

# HUT GOSSIP

Quarterly publication of Parkyn Hut Information Centre

## Hut closure due to World Pandemic



It is important during this time, that we continue as much of the usual things we would do whilst maintaining social distancing and following on the recommendations of our government leaders.

Volunteering provides regular social interaction for many who otherwise may be without that contact.

May I suggest, that during this challenging time of uncertainty, a phone call to your regular shift buddy on your normal roster day may be appropriate. Doesn't need to be a four-hour phone call, but just to keep in touch and ensure we are supporting each other. If you don't have a contact number for your roster buddy, please give me a call and I can assist.

What about letter-writing? The mail is still being delivered and how exciting to receive something other than a bill in the mail box. Just a note to say hello, I am thinking of you.

From what we know, we could be facing a lengthy period of disruption, more than weeks, probably months and then what next?

Let's all do whatever we can to lessen the stress in our communities.

... Davina

## President's Bit

The George Pearce Memorial Seat dedication was well attended. His family was very pleased with three generations attending.

The International Volunteers Day Picnic Brunch at Noosa Woods was terrific. A choir, Ukulele band, Outrigging and Croquet was entertaining.

The Christmas Party at Tewantin Noosa Bowls Club was again fun and the food delicious. Davina Rossiter excelled with her games. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

The Hut was decked out with baubles, tinsel and bows and a Swinging Santa for Christmas.

Australian flags and bunting flew at the Hut for Australia Day and staff wore Aussie hats.

... Elvie Johns

## Happy Easter to all our Vollies and their families.

May you find the Easter Bunny's secret stash & enjoy an Easter that is filled with fun, love & lots of chocolate !!



# A look around Pomona

with Gail McBurney



On Tuesday, 10 March a small group of enthusiastic volunteers boarded the bus to head to Pomona. First stop was the magnificent Majestic Theatre where we were told a bit of the history then treated to a Buster Keaton silent movie. There certainly was lots of noise, mainly laughing coming from the audience and the accompanying organ playing really set the scene.

Did you know the Majestic Theatre is one of only a few pre-World War II picture theatres remaining in Queensland? Most have been demolished or re-purposed. It is also Queensland's longest continuously operating picture theatre. Built in 1921, it is also the oldest authentic silent movie theatre in the world.

Our next stop was the Noosa Shire Museum just a stroll up the road from the theatre. We had a nice morning tea from the Orange Cafe, then went about exploring the many displays in the Museum.

It was nice to see so many items from pioneering families on display and, to my surprise, amongst the House of Bottles memorabilia I found photos of myself and my family ... you just never know what you'll find in the Museum do you?

The staff at the Museum were very helpful and knowledgeable.

Did you know the building built in 1911 was the home of the Noosa Shire Council until 1980 when they moved to more luxurious and spacious offices in Tewantin.

Did you know that the premises next door to the Museum house Page Furnishings? The Page family has achieved 100 years of continuous furniture manufacturing, surviving such things as fires and floods. What a huge effort!

We then encouraged everyone to have a bit of a look around Pomona and grab a bite to eat.

We ended our visit to Pomona at the Railway Galleries where they have some interesting artwork on display as well as a small gift shop with some really unique gifts. This is also the place for visitors to gather brochures and information about the town.

A big thanks to Peter Burfoot for being our trusted bus driver on the day.

**Foot note.** Pomona is also home to the King of the Mountain race in July every year. It's a great event and brings people from far and wide to compete and/or join in the festivities.

Also ... Pomona is now home to its own Gin Distillery. Unfortunately it wasn't open on Tuesdays!



Who is old enough to remember what a douche looked like?



# POMONA

## *the Historical Centre of the Noosa Biosphere*

Tewantin Heritage Historian, Gail arranged a familiarisation day to check out the attractions in Pomona.

Tewantin RSL most generously made one of their community vehicles available and our bus driver Vollie Peter took the wheel for the short journey out to Pomona.

On arrival our first stop was the Majestic Theatre, whose claim to fame is the longest running silent movie theatre, in the world ... or any other big place.

Organist Ron West gave an enlightening address to the VOLLIES and informed us that the theatre would be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2021.

Then it was time to roll the projector and we were in for much laughter with Buster Keaton's production of Seven Chances. Ron played the organ throughout, much to the delight of the audience. On conclusion of the picture ... definitely not called movies back in the day ... we had an opportunity to view the magnificent pipe system which produces the sound from the organ. Surely, this is SO special to have in our community!

Check the website [www.themajestictheatre.com.au](http://www.themajestictheatre.com.au) for What's On and special events

Although the weather was unsettled, we were able to walk to our next venue, The Noosa Museum. A delicious morning tea of house made cake and slice from the Orange Cafe was served inside the Museum due to the scudding showers outside.

Orange Cafe, Pomona Facebook page for opening times  
Museum Volunteer Heather was delighted to give us an overview of the various displays within the Museum and the volunteers were left to discover interesting family pictures and reminisce on how we used certain tools and appliances.



Following on from the Museum visit, Volunteers were encouraged to discover the points of interest on the Pomona Heritage Walk.

Museum Opening Hours, Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday and Saturday 10am to 3pm

[www.noosamuseum.org.au](http://www.noosamuseum.org.au)

After such a generous morning tea, a light snack was all that most required for lunch and the Bakery proved popular for house made pies and sausage rolls.



The exploration of Pomona was rounded out by a visit to the Railway Station Gallery to view the many forms of creative endeavour on display.

[www.pomonartgallery.com](http://www.pomonartgallery.com)

Important to check opening times, before sending our visitors to Pomona, but there is much to enjoy.

... Davina Rossiter

## Noosa Regional Heritage Meeting ...

Elvie and I recently attended the Noosa Regional Heritage meeting held in the Noosa Library at which I announced to the group that we had recently won the Awards for the "Best Visitor Information Centre in Queensland" run entirely by volunteers and also that we'd won the "Community Engagement Award" for our annual Heritage Walk. Everyone was very impressed!

After our meeting the Mayor and Councillors arrived to launch the new Cemeteries database for the whole Shire which is now available through the Council website.

We finished the afternoon with a cuppa and a piece of very creative cake.

... Gail McBurney

# New online tool to help find ancestors' graves

21<sup>st</sup> February 2020



Staff from Council's Heritage, IT and Cemeteries teams have worked together to compile the new online database that allows history buffs and family historians to search for their ancestors' local graves, and in some cases view a picture of the headstone, from anywhere in the world.

## Grave search now live

Family history buffs looking to confirm whether their ancestors were laid to rest in Noosa can now search thousands of online burial records, dating back to the late 1800s.

"The online portal provides access to more than 5500 records with just a few clicks of the mouse, and from anywhere in the world," Noosa Heritage Coordinator, Jane Harding said.

"This will be a huge help to family historians and anyone researching Noosa's local history." Search results include the grave's location within the cemetery, with a link to a map, and in some cases, a picture of the headstone.

**"Researching family history is a popular hobby worldwide and as records have increasingly become available online, researchers expect to be able to access them this way."**

"The local history community eagerly awaits Noosa Council's launch of this service and it will be enthusiastically embraced by researchers worldwide."

Noosa Council owns and maintains cemeteries at Pomona, Cooroy and Tewantin.

"The oldest documented local burials took place in the early 1870s, which was when European settlement began here," Ms Harding said.

A small team of Council Environmental Health staff spent many hours checking historical records against thousands of graves.

"This project has been a massive feat for such a small team, and the speed at which they've done it is remarkable," Environmental Health Coordinator, Sunil Kushor said.

Ms Harding said Council welcomed input from any researchers who may be able to help fill in any gaps that still exist in the historical records.

"The database includes about 150 years of records that have been maintained by many different entities over the years, so as with all historical data there are some missing or incomplete entries."

Ms Harding said researching ancestry had become a popular pastime, and it had led to a new form of tourism.

"Researching family history is fascinating and many people take the opportunity to travel to places where their ancestors lived to explore and get a feel for the place. We look forward to welcoming family historians to Noosa in their quest to learn more about their ancestors."

To search the database, visit Council's [website](#).

... reprinted courtesy Noosa Council

*Six of the best with*

**Barbara Shellshear**

**Q1. Where do you originate from?**

Sydney

**Q2. What do you like to do to relax or chill out?**

Listen to music

Do jigsaws

Spend time with friends

Crosswords,

**Q3. Where are your favourite local places to eat?**

China Jade

Mad Meg's

Pier 11

Noosa Golf Club

**Q4. Share any great local experiences that you have enjoyed?**

20 years ago the Noosa Beach Party was fabulous and the years we had Christmas On Hastings was great.

The night we de-amalgamated and the whole town celebrated.

**Q5. Name 3 of your favourite places to visit, or things to do locally?**

Hiring a boat and going for a picnic on the North Shore  
Relaxing at Hilton Esplanade  
Friday nights at the Marina.

**Q6. What do you love about living here?**

The friendly people, beautiful scenery, fresh air, good weather.  
We're very lucky!

# 2020 EVERGLADES FAMIL

*with thanks ... Gillian Whittington*

I have recently been lucky enough to be accepted as a vullie at the Parkyn Hut. I was then even luckier to be offered a wonderful day out, for free and my husband half price, for a Famil to the Everglades. It was in the midst of a wet week so rain was expected, but the day turned out to be beautiful with only one very brief shower when we crossed Lake Cootharaba to reach the Everglades.

Habitat Noosa, which runs the trips, has been operating a pleasant glamping and cabins camp, beyond Boreen Point, for the last two years or so. They sent a very cheerful bus driver to pick us up on Gympie Terrace and drive the 20 or so kilometres to the camp and our boat.

The boat holds about 25 people, is open, flat, with a roof and zip-up Perspex windows available for when it rains, giving 360 degree unimpeded views. Our boat operator and guide, Trevor, has been doing this for over 30 years, so was very knowledgeable, friendly and low key.

We saw a sea eagle soaring on the wind currents as we crossed Lake Cootharaba. As soon as we entered the Everglades Trevor showed us a tiny island on which were perched the biggest Pelicans you have ever seen and some cormorants! A bit further along we saw six black swans! The Everglades themselves are a peaceful, beautiful world of their own ... slow moving channels of water with mangroves and other vegetation on either side hanging over the water which captures the light in dark and light and perfect reflections. It is absolutely quiet except for birdsong. The boat makes very little sound. We saw where wild turkeys were making a very large mound by a tree near the water.

We stopped for a snack at Harry's Hut, a cabin once-used as a holiday retreat for its past owner, Harry Smith, but now disused and protected within the National Park with a camp area nearby for daytime use only.

The welcome snack was brought by Trevor, hot tea or coffee, milk/sugar, juices, water, biscuits, cake and watermelon. All residue returned to the boat. Hybrid composting toilets.

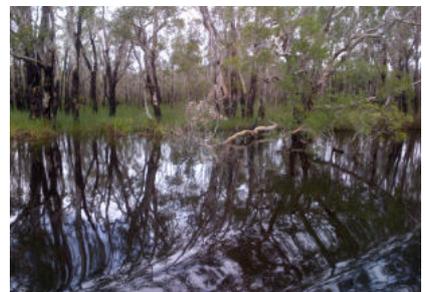
We took a few different channels on the way back and at Fig Point most passengers took to kayaks, previously booked, or walked along what proved to be a mozzie inhabited trail. We and another couple enjoyed another tour of the Everglades in the boat until the kayakers were done exploring the channels after 45 minutes, to find two Swedish lads had capsized their kayak and had to walk it back through the shallow water! They took the resultant gentle ribbing in good part! We had seen a variety of water birds and heard and seen other birds in the bush as we passed in the boat. Trevor was a mine of information about them and the flora and fauna. A magical trip all told, lasting from 9:30pm to 1pm approx.

Our passengers were eight Canadians, including us! Ten Swedes and six Australians, mostly from all parts beyond Queensland, mainly under 35, intent on enjoying themselves ... which we did!

Right by the track from the boat only we noticed a red bellied black snake curled up and watching us in the grass! The others had passed in blithe ignorance! There were kangaroos there in the camp, seemingly on cue., as though ready for the delighted international visitors to photograph them! They come in every afternoon. We were told that by evening there are about a hundred!

We had a good lunch at 1:30pm of roast chicken with roast potatoes, corn, two types of salad, then chocolate brownies for dessert. Drinks to buy were available at the bar. Lunch was served inside a large room, with air conditioning. Flush toilets available!

The bus left for Noosa at 2:30, returning us by 3pm to each site along the river where we had been picked up that morning. Can highly recommend this as a most enjoyable day!



## Events



**Noosa Classic 2020**  
When: Sun 16 August  
Registrations are now open.  
Website  
<http://noosaclassic.com.au>



**Noosa Beach Classic Car Show**  
When: Sun 4 October  
Where: Lions Park, Noosa Hds  
Spectators \$10  
Car entry - book online  
Website  
<https://www.noosacarclub.com.au>



**Noosa Triathlon Multi Sport Festival**  
When: 26 October-1 November  
2019 sold out in 6 hours  
Website  
<https://noosatri.com.au>



**Noosa Hill Climb - Summer**  
When: Sat 7 & Sun 8 November  
Adult spectators \$20  
Website  
<https://www.noosacarclub.com.au>

## Events Cancelled

AUSTRALIAN BODY ART FESTIVAL  
CANCELLED  
[APR 4, 2020-APR 5, 2020](#)

DAVID WILLIAMSON'S CRUNCH TIME  
CANCELLED  
[APR 16, 2020-APR 18, 2020](#)

NOOSA EAT & DRINK FESTIVAL  
CANCELLED  
[MAY 14, 2020-MAY 17, 2020](#)

RUNAWAY NOOSA MARATHON  
POSTPONED - NEW VENUE & DATE TBA  
[MAY 23, 2020](#)

THE NOOSA HILL CLIMB - WINTER 2020  
POSTPONED - DATE TBC  
[JUN 6, 2020-JUN 7, 2020](#)

NOOSA ALIVE!  
CANCELLED  
[JUL 17, 2020-JUL 26, 2020](#)

NOOSA OPEN STUDIOS 2020  
POSTPONED - DATE TBC  
[AUG 14, 2020-AUG 23, 2020](#)

WELLNESS TOURISM SUMMIT  
POSTPONED TO 3/4 SEPT 2020  
[SEP 3, 2020-SEP 4, 2020](#)

# Farewell Ron Strudwick

by Michael & Patsy Fayne



Above: L-R Davina Rossiter, Olive Donaldson, Ron Strudwick, Gail McBurney & Eddie

Ron attended his last shift at The Hut on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March  
That cake certainly did the rounds Ronnie !!



Right-L-R Ron Strudwick, with wife Marlene and Peter Burfoot

Ron and Marlene Strudwick, long time volunteers at Parkyn's Hut and the Noosa Hospital are relocating back to South Australia to be closer to family.

Thank you Ron and Marlene for all you have done for our Noosa community during your 17 years of volunteering.

Safe travels and a happy and healthy 'retirement'.

## Phantom Plaque Placer ...

When we are all allowed out and about again you will notice that a phantom plaque placer has visited us and placed a more visible and meaningful plaque on our conversation seat. 🍷🍷👍





Please support our sponsors ...

<p><b>Noosa Ferry</b> Noosa Marina, 7/2 Parkyn Court, Tewantin</p>	<p><b>Noosa RSL</b> 1 Memorial Ave, Tewantin</p>
<p><b>Noosa Queen</b> Noosa Marina, 2 Parkyn Court, Tewantin</p>	<p><b>Hang Loosa Noosa Property</b> Poinciana Ave, Tewantin</p>
<p><b>Noosa Yacht &amp; Rowing Club</b> Gympie Terrace, Noosaville</p>	<p><b>Pier 11 Restaurant</b> Noosa Marina, 2 Parkyn Court, Tewantin</p>
<p><b>Bunnings</b> Cnr Eumundi Road &amp; Gateway Drive, Noosaville</p>	<p><b>Noosaville Fish Market</b> 11 Hilton Terrace, Noosaville</p>
<p><b>Tewantin Post Office</b> 125 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin</p>	<p><b>John Bird</b> 6 The Atrium, 91 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin</p>
<p><b>Royal Mail Hotel</b> 120 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin</p>	<p><b>Davos Tackle World</b> Shop 6, Noosa Homemaker Centre, Mary St, Noosaville</p>
<p><b>Bloom Hearing Specialists</b> The Atrium, Shop 1, 91 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin</p>	<p><b>Montezumas</b> 81 Noosa Dr, Noosa Junction Plaza, Noosa Heads</p>
<p><b>Noosa Oceanrider</b> Noosa Marina, Tewantin</p>	<p><b>Fugu</b> 1/109 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin</p>
<p><b>Dan Murphy's</b> 15-21 Mary Street, Noosaville</p>	<p><b>White House</b> Noosa Marina, 2 Parkyn Court, Tewantin</p>
<p><b>Birkies</b> Noosa Marina, 2 Parkyn Court, Tewantin</p>	