



The launch of the Rous River Canoe Trail attracted a big crowd. Why not discover the trail yourself?

Rous River Canoe Trail launch a success

More than 40 people came together for a guided tour of the Rous River Canoe Trail on Saturday 31 August.

Council's Project Officer – Waterways Matthew Bloor said the weather and conditions were perfect for a nice day on the water.

"It was great to see such a large flotilla of kayakers exploring the beautiful Rous River estuary," Mr Bloor said.

"Paddlers learned about the history of early European settlement at Tumbulgum, projects undertaken by Council and the local community to improve the health of the estuarine environment."

The eight-kilometre return route takes in sheltered mangrove-lined

secluded bays with views to Wollumbin/Mt Warning, and starts and finishes at Tumbulgum.

You can find more detail, the canoe trail brochure and map at www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/CanoeTrails

The canoe trail was the last action to be completed as part of the Rous River Riparian restoration project.

The three-year project was funded by Council and the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust.



The design concept for Knox Park at the corner of Wollumbin and Brisbane streets.

Upgrade to Knox Park

Work to upgrade a section of Knox Park in Murwillumbah begin this month.

The project will see older areas of the park upgraded and aims to encourage greater usage and address safety concerns.

The \$850,000 project includes:

- upgraded pathways to improve accessibility
- new lighting to improve safety
- new gardens and landscaping
- naturally-shaded outdoor dining areas
- a new bus stop
- a new outdoor stage area with power
- a new park entry at Brisbane and Wollumbin Street.

The project is scheduled to be completed in February next year. It is funded by the Building Better Regions Fund and the Restart NSW Fund.

Free dog training sessions for residents of the Tweed

Council is offering two free dog training sessions open to residents of the Tweed on Sunday 22 September and 6 October.

The sessions will help dog owners better understand the impacts their dogs pose to wildlife on beaches, and will address individual behaviour problems in the interest of public safety on beaches.

Sessions will be held over two weeks in Kingscliff (venue details will be provided on booking) with a maximum of 15 dogs and people per session.

Please note, each dog must attend two sessions, so you must be available on both dates.

Bookings are essential by midday on Friday 13 September. To book online go to:

- dogtrainingclassa.eventbrite.com.au (class A – 9.30am, 22 September and 6 October)
- dogtrainingclassb.eventbrite.com.au (class B – 11am, 22 September and 6 October).

Series of free workshops planned to skill up farmers

Farmers and land managers are invited to a day with weed and pasture specialists to explore prevention and management options for some of the Tweed's most problematic weeds.

The *Worst Weeds of the Tweed* event is the first in a series of eight workshops and field days being delivered by Council and Tweed Landcare Inc. as part of the Small Farms Big Changes project, funded by the NSW Environmental Trust.

The first workshop will be held at Tyalgum Hall on Thursday 19 September 2019 from 9am and includes a visit to a nearby farm.

Bookings are essential and can be made at worstweedsworkshop.eventbrite.com.au

For further information about the Small Farms Big Changes project or to get involved visit www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/SmallFarmsBigChanges



The workshop will feature demonstrations of weed control on farms using drones.

In brief ...

Tweed park scores funding

A new kids' outdoor gym and park in Tweed Heads is one of 248 projects which will receive funding from the My Community Project program.

The \$106,408 grant will see Jack Chard Park, Tweed Heads revitalised to include a kids' outdoor gym, landscaping, seating and pathways over the next 12 months. Council would like to thank the community for supporting the program by voting for local projects.

My Community Project has been made possible by the NSW Generations Fund.



Koala Community Fun Day

Team Koala Inc. is holding a free Koala Community Fun Day on 22 September 2019 from 10am to 5pm at the Pottsville Beach Community Hall.

The event will include a visit from Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary – Wildlife on Wheels, koala spotting tours, koala mask making, koala rescue and awareness talks, calendar competition, face painting and more.

The event, which is supported by Council, is a fun-filled way to educate the community about how to protect Tweed Coast koalas. Visit Team Koala Tweed at www.facebook.com/teamkoalatweed

Short term holiday letting survey

What do you think about short term holiday letting (STHL) in the Tweed?

A new survey on STHL is being conducted by researchers from Southern Cross University (SCU).

A team of researchers led by Dr Tania von der Heidt of the School of Business and Tourism is investigating residents' views of STHL – including Airbnb – across 12 local government areas on the north coast, including the Tweed.

The SCU project is in partnership with Destination North Coast and has the support of Tweed Shire Council.

The research findings will be shared with Tweed Shire Council and the Tweed community.

The survey will take approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete and responses are anonymous.

Complete the survey via <http://bit.ly/STHLTweed>. The survey closes on 29 September 2019.



Tracey Stinson with Executive Officer of St Vincent de Paul Society NSW, Michael Timbrell.

Sleeping rough for charity

Can you imagine what it's like to sleep outside in the cold, or in your car? It is a reality that more than 440 people in the Tweed experience every day.

As part of the Fred's Place Community Sleepout, Council's Director Sustainable Communities and Environment Tracey Stinson joined 37 people from across the Tweed to raise funds and awareness for Fred's Place in Tweed Heads.

The sleepout raised almost \$14,000 so far, with Ms Stinson's fundraising efforts contributing over \$1,000. You can still donate at www.communitysleepout.org.au/fredsplace-tweedheads

Ms Stinson took the opportunity to sleep in her car this year (as so many of our homeless in Tweed are doing every night) and empathised with those doing it tough.

"It was a pretty awful experience. I didn't really get any sleep at all and it made me realise how challenging it must be for people sleeping rough.

"One of the most shocking statistics we heard on the night was that 1 in 20 Australian returned services veterans will end up homeless.

"Please spare a thought for those in our community who have fallen on hard times and are struggling just to survive – they need all the support and compassion we can give," Ms Stinson said.

Tweed Shire Council is committed to this significant social issue impacting our local community and was one of the first local governments in NSW to adopt a *Homelessness Policy* in 2015. Read about Council's policy at www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/Homelessness

