

A century ago, timber was the state's biggest industry. Throughout the South West, felled trees were sent to mills and processed for export. At every stage, steam engines provided the power. Without steam, there would not have been a timber industry to create the wealth to build Western Australia. For nearly a century, Yarloop Workshops was the heart of this industry.



Situated on the site of the first 1895 mill in the Yarloop area, these workshops began operations in 1901 and closed in 1978. Originally housed in the remains of the old mill buildings, they were gradually developed until they became the centre of Millars' milling operations in the South West.

Many of the buildings were constructed just after 1900, mainly of timber with corrugated iron roofs. Although designed as industrial buildings, they are unusual in their attention to window and door details and machinery housings. Wherever possible these have been restored.

**OPEN DAILY FROM
10AM TO 4PM**
**LIVE STEAM 2ND
SUNDAY OF THE MONTH**
MARCH - NOVEMBER



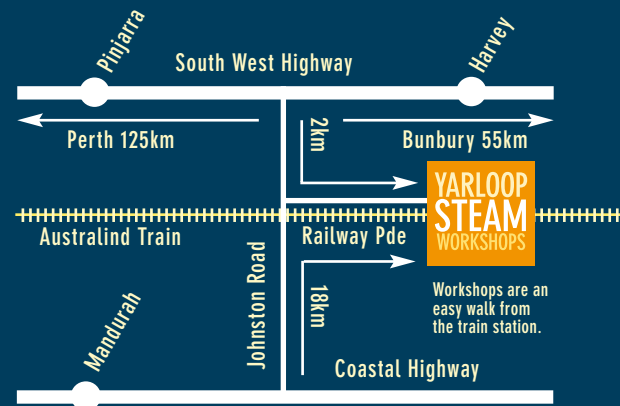
CABIN RESTAURANT NOW OPEN! (08 9733 4030) 

OPENING TIMES • FRIDAY & SATURDAYS NIGHTS • SUNDAYS 10AM - 4PM
GROUP BOOKINGS WELCOME • THE RESTAURANT WILL OPEN ON OTHER DAYS FOR BOOKINGS : Mobile 0418 916 163 • SEATING FOR 60.

SPEND SOME TIME AT YARLOOP. Take a guided tour through the HISTORIC STEAM WORKSHOPS and afterwards walk the Yarloop Heritage Trail. A leisurely one hour walk of 2.5 km, highlighting historical buildings and sites that characterise this UNIQUE TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY TIMBER MILL TOWN. (see our website for more info). **GETTING THERE.** Set amongst irrigated dairy farms and dense jarrah forests, Yarloop is the perfect day-trip from Perth, just a short drive (126 km) by car and the "Australind" train comes past twice daily.

ADMISSION PRICES. Please refer to our website for current admission prices.

www.yarloopworkshops.com.au

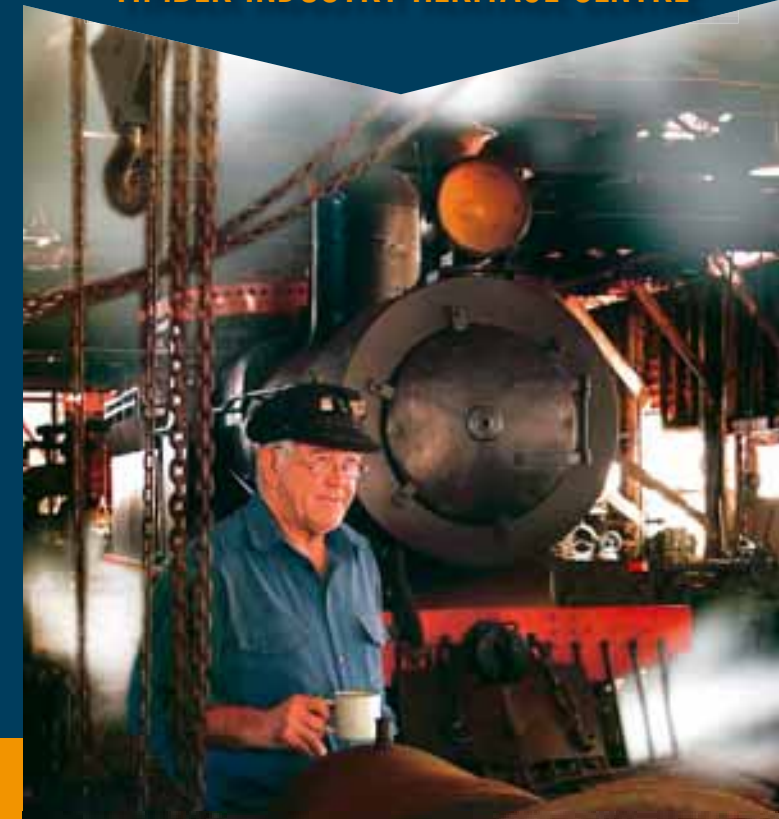


Address
Railway Parade
Yarloop
WA 6218
Australia

Contact
p. 08 9733 5215
f. 08 9733 5214
e. info@yarloopworkshops.com.au
www.yarloopworkshops.com.au

YARLOOP STEAM WORKSHOPS

TIMBER INDUSTRY HERITAGE CENTRE



YARLOOP STEAM WORKSHOPS

TIMBER INDUSTRY HERITAGE CENTRE

A the turn of the century, the Millar Brothers were one of the colony's biggest timber exporters. With dozens of mills operating in the South West, Millars built an extensive narrow gauge rail system. Yarloop, because of



its proximity to the recently opened Perth to Bunbury railway (built for the gold rush) and because a smaller rail line could cross the escarpment here, was selected as the site for the system's service centre. Coinciding with the opening was an increase in overseas demand for timber. With 26 major mills to keep productive Yarloop Workshops thrived. At its peak, over 100 people worked here. Steam-driven leviathans such as saws, winches, generators, stationary and locomotive engines were in constant use. The need to



manufacture locally was critical as replacement parts took months to arrive from overseas. Little was beyond the Workshops' capacity. Sharpening 20metre band saws, wheelwrighting, pattern-making, hot casting,



machining and even manufacturing rolling stock were undertaken in-house. Today many beautifully restored giant engines reside in the steam house (you'll be amazed at how quietly they run). The workshops

finally closed in 1978 after Cyclone Alby struck. It's like a ghost factory now - a perfectly preserved moment in time - as though the workers had just knocked off with tools, machinery, stores and rolling stock ready for the next shift. As a record of the timber industry, Yarloop Workshop' historical and archival worth is considerable. But the insight it gives into the people who worked here, and their skills and deeds, is surely its great legacy.



Follow the Working Life Trail!



Yarloop Steam Workshop is the perfect day-trip from Perth, just a short drive (126 km) by car.