

GEMS NEWSLETTER #47, January 2006 #####

\-----/

|\-----/ |

|| NEXT EVENT #84 :) Day at the Zoo :) 12 Feb 2006 :) SEE BELOW ||

| /-----\ |

/-----\

E-mail members please see the web site for recommended software settings.

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

-----

At the 2005 AGM the snail mail charge was increased from 70 cents to 75 cents per newsletter. This increase resulted from a careful analysis of current costs.

Please send us your bookings by e-mail or snail mail. Remember to add your name and any suggestions for future events.

Late changes to event details are disseminated by e-mail or phone. Please indicate your interest on the booking form to ensure that we notify you about any such changes.

Please advise us of any changes to your address details to ensure that we have accurate data. The latest updates are attached.

## MEMBER NEWS

-----

Send us your personal news if you would like to share it with GEMS. Welcome to our latest new members, Jim and Isobel Groves, who joined us at the disk bowls.

## GEMS WEB SITE

-----

The GEMS web site is now fully operational and includes a "Latest News" page, current and recent Newsletters, some Annual reports including event reports, booking forms, membership forms, the original and revised Constitution and Rules, Members' addresses, and a special Committee only page for virtual meetings, with a separate password. The GEMS web site has been tested on three web browsers (Explorer, Netscape, Mozilla) under two operating systems (Windows 98SE and Windows XP Pro). If you have any problems with the web site please let us know. Work is continuing spasmodically to increase the content by including more previous newsletters and annual reports. Email members will be notified of web site updates and will be told the current password whenever it changes. We are not printing it in the Newsletter for security reasons.

## RECENT EVENTS

-----

82. Annual General Meeting and Constitutional Amendments Meeting - 27 Nov 2005

---

This was a very successful, well attended function. Many thanks to Delia and Bob Francis for hosting the event at their home in Rowville.

The Constitutional amendments were all accepted by substantial majorities. The minutes of both meetings and the revised Constitution and Rules have been circulated, and are available on the web site.

83. 10th Annual Disk Bowls Championship - 1 January 2006

---

Another very successful and well attended event, with 18 contestants. New Year's Day turned out rainy and the doubles finals were postponed to the following day (Monday the 2nd), which was a public holiday.

Overall winners were:

Singles: Steve Nichols

Doubles: John and Jean Sale

Random spot prizes were awarded to one player in each singles match:

John Sale, Isobel Groves, Bev Huntley, Nicole Evered, Leigh Hanna,  
Rob Huntley, Liz Shields, Maureen Butler, Janet Allen.

Special awards went to:

John Sale (for the most bounce shots - smiley ball)

Steve Nichols (for the most discs out of court - CD holder)

Maureen Butler (new player encouragement award - beach spade)

Maxine Gibson (new player encouragement award - bag of marbles)

The 2005 GEMS raffle was drawn, the winners were:

1st prize (travel bag) - John Sale

2nd prize (wall clock) - Margaret Sanneman

3rd prize (beach towel) - Joe Shields

Thanks to John Sale and Joe Shields for turning down the second prize, which was redrawn twice.

Many thanks to Margaret and Bernie Brown for donating the travel bag.  
Second and third prizes will be delivered the next time we see the winners.

We are pleased to announce that the raffle made a substantial profit.

FUTURE EVENTS (Note: event numbers and dates may have changed)

-----  
84. Day at the Zoo - 12 February 2006  
-----

Bring the grandkids if you wish! Meet up with us at 11am at the kiosk near picnic pavilions 1-3, near the Rail Gate. See enclosed or attached

[Map of Melbourne Zoo](#)

Current admission prices from the zoo web site at -  
[http://www.zoo.org.au/melbourne/admit\\_opentime\\_mz.htm](http://www.zoo.org.au/melbourne/admit_opentime_mz.htm)

Adults (16 years and over) \$21.00

Children (4 to 15 years, children under 4 years free) \$10.50

Children with disabilities (under 16 years of age) \$5.00

Family Pass (2 Adults & 2 Children) \$52.50

(2 Adults & 3 Children) \$57.50

(2 Adults & 4 Children) \$62.50

(2 Adults & 5 Children) \$67.50

Concession (including pensioners, health care cardholders and full time students with identification) \$15.80

Group discounts (10%) are available for 20 or more pre booked at Adult pricing. We don't expect to qualify for this so please pay you own bill.

The "Moovin & Groovin Orchestra" will begin at 6:30pm and end at 9pm, so bring a picnic rug and select a spot on the lawns around the Bandstand.

85. Explore Williamstown - 5 March 2006  
-----

Spend the day strolling the beachfront, visit the ship "Castlemaine", have coffee and cake at one of the many eateries, picnic in the park - whatever you choose. See  
<http://www3.visitvictoria.com/displayObject.cfm/ObjectID.00061905-6C0A-1A6E-A1D280C476A90000/vvt.vhtml>

Meet us at 11am at Ferguson Street Pier Melways 56 D8.

86. Weekend in Bridgewater - 31 March to 2 April 2006

---

Strictly speaking, Bridgewater-On-Loddon. As most of you will know, Dave and Leigh Hanna have taken over the post office at Bridgewater. There are lots of things to see and do and GEMS is going to spend the weekend there on 31 March-2 April. The following is a transcription of notes provided by Leigh.

Accommodation -

Bridgewater post office - 2 or possibly more.

Bridgewater Tourist Park - cabins, on site vans, powered sites.

Bridgewater Motel (Riverside).

All bookings Dave and Leigh 5437 3009 bh, 5437 3067 ah.

Activities -

Friday night:

Star theatre at Eaglehawk old town hall - lounge chairs, wine, beer, soft drinks available to sip during the film, approx \$9 per head.

Saturday:

Morning market in Bridgewater (8-12)

Wine tasting at "Ponderlowrie" cellar door (next to the PO!)

BYO BBQ lunch at "Waterwheel" vineyard (more tasting)

Dinner at Loddon Bridge Hotel (across the road from the PO) - great meals.

Sunday:

Walks along the river

Lunch at the Post Office

Relax.

SUGGESTED EVENTS (Note: these will run if there is sufficient interest)

---

TRIVIA QUIZ

MURDER MYSTERY

These may be included on a weekend away.

OTHER STUFF

-----

Your suggestions are welcome

-----

We hope we are providing you with an interesting Newsletter and lots of fun activities. Please continue to make suggestions for future events. All your suggestions will be filed, and eventually we will probably run them. If you can help to organise them, so much the better.

GEMS magnets

-----

We still have a few GEMS fridge magnets at only 55 cents each or the special bulk discount price of \$5.00 for 10. You can pay us by EFT and we'll mail them to you. We'll debit your GEMS account for the mail cost. Or we can just debit your account for both magnets and mail. This is called "magnetmail".

GEMS apparel

-----

Still on the agenda, watch this space.

GEMS name badges

-----

The magnetic fasteners are popular. Cost is now \$12 per badge with the magnetic fastener or \$9 per badge with the old style brooch pin fastener. Most of the second batch has been delivered, the 3rd batch is almost full. Put your names down for the 3rd batch if you haven't ordered one yet.

DELIBERATE MISTAKE

-----

Congratulations to Nifty Nev Trembath for correctly identifying the DM in News 46 (Octobre in the last line). The prize for the DM in this newsletter will be 1 SPECIAL fridge magnet.

POETRY

-----

"The Clock of Life", anon item found by Bernie Brown -

The clock of life is wound but once

And no man has the power

To tell just when the hands will stop

At late or early hour.

Now is the only time you own

Live, love toil with a will

Place no faith in tomorrow, for  
The clock may then be still.

GEMS NEWSLETTER #47, January 2006 #####