

# VicTrack

24 October 2015

## **New community space opens at Trafalgar Station**

Trafalgar Station is no longer just somewhere to catch a train, following the completion of works on the station's building through the Victorian Government's Community Use of Vacant Rail Buildings Program, delivered by VicTrack.

The building, which was formerly unused, has been restored and refurbished and is now a community and arts space.

The Baw Baw Arts Alliance are using the building as a community arts exhibition and workshop space. The Trafalgar and District branch of the Bendigo Community Bank has taken on the head lease.

The \$435,000 works, carried out by Chippa Constructions, included replacing internal walls and part of the floor, and enclosing a breezeway. The building also now has accessible toilets and a kitchenette to cater for community events.

The current Trafalgar Station was constructed in 1911, replacing another building previously on the site. The exterior timber boards with roughcast above are characteristic of the Arts and Crafts movement in architecture.

The Community Use of Vacant Rail Buildings Program is managed by VicTrack on behalf of Public Transport Victoria. Trafalgar is the tenth project completed under the program.

### **Quotes attributable to Andy Santana, Manager Infrastructure & Facilities, VicTrack:**

"I am delighted that Trafalgar Station now has a community arts space, giving local people a much needed creative hub and bringing the station building back to life."

"The Baw Baw Arts Alliance played a significant role in transforming the nearby Yarragon Station, so I am excited to see what they have in store for Trafalgar."

"The Community Use of Vacant Rail Buildings Program has been revitalising station buildings across Victoria, giving communities new spaces while restoring disused, historic buildings for future generations."

"It has also provided a boost for tourism, by attracting people to regional towns who then go on to visit other local businesses."