



# **Gem & Lapidary News**

March 2017

Vol. 43 No 3

**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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President	Barbara Try (Northern Districts) 0417 676435
Vice Presidents:	Colin Wright (Port Hacking) Tony Try (Central Coast)
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Committee:	Wally Dove (Port Hacking) Sue O'Neil (Goulburn Gem Society) John Vincent (Hawkesbury Valley)

## **Appointments**

Public Officer	John Vincent
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Webmaster	Lilly Murphy webmaster@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au
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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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G&L Council NSW's website is [gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au](http://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au) with links to the secretary, editor & webmaster

**AFLACA's website is: [www.aflaca.org.au](http://www.aflaca.org.au)**

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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, March 22, 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 APRIL 2017 ISSUE**

March 15 (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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### Disclaimer:

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# G&L COUNCIL NEWS & INFORMATION

## Minutes from G&L Council Meeting, 22 February, 2017

The meeting was opened at 1.20pm by President, Barbara Try (Northern Districts), who welcomed delegates from the following Clubs: Mineral Society (Arthur Roffey OAM), Central Coast (Tony Try), Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill, Shirley & Ainslie Flynn), Hawkesbury Valley (John Vincent), Port Hacking (Wal Dove, Colin Wright), Goulburn (Sue & Joe O'Neil), Parramatta-Holroyd (John & Marilyn Behrens), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane).

**Apologies:** Bankstown (Joan Ball OAM), Blue Mountains (Una King), NSW (Lilly Murphy)

**J&R Report:** Judging for GEMBOREE on 18th and 19th February at Parramatta-Holroyd Clubrooms went well, with John Maher, a visitor from Newcastle Australian Facetors Guild, attending as an observer. Next judging 25th and 26th February at Central Coast Clubrooms. A total of 942 entries were received. Hawkesbury Show Judging 1st May. Australian Facetors Guild 22&23rd July. GEMKHANA 9th September.

**G&L News:** Nothing to report.

**Education Report:** Nothing to report.

**GEMKHANA Report:** Hawkesbury Showground was chosen as this year's venue. R Mclean and wife (Port Hacking) to be Coordinators. Hawkesbury Showground to be contacted to confirm booking. Competition schedule will be on the website. This year's results will be published in the *G&L News*.

**GEMBOREE 2017 Lithgow – Easter:** Refund to be sent to Felix Ma Glory Opals. Everything is coming together nicely. Seven weeks to go.

**General Business:** A termite infestation gave Northern Districts Club members a scare last week. It turns out the termites are not in the area of the Clubrooms, and Club business is back to normal.

The meeting closed at 1.55pm.

**Next meeting:** GEMBOREE 11am followed by General meeting at 1pm on Wednesday 22nd March at 73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville. ♥

**REMINDER:** Any Club that assists with the practical running/organising of the GEMBOREE can have FREE tailgating space at the GEMBOREE for the duration of the event. Material sold at the free tailgating stall MUST be Club material - that is, it is not to be owned by an individual. It is aimed to benefit the Club as a whole.

# CLUB NEWS

**Blaxland Lapidary Club** have their Club Gem Show coming up on August 19-20th at the Glenbrook Community Hall. There will be displays of lapidary work as well as gem, mineral and crystal sales. The show is open 8am-4pm daily. Adults \$3, children \$1. Refreshments available.

**Campbelltown Lapidary Club** are holding their Club Open Day at their Macquarie Field Clubhouse on 25th of this month, 9am-2pm.

**Canberra Lapidary Club** are planning a Good Friday day-trip to the GEMBOREE at Lithgow which runs from 14-17th April. A Club rock auction will be held at the Club's April social meeting, where members can provide ten items or lots, with a reserve price on two.

**Goulburn Gem Society** members are hard at work preparing stones for competitions, taking advantage of the water wheels before the weather turns cooler. The Club has been given notice to vacate their current club room, and after a lot of searching by their president Joe, and with the help of Craig & Brendan from the Goulburn council, there may be some rooms to move to in Bourke Street. The Club has had 12 wonderful years of security for Club members in the present position, and they thank the council for their support over the years. The newsletter reports, "Folk tales have our club opening in 1967 making this our 50th year. However whilst cleaning out the office files, Sue found proof the club opened in 1965. That is 52 years – a good innings for a small town specialist club. May we continue to flourish and allow people to learn and explore the beauty of rocks."



Tumbled chips are good for making gem trees:)



This window tree design, spotted by a member at a friend's place, seems to have inspired Club members into playing with insects and tree designs

**Inverell & District Lapidary Club** held a February field trip to Staggy Creek near Copeton Dam, looking for diamonds and topaz. While some tourmaline and crystals were found, diamond proved elusive. Their January field trip to a freshly ploughed private property in Tingha yielded some good finds of quartz with amethyst, crystal points, tin crystal veins, thunder eggs, and a beautiful clear and smoky banded quartz specimen. February's Digging the Dirt members are Beverley & Geoff. Beverley loves wire wrapping and has been fossicking for 20 years. She wants to find a bigger

sapphire, and fossick Tassie. Geoff loves polishing stones. His best find is a 21ct parti sapphire from Rubyvale, and his tip for fossickers is to “shift plenty of dirt”! He’d love to find some opalised fossil. The Club’s Publicity Officer has resigned following a recent AGM. Julie thanks the Club members who contributed to the newsletter under her editorship, the readers for encouragement, and reflects on the positive feedback and membership enquiries gained through running the Club facebook site.

**Lismore Lapidary Club** are currently negotiating a new lease with the Show Society. The January working bee was a small group of dedicated workers who made many improvements to the clubrooms in ready for a new year of lapidary activity. The white and grey colour scheme is a refreshing change from the 50 shades of green and dirt. Members are reminded that “improvements will be ongoing, so all



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future volunteer labour will be gratefully accepted.” The Club has new newsletter editors, Kathryn & Ian, who welcome contributions and polite suggestions. Preparations are well under way for the 2017 Lismore Gemfest, the Club’s major annual fundraiser, coming up in May.

**Northern Districts Lapidary Club** are planning a day-trip to the GEMBOREE, Australia’s National Gem & Mineral Show and Competition held at Lithgow in April.

**Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club** need a publicity officer to help promote the Club to the wider public of Sydney. The Club has a very talented membership. Please consider bringing your skills to the Exhibition Committee. Someone who can assist in promoting the Club through social sites like facebook would also be appreciated. This month the Club has a field trip to Kitchener for marine fossils.

**Tingha Fossicking and Faceting Club** remind members that Inverell TAFE is starting faceting classes again. According to Club member, Beryl, it’s great to have it back again. The Club supports the Hawkesbury Show because it is the only ag show that has a lapidary section. ♦



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# NATIONAL GEMBOREE

14-17TH APRIL, 2017

TONI LUCHETTI SHOWGROUNDS  
LITHGOW, NSW

by Marilyn Behrens

When you arrive, you will be greeted at the gate and given an information bag. It will contain:

- \* A name tag - please wear it at all times, it gives you access to everything;
- \* A map of the showground, showing you where the facilities are;
- \* A map of the town;
- \* A program so you will know what's happening, where and when;
- \* Some brochures describing some of the features of Lithgow, and some surprises.

You will also be directed (or taken) to your site.



We have some fabulous major raffle prizes. 1st Prize is a Russian Topaz which was donated by Arthur Roffey and set in S/ Silver by Ainslie Flynn from Western Suburbs Lapidary Club. 2nd Prize is a Chrysoprase Bracelet which was subsidised by Preyas Jewellery. 3rd Prize is a voucher for the Alexandra Hotel at Leura – donated by Alexandra Hotel. 4th Prize is an Adamite Specimen which was subsidised

by Crystal Habit. 5th Prize is an Enamelled Bowl made and donated by Annette Clarke from Central Coast Lapidary Club.

On Easter Day (ie, Easter Sunday) we have breakfast (free) for everyone, when the Easter Bilby will arrive and hand out—what else, Easter eggs! Don't forget to bring your Easter bonnet for the Easter bonnet parade held after breakfast.

While there won't be an ecumenical Easter service, your information bag will have a list of local churches and service times.



**Information on the competition schedule, registration, and tailgating forms can be found here: [www.aflaca.org.au](http://www.aflaca.org.au)**

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## March

- 4-5 North Brisbane Lapidary Club Gem and Jewellery Festival, Bracken Ridge State High School, Qld
- 10-12 Minerama Fossicking Gem & Jewellery Show, Glen Innes, NSW
- 11-12 Victorian GEMKHANA, Annual State Gem & Mineral Show, Kialla Raceway, Vic
- 18 Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club Open Day, Clubhouse, Valley Heights, NSW
- 18-19 Canberra Lapidary Club Rock Swap, Wagtail Way, Exhibition Park, Canberra, ACT
- 18-19 New England Lapidary & Fossicking Club 26th Annual Gem & Craft Show, Armidale Showground, NSW
- 19 Blue Hills Lapidary Club Open Day, The Green Shed, Nobelius Heritage Park, Emerald, Vic
- 25 Campbelltown Lapidary Club Open Day, Clubhouse, Macquarie Fields, NSW

## April

- 14-17 GEMBOREE 2017, 53rd National Gem & Mineral Show, Toni Luchetti Showgrounds, Lithgow, NSW
- 22-23 Essendon Gem and Lapidary Club Show, Clubrooms, Cross Keys Reserve, Essendon, Vic

## May

- 6-7 Redcliffe Gem and Mineral, Jewellery and Craft Show, Southern Cross Catholic College, Kippa Ring
- 20-21 Lismore Gem & Lapidary Club GEMFEST, Lismore Showground, NSW
- 27 Mt Gravatt Lapidary Society Gem Show, Clubhouse, Mt. Gravatt
- 27-28 Canberra Lapidary Club Winter Gem Show, Mallee Pavilion, Exhibition Park, Canberra, ACT

## June

- 3-4 Gunyah Lapidary Club Annual Display, Mt Coot-tha Gardens Auditorium, Qld

## July

- 1 Caboolture Gem Club Gemfest, Caboolture Historical Village, Qld
- 1 Gold Coast Gem & Craft Show, Miami State Primary School, Mermaid Waters, Qld
- 8-9 Campbelltown Districts Lapidary Club Annual Exhibition, Greg Percival Community Centre, Ingleburn, NSW
- 8-9 Hervey Bay Festival of Gems, Star of the Sea Catholic College, Hervey Bay, Qld
- 18-19 Townsville Gem & Mineral Show, Club Rooms, Gulliver, Qld
- 25-26 Cairns Gem Festival Club Rooms, Cairns, Qld

## August

- 5 Innisfail Club Show Club Rooms, Innisfail, Qld
- 6 Atherton Club Show Club Rooms, Toga, Qld
- 18-20 Parramatta-Holroyd Annual Exhibition, Clubrooms, Wentworthville NSW
- 19-20 Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club Gem Show, Glenbrook Community Hall, NSW
- 26-27 White Cliffs Gem Fest and Car Boot Sale, White Cliffs Community Hall, NSW

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



# **GEMBOREE**

**April 14-17**

**Tony Luchetti Showgrounds**

**Lithgow, NSW**

