

## FREE BUSES OFFER MORE

Eight months into our 12-month trial and the free weekend buses are proving a hit across Noosa.

The five dedicated services are attracting good numbers most weekends.

One young local who is keen to see the trial become permanent is Madeleine Cleland.

“Public transport is so important in addressing climate change. The free weekend buses are a great way to reduce our reliance on cars and the impact they have on our environment,” Madeleine said.

“It’s so convenient and accessible so I would encourage locals to give it a try.”

The free buses are key to delivering an efficient, free-flowing, innovative transport system that enhances resident and visitor experiences, resulting in sustainable environmental outcomes.

Free weekend buses, coupled with the Go Noosa free holiday buses, means there is about 145 days of free public transport over the year.

Madeleine is one of many young adults and teenagers utilising the current service. She encourages everyone to get on board this weekend to show their support for the free buses.



Local resident Madeleine Cleland is keen to see the free weekend bus trial continue permanently.

## SUPPORTING STRONGER ENERGY EFFICIENCY

### Noosa Councillors have backed National Construction Code changes to improve the energy efficiency of new homes built in Australia

Federal and state building ministers have signed off on a seven-star energy efficiency rating as part of updated provisions in the 2022 code, which comes into full effect in October 2023.

Noosa recently advocated alongside other councils to lift the energy efficiency of new homes.

New builds will have to reach

a seven-star efficiency rating through measures such as a climate-smart layout, better insulation, solar panels and home batteries.

Council plans to table a motion at next month’s LGAQ Conference asking councils to fully support the recommendations.

“It’s been 12 years since the

minimum standard was increased, so this decision will help us achieve our net-zero targets,” Cr Brian Stockwell said.

“Better performing homes mean lower energy bills, healthy, resilient and safe homes,” he said.

The second LGAQ motion calls on the State to allow councils to tackle climate action through their

Planning Scheme.

Councils are unable to enforce energy efficiency requirements relevant to new development in their Planning Schemes.

“The current position of the Department works against those communities who have set ambitious targets to reduce emissions.”

## NOOSA’S CUTEST DOGS ARE BACK



Our first weekly winner was local pup Flynn, posing at his favourite off-leash spot to play, Marcus Beach!

Dog registration is due at the end of the month and that means it’s the perfect time to showcase Noosa’s cutest dogs.

This year, Council is offering a bonus for the competition winners – the top pups will be featured in our first Noosa’s Cutest Dog Calendar.

Paul Kirkley, Local Laws Manager, said the competition

was a great opportunity for dog owners to celebrate their pets, while promoting responsible pet ownership.

“We all love our pets, but it’s important we remember to register our dogs each year,” he said.

“Not only is registration a legal requirement, but it also helps Council to identify impounded

or found dogs and reunite them quickly with their owners.”

Registration data also helps Council to ensure services such as waste bags, litter bins and off-leash areas are provided where they are most needed.

“Dog registration fees are also used to inform and educate the community about dogs.”

The easiest way to pay your fees is online via our website or by phone at (07) 5329 6500.

There are two ways to enter the Cutest Dog Contest that runs until 30 September.

1) On the Noosa Council Facebook Page, by posting a photo of your dog to one of Council’s contest posts as a comment.

2) On Instagram, by posting a photo to your account with the hashtags: #YourNoosa and #NoosasCutestDogs. The account must be set to public so Council can view the images.

All winning dogs will be featured on our Noosa’s Cutest Dog Calendar which will be available from November at Council’s offices for free, with donations accepted for the RSPCA.

## IN BRIEF

### Be prepared for storm season

With the storm season approaching, now is the time to sign up for Council’s free Noosa Alert early warning subscription service.

Visit our Disaster Dashboard to register so you can receive information and updates on severe weather events as they unfold.

### Ensure your home is ready

At home, use the next few weekends to clear out gutters and downpipes, trim trees and branches and consider preparing an emergency kit. Tips on what to include are on our Disaster Dashboard.

Get Ready and be prepared.

## REFLECTION FOR FIRE EVACUEES

Share your experiences from the 2019 Noosa bushfires.

Researchers are looking to better understand the emotions and feelings of those who used the evacuation centres during the black summer fires in Noosa.

University of Southern Queensland Senior Lecturer Dr Carina Anderson hopes the findings will help create physically and psychologically safer experiences for future evacuees.

Anyone in Noosa who would like to participate should contact Carina on (07) 3812 6020 or email [carina.anderson@usq.edu.au](mailto:carina.anderson@usq.edu.au)



## LET’S CELEBRATE OUR SENIORS!

### Join us for a free event to learn more about local services

As part of Seniors Month, the Seniors Connect 2022 event will help seniors find out about local services, programs and activities in the shire.

There will be free entertainment by local band ‘Mood Swings’, morning tea, demonstrations, come-and-try activities and guest speakers - all with the aim of providing support to our seniors.

The event will be held in and around the grounds of Noosa Community Support (NCS) in Wallace Park Noosaville on Wednesday 12 October from 10am- 12.30pm.

Coordinator of NCS Justin Morgan said, “Seniors Connect is an opportunity to celebrate the contribution that older people make to the Noosa community.”

“Noosa Community Support will highlight the contributions of our seniors while showcasing a range of wellbeing and support activities that are provided in Noosa for seniors to help them stay connected and continue to be living well.”

We will provide advice and information on navigating My Aged Care, in home support services, coffee outings and arts programs, the workshop,

wellness and falls prevention classes, podiatry, transport, carer support, home maintenance and modifications will all be on display.