Finishing touches at Skye Road

The removal of the level crossing at Skye/Overton Road means less traffic and safer movement for everyone.

We are busy applying the finishing touches to landscaping, public lighting, car parks, traffic islands and the shared user path.

More than 95 per cent of the plants we’re using are natives including flowering banksias and eucalypts.

Tree species include heath banksia, silver banksia, drooping sheoaks, euky dwarf, spotted gum and a coastal tea, and plants such as pale rush, common tussock-grass and knobby club-sedge.

The native plants will cover an area of about 9000 square metres and beautify the area. The 10 Norfolk pines at the intersection entry reflect Skye Road’s coastal character.

Around 85 per cent of the native plants were supplied by Yarra View Nursery: Australia’s largest social enterprise nursery, which employs more than 100 people with disability.

The intersection road surface and line marking will be complete in early October.
SKYE/OVERTON ROAD

Project timeline

☑️ April 2018
- level crossing intersection closed to traffic
- removal of the boom gates
- transportation of U-trough beams to form the twin rail bridge commences

☑️ May 2018
- major construction blitz

☑️ 18 June 2018
- train services resume

☑️ 23 June 2018
- Skye/Overton Road reopens to traffic and pedestrians

☑️ July 2018
- shared user path, car parking, new kerbs and lighting

☑️ August 2018
- landscaping program commenced

☑️ September 2018
- new car parks open

☑️ October 2018
- intersection road surface and line marking complete.

Gatdet's learn and GROW experience

When Gatdet Bangoang was five years old, civil war broke out in South Sudan, and he and his family fled to Ethiopia.

The oldest of seven children, he lived in a refugee camp for the next 12 years where he and his siblings walked about 10 kilometres to attend school every day. Classes were taught by other refugees and held under a tree until a school, funded by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, was opened. It was there that he learned English. “If it rained, classes were cancelled” he said.

Gatdet loved learning and his hunger for knowledge resulted in studying agriculture at a university in Ethiopia.

Gatdet eventually emigrated to Australia in November 2015 where he initially worked in a pharmaceutical manufacturing plant to support his wife and their then six-month-old son.

He is now working on the new Frankston Station and the Skye Road level crossing removal project thanks to a Victorian Government employment program called GROW.

His employment was made possible by Careerseekers, a support agency that works with asylum seekers and refugees. They connected him to the GROW program at the Level Crossing Removal Authority.

“Gatdet is now 35 and the father of two young boys. After completing the GROW program, he became a Project Administrator, a busy job where he handles accounts and project reporting.

“It’s a busy, fast-paced environment. I am really positive about the future for me and my family,” he said.

Gatdet often shares his experience with other refugees.

“Many people from South Sudan and Ethiopia come to Australia with degrees and others got their qualifications here. They don’t want to live on welfare. They have courage and want to contribute positively to Australia, they just need an opportunity,” he said.

“I talk to them about the GROW program, I tell them that the program can help them get a foot in the door like I did.”

Welcoming Gatdet to the project team.
FRANKSTON STATION

Frankston Station is undergoing a massive transformation and will be the centrepiece of the Victorian Government’s $63 million revitalisation program.

The 18th new station opened by the Victorian Government in three years, when completed it will be a landmark in the region.

Work is well on track for the completion of the new station in early October.

A six-week construction blitz saw crews working 24/7 to demolish the old and bring in the new, with the focus on getting the trains back on the tracks. Since then around 120,000 passengers have travelled on the Frankston line.

In September, station staff have moved into their new buildings and the temporary facilities in the Fletcher Road car park have been removed. The air-conditioned waiting room is now open for passengers and the glass reinforced concrete panels have been installed, transforming the buildings into a sleek modern station.

This iconic building, designed by Genton Architects, will be a fitting gateway to the peninsula area.

Be sure to join us on Saturday 6 October as we celebrate the completion of the new station. From 5.30pm – 8pm there will be food and entertainment in the station forecourt to help celebrate Frankston’s newest landmark.

Ultimate Makeover Winner

Congratulations to Harry Szommer

Harry spent $28 at Best Legs on Young Street and was the winner of the Ultimate Makeover competition. Harry takes home:

- six month gym membership from Xplode Fitness
- $500 jewellery voucher from Anny’s Jewellers
- pedicure from Passion for Hair and Nails
- basket of hair products from Professional Haircare Products
- $150 voucher to EyeSpy
- vouchers to Best Legs in Town and Hasty Gamers.

Frankston Station first opened in August 1882, with steam trains delivering passengers to a sleepy fishing village.

In 1959, Frankston Station found itself on the world stage when the Hollywood movie On the Beach was filmed here. Starring Gregory Peck, Ava Gardner and Fred Astaire, the movie was based on a novel by the Australian author Neville Shute who was a Frankston resident at the time.
Meet your local traders

We encourage communities to continue shopping locally during construction.

MotaFit Service Centre
& Skye Road, Frankston

If you’re looking for a mechanic with impeccable service and professionalism, then look no further than Danny at MotaFit Service Centre in Frankston.

Located near the corner of Skye Road and Overton roads, MotaFit Service Centre has a reputation for personalised, reliable service for everyone who brings in their pride and joy. Whether it’s a regular car service or a specific concern with your vehicle, Danny and his team pride themselves on locating and properly correcting any issues as quickly as possible. Quality assurance is given as well as honest and trustworthy advice.

For more information or to book in a service, call 9783 2123.

Lucky’s Deli and Cafe
46-48 Young Street, Frankston

Fortunato ‘Lucky’ Ferraro left his homeland of Calabria with his family when he was 15 years old in search of a better life. They found it in Frankston. “Frankston has been in my heart for a long time,” he said. In Calabria, Lucky’s family were farmers, making their own cheeses and salami. Lucky and his wife Nella have had Lucky’s Deli and Cafe for 37 years. Overflowing with everything you need for a fantastic antipasto, there’s an exceptional selection of salamis, hams, olives, cheeses and dips. The cafe is also a meeting point for locals to sit and chat over a coffee.

Lucky is delighted with the Frankston Station upgrade. “Thank you for doing this project. It is long overdue. I have put my heart and soul into Frankston. I hope it will prosper. I think Frankston is a good town. Together I hope we can make it great.”

Check out Lucky’s Facebook page for weekly specials — luckysdeliandcafe.

Seaford Road level crossing gone for good

After a six-week construction blitz, the Seaford Road level crossing has been removed, trains are running on the new rail line and Seaford Road is reopening — boom gate free.

Our crews have worked around the clock during August and September to lower Seaford Road and build the new rail line, including lifting 16 U-trough beams that form the bridge spans over Seaford Road and the pedestrian walkway linking Railway Parade and RF Miles Reserve.

From Friday 28 September drivers, pedestrians and cyclists no longer have to wait at the level crossing, making Seaford safer and better connected for the local community.

CONTACT US

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Level Crossing Removal Authority
GPO Box 4509, Melbourne VIC 3001

Follow us on social media @levelcrossings

Translation service – For languages other than English, please call 9280 0780.

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