



GEMS NEWSLETTER #65, Feb 2014

NEXT EVENT #149, Shepparton, 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 (including dates) 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. Please note our new postal address above.

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

148. Wednesday 1 January 2014

Winners of the 2014 Southern Division Disk Bowls trophies were -
Bernie Brown - SINGLES, Steve and Elaine Nichols - DOUBLES.

FUTURE EVENTS

(dates and other details are subject to change)

149. 28-30 Mar- 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).

If there is not enough interest, we may substitute another activity for this event. So please let us know as soon as possible if interested.

150. Saturday 17 May - Murder on the Puffing Billy Express.

\$112 per person, departs 7pm, returns 11:30pm

We will need to book this very soon as it gets booked out quickly. Please advise us of your intention to attend by 7 March. If there is not enough interest, we may substitute a train trip for this event.

Extract from <http://www.puffingbilly.com.au/news-events/murder-on-the-puffing-billy-express/>

Join us for an intriguing night of murder, mystery and suspense aboard Puffing Billy's evening train special. Dress to the 1920s and 1930s era to go in the draw to win a prize!



Train journey

The Train departs from Puffing Billy's Belgrave Station. Please ensure

you arrive at least 20 minutes prior to the departure time.



Our enclosed dining carriages are heated in winter to ensure your journey is both comfortable and enjoyable. During the forward journey your entree will be served before disembarking at the historic Nobelius Packing Shed.

On the return journey, tea, coffee and dinner chocolates will be served.

Venue

In the rustic informality of the 'Nobelius Packing Shed', you'll be sure to enjoy the blazing log fire during the cooler months. Select a variety of roast meats, vegetables and salads from the buffet followed by various dessert options. A range of beverages including local wines are available for purchase.

You will be busy finding out 'Who dunnit' until the driver blows the whistle signalling your return to the train.

This event is supported and acted by the [Gemco Players Community Theatre](#).



151. Saturday 19 July Beleura House and Garden Mornington
extract from <http://www.beleura.org.au/visitor-information.html>

Beleura the House & Garden is the legacy of Jack Morton Tallis, who left his estate to the people of Victoria for their education and enjoyment.

On the day of the appointed visit, visitors will be collected from a nearby location. Visitors are transferred to Beleura in a courtesy bus. This arrangement adds a little mystery to your visit which we know you will enjoy. All tickets are prepaid, tea/coffee and shortbread are served to guests on arrival and a light lunch is served between the house & garden tours. From the time we meet you with the bus to the time of return to the car park your tour will take approximately four and a half hours.

Cost is \$33 for seniors or \$36 otherwise. Pick up time is 9.30am and location depends on the day (Tues. Thurs. & Fri. is Mornington Golf Club, Wed. and Sat. Peninsula Lifestyle Centre). Deposit is not required for 10-12 guests. Final numbers and payment 2 weeks prior to date of

tour. No minimum numbers (guests of 2 etc. will be included on larger tours) and maximum 48.

152 AFL Grand Final Weekend 27th - 28th September - NDDB #7.

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

153. Tuesday 18 Nov – AGM #18.

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

154 1st January 2015- Southern Division Disk Bowls #19.

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 2014 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 piled, 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 64 (poplar in name badges). Competition is fierce, get your entries in early! The prize for spotting the DM in this issue is six special GEMS 'fridge magnets (you can't buy these ones!) Happy hunting.