

Volunteer in the spotlight

“Time is what we have to give.” These lovely words are the parting legacy of Maureen Farrington. She is handing over the baton to a new generation of volunteers after 21 years of loyal service in the Noosa region, just in time to celebrate National Volunteer Week.

Volunteering is part of the fabric of Australian people, and it was a natural transition for Maureen after a long career serving others.

Instead of relaxing in retirement Maureen volunteered for Tait Duke Community Cottage, Noosa Regional Gallery, Queensland Red Cross, Noosa Council, Vinnies, Johns Landing, and the list goes on.

She was always first in line to offer support through emergency services when disaster hit Noosa Shire.

“Seeing people connect and making a difference is the true reward of volunteering for me,” Ms Farrington said.

“And even though it’s time to slow down I feel this is not the end of volunteering for me just yet,” added Ms Farrington.

There is still time to see Maureen’s warm smile in action until she retires in June.



Exploring perspectives: Floating Land returns

Get ready for a journey into art, nature, and the human condition in this significant biennial art event in Noosa

Immerse yourself in the captivating world of Floating Land, Noosa’s most significant biennial art event. Showcasing temporary installations in nature by acclaimed local, national, and international artists.

From June 24 to July 30, Floating Land 2023 will take you on a journey across multiple breathtaking and

compelling sites in the Noosa Region including Boreen Point Foreshore, Gympie Terrace, Johns Landing Cooroibah, Joe Bazzo Park Pomona, and Park Road Boardwalk

Employing several art forms, from photography and videography to sculpture and performance, Floating Land 2023 features acclaimed artists Hoda Afshar,

Juan Ford, Todd Fuller, Kim Guthrie, and Gosia Wlodarczak among others, with highlighted events including a public debate, artist talks, and workshops.

Shifting its frame of reference with each new occurrence, the Floating Land 2023 theme ‘Us and Them’ seeks to revel in discomfort, encouraging visitors to explore different perspectives,

and have their assumptions challenged.

“Frictions in society seem to have amplified over the years; battles of self-interest, in my opinion, can be the impetus for the mistreatment of the environment” explains Floating Land Curator and Director Michael Brennan. Visit floatingland.org.au for more info.

There’s mulch to do in the garden!



Peita Otterbach with some of the mulch available from 561 Eumundi Noosa Road, Doonan.

Autumn is the ideal time to mulch the gardens as it helps trap warmth and moisture from the summer months within the soil to see garden plants through winter.

To help, quality double-grind mulch is available at half price - \$10 per cubic metre – from Council’s Eumundi Noosa Road Resource Recovery Centre from May 29 to June 4.

“As well as being great for keeping the moisture up to your plants, double-grind mulch makes great compost to help home veggie gardens thrive,” Waste Education and Sustainability Officer Peita Otterbach says.

“We know from our Let’s Get Waste Sorted survey that residents aspire to live more sustainably and mulching your gardens and

veggie patches is a great start.

“By using double-grind mulch you’re helping to enrich your soil, plus support the recycling of green waste – such as plant and tree clippings - which keeps organic matter out of landfill where it would otherwise produce methane as it breaks down due to the anaerobic landfill conditions.

“To provide quality double grind mulch to the community to help grow vegetables and lush gardens we rely on our residents to keep their green waste bins free of contamination by general waste.”

To help residents on their composting journey with mulch, Council is pleased to host two workshops with agricultural scientist and soil expert, Dr Sandra Tuszynska.

The Beginners Guide to Composting for Raised Garden Beds session at Peregrin Beach Veggie Village on Saturday June 3, from 9am to 1pm, is ideal for those just getting started.

For advanced composters, attend the Ultimate Guide to Composting for Syntropic Gardens session at Cooroy Community Garden, June 4, 9am to 1pm. To book, visit noosa.qld.gov.au

In Brief

Feedback open on draft budget

It’s time to provide your thoughts on the Noosa Council 2023-24 Draft Budget.

Visit yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au for details on the budget and how to provide input.

If you want to have a chat to councillors, drop in to the Budget Feedback session on Monday 29 May at the Council Chambers from 10am to 12noon.

A key budget initiative is the change to the pensioner rebate. Every eligible pensioner can now receive the full pension rebate of \$115.

For over 80 per cent of ratepayers, the average increase is below CPI.

‘Love your Local’ business

Buying local helps create jobs and grow Noosa’s economy

Small business is the engine room of Noosa’s economy.

Over 7,000 businesses contribute to more than 50 per cent of all employment in the shire.

Café owners Jennifer Mendes and Jeoffroy Marcq are long term locals, who are passionate about living in Noosa.

“We like being part of the community and we care about locals,” Ms Mendes said.

It’s been a challenging three years for the business owners, tackling Covid, floods and a recent fire in the complex.

Ms Mendes has welcomed the ongoing council support.

“Officers have listened to us and found ways to provide assistance and promote small business right across the shire,” she said.

“Business is getting better, but we still need more people to buy local as much as they can.”

Noosa Council is now part of the Small Business Friendly Charter, which provides range of tools for councils to actively support small business.

Acting Economic Development Manager Lynne Banford says thriving small businesses make a

vital contribution to our economy and our community. To know more about Council’s Business Boost initiative, contact the Economic Development team.



‘Love Your Local’ members, Bean Theory café.

Dog beach gets facelift

Noosa Council has received a crucial environmental permit from the Queensland Government for a \$1 million sand replenishment project to protect Noosa Heads’ popular ‘Doggy Beach’ from further erosion. The project will pump sand from designated areas in the Noosa River channel and renourish the beach. The project will take place between June and September to minimise the impact on the coastal and marine environment. Safety measures will be in place, and the dog beach and a part of the adjacent car park will be closed. Noosa Council is currently tendering the project to lock in a specialist contractor.