



AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF
LIVE STEAMERS

60th Annual National Convention 2016

Hosted by
South Western Model Engineers



*Come help us celebrate 60 years
of National Conventions*

**Cobden Miniature Railway Park
COBDEN - VICTORIA**

INFORMATION KIT

The President and Members of the South Western Model Engineers Inc invite you and the members of your club to “let off some steam” at the 60th Annual Australian National Convention of Live Steamers during Easter of 2016.

Festivities begin on Friday 25th March, and continue until Easter Monday 28th March 2016.

The Convention will be held at the Miniature Railway Park, Cobden, Victoria which was also host to the 1997, 2001 and 2008 Conventions.

You will find enclosed in your information kit, an A3 sized poster that we encourage you to display in your club rooms.

We have also included brochures, and tourist information for the region, which takes in the spectacular Great Ocean Road region. The most recognisable feature of the 12 Apostles is a short 30 minute drive, through beautiful, lush dairy country. We would encourage you to include a little exploration of the region whilst you are in the area.

Please feel free to contact us if you require any further information.

We look forward to hosting you for this fabulous event!



CONVENTION SERVICES

Accommodation:

The region boasts a wide range of accommodation choices, from hotels, motels, caravan parks and Bed & Breakfasts. Cobden itself currently has two B&B's and a motel. Further afield in Camperdown, Terang, Timboon, Colac & Port Campbell you will also find a wide range of choices.

We have included a summary of what's available, but also suggest you log into www.visit12apostles.com.au for further details.

Special Accommodation:

We also anticipate making available camping and caravan sites (non-powered) at the Cobden Technical College which is adjacent to the Convention site. Hot showers and toilets will be available at the school. Full details will also be in the Registration Package.

Meals:

Catering will be on site throughout the Convention. Three meals per day will be available, comprising breakfast, a light lunch and full cooked dinner in the evening. Morning and afternoon tea will also be available.

Please ensure you include your meal requirements when you register. Any special dietary needs can also be catered for.

Entertainment:

Cobden is the Gateway to the Shipwreck Coast area of the 12 Apostles, Loch Ard Gorge, Bay of Islands, etc. We are also close to the Lakes and Craters area of Mt Leura and Lake Bullen Merri.

Being the known as the Dairy Capital of Australia, Cobden is right in the heart of a wonderful food & wine loop, taking in award winning cheese, chocolate, wine, ice-cream and even a distillery.

We highly recommend you get online and check out www.visit12apostles.com.au for a comprehensive look at what's on, in, and around this wonderful part of South West Victoria.

Tours can be arranged dependent on the interest shown by delegates and partners, and we encourage you to express that interest at time of registration so that we can provide an experience to remember.

Registration:

Online registration will be available from October 2015. Please log onto www.cobdenminiaturerail.org.au and follow the link to the Convention Registration page. There will be benefits for early birds, so make sure you get in early! To keep updated, we also recommend you like the facebook page for Cobden Miniature Railway Park.

Craft Workshops:

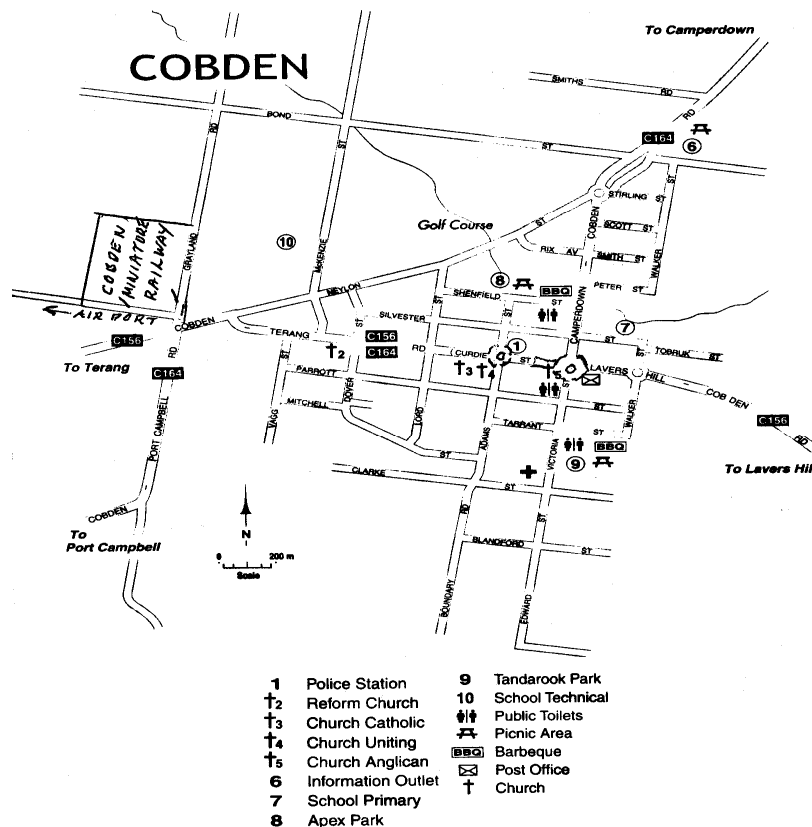
Cobden has a number of craft shops and, by special arrangement, craft workshops will be conducted at the Convention site by some of these enterprises. This will be announced through the information centre at the Convention.

General Information about Cobden:

Cobden is a key centre in the rich, dairying heart of south west Victoria. It is a centre for milk processing with an expanding Fonterra factory, as well as stock feed production at the Coprice feed mill.

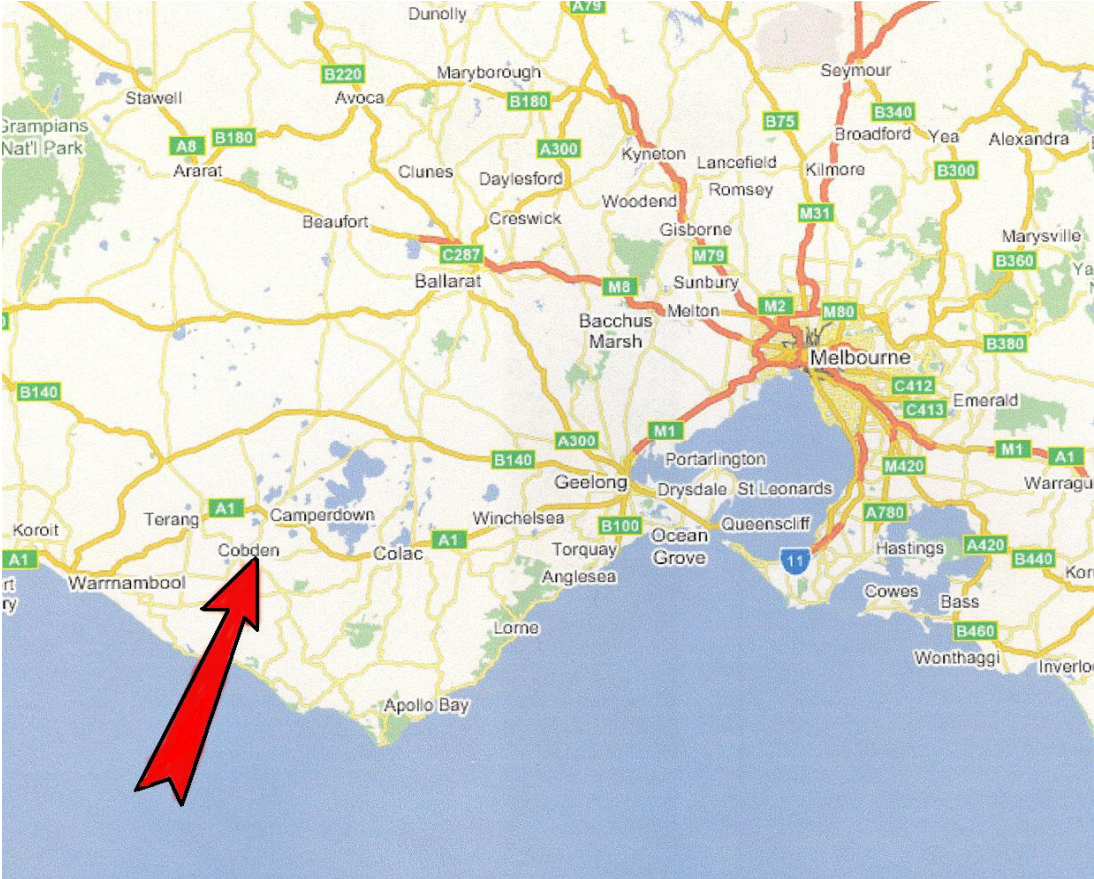
With a population of around 1500 people, this small dairy community serves the southern part of the Corangamite Shire, which was well-known as the Heytesbury Settlement in post war years.

The town has a range of services - Post Office, Thompson's Hotel, two B&B's, two cafés (one of which is also the bakery), two banks (one ATM), a supermarket, a hardware store, a furniture store, as well as two real estate agents, legal and accounting services, take away shops, and a service station. We have a range of craft and clothing shops. There are also engineering works and motor mechanics and outdoor equipment specialists. It can be anticipated that, apart from the hotel, cafes and supermarket, most of the businesses will only open on Easter Saturday morning.

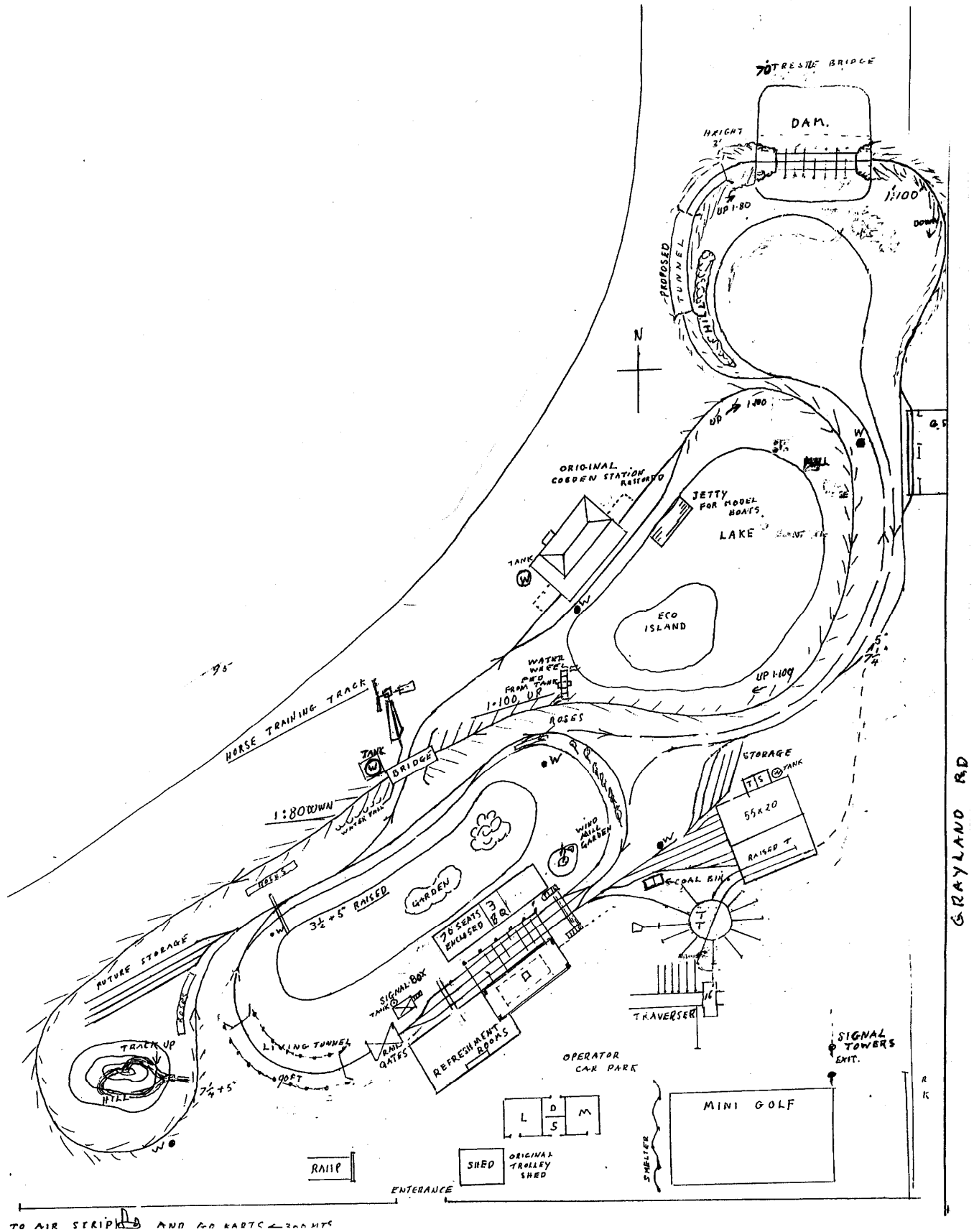


Where is Cobden?

Approximately 2.5 hours drive south west of Melbourne, Victoria.



TRACK LAYOUT



TRACK DETAILS AND FACILITIES

The layout provides approximately 1.75km of ground level tracks at 5" and 7-1/4" on 18" x 3" x 2" sleepers. There is also a single loop of 3-1/2" and 5" raised track.

Features of the Cobden track are:

- raised turntable
- 16 parking bays
- large traverser for up to 1.25 tonnes
- full hydraulic points and signals
- 260m of storage track
- Gradients: Up 1:100, Down 1:80, Radius 80ft
- All to AALS standards; Boiler Certificate must be available.

Services Available:

- Air (Ryco fittings)
- 12 volts
- 230 volts for battery charging
- Char, chips and steam oil supplied

Visitors must:

- supply their own petrol in suitable containers
- have spark arrestors fitted to steam engines
- bring a current boiler certificate

