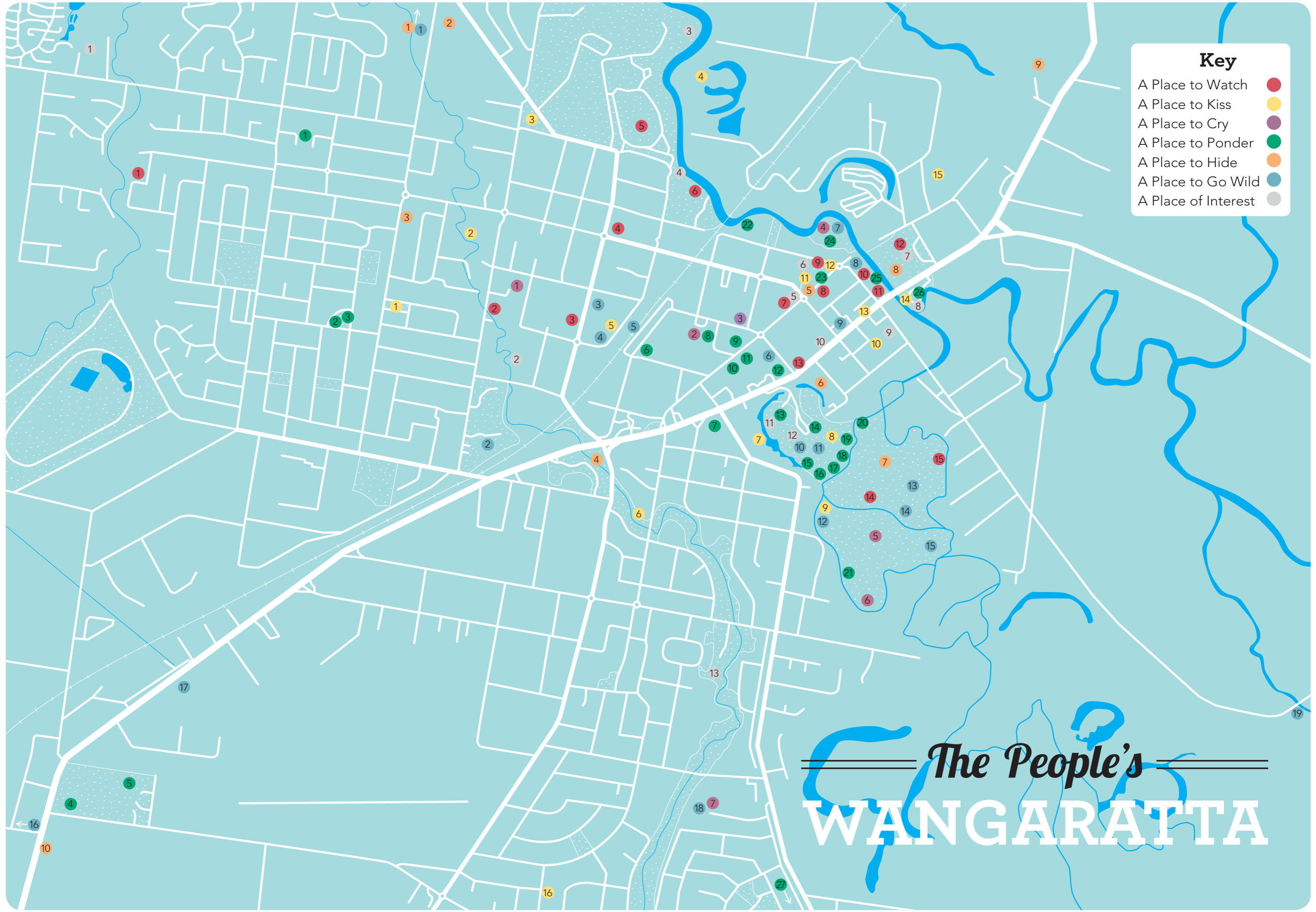


Key

- A Place to Watch ●
- A Place to Kiss ●
- A Place to Cry ●
- A Place to Ponder ●
- A Place to Hide ●
- A Place to Go Wild ●
- A Place of Interest ●



The story of the city is written not by the historians or the tourist bureaus. It is written as its people interact with its places through the simplicity of everyday life.

We give the city its personality by exchanging smiles, stealing kisses and slamming car horns; We construct its sights and sounds with our street art and busking; We draw the lines on the map with our paths to work and our escape routes. Our stories build the city, brick by brick, paragraph by paragraph.

The People's Wangaratta tells some of the stories that connect the people of Wang to the places that are meaningful to them in the simplest of ways. All places were marked and described by the people of Wang for the people of Wang.

This is the people's Wangaratta. Take yourself on a tour. Bring your neighbour.

A Place to Watch

- 1 Sunset Drive – especially at sunset and sunrise.
- 2 A place to sit and watch the birds, sunset and cyclists.
- 3 A place of care and recovery.
- 4 In the cubby, up the tree in my backyard.
- 5 I watch Wang Rovers play football here.
- 6 Nature - Sunsets - Birds - History
- 7 Good people watching here.
- 8 A new movie to watch. Another type of adventure.
- 9 A place to lay down and watch the leaves falling in autumn.
- 10 The riverside, around the Precinct & Watermarc, is a great place to unwind and people watch on a Friday night.
- 11 New Years Eve fireworks!
- 12 I've seen lots of great blues artists at the Jazz & Blues Festival at Sydney Hotel, Chisholm St and Apex Park. I look forward to more!
- 13 Watch people's safety.
- 14 A delightful bushland area with magnificent red gums.
- 15 I like the movement of the water, the birds and the peace of the trees. Just a good quiet place.

A Place to Kiss

- 1 Muntz Street Park... where we walked to meet halfway.
- 2 The bike path along Three Mile Creek... it's private at night!!
- 3 First time I had a kiss from my first girlfriend.
- 4 Anywhere in Wangaratta... it's the best place in the world as far as I'm concerned.
- 5 Lots of happy memories of special celebrations.
- 6 A place to kiss and talk.
- 7 Definitely a nice place to kiss and get a bit cosy.
- 8 If I ever met a girl, I'd take her to this park... if only I could find a girl around 27.
- 9 Nice place to have a smooch xx
- 10 A place to propose... she said 'yes'
- 11 Whilst walking the dog my wife said "not here, darling!"
- 12 A good place to kiss under the sunset... it's peaceful and really lovely.
- 13 I met my husband up the street 15 years ago... had a sneaky pash.
- 14 After a cooling swim, lying next to my beau drying off on our towels under the gum trees.
- 15 We used to go out parking in the lanes... but that was a very long time ago now. I don't even know where they'd be on the map!
- 16 A place to kiss is on this seat on Salisbury Street... so quiet & peaceful.

A Place to Cry

- 1 There aren't many people around and it's near a hospital so no one will judge.
- 2 The library... surrounded by the wisdom of the ages. It's a quiet, supportive place to shed a tear. Sit on a big fat couch and wait till the mood lifts, which it will in our beautiful library.
- 3 I shed a tear of the early days in the city of when & how it was in the 60s & 70s... I'm a local.
- 4 Down by the river for your worries to wash away.
- 5 All of the above at Kaluna – watch, kiss, cry, ponder, hide, go wild.
- 6 Peaceful – Creek – Wildlife – Serenity
- 7 Administrators closing our swimming pool! Cry!

A Place to Ponder

- 1 A place no one uses.
- 2 A place to reminisce past and present.
- 3 Spent many Sundays here with close friends pondering life.
- 4 A place to ponder – to remember family members who have passed away.
- 5 A place to think - It's a quiet, lovely place, but a bit creepy.
- 6 Dalliances with caffeine... Tangoes with thoughts... The art of procrastination.
- 7 The supermarket... pondering what to eat, what to buy...
- 8 We love the library where we can 'ponder' over all the books & DVDs.
- 9 The Cathedral
- 10 Art is in the eye of the beholder. Visiting the art gallery looking at beautiful art.
- 11 A magnificent 150 year old English Elm tree. A wonderful place to ponder.
- 12 The church... nice quiet spot in the middle of town (when there's not a funeral!) even though I'm not religious.
- 13 The place that takes the busyness out of life, and where you allow nature to take its effect.
- 14 A quiet place for a picnic lunch during a day in Wang.
- 15 A happy place to ponder, relax and watch the bird life... nice trees and pond.
- 16 Ponder here in silence in the middle of the city.
- 17 A place to hang out with friends, and to make new relationships and memories.
- 18 Take time to reflect those times when trials strike and difficulties arise... but having a strong faith to pull you through.
- 19 Sometimes I sit and ponder, other times I take the grandchildren to play. I used to play tennis down here, but no more. Now I often sit and ponder.
- 20 Watch the river while pondering.
- 21 Nice quiet place to sit, relax, think about things, n' watch the wild life.
- 22 My lunchtime walk to chill.
- 23 Divine! Trees, lawn, everything. A beautiful spot to sit, relax and enjoy lunch or relax with friends, and it's great for kids.
- 24 The river – it's quiet, peaceful and serene
- 25 I like to ponder by the river where the cafes are.
- 26 A place to ponder, run the dogs and swim with friends.
- 27 Up in the treehouse in our backyard... so peaceful.

A Place to Hide

- 1 A place to hide from noise.
- 2 Sometimes old schools are a great place to run away...
- 3 Home is where the heart is.
- 4 Batchelor's Green – a park the kids love!
- 5 Sometimes shopping and the busy retail precinct are too much when you have other things on your mind. At these times I like to sit in the refuge that is King George Gardens and allow nature, sunlight and the dignity of trees to restore me.
- 6 Second hand store with odds and ends.
- 7 A place to meditate and think on life.
- 8 There are lots of good hiding spots in Apex Park.
- 9 Staying with wonderful old friends.
- 10 Hide from car wheels.

A Place to Go Wild

- 1 I go to Warby National Park to enjoy the wildness of the area... there are great walks, waterfalls and rock formations.
- 2 Where we like to party – S.K, K.W, L.B
- 3 A place to go wild in a dreamful sleep.
- 4 The Northo – great food, family friendly, lots of bands and entertainment.
- 5 Great staff, great bus rides, but wild about lateness of trains.
- 6 We used to come in from Milawa for the Saturday dances at St Pat's Hall... long time ago now!
- 7 Great spot to swim and relax on a summer day in Wang.
- 8 Going to the precinct – great place for drinks with friends and to laugh and be happy.
- 9 The Albion Hotel... where people come out of the woodwork. It rocks until 5am and everyone gets drunk (and sometimes punch on).
- 10 Sometimes I've gone 'WILD' playing tennis at the magnificent lawn courts in Merriwa Park.
- 11 I like to play here.
- 12 There are trees you can jump off of into the water and go wild!
- 13 A wonderland for children... "Are there tigers here? Will the foxes get us?" Many adventures waiting to happen.
- 14 Fun to walk around in.
- 15 Great natural reserve with giant red gums.
- 16 A place for something wild – the sale yards.
- 17 A place to party and have a good time.
- 18 A place to swim.
- 19 Hours swimming with friends.

Other places of interest

- 1 St John's Retirement Village is a great facility. I volunteer there at least twice a week. I hope there'll be a bed for me there if I need it.
- 2 A place to cycle.
- 3 Dog walking heaven.
- 4 A magnificent place to walk... Council have done a magnificent job with the walkway.
- 5 A place of satisfaction & pride... I come in from Rutherglen (although there are hairdressers there) to get my hair cut here.
- 6 A place for me to be myself... I feel at home here because I've been working and looking after it for 17 years.
- 7 A place to play.
- 8 A place to go fishing and swimming.
- 9 A place to lose weight.
- 10 I like that it's walking distance to the majority of shops... you can park one end and then walk.
- 11 My brother used to dive off the high diving board here about 70 years ago.
- 12 A magnificent park and a wonderful place to play tennis... I've played here for 45 years.
- 13 Be yourself.

The People's Wangaratta documents an art project by participatory artist and human ecologist Asha Bee Abraham.

The points on the map were gathered by wheeling a large mobile map of Wangaratta around the CBD and inviting people to contribute their stories by placing a flag on the map.

Thanks to the residents of Wangaratta for sharing the secrets of your city, and thanks to Hello City, Tract and the Rural City of Wangaratta for inviting me to create **The People's Wangaratta** as part of The Wangaratta Project.

Photos of the mapping process are available at www.ashabeeabraham.com/peoples-wangaratta

Project Partners:



RURAL CITY OF WANGARATTA

