

# Bunny Trail

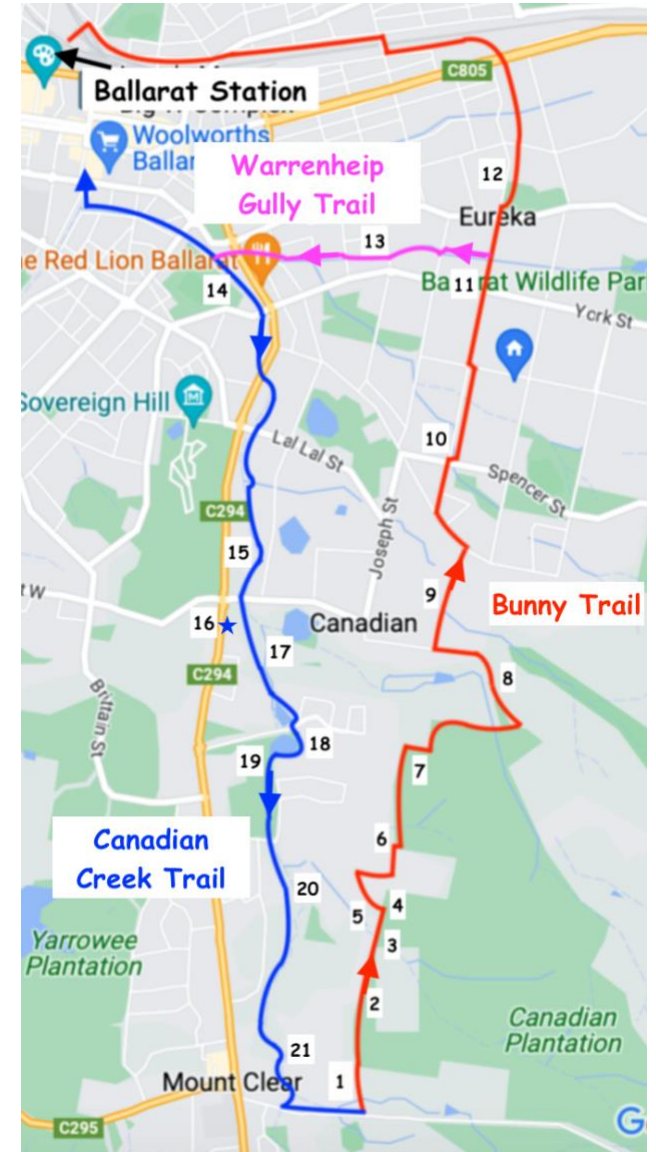


The Bunny Trail begins at the Recreation Rd Bushland Reserve, Mt Clear. The Bunny Trail (red) runs northwards to Eureka and on to the Ballarat Station. A loop can be made by turning westwards along Warrenheip Gully Trail (purple) to the Canadian Creek Trail junction. Turning southwards, the route runs along Canadian Creek Trail (blue) to the end point at Recreation Rd, Mt Clear. Total distance 13km

1. **Recreation Rd Bushland Reserve:** The embankment and wooden railway bridge are remnants of the 1889 to 1947 Ballarat to Buninyong rail line. The “Bunny Trail” rail trail opened in 2023 with support from the City of Ballarat, Community Bank Buninyong, Victorian Government Living Local Fund and hundreds of hours of volunteer labour.
2. **Woowookarung Regional Park:** The trail enters ex plantation land, now in regrowth and follows an ex-plantation road. The Bunny rail line can be observed within the west side private properties.
3. **Unnamed Creek (Sailors Gully Creek):** A rare stand of Yarra Gums grow in the adjacent creek wet areas.
4. **Railway Embankment:** A short section of the old Bunny Rail line is still evident beside the bend in Lavery Avenue.
5. **Mt Clear Horse Puddler:** Is located beside the creek on private property near the Lavery Avenue turning circle.
6. **Horwood Avenue:** A short section of the Bunny rail line cutting is evident to the north.
7. **Woowookarung Regional Park:** The land to the east is ex plantation forest and recovering.
8. **Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail car park and entrance.**
9. **Canadian Railway Station and Fuel Depot:** The terminus for troop trains bringing soldiers to the

nearby rifle range for training in the WW 1 and 2. An Inland fuel depot for holding and mixing aviation fuel was established during World War 2. A large green fuel tank still exists in metal recycling yard in nearby Elsworth St. A starch factory was also located beside the station.

10. **Levy Station:** Located on the north side of the Spencer and Rodier St intersection.
11. **York St Station:** Located on the southern corner of York and Rodier St.
12. **Eureka Station and Atlantic fuel depot:** Eureka station contained sidings to the Iron Works, Eureka Tiles and the Atlantic fuel depot.
13. **Warrenheip Gully Trail.** Concrete lined creek through old mining ground.
14. **Gold Cairn:** The gold cairn celebrates the discovery of gold at Poverty Point by Dunlop and Regan in 1851.
15. **Canadian Creek Trail:** The Canadian Creek trail was constructed in the 1970’s to provide a safe path to the new Secondary College at Mt Clear for students from central Ballarat.
16. **Bronze sign post:** Celebrating the location nearby of the Blacksmiths Hole “Jewellers Shop” that yielded a ton of gold in 1853. The sign is on Main Rd, 100m west of the Canadian Creek Trail.
17. **Cyanide Vat:** Brick circular remains of a cyanide tank used for collecting gold by chemical means.
18. **Canadian Gully Reserve:** Was created after covering a former mining residue site contaminated with arsenic.
19. **Canadian Lakes:** A residential development from the early 2000’s with lakes acting as landscaped water retention basins.
20. **Harry Lavery Bushland Reserve:** A small bushland reserve named after a long-time resident. Cared for by local residents.
21. **Honey bee plantation.** Four hectares of honey bee friendly native trees were planted in the 1970’s to encourage bees.



**Map prepared by the FoCC 2023 for general direction only.** Trails are unmarked. Surfaces range from bush track to shared trail and suburban roads. Navigation and off-road cycling and/or walking skills required.

The Canadian Corridor on the eastern side of Ballarat contains significant native forest, unique flora and fauna. Woowookarung Regional Park, Union Jack Reserve, Pryor Park, associated creeks and other reserves all crisscrossed with walk/cycle trails ranging from fully constructed trails to unmade bush tracks.

1. Bunny Trail
2. Canadian Creek Trail
3. Cherry Ballart and Fern Loop trails
4. Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory
5. Grasstree Creek Trail
6. Pennyweight Gully Trail
7. Grasstree Nature Trail
8. Specimen Vale Trail
9. Warrenheip Gully Trail

The Friends of the Canadian Corridor Incorporated (FoCC) is a local group dedicated to the conservation of the natural environment. The group was instrumental in the establishment of Woowookarung Regional Park. The principal aims of the group are to protect local neighbourhood character, heritage and cultural identity and to maintain and promote public open space and maintain, improve and protect wildlife links, corridors and habitat in the local area and corridor.

The Recreation Road Bushland Reserve was purchased by the City of Ballarat in 2021 after a proposal for a “Bunny Trail” was developed by Friends of Canadian Corridor. The “Bunny Trail” was constructed with the support of the Community Bank Buninyong, Victorian Government Living Local Fund, private donors and hundreds of hours of volunteer labour.

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## Friends of Canadian Corridor

# Bunny Trail Loop Map

## October 2023

