

HUT GOSSIP

Quarterly publication of Parkyn Hut Information Centre

President's Bit

Welcome everyone to our first Hut Gossip for 2025. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new volunteers. Thank you for choosing to volunteer at Parkyn's Hut where we have lots of fun telling people where to go!

I would also like to welcome back our marvellous Maz.

We have a busy few months ahead of us, starting with an Eco-tour on the Noosa Queen. This is a new tour and Dan wants us to come and enjoy this new experience. Joining us will be our friends from Noosa Heads Information Centre. We are also hoping to do a trip to Gympie in the next few weeks.

These Families are an important part of our product knowledge training, so please try to attend as many as you can.

May is shaping up to be a very busy month. As part of the Australian Heritage Festival 2025, Tewantin Heritage and Historical Society will be holding a couple of events upon which our Historian, Bruce, will elaborate.

We will be looking for a few people to help out with this project as things progress.

Also in May, we celebrate National Volunteers Week and I'm happy to say that, once again, we will be having our fabulous breakfast at the Noosa Yacht & Rowing Club which is to thank you all and recognise everything that our fabulous volunteers do to keep Parkyn's Hut running smoothly and to provide friendly, accurate information to everybody in the community. We are very lucky that Sandy Bolton will be joining us again this year.

Then in June, we will be back on the Noosa Queen celebrating 24 years of Parkyn's Hut volunteers, telling people where to go!

We really appreciate Dan's generosity and his commitment to look after locals. It's always a fun afternoon and both events are a great opportunity for us all to catch up and be together in one place ... which doesn't happen very often.

... Cheers, Gail. 🍷🍷



NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS BREAKFAST

WEDNESDAY 14th MAY 8am

NOOSA YACHT & ROWING CLUB

Come along and meet up with your fellow volunteers

Hot plated breakfast with orange juice and tea or coffee

Barista coffee is available for purchase

RSVP : Please add your name to the list on the noticeboard by Wednesday 7th May

Did you know?

... from Bruce Cuttle

"The want of speedy communications with Gympie, Brisbane, and other parts of the colony has been severely felt by the residents of the Noosa district for some time", wrote *The Queenslander* Newspaper, in April 1874, and then noted that the residents of the Noosa district had been agitating for "the erection of a line of wire" between the then existing telegraph station at Maroochie (sic) (Yandina) and Tewantin.¹

Well, the representation to Government was successful, as it was announced that £2,500 had been listed in the Loan Estimate as "Electric Telegraph Extension", but not from Maroochie as suggested, it was to be from Gympie.²

With finances being approved in July 1874, tenders for construction were called in the *Queensland Government Gazette* in October 1874³. The tender was won by Mr. J.W. Elliott with a tendered price of £25 per mile and he was required to complete the whole construction within three months.⁴

The construction of the approx 33 miles long line seems to have gone reasonably well, as the following announcement was made in the Gympie press on 1st May; "The telegraphic wire from Tewantin will be brought into Gympie today, so the new line may now be declared complete. It is said that the timber clearing necessitated by the contract was the heaviest that has yet been done in the construction of telegraph lines in this colony."⁶

It is all very well to have a new Telegraph Line, but where will it terminate? Where is the Telegraph Office? Tenders for construction of the new Office had only been called for on 6th March 1875,⁵ let alone one already standing and ready.

Once again, the Gympie press disclosed the answer: "There are no signs of the erection of a station at Tewantin, but a room at Mr. Richardson's accommodation house has been engaged temporarily as an office."⁷

By all accounts, the construction of the line was completed on Saturday 2nd May 1875, but all reports of the first messages sent on the new line indicate that this did not occur until Thursday 6th May⁸

This article in the Gympie paper tells us how much use the line was put to in the first couple of days: "In our telegraphic column appears for the first time a telegram from Tewantin, the line to which was opened on Thursday afternoon. There has been quite a telegraphic eruption on the part of the metropolis of Newsa (sic), about thirty messages having been sent from thence; nearly a dozen telegrams have been sent to Tewantin from Gympie."¹⁰

However, the completion of the line was not celebrated by everyone. There were plenty of detractors who declared that the line would not pay for itself, even deriding it by calling it "Luya's line" after one of the partners in the local sawmill who was also lobbying for a branch line to Cootharaba.

At the time of writing, no information can be located indicating who won the tender to construct the new Telegraph Office, or when it was actually completed. Even the press at the time were confused, as it is described as the *New Telegraph Office* in August¹¹, but an article referring to an attempted arson attack at the Tewantin Hotel "in which is situated the telegraph station" appeared in September.¹²

The best indication of it having been completed late in 1875 comes from an article which appeared on 25th September, and referred to the new Telegraph Office as "a commodious building beautifully situated on the point, containing Telegraph office and residence for Master and family".¹³

We believe that this is the building in the photograph that is displayed in the hut.

Don't forget, Tewantin Heritage & Historical Society Inc. is celebrating the 150th anniversary of the completion of the Telegraph Line on 3rd May this year, with displays, re-enactments, costumes and more.

See you there!

1. *The Queenslander* Saturday 18th April 1874 P10
2. *The Sydney Morning Herald* Thursday 9th July 1874 P2
3. *Queensland Government Gazette* No 138 of Saturday 31st Oct 1874
4. *ibid*
5. *Queensland Government Gazette* No 28 of Saturday 6th March 1875.
6. *Gympie Times and Mary River Mining Gazette*, Sat 1 May 1875 P3.
7. *ibid*
8. *The Queenslander* Saturday 15th May 1875 P9.
9. *Gympie Times and Mary River Mining Gazette* Wed 19 May 1875 P3.
10. *Gympie Times and Mary River Mining Gazette* Sat 8th May 1875 P3
11. *Gympie Times and Mary River Mining Gazette* Wed 25 Aug 1875 P3
12. *Gympie Times and Mary River Mining Gazette* Sat 11 Sept 1875 P2
13. *The Queenslander* Sat 25th September 1875 P13



The Australian Heritage Festival 2025.

18th April to 18th May

Theme: "Unearthed".

Watch out for our special events.

Celebrate the
150 year anniversary of the
completion and opening of the
Gympie to Tewantin Electric
Telegraph line,
and the
Tewantin Telegraph Office.
Sat 3rd May 2025
at the hut and other venues.



National Volunteer Week is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteering and will be next held on 19-25 May 2025. This special event highlights the important role of volunteers in our community and invites people not currently volunteering to give it a go.

Well, things are moving along nicely with our plans to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Telegraph Line. The school competition is now open so we can expect to field some questions on that. I have placed the information document that we emailed to schools on the noticeboard so that you know what that's about. As the time gets closer to the closing date (24th April) we can expect to see entries come in to the Hut, so please place them in the entry box provided.

We have been successful in obtaining sponsorship for the prizes for these competitions from Bendigo Bank, the R.S.L. and some local businesses.

Other activities planned for the day include:
displays of old telegraph equipment; a re-enactment of the sending of the first message on the new line; eager participants can even try their hand at sending their own messages in Morse code; roving period costumed performers; a story telling circle where members of pioneering families can tell their story;

Some of the activities will be at the C.W.A. hall, some at the Post Office forecourt, and some at the Hut.

We'll send you more updates as plans progress.

... Cheers, Bruce



TH&HS Inc ACCREDITATION AUDIT

On 03 February 2025, The Tourism Group acknowledged the Parkyn's Hut Tewantin Visitor Information Centre, completed the 24/25 financial year desktop audit.

Visitor Information Centres receive their Visitor Information Centre accreditation based on satisfaction of all 'essential criteria' in the Queensland Signage Policy and must continue to meet the criteria to remain accredited.

"On behalf of Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ), The Tourism Group would like to officially thank Parkyn's Hut Tewantin Visitor Information Centre for maintaining your commitment to the Queensland Visitor Information Centre Signage Policy by successfully achieving all of the essential criteria and a significant number of the highly recommended criteria. This letter confirms that the use of the trademarked symbol at the centre can therefore be continued".

Thank you to all the TH&HS committee members for your participation in this process and for providing the necessary documentation required.

Next year may be a little more trying as it will be an onsite Audit. Let's all keep putting our best smiles and big welcome to all who visit Parkyn's Hut... as you never know when it's going to be a secret shopper auditor. ☺

EXCITING NEWS ...

Marvellous to see how our volunteers have united and are very excited about their new uniforms ... and that we will NOW be all uniformed the same ... hahaha sorry about the pun!

We are great ambassadors for the Visitor Information Association and to represent this these new uniforms complement the *i* logo colouring. TH&HS have a new version of our logo on the uniforms which also enhances this format.

At a date to be confirmed, sooner than later, **ALL** the old uniforms will then no longer represent TH&HS therefore are **NOT** to be worn and are required to be returned at the time you collect your new uniform.

Committee is organising for the old uniforms to be distributed to different charities who can utilise them, eg send to underprivileged countries, reuse materials etc.

Directions about ordering and the sizing process are located on the Famil notice board **Uniform Ordering Form**.

- Next time you are on shift please follow the directives on the form, uniform samples are located behind the office door (not to be taken home).
- Please consider for your comfort how you want to wear the uniform, eg as a shirt or an over-shirt.
- Keep in mind as an over-shirt the undergarment eg t-shirt, crop top, skivvy etc, colour needs to be white.
- To maintain a more complete uniformed style it is suggested we all could consider wearing a plain colour e.g. beige, white, tan, fawn, blue etc. for the bottom half of the uniform.

If you are not sure what to do when you read the directions on the Uniform Ordering Form at the Hut, or if you wish to try other sizes that are not at the Hut, please call Carol Williams 0415 169 415.

TRAINING

A great turn-out in February for our Cooroy Famil. Twenty-five volunteers, some from Noosa Heads Visitor Information Centre, had a fabulous morning visiting the Lower Mill Precinct - incorporating the Butter Factory Arts Centre - then the Noosa Botanic Gardens. At both venues we enjoyed comprehensive guided tours hosted by passionate locals.

The President of the Cooroy Future Group showed us the Butter Factory Art Centre and Lower Mill Precinct.

The Friends of the Botanic Gardens gave us a guided walk/talk through the Noosa Botanic Gardens with emphasis on the popular areas.

Famils are a great way for volunteers to catch up, socialise and update our knowledge on each experience. Thank you to all the volunteers who participate as this is important part of our ongoing training, to keep us involved and to understand the changes that are taking place around us.

Please keep looking at the Famil Notice Board as there are a few things in the pipeline that will be up shortly. (Famil folder located above printer).

ROYAL MAIL HOTEL RENOVATIONS

Trading Hours: Mon – Sun 10am till late. The gaming room and temporary sports bar will remain OPEN during works. A menu of food & beverages will be available from 10am daily.

Building is going along very smoothly at this stage, and they feel completion date will be mid-September. The new look local, Royal Mail Hotel, after renovations completed will have a new Bistro, sports bar, gaming room and sprawling outdoor beer garden, complete with kids playground.

KERRY'S KWICKIE

Thanks to Noosa Shire Council for the re-cladding of Parkyn's Hut, it will be some months before painting starts, it takes time for the timber "to settle".

Our Volunteers' Breakfast once again will be held at the Noosa Yacht and Rowing Club on Wednesday 14th May. Come along, celebrate, it's a great chance to meet and greet your new and old fellow volunteers!

RSVP list and details will be on the Hut notice board soon :)

Noosa Thriller is back and operating daily tours, with plenty of dolphins and great times aboard.

New exhibitions at Cooroy Butter Factory Arts Centre – opening event on Saturday 29 March.

Neil Simon's "Rumours" at Noosa Arts Theatre, 3-20 April.

Noosa Eat & Drink Restaurant Program

29 May – 1 June (Tickets on sale Thursday 20 March).

2025 promises to be a four-day culinary extravaganza with more long lunches, an impressive line-up of restaurant events, sundowner beach events, and a host of new features in the Festival Village, from live entertainment to pop-up dining experiences.

After Hours Brochure Container Please note : before you finish on your afternoon shift, replenish the after-hours brochure container on the Hut verandah. Prioritise brochures to include what visitors may need arriving late in Tewanin - e.g. local maps, bus timetables and accommodation information..

Famils, etc ...

Famils are a great way for volunteers to catch up and socialise. Thank you to all the volunteers who participate as this is important part to keep involved and understand the changes that are happening around us.

The Noosa hinterland town of Cooroy is a charming mix of history, nature, arts and country hospitality and there is so much we can inform our visitor about our Noosa Hinterland and what the Noosa Country Drive map can offer. It was good to see such a great turnout of volunteers for the February 2025 Famil to Cooroy, Lower Mill Site and Butter Factory Precinct & Noosa Botanic Gardens

The president of the Cooroy Future Group for the Lower Mill site and Butter Factory Arts Centre was full of information about this area, and we were very thankful for all his input and time.

This precinct has many attractions such as the old sawmill boiler, the Cooroora Woodworkers and the Sunshine Coast Camphor Laurel Initiative, Hinterland Adventure Playground, Cooroy Library and Butter Factory all within the Cooroy CBD.



After our jaunt in Cooroy we travelled to Noosa Botanic Gardens on the shores of Lake Macdonald where we were treated to a guided walk with volunteers from the Friends of Noosa Botanic Gardens. It was a delight to get the firsthand information from such dedicated and passionate volunteers. It has a variety of exotic and native plant species and is home to an abundance of wildlife. Other features include a lily pond, open airbrush chapel, fern house, a Greek-style amphitheatre, children's play facilities, and large lawn areas with paths winding to picnic areas.



Below



Noosa Heads Visitor Information Centre recently had an information evening for their volunteers and some of their members who highlighted their products. These Buzz evenings are a good way for Tewantin Visitor Information Centre and Parkyn's Hut volunteers to mingle and catch up on the latest news.

Keep your eyes on the Famil notice board for the latest news on any upcoming Famils.

The Yin & Yang Of Noosa On Weekender

In case you missed the Weekender Noosa episode on Channel Seven, you can now watch all the segments online. Titled The Yin and Yang of Noosa, the program showcases Noosa from bush to beach, from action to relaxation and from luxury to low-key.

Watch the separate segments below without an account.

[PART 1](#)

- Noosa Hills Golf Course
- Mitchell English Artist
- Mahi Mahi Fish and Chippery, and El Capitano

[PART 2](#)

- Sanctum Medical Aesthetics
- RACV Noosa Resort
- Noosa eTuk-Tuk
- Lucio's Marina

[PART 3](#)

- Senses Noosa North Shore
- The Noosa Forager
- Equathon Horse Riding Tours

[PART 4](#)

- Noosa Watersports jet ski tours
- Noosa Queen sunset cruise

50 cent Public Transport Fares in South East Queensland

All trips on the Translink network are 50 cents.

The system lets you transfer between services, so you can get on and off buses, trains and ferries but still be charged only for one trip.

There are some time limits, such as a maximum of 1 hour between transfers, up to 3 transfers in one journey, and a time limit of up to 3.5 hours for the longer journeys.

This also applies to there and back journeys, where you can pop up to the shops on the bus, shop, and return home while only being charged for one journey if you don't exceed the time limits.

So a trip of a few stops up to the shops will cost 50 cents, but so would a bus, train journey from Brisbane to the Sunshine Coast.

Need help with Smart Ticketing?

For more information about Smart Ticketing visit translink.com.au or call the 24/7 Translink contact centre on 13 12 30.

You can also try our Ticketing Assistant to view your trip history, and request a fare adjustment if needed.



VALE - Stephen McKernan

HERITAGE: Visitors find Parkyn's Hut very interesting and speak fondly of the heritage memorabilia, photos and information on display.

Special Tewanin Event

Saturday 3 May 9 am – 12 noon

Much ado is happening in Tewanin on Saturday 3 May. Please see Famil notice board for ALL the information.

1875 was a significant year in the development of Tewanin and 150yrs on in 2025 there is a lot to celebrate ...

- The completion of the Gympie to Tewanin Electric Telegraph line.
- Opening of the Tewanin Telegraph station.

- Opening Tewanin School
- Construction of Tewanin Police station & jail
- Grainger Ward sold his 99 acres, enabled Tewanin to expand.
- Robert Alex Richardson first applied for licence to operate The Tewanin Hotel
- Alexander Ramsay pillow first applied for licence to operate Tivoli Hotel.

MARKETS

NOOSA
VISITNOOSA.COM.AU

From riverfront to countryside and by the beach, fill your basket at Noosa's markets.

NOOSA FARMERS MARKET

Noosa Australian Football Club,
Weyba Rd, Noosaville
Every Sunday, 6am-Midday

Nestled among the gum trees, the Noosa Farmers Market has locally produced and seasonal fruit and vegetables. There's organic produce, freshly squeezed juices and great coffee, along with everything for a perfect picnic, from baked breads to locally made tapenades and cheeses to gourmet condiments, fresh flowers and much more.



PEREGIAN MARKETS

Kingfisher Park, Kingfisher Parade,
Peregian Beach
First and third Sunday of each
month, 7am-12.30pm

This beachside market is a platform for emerging designers, jewellery makers, green thumbs, coastal collectors and creatives. The open-air stalls focus on upcycled, recycled, created, designed and home-grown art, fashion and body products, local produce and much more. Live music sets the scene, and our tip is to head there early for a swim at Peregian's patrolled beach.



Updated January 2025. Location: VIC\Fact Sheets\Markets /Jan 2025

POMONA COUNTRY MARKETS



Stan Topper Park, Pomona
Every Saturday, 7-11.30am

At the base of Mt Cooroora in the Noosa hinterland, these markets feature locally made arts, crafts, produce, natural products and more. If you are feeling adventurous, climb the mountain where the Pomona King of the Mountain Festival is run each year.

KIN KIN MARKETS

Kin Kin oval, Main Street, Kin Kin
First Sunday of the month
8am-Midday



This market has locally made or grown products, ceramics and produce; second-hand items; food; and yoga under the trees.

ORIGINAL EUMUNDI MARKETS

Memorial Drive, Eumundi
Every Saturday, 7am-2pm &
Wednesdays, 8am-2pm

One of Australia's favourite markets where they make it, bake, sew it and grow it. Find art, furniture, fashion, gifts, skincare, food and more.



EUMUNDI SQUARE MARKETS

1-8 Napier Road, Eumundi
Saturdays & Wednesdays,
7.30am-2pm

Find more than 80 boutique shops with fashion, gifts, food, art, treasures and live music at Eumundi Square Markets.



Please support our Sponsors

Thank you

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| <p>Noosa Queen Noosa Marina, 2 Parkyn Crt, Tewantin</p> <hr/> | <p>Royal Mail Hotel 120 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin</p> <hr/> | <p>Tewantin Garden Market 93 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Tewantin Noosa RSL 1 Memorial Ave, Tewantin</p> <hr/> | <p>Noosa Harbour Fish Market Noosa Marina, 2 Parkyn Crt, Tewantin</p> <hr/> | <p>The White House Noosa Marina, 2 Parkyn Crt, Tewantin</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Hang Loosa Real Estate Poinciana Ave, Tewantin</p> <hr/> | <p>Noosa Cruiser Restaurant & Bar Noosa Marina, 2 Parkyn Crt, Tewantin</p> <hr/> | <p>Cafe Vin Cino Noosa Marina, 11/2 Parkyn Crt, Tewantin</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Noosa Yacht & Rowing Club Gympie Tce, Noosaville</p> | | |

Please remember to show people where they can check out *This Week In Noosa* and *What's On* through our Tewantin brochure QR code and Tewantin VIC Parkyn's Hut FaceBook page.

Remember ??

PARKYN BROTHERS' HISTORICAL TREK March 2024

All in all, the trek exceeded our expectations. The rain was fitting for a Shire that revolves around its waterways, and the surprises of finding Richard Bray's mine living on as a museum, and stumbling across the true John's Landing, was further connection to our ancestors who had paved the way.

... Nick Parkyn, March 2024



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