



Carmen Stewart from It Takes A Town promoting the #LoveTheTweed cards.

## Loyalty card program helps with flood recovery

The popularity of the Why Leave Town pilot program in Murwillumbah has generated strong interest from businesses elsewhere in the Tweed.

The expansion of the loyalty card program has prompted a name change to #LoveTheTweed Buy Local Program to take in the entire Shire.

Council's Senior Economic Development Officer Kym Kranen said it was encouraging to see businesses from Tweed Heads to the hinterland and along the Tweed Coast come on board with the program.

She said an additional 14 businesses had joined the more than 60 Murwillumbah-based businesses which were already participating in the program.

"Our buy local program is supporting Tweed businesses in their recovery from both the flood and the COVID-19 pandemic by keeping money local," Ms Kranen said.

Murwillumbah-based community organisation, It Takes A Town, has been using the #LoveTheTweed cards to support flood-affected

residents in their recovery.

Carmen Stewart from It Takes A Town said the organisation had distributed thousands of dollars' worth of cards, from \$50 to \$500 in value, to meet the identified needs of impacted residents.

"We love the cards as it means funds are going back into local businesses that were also impacted by the floods," Ms Stewart said.

"As an organisation, it means we're not seeking and processing invoices for payment.

"Instead, we're able to demonstrate trust by simply handing over cards to an agreed value, and leaving the purchase up to the homeowner. Trust at a time like this is so important."

The existing Why Leave Town cards are still valid in the program for up to 3 years at participating businesses.

If you would like to register your business to accept cards, please visit [whyleavetown.com/register](http://whyleavetown.com/register)

To find out more about the #LoveTheTweed program, contact Kym Kranen at Council on 02 6670 2422 or email [kkranen@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kkranen@tweed.nsw.gov.au)



## Here's what's been happening in flood recovery this week

### Scenic Drive

The tender to design and construct both landslips along Scenic Drive closes Wednesday 8 June. Council's engineering team will review submissions and submit a report to Council – which should include indicative timelines for repairs.

As the tender date does not allow time to submit a report in the normal agenda, the elected Council is fast-tracking the process by accepting a late report to the next Council meeting on Thursday 16 June. Council would then sign a contract with the successful tenderer to enable design works to begin.

In parallel, Council is progressing approval from Transport for NSW who administer the Natural Disaster Funding on behalf of the State and Federal governments. Early indications are that this approval should be available at a similar time to the Council approval of 16 June.

For more information on these and other repairs, visit [tweed.nsw.gov.au/flood-recovery-works](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/flood-recovery-works)

### Kyogle Road, Limpinwood Road and Mount Warning Road

Boreholes undertaken at the slip sites last week completes the field testing for the stage 2 of geotechnical assessments.

Geotechnical reports are expected in early August 2022, which will provide Council with options to fix the roads. Council will then evaluate the report and prepare a funding submission.

Field testing for Tyalgum Road and Reserve Creek Road are programmed over the coming week.

For more information on these and other repairs, visit [tweed.nsw.gov.au/flood-recovery-works](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/flood-recovery-works)

### Trialling new technique to repair flood-damaged pavements

Pavement damage is widespread throughout the Shire, particularly following the flood and Council has several crews undertaking pavement repairs.

Generally, the traditional method replacing gravel in failed rural pavements is the simplest, most cost effective repair. However, due to the prolonged wet weather we're currently experiencing, this method is being impacted and Council crews are having to go back and re-work patches, only to be further affected by more rain.

Council has received in-principle approval from Transport for NSW for a different technique where we are using asphalt as the replacement base material instead of gravel. This will allow patches to be completed in one day and hopefully reduce the impact of wet weather on the pavement.

Council is working with Transport for NSW to get a blanket approval for this approach with the aim of employing several crews to carry out these pavement repairs throughout the Tweed.

Learn more about how Council builds, upgrades and maintains a safe and connected local road network, including how we prioritise road maintenance projects at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/roadworks-closures](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/roadworks-closures)

### Getting on with the massive job of pothole repair

Now the sun is finally out, you may have noticed Council crews out and about doing what they can to patch up the road network. But we need many more dry days if we Council is get on top of the huge job ahead of us.

Much like staff in the emergency department of a hospital, potholes are triaged based on a number of factors such as road classification, traffic volume and speed limit. Council can't always repair them

## In brief ...

### Green organics survey for rural residents

Do you live in a rural area without access to a green organic bin service for food and garden waste?

We would like to know what you currently do with your food scraps. Do you compost or would you like to compost but don't know how?

Your feedback will help us understand how we can assist and support our rural communities and villages to better manage food and garden waste. The ultimate aim is to reduce the amount of food waste in the red bins.

Complete the survey to go into the draw to win a \$50 voucher to a store of your choice (you must be a rural resident without a current green bin service).

Fill out the survey by 30 June at [surveymonkey.com/r/compost\\_1](http://surveymonkey.com/r/compost_1)  
Visit [tweed.nsw.gov.au/waste-recycling](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/waste-recycling) to find out what goes in the right bin.

### Looking after flying-fox forests

A project to restore 6 hectares of flying-fox habitat to help protect an iconic species in the Tweed is seeing great success.

The Sustaining the Tweed's Flying-fox Forests project has now restored 4 hectares of suitable habitat with the final 2 hectares due to be completed by September.

The project began in October last year to restore foraging habitat with high conservation value for the grey-headed flying-fox on 6 private properties at Tomewin, Urliup and Numinbah.

Restoration work as part of the project has consisted mainly of primary control of highly invasive woody and vine weeds.

The project is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment as part of the Regional Bushfire Recovery for Multiregional Species and Strategic Projects Program grant opportunity.

Council will continue to help landholders maintain these project sites next financial year through its Biodiversity Grants Program.

Visit [tweed.nsw.gov.au/native-animals](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/native-animals) to find out more about the Tweed's flying-foxes at or about Council's Biodiversity Grants Program at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/environmental-grants-incentives](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/environmental-grants-incentives). Read the full media release at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/latest-news](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/latest-news)



The grey-headed flying-fox is Australia's largest flying-fox with a wingspan of up to 1 metre.

straight away.

Council crews are targeting those roads experiencing more traffic than usual due to flood damage and closures, including Bilambil, Terranora, Limpinwood and Numinbah roads.

Sometimes, our maintenance and rehabilitation crews complete temporary repairs until more significant repairs can be completed. Large-scale road repairs are not possible during wet weather, so our team patches potholes using the best available product suited to the conditions. Please be patient and kind to our staff as they complete their work.

To learn more about the pothole process, read our fact sheet at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/potholes](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/potholes)

To report road damage including potholes, please visit [tweed.nsw.gov.au/roads-bridges](http://tweed.nsw.gov.au/roads-bridges)

### Expansion of Back Home Grant

Great news for permanent residents of caravan parks, retirement villages and multiple tenancies – the NSW Government's Back Home Grant scheme has expanded.

These changes mean:

- permanent residents of caravan parks and retirement villages who own their dwellings, whether fixed or movable, are now eligible to apply for the \$20,000 owner occupier grant
- tenants who have lease agreements for a dwelling on the same land as another eligible dwelling (for example, a granny flat) will be able to apply for the \$5,000 tenants' grant
- tenants with a lease agreement in a dwelling that has been divided into multiple self-contained residences, but not formally through a subdivision or strata process, will be able to apply for the \$5,000 tenants' grant.

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There are 2 streams of the Back Home Grant: up to \$20,000 for owner-occupiers and \$5,000 for tenants.

More than 4,600 applications, totalling \$65.2 million, for the Back Home Grant have been approved since the payment went live on 20 April.

For more details, read the full media release (released 1 June) from the NSW Government at [nsw.gov.au/media-releases](https://nsw.gov.au/media-releases)

For more information about available flood support, please speak to the staff at the Flood Recovery Centre at the Canvas & Kettle Room in Murwillumbah or contact Service NSW on 13 77 88 or visit [nsw.gov.au/floods](https://nsw.gov.au/floods)

### Council rates relief from NSW Government

#### Ratepayers in the Tweed whose properties were damaged in this year's devastating floods will receive rates relief, following the announcement of a \$40 million NSW Government funding package.

Ratepayers who made a successful claim through Service NSW, or whose property has been assessed as damaged, will have their 2022/23 rates waived.

The NSW Government scheme supports flood-affected ratepayers in seven of the State's most severely impacted LGAs of Ballina, Byron, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley and Tweed.

The program will cover the residential, commercial and farm rates of eligible ratepayers for one year.

The funding will be provided through Service NSW and the payments will be made directly to councils to ensure eligible ratepayers receive the relief automatically, without having to worry about red tape.

For more information visit [nsw.gov.au/media-releases](https://nsw.gov.au/media-releases) (3 June).

### Read Council's recommendations to the NSW government

#### Tweed Shire Council has made a submission to the two separate flood inquiries running concurrently in NSW.

The Parliamentary inquiry is being run by the NSW Upper House, and the Independent expert Flood Inquiry, is being led by Mary O'Kane and Mick Fuller.

Council's submission to each inquiry is the same and can be viewed at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/recovery-dashboard](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au/recovery-dashboard)

The submission makes 15 recommendations to the NSW Government, including that the Voluntary House Raising and Voluntary House Purchase schemes be urgently reviewed to determine whether their eligibility can be expanded to apply to a greater number of residents, in addition to a substantial increase in funding for the schemes.

Other recommendations in Council's flood inquiry report include:

- **Warning systems:** a review of forecasting warning systems to account for projected changes to weather patterns and intensities, as well as community education in relation to warning systems.
- **First responders:** consideration be given to merge the SES, Rural Fire Service and Fire and Rescue Service into one overall emergency response agency that works collaboratively with police, for resourcing to support paid SES personnel, and funding for the upgrade of emergency evacuation centres.
- **Communication and electricity networks:** creating more resilient networks to ensure radio, mobile phone and NBN/broadband services are maintained in disaster events.
- **Flood mitigation:** increased investment in flood mitigation schemes such as the voluntary house purchase and raising schemes, a review of the Murwillumbah CBD levee and drainage study and enhancement of the Murwillumbah CBD levee and pump systems.
- **Funding and procurement:** better coordination and consolidation of disaster grant funding programs, provision of greater clarity and flexibility for tendering procurement for emergency procurement in response to natural disasters.
- **Planning reforms:** implementation by the NSW Government of a local housing strategy support team to work with councils; reducing the number of people living in high flood prone areas.
- **Roads:** A review of the flood immunity of the Pacific Motorway (M1) at Chinderah, including the restriction of emergency access and supplies to the region when it is cut.
- **Community:** Enable councils to fund and support community resilience plans that build a culture of preparedness and

resilience, including education around flood warnings and river levels.

- **State natural disaster management plans:** regular update of plans outlining the State's role when it comes to disaster management, including in relation to temporary housing plans post-event; and for grant funding announcements to be made within 24 hours of the declaration of a disaster and for that to be distributed equally to all areas within that declaration.

### You can make a submission too

#### Council is encouraging residents, businesses and community organisations in the Tweed to contribute to both the independent Flood Inquiry and the Upper House Select Committee.

The deadline for submissions to the independent Flood Inquiry has been extended to Friday 24 June 2022. For more information, visit [nsw.gov.au/floodinquiry](https://nsw.gov.au/floodinquiry)

A submission can be almost anything related to the flood - it can be as simple as uploading a photo, telling your story of how you were impacted, even recounting your family's knowledge and experience with floods and other weather patterns through the generations.

Submissions to the Upper House Select Committee have closed but responses to its online questionnaire are open until 30 June. For more details, visit [parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/listofcommittees](https://parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/listofcommittees) and scroll down to 'Response to major flooding across New South Wales in 2022'.

### Attention Chinderah, Fingal Head, Kingscliff

#### You're invited to a community preparedness meeting hosted by the NSW SES on Tuesday 14 June at 6pm.

There is a possibility of wet weather over the next few months, so now is the time to get prepared.

Topics to be discussed are BoM predictions, how will you be warned, early 'heads up' communications and how to prepare.

The venue for the community meeting will be the Kingscliff Seventh Day Adventist Church, 85 Phillip St Chinderah.

Prepare now. Be alert. Act early!

## Survey on shark mitigation

#### The NSW Department of Primary Industries is seeking public feedback on shark mitigation measures.

A 10-minute survey is designed to capture sentiments about shark mitigation approaches currently used in NSW, and specifically ask about confidence in the program to reduce the risk of human-shark interactions at ocean beaches.

The NSW Shark Management Program aims to increase protection for NSW beachgoers, with minimal harm to sharks and other wildlife. Measures include drone aerial surveillance, SMART (Shark-Management-Alert-in-Real-Time) drumlines and satellite-linked listening stations to detect and track tagged sharks in real-time, issuing alerts to the public and beach authorities via Twitter and the SharkSmart App.

You can view the range of shark mitigation measures in the Tweed at [sharksmart.nsw.gov.au](https://sharksmart.nsw.gov.au) as well as find a link to the survey.

The survey is open until Thursday 16 June 2022.

### Development proposal for public comment

The following development application has been received by the Tweed Shire Council and may be viewed on Council's DA Tracking site located at [datracker.tweed.nsw.gov.au](https://datracker.tweed.nsw.gov.au) for a period of 14 days from Wednesday 8 June to Wednesday 22 June 2022.

#### Application details

**DA22/0323** – Use of existing Surf Life Saving Club for ancillary functions  
Lot 4 LP 1234959, No. 45 Bells Boulevard, **Kingscliff**  
Newton Denny Chapel

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* – GIPAA may result in confidential submissions being released to an applicant.

#### 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](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au/development-applications)

### Current vacancies

View current vacancies at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/job-vacancies](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au/job-vacancies)

Subscribe to receive Job Vacancy Alerts via email at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe)

**WATER WEEK 10** Check when your water meter is read at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/meter-reading](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au/meter-reading)

## Tweed welcomes the NSW Coastal Conference

#### Tweed and Byron Shire's coastal environment was showcased last week as more than 230 delegates from around NSW and Australia attended the 29th annual NSW Coastal Conference at Kingscliff.

The purpose of the conference was to share knowledge and find solutions to issues around coastal management and risks including human impacts on our environment.

The conference brought together specialists from a diverse range of fields, including all aspects of coastal, estuarine and marine management, as we grapple with the impacts from climate change.

The Tweed featured in several presentations on rescuing endangered turtles, the Fingal Head community working together to protect the coastal environment, wetland remediation under sea level rise, managing degraded cane land for improved carbon capture, sand movement around Fingal Head, the Kingscliff seawall and Tweed Sand Bypassing.

### 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

- DA22/0052** – Out of ground swimming pool  
Lot 2 DP 1088746, No. 36 Bione Avenue, **Banora Point**
- DA22/0094** – Dwelling alterations and additions  
Lot 1 DP 846749, No. 65 Peninsula Drive, **Bilambil Heights**
- DA22/0110** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling  
Lot 431 DP 216388, No. 10 Tamarind Avenue, **Bogangar**
- DA22/0057** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling  
Lot 5 DP 247808, No. 62 Tweed Coast Road, **Cabarita Beach**
- DA21/0786** – Attached secondary dwelling (conversion of part of existing dwelling)  
Lot 157 DP 1201995, No. 8 Callistemon Avenue, **Casuarina**
- DA22/0209** – Use of dwelling alterations and additions  
Lot 130 DP 1031933, No. 6 Cudgerie Court, **Casuarina**
- DA21/0443** – Dwelling and detached garage including associated vegetation removal  
Lot 1 DP 795729, No. 611 Hopkins Creek, **Hopkins Creek**
- DA21/0920** – Patio roof  
Lot 1 SP 102299, Unit 1/No. 74 Pearl Street, **Kingscliff**
- DA22/0260** – Verandah  
Lot 2 DP 13309, No. 5 West End Street, **Murwillumbah**
- DA21/0969** – Carport and patio  
Lot 44 DP 786188, No. 3 Caroline Street, **Pottsville**
- DA22/0250** – In-ground swimming pool  
Lot 413 DP 30961, No. 30 Riviera Avenue, **Tweed Heads West**
- DA22/0115** – In-ground swimming pool  
Lot 10 DP 616220, No. 32 Tea Tree Road, **Wooyung**

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](https://datracker.tweed.nsw.gov.au)

Learnings from the conference include access to scientific data which will provide a better understanding of the processes in the coastal zone and plan for a more sustainable future for our community.

Find out more about the Tweed's coastline management at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/coastline-management](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au/coastline-management)



Delegates from the NSW Coastal Conference on a field trip to see the Kingscliff Beach seawall.



## Have your say

### Add your voice to decision making in the Tweed

#### Changes to Business and Industry Zones

##### On exhibition 31 May to 12 July 2022

You are invited to review and provide comment on the translation of Business and Industrial Zones into new Employment Zones as part of a public exhibition being held by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

#### Have your say

Visit [yoursaytweed.com.au/changes-to-business-and-industrial-zones](https://yoursaytweed.com.au/changes-to-business-and-industrial-zones) to learn more.

**Council confidentiality policy:** On request, any submission including identifying particulars will be made public. Council will give consideration to the 'Public Interest' and requests for confidentiality however, the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* may require confidential submissions to be released to an applicant.

Help us make decisions with you  
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02 6670 2400 or 1300 292 872

[tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au)

Subscribe to the Tweed Link online at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe)

PO Box 816, Murwillumbah NSW 2484

[tweed.nsw.gov.au](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au)

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