



Gemfields Community Support Association Inc.

(Funded by State and Federal Government)

PO Box 391
Sapphire, QLD 4702

Tel: 07-4985 4664
Fax: 07-4985 4606

ABN 15 200 469 724
E-mail: admin@gemfields.org.au

Gemfields COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2024 / JANUARY 2025

GEMFIELDS WEBSITE: www.gemfields.org.au

*The Gemfields Community Support Association
would like to wish everyone in our community a*



*Gemfields Community Support Ass
in Sapphire Central will be
closed on these Public Holidays*

**24th, 25th & 26th December 2024
and
1st January 2025**



Thank you to **FURA** for supporting the Gemfields Community Support Assoc. Inc in their continued community assistance.

Australia
Capricorn Sapphire Pty Ltd
2 HICKS Street Emerald 4720
QLD Australia Po Box 1985

Dubai, UAE
FURA GEMS INC DMCC
Unit NoAG PF 197
AG Tower Dubai UAE

Gemfields Community Support Assoc. Inc. (Multi Purpose Centre)

The following are some of the services that the GCSA supply to the Gemfields Community.

Meals on Wheels— “We are more than just a meal” A hot, or ready-to-heat subsidised meal is delivered at low cost to those who would otherwise be nutritionally at risk, including the frail aged and people with disabilities.

Social Support— A friendly visiting service provides outreach support for the aged, ill, housebound and those with disabilities.

Personal Care— Personal Care services provide assistance at home with daily living for the frail aged, the ill and those with disabilities to help with showering, grooming, dressing and general hygiene.

Respite Care— Provides respite care of the frail elderly and those with disabilities in order to allow their families or carers free time. Planned regular respite, emergency respite or occasional respite can be provided in the clients' homes or on outings.

Domestic Assistance— Home Care services are available for frail elderly, incapacitated or ill residents and those with disabilities to help with household duties including cleaning, laundry, meal preparation and shopping.

Our aim is to help the elderly, incapacitated or those with a disability to remain independent in their own homes without being prematurely forced into an aged care or other facility.

If you, or you know of someone who can benefit from the services that the GCSA provide, please ring us and make an appointment.

PHONE: 4985 4664 Monday - Friday 7.00am - 3.00pm
admin@gemfields.org.au

STAY SAFE IN THE HEAT CHECK ON YOUR NEIGHBOURS





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The Gemfields Community Support Association Inc. aims to provide and coordinate Home Care, Commonwealth Home Support Program over 65 years (CHSP), and Meals on Wheels services, as well as in-house activities on the Gemfields. These services are designed to help elderly individuals live as independently as possible in their own homes rather than having to move to residential care.

You can access the My Aged Care Website, www.myagedcare.gov.au if you need assistance. It's a convenient way to get help, with a step-by-step guide available. The My Aged Care team can assist with any questions over the phone – 1800 200 422

The Gemfields Community Support Association is also here to help you navigate the My Aged Care referral process. You can reach their friendly staff by calling the office on 07 49854 664 or visiting the office at 1003 Rubyvale Road Sapphire Central.



Ph: 1800 200 422



myagedcare

The types of assistance provided include Domestic Assistance, Social Support (group or individual), Personal Care, Respite (in-house or Centre based), Transport, and Meals on Wheels. These services are delivered by our dedicated and compassionate support personnel.



Meals on Wheels offers complete and nourishing meals, including a comforting soup, a hearty main course, a delicious dessert, and two slices of wholesome wholemeal bread. Our dedicated kitchen staff runs the kitchen, and meals are delivered by enthusiastic and supportive volunteers.



Meals on Wheels
Queensland

On Fridays, clients are invited to join in on activities from 8:30 a.m. onwards, and the public is welcome from 12:00 p.m. for lunch service. Booking is essential by midday Wednesday, and all current members receive their meals at a discounted price.



We also offer facilities for hire, books for borrowing or swapping, photocopying and laminating for a small charge between 8 am and 1 pm, and a free monthly newsletter. Advertising in the newsletter is available for a fee, depending on size.



**Feel free to call us to find out how we can assist you.
1003 Rubyvale Road Sapphire Central
07 49854 664**

*Thank you to the
Central Highlands Regional Council
for supporting the
Gemfields Community Support Ass..Inc.
(www.centralhighlands.qld.gov.au)*



Gemfields Community Support Association INC.
Would like to thank HOY for their continued support
of the Gemfields "Meals on Wheels"





GEMFIELDS GEMS

Birthdays, births, marriages, anniversaries, get well, thank you, and sympathy messages, etc...

Please let us share your messages here:

Send to admin@gemfields.org.au or bring in to Office

Welcome to one of our new pages:

Gemfields Gems, a place to give a shout out to your neighbours or anyone in the community that deserves recognition, be it a celebration, or a job well done. We look forward to sharing all your positive messages to the community.

Our other exciting new page is dedicated to Poems, Short Stories, Wholesome Jokes etc. from residents in the community. Again, please send in your contributions to admin@gemfields.org.au or bring in to the Office.

We are looking for "Catchy" names for these pages, so please let us know any ideas you might have.

happy  birthday

11.12.2022

to

Avril Hendersen

From Mummy & Daddy



pageborders.org

Thank you to our Wonderful local Paramedics
Andrew and Dave

For their hard work and dedication in keeping the
residents of the Gemfields safe and well.



Hannah Robinson

Turning 11 on 3rd December

With Lots of Love

From Auntie Lee



Ozcare

A Shoutout to

Di, Gayle and Michelle

Thank you for your hard work and dedication,
Travelling from Emerald to the Gemfields to
bring your Nursing Skills and care to
Gemfields Residents who require in home
nursing services

POEMS - STORIES - FUNNIES



Why Just One? -poem by bored child

Flowers are cute, Weeds are not.
Flowers grow, While weeds rot.
Why love one but hate the rest,
Why's one fun? While one is met,
With hate and sorrow as tears fell,
'Cause I think weeds are nice as well.
I have loved both for all my life,
But why pick one, when both are nice?



AUSSIE JINGLE BELLS

Dashing through the bush
In a rusty Holden Ute
Kicking up the dust
Esky in the boot
Kelpie by my side
Singing Christmas songs
It's Summer time and I am in
My singlet, shorts and thongs



Oh! Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells
Jingle all the way
Christmas in Australia
On a scorching summer's day
Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells
Christmas time is beaut
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a rusty Holden Ute

Engine's getting hot
We dodge the kangaroos
The swaggie climbs aboard
He is welcome too
All the family's there
Sitting by the pool
Christmas day, the Aussie way
By the barbecue!



CHRISTMAS CAKE RECIPE

INGREDIENTS

1 Cup of water
8 oz dried fruit
1 tblsp salt
Lemon juice
1 tsp baking powder
8 oz Sugar
1 Bottle of whisky
4 large eggs
1 lb of dried fruit
8 oz butter
8 oz of flour

METHOD

Sample the whisky to check for
Take a large bowl. Check whisky again. To be sure it is of the highest
quality, pour one level cup and drink, repeat.
Turn on the electric mixer, beat 2 oz of butter in a large fluffy bowl.
Add one tsp of sugar and beat again.
Make sure the whisky is still OK, cry another tup.
Turn off the mixerer, break two bowls and add to the eggs and chuck in the fruit.
Mix on the turner. If the fruit gets stuck in the bloody beaters, pry it loose with a screwdriver.
Sample the whisky again to check for tonsisticity.
Next, sift two sups of calt or something, Who cares? Check the whisky.
Now sift the lemon juice and strain your nuts.
Add one table or spoon of sugar or something, Whatever you can find.
Grease the oven turn the cake tin to 350 degrees. Don't forget to beat off the turnerer. Throw the bowl out the
window, check the whisky again and go to bed..... ..

Next day, take three aspirins go to Woolworths or Coles and buy a frigging Christmas Cake!



quality



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Ph: 07 49854 518



Gemstone and Jewellery valuations
 Gemstone identifications

Exciting news:

We will be attending the Festival of Gems
next to the GAA at Roy Day Park in Sapphire

Fully Registered Gemmologist - FGAA
 Full member of National Council of
 Jewellery Valuers - NCJV Q216 (Dip Val)
 Fully Registered Appraiser with the
 ISG reg no 82151

Contact Janet on 0408665896

By appointment only

Follow Gemval on facebook to know
 when I will be there next.

HUNDRED DOLLAR BOARD

GEMFIELDS COMMUNITY SUPPORT
ASSOCIATION FUND RAISER

Be in the running to win \$100

Pick a number from 1—100 for \$2.00 each

Pop in to the Multi Purpose Centre for your Lucky
Chance

Winning numbers are picked once board is completed.



Proceeds go to Multi Purpose Centre



SAPPHIRE
 —Gem Cuts—
 LOCAL MINED GEMS & JEWELLERY

SAPPHIRES ♦ JEWELLERY ♦ SETTINGS

Here at
Sapphire Gem Cuts
 our passion is your satisfaction

- Fine quality local hand mined Australian Sapphires and Zircons
 - Exclusive Handmade Jewellery Designs
 - Quality Jewellery Findings
 - Handmade Engagement and Wedding Rings
- SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOME-**

Why not create your own jewellery design or select your own sapphire and have it set in one of our findings.



Phone: 0480 398 603
 Keilambete Road, Rubyvale QLD





Hi all, from your local paramedics, Andrew and Dave, and our volunteers.

As the year wraps up, we'd like to sincerely thank you all for your support.

As we approach the Christmas and New Year period, we hope you have an enjoyable time catching up with friends and family. We all know there are more people on the road as we approach this time of the year. We can get a bit hot, cranky and impatient when driving and there might be a temptation to speed and do other silly things on the road like overtaking dangerously. As paramedics we'd urge you to slow down, relax and enjoy the drive. Get there alive and well – it's not worth risking it all to save a couple of minutes. We're all human, we all do some dumb things on the road (us very much included), so sometimes we've got to "take a step back" and check we're in the right frame of mind for driving.

First Aid Tip of the Month – Low Blood Sugar Levels (Hypoglycaemia)

Low blood sugar (also known as hypoglycaemia, or just a "hypo") occurs, unsurprisingly when a person's blood sugar level drops too low. We generally say you're hypoglycaemic if your BSL is under 4.0 mmol/L, in addition to showing the signs and symptoms of hypoglycaemia. This is a time critical event.

Our brains essentially need three things to keep functioning well: adequate glucose (sugar), oxygen, and enough blood pressure to maintain the blood supply to the brain. Glucose is the main fuel for the brain. The brain is sensitive to changes in sugar level, with too low a level of glucose potentially leading to altered levels of consciousness, seizures and coma.

The **warning signs** of low blood sugar are sudden sweatiness and turning pale, tingling around the mouth, tremors, increased heart rate, palpitations, and anxiety.

Signs of **deterioration** include lethargy, changes in behaviour, headache, slurred speech, dizziness, altered levels of consciousness, seizures and coma (i.e. the patient is unconscious and can't be roused).

If in ANY doubt about the state of a patient (whether that's yourself, friend, family etc), call for the ambulance immediately on Triple Zero (000). As you can tell from those symptoms above, they could be confused for a range of different conditions, including heart attack or stroke. We need to quickly determine what is causing the problem and start treating it.

That said, many people who get "hypos" are type 1 diabetics, and they're very good at managing these events. Type 1 diabetics can sometimes find it challenging to balance food intake with their insulin and other diabetic medications, and can experience low blood sugar levels at times. They'll often know this is happening and remedy it before it seriously deteriorates. **However, low sugar levels can also come on quickly and be quite insidious, with the patient becoming confused before they can help themselves – this is where you as a first aider comes in.**

IF THE PATIENT IS CONSCIOUS, assist them to have something sugary – that could be a non-diet soft drink, some jelly beans, or perhaps a jam or honey sandwich. If the patient is unable to safely consume anything by mouth (i.e. they're profoundly confused, and/or becoming unconscious), keep the patient safe, if you can, carefully lower them to the ground and place them in the side position, and if they become unconscious AND stop breathing effectively, commence CPR. As stated above, always contact the ambulance on TRIPLE ZERO (000) WITHOUT DELAY if confronted with this situation.

Too high sugar levels can be dangerous too, but we'll save that for another newsletter.

Merry Christmas again from us, and remember, please only ever use Triple Zero (000) to make contact with the ambulance, do not attempt to call the station or individual staff members.

Gemfields Community Support Assoc. Inc.

AGM

Annual General Meeting

Friday 31st January 2025 12.30pm

All members are encouraged to attend



**OPERATION JINGLE BELLS
IT'S ON AGAIN
24 DECEMBER 2024**

Leg 1

Starts at 5 PM at Anakie police station moving left onto Bonaccord Rd , then left onto Richardson St , with the last Anakie lolly drop at the information rest area at the Gemfields cross roads

Leg 2

Starts at approximately 5:30 PM , we start just before the Retreat Ck bridge , cross the bridge into Sapphire continuing all the way along Sapphire/Rubyvale Rd as far as Eddie Vella's place , on the out skirts of Sapphire , which will be the last Sapphire lolly drop

Leg 3

Starts at approximately 6:00 PM , we start at the grid on Keilambete Rd , Rubyvale going all the way down to the round about at the pub , turning left onto Goanna Flats Rd and continuing to the end off the bitumen , which will be the last lolly drop for RubvVale



*It's the
little things
in life*
♡

Gemfields Christmas Luncheon Group

Sapphire Central

The Original

Free Christmas Dinner

On Christmas Day – 25th Dec at 11.00 am

WE HAVE MOVED

Now at the Pavilion at Roy Day Park

Family Friendly - No Alcohol Allowed



Entrees – Fruit and savory platters

Main meal – Hot roast pork and beef with gravy, potato bake, cold roast chicken, ham, assorted salads.

Desserts – Fruit salad, ice cream, cream. Xmas pudding, custard, cream.

Drinks – Assorted soft drinks and water.

Enter through the front door to collect your free gift, door prize tickets, kids show bags, kids drink and icy pole tickets, free raffle ticket.

Santa Clause will arrive to distribute free presents to all kids.

To assist us to carry on this great tradition, there will be a voluntary donation tin and raffle tickets to purchase at the entry.

Come one and all. Spread the word.





The Gem in the Gemfields

Ron
Your Host
16 Main St Rubyvale QLD 4702
Phone 07 4985 4118

stay@rubyvalecaravanpark.com.au

www.rubyvalecaravanpark.com.au



RUBYVALE CARAVAN PARK has flat, shady, easily accessible sites for caravans, motor homes, camper trailers and tents. We even have a few sites for BIG RIGS.

The park is PET Friendly and has—LAUNDRY FACILITIES, A well equipped CAMP KITCHEN with FREE gas BBQ, and A SWIMMING POOL and offers FREE WI-FI.

The Rubyvale Caravan Park is situated just opposite the Pub and is centrally located to local amenities including the PO, café & jewellery shops, fossicking parks and underground mines. We will give you all the information on what to do around the area.



CABINS

Family cabin self-contained for up to 6 people

Queen Bed self contained for 2 people

Value cabin self-contained NO en-suite for up to 6 people



FOSSICKING



CAMP KITCHEN



FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE



A Combine Christmas Market
with all your local vendors from Rubyvale & Sapphire market

CHRISTMAS MARKET

At Rubyvale Flats

**FREE
ENTRY**

14 DEC @ 2pm to 6pm

To book a stall phone Bev 0428399591





Gemstone Identifications & Valuation Certificates

ABN: 65 750 573 533

Email: iTechprogramming@bigpond.com

Kelvin Johnston- **Gemchecker Registered Valuer**: Cert.No. 010

Ph: Kelvin - 0437 476 512.

Carol - 0488 55 55 92

We offer reports & valuation certificates for - all gemstones, jewellery, diamonds, opal, pearls, gold, etc and have natural untreated gemstones for sale, also cutting of gemstones.

Our Gemmological Laboratory is located in Emerald: Over the years we developed a unique electronic overall coloured gemstone description eg: yellowish Orange (yO) - Hue, Tone, Saturation, our system was first reported by the GAA in The Australian Gemmologist - no longer do you guess. This is so important so that an accurate price can be established. Our Services include the Identification of gemstones ie: natural/synthetic, enhancements, which includes the classifications - colour clarity, cut, gem polish brightness, pattern uniformity and size etc.

Once again treatments and enhancements have kept the Gemmologists of the world on their toes. Many sellers of gems have difficulty ascertaining the true enhancements of the gemstone. We have the latest technology and the experience. If you don't identify and classify the stone correctly, you cannot certify and value it.

Kelvin Johnston - 45 years Research in the Gem Industry, (Scientist/Inventor) of Gemchecker Equip. and Gem Testing, Appraisal/Valuation software programming and Instruments. He was evaluated & reported by (G.A.A), (G.I.A) & (Dr. Read G.A.G.B.) Magazines. OVER THE YEARS HE HAS LECTURED AT GEMMOLOGICAL INSTITUTES/ CONFERENCES IN AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, USA, INDIA, BRITAIN & EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

Carol Johnston—19 years Gem Cutting experience and has obtained Certificates in Levels 1, 2 and 3 in Advanced cutting of Coloured Gemstones issued by John Broadfoot and the Australian Facetors Guild.

PHONE: Carol - 0488 55 55 92 OR Kelvin - 0437 476 512



1056 Rubyvale Rd
Sapphire, QLD 4702
PH: 0499 186 251

Opening Hours:
8.30am - 2pm

5 Days A Week
Thurs - Mon
Closed - public holidays

- Licensed Cafe
- Merlo Coffee
- Bakery
- Deli Fridge
- Breakfast & Lunch Menu

- Fossicking park
- Take away Bags
- Local Stones
- Jewellery Store



Christmas Trading:
Closed 24, 25 & 26th
December
Closed Tues 31st Dec & 1st
Jan

SCAN ME



Check out our Facebook page for daily menu specials

***Enjoy a relaxing atmosphere, meet our team, catch up with family or friends
& find yourself a Sapphire 💎***

Local miners, local knowledge, local stones



The New Royal Hotel, Rubyvale

CHRISTMAS BLINGO

D R A G B I N G O

Enjoy an evening of festive madness and mayhem with
your gloriously unattractive host **HEIDI HOLE.**

FRIDAY

6

DECEMBER

BOOK NOW PH: 4985 4754

EYES DOWN 7 P.M.

GEMFIELDS BOBCAT AND TIPPER HIRE

www.gbth.svnthasite.com

Kris Nilsson (*Proprietor*)

Phone:- (07) 4985 4451

Fax:- (07) 4985 4481

Mobile:-(07) 0429 803 381



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Sapphire Gemfields*

CALL NOW 0437 921 970

Excerpt from Historical Book CAPTURED IN TIME

REFLECTIONS OF MANY CHRISTMASES and the "GOOD OLD DAYS"

by Ellie Pacey

From the Gemfields Gazette, December 1993



A while before Christmas the ladies would begin to get everything in order. Last year's white starched tablecloth was bought out to see if it was okay; our silver polished knives shone up on the emery board and the decorations looked over.

The fruit for puddings and cakes had to be prepared. The fruit was sold in bulk as there were no packets then. (1919). Raisins had seeds which had to be taken out, currants had small stalks about an eighth of an inch long and so they had to be taken

off and lemon peel had to be cut up.

Sometimes small trinkets were put in puddings as well as coins, which were silver in those days. I remember Christmas dinner where we had quite a crowd round the table and I made sure that everyone had a coin. One man with no teeth did not have a coin on his plate so I mentioned that he should have one and asked if he'd like another piece of pudding. "Yes please," he said, so I saw that a coin was in the pudding, but again he said he did not have one. Having no teeth he had swallowed it easily.

Christmas was always a happy visiting time. In the morning while poor mother was getting hot and bothered in the kitchen, we would go around our friends' houses just to say "Hello, Merry Christmas" and be home for dinner.

There were gatherings on the Flat at Rubyvale. World War I had been over for a few months so everyone was so happy. Even the poor people who had lost someone at the War joined in to be happy with the ones who had all their loved ones. Rubyvale was a very happy place.

Christmas to me, before we came to Rubyvale, was just a family affair but in 1919 and 1920 it became something that all joined in together. The Flats at Rubyvale could tell of some lovely get-togethers under those lovely big trees. The games and gatherings held there had to be seen to be believed. Willis Hagan and Ernie Goerg were the billy boilers. The billys were four gallon kerosene tins.

For other celebrations Buffa's shop was the gathering place. Dozens sat out in front to talk, sing and someone would play a mouth organ which was a popular musical instrument in those days as it could be carried in one's pocket on Christmas morning.

Mrs Kate Leahy who owned the hotel would put on breakfast for as many who liked to attend. There was always a dance in the hall, which was opposite the hotel. Sometimes a big storm would come while we were dancing but no one bothered about it. We danced until the rain stopped and long after began our weary way home.

Most people lived across the other side of Policeman's Creek. Down the hill there was a very big tree which had fallen over the creek and that was our bridge. There were no torches in those days but we all had hurricane lanterns.

The dance music in those days was supplied by Mrs Mason and her brother Jack Pengally. They also played for the silent movies and Mrs Mason would watch the movie and play as well. They were both self-taught. Their grandmother would give them jobs to do while she went shopping or visiting so either one of them would get to the piano and the other would sit on the steps and watch for grandma then call out "here she comes" and get busy on the job.

Surprise parties were popular in those days too. A number would get together, pack up cakes and soft drink and descend on a house, usually one with a piano. All the housekeeper had to do was provide hot water for cups of tea. Tin Kettling was another event. When someone married and settled into their first home, a number would get together with sticks and big tins, kerosene ones for preference, and hit the tins until the couple came out and said a few words and threw some money and then the tin kettlers would go to the shop and spend the money.

Sometimes there would be a basket ball. This entailed the girls making a basket and putting a light supper in it. Mostly it was a shoe or hat box covered with coloured crepe paper. Sometimes when cherries were ripe we would buy half a pound. They were 4/6d (45c) a pound and that was very dear. The idea was that the girls took the baskets and the boys bought them at auction. The highest bidder had supper with the girl. I remember one night a young Rubyvale man drove his sulky 12 miles into Anakie for his girlfriend. His mates bid him up until he had to give in and after the ball was over he had to drive her back home 12 miles. People enjoy themselves now but not near as much as in *the good old days*.



Coolamon Mining

SAPPHIRE SHOWCASE



1 052 RUBYVALE / SAPPHIRE ROAD, SAPPHIRE.

**Wishing everyone a joyful and safe Christmas
and a Happy New Year.**

We wish to advise all our valued customers that our last day of trading for 2024 will be Tuesday 24th December. We will reopen Monday 13th January. We thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

We will continue operating Friday to Tuesday each week throughout the warmer months.

We invite you to view our dazzling range of natural sapphires and zircons, mined right here on the Central Queensland Gemfields.

We have simplified your choice in finding the right gemstone/s with our stunning design sets and ready-matched pairs in a rainbow of colours. Your jeweller will delight in creating a unique piece to enhance your choice.

Come in for a free coffee and chat with our friendly staff while browsing our display of affordable, fine-cut sapphires and zircons.

**OPEN Friday - Tuesday
10.00 am to 3.00 pm**

Phone: 0407 881 551

Email: coolamon.showcase@yahoo.com

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CHRISTMAS GEMMIES STYLE

SANTA, GAMES, FACE PAINTING

★ Carols by candlelight
FREE ENTRY / FREE BBQ

★ THE GEMFIELDS RSL INVITES YOU TO ATTEND
A FREE EVENT TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS,
THE WONDERFUL GEMFIELDS COMMUNITY,
& OUR LAST TRADING DAY FOR 2024!!

GEMFIELDS RSL
15 DEC FROM 3PM
EVERYONE WELCOME

Experience Tai Chi

Graciously hosted by the Gemfields Multipurpose Centre

*Mondays 9 - 10am



Did you know that the principles of Tai Chi are developed around our centre of gravity and engaging our deep core/postural muscles?

This month, we start with the principle of circular and spiraling movement. This principle speaks of continuous and flowing movement; inwardly in terms of our Chi being cultivated, and moved throughout our body, and outwardly, with the side-to-side and circular movement of our hips, torso and other joints, we propagate centripetal and centrifugal power. Moving with natural propulsion saves us energy. When we move against our natural flow, this expends more energy and may lead to weariness and pain syndromes

Have you been wanting to learn Tai Chi? We welcome you to come along and try. Participation is free and is open to all ages and genders. We practice different styles through a mix of demonstrations and video instruction from several Tai Chi Masters. Our friendly group meets at the GMPC every Monday at 9am, and we love to go for coffee after!

*Tai Chi will not be on 23 or 30 December while the centre takes a short break. We hope you have a happy and safe festive season



GEMFIELDS RIDING FOR THE DISABLED INC.

2024 HORSE MANURE FOR SALE.

Do you require some horse manure for your garden?

We deliver to your place.

\$30.00 per large trailer load within 20 kms radius Sapphire. (Delivery charge if more than 20kms.)

Or \$25.00 bring your own trailer and we will load you

PLEASE CALL TIM RILEY 0408 301 401
OR EMAIL DETAILS TO
sapphire.rda@gmail.com



THE BAKED HAM



Once upon a time, a mother was teaching her daughter the family recipe for making a whole baked ham. It was the very best ham anybody had ever had so they always followed that recipe carefully.

They prepared the marinade, scored the skin, put in the cloves, and then came a step the daughter didn't understand.

"Why do we cut off the ends of the ham?" she said.
"Doesn't that make it dry out?"

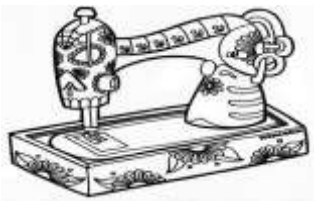
"You know, I don't know," said the mother. "That's just the way grandma taught me. We should call grandma and ask."

So they called grandma and asked, "why do we cut off the ends of the ham? Is it to let the marinade in, or what?"

"No," said Grandma. "To be honest, I cut the ends off because that's how my mother taught me. I added the marinade step later, because I was worried about the ham drying out. Let's call great grandma and ask her."

So they called the assisted living facility where great grandma was living, and the old woman listened to their questions, and then said.

"Oh, for land sakes! I cut off the ends because I didn't have a pan big enough for a whole ham!"



GEMMY QUILTERS



DECEMBER/JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Happy holidays to every one of our readers. We do not have a break over the holidays –as long as there is one or two of us to get together on a Tuesday we continue to meet and chat and sew. Join us if you are at a loose end and would like some company. Each Tuesday at the Sapphire Hall from 9.00am to 3.00pm. Bring your lunch and any craft you enjoy doing. Morning tea is provided. Remember, our Hall is air conditioned and very pleasant this warm weather.

We are quite a small group as some of our members have left to visit family and friends in cooler areas for the Christmas. We look forward to welcoming them back in the New Year.

We hope everyone has a very Happy Christmas and wonderful New Year!

GEMFIELDS COMMUNITY LOCAL AMBULANCE COMMITTEE



DECEMBER 24 JANUARY 25 NEWSLETTER

As the year ends and thoughts turn to Christmas and the New Year holidays we would like to remind people that our Ambulance Officers will always be there to help. Don't forget – for any emergency call 000. Our Committee also has a break and we shall return next year at the Sapphire Markets.



One of our members has recently had a spell in hospital so a bunch of flowers was arranged to cheer her up.

Denise with her flowers. We wish her well with her ongoing treatment.

We also wish our readers a very Happy Christmas and safe and healthy New Year ahead.

We look forward to seeing you all in 2025.

Your Local Ambulance Committee



Guided Walk-in Underground Mine Tour

Jewellery & Gift Showroom

Underground Museum

Richardson Sapphires

Fossicking – *We'll show you how!*

97 Heritage Road, Rubyvale.

PH: (07) 4985 4444



Tours

Thursday to Sunday from
9am to 1pm and run
hourly on the quarter past.

**Bookings are
essential.
Minimum of 2 people.**



The Miners Café ph; 0486029237
situated at Miners Heritage. 97 Heritage Rd Rubyvale.

Closed until next Season

Café available for lease

Follow our signs from the highway crossroads at Anakie, or on the Clermont/Capella Road.
1.5km from the Rubyvale Hotel and Post Office.



GEMFIELDS RIDING FOR THE DISABLED INC.

As the weather starts to warm up Gemfields Riding for the Disabled is winding down. Lessons have pretty much come to a halt as it is just too hot for riders, volunteers and horses.

We hope to commence again around end March so keep watching the newsletter for our start date. Don't forget to watch out for Fair Play vouchers being offered about February, these can be put towards rider insurance etc.

Even though we have wound down the horses and general maintenance still needs to be taken care of and if you are interested in volunteering, please give us a call 0408 798 340.

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has given their time or donated to us throughout the year whether it be your time, goods, funding or return it cans and bottles. Every little it helps.

In closing Gemfields RDA wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you again in 2025.

From Tim and myself and of course the horses.



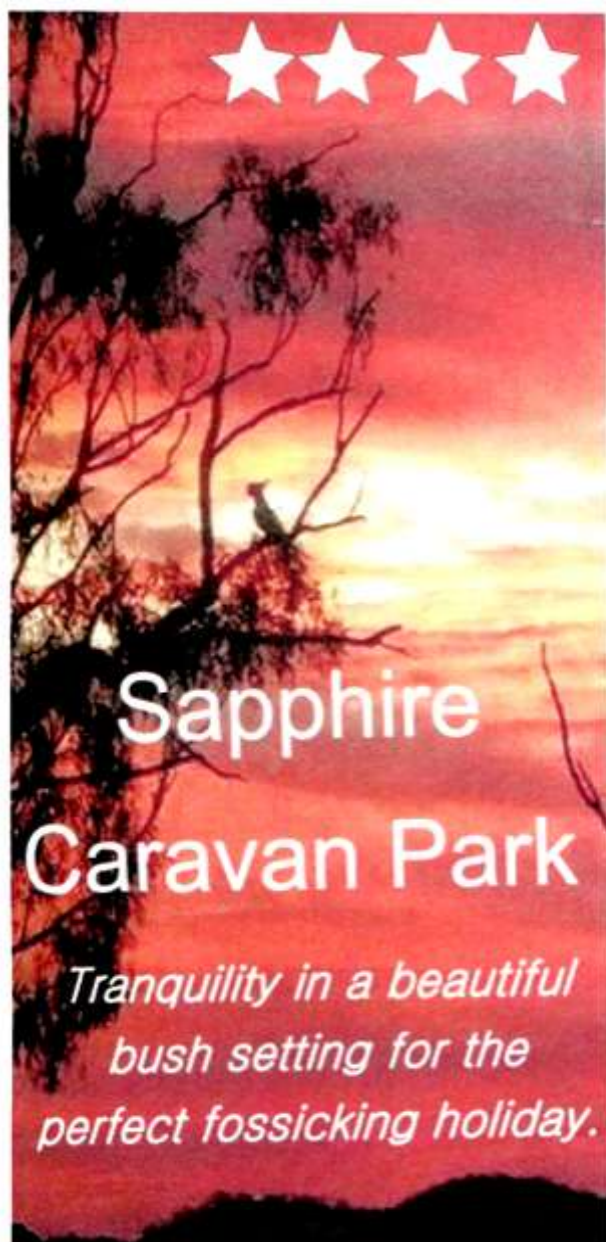
Kohnke's Own
Top Quality Supplements for all Horses

Thank you to the

RETREAT CREEK

WORKING HORSE CLUB

For their generous donation to the
Gemfields Meals on Wheels



- BILLY BOULDER CABINS
- BUDGET MINER HUTS
- CARAVAN & TENT SITES
- POWERED/UNPOWERED
- LARGE CAMP KITCHEN
- SWIMMING POOL
- 4 ACRES OF BUSHLAND
- MAGICAL SUNSETS

Sapphire Caravan Park

57 Sunrise Road
Sapphire QLD
Ph. (07) 4985 4281



Bookings can be made online;
www.sapphirecaravanpark.com.au
sapphirecaravanpark@gmail.com

**Long term rates available*

**Pet friendly—conditions apply*

** Mobile phone & TV reception available*

Situated in beautiful bushland, which offers guests a peaceful and tranquil stay. Relax by the pool or try your luck at finding a Sapphire at the many designated fossicking sites.

Watch the wildlife feeding before a captivating sunset.

We are conveniently located near the post office, chemist, general store, fossicking parks, fuel, take-away and medical centre.

COME AS STRANGERS - LEAVE AS FRIENDS



Every Tuesday
9.15am—12noon



Where
Rubyvale Hall
How Much
1 Hand—\$3
More Info
0488352454



Lucky
DOOR



Party Day 1st Tuesday
every Month

TRIVIA MONDAY'S

Sapphire Hall
10am till Noon

Plenty of PRIZES



Everyone Welcome to come along

**All monies raised
donated to local
charitable
Organisation's**

For Info please call Mary
on 0415 830 505



WILLOWS GEMFIELDS BRANCH

MEETINGS HELD ON THE
1st WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
ALTERNATING AT THE WILLOWS REC CLUB
AND RUBYVALE HALL
10.00AM

- December 4th Rubyvale Hall
- February 5th Willows Rec Club
- March 5th Rubyvale Hall
- April 2nd Willows Rec Club
- May 7th Rubyvale Hall
- June 4th Willows Rec Club

Social Day every 3rd Wednesday Willows Rec Club
9am to 12noon. All Welcome.

New Members Welcome

The QCWA Willows Gemfields Branch
would like to wish everyone
Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy Holiday Season.
And“If you want more kindness in the world, put it
there” for a happy 2025.





RUBYVALE FRIENDLY GROCER

PHONE : 4985 4190

Right Next door to the Hotel

OPEN 7 DAYS

MON-FRI 7am-6:30pm Weekends 8am-6pm

**WHY GO TO EMERALD WHEN WE
HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED AT
REASONABLE PRICES!**

FULL RANGE OF GROCERIES,
FRESH MEAT (FOR YOU & PETS)

FRUIT AND VEGIES

FUEL, GAS, ICE

AUTO, MINING, HARDWARE

& SOOOO MUCH MORE!

*****MERRY CHRISTMAS*****

AND A FRIENDLY NEW YEAR

TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS

CHRISTMAS TRADING HOURS

CHRISTMAS EVE – 7am-6:30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY – CLOSED

BOXING DAY AND NEW YEARS DAY 8am–12pm



Returned & Services League of Australia

(Queensland Branch)

Gemfields RSL Sub-Branch Inc.

ABN 15 781 906 571

P.O. Box 328, Sapphire QLD 4702.

Enquiries: Phone 07 4985 4588

Email: secretary@gemfields.rslqld.net.au

NEWSLETTER – December 2024-January 2025

The year is almost over, where did it go?

2024 saw the RSL host the North Qld Vietnam Veterans and Veterans Motorcycle Club for Anzac Day, what a great bunch of men and women, their support of our club was greatly appreciated and we would welcome them back anytime. A service was held for Vietnam Veterans Day followed by lunch, and lunch was also provided following the Remembrance Day Service at the Anakie War Memorial.

Our community events for the year included Rock v Country music afternoon, a Karaoke Night and a live music evening during Jewel of the Gemfields, our inaugural Gemmie Bake Off, which was a hugely successful event, raising over \$3000 for the Anakie School, our RSL Birthday, Mardi Gras and Rock the Gemmies. We also provided the RSL rooms as a venue for various community events including the seniors lunch, Rural Fire Brigade birthday celebrations and this month the Anakie State School graduation.

As the year draws to a close the committee would like to thank all our volunteers for their tireless efforts in keeping the RSL running and providing a welcoming environment for veterans, their families and the community to socialize.

Thank you too, to our caretakers throughout the year for welcoming veterans to our Retreat, maintaining the grounds and stepping in to assist when required at various functions.

We also thank Robert for taking on the cooking of our yummy meals and to quote him 'nobody leaves here hungry' thanks too, to the kitchen helpers and to Tanya who takes our meal booking and runs the dining room and of course Lucas, our 'waiter in training'

Don't forget our Christmas Party on December 15th – All welcome!

Finally, we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2025.

The club will be closing following our Christmas Party on the 15th and reopening on January 26 2025.

LEST WE FORGET



GEMFIELDS RIDING FOR THE DISABLED INC.

2024-2025 HORSE MANURE FOR SALE.

Do you require some horse manure for your garden?

We deliver to your place.

\$30.00 per large trailer load within 20 kms radius Sapphire. (Delivery charge if more than 20kms.)

Or \$25.00 bring your own trailer and we will load you

Delivery days will be on a Thursday between 8.00-10.00am

PLEASE CALL TIM RILEY 0408 301 401
OR EMAIL DETAILS TO
sapphire.rda@gmail.com



JP available at the Gemfields Library

Library hours are

10am-2pm Tuesday

12 midday-4pm Thursday

9am-12 midday Saturday

For more information please call Joanne at the library
on 4981 0299

Salvos in Sapphire (Angelos)

Monday's
Wednesday's
Friday's
Saturday's
8.00am - 12.00pm



Gemfields Lapidary Club

WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY

Roy Day Park Sapphire
9am - 12 noon

Membership Fee: \$25.00/ \$5 Session
New Members \$40.00/ \$5 Session

We
have

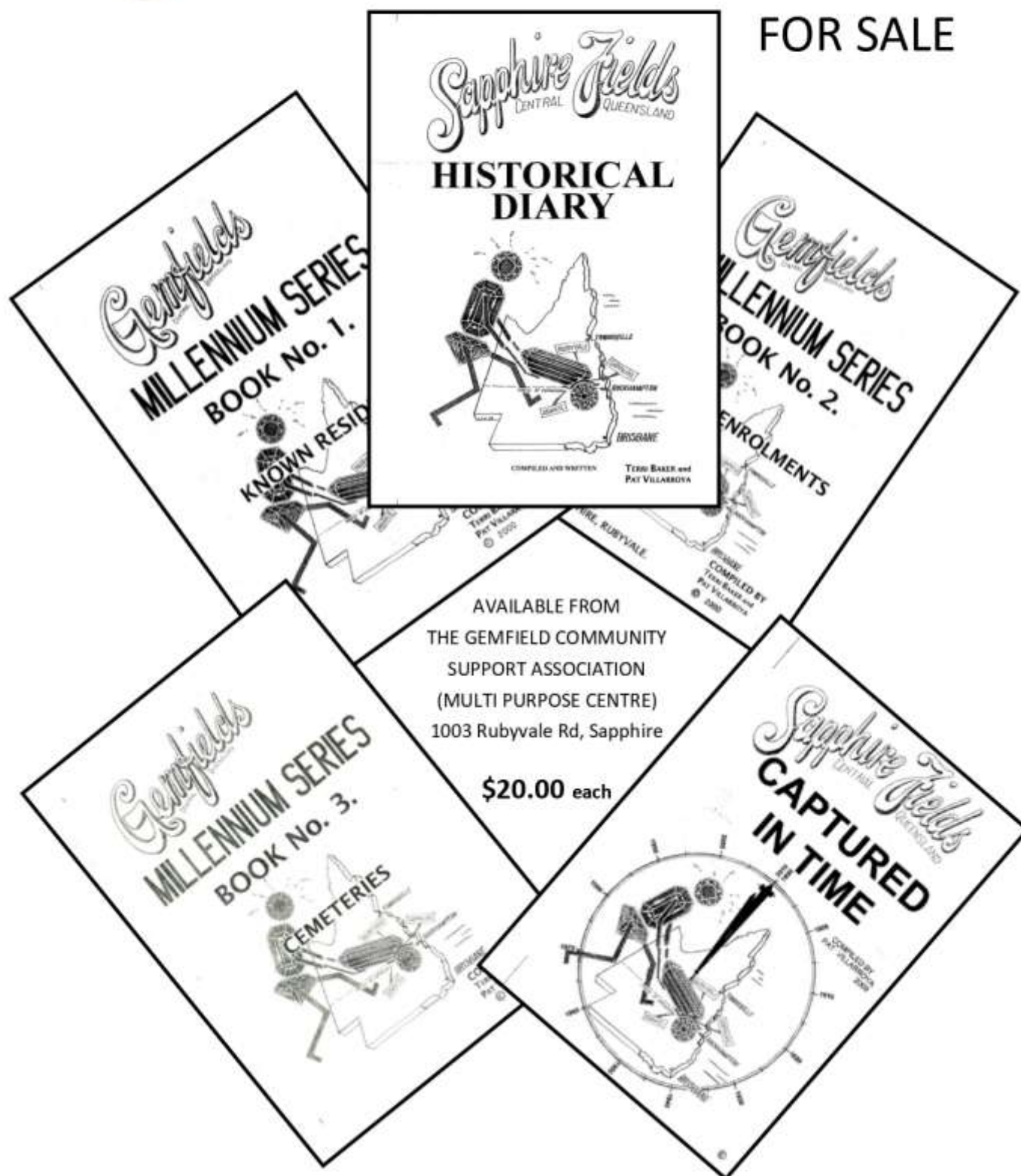
**Lapidary Activities, Silversmithing, Skin
Polishing, Wire Wrapping, Chain Maille**

Phone: 0474 277 122
Email: gemfieldslapiary@hotmail.com

Gemfields

Central Queensland

HISTORICAL BOOKS FOR SALE



AVAILABLE FROM
THE GEMFIELD COMMUNITY
SUPPORT ASSOCIATION
(MULTI PURPOSE CENTRE)
1003 Rubyvale Rd, Sapphire

\$20.00 each



"Your local Fresh Fruit and Vegetable family in the Gemfields"

19 Rifle Range Road, Sapphire (behind the pool)



DECEMBER TRADING HOURS

Friday, Saturday & Sunday 7am – 1pm

Also open Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th December 7am - 1pm

We are taking a break and will be

CLOSED 25TH DECEMBER AND RE-OPENING ON 31ST JANUARY

We sell a large range of Quality Fresh Fruit and Vegetables and;

- Amazing coffee made by our barista Lucy and scones
- Bluemac Bakehouse pies from Clermont
- Bread, Milk, Eggs, Nuts, Confectionery, Juices and Cold Drinks
- Smallgoods, Jerky, Spices, Sauces, Ready-made meals & Pizzas
- Coarse Laying Mash & Seasoned Firewood

***We wish our customers a very Merry Christmas and
thank you for your support this year! See you all in
2025!***

Adam & Maree Willison - Ph: 0427 772 613

gemfields



Garden Club



Garden News December 2024

Well, here we are, the last Newsletter for the year 2024. Frightening how fast time goes and the changes we see in our life's and the world at large. Awful wars are going on in this planet with no lasting peace in sight. So, coming into the Christmas season, we can feel a more pleasant sense of calmness, a coming together to celebrate this solemn occasion, the birth of Christ.

Like every year, there is a Christmas lunch at Sapphire. This time the venue is moved to the hall at Roy Day Park, which provides more space, compared to the Sapphire Community Hall. Rose, one of the esteemed organisers, tells me, more volunteers are needed on the day and the day prior to set up tables and chairs. You might be able to lend a hand? An excess of 200 people are expected for this yearly happening, enjoyed by all.

Jo from the library advised there will be school holiday activities happening at the Gemfields Library in Rubyvale. Further information will be at the CHRC website or contact the library. Books on gardening are also on hand.

“Wow where has the year gone Xmas just around the corner. The garden grounds are starting to show some green signs after the small amount of rain with the storms we've been having hoping for more rain to come. The mango and paw paw trees are coming along a treat with plenty of fruit to come if the wildlife doesn't get to them first.

I like to welcome two more members to our club Debbie and Dion we are slowly growing if you are interested in coming down and enjoying this beautiful setting don't hesitate to contact me.

The club had our last meeting in November for the year our AGM and first General meeting will be the 1st Saturday in March 2025 at 9.00am at Roy Day Park will confirm closer to date.

Wishing everyone a safe and wonderful Xmas and a Happy New Year.

I am available at any time if you have any questions or queries don't hesitate to contact me Robyn 0497 991 672.”

A New Years old time dance takes place at the Capella Community Hall; music starts at 8pm. Doors open at 7.30. Lucky door prizes, free tea and coffee. Ladies bring a plate. Good “old fashioned” entertainment. More info on 0408721707 Noela.

A rewarding New Year's resolution would be to join a local club, like the Garden Club. Becoming active in the local community.

Our membership is \$15- a year, you get a garden plot, free seeds, use of tools and a well appointed club house.

In behalf of our president and members, we wish you All
“A Holy Christmas and a Very Happy New Year 2025!!!”

You will hear from me again in February 2025. Any input to the Garden News is welcome and valued.

Jim Varak
News Coordinator
0419854333



Happy Gardening



TLM DIESEL SERVICES PTY LTD

We
wish
you
a
Merry
Christmas

**We will be closed from the
19th December to 6th January**



Tyres

- Repairs
- Small tyres
- Car tyres
- 4WD tyres
- Truck tyres
- Machinery tyres

In stock or available in
a couple of days



Hydraulic Hoses

Large quantity of hose
and fittings in stock.

Hoses made on-site
while you wait



Oils & Parts

Large quantity of Fuchs
and Valvoline oils and
coolant in stock.

Other vehicle parts
and consumables in
stock or available
quickly

More Information



Call Us
0493 497 604



Find us next to Blue Gem Caravan Park

**Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 7am to 5pm
Closed Saturday and Sunday**

Climbing Animals

Word Search Puzzle

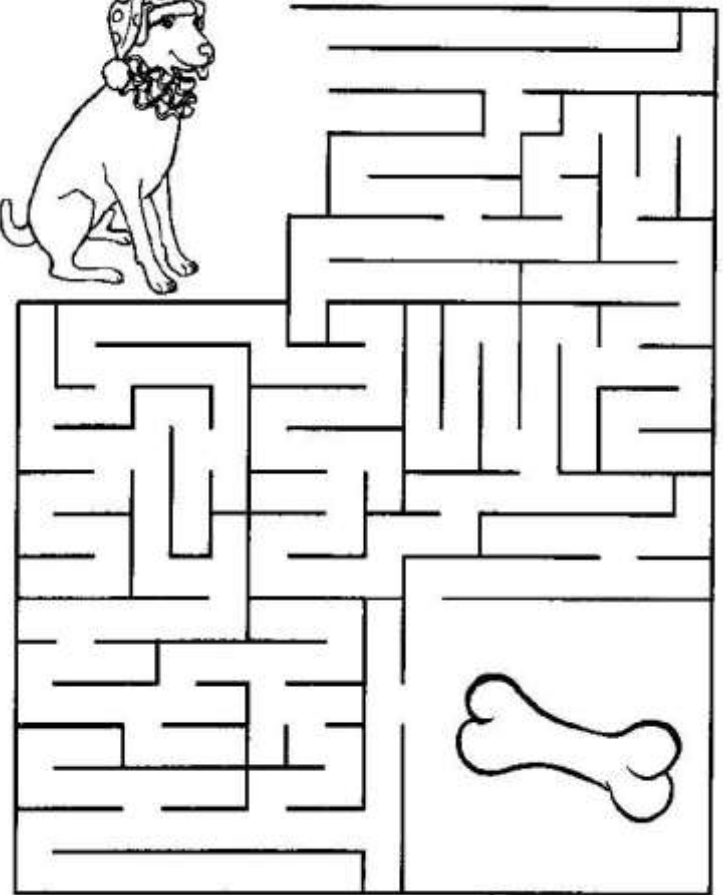


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BABOON	GORILLA	ORANGUTAN
BADGER	HOUSECAT	PANDA
BLACK BEAR	KINKAJOU	PORCUPINE
CHAMELEON	KOALA	POSSUM
CHIMPANZEE	LEMUR	RACCOON
COUGAR	LEOPARD	SLOTH
GECKO	MONKEY	SQUIRREL
GIBBON	MOUNTAIN GOAT	TREE FROG

Sparky can't find his bone. Will you show him the way?



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the 10 differences between these two pictures?



FRENCH ONION, BACON & CHEESE COB DIP

Ingredients

- 1tsp olive oil
- 4150g shortcut Bacon Rashers finely chopped
- 1 red onion, halved, thinly sliced
- 375g cream cheese, softened
- 1/2cup (150g) mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup (60g) grated tasty cheese
- 40g pkt French onion soup mix
- 450g Cob Loaf
- Chopped chives, extra, to sprinkly
- Vegetable sticks, to serve



Method

- Preheat oven to 180C. Line a baking tray with baking paper.
- Heat the oil in a medium frying pan over medium-high heat. Add the bacon and onion and cook, stirring, for 3 mins or until bacon starts to brown. Transfer to a plate lined with paper towel to drain.
- Combine the bacon mixture, cream cheese, mayonnaise, tasty cheese, soup mix and chives in a large bowl. Season.
- Use a serrated knife to cut 4cm from the top of cob loaf and reserve. Remove the bread from centre of loaf, leaving a 2cm-thick shell. Tear bread pieces into 3cm pieces. Spoon the bacon mixture into shell. Top with lid. Place on prepared tray. Arrange bread pieces around cob. Bake for 20 mins or until golden
- Sprinkle with extra chives. Serve with vegetable sticks.

MANGO CHEESECAKE DESSERT CUPS

Ingredients

- 250g cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1 cup Thickened Cream
- 125ml double cream
- 1/4 cup caster sugar
- 1 lemon, rind finely grated
- 1tbsp lemon juice
- 1 small mango, peeled, thinly sliced
- Passionfruit pulp, to serve
- Mint leaves, to serve



Method

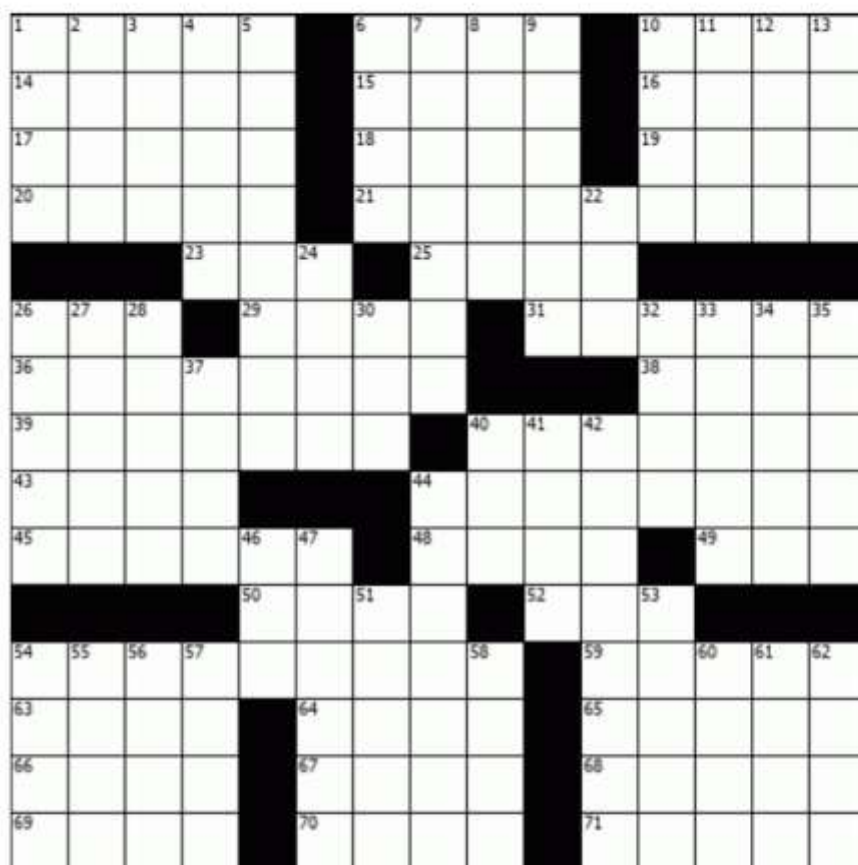
- Beat cream cheese in a bowl until smooth. Add thickened cream, double cream, sugar and lemon rind. Beat for 2-3 minutes, until thick and creamy. Stir through lemon juice until combined.
- Dollop some cream cheese mixture in the base of four 250ml glasses. Top with sliced mango. Continue layering and finish with mango slices. Top with passionfruit pulp and mint leaves.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Break
6. Shock
10. Informed about
14. Scrumptious
15. Burgundy, e.g.
16. Chess piece
17. Zones
18. Pavarotti solo
19. Hero's tale
20. Baker's need
21. Support for an institution
23. Coop dweller
25. Act
26. Furious
29. Unmannerly
31. School playtime
36. Professor ____
38. Tibetan monk
39. Ailment
40. Part of ETA
43. Pen fluids
44. Dozing ones
45. Fellow leading actor
48. Neckwear items
49. Train stop (abbr.)
50. Naught
52. JFK's party
54. Most important
59. Bath powders
63. Lump of dirt
64. Zenith
65. Scout unit
66. Robust
67. Young adult
68. Heavenly scales
69. Sign
70. Proves human
71. Relieves



Down

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Remain | 24. Loony | 46. "Raggedy" doll |
| 2. Stallion's mate | 26. Military doctor | 47. Revolve |
| 3. Cruising | 27. Kind of acid | 51. More pleasant |
| 4. Stockpile | 28. Writing tables | 53. "West Side Story" character |
| 5. Excessive emotion | 30. Payable now | 54. Yodeler's feedback |
| 6. Barter | 32. Trim | 55. Shut hard |
| 7. Ranting speeches | 33. Roof overhangs | 56. Cobbler's concern |
| 8. Join | 34. Clever | 57. Biblical garden |
| 9. More adjacent | 35. Chip dip | 58. Contact ____ |
| 10. Unclosed | 37. Take a break | 60. Tennis strokes |
| 11. California wine valley | 40. Boxing great | 61. Apple part |
| 12. Tiny branch | 41. Hollow stalk | 62. Health clubs |
| 13. Formerly | 42. Colonize again | |
| 22. Certain poem | 44. Cooking container | |

Thank you to:

For their generous donation of goods to assist the
Gemfields Meals on Wheels
in their delivery of Fresh meals to our clients.

NOVEMBER CROSSWORD SOLUTION

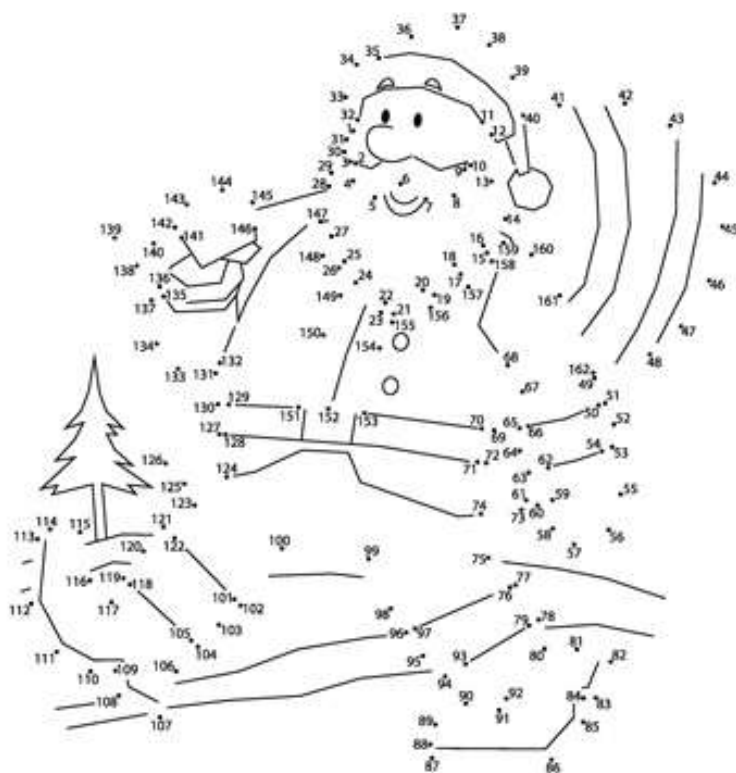
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SUDOKU

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5								
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		2		9		6		

OCTOBER SUDOKU SOLUTION

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6	5	1	8	7	4	2	9	3
2	1	5	9	8	3	6	4	7
9	8	4	7	2	6	3	1	5
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3	9	2	6	5	7	4	8	1



GEMFIELDS PRIMARY HEALTH CLINIC

984 SAPPHIRE - RUBYVALE RD SAPPHIRE
PO BOX 342 SAPPHIRE Qld 4702

Doctor on: Mon/Tue/Wed - By Appointment Only
8.30am- 3.30pm

Closed 12.30 - 1.30 for lunch.

Pathology Collections: Mon/Tue/Wed

Registered Nurse 5-days 8.30am - 3.30pm

PHONE: 49854 547 FAX: 49854 693

EMAIL: Gemfields Outpatients@health.qld.gov.au

ANAKIE POLICE STATION

PHONE : 49854 200

Office Hours:

Monday 8am - 12pm

Emergencies-Phone 000

**Please leave your name and
phone number on the voicemail.**

GEMMY QUILTERS

**** Everybody is welcome ****

Each Tuesday of the month 9.30 am -3pm.
at the Sapphire Hall

For more information please call in and see us

GEMFIELDS GARDEN CLUB

**** Everybody is welcome ****

.For more information call Pat on 4985 4544

GEMFIELDS RSL Sub-Branch Inc

Phone : 07 49854 588

PO Box 328 SAPPHIRE Qld 4702

Clinic Rd (Behind the Sapphire Post Office)

Meals on Thursdays, Saturday and Sunday from 6pm
During the tourist season usually from May—October

Social Annual Membership - \$10.00

ATTENTION

If you are a not for profit organisation and have
an event coming up that you would like to
advertise, please phone or drop into the MPC
office and we can discuss placing a free notice
in the monthly newsletter.

Ph: 49854 664

Newsletter Advertising Prices

Full Page.....\$45.00
Half Page.....\$35.00
Third Page.....\$25.00
Quarter Page.....\$23.00
Sixth Page.....\$20.00
Business Card.....\$18.00

A discount applies for advertisements that run for a
minimum of 3 months.

Information must be sent by **20th** of month before for
it to be included in the next months print.

ALL EMERGENCIES CALL 000

POLICE..... 000
AMBULANCE.....000
FIRE.....000
S.E.S. Call Centre.....132 500
SAPPHIRE MEDICAL CENTRE 4985 4547
EMERALD HOSPITAL.....4987 9400
POISONS INFORMATION.....13 11 26
LIFELINE.....13 11 14
R.A.C.Q.....13 11 11
MPC Sapphire.....4985 4664
CENTACARE Emerald.....4982 4358

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or printing errors, inaccuracies or changes that
may have taken place during publication. The
committee reserves the right to not
publish any article considered inappropriate.

The views and opinions expressed in this
publication are not necessarily those of the
management committee, staff or volunteers.

*** LOCAL SERVICES ***

WHAT	WHO	WHEN	WHERE
EMERGENCY SERVICES	000	EMERGENCIES	POLICE AMBULANCE FIRE BRIGADE
SES	132 500	NON-LIFE THREATENING FLOOD & STORM EMERGENCIES	
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS	COL 0423767490	MEETINGS EVERY TUESDAY 7.30 pm	RUBYVALE HALL BURRIDGE RD
GEMFIELDS MEALS ON WHEELS	MPC 49854664	MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY	MULTI PURPOSE CENTRE SAPPHIRE
GEMFIELDS FIRE WARDEN	John Riley 042 758 0654	Mon—Fri 9am - 5pm	60 Fairview Lane RUBYVALE
RUBYVALE TIP	CHRC	Open/ Tuesday—Friday & Sunday 8am - 12pm	Opposite Quarry
OPPORTUNITY SHOP	SALVATION ARMY	MON - WED - FRI - SAT 8.00 am- 12pm	ANGELO'S SAPPHIRE
GEMFIELDS LIBRARY	JOANNE GIBSON	TUES 10am - 2pm THURS 12 noon - 4pm SAT 9am - 12 pm	RUBYVALE HALL BURRIDGE RD

*** WHAT'S ON ***

SAPPHIRE MARKETS	Tricia Murphy 0457 582 830	Sunday 8am to 11.30am	Sapphire Central Roy Day Park
RUBYVALE MARKETS	Bev Winks 0428 399 591	Saturday 8am - till 1pm	Rubyvale Flats
HOY	FUN, SOCIAL CARD MORNING	EVERY TUESDAY 9.30am	RUBYVALE HALL BURRIDGE RD
TAI CHI	Gemfields Community Support Association	Every Monday morning 9am - 10am	MPC Hall
GEMMY QUILTERS	PATCHWORK GROUP	TUESDAY 9.30am-3pm	SAPPHIRE HALL
GEMFIELDS LAPIDARY & CRAFT	0407 056 089	Wednesday & Saturday 9am to 12 noon	Roy Day Park
GEMFIELDS RIFLE CLUB	Debbie Hickman Ph. 0429 009 354 / 4985 4484	LONG RANGE TARGET SHOOTING EVERY SUNDAY 9am	RIFLE RANGE RD SAPPHIRE
YOGA	Kelly Corbishley	SATURDAY 7.30AM	KANGOULU PARK (Opposite Blue Gem)