

## **2019 Mayoral Christmas Appeal focuses on those in desperate need** *Call to help people in need and our starving wildlife*

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**This year the annual Mayoral Christmas Appeal is supporting three organisations, Tweed Valley Wildlife Carers, Fred's Place and You Have a Friend.**

Tweed Valley Wildlife Carers rescue and rehabilitate native fauna for return to their natural environment as well as advocating for conservation and welfare of our local wildlife. This year they've received more than 4,400 calls, rescued some 3,000 animals and released around 1,600 animals back into their natural environment.

Mayor of Tweed, Councillor Katie Milne said that the drought has caused widespread starvation and dehydration for our wildlife this year.

"The Tweed Valley Wildlife Carers are run off their feet and have requested monetary donations so they can purchase exactly what they need for the thousands of animals they rescue," Cr Milne said.

Online donations can be made to the Tweed Valley Wildlife Carers at <http://twvc.org.au>.

Fred's Place, a St Vincent de Paul Society facility located in Tweed Heads, offers support services for single people and families who are in need, are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness. It provides a basic needs drop-in service with showers, laundry facilities, staffed kitchen, internet and telephone, with a case worker available for people experiencing crisis.

You Have a Friend operates an opportunity shop in Tweed Heads, supports the homeless, single parents, their children and the marginalised. They provide 300 meals each week in the Tweed Heads/Coolangatta area and also supports farmers and families in drought.

Donated items for Fred's Place and You Have a Friend, can include non-perishable foods, toiletries, coffee/tea, sugar, long-life milk, cordial, ring pull cans, instant noodle cups, simple first aid products, washing powder, fabric softener and new clothing for men and women.

Donated goods can be delivered to the Murwillumbah Civic Centre, Tumbulgum Road Murwillumbah and the Tweed Heads Cultural and Civic Centre, Brett Street Tweed Heads until the end of January 2020.

For more information on the Mayoral Christmas Appeal and full list of donatable items, visit <https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/Christmas>

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