

Gem and Lapidary

News

October 2013

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The **Gem & Lapidary News** is the official publication of the GEM AND LAPIDARY COUNCIL OF NEW SOUTH WALES, INC, PO Box 4233, Londonderry 2753. 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).

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Website: <u>http://www.gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/</u> webmaster@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au Webmaster Alex Maitland (please send updated information)

COUNCIL MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE: 4th Wednesday in the month MONTHLY: 4th Wednesday in the month, at 1.00pm The venue, unless otherwise stated, is at the Clubrooms of Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club, 73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville **Visitors are welcome to attend Monthly Meetings**

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE GEM & LAPIDARY NEWS

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NEXT COUNCIL MEETING Wednesday, October 23rd: 1pm

At the Clubrooms of Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club 73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville Please do come, you will be made very welcome

* <u>DEADLINE FOR COPY</u> for November, 2013 issue * Friday October 25th, 2013

Club Editors; please add me to your mailing list to receive your newsletters. Ed.

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

Council News.

GEMBOREE 2017: A co-ordinator is needed

Now the application form is to hand, notice extra will be charged for – tables, chairs, partitions, microphone, bins – maybe negotiations can improve this situation. The hall is electronically alarmed.

The delegation did go to Lithgow and here are the findings.

The ballroom is fantastic and will house dealers and competition; the adjoining hall will house dealers and dining.

The sportsground has a dump point, and a potable water tap nearby. At least 90 sites with power and others where we may be able to get power, plenty without power. Plenty of toilets, five of each showers (need curtains). Huge parking area outside the gate, a few sites can be made available inside for disabled use. Large machinery sheds, opposite the front door of the ballroom can be used as meeting rooms. Ample space available for tailgating.

NOW, WE NEED CLUBS TO STEP UP AND TAKE ON A ROLE WHILE THERE IS TIME TO CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY TO SUIT YOUR MEMBERS.

2017 seems a long way off, but the time will pass all too quickly – so we need people to offer their services as co-ordinator for the different sections.

EDUCATION REPORT. Council has received requests for more training courses. It is difficult to comply with these requests without an education officer. Various clubs have enjoyed participating in these courses in the past but **TO CONTINUE**, WE REALLY DO NEED AN **EDUCATION OFFICER – IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED**, **PLEASE PHONE JOAN BALL ON 9773 5092**. This is not a position that needs to be City based so please consider whether maybe *You* could fill this role.

Secretaries: Please remember to send the <u>name</u> and <u>phone number</u> and <u>address</u> of your President, Secretary, Treasurer & G&L Delegate, as soon as your elections are over.

Just as your Club, as an incorporated body, must keep a list of members and a way of contacting them, the Council is also incorporated, and must keep a list of members and a way to contact them. The national body, AFLACA also must have this information, but Council's Secretary will send it on.

1.

Insurance Matters.

Personal Accident insurance is the one taken out by individuals to cover them personally, for accident or other mishap- at the club, on the way to/from club, on club trips, attending to club business. This is the policy for which Council collects premiums. Members pay the club, the club sends it on to Council and Council pay the insurers.

Public Risk/Liability insures your club against claims by visitors and other outsiders, and when your members are doing business at another location, such as a street stall. **Note:** This does not apply when selling space at your Club's show or annual event. In these cases, all vendors should carry their own insurance and show you proof of their Public Risk policy.

Comprehensive insurance covers your buildings and content.

Association Liability insurance: This is the insurance that covers club and Council officers, teachers, etc who may give any sort of instruction, or who may be accused of illegal behaviour – such as harrassment, embezzlement – for their legal costs – whether the accusation is true or untrue. Following advice from QBE this insurance is protective of all members of the Council, whether they be officers, committee members, employees of member clubs. An action taken by a club or a club member of a club that <u>is not</u> covered puts all Council members/member clubs at risk, as well as officers of the Council. Some clubs have already taken out this insurance, but others have not. Any member club that decides not to take out this insurance cannot continue to be a member of the Council because they will put all members at risk. Note that QBE is the insurance for our needs.

WHH has advised this definition, agreed with QBE insurance, for the association liability insurance:

"To promote and facilitate popular interest and Education in Lapidary, the craft of forming and polishing precious and Semi-Precious Gemstones, including Jewellery Making, Minerals, Fossils and Allied Crafts. Activities may include Training Courses, Lectures, Field Trips and Prospecting, Lapidary Competitions, Club Exhibitions, plus other related activities to the general hobby of Lapidary and Allied Crafts."



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Servicing Your Lapidary Needs

Club News.

<u>Northern Districts Lapidary Club</u> is planning its yearly trip to Nundle for November to wind up the year. Some gold panning and fishing is planned for the weekend.

<u>Illawarra Lapidary Club</u> is off to Muttama in October.

<u>Canberra Lapidary Club</u>. A four day trip to Woolcunda Station between Wentworth and Broken Hill is planned for Sept/Oct.

Enfield Gem and Mineral Club has mineral and cabochon competitions planned for October.

Goulburn Gem Society welcomed their new office bearers for the year.

Lismore Gem and Lapidary Club had a successful trip to Ewingar and a trip to Goolmangar Creek is on the agenda for September.

<u>Casino Lapidary Club</u> Trip to Inverell in November which may include exploring an old gold mine. Planning for their Christmas party early November. A trip to Flinders Island in the new year has attracted 10 members.

<u>Byron Gem and Lapidary</u> have held another successful education day on Beryl with John Hoffman. Field trips planned include Hogarth Range and the Rock on Gallery and Workshop at Limpinwood and the Natural Arch.

Central Coast Lapidary Club is off to the Gemkhana for the October long weekend. They have installed their solar panels and are hoping that this will reduce their electricity costs.

Nunawading & District Lapidary Club is off to Stringybark Creek and Powelltown in October with their Christmas Party planned for November at Strathbogie. Their exhibition is planned for 19th & 20th October.

Note from the Editor re - Bumblebee Jasper in last issue.

I had a note from a concerned member re the possibility of arsenic in Bumblebee Jasper and that perhaps a precautionary note should be added. I am grateful that he made the effort to get in touch.

The following is the information that I have been able to get regarding this matter. Someone else was also researching this question and this is the information that was posted on a geology/gem forum line.

Hello. I frequently come to this site looking for gem and lapidary material answers. I was searching for info on the bumblebee and found the arsenic reference listed. I didn't want to cut any till I had some answers.

I researched further and am attaching the original miners explanations used with his permission. These are gleaned from several conversations: (I removed the photo)

"Attached here is a photo of the crater area where we dig the Bumblebee Jasper. It's a deposit formed around sulfataras or volcanic fumeroles which turn into boiling mud pools during the rainy seasons.

The families of minerals associated with these surface deposits are not rich in arsenic. Arsenite Sulfides such as Orpiment and Reargar form at greater depths in a hydrothermal deposit, not at the oxygen rich level found on the surface. Most of the minerals found around the vents are sulfates. The most abundant minerals found in these deposits are: sulfur, hematite, halite, sylvite, gypsum, ralstonite, anhydrite, thenardite, langbeinite and opaline silica. Deposits around fumaroles exhibit a zoned pattern in response to rapidly changing temperature and oxygen pressure at the mouth of the vent. The zoning pattern can be explained by the reaction of a volcanic gas composed of H2O, SO2, CO2, HC1 and HF, along with trace amounts of volatile cations, which interact with the atmosphere and local wallrock. Since the temperatures are low, sulfuric acid plays a role in breaking down local wallrocks and mobilizing minerals to the deposits. The mineralogies at fumaroles are common to straovolcanos worldwide since these types of cones are formed by rocks of similar intermediate to acid chemistries."

So there you have it from the source. I hope this helps anyone still wondering about this material. I have read about arsenic forming deeper in hydrothermal environs from other sources as we get a fair amount of that locally in wells in this area which is volcanic.

The following comment was also posted and may be of interest.

"Just started cutting Bumble Bee and have been very happy with the results. Every now and then while I am moving from one wheel to the next the hair on my arms stands up and the cab keeps getting better and better.

5

I have read that you should absolutely NOT stabilize it. I have no idea why. I would probably look into it before I tried a stabilizer. Although I was recently cutting the most fantastic cab out of Bumble Bee and on the 2nd wheel it cleaved in half. I guess it just wasn't meant to be. Wish I had a little super glue on that one!

One more thing. Take precautions when cutting. There are natural poisons in that particular stone...arsenic. I wash my hands after each stone and change the water. Some suggest a mask and rubber gloves."

There you have it. Although there is no proof that it does or doesn't contain arsenic without a proper analysis, *It would seem that the sensible thing to do would be to take precautions anyway just in case!*

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ATTENTION FACETORS

Suggested Preparation of New or Re-surfaced <u>Copper</u> Laps Before use:

- 1. Immerse a small piece of 600 grit wet-and-dry sandpaper in hot water (this softens the backing paper) and fold around a small flat block approx matchbox size.
- 2. Gently sand the entire surface to be used, using plenty of water.
- 3. After sanding, wash the lap well under a running tap, and dry before applying grit or compound.

The sanding of the lap is to help remove any machining marks that may otherwise show up on the stone when cutting.

Drilling a Stone

One of the things my students often ask to do is drill a hole through a piece of gemstone. The usual thought is to get a diamond drill, but I've found these often break or burn up. I think the reason is that the drill pivots on the piece of diamond that is on the drill tip. By pivoting, the diamond does not cut. When it doesn't cut, you tend to add more force, and the drill is damaged by excess heat.

A much better approach is to use a core drill. This is a small hollow tube with a coating of diamond grit at the business end. The diamonds easily carve out a circular arc without undue pressure or heat build-up. Core drills are readily available from lapidary and jewellery supply companies. They come in sizes as small as 1 mm and are reasonable in price.

Chuck up the core drill in a drill press or a Foredom, and be sure to keep the drilling zone wet to cool the tool and to flush out debris. Also, if you're drilling a through hole, go very easy on the pressure when the drill is about to break through. Otherwise you will usually chip off some of the stone surface around the hole

.Jewelry in Simpson Bay, St Maarten where he creates unique, fine designer jewellery. (Baton Rouge Sept 2013)



I admire people

Who barely have anything but share it nevertheless

Demotivation.us

THE TOUCH OF THE MASTER'S HAND (Thanks Marilyn)

'Twas battered and scarred, and the auctioneer Thought it scarcely worth his while To waste much time on the old violin. But held it up with a smile" "What am I bidden, good folks," he cried, Who'll start the bidding for me?" "A dollar, a dollar", then, "Two!" "Only two?" "Two dollars, and who'll make it three? Three dollars, once: three dollars, twice: Going for three --- " But no, From the room, far back, a grey-haired man Came forward and picked up the bow: Then, wiping the dust from the old violin, And tightening the loose strings, He played a melody pure and sweet As a carolling angel sings.

The music ceased, and the auctioneer, With a voice that was quiet and low, Said: "What am I bid for the old violin?" And he held it up with the bow. "A thousand dollars, and who'll make it two? Two thousand, and who'll make it three? Three thousand, once, three thousand twice, And going, and gone," said he. The people cheered, but some of them cried, "We do not quite understand What changed its worth." Swift came the reply: "The touch of a master's hand."

And many a man with life out of tune, And battered and scarred with sin, Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd, Much like the old violin. A "mess of pottage," a glass of wine, A game --- and he travels on. He is "going" and almost "gone". But the Master comes, and the foolish crowd Never can quite understand The worth of a soul and change that's wrought By the touch of the Master's hand.

Wire Drawing

Drawing operations involve pulling metal through a die by means of a tensile force applied to the exit side of the die. Most of the plastic flow and hence cold work is caused by compressive radial forces, which arise from the reaction of the metal with the die. The reduction in diameter of a solid bar or rod by successive drawing is known as bar, rod or wire drawing, depending on the diameter of the final product.

Wire drawing is usually carried out at room temperature. However, because large deformations are usually involved, there is considerable temperature rise during the drawing operation. The main reason that the wire drawing works is because of the work hardening of the soft annealed wire as it gets drawn through the die.

The following points should be noted before any wire drawing operation: 1. If the starting stock is annealed square wire, make sure it is the same size as the first wire die. If multiple dies are required to change the cross section from square to round, seams can be formed down the length of the wire. Example: If the first die is .080" round, start with a .080" square stock.

2. Lubricant is very important during wire drawing. A common lubricant for drawing short lengths of wire through drawplates is bee's wax. Wire drawing machines with multiple die capacity require special water-soluble lubricants. Companies that specialize in lubricants should be consulted.

3. Individual wire dies are available with "nibs" made from either natural diamond or synthetic diamond or inserts made of tungsten carbide. Dies with diamond nibs are often the choice for the final wire die. Dies with tungsten-carbide inserts are often used for intermediate dies.

4. Draw dies eventually wear out with use. When the die loses the polished finish, particles from the wire being drawn will build at the entrance of the die. Another more obvious indication of die wear is the size of the wire becomes larger than the indicated die size.

5. Excessive die wear can be caused by: a. Abrasive particles (trash) attached to the outside of the wire stock. Clean the wire stock prior to drawing. b. Abrasive particles in the lubricant used for drawing. c. Improper lubrication (not enough lubricant or the wrong lubricant).

6. Reduction between sequential dies must be matched to the multiple, die-wire drawing machine being used. Drawing drums on wire mills have fixed rates of speed that vary with each pass that is done during a multi-die sequence. Failing to match the reduction per draw can result in breaking the wire being drawn.

7. Wire that is annealed will sometimes "neck" (stretch to a smaller cross section) when being drawn, resulting in a wire size that is smaller than the die size. To ensure accurate final wire size, avoid trying to finish wire with one single die after annealing.

8. Minimize the distance between the die and the drawing source. Movement of the wire stock from side to side during drawing will result in wave patterns on the drawn wire.

9. Failing to keep wire dies clean and free of residues can result in a diminished surface quality on the drawn wire.

10. Platinum alloys used for jewellery often leave particles of the platinum alloy bonded to the surface of the die and are difficult to remove. Failing to remove these particles will negatively impact the surface quality of wire stock being drawn afterwards.

Wire Drawing Tips

1. Wire stock breaks during drawing

- a. Too great of a reduction for the feedstock being drawn;
- b. Insufficient lubrication, which causes increased friction;
- c. Defects in wire stock such as voids or delamination;
- d. Wire being drawn in the wrong direction through die;
- e. Reductions between dies are not matched to the draw speed of the wire drawing machine;
- f. Wire stock is tangled on feed side of draw die;
- g. Wire die is at an angle in relation to the wire being drawn;
- h. Dies used are not designed for nonferrous materials.

2. Poor quality finish on wire

- a. Insufficient lubrication, which results in, increased friction.;
- b. Trash at entrance of die, which feeds into the die with the feed stock;
- c. Wire being drawn the wrong direction through die;
- d. Poor finish on die either due to excessive die wear or poorly polished die from manufacturer;

e. Feedstock is of poor quality possibly from grain growth as a result of over annealing, blistering on surface of stock resulting from excessive copper oxide in stock and annealing in hydrogen atmospheres or surface defects on stock;

f. Lubricant is contaminated with abrasive particles.

3. Wire size drawn is not accurate

a. Die is worn to a larger size;

b. Wire stock is too soft for final draw and stretches (necks) at output side of die.

4. Wire has grooves on the surface

- a. Die has trash caught at the entrance and is fed in with the wire stock;
- b. Square stock not drawn to round cross section with one die;
- c. Original feedstock was defective. Stock may have become finned while square rolling.

5. Wire has wavy patterns (chatter marks)

a. Distance between die and drawing source is too large, which causes wire to vibrate as it feeds through the die;

b. End of wire stock on the feed side of die is not held in a fixed position and vibrates.

Special Tip

To straighten wire: first, anneal and quench to soften; then, fasten one end and pull on the opposite end with tongs or draw bench until you feel a slight movement. Release pressure, and the piece should be straight.

Excerpted from the Stuller Metals Book





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The Mineral Azurite.

Azurite owes its name to its beautiful azure-blue color, which makes it a very popular and wellknown mineral. It usually occurs with green <u>Malachite</u>, which may form green stains or specks on Azurite crystals or <u>aggregate</u>s. The two minerals sometimes occur admixed or <u>banded</u> together, forming what is called "Azure-malachite" in the gem and mineral trades. A rarer Azurite mixture, known as "Bluebird", is Azurite mixed with dark red <u>Cuprite</u>. Azurite, "Azure-malachite", and "Bluebird" all have gem uses.

In some localities, the Azurite undergoes a chemical change and loses some <u>hydroxyl</u>, <u>altering</u> the Azurite to <u>Malachite</u>, but retaining the crystal shape of the original Azurite. Sometimes, only part of the Azurite is altered to Malachite, while the other part remains as Azurite. Such specimens are green on one end and blue on the other.

<u>Linarite</u> specimens are sometimes mistakenly sold as Azurite, since they both occur in the same locations and may strikingly resemble each other. However, simple tests on physical properties can accurately distinguish the two.

Fine Azurite specimens have been obtained from numerous places. Some of the largest and best individual crystals have come from Tsumeb, Namibia. Morocco has also produced excellent crystals at Touissit and Kerrouchene. Good specimens have also come from Chessy, France; Laurium, Greece; the Black Forest, Germany; Cornwall, England; Burra Burra, South Australia and Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia. An interesting occurrence of <u>radial</u> Azurite discs on a white <u>Kaolinite matrix</u> is the Malbunka Copper Mine, near Areyonga, Northern Territory, Australia.

In Mexico, Azurite occurs in the San Carlos Mine in Mazapil, Zacatecas; and in the relatively new Milpillas Mine in Cananea, Sonora, which has been providing outstanding crystals to the market.

In the U.S., most fine specimens are from numerous localities in Arizona, which includes the famous and classic locality of Bisbee, in Cochise Co. Other localities in Arizona include Ajo and Tiger, Pinal Co.; and Clifton and Morenci, Greenlee Co. Azurite also occurs in the Rose Mine in Grant Co., New Mexico, and <u>elongated</u>, <u>tabular</u> crystal clusters as well as rounded ball <u>concretions</u> have come from the La Sal District and La Sal Mountains, San Juan Co. and Grand Co., Utah. Also in Utah is the Apex Mine, Jarvis Peak, Washington Co. A recent finding of Azurite crusts has also been discovered in the Passaic Pit in Ogdensburg, Sussex Co., New Jersey.

Azurite Continued.



Azurite is very popular mineral among collectors. Bright blue pieces are <u>polished</u> into <u>cabochon</u>s and beads, and large masses are sometimes cut into ornamental objects. "Azure-malachite" is also carved as cabochons and beads. Azurite was formerly crushed and used as a blue pigment.

Azurite is also an <u>ore</u> of copper.

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Education Day - Beryl: 13th July by Ursula Byron Gem and Lapidary Club

John Hoffman, form the Lismore Club is certainly able to draw the crowds. It was almost a packed house in our small clubrooms when 17 members turned up to hear his presentation on Beryl, which was the theme for the July Education Day.

As with John's Tourmaline presentation earlier in the year he lay out a display of some top-end beryl specimens.

Beryl (from PowerPoint presentation by John Hoffman)

- Beryl is the common name given to a group of gems having a similar chemical composition.
- Beryl is a Beryllium Aluminium Silicate with the chemical formula Be3Al2Si6O18.

• But what is beryllium? Beryllium is a relatively inert, hard, medium grey alkaline earth metal, which is very light and brittle.

• Beryl has a hardness of 7.5–8 (between Tourmaline and Topaz), which makes it sufficiently hard to be used extensively in the jewellery and lapidary trades.

• Beryl belongs to the Hexagonal crystal system.

• Red Beryl or Bixbite, whose colour is caused by traces of manganese, was named after the mineralogist Maynard Bixby and is one of the most valuable gemstones, facetted gems selling for over \$10,000 per carat

• Sea green or turquoise Aquamarine is the most common variety of gem quality beryl. Aquamarine's colour is the result of the Fe2+ content of the crystal and it is valued according to its clarity and richness of colour.

• Goshenite is a form of colourless beryl, named after the place where it was first found, Goshen, Massachusetts, USA. It has a relatively low gem value.

• Emerald is the most famous of all beryl's and is green in colour, the colour coming from the chromium/vanadium and iron content. Emeralds usually contain flaws, fractures and inclusions.

Beryl Cont.

• Helidor is the greenish-yellow form of beryl, its name deriving from the Greek words 'heios' and 'doros', which means 'gift from the sun'. The yellow is due to the Fe3+ iron content. It has very few flaws.

• Morganite is known as the pink form of beryl and got its name from the American Banker, J.P. Morgan.

• A deep blue sapphire coloured version of beryl is called maxixe.

• Golden Beryl refers to pure yellow or golden yellow shades and was originally found in Litchfield Co., Connecticut, USA.

• Other Beryllium minerals include: Bazzite, Pezzottaite, Vorobyevite and Stoppaniite.

• The main beryl localities in Australia are: Broken Hill area, NSW; Harts Range, NT; Mt Surprise. Qld; Menzies and Poona, WA; and Torrington and Emmaville, NSW.



Painite

The world's rarest gem is believed to be <u>painite</u>, a gem that most have never even heard of. Painite is named after Arthur Charles Davy Pain, English gem collector who first recognized the mineral. Rarity does not equate to beauty in gems, however. The painite is an orangish or reddish brown, with the brown tint coming from iron in the crystal. Pleochroism is ruby-red and



pale brownish orange or pale red-orange.

Painite forms elongated, pseudo-orthorhombic transparent deep garnet-red crystals. It was first discovered in Burma in the 1950s and was widely considered to be the rarest of all gems, with only two faceted crystals in existence. Within the last couple of years, however, the source of the original painite crystals was discovered, and now a few hundred faceted stones exist.

Cristinite

Lloyd Hosking - John Broadfoot. (Facet Talk)

Cristinite has been specified as the cutting material for Section N10.3 in the Gemboree 2014 Faceting Competition.

This synthetic material is manufactured in Brisbane from chrysoprase (a green variety of chalcedony – silica) with minerals added to obtain various colours. Around 15 colours are available including various shades of blue, green and yellow as well as two colour change (blue-purple and yellow-green).

It has a hardness similar to quartz and an RI the same as Topaz. It is easy to cut and polish making it very popular with Clubs to teach faceting.

Experiments over the last few years have resulted in some dichroic colours and the ever popular bi-colours that throw different colours when faceted.

A good website that shows just what can be achieved is:-<u>http://www.gemcutter.com/christinite</u>. They have taken this material to a very high level of faceting.

Fossil collecting: methods

So you want to go fossil collecting and want to know what you need. For the most part, just a few simple tools are required, along with a bit of perseverance. But exactly what you need depends in part on what you hope to find.

Tools and methods

To begin with, the following tool kit will be suitable:

- hand lens
- awl or similar pointed tool
- geology hammer and cold chisel (an ordinary hammer and an old chisel will do)
- brush
- PVA glue
- old newspapers
- toilet paper
- tape
- notebook
- pencil
- day pack
- safety goggles

With these tools you will be able to deal adequately and responsibly with most fossils you are likely to find. The brush is used to clear debris obscuring your fossil. The awl, geology hammer and chisel are useful for extracting the fossil from the rock. Glue is essential for putting the fossil back together if it is broken. Diluted with water, PVA glue can be used to harden up a fragile fossil before removing it from the ground. This is done by soaking the fossil and allowing the glue



to dry. Newspapers, toilet paper (for delicate specimens), and tape are used to wrap up your fossils once they are out of the ground and have been stabilised.

The notebook and pencil are in some ways the most essential items of all, because they are used to record the information associated with the fossil. Most important of all is the locality where the fossil was found. Without this information, a fossil is a mere curio. Be as precise as possible when recording this information. Try and mark the locality on a map. A road map will do, but more detailed topographic maps are better. A description of the rocks is necessary. If you have a geological map of the area and locate your position on it, you can often work out which rock formation you collected your fossil from. To be as sure as possible, carefully read the description of the formation, which is usually given on a geological map or the accompanying notes. The age of a rock formation is generally indicated on a geological map and this will tell you the age of your fossil.



http://museumvictoria.com.au/discoverycentre/infosheets/fossil-collecting---methods/

Can You Help? Dopping Wax.

Following the article in FT 190 re making dopping wax. I'm looking for any information about some dopping wax that factors at Newcastle Lapidary Club made some years ago. Some members still have some of the wax and say it has never let them down. They recall that there were three ingredients – a block of some sort of wax, shellac flakes and the powder used by plasterers. The unknown is what was the block of wax? It is not red sealing wax. Any faceters who have made a similar product, would you please let me know as we would like to make some more. Perhaps the formula could be printed in FT or here in G&L News. John Maine AFG NSW

Calendar of Events for 2013

Mudgee Showground Mudgee.

Beenleigh Show Grounds

5th.7th Oct.	Gemkhana
511	Beenleigh Gem Festival
18 th -25 th	Inverell Rockerana
26-27#	Toowoomba Gemfest
Nov.	
2rd & 3d	Illawarra Club - Annual Exhibition
	Canberra Gemoraft and Mineral Club
	Cessnock Gem and Mineral Club Annual Auction
80,95 10 th	Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club.
	- Annual Exhibition
9th & 10th	Newcastle Annual Jewellery Show
23~2年	Gem and Mineral Show
30th & 1st Dec	Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables and Lapidary I

March 2014

Newcastle Lapidary Rock Auction	23rd Annual Gern And Craft Show	- New England Lapidary & Fossicking Club Inc.		Rock Swap – Canberra Lapidary Club
2nd	15h & 16h		April	511 & 611

GEMBOREE DATES.

Gatton Qld.

GEMBOREE

18th - 2 fist

2815	GEMBOREE - Vic	(Apr 3
2016	GEMBOREE - Tas	(Mar 25
2017	GEMBOREE - NSW	(Apr 14
2018	GEMBOREE - QGCA	(Mar 30

Centenary Hts High School, Ramsay St Toowoomba

Ribbonwood Centre, Princes Highway, Dapto. Canberra Lapidary Club Parkes Room Exhibition Park.

Club Rooms - 73 Fullagar Road, Wentworthville.

Club Rooms 2 Dora Rd Adamstown. For more information contact the club 02495296111 or email newlab@amail.com. Windsor

Bathurst Showground Sydney Road Bathurst.

S

2 Dora Rd Adamstown Amridale Showground.

Summary of GENERAL MEETING OF September 25, 2013 Held at the clubrooms of the Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club

The meeting was opened at 1pm by President, Joan Ball (Bankstown) who welcomed delegates from Minsoc (Arthur Roffey), Northern Districts (Barbara Try), Central Coast (Tony Try), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane), Hawkesbury Valley (John Vincent), Port Hacking (Wally Dove), NSW (Shirley Harris), Bankstown (Bev Hodder), Parramatta-Holroyd (John & Marilyn Behrens) Clubs.

Apologies:

Moved Northern Districts, seconded Central Coast, that apologies be recorded.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Aug 28): Moved NSW, seconded Minsoc the minutes be accepted. **Business Arising from the Minutes:** John Vincent has sent notification of the new Public Officer to Fair Trading.

Moved NSW, seconded Port Hacking that Inward Correspondence be received, and Outward Correspondence be endorsed.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Assistant Treasurer, John Behrens

Moved John Behrens, seconded Northern Districts that the report be accepted and accounts be paid. **J&R Report:** Barbara will run judges courses as soon as they can be arranged for Mineral, Jewellery, Cab and Enamelling sections. A J&R meeting will be held following the October monthly meeting (Oct 23).J&R will notify a club that a competition to be judged by Council judges needs to conform with the Competitor

and Judging Manual (generally referred to as the J&R [Judging & Rules] manual]).

Editor's Report:

1. The deadline has been delayed by a week so info from the meeting can be included, timely.

2. Re distribution/production of the Gem & Lapidary News. Alec, Webmaster, saw various ways to accomplish this. Sandra, Editor, sent a lengthy evaluation. The meeting, today, recommended the following: Continue sending ... one copy to clubs, to subscribers who require (ie pay for) a paper copy, to those with whom we have reciprocal arrangements, and to comply with legal requirements; AND have a PDF version on Council's website for free access. Please refer to editor's evaluation – attached. CLUBS ARE NOW ASKED TO GIVE COUNCIL THEIR THOUGHTS ON THIS MATTER FOR A DECISION TO BE MADE AT THE DECEMBER 11 MEETING.

Education Report: WE NEED AN EDUCATION OFFICER.

Moved Port Hacking, seconded Hawkesbury that reports be received.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- 1. Next month, is the special general meeting re the Constition.
- 2. *Minsoc moved*, *Bankstown seconded*, *the meeting agreed that* Tony Try and Wally Dove will be scrutineers for the postal vote at next month's special general meeting.
- 3. Marilyn will do a final reading of the constituion before the meeting.
- 4. NSW Club members will hold their annual exhibition on October 26 & 27 at the clubrooms, 136 Reservoir St, Surry Hills.

The meeting closed at 3pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, 23 October at 1pm - at the clubrooms of Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club

Australia's 50th

National Gem, Lapidary, Jewellery and Mineral Show

GEMBOREE 2014 is to be

held in Gatton Queensland,

18 – 21 April 2014.