



GEMS NEWSLETTER #58, January 2010

NEXT EVENT 20 Feb 2010, #119 Werribee Zoo, SEE BELOW

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ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

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 Rob 0409 147 062 or Bev 0421 328 690.

Address list updates since News #57 are attached. Please check your details there or as shown on the web site - if they have changed, please tell us. Note that some changes are minor, others are complete changes of address. If any fields in your entry are blank, please consider sending us the missing data (email if you have it, mobile phone if you have one).

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 90c a time for black and white. You can also get it printed in colour for \$1.70. Or you can see it for free in colour by email (or on the web site a week or so after issue).

MEMBER NEWS

Some of our members have celebrated their 60th, 70th or 80th birthdays since the last newsletter. Congratulations to those members.

GEMS WEB SITE

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

<http://flashbrack.net/GEMS/>

Hopefully this is the last move of the website. It is our own domain hosted on an Australian server. We hope you will find (as we have) that it works a lot better. The password will be sent to email members or is available on request.

If you have any problems accessing the web site, please let us know. The site works much better if you use the Firefox web browser (free download) instead of Internet Explorer. Another alternative is the Apple browser Safari. There is a (free) PC version of that available also. We are thinking about a change to the password facility that may improve the performance with Internet Explorer. We will let you know if that happens.

Note that the Addresses page has been reconstructed to simplify editing. Please check your entry for errors.

RECENT EVENTS

118. Southern Division Disk Bowls #14, 1/1/10

There was a record attendance for this annual event with 28 players (29 members present). A fierce battle was fought for the trophies in perfect weather. Winners were Rob (singles) and Dave and Leigh (doubles). Dave puzzled a bit over fitting the doubles trophy into his dimensionally challenged vehicle but managed it in the end.

FUTURE EVENTS (dates are subject to change)

119. Saturday 20 February - Werribee Zoo

We will be visiting the open range [Werribee Zoo](#) on Saturday the 20th of February. Meet at the entrance at 11:00am. Bring your own lunch or buy something at the venue. Seniors \$22 entry. Admission includes access to the Zoo's walking trails and a 45-minute guided safari tour. Tours begin at 10.30am during the week, 10.00am on weekends, and run at regular intervals throughout the day. The last tour departs at 3.40pm daily. Other nearby attractions are the Werribee Mansion and Rose Gardens.

120. Sunday 4th April - Woop Woop revisited.

[Woop Woop](#) was a popular and highly acclaimed event when we last ran it (October 2005). We are advised that several improvements have been made since then. Meet at the entrance at 171 Blackjack Road, Harcourt (GPS S37°00.680', E144°15.562', VicRoads 59F2) at 11:00am. Take the Castlemaine exit from the new Calder freeway. A map has been promised, it will be sent to those who book. Morning tea and a guided tour for \$11 per head. Bring your own picnic or BBQ lunch to have at the venue after the tour. Hot water will be available for coffee etc. We will

need definite bookings for catering and tour planning. This venue opens only by arrangement. No booking, no grub and possibly no admission.

121. Thursday 13 May - Ten pin bowling

We will be going to the [AMF Moorabbin Bowl](#) (938 Nepean Highway Moorabbin) on Thursday the 13th of May. AMF have a special offer, \$8 a game on Thursdays. We will aim to start at 6:00pm and proceed to a nearby venue for dinner about 8:00pm. Have a late lunch! We will need definite numbers to book an appropriate number of lanes.

122. Weekend 2-4 July - Shepparton

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 be dining at the [Shepparton 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). We will all try to meet up at Peaches (SPC) for lunch at 12:30pm on Saturday.

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.

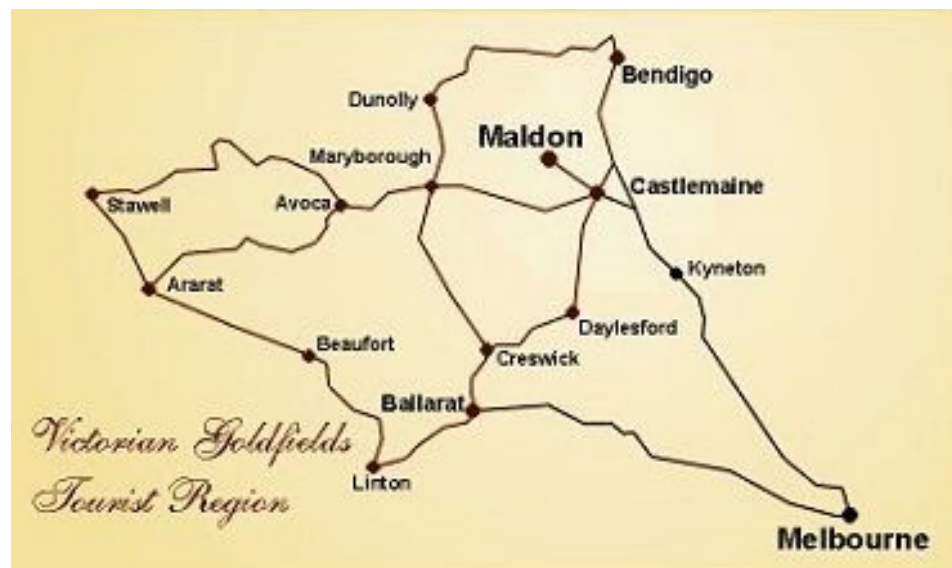
SPC Ardmona

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 at SPC

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).

123. Sunday 8 August – VGR Railway trip

Victorian Goldfields Railway (steam train). See map at left \$26 Castlemaine to Maldon return (senior). We may get a group concession if we have enough interest. Meet at Castlemaine station at 11:00am. Train departs 11:45am, arrives Maldon 12:30pm. Return train departs Maldon 2:30pm, arrives Castlemaine 3:15pm.

124. Weekend 24-26 September - Northern Division Disk Bowls #4

Get away from Melbourne on the AFL final weekend. Watch the match on the tele or listen to the radio commentary if you must. A great weekend is guaranteed for all, come what may weather-wise. Great company is assured at the Bridgewater Post Office. We will be staying at Bridgewater Tourist Caravan Park (some cabins, powered and unpowered sites). Book early. We hope to run a trivia quiz.

Phone numbers for -

Bridgewater Tourist Caravan Park 5437 3143

Bridgewater Public Caravan Park 5437 3086

Bridgewater Motel 5437 3200

125. Tuesday 9 November – AGM #14

La Porchetta, 165 Canterbury Road, HEATHMONT 3135. Arrive 6:30pm for 7:00pm start.

126. Saturday 1st January 2011 Southern Division Disk Bowls #15

Another not to be missed, traditional GEMS event. As usual we will be drawing the 2010 raffle. Get your tickets now, there are still a few left. Still \$1 each or 3 for \$4.

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.

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 poler 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 #57 (which was “check you details” in Administrative Matters), so the prize for the DM in this newsletter jackpots to 4 special GEMS fridge magnets (you can't buy these ones!) Happy hunting.