

MOONDYNE COUNTRY CONVENTION CENTRE

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Tucked away in the middle of the Avon Valley National Park lies the area known as Moondyne - the area Joseph Bolitho Johns, the bush ranger takes his name from, rather than the other way round.

He was very active in the area and even had a hideaway cave there.

Which makes it quite appropriate that Moondyne Country Convention Centre be there as it is also a getaway to hide from the pressures of a busy life and relax.

Primarily a business conference centre Moondyne's is an 1800 acre property of staggering natural beauty that is widening its field of operations to allow couples and smaller

rescue dog, Gypsy the cure has already begun.

Accommodation is in one of several chalets or bunkhouses of individual rooms, beautifully, but rustically, appointed.

Meals can be either self-catered in the chalets or in the rather splendid under-cover bbq area. If you decide to dine in, as we did, meals are taken in the dining room, one storey of a three layer building nestled into the side of an embankment, with the other levels having a comfortable lounge with a large fireplace, and a games room with a foosball table, lots of board games, poker chips and so on.

The meal, which I'll tell you more about next month when I have more space, was magnificent. And the cooked

and twenty-six, the place is ideal for acting tutorial weekends, family anniversaries, murder mystery weekends, sewing bees, any conceivable event that would be improved by good food, comfortable beds and quiet enjoyment.

And for those of a more energetic nature than I there is a pool and winding walks laid out through this glorious property surrounded on all sides by National Park, so the place teems with wildlife - birds, emus and kangaroos both Red and Western Grey.

Peter and Christine are wonderful hosts and wonderfully unobtrusive - there when you need them, but not fussing around. My idea of perfection.

Very highly recommended indeed.



groups to take advantage of their superb facilities.

Angela and I spent a day and a night there to sample and report back to you, gentle reader, on what its like and what it has to offer.

Firstly, let me say right off the bat, it's pure heaven. You drive into the forest, along a gently winding road steadily upwards for about seven kilometres.

As you drive through the bush, all green now, and dappled with sunlight you can feel the strains and stresses of the week simply peeling away so that by the time you get to reception to be welcomed warmly by Christine and Peter and the

English

breakfast next morning no less so.

We spent the night in the Boronia Cottage, a large square, elegant room with a kitchenette, separate facilities, couches, a dining table and a wide, deep verandah all the way around with magnificent sweeping views all the way down to the Avon River 600 feet below us.

The silence was profound and deeply relaxing, the twitter of birds, the faint rumble of the Indian Pacific served only to emphasise the silence rather than destroy it.

I cannot do justice to the feeling of welcome and quiet enjoyment of the nature all around that Moondyne gives.

Since opening the resort up to the wider public several weddings have taken place and since the total capacity is somewhere between twenty



Moondyne

Country Convention Centre

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