

Toolangi Bushland Reserve Walking Trails

DEPI – Toolangi

August 2014

FS0014

ISSN 1440-2262

Toolangi Bushland Reserve

Toolangi Bushland Reserve is situated within the township of Toolangi approximately 55 km from Melbourne. There are two easy but impressive walking trails within the Reserve, Toolangi Sculpture Trail and Yea River Walk.

Location and Access

From Melbourne via the Melba Hwy, turn left onto the Healesville Kinglake Rd. Alternatively, from Healesville take the Myers Ck Rd or Healesville Kinglake Rd towards Toolangi.

Walking Trail

Toolangi Sculpture Trail



Return 500m | 30-45 minutes
Gentle hills | Formed track
Clearly Signposted | No steps
No experience required

An international sculpture event was held at Toolangi in 1996 and was the brainchild of sculptor Ernst Fries. He came across the Forest Discovery Centre in 1994 and felt the venue would be ideal to stage an important international event that would “not only enrich our experience but make us aware of different cultures’ interpretation of issues of global concerns.”

The sculptures are the work of a diverse group of top professional artists from Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. The sculptures were required to be three dimensional, durable, site-specific and use materials from the forest.

Eight of the original sculptures are still visible along the trail. They are all in different states of decay as intended. Information boards along the trail give some basic information about the artist and the inspirations behind their work. Photographs show the sculptures in their original condition. There are two more recent sculptures by local artist Savaad Felich along the trail. One is formed from the roots of a giant Messmate tree uprooted in a storm.

The walk starts at the Discovery Centre and loops through the surrounding mixed species forest. At the highest point

of the walk, near the sculpture known as the “Mongolian Horse” (sculpture No.9), there are excellent views south along the Chum Creek Valley towards Healesville and the Yarra Valley.

Yea River Walk



Return 1.5km | 1 hour
Flat | Formed track
Clearly Signposted | No steps
No experience required

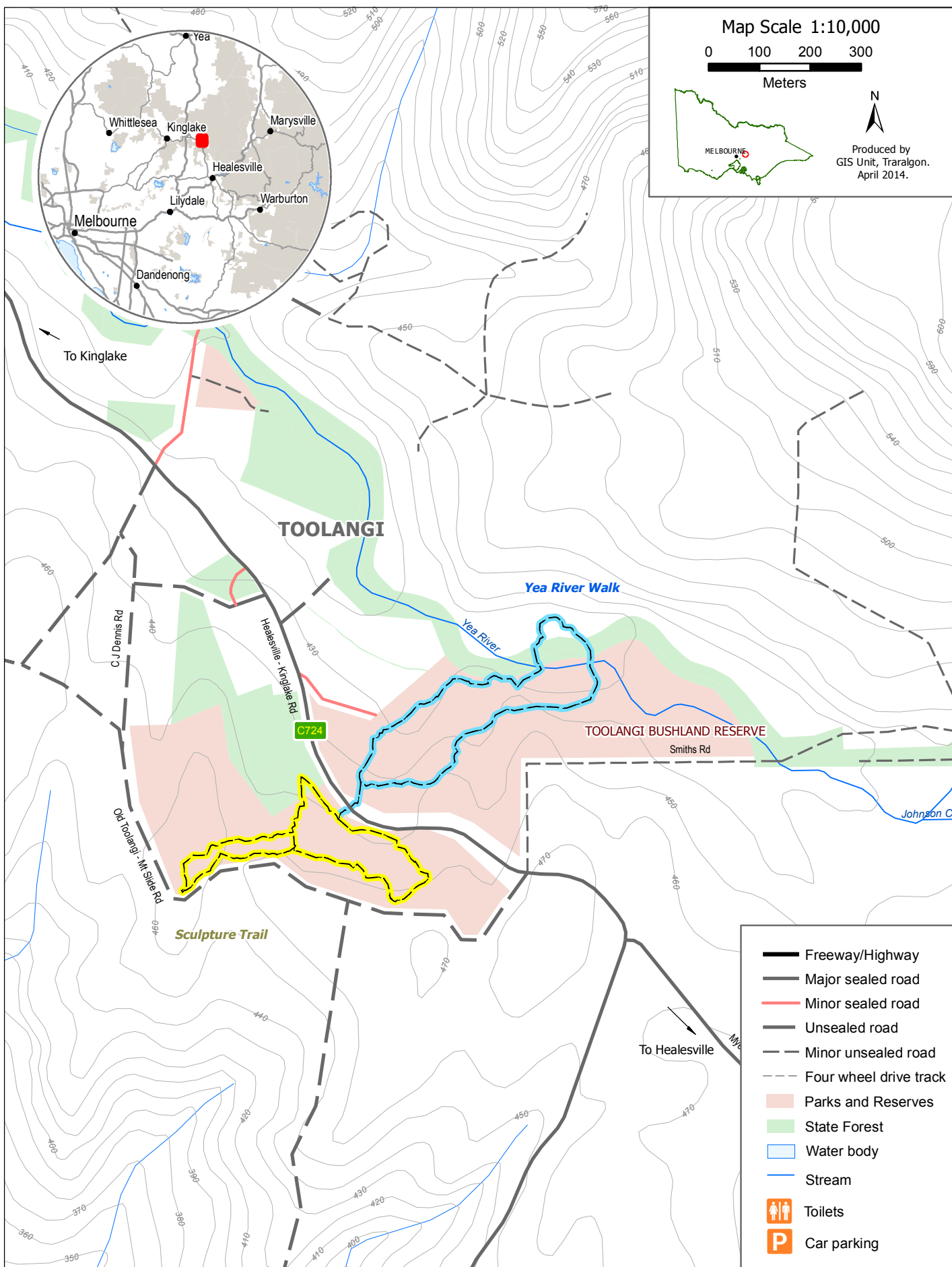
Yea River Walk begins behind the Toolangi Forest Discovery Centre on the north side of Main Rd. It is an easy 1 hour walk which passes through Messmate (*Eucalyptus obliqua*), Narrow Leafed Peppermint (*E. radiata*) and Mountain Grey Gum (*E. cypellocarpa*) forest, before reaching Mountain Ash (*E. regnans*) forest. The Yea River runs through the forest providing a feeling of tranquility. The river is full of aquatic life including platypus and many fish species. The viewing platform gives an excellent vantage point to see the river. The water here flows from the slopes of Mt. St. Leonard and joins the Goulburn-Broken Catchment and eventually the Murray-Darling Basin.

The Yea River Walk contains interpretive boards beautifully hand painted by local Toolangi artist David O’Gradey. They tell the story of the forest as a journey through time.

For more information

The Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) is responsible for managing Victoria’s State Forest. For further information contact DEPI’s Customer Service Centre ☎ 136 186 (TTY: 1800 555 667) or visit DEPI’s website at <http://www.depi.vic.gov.au>

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its officers do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.



This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.