

MAGGIE'S BACK ON THE FARM

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Elli Beer, Maggie Beer and returning chef Tim Bourke at The Farm Eatery, which is open again after closing for the coronavirus. Picture: Matt Turner

MAGGIE Beer's Farm Shop and The Farm Eatery are back open, with daughter Elli Beer and head chef Tim Bourke back at the helm.

The Nuriootpa store and restaurant closed at the start of COVID-19.

It reopens with the return of Bourke, who had left the restaurant in March 2019 but had "always kept in touch". He will work across the venues and also in a new cooking school, which opens on August 8.

"Tim being back is fantastic," Elli says.

"We started the Eatery together and it's just nice having that vision back for the direction of our food, which he leads – with Mum interfering a bit as well."

Elli says the shutdown and isolation has given her family time to grieve after the unexpected death of her sister and Maggie's older daughter, Saskia, in February.

"Sasi would have loved COVID – she hated being out," Elli laughs.

"For a family that lives a hectic pace, it gave us time to stop and spend some time with each other and our thoughts. In that respect, COVID was almost a blessing."