other along the way and recognising we are strongest when we work with our male colleagues," she said.

Earlier this year, Ms Richmond also spearheaded work to develop the Local Government (COVID-19) Splinter Award which provides council employees, across all signatory councils in NSW, with increased job security during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Working alongside Local Government NSW and the United Services Union, the Splinter Award was developed to provide council employees with an allowance similar to JobKeeper should insufficient work be available for all employees at any point during the pandemic.

"My contribution to the Splinter Award is the proudest moment of my

career to date and is testament to the innovation and leadership of the local government sector," Ms Richmond said.

General Manager Troy Green said that Ms Richmond was a role model to women throughout Council, and the local government sector as a whole.

"Suzanne will always go that extra mile and inspires others to do the same. She has made Council a more inclusive organisation and I value her contribution and commitment to Council and our employees, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic."

The awards celebrate the invaluable contribution women make to the local government sector in NSW.

For more information on the Ministers' Awards for Women in Local Government, visit [www.olg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au)

## Planning Committee meeting agenda Thursday 3 September 2020

The Planning Committee meeting agenda for Thursday 3 September 2020 is available on Council's website [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/councilmeetings](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/councilmeetings). The meeting will be held remotely via livestream commencing at 3pm. A Planning Committee public forum on agenda items being considered is to be held at 2pm prior to the meeting.

### Agenda

#### Reports for consideration

##### Planning and Regulation

- 8.1 Compliance Matter at Lot 3 DP 541945 No. 64 Mount Warning Road (Mavis' Kitchen)
- 8.2 Variations to Development Standards

## Council meeting agenda Thursday 3 September 2020

The Council meeting agenda for Thursday 3 September 2020 is available on Council's website [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/councilmeetings](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/councilmeetings). The meeting will be held remotely via livestream commencing at the conclusion of the Planning Committee meeting.

### Agenda

#### Reports for consideration

- 3.1 Adoption of Recommendations from Planning Committee Meeting held 3 September 2020

#### Engineering

- 13.1 Procurement Exemption sought under section 55 (3)(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993* for RFO2020052 Delivery of 200mm Sewer Rising Main, Tweed Coast Road
- 13.2 RFO2020044 – COVID-19 impacts to Supply, Delivery and Installation of Asphaltic Concrete

#### Corporate Services

- 14.1 Amendments to Model Code of Conduct and Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct

#### Confidential items for consideration

##### Planning and Regulation in committee

- 19.1 Further Information Regarding Unauthorised Development at Lots 101 and 104 DP 1255992 No. 25 and 149 Sleepy Hollow Road, Sleepy Hollow
- 19.2 Development Application K98/0293.01 for amendment to Development Consent K98/0293 for Tourist Accommodation at Lot 1 DP783892 No. 1110 Urliup Road, Urliup

The agendas for these meetings, which may also include any late or supplementary reports, will be updated prior to the date of the meetings.

It should be noted that confidential items are considered in closed session, which excludes media and public.

Minutes of these meetings will be available as soon as practical following the meetings and are unconfirmed until they are formally adopted at the next Council meeting.

Please be aware that these meetings are webcast and will be available on Council's website at [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/councilmeetings](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/councilmeetings)



**Council's Manager Human Resources Suzanne Richmond was the winner of the Champion of Change Award at the NSW Ministers' Awards for Women in Local Government.**

## Resident and Ratepayer Association meetings

**Banora Point & District Residents Assoc.** meeting have been cancelled until further notice.

**Kingscliff Ratepayers and Progress Association** meet at Kingscliff Bowls Club (upstairs) 6.30 – 8.30pm, Thursday 10 September 2020.

## Current vacancies

View current vacancies at [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/careers](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/careers)

Subscribe to receive Job Vacancy Alerts via email at

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

**WATER WEEK 10** Check when your water meter is read at [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/meterreading](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/meterreading)

02 6670 2400 or 1300 292 872

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