



GEMS NEWSLETTER #66, Mar 2015

NEXT EVENT #156, 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 yourselves 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 Google Chrome web browser (free download) rather than Internet Explorer. Other good alternatives are Safari and Firefox.

RECENT EVENTS

155. Thursday 1 January 2015

Winners of the 2015 Southern Division Disk Bowls trophies were - **Steve Nichols - SINGLES**, Tom and Lois Rolls - **DOUBLES**.

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

156. 17-19 Apr- 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 March 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 now closed down, and SPC - Ardmona seven days a week (details below).

We will meet at Peaches (SPC) for lunch at 12:30pm on Saturday.

Campbells Soups

Unfortunately Campbells Soups' factory outlet is now closed.

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.

(new) Chocolate Apple Factory

95 School Road, SHEPPARTON EAST
Tel: (03) 5829 2353
Thursday to Monday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm.

<http://www.chocolateapplefactory.com.au/>

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.

157. Saturday 23 May - Seymour Railway Heritage Centre

NOTE - Subject to confirmation, more info to follow.

Drive or join us on the 0912 train from Southern Cross, to arrive at Seymour at 1027. This train is catered and you need to book. Use your Seniors or pensioners free tickets!

The Seymour Railway Heritage Centre is a 6 min walk (500m) from the railway station - see map below -

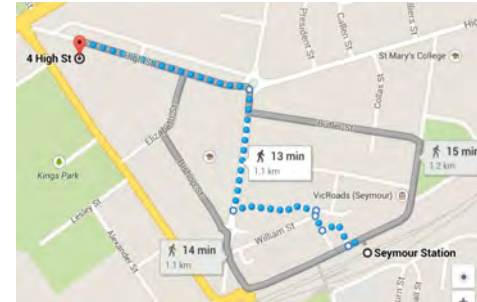


Guided tours are available for groups by prior arrangement. We will try for that if we have enough going. Visit their website at -

<http://www.srhc.org.au>

Other attractions in Seymour include the Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Walk. This is a

15min walk from the Seymour Railway Station (1.1km). See map below -



Undoubtedly there are other things to do also if time permits (unlikely). One choice for anyone driving there would be the RAAC Memorial and Army Tank Museum in Puckapunyal, see -

[Army tank museum](#)

There are many choices of return trains, about every hour until 8:25pm.

<http://www.vline.com.au/pdf/timetables/seymour.pdf>

158. Saturday 11 July Caldermeade

NOTE - Subject to confirmation, more info to follow.

4385 South Gippsland Highway Caldermeade 3984
03 5997 5000

Open 10am to 4pm in winter.

Watch the cows being milked at a modern rotary dairy. This happens at 3:30pm every day. We can also get a farm tour if we have enough people going. See their website -

<http://caldermeadefarmandcafe.com.au/>

We could also meet for mini-golf and lunch beforehand at Maru wildlife park in Grantville a bit further along the highway -

<http://www.marukoalapark.com.au/>

159. AFL Grand Final Weekend 3-4 October - NDDB #8.

Get away from Melbourne on the AFL grand final weekend. Watch the

match on the tele or listen to the radio commentry 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

160. Tuesday 17 Nov – AGM #19.

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

161 1st January 2016- Southern Division Disk Bowls #20.

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 2015 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 now 50 cents each or \$4.00 for 10. 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 (magnet mail).

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

Congratulations to Nicole Evered who found the DM in News 65 ("piled" in other stuff). Competition is fierce, get your entries in early! The prize for spotting the DM in this issue is one special GEMS 'fridge magnet (you can't buy these ones!) Happy hunting.