



AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS

CONVENTION 2022 – GENERAL INFORMATION

The AALS invites all model engineers and their immediate families to attend our annual convention during Easter 2022 (15th to 18th April) to be held at the Wagga Wagga Society of Model Engineers (WWSME) facility in the Wagga Wagga Botanic Gardens, Cnr. Macleay Steet and Lord Baden Powell Drive Wagga Wagga, New South Wales.

In a break from past practice the Convention is being organised by the AALS this time with the WWSME only being responsible for providing the facilities so please direct all enquiries to the Convention Co-ordinator at convention@aals.asn.au.

The attendance fee for the Convention will be a \$75.00 flat fee which will cover any or all days. This fee will include partners and any children (18 years or under) of the main person registering. There is no individual day rate.

The attendance fee for any person who fails to pre-register will be \$100.00 cash as we are unable to process EFT transactions at the venue! Please note that failure to pre-register is strongly discouraged and meal registrations will not be available.

All registrations will need to be done on-line and paid for at the time. Registrations are made via the internet at <https://www.trybooking.com/BWFXK>. Note: you don't need to purchase your convention admission and meal tickets at the same time. You can book yourself in early for the convention, then leave your meal purchases until later. **Registrations will close on Sunday 10th April at 11PM.**

All attendees will need to comply with the New South Wales Covid 19 guidelines and you will be required to sign in and out daily.

The railway operation will be under the direction of the WWSME and all equipment running on the track will only be permitted at the discretion of the Duty Officer or his / her assistant. This will be the same as the Club's Invitation Run in November each year.

The railway is 5" and 7 ¼" dual gauge only with no 3 ½" gauge available.

There are numerous pathways within the gardens where participating road models may be operated.

All steam models will require a current boiler certificate which will be checked and recorded.

There will be no access for the general public during the event and our younger visitors will be allowed to drive in accordance with the AALS guidelines for operators under 18 years of age. Please bring your club certification of competency if you have one.

Train lengths will be limited to a maximum of 10 meters overall between 8.00am and 5.00pm to allow access for all attendees, unless otherwise announced by the Duty Officer. Train lengths are unlimited outside this timeframe and there is no curfew (no horns or whistles between 8.00pm and 8.00am).

There will be a limited supply of black coal or Bacchus Marsh char available however it is suggested that you bring your own fuel to suit your loco. No oil or boiler treatment will be supplied however light up kindling will be available.

Morning and afternoon teas will be provided in the "Railway Refreshment Rooms" who will also be selling a limited range of snacks and soft drinks. Lunches can be purchased at the adjoining Gardens Cafe or nearby "Koorinal" or



“Turvey Tops” shopping centres. Evening meals will be available in the adjoining Gardens Café Restaurant on a pre-booked basis with meal options listed on the booking page.

We look forward to confirming a Wagga Wagga City Council Mayoral Reception on Thursday afternoon with details to be available as soon as they are confirmed.

There are numerous accommodation options at Hotels, Motels and Caravan Parks in and around the city and you are encouraged to make your arrangements as soon as possible to avoid missing out due to the popularity of the city for other major events. Please note that there is no camping or caravan provision available at the Willans Hill Railway.

The regular AALS, AMBSC and Safety committee meetings will all be held in the adjacent Gardens Café Restaurant at the advertised times.

There will be a security patrol on site on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights during the night time, however attendees are reminded that they are responsible for the security of any of their equipment while in the grounds. There is no undercover train parking available.

In the spirit of keeping the Convention as affordable as possible, we will not be offering any external sightseeing trips or entertainment, however the district offers many options which may be found through the Wagga City Council Tourism Office website.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TRACK WILL ONLY BE OPEN ON THE FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND MONDAY OF THE CONVENTION WITH UNLOADING AVAILABLE ON THURSDAY.

FURTHER TO ALL OF THE ABOVE, THIS CONVENTION WILL BE CONDUCTED ON A NO FRILLS BASIS SO IF YOU THINK YOU NEED IT, BRING IT!