

Media Release

The Hon Gayle Tierney MP
Minister for Skills and TAFE
Minister for Regional Development



Saturday, 30 November 2024

CRESWICK'S DJUWANG BARING TRAILS KICK INTO GEAR

Creswick's transformation into a world-class mountain biking destination is now complete, thanks to the opening of the full *Djuwang Baring* trail network, backed by the Allan Labor Government.

Member for Ripon Martha Haylett today represented Minister for Regional Development Gayle Tierney to officially open the trails, alongside representatives from the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (DJAARA), Hepburn Shire Council, and local community members.

Supported by a Labor Government investment of more than \$2 million, *Djuwang Baring* or 'long track', offers riders of all ages and abilities the chance to hone their skills and enjoy a healthy, active, and social lifestyle – as they wind their way through 60 kilometres of breathtaking trails in the heart of Dja Dja Wurrung Country.

Djuwang Baring was designed in consultation with DJAARA and features branding and interpretive signage designed by DJANDAK, the organisation's business enterprise.

These signs provide directions, safety advice, and information about Country and culture that enrich riders' experiences as they work their way from the start of the trails at Hammon Park Trailhead, up to the north of the Cosgrave Reservoir.

Importantly, *Djuwang Baring* has already provided a boost to local businesses since the first trail sections were opened in August. Local traders have seen a lift in visitors since the first trails opened, with people travelling across the state to tackle Victoria's newest home for mountain biking.

The Labor Government's investment to establish Creswick as a premier mountain biking destination also includes more than \$2 million to complete the adjoining Hammon Park Trailhead and Bike Park and a further \$100,000 through Regional Development Victoria to support marketing and promotion of the park and trails.

Our support for Creswick's biking projects forms part of the Labor Government's record investment of \$45 billion across rural and regional Victoria since 2014.

It's part of our ongoing commitment to making our regions even better places to live, work, stay and play.

For more information, visit rdv.vic.gov.au.

Quote attributable to Minister for Regional Development Gayle Tierney

"The beautiful Djuwang Baring trails are an important local asset already proving to be popular with riders - boosting health and wellbeing, supporting Country, and driving economic growth in Creswick."

Quote attributable to Member for Ripon Martha Haylett

"The opening of the stunning Djuwang Baring cements Creswick's position as one of our premier mountain biking destinations and speaks to what can be achieved when we partner with Traditional Owners in project delivery."

Quote attributable to Hepburn Shire Mayor Cr Don Henderson

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“Djuwang Baring will be a unique asset for our local community and visitors. It will generate positive tourism outcomes, including increased visitation, providing a strong return to local and regional businesses and tourism destinations.”

Quote attributable to DJAARA Group CEO Rodney Carter

“Sharing Dja Dja Wurrung Culture, creativity and language through this exciting project is enriching for Dja Dja Wurrung People and for all people who visit this newly activated park.”