

Citizen of the Year Doreen - more than a friend to many

The Tweed Shire Citizen of the Year for 2011 is Doreen Welsh, coordinator and founder of the not-for-profit group, Twin Towns Friends Association.

Mrs Welsh is being recognised for her community leadership and the tireless effort she has put into coordinating the organisation she founded in 1997 to address the loneliness and isolation of older people in our community.

With the assistance of a band of 60 volunteers, the Association provides recreational and social activities to frail aged and socially isolated members of the Tweed community.

"I'm gobsmacked to receive this award – over the moon and well and truly honoured," Mrs Welsh said.

"I don't do the work I do to get recognition or honours."

Mrs Welsh started the organisation after moving to the Tweed in 1997 and experiencing loneliness herself when her husband left the area for work in northern Australia.

Volunteers are matched with clients referred to by a variety of



Tweed Shire Citizen of the Year 2011 Doreen Welsh (left) is a friend to many, including client Barbara Anderson of Tweed Heads South.

service providers, such as aged care assessment teams, Community Health and Meals on Wheels. The volunteers then visit the elderly people in their own homes for regular chats.

Mrs Welsh found there was a great need among the elderly for someone to talk to and share experiences and memories.

"Often our volunteers are the only person our clients have spoken to all day," she said.

"We all need that social interaction – these people normally don't see anyone, and there's no-one to hold their hand or give them cuddle," she said.

More volunteers are needed - particularly in Murwillumbah - as the

association now has 200 clients across the Tweed, with some volunteers visiting up to five people. A further 15 clients are waiting for their initial interview to join the service.

If you help, call Doreen on (07) 5524 1841 or 0409 720 130.

The clients are aged from 52 to 99, with many of the volunteers themselves elderly.

"My eldest volunteer is 89 and she visits two people in their seventies," she said.

"Just because you're elderly, it doesn't mean you don't have something to give."

Mrs Welsh, who turns 70 this Saturday, is not ready to slow down herself.

"I've had knee surgery and lung cancer and I've kept going," she said.

Mrs Welsh and other official Tweed Shire award winners will receive their certificates at Tyalgum on Australia Day. The Tweed Shire Citizen of the Year and other official awards are chosen from nominations from the community by the community-based Tweed Shire Australia Day Committee.

Main Australia Day celebrations across the Tweed

There will be plenty of opportunities to come together to celebrate being an Australia in the Tweed this Australia Day, 26 January.

The official Tweed Shire program is at the community hall in the village of Tyalgum this year, commencing at 11am (NSW). Awards will be presented to the Tweed Shire award recipients, including Citizen of the Year, Doreen Welsh (see story above).

Citizenship ceremonies will be held at **Tyalgum** and **Tweed Heads**, with 46 people set to become new Australian citizens.

Wherever you live in the Tweed, there is a community celebration planned near you. The Tweed's Australia Day Ambassador, Benita Collings of Play School fame, is scheduled to briefly visit many of the community events, on top of her official duties at Tyalgum.

Many community events will include local Australia Day awards which have been organised by community groups.

The community program at **Tyalgum** will feature a cycle race from 6.30am, 'Australia versus India' junior and senior cricket matches at 8.30am and

11.30am respectively, and Anzac biscuit and damper competitions.

At **Tweed Heads**, young and old can take part in fun free games in Jack Evans Boat Harbour from 10am to noon, with giant water balls on the water for \$2 per session from noon to 2pm.

The fun starts at 7am at Lions Park in **Kingscliff** (opposite the ambulance station), with a breakfast in the park, with a flagraising ceremony at 8am and Aussie-themed entertainment.

Come as your favourite Australian character to **Bogangar** Public School from 7.30am, where a sausage sizzle will be followed by bush poetry, prizes for the best dressed, including pets and bikes. There will also be fun games such as thong throwing and egg and spoon races.

Following a flag raising ceremony at 9.15am, bowls will roll in competitions at the **Pottsville** Bowls Club.

In **Murwillumbah**, there's a free barbecue breakfast at 8.30am, with a flag raising ceremony at 9.30am. Novelty events and a jumping castle begin at 9.45am, including sack races, gum boot throwing and a tug of war.

Celebrate Australia Day at **Uki** by watching the cricket balls fly at the 'Uki Big Bash 10/10' at the Sports and Recreation Grounds from 10am. A flag raising will be held at 9.30am. Children's events commence at 10.30am.

Tumbulgum's free barbecue breakfast begins at 8am at Brian Breckenridge Field, followed by face painting, live music and a display of local hot rods.

A flag raising ceremony is at 9am, with novelty events for children and adults at 9.45am. The 'over the bridge versus round the corner' cricket challenge hits off at 10am, followed by a barbecue lunch.

At **Burringbar** Sports Ground, there's a bowling tournament at 9.30am, eight-a-side cricket at 10.30am, followed by a barbecue lunch and flag raising ceremony.

There will also be fishing casting competitions and other novelty events.

For the complete Australia Day program listing all the events around, go to Council's website www.tweed.nsw.gov.au and click on 'Australia Day' on the home page.

Call to help protect and restore the Pottsville Wetland

Few residents of Pottsville would realise the wealth of biodiversity found within the Pottsville Wetland.

The Pottsville Wetland is a large forested wetland to the west of Pottsville Waters and Black Rocks residential estates. The wetland contains a mosaic of coastal vegetation types and habitats for plants and animals, including a number of animals threatened with extinction like the koala, bush-stone curlew, glossy black-cockatoo, osprey, common blossom bat and common planigale. An astounding 281 native plants and 148 native animals have been recorded in the wetland.

The majority of the wetland is now in public ownership and Council has been successful in securing funds from the NSW Government's Environmental Trust to protect and restore this important biodiversity asset.

As the wetland is surrounded by urban and agricultural development, it faces many threats. These threats can degrade the important environmental values of the wetland, resulting in damage to plants, degradation to habitats and the loss of local animal populations.

While the wetland supports many



The Pottsville Wetland, covering nearly 300 hectares, is surrounded by urban and rural residential development.

native plants, 104 environmental weeds have also been recorded in and on the edges of the wetland. Many of these weeds, like arrowhead vine, night blooming cactus, orange jessamine and sky flower have escaped neighbouring backyards. Weeds compete with native plants and prevent the natural regeneration of the forest.

Domestic dogs and cats which are allowed to roam in the wetland can

have devastating impacts on local animal populations, including the local extinction of susceptible fauna species.

Funding for the 'Protection and Restoration of the Pottsville Wetland' project will extend over three years. During this time, professional bush regenerators will be employed to control weeds, fauna feed trees will be planted, fencing will be undertaken and rubbish removed.

Council is calling on the local community to get on board and support the project.

Residents can do this by coming along to a tree planting day or an information walk to learn more about the wetland. These activities are planned for 2012 and will be advertised before each event.

As mentioned in last week's *Tweed Link*, an information walk will be held on 4 February.

If you live close to the wetland you can also help by undertaking simple actions to minimise your impact:

- Confine your dog or cat to your backyard.
- Don't let pets roam or dogs run off the leash.
- Remove known weeds from your yard and use a Council green bin to get rid of garden waste.
- Never dump garden waste in or on the edge of the bush.
- Remember that all vegetation in the wetland is protected.

If you would like to know more about the Pottsville Wetland or the project please contact Council's Bushland Officer Tanya Fountain on (02) 6670 2787.

Comment sought on action plan

Members of the community have an opportunity to have their say on the direction of local government in NSW over the next 25 years, in response to expected dramatic changes in population, technology and local economies.

The Draft 2036 Action Plan has been prepared by the Division of Local Government with assistance from the Local Government and Shires Associations, the Local Government Managers Australia (NSW) and the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government.

Destination 2036 provides a process and a forum to consider and develop structures and approaches to local government in NSW that will allow the sector to meet the needs and expectations of communities of the future.

To view the draft plan, visit the Division of Local Government website www.dlg.nsw.gov.au and click on 'Destination 2036' under the 'Information for councils' tab. Comment is open until 15 February 2012.

Prepare, act and survive

As summer gets into full swing, so does the increased risk of bush fires within the Tweed.

Inspector Corey Philip from the Far North Coast office of the Rural Fire Service said that there is an above average chance for an extremely busy fire season.

"Due to the high rainfall in recent years, there has been a huge increase in the growth of vegetation across the region, particularly coastal heath land," Mr Philip said.

"This increase in vegetation, combined with dry weather and strong winds has the potential to create a dangerous bush fire situation."


The Bush Fire Danger Period began on October 1 2011 and runs until March 31 2012. If you are planning to light a fire in the open during this time, you will need a permit. Permits can be obtained through the Rural Fire brigade in your local area, or via their website www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

There is a lot residential and rural families can do to reduce the risk and harm a bush fire can inflict. Contact your local Rural Fire Service for information or visit their website to download the 'Bushfire Survival Plan' and complete it with your family. Be aware of daily bush fire ratings for your area and talk to your neighbours about bush fire safety.

Ensure your home and property is clean, clear and prepared in case of a bush fire and check general outdoor machinery is in good order. Consider emergency kits, safe exits from your property, animal welfare and first aid when preparing your property.



ADOPT A POUND PET



Age: 3 years
Breed: Domestic medium hair
Gender: Desexed male
Temperament: If you need a supersized cat man then "Claw" is the kitty for you.
This lovable couch potato enjoys lazing the day away grooming his lustrous coat and sunbaking. His beautiful green eyes, purrs and adorable feline cuddles will melt your heart. If you want to adopt a pet, call the Tweed Shire Council Pound on (02) 6676 6060 10am-4pm seven days week or visit www.tweed.nsw.gov.au
All pets are desexed and vaccinated.

Australia Day 2012 - award winners for 2011

Young Achiever - Rosie Kahl

Rosie Kahl is an outstanding young achiever. She was in Year 6 at Pottsville Beach Public School in 2011 and during the year received the North Coast Public Education Award and the North Coast Sporting Blue.

Rosie has been an executive member of the school's student representation council and member of the successful Math Olympiad team who were North Coast runners up. She was selected to be in the advanced computer and film groups as well as performing on numerous occasions in the school choir. Rosie is a talented sports person and was selected in the NSW Hockey Team that played in the Australia Titles in Melbourne.

She was also in the north coast cricket team and the district touch football, swimming, athletics and cross country teams, as well as being a member of the school teams.



Arts and Cultural Achievement Award - Pottsville Beach Public School Musical

In 2011 Pottsville Beach Public School presented seven musical performances featuring the performances of over 600 students from kindergarten to Year 6.

The musical written by staff called "Enhancement" was a light-hearted look at staff and students exploring innovative ways to promote the school. Video clips featuring parents and local business people were used throughout the shows and over 1600 people enjoyed the sell-out shows.

The musicals were strongly supported by the whole Pottsville school community and served as a focal point for the community, drawing groups together in a fun and enjoyable way to strengthen the school's partnership with its community.

Sporting Achievement Award Individual - Kane Townsend

Kane Townsend has achieved outstanding success as an Australian table tennis champion in both doubles and single events.

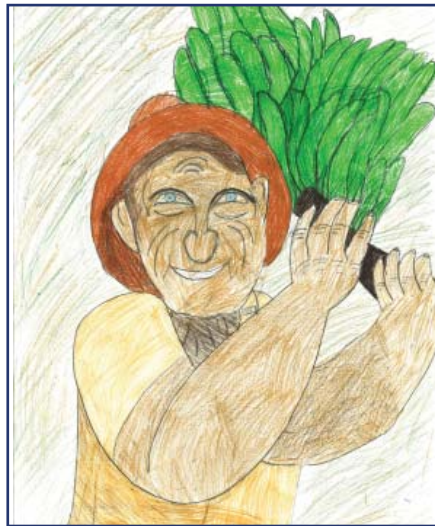
He is a member of the Australian Shadow Olympic Squad made up of 15 players from around Australia.

He is a member of the Australian Under 18 Team which qualified first in the Oceania Qualifying Round for the World Junior Championship Finals and was undefeated in the singles.

He won the silver medal in both the doubles and the singles Under 18 World Junior Circuit Event held in Guam in April 2011.

He won a Silver Medal in Australian Men's Doubles while making it to the quarter finals in the Australian Men's singles. He won a Gold Medal in the NSW Open Under 18 Boy's Doubles and Singles and a Bronze Medal for the Australia Open Under 21 Men's Doubles and Singles.

He has also been a part of Kingscliff High School Team and volunteers at the Cabarita Beach Table



Ten-year-old Rick Marshall from Terranora Public school has won the Australia Day Primary School Art Prize with this drawing of his Grandpa. Students across the Tweed were invited to submit a painting or drawing of 'Agriculture in the Tweed'. Well done, Rick.

Tennis Club and Gold Coast Table Tennis Club to help train juniors just beginning.

Kane is also an outstanding student, coming first in Physics, Chemistry and Engineering at Kingscliff High School and appearing on the state honours list for Advanced Maths.



Sporting Achievement for Team - Kingscliff High School, Male 17 to 19 Years, 4 x 50metres Freestyle Relay Team

Blake Francis, Callum Smith, Christopher Walmsley and Oliver Illingworth have represented Kingscliff High School in the NSW Combined High Schools Swimming Championships 4 x 50 metre freestyle relay event since 2007.

This team of four dedicated young men hold the NSW Combined High Schools record for 13 years, 14 years, 15 years and 16 years 4 x 50 metres freestyle relay. In April 2011 the team represented Kingscliff High School in the 17 to 19 years 4 x 50 metres freestyle relay final at the NSW Combined High Schools Swimming Championships at the Sydney Aquatic Centre where they once again won gold to become the NSW State Champions for the fifth successive year.

Tweed Valley Equestrian Group – Power of Pink Dressage (Breast cancer fundraiser)

Tweed Valley Equestrian Group held this special community event in November 2011, attracting over 125 entries coming from as far away as

Port Macquarie and Brisbane.

Dressage is a female-dominated sport so it was thought to be an ideal event for raising awareness of breast cancer particularly among rural women.

There was a large division of junior riders and every rider displayed a splash of pink, so as well as the serious dressage competition, there was fun prizes such as Pinkest Horse and Pinkest Rider.

All the riders had a fantastic day and the event fundraised over \$6000 for the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

Organisers plan to expand the event next year to two days adding a showjumping program and hope to become a major regional event held every year.



Academic Achievement Award - Claire Chauvier and Georgina Harbottle Tied Dux of Mt St Patricks College 2011

Claire Chauvier and Georgina Harbottle were tied dux of Mt St Patrick's College in 2011.

Both are high academic achievers, with Claire receiving the Monsignor O'Rourke Award for General Excellence and Georgina receiving the Principal's Award for Consistent Application to Study at the school's Year 12 Awards Presentation.

They have also been great contributors to the schools cultural programs.

Claire is a talented flautist and a member of the local wind orchestra "Random Wind" while Georgina is a talented singer.

Each student took out a number of awards at the 2011 Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts and both are also members of the school's choir.

Volunteer of the Year - John Lee

John Lee is being recognised for his role in setting up and coordinating the not-for-profit charity You Have a Friend, which offers support to the homeless and most needy in Coolangatta, Tweed Heads, Murwillumbah and Chinderah.

John has been able to organise food goods generously donated by local businesses to be picked up, sorted and distributed during night outreach programs, as well as food drops, Court support services and regular lunch and breakfasts held in a range of locations across the Tweed.

Many volunteers work with John to bring this lifeline of contact and care including Year 11 and 12 students from St Joseph's College and Mt St Patricks College, teachers, community and church members.

John has inspired many with his hands-on approach, energy and organisational leadership in bringing help to the homeless in the Tweed.

Speaking at local schools and organising the National Homeless Week sleep-out are just some of the ways John has successfully raised awareness of and brought practical assistance to the homeless in the Tweed.

POSITIONS VACANT

TECHNICAL OFFICER WATER - TRADE WASTE AND CONNECTIONS

Reference Number: 12-005

Salary: \$863.61 - \$989.46 per week

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER - BUILDING AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Reference Number: 12-006

Salary: \$814.72 - \$933.45 per week

COORDINATOR COMMUNITY OPTIONS

Reference Number: 12-007

Salary: \$81,478 - \$86,094 per annum, Performance-based salary increases apply to bring the top of the range to \$90,600 p.a.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR

Reference Number: 12-008

Salary: \$81,478 - \$86,094 per annum. Performance-based salary increases apply to bring the top of the range to \$90,600 p.a.

The closing date for these positions is 12 noon NSW daylight saving time on Friday 3 February 2012.

Applicants must obtain the vacancy information package and selection criteria, available from Council's website www.tweed.nsw.gov.au, customer service office at Murwillumbah Civic Centre Reception area or by calling (02) 6670 2495. Successful applicants will be subject to a three-month probationary period. Casual positions at Council are managed by JHA Recruitment, for further information please call 1300 800 301 or visit www.jharecruitment.com.au.

TENDERS

EQ2011-009 Waste Disposal Strategy for Regional Waste Managers Group

EQ2011-244 Design and Construction of a Storage Shed at Stotts Creek

Tenders close: Wednesday 4pm (DST) 15 February 2012

EQ2012-016 Grazing Licence Old Kingscliff Waste Water Treatment Plant Site - Part Lot 2 and 3 DP 1111554 Parish of Cudgen, County of Rous

EC2012-015 Expression of Interest for the Provision of a Master Key Security System

EC2012-021 Sale of Land - Lot 10 DP 262383 Duroby Creek Road, Duroby

EC2012-022 Sale of Land - Lot 1 DP 794307 Numinbah Road Chillingham

Tenders close: Wednesday 4pm (DST) 22 February 2012.

EQ2012-017 Supply and Installation of Traffic Barriers to Scenic Drive West Tweed Heads

Tenders close: Wednesday 4pm (DST) 29 February 2012.

Hard copy documentation is available and costs will be in accordance with Council's advertised photocopying fees.

Tenders must be lodged as specified in the tender documentation.

Tender documentation is available at no charge from Council's website at www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/tenders

All tenders 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 tender is not necessarily accepted and canvassing of Councillors or staff will disqualify. For further information please contact Sean Harvey (02) 6670 2606.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

The Pottsville Community Association will hold its first General Meeting for 2012 on Tuesday 31 January at 7.45pm in the Pottsville Community Hall.

The Tweed Link is printed on 100 per cent recycled paper using soy-based inks. It is published weekly by Tweed Shire Council and available online in full colour. It is delivered free to residents and is available on audio tape. Editor Tiffany Stodart, PO Box 816 Murwillumbah 2484, tweedlink@tweed.nsw.gov.au, phone (02) 6670 2400 or 1300 292 872, fax (02) 6670 2429. Council's main email address is tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au Council's agendas and minutes are available at Kingscliff, Murwillumbah or Tweed Heads libraries, Council offices or at www.tweed.nsw.gov.au After-hours emergencies for all Council services contact 1800 818 326. Council offices at the Civic and Cultural Centres at Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads will be open Monday to Friday 8am to 4.30pm (Public Holidays excepted).

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

DA11/0562 - Carport addition to unit known as No. 5 Lot 9 SP 78405, Unit 9/No. 100 Dry Dock Road, Tweed Heads South

DA11/0567 - Pontoon Lot 219 DP 249155, Lot 208 DP 249155, No. 13 The Bowsprit, Tweed Heads

DA11/0532 - Carport and storage Lot 354 DP 1049061, No. 29 Macadamia Drive, Pottsville

DA11/0509 - Upper floor verandah extension and enclose lower level to provide laundry area Lot 350 DP 31041, No. 53 Broadwater Esplanade, Bilambil Heights

DA11/0618 - In-ground concrete swimming pool Lot 2 DP 802313, No. 31A Bosun Boulevard, Banora Point

DA11/0615 - Farm shed Lot 2 DP 845820, No. 279 Round Mountain Road, Round Mountain

DA11/0617 - Dwelling Lot 436 DP 1144944, No. 10 Campfire Court, Terranora

DA11/0623 - Dwelling additions Lot 7 Section 12DP 758571, No. 46 Kingscliff Street, Kingscliff

DA11/0637 - Use of veranda area Lot 157 DP 806528, No. 29 Balmoral Street, Pottsville

DA11/0600 - Dwelling Lot 386 DP 1148511, No. 166 Overall Drive, Pottsville

DA11/0529 - Two-storey dwelling with attached carport via walkway Lot 371 DP 1052082, No. 46 Sassafras Street, Pottsville

The above development applications are available for public inspection free of charge at the Planning and Regulation Division, Murwillumbah Civic and Cultural Centre, during ordinary office hours.

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.

The Tweed Link offers the benefit of being delivered free to all Tweed households and is well established in the community as the place to go for all Council-related news. 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 on advertising in the Tweed Link. For information on the cost of advertising in the Tweed Link, deadlines and our useful online advertising calculator please visit Council's website, www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/tweedlink call (02) 6670 2400 or email tweedlink@tweed.nsw.gov.au

KINGSCLIFF LIONS BEACHSIDE MARKETS

Always the second and fourth Saturday of the month - next market 28 January.

CALDERA FARMERS MARKET MURWILLUMBAH

Every Wednesday 7am-11am. All-weather shopping at the Murwillumbah Showground. *Know your farmer, know your food.*