

## CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY

The Peregrian Digital Hub is expanding to incorporate cutting-edge new lab facilities that will enable Noosa's digital sector to take advantage of exciting new AI (artificial intelligence) technologies.

Extensive upgrades to the old Peregrian Beach Community House are nearing completion.

Since its launch in 2018, Council's Digital Hub has become home to over 70 of the region's top tech professionals and offers an extensive program of digital industry events and skills development activities.

Council recently reported that the Hub made a contribution of \$4.8M in Social Return on Investment and helped create over 40 high value jobs.

"We live in an era where AI is going to radically shape how we work, learn and create," Hub Director Chris Boden said "The lab consists of six pods each with unique capabilities to help our community make use of AI in video and podcast production, skills development, data analysis and collaboration."

Council secured funding for the project from the Australian Government through the bushfire recovery grant programs.



Main photo: Chris Boden (Hub Director) and Adam Britton (Project Coordinator) Inset: Workers put finishing touches to the new building.

## TRAIL 5 UPGRADE REACHES THE HOME STRETCH

**Feedback positive as work on Pomona to Cooran trail nears completion and Council turns the focus to revamp plans for Trail 7**

The Noosa Trail Network Trail 5 upgrade, between Pomona and Cooran, is almost complete.

Project Manager, Aiden Flannery, said Council had received lots of positive feedback so far.

"There has been a lot of encouraging chatter online and we've received various emails and comments in support of the work

carried out," he said.

The \$1.68 million project has delivered various improvements including creek crossing upgrades and trail widening.

Upgrades to the trailhead facilities are ongoing, delivering a concrete carpark at Cooran, while the gravel carpark at Cooroora Mountain Park has been sealed

and a new shelter and table and chairs built, and bike racks added.

Council recently finished work on the Cooran Horse Yards upgrade, delivering two large holding yards plus seven gated stalls.

"The new and improved yards make it easier for riders to dismount and explore the Cooran township," Mr Flannery said.

New interpretive signage will be finalised shortly, and work is about start on designs for the upgrade of the Noosa Trail Network's Trail 7, linking Pomona and Lake Macdonald.

The Trail 5 upgrade project has been made possible via funding from the Australian and Queensland Governments' Local Economic Recovery Program.

## HIDDEN GEM BY THE RIVER



Michael Brennan amongst Fiona's Foley's exhibition FIONA FOLEY: NGUTHURU-NUR.

What better way could there be to take in some art and culture than to enjoy a relaxed stroll along the sweeping Noosa River, duck indoors to wander amongst the ambitiously scaled 'More than the sum of its parts' exhibition and Trevor Purvis' 'Australian Sienna' at the leading public gallery on the Sunshine Coast.

Perched on the banks of the

picturesque Noosa River in Tewantin, and just a stone's throw from Noosa Marina's restaurants and cafes, Noosa Regional Gallery boasts an ever-changing program of contemporary art exhibitions featuring local, national and international artists. Matched with a suite of public programs including artist talks, masterclasses and workshops for all ages, there's something

for everyone – not to mention an artisan gallery store, coveted by locals for its eclectic range of gifts, and loved by visitors for its assortment of jewellery, ceramics and souvenirs made by local Noosa creatives.

But it's not just indoor artworks that Noosa Regional Gallery is renowned for. Every two years the Gallery team turns its attention to the region's stunning natural environment, temporarily situating thought-provoking sculptures and installations across unexpected public places. Floating Land returns to Noosa this year, with an exciting line-up of artists about to be announced.

"We're really passionate about bringing new, ambitious and innovative artworks by some of the country's leading artists to Noosa for audiences to enjoy," says Gallery Director, Michael Brennan. "And equally important is our opportunity to program exciting artists from our region alongside these nationally celebrated names."

The current exhibitions run until 5 April. For more information visit [noosaregionalgallery.com.au](https://noosaregionalgallery.com.au) and [floatingland.org.au](https://floatingland.org.au)

## IN BRIEF

### Have Your Say on Noosa's future

Noosa Council is inviting residents and property owners to have their say on two important initiatives: the future of waste and recycling and the draft Eastern Beaches Foreshore Management Plan.

The future of waste and recycling is a critical issue facing our region, and Council is keen to hear from the community on how to improve waste management practices.

The draft Eastern Beaches Foreshore Management Plan aims to protect and enhance Noosa's iconic eastern beaches and proposes actions to achieve these outcomes into the future.

Don't miss your chance to have your say. Go to [yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au](https://yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au).

## DISASTER RESILIENCE HELP AT HAND

**Forum to help businesses bounce back following catastrophe**

The Noosa Small Business Disaster Resilience Forum will equip local businesses with practical advice to help them bounce back in the wake of a disaster.

"Noosa small business is the heartbeat of our local economy, so learning more about business disaster recovery grants and how we can apply for them after the crazy weather of the past few years is a wonderful idea," Noosa Junction business owner, Paulina Nowak (pictured), said.

"I'm sure the speakers will help all of us understand what support is out there and how we can all

become more resilient."

The evening event will feature speakers specialising in community engagement and crisis communication.

"They'll provide insights on disaster risks and resources and the best ways to communicate with customers and suppliers following a disaster," Council's Disaster Resilience Officer, Ian Williams, (pictured) said.

Local small businesses are encouraged to attend.

The February 28 event, at The J, starts at 5.30pm. Register via [Eventbrite.com](https://Eventbrite.com). Search

'Noosa Small Business Disaster Resilience Forum.' The forum is fully subsidised by Noosa Council through the Black Summer Bushfires Recovery Program.



Paulina and Daniele from Nowak Migration.

## SPORTS COMPLEX UPGRADE

Construction has begun on a new multipurpose facility at the Noosa District Sports Complex.

The new building will provide modern facilities to support several sports clubs based at the complex, including cricket, netball, pickleball, and car clubs.

Completion is expected in late June with minimal community impact.

The Tewantin project is jointly funded by the Australian Government and Queensland Government in association with Noosa Council and the Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund. Visit Council's website for more information.