



Gem & Lapidary News

July 2016

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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).

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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

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**NB: CHANGE OF POSTAL ADDRESS
FOR THE G&LC NSW**

Gem & Lapidary Council NSW, PO Box 163, Wentworthville NSW, 2145

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

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

Please attend - you will be made very welcome ♥

DEADLINE FOR AUGUST 2016 ISSUE

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

CONTACT THE G&L EDITOR TO INCLUDE YOUR CLUB'S NEWS
editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

Disclaimer:

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G&L COUNCIL NEWS & INFORMATION

Minutes from G&L Council Meeting, June 22, 2016

The meeting was opened at 1.20pm by President, Barbara Try (Northern Districts) who welcomed delegates from the following clubs: Minsoc (Arthur Roffey OAM), Central Coast (Tony Try), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane), AFG (Col Wright), Port Hacking (Wally Dove), Parramatta-Holroyd (John & Marilyn Behrens and Ron Jones), Hawkesbury Valley (John Vincent), NSW (Lilly Murphy), Goulburn (Joe & Sue O'Neil), Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner). **Apologies:** Bankstown (J Ball OAM), Blue Mountains (Una King).

J&R Report: The GEMBOREE 2018 competition schedule still not received by Graham McLean. The GEMBOREE 2019 competition schedule is due by November. The judging dates set are as follows: for GEMKHANA - 10 Sept at Parramatta-Holroyd; for Central Coast - 17 Sept at Central Coast; for Northern Districts - 15 Oct at NDLC; for Parramatta-Holroyd - 23 Oct (Sunday) at Parra-Holroyd; for GEMBOREE 2017 - over two weekends - 18 & 19 Feb 2017 at Parra-Holroyd and 25 & 26 Feb at Central Coast Lapidary Club.

G&L News: I will stay on indefinitely as editor, focusing solely on editing/producing the *G&L News*. Marilyn has offered to take over the printing and postal aspects. Thanks, Marilyn. I'll send through required documents etc. We have picked up extra ads for last month and this.

Education Report: An updated list of classes available is still in progress.

GEMKHANA® Report October 1-2-3: G&L Council will coordinate and run the show, but volunteers to help still needed. Competition schedule is now on the website - closing date 19th August, judging date September 10th. Raffle prizes still needed. Any donations will be gratefully received. Thank you to the Alexander Hotel, Leura, for their donation of an Accommodation & Dinner Package. Thanks to Amena, from Hawkesbury Club, for the lovely pendant donated for the raffle. Thank you to Barbara also for some lovely raffle prizes. A quote for new signs for telegraph poles was accepted, Moved Port Hacking seconded Parra-Holroyd, agreed. Presentation of Trophies on the Monday at 10am. The website has up-to-date GEMKHANA info, including tailgating application forms. Will start advertising in a month or so - to community groups, TV, radio and newspapers. Catering: The CWA ladies have confirmed they will be delighted to come again, and Kate of Beez Neez will have her catering van there.

GEMBOREE® 2017: Lithgow – Easter. Raffle prizes still required - again any donations will be appreciated. The Age of Fishes has agreed to do a display. We



need to advise them of space available to them. Clubs helping will be eligible for a free Tailgate site. Reiterating rules for tailgaters. Clubs to tailgate must book site through the Lapidary Council. Bookings forms please. If you are committee, mark your form so we know where to place you. Please remember book early - Lithgow is already nearly booked out. Catering still a work in progress. It was suggested to run spot prize raffles each day. Also suggested, a Saturday night Auction with a wine and cheese night and presentation of trophies.

General Business: Invitation to Cumberland State Forest on the 30th October Marilyn & Arthur to attend.

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 27, 1pm, at 73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville.

Meeting closed at 2.40pm.

Council's website is gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au with links to the secretary, editor & webmaster available from the website

ALFACA's website is www.alfaca.org.au

NB: When a direct payment is made to Council, please send a note, email, or phone the Secretary, so we know where it came from. Bank statements do not necessarily show who made these payments.

LAPIDARY COMPETITIONS


by Marilyn Behrens

It is disappointing to see so few lapidaries entering competitions. This is where visitors to lapidary shows see the sort of work we amateurs can do, and see what they may well be able to do themselves as club members, and this also promotes clubs and opportunities available to their members.

Because of the lack of support, many agricultural shows no longer have lapidary sections – hence less exposure for our arts.

Hawkesbury Show, this year, had so few entries, it may mean the loss of its lapidary section. G&LC offers a trophy in both the Open and Junior sections of this show.

We understand the high entry fees may be deterring some people and a recent suggestion was, would clubs be willing to subsidise the entry fee to encourage their members to enter?

In the last few years, quite a few clubs have closed for lack of interest. There is always an exception... one new club did start last year. 



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CLUB NEWS

Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club have their annual Gem & Mineral Club Gem Show coming up on August 20-21st at the Glenbrook Community Hall, 8am-

4pm daily. There will be displays of lapidary work and gem, mineral and crystal sales. Refreshments available.

CAMPBELLTOWN & DISTRICT LAPIDARY CLUB

**ANNUAL GEM MINERAL
& JEWELLERY SHOW**

9th & 10th JULY 2016

Times: Sat 9.30am - 5pm Sun 9.30am - 4pm

Venue: Greg Percival Centre

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Entry Fee: Children & Seniors \$3

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Campbelltown Lapidary

Club have their annual Gem, Mineral & Jewellery Show on the 9th & 10th of this month at The Greg Percival Centre, Oxford Road, Ingleburn (SEE adjacent ad). This is a major event for the Club. There are two large areas of displays and dealers, with members' lapidary and silver work on display, and a range of dealership items, from fossils to polished gems, rough, tools and jewellery. The Show is open 9.30am-5pm Saturday, and 9.30-4pm on the Sunday. Refreshments are available. The Club's Friday night silver group held a Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser, raising \$116. The Club is turning 50 this year, with

an anniversary dinner being planned for later in the year. The May workshop on Viking knitting was an inspiration. Seventeen new members have been welcomed to the Club. All members are reminded that membership fees are due on July 1st.



The Campbelltown Club recently held a Viking knitting workshop

The **Canberra Lapidary Club** field trip to a private property near Yass was well



attended with 16 members fossicking among the rocky outcrops of remnant limestone reef and shale beds that date back to the Silurian period some 443 million years ago. Finds included trilobites, graptolites, various corals and

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some fossils yet to be identified. An enjoyable day was had by all. The Club are running several courses in cabochon cutting, faceting, and silver work. Appreciation and thanks are extended for the recent donation of a lawnmower to the Club. Thanks are also extended to everyone who assisted with the Canberra Winter Gemcraft & Mineral Show. The yearly mass exodus of Club members escaping Canberra's winter for warmer weather is underway. Safe journeys, and good luck with the fossicking! Congratulations to the Canberra contingent of graduates awarded a Diploma in Gemmology. The recent Club newsletter features a beautiful and moving eulogy on Club member, Raymond Nelson, who sadly passed away in April.

The **Casino Lapidary Club** reported very busy Saturday workshops, with



All hands on deck for Casino Club members

members undertaking cabbing and faceting work. The Club has a field trip this month to Hogarth Range looking for labradorite, and next month they are off on a day trip to Ewingar seeking quartz. Plans

are afoot for a combined week-long field trip with Armidale Club in November. Members are reminded that fees are due.

The **Illawarra Lapidary Club** recently held a 'Pick of the table' night at their social meeting, enabling members to pick up some goodies, although the last social night had a low attendance so pickings were slim. Their next social night will be an 'Introduce



yourself' night, providing an excellent way for new members to get to know each other. The Club's mineral group meeting was well attended, with an ID exercise of eight minerals proving an excellent challenge. This month's field trip will be to a private collection, and promises some excellent specimens of thunder eggs of all colours and sizes. The Club held its open day in May, raising some funds for the Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea. Members are already planning next year's bus trip to the GEMBOREE at Lithgow. A new grinder has been ordered to replace one that had had so many repairs



it is thought only the basic frame was original.

Inverell & District Lapidary Club have their annual Gem & Craft Show coming up from the 14-21st October at various locations around Inverell. The Show opens at Pioneer Village, and there are also fossicking tours, with the Clubhouse open during the week.

The **Lapidary Club of NSW** reminds members that they need to consult a workshop supervisor before using the slabbing saw. The recent AGM was well attended, with election of new office bearers. Thanks were extended to the retiring former president for all her tireless work. The Club is struggling financially, and has increased membership and workshop fees (to be reviewed in six months time). There was talk of possibly selling some of the Club's property, and debate about this helped galvanise subsequent assistance and action from members to invest more time, loyalty and love toward ensuring the Club's survival. As such, much needed repairs around



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TOP SHELF MINERALS

the clubhouse are being attended, including unblocking stormwater drain pipes which caused some flooding, fixing the leaky roof, installing safety switches on the grinders, repainting some walls, installing new benchtops, fixing the cutting wheel drainage issues, and beautification of the garden and yard. Sadly, long-term Club member, Mavis Kuhl, who joined the Club with her husband in 1969, has passed away.

The **Northern Districts Lapidary Club** welcomed three new members, wishing them happiness in both their new hobby and enjoyment of the Club's activities. The Club has just celebrated their 50th anniversary. Kitchen renovation work is currently in progress, with underpinning work in the corner of the storeroom also taking place. At the recent silver casting weekend, members created wax trees for investment, and also learnt to make a cast from a scone-shaped mix of silicon and cornflour that enables an impression to be made for duplication. Members are reminded to keep working on their competition entries for the Club's October Gem Show and exhibition at Beecroft. Preparations for this major event are in full swing, with volunteers needed for many tasks, including preparing goods for sale for the Club. There will be a gem tree making workshop on August 6th with all materials provided, as the trees will be for sale at the exhibition. A relaxing field trip to Nundle will be held in November to escape somewhere close and relaxing after the busy October exhibition.



Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club have their annual Club exhibition coming up on 11-13th November. The exhibition committee are hard at work. The competition schedule is now completed and the faceting patterns are available. The Club is very active, accepting new members at every management meeting. All teachers are requested to endeavour to make room for new members in their classes. A meeting is being held to discuss the 3-5 year plan for Club prospects, and members are being surveyed for ideas. This month the Club has a field trip to North Wollongong for petrified wood and agate, with a Mulbring quarry trip next month looking for marine fossils. Plans are in place to upgrade the kitchen. The committee's proposed concept for a jewellery tool bar is being considered. A large showcase to exhibit mineral specimens is being installed. The garden has been weeded and trimmed, and a bird bath is being moved into the garden area. The newsletter issued a reminder that fees were due at the end of June. ♦

GEMKHANA 2016

GEMKHANA will be held on October 1-3 at Hawkesbury Showground, Racecourse Rd, Clarendon (NB: Clarendon is two stations Sydney side of Richmond). Camping is available on the Showground at \$20 per night.

Hawkesbury Valley Club members are again giving lots of support to the show, and we hope you, too, will show your support by attending and maybe lending a hand for an hour or two.

Lorraine of Hawkesbury has agreed to do the microwave glasswork again, and others will share other skills with us.

We have some lovely raffle prizes, thanks to the members who have made them, but a few more would be great. Visitors love to win something handcrafted by us. [NB: the donation of raffle prize/s would be appreciated – the proceeds of the raffle go to a charity in the town where the show is held, and the local club selects the recipient]

We had lots of tailgaters last year, and we are looking forward to having just as many again, or even more, this year. If you would like to tailgate, check out the new details on the website shortly, or give me a call. I think you will all know Council cannot now offer the daily rate of insurance cover, but you can take out a policy, directly with Webster Hyde Heath for \$130 to cover you trading at any gem show, anywhere in Australia. Of course, if you wish you may choose another insurer.

The CWA ladies will again have Devonshire teas, and the lady with the 'best coffee' will be there again too (you have to try her brew).

Marilyn Behrens, Secretary, 9635 8218

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EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

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
- 9-10 Hervey Bay Gem & Mineral Club Annual Gem & Jewellery Expo, Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School, Hervey Bay, Qld

August

- 5-7 Kybong Rock & Mineral Festival Cooloolo Rocks & Minerals, Kybong, Qld
- 6-7 Sydney Crystal Show Fraser Park, Marrickville Road, Sydney, NSW
- 12-14 Anakie Gemfest, Festival of Gems Allen King Memorial Park, Anakie, Qld
- 20-21 Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club Gem Show, Glenbrook Community Hall, NSW
- 20-21 Ballarat & District Gem Club Show, Invermay Park, Ballarat, Vic
- 27-28 Carlingford Gem & Mineral Fair Roselea Community Centre, Carlingford, NSW
- 27-28 Frankston & Peninsula Lapidary Club Gem Show, Cranbourne Public Hall, Vic

September

- 2-4 Gem & Bead Show Castle Hill Showgrounds, NSW
- 3-4 Mildura & District Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show, Sunraysia Centre, Irymple, Vic
- 10-11 Bribie Island Gem Show, Arts Centre, Sunderland Drive, Banksia Beach, Bribie Island, Qld
- 17-18 Waverley Gem Club Exhibition Brandon Park Community Centre, Waverley, Vic
- 24 Caloundra Gem Show Caloundra State School, Caloundra, Qld
- 30-2 Oct, Broken Hill Mineral Show Memorial Oval, Broken Hill, NSW

October

- 1 Beenleigh Lapidary Club Gem Festival, Showgrounds, Beenleigh, Qld
- 1-3 GEMKHANA Hawkesbury Showground, Clarendon, NSW
- 8 Nambour Gemfest Nambour Showgrounds, Qld
- 8-9 Central Coast Gem and Mineral Festival, Mingara Club, Tumbi Umbi, NSW
- 8-9 Combined Gippsland Gem Show Lucknow Hall, Vic
- 15 Campbelltown & District Lapidary Club Open Day, Macquarie Fields, NSW
- 14-21 Inverell Gem & Craft Show Various locations around Inverell, NSW
- 15-18 Nunawading & District Lapidary Club Annual Exhibition, Dorset Primary School, Croydon, Vic
- 22-23 Toowoomba Lapidary Club Gemfest Gem and Jewellery Show, Centenary Heights High School, Toowoomba, Qld
- 28-30 Northern Districts Lapidary Club Gem and Lapidary Show, Beecroft Community Centre, NSW
- 29-30 Canberra Spring Gemcraft & Mineral Show, Mallee Pavilion, EPIC Arena, ACT

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



GEMKHANA

October 1-3

Hawkesbury Showground, NSW

