



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 188 Orange 2800. 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 (dec), 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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Assistant Treasurer	Arthur Roffey (Mineralogical Society)
Committee:	Sue O'Neil (Goulburn) Kathy Selwood (Orange) Alec Gardiner (Blaxland)

APPOINTMENTS

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Competition Judges	
Education Officer	
GEMBOREE Coordinator	
GEMKHANA Coordinator	Bob McLean
AFLACA delegates	Barbara Try (voting) and Tony Try (non-voting)
AFLACA J&R delegates	Barbara Try (voting) and Tony Try (non-voting)

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: August 28th

EDITOR'S NOTES

The article contributed by the Bathurst Stamp, Coin Collectables and Lapidary Club is a great example of how clubs can increase club membership and create interest in general lapidary based skills, in their local areas.

This would be of particular value if these workshops could be planned and run during school holidays.

Barbara Try—President Gem and lapidary Council of NSW Inc.

ADDRESSES

for the Gem & Lapidary Council NSW

Website : [http://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au /](http://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/)

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

Online edition of the newsletter is in colour.

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

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

DEADLINES:

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

Disclaimer:

Opinions expressed are those of the original authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, Gem & Lapidary Council, or its members. Persons acting on any opinion, advice, fact or advertisement published in this issue does so at their own risk.

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Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 24 th July 2019

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: Goulburn (Sue & Joe O'Neil), Central Coast (Tony Try), AFG (Col Wright), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane & Kim Cooke), Orange (Kathy Selwood), Port Hacking (Bo McLean and Tony Offord), Blaxland (Pamela & Alec Gardiner), Parramatta/Holroyd (Ray Powel), Western Suburbs (Ainslie & Shirley Flynn & Marcia Hill), Illawarra (Joan Zealey), Hawksbury Valley (P Beckwith)

Apologies: John Behrens.

Apologies. Moved Central Coast Seconded Blaxland.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (26th June 2019): Moved Hawksbury Valley seconded Goulburn that minutes be accepted.

Business Arising:

1. Gemboree Badge and trophy Design Chosen
2. Gemboree booklet front cover design accepted
3. Flyers for Cumberland show collected by Mick Lane
4. Invoice to Hawksbury Valley club sent
5. Invoices for extra news letters to be sent by Treasurer.

Business arising moved Illawarra seconded AFG.

Correspondence: Available. Not attached

Moved Orange seconded Parramatta Holroyd that Inward Correspondence be received, and Outward Correspondence be endorsed.

Business Arising:

1. Australian Facetors Guild limited delegates solved
2. GEMKHANA Registered name to be renewed email sent

Business arising from correspondence moved Orange second Parramatta Holroyd

Treasurer's Report:

General a/c: Inc \$0.18 Exp \$216.00 Bal at 30/6/19 \$2,268.46

GEMKHANA a/c: Inc \$750.96 Exp \$Nil Bal at 30/3/19 \$12,782.83

GEMBOREE a/c: Inc \$0.19 Exp \$Nil Bal at 30/6/19 \$2,591.54

Accounts for payment (Nil)

Moved Port Hacking seconded Western Suburbs that the report be accepted.

J&R Report:

1. 1 Judging for following Hunter Valley 17 th August the GEMKHANA to be 31st August. Central Coast 21st September Parramatta /Holroyd 3 rd

2. J&R Carving meeting called to discuss incised patterns on free form to be held on 4th August.
3. Northern District carving course date 3rd of August

***WEBMASTER: Is still urgently needed anyone interested please contact
Barbara Try.***

G&L NEWS: Nil

Education Report - See J&R report

Editors Report. Newsletter ready to go awaiting Minutes

GEMKHANA:

1. Only 7 clubs have taken free tables to sell or demonstrate
2. Treasurer to send flyers to all clubs not already supplied also to be sent out with newsletters.
3. Info centres within 200km radius of Richmond notified by Marcia Hill.
4. Food vendors CWA booked for inside & Travelling Barisa booked for outside.
5. Facebook advertising going well. 1500 likes so far and first family pass issued also to be on Instagram.
6. Australian Tourist Website has us listed in upcoming events.
7. Invite to all country club to come and camp for the show.
8. Mobile ATM to be Booked costing \$440.00 motion moved by Par-ramatta seconded Blue Mountains. - Agreed
9. Raffle one only to be drawn on Sunday afternoon.
10. Tables are ordered & PA system to be booked cost \$180.00.
11. Information to be collected from visitors, postcode & how they found out about show to be used for future advertising.

GEMBOREE: Mudgee 2022.

- Badge and trophy design plus booklet front cover chosen.
- Competition Schedule now at J&R for feedback.
- Mobile ATM to be arranged.
- Event insurance to be arranged 2020.
- Paperwork for Mudgee grants now on web

Reports received, moved Goulburn. seconded Hawkesbury Valley

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Trailer tyres to be checked and replaced as necessary before next registration.
- Colin Wright to proceed and order new banners and Bali sail signs.

General Business Moved Blue Mountains seconded Northern Districts.

Meeting dates 2019:

August 28th September 25th at 2pm at GEMKHANA set up

October 23rd November 27th December 11th AGM.

Meeting closed 2.55pm

Next meeting, August 28th, 2019 at 1pm at 73 Fullagar Road

Wentworthville.

It is with great regret that we inform you all that Joan Ball OAM, and Life Councillor, passed away on Saturday 20th July. Her funeral was held at the West Chapel Rookwood Cemetery on 29th July at 1.45pm.

JEWELLERY, GEMS

Crystals & Minerals

GEMKHANA 2019



9am - 5pm Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th September

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Hawkesbury District Agricultural Show Grounds

40 Racecourse Rd, Clarendon.

Traders will be offering:- Jewellery, Crystals, Minerals, Cut

Stones, Lapidary Equipment, Faceting Rough and Slabs.

Silver Work and Gem Cutting demonstrations.

Children's Activities.

Adults \$5

Children \$3

Families \$12

Contact Bob McLean gemkhana@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

<https://www.facebook.com/GemLapidaryCouncilNSW/>

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CLUB NEWS

Email: editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au .

Campbelltown District Lapidary Club had their 41st Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewellery Show on the 14th of July.

Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectible and Lapidary Club Paul Martensz has contributed an article about their Club's Junior Program. Paul is their Workshop Coordinator. If you are interested in any further information about the program, please contact him via email on martensz.paul@gmail.com , or on his Mobile: 0427 896 945

Beryl Eccles, a former member of Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club passed away in July. Her funeral was held on Monday 22nd, 2.00pm at Pinegrove Cemetery in the North Chapel. She will be greatly missed.

Parramatta Holroyd Lapidary Club had their Club General Meeting on 27th July. The Club's Annual General Election will be held on 24th August. The Club has been operating for 59 years. Members are encouraged to fill the vacated positions to ensure that it continues to stay open. Cataloguing and labelling of their rock collection has now been completed. The collection is comprised of contributions by members for the enjoyment and education of visitors to and members of the Club

Manning Great Lakes Gem & Mineral Club Inc— Bob Reed contacted the G&L Council recently with the sad news that the Club is in the process of folding up.

Lismore Gem and Lapidary Club had their AGM on August 11th. On August 18th, a fieldtrip was done out to red Rock, near Drake. There is a further field trip to Drake planned on 18th September.

Canberra Lapidary Club Inc. Had their last meeting in the Clubhouse, Tooms Place, Lyons on Thursday August 8, 2019. The Club had a field trip to Bredbo on 11th August.



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Junior Program for Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables & Lapidary Club Inc.

Preamble:

Following a review of Club Membership, it was decided to embark on a program to increase the membership of the club through a series of workshops aimed at student-age participants in the first instance and follow up with opportunities for adults who would otherwise be working.

Planning:

Initial planning aimed to produce a suitable workbook for students and to approach local primary schools to gauge possible interest. A workbook was produced and, following agreement by some of the local Primary Schools to include a flyer with their Newsletters, further advertising was done through the network of the club (emails), local radio interviews and newspaper.

Response:

Initial response was very positive and two workshops were arranged during the long summer break in 2017. Since then the club has successfully organised workshops in school holidays in 2018 and 2019 which have resulted in the increase in Junior Members hoped for when the idea was first proposed. The “spin-off” from these workshops has been an increase in younger adults (parents) who have shown interest in the skills of lapidary - so much so that the lapidary rooms opening times have been increased – initially for one Sunday per month and now to two Sundays per month.

The Main Points of the Junior Program:

1. Club members are performing the role of tutors – usually in a ratio of 1 tutor per participant. (This may increase if the age of the participants is high school age – 1 tutor per 2 students.)
2. Minimum age is 8 years old. Parents who want to accompany the younger age children are welcome to come along.
3. Prior to the workshop, tutors are instructed to follow the workbook steps with their students so all are “on the same page”.
4. The workshops run for two days – 9.00am to about 3.00pm on each day.

5. The club supplies morning tea, and the students bring their own lunch.
6. A general introduction to the processes involved in lapidary (cabochon making) is given initially by the workshop coordinator which covers the workbook, safety rules and general information.
7. Use of machines:

ALL TUTORS ARE WITH THEIR STUDENT THROUGH THE WHOLE PROCEDURE

- a. Tutors demonstrates each step of the process – including the use of the trim saw, grinding machines, and polishing up to the 3000 wheel.
- b. Students are given the opportunity to grind and polish during the production of their first cabochon.

Once students have begun to develop their confidence, they have the opportunity to use the trim saw and to do their own dopping. Students must ask before they are given the 'okay' to carry out these processes – permission is given depending on if the tutor thinks they are competent enough to do the process with safety.

8. Most students complete two or three cabochons during the workshop period.
9. Opportunity is given for students to attach bails or a finding to their completed cabochon(s).

As part of the cost of the Holiday Workshops, students become Junior Members of the club. This allows communication with these members regarding club events and activities that may be of interest to them. Junior members are also encouraged to produce works for the local Royal Bathurst Show each year in which there is a Junior Section within Lapidary. As a result of the club's program, there has been a noticeable increase in entries to the Show as well as in the club's membership.

Future plans for advanced classes in Cabochon making, setting of already made cabochons and skills in polishing are being made so that the club members, including the Juniors can continue to develop further skills in lapidary.

Paul Martensz

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The Emerald Story – The Largest Emerald Found in NSW – 5.75 carats

This emerald was found in 1993 at a locality at Torrington called “Fielders Hill”. It was found in a pegmatite that had reached the surface. This pegmatite occurred in the centre of a “Fire Trail” in the local area and bushland at Torrington NSW. The fact that emeralds had been found in this area had been kept secret, but after persistence in putting together small clues we had discovered we finally found this spot by trial and error. This particular pegmatite was in the centre of a bush trail where we had found very tiny beryl/emerald crystals in one place only. We figured that many years back when the fire trail had been made the “Grader” blade had scraped the top of this deposit and pushed it in a North-Easterly direction. I decided to dig where the scrapings stopped / or began and found the quality larger stone in a crystal form about half metre down. The pegmatite went to a total depth of 4 metres before it reached the Quartzite floor.





This pegmatite was about 9 metres in length and after digging a rather large hole in the middle of the road back then and making anybody turning up use the side track we had made, we eventually took in a total of 9 kilo of emerald and beryl crystals of various quality. They were eventually called “Tiger Emeralds” because they had stripes of green in some of them. The cut stone was one of the larger crystals, which was as thick as your little finger in the rough. There were also a number of other quality emeralds in matrix which were found.

A year or so after we had dug at this site, a local from Torrington put a lease over it. However, we had stopped digging back then because the emeralds kind of ran out the more we dug to the south. But we knew there could still be stones to the north side of where we were digging. The local from Torrington used an excavator on this site and dug a large deep swimming pool sized hole at this site. While we did hear that they found emeralds, it was apparently not the same quantity that we initially found in 1993.

Terry Vanhoff

EVENTS

Date	Event / Details
<u>AUGUST</u>	Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club Inc Annual Gem Show
Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th	Glenbrook Community Hall, Great Western Hwy, Glenbrook 8am to 4pm both days
<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	GEMKHANA 2019
Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th	Hawkesbury District Agricultural Showgrounds 40 Racecourse Rd, Clarendon 9am to 5pm both days
<u>OCTOBER</u>	Central Coast Lapidary Club Annual Gem Show
12th and 13th 9am start \$2 entry fee	Mingara Recreational Club, 12—14 Mingara Dr, Tumby Umbi Huge range of Lapidary items for sale—a beading table—Displays of fossils, gemstones, jewellery and raw and polished minerals;- and of the Club's work
Saturday 19th 9am to 2pm	Campbelltown Lapidary Club Open Day Lot 1, Bensley Rd, Hazlett Oval, Macquarie Fields
<u>NOVEMBER</u>	Illawarra lapidary Club Jewellery, Gems and Mineral Festival
Sat 2nd—9am to 4pm Sun 3rd—9am to 2.30pm	Heininger Hall, 109 Princes Hwy Dapto (Part of the Ribbonwood Centre) \$2 entry fee
Sat 9th—9am to 4pm Sun 10th—9am to 3pm FREE ENTRY AND PARKING	Newcastle Lapidary Gem and Jewellery Fair Newcastle Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC), Young Road and Melbourne Road Broadmeadow NSW Sales of jewellery, gemstones, rocks, beads, tools and related items—Displays of club activities and demonstrations of lapidary, faceting & jewellery making.