

Bonds forged through clay

Local ceramic artist Tess Miller says clay has a unique ability to facilitate self-expression and forge bonds between individuals.

“I love watching youth expressing themselves with clay; they always make creations that I have never thought about,” she says.

In her school holiday Kids Clay Club workshops, Miller emphasises fostering connection and community through clay to help youth build resilience.

Meanwhile, Chiggy’s Skateboarding sessions teach skills that can be applied to everyday life, offering opportunities for youth to learn and grow.

The Skate and Clay into Resilience workshops at Cooroy Skate Park on Friday, July 5, offer a unique school holiday experience for youth. The event runs from 10am to 3pm, featuring creative and sporty activities designed to build resilience and new skills, with a free sausage sizzle from 12pm to 2pm.

Community Programs Officer Josiah Tharps said, “We are always excited about introducing new and engaging activities to the hinterland, giving young people the opportunity to explore new interests and discover new passions.”

For more information, visit noosa.qld.gov.au.



Tess Miller says clay is a great medium for encouraging kids’ self-expression.

Last days to comment on plan to improve housing choice

Noosa Council is seeking to improve housing choice and diversity through a suite of planning scheme amendments, now open for public consultation.

The proposed amendments to Noosa Plan 2020 will assist Council to implement key recommendations of both the Noosa Housing Strategy – developed with input from the community in 2022 – and the Short-term Accommodation Monitoring Report 2022.

The proposed amendments also seek

to enhance economic development and tighten controls on short-term accommodation within medium and high-density residential zones and key centre zones to prioritise permanent residents.

Some Tourist Accommodation zone areas in Noosaville, Noosa Heads and Sunshine Beach are also proposed

for rezoning to prioritise permanent residents and provide for a broader range of local business uses.

Find all the details, including factsheets, FAQs, maps, and 3D fly-through imagery, at yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au. Electronic copies of the amendments can also be viewed at Council’s offices and Noosaville and Cooroy libraries.

Submissions on the amendments can be made until Sunday, July 14 via yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au, by email to NP2020amendments@noosa.qld.gov.au, or by post to Noosa Plan 2020, PO Box 141, Tewantin Qld 4565. Submissions must include the submitter’s name and address.

Customer Service branches out

Extending Council’s reach to the hinterland with remote help desk



Kenzo (right) of Council’s customer service team is on hand at Cooroy Library to assist hinterland residents with general Council enquiries, information and payments.

Whether it’s to pay dog rego, log a pothole in need of patching or update their contact details, residents are making use of Council’s satellite customer service desk being trialled at Cooroy.

Council is committed to improving hinterland residents’ access to services and this trial will tell if adding a local

hinterland point of contact helps.

“We’ll be gathering data during the six-month trial as to what areas of the shire people are coming from to visit the Cooroy service desk and the types of enquiries they have,” Community Services Director Kerri Contini said.

“Ultimately it will enable us to make an informed decision as to whether we

establish a permanent customer service presence in the hinterland.”

Residents can make payments at the Cooroy customer service desk via credit card, eftpos and cheque initially.

“Although we don’t have secure cash storage at the library currently, if the trial is successful, we will install the infrastructure needed to safely accept and store cash in future.

“In the meantime, the 3% of payments that are made to Council in cash, continue to be accepted at our main Tewantin Customer Service counter,” Ms Contini said.

The hinterland customer service desk trial builds on efforts to extend the reach of Council’s services, including last year’s launch of Library BookShelf Kiosks at Pomona and Peregian Beach.

“They are providing residents in those areas easier access to library services, which has been a success, and this trial is another way we hope to extend our reach,” Ms Contini said.

The hinterland customer service desk operates out of Cooroy Library, Maple Steet, Cooroy, 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

Reconstruction progress in hinterland

Fine weather has helped crews across the hinterland finish key flood reconstruction works.

Shaun Walsh, Acting Director for Infrastructure Services, said the completion of these projects helped restore the local road network, which was damaged in early 2022.

“Reconstruction at Happy Jack Creek Road, Bakers Road, Old Ceylon Road, and near 490 Cooroy-Belli Creek Road was completed in early June,” Mr Walsh said.

“We’ve also just completed Simpsons Road, Cootharaba Road, and near 705 Cooroy-Belli Creek Road.

“These roads are now operating normally, and we appreciate residents’ patience and co-operation while these works were underway.

“Reconstruction is ongoing at Black Pinch Road, Musa Vale Road, and near 179 Cooroy-Belli Creek Road, as well as at the Black Mountain Road landslip,” he said.

“Works have also started on Upper Pinbarren Road, Pinbarren.



Completed works on Cooroy-Belli Creek Road.

“Most reconstruction works will be finished by the end of the year.”

The flood recovery effort for Noosa Council is being delivered with assistance provided through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

In Brief



Revamped wedding chapel opens

The Noosa Botanic Gardens Wedding Chapel has been beautifully renewed and is now open for ceremonies. After serving as a wedding destination for over 20 years, the chapel now features a new courtyard pavement, a wedding gazebo, and an arbour walk in eight hectares of native and exotic plants, home to diverse wildlife. To book this enchanting location, visit noosa.qld.gov.au.

Empowering preparedness for all

Community safety is paramount, and Noosa Council is stepping up with the Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness Plan (P-CEP) at Cooroy Library. This initiative supports vulnerable residents, focusing on inclusivity and resilience. Led by trained professionals, P-CEP equips individuals - especially those with disabilities - with essential emergency preparedness tools. Appointments are essential and can be made by emailing angela.romanowski@noosa.qld.gov.au or contacting Julia at 0474 578 320. The program runs until July 31, 2024. Don’t miss this opportunity to enhance your preparedness!