

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 custodians of these lands.



Tweed Australia Day 2021 Citizen of the Year Amanda Philp with unique Aboriginal artwork gift and her award certificate. The turtle painting was signed by Tweed artist Nathan Rodgers-Falk.

Tweed Citizen of the Year back on the job

There hasn't been too much time to sit back and let the honour of being named the Tweed Australia Day Awards 2021 Citizen of the Year sink in for recipient Amanda Philp.

As a volunteer for Australia Seabird Rescue (ASR), Amanda was back 'on the job' just a few days after being named in the online awards presentation on Wednesday 26 January 2022.

This time it was a penguin that rescuers named 'Popcorn', 15 juvenile sooty terns and 17 turtles currently in care that required her attention.

"It's pretty rare for us to get penguins this far north but it was a great opportunity to learn more about him and he was pretty cute," Amanda said.

Since being named Citizen of the Year, the Southern Cross University graduate has received plenty of congratulations from her family and friends as well as the team from ASR.

"Facebook and social media has had an overwhelming response and the Seabird Rescue crew are really proud and said they were 'lucky to have me as part of the team'," Amanda said.

"Receiving this award provides a great opportunity to raise awareness of the organisation and encouraging people to help wildlife in distress."

Amanda said before being announced the recipient of the award, she

was very nervous.

"I think it was because of the 'unknown' – I wasn't sure of what would happen but when the announcement came through I was pretty emotional. My mum had tears," she said.

As Citizen of the Year, Amanda was presented with a gift from Council, an Aboriginal artwork original by Tweed artist Nathan Rodgers-Falk from Wollumbin Dreaming who also signed it.

"I also got emotional when I saw the Aboriginal painting that was part of the award, I love turtles and had a photo of one behind me when the announcement came through," Amanda said.

With 2022 off to a great start, Amanda is considering her options.

"I will still continue to do my volunteer work with ASR and have chosen to go to Heron Island in March for about 10 days to help with their research work as well as experience turtles nesting and hatching where I hope to develop more skills and knowledge that will help to contribute to my volunteer efforts," she said.

"There's always the possibility of doing further tertiary marine science and management studies with the goal of working in the field.

"But for now, life is pretty good and very rewarding."

You can see Amanda talk about her work with ASR at

tweed.nsw.gov.au/australia-day

Program helps seniors stay independent

An innovative new exercise program which aims to improve strength, balance, coordination and endurance for people aged over 50 is launching in the Tweed.

"Living Longer Living Stronger" is a safe, effective and affordable strength and balance program specifically designed for people aged 50 and over.

COTA (Council on the Ageing) NSW has partnered with Council to launch the program which offers regular resistance and balance training.

The classes will be delivered by local exercise professionals who have completed specialised training to be accredited as a Living Longer Living Stronger instructor.

All participants will meet with their instructor for a one-to-one assessment prior to starting classes.

The instructor then develops a tailored program which takes into account their particular issues and needs, ensuring they get as much as possible out of their class while reducing the risk of injury.

"Improving strength helps older people stay independent," COTA NSW CEO Meagan Lawson said.

"Being stronger means you can carry your shopping, climb stairs and play with your grandkids. You can keep doing the things you want to do. Strength training can help improve bone and muscle and slow down wear and tear and can speed up metabolism which may help maintain a healthier body."

Unit Coordinator Community Services Helen Carter said Council was keen to support COTA NSW and local fitness providers to help deliver this program for older people in the Tweed.

"The Tweed has twice the NSW state average of residents over the age of 65 years," Ms Carter said.

"It's a really safe, supportive and fun program that builds strength and coordination, as well as confidence in their abilities. It can help a person feel good about what their bodies can continue to do."

Classes are friendly and sociable and the instructors make a special effort to ensure everyone feels comfortable, even if they haven't been to an exercise class before.

Charges vary according to the qualifications of the instructor, ranging from \$35 to \$85 for the initial one-to-one assessment and \$8 to \$12 per hour for the classes.

Contact the provider directly for more information about the classes and to book your assessment.

Murwillumbah: Functional mobility, call Peta on 0484 361 616 or email functionalmobilitypt@gmail.com

Pottsville: Village Gym, call Piers on 0422 726 435 or email piersdaniel@mail.com

Tweed/Banora Point: Ballycare*, contact Adrianna on 0436 944 482 or email amarshall@ballycara.com

*This class is suitable for people with complex health conditions and injuries.



Last week we each used

174L a day

as at 14 February 2022

In brief ...

Traffic disruption this weekend

Works will start on Saturday 19 February to install a new sewer rising main across Brisbane Street at the corner of Wollumbin Street in Murwillumbah.

It is anticipated that the works will take 2 days to complete. Road closures and detours will be in place throughout this time. Traffic control and signage will guide motorists and pedestrians around the works. Public transport services will be maintained. For updates visit tweed.nsw.gov.au/roadworks-closures

Electric vehicles 101

With electric vehicles (EVs) becoming more visible across our community, now's a great time to investigate how electric vehicles could work for you.

Good Car Company is currently coordinating a bulk buy of new and second hand EV cars for the Northern Rivers. Find out more information on their website at goodcar.co/community-bulk-buy/enova

Council has charge facilities for staff EVs and is actively investigating EVs for its fleet, while working regionally to make the Northern Rivers EV-friendly.

Check out the Northern Rivers Electric Vehicle Strategy which outlines opportunities for supporting electric vehicles in the region. Also check out the 'Electric Vehicles 101' session on You Tube from Council's last Sustainable Living Home Expo.

Visit tweed.nsw.gov.au/saving-energy to view both.



Council staff member Project Officer – Wildlife Protection Emily Clarke charging her EV at Council's Murwillumbah Civic Centre, Administration Office.

Are you a senior who's ready to save energy?

As part of the NSW Seniors Festival (25 March – 3 April), Council is hosting a free event to help residents learn about energy savings in the home. It will be held on Wednesday 30 March from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at the Banora Point Community Centre.

Accredited Home Energy Advisor, Seb Crangle will provide tips to help enhance the comfort of your home while reducing your power bills and carbon footprint. The session is suitable for both renters and home owners.

All attendees will go into the draw to win 1 of 5 free home assessments, each valued at \$250.

It will be a COVID-Safe event and light refreshments will be provided. Registrations are essential and close midnight, Sunday 27 March.

Visit tweed.nsw.gov.au/saving-energy to register your attendance. Although the event is aimed at seniors, everyone in the community is welcome.

Get the Tweed Link early by email

Be one of the first to see all the latest news from Tweed Shire Council each week.

Subscribers to the Tweed Link receive it by email each week on Wednesday mornings, in addition to it appearing in print in the Tweed Valley Weekly on Thursdays.

But that's not all – you can also subscribe to Council job alerts, media releases and a range of e-newsletters and Council facility program alerts.

Sign up at tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe



Banora Point's Jean Laundry was surprised to be named as a recipient of a 2021 Tweed Local Achievement Award.

Hurry to nominate a Tweed senior achiever

Like so many unsung volunteer heroes in our community, Jean Laundry tends to shy away from publicity.

In 2020, she declined being nominated for a Tweed Local Achievement Award, a feature of the annual Tweed Seniors Festival.

At the time Jean "didn't think she was worthy enough".

However in 2021, she was nominated and, in a well-kept secret, Jean was totally surprised when she found out she was a recipient of an award.

"It came as a real surprise, especially when Lyn Porter from Council rang to inform me I was getting an award," Jean said.

Those who know Jean weren't surprised.

The Banora Point resident has been a volunteer for many different organisations, putting people and animals' needs before herself.

She joined the Friends of the Pound (FOP) in 2003, showing interest in the animal welfare organisation. You can also find Jean at the Marine Rescue Point Danger facility at Durambah Beach, working in the gift shop or out at various shopping centres selling raffle tickets.

She has assisted in fundraisers for the Cancer Council and has been a welcome sight around her neighbourhood at Banora Point, always ready to lend a helping hand.

Grateful to have been presented with a Local Achievement Award last year, Jean said she is only one of many people in the community doing great voluntary work.

The Local Achievement Awards will be announced at the opening ceremony of the 2022 Tweed Seniors Festival at the Murwillumbah Civic & Cultural Centre Auditorium on Friday 25 March.

To nominate a person who assists the community, fill out the form available at tweed.nsw.gov.au/tweed-seniors-festival and email it to communityservices@tweed.nsw.gov.au by Friday 18 February 2022.

For more information, contact Community Care Project Support Officer Lyn Porter on 07 5569 3118 or via the email above.

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

DA21/0861 – Swimming pool, covered deck and alterations and additions to existing dwelling
Lot 232 DP 840595, No. 25 Grass Tree Circuit, **Bogangar**

DA21/0943 – In-ground swimming pool
Lot 36 DP 1264557, No. 30 Habitat Drive, **Casuarina**

DA21/1030 – Shed
Lot 1 DP 594961, No. 52 Richards Deviation, **Dunbible**

DA21/0779 – In-ground swimming pool
Lot 1 DP 792359, No. 125 Smiths Creek Road, **Smiths Creek**

DA21/0816 – Shed
Lot 49 DP 1092502, No. 26 Sunnycrest Drive, **Terranora**

DA21/0735 – Garage conversion, carport within the front building line, front fence and shed addition to existing dwelling
Lot 26 DP 803197, No. 54 Kiata Parade, **Tweed Heads**

DA20/0723 – Use of alterations and additions to existing dual occupancy including driveway, shade sail, carport, front fence and garage
Lot 2 SP 11348, Unit 2/No. 24 Keith Compton Drive, **Tweed Heads**

Last chance to apply for business support

Tweed businesses are being encouraged to apply for funding support through the NSW Government's Regional Job Creation Fund Round Two.

The fund, created in 2020 to support businesses to establish or expand in regional NSW, is aimed at assisting businesses to generate more income opportunities and create more jobs.

The grant can be used for capital and other expenses directly related to the delivery of eligible projects, including purchase of equipment and expanding built infrastructure.

Council's Senior Economic Development Officer – Business Facilitation Kym Kranen said the first round of the Regional Job Creation Fund had assisted some Tweed businesses to expand and offer more jobs after successfully obtaining funding.

"This is a great opportunity for our innovative businesses to gain the financial boost they need to expand," Ms Kranen said.

"If you are at this stage in your business, please have a look at this fund.

"Applications are now open for round 2 of the fund with a further \$40 million in co-funding available."

The Regional Job Creation Fund Round Two aims to create 2,000 new jobs in regional NSW over the next 3 years. It aims to resource projects in a range of areas, from replacing plant equipment and performing technology upgrades, to developing new product lines.

To start your application, complete an online Expression of Interest (EOI) form and a representative from the Department of Regional NSW will be in contact about the next steps.

For more, visit nsw.gov.au/regional-job-creation-fund

You need to hurry – expressions of interest must be submitted by Friday 18 February and applications close 9 am on Monday 14 March 2022.



The growth of the Industry Central precinct in Murwillumbah has proven to be a significant job creator in the Tweed. Local businesses looking to expand are encouraged to make submissions for the NSW Government's Regional Job Creation Fund Round Two.

New director sees Museum as key to Tweed's creative heart

There's a sense of excitement about the future of the Tweed Regional Museum which new Director Molly Green is eager to share.

Taking up her new role in January following an extensive recruitment process, Ms Green had been managing Brisbane City Council's Public Art Collection and portfolio for the past 4 years before moving to the Tweed.

No stranger to the area having worked previously at Tweed Regional Gallery and spending plenty of leisure time in the Tweed, Ms Green said returning to Murwillumbah 'felt like coming home'.

While the Museum is a repository of items from the past, it's what lies ahead that has Ms Green so enthused.

"The Museum's team has done a fantastic job in creating exhibitions and displays that are relevant and respond to the community," Ms Green said.

"Perceptions and audience expectations of museums or cultural experiences continue to change and Tweed Regional Museum is at the forefront of providing engaging, challenging and entertaining exhibitions and programming.

"The team here has shown by offering award-winning exhibitions where the public can participate, you can maintain and grow your audiences, which has been the challenge for regional museums throughout the COVID-19 pandemic."

Ms Green said there was plenty to look forward to with the Museum in the final stages of developing a new website and some exciting programs and exhibitions planned for 2022 and beyond.

"I am fortunate to be joining the Museum at this point in time – all the groundwork has been done to provide a great platform for us to dive in and stage some exciting exhibitions and projects," she said.

"Our upcoming exhibition *Liked & Shared* is a fine example of public programming. Murwillumbah is developing creatively and the Museum has a key role to play in that.

"The Tweed Regional Museum has shown it is capable of breaking new ground not only in the diverse range of exhibitions it hosts but also in how it presents them and that is something I am looking forward to progressing."

Visit the Museum website at museum.tweed.nsw.gov.au to find out more about what exhibitions are currently showing, including the award-winning *Land Life Culture* permanent exhibition, which introduces visitors to the Tweed's unique natural and cultural heritage.



New Tweed Regional Museum Director Molly Green is excited about the future of the Museum.

Request for offer

RF02019098 Tweed Shire Council is inviting offers for a suitably qualified and experienced Principal Contractor to design, supply, install, test and commission a ground mount solar system (604kWp) at the Banora Point Waste Water Treatment Plant located at 40 Enterprise Avenue, Tweed Heads South.

Offers close: Wednesday 12 noon (AEDT) 2 March 2022

Offers must be lodged as specified in the offer documentation.

Request for offer documentation is available at no charge from Council's website at tweed.nsw.gov.au/tenders-contracts

All offers 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 offer is not necessarily accepted and canvassing of Councillors or staff will disqualify.

For further information please contact Contracts Administration on 02 6670 2606.

02 6670 2400 or 1300 292 872

tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au

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Check when your water meter is read at tweed.nsw.gov.au/meter-reading-billing-schedule