

HUT GOSSIP

Quarterly publication of Parkyn Hut Information Centre

NOOSA ... A Top Tourist Town

Congratulations to the towns of **Noosa** and **Agnes Water** - winners of the inaugural 2021 **Top Tourism Town Awards**, announced last week.

With 37 outstanding finalists across the state competing for the top award, The Top Tourism Town Awards recognise the operators and communities who have worked hard to create great visitor experiences.

These awards recognise and celebrate towns that excel in providing an outstanding visitor experience, congratulations to all entrants.

Noosa, which won the Top Tourism Town Award, will receive a \$25,000 Strategic Consulting and Capacity Building Package provided by **EarthCheck** and Agnes Water, which took out the Top Small Tourism Town Award, will receive a \$7,500 Tourism Consultancy and Development Package provided by **The Tourism Group**.

Both Queensland winners will be in the running for Australia's Top Tourism Awards which will be announced in Canberra in late August.



President's Bit

Thank goodness the weather has improved - back to our sunshine and fresh mornings. We continue to observe COVID restrictions ... distancing, disinfecting, digital app, but no face masks.

The front steps to our Hut have been renewed together with the Hut corners - "thank you Noosa Council!"

A Famil to Sunshine Butterflies, our local disability support charity, proved to be both surprising and interesting. Lucy, Ally and Heather escorted our group on a two-hour tour of the landscaped gardens, animals, Jimmy the donkey, horses, calves, birds, ducks, guinea fowl, chickens, etc.

We visited a Men's Shed where they were busily making squatter's chairs. The Shed was fitted out with a range of tools tidily arranged and plenty of machinery.

The Drama Class entertained us with an item, "Dancing Queen". There was plenty of singing with actions and we gave them some rousing applause.

Morning tea/coffee with scones, jam and cream was served and enjoyed under the trees.

On May 16, we celebrated National Volunteers Day at the Noosa Yacht & Rowing Club which extended us a warm welcome and provided its usual very substantial breakfast. As always, this event was very well attended by our Vollies.

Tourism Noosa launched the new visual display "Welcome to Kabi Kabi Country" (see more overleaf)

... Evie Johns
President



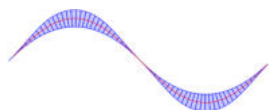
Congratulations Richard !!



Sandy Bolton MP is in **Tewantin, Queensland.**

June 10 at 6:09 PM · Facebook for Android · 🌐

CONGRATULATIONS RICHARD CARTER!! 🙌🙌 – We have so many incredible volunteers, and it was lovely during prepping for Budget 2021 to drop in to view Richard's SES medallions in recognition of 35 years of service. Now retiring from active duty due to his back, he still travels from his new abode at Nambour to dedicate time to welcoming our visitors at Tewantin Heritage Parkyns Hut. Even a lack of affordable housing here has not dulled his ongoing commitment to our community, bussing his way back to us ❤️ Thank you Richard, you are inspirational and we hope one day we can get you back to live where you belong. #localheroes #appreciation #teamnoosa 🍌



The organisation has areas they lease for meetings, gatherings, parties and events. And later this year hoping to have the cafe and gift shop open for the public to visit, come sit in the gardens and enjoy a morning tea or bite to eat.

When this happens it would be a treat to revisit as there seems to be something always changing, being tweaked or unfolding. It would be a delight to see you again.

Thank You Sunshine Butterflies 🦋

PARKYN HUT FAMIL TO SUNSHINE BUTTERFLIES

Friday 14th May 2021, 9 volunteers, 2 hours.

WOW, how good did this place feel! We all left feeling enlightened and happy after a beautiful morning at Sunshine Butterflies.

Sunshine Butterflies Disability Support Organisation 5 acre oasis 'Our Backyard' 468 McKinnon Dr, Cooribah. Appointment only or booking to visit an event.

From the first step into this beautiful property you felt happy, then meeting Lucy, Heather and Ali our tour leaders for the morning, their effervescence bubbled over. It was contagious.

We had a brief in the Training and Education room, then a rendition from SB 'Drama Kings and Queens' program members of ABBA's 'Dancing Queen' it was fabulous, exciting, entertaining, loved it. Followed by a stroll through the gardens, animal husbandry, then settling in a peaceful spot for coffee & fabulous homemade scones, after continuing onto the work shed areas. Everyone, everything, every area was welcoming, enthused, lively and a delight to explore.

This organisation has been unravelling and developing over the years to provide support, noticing situations that have been desperately missed, so it is always improving, finding opportunities to better the life for our disability families, and community groups.



Six of the best with

Rita Rowell

Q1. Where do you originate from?

I was born in Monto and grew up on a farm outside Mundubbera, in Qld. I came here in 1974.

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

These days I read to relax.

Q3. Where are your favourite local places to eat?

Acres Cafe, The Marina and for takeaway ... Fish 'n' Chips or Pizza from the Outlook Shopping Centre in St Andrews Drive.

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

My most enjoyable local experience was my years as a member of the Tewantin Tennis Club, playing fixtures and social tennis with members who became 'locals' after moving here from all over Australia and overseas.

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

Buy a coffee & sit along the riverfront. A trip up to the Everglades. The Ginger Factory.

Q6. What do you love about living here?

The Climate

The 'laid back, comfortable lifestyle.

The diversity of people who live or visit here.

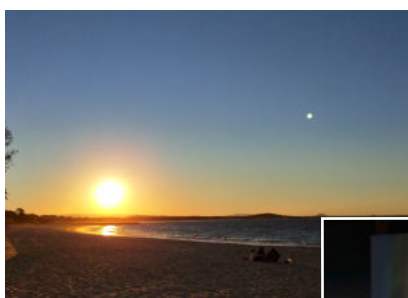
WELCOME TO KABI KABI

Welcome to Kabi Kabi Country, a Visual Experience Launch, Thursday 10 June, was well attended.

Volunteers from Noosa Parks Association, Noosa National Park, Hastings St Info Centre and Parkyn's Hut, were present.

Guest speakers Jasmin Boyd & Juanita Terry from Tourism Noosa, Sandy Bolton, Noosa MP and Brian Warner, representing Reconciliation Australia. It will screen every evening from Friday 11 June @ 7pm, on the glass exterior of the Noosa Visitor Information Centre.

Visitors walking past and nearby will be able to experience this beautiful presentation that honours the spirit and country of the Gubbi Gubbi.



The indigenous people of Australia have a rich culture stretching back at least 50,000 years making it the oldest living culture on Earth.

Every part of Australia is Aboriginal country and every part of that country has a series of stories and experiences that are unique to that place. What connects all indigenous people is a strong connection to its natural environment, landscapes and past and future generations.

Noosa is home to the Kabi Kabi people whose land stretches roughly 100km south and 150km north of Noosa. It is important that we all pay our respects to the traditional owners of this land – past, present and future – and their rich history.



pixtastock.com - 70466594

This virtual marketplace is your one stop shop for everything Eat & Drink in Noosa and what is open now!

Designed to support local businesses you will find everything from heat and eat meals, takeaway meals including delivery, butchers, bakers, grocers, fruit and vegetables shops, seafood, coffee, eggs and dairy.

<https://eatlocalnoosa.com.au/?>

Famil to Boreen Point & Elanda Point

... report compiled by Bill & Helga

Explore/Familiarisation Day: May 20, 2021

On a sunny Thursday morning at 9:15, 15 vollies, including Peter, our driver of the RSL bus, headed off to Boreen Point for a day's exploration of that area's tourist attractions.

Boreen Point, with a permanent population of about 300-350 residents, is located on the West side of Lake Cootharaba. This lake, about 10 km long and 5 km wide, is Queensland's largest natural saltwater lake, and is also the gateway at its northern end to Australia's only Everglades system, and to the Great Sandy National Park Cooloola Recreation Area. Being quite shallow, the lake is ideal for sailing, swimming and kayaking, making it a great destination for families on holiday.

APOLLONIAN HOTEL

Our first stop was at the historic Apollonian Hotel, built in Gympie back in the Gold Rush days. While the hotel was first licensed in 1868 in Gympie, the current building was built in 1870 as a music hall hotel and it has never been altered. The Hotel was relocated to Boreen Point in 1987 by current owner Neil Paynter, and was awarded No 2 Historic Inn licence in Queensland. The hotel is one of the last remaining music hall hotels built of hoop pine and red cedar, and has a fascinating history of entertainment from Cornish and Devon Wrestling to Opera.

Neil Paynter, who currently owns and runs the hotel along with his wife Lou and son George, spoke to our group about the hotel's history, and about the relocation from Gympie in 1987 to the current 1 hectare site.

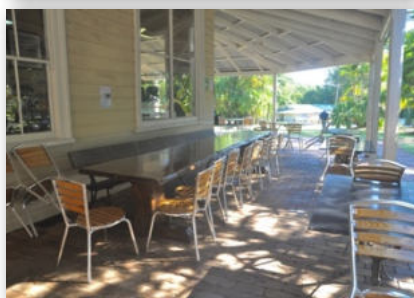
The hotel is situated in a lovely bush setting, with a vegetable garden and very attractive sitting and dining areas.

The hotel had been run since its relocation in 1987 by several different lessees, but is now, as mentioned, run by Neil and family. The décor inside is pretty much as originally, with a lot of memorabilia in framed pictures and in glass cabinets. The hotel is famous for its Friday night music sessions, with regular ukulele and blues groups performing. It was also famous for its Sunday spit-roasts and smorgasbords, which have sadly been discontinued during the current Covid crisis. However, other pub meals are fully available. Neil also mentioned that fresh mullet has been supplied for the past 30 years from the same local vendor. Lou runs a local farm with bees and cattle.

Accommodation is available in 10 recently renovated units on the hotel property (shared bathroom and kitchen facilities) at \$85 per night.

Here are several useful links for additional information:

- **Website:**
<https://theapollonianhotel.com>
- **Promotional video:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDgHYptTVCs>
- **Neil Paynter and hotel history:**
<https://qha.org.au/feature-historic-iconic/>



Famil to Boreen Point & Elanda Point

... cont'd

LAKE ESCAPADES

Owner/operator Rob runs the "Lake Escapades" business 4-5 days a week from right on the water's edge in Boreen Point on council land. All boats and equipment are kept off-site at Rob's house in Boreen Point, and are brought down to the water as required.

The business offers single or multiple day paddling trips by canoe or kayak to the Noosa Everglades, runabout hire (no licence required), camping equipment for hire, water taxi and sight-seeing services. Stand-up paddle boards and pushbikes are also available.

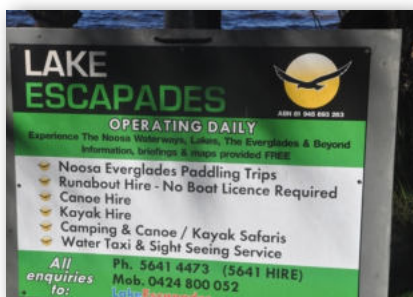
For clients who want to travel up through the Everglades, Rob offers an alternate launching place at Elanda Point much closer to the entrance to the Upper Noosa River.

All boat users are given a Water Safety Talk before heading off, and all craft are fitted with a GPS locator in case the client loses their way. Maps are also provided.

Rob does not take a deposit or pre-payment, and there are no cancellation fees. Payment can be by cash, card or direct deposit.

Website:

<https://www.lakeescapades.com.au/>



BOREEN POINT CAMPGROUND

The Boreen Point Campground is council-owned, and is situated right on the shore of Lake Cootharaba. It is operated by private contractors: we met with Brodie (left in photo below), who is the facilitator of both Boreen Point and North Shore camping grounds, as well as meeting Warwick (on the right), who manages Boreen Point.

The upgraded facility offers modern amenities, complete with family rooms, additional toilets and brand new tiling, paint, showers, sinks, mirrors, benches and other fixtures and fittings. Guests will enjoy a more contemporary, comfortable, safe and family-friendly holiday experience for years to come.

This campground is not on town water. Drinking water is available for guests, however guests should make arrangements to bring their own drinking water before arrival.

Dogs are allowed (in caravans or motorhomes only, with prior application, and not during school holidays).

Daily fees are about \$33 to \$39 for unpowered sites, and an extra \$5 for powered sites. There are 120 sites all together, with 20 powered.

Park facilities include:

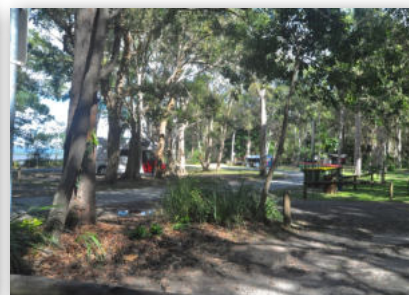
- Camp kitchen with gas BBQ's
- Hot showers & flushing toilets (bore water)
- A septic dump point
- A charging station for personal electronic items



As mentioned earlier, the clear water of the lake is quite shallow making for a safe clean environment to swim and play. A family pub and general store are within easy walking distance. Kayaks and stand-up paddle boards are available from the office.

Website:

<https://www.noosaholidayparks.com.au/boreen-point>



Famil to Boreen Point & Elanda Point

... cont'd

HABITAT NOOSA - EVERGLADES ECOCAMP

We re-boarded the bus to head off to Elanda Point, well behind schedule. As a result, we had to forego the planned walk to Mill Point.

Here are some links to follow if you wish to expand your knowledge of this part of Noosa history:

- **Mill Point Walk:**
<https://parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/cooloola/journeys/mill-point-circuit>
- **History of Mill Point timber town:**
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mill_Point_Settlement_Site
- **See also (in FAMIL folder for this date) Carol's "A Short History Mill Point"**

Located 25 minutes north of Noosa, HabitatNoosa Everglades Ecocamp is one of Queensland's most exciting Eco-tourism products. The much-loved camping ground on 65 acres of natural bushland (previously known as Elanda Point Education Centre and Adventure Park) has undergone extensive revitalisation to provide onsite cabin, camping, motorhome and glamping accommodation, along with renovated amenities.

Kelly Cattanach (Marketing & Business Development) was our host. Kelly has had much experience in managing projects around Queensland prior to her taking her current position at Habitat Noosa.

The excellent CootharaBar restaurant operates 7/7 for lunch and dinner, and is open earlier for coffee and snacks. The restaurant has its own brewery and bar.

There are several different camping options available:

- 23 waterfront unpowered sites,
- 61 unpowered sites behind the waterfront sites,
- 28 solar-powered sites with back-up mains power,
- 13 'Wilderness' permanent tents; powered, but with no bathroom facilities,
- 18 'Paperbark' luxury glamping tents; powered, and with shower and toilet,
- Reserved area with cabins for groups.

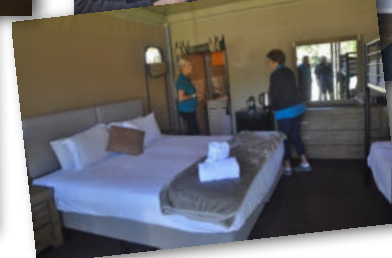
No domestic pets are allowed. There is a camp kitchen with BBQs and fridge. Bikes and water craft are available for hire. There is also a 9-hole golf course, although we didn't have a chance to see it.

Enclosed fire-pits are now allowed in National Parks; we saw one being constructed near the restaurant.

The Everglades region hosts some 44% of Australian bird species. Trips by boat from Elanda Point run every day (weather permitting), with optional canoes available for client use for the last part of trip to/from Harry's Hut. A shuttle bus picks up clients from the Noosa area.

We were treated to an excellent sandwich lunch, after which Peter drove us back to Tewantin. This concluded a very busy and informative day!

- **Website:**
<https://www.habitatnoosa.com.au/>



National Volunteers' Day Breakfast

... submitted to Noosa Today by Patsy Fayne



The Parkyn's Hut family of volunteers celebrated 2021 National Volunteers' Week with a special breakfast hosted by the Noosa Yacht & Rowing Club.

What an excellent venue, on a beautiful Noosa morning to reward these wonderful volunteers who man the tourist information centre in Tewantin.

It also provided a great opportunity for those present to wish our founding member and Historian, Gail McBurney, a wonderful 60th birthday!



Tania holding the postcard sent to VOLLIES by Gail & Kerrie during their holiday in Tasmania as part of Gail's 60th birthday celebrations.

Networking at Noosa Surf Fest





Parkyn Hut celebrates 20 years

... by Patsy Fayne



Parkyn's Hut Visitor Information Centre, Tewantin is celebrating a birthday this month. It has been 20 years since the Hut became the local Visitor Information Centre for the town.

Staffed entirely by volunteers, these dedicated locals have been treated to an afternoon on the Noosa River courtesy of Captain Chris and his boat, the Noosa Queen which is also celebrating a 50 year milestone of cruising the Noosa River.

Besides the birthday celebrations, the delicious treats and beverages and the fun and fellowship enjoyed, certificates of service were presented by President, Elvie Johns and Vice President, Michael Fayne.

Would you believe that both Gail McBurney and Liz McDonald have been volunteering for all those 20 years!! Happy Birthday Parkyn's Hut Tewantin !!

Here's another important birthday milestone ... 150 years!



Did you know that the township of Tewantin was proclaimed as an area 150 years ago?

In July 1871 the Government surveyed the area on the high peninsular between the Noosa River and Lake Doonella. The site was encircled with mangroves, swamps and rain forest. Governor Blackall proclaimed 640 acres as the 'town of Tewantin'.

There is a story behind the Town of Tewantin proclamation. Need more? Come visit us to get the info. Our Historian Gail McBurney, has a great understanding of our local heritage and she keeps all the volunteers updated. Tewantin Heritage and Historical Society is based in that little old miner's cottage, Parkyn's Hut beside the main square in Tewantin, next to the Royal Mail Hotel.

New volunteers are always welcome at Parkyn's Hut. If you would like to be part of this team of volunteers, just call into the Hut for a chat or phone Tania on 0431 340 162 for more information



Tewantin celebrates new splash of colour



Following the Tewantin Street Party Launch, Tewantin Trader's Association's commissioned murals are proving to be a real feature of Tewantin for both visitors and locals to enjoy ... as wonderful as Beth and Paul's Timeless Tewantin on YouTube.

Two musicians played – Di brown on keyboard and singing with Elvis on bongo drums and James Bingham on double bass, and Andrea Kerwin on guitar. Also the amazing Nova Star Productions stilt walkers roving the streets and Andino the Magician doing magic card tricks in the street.

Mural artist Sarah Sculley, who painted the drain pipes and Bendigo Bank, spent the day doing some kids painting on to calico strips which are going to be tied around trees in Tewantin next week. Sue Hoskin, the mosaic artist that did the four mosaic wall murals, gave a hands-on talk about how to mosaic.

Sabby said she chatted to the artist responsible for the long mural on the wall of Zabe café and adjacent to Woolworths carpark, Andrew Kelaher, who calls himself Grassi.

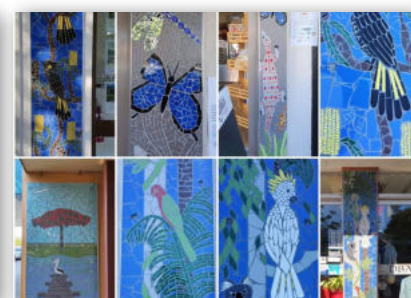
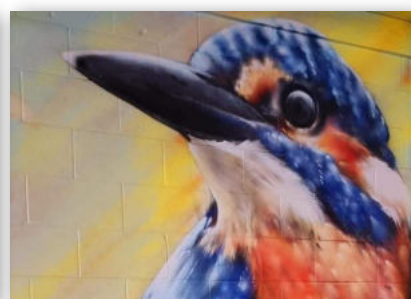
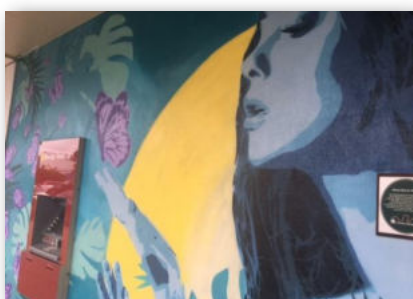
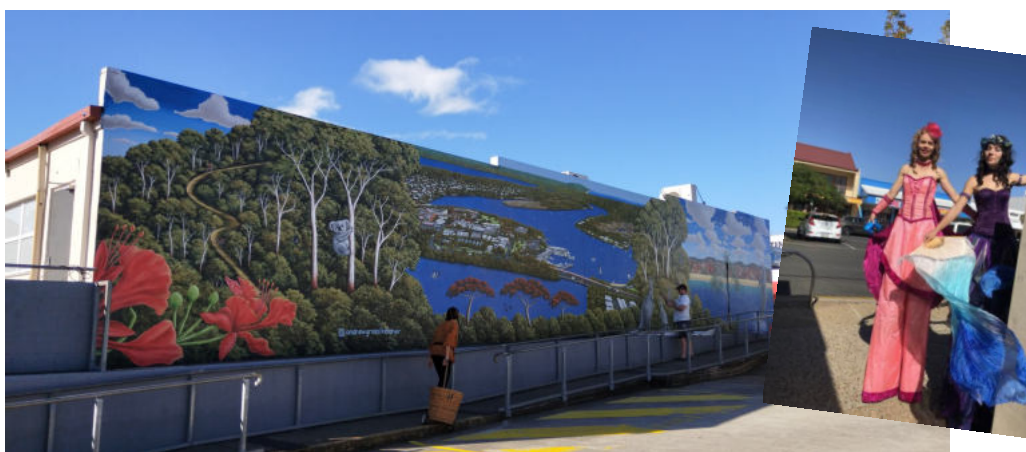
The mural shows Tewantin and its relationship with the river and is therefore so meaningful for visitors and locals alike. It is magnificently done, a real masterpiece. Grassi really understood that a mural not only covers a bare wall but is also an opportunity to express in large picture form, something about the spirit of the town and its inhabitants and their history.

He has beautifully expressed Tewantin's pride in its history and how it has grown, but it has never lost that country neighbourhood feel and friendliness that makes visitors feel so welcome when they come from far away. He has captured the essence of Tewantin!

The Tewantin Plaza Mural artist's name is DRAPL. The subject of the mural is also an artist, from Cooran.

There are 2 additional murals by artists Mark Barnas & Sarah Sculley and 8 beautiful Mosaic panels by artist Sue Hoskin.

... thanks to both Tania Murray and Gilliam Whittington, whose comments have been plagiarised for this article.



Events



Noosa Alive 2021

JUL 15-JUL 24

NOOSA alive! A 10-day arts and cultural festival, bringing exciting performers to venues around Noosa, with a program of events covering theatre, ballet, comedy, visual arts and more.

<https://www.visitnoosa.com.au/products/noosa-alive>



Hell's Gates 38

JUL 17

For the first time ever Noosa will hold a round of the Australian Ocean Racing Series - Hells Gates 38 - a 38km challenge along the coast, finishing in Noosa that will pit some of the world's best ocean ski paddlers against each other and the elements

<https://www.visitnoosa.com.au/products/hells-gates-38>



Pomona : King of the Mountain

JUL 25

The Pomona King of the Mountain Festival is held every year in the Noosa Hinterland town of Pomona. An all-day fun filled event for the whole family, which builds up to the main event, the Bendigo Bank International Mountain Challenge, which sees competitors race up and down Mount Cooroora.

<https://www.visitnoosa.com.au/products/pomona-king-of-the-mountain>



Noosa Enduro

JUL 31

The Noosa Enduro off-road cycling festival returns, with six events over two days through Noosa's stunning hinterland, guiding riders through stunning trails, tracks, mountains and tablelands while tackling some of the Sunshine Coast's most difficult terrain with a mixture of gravel, single track and pitted fields.

<https://www.visitnoosa.com.au/products/noosa-enduro>



Cooloola Farmers Trail

AUG 7 & 8

Experience and taste your way through some of the best, freshest produce around the Noosa region on the Cooloola Farmers Trail, a 2-day self-drive event in August.

<https://www.visitnoosa.com.au/products/cooloola-farmers-trail>



Noosa Classic

AUG 15

Cycle through the Noosa hinterland's villages on the Noosa Classic road cycling gran fondo, with a range of rides through the gorgeous Noosa countryside, then spend the rest of the weekend soaking up Noosa's beautiful holiday vibes.

<https://www.visitnoosa.com.au/products/noosa-classic>



Noosa Triathlon Multi Sport Festival

27-31 OCT

A pinnacle event on the Australian sporting calendar the Noosa tri is ranked one of the world's top 10 triathlons for good reason. When the best athletes, biggest competitor field, beautiful beach-side vibe and week-long festivities of Noosa all come together, there's nowhere else you'll want to be.

<https://noosatri.com.au>



Please support our sponsors ...

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Noosa Yacht & Rowing Club Gympie Terrace, Noosaville	Pier 11 Restaurant Noosa Marina, 2 Parkyn Court, Tewantin
Bunnings Cnr Eumundi Road & Gateway Drive, Noosaville	Noosaville Fish Market 11 Hilton Terrace, Noosaville
Tewantin Post Office 125 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin	John Bird 6 The Atrium, 91 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin
Royal Mail Hotel 120 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin	Davos Tackle World Shop 6, Noosa Homemaker Centre, Mary St, Noosaville
Bloom Hearing Specialists The Atrium, Shop 1, 91 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin	Montezumas 81 Noosa Dr, Noosa Junction Plaza, Noosa Heads
Noosa Oceanrider Noosa Marina, Tewantin	Birkis Noosa Marina, 2 Parkyn Court, Tewantin
Dan Murphy's 15-21 Mary Street, Noosaville	White House Noosa Marina, 2 Parkyn Court, Tewantin

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