

Park Update

Hepburn Area

June 2017

This Park Update provides information about some reserves managed by Parks Victoria in the Ballarat Park Area.

Hepburn Regional Park

The Blowhole

The visitor area is currently closed due to extensive flood damage. Options for reopening some sections are being considered. The damage is significant and undermines the main access path. Visitors are reminded not to enter the area for their own safety. In these winter months, any rainfall may further deteriorate the closed areas.

Sailors Falls

Not long now! The staircase replacement project is in the final stages of construction, with the opening expected to be July. Visitors can still access the picnic area, mineral spring pump and view the falls or take the alternate access from Telegraph Road to walk the lower loop.

Mineral Springs

Over the past few months, Rangers have been busy with the Argyle Spring Project installing a new pump and landscaping works around the old wishing well. The Victorian Mineral Springs Committee granted the funds for the project to Parks Victoria. The mineral spring and walking trail are expected to be opened late June.

Walking trails

With some of the footbridges closed in Hepburn Regional Park, why not try the short walk along the Goldfields track from Tipperary Springs to Twin Bridges on the east side of Sailors Creek and return via the same trail? The trail follows historic water races and has views of the creek and gully system below. This walk is 4.6km and take 1.5 hours with shorter sections also very rewarding.

Seasonal Road Closures

The seasonal road closures in Hepburn Regional Park for 2017 will commence on 15 June 2017 and finish on 2 November 2017.

For more information and maps please refer to the website: <http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/safety/closures/seasonal-road-closures2>

Creswick Regional Park

La Gerche Forest Walk and Landcare trail

The Landcare trail has recently reopened after it was damaged by floods in Spring 2016. Take the 90-minute walk to complete both the loops along the self-guided trails. You will find the old nursery plantations with trees that are over 100 years old as well as signs along the way explaining the history and natural treasures. This gentle sloping walk is great for the whole family. Car parking is available on Sawpit Road, Creswick.

Mt Beckworth Scenic Reserve

Picnics and walks

Mt Beckworth Scenic Reserve is 8 km west of Clunes and 35 km north of Ballarat. Five pines were planted in 1918, all but one were cut down in the 1940's for the aerial survey beacon. The remaining lone pine had its lower branches pruned and remains as a 'lollypop' landmark seen up to 50 km away. There are several walks in the park and to the summit, which has breath taking views of the surrounding countryside or enjoy a picnic at one of the three visitor areas.

2016 Flood Update

Recovery Works

A temporary Visitor Guide and Flood Recovery update is available on the Parks Victoria website for Hepburn Regional Park and Creswick Regional Park.

Works that have recently been completed are:

- Insurance claims have been lodged for timber handrails and footbridges in Hepburn Regional Park
- Cultural heritage assessments and advice from Parks Victoria's Heritage Advisor are complete
- Walking trails have been cleared of fallen branches along the Goldfields track and Tipperary walks

Need any further information?

For more information or to make a report, please contact the Parks Victoria call centre on 13 1963 or email info@parks.vic.gov.au. You can also visit the Parks Victoria website: www.parks.vic.gov.au