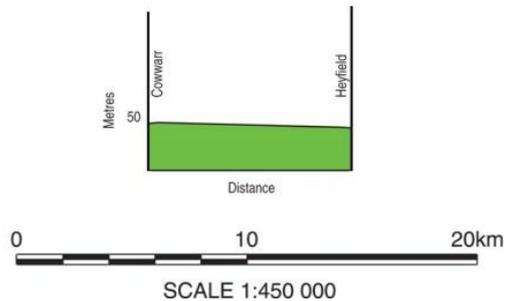




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FACT SHEET 2 (of 4) Cowwarr to Heyfield



How long: 11kms

Time: Allow 90 minutes each way by bicycle.

- Start point: Old Cowwarr Railway siding, 100mts south of Traralgon-Maffra Road (western end of Cowwarr)
- Terminates: Lions Park, Heyfield (at the rotunda)
- Going: Cowwarr to Cowwarr-Heyfield Road (Dawson Connection) - flat easy ride on gravel good surface
Cowwarr-Heyfield Road to Dawson Flora Reserve – flat easy ride on bitumen road
Dawson Flora Reserve to 2kms west of Heyfield – gently undulating ride on good gravel surface
2kms west of Heyfield to Lions Park – gentle to moderate undulating ride on good gravel surface, with a steep descent to Racecourse Road, as you enter Heyfield (caution must be exercised here).

Trail Description:

The Cowwarr to Heyfield leg is possibly the most picturesque. There is roadside parking in the town, or you can utilise the car park at the reserve. Begin at the old Cowwarr Railway siding, heading northeast, Cross Traralgon-Maffra Road. and proceed to Rainbow Creek. Next, arrive at the Dawson Connection where you will leave the trail for about 5.5km. (the route is clearly signposted), re-joining the trail at Dawson Flora Reserve. Here is where many plants of significance are located, and (as with all flora on the trail), please take care not to cause damage. Dawson was the site of a railway station which opened in 1884. Originally named Glenmaggie Railway Station, the name was changed in (c)February 1888. A post office also operated from the station between 1884 and 1927. As you enter Heyfield there is a short descent to Racecourse Road, and care must be taken here. Now follow Racecourse Road to Davis Street, or take the scenic route around Heyfield Wetlands before re-joining the trail where you left it. Proceed to Davis Street and follow the trail through Apex Park to the rotunda in adjoining Lion's Park. This is the end of the Cowwarr-Heyfield leg and beginning of the Heyfield-Maffra leg.

Note: there is no drinking water, nor are there toilet facilities on the trail. Please use the amenities in each of the towns along the trail, as needed.

What to Look For:

- Remains of Cowwarr railway siding
- Sculpted figurines of native wildlife along the first 100 meters of the trail
- Art Deco Public Hall
- Art Deco Cowwarr Cricket Club Hotel
- Heritage Federation Arts and Craft (C1918) Old Butter Factory, now the Cowwarr Art Space
- Views of the Great Diving Range's southern foothills (Victoria's High Country)
- Abandoned and ruined farmhouses
- Flora of significance
- Native birds
- Sections of the old railway tracks

What You Should Know:

- Whilst predominantly flat, the trail does have several gentle inclines and a steep descent just west of Heyfield.
- There is a resting bench about 100 meters along the trail from Traralgon-Maffra Road at Cowwarr.
- There is an 'on-road' section of approximately 5.5 kilometres (Dawson Connection).
- There is no drinking water on the trail.
- Public toilets are located at either end of the trail; in the Cowwarr Hall at Cowwarr, and in Apex Park at Heyfield.
- There are no rubbish bins on the trail.
- It is possible for livestock to occasionally wonder on to the trail.

➤ Other Places of Interest:

Southwest of Cowwarr, remains of original railway bridges are visible between Traralgon-Maffra Road and Foxs Road (heading southwest past the old Cowwarr railway station ruins).

Bicycle and Trail Services:

A limited range of cycle parts and repair kits can be found at Vern Graham Hardware, 36 George St, Heyfield. 03 5148 3396
Full cycle services are available at Alexander's Cycle and Sports store, 54 Johnson St, Maffra. (03) 5147-2442.

Wellington Shire Tourism welcomes feedback from all visitors to our region. We would love to hear your Rail Trail tale. We would also welcome your comments on ways that our Rail Trail might be improved to further enhance your Rail Trail experience. We can be contacted at www.tourismwellington.com.au, or write to us care of Wellington Information Centre, Foster St, Sale. 3850.