



South East Australian Naturalists Association Inc
Inc No A0044963D ABN 23 918 778 150

Spring Camp 2023
Friday 20 – Monday 23 October 2023

Jointly hosted by
Sale & District Field Naturalists Inc
Inc No A0034948W
Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists Club Inc
Inc No A00053235 ABN 86 752 280 972



First Circular, February 2023

Note: No payment requested at this stage

The Sale & District FNC and Latrobe Valley FNC jointly invite you to attend the SEANA Spring 2023 Camp, to be based in the South Gippsland town of Yarram. We look forward to giving you an appreciation of the highly diverse region around Yarram, which includes the Tarra Bulga National Park, a number of state forests with rich flora, Nooramunga Marine and Coastal Park, Corner Inlet and the northern end of Wilsons Promontory National Park.

You may like to visit <https://www.travelvictoria.com.au/yarram/> for general information about the Yarram region.

The camp base for registration, evening meals, evening talks, meetings, displays and some excursion departures will be the Yarram Country Club, 322-340 Commercial Rd, Yarram.

Participants are asked to arrange their own accommodation for the three nights of 20th, 21st and 22nd October. This circular includes information about accommodation in the region. **Early booking is strongly recommended because there are limited options in the Yarram township itself.** One out-of-town possibility is to request a room at the Forest Lodge Farm at Jack River, approximately 18 km from Yarram, where we've made a group booking of the whole facility for the camp, but this will accommodate just 34 folk with two to each room. (Further details below.)

Evening meals on Friday, Saturday and Sunday will be catered, but you will need to provide for your own breakfasts and lunches. The camp will conclude on Monday with the option of lunch together close to Yarram, should you opt to explore the area in the morning.

More about accommodation options

Refer to the accompanying list of accommodation options to be booked directly with the providers.

Alternatively, if you would like to stay at the **Forest Lodge Farm at Jack River**, you should book as soon as possible by e-mailing camp convenor Phil Rayment – contact details below – and **not** with the lodge. The 17 rooms will be filled on a 'first come, first served' basis. The accommodation charge is \$46 per person per night, that is, \$138 p.p. for the three nights – payment is to be made later as part of registration.

This lodge provides school camp style accommodation. Rooms have three double bunks – we'll use the lower beds only and we need to have either 2 or 3 people in each room. Mattresses and pillows with protectors are provided, but you need to bring your own sheets and doona or blankets, or sleeping bag (single), plus pillow case and towel. Our occupancy of the lodge is self-catering with access to the commercial grade kitchen with walk-in cool-room and chest freezer and dining room for breakfasts and lunch preparation.

How to get there?

The Yarram Country Club is on the South Gippsland Highway, which becomes Commercial Rd as it passes through the town. The club is located a short distance south of the CBD, on the western side of the road.

The most convenient way to travel to Yarram from Melbourne is to take the Princes Hwy (M1) for about 160 km to Traralgon and then follow the Hyland Highway (C482) for 60 km to Yarram – the route through Traralgon is slightly circuitous, so follow the road signs (or your sat nav) carefully. You'll enjoy ultra-close views of Loy Yang A and B power stations as the C482 passes through them.

Alternatively, you can follow the South Gippsland Hwy all the way from Dandenong to Yarram – a similar total distance, but slower driving.

Excursions outline

We plan to offer a selection of the following excursions across Saturday and Sunday. Further details including an indication of the challenge level involved in each activity will be provided in the Second circular. Participants will actually sign up for excursions on arrival at the camp, except that a planned Wilsons Prom Whale Cruise and a possible full-day bus trip to Corner Inlet must be pre-booked and paid with registration.

Full day:

- Wilsons Prom Whale Cruise from Port Welshpool down the eastern side of the Prom – extra cost.
- Tarra Bulga National Park
- Port Albert Old Port Trail – coastal vegetation – and Maritime Museum visit option
- Mullungdung State Forest – plants including orchids
- Corner Inlet / Millers Landing (mangroves)/ Vereker Range walk – bus trip, extra cost

Half day:

- Alberton West State Forest – plants
- McLoughlins Beach – coastal vegetation, birds
- Won Wron State Forest – plants
- Birding around Toora and Foster
- Seagrasses restoration
- Darriman Bushland Reserve
- Foster Flora Reserves

We shall also provide some suggestions for self-led trips or walks, including the famous Heesco Town Murals of Yarram, Jack Smith Lake Wildlife Reserve and the Agnes Falls near Toora.

Program outline

Friday 20 October

Registration from 4:00pm onwards at the Yarram Country Club (YCC). BYO name tag please. Tea and coffee will be available all weekend. Suppers will be provided.

6.30pm Dinner at YCC

7.45pm Welcome to the camp followed by a guest presentation (to be advised).

Saturday 21 October

Assemble at designated departure points and times for morning and full day excursions. Afternoon excursions will leave from designated points at 1.30pm.

5.00pm SEANA General Meeting.

6.30pm Dinner at YCC

7.45pm Briefings and guest speaker (to be advised).

Sunday 22 October

Assemble at designated departure points and times for morning and full day excursions. Afternoon excursions will leave from designated points at 1.30pm.

6.30pm Dinner at YCC

7.45pm Briefings and guest speaker (to be advised).

Monday 23 October

Pack up and perhaps take a morning self-led trip (suggestions to be provided).

12.30pm Option to meet together for lunch and farewells.

Registration

The Registration Form will be included with the Second Circular. This will be e-mailed to all member clubs and recent SEANA camp participants around the middle of the year.

Further information

Further information about the SEANA Spring 2023 Camp can be obtained from:

Phil Rayment (LVFNC), phone 03 5174 1730 (H) or 0499 028 477 (M), e-mail philrayment@dcsi.net.au
or Mitch Smith (Sale & District FNC), phone 0414 604 048, e-mail woolenook@bigpond.com