



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
Senior Vice President	Colin Wright (AFG)
Vice president	Tony Try (Central Coast)
Secretary	Kathy Selwood (Orange) 6362 7917 secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au
Minutes Secretary	Mick Lane (Blue Mountains)
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Assistant Treasurer	Tony Offord (Port Hacking)
Committee:	Sue O'Neil (Goulburn) Joan Zealey (Illawarra) Marcia Hill (Western Suburbs)

APPOINTMENTS

Public Officer	John Behrens
Auditor	Colin Russell
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Equipment Officer	John Behrens
G&L News Mailman	Sue O'Neil
Education Officer	Vacant
GEMBOREE Coordinator	2022—Tony Offord
GEMKHANA Coordinator	Bob McLean with Tony Offord
AFLACA delegates	Barbara Try (voting) and Tony Try (non-voting)
AFLACA J&R delegates	Barbara Try (voting) and Colin Wright (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: February 26th 2020 at 1pm

EDITOR'S NOTES

Welcome back to another year of G&L News

We hope that you all had a safe and happy Christmas / New Year break.

Looking forward to seeing your articles in the coming months.

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.

Contents	Page(s)
G & L Council Information	2 & 3
Meeting Minutes	4, & 5
“A” is for amber—an article by Tony Try	6
GLC GEMKHANA flyer	7
Request for Webmaster applicants	9
Club news	10
Events	12



Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 22nd January 2020

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) Orange (Kathy Selwood) Port Hacking (Tony Offord & Bob McLean) Parramatta/Holroyd (John Behrens) Illawarra (Joan Zealey)

Apologies: Marcia Hill. Peter Beckwith. Pam & Alec Gardiner. Kim Cooke. Shirley & Ainslie Flynn

Apologies. Moved AFG Seconded Parramatta/Holroyd

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (11th December 2019)

Moved Goulburn. Seconded Port Hacking that minutes be accepted.

Business Arising:

1. Suggest that a help! Box be placed in G&L News for a Webmaster add.
2. A review of Judges has been done Accreditation certificates were presented to Sue O’Neil and Kathy Selwood plus one other for Parramatta delegate to be passed on.
3. A Cabochon judging course to be run May or June after the GEMBOREE
4. Cost for recalibrating of tagging machine Mick lane to follow up. Done cost \$109.00

Business arising moved Goulburn. Seconded Port Hacking.

Correspondence: List available—not attached.

Moved Orange seconded Blue Mountains that Inward Correspondence be received, and Outward Correspondence be endorsed.

Treasurer’s Report:

General a/c: Inc \$1,000 Exp \$1,704.37 Bal at 31/12/2019 \$135.74
 GEMKHANA a/c: Inc \$1.04 Exp \$1,000.00 Bal at 31/12/19 \$11,572.76
 GEMBOREE a/c: Inc \$0.22 Exp \$Nil Bal at 31/12/19 \$2,592.82
 Accounts for payment (Nil)

Moved Port Hacking. Seconded Illawarra that the report be accepted.

J&R Report:

1. AFG have requested amendments to manual to be put to AFLACA meeting at Albury.
2. Minor adjustments to be made to schedule due to errors occurring when changing computer programs.

Webmaster still urgently needed anyone interested please contact Barbara Try.

G&L NEWS: Nil

Education Report:

1. Illawarra carving course 25th & 26th April
2. Grafton Enamelling course to be arranged early 2020.

Facebook:

Kim is researching a list of possible Gold Equipment Suppliers, for invitation to attend the next GEMKHANA. If successful, this will be promoted on social media.

GEMKHANA

1. Leaflet draft to be completed.
2. To be rebooked for 26th & 27th September
3. All clubs to be offered 1X 8ft table — clubs to provide own back tables
4. Table drapes to be replaced Mick to obtain sample.

GEMBOREE: Mudgee 2022.

- Competition Schedule to be ratified at Albury GEMBOREE
- Event insurance to be arranged, Webster to be contacted 2020-1
- Paperwork on web for Mudgee grants Web to be checked.
- Allan McRae to be approached re booklet.

Reports received Central Coast seconded Blue Mountains

GENERAL BUSINESS: Nil.

General Business Moved Goulburn Seconded Port Hacking.

Meeting dates for 2020

January 22nd February 26th March 25th
 April no meeting due to GEMBOREE
 May 27th June 24th July 22nd August 26th,
 Sept 23rd at GEMKHANA
 October 28th, November 25th December 9th + AGM.

“A” is for Amber

While Amber is often thought of as a gemstone, it really is NOT one.

It is a resin from ancient evergreen trees that has been fossilized. Apparently, the oldest Amber discovered to date is about 320 million years old.

Ancient civilizations and cultures have used Amber for a variety of reasons, and have attributed many “properties” and values to it. The fact that insects have been trapped and fossilized in the Amber also adds to its appeal. The most popular and available Amber pieces come in warm colours such as yellow, orange and a sunny brown colour, which is why it was considered to be a “stone” of the sun. While these are the most common colours it also comes in naturally coloured pieces of blue, green and red. These pieces are much more rare. In the jewellery industry today what is also available are items made entirely of man-made plastic and the real Amber, which has been artificially coloured. Unfortunately, to the untrained eye, these imitations look very real.

The main supply of Amber comes from the Baltic countries in Northern Europe, and the Dominican Republic is a good source of the rare and highly prized blue Amber.

Over the centuries Amber has been attributed with many properties. It was considered to be the “soul of the tiger” in Asian cultures and as the “stone” of courage, so was often worn for protection while on long travels.

Amber is also said to have many healing properties such as –

- Balancing emotions
- Attracting good luck
- Eliminating fears
- Relieving headaches
- Clearing the mind
- Dissolving negative energy, and helping to
- Develop patience and energy.

For those persons interested in birthstones, Amber is considered by some to be the birthstone of the astrological sign of Cancer.

Tony Try.

[Some of the information in these notes was extracted from an article by Rodika Tchi dated 10/10/19]



GEM & LAPIDARY COUNCIL OF N.S.W.INC.

2020 NSW GEMKHANA

After a record number of Traders, Visitors and competition entries last year we have decided to hold the event again at the Hawkesbury Showground on the **26th & 27th September 2020.**

THIS IS A CHALLENGE TO ALL NSW CLUBS to support this event and encourage your members to compete in the competition.

Interstate Clubs are also welcome to enter

The Competition schedule is available to download from the G&L Council's website. [Entries close on the 14th August 2020.](#)

In the competition, there are various levels of achievements and skill sets to enter, so you do not necessarily have to compete against the "best of the best". It's now time to prepare, support and encourage your members to achieve the next step with their craft.

So be proud of what YOU have done regardless of your perception of your skill level and enter.

YOU MAY BE PLEASANTLY SURPRISED AND WIN A PRIZE.

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HELP NEEDED

WEBMASTER REQUIRED

PLEASE CONTACT

BARBARA TRY

0417 676 435

TUTORIAL & ASSISTANCE WILL BE GIVEN

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT MUST HAVE

SOME COMPUTER SKILLS

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CLUB NEWS

Email: editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au .

Parramatta—Holroyd Lapidary Cub Inc. Will be holding a lapidary sale of the Arthur Roffey mineral collection on 15th and 16th February. Please see notice on page 11 for details.

Long time member of Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club member, Betty Strehe, passed away in January. Her funeral was held on 28th January at the Guardian Funeral Home in Blacktown, at 10.30am.

Illawarra lapidary Club have their rock Swap on 23rd February. For details, please see the Events page. Dichroic glass firing is due to start a little later in the year—possibly in March.

Canberra Lapidary Club's December Field trip to a private property to look for Haematite was a great success. February's field trip details are not yet decided. They have their rock Swap on 28th and 29th February at Epic Park. See Events page for details.

Inverell and District Lapidary Club have a new social event -Art on the Rocks. People who are interested in joining in need to be members, for insurance purposes. Contact Pattie on 6721 4463 if interested. Plans for the Club's annual field trip are currently on hold. Details will be announced later in the year. Faceting and cabbing classes are available Sundays 9—2.

Bateman's Bay Lapidary Club sadly lost the use of their workshop, due to the recent fires. The contents of the workshop were removed as a precaution before the fires went through. They are currently working out of a temporary venue and are looking to set up a new site within the Eurobadalla Shire.

*Arthur Roffey's Mineral Collection
for sale*

Saturday 15th February 10am—4pm

Sunday 16th February 10am—2pm

*The collection of the late Arthur Roffey, collected over 40 years, is
now for sale.*

Specimens priced individually, from \$5

Parramatta—Holroyd Lapidary Club

73 Fullager Rd Wentworthville.

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February 2020

G&L News

DATE

EVENT

February 2020

***ILLAWARRA Lapidary Club Inc. Rock and Mineral
Fair***

23rd

8 am - 2 pm

Stuart Park, North Wollongong

“Kid’s Rock
Scramble” at 12
noon

Club members and others will be selling Jewellery,
Gemstones, Cabochons, Minerals, Opals, Findings,
Beads Fossils and possibly some Lapidary equip-
ment.

For more information contact John on 0242675618

March 2020

CAMPBELLTOWN Lapidary Club Open Day

21st

Lot 1 Bensley Rd Hazlett Oval, Macquarie Fields

9 am - 3 pm

Entry: Free

Rocks, Crystals, Gemstones, Fossils, Rough, Hand-
crafted Jewellery and market stalls— Family event –
all ages welcome

Sausage Sizzle, homemade cakes and slices, Hot and
cold drinks.

28th and 29th

Canberra lapidary Club Rock swap

Exhibition Park (Wagtail Way) Camping ground

Free entry

Web : www.canberralapidary.org.au

Email : canberralapidary@gmail.com

Ph : 02 6260 5322 (Workshop)