

Noojee News

Edition 6

Your Community Newsletter

Winter 2021

Noojee Charity Duck Race was a winner

The Nooj Pub Annual Charity Duck Race and Family Fun Day held recently, was a huge success after the disappointment of having to cancel last year's event due to Covid restrictions.

The success was due to a great, combined community effort involving several local businesses, schools, organisations and many volunteers. The venue provided by the Noojee Hotel along the Latrobe River was the perfect setting for families to enjoy the various activities including a barbeque, cold drinks, a jumping castle, a lolly and novelty stand, an animal nursery, a display of Variety Bash



Photo by Rayleen Slegers

vehicles, a garage sale and colourful plastic ducks racing in the river.

The event raised almost \$5000 to support Variety Bash Car 3600 'The Bra Bus' with their fund raising for Variety - the Children's Charity Victoria. This brings the amount raised this year by The Bra Bus team for the charity to more than \$20,000. Variety – the Children's Charity supports children and families who are facing many challenges through sickness, disadvantage or living with special needs. This is done through grants,



The Human Duck Race

programs scholarships and children's events.

The Bra Bus team, with the theme of Dr Seuss's Cat in the Hat, are Jan Doull, Garry and Bev Falls, and they are joined this year by Rosie Duck. They thanked the many people who supported them including the hotel, The Little Red Duck Café, Neerim District Community Bendigo Bank, D & C Foods Morwell, Neerim South IGA, Jess Braemer from 'Little Corner Boutique', Noojee Primary School, Noojee Hall Committee, Neerim District Secondary College and the many individuals who helped out leading up to and on the day.

Simon and Rosie Duck with Ruby and baby Mavis



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: noojeebct@gmail.com or post to: Noojee News, C/- PO Noojee, 3833

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Wendy Morriss

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SITE CLOSURE Noojee Trestle Bridge

Forest Fire Management Victoria would like to advise the community that the Noojee Trestle Bridge site will be closed from Monday 31 May for stage one of repair and upgrade works.

The site will re-open in August, and remain open until stage two of the works to upgrade the carpark and access tracks start later this year.

This work is part of Victoria's Great Outdoors, a \$105.6 million investment in better walking trails, campgrounds, four-wheel drive tracks and visitor facilities.



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Noojee CFA News

By Colin Booth



Photo by David Blacker

On Sunday May 16, the Noojee CFA participated in a training exercise with seven neighbouring brigades.

The exercise covered motor vehicle accidents and chemical spills. It was a great opportunity for them to brush up on their skills and to be able to catch up with other brigade members. It's the first exercise like it they've been able to participate in since 2019, due to Covid restrictions.



Have your say about services in your community.

Do you live in Neerim District, Rokeby, Crossover, Jindivick, Nayook, Buln Buln or Noojee?

If so, Baw Baw Shire Council would like to know what community services you need, where and when you need them.

A community survey is available online from 19 May to 2 June 2021.

Scan the QR code to complete the survey.



To make sure we get it right, we are holding community consultations so we can clarify the information from the survey and find out your vision for your community.

Come tell us what you think.

Neerim South	Noojee	Jindivick
Wednesday 16 June	Monday 21 June	Wednesday 23 June
7pm to 8.30pm, Phoenix Room, Neerim South Recreation Reserve	7pm to 8.30pm, Noojee Community Hall	7pm to 8.30pm, Jindivick Hall

bawbawshire.vic.gov.au [bawbawshirecouncil](https://www.facebook.com/bawbawshirecouncil)

For information on everything you need in Noojee
Visit the Noojee community website: www.noojee.net.au



The fate of St Andrews Church

Church services for the Noojee community are now being held in the Noojee Community Hall, after St Andrews Church, which is located next to the hall, was recently found to be unsafe.

Reverend Jim Connelly from the Neerim South Anglican Parish, who leads the Noojee services, said about a month ago, they had a building surveyor and structural engineer examine the church and found it was in danger of collapsing. With the agreement of the congregation, it was decided to hold the services in the hall's supper room.

"As yet a decision has not been made regarding the future of the church," he said. "It's estimated the cost of restoring the building to a sound condition would be \$200,000, which we can't cope with and the difficulty with demolishing the building is that it has a heritage overlay, so it's a problem we've yet to solve."



He said the church had a lovely history. "After the Black Friday Fires in 1939, a group of volunteers built it out of concrete blocks made with Latrobe River gravel. A clergyman, Rev Albert Clarke came to supervise the volunteers making the concrete blocks and building the church and it was opened just before Christmas in 1939, about 10 months after the fires went through. Because it was built by volunteer labour, the foundations were not good, the reinforcing is not good, which is why it's so fragile today but it has lasted 80 years. I think when they built it; they would have been pleased to know that it did last for 80 years."

Church services in the hall are held the first and third Sunday in the month at 9 am and everyone is welcome.



Building St Andrews. Photo supplied by National Library of Australia

State Government transition grant

By Di Johnston

On Wednesday, April 28, the Noojee Community, Business and Tourism group arranged to meet with various government bodies at the hall to discuss an announcement by the State Government that grants would be made available to communities and industries to assist with the transition out of native forest harvesting. Represented were the Latrobe Valley Authority, The Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions and the Baw Baw Shire Council, along with several members of the local community and NCBT group.

The meeting was held to start the process for an application to access grant money, which has been set aside for 11 towns in Victoria including Noojee. The funds will be used by the towns listed to support their local economy, transition to new, sustainable industries and improve facilities and infrastructure, thus providing long-term economic and social benefits for the community.

It was decided to allow the shire council, on behalf of the town, to apply for the grant through the Latrobe Valley Authority. As this money has been allotted for the town of Noojee, it would be completely remiss of the community to not take advantage of it, particularly when it is a substantial amount being offered without having to fight for it.

At this stage, an individual will be appointed to consult with the entire Noojee community so a realistic plan can be submitted to access the grant money on offer. We were advised that everyone will be consulted and a plan would be formulated from group and individual responses. The timeframe around when this will take place is now up to the Baw Baw Shire Council.

We would like the community to know that this meeting has taken place to start the process and we'd like everyone to think about how they would like to see the township develop over the next 10 years or so.

If anyone would like to discuss this further or would like more information, please call Di Johnston on 0448 411 506.



Fritz Mylius

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Please get in touch with any questions
Di - 0448 411 506



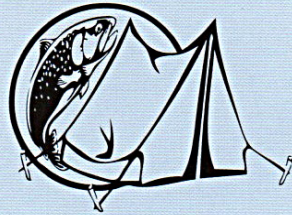
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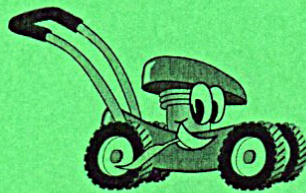
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Michelle and David Peterson

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

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