

UNITED IN SUPPORT

In a disaster, we certainly see the best of people.

Cooran, Pomona, Kin Kin and Cooroy have united in their efforts to bounce back from the devastating floods.

Cooran Community Store's Elyse Patten says the community spirit has been uplifting.

"It's amazing how a common enemy brings people together," she said.

Elyse, husband Brad, Cara from the Cooran Brewery joined organisers of Bunya Bites to raise \$6,000 to help three families, who lost everything in the floods.

"Pomona Bakery and Wrights Cut Meats from Cooroy also donated goods," she said.

Madill Motor Group provided a loan car to Shaun Wilson (pictured), after his Lake Entrance Boulevard home was inundated.

IGA Cooroy and Wimmers handed out goods to exhausted SES volunteers (pictured).

"They were doing an awesome job and we wanted to help," IGA Group Manager Romeo Bordignon said.

And a special shout out to Heather Manders for her efforts.



Main image: Elyse and Brad Patten rally to support the Cooran community

MUD ARMY MOBILISES TO CLEAN UP NOOSA

Flood waters subside and recovery efforts continue as community volunteers take on the heavy lifting

Comfort, support, passion and vital information for our Noosa community are just some of the ways that the Noosa Care Army is helping locals impacted by the recent floods.

Partnering with Volunteering Queensland, Noosa Council has created the Army to provide support for those still doing it tough in our community.

More than 280 volunteers have put on the gum boots to help clean up a number of properties.

Community Development Manager Alison Hamblin says, "The volunteers have helped in Cooran, Pomona, North Shore and Noosaville and now further cleanups are being taken on."

Removing furniture and destroyed

goods, hosing out properties, removing debris, packing personal items and shovelling dirt and mud were the first tasks to be tackled for locals.

"It was a real tonic having those legends help with the heavy lifting," North Shore Fire Warden Michael Hancock said.

"I just want to say a heartfelt

thanks as their efforts have been incredible," he said.

If you want to register visit volunteeringqld.org.au/services/emergency-volunteering

For assistance from the Noosa Care Army email commdev@noosa.qld.gov.au.

FOCUS ON ROAD TO RECOVERY



At least 115 public assets have suffered some damage from the recent Noosa flooding event. Our staff along with engineering experts are out assessing the damage prior to scheduling repair work.

Infrastructure Services Director and Local Disaster Co-ordinator, Larry Sengstock said the extent of the damage ranges from

minor repairs to major work which may include redesign and reconstruction to build better resilience into our infrastructure.

"Recovery from the recent flooding will take weeks if not months and our staff are continuing to collect information from the community and agencies about flood damage across the shire," Mr Sengstock said.

"Damage assessed so far confirms our hinterland community has copped the brunt of this extreme weather and just like at the height of the emergency, we will be triaging our recovery efforts accordingly.

At least two thirds of damage reports are in the hinterland including major landslips, bitumen loss, sunken footpaths, pot-holing, stormwater damage and culvert damage.

"As we plan our road to recovery, we will keep the community informed about the status and timing of these recovery projects via the 'work in progress' page on our website," he said.

"It will be a one-stop hub where you can check on how a project is progressing or get information on what is planned."

"We are also accessing the funding through the Queensland Reconstruction Authority Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements for both emergency works and immediate reconstruction of community assets, so we can get moving on our recovery efforts across the shire," Mr Sengstock said.

UPGRADES FOR EVACUATION CENTRE

Bathroom revamps, power supply and Wi-Fi boost planned

More than 500 people sought refuge at Noosa Leisure Centre during the 2019 bushfires, and during the recent floods the centre again welcomed locals with nowhere to go.

To ensure Noosa's coastal evacuation centre continues to meet the shire's needs it's about to get an upgrade.

Council has secured \$695,000 through the Federal Government's Black Summer Recovery Grants program to renovate the 28-year-old centre's bathrooms and plumbing.

Disaster Management Officer

James Ulyate (pictured centre) says, "The upgrade will provide more reliable and more modern facilities to cater for large numbers of people during times of disaster."

The grant will also cover a new CCTV system to boost security for evacuees and their possessions.

Council has also received \$551,000 from the Federal Government to equip the centre with a battery back-up system to keep the lights on.

Meanwhile an NBN satellite internet connection - part

of the Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disaster (STAND) program - will provide internet connectivity for up to 500 people.



IN BRIEF

How you can help

There are many ways that you can support the Noosa locals who have been affected by the recent floods. Your generous support is greatly valued by our community.

You can:

- * Donate to registered charities or local emergency services.

- * Donate goods or personal items.

- * Volunteer with the Noosa Care Army.

Organisations to support include: Australian Red Cross, Lifeline Queensland, St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland, The Salvation Army, Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service, GIVIT and Noosa Care Army.

RECOVERY INFO IN ONE PLACE

Finding information after a disaster can be overwhelming. Council hopes to make it a little easier by dedicating a Community Recovery Floods page on its website to provide easy access to this information.

There's information on financial assistance available from both state and federal governments. Also information on volunteering and how to register to become a volunteer.

Looking after your mental health and wellbeing is important, and there is information and resources available on this page.

Visit noosa.qld.gov.au/community-recovery-2022-floods.