



**Highways
and Byways**

HEALING THE LAND.
HEALING OURSELVES.
TOGETHER.

MEDIA RELEASE

4 July 2023

The regional community of Yea is preparing to welcome visitors for the annual Highways and Byways Yarck to Yea – Walk, Run, Run - to be held on Saturday 19th August 2023.

Walking and cycling enthusiasts, along with eager joggers, are preparing for this year's **Yarck to Yea – Walk/Ride and Run**.

The annual event, which will be held on the morning of **Saturday 19th August 2023**, raises funds to support the programs of Highways and Byways, the mission entity of the Missionary Sisters of Service (MSS).

Participants will walk, ride or run along the **Great Victorian Rail Trail** starting at various points between Yarck and Yea. Some will journey the entire 27km length of trail from Yarck, and others will complete shorter 17km, 9km or 5km events.

After crossing the finishing line at the Yea Railway Station, participants will be treated to a celebratory barbecue lunch, provided by the local Yea Catholic community.

Highways and Byways Executive Officer Jane Collopy said that Yea is a location of historical significance to Highways and Byways as the birthplace of the MSS founder Father John Wallis. "Highways and Byways has a special connection with Yea, and the Yea parish community supports and welcomes us each year".

She added that the support of the event from both locals and participants who come from Melbourne and other parts of the State, strengthens the work of Highways and Byways.

"Highways and Byways supports rural and regional communities across Australia to undertake projects to address disadvantage and exclusion through our annual grants program and longer-term partnership programs. We have funded a diverse range of organisations and projects, many with an emphasis on healing country and people through land and environmental restoration, local leadership and personal development and sharing knowledge and skills across generations".

The event commences at staggered starting times, from 7.15am. To find out more visit www.hb.org.au.

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Highways and Byways – Healing the Land, Healing Ourselves, Together

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