

Who was Noel Jackson?

Noel was a stalwart (loyal, reliable and hardworking) member of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Macksville.

He was born 20th December 1929. Early in life, Noel lived at Dover Heights in Sydney and attended Sunday School at the Lutheran Church Rose Bay. At Rose Bay Public he always went to the Church of England religious lessons.

Noel went to New Guinea in 1951 where he worked as a clerk for a private company for two and a half years. He was in the Gilbert Islands, now Kiribati, as a merchandise manager for 2 years. When he returned to Australia, he went into share-farming at Missabotti, near Bowraville, NSW; then later, on to Toowoomba in Queensland and a milk run.

It was while he was in Toowoomba that he watched an Easter Service on television and (in his own words) said “I thought I would give it a go, and I’ve been attending ever since.”

It was also in Toowoomba in 1976 that a motor bike ran into him as he was loading milk onto pallets. Noel lost his leg. He said that he knew straight away and was able to accept the fact - he was a fit person and knew he could cope. Many others would not have.

In 1984, Noel bought the Medlow School bus run and 300 acres at Taylors Arm (near Macksville, NSW). He loved the rural life and had good neighbours who helped him to establish himself. He settled into the beautiful countryside and always had a loyal dog for companionship.

After settling at Taylors Arm, Noel would drive into Macksville to Holy Trinity to worship and was a much-loved member of the church family. He served as a member of parish council and Parish Treasurer.

Noel moved from the countryside to Autumn Lodge retirement home in Macksville in 2013 where he resided until his death on 13th January 2018 at the age of 88. During his time in Autumn Lodge, he faithfully continued to attend the Anglican Church services every Sunday and Wednesday. Noel was a man of prayer who said, “I pray every night”.