

Noojee News

Edition 3

Your Community Newsletter

Spring 2020

The threat of fires, a deadly virus and then it snowed in Noojee

There's no doubt this year so far has been an eventful and challenging one for all of us. Residents and businesses that rallied together to help East Gippslanders after the bushfires earlier in the year are now struggling through a pandemic, but it seems the small community of Noojee is up to the task and continually adapting. As the year draws to a close, there will be more challenges ahead but being prepared; working together and meeting them head on will achieve outcomes that will benefit us all.

When the Corona virus lockdowns finish, and we hope it's soon, the country's borders will be still be closed, which means there will be an influx of tourists to Noojee, possibly more than we've ever seen before. This may also coincide with an upcoming risky fire season. The challenge for the town will be finding ways to contain and manage tourists to minimise damage done to residential and commercial property, to venues, the reserve, camping grounds and natural assets, and to minimise the risk of a bushfire starting in the town.

Noojee CFA

By Colin Booth

As we sit in wet and wintery Noojee, summer can be the farthest thing from our thoughts and another bushfire season seems a long way off. The reality is though that summer is fast approaching and now is the time to be preparing your property and reviewing your survival plan for the coming season.



Noojee CFA fitting heavy snow chains as part of essential winter weather training

There have been many solutions discussed amongst residents, business owners and within community groups throughout the year from lobbying for more amenities to more policing during peak season. Ideas and input from the community is important and community groups are a great platform to add your views. A list of our community groups are on the Noojee Community website: <https://www.noojee.net.au/community> It's hoped that during these difficult times, we can all respect each other's differences, support our local businesses, help each other out and be kind.



Snow in Toorong Road, Noojee - Photo by Sandy Hartman



A house fire recently attended by the CFA in Noojee. Photo by Carolyn Ward

Information about what to consider can be found on the CFA website and as your local brigade we're happy to provide advice. You can contact us through our Facebook page or feel free to have a chat to one of our members.

The Noojee News acknowledges the original inhabitants and traditional custodians of Noojee and surrounds and pays respect to Elders past, present and First Peoples of Australia who live in this district.

From the editor

The Noojee News is an independent publication produced by the Noojee Community, Business and Tourism group to provide information for the town.

If you would like an article, letter or business card ad in the Noojee News

email: noojeeebt@gmail.com

or post to: Noojee News, C/- PO Noojee, 3833

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Wendy Morriss

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Senior man looking for work

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New Noojee resident



Welcome to the world Mavis Jean Duck. Congratulations Simon and Rosie on the arrival of your baby daughter.

Picturesque Toorong Falls Reserve

The Toorong Falls Reserve, located six kilometres north-east of the town, is a 16-hectare area beside the Toorong River and Little Toorong River featuring spectacular Toorong Falls and Amphitheatre Falls, which are a one kilometre walk from the car park.

The Reserve is home to mostly, wet forest types, with the most common over-storey and mid-storey species being mountain grey gum, mountain ash, manna gum, Blackwood and austral mulberry. A variety of ferns thrive in the damp conditions including the necklace fern, soft tree fern, and the long fork-fern. The reserve supports a range of native animals, including the common and mountain brush tailed possum, ring-tailed possum, sugar glider and a variety of bats. Red bellied black snakes are relatively common during warmer periods. If you come across one, keep your distance and remember they are fully protected and are an essential part of the forest ecosystem. Many bird species have been recorded throughout the forest and native freshwater fish including the river blackfish can be found in the river.

Historically, the area was originally the border region between two Aboriginal tribes; The Wurundjeri to the west who were part of the Kulin Nation and the Brayakoloong to the east who mainly lived on the river flats of the Latrobe Valley, and were part of the Kurnai Nation. Evidence of Aboriginal occupation can still be found today throughout the area with the recording of many cultural heritage sites.



Noojee Bush Market

Local produce unique handmade, repurposed or recycled goods, distinctive arts and craft

By Rebecca Baird

Thank you to all who came, helped and had a stall at the last two Noojee Bush Markets, November 2019 and February 2020. They were a great success! The weather was perfect and fun was had by all. Unfortunately, due to the worldwide pandemic of Covid-19 we have decided to cancel the rest of this year's markets and reassess the situation for next year. An update will be in the next Noojee Newsletter in December. We hope you are all doing well and we look forward to seeing you again in the future. Please stay safe and well.

Sponsored by:  Baw Baw Shire Council  Bendigo Bank
Neerim District Community Bank Branch

Sad loss of local identity

Farewelled this year, was well-known local identity Ray Trewin, who passed away on the 24th of June. Ray lived in Noojee for many years until recently due to ill-health. He was a man who loved the town, the bush and his horses and successfully ran Noojee Horse Safaris trail rides. He also instigated and ran the Bushmans Cup as part of Noojee's 'Festival in the Forest', which was an annual event serviced by many local volunteers and attracted thousands of visitors to the area. The funds raised were donated to various not-for-profit community organisations. RIP.

Photo supplied by Carrole Miller



Upcoming Baw Baw Shire Council Elections

October 24 will see Baw Baw Shire Council elections held by postal vote. I have again nominated to be one of your East Ward Councillors. I have over 12 years' experience as a Councillor with a heavy focus on the rural and local communities influenced by my 46 years in the livestock industry. Now retired, I am still farming, and I hope you can again show confidence in me to represent you for the next four years.

Vote 1 Peter Kostos



Major achievements for Noojee and surrounds this year:

- New road maintenance contractor
- Doubling of road maintenance contract to \$8 million, this contract improves the time, quality and the frequency
- Footpath from Heritage Museum to Noojee Hotel
- Refurbishment of tennis court to include a basketball court
- Improvements to the toilet block
- Community suggested outdoor gym
- Ongoing discussions into new toilets and improved facilities for tourists.

Authorised by Roy Lindsay, Yarragon Leongatha Road Yarragon

East Ward
Baw Baw Shire

VOTE 1

Michael
LEANNEY

*"Local Government elections are happening shortly.
My ongoing commitment to you is to
continue to work hard to improve
our community in Noojee & surrounds"*

- Delivering positive results and a fairer deal for Noojee
- Your strong voice at council for small towns, rural and remote areas

Please call me on 0403 233 806 if you have any issues you wish to raise at council

Authorised by M. Leaney, 130 Main Rd, Walhalla 3825

Multifix Property Maintenance

Handyman Services

Jevan Hogben

0413 637 542

whatahandychap@gmail.com

Icy Creek,
Neerim South,
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Fritz Mylius

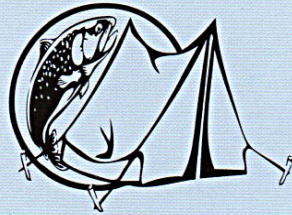
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Phone: 0418 174 110

NOOJEE BUSH GOODS

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Phone 0488 451 850

Little Red Duck Cafe

Phone: 56289613

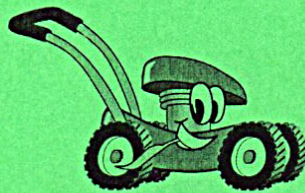
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