

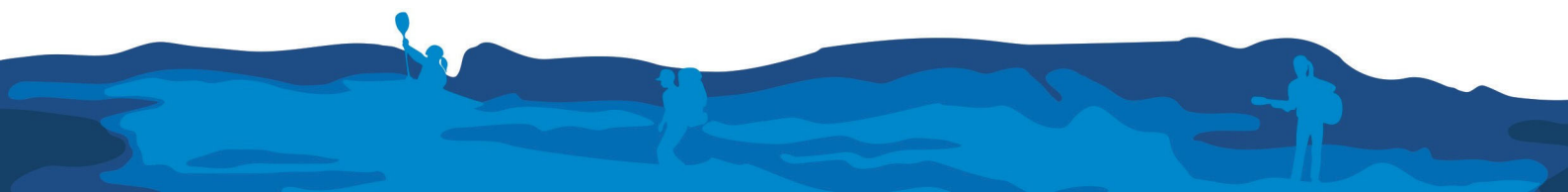


# Bay-Park Scout Camp

Joseph Harris Park



Scout Centres of Excellence  
for Nature, Environment, and Sustainability



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## **INTRODUCTION TO BAY-PARK SCOUT CAMP (JOSEPH HARRIS PARK)**

The Bay-Park Scout Camp, also known as Joseph Harris Park, is located in Australia, in the State of Victoria. It consists of an area of 35 hectares of bushland on Mount Martha which is 80km, or 1 hours' drive, south of the CBD of Melbourne (capital of Victoria). It is on the Mornington Peninsula and approximately 1.5km from the eastern shoreline of Port Phillip Bay. The site was bequeathed to the Scouting Movement by a local landholder named Joseph Harris and his wife on 6 January 1932 to be used for Scout activities. No public transport is available in the immediate vicinity, but Bay-Park Scout Camp is served by good quality public roads.

Since that initial bequest, Bay-Park Scout Camp (Joseph Harris Park), which officially bears the name of our benefactor, has been progressively developed with accommodation, conference and training facilities, camping sites, numerous features such as a lake, bush chapel, environment area, Memorial Gates, a cottage for live on-site Rangers, activity shelters, a range of activities for young people – especially for, but not limited to, Scouts of all ages. The facilities are also made available for use by approved organisations from outside Scouting by prior arrangement with the Rangers on behalf of the Bay-Park Scout Camp Management Committee.

The Camp is well timbered with native trees and a variety of indigenous and introduced vegetation. There is a significant stand of pine trees on the north-western side which is a remnant of earlier settlement and farming days, but the majority of other timber is indigenous to the area.

The accommodation, camping and activity sites are scattered throughout the camp among the trees so that there is visual separation between them. All the facilities are interconnected by a 3.5km long network of single lane gravel tracks and are secured with a 1.8m high perimeter chain wire fence incorporating vehicle access gates spaced at intervals. 240V mains power is connected to all accommodation, major activity locations and shelters.

Town water (potable) is reticulated by gravity from a buffer storage head tank at the elevated eastern end of the site, which in turn is fed from the external street mains via a break tank and pump, with water level control. Most toilets are flushed using rainwater harvested from on-site roofs.



**Figure 1. Jamboree Shelter**

## CAMPSITE OVERVIEW

Bay-Park Scout Camp has a number of features and facilities which have been developed over many years, often taking advantage of the natural topography and flora already existing on the site.

### 1. Lake

The man-made lake was constructed utilising the fall of the land to the south between the Lodge and Bay-Park Station. The lake incorporates a small island and in this respect is similar to the “Bomb Hole” at Gilwell in the UK. The lake retains water all year round although the level varies depending on the season. It provides a venue for aquatic activities during larger camps e.g. canoeing and Scout construction of rope bridges between the island and the “mainland”. The lake is filled with natural runoff water after rain and if full, it overflows towards the gully through the trees and scrub, where it adds to the challenges of some of the downstream activities such as Challenge Valley. Lifebuoys are positioned on two sides of the lake in case of emergency.



Figure 2. Water activities on Lake

### 2. Rose Pitt Chapel

A bush chapel is located in a stand of native eucalyptus trees. Entrance is via a stone archway and leads past a series of rustic bench seats down to a large rock from which services are conducted. This chapel is used several times a year for weddings – taking advantage of the natural bushland setting.



Figure 3. Rose Pitt Chapel



### 3. Oval

Close to the main entrance there is a relatively flat grassed area, oval in shape and approximately 80 metres x 60 metres. The grass is kept short here so that Scout games, activities and parades can take place. On the southwest perimeter of the oval there is an elevated stage with a roof, enclosed on 3 sides, leaving the side facing the oval open.



**Figure 4. Major event on Oval**

The combination of oval and stage makes a useful facility also for open air shows and concerts especially when Bay-Park Scout Camp is hired by organisations other than Scouts.

The oval lends itself to many of the temporary activities as it is the only large clear space on the site. It also serves as the emergency assembly area for the Park to which all youth and adults proceed when the emergency siren is activated.

### 4. Environment Area

A significant area has been set aside for education related to indigenous flora and fauna. The area is entered via a set of wrought iron gates forming a Memorial Gateway. Marble plaques on the stone pillars of the gateway record the names of Scouts from one of our Districts who lost their lives during the Second World War.



**Figure 5. Memorial Gateway and marble plaques (Entry to SCENES)**

After passing through the gates one enters a natural stand of eucalyptus trees and wattles with native grasses and shrubs in the under-storey. A network of foot tracks leads through the trees past a bird hide and then to an artificial creek which the tracks cross via timber arch bridges.



**Figure 6. Creek constructed from local stone**

The creek is constructed from local stone obtained from an off-site quarry. Water in the creek is sourced from rainwater harvested from the adjacent Syndicate Room. This water is stored in a tank until required to top-up the creek supply. The creek flows from an upper headwater pond down to a lower “frog” pond with an electric pump circulating the water back to the headwater pond. At present the local ducks are sharing the lower pond with the frogs, and as the pond is seasonally well populated with tadpoles the frog population should blossom.





**Figure 7. Lower “frog” pond**

Continuing the walk following the course of the creek, an open area is encountered which has been planted with plants indigenous to the Mount Martha area. These have been selected and sourced from a local community plant nursery following advice from the Royal Botanical Gardens in Cranbourne which is also located close by.



**Figure 8. Bird Hide and bird boxes**



**Figure 9. Planting has been extensive, embellishing existing planting**

The plants have been arranged in zones so that similar plants are clumped together for impact and identification. Spare plots have been provided among these plantings so that Scouts can plant seedlings grown from the seeds they have collected from indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses around Bay-Park Scout Camp.



**Figure 10. “Bus stop” information shelter**



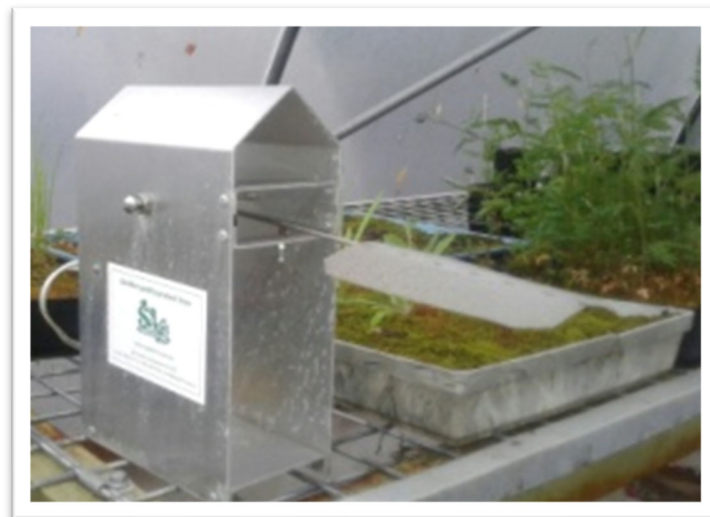
**Figure 11. Plant identification name tags on treated pine posts**

Beyond these pre-planted areas at the northern end of the Environment Area there is a Plant Nursery where there are two seed propagation “igloos” fitted with propagation tables and an automated mist irrigation system. It is here that Scouts will plant seeds they collect from indigenous plants found within Bay-Park Scout Camp, add their names to the seedling tubes, and propagate the seeds in the igloos before transferring the seedlings to the external “hardening” tables.





**Figure 12. Plant nursery igloos**



**Figure 13. Automated mist irrigation system in igloo**

When the seedlings are sufficiently established in the nursery area the Scouts will have the opportunity to plant them out in the pre-allocated spaces (with their names - for posterity).

This activity will be carried out in the May/June period whilst the ground is still warm after summer, but moist, following the first of the winter rains.



**Figure 14. Sedges planted in damp area**

#### **5. Activity Shed**

A large metal framed and clad building (18 metres x 9 metres) on a concrete slab provides a secure area for activities, film shows, etc during inclement weather. This shed is painted green to blend with the bushland close by.

#### **6. Chalet**

A smaller metal building (9 metres x 7 metres) with two ground level rooms and an upper-level loft in the roof space, is intended for activities out of the weather. When the weather is fine it is used as a base for controlling wider ranging activities. It also blends with the adjacent scrub.



**Figure 15. Chalet – used widely in inclement weather as an activity base**

## 7. Storm Hut

Towards the northern end of Bay-Park Scout Camp and on the edge of the pine plantation is a refuge hut (7 metres x 5 metres). It is of metal construction on a concrete slab and is supplied with light and power, a fully enclosed slow combustion wood fired heater, a basic firewood supply, tables and chairs. The flue from the heater is fitted with a spark arrestor to reduce the risk of initiating a bushfire. This hut is typically coloured to blend with the bushland as is the practice throughout Bay-Park Scout Camp. It is intended for emergency use as its name suggests however its size and location render it useful as an activity hub especially during larger camps.

## 8. South Hut

On the opposite side of the Park to the Storm Hut there is a similar hut also of metal construction on a concrete slab but slightly larger (8 metres x 6 metres), with a full-size roller door access. This is known as the South Hut – stemming from its location. It is intended to serve as an activity base in a more remote part of the Park. It is also fitted with mains light and power. Between the Storm Hut and the South Hut there remains a significant area of natural timber and scrub, including the lower end of the gully. This area which is largely devoid of access tracks is utilised for Scout “exploration” and wide games. The gully bisecting the area provides some quite steep sections of bushland to add to the adventure.



## ACCOMMODATION

Bay-Park Scout Camp has a variety of accommodation options for visitors.

### 1. Lodge

The Lodge is constructed of engineered pine logs on a concrete slab with 5 separate, carpeted bunk rooms, each with 10 bunks. Separate male and female shower and toilet facilities are incorporated in the building along with a commercial kitchen and adjoining fully equipped dining room. Attached in another wing of the Lodge there is a conference room and two service rooms.



Figure 16. Lodge

### 2. Syndicate Room

Initially constructed as a training facility, this building, which is of the same construction as the Lodge, has been modified internally to provide 2 bunk rooms sleeping 4 in each with a common lounge/dining room, a kitchenette, plus a shower and toilet. Rainwater collected from the roof of the Syndicate Room supplies make-up water for the creek in the adjacent Environmental area, in addition to being used to flush the toilet.



Figure 17. Syndicate Room

### 3. Bay-Park Station

Bay-Park Station consists of three historic railway carriages – with wheels removed. These have been installed side by side in a railway station configuration with linking platforms and a station roof covering the whole station.

The carriages have been modified internally variously for sleeping accommodation, a dining car and a recreation car. A kitchen is appended to the “dining car”. This combination accommodates 38, with bunks having replaced the original railway carriage seats. Toilet and shower facilities are accessed via a 10m long walkway.

Although adequate at present, plans are under way to upgrade the toilet/shower facilities to a more modern standard. The view from the carriages is bushland to the south and the lake to the north. An overnight stay in Bay-Park Station with carriages finished internally with polished timber and the original wide, leather-covered seats is a popular novelty, especially for Cub Scouts. It provides them with a taste of what railway travel was like in years past - in stark contrast to today’s air-conditioned stainless steel, open plan, railway rolling stock.



Figure 18. Bay-Park Station

#### 4. Cottage

The Cottage is located approximately 120 metres east of the Lodge and of similar construction to the Lodge and Syndicate Room, accommodating 12 in 2 bunk rooms. There is a common dining/lounge area, plus a kitchen. Toilets and showers are located within the building with further facilities approximately 30 metres away. The building is carpeted throughout. The Cottage provides a convenient and comfortable “get away” for Leaders during major camps and activities.



Figure 19. Cottage

#### 5. Resident Ranger’s accommodation

The resident Ranger’s house is also of engineered log construction. This is occupied by the Rangers and their family. It is situated adjacent to the main entry to the Park and incorporates the administrative office for the Park’s day to day operations and provides the check-in point for campers, guests and visitors. Apart from the office, the building is “off-limits”, being the private residence for the Rangers.

#### 6. Camping sites

There are upwards of 300 patrol camping sites distributed through Bay-Park Scout Camp in carefully cleared areas of bushland. The individual camp sites have access to reticulated water at central locations plus toilet/shower facilities within easy reach.

#### 7. Family camping area

This is located a little distance from the patrol camping areas and allows families to camp close to, but not with their children, who, as Scouts, camp with their patrols. It is a generally flat grassed area with scattered eucalyptus trees providing some screening. There is reticulated potable water to a series of points and 240V power to multiple outlets, suitable for connection to caravans. Toilets and showers are located in this area in a central dedicated building.



## ACTIVITIES

There are numerous activities that have been developed to add variety and challenge for our young people during their visit to Bay-Park Scout Camp.

### 1. Archery

A 25-metre archery range with net screen sides and front is surrounded on 3 sides by native trees and shrubs. The butt behind the targets position is formed from an earth mound with a net screen to catch any wayward arrows fired by overenthusiastic young archers. The firing position is part weather protected with a metal roof “lean-to” with bush poles and rails. The rails form a barrier which the archers must remain behind, in the interests of safety.

### 2. BMX

Two separate BMX bicycle tracks wind their way through the bush. They take advantage of undulations in the natural ground and skirt around indigenous trees and shrubs. One of these tracks has an elevated miniature grandstand from which the action on the track can be observed without the risk of impact from a determined rider. Each track also has a hut which can be used as a “pit stop” for repairs or rider interchange.

### 3. Aerial runway

Advantage has been taken of a natural gully within Bay-Park Scout Camp which occasionally flows with water after prolonged heavy rain, for the location of a “flying fox” (aerial runway). This taut wire runway passes through and above, stands of indigenous trees, grasses and shrubs. So, although Scouts are subconsciously exposed to native vegetation from above ground level, the excitement of the ride probably takes precedence in most cases. Each passenger is given a safety briefing in the use of the harness and the correct procedure for alighting on the platform at the lower end of the run. A responsible adult supervises the arrival and maintains the condition of the “shock absorber”.

### 4. Challenge Valley

An obstacle course has been established further down the gully from the “flying fox” and includes a series of constructions for climbing over, under, or through. These are spaced so that each is out of sight of the others – screened by native trees and bush. Being in a gully, after rain the narrow interconnecting bush foot tracks can become slippery – adding to the challenge.

## 5. Bush golf

Further down the gully and at a lower level than “Challenge Valley”, a bush golf putting challenge has been constructed with 18 holes, each with devious obstacles to be overcome. This activity is screened from other activities by local vegetation. The “holes” are terraced into the side of the gully and vary considerably in degree of difficulty. Each one is formed on a concrete base covered with artificial turf. Fallout of leaf litter and twigs from the surrounding trees add to the challenge that each hole presents. Players on this course, as with a full-size course, have plenty of opportunity to become familiar with the local flora and fauna as they search for lost balls.

## 6. Low rope course

A low rope course has been set up through the bush but adjacent to one of the interconnecting tracks. This requires a competitor to negotiate a path approximately 1 metre above ground, finding his or her way around several trees which naturally create bends in the course. The course is made more challenging with a section made up of a series of vertical pendulum ropes each just within reach of the next thus requiring the competitor to transfer from one pendulum to the next without contacting the ground. The vegetation surrounds the course on all sides.

## 7. Air rifle range

A 15-metre range has been established at the extreme western corner of Bay-Park Scout Camp with earth mound butts and a firing position constructed in a manner similar to that of the archery range i.e. a “lean-to” roof for weather protection and rails to prevent shooters venturing out on the range itself. It is located in a relatively thickly wooded part of the Park, remote from camping areas and other activities. Access is via a narrow single lane vehicle track.

## 8. Water slide

Whilst the slide itself is permanent, in that it consists of heavy-duty polythene membrane embedded into the side of the gully, downstream of the Bush Golf activity, the associated equipment to operate the slide is brought on site for the occasion. A catch basin at the lower end of the slide collects the water coming off the slide which is then returned to the top of the slide via an engine driven pump. At the cessation of the activity the imported equipment is dismantled and removed from site. This activity, like the several others upstream, makes use of the natural topography and is surrounded similarly by natural vegetation, except on the north side where it is bordered by the stand of introduced pine trees.

## 9. Ice blocking and bush boarding

These activities take place on a steeply sloping grassed area. Temporary straw bales are brought in and placed at the lower end of the run as a “crash barrier”. The large blocks of ice which are used as toboggans have to be sourced on each day of operation. In this case the straw bales which will have largely disintegrated by the end of the event become mulch for the grass and promote growth for the next occasion. As the ice also will have melted, this popular activity can be deemed very environmentally friendly!

## 10. Abseiling and crate stacking

A modular abseiling tower can be erected on the clear space on the grass covered “oval” for special events. Temporary equipment is also used to conduct the popular crate stacking activity.



Figure 20. Crate stacking



## ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES

The operation of Bay-Park Scout Camp includes many practices which are deemed essential to its long-term viability and the aim of maintaining an area of bushland within easy reach of the State capital, for the education of young people by living for a short time close to nature, and in doing so, develop a respect for the local flora and fauna.

Examples of these practices are:

### 1. Bush fire prevention

- Ensuring that adequate fire breaks are kept clear every fire season to reduce the chance of a fire external to the Park spreading into Bay-Park Scout Camp.
- Encouraging the local Fire Brigade to carry out training exercises within the Park.
- Campfire circles are formed in concrete with a cleared area surrounding to minimise the risk of fire spreading into nearby vegetation.
- Fires are only permitted with the permission of the Rangers, who necessarily take account of prevailing weather conditions.
- Fires other than those in campfire circles may only be lit in steel drums supported clear of the ground. These are issued by the Rangers only when conditions are suitable.
- During major camps appropriate hand-held extinguishers are strategically placed and signposted near camping and activity areas.
- Accumulations of fuel in the form of leaves and small branches are routinely collected and disposed of in a controlled burn, often timed to coincide with a Fire Brigade training exercise.



**Figure 21. Campfire circle near camping area**

## 2. Feral plants

- Campaigns are run each year to rid Bay-Park Scout Camp of invasive plants such as South African boneseed and blackberries. This normally involves the use of external contractors, although Scouts have in the past tackled the removal of boneseed as a service task. There is some limited satisfaction in pulling these plants out and hoping they won't come back!
- Weeds are managed on an "as-required" basis generally by spraying where they cannot be eliminated by mulching. This is carried out by the Ranger under strict conditions of weather (calm and dry) and Bay-Park Scout Camp occupancy i.e. - no campers present.

## 3. Waste disposal and recycling

- Waste material is sorted into various categories for disposal:
  - Biodegradable – to approved landfill off-site.
  - General hard rubbish – to approved landfill off-site.
  - Steel and non-ferrous metal – periodic collection for metal recycling.
  - Rubble – bricks or broken concrete – to approved landfill and for repairing damage to the Park's tracks due to erosion.
  - Hazardous liquid waste – is stored in a lockable compound and removed off site, as required, by a licensed contractor to a State government-controlled recycling plant.

## 4. Rainwater harvesting

- Rainwater is collected from several of the larger roofs around the Camp and utilised for the flushing of toilets. In the case of the Syndicate Room the water is stored ready for use in the Environmental Area creek.

## 5. Wastewater and sewage

- All effluent from toilets, ablution blocks and permanent buildings is treated in dedicated septic tank systems. The outflow from these is absorbed into the natural ground via reln drains. Where this tends to create permanently wet ground, wetland grasses have been planted to assist in the uptake of excess moisture.
- For major events, where the septic systems could be overwhelmed, portable toilets are hired in from specialist contractors who provide servicing for the duration of hire.

## APPENDIX A

### Recorded bird sightings within Bay-Park Scout Camp

#### Common name

Sulphur crested cockatoo

Yellow tailed black cockatoo

Noisy miner

Galah

Little raven

Australian magpie

Laughing kookaburra

Pied currawong

Welcome swallow

Eastern rosella

Maned duck (Wood duck)

Crested pigeon

Crimson Rosella

#### Scientific name

*Cacatua galerita*

*Calyptorhynchus funereus*

*Manorina melanocephala*

*Cacatua roseicapilla*

*Corvus mellori*

*Gymnorhina tibicen*

*Dacelo novaeguineae*

*Strepera graculina*

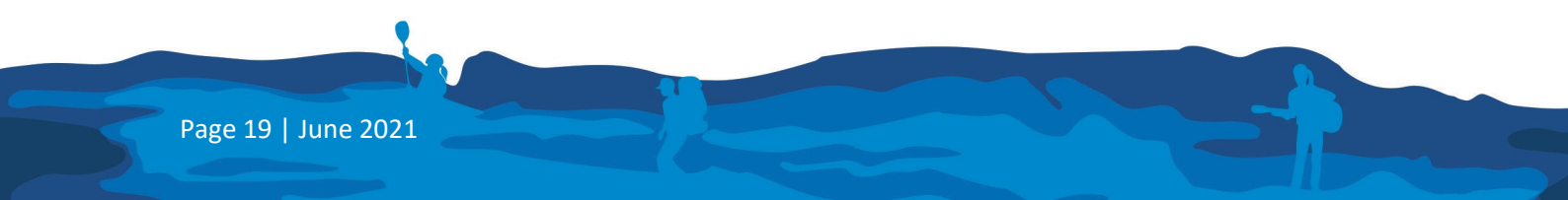
*Hirundo neoxena*

*Platycercus eximius*

*Chenonetta jubata*

*Geophaps lophotes*

*Platycercus elegans*



## APPENDIX B

### Plants identified within Bay-Park Scout Camp

(From a survey by Peter Marriot 1990)

Common name	Botanical name
<b>TREES AND BUSHES OVER 2 METRES</b>	
Coast wattle	<i>Acacia sophorae</i>
Black wattle	<i>Acacia mearnsii</i>
Blackwood	<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>
Golden wattle	<i>Acacia pycnantha</i>
Black She-oak	<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>
Drooping She-oak	<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>
Coast <i>banksia</i>	<i>Banksia integrifolia</i>
Sweet bursaria	<i>Bursaria spinose</i>
Common cassinia	<i>Cassinia aculeate</i>
Shiny cassinia	<i>Cassinia longifolia</i>
Swamp Gum	<i>Eucalyptus ovata</i>
Snow Gum	<i>Eucalyptus pauciflora</i>
Manna Gum	<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i>
Narrow-leaf Peppermint	<i>Eucalyptus radiata</i>
Cherry Ballart	<i>Exocarpos cupressiformis</i>
Pale Ballart	<i>Exocarpos stricta</i>
Hakea	<i>Hakea sericea</i>
Tree Everlasting	<i>Helichrysum dendroideum</i>
Burgan	<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>
Kangaroo Apple	<i>Solanum laciniatum</i>
Golden Spray	<i>Viminaria juncea</i>
Prickly Tea-tree	<i>Leptospermum Juniperinum</i>
Coast Tea-tree	<i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i>
Coast Beard-heath	<i>Leucopogon parviflorus</i>
Swamp Paper-bark	<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>



## **BUSHES FROM 0.5 TO 2 METRES**

Prickly Moses

*Acacia venticillata*

Hop Goodenia

*Goodenia ovata*

Austral Indigo

*Indigofera australis*

Snowy Daisy-bush

*Olearia lirata*

Twiggy Daisy-bush

*Olearia ramulosa*

## **HERBS AND WOODY BUSHES UP TO 0.5 METRES**

Bidgee-widgee

*Acaena anserinifolia*

Honey Pots

*Acrotriche serrulata*

Kidney-weed

*Dichondra repens*

Sundew

*Drosera rotundifolia*

Goodenia

*hederacea*

Erect Guinea-flower

*Hibertia stricta*

Annual Bluebell

*Wahlenbergia gracilentia*

Little Grass-tree

*Xanthorrhoea minor*

Common Rice-flower

*Pimelia humilis*

Fireweed

*Senecio*

Grass Trigger-plant

*Stylidium graminifolium*

Native Violet

*Viola hederacea*

## **CREEPERS, CLIMBERS AND PARASITES**

Drooping Mistletoe

*Amyema pendulum*

Grey Mistletoe

*Amyema quandong*

Common Apple-berry

*Billardiera scandans*

Creeping Bossiaea

*Bossiaea prostrata*

Dodder-laurel

*Cassytha glabella*

Small-leaf Clematis

*Clematis microphylla*

Love Creeper

*Comesperma volubile*

Running Postman

*Kennedia prostrata*

## LILLIES, ORCHIDS, AND IRISES

Milkmaids

Pale Flax-lily

Black-anther Flax-lily

Chocolate Lily

Onion Orchid

Common Rush

Variable Sword Sedge

Spiny-headed Mat-rush

Common Tussock Grass

Coast Spear Grass

Kangaroo Grass

Sun Orchid

*Burchardia umbellata*

*Dianella longifolia*

*Dianella revoluta*

*Dichopogon strictus*

*Microtis*

*Juncus effusus*

*Lepidosperma laterale*

*Lomandra longifolia*

*Poa labillardierei*

*Austrostipa stipoides*

*Themeda triandra*

*Thelymitra rubra*

## GRASSES, SEDGES AND RUSHES

Knead Wallaby – grass

Thatch Saw – sedge

*Danthonia geniculata*

*Gahnia radula*

## FERNS

Maidenhair Fern

Common Bracken

*Adiantum aethiopicum*

*Pteridium esculatum*

## SPECIES INTRODUCED TO BAY-PARK SCOUT CAMP

Ragwort

Golden Wreath Wattle

Bunya Pine

Boneseed

Pink Shell Heath

Spanish Heath

Monterey Pine

Sweet Pittosporum

Common Blackberry

*Senecio jacobaea*

*Acacia saligna*

*Araucaria bidwilli*

*Chrysanthemoides monolifera*

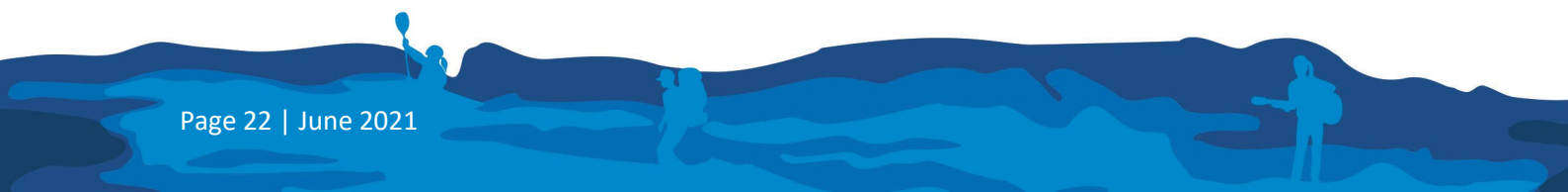
*Erica baccans*

*Erica lusitanica*

*Pinus radiata*

*Pittosporum undulatum*

*Rubus fruticosus spp*



## APPENDIX C

# Bay-Park Scout Camp (Joseph Harris Park) Activity Sheet

My name is: \_\_\_\_\_

Completed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leader signature

Enter through the Memorial gateway on the main driveway opposite the oval. What does the gateway commemorate?

Use the QR code below or at the site address (found nearby) to access the SCENES plant list.



### SITE 1: GRASSY WOODLAND

This Grassy Woodland includes tall eucalypts, acacia, casuarina, grevillea, sword sedge and other native grasses. Included is dead wood as both standing and fallen trees.

Explore the area up to and around the bird hide - looking up and down. Choose 3 plants and write about what you see.

As well as birds, this is also home to tiny creatures. Can you see any skinks, spiders, bats, blue tongue lizards, frogs or other creatures?

Bird boxes have been placed here. Why do you think we have them? How many?

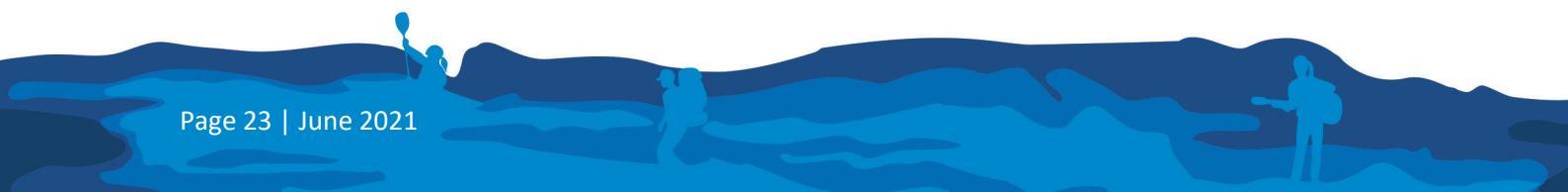
Using a timer or estimation, sit quietly in the bird hide for 5 minutes and look out the windows. Use the charts to identify the birds you see and write down their names.

### SITE 2: WATERCOURSE and POND WATCH

This area uses rainwater collected in a tank from the roof of the Syndicate Room, and it flows down the watercourse and into the pond.

Stand on the bridges and look around. Go to the pond. There are back-swimmers, mosquito larva, dragon-fly nymphs and other insects in the pond. Use the net to get some out, add them to the container and identify them. Once finished, return them to the water.

**A good website is <http://www.wrc.wa.gov.au/ribbons>**



### SITE 3: REVEGETATION AREA

This area was created from a grassed campsite. It provides clumps of plants representing other vegetation communities. There are different areas and soil types and water needs here. The area will take a few more years to mature.

#### What Season is it?

There are several plants in flower at present. Using the ID tags name 3 plants with flowers.

What are they? - ground cover/ shrub/ tree/ grass/ rush?

We have several Manna Gums growing. They are a favourite of koalas. They grow very tall. How tall?

There is a very large tree in the central circle area with many gum nuts on it. Check it out. What is it?

Find and name 3 plants with spikes/ prickles/ thorns or sharp edges.

The Swamp Paperbark and some of the rushes are in a wetter area. Find the area. Stand and observe the birds in the Swamp Paperbarks. What are they?

### SITE 4: PLANTS AND NURSERY

Have a walk into this area. We have two igloos with automatic watering systems. This allows for planting of seeds and cuttings as well as dividing large plants into smaller clumps and growing plants to larger sizes for planting on-site. We also grow grasses for the site, provided free by local indigenous nurseries whilst our site establishes. We have 27 different grass species at Bay-Park Scout Camp. Talk to the Ranger about taking part in some planting activities.

### SITE 5: THE WIDER BAY-PARK SCOUT CAMP AREA

#### Recycling

We are trialling two food scrap composters made from garbage bins with holes and placed into the ground. People using the Lodge are encouraged to add their waste. Earthworms will take care of this waste, making compost for our use.

#### Revegetation and badge opportunities

Removal of weeds is ongoing. Boneseed and blackberries need constant removal.

Previous bushfire. Revegetation opportunity in Park Road to Gully area as well as the Gully area in the south west corner area (up to the Flying Fox).

We are at the top of the Finlayson Creek water catchment area which flows into Port Phillip Bay. Hearn Road to the west leads to Port Phillip Bay with walking access from Bay-Park to the rock.

#### Badgework

Environment Special Interest Area

#### Can you think of anything else?

