Case Study

Old bakery comes to life in Walla Walla





Business Opportunities

Peter Graves purchased what is known by locals as Schirmer's Bakery in Commercial St, Walla Walla. In the six months since, he has done a major renovation and upgrades of the building to bring it to a standard for a new lease of life.

For the older folk of Walla Walla, there would be memories of the bakery still being used to bake bread for sale to locals. In those days, Mackie's store was very important, along with many other places, including three banks and a butcher to name a few. These were the days of yesteryear, when our town was a thriving centre for many people. The last bread made at the bakery was sold in 1980.

Now forty years later, the building is coming out of a deep sleep, to become an important place again for locals, and the rapidly growing tourist industry.

In this building, Walla Wares has recently opened in the front section. For sale on weekends are items of yesteryear, which are becoming very popular with collectors, tourists and locals. The vision is to create a hub of pop up shops in conjunction with Walla Wares, selling local works of art, craft items, coffee, assorted foods, fresh daily baked bread, pies, bakery delights and locally grown fruit, vegetables and produce.

The original bakehouse has been fully renovated with the original cast iron wood fired oven as the main centre piece. The bake house will make an excellent back drop for small conferences, meetings, functions and public entertainment.

A great opportunity exists for someone such as a business owner/operator to lease a fully equipped coffee shop selling bakery products and local produce. Ideally, this could suit a couple with exemplary coffee barista skills and light food experience (no baking required).

There are plans in the future for indoor and outdoor markets to compliment the present Sunday markets. Enquiries Peter Graves M: 0407 161 439.

Source: Walla Walla Community News





^ Virginia Scholz at Walla Wares, located at the renovated building known as Schirmer's Bakery.



^ Original cast iron wood fired oven the highlight of a visit to Schirmer's Bakery.

About Walla Walla

Walla Walla boasts an impressive range of industries for a town of its size, many supporting the surrounding agricultural district, as well as some that are aimed at both national and international markets.

The level of industrial activity in Walla Walla challenges many larger towns and the consistent and innovative approach to business ensures Walla Walla will continue to expand in future years.

The town was settled in 1868/69 when 56 German settlers arrived in 14 covered wagons and two spring carts, having travelled 1,000km from Ebenezia in the Barossa Valley in search of land.

That German heritage survives today with Walla Walla home to the Zion Lutheran Church. Built in 1924, it is the largest Lutheran Church in NSW and seats almost 600 people.

St Paul's College, a Christian co-educational secondary school is located in Walla Walla and caters for both day students and boarders from the local area and communities across Australia and overseas. Students choose from a wide range of academic and practical subjects including Agriculture on the school farm and Horsemanship at the school's Equine Centre.

Greater Hume Children Services is located in Walla Walla providing centre based long day child care for young families. The centre is operated by Greater Hume Council.

Walla Walla engenders a real sense of community involvement led by the Community Development Committee and offers residents a uniquely Australian

country lifestyle from a town located within an easy 20 minutes drive of the major regional centre of Albury Wodonga.



^ Major industry and employer in Walla Walla, Kotzur kotzur.com.au



^ PJN Sheds manufacturing facility is located in Walla Walla pjnsheds.com.au



^ Greater Hume Children Services welcomes families to the new purpose built facility at Walla Walla ghchildren.com.au

Photos: Mark Jesser Photography and Rob Lacey Photography