Facebook Post – March 30th 2024:

https://www.facebook.com/richmondrailtrail/posts/pfbid0y5AvA4KMQmaEhonj7VNjFHFKqrEHHSE63zcvf73422Zi 2ZtC8sZ9HSUUeHgzty2YI

From Terry J. Lewin (RVRT Inc. Vice-President - RVRT Supporters' Group)

An Unofficial Taster for the Proposed *Shiraz to Shore* Trail - March 2024.



To follow up on our previous RVRT Supporters' Group Posts, we have compiled a set of (West to East) Montages (see Pictures 3 to 8) highlighting the range of experiences that you might expect to have as you travel along the proposed 100+ km *Shiraz to Shore* Trail.

As shown in Picture 2, the *Shiraz to Shore* Trail will be a multi-purpose shared pathway extending from (*'Shiraz'*) Wine Country in the Hunter Valley to the *Shores* of Newcastle and Lake Macquarie (NSW, Australia). The proposed **RVRT comprises approx. the middle third** of the *Shiraz to Shore* Trail.

You can also watch an associated short (3 Min.) *YouTube* video, illustrating (from West to East) the array of places that you will be able to visit and experience along the Trail. Link to video: <u>https://youtu.be/n4Csg9SdK34</u>

In reality, the proposed Trail will provide the conduit or spine for a broad range of activities and experiences. It will also help to promote the Hunter Region as a major cycle tourism destination, as well as providing day-to-day benefits for local communities, families and businesses.

Once again - **Congratulations to Hunter Joint Organisation of Councils** (Hunter JO) - and the participating Councils and numerous stakeholder groups - for their ongoing efforts developing and refining the *Shiraz to Shore* Trail Proposal.

"It's definitely Time to make the Shiraz to Shore Trail (and RVRT) a Reality!"

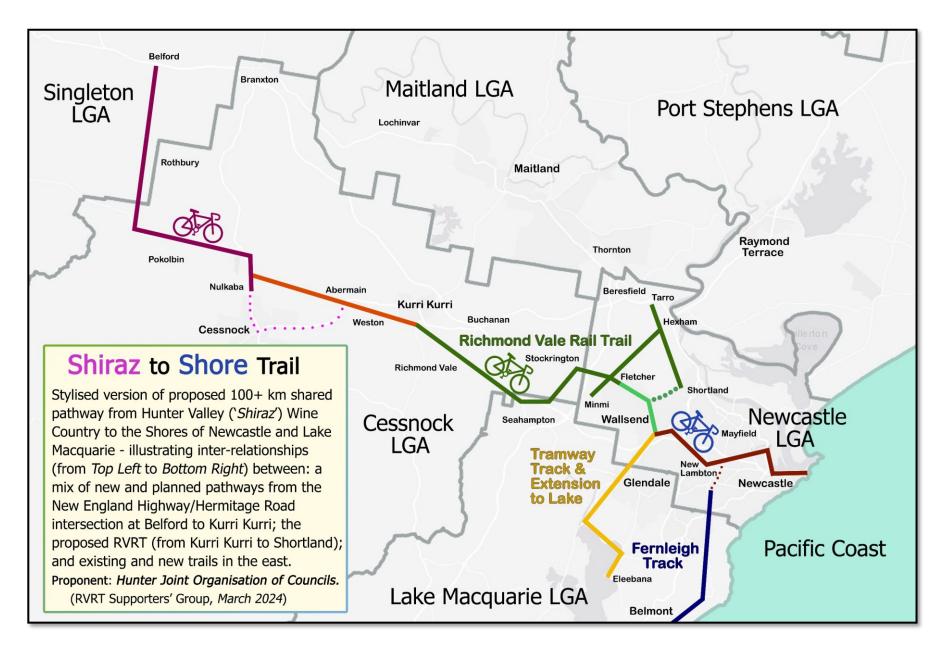
Thanks to all of our RVRT supporters.

CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK WELCOME.

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Picture 1. 'Unofficial Taster' - Cover Image. You can thumb through the set of Montages presented here or watch the associated 3-minute YouTube Video (or both).



Picture 2. Stylised version of 100+ km Shiraz to Shore Trail - March, 2024 - with the Richmond Vale Rail Trail (RVRT) identified as approx. the middle third.



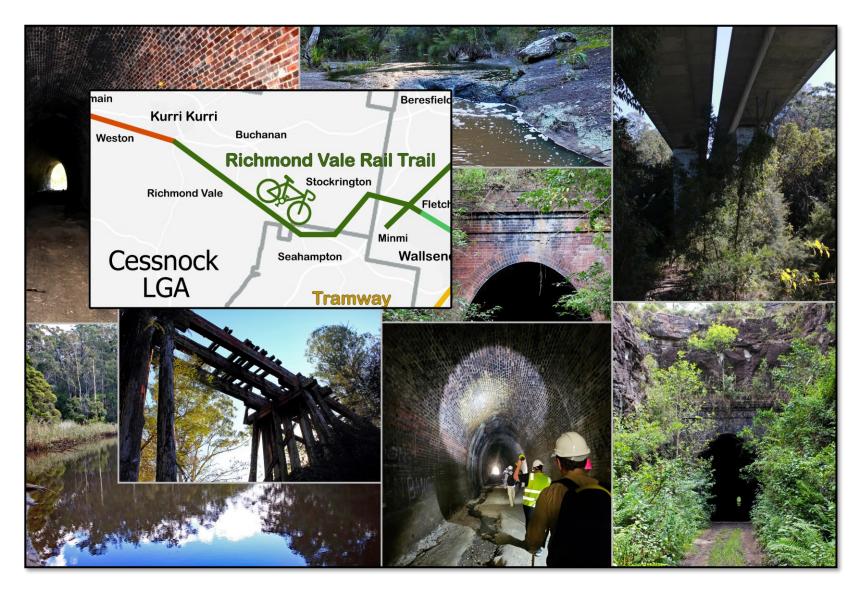
Picture 3. **Belford to Pokolbin Section** (within Singleton & Cessnock LGAs). The Wine Country region of the Hunter Valley has an extensive range of wineries, restaurants & accommodation venues, as well as offering a broad mix of other experiences. As pictured here, Hermitage Road already has a convenient cycleway for its entire length.



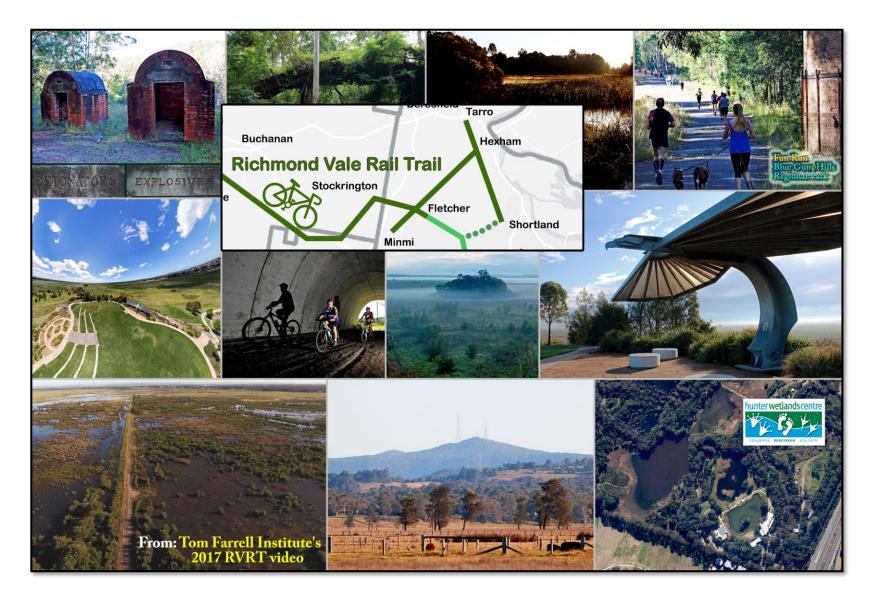
Picture 4. **Pokolbin to Kurri Kurri Section** (within Cessnock LGA). In addition to Wine Country related experiences, you can visit National Parks, wildlife parks, playgrounds, and galleries.



Picture 5. **Kurri Kurri to Stockrington Section** (within Cessnock & Lake Macquarie LGAs). Learn about local (mining, rail, industrial and indigenous) history and visit the numerous Kurri Kurri murals and art works.



Picture 6. **Kurri Kurri to Stockrington Section** (within Cessnock & Lake Macquarie LGAs) - *Continued*. There are three historic brick-lined railway tunnels in this section (within the Sugarloaf Range) and several conservation reserves.



Picture 7. **Stockrington to Shortland via Minmi/Fletcher and Tarro** (within Cessnock & Newcastle LGAs). Coastal wetlands, national parks and conservation areas are the key features within this section, together with opportunities to learn about indigenous culture and history.



Picture 8. Wallsend to the Shores of Newcastle and Lake Macquarie Section (within Newcastle & Lake Macquarie LGAs). The harbour, beaches, lake and city are the key features within this section - together with several popular existing shared pathways (e.g., Tramway and Fernleigh Tracks).