

**CASTLEMAINE - MARYBOROUGH RAIL TRAIL INCORPORATED**

**ABN 24 239 558 815**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022**

## Contents

<b>1. OUR ORGANISATION</b>	<b>3</b>
Our goals	3
Principal activities	3
Our people	3
Information on committee members	4
Project and casual volunteers	5
<b>2. GOVERNANCE</b>	<b>5</b>
Structure	5
Meetings of committee members	5
President's report	6
<b>3. FINANCES</b>	<b>7</b>
Treasurer's report	7
<b>Financial Statements</b>	<b>9</b>
Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 30th June 2022	9
Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30th June 2022	10
Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2022	10
Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30th June 2022	10
Notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2022	11
<b>4. STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5. OUR OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION</b>	<b>16</b>
Acknowledgements	16
How you can help	16
Looking to the future	17
Contact us	17



## 1. Our Organisation

The Castlemaine Maryborough Rail Trail formalised its structure as an incorporated association registered with Consumer Affairs Victoria on the 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

The organisation was registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not for-profit Commission (ACNC) on 2<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

### Our goals

CMRT's overall objective is to transform the 55km Castlemaine to Maryborough disused rail corridor into a world-class recreational trail that can be used by cyclists, walkers and horse-riders of all ages and abilities. To achieve this we need to:

- connect communities
- defend safe travel
- encourage prosperity
- look after the bush; and
- tell the remarkable stories of places and peoples along the former rail line.

We use grassroots action to inspire communities and spur governments to lead the charge to establish a new trail in Central Victoria. To build a trail, we need to build a movement.

### Principal activities

During the financial period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 the principal activities of the organisation included:

- encouraging people to join CMRT as members;
- recruiting volunteers;
- undertaking three major community projects; and
- undertaking a major project to submit an application for a grant to the Victorian Government through the Enabling Tourism Fund to undertake a feasibility study of the proposed Castlemaine - Maryborough Rail Trail. The committee was successful in attaining a grant of \$120,000. The offline and online fundraising activities of the organisation have been critical in raising funds to conduct a feasibility study including a cost/benefit analysis of building a leisure trail between Castlemaine and Maryborough.

### Our people

#### Volunteer committee members

The following persons were members of the organisation during the financial period or since the end of the financial period.

Janice Simpson	President	appointed 11 March 2021
Sandy Harman	Vice-president	appointed 23 July 2021
Bronwen Machin	Secretary	appointed 10 December 2021
Des Boucher	Treasurer	appointed 23 July 2021
John Carruthers		appointed 6 August 2020
Bob Forde		appointed 6 August 2020



Steve Foskey		appointed 10 December 2021
Mick Evans		appointed 6 August 2020; resigned 7 December 2021
Christine Christie		appointed 6 August 2020; resigned 7 December 2021

## Information on committee members

### Janice Simpson

Janice lives in Maryborough where she rides her bike, writes and gardens. She is a former president and vice president of Bicycle Network, and a former national convenor of Sisters in Crime. Her qualifications include a PhD from RMIT.

### Sandy Harman

Sandy lives in Campbells Creek and is a long-time local resident. He is an experienced international project-based marketing and export professional with skills in business development, relationship building, market analysis, communication and negotiation. Sandy works in retail with a background in furniture manufacturing and marketing, publishing, film production, and the food and beverage sector. He is a keen bike rider using his bike for commuting and touring.

### Bronwen Machin

After 18 years of blameless and boring service in the Commonwealth Public Service Bronwen had a road to Damascus experience on her trip around the world's mountains in 1989. Ever since she has worked or volunteered in community groups or local government as a way of supporting her environmental and social justice values. Her professional background includes sustainable transport planning and she has served as a local councillor for 8 years before retiring at the last election.

### Des Boucher

Des lives in Maryborough and is a Chartered Accountant with senior management experience in all aspects of accounting and finance, together with substantial experience in leading and managing special projects. He is a keen bike rider in between renovating houses and building gardens.

### John Carruthers

John works between Castlemaine and Guildford where he and his partner are developing a regenerative farm. He is a keen cyclist and retired backcountry skier and the former CEO of a successful high-tech start-up and retired management consultant. John has an MBA from Monash University and qualifications in applied-psychology.

### Bob Forde

Bob lives in Guildford on a small sheep farm, is a retired Civil Engineer with 37 years' experience in land development, project management and major road design and construction. He is an active member of several community committees. Being retired, Bob enjoys working on the farm particularly with his family.



### **Steve Foskey**

Steve has lived in Newstead for 5 years after making the tree change from city life. He does have local roots as his mother grew up in Maryborough. He works part-time and is on the verge of transitioning to retirement. He is a lifelong recreational cyclist and enjoys riding on the country roads around Newstead and the trails in the Muckleford forest. He is also active in the Newstead community through his involvement in Newstead Walks and Wheels and helping with Landcare plantings.

### **Project and casual volunteers**

Our project and casual volunteers work together with the committee to achieve our aims. All volunteers are members and we acknowledge the following people who have contributed to CMRT's work and success.

#### **Project Volunteers**

Garis Alexander, Briele Hansen, Steve Harrisson, Greg James, Frank Kinnersley, Deb Macer, James Mack, Robin Murdoch, Jill Pattinson, Ken Stewart, Scott Rossiter, David Tuck, Peter Watts

#### **Casual volunteers**

Judith Barnard, Rainer Beilharz, Christine Christie, Diane Daniell, Mick Evans, Ann Ferguson, Paul Hampton, Steve Harrisson, Maddie Harrop, Grace La Vella, Giuliano Marcon, Dean McLaren, Colin Moore, Geoff Park, Paul Roberts, Nicki Renfrey, Amber Robinson, David Schloeffel, Janet Schloeffel, Jo Smith

## **2. Governance**

### **Structure**

As at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 the organisation had 68 financial members. At present the committee comprises 7 members. Volunteers are recruited from the membership.

### **Meetings of committee members**

The number of meetings of the organisation's committee members held during the reporting period, and the number of meetings attended by each committee member during the time they held office were:

<b>Name</b>	<b>No of Meetings Attended</b>	<b>No of Meetings Held</b>
Janice Simpson	9	9
Sandy Harman	5	7
Bronwen Machin	4	5
Des Boucher	7	7
John Carruthers	9	9
Bob Forde	8	9
Steve Foskey	5	5
Mick Evans	4	5
Christine Christie	4	5



## President's report

Just before the end of the financial year, many of us gathered at Cairn Curran to listen to Maree Edwards, MLA for Bendigo West, officially announce our successful funding bid to a feasibility study for a world-class leisure trail along the disused rail line from Maryborough to Castlemaine. Maree's announcement signalled the end of a year spent dreaming, planning, thinking, talking, writing, networking, considering and putting our noses to the grindstone. We didn't do it alone as we had help from many quarters including our local MLAs on both sides of the House, our friends in Regional Development Victoria, Rail Trails Australia, our local shires, people planning, developing and managing rail trails around Victoria and our fabulous community of volunteers and donors.

So that was the main game for 2021-22 and we achieved it. We achieved it through generous donations from members and others, through hard work and investing time in listening and learning from others.

We also needed to keep our wheels turning which meant an investment of time and energy into doing a whole lot of other things as well, at the same time.

We conducted a successful program funded to the tune of \$2,000 by Mt Alexander Shire in conjunction with Volunteering Victoria to benchmark how we're tracking with our volunteers and were pleased to see that we're doing okay. As one of our volunteers put it, 'I have felt very comfortable with all of the CMRT people I have spoken to and I have been impressed with the professional approach the organisation appears to be building. I have completed the Volunteer Agreement, which made good sense to me and further confirmed my impression.' Thank you to committee members John Carruthers and Bronwen Machin and volunteer Deb Macer for getting this project from idea to completion.

Central Goldfields Shire funded a \$2,000 project to expand bike knowledge and skills through a five-session program. This was well supported in the community and exposed participants to bike maintenance, bike riding skills and the joys of bike riding. One participant said, 'Thank you for running these workshops, it's making me more confident to ride and to get my kids riding.' Thank you to Atriel Turner and his band of skilled volunteers, to the Maryborough Lions Club, to Cycle Safe and to the Millhouse for their support in getting these programs to the public. I was ably supported by committee member Steve Foskey in delivering this project within budget and on time.

The Maldon Community Bank funded a \$5,000 video documentary, which began filming in late 2021 and is still continuing in production. Footage from both shires showcasing landscape and people was for me a delightful indulgence and I relished my very small part in the process. We have released a one-minute documentary to the public to great acclaim and we're looking forward to the next stage. Thank you to committee members John Carruthers and Sandy Harman, and volunteers Peter Watts and Briele Hansen for making this project happen.

The committee has strengthened its operations and has engaged with new and ongoing volunteers to make this the best organisation we know and one to be justly proud of.



I thank my committee colleagues Sandy Harman, Bronwen Machin, Des Boucher, Bob Forde, John Carruthers and Steve Foskey. These people are committed to getting things done in an environment where all views, skills and experiences are valued and celebrated. I'd be playacting if I said this work is all pleasure and no pain. We've had to buckle down, make tough decisions and keep the midnight oil burning on several matters to achieve the outcomes we've aimed for. We very grateful to volunteers Robin Murdoch, Garis Alexander and Paul Van Der Wal in contributing professional services to assist the committee in doing what it needs to do to manage a multi-pronged organisation. It's a high work-load and we welcome others to join the committee or the smart-working and razor focused action teams.

Our members and donors deserve an especially loud cheer this year. People donated generously when they renewed memberships, and the \$21,000 plus that was raised in a little over three weeks to support the grant application for the feasibility study was so many things: a community first in fund raising achievements; a fabulous achievement by committee member Des Boucher who managed our fund raising; a superb effort by one and all who put their hands in their pockets and donated \$10 right up to \$3000. Sensational all round.

The year 2022 - 23 takes us through the phases associated with the feasibility study and focuses our attention on acquiring government funding pledges for the next two stages of the trail, that is firstly attaining the authorities and permissions that are required before beginning the design and construction stage. We are proceeding optimistically. And we thank one and all for coming along with us to blaze a trail.

### **3. Finances**

#### **Treasurer's report**

During the financial period the organisation received \$900 in membership fees down \$500 from \$1,400 for the previous period but donations were up \$325 from \$1,156 in the previous period to \$1,481 in the current period. In the current financial period we received \$678 of donations in-kind where some costs were paid on behalf on the organisation and/or we received discounts on purchases.

In the previous financial period we received a grant of \$2,000 from the Mt Alexander Shire Council to fund volunteer induction and training. This project was completed in the current financial period, albeit at a deficit of \$200.

A grant of \$5,000 was received from the Maldon & District Community Bank Bendigo Bank to fund a documentary about the people, stories and landscape associated with the proposed path of the Castlemaine to Maryborough rail trail. This project was partially completed in the current financial period with expenditure of \$2,300, leaving a balance of \$2,700 to complete the project in the next financial period.

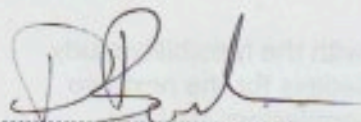
A grant of \$2,000 was received from the Central Goldfields Shire Council to fund five workshops covering bike maintenance, safe riding and bike touring. This project was completed in the current financial period with expenditure of \$1,985 leaving a surplus of \$15.



The organisation embarked on a program to raise funds to undertake a feasibility study of the cost/benefits in transforming the disused rail line between Castlemaine - Maryborough into a recreational trail. The Victorian Government through the Enabling Tourism Fund invited applications for funding on the basis of contributing \$4 for every \$1 an organisation could contribute. Both Mt Alexander Shire Council and the Central Goldfields Shire Council were approached and agreed to contribute \$6,000 each. The community at large was approached and \$21,121 was raised from 112 donors, donations ranging from \$10 to \$3,000. The grant application was submitted for \$120,000 on the basis of having \$30,000 the Shires \$12,000 plus CMRT Inc. \$18,000. The grant was successful which means there will be \$150,000 available for a feasibility study to be undertaken in the next twelve months.

The largest item of expenditure was for a monument at Strangways for \$596 to commemorate the start of the rail trail process.

The result for the financial period was a surplus of \$1,037 and as at the 30 June 2022 the organisation had cash reserves of \$25,329, of which \$23,370 is ear marked for projects.



Des Boucher - Treasurer



## Financial Statements

### Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 30th June 2022

	Note	2022	2021
		\$	\$
<b>Income</b>			
Membership Fees		900	1,400
Donations	2	2,159	1,156
Fund Raising Activities		262	355
Interest Received		<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<b><u>3,328</u></b>	<b><u>2,911</u></b>
<b>Less Expenditure</b>			
Community Engagement	3	892	283
Marketing & Communications	3	809	130
General & Administration	3	<u>590</u>	<u>1,536</u>
<b>Total Operation Expenditure</b>		<b><u>2,291</u></b>	<b><u>1,949</u></b>
<b>Operation Surplus</b>		<b><u>1,037</u></b>	<b><u>962</u></b>
<b>Special Projects</b>			
Volunteer Induction & Training	4 a		
Grant Received - Mt Alexander Shire Council		0	2,000
Less Costs		<u>(2,200)</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>(2,200)</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Documentary Film	4 b		
Grant Received - Maldon & District			
Community Bank		5,000	0
Less Costs		<u>2,300</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>2,700</u>	<u>0</u>
Better on a Bike	4 c		
Grant Received - Central Goldfields Shire			
Council		2,000	0
Less Costs		<u>1,985</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>15</u>	<u>0</u>
Feasibility Study Fundraising	4 d		
Donations Received		21,121	0
Less Cost		<u>465</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>20,655</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Special Projects Surplus</b>		<b><u>21,170</u></b>	<b><u>2,000</u></b>
<b>Net Surplus</b>		<b><u>22,207</u></b>	<b><u>2,962</u></b>



## Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30th June 2022

	Note	2022	2021
		\$	\$
Balance at beginning of period		2,962	0
Surplus for period		<u>22,207</u>	2,962
Balance at end of period		<u>25,169</u>	<u>2,962</u>

## Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2022

<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at Bank	5	25,260	3,182
Cash on Hand		69	80
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>25,329</u>	<u>3,262</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Provisions & Accruals	6	160	300
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u>160</u>	<u>300</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>25,169</u>	<u>2,962</u>
<b>Capital Account</b>			
Accumulated Surplus		<u>25,169</u>	<u>2,962</u>

## Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30th June 2022

<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Cash receipts from members & supporters		3,602	2,911
Cash paid for services & supplies		<u>(2,565)</u>	<u>(1,949)</u>
<b>Cash generated from operation activities</b>		<u>1,037</u>	<u>962</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Special Projects</b>			
Cash receipts from grants		7,000	2,000
Cash from donations for feasibility study		21,121	0
Cash paid for services & supplies		<u>(6,951)</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Cash generated from special projects</b>		<u>21,170</u>	<u>2,000</u>
<b>Net increase in cash</b>		<u>22,207</u>	<u>2,962</u>
<b>Cash at beginning of year</b>		<u>2,962</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Cash at end of year</b>		<u>25,169</u>	<u>2,962</u>



## Notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2022

### Statement of compliance

The committee has determined that the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. The financial report is a special purpose financial report which has been prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 101	Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 107	Statement of Cash Flows
AASB 108	Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
AASB 1031	Materiality
AASB 1048	Interpretation of Standards
AASB 1054	Australian Additional Disclosures

### Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and do not consider monetary values. The accrual and going concern basis have been adopted.

### Note 1. Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### Income tax

As the incorporated association is a charitable institution in terms of subsection 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

#### Revenue recognition

Donations are recognised at the time they are received. Other revenue is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established

#### Trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the entity prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of the recognition.

#### Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the entity has a present legal or constructive obligation as a past event, it is probable the entity will be required to settle the obligation, and a



reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date, considering the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

#### Goods and Services Tax GST

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised inclusive of the amount of associated GST. The Association is not registered for GST recording.

#### Note 2. Donations

Donations are received from member and supporters and can be in cash or donations in kind where costs are paid for by supporters or where discounts are given to the organisation on purchases.

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Cash donations	1,481	1,156
Donations in kind	<u>678</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>2,159</u>	<u>1,156</u>

#### Note 3. Expenditure

##### *Community Engagement*

Printing & Stationary	296	283
Monument	596	0
	<u>892</u>	<u>283</u>

##### *Marketing & Communications*

Website	120	130
Domain Names Registration	88	0
Zoom Subscription	256	0
Graphics Designs	<u>345</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>809</u>	<u>130</u>

##### *General & Administration*

Accounting Fees	0	110
Bank Fees	41	2
Hire of Rooms & Meeting Expenses	234	85
Insurance	260	1,225
Rental of P O Box	0	74
Subscriptions	55	40
	<u>590</u>	<u>1,536</u>



## **Note 4. Special Projects**

### **a Project - Volunteer Induction & Training**

During the financial year CMRT benefited from the talent and work of 19 regular or project volunteers and was able to draw from time-to-time on another 27 volunteers who made themselves available for casual roles.

CMRT aims to remain a volunteer organisation of choice to robustly operationalise best practice policies for volunteers. The organisation received a grant of \$2,000 from the Mt Alexander Shire Council in the previous financial period to fund volunteer induction and training. The organisation engaged Volunteering Victoria to undertake the program for the induction and training of volunteers and this was successfully completed in the current year. However the organisation incurred GST on the invoices from Volunteering Victoria and as a result funded \$200 from the operating surplus. A total of 18 volunteers inclusive of most members of the committee participated in the program.

### **b Project - Documentary Filming**

The organisation received a grant of \$5,000 from the Maldon & District Community Bank Bendigo Bank during the financial year to fund a documentary about the people, stories and landscape associated with the proposed path of the Castlemaine to Maryborough rail trail. The organisation engaged a videographer who undertook filming of the rail trail and surrounding areas. He produced a one-minute video which was included in our application for funding for a feasibility study from the Victorian Government through the Enabling Tourism Fund. The video project is current, the aim being to produce a further video or videos that can be used in to promote awareness and underpin fundraising. Expenditure totalling \$2,300 was incurred during the current financial period, which means there is a balance of \$2,700 to fund completion of the documentary in the next twelve months. These funds are held in our bank account and are included in the cash at bank balance in the balance sheet.

### **c Project - Better on a Bike**

Promoting bike riding in the Central Goldfields Shire as a safe and healthy way to commute and enjoy leisure activities underpinned an application for community funding. The organisation received a grant of \$2,000 from the Central Goldfields Shire Council CGSC in January 2022 to fund five workshops covering bike maintenance, safe riding and bike touring. The workshops were successfully completed and acquitted prior to June 30. Expenditure totalling \$1,985 was incurred which left a surplus of \$15 which will either be donated to the organisation by the CGSC or refunded to them.

### **d Project - Feasibility Study Fundraising**

The organisation made delegations to the Mt Alexander Shire Council and the Central Goldfields Shire Council for funding to prepare a comprehensive report that will set out the guidelines for a cost/benefit study of the Castlemaine to Maryborough rail trail that will be used to lobby the state and/or the federal government to fund the cost/benefit study. Both councils committed \$6,000 each. During the financial period the Victorian Government through the Enabling Tourism Fund announced that funding grants were available on the basis of \$4 for every \$1 raised and that applications were open. The committee decided to target raising \$12,000 from the community to match the contributions from the councils and then engaged on a fund raising drive. The fund raising exceeded the committee's expectations and in a four-week period raised



\$21,121 from 112 donors. There were costs of \$465 incurred, which left a balance of \$20,655 held in a separate bank account and are included in the cash at bank balance in the balance sheet. The committee agreed to contribute \$18,000 to the application so with the \$12,000 from the councils the grant application was for \$120,000. The organisation was successful in receiving the grant so that as at 30 June 2022 there is funding available for a feasibility study of \$150,000, which will be undertaken in the next twelve months.

#### Note 5. Cash at Bank

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Savings Account	4,516	3,182
Savings Account - Feasibility Fund Raising	20,655	0
Statement Account	89	0
Cash on Hand	69	80
	<b>25,329</b>	<b>3,262</b>
Committed Funds		
Volunteer Induction & Training	0	2,000
Documentary Filming	2,700	0
Better on a Bike	15	0
Feasibility Study	20,655	0
	<b>23,370</b>	<b>2,000</b>
Available funds	<b>1,959</b>	<b>1,262</b>

#### Note 6. Provisions and Accruals

Provision for Insurance	0	300
Income in Advance	14	0
Accrued Expense	146	0
	<b>160</b>	<b>300</b>

The organisation made a provision of \$300 as at 30 June 2021 to cover any additional insurance premium that may be levied but now is not required so the provision has been reversed as at 30 June 2022 and offset against the premium of \$560 for the 2022/23 which was paid in June 2022.

#### Note 7. Subsequent Events

The following events and transactions occurred subsequent to 30 June 2022.

Feasibility Study. The responsibility of managing the initial report and engaging the necessary consultants will be with Central Goldfield Shire Council in conjunction with CMRT personnel. Subsequent to year end the Central Goldfields Shire Council has invoiced the organisation \$18,000 being the organisations contribution to funding of the feasibility study. This amount has been paid leaving a balance of \$2,655 in the feasibility study savings bank account.



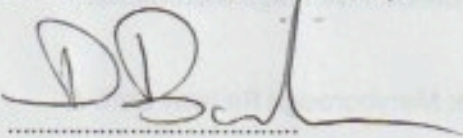
#### 4. Statement by Members of the Committee

The committee has determined that the organisation is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

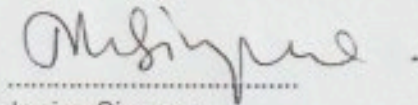
In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on the previous pages:

1. Present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Castlemaine - Maryborough Rail Trail Inc. as at 30 June 2022 and its performance for the period ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Castlemaine - Maryborough Rail Trail Inc. be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is for and on behalf of the Committee by:



Des Boucher



Janice Simpson

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022



## 5. Our other important information

### Acknowledgements

The Committee wish to acknowledge the support from the following:

#### Grants

- Mount Alexander Shire Council
- Central Goldfields Shire Council
- Maldon & District Community Bank

#### Major Sponsors

- Masamune Digital Marketing
- The Hub 233 Barker St Castlemaine
- Scott Rossiter

#### Sponsors

- Castlemaine: 2.1.3. Hair Design; Cycle Concepts Giant Store; The Bike Vault; Crosby Architects; Snowball Social; Campbells Creek; Five Flags Merchants;
- Carisbrook: Carisbrook Post Office Café;
- Guildford: Guildford General Store;
- Maryborough: Maryborough Paramount Theatre; Maryborough Railway Café & Tracks Bar;
- Newstead: Dig Café;
- Avoca: Heathcliffe & Elizabeth Teal;
- South Yarra: Como Wine & Spirits;

#### Donors

The Committee wish to acknowledge the support from the following donors:

G La Vella, J Carruthers, M Brown, B Forde, B Sertori, S Harman, S Lambert, A Ferguson, R Wescott, G Crosby, S Ward, J Sinclair, J Pattinson, N Renfrey, L Citroen, M Evans, T Waley, G James, J Barnard, F Kinnersley, J Draper, G Lipback, P Sullivan, J Sutfin, N Sherlock-Byrne, A Frances, T Fidler, E Peck.

### How you can help

#### Become a member

Being a member lets you shape the direction of our organisation and we want our members to be actively involved.

#### Volunteer with us

Our volunteers are impact members who make a big difference. You choose your hours. You deliver our campaigns. You keep us going! You meet other wonderful people. And we will look after you. We can offer you a role, respect and special recognition.



### **Donate to the organisation**

If you don't have the time to join up and volunteer, you can still make a difference. Donate and help the volunteers working for you at the front-line.

### **Sign our petition**

Love the trail? Join in the chorus for change! Sign our petition, like us on social media and stay in touch.

## **Looking to the future**

The foundation stones we have set in place, quite literally at Strangways where there is a marker in the ground acknowledging the trail unveiled by Cr Matt Driscoll from Mt Alexander Shire on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, are proving solid. The aims for the 2022-23 year are simple to say: keep the wheels turning and get up that next hill.

To achieve this some of our 2022-23 initiatives are:

- working with the Shires of Mt Alexander and Central Goldfields and our State and Federal parliamentarians to win further funding for the next stage
- engaging with the Carisbrook community to showcase the trail and the social and economic benefits it will bring to the community
- rebuilding our community outreach through our spirited and energetic community ambassadors
- persuading capable people to step forward and get involved in our work, adding to our not inconsiderable volunteer talent pool
- ensuring that our association is adequately resourced and managed to continue to do its work

Making change in community is not easy. There will always be the knockers and the naysayers. We can choose to capitulate to them, or we can choose another pathway. We already persuade people through friendship, willingness to listen and reliable service that we are on the right track. We know our communities will be all the better once our vision is reality. Do come and join us. We'd love to have you along for the ride.

## **Contact us**

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