

Noojee News

Edition 7

Your Community Newsletter

Spring 2021

Noojee Café and Post Office under new management

The town's popular Little Red Duck Café created and established by Simon and Rosie Duck, who are the proprietors of the hotel, is now operating under new management after being sold to a young local family.

Crystal Petschack, her partner Troy Wawrzik and his father Michael are the proud new owners of the family business that both Crystal and Troy have worked in previously.

Prior to becoming the Little Red Duck Café, the business was known as The Red Parrot Café owned and operated by Narelle Telford and Brian Kennon, where for eight years, Crystal worked part time while attending secondary college and then university.

"I worked every weekend and sometimes after school," she said. "My first task was sweeping and mopping the floors and then over the years, I worked out how to do everything from making coffee to cooking meals."

After finishing her degree, Crystal moved out of the area and worked in a restaurant before coming back to work for Simon and Rosie, initially in their Willow Grove business, then in the café and later becoming manager.

Troy has worked a few shifts in the café, but has generally been the popular front of house face at the hotel for six years and later the manager. Michael has spent 35 years working in the dairy manufacturing industry, generally in production management positions. Crystal said Michael does a lot of behind the scenes legal work and paper work while she and Troy deal with the physical day to day business including managing staff and supplies. "Between us, we have diverse skills so I think we make a great team."

The family have also taken over the Noojee Post Office enabling Narelle to finally take her well-earned retirement.

Narelle and Brian took over the post office more than 10 years ago and have



Troy, Crystal and Michael in the Little Red Duck Café



Crystal and Narelle in the Noojee Post Office

since provided several community services through the town's essential base.

The town's new postmaster is Crystal, who has undertaken some extensive training with Australia Post in Warragul, Melbourne and Noojee. She will be supported in the post office by Troy and Michael.

When asked how it felt to now be in

business she said it feels amazing. "It proves that hard work and dedication pays off. It's what has got me to this point, which is where I've always wanted to be."

The couple, who are also parents of two-year-old Oliver, said they are really happy. They've always wanted to be business owners and this is their first step.

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 under the auspices of the Noojee Hall Committee, to provide information for the town.

If you would like an article, letter or business card ad in the Noojee News email: noojeebt@gmail.com or post to: Noojee News, C/- PO Noojee, 3833

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Wendy Morriss

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Farewell Woolley Dick



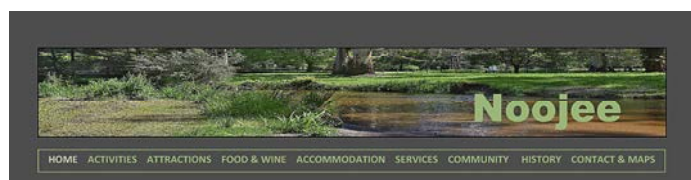
Richard Harry Woolley, known to his friends and neighbours as Woolley Dick passed away suddenly at home on August 18, 2021, aged 86 years.

Richard was a jovial, enthusiastic and popular Noojee resident who will be sadly missed.

He retired in Noojee many years ago with his wife Joyce after working for GMH in Dandenong where they first met, and they both loved their garden. He is survived by his wife and family.

For information on everything you need in Noojee

Visit the Noojee community website: www.noojee.net.au



Thank you Noojee!

By Narelle Telford

I would like to take this opportunity to thank this amazing community for their wonderful support over the last 10 years since taking over the post office. I have really appreciated the many individuals who have been so encouraging, particularly over the past few difficult years.

During my time here I have made many valuable friendships, but I will miss the interaction with all of you.

The post office has been quite a community hub, especially during lockdowns.

I am also though, looking forward very much to the freedom that retirement will bring me and I wish Crystal, Troy and Michael all the best moving forward.

(SEE YOU AT THE BLUE TABLE! :)



Newest Noojee resident

Welcome to the world Bella Joan Parker.

Congratulations Hanno and Sam on the arrival of your baby daughter. Born August 10, 2021.

Noojee - Warragul Bus Service

Monday – Friday

To Warragul

Noojee Primary School	7.45	3.15
Noojee Post Office	7.50	3.20
Neerim Junction General Store	8.00	3.30
Neerim South bus shelter opposite Post Office	8.10	3.40
Rokeby	8.20	3.50
Buln Buln opposite primary school	8.25	3.55
Warragul Cnr Stoddards Road	8.30	4.00
Warragul Barkley Street	8.35	4.05
Warragul Railway Station	8.38*	4.08*

*Connects with 8.54 am V/Line train to Melbourne

*Connects with 4.57 pm V/Line train to Melbourne

To Noojee

Warragul Railway Station	10.20	5.10
Warragul up from McDonalds	10.25	5.15
Warragul Cnr Stoddards Road	10.30	5.18
Buln Buln Primary School	10.35	5.23
Rokeby	10.40	5.28
Neerim South Post Office	10.50	5.35
Neerim Junction General Store	11.00	5.45
Noojee Post Office	11.10	5.55
Noojee Primary School	11.15*	6.00*

*Connects with 9.59 am V/Line train from Melbourne

*Connects with 4.58 pm V/Line train from Melbourne

Noojee – Warragul Bus Service doesn't operate on weekends or public holidays
For more information: contact Warragul Bus Lines 56235377

Noojee United

By Di Johnston

Coordinator of Noojee Community, Business & Tourism group. As you may or may not know, the state government has offered a grant to communities who are in Victorian forestry areas. Noojee is one of 11 towns earmarked to receive funding to plan for the future of our town. This is a long-term plan supported by a \$120 million package to make sure it's not only well prepared but can then be implemented. In so many cases plans are made but then the funds are not available to implement them – not this time! At this stage, on behalf of the community through the NCBT group, we have started the process and put our hands up for the initial grant money of \$360k to be applied for via the Baw Baw Shire Council for the planning phase of the project. This money will be used to employ a dedicated person to be a Noojee Transition Officer who will gather data (how this will be done has not yet been determined) by talking to all stakeholders in Noojee, this includes businesses, groups and individuals, so a clear plan can be put in place. It is envisaged that this role will be for 24 months. Once the planning phase has been completed, we can then apply for the grant funding to implement the plan.

Whoever is selected by the community will sit on the panel with others from the Baw Baw Shire Council and the Latrobe Valley Authority to decide on an individual for this role. Characteristics that need to be considered when putting someone forward to sit on this panel would include someone with the following skills and/or attributes:

- A background in HR (human resources) or PR (public relations) desirable, not essential.
- Attention to detail
- Excellent communication skills
- Sound decision making
- An understanding of the Noojee community and its complexities
- Be available for approximate 3 days of interviewing and decision making in September or October 2021

If YOU think you know of someone within the Noojee community who has these skills and/or attributes or if you would like to receive direct information regarding this grant could you please email Di Johnston dijohnston72@gmail.com

Noojee Hall Committee's AGM

The Hall Committee (Noojee Parks and Reserves Committee Inc) held their annual general meeting in the hall on July 12, chaired by David Vaskass from DELWP.

Wendy Edgar is still the elected president and Narelle Telford the treasurer while Carolyn Ward, who now lives out of the town, chose to resign as secretary if someone else was nominated for the position. Di Johnston was nominated and was then voted in as the new secretary.

Di also replaced Wendy Morriss as the coordinator of the association's subcommittee: the Noojee Community, Business & Tourism group. She was also elected coordinator of the Noojee community market. Wendy Morriss will assist Di and still manage the community website and the community newsletter. On behalf of us all, I'd like to thank Carolyn for her 10 plus years of service to the community through her role as secretary of the association. Well done Carolyn and thank you.

Noojee Bush Market

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

By Di Johnston

Market coordinator

There has been a considerable amount of interest in moving forward with the Noojee Bush Market. Many local people in and around Noojee are interested in having an avenue to earn some extra money, which is terrific and means we don't have to look further afield for stall holders. At this stage much of the organisation of it etc., has been put on hold due to Covid throwing us the usual curve ball of lockdowns and uncertainty. Realistically our first market would be on the last Sunday of October all going well with vaccine rollouts and things opening up in general. There hasn't seemed much point in organising any more regarding the market until we can be certain of being able to go ahead. Let Di know if you have thoughts about having a stall at the Noojee Bush Market or if you would like more information regarding the first market.

Phone 0448411506.



Sponsored by:



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Noojee 2021 floods

Photos by Colin Booth

On Thursday, June 10, after a state-wide storm, the Latrobe River broke its banks and flooded parts of the town. The storm brought down trees and left behind substantial flood damage to homes, roads and public infrastructure. Several roads in the area were flooded or closed due to severe landslides.





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www.rosemonthouse.com.au



Please get in touch with any questions
Di - 0448 411 506
relax@rosemonthouse.com.au
368 Mt Baw Baw Tourist Rd, Noojee



Fritz Mylius

Painter and Decorator

Little
Red Duck 
Cafe

Phone: 56289613
1 Bennett Street, Noojee
Open 7 days a week 8 am - 4 pm



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Contact Roger: Phone 0499 300 351

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"We invite you to join us and
experience the natural beauty and
serenity of Noojee at its best"

Michelle and David Peterson

Toolshed: open Friday to Monday (see website for times)

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