

# Crag Stewards Victoria



The Spring edition -October 2021 – Issue 4

## Volunteer news

On behalf of the board we hope this newsletter finds you all well. Lots has been happening behind the scenes at CSV but with Covid restrictions we have had to reschedule a number of training sessions and other planned events. We have managed to get a training session in with some of our stewards and volunteers, and hope to get some more done whenever possible. I would like to gently remind you that it is a Parks Victoria mandate that all volunteers be registered with Park Connect and have a Working with Children Check done. As part of our commitment to working alongside them we have included that all our stewards and volunteers meet that requirement so we would greatly appreciate it if you have not already done so that you do so at your earliest convenience. Instructions on how and where to register appear further on in this newsletter.



<https://www.facebook.com/Crag-Stewards-Victoria-107679421623351>



## CSV CHAIR ----- Martin Jackson

“As part of Reconciliation Week, GWRN organised a Walk on Country with John Clarke, a Kirrae Whurrung man and Traditional Owner of Gariwerd. To keep the group size down, CSV had one invitation, so I attended with about 12 other people from a variety of other climbing community organisations.

We started the day on the shore of Lake Fyans, overlooking the lake with the sun on our faces. John talked about his background, the history and structures of the Aboriginal peoples in the region, and the significance of country to them in the past and present. This then led into his perspective on interactions with the climbing community over the last few years. He was very appreciative of the initiative GWRN had taken to re-engage with the Traditional Owners in the region and the way they went about it. He sees that a foundation for better understanding between the climbing community and traditional owners has been established. We had a good discussion about this, with all attendees reflecting similar views and support for a respectful relationship.

Suddenly we found that two hours had passed, so we took a break for lunch then drove in convoy to Bunjil's Cave, a quite spectacular piece of art in the overhang of a granite boulder on the western side of the Black Range (near Stawell) which had a stunning view of the Gariwerd ranges. Sadly the art is enclosed by a heavy steel cage. John covered the story and significance associated with the art and we went on to have a discussion about the tensions between protecting significant sites and leaving them in their natural state. There was also some discussion about what the climbing community can and should be doing to support understanding and protection of cultural heritage.

It was a great day that gave me a lot of hope that, with time, the climbing community will be able to engage the Traditional Owners of Gariwerd in a meaningful way that will be mutually beneficial.”

## From your Steward Coordinator – Steven Wilson

For the past year and a half we have been engaged with Parks Victoria in trying to get works started at Camels Hump and other climbing sites. However Parks Victoria has stated that we are required to do a pilot program. Initially this was going to be conducted at Camels Hump until Mount Macedon fell under mediation between 3 Registered Aboriginal Parties making it a lot more complicated in getting Cultural Heritage Assessments carried out. With a suggestion made by us to PV that Mount Buffalo could be an option as the new site for the Pilot Program.

Currently the groundwork is being conducted for the Pilot Program to be run in late October/early November.

Following on from my last article, I can not stress how important it is that you as someone who has registered to be a Steward or Volunteer, that you obtain your Working with Children Check and register on Park Connect.

Failure to obtain these two items will mean that it will not be possible for you to do any volunteer work with Parks Victoria. It will also make it extremely hard for us to demonstrate to PV on how committed CSV and its stewards and volunteers are when only 30 or our 160+ registered people have met this requirement.

*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 on Park Connect that you may wish to volunteer with as well.*

## Reminder: Park Connect and WWC

Step 1- go to website

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

Step 2 - click on Register box



Step 3 - Begin registration by completing details

**ParkConnect** [Home](#) | [Support](#) | [Education](#)

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[Sign in](#) | [Register](#)

Register

\* Email

\* Password

\* Confirm password

[Register](#)

By clicking "Register", you agree to our [Terms and conditions](#), and [Privacy policy](#)

Already have a profile? [Sign In](#)

## Step 4 - Complete details

Profile

 Profile name

Profile

 Security

Change password

Change email 

### Your information

First Name \*

Last Name \*

E-mail \*

leanneindorfff@gmail.com

Mobile Phone \*

Provide a telephone number

Home Phone

Provide a telephone number

Please select the account type you want to create

Volunteer

No  Yes

Scientific Researcher

No  Yes

Events (inc. Filming and Photography)

No  Yes

Tour Operator

No  Yes

Education

No  Yes

Address details

## Emergency contact details

First Name \*

Last Name \*

Relationship to you \*

Mobile Phone \*

Provide a telephone number

Telephone

Provide a telephone number

Have you volunteered with Parks Victoria previously?

## Step 5 - Continue filling in the relevant details

### Optional demographic information

If entered, we use this information for internal reporting purposes only and do not share with anybody outside of the Parks Victoria network.

The values provided below have been derived from the standard list produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Gender

Which age group are you within?

Which ethnicity do you most relate to?

What best describes your current situation?

### Declaration

By submitting my details, I acknowledge that I have read and accept the [Volunteer terms and conditions](#)

Update

## Step 6 - Go to the Volunteer tab drop down and select 'Search programs and groups'

ParkConnect

Home | Support | Education | Tour Operator | Research | Volunteer | Vol Fund | Leanne Lindorff

Research | **Volunteer**

Volunteer

Search programs and groups

Search volunteer activities

## Step 7 - In group name type 'crag stewards Victoria'

### Search programs and groups

Group name

Interests

Park

Search

Group name ↑	Park	Date of establishment
Abbotsford Riverbankers	Yarra River	09-Jun-2020

## Step 8 - Click on the crag stewards Victoria bar

Group name  Interests

Park

Group name ↑	Park	Date of establishment
Crag Stewards Victoria		01-Feb-2020

## Step 9 - You should get the below as a response

### Crag Stewards Victoria



#### Vision

Help maintain rock climbing areas and tracks from erosion and vegetation loss, educate climbers in best out door practices.

#### Goal

Monitoring climbing sites, volunteer works in track maintenance, tree planting and education. Congratulations **Leanne**, you have now registered with ParkConnect. You need to complete your ParkConnect volunteer profile information and confirm your email address so you can then become a volunteer.

#### Group interests

You don't have permissions to view these records.

#### Parks

You don't have permissions to view these records.

#### Group leader

Name: Steven Wilson  
Phone: +61 410 492 832  
Email: [coordinator@cragstewards.org.au](mailto:coordinator@cragstewards.org.au)  
Website: <https://www.cragstewards.org.au/>

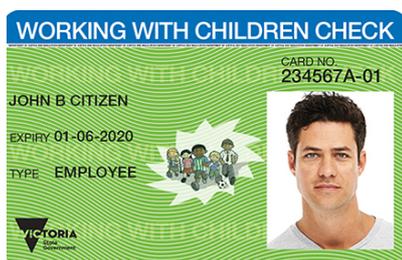
#### Social media



#### Upcoming activities

Activity title ↑	Activity type	Park	Start date ↑	End date
There are no activities for this group				

Once this has been actioned, I will receive an updated list via email, and you will be updated on our database as completing phase 1 of your onboarding tasks.



## Working With Children Check

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

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

What does your card display?

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

You will need to update your personal Park Connect page under the accreditation tab which is located in the drop down box under your name. Type the card id number in and upload an image of the card.

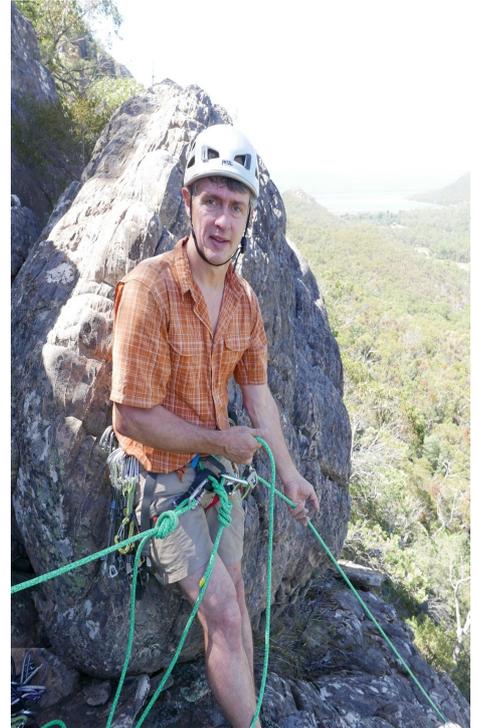
You will need to have your card handy when volunteering at events.

# STEVE TOAL-STEWARD, AUTHOR AND GARIWERD LOCAL (SOMETIMES)

Author of the Central Grampians Comprehensive Guide, and aspirant on the next two volumes, Steve has climbed in Victoria and elsewhere for over 40 years. Here's a rundown:

In 1977 myself and a few school mates took some 7mm Edelrid up to The Cathedrals for some top roping. That was a mild start, but then the Barr brothers - Ian and Neil - ran a weekend at Arapiles for the school bushwalking club. I caught up with Neil again at the VCC dinner in 2013. From there, it was reading copies of Mountaineering on the school bus and planning trips, then some contacts in the Scouts got me on a 'learn to lead' weekend at Hanging Rock. I think my instruction was being pointed at a route and told not to fall off, but somehow I survived long enough to get to Melbourne Uni in 1980 where there were older and more experienced climbers in MUMC that pushed things up a couple of levels, including a couple of early epics on the North Wall at Buffalo in the 80s with the likes of Craig Nottle and Graham Sanders.

From there I scuba dived and mountain-biked in between spurts of climbing, here and in the US where I resided for 4 years. On return to Melbourne in 1991 I mostly worked on house renovating until a climber's get-together in 2003 rekindled the flames and I've been climbing more or less continuously ever since.



**Photo: Steve at Pinnacle Rocks near Halls Gap**

After purchasing a house in Halls Gap in 2014 I realised the climbing information there was sorely out of date, and have made it my mission to explore every crag and check every recorded route. Sometimes we even get to climb something. The Central Grampians Comprehensive Guide was published in 2019 and was an incentive to explore new areas. That keeps me going today, although it's tempting to stick to crags I know there's lots more out there that's worth finding.

I support the aims of Crag Stewards, and I can bring some local knowledge and understanding of the local community.

# *Martin Lama- Melbourne Regional Steward*



I started climbing by scrambling the easier lines at a small local limestone quarry a short walk from my childhood home, progressing up the harder lines as my confidence and technique grew. Unfortunately a retirement village now sits in this quarry where I spent so many happy days during my formative years.

Climbing has allowed me during the subsequent 40 plus years to visit and climb at numerous cliffs around the world, compete for Australia at both World Cup and US Nationals and enjoy the company of many amazing people. Even if our languages differed we were one big family with a common love of the outdoors and climbing.

What travelling has allowed me, is a true appreciation of the quality of the cliffs that exist here at home in Victoria. They are truly world class! I have joined CSV, as I see the organisation's objectives as a positive path to foster strong collaboration with Traditional Owners and Land Care Management. Hopefully allowing for sustainable climbing here in Victoria well into the future!

*Send in a picture of a favourite  
Crag/climb for our newsletter*

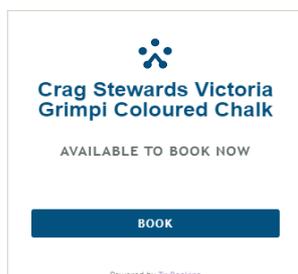
*Email:  
[cragstewardsvictoria@gmail.com](mailto:cragstewardsvictoria@gmail.com)*

## Crag Dreaming



Goshen Watts on the Trad line 'Stone Tempress', 22 at Centurion, NE Grampians. A great crag, that although doesn't have a large amount of routes, they are on quality rock. A low-key walking track in good condition, and low-impact staging areas (rockshelves etc) lends the cliff to being a good example of low impact, mixed climbing (Trad and Sport).

Order coloured chalk direct from us and support CSV



*Coloured Chalk available to purchase*