



# **Gem & Lapidary News**

September 2016

Vol. 42 No 9

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

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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**



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

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

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## **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday September 21, at the Clubrooms, Parramatta-Holroyd  
Lapidary Club, 73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville, 1pm

Please attend - you will be made very welcome ♥

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## **DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER 2016 ISSUE**

September 21 (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](mailto:editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au)

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# G&L COUNCIL NEWS & INFORMATION

## Minutes from G&L Council Meeting, July 27, 2016

The meeting was opened at at 1pm by President, Barbara Try (NDLC), who welcomed delegates from the following Clubs: Minsoc (Arthur Roffey OAM), Central Coast (Tony Try), Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill, Shirley & Ainslie Flynn), Sue & Joe O'Neil (Goulburn), (Col Wright (AFG), Parramatta-Holroyd (Ron Jones, John & Marilyn Behrens). **Apologies:** Joan Ball OAM, Blue Mountains (Una King & Mick Lane), NSW (Lily Murphy), Port Hacking Wally Dove).

**J&R Report:** A lot of judging is coming up – starting next weekend.

The 2018 GEMBOREE competition schedule is now approved.

Consideration is being given to judging courses for minerals, jewellery and faceting.

**G&L News:** All subscriptions are up to date.

**Education Report:** Rooty Hill asked for a wire wrapping course and Richard Schmidt of the Hawkesbury Club has agreed to be the tutor.

## GEMKHANA® Report October 1-2-3:

1. Only two dealers are yet to be finalised.
2. Sue gave another raffle prize on behalf of the Goulburn Club.
3. Mars Food has offered a hamper as a raffle prize again this year
4. Entries closed last weekend and Colin reports the same number as last year: 181.
5. Judging is 10 Sept, and catering is in hand.

## GEMBOREE® 2017:

1. Barbara has written to the Lions Club re catering.
2. Colin noted that Lithgow Council requires caterers to complete its food handling form.
3. 27 powered sites and 2 unpowered sites are already booked.
4. The tailgating form for clubs to use will soon be on the AFLACA website, under GEMBOREE 2017



5. Colin advised John Vincent is printing maps for the info bags.
6. A few lovely raffle prizes have been received from the estate of the late Betty Boughton, and from Goulburn Club.
7. Barbara now has the software to print the raffle tickets and will do so when the prizes are finalised. The first prize is valued at \$1500. Only the first 4 prizes will be listed, the rest as “many others”. Agreed tickets will be \$1 each, and 10 tickets to a book.
8. Colin showed where toilets and showers will be located.

### **General Business:**

Barbara noted a query about an entry on AFLACA’s listing of a contestant’s competition records. In the first instance, the name had been entered incorrectly (changed without difficulty), and a section listed incorrectly. That was a little more difficult – and couldn’t be changed – because at the time of the entry, the section was included with another and judged accordingly. Now the sections are separated and this dilemma will not again occur.

Marilyn has info sheets for a few club for the coming shows – but not many!

The meeting closed at 2pm

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, 21 September 2016, at 73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville A week early due to GEMKHANA.

Note the next GEMBOREE meeting will be as originally planned, at 11am on 26 October 2016.

Council’s website is [gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au](http://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au) with links to the secretary, editor & webmaster available from the website.

**ALFACA’s website is [www.alfaca.org.au](http://www.alfaca.org.au)**

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**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.

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# GEMKHANA NEWS



**GEMKHANA 2016** is on next month, October 1st-3rd at the Hawkesbury Showground, Racecourse Rd, Clarendon (NB: Clarendon is two stations Sydney-side of Richmond).

Camping is available at the Showground, at \$20 per night. The showground is located across the road from the Richmond Airbase.

Tailgaters, don't forget you need your own public liability insurance now. Council is no longer able to arrange it for you. You can take out a policy directly with Webster Hyde Heath for \$130 to cover you trading at any gem show, anywhere in Australia. Contact Tracey at TraceyP@whhib.com.au or 08 8362 5553. Of course, if you wish you may choose another insurer.

Most of you will know we have a CLUB TABLE where we tell visitors of clubs in their area. Since we have visitors from all over the State, it would be good to have information on YOUR club and our Club's coming activities. If you don't have a delegate to bring flyers to a meeting, bring them with you to the show, or post or email them in and we'll promote them for you.

We hope we will see YOU at this year's GEMKHANA. Come and join the lapidary family and enjoy the camaraderie of people who share your hobby.

Marilyn Behrens, Secretary  
Ph: 9635 8218



## CLUB NEWS

**Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club** have recently replaced their 100-grit wheels, and members are advised to use caution as they will reduce a stone very swiftly. The Club now has the ability to allow eleven members to use the workshop machines simultaneously. The ten-inch saw requires a complete overhaul, and work will commence when time is available. The Club now opens on a Saturday morning. Children are welcome, but must be 12 or over and under the supervision of an adult at all times. Young persons over 16 may use the machines after training. The AGM will be held next month, and members are reminded that annual fees are due at that time.

**Campbelltown Lapidary Club** is turning 50 this year, with an anniversary dinner being planned for later in the year in place of the Christmas party. Members are asked to put their names down on the list, as numbers are needed for booking a venue. The AGM will be held this month, followed by a sausage sizzle for Club members providing a chance to relax and socialise and catch up with each other. The Club has a field trip planned for later this month to the Grawin Opal Fields, staying at the Glengarry Hilton and then onto Lightning Ridge. After delays caused by flooding, a new bench has been

installed in the polishing room where the three polishing machines will be set up. The Club was successful in gaining a local council grant to purchase a new wax injection machine used for making the waxes for silver casting, as the old one



had worn out. The Club reported a very successful and fabulous exhibition event, with thanks extended to everyone who contributed and assisted.





**Canberra Lapidary Club** recently held an excursion to the National Dinosaur Museum in North Canberra. The day was spent looking over the many exhibits at the museum, including a large selection of material for sale. Big thanks were extended to the staff and management of the museum for making the trip possible. Two travelling Club members came across a smiling camel somewhere around the Selwyn Ranges in warm sunny north-west Queensland (long/lats S20° 42.390. E140°01.283). Entries are invited for the 2017 Royal Canberra Show Crafts Expo (Lapidary & Allied Crafts),



Liopleurodon skull



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organised and sponsored by the Canberra Lapidary Club. The show dates are



Agate brooch after repairs

24-26 February 2017. Club members are encouraged to enter. An auction will be held at the September Club social meeting, with members able to auction up to ten items, with 10% of the sales going to the Club. The Club newsletter reported a story about a

woman who came into the Club one Saturday to enquire about recommendations for repairing a brooch set with agates (one of which was missing), and was surprised to have several members come to her assistance by locating a matching agate, cabbing, and setting it. Grateful for the skills and generosity shown, she gladly made a donation to the Club.

**The Hunter Valley Gemmology Club** have their annual Open Day coming up on Saturday 24th September at the Clubhouse in Maize Street, East Maitland. It will be on from 9am-3pm and feature Club displays, rock sales, stall holders, morning tea, and a BBQ lunch will be available.

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**Inverell & District Lapidary Club** have their annual Gem & Craft Show next month from Friday the 14th till Friday 21st October at various locations around Inverell. The Show opens at the Inverell Pioneer Village, and features fossicking excursions, demonstrations, traders, tailgaters, and a mystery tour. Opportunities are available to visit Inverell's historic mineral fields, fossick for crystals, honey citrine, smoky quartz, jelly beans, silver, molybdonite, rhodonite, diamonds, fossils, marble, serpentine and more.



Digging the Dirt on Will

Registration is required for all fossicking tours, which run from Saturday 15th. Information, tour advice and an itinerary is available from the Clubhouse or Pioneer Village. The Club newsletter's 'Digging the Dirt' segment features Will, who has been fossicking for four years. His favourite place to fossick is the Mud Tank, Hartz Range, NT, and his best find is a 16.1 carat black opal. He'd most like to fossick the Entire Valley, NT, and his advice for fossickers is to ask for help and keep trying.

**Lismore Lapidary Club** has acquired four new faceting chairs, and 60 new folding chairs for general use. New lights have been set up for faceting area, and the same lights are being purchased for work benches with framing built to support them and to tidy all power cables and distribution points. Fluoro lights are also going to be purchased for the silver soldering area to provide improved lighting. The Club newsletter has started a 'getting to know you' section, last month featuring Club member, Janice, who joined last year. She found out about the Club online, and is currently working on cutting cabs, with an aim to create settings for them. She likes the friendly and helpful nature of the Club, and enjoys having a cuppa with everyone.

**Newcastle Lapidary Club's** Annual Gem Show is coming up on 12th-13th November at the Clubhouse, 2 Dora Rd, Adamstown. Show times are Saturday 9am-4pm and Sunday 9am-3pm. There will be sales of gemstones, beads, silver, tools, and jewellery, as well as displays of faceting and jewellery making. Refreshments are available and entry is free.

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The **Lapidary Club of NSW** are holding an exhibition day on Saturday the 29th and Sunday the 30th of October from 10am to 4pm at their Clubhouse, Reservoir St, Surry Hills. The title of the exhibition is Come Fossick!

**Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club** have their annual Club exhibition coming up on 11-13th November. The Club recently received a donation of two big boxes of books for the library, adding to the lapidary books available for loan to members, with



some being priced for sale. The Club has been allocated a stall at the upcoming 2017 GEMBOREE, with members needed to assist with selling for the Club. Donations of work for the raffle would be greatly appreciated. Work for next month's GEMKHANA is being undertaken. Club members are invited to put in a display showcase of their work, and members are needed to run demonstrations of lapidary skills. Around the Clubhouse, excess machinery in the shed has been sorted and priced for sale, replacement of the Club's showcase is underway, the birdbath has been moved to the front garden, the damaged rolling mill is being repaired, and a range of general goodies on the ever-growing shopping list have been purchased, such as cleaning products, towel rails, grits, shelves and brackets. ♦



# GEMBOREE 2017

The 53rd annual National Gem & Mineral Show, GEMBOREE, is on next year over Easter, April 14-17, at the Tony Luchetti Showground, Lithgow, NSW.



A booklet has been produced for the event which has all the information on entries for the competitive sections, registrations, tailgating etc. It is available from the AFLACA website: <http://aflaca.org.au/gemboree/>

Planning is coming together nicely, and there should be lots of events to keep everyone busy for the whole weekend. Camping is available at the Showground.

Don't forget, all Clubs that help in planning and running the GEMBOREE are being offered free tailgating space. Your own Club's Public Liability policy will cover you for this stall, and we will require a current certificate of currency.

The GEMBOREE Promotions/Publicity Officer, Alan McRae, issues a monthly newsletter available by email. If you would like a copy, just email Alan, at [amcrae@lisp.com.au](mailto:amcrae@lisp.com.au), to be added to the mailing list.



A commemorative GEMBOREE 2017 Lithgow badge will be available for \$6.

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF...

by Marilyn Behrens

John and I had a busy weekend. Firstly we visited Blaxland Club's annual exhibition on Saturday (20 August). Caught up with old friends and met some new people. Saw some nice work and collections were displayed and I gave in to temptation and bought a pair of opal earrings. Also visited the local Rotary market next door, but was able to beat the temptations there. From Blaxland we went down to Port Hacking to drop off our GEMKHANA entries and had lunch with Colin Wright and Pam Ferris, the competition organisers. Sunday, saw us at Mulbring with a few club members for a fossicking day. And, yes, we all found some nice specimens. ♥



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## 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 Hunter Valley Gemmology Club Open Day, Clubhouse, Maize St, East Maitland, NSW
- 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 Lapidary Club of NSW Show Clubrooms, Reservoir St, Surry Hills, NSW
- 29-30 Canberra Spring Gemcraft & Mineral Show, Mallee Pavilion, EPIC Arena, ACT

## November

- 5-6 Zeehan Gem & Mineral Show Zeehan Primary School, Tas
- 11-13 Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club Exhibition, Clubhouse, Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville, NSW
- 12-13 Newcastle Lapidary Club Gem Show, Clubhouse, Dora Rd, Adamstown, NSW
- 12-13 Launceston Gem Show Elphin Sports Centre, Launceston, Tas
- 12-13 Bundaberg Gem and Mineral Society Gemfair, Civic Centre, Bundaberg, Qld
- 19 Suncoast Gem & Fossicking Club Show, Mooloolaba State School, Qld
- 26-27 Windsor Gem & Mineral Fair Windsor Function Centre, Windsor, NSW

## December

- 3-4 Sydney Crystal Show Fraser Park, Marrickville Road, Sydney, NSW

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



# **GEMKHANA**

**October 1-3**

**Hawkesbury Showground, NSW**

