



AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS

CONVENTION 2023 – GENERAL INFORMATION

The AALS invites all model engineers and their immediate families to attend our annual Convention during Easter 2023 (6th to 10th April) to be held at the Bulla Hill Railway of the Tullamarine Lives Steam Society, 15 Green Street, Bulla, Victoria.

The Convention is being organised by the AALS this year with the TLSS being responsible only 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 \$25.00 per day (Friday to Monday). Thursday there is No charge and on Thursday evening there will be a complimentary Welcome of nibbles and drinks.

The attendance fee for any person who fails to pre-register will be \$100.00 cash or card. 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 of booking. Registrations are made via the Conventions page on our website (www.aals.asn.au). **Registrations are open and will close on Friday, 24th March at 11PM.**

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

The railway operation will be under the direction of the TLSS and all equipment running on the track will only be permitted at the discretion of the Duty Officer or his / her assistant.

The railway has a 5" and 7¼" dual gauge, 5" and 3½" dual gauge and 5" and 3½" raised track dual gauge.

Participating road models may be operated.

All steam models will require a current boiler certificate which will be checked and recorded by an accredited TLS Boiler Inspector.

Your locomotives will be registered on arrival – pre-registration is not required.

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 2 carriages 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.

After 5.00 pm running, **NO** whistles or sirens.

There will be a limited supply of black coal or Welsh coal (no 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. A crushing facility is available if required.



The regular AALS, AMBSC and Safety Committee Meetings will all be held in the Club House at the advertised times.

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. Secure storage for locos will be behind a fence and gates.

In the spirit of keeping the Convention as affordable as possible, we will not be offering any external sightseeing trips or entertainment.

Daytime Meals

Morning and afternoon teas will be provided at the Club House. Light refreshments, e.g., pies, pasties, sausage rolls and pre-packed sandwiches will be available at the station ONLY. Food can be heated in the Club House and Station microwaves, and BBQs at the Club House and Station will be available for use.

Evening Meals

The AALS Convention evening meals are being catered for by the Black Horse Hotel, 80 Bulla Road, Bulla. This is a 200 metre walk using the short cut on the road opposite the Fire Station which adjoins the Bulla Track.

Meals are being served from 5.30pm to 8.00 pm.

The Hotel Management strongly encourages groups of three or more to book a table, sooner than later. To book, please contact the hotel directly (03) 9307 1182. Being Easter, they will also be catering for the public, so it will be quite busy.

Accommodation

There are accommodation options at Hotels and Motels near Bulla and you are encouraged to make your own arrangements.

Please note that there WILL be camping on site. However, as a result of local council directives, on site caravan space is extremely limited, and **you must book your spot** through the Conventions page on the AALS Website. For caravans, bring everything, generators are permitted. There is a shower in the Clubhouse and the station will have toilets and an additional mobile shower will be available.

Facilities will be left open 24/7 for the use of toilets, showers, BBQ cooking etc.

Further to all the above, the 2023 Convention is being conducted this way to keep costs down to enable the continuation of future Conventions



Convention Programme

Thursday, 6th April	
12.00 - 5.00	Open For Registrations and Drop off of Engines
5.30 – 8.00	Dinner at Black Horse Hotel
7.00 pm	Meet and Greet at Club Room
Friday, 7th April	
8.00 am	Registrations Open
10.00 – 11.00	Morning Tea at Club Room
12.00 – 1.30	Light Lunch items available at Station Kiosk
2.30 – 3.30	Afternoon Tea at Club Room
5.00 pm	Registrations Close
5.30 – 8.00	Dinner at Black Horse Hotel
7.00 – 8.00	ALSSC Meeting held at the Club Room
8.00 pm	AMBSC Meeting held at the Club Room
Saturday, 8th April	
8.00 am	Registrations Open
10.00 – 11.00	Morning Tea at Club Room
12.00 – 1.30	Light Lunch items available at Station Kiosk
2.00 pm	Grand Parade leaving from Station
2.30 – 3.30	Afternoon Tea at Club Room
3.30 – 4.00	Registration of AGM Club Representatives at Club Room
4.00 pm	Close of Voting for SSME Trophy (Box is located at Registration Desk)
5.30 – 8.00	Dinner at the Black Horse Hotel
7.30 pm	AALS AGM held at Club Room Bogies Awards Presentation in Club Room Questions and Answers Session in Club Room
Sunday, 9th April	
8.00 am	Registrations Open
10.00 – 11.00	Morning Tea at Club Room
12.00 – 1.30	Light Lunch items available at Station Kiosk
2.30 – 3.30	Afternoon Tea at Club Room
5.00 pm	Registrations Close
5.30 – 8.00	Dinner at Black Horse Hotel
Monday, 10th April	
8.00 am	Registrations Open
10.00 – 11.00	Morning Tea at Club Room
1.00 pm	Final blow downs and farewells
4.00 pm	Track closes