

Crag Stewards Victoria



The Launch edition July 2021 – Issue 3

IT'S OFFICIAL

----- MARTIN JACKSON

After dodging lockdowns and postponements over many months, the “Launch” finally took off at Natimuk on Saturday 10th July 2021. It had been a beautiful sunny winter’s day, so plenty of people were up and about and the room slowly filled with masked climbers – local, visiting, ex and friends of. We kicked off with Hollie Hicks the creator of our Reconciliation Action Plan artwork introducing herself in language and then following up with an Acknowledgement of Country.

Steven Wilson then went back in time a little to fill everyone in on what we had been doing to build foundations for the stewardship program and organisation over the last 12-18 months. He went on to discuss the process of setting up the stewardship structure for Arapiles/Dyurrait starting with selecting a Regional Steward and building the team from there. Finally, we briefly covered plans for roll-out in Gariwerd and other regions.

Before anyone had the chance to ask questions, we headed them off by covering some the most popular FAQ’s, then asked for questions and comments from the floor. There were some good clarification questions and a good debate about starting the program in Arapiles/Dyuraitt without engagement with the Traditional Owner representative, BGLC.

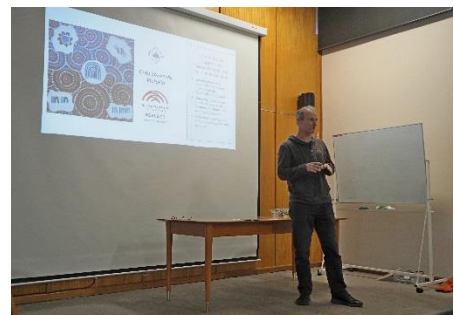
It was encouraging to hear support from the audience that the program was worth getting underway and shared hope that engagement will eventually arise as a result of the program and other constructive conversations that have largely been enabled by GWRN.

We finished with an explanation of the RAP artwork by Hollie and formal thanks form us for her contribution. After the formalities there was some mingling and offers of help in areas that we had highlighted we were short in. ABC Wimmera’s Alex Darling interviewed me (note to self: media training volunteer needed) This was aired on breakfast radio on Tuesday, 14th July on Rebekah Lowe’s breakfast show.

Thank you to all the attendees for your support – its onwards and upwards from here.

Here is a video link to the launch presentation.

https://youtu.be/ogNvNzsx_Vc



From your Steward Coordinator – Steven Wilson

The days of putting out a call for volunteers to roll up on the day are gone, we are now expected to register with Parks Victoria and have a Working With Children Check (WWC)

In 2016, the Victorian Government introduced the Child Safe Standards. All organisations in Victoria that provide services or facilities for children must comply with these standards.

Parks Victoria has now implemented these standards and it is now a requirement for all volunteers working on working bees been carried out on land managed by PV must have a Working with Children Check.

This includes anyone who volunteers on a one-off occasion, as well as anyone who volunteers regularly, individuals and volunteers within groups, even if you do not have direct contact or engagement with children.

Parks Victoria are still allowing volunteers to sign up on the day, but they must present a Working with Children Check. These can be checked online to see if they are currently valid, however if this is can't be done you will not be allowed to volunteer on the day.

Parks Victoria are now requesting that all volunteers register with Park Connect (Ctrl + Click to follow link)

<https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/get-into-nature/volunteering>



Once you have registered you can search Groups and select CliffCare and Crag Stewards Victoria as groups that you would like to work with, there are many other groups that you would like to work with, there are

Crag Stewards Victoria understand that getting a (WWC) Working with Children Check may be time consuming, but we hope that understand the importance of complying with the new regulations, governing our work with PV.

Please take the time to organise your working with children check, so that you will be ready to volunteer on working bees as they arise.

You can find Parks Victoria Statement of Commitment to Child Safety here: (Ctrl + Click to follow link)

<https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/statement-of-commitment-to-child-safety>

Child Safe Training has been delivered to all Parks Victoria staff and will shortly roll out to volunteers for those that would like to participate.

many other groups on Park Connect that you may wish to volunteer with as well.

There is no charge for a volunteer Working with Children Check – it is free and done in quick and easy steps.

If you know you'll be doing child-related work in Victoria, you can now apply online from anywhere in Australia. The first step is proving your identity.

You can do this online by using a smartphone to take photos of your identity (ID) documents and your face.

To get started, answer three quick questions to make sure you have everything you need to apply for a Check fully online.

To complete online you will need two ID documents, and one must have a photo.

Tip: The best combination is a passport and drivers' licence.

To begin, you must have one of the following ID documents:

- Australian passport (current or expired less than 3 years)
- Current foreign passport (with linked visa)
- Australian birth certificate
- ImmiCard

1. To apply online please, (Ctrl + Click to follow link) or visit:

<https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

2. Please ensure you select the 'Volunteer' option.

3. Use the Parks Victoria address and phone number below:

Parks Victoria

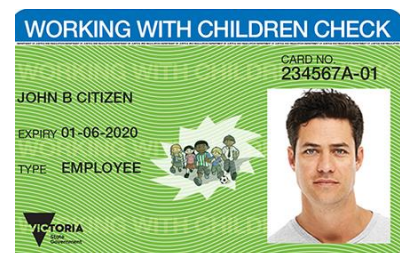
Level 10, 535 Bourke Street

Melbourne VIC 3000

131 963

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What does your card display?

- Name
- Photograph
- Card number
- Card type
- Card expiry date

Thank you to Save Grampians Climbing for their kind donation of \$1014.89 from the sale of these T-shirts plus and additional \$386.00 from Grimpi Chalk Sales



Notice the addition of our logo on the Grimpi packaging

GOSHEN WATTS-WEB MASTER, STEWARD AND ALL-ROUND NICE GUY



I started climbing with the scouts in 1993, I still remember my first visits to Mt Arapiles and Summerday Valley while learning to lead climb. Since then, climbing has taken me to some of the most amazing crags this country has to offer - many of them in the Grampians. While I've had the privilege of climbing at many of these places, it saddens me to think climbers now finding the passion of climbing might not be able to have these same experiences.

I've always attempted to tread lightly (in climbing and in life), and I enjoy pure forms of climbing, especially Trad Climbing and Deep Water Soloing. It's up to climbers to show they can climb responsibly, look after areas they visit, and respect the need to protect important cultural and environmental values (the problem has been a difference in opinion between climbers and Parks Victoria about how to do this). It's a complex topic, but I got involved at the beginning, because news was moving quickly, with many unanswered questions, and so created a website exclusively for news about climbing access (Save Grampians Climbing).

Subsequently, I joined ACAV for several months, and now Crag Stewards Victoria, having had experience building websites, and being on various not-for-profit committees in my local community. I also am in the lucky position of not requiring full-time work (living a somewhat 'Permaculture lifestyle' on a low household income in Geelong. I want to contribute, in some way - to creating a sustainable world that we *want* to live in, and hopefully climbing can be a part of that.

(Photo: me on the start of Creon (Watchtower LHS), Pic Steve Toal.



Crag Stewards
Victoria



RECONCILIATION
ACTION PLAN

REFLECT

April 2021 - April 2022



INTRODUCING OUR RAP ARTIST – HOLLIE HICKS

Hollie is a proud Celtic Yorta Yorta woman from Melbourne who spent 12 months living Natimuk and attending Year 9 at school in Horsham.

She has displayed her NAIDOC Week artwork at the Goolum Goolum exhibition in 2020.

Danced at two Dream Time Games for the AFL representing Essendon, even though she is a tragic Richmond supporter.

Hollie got her inspiration for her painting from spending time exploring Dyurrait and its surrounds whilst living in Natimuk with extended family. Hollie would also like to thank her good friend Tyra King and her family for sharing their culture and for welcoming her into their group at Goolum Goolum.

Hollie continues her cultural studies back in Melbourne with the loving support of her family and friends. Especially her mother Carrie and her brother Liam.

Crag Stewards Victoria would also like to thank Hollie for her artwork and also for her assistance regarding cultural understanding and lived experiences and for her ongoing support in sharing her knowledge.

The Artwork design was inspired by Dyurrait where I lived for 12 months in Natimuk.

“It represents the colours of the area as well as the mountains and the communities and people who love and care for it.”



Men and women



Coming together



Meeting place



Mountains

Thank you to the following:

Thank you to Katherine ‘KB’ Buzza” for your assistance in getting our website design and set up.

<https://www.cragstewards.org.au> ▾

Crag Stewards Victoria

“Climbers actually doing what we claim to do—caring for the environment, cultural heritage and the rock itself.” **Crag Stewards Victoria (CSV)** seeks to ...

Martin Perkins for filming the launch

https://youtu.be/ogNvNzsj_Vc

Those who attended the launch



Hollie Hicks for her time in assisting us with our RAP which included her artwork, and for kindly doing the Acknowledgement of Country at our launch, and to Hollie’s mum for her chauffeuring duties.

And to those who have signed up.

We salute and thank you all.