



FRIENDS OF BRUNY ISLAND QUARANTINE STATION

September 2026 Newsletter

Since 2011 Friends of Bruny Island Quarantine Station and Parks Tasmania and other collaborators have created a unique experience for visitors to the Quarantine Station and its surrounding 322 acres of State Reserve. Passion, talking collaboration, kind benefactors and supporters and hard volunteer labour have been key elements to its success. Approximately 3000 visitors now visit the Station annually to explore the site and discover more about its history.

The Quarantine Station was built in 1884 to contain the spread of diseases following the increase in international travel, and it had a varied history until it was decommissioned as a plant quarantine station in 1986. The Station is located on the north west of North Bruny and is home to much of Tasmania's endemic flora and fauna.

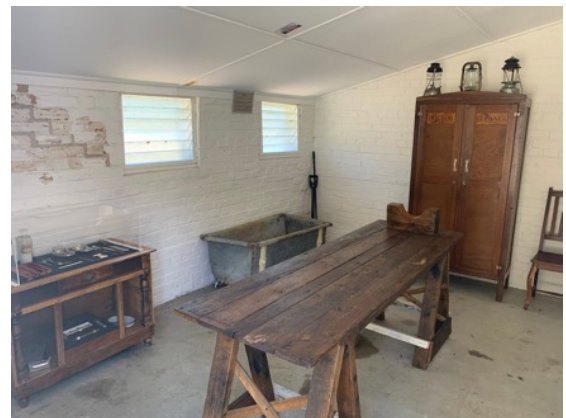
Friends of Bruny Island Quarantine Station are a small committee with a larger volunteer base who work with Parks Tasmania to repair and maintain site buildings and preserve the natural environment around the Quarantine Station.

The Friends of Bruny Island Quarantine Station held its Annual General Meeting on Sunday 23 August 2026 at the Quarantine Station. There was a good roll up of local and 'mainland' people who celebrated the 15 years since the beginnings of the group. As you wander around the Quarantine Station, you will note that a great deal has been achieved during this time.

Formal committee meetings are small and infrequent but our summer working bees focusing on weeds and site buildings are very busy as we work to provide an interesting and informative site for visitors.



Display at Plant Quarantine Building



Mortuary Interior

The Quarantine Station is open to the public 5 days a week (Thur – Mon) with resident Caretakers on site. It's a great way to spend 2-3 hours exploring all aspects of the history and surrounds of the Quarantine Station.



What has been achieved at the Quarantine Station over the last year?

An AGM is a good time to look at what Friends of Bruny Island Quarantine Station has accomplished over the past year.

- The exterior of the Mortuary had some maintenance
- The Cleansing room exterior has been painted
- Cleansing room subfloor and structural repairs
- Doctors House foundation render has been restored
- Fumigation room steps have been restored
- Eastern barracks floor has been removed due to safety reasons
- Replaced roof of the acrylic hothouse with custom made (watertight) polycarbonate
- Interpretative signage been upgraded over the site
- Supervisors and First Nations signage has been designed and installed
- General site clean-up of rubbish
- Barracks building has new Federation style galvanised guttering and downpipes
- Donation Terminal designed and installed
- Treatment of wood borers in Military Store
- Renewal and installation of defibrillator
- Purchase and update of First Aid kits
- Phytopheria education signage installed
- Science Day event October 2025
- Weeding Bees x3 held over the summer
- Cleansing room door lock installed
- Sorting and storage of useful building materials
- Heritage timber and bricks reclaimed and stored
- Summer building site Working Bees



New site signage being prepared



New hot house roof going up



Military Store cupboards

Please contact Rob Banfield (President) 0458 061 003 or Sue Walker (Treasurer) 0438 924 615 should you have any queries, suggestions or wish to help out at the Quarantine Station.

Military Store Restoration

Work on the Military store building (aka Pharmacy) has recently begun. This has been a long term goal of FOBIQS so it's great to see the large cupboards finally dismantled. Some cupboards will need repairing and the flooring reinstated before the cupboards can be replaced. We look forward to this project being complete so that the Military Store interpretive signage can be done and the site building can be opened to the public.



Doctors Residence & Cleansing Room

Spring/Summer Weeding Bees

Spring/Summer Weeding Bees have always been very successful as they tackle Scotch Thistle, Gorse, Spanish Heath, Ragwort and Forget-me-nots on the site. Roz has a varying group of dedicated weeders who camp onsite for 2 nights and spend 2 days pulling out weeds or cutting and pasting other weeds.

A huge thanks to Roz for steering this important project and to Pennicott Foundation who cover the ferry, materials and food costs.



New Interpretive Signage

Thanks to our collaborators during the year..

- FOBIQS Committee and volunteers
- Parks Caretakers
- Parks staff
- Pennicott Foundation
- Kingborough Council
- Landcare Tasmania
- Haymes Paints
- Flying Colours
- Torenus Timbers
- Sealink
- Watsons Timbers
- St John Ambulance
- Wildcare
- BICA
- SETAC



Weeding Bee



Painting the Doctors Residence

Should you wish to make a tax-deductible donation supporting Friends of Bruny Island Quarantine Station's volunteer conservation work here is the link.

<https://wildcaretas.org.au/groups/friends-of-bruny-is-quarantine-station>