

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jan Juc Coast Action's environmental awareness project comes to fruition

Jan Juc Coast Action (JJCA) volunteer group has completed its latest project after being a recipient of the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee's (GORCC) Coastal Grants Program.

JJCA began the project in June 2019, erecting interpretative signage along the Jan Juc clifftops, providing visitors to the Surf Coast Walk with a before and after view of the area.

The project aims to highlight to visitors the amount of hard work that has gone into making the area what it is today, showcasing the environmental successes the group has delivered.

The signs can be found alongside the Surf Coast Walk near Bird Rock Car Park, Jan Juc Beach Car Park, and Steps Lookout in Jan Juc – locations that show the direct impact the volunteer groups efforts have had on creating substantial positive environmental change on the clifftops.

Dedicated JJCA member Luke Hynes, who has been involved with the volunteer group for more than a decade, was thrilled to see the project completed and said it was a tribute to the many hours and great work the group has put in.

Hynes also thanked GORCC for their generous assistance, providing a \$3,840 grant to get the project off the ground.

"There have been thousands of hours of volunteer work put in to enhance these areas. Hopefully, these pictures tell a bit of a story about how important it is to treat it well", Hynes said.

Not only will these signs provide great insight into the preservation of the Jan Juc clifftops, but they also help educate visitors.

The signs read: 'Our community chose to restore this coastal ecosystem. Help us look after and respect our fragile, diverse and unique habitat.'

The message is clear; the choice is ours to help our precious coastal ecosystems thrive.

The signs also provide visitors with information about JJCA and how they can get involved.

The popular walking track sees plenty of people, both local and tourists, enjoy the area and these signs will help to reduce the negative impact of people entering the protected areas on the clifftops as well as encourage environmental protection.



GREAT OCEAN ROAD COAST COMMITTEE

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The coastal vegetation along the clifftops has been restored over many years after human pressures degraded the landscape. With increased awareness, visitors will hopefully gain a better understanding and greater respect and awareness of the role we can all play in protecting the environment.

JJCA holds a monthly working bee on the first Sunday of the month. Anyone interested in getting involved with the volunteer group can contact Luke Hynes on 0406 113 438 or visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/JanJucCoastAction for details.

Each year, GORCC dedicates funds for community-led projects that enhance the natural values of the 37 kilometres of coastal Crown land under its management between Point Impossible and Cumberland River. The grants aim to encourage proactive environmental and heritage protection along the coast. The next round of Coastal Grants opens mid-March 2020.