

# TWIN WATERS

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## Newsletter - February 2024

### Important Dates 2024

**TWRA General Meeting: Monday 5th February 7.30 pm Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort.**

**Clean Up Australia Day – Sunday 3rd March**

**Twin Waters Neighbourhood Watch Meeting - Monday 18th March at Living Choice Clubhouse.**

**Winter Cocktail Party – Loose Goose. Date: TBC**

**Gardening Competition. Entry forms available from 1 to 30 September. Judging: Saturday 12 October.**

**Christmas in July – July date: TBC.**

**Golf Day – Twin Waters Golf Club. Date: TBC.**

**Party in the Park – The Twin Waters Shopping Village. 20th October**

**Christmas Cocktail Party – Loose Goose Restaurant. 23rd November.**

**Light Up Twin Waters – The magic of the Christmas lights we place on our homes each year. Details later in the year.**

**Christmas Carols – Moorings Circuit Park. December date TBC**

### President's Report from Sophie Lever

It's a bit late to write – Happy New Year. But we launch into 2024 with our first newsletter, realising there is much to do, but also that last year, a lot was accomplished.



Although the holidays are behind us, it was great to see off 2023 with our traditional Christmas Carols – this time with a new zing. (See page 4.)

Hats off to Colin Legg and his team for conquering all before them in taking the event to its new location at Moorings Circuit Park in the very heart of Twin Waters. Parks are great places, but what you get is grass and trees – everything else must be brought in.

No-one thought it would be easy – and it wasn't! But Colin and his team refused to blink.

An amazing night.

Our next community event is Clean-Up Australia Day on Sunday March 5 – the Twin Waters version of the nation-wide happening that turned picking up rubbish into a great community get-together.

As usual, TWRA is happy to provide a bar-b-que breakfast and lucky dip prizes to kick things along.

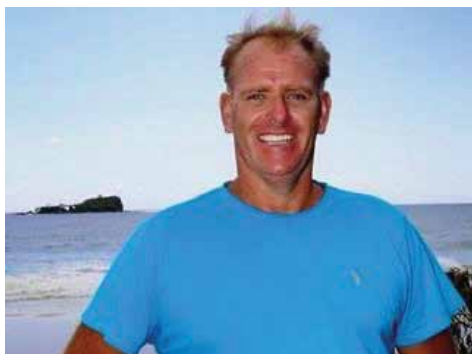
(See Page 3.) Sophie does the Lucky Draw last year >>



Also in March; the focus moves to politics for the Local Council elections held every four years – and at least one significant change already. We in Division 8 will be saying goodbye to long-serving Councillor, Jason OPray who is not standing again, but offering himself for Mayor instead. Thank-you, Jason, for your support for TWRA and our Twin Waters community over your term as our Councillor.

(See Page 2 for more reflections on Jason's time in office and acknowledgement of his help and support.)

In other Council business, maintaining local parks and gardens continues to be an important focus for the TWRA Maintenance Committee. It was our lead story in the February newsletter this time last year, as many residents were increasingly uneasy about the standard of care for our public areas. (See Page 3) for where we stand now as we recover from weeks of significant rain and a heat wave that literally took our breath away.



We also should have final clarity soon for the other major issue of last year: the Twin Waters West project from developer Stockland. See Page 2 for the update following the Sunshine Coast Council approval of the Development Application late last year. Looking ahead, all our popular events are coming back across the year helping build our sense of community. The Autumn Cocktail Party; Golf Day at Twin Waters Golf Club, Christmas in July and last year's innovation: the Gardening Competition – (See Page 3.)

And later, in December, the return of "Light-Up Twin Waters" after a break of many years. It is a Christmas Lights event that revels in how we love to light up our homes in the festive season. More details, when we get closer to the time. We're going to be busy. But it should be fun.

Until next time. *Sophie.*

## Council Elections Loom Again – Saturday, 16 March And a changing of the Guard: as our long-term Councillor, Jason OPray stands for Mayor!



Jason has been our Councillor for three terms, since 2012. During this time, he has been a strong supporter of TWRA and our community. He has assisted us in many ways over the years including responding to ratepayer concerns on many matters, access to and support for Council grants, attending our events (including being co-compere with Fiona Simpson for our Christmas Carols.) We thank Jason for his support and contribution to our community and we wish him well in the future.

So far, three candidates have announced their intention to stand in Division 8 on 16 March. Candidate nominations close on Tuesday, 13 February, so more candidates may throw their hat into the ring before the closing date.

### The three candidates who have nominated so far are:



**Kathryn Hyman** who ran previously in 2020 and developed a public profile in the protest movement against the Twin Waters West development. More details are available from Kathryn's web and Facebook pages.



Industrial lawyer, **Taylor Bunnag** – seen here on an early morning campaign drop. More on Taylor is available from his Facebook page.



A late entrant is real estate agent **Walter Johnson** whose campaign has recently launched a Facebook page and begun posting campaign signs around Twin Waters.

**We will provide a full list of the candidates for Division 8 in the March Newsletter. The TWRA is apolitical and does not support any particular candidate but we do acknowledge the public endeavours of those who are nominating.**



### Twin Waters West Development Update following Council approval

At its meeting on 14 December, Sunshine Coast Council formally approved the Twin Waters West Development Application from major developer, Stockland by a vote of 6 to 4.

It is the company's third attempt to develop the area formally known as 'The Canelands' running parallel with the Sunshine Coast Motorway. As the next step, we are now in a 30-business day period for any appeals, which will expire around 6th February. If there are no appeals, Stockland can proceed with their proposed development.

An appeal would require another Qld Planning & Environment Court hearing which, based on previous experience, would take many months to be finalised, maybe during 2024 or possibly into 2025.

Stockland's third DA is vastly different from their first DA, lodged back in 2007. Now, only 450 residential housing lots are proposed compared with 1200-1400 residential units (houses and apartments) originally proposed. There are many other significant design and environmental improvements also included in this DA.

TWRA has been a significant force in the evolution of this proposal, encouraging innovations such as the addition of a lake – mirroring the original Twin Waters development.

The Twin Waters West area is included within the future urban footprint of the State's SEQ Regional Development plan to cater for forecast population growth on the Coast.





# News & Issues

## Clean Up Twin Waters – For Clean Up Australia Day



Details For This Year:

- Sunday, March 3.
- Assembly is at Baywater Park at 8am – same as last year.
- After the BBQ & prizes, bags for collecting rubbish provided. Some gloves are available but Bring Your Own if you wish. (You simply collect the rubbish and leave the bag beside the road. Others look after the pick-up.)
- All finished by 10am.

**ABOVE: The dedicated crowd who showed at last year's Clean-Up Twin Waters for the BBQ and lucky dips that get everyone in the mood.**

## Maintenance Report from Tony Freeman of the TWRA Maintenance Committee:

Rain and wind keeps the contractors working

We have had more than our regular dose of rain. The Contractors have been on site throughout the holiday season and were barely being able to keep up with the speed of fast-growing grass! They continue to keep to schedule to maintain all the public areas.

The Street Sweeping truck has recently been in Twin Waters doing the six-monthly clearing of streets and gutters. At least this time we didn't have strong winds following the truck which we had in December 2022! TWRA received a few queries about the street sweepers but we need better advice from Council regarding the timing so we can advise residents to ensure the curb areas are clear of cars, rubbish bins, vans etc! If the area is not clear, then the sweeper vehicle just keeps going. The storms over the Christmas-New Year time, meant a few large branches and trees were blown down; the Contractors removed the smaller branches and Council Arborists and tree crews removed the others quite quickly!



**BELOW: One of the branches or trees blown down during summer 2023-24**



## Raining Cats and Dogs: The Figures



Every day, Twin Waters resident, Mark Garner records the rainfall when it happens – and of late he's been very busy. 2024 is off to a very wet start, with nearly 470 mm in the gauge to the end of January. Ironically, 2023 was a relatively dry one for us in Twin Waters, with only 966 mm of rain for the full year. This was well below the rainfall in 2022 (2,502 mm) and also well below the long-term average for our area of the Coast (1,483 mm). We had rain on only 107 days last year – the long-term average of rain days is 165. 2023's wettest month was December, due to the rain over the Christmas period leading to our soggy January.



## Gardening Competition Back For Second Year



Details For This Year:

Early Notice for all you who enjoy and are proud of your gardens!!

This year's TWRA Garden Competition will be one month later than the 2023 competition, so different plants may be in bloom.

Once again, there will be four categories this year, three of which are new categories, to keep the competition fresh:

- Best newly created garden (i.e. gardens which have had significant redesign or refurbishment in last 24 months)
- Best lawn
- Best creative pool/patio/courtyard area
- Best street appeal

There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each of the four categories.

Entries will be free for TWRA Members. Entry forms available from 1 to 30 September. For those who are not yet TWRA Members, the annual fee is only \$10.

Judging will be Saturday 12 October 2024. Results published Sunday 13 October.

Prize giving will be at the TWRA General Meeting at the Novotel on Monday 14 October.

We hope the public can view the 12 winning gardens, provided the winners consent.

Last year's competition was fantastic; we hope to have even more entries this year! Get those green fingers working!



**2023's Happy Winners!**



# Christmas Carols In The Park – A Gamble But It Worked!



Colin Legg



It is always a sense of excitement when Santa appears and this year was no exception as he arrived on the back of a bright orange ute, decked out with tinsel and lighting.



Over 500 adults and masses of children descended on Moorings Circuit Park on December 17 for TWRA's first - Christmas Carols in the Park. Co-Ordinator of the Organising Sub-Committee, Colin Legg writes that... "While the Carols went off well on the night, it was not without a few headaches... In the last week we discovered that we could not use a barge for the fire works because of the resting shore birds in the nearby trees. We also found that there was no power available on site, so we had to hire a generator and light towers for power and lighting. But judging by the applause at the end, these changes were well received. Two days beforehand, we were advised that our local State Government member, Fiona Simpson, had to withdraw as our compere due to covid. However, she organised a good friend, Tanya McFadyen-Bandera, to take on the role. Tanya was a joy to work with and brought an energy and professional style, which made the Carols a very enjoyable outing. We must also acknowledge Kevin Brown, who put together the brass ensemble as backing for our two singers and accompaniment for general carol singing.



Tanya on the right.



One concern that had been raised prior to the event was the parking availability around the immediate area of the park. To alleviate the pressures, we organised to use the vacant block by Esperance Court roundabout, thanks to Stockland, but as it turned out, it wasn't required. It was great to see so many families come along with friends. And it was good to see nearby residents hosting parties in their driveways.

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One of the most pleasing features was the pristine condition of the park at the conclusion of the event. When the organising team went back the following Monday morning, there was not one bit of rubbish. Well done to everyone for their consideration. And also special thanks to my fellow team members on the Carols Committee who were wonderful support.

Last but not the least, a huge thanks to all our valued sponsors and organisations who donated grants, money and prizes to our raffle and general expenses of running an event of this size. These include but are not limited to The Bendigo Bank and Jason O'Pray from Sunshine Coast Council. A special thanks also to Lydia Kirn as our main naming rights sponsor

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