



Rob and Bev Huntley
9 Emden Court
ST ALBANS 3021

phone/fax 9366 0059
(please phone before sending a fax)
100405.1006 @compuserve.com

Rob work 9433 2224
mobile 018 030 738
bobh @arl.oz.au

The *GEMS* polo shirts that were ordered have now all been distributed. We have two spare shirts, one size M and one size L. We will be able to place an order for more shirts if enough people are interested, but we will require a reasonable number of requests before we place an order with the suppliers. Sizes and prices are detailed on the enclosed order form; please send it to us if you would like more shirts.

Our next event is a coach group to the Crown Casino on Saturday the 19th of July, with a Yarra River cruise beforehand (including morning tea). Members of groups arriving and departing by coach for this package (offered by the Casino) and spending a minimum amount on the Poker machines, receive a free lunch at the Casino, and a small credit at the tables. The Casino contributes to the cost of the coach, but there is a small charge for the river cruise. The cost to *GEMS* members will be \$10.00 per head.

We have booked a 46 seat coach with Chris' Sightseeing Tours. The coach will depart from the K-mart shopping centre car park at the corner of Mahoney's Road and the Hume Highway in Campbellfield (Melways 7 G 9) at 9:00 am, arriving at Princes Walk at about 9:30 am. The cruise boat "Yarra Duchess" leaves at 10:00 am and returns to its berth at Princes Walk at 11:00 am. From there we travel **BY COACH** to the Casino. It is **ESSENTIAL** that **ALL** members of the group **ARRIVE AT AND DEPART FROM** the Casino by coach, to qualify *GEMS* for a subsidy towards the coach cost. However, you may join us at Princes Walk (Melways 2F H 6) if you prefer; please indicate your preference on the enclosed booking form. We will be able to drop you off in town afterwards as well.

As a condition of our booking, and to offer this function at the small cost of \$10.00, **WE MUST HAVE AT LEAST 40 PEOPLE**. At the time of writing we have 38 people who have indicated their interest in this function. Please invite any others who may be interested, to increase our numbers to over 40. However, the maximum number the boat can take is 45, and the coach we have booked can take 46. So

it will be the first 45 people to pay their money that will be going! If we don't get more than 40 people, we will most likely have to charge an extra \$5.00 or more per head on the day to cover costs. Happy head hunting!

We have booked for 24 passengers on the "Spirit of Tasmania" Spirit Weekend on 17-19 October 1997. We have an option on a few more places if anyone else is interested. Joining instructions have been sent to those who have booked. Please let us know if you have not received them. Remember the balance is due by the end of August.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at the Old England Hotel in Lower Heidelberg Road, Heidelberg (Melways 32 B 5) on Tuesday the 25th of November 1997, at 6:00 pm. This important function will give you the opportunity to hear all about our fantastic functions from those who have attended them, to give us the benefit of your advice regarding future functions, and to generally have a good time mixing with like minded people! Don't miss it! Please indicate your intention to attend on the enclosed booking form, as we need to inform the Hotel of approximate numbers, and we also need to know how much to spend on (dare we say it?) raffle prizes.

Future plans (for 1998) at present include Phantom and possibly Les Mis when they return to Melbourne.

Possibly we could do a "dirty weekend" wineries tour, either with our own stable of bus drivers, or with a coach company like Chris'.

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 that no reminders will be sent out apart from these newsletters. Any cheques received after the due dates will be regretfully returned (after 30 days or so on the short term money market).

Newsletter no. 5



GEMS

28 May, 1997

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Booking Form

- ☺ Please enclose payment as indicated, or send before the closing date shown. Make cheques etc. payable to *GEMS*.
- ☺ If paying without a booking slip, 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 (eventually).
- ☺ No reminders will be sent out apart from *GEMS* Newsletters.

#	Description	Date	Cost	Notify	Pay By	no.
5.	Yarra River Cruise and Crown Casino. Where will you meet us? Depot ρ River ρ	19/07/97	\$10.00	ASAP	ASAP	

Payment enclosed \$ _____ Name _____

#	Description	Date	Cost	Notify	Pay By	no.
6.	Spirit of Tasmania "Spirit Weekend" trip.	17/10/97	\$189.00	please	enquire	

Name _____

#	Description	Date	Cost	Notify	Pay By	no.
7.	AGM at Old England Hotel.	25/11/97	pyob*	ASAP	na	

Name _____

* pay your own bill