



GEMS NEWSLETTER #67, Mar 2016

NEXT EVENT #162 Seal Watching, SEE BELOW

***** URGENT Please reply before 14 March about event #163, PB RR trip, 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.

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

161. Southern Division Disk Bowls, 1 January 2016

Winners of the 2016 Southern Division Disk Bowls trophies were -
Margaret Brown - SINGLES, Alan and Rory - DOUBLES.

FUTURE EVENTS

(dates and other details are subject to change)

162. Saturday 16th April – Seal Watching Cruise

With Wildlife Coast Cruises. Departs Cowes at 2pm.
<http://www.wildlifecoastcruises.com.au>

Price is \$70 concession, or \$58.50 if we have a group of 20 or more (unlikely). Let us know asap if you intend to come. We must book this before the end of March. We will let you know when and how much to pay.

163. Saturday 7th May – Puffing Billy Rock and Roll train

***** URGENT Pay deposit before 14 March *****

Departs Belgrave station at 7pm.

This train only runs once a year.

<http://www.puffingbilly.com.au/en/events-and-dining/rr/>

Price is \$99, no concessions. Let us know asap if you intend to come. We must finalise this by 14 March. Ten seats out of the remaining 26 (as of 7 March) are being held for us until then. We must pay a deposit of \$25 per head by then. So we must receive your deposit by then. Please make cheques etc payable to Robert Huntley, or EFT to Westpac, BSB 733 053, a/c 727 586. Please phone or email when you pay your deposit.

Balance (\$74) is due by 9 April.

164. Saturday 16th July - Games night

This will be a medley of indoor games such as darts, quoits, word games

etc, to be held in a suitable venue (Scout hall?) to be advised. We will probably meet for a meal afterwards. Please let us know if you are interested. There will be prizes and of course raffle tickets will be available (there are still a few left).

165. 30th Sep – 2nd Oct - AFL Grand Final Weekend - NDDB #9.

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.

166. Thursday 17th Nov – AGM #20.

Joe's Italian Ristorante (formerly La Porchetta), 165 Canterbury Road, HEATHMONT 3135. Arrive 7:00pm for 7:30pm start.

167. Sunday 1st January 2017 - Southern Division Disk Bowls #21.

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 2016 raffle. Get your tickets now, there are still a few left. Still \$1 each or 4 for \$5. Many thanks to our generous prize donors. The proceeds of the raffle enable us to subsidise some events. Attend to reap the benefits!

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 only 50 cents each or \$5.50 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 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 66 ("commentry" in NDDDB). 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.