

Tweed Shire Council wishes to acknowledge the Ngandawal and Minyungbal speaking people of the Bundjalung Country, in particular the Goodjinburra, Tul-gi-gin and Moorung – Moobah clans, as being the traditional owners and custodians of the land and waters within the Tweed Shire boundaries. Council also acknowledges and respects the Tweed Aboriginal community's right to speak for its Country and to care for its traditional Country in accordance with its lore, customs and traditions.



The sun was shining on the World Environment Day Festival held at Knox Park, Murwillumbah on Sunday with big crowds enjoying the entertainment, speakers and activities on offer. The community spirit on the day highlighted a strong commitment to looking after the Tweed's internationally significant environment. Find out how Council looks after the Tweed's environment at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/environment](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au/environment)

## Help develop a Coastal Management Program

Council recognises the need for a proactive approach to coastal management which addresses the challenges and opportunities associated with our coastal areas.

We are calling on local communities, businesses, and residents to actively participate in providing feedback on their priorities within the coastal zone to inform the



Now is your chance to actively participate in providing feedback on your priorities within the coastal zone to inform the development of a Coastal Management Program that aligns with community values.

development of a Coastal Management Program that aligns with community values.

It's important to understand what the community loves about the coast, and where there might be concerns and challenges so we can make informed decisions that respond to the needs of society, the environment and the economy.

### Have your say

We want to hear what you love about the coast, what you would change and your priorities for the future. You can let Council know what matters to you in a number of ways up until 31 October 2023:

- online at [yoursaytweed.com.au/tweedcmp](https://yoursaytweed.com.au/tweedcmp)
- mail to General Manager, Tweed Shire Council, PO Box 816, Murwillumbah, NSW 2884
- email [tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au)

Hard copy surveys are available from your nearest Tweed Shire Council office.

There will be a range of opportunities for face-to-face community consultation over the coming months. Full details will be made available on the Your Say Tweed website.

You can also use an interactive online map to tell us more about your local spot or leave a comment.

For more information and to visit the project page visit [yoursaytweed.com.au/tweedcmp](https://yoursaytweed.com.au/tweedcmp)



Last week we each used  
**168L a day**  
as at 17 July 2023

## In brief ...

### Vale Gary Corbett

Council management and staff were saddened to hear of the recent passing of a former Council manager, Gary Corbett.

Gary was the Manager Community and Cultural Services from 2007 until his retirement in 2012.

Many would remember Gary as the Tweed River Art Gallery Director (as it was then known) from 1999 to 2005, where he was instrumental in the development of the new Tweed Regional Gallery in Murwillumbah South, which opened in 2004.

His oversight of the growth of the Gallery continued when he was appointed to a broader portfolio as Manager Community and Cultural Services. Gary retired due to ill health in 2012.

Gary's funeral will be held on Saturday 22 July at the Tweed Cemetery at Eviron.

### Draft Debt Management and Hardship Policy

Council is seeking feedback on the Draft Debt Management and Hardship Policy.

The purpose of the policy is to outline Council's framework for debt recovery and the factors considered when recovering funds owed to Council.

It outlines how Council may provide relief and support to individuals or businesses who are unable to meet their financial obligations due to various circumstances, such as unemployment, illness, or other unforeseen events.

Have your say up to 4pm Tuesday 1 August at [yoursaytweed.com.au/hardshippolicy](https://yoursaytweed.com.au/hardshippolicy)

## Fingal Head viewing platform upgrade

Work on the viewing platform at Fingal Foreshore Park will commence on Monday 24 July after a slight delay to the start date. The project will take 5 weeks to complete, weather permitting.

The upgrade will include improved access to views for users with a disability, improve circulation space on the viewing platform, path widening from accessible parking bay to the viewing platform, staining of the exterior, as well as new decking and seating.

During construction the viewing platform and beach shower (adjacent to the platform) will be closed.

The viewing platform improvement is Stage 2 of the upgrade that included the new inclusive playground at Fingal Foreshore Park that opened this year.

The decking material used will be a 100% recycled product made from bottles, bags and recycled wood as part of Council's commitment to reduce our impact on the natural environment.

This project is supported from the Better Waste and Recycling Fund NSW EPA. Find out more about the Fingal Foreshore Park project and its history at [yoursaytweed.com.au/fingal-foreshore-park](https://yoursaytweed.com.au/fingal-foreshore-park)



## What's happening on the roads around the Tweed

Council's roads crews are working across the Tweed, including some of the works listed below. Others are private.

Please allow additional time for delays.

### Cudgen – Cudgen Road

**Private works:** As part of the Tweed Valley Hospital project, Lendlease is installing traffic lights at the entrance to the hospital. Works are expected to be completed by Friday 21 July. Work hours are from Monday to Friday (7 am to 6 pm) and Saturday (8 am to 1 pm). The road will be subject to traffic control and the existing 2-lane road will be reduced to one lane during working hours.

**Private works:** As part of the Tweed Valley Hospital Project, FKG Group is constructing the new Kingscliff ambulance station at the Cudgen Road/Turnock Street/McPhail Avenue roundabout. Tree removal and service location along Turnock Street will start on Monday 17 July and may take 3 weeks to complete. At times, there will be lane closures where traffic control will be required but not for

the entire duration of the works.

### Kingscliff – Marine Parade and Turnock Street

Pavement replacement is taking place along Marine Parade between Beach Street and Turnock Street, followed by stabilisation works along Turnock Street. Works started this week and will take about 4 months to complete.

As part of Council's road stabilisation program, stabilising the asphalt along Marine Parade (between Beach Street and Turnock Street) and Turnock Street (from Marine Parade intersection to Pearl Street intersection) started this week.

At times, detours will be in place which may cause delays of up to 10 minutes. Before contractors can begin road stabilisation works, Council crews will first work on the stormwater infrastructure.

### South Murwillumbah – corner Tweed Valley Way and Buchanan Street

Construction of sewer rising main from the Tweed Shire Council Depot to the corner of Buchanan Street and Tweed

Valley Way continues this week. The east lane of Buchanan Street will be closed and there will be no right turn from Buchanan Street onto Tweed Valley Way during work hours between 7 am and 5 pm. Expect minor delays. Some nightworks will be required towards the end of the project.

### Reserve Creek – Round Mountain Road

Round Mountain Road has fully reopened to two lanes of traffic following the completion of major slip restoration and road construction works by contractor, Pan Civil. The \$1 m project was finished on schedule thanks to the dedicated efforts of the contractor and sub-contractors.

Council is now planning to grade Round Mountain Road to ensure the works tie-in well to the existing road.

Council thanks motorists for their patience.

To learn more about how we build, upgrade and maintain a safe and connected local road network, including how we prioritise road maintenance projects, visit [tweed.nsw.gov.au/roads](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au/roads)



The Rail Trail has attracted more than 4,000 users per week since opening – with the free, accessible amenity particularly popular with families keen to take in the beauty of the Tweed while staying fit and healthy.

## 70,500 use Rail Trail in the first 4 months

Data released by Council shows more than 70,500 people have used the Tweed section of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail (NRRT) since its opening 4 months ago, smashing earlier expectations.

The figures were calculated using data retrieved from counters strategically placed along the 24 km length of the Tweed section of the NRRT, which runs from Murwillumbah to Crabbes Creek.

There has been significant interest in the opening success of the NRRT, with all user counts significantly exceeding expectations.

The Rail Trail is welcoming an average of 17,638 people per month, which is approximately 4,048 people per week or an average of 578 people per day.

The original business case for the Tweed section of the NRRT referenced goals of 27,000 people per year which is equivalent to 9,000 people in the first four months. The Rail Trail attracted more than double the anticipated annual number of visitors in the first four months alone.

These figures should provide confidence to the NRRT's other member councils of Richmond Valley Council, Lismore City Council and Byron Shire Council who are all either committed or considering connecting to the Rail Trail for the benefit of the broader Northern Rivers community.

Council also confirmed that 87% of trail users have used an associated Rail Trail experience and spent money with a local business, whether it be one of the many cafés, restaurants, accommodation providers or bike-related businesses such as hire, shuttle or transport services.

The data shows weekends to be the busiest on the Rail Trail, with Sundays the most popular day, followed by Saturdays and then Fridays and Mondays. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays still see a steady flow of people, but they are quieter days. The busiest time of day on the trail varies but the period between 10 am and 1 pm is recorded as the most active time on the trail.

What we know so far:

- more than 97% of Rail Trail users are very satisfied or satisfied with their overall experience
- more than 94% of Rail Trail users are likely to return
- 60% of Rail Trail users start their journey at the Murwillumbah Railway Station
- more than 85% of users opt for round trips over a one-way journey
- more than 80% of users spend an average of between 2 to 5+ hours on the Rail Trail
- Rail Trail users have scored the NRRT an average of 4.8 stars on Google Reviews and 4.6 stars on TripAdvisor.

The 24 km Tweed section of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail is the first stage of the project, which will eventually connect Murwillumbah to Casino. For more information on the Rail Trail visit [northernriversrailtrail.com.au](http://northernriversrailtrail.com.au)

### Current vacancies

Visit [tweed.nsw.gov.au/job-vacancies](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/job-vacancies) to view current vacancies. Subscribe to receive **Job Vacancy Alerts** via email at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe)

WATER:WEEK 2



Check when your water meter is read at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/meter-reading](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/meter-reading)

# The Tweed is ready to choose tap

Council is teaming up with the national Choose Tap coalition to encourage residents, workers and visitors to ditch buying bottled water.

Water and Wastewater Operations Manager Brie Jowett said the move added to Council's ongoing efforts to tackle plastic waste.

"A recent report by the United Nations shows Australians per capita are the second biggest consumers of bottled water, globally," Mrs Jowett said. "That's why we are rolling out the Choose Tap campaign locally."

"We're keen to break the affinity many of us have with bottled water."

Mrs Jowett said laboratory results released last month showed tap water in the Tweed was just as good as bottled water.

"Our tap water is a top drop," she said. "Choosing tap is the sustainable and healthy choice for hydration."

Choose Tap is a national campaign adopted by councils and water authorities aiming to reduce the amount of single-use plastic bottles that litter parks, pollute waterways and end up in landfill.

Council recently installed the first of the Tweed's public water refill stations branded Choose Tap along the Northern Rivers Rail Trail.

This is in addition to a Choose Tap-branded portable water station that Council will now roll out when there is an interruption to the supply of tap water in a local area and at Council-run events.

The new water stations add to Council's existing network of public water bubblers in parks across the Tweed.

Find out more about the Tweed Choose Tap campaign at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/choose-tap](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/choose-tap)

## Local tap water rivals bottled water for taste

The local community has given the taste of Tweed tap water a big thumbs up.

Last week, Council invited people to see if they could taste a difference between tap water and bottled water by setting up blind taste test stalls at Kingscliff on Thursday and Murwillumbah on Sunday, as part of the World Environment Day Festival.

While many taste testers could taste a difference, Water and Wastewater Operations Manager Brie Jowett said most could not accurately distinguish what was bottled water versus tap water. Only 25% could accurately pick which was which.

To uphold the integrity of the test, Council didn't reveal to taste testers which samples were tap water and which were bottled water.

Released this week, the results are:

- Sample A – bottled water, average taste rating 7.6/10
- Sample B – bottled water, average taste rating 7.3/10
- Sample C – tap water, average taste rating 7.5/10
- Sample D – tap water, average taste rating 7.3/10

From the 324 taste tests, bottled water and tap water scored equally at 7.4/10 for taste.

### Development application determinations

Notification of development application determinations for the purposes of Section 4.59 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (as amended).

#### Application details

##### Approved

**DA22/0374** – Demolition of existing dwelling, removal of one local native tree, erection of an attached dual occupancy including pools and two lot strata subdivision  
Lot 7 DP 238880, No. 63 Tamarind Avenue, **Bogangar**

**DA22/0393** – Dual occupancy (detached), swimming pools, front fence and associated works  
Lot 6 DP 1273771, No. 12 Kanooka Crescent, **Bogangar**

**DA23/0294** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling  
Lot 569 DP 217268, No. 5 Poplar Avenue, **Bogangar**

**DA22/0804** – Alterations and additions to the lower and upper floor of an existing dwelling house and granny flat  
Lot 85 DP 1030322, No. 4 Eclipse Lane, **Casuarina**

**DA23/0175** – Farm building with amenities  
Lot 8 DP 1059139, No. 97 Pumpenbil Road, **Pumpenbil**

**CDC23/0077** – Awning  
Lot 8 DP 737351, No. 11 Fig Tree Road, **Terranora**

**DA23/0135** – Roofed patio and deck  
Lot 24 Section 1 DP 1223, No. 156 Riverside Drive, **Tumbulgum**

**DA23/0192** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling and house raising  
Lot 6 Section 2 DP 1223, Lot 7 Section 2 DP 1223, No. 78–80 Riverside Drive, **Tumbulgum**

**DA23/0287** – Patio roof  
Lot 72 SP 50820, Unit 72/No. 5–7 Soorley Street, **Tweed Heads South**

##### Refused

**DA22/0515** – Two residential flat buildings comprising of 110 units and a swimming pool (NRPP)  
Lot 8 DP 224382, Lot 9 DP 224382, Lot 10 DP 224382, Lot 11 DP 224382, No. 13 Enid Street, **Tweed Heads**

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

### Notification of integrated development application

#### Development Application No. DA23/0165

A development application has been lodged by ELKN Pty Ltd seeking development consent for temporary use of land – camping ancillary to wellness retreat at Lot 5 DP 749359; No. 25 Solomons Road, **Mount Warning**. Tweed Shire Council is the consent authority for the application.

The proposed development constitutes 'Integrated Development' pursuant to Section 4.46(1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. The following approvals are required in this regard:

| Provision   | Approval  | Authority                                    |
|---|---|--|
| Section 100B of the <i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i>     | General approval  | Rural Fire Service                           |
| Sections 91 of the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> | Water use approval, water management work approval or activity approval under Part 3 of Chapter 3 | Department of Planning & Environment – Water |

The development application and the documents accompanying it may be viewed on Council's DA Tracking site located at [datracker.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://datracker.tweed.nsw.gov.au)

The documents will be available for a period of 28 days from Wednesday 19 July to Wednesday 16 August 2023.

Any person may, during the above period, make a written submission to the General Manager of Council. It should also be noted that Council has adopted a policy whereby, on request, any submission including identifying particulars will be made public. Council will give consideration to the 'Public Interest' and requests for confidentiality by submitters in determining access to submission letters. However, the provisions of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* – GIPA may result in confidential submissions being released to an applicant.

Any submission objecting to the proposed development must state the ground upon which such objection is made.

#### Please note – requirements regarding Disclosure of Political Gifts and Donations

A disclosure is required to be made in a statement accompanying the relevant development or planning application by a person who makes the application. In addition, a person who makes a written submission either objecting to or supporting a relevant development or planning application must also make a disclosure if the person has made a reportable political donation. Further information regarding Donations and Gift Disclosure are available on Council's website at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/development-applications](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/development-applications)

02 6670 2400 or 1300 292 872

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