

# **Gem & Lapidary News**

March 2018

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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).

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).

## EXECUTIVE

President	Barbara Try (Northern Districts) 0417 676435
Vice Presidents:	Colin Wright (Port Hacking) Tony Try (Central Coast)
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Minute Secretary	Mick Lane (Blue Mountains)
Treasurer	Bob McLean (Port Hacking)
Assistant Treasurer	Arthur Roffey (Mineralogical Society)
Committee:	Sue O'Neil (Goulburn) Kathy Selwood (Orange) Alec Gardiner (Blaxland)

## Appointments

Public Officer	John Vincent (Hawkesbury Valley)
Auditor	Christine Gruntar
Editor	Theresa Mason (BA hons, ADA) editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au
Webmaster	Lilly Murphy (NSW) webmaster@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au
Equipment Officer	John Behrens
Competition Judges	Wally Dove & John Behrens
Education Officer	vacant
GEMBOREE Coordinator	
GEMKHANA Coordinator	Bob and Reg McLean
AFLACA delegates	Barbara Try (voting) and Tony Try (non-voting)
AFLACA J&R delegates	Barbara Try (voting) and Arthur Roffey (non-voting)

## 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* edition (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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Gem & Lapidary 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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## **NEW!!!! CHANGE OF POSTAL ADDRESS FOR THE G&LC NSW**

Gem & Lapidary Council NSW, PO Box 188, Orange NSW, 2800

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## **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday 18th April 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 2018 ISSUE**

March 21st (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)**

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

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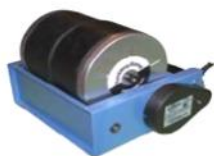
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# G&L COUNCIL INFORMATION



## Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of Wednesday February 28th held at the Parramatta-Holroyd Clubrooms.

The meeting was opened at 1pm by President, Barbara Try (Northern Districts) who welcomed delegates from the following clubs: Minsoc (Arthur Roffey OAM), Central Coast (Tony Try), Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane ), AFG (Colin Wright), and Parramatta-Holroyd (John & Marilyn Behrens), Goulburn (Sue & Joe O'Neil ), Western Suburbs (Shirley & Ainsley Flynn & Marcia Hill), Hawkesbury (John Vincent), Port Hacking (Bob McLean), NSW (Lilly Murphy), Orange (Kathy Selwood), Illawarra (Joan Zealey).  
**Apologies:** Blue Mountains (Una King).

### PLEASE NOTE NEW PO BOX 188, ORANGE 2800

**J&R Report:** • Barbara is presently organising judges needed for the Hawkesbury Show • Barbara is to run a cab judging course for Victoria on the 24th and 25th March • Arthur Roffey to run a Mineral Judges Course for Victoria, possibly last weekend in May.

**G&L News:** • Due to increased work commitment, Theresa Mason has retired as Editor. Thanks for your dedicated service in the past two and a half years. • The new Editor is Suzanne Olesen.

**Education Report:** Courses available to be advertised bi monthly.

**GEMKHANA Report:** The Hawkesbury Showground at Clarendon (near Richmond) has been booked.

**GEMBOREE Report:** • an email was received re free tailgating. An apology was sent as it only referred to our own GEMBOREE at Lithgow 2017. • Our delegate to vote at the AFLACA meeting to leave existing competition program called GEMS as standard.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

• An email was received from a club member regards problems within their club. The member was advised council does not have any involvement in individual club matters. • Arthur Roffey is representing Council at the World of Craft Exhibition April 20th - 22nd at Homebush. Any club wanting to provide leaflets please post to A Roffey, 52 Macpherson Road, Londonderry 2753. • 200 promotional pens to be purchased at a cost of \$197 plus GST. • Please Note Annual fees of \$70 are now overdue.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, April 18th, 2018 at 1pm at 73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville.

Meeting closed at 2.35pm.



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**April 20th - 22nd 2018** Sydney (Homebush) Showgrounds  
**June 29th - July 1st 2018** Melbourne Melb. Showgrounds

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*Mad MAD QUILTERS Quilters Gathering*  
*Gem & Bead Show*  
**PAPER CRAFTS festival**

## G&L COUNCIL INFORMATION

**SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING** of Wednesday, February 28, 2018  
Held at the clubrooms of the Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club



The meeting was opened at 2.40pm by President, Barbara Try (Northern Districts) who welcomed delegates from the following clubs: Minsoc (Arthur Roffey OAM), Central Coast (Tony Try), Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane), AFG (Colin Wright), Parramatta-Holroyd (John & Marilyn Behrens), Goulburn (Sue & Joe O'Neil), Western Suburbs (Shirley & Ainsley Flynn & Marcia Hill), Hawkesbury (John Vincent), Port Hacking (Bob McLean), NSW (Lilly Murphy), Orange (Kathy Selwood), Illawarra (Joan Zealey).

**Apologies:** Blue Mountains (Una King)

### AGENDA ITEM

Approval of the changes made to the Constitution in accordance with the recommendations to the Act 2009 made by Dept. of Fair Trading – September 2016

The meeting unanimously approved all changes.

Meeting closed at 2.50pm.





## **FOUND: NEW EDITOR FOR *G&L NEWS*:)**

With changes in work commitments, I am stepping down as Editor of the *G&LNews*. Thankfully, there is someone available who can step into the position:) The Gem & Lapidary Committee of NSW has officially appointed Suzanne Olesen as the new Editor. I know Suzanne will enjoy the many challenges of this position.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the past two and a half years as editor of the *G&LNews*. During my editorship: I upgraded the publication from Word to Publisher, standardising the format, style and fonts; introduced Acknowledgement of Country when writing about news, places and events; and have learnt a lot about how other lapidary clubs represent and benefit their memberships.

I hope you welcome and enjoy the significant contribution Suzanne will make toward the NSW Gem & Lapidary Council's efforts to serve in the interests of our broader lapidary community through this publication.

Many thanks ♥ Theresa Mason

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## CLUB NEWS

Email: [editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au](mailto:editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au)

**Bankstown & District Lapidary Club** have their Annual Exhibition coming up from 2-3rd June at the Arena Sports Club, Yagoona. This is a major fundraiser for the Club, and there'll be jewellery and lapidary items for sale.

**Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables & Lapidary Club** report that their Grenfell field trip for tourmaline was a great success with specimens of black tourmaline in quartz being found. The Club are planning a two-day field trip to Belatta in May looking for petrified wood, agate and possibly topaz. The Club was successful in a grant application toward expanding the lapidary workstations and buying more equipment.



**Campbelltown Lapidary Club** have their Club Open Day on the 24th of this month from 9am-2pm at the Macquarie Fields Clubhouse (check their ad on the next page). Entry is free and it's a good opportunity to check out the Club, which will have stalls selling rough, mineral specimens, polished stones, handmade jewellery, hand cast sterling silver, opals and bric-a-brac, and enjoy as a sausage sizzle and handmade cakes and slices. Next month the Club has organised a field trip to Glen Innes with an emerald fossick at a local geologist's mine, a trip to Torrington for topaz and smokey quartz clusters, followed by a fossil site visit, a jellybean hunt, a visit to Emmaville Mineral Museum, and sifting for sapphires at Three Oaks. The Clubhouse gates have been aligned and painted, there's a new light in the dopping room and maintenance has been done. Splashguards were installed, and the Club history is now on display.

The **Canberra Lapidary Club** have their Outdoor Rock Swap at EPIC on 17-18th of this month. The Club's AGM is this month, and members are reminded that membership renewals are due. The next field trip is to Grabben Gullen Creek, looking for sapphire.

**Inverell & District Lapidary Club** are holding their week-long Gem and Craft Show from Friday 12th to Friday 19th October. All members will be required to assist. The Club are researching options to build a retaining wall and courtyard, and fundraising is essential for these ongoing plans.

**Lismore Lapidary Club** have their ever-popular annual GEMFEST coming up from 19-20th May, with the Club newsletter stating it is 'the biggest lapidary show in the country'. Gemfest is the Club's major annual fundraiser, and all members, particularly new members, are encouraged to help. The Club reports recent successful field trips to Green Pigeon and Eureka. The next field trip is to Emmaville for the Easter break, with visits to



Copper wire  
work by Lismore  
Club's Junior  
Rockhounds






**Campbelltown & Districts Lapidary Club**  
**Open Day**  
**Saturday 24th March 2018** 9.00am -2.00pm  
**Next to Hazlet Oval**

- \*Rocks, gemstones, fossils, rough, minerals
- \*handcrafted jewellery and market stalls
- \*Free family event - all ages welcome
- \*Sausage sizzle and homemade cakes and slices
- \*Hot and cold drinks

**Lot 1 Bensley Road Macquarie Fields**  
 Email: [ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com](mailto:ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com)  
 Web: [campbelltownlapidary.org.au](http://campbelltownlapidary.org.au)  
 Phone: 0296183206

Torrington, and fossicking for topaz, crystals, emeralds, jelly beans etc.

**New England Lapidary & Fossicking Club** have their 27th Annual Gem & Craft Show on 17-18th of this month at the Armidale Showground. Open times are Saturday 9am-5pm, and Sunday 9am-3pm. Free Entry. Come along for a spectacular display of gems, ricks, crystals, jewellery, gifts, craft, fossils, beads, and lapidary books, supplies and equipment. A qualified valuer will be on site, and there are raffles with great prizes.

**Northern Districts Lapidary Club** members are preparing for the annual exhibition, with a weekly competition class being run. The workshop is trialling refurbished Nova wheels, as the wheels are needing to be replaced by possible misuse. Members are reminded to let the wheel do the work and not use force on the stone. Whether through additional activity, or abuse/incorrect usage, the Club was getting longer service from the wheels previously.

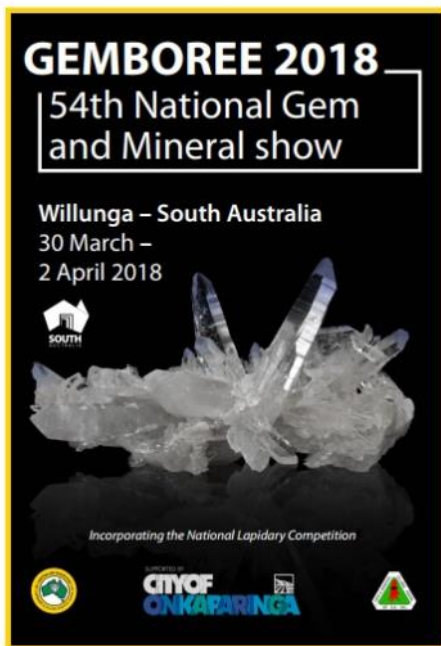
**Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club** have made recent improvements to the workshop areas, with a new bench installed and refurbished lighting throughout. The Club's website is operable again after an update hitch. Members are busily working on their lapidaries a wide variety of lapidary items in readiness for the Club's Annual Exhibition which runs from 14-16th September.





According to the GEMBOREE 2018 information booklet, the quartz crystal cluster on the cover (right) was found in a vugh during a 1977 field trip to a small unused quarry at Ashton in the Adelaide Hills. Don gave it a bath in hydrochloric acid to remove the build-up of iron oxide and clay particles. The specimen is 134mm x 80mm x 63mm and also has a tabular Faden quartz crystal which makes the specimen unique.

For info on GEMBOREE 2018, check the AFLACA website: <http://aflaca.org.au/>



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## AFLACA SUCCESSFUL COMPETITORS' LIST

As you may know, the AFLACA (Australia Federation of Lapidary & Allied Crafts Associations) website includes a list of all successful competitors in level 2, 3 and 4 competitions, who have won a section in lapidary competitions somewhere in Australia. The listing includes the name of the competitor's Club – if supplied. It is a very long and comprehensive list, but because people often have the same or similar names, accomplishments can be recorded for another person.

Sometimes competitors use different names, eg Robert Clarke, R Clarke, B Clarke. Another Robert Clark might not have the 'e', making even further confusion. Sometimes members of the same family have the same initial. If a member of a club, including the club name can also help avoid confusion.

In an endeavour to avoid confusion AND be sure everyone is shown with correct awards against their name, the Competition Recorder has been asked to note deceased members. Competitors can further help avoid confusion by using their full name and their club on entry forms.

**Club secretaries are asked to check the list and let us know of deceased members who are on the list, and make other corrections they may find. Please send your list to Secretary, G&L Council, PO Box 188, Orange 2800, or email to [secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au](mailto:secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au)**

Find the list on the AFLACA website, [www.aflaca.org.au](http://www.aflaca.org.au) under Competitors – there are two versions of competition winners, one in PDF, one in xl, but the info is the same, so you will only need to check one.

### APOLOGY:

Last issue the *G&LNews* mistakenly reported that free tailgating was available to Clubs who volunteer at the upcoming GEMBOREE. This was an editorial oversight, as the offer ONLY applies to GEMBOREEs held in NSW. We apologise for any concerns or issues this mistake might have caused. ♥

## GEMBOREE® 2018

**GEMBOREE is the national gem and mineral show run by the Australian Federation of Lapidary & Allied Crafts Associations Inc (AFLACA).**

The 54th National Gem & Mineral Show, **GEMBOREE 2018**, is on at the end of this month, held this year at Willunga in South Australia, from 30th March—2nd April.

The quality of this year's national competition of lapidaries is expected to be spectacular.

Willunga is about 30 kilometres south of Adelaide. The local government area of Adelaide and surrounds is called the City of Onkaparinga. The name comes from 'Ngangkiparinga', an indigenous word meaning 'The Women's River'.

# Sydney Crystal Show

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Willunga is known by its Kurna name derived from 'willangga', meaning the locality of green trees.

The Kurna people are the traditional owners of the land, and Kurna country includes significant cultural heritage sites that are part of an ancient creation story and songline.

Kurna culture and language were almost completely destroyed within a few decades after 'settlement' of South Australia in 1836. Dispossessed by colonists, the Kurna people were a hunter-gatherer society, and their ancient cultural practice of fire-stick farming led to conflict with the colonists.

Due to forced displacement and high deathrates from smallpox and typhoid, Kurna cultural items are extremely rare. Many hundreds of objects sent to the 1887 Paris exhibition were never returned, and the South Australian Museum contains only 48 items. In 2002, a Living Kurna Cultural Centre was opened at Warriparinga, a traditional meeting place and ancient site of significance.

From the 1850s to 1900s, Willunga was the roofing slate capital of Australia and had five quarries operating. According to the GEMBOREE booklet, 'Willunga Slate has been used extensively throughout the town for drains, bridges, tombstones, seats, pavement, roofing and flooring, and when sealed together made excellent rainwater tanks. Slate was also used for buildings all over Australia including a Perth cathedral, Melbourne's GPO and the Adelaide Town Hall. Many Cornishmen were employed for their mining and quarrying talents. The cutting, splitting, chiselling and shaping were all done by hand and there is a marvellous collection of tools on display' (GEMBOREE 2018 booklet).



**Martin's slate quarry at Willunga**

GEMBOREE 2018 are hosting several field trips and excursions, and attendees are advised to be prepared and bring the standard safety equipment used for field trips. NB evidence of current financial membership of your club is required if attending field trips.

(info & image from <http://aflaca.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Gemboree-2018-booklet.pdf> & <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kurna> & <https://www.adelaide.edu.au/kwp/placenames/research-publ/>)

**For more information on GEMBOREE 2018, check the AFLACA website: <http://aflaca.org.au/>**

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# EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS



## March

- 2-4 World of Craft Brisbane RNA Showgrounds, Qld
- 3-4 North Brisbane Lapidary Club Gem & Jewellery Festival, Bracken Ridge High School, Bracken Ridge, Qld
- 10-11 Combined Victorian Gem Clubs, Gem Mineral & Fossil Show (Gemkhana), Hungarian Community Centre, Wantirna, Vic
- 17-18 Canberra Lapidary Club Rock Swap EPIC, Canberra, ACT
- 17-18 Hobart Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show Hobart Showground, Glenorchy, Tas
- 17-18 New England Lapidary & Fossicking Club Inc, 27th Annual Gem & Craft Show, Armidale Showground, NSW
- 24 Campbelltown & Districts Open Day Clubhouse, Macquarie Fields, NSW
- 24-25 Devonport Lapidary Club Jewellery, Gem & Mineral Fair, East Devonport School Gymnasium, Tas
- 24-25 Grafton Gem & Lapidary Club Gems, Minerals and Fossils Show, Grafton Showground, NSW
- 30-2 April **GEMBOREE**, 54th National Gem & Mineral Show, Willunga Park Reserve, SA

## April

- 20-22 World of Craft Sydney Homebush Showgrounds, NSW
- 21-22 Blue Mountains Club Show, Clubhouse, Great Western Highway, Bullaburra, NSW
- 21-22 Wanganui Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show, Wanganui City College Hall, NZ

## May

- 5-6 Diamond Valley Gem Club Annual Show Masonic Centre, Greensborough, Vic
- 5-6 Redcliffe Peninsula Lapidary Club Gem Show, Southern Cross Catholic Campus, Kippa-Ring, Qld
- 12 Sydney Crystal Show Sydney Showground, NSW
- 19-20 Lismore Lapidary Club GEMFEST Lismore Showgrounds, NSW
- 26-27 Canberra Lapidary Club Winter Gem Show, Mallee Pavilion Exhibition Park, Canberra, ACT

## June

- 2-3 Bankstown & District Lapidary Club Annual Exhibition, Arena Sports Club, Yagoona, NSW
- 16-17 Hawkesbury Valley Lapidary Club Gem & Mineral Fair, Windsor Function Centre, NSW
- 23 Gold Coast Lapidary Club Gem and Craft Show, Clubhouse, Miami, Qld
- 29-1 July World of Craft Melbourne Showgrounds, Vic

## July

- 21-22 Enfield Gem & Mineral Club Biennial Gem & Mineral Show, Enfield Primary School, SA

## August

- 18-19 Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club Gem Show Glenbrook Community Hall, NSW



# **NEXT BIG EVENT**

## **54th National Gem & Mineral Show**



# **GEMBOREE**

**March 30-April 2**

Willunga Park Reserve  
Willunga, SA

