

Twin Waters Residents' Association

NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2012

This Month

- Council Candidates Forum
- Stockland Appeal
- Clean Up Australia Day
- Animals & Outdoor Eating Areas
- Community Vegetable Garden
- Bulk Electricity Update
- Puffer Fish & Snake Warnings
- Mountain Bike Orienteering
- Youths Throwing Rocks
- Maroochy River Trail

Next TWRA Meeting

The next TWRA Meeting will be held at Novotel Resort, Twin Waters on Monday, 23rd April 2012 at 7.30pm (please note date change in your diary). A forum will be held for Division 8 candidates.

Date Claimers

TWRA General Meetings:

- 23 April
- 4 June
- 13 August (AGM)
- 8 October
- 10 December

Clean Up Australia Day:

- 4 March

Newsletter Delivery

Thank you to the TWRA Committee and volunteers for delivering this Newsletter. If you would like to help with future deliveries, please call Ed on 5448 9414.

Council Candidates Forum - 23rd April

The TWRA has decided to hold a forum for candidates standing in Division 8 at the forthcoming council election. We believe that having a good local councillor is extremely important to the Twin Waters community. We have been particularly fortunate to have been represented by Debbie Blumel who has been a great councillor as far as Twin Waters is concerned as well as the whole of Division 8.

At this stage there have been three people who have indicated they intend to stand for Division 8. We have invited them to attend our April General Meeting, the date of which has been changed to 23rd April. The meeting will be held in the Mudjimba room at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort. The date was changed to allow for a bigger room.

This should prove to be an outstanding meeting and a must attend for our members. PLEASE PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARIES NOW.

Stockland Appeal Continues

The Stockland appeal to the Planning and Environment Court over the Council's rejection of their request for re-zoning of the area from Twin Waters to the Motorway for residential development is continuing into 2012. Joint Expert Reports on key development issues are still being finalised. The TWRA is a Co-Respondent in the case.

There have been no significant

recent developments to report but we will continue to keep you advised in general terms about the progress.

Clean Up Australia Day

Sunday, March 4 is Clean Up Australia Day. We will have a "Free Breakfast" from 8am at the park in Baywater Drive with the volunteers dispersing from 8:30am and concluding by 10am.

This year it would be great if we could have a "Water Brigade" going around the Lake collecting rubbish from the edge in canoes, kayaks, tinnies etc. as well as our usual "Foot Soldiers".

What do we need to make a success of the event?

- Residents who have a utility or a trailer to collect the rubbish from the side of the road
- Residents with water craft who can assist
- As many helpers as we can get.

If you can be of assistance in these matters, please contact Ed on 5448 9414.

Animals & Outdoor Eating Areas

Did you know that animals in outdoor dining areas are regulated by Council under Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011, which came into effect recently? Council is also required to administer the Queensland Food Act 2006 that prohibits animals from areas in which food is handled or served unless the animal is live seafood

or shellfish, or an assistance animal.

This means that dogs are not permitted to sit with their owners at tables where food is served (although you can walk through such an area with your dog on a leash). Council is known to be now enforcing this regulation so, in order to avoid embarrassment (and / or potential fines) please ensure that you comply with this requirement near all eating establishments, including those at our Twin Waters Shopping Village.

Whether you agree with this regulation or not is a separate matter which you can discuss with Council, but the situation outlined above is now the legal position and we wanted to make sure all dog owners in Twin Waters were aware of it.

Community Vegetable Garden

Thank you to those of you who have shown interest in our community garden project. We now have almost enough people to have a get-together and discuss a plan to put to the Council. We hope that the Council will get behind the TWRA and support this environmental scheme.

We envisage a block of land where there would be individual plots for people to cultivate. This is a very common practice in Europe. It could also be a great way to make social contact with like-minded people. We plan to hold a meeting on Sunday, 4th March at 11.00am at 38/20 Baywater Drive. Phone 5448 7246. We would love to see you there.

Bulk Electricity Update

The idea was to get as many responses as the TWRA could before we began approaching the electricity retailers. We always intended to give residents until the end of January to respond to the questionnaire we sent out. We have received about 230 positive responses and they are still dribbling in. With our TWRA membership at around 370, we think this is an excellent response, about 60%.

We are now working with a consultant to try to get the best possible deal for our residents. We think that this will be a fairly protracted process and it will be some time before we have anything to present to you all, so we ask for your patience.

Please contact us at info@twra.net if you have any queries or ideas which may help.

Dangers of 'Puffer Fish'

A resident has pointed out the dangers of 'Puffer Fish' as their dog had passed away recently after eating a dead puffer fish at the North Shore 'off leash' beach. They went on to say that Puffer fish are "most lethal" when they are dead as the toxins, second deadly to box jelly fish, are located mainly in the liver and organs of the fish, and not in the spines. When eaten, paralysis of the body and limbs occur, followed by the diaphragm, so the victim stops breathing, and then the organs fail one by one, not a nice death!

Please be aware of these fish on the beach and dispose of them if found. If anyone is fishing and you catch these fish, please do not leave them behind on the sand. Take

them with you and dispose of them properly. Another concern is that there are trace elements of the toxins in the fish skin which may be harmful to children if picked up by mistake. Be aware and take care!

Care For Your Pets – Snake Warning!

With the continuing warm weather, snakes are still very active in the Twin Waters area. It is of particular importance that you make sure, as far as you can, that your pets are safe. If you live in an area where snakes are prevalent, adjoining the golf course or bushland, be aware that snakes can pose a real danger to your pets. Be alert!

Mountain Bike Orienteering - Is It For You?

In the current cycling boom there are many kinds of cycling... Mountain Bike Orienteering is but one. MTBO will suit many - more than you would expect. At the recent Australian Championships there were three or four 80 year old competitors.

So what is it that attracts not just the youngsters but the seniors as well?

MTBO is off-road, but always on clearly marked roads, tracks and paths. Each rider has a map which is meticulously drawn to international MTBO standards. The event consists of riding to check points in sequence, checking in at each (electronically), and riding on to the next. At the conclusion, on checking in, a printout of your times is instantly produced.

Route choice is the key to MTBO. Distances and inclines (contours) have to be taken into account. Will you choose the direct route to each point which may be short, but steep? Or will you choose the longer route which may be flatter and easier to ride? These are the kinds of answers the mountain bike orienteers are looking for.

The site www.mtbo.com.au has a list of events coming up in 2012 as well as much more info about MTBO. Here on the Sunshine Coast we have our own club called the Sunshine Orienteers. To try out MTBO you don't have to join a club, just turn up to one of the events. The internet site gives details of equipment needed.

At each of these events up to a hundred or so participate in five age groups and each grouping has its own course lengths and climbs. So the 70+ have the shortest and flattest ride while the elite ride the furthest and climb the most. The MTBO catch-cry is "Think and Ride".

– Bernie Nichols

Be Alert and Forewarned

A Twin Waters' couple was recently driving along Yango Street when a "gang" of boys threw a rock at their car causing damage which had to be repaired. The driver chased them but they hid in one of the lanes nearby and couldn't be found. When they drove off, the boys appeared again and gave the usual 'not nice' signal.

The matter has been reported to the Police who said that nothing could really be done about it because of the ages of the boys (ranging from about 5 years through to 12-13 years) but if found the Police will talk to them.

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Living Choice - Win a \$5,000 Holiday!

Residents at Living Choice villages are well aware of the Referral Reward Program; however residents of the greater Twin Waters area may not know that they also have the opportunity to win a holiday for two valued at \$5,000.

All you have to do is refer a friend to a Living Choice village and if your friend buys a home at either Twin Waters or Kawana Island, you will receive a Harvey Norman gift voucher valued at \$500 (new home) or \$250 (resale home). Even better, your friend will receive a Harvey Norman voucher to the same value as well. In addition to the Harvey Norman vouchers, all your successful referrals will go into a lucky draw on 1 July 2012 and you could be the winner of the grand prize - **a holiday for two valued at \$5,000!**



As part of Living Choice's initiative to boost referrals, Resident Ambassador teams have been formed at all villages. These teams arrange events to connect residents and clients and their first event, a Ploughman's Lunch, was very well-supported by Twin Waters and Mudjimba residents. Their next major event is the launch of the new, resurfaced bowls green on 5 May, so keep an eye out for your invitation in your letterbox.

For more details about Living Choice Twin Waters, phone 1800 008 099 or visit their website www.livingchoice.com.au

Resident ambassadors at Living Choice Twin Waters - Thelma Richardson and Marie Warren.

Youths have been spotted diving off the bridge and also carrying large rocks from the edge of the canal up onto the bridge where they then hurl them into the water or dive with the rock. Please report any similar incidents or sightings to the Police on 13 14 44.

Maroochy River Trail

If you are seeking something different to do or entertain some interstate friends, or children during school holidays, the Maroochy River Trail offers a choice of amazing scenic journeys overflowing with wildlife and history. The trip is ideal for families, seniors, couples, and groups with all levels of fitness and paddling experience. It is about getting out into nature and having fun.

If you would like to know more, visit <http://www.maroochyrivertrail.com.au>

Living Thoughts

"Half our life is spent trying to find something to do with the time we have rushed through life trying to save."

- Will Rogers




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Sunshine Coast District Police 24 Hr Assist:	5409 0000
SES Flood/Storm/Emergency:	13 25 00
Crimestoppers:	1800 333 000
PoliceLink (not urgent):	13 14 44
Coolum Police General Enquiries:	5440 2777
Block Co-ordinators:	Check Community Notice Board for contact details

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