

TWIN WATERS

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Newsletter - April 2025

Important Dates 2025

TWRA General Meeting

Monday 7th April 7.30pm
Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort

TWRA Sunday Soiree Cock and Hen

Sunday 4th May, 3.00pm – 6.00pm
Cock and Hen

TWRA General Meeting

Monday 9th June 7.30pm
Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort

Christmas in July

Sunday 27th July, 12.00pm
The Loose Goose.

Paws in the Park

Sunday 10th August,
11.00am – 2.00pm
Moorings Circuit

TWRA General Meeting including AGM

Monday 11th August 7.30pm
Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort

Golf Day - Twin Waters Golf Club.

Sunday 14th September
Twin Waters Golf Club.

Party in the Park

Sunday 19th October, 3.00pm
Twin Waters Shopping Village

Christmas Lights & Carols

Sunday TBC December, 5.00pm
Apex Camp, Nojoor Road, Twin Waters

President's Report from Mark Hamlyn

As we go into April, the recent drama of Cyclone Alfred has come and gone; all of us relieved, as the saying goes that we dodged a bullet.

The community returned to normal so quickly it's tempting to forget just how concerned we were – along with the now familiar public quirks that emerge at times of stress: predictably toilet paper was stripped from supermarket shelves within minutes of the first warnings.

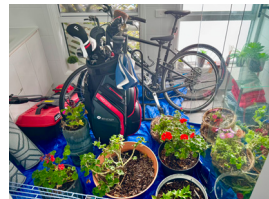
At our place, we heeded estimates of potential wind gusts of 150 kilometres an hour and moved outdoor furniture into the garage, but didn't reach for the Council's publicly available sandbags.

Expecting our much-loved garden to be lacerated, we moved all our hanging plants into one of our bathrooms – and later felt a bit foolish.

Had we overreacted?

But then, it could all have been very different.

See Page 2 for details of the Twin Waters reaction.



Looking ahead to August, Twin Waters will be swept up in the excitement of the **Sunshine Coast Marathon** – as the proposed course now extends along Ocean Drive. Concerns have been raised though about street closures and the effect on local businesses. We have recently met with the Sunshine Coast Council to see how disruption could be kept to a minimum. See Page 3.

In late March we also had our first meeting for 2025 of the **Twin Waters Maintenance Reference Group** – our liaison committee with Sunshine Coast Council that oversees the extra work on our public areas financed by our annual levy on top of the usual rates. Spoiler alert: it's one of the few expenses that are not expected to be going up anytime soon. See Page 2.

Also keep **Sunday 4th May free for the new function** we're developing with our friends John and Sharon at the Cock and Hen: "**Sunday Soiree at the Cock & Hen.**" An easy drink and some fun at the end of the day, and a chance to enjoy a classic Twin Waters moment. The reason why you came here in the first place.

Finally – cop this!!! Congratulations to Harold Gray from Water Gallery. Harold caught this, 4.5 Kg - 65 cm long estuary cod off his balcony. March certainly had its ups and

Until next time,

Mark



News & Issues



From left to right:
Mark (President) Derek (Editor)
Marty (Paws event organiser)
Merryl (Neighbourhood Watch)
Sophie (former President)

A Windy Clean Up

The wind blew and blustered (Sunday 2nd March) as Cyclone Alfred was out there somewhere; maybe coming for us later in the week, but the TWRA BBQ and Clean-Up went on! Ed and Tony cooked up their own form of storm and the rest of us hovered and chomped on when we had the chance.

27 slightly windblown residents gathered for the Annual Clean Up Day - took on a sausage or 2 - and nursed shy hopes they might score a bottle of passable red or white in the lucky ticket draw.



While the numbers were down a little on the past few years it was still a great gathering point for older and younger residents with a few new faces given the chance to say hello.

Cyclone Alfred Passes Us By

Early March saw us all preparing for Cyclone Alfred's imminent arrival. Fortunately for us in Twin Waters, we only had some wind and a little rain. The high tides coinciding with the event just topped the lake's revetment walls in places but were a long way from inundating properties.

Those in Brisbane, on the Gold Coast and in Hervey Bay did not fare as well.

Division 8 Councillor, Taylor Bunnag took time out from filling sandbags at Collum to hold a pop-up discussion at the local shopping centre and handed out disaster preparedness brochures to concerned residents. Council also distributed flood surge maps, none of which indicated that properties in our suburb would be inundated, but despite that, Queensland Police visited numerous waterfront properties to make sure evacuation plans were in place should it be necessary.

We all learned a lot about preparing our properties for a natural disaster, and luckily for us, the preparation was in vain. And despite the blustery conditions – even the TWRA newsletter made it to the local letterboxes!



Maintenance Report: Special levy may remain unchanged

At the recent Maintenance Review meeting with Council, there was the inevitable discussion regarding budget planning, expenses and Council costs. We can report that, at this stage, Cr Bunnag is gathering facts but is keen to see the special area levy remain at \$130 per property per year. Cr Bunnag noted that the existing contract remains in place and is likely to be extended by a year and with no specific cost increases and therefore he is likely to recommend to the budget planning meeting that the levy should remain unchanged.

However, the current contract will expire in 2026, and new tenders may see an increase the following year which would have a direct effect on the special levy.

More frequent maintenance audits make a difference

The Council conducts regular performance audits on the work of the contractor awarded the maintenance programme to ensure the agreed standards and targets are achieved. Despite changes of staff in the Council area, there have been more regular audits. TWRA Maintenance Committee has had frequent discussions with the team at Council regarding the audits as we sometimes see things with different eyes.

The audit marking scale grades appearance on a scale of 1-5 where 5 is high achievement; 4 is "normal"; 3 is below standard; 2 requires immediate corrective action and a score of 1 threatens the contract.

We have noticed that where a grading of 3 had been reported, the extra attention has quickly brought the parks or gardens back to standard - while the more frequent audits have also led to parks and gardens improvements.

News & Issues

Sharks Update

Before the weather turned mean, the USC shark research team were on the lake on 24th February. Dr Bonnie Holmes, who leads the research team advised that some drum lines had been placed in the lake system for a few hours to try to catch, tag and release sharks.

Unfortunately, none were caught. However, the previous night they did track "Sam" the male bull shark currently estimated to be 2.5 metres in length, so he's still active. Unfortunately, the large breeding female has not been tracked for some time so she is suspected to have been fished out or died within the system.

Dr Holmes also mentioned that our Twin Waters waterways are healthy with plenty of fish, but they suspect the shark numbers may be down. They think the pipes under the weir may be fouled and are stopping younger sharks coming in. They will inform Council, who will decide if action should be taken.



Special Speaker on Dogs Versus Shore Birds

If you are a dog lover – or on the other side a 'Dog sceptic' **PLEASE** come along to the TWRA's **7th April General Meeting** – where **Special Guest is Dr Simone Bosshard** - Coastal Conservation & Planning Team Leader for Sunshine Coast Council who has previously briefed us on the amazing journey the Shore Birds make each year from the Northern hemisphere to nest on our local beaches.



Recently the Council had a community consultation program to explain its plan for ensuring there are enough dog exercise areas across the Sunshine Coast for the 54,000 registered dogs.

At the meeting, Simone will explain why it's been necessary to re-arrange some sections of the leash free exercise area at North Shore Park & Beach. (Parts of the existing area will be closed when Shore Birds fly in from the Northern Hemisphere for nesting season. To compensate, another section of Mudjimba Beach nearby will be opened as a leash free area.) Finding a way for our dogs to live with nature and also have the freedom to run! Come and join the conversation.

Twin Waters Paws in the Park

Lock 10th August at Moorings Park into your calendar for Twin Waters Paws in the Park. It promises to be a super day of fun for you and your furry friend!

The event is shaping up to be a great day with several demonstrations including obedience training, sport scent detection, doggy health and first aid, agility and dancing. We have a group of outstanding contributors who will inform and entertain you throughout the event. All our presenters will also have marquees and will be available to talk to you throughout the event. Start planning to participate in our Furry Fashion Parade! Dress your furry friend in fashion or costume and join the parade around the park.

We will soon be posting information about each of the presentations / demonstrations with short video clips about what will be included so keep your eye on the TWRA Facebook page for information over the coming months.



From left to right
Tami with dog Quinn.
Marty with Ginger;
Donna with Snowy;
Mark with Ruby & Chloe,
Joanne with Titan & Mike



Sunshine Coast Marathon 2025

This year's Sunshine Coast Marathon will be held on Sunday 3rd August. For the first time it will be a loop race, starting and finishing at Alexandra Headland via Ocean Drive through Twin Waters in both directions. The course may be used for the 2032 Olympics.

There will be 2,500 marathon competitors, and the event is being co-ordinated by Atlas Events. The Sunshine Coast Council and Queensland Police have agreed to the event in principle. The course can be seen on: www.sunshinecoastmarathon.com.au .

Atlas advises Ocean Drive will be partially closed from 5.30 am until 10.45 am. TWRA was only made aware of the full extent of the closures recently, so met with Councillor Bunnag. Cr. Bunnag will arrange a meeting with Council, Atlas and residents' associations from Twin Waters, Mudjimba and Pacific Paradise to further investigate.

It seems pedestrians will be able to cross Ocean Drive, and vehicles from the Baywater and Twin Waters Drive catchments may exit TW but may not be able to return until after 10.45 am, and vehicles from the Lytham Court and Prestwick Drive catchments will not be able to exit or return during the event. Emergency vehicles will have full access.

We will share more details as they become available, and we'll invite Atlas to the TWRA General Meeting on Monday 9th June to provide residents more details.



My Good Friend Group Update and Name Change

The My Good Friend Group of volunteers established earlier this year to offer friendly support to Twin Waters residents needing help to get through the day held a productive meeting on 18th March, marking significant progress towards becoming fully operational. The group also adopted the new name "Twin Waters Community Connect," as it's available for registration as part of their plan to incorporate and elect inaugural committee members, namely:

- President: Alannah Andrews
- Vice President: Rhonda Anderson
- Treasurer: Linda Cully

The group now has 26 members, but there is room for more. The group's founder, Alannah is calling for volunteers who can support in practical ways, as well as tradies and technically minded people for help in minor emergencies. Contact Alannah: 0412 421 234.

Twin Waters VIEW Club

It was a stunning day for our March luncheon meeting with blue skies, and the sound of 68 happy women chatting together. Our craft group decorated The Loose Goose veranda in celebration of International Women's Day and President Penny acknowledged all the extraordinary women in the world, including those in our club. One such woman was Maggy Hickey who sadly passed away last week. As TWVC President, Zone Councillor and National Councillor, Maggy was a wonderful ambassador for the VIEW Club family. She will be missed by all who knew her.

We also recognised our former President Karen, who received a VIEW Club 'Making A Difference Award' for the outstanding service she has provided to our Twin Waters VIEW Club and the wider VIEW community.

We welcome new members. We meet for lunch on the 2nd Thursday of each month at The Loose Goose, 11am for 11.30am start. Contact Doreen on 0415 695 921 or email twinwatersviewclub@gmail.com.



Maggy Hickey



Neighbourhood Watch: Easter and School Holidays

A reminder from Twin Waters Neighbourhood Watch to lock up carefully. If going away, let neighbours know. For those on our beautiful waterways, if something doesn't look right, take a photo or video and report.

Relevant numbers are:

- Emergency 000
- Crimestoppers 1800 333 000 (confidential and anonymous)
- Policelink 131 444 (non-urgent)
- Hoon line 134 666 (traffic and marine)

Police crime report about one incident per week:

- 11 offences in Twin Waters 17 December 2024 to 16 March 2025

TWRA Contact Details

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 Secretary - Emilia White
 Treasurer - Nathan Dadds
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 Editorial Email - newsletter@twra.net
 Advertising - advertising@twra.net
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 Neighbourhood Watch -
nhw.twinwaters.qld@gmail.com
 Emergency Only - 000
 Police 24hr Assist - 13 14 44
 Coolool Police (General Enquiry) 5440 2777
 SES Emergency 13 25 00



Our TW Postie - Steve

Our TW postie Steve Rogers has been delivering our mail for the last 7 years. He starts his day sorting the mail at 7.30 in Nambour, and after delivering to 1500 TW letterboxes, he heads home at 4.30!

Like the other Posties who deliver mail away from Nambour, he's a contractor and must own his moped and truck to get his moped to work each day.

And because he's a contractor he must find a substitute Postie when he goes on holiday and therefore Steve hasn't had a holiday in 7 years! The 5-day shut down for the recent cyclone event gave him more time off than he gets at Christmas!

Despite that, he says he enjoys his work and particularly likes meeting folks in TW! When not delivering mail, he does boxing and jiu jitsu with his 15-year-old son. Don't mess with Steve!

TWIN WATERS

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