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|| NEXT EVENT #95, Music For The People, 25 February 2007, SEE BELOW ||  
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E-mail members please see the web site (News/News help) for recommended software settings.

PLEASE SEE DETAILS ON THE TASMANIA TRIP AS WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK.

### ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

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Please send us your bookings by e-mail or snail mail. Add your name and any suggestions for future events. Late changes to event details are only notified to those who have booked.

The latest address updates are attached for snail mail Members (e-Members see Latest News on the web site).

E-mail Newsletters will only be followed up by snail mail if you ask for this (see the booking form).

### MEMBER NEWS

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Send us your personal news if you would like to share it with GEMS.

Bob Francis is at home, recovering from heart surgery on 23 December 2006.

### GEMS WEB SITE

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Lots of fascinating GEMS stuff can be found on the GEMS web site.

<http://www40.brinkster.com/flashbrack/gems/>

If you have any problems with accessing the web site, please let us know. Note the recently discovered fix for Internet Explorer 7, notified by email.

Lots of new statistics pages have been added recently, other pages have been expanded. See Latest

News for a full list.

## RECENT EVENTS

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### 92. Serendip Sanctuary - Saturday 28 October 2006

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A select group of GEMS enjoyed a pleasant day at Serendip, despite the weather. Alas, there was very little water in the lake, but lots of birds.

### 93. AGM 2006 - 3 December 2006

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A good attendance and a fine meal. An enjoyable GEMS social event.

### 94. Disc Bowls - 1 January 2007

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A good turn out with 15 contestants. Perfect weather (overcast but no rain). Hard fought matches with Steve Nichols winning the Singles and John and Bev Huntley winning the Doubles. The 2006 raffle was drawn with a long list of prizes won, details are on the web site (Statistics/Raffle Results) and will be reported at the next AGM.

## FUTURE EVENTS (event numbers and dates may have changed)

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### 95. Music For The People - 25 February 2007 (11am to 4:30pm in 2006)

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An annual open air concert for nearly 40 years, held in a sound shell at Mossvale Park in Gippsland. Admission in 2006 was \$10 adult, \$8 concession and children under 15 free. Mossvale Park is 15km from Leongatha towards Mirboo North on the Strzelecki Highway ([see map](#)). The Park is very pleasant with wide grassed areas and plenty of trees. BYO tucker and chairs. This is an all day event featuring a main attraction in the afternoon (last year it was the Victorian Concert Orchestra) and several local groups in the morning. One of the morning groups will be (for the third successive year) the Browns Cows Orchestra (Rob is in the percussion section).

GRADE - Sedentary.

Accommodation is available in Inverloch for anyone wishing to come down on Saturday.

### 96. Tasmania - 2-4 (or 7) March 2007 (expressions of interest to see if this is viable).

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Cross the Tasman for a weekend (or a few more days) overseas with GEMS. There will be a loud beanie competition.

One way single boat fares -

Day boat \$85 (summer sale special, normally \$114).

Night boat - cruise seats \$101-\$130, cabins from \$162.

Alternative would be to fly there and/or back (from \$55 Jetstar one way, depends on times of flights, from \$69 at weekends).

We could hire a minibus (about \$45 per person for 6 people sharing a 12 seater bus for 2 days, plus all petrol and any extra km charges, cheaper with more people).

Caravan park en-suite cabins are about \$90 per night for two people, \$10-\$15 per extra person up to 6 per cabin. On site vans are about \$50-\$70 per night for 2 people.

Possible scenarios -

Group A travels by boat in the daytime (Friday) to Devonport.

Group B travels by boat at night (Friday) to Devonport.

Group C flies to Launceston Friday night.

Groups A, B and C combine and travel by minibus to north coast tourist traps on Saturday and Sunday.

Some Members fly back from Launceston or return by boat from Devonport Sunday night.

Others continue minibus tours over 1-3 extra days (individual choices, to be negotiated).

Fly or boat back in daylight or at night time as above.

Total travel and accommodation cost for 2 people is expected to be less than \$600 for 2 days (food, souvenirs, admission fees etc. extra).

There will be a meeting to discuss the detailed itinerary if there is sufficient interest.

GRADE - some optional walking.

97. Healesville Sanctuary - 14 April 2007 (Open 9am to 5pm).

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Spend a day at the Healesville Sanctuary. We can get a group discount with more than 20 Adults, pre-purchased. Standard admission rates are Adults \$22, seniors \$20, Children 4-15 years \$11, family passes available if bringing children.

GRADE - easy walking.

98. Royal Botanical Gardens, Cranbourne - 12 May 2007

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Entry to the bushland is free. Visit the new Australian section, Adults \$9, concession \$6.75, children free. Bring a picnic lunch.

GRADE - optional easy walking.

Progressive Dinner - 29 September 2007

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This will be at Inverloch as usual. Book now if you want accommodation.

GRADE - mostly sedentary, some walking, or drive between venues.

Northern Division Disk Bowls - October 2007 (to be confirmed)

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Held at the Bridgewater Post Office (run by Dave and Leigh Hanna). Accommodation at the local caravan park (cabins, caravans, tents, motorhomes) and other activities in the local area.

Annual General Meeting #11 - November 2007

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Details to be advised.

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

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Pancakes on the run

I-Max theatre and Melbourne Museum

TRIVIA QUIZ

MURDER MYSTERY

These may be included on a weekend away.

OTHER STUFF

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Your suggestions are welcome

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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 they are not too expensive. If you can help to organise them, so much the better.

#### GEMS magnets

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GEMS fridge magnets are now 60 cents each or \$5.50 for 10. You can pay us by EFT (identify your payment with your name and notify us by e-mail) and we'll snail 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 (magnetmail).

#### GEMS apparel

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Still on the agenda, watch this space. A large list of ideas was collected at the Bridgewater weekend, including polar fleece vests and hooded jackets. These will be priced in due course.

#### GEMS name badges

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The magnetic fasteners are popular. The cost is still \$11 per badge with the magnetic fastener or \$9 per badge with the old style brooch pin fastener. All of the second batch has been delivered, and most of the 3rd batch. Put your names down for the 4th batch if you haven't ordered one yet. The 4th batch will be ordered when we have enough names on the list. Note that now over half the members have one of our name badges.

#### DELIBERATE MISTAKE

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No-one found the DM in News 50 (spelling of "aparell"). The prize for DM#51 will be 3 special GEMS fridge magnets.

GEMS NEWSLETTER #51, January, 2007 #####