

# Trail bridges need a name

THE O'Keefe Rail Trail now has 50 kilometres of off-road trail to be enjoyed by its users.

This includes 14 new trail bridges which add to the total of 17 trail bridges, crossing various waterways along the length of the rail, but they lack names.

When this section of the former railway line was originally built, in 1887-1888, a total of 50 bridges were initially constructed by Andrew O'Keefe's company.

Recent investigations by the Friends of the Bendigo-Kilmore Rail Trail have revealed a number of the waterways crossed by the current trail bridges appear not to have been officially named.

"It surprised our members to learn that many of these waterways, even though most are usually in a dry condition, did not have a name," group president Garry Long said.

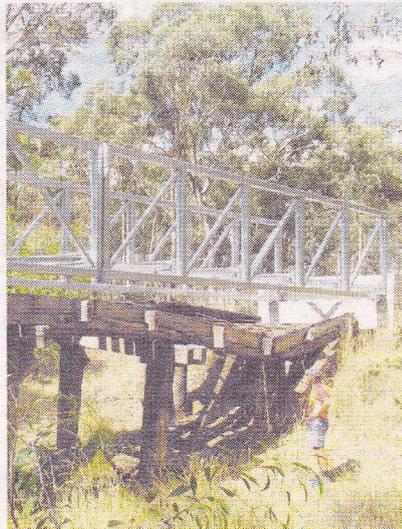
"To name such would not only assist the trail manager, City of Greater Bendigo council, to easily identify bridge assets and assist with trail maintenance; naming could also help emergency services and be a point of interest for trail users."

The Friends of the Bendigo-Kilmore Rail Trail have now taken up this waterway naming challenge as a new project.

"Not only are we seeking possible names, that could have historical links or relate to natural environment phenomena," Mr Long said.

"We are also seeking funding to manufacture and install such naming signs at each waterway.

"As a community group we would



**NO NAME:** There are 17 bridges on the trail.

welcome donations, perhaps from a former land owner's family connections, businesses or individual donors."

Suggested names, with credible references, will be submitted by the group to the appropriate land management authority for consideration and approval.

The unnamed waterways and those "suggested" names have been highlighted from research and various sources. Other naming submissions are still being considered.

Contributions are now being sought for the naming of these waterways.

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