



GEMS NEWSLETTER #64, May 2013

NEXT EVENT #144, Bendigo, SEE BELOW

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ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Please send us your bookings. Please express interest even if you may not be able to come on the day, as late changes to event details are only notified to those who have booked. **PLEASE SEND NO MONEY unless requested.** Most of our events are on a pay on the day basis. Occasionally we will ask for payment in advance. Note that we no longer send out booking forms, please just tell us by email or phone to get on the list. Leave a message if no-one answers.

If we know you are coming, we can sometimes wait for you if you are running late. Phone us on 0409 147 062 (Rob) or 0421 328 690 (Bev).

Please check your address details as shown on the website - if they have changed, please tell us.

Snail mail News is \$1.00 a time. Or you can see it for free by email (or on the website a few days after issue).

Note for web enabled members - Most events include hotlinks which appear in the pdf file in **bold face, underlined, dark blue** text with a mouse hover message, cursor change and tooltip. In most email programs you can hold down the CTRL key while clicking on these links to visit the appropriate websites.

GEMS WEB SITE

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

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

The password has not changed, it will be sent to email members and is available on request by phone if you don't have email but wish to use a public library or internet café computer.

If you have any problems accessing the web site, please let us know. We recommend the Firefox web browser (free download) rather than Internet Explorer. Other good alternatives are Safari and Google Chrome.

RECENT EVENTS

142. Sunday 10th February - Rippon Lea

Seven GEMS attended a tour of the National Trust mansion "Rippon Lea" and its grounds in perfect weather. Coffee at the gatehouse was followed by a tour with a knowledgeable guide. After a picnic lunch on the lawn we walked around the gardens, which include an ornamental lake. For more details and pictures, please attend our AGM in November.

143. Saturday 6th April - Alowyn Gardens

Thirteen GEMS visited Alowyn Gardens in Yarra Glen in glorious weather. After coffee and cakes we wandered around the Gardens. Lunch in the delightful courtyard was followed by a visit to the nearby Yarra Valley Chocolaterie and Ice Creamery. More details and photos will be in the annual report, which will be supplied to all members who attend our AGM.

FUTURE EVENTS **(dates and other details are subject to change)**

144. Saturday 15th June - Train trip to Bendigo

Catch the V-line train to Bendigo from Southern Cross at 8:36am. This train has a catering service and arrives in Bendigo at 10:40. Use your seniors vouchers if you can find them. If not, your return tickets will cost you a few dollars. Dave Hanna is arranging to hire the Community Bus for us. The bus cost is \$50 plus petrol and will be shared between those attending.

We will have lunch at the Lake or in the Park, or elsewhere if the weather is inclement.

There are eight return trains to choose from, departing Bendigo between 11:33am and 8:46pm. We will probably catch the catered train at 3:44pm which arrives back at Southern Cross at 5:43pm.

Hopefully there will be no track works/bus shuttles!

145. 2nd - 4th August - Shepparton weekend

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

Victoria Lake Holiday Park

536 Wyndham Street, Shepparton Vic 3630
Ph: 1800 880 070

Please book your own accommodation.

We will be dining at the Shepparton RSL Friday and Saturday nights (tried and true). Please tell us by the end of June if you want to join us at the RSL on Friday or Saturday (or both), so that we can book tables.

In view of the time of year it might be as well to bring warm clothes and extra blankets. If you can get there on 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 meet at Peaches (SPC) for lunch at 12:30pm on Saturday.

Campbells Soups

Lemnos Road, LEMNOS

Tel: (03) 5833 3507

Monday to Friday 8.00 am to 4.30 pm, Saturday 9.00 am to 12.30 pm.

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

Pental Soaps

48 Drummond Road, SHEPPARTON

Tel: (03) 5820 5200

Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm.

Soap products, body wash and bath products, dish-washing liquid and toilet paper.

SPC Ardmona

197-205 Corio Street, SHEPPARTON

Tel: (03) 5821 7033

9.00 am 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, Uncle Toby's and more.

Peaches Cafe at SPC

Tel: (03) 5821 1249

9.00 am to 5.00 pm 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 9.00 am to 5.00 pm.

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).

146. AFL Grand Final Weekend 28th - 29th September - NDDB #6.

Get away from Melbourne on the AFL grand final weekend. Watch the match on the tele or listen to the radio commentary if you must. A great weekend is guaranteed for all.

Great company is assured at the **Bridgewater** Post Office. Accommodation may be available at nearby caravan parks or Bridgewater Motel. Book early. We hope to run a trivia quiz.

Phone number for -

Bridgewater Motel 5437 3200

147. Tuesday 19 Nov 2013 – AGM #17.

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

148. 1st January 2014 - Southern Division Disk Bowls #18.

Another not to be missed, traditional GEMS event. Book early as there is a limit of 30 singles players and 15 doubles teams. As usual we will be drawing the 2013 raffle. Get your tickets now, there are still a few left. Still \$1 each or 4 for \$5.

OTHER STUFF

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.

GEMS magnets

GEMS fridge magnets are still 60 cents each or \$5.00 for 10. Order now before the price rises! You can pay us by EFT (BSB 033092, account 109302, GEMS SOCIAL CLUB. 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 now historical Bridgewater weekend, including polar fleece vests and hooded jackets (it must have been in winter). These will be priced in due course.

GEMS name badges

The magnetic fasteners have been 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 found the DM in News 63 (door prizes) despite multiple attempts by some members. Competition is fierce, get your entries in early! The prize for spotting the DM in this issue is five special GEMS 'fridge magnets (you can't buy these ones!) Happy hunting.