



# GEMS NEWSLETTER #57, April 2009

*NEXT EVENT #113, Ten pin bowling, SEE BELOW*

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## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

We hope you like the new look (pdf) newsletter. This is now possible thanks to Open Office, which we highly recommend as it is open source (free) and is comparable with Microsoft Office. In some ways it is better.

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

If we know you are coming we can sometimes wait for you if you are running late. If you are held up, phone us on our mobiles, Rob 0409 147 062 or Bev 0412 328 690.

Address list updates since News #56 are attached. Please check you details on the web site, if they have changed, please tell us.

E-mail Newsletters will only be followed up by snail mail if you ask for that (see the booking form). Snail mail News is now 80c a time, reflecting the recent rise in postage cost.

## **MEMBER NEWS**

Congratulations to Geoff and Dawn Hillyer on their recent 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

## **GEMS WEB SITE**

Lots of fascinating GEMS stuff can be found on the GEMS web site. The web site is now at -

<http://www.gemsclub.zxq.net/>

The password is inverloch3996 (all lower case, no spaces), but you now only need the password to proceed past the index (home) page.

If you have any problems with accessing the web site, please let us know. We have now discovered that the site works much better if you use the Firefox web browser (free download) instead of Internet Explorer. In fact Firefox is so much better that we now use it for everything. Firefox is open source (free) software. The installation file is about 7MB.

## **RECENT EVENTS**

### ***112. Singing Gardens, Sat 18 April***

A fascinating tour of the grounds of the last home of CJ Dennis (The Sentimental Bloke), packed with historical and botanical information. Followed by a delightful lunch. Enjoyed by 16 GEMS.

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

**113. 30 May Ten pin bowling**

We will be going to the Chadstone Bowl again on Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> of May. We will make a booking early in May when we know how many are coming. We will aim to start at 3pm and proceed to a nearby venue for dinner afterwards.

**114. 3-5 July Shepparton weekend**

Note the change of date.

Join us once again for fun and frivolity, shopping at factory outlets where you CAN get real bargains. We will be staying as usual at the

Victoria Lake Holiday Park  
356 Wyndham Street  
Shepparton Vic 3630  
Ph: 1800 880 070

and will most likely be dining at the RSL Friday and Saturday nights (tried and true). In view of the time of year it might be as well to bring warm clothes and extra blankets. If you can get there Friday afternoon, Pental Soaps and The Nut Man will be open, Campbells are open all Friday and Saturday morning, and SPC - Ardmona seven days a week (details below).

See <http://www.greatershepparton.com.au/visitors/factorysales/>  
Extracts follow -

Campbell's Soups

Lemnos Road

LEMNOS

Tel: (03) 5833 3507

Monday to Friday 8.00am to 4.30pm

Saturday 9.00am to 12.30pm

Canned Foods, Juices, Flavoured Milk, Canned Pies, Confectionery, Soft Drinks, Frozen meals. Single items available.

Pental Soaps

44 Drummond Road

SHEPPARTON

Tel: (03) 5820 5210

Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm

Soap products, body wash and bath products, dishwashing liquid and toilet paper.

SPC Ardmona Factory Sales

91 – 95 McLennan Street

MOOROOPNA

Tel: (03) 5825 2444

9.00am to 5.00 pm seven days a week

SPC, Ardmona and Goulburn Valley Gold ranges, Mac's Shortbreads, Masterfoods, Heinz/Watties, Meadow Lea, IXL, Cadbury, Campbell's Soups and Uncle Toby's.

Peaches Cafe

Tel: (03) 5825 2049

9.00am to 5.00pm seven days a week

Gourmet foods, fresh juices and great coffee

The Nut Man

25 Clarke Street

SHEPPARTON

Tel: (03) 5821 8571

Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm

Nuts and dried fruit snacks

Anyone unable to attend is welcome to submit a list of items you would like us to get for you, we may add something to cover fuel etc to large orders. Note that your savings can be 50% or more. If what you specify is not available and if you agree, we will get the nearest thing to what you ask for (eg package size and/or quantity).

### *115. 8th August Railway trip and maybe dinner after*

A work in progress, possibly South Gippsland Tourist Railway, which runs Diesel Electric locos. Timetable for August not yet available. Typical fare \$24 A or \$15 C for return trip Leongatha to Nyora (just over an hour each way). We could take in a movie or do some sightseeing on arrival back at Leongatha and then proceed to dinner at a local eatery. More on this one later.

### *116. 11-13 September Northern Division Disk Bowls #3*

Don't miss this opportunity to have your name(s) immortalised in the GEMS Hall of Fame (aka website statistics pages) by winning the singles or doubles perpetual trophy. A great weekend is guaranteed for all, come what may weather-wise. Great company assured at the Bridgewater Post Office. We will be staying at Bridgewater Tourist Caravan Park (some cabins, powered and unpowered sites). Book early. There may be another trivia quiz, last year's one was popular.

Phone numbers for -

Bridgewater Tourist Caravan Park 5437 3143

Bridgewater Public Caravan Park 5437 3086

Bridgewater Motel 5437 3200

See [http://www.travelmate.com.au/Places/Places.asp?TownName=Bridgewater+On+Loddon\\_%5C\\_VIC](http://www.travelmate.com.au/Places/Places.asp?TownName=Bridgewater+On+Loddon_%5C_VIC)

### *117. 21st November AGM, venue tba (we will check out some venues first!)*

Watch this space.

### *118. 1st January 2010 Southern Division Disk Bowls #14*

Another not to be missed, traditional GEMS event. As usual we will be drawing the 2009 raffle. Get your tickets now, still a few left. Maxine Gibson and Margaret Sanneman have prizes to collect from the 2008 raffle.

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

### GEMS magnets

GEMS fridge magnets are now 60 cents each or \$5.50 for 10. Order now before the price rises! 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

Still on the agenda, watch this space. A large list of ideas was collected at a not so recent Bridgewater weekend, including polar fleece vests and hooded jackets. These will be priced in due course.

### GEMS name badges

The magnetic fasteners are popular. The cost is still only \$11 per badge with the magnetic fastener or \$9 per badge with the old style brooch pin fastener. Put your names down for the next batch if you haven't ordered one yet. They 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**

No one claimed the prize for the DM in News #56 (raffle in event 118), so the prize for the DM in this newsletter jackpots to 3 special GEMS fridge magnets (you can't buy these ones!) Happy hunting.