



Gem & Lapidary News

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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).

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GEMKHANA Coordinator	Barbara Try (voting) and Tony Try (non-voting)
AFLACA delegates	Barbara Try (voting) and Arthur Roffey (non-voting)
AFLACA J&R delegates	

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Visitors welcome to attend

EXECUTIVE meet monthly, fourth Wednesday of the month, 1pm, at Clubrooms, Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club, 73 Fullager Rd, Wentworthville, NSW

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: 27th June 2018

EDITORS NOTES

- **Due to extenuating circumstances, there will be no council meeting held in May.** The next General Meeting will be held on June 27th at Parramatta—Holroyd Lapidary Club rooms.
- There are important amendments to the Competitor and Judging Manual. These are on pages 6 and 7 of the newsletter. Changes have been underlined.

Regards

Suzanne

ADDRESSES for the Gem & Lapidary Council NSW

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

The website has links to the **secretary, editor & webmaster**

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

Meeting rooms: Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club,
73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville, NSW

DEADLINE FOR JUNE 2018 ISSUE

23rd May 2018

(third Wednesday of the month—a few days grace is allowed)

CONTACT THE G&L EDITOR TO INCLUDE YOUR CLUB'S NEWS

editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

ADVERTISING RATES

per *G&L News* edition

(NB: printed in black & white)

Full page - \$40 1/2 page - \$25 1/3 page - \$20

Please send payment with advertising booking and copy

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Minutes and business



The meeting was opened at 1pm by President Barbara Try (Northern Districts) who welcomed delegates from the following clubs: Goulburn (Sue & Joe O'Neil), Minsoc (Arthur Roffey OAM), Central Coast (Tony Try), AFG (Col Wright), Hawkesbury Valley (John Vincent), Blaxland (Pam & Alex Gardiner), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane & Kim Cook) NSW (Lilly Murphy) Orange (Kathy Selwood) Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill Shirley & Ainslie Flynn) Port Hacking (Bob McLean)

Apologies: Illawarra (Joan Zealey) Parramatta Holroyd (John & Marelyn Behrens)

Apologies. Moved Blaxland Seconded Goulburn

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (28/2/18): Moved Central Coast *seconded* AFG minutes *be accepted*.

Business Arising: 1/ Shirts to arrive today to be distributed at next meeting

2/ Association insurance to be kept Moved Western Suburbs *seconded* Orange

Correspondence:

Moved Minsoc, *seconded* Hawkesbury that Inward Correspondence be received and Outward Correspondence be endorsed.

Treasurer's Report:

General a/c: Inc \$1,070.00 Exp \$822.75 Bal at 18/04/18. awaiting bank statement
 GEMKHANA a/c: Inc \$Nil Exp \$Nil Bal Awaiting bank statements
 GEMBOREE a/c: Inc Nil Exp Nil Bal Awaiting bank statements
 Accounts for payment: due to changeover of treasurer full report to be made next meeting.

Moved Port Hacking seconded NSW that the report be accepted and accounts paid.

J&R Report: Judging date for Gemkhana to be 8th September

It is now necessary for Judges electrical equipment to be tested & tagged, judges to be advised to approach their own clubs for assistance.

A course for Victorian judges for Cabbing was conducted 24/25 March by B Try, 4 new judges appointed.

Also for Victoria.

Paul Sabolta to run facing judges course 30th June & 1st July and Arther Roffey OAM to run minerals judging course 2nd weekend in June.

G&L NEWS: Nil

Education Report: Byron Bay will run a carving course in August.

GEMKANA Still a works in progress**GEMBOREE:**

GEMBOREE books for Rockhampton 2019 are available for collection today after the meeting.

Gemboree 2018 in South Australia was well attended.

NSW to run GEMBOREE in 2022, venue to be arranged as soon as possible.

Reports received NSW, seconded Blaxland.

GENERAL BUSINESS

As there will be lots of people away the May meeting has been cancelled

Please note clubs can invite Council to hold a meeting at their venue.

The order for Promotional Pens Has Now Been Cancelled due to problem with supplier.

Meeting dates 2018 January 24th February 28th April 19th (Anzac day 25th)

May cancelled June 27th July 25th August 22nd

September during GEMKANA October 24th November 28th December 12th

Please note the following holidays

John & Marilyn Behrens -19th March to 19th June. Bob McLean 15th May to late June

Barbara & Tony Try 7th to 23rd May Arthur Roffey 15th May to late May

Kathy Selwood 15th May to 26th June Colin Wright dates TBA

GEMBOREE 2018
Willunga –South Australia

We have attended very few GEMBOREEs without a drama or two to make things interesting, and this one was no exception.

The morning - Sunday 28 March, 2018 – as we were to leave home the car fridge, which was already packed, decided to give up the ghost, even though I had tested it a few days earlier. With very few options available to us, we were forced to buy a new one, and therefore delay our departure until after midday. This meant that we struck a lot of holiday and weekend traffic. The weather was extremely hot and windy [*headwind naturally*], so we opted to spend the first night in a Free Camp between Marulan and Goulburn, which was well off the road and quiet.

However, this was not to be as there was thick smoke from local bushfires and police directing traffic etc. We moved on and eventually stayed at a great little Free Camp in Gunning, which we would highly recommend – Council swimming pool, toilets and hot showers, plus a short walk to the local pub. From temperatures in the high 30C during the day it dropped to 5C in the caravan overnight.

We spent the next few days on a friend's property just outside Bendigo, which was very nice.

From there it was direct to East Doncaster for the weekend, as Barbara was running a cabochon judging course for some Victorian cutters. While there we took the easy options of having pizza and Chinese meals delivered to us in the caravan park. No cooking, washing up or travelling anywhere!!!

From there we negotiated Melbourne and Dimboola before arriving at Border Town where we weakened and found a "Sallys" and bought another woollen blanket for the bed. Although the days were hot the nights were colder than we had anticipated.

We then took a few backroads on the way to the showground at Willunga, through some very pretty country with Ks and Ks of stone fences and old stone farmhouses. Up to this point most of the country had been extremely dry and dusty, with many of the fields simply dust bowls.

The GEMBOREE opened to the public at 12 noon on Good Friday. The weather was good and there were plenty of Outside Traders as well as those in the Hall, which gave a wide variety of materials on which to spend money. Overall the GEMBOREE was well attended, with a lot of people through the gates. There was also a good flow-on of people from a huge organic food market in the park, close by, on the Saturday.

I believe there was a total of just over 700 entries in the various competition sections, with some very nice work on display.

Congratulations must go to all the winners, but especially to the Western Suburbs Lapidary Club who took out the trophy for Champion Club. Well done. The Northern Districts Lapidary Club did well, but only came away with one trophy this year, which was for Wire Wrapping, and won by Alice Zheng.

We assisted with the closing of the GEMBOREE on Monday before retiring to the caravan and preparing to leave the next morning.

On the homeward trip we travelled via Shepparton and Swan Hill, where we saw vast fields of grapes, olives, cotton and sorghum – all being irrigated from nearby Murray River. Butternut pumpkins also seemed to be a popular product, as there were bags and bags of them at the entrance gates to most properties.

From there it was an uneventful trip home until we got to Mittagong, where we were held up for over an hour because a truck had rolled over on the Hume Highway.

The next GEMBOREE – Easter 2019 – is in Rockhampton, so we hope to see more of you up there.

Safe travelling to all of you

Tony Try

Sydney Crystal Show

SYDNEY SHOWGROUND 12 MAY 2018

We invite Aussie and International mineral dealers, traders, fossickers, fossillers, miners, opal dealers, jewellers & prospectors to trade at the biggest rock show under one roof! Have a collection to sell? Or a bunch of Aussie minerals in the shed? Bring them here, we'll have the largest, most diverse crowds at the Sydney Crystal Show. ONE HUGE, ORESOME DAY!

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The following changes to the Manual were approved at the AFLACA J & R Meeting held on Saturday 31st March 2018 at Willunga SA.

All these changes were approved and become effective immediately.

First:

Page 71 of the Manual the following change has been made: the highlighted statement has been added to the manual in the appropriate place as shown below:

E10. GROUP 23: SECTIONS 23A TO 23D - COMBINED JEWELLERY. *In these Sections Metalwork must be partly Hand-Fabricated, partly Cast or partly Metal Clay. **Patterns, moulds and dies MUST ALL be made by the entrant unless using Natural Objects as Patterns which are also accepted.** Entries must conform with the Definitions in E2 and E4 on pages 63 and 65.*

And to the sections below

SECTION 23A: COMBINED JEWELLERY NOT INTENDED TO INCLUDE LAPIDARY, FOSSIL OR MINERAL ITEMS. *Entries must be entirely of metal, partly hand-fabricated and partly cast by the entrant. **ALL patterns, moulds and dies must be made by the entrant unless using Natural Objects as patterns which are also accepted.***

SECTION 23B: COMBINED JEWELLERY WITH LAPIDARY ITEM/S CUT AND SET BY ENTRANT. *Metalwork must be partly hand-fabricated and partly cast by the entrant. **ALL patterns, moulds and dies must be made by the entrant unless using Natural Objects as patterns which are also accepted.***

SECTION 23C: COMBINED JEWELLERY WITH NATURAL FOSSIL OR MINERAL SPECIMENS SET BY ENTRANT. *Metalwork must be partly hand- fabricated and partly cast by the entrant. **ALL patterns, moulds and dies must be made by the entrant unless using Natural Objects as patterns which are also accepted.***

SECTION 23D: COMBINED JEWELLERY WITH COMMERCIAL LAPIDARY ITEM/S SET BY ENTRANT. *Metalwork must be partly hand-fabricated and partly cast by the entrant. **ALL patterns, moulds and dies must be made by the entrant unless using Natural Objects as patterns which are also accepted.***

Second:

Faceting Changes:

D11.4.5 Page 44 the word “Continuous convex curve for the” to be added

11.4.5 **SECTION 8A - STANDARD BRILLIANT WITH CONTINUOUS GIRDLE:** *This is cut as per diagram below and has 3 rows of Facets on the Crown and 2 rows of Facets on the Pavilion, making 58 Facets (including Girdle Facet) and 41 Meets. It has a continuous convex curve for the girdle.*

Third:

Judging Sheets for Group 11 - Currently the judging sheet that is on the AFLACA website has additional words "Points Gained" off to the right hand side of the Judging sheet. This is not there for the judges but as a help only for the use of the back room calculators'. The meeting approved the use and it is to remain as it is.

Four:**Page 42 D11 .2 Judging Features**

b. **Outline of Girdle:** *The accuracy which has been achieved in cutting required Outline Shape. Tolerance up to 0.1mm allowed before deducting points.*

The Length to Width Ratio may only apply if stipulated by a Competition Committee as a Special Condition for Open Division - Only. It is to be calculated and judged within the above feature.

Also on Page 47 – Note the use of the "Length to Width Ratio" may only apply if stipulated by a Competition Committee as a Special Condition for Open Division – ONLY. And to be calculated using the judging feature - Outline of Girdle

Five:**Page 42 D11 .2 Judging Features**

The wording for part c be changed to include "If a design has a zig zag girdle, the highest points of the girdle are to be used to gauge the parallel plane"

C. **Table Parallel to Girdle Plane:** *This feature is judged by eye. Points are awarded/deducted depending on variation from parallel, up to maximum available. If a design has a zig zag girdle, the highest points of the girdle are used to gauge the parallel plane*

Six:**Page 43 D11 .2 Judging Features**

The wording for part m to be changed to include "or Apex as calculated and measured by the judge"

m. **Girdle Too Wide:** *A Girdle which, at its narrowest point, is more than 5% of the total height of the stone from the Culet to the Table or Apex as calculated and measured by the Judge, will lose all points for this feature. A Girdle which is too narrow to be assessed at 10X magnification is ineligible for Standard or Modified Standard Cut Sections. This is the only all-or-nothing Facet judging feature.*

CLUB NEWS

Email: editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

Northern Districts Lapidary Club have their Our mid-year dinner held after the June General Meeting. The event will be a Trivia Night with a South American theme.

Inverell Lapidary Club has been granted permission by Council to include camping on-site for the annual Gem and Craft Show. Permission has been given to allow for up to 15 campers for a 3-day period on an annual basis.



Lismore Lapidary Club had an Easter field trip to Emmaville. 23 members went on the trip. It was a huge success. Finds included crystal clusters and some smoky quartz. They are currently busy preparing for Gemfest on 19th and 20th May. No field trip in May. There is also no general meeting in May. Next filed trip is on the June long weekend to Lionsville. Details available after Gemfest.

Canberra Lapidary Club have their Winter show on 26th and 27th May. They have a day trip planned to Grabben Gullen Creek on May 20th. This field trip is for club members only, as it is on private property. Their Oscars Auction Night was a big success. More than a hundred items were up for auction, and only three not sold. Over \$2000 was raised on the night. The club had a field trip on 15th April to Yass. Material found included trilobites, graptolites and various corals. From this month on, they will again have a Gem Study Group - second Wednesday of the month in the club rooms at 10 a.m.

Northern Districts Lapidary Club have a field trip to Lightning Ridge Opal and Gem Festival. The trip is from the 26th July to the 29th July (inclusive), staying in the Opal caravan Park, Pandora St, Lightning Ridge.

Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectible and Lapidary Club have a field trip to Belatta from the 18th to the 20th May to look for petrified wood, agate and possibly topaz. Contact Ernst Holland on 0427373661 if you are interested in the trip.

Campbelltown & Districts Lapidary Club are preparing for their Exhibition on July 14 and 15. Their Glen Innes Field trip in April was a success. They went to Emmaville, had trips to Mt Torrington and Inverell. The filed trips included fossicking for sapphires and quartz and a night fossick with UV torches. They are also in need of a faceting machine.

EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

May

- 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 June-
1 July World of Craft, Melbourne Showgrounds, Vic

July

- 14 –15 Campbelltown & Districts Lapidary Club Exhibition
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

October

- 26th, 27th, 28th Northern Districts Lapidary Club 2018 Exhibiton

2019 GEMBOREE
55th gem, fossil, mineral and
jewellery show
will be in
Rockhampton, Qld
at Easter
19th to 22nd April
at the
Rockhampton Showgrounds