



Gem & Lapidary News

April 2016

Vol. 42 No 4

Print Post Approved PP243352/00002

Gem & Lapidary News is the official publication of the GEM AND LAPIDARY COUNCIL of NEW SOUTH WALES Inc, PO Box 163, Wentworthville, NSW, 2145. The executive and workforce of the Council are entirely composed of delegates from member Clubs. Council is NOT an autonomous body. The Gem & Lapidary Council is a member of AFLACA (Australian Federation of Lapidary and Allied Crafts Association).

Life Councilors: Joan Ball, Ron Beattie, Arthur Roffey, Frank Hall (dec), Dot Caladine (dec), Maurya Hutton (dec), Marie Jenkins (dec), Dick Moppett (dec) & Bob Wright (dec).

EXECUTIVE

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| President | Barbara Try (Northern Districts) 0417 676435 |
| Vice Presidents: | Colin Wright (Port Hacking) Tony Try (Central Coast) |
| Secretary | Marilyn Behrens (Parramatta-Holroyd) 02 96358218 secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au |
| Minute Secretary | Mick Lane (Blue Mountains) |
| Treasurer | John Behrens (Parramatta-Holroyd) 02 96358218 |
| Assistant Treasurer | Arthur Roffey (Mineralogical Society) |
| Committee: | Wally Dove (Port Hacking) Sue O'Neil (Goulburn Gem Society) John Vincent (Hawkesbury Valley) |

Appointments

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Public Officer | John Vincent |
| Auditor | Christine Gruntar |
| Editor | Theresa Mason (BA hons, ADA) editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au |
| Webmaster | Alex Maitland webmaster@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au |
| Property-Equipment Officer | John Behrens |
| Competition Judges: | Wally Dove & John Behrens |
| Education Officer | vacant |
| GEMBOREE Coordinator | Col Wright |
| GEMKHANA Coordinator | vacant |
| Printer | Arthur Roffey |

Website: <http://www.gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/>

COUNCIL MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE - Meet monthly, fourth Wednesday of the month, 1pm, at Clubrooms, Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club, 73 Fullager Rd, Wentworthville NSW

Visitors welcome to attend

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the Gem & Lapidary News

\$20 if posted bulk to your Club
\$25 if posted to members' private address
\$30 for non-members of the G&L Council

Free online subscriptions (see website for details) NB: colour version available online

ADVERTISING RATES per G&L News issue (NB: printed in black & white)

Full page - \$40 per issue
1/2 page - \$25
1/3 page - \$20

Please send payment with advertising booking and copy

CONTENTS

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| GEMKHANA® 2016 | page 5 |
| GEMKHANA Co-ordinator needed! | page 5 |
| Club News | page 6 |
| GEMBOREE® 2016 | page 7 |
| Report on the GEMBOREE | page 9 |
| Exhibitions & Events | page 11 |

NB: With no Gem & Lapidary Council Meeting last month, this issue is a little lean, however next month the *G&L News* should be back to its usual full size issue ♥

NB: CHANGE OF POSTAL ADDRESS FOR THE G&LC NSW
Gem & Lapidary Council NSW, PO Box 163, Wentworthville NSW, 2145

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday April 27, at the Clubrooms, Parramatta-Holroyd
Lapidary Club, 73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville, 1pm

Please attend - you will be made very welcome ♥

DEADLINE FOR MAY 2016 ISSUE

April 20 (third Wednesday of the month, plus a few days grace)

ATTENTION: CLUB EDITORS,

CONTACT THE G&L EDITOR TO INCLUDE YOUR CLUB'S NEWS

editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

Disclaimer:

Opinions expressed are those of the original authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, Gem & Lapidary Council, or its members. Persons acting on any opinion, advice, fact or advertisement published in this issue does so at their own risk.

A&E METALS

ORDER ONLINE TODAY AT
aemetal.com.au



The A&E Metals branded range of silver and industrial related precious metal products is the only Australian mass produced range of silver based fabricated metal products. A&E Metals is also the exclusive Australian distributor of **Argentium®**.

A&E
METALS
A PALLION COMPANY

A&E METALS HEAD OFFICE

68 Smith Street Marrickville NSW 2204 Australia

P: +61 2 8568 4200 | F: +61 2 8568 4240 | E: info@aemetal.com.au

**AUSTRALIA WIDE
1300 360 598**

aemetal.com.au



GEMKHANA 2016

GEMKHANA 2016 will be held at the Hawkesbury Showground on October 1-3.

The competition between lapidaries from across the State, and often other States too, will inspire new and older members to try a new aspect of this great hobby.

The Museum of Comparative Zoology will feature a model of the fierce Albertosaurus, along with many other pre-historic models.

There will be traders and tailgaters, as well as demonstrations by experienced club members, and the free activities for children will keep their interest for some time.

Camping is available. Wheelchair access is easy. Parking is plentiful.



GEMKHANA CO-ORDINATOR NEEDED!



SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS POSITION



**GEMKHANA WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 1-3
AT HAWKESBURY SHOWGROUND
CLARENDON NSW**



**ENQUIRIES TO MARILYN 02 9635 8218
SECRETARY@GEMPLAPIDARYCOUNCILNSW.ORG.AU**

NB: The GEMKHANA lapidary competition schedule is on the G&L website
Helpers for setting up and pulling down of GEMKHANA are also required.
Please consider stepping up and assisting, as events like this require a lot of helpers.

CLUB NEWS

Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club will be holding their Club Open Day on Saturday 7th May at the Progress Association Hall, Valley Rd, Valley Heights. Activities will include sales of rocks and slabs, gem cutting and polishing demonstrations, and sausage sizzle.

Campbelltown Lapidary Club's next big event is their Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewellery Show which will be held at The Greg Percival Centre, Oxford Road, Ingleburn, on 9th & 10th July. This month the Club are taking a field trip to Inverell.

The **Casino Lapidary Club** report that Daph Westman has donated a quality cookware set worth \$1039 to be raffled at the Lismore Gemfest and also at the Casino Beefweek stall, to be drawn in final hour of Beefweek. The Club thanks Daph sincerely for the donation. Gemfest is coming up and the Club's stall will be same deal as last year, ie the stall fee will be divided up between those putting material on for sale, and those selling will be expected to be with the stall to sell, and those involved with the show are required to help where possible.

Inverell & District Lapidary Club's 'Digging the Dirt' focus is on Michael & Julie, who have been fossicking for 43 years. Julie loves Agate Creek, while Michael prefers

Robilt Lapidary Supplies

167 Endeavour Drive, North Cranbourne 3977

P.O. Box 179 Doveton, Victoria 3177

Ph: (03) 5996 0750 Fax: (03) 5995 7505 Mob: 0414 469 203

ABN 37 856 874 788

Email: robilt@unite.com.au

Manufacturers of Lapidary Machines for over 45 years

Tumblers – Trimsaws – Slabsaws – Grinders - Polishers

Vibro Laps – Flat Laps – Faceting & Combination Machines

Suppliers of Grits – Laps – Wheels – Blades – Dops – Discs.

Service – Repairs – Spare Parts - Rough – Cut – Polished Stones

Servicing Your Lapidary Needs

BLUE GEMS.com.au

ABN 62669458316

'Djuloom' North Arm Rd, Bowraville NSW 2449

Ph: 65 644119

MINERAL COLLECTIONS

PURCHASED

Gold, Silver, Jewellery Supplies

TOP SHELF MINERALS

Kingsgate as a favourite fossicking site. Their tips for fossickers include having good eyes, plenty of energy, and to be careful!

Lismore Gem & Lapidary Club advised that their first two diamond sanders have arrived and are being plumbed for use. Everyone must be shown how to use them properly before using them, and they will not be available for use on large flat faces or large irregular shaped rocks as they are meant for doing cabochon style stones and the flexible surface does not react well to other applications. A field trip is being planned to Far North Qld (Agate Creek and other areas) around June/July. Interested members will need a Qld fossickers permit (family rate 1 month \$10.80). Volunteers are still required for the upcoming GEMFEST May 14-15.

GEMBOREE 2016 ULVERSTONE, TASMANIA

by Barbara Try

Following an eventful and somewhat stressful trip to Tasmania, I arrived in the colourful town of Ulverstone.

I met up with Sonia Phelan (GEMBOREE Secretary) and Sam Caberica who was organising the competition of the GEMBOREE and advised them that I had safely brought all the entries without damage or loss.

All was going well until Sam had to go to hospital where he stayed for a few days and did not get out until Wednesday just before the GEMBOREE.

The hall and the facilities were great and after the floor had been covered with carpet to protect it, there was a hive of activity as the tables, showcases and other equipment arrived and was assembled.

Thursday had the showcases being filled with entries and the last of the sections



being judged late in the afternoon/early evening. The last of the results and prize cards were put into the showcase only 5 minutes before the GEMBOREE opened to the public.

The following days were busy and apparently enjoyed by all who attended.

A trophy presentation ceremony was held on Saturday evening where Western Suburbs Lapidary Club of NSW was presented with the Ray Powell Trophy for the Champion Club and other individual trophies were awarded. The trophies were hand painted Tasmanian scenes on pieces of Tasmanian Slate, all painted by Sam Caberica. This was followed by an auction which raised money for a local charity and then some wine and cheese tasting. It was a great night.

On Monday at 12 noon the Competition area was closed off to allow entries to be repackaged and ready for collection at 3pm which was after the GEMBOREE closed to the public.

At this point I would like to give my sincere thanks to the volunteers from the mainland who willingly stepped up to assist me and Sam with all the work associated with setting up and repackaging the competition entries ready for collection by the competitor.

The mailing back of the postal entries has been left in Sam's capable hands.



australian lapidary supplies

For 50 years we have been manufacturing and supplying quality base metal Findings and Mountings to Lapidary and Craft enthusiasts.

Shop online for a large range of:

Findings

Chains – Neck chains and Bulk chain

Mountings: Rings, Pendants, Brooches, Bracelets etc.

Snap –Tite™ Settings – Sterling Silver and Gold Filled

Discounted and close-out Specials

www.australianlapidarysupplies.com.au

Phone: 02 95318922 Email: sales@australianlapidarysupplies.com.au

Discount for Lapidary Clubs and Members

Simply order online and type in coupon code: **lapidary** at checkout.



REPORT ON THE GEMBOREE

by Marilyn Behrens

The weather was perfect - the drop of rain we had didn't even settle any dust, but we had a lovely grassy area for camping anyway.

Setting up on Wednesday and Thursday was easily accomplished with all the helpers available, including quite a contingent from NSW.

Saturday night was trophy presentation, auction, cheese & wine tasting night. Western Suburbs (NSW) was Champion Club, Open Champion Lapidary was Peter Whitehead from Suncoast QLD, Intermediate Champion Lapidary, was Peter Zaccaria from Western Suburbs, and Novice Champion Lapidary was Albert Kim from Western Suburbs. There was no Junior Champion this time. All the keeper trophies were paintings of Tasmanian scenes, painted on Tasmanian slate, and painted by the Competition Manager, Sam Caberica. I hope you have an opportunity to see some, they are terrific.

The auction, where lots were donated by members, traders and tailgaters, raised a good sum for the local City Mission. The local cheeses and wines went down a treat.

As usual, the dealers had plenty of goodies to tempt us. The number of tailgaters was disappointing, but they still had really nice and interesting stuff - rocks, picture stone, fossils, and handcrafted jewellery of serpentine-stitchite.

The competition numbers were pretty good considering some of the mishaps that

stopped the arrival of some the entries, but the standard was really high and the entries inspiring. The highest score was 99.90 for Double Standard Cabochon.

The lectures/talks were interesting and well attended, as were the mineral group meetings.

The Ulverstone Men's Shed cooked up a delicious breakfast of sausages, bacon, egg, onion, toast, tea and coffee. The Easter bonnet judging followed breaky and there were three winners.

The field trips were a highlight and well attended, with plenty of fossickers, more than satisfied with their finds.

Our stall, promoting the Lithgow GEMBOREE next year, was right beside the Ulverstone Tourist Information people, so we got the lowdown on all the good spots to visit. By the amount of info we gave out, there should be a good roll up at next years GEMBOREE ♥



Treasurer of Western Suburbs, Colin Platt, is presented with the Champion Club Trophy, by Sam Caberica, the Competition Manager, and Marcia Hill from Western Suburbs holding the Keeper Trophy, one of the paintings that Sam did.

Gemcuts

*Lapidary * Fossicking
* Jewellery Making Tools



Cabbing



Tumbling



Jewellery Tools



Carving



Sawing



Ultrasonic Cleaners

We stock an extensive range of our own diamond tools, faceting accessories, rough and products.

We are Authorised dealers for:

Diamond Pacific Tool Corp – Nova, Genie, Bigfoot, Galaxy

Barranca - MK Diamond Saw Blades

Lortone - Cabbing Machines, Saws, Rotary Tumblers

Saeshin - "Strong" Micro Motors

Cratex - Rubberised Abrasives

Crystalite - Diamond Laps, Crystal Pads, Poly Pads, Flexo Pads

Klingspor - Industrial Grade Sanding Sheets, Belts & Disks

GemPro - Flex Wheels, Resin Bonded Diamond Products

Jersey Instruments – Faceting Machines

36A Smith Drive
Ballina NSW 2478
Ph. 02 66811686
A/H 0427 012 014
Brian & Liz

MAIL
PHONE &
INTERNET
ORDERS

www.gemcuts.com.au

EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

April

- 15-17 Hawkesbury Show Lapidary Competition, Hawkesbury Showground, Clarendon, NSW
16-17 Canberra Lapidary Club Rock Swap, Exhibition Park, Wagtail Way, ACT
16-17 Essendon Gem Show & Rock Swap, Essendon Gem Club, Vic
29-29 Canberra Lapidary Club Winter Gemcraft & Mineral Show, Exhibition Park,
Canberra, ACT
29-1 May, Murraylands Gem & Mineral Club Rockarama, Crystal and Craft Fair, Palmer, SA
30-1 May, Redcliffe Peninsula Lapidary Club Gem Show, Southern Cross Catholic College,
Kippa-Ring, Qld

May

- 7 Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club Open Day, Progress Association Hall, The Valley
Rd, Valley Heights, NSW
14-15 Lismore Gem & Lapidary Club GEMFEST, Lismore Showgrounds, NSW

June

- 4-5 Gonyah Lapidary Club Display, Mt Coot-tha Garden Auditorium, Brisbane, Qld
11-12 Grafton Gem & Craft Show Grafton Showgrounds, Grafton, NSW
25 Gold Coast Gem & Craft Show Pizzey Park, Miami, Qld

July

- 8-9 'Queen of Gems' International Boulder Opal Jewellery & Fashion Design Awards,
Winton Opal Tradeshow, Winton, Qld
9-10 Campbelltown & District Lapidary Club Gem, Mineral & Jewellery Show, Greg
Percival Community Centre, Ingleburn, NSW

August

- 6-7 Sydney Crystal Show Fraser Park, Marrickville Road, Sydney, NSW

October

- 1-3 GEMKHANA Hawkesbury Showground, Clarendon, NSW

NB: The First Newsletter has just been released for the 53rd National Gem & Mineral Show, GEMBOREE 2017 to be held in Lithgow, NSW, 14-17 April 2017.

SEE: <http://aflaca.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2009/06/GEMBOREE-2017-Information-e-Newsletter-1-April-2016.pdf>

**NEXT BIG EVENT
FOR THE
GEM & LAPIDARY COUNCIL**



GEMKHANA

October 1-3

Hawkesbury Showground, NSW

