

# Harcourt Mountain Bike Park Update December 2017 & January 2018



The Victorian Government is building a world class mountain bike park in Harcourt. Located on a former pine plantation and alongside Mount Alexander Regional Park, the bike park will boost tourism and the health and wellbeing of locals and visitors. The Park will open in early 2018.

## What's Happening?

- La Larr Ba Gauwa (*pronounced Lah Larr Ba Gower*) Park is now the official name of the former pine plantation on which the Harcourt mountain bike trails are located. La Larr Ba Gauwa means “stones and mountain” in Dja Dja Wurrung language. The name was proposed by the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation and endorsed by the Project’s Community Reference Group. The name also received strong community support throughout the consultation process. A logo has been created and will be used to promote the Park.
- December was a very busy month at the Harcourt Mountain Bike Trails with contractors Dirt Art close to completing 34 kilometres of trails. In the New Year, the Dirt Art crew will put the finishing touches on the trails. The Park remains a construction site so please do not ride the trails.
- It wasn’t only trail construction taking place at La Larr Ba Gauwa in December. Toilet facilities have been installed midway between The Oaks and where the shelter is being constructed at the Park entry. Dja Dja Wurrung crews built amazing granite steps as part of the pathway linking the facilities to The Oaks.
- Work has started to create an attractive and functional Park entrance. Landscaping and safety work has been undertaken at the entry and a shelter will be erected there in January.



***Above: Toilet facilities have been constructed and can be accessed from The Oaks and the shelter area near the entrance.***

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**Above left: L-R: Member for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards; CEO Mount Alexander Shire Council, Darren Fuzzard; DELWP Project Manager, Russell Manning; Mayor, Mount Alexander Shire Council, Cr Bronwen Machin.**  
**Above right: Off-road pathway connecting Harcourt to Park**

- Member for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards, visited the Park in December. She was impressed by how quickly work had progressed since construction started in August. Project Manager Russell Manning took her on a tour that included the southern knoll trails, The Oaks picnic area and Park entrance.
- Construction of the off-road pathway between the Park and the Harcourt township is progressing well and is expected to be completed by the end of January.
- Gates will be installed across the emergency access tracks in January to protect the safety of bike riders, walkers and horse riders. Emergency vehicles are the only vehicles that will be able to access these tracks. The Oaks picnic area remains open to vehicles. Walkers, horse riders and cyclists can continue to use the tracks they have always enjoyed within the Park.

## When can I ride the mountain bike trails?

An official opening date for the Park is yet to be confirmed but will likely be late February or early March. Keep an eye on the next update or on the DELWP Loddon Mallee Facebook page for more news about when the Park will open. Please remember that the Park is still a construction site and you must not ride the trails until the project is complete. Contractors will continue working on all parts of the trails over the next couple of months. Riding the trails before they are ready jeopardises the safety of contractors and riders, and may damage the trails, causing costly delays. If you see people riding the trails, please report it to DELWP on 136 186.

## Keep in touch

It's important to us that we are talking with you and keeping you up-to-date with information about the Harcourt Mountain Bike Park Project. There are several ways we can keep in touch. Get on our mailing list and receive regular updates by emailing [harcourtmbp@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:harcourtmbp@delwp.vic.gov.au) or

Call us on 136 186

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