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Barney's opens at Bookham

Barney's of Bookham, a diner-style café located just off the Hume Highway, opened its doors last Friday (September 11) to a stream of hungry patrons.

The café is serving modern Oz cuisine including salads, sandwiches, burgers, gourmet pies and homemade cakes and coffee, all made from locally sourced produce where available.

Barney's hopes to offer locals and passers-by a fun, relaxed venue and a break from the road with great food and music thanks to a retro 1970s jukebox.

Owner Marguerite Julian, a Sydney PR professional who is originally from Bookham, said: "I saw the opportunity to revitalise the old shop when the new expressway was built. Not only is it close to the road, but a rest stop has been conveniently located diagonally opposite so it seemed too good an opportunity to ignore."

The café's head chef is George Knight who was also the builder on the project. "I am a builder by trade, but cooking is my real passion," he explained. "I used to own a coffee shop called Barefoot on Norman in Wagga Wagga with my wife and have wanted to get back into this type of business ever since, so I'm very excited now that Barney's has finally opened and I get to put my chef's whites on again!"

As well as offering travellers and locals a decent bite to eat in a welcoming environment, Barney's is part of a growing trend of eateries along the Hume offering an alternative to Hungry Jacks and McDonalds.

It is also capitalising on the growing regional tourism market with places of interest nearby such as the popular Murrumbateman wineries, Crisps Gallery at Bowning, Corkhill's Art of Living, Binalong and the Long Track Pantry and Jugiong Wine Cellar.

Barney's is named after Marguerite's dearly departed dog. He is well remembered by colourful Andy Warhol-style prints created by Sydney textile designer Jillian Clarke that adorn the café.

For further information on Barney's of Bookham, call 02 6227 7220.

Barney's of Bookham, Fagan Drive, Bookham, NSW 2582.



• Barney's offers a fun, relaxed venue with great food and music thanks to a retro 1970s jukebox.



• Barney's is in a convenient location just off the Hume Highway at Bookham.