



**AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



VIOLET TOWN

SOUTHERN AURORA MEMORIAL GARDEN

Thursday 7th December Note this is a Thursday

ARHS Melbourne Luncheon Group will be holding there December outing on Thursday 7th of December to Violet Town with a visit to the Southern Aurora Memorial Garden.

Due to the poor VLine timetable North of Seymour it makes it impossible to travel to Violet Town and return in a reasonable time frame. Our plan is to travel on the 9:26 Shepparton VLine service to Murchison East and then a private Bus Charter to Violet Town. Return will be on the regular 14:23 VLine service from Violet Town back to Melbourne Southern Cross arriving at 16:36.

As this outing cannot be done with normal Public Transport and involves a private Bus Charter from Murchison East to Violet Town there will be a \$20.00 fee on top of your normal VLine Daily Cap paper ticket (\$5.00 app Concession including Zones 1 & 2). You will need to book the Down & Up Journeys separately with VLine.

Tour notes will be \$5.00 on the day.

This will be a good outing to escape Melbourne and have a good lunch at a Country Hotel, while visiting Violet Town and its Memorial which cannot be done normally with public transport.

The meals will need to be pre-ordered so the Chef is ready when we arrive. A Menu will be distributed one or two weeks before the 7th of December. The Pub is not normally open for Lunch on a Thursday.

The Southern Aurora Memorial Garden is a community effort created as a Memorial to those who died or were injured on February 7th. 1969, when the Southern Aurora overnight express crashed head on to a goods train one kilometre South of Violet Town. For more information <www.southernauroraviolettown.com.au>

We will meet at the Southern Cross Waiting Room opposite Platform 5 at 9:00 and depart on the 9:26 Shepparton service arriving Murchison East 11:38 then private bus to Violet Town. Lunch will be at the Ellen Frances Hotel (lunch and drinks at your expense) then a short walk to the Memorial. We will depart the Violet Town station at 14:23 and arrive Melbourne Southern Cross 16:36.

You will have to Purchase a VLine paper ticket for 07/12/2023 9:26 Southern Cross to Murchison East, returning 14:23 Violet Town to Melbourne Southern Cross as separate tickets.

As we must commit, book and pay for the Bus Charter and do not have credit card facilities, we will be accepting the money for the charter over the next few outings with your booking. For bookings and enquiries please contact John Ruddock 0418 384 718 between 19:30 and 21:00 or email <johnesma@outlook.com>

Bookings close on Friday 1st December 2023.

If want to contact Geoff or John on the day of travel only Geoff 0412 056 033 or John 0418 384 718

NOTE: This is a Thursday outing due to arrangements for Meals.

E&OE