

TWIN WATERS

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Newsletter - March 2022

This Month

Twin Waters' place in Council's New Town Plan

The Big Wet on the Lake

Action on Traffic Hoons

Footpath Plan confirmed

Major funding boost for Airport

Upcoming Events

**Twin Waters West Appeal
Next Court Date – 10th March**

**Ovarian Cancer awareness
morning tea. 17th March
(See story opposite.)**

**Next TWRA General Meeting
Novatel Sunshine Coast Resort
11th April**

President's Report

February was a significant time in our major campaign to restore and properly maintain the many footpaths around Twin Waters.

The TWRA met again with Sunshine Council for a number of critical site inspections of the deteriorating footpath network.

The site inspections with Division 8 Councillor, Jason O'Pray and Council engineering staff, were to confirm the best form of long-term repairs.

Over the years, various patch-up jobs have been tried as the original designs wore out. Happily, the inspections confirmed a uniform approach has now been agreed that is both more presentable and will last for decades.

As reported in last month's newsletter, this is the last step in a good communication process with Council over the last few months; in particular resulting in Council's commitment to a significant footpath repair program over the next 5 years. The upgrade plans being finalised through Council's Budget process each financial year. The result is especially supportive when its remembered that Twin Waters has about 1% of the footpaths in the Council area but will be using about 10% of allocated funds for each of the coming years.

(See the Back Page for details of the repair plan in your area, including a selection of some of the 90 pictures from TWRA's original Report Document to Council seeking help.)

Finally, a comment about the recent heavy rains.

Our 'Life on the Lake' Segment on Page 2 of this edition - and daily Facebook posts - captured the soggy moments. But can I remind readers that following the downpour, there is a menace beneath the surface: bull sharks love the muddy water!

See the pic on the right to make it more real!

I've noticed teenage boys continue jumping from the bridges with apparent lack of care for what might be in the muddy water.

We have often seen the sharks chase fish up the canal then turn them so the fish slam into the revetment wall. The sharks then feed on the stunned fish! In dirty or muddy water the sharks have been more visibly active.

Until next month
Cheers

Tony



Happy jabbers at Twin Waters!

Everyone from the local kids to oldies are being jabbed and boosted for the dreaded Covid at the local Twin Waters Pharmacy - and they take care of all the boring paperwork. No bureaucracy - it just happens. We noticed as a resident emailed how trouble free it was compared to others who drowned in forms and complications. A lesson there for the experts on how to keep us all safe.



Also: Note: Thursday 17 March (between 10 - 12) for morning tea at Twin Waters Pharmacy - supporting the fight against Ovarian Cancer.

The Ovarian Cancer Australia Helpline is available Monday to Friday 9 till 5...

Call 1300 660 334, or email support@ovariancancer.net.au



Life on the Lake...

Everything damp except Twin Waters spirits!



Saturday afternoon – paddle boarding on the lake. What could be more natural?

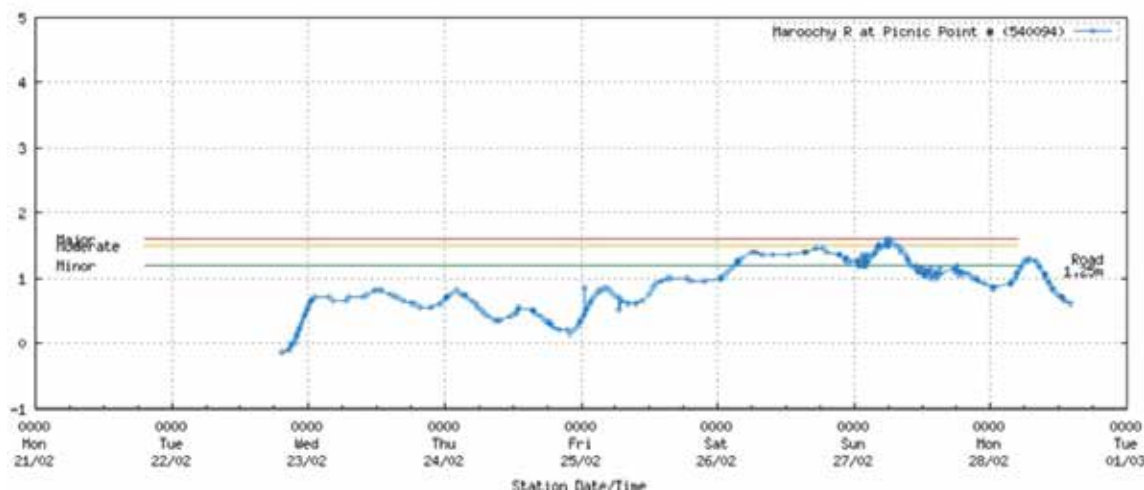
How much wetter can you get?

Between Wednesday 23 February and Sunday 27th, local rain gauges ran out of space – as more than 650 millimetres drenched the district. If you're old school – 25.5 inches.

But by the weekend, cabin fever was driving 'Twin Waterers' out to run between the rain drops – and dogs won't walk themselves.



The Bureau of Meteorology station of Picnic Point marked the high point of the Maroochy River as Sunday, 6.15 am – up 1.61 metres! After which, thankfully, it started to come down. See their graph below. (Up to date versions available at: <http://www.bom.gov.au/fwo/IDQ65390/IDQ65390.540094.plt.shtml>)



However, the lake performed well. While it overflowed the normal shoreline and the top of revetment walls, it was nowhere near housing. All building blocks are located above flood levels. Twin Waters has never had any river or localised overland flooding enter homes here.

The weekend was wet enough, but on the Friday night before water flooded the Ocean Drive entry to David Low Way. The result – some end of week mayhem for a bit. Despite the inconvenience, the water was gone in the morning.



The next day, Twin Waters shops were open, but residents had to brave the water into Magnolia Avenue. Again, it drained away over the next day.



Despite the downpours, long term Twin Waters residents are adamant that despite pics like the one below on the left, taken half-way along Twin Waters Drive – that the floods of February 1999 were worse!

Then water extended all the way up to the roadway. Sadly, we've not been able to find any photos.



However, our current pic below of the water rise along Twin Waters Drive is dramatic, as the water almost overwhelms the sign! Or does it?.



The next day we went back for another look. Not all signs are equal!

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News and Issues...



Sunshine Coast Airport and Bonza

In mid-February both the Sunshine Airport and new operator, Bonza Airlines announced a new range of cut-price regional air services. Based at Sunshine Coast Airport, Bonza's original offer is for 37 new regional routes from the Sunshine Coast. Destinations soon to be available include Albury, Avalon, Cairns, Coffs Harbour, Mackay, Melbourne, Mildura, Newcastle, Port Macquarie, Rockhampton, Townsville and the Whitsundays Coast. More details soon. Information Link: <https://www.flybonza.com>

TWRA Wants Your Ideas for New Town Plan

Such is the rush of progress, that Sunshine Coast Council is seeking public input for a new Town Plan to take us to 2041. The TWRA will be making a submission, but is also asking residents if they have suggestions we should include. If you have thoughts, please let us know by Friday 11, March at email: info@twra.net. If you want to make your own submission, Council's closing date is 31 March. Details about Twin Waters can be found on the Council's website at <https://haveyoursay.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/newplanningscheme/north-shore>.



Fiona Simpson, Member for Maroochydore, with TWRA President Tony Freeman and TWRA Secretary, Sophie Lever.

TWRA General Meeting – 14 February.... At Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort

Every two months TWRA holds a General Meeting at Novotel to inform residents. You are always invited, member or not. State Member for Maroochydore, Fiona Simpson addressed the well-attended February meeting. Fiona advised that she is asking the State Transport Minister for extra support to combat an outbreak of 'hooning' in Mooloolaba and Maroochydore. Twin Waters Neighbourhood Watch has also reported similar problems. Fiona encouraged members to keep her informed about any local examples. Or advise TWRA at info@twra.net.

Twin Waters West

An update on Twin Waters West Appeal by Stockland over Sunshine Coast Council's refusal of their Development Application. The next hearing in the Planning and Environment Court is scheduled for 10 March. In December, the Council had sought a hearing to modify its reasons for refusal. Then at the hearing held in February, the Court set a timetable for the parties to resolve an "Agreed List of Issues" before the next hearing on 10 March.

Looking After Our Parks

Max Mills gave a report on the work of the Maintenance Group, (a sub-committee of the TWRA) that works with the Council to oversee the upkeep of Twin Waters 66 parks. Twin Waters residents pay a small levy as part of their rates for extra work to keep the local public areas to a high standard. The levy is held in separate trust fund. Major commitments must have TWRA approval. Residents should feel free to call the Council Customer Service Centre on 5475 7272 or 1300 007 272 to report any problems. (<https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Council/News-Centre/Convenient-ways-to-contact-council-170320>)

Footpaths

President Tony Freeman briefed the meeting on the Council's support for the major footpath repair program. See details on the back page. (<https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Council/News-Centre/Convenient-ways-to-contact-council-170320>)

Airport Business

In news, from the Airport Forum, Kevin Lyons told the meeting 110,000 people passed through Sunshine Coast Airport in the previous month, although it will take two years to return to pre-Covid levels. February also saw the Sunshine Coast Airport share in a \$200 million funding boost from the State Government to promote regional airports. The Passenger Terminal is expected to double in size over the next 5 to 7 years.

Shorebirds

The planned presentation on migratory Shore Birds has been delayed until later in the year as the speaker was a close contact with Covid. In the meantime, don't forget the amazing Bird Mural at North Shore Road, Mudjimba, by Sunshine Coast artist David Houghton.



Next General Meeting is 11 April at Novotel. 7.30pm.

Footpaths - there is a plan!

A special report by TWRA President Tony Freeman

When Lend Lease designed the original Twin Waters community, the plans included many new and innovative concepts – including the footpaths, many with hardwood timber inserts. The sandy soil and our weather meant that the timber bands tended to deteriorate over time.

Once the Twin Waters community was established, the public areas were all handed over to (then) Maroochy Shire Council and absorbed into the more recently merged Sunshine Coast Regional Council and that meant Council managed repairs and maintenance of these assets.

As we all know, footpaths can move over time and timber bands show signs of wear. Council has tried to maintain footpaths and trialled many different materials with varying degrees of success.

Material used to repair footpaths included replacement timbers, black and coloured bitumen, paver inserts, concrete (plain and painted) and concrete “sleepers”.

Some examples:



Some of the original footpaths were made from decorative paving bricks.



And then there was the bitumen paths on Ocean Drive near the golf course and Prestwick Drive.

Following meetings with Cr Jason O’Pray and representatives from Council, we have been given draft plans that will upgrade priority footpath problems during the next few years.

After 25 years some of the timbers are showing more serious areas of decay





Footpaths Continued

The first of the planned upgrades will be the footpath alongside the golf course on Ocean Drive between Tralee Place and Twin Waters Drive roundabout. This was scheduled to start back in November 2020, but the surveyor team discovered an alignment issue with the footpath which required some time-consuming problem solving.

Financial Year Twin Waters Projects

2021/22	Ocean Drive Pathway Renewal	Asphalt path in front of golf course Plain Broom Finish Concrete
2021/22	Esperance Drive Pathway Renewal	Karinya Place to pathway link at Mariner Place & Mainsail Place Plain Broom Finish Concrete
2022/23	Prestwick Drive Pathway Renewal	Asphalt section (Opposite Hetherington Dr) Plain Broom Finish Concrete
2023/24	Lake View Drive Pathway Renewal	Bridge on Lake View Drive to Nautilus Place Plain Broom Finish Concrete
2024/25	Sunview Drive Pathway Renewal	Lakeview Dr to Wattlebird Dr Plain Broom Finish Concrete
2025/26	Wattlebird Drive (Sth) Pathway Renewal	Southern section of Wattlebird. Extends from Sunview Drive to Bridge Plain Broom Finish Concrete
2026/27	Wattlebird Drive (Nth) Pathway Renewal	Northern section of Wattlebird. Extends from Bridge to Ocean Drive Plain Broom Finish Concrete

Because the paths with timber bands are a series of small slabs and not “tied” together, they are subject to ground movement and replacing the timber inserts is not as simple as it would appear from both an aesthetic and safety view. Timber panels have to be removed, often the slabs have to be trimmed, the undersoil removed and replaced with road base type material and compacted to ensure stability.

Then new replacement components inserted with finishing to a required safety level. This is why “temporary” solutions such as bitumen have often been used.

Where longer sections of path have to be replaced it is faster and more economical to completely remove the existing path, prepare the base, position the formwork and reinsert and finish new concrete with a broom finish. New white concrete pathways then have a life expectancy of 80-100 years and in most cases be maintenance free.

Of course, Council will continue to provide interim repair solutions in other areas particularly where a safety issue is identified.

TWRA Membership

Everyone who lives in Twin Waters, whether an owner or a renter, is encouraged to join the TWRA.

Joining is easy. Just go to the website at www.twra.net and click on the link headed TWRA Membership.

This opens a simple application form. Cost is \$10 per year, but that includes every member of your household.

Payable by credit card or direct deposit.

TWRA Contact Details

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Block Co-ordinators

Check on TWRA.net and Community Notice Board for contact details.