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Our next event is the smörgassbord dinner and tour of the open cut mine at PowerWorks (Morwell) on Saturday the 15th of February. Payment is due by the 24th of January.

We currently have 25 people going to PowerWorks. Twenty-one of these are staying for the weekend at Inverloch, and these will be asked for an extra \$10.00 per head to cover a minibus tour of local wineries and fauna parks etc., lunch at **THE TARDIS** (Inverloch), and minibus travel between Morwell and Inverloch. Note that the return trip from Inverloch to Morwell alone is nearly 200km, and it would cost about \$15.00 (just for petrol) to drive a car there and back. There is still one vacancy on the bus.

A plan to hire a Melbourne minibus is unlikely to succeed. We will know on the 1st of February about that, and will inform those who are interested in joining the bus from Melbourne (on Friday evening the 14th) as soon as we have an answer. In either case, there will definitely be a bus for the wineries etc. tour on Saturday the 15th, and for the trip to PowerWorks and back to Inverloch. The minibus itinerary and directions to get to **THE TARDIS** at Inverloch are enclosed (if you are among the twenty-one staying at Inverloch). Note that the minibus tour starts at 9am, but if you are travelling to Inverloch on the Saturday morning, the afternoon part of the tour starts at 2pm. Please indicate your intentions on the enclosed booking form.

For the two carloads (four people) who are travelling directly to PowerWorks, you will need to take the SECV (PowerWorks) exit from the Princes Freeway after bypassing Morwell. Meet us at the Visitor's Centre at 6:15pm. The tour starts **PROMPTLY** at 6:30pm.

We will be going to see the musical "Chess" at the Princess theatre on Tuesday the 25th and Thursday the 27th of March. The dates have been brought forward, as bookings are still not available beyond the end of March, and there is no guarantee that the show will continue beyond that date. The cost will be

\$65.00 per ticket (normal price \$71.00). We have booked 30 seats for each night, and we still have 50 places available. Money is required by the 5th of February.

We will be booking a block of seats for the final night of the 1997 Melbourne Gang Show (the 31st of May), with a banquet beforehand at the Mee Ging Chinese restaurant in Acland Street St Kilda. The show will cost about \$17.00 per head (the price had not been settled at the time of writing, please pay this amount and we will adjust it later if necessary), due by the 7th of February. The dinner may be booked separately, and will cost \$21.00 per head, due by the 2nd of May.

A "there and back" trip to Tasmania on the "Spirit of Tasmania" is under consideration for July. The company has yet to advise us whether or not the trip will be offered this year. Last year it was advertised as comprising a crossing on Friday night, with Saturday spent in Devonport (where the Spirit docks). Optional bus tours were available (possibly at extra-cost) on the Saturday, and the "Spirit" returned to Melbourne during Saturday night. More details in our next Newsletter.

A possible future event is a minibus group to the Crown Casino, following a Yarra River cruise and afternoon tea. Groups arriving and departing by bus for this package (offered by the Casino) receive a free meal at the Casino and a small credit at the tables. As the bus we could possibly get at a reasonable cost would be a 22 seater, this would be filled on a first-in, first-served basis. It would also be subject to agreement of the bus owner.

Please let us know if there is any event you would like us to organize, and indicate your interest in our planned events on the enclosed booking form.

Note that all money must be received by us by the due dates, and no reminders will be sent out apart from these newsletters. Any cheques received after the due dates will be returned.



Booking Form

- ☺ Please enclose payment as indicated, or send before the closing date shown. Make cheques etc. payable to *GEMS*.
- ☺ If paying later (without a booking form), please state clearly what your payment is for.
- ☺ Bookings not paid in full by the "Pay By" date will not be made, and cheques etc. will be returned.
- ☺ No reminders will be sent out apart from *GEMS* Newsletters.
- ☺ A new *GEMS* Newsletter will be issued whenever a new event is organized.
- ☺ A new event will normally be organized about every two months, around the "Pay By" date of each *GEMS* event.
- ☺ As there will be three or four events in each Newsletter, each new event will appear in three or four Newsletters.

<i>GEMS</i> #	Description	Date	Cost	Pay By	# Reqd
2.a	Dinner Tour: Yallourn Power Station	15 Feb 97	\$30.00	24 Jan 97	
2.b	If staying at Inverloch, please circle: Intended arrival time: Friday evening or Saturday morning (time _____) Number of persons: _____				
2.c	Minibus transport plus lunch	15 Feb 97	\$10.00	24 Jan 97	
3.a	Princess Theatre: Chess (Tuesday)	25 Mar 97	\$65.00	5 Feb 97	
3.b	Princess Theatre: Chess (Thursday)	27 Mar 97	\$65.00	5 Feb 97	
4.a	Melbourne Gang Show 1997	31 May 97	\$17.00	7 Feb 97	
4.b	Mee-Ging Banquet before MGS 97	31 May 97	\$21.00	2 May 97	

Payment enclosed \$ _____ Name _____