



Gem & Lapidary News
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Gem & Lapidary News is the official publication of the Gem and Lapidary Council of NSW 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 (dec), 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)
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Committee:	Sue O'Neil (Goulburn) Joan Zealey (Illawarra) Marcia Hill (Western Suburbs)

APPOINTMENTS

Public Officer	John Behrens
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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: August 26th 2020 at 1pm

EDITOR'S NOTES

It is with regret we have to announce that the GEMKHANA 2020 will not be going ahead. We look forward to 2021 as being a bigger and better year.

Stay safe and take all the necessary precautions.

Barbara Try

President

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

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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 22nd July 2020

held via delegate's computers and Zoom

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), Orange (Kathy Selwood) Port Hacking (Tony Offord & Bob McLean), Parramatta/Holroyd (John Behrens), Western Suburbs (Ainslie Flynn , Marcia Hill), Hawkesbury (Peter Beckwith), Blue Mountains (Kim Cooke), AFG (Col Wright), Illawarra (Joan Zealey)

Apologies: Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane)

Apologies - Moved Port Hacking, Seconded Western Suburbs

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (24 June 2020):

Moved Central Coast seconded Parramatta/Holroyd that minutes be accepted.

Business Arising:

1. Peter to check on Hawkesbury club postal address, mail coming back as box closed.
2. AFG Trophy sponsorship letter emailed.

Business arising moved Illawarra seconded AFG.

Correspondence: Not attached. Copies available

Moved Orange seconded Central Coast that Inward Correspondence be received, and Outward Correspondence be endorsed.

Business Arising:

- Opal carver from Grawin –

Motion: To inform clubs that Margaret has volunteered to teach carving in opal and if clubs are interested to contact her.

Carried

Business arising from correspondence— moved Orange second Goulburn.

Treasurer's Report:

General a/c:	Inc \$40.01	Exp \$203.90	Bal at 30/06/2020 \$130.81
GEMKHANA a/c:	Inc \$1.00	Exp \$0.00	Bal at 30/04/2020 \$1,140.55
GEMBOREE a/c:	Inc 60.22	Exp \$0.00	Bal at 30/04/2020 \$2,654.808

Accounts for payment:

Postage GEMBOREE Tassie booklets,

Moved Port Hacking seconded Hawkesbury that the report be accepted.

J&R Report:

GEMKHANA competition judging from home– for judge's virus precautions with instructions will be done before items are sent.

Webmaster: No report

G&L NEWS Editor: Bob to send out invoices to advertisers.

Education Report:

The Enamelling workshop for Grafton, still going at the end of September if it can.

Facebook: No report waiting advice

Mail Person: See general business

GEMKHANA

NO GO. 9 voted no, 1 abstention

GEMBOREE: Mudjee 2022.

- Event insurance to be arranged 2020-1
- Paperwork on web for Mudjee grants Web to be checked.
- Donations and sponsors to be acknowledged in booklet
- Positions: Camp site Manager Registrar– Illawarra, what P.O. Box to be used?
- Field Trips maybe maps
- A PO Box to be arranged for competition entries closer to November
- Trophies contacted, waiting on date.
- Advertising email & traders prices sent
- Check forms are correct before printing booklet.

Reports received Hawkesbury, seconded Port Hacking

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Printing Report \$34.95 spent on postage, \$252.57 left, labels being printed at present.
2. Special meeting Re: GEMKHANA on 15 July 2020 approved no errors moved, AFG seconded Central Coast.
3. Special Meeting Re: Changes to the Constitution on 24 June 2020, minutes to go to Fair Trading approved no errors moved Hawkesbury seconded Port Hacking

General Business Moved Parramatta/Holroyd Seconded Illawarra.

Meeting closed 1.35pm

Next meeting: August 26th at 1pm at this point Zoom on computers.

Meeting dates for 2020: Sept 23 rd, October 28th, November 25th, December 9th + AGM.

CLUB NEWS

Email: editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables & Lapidary Club Inc., have Student Holiday Lapidary Workshops on Sept 28th and 29th and on Oct 8th and 9th, CONTACT: Paul Martensz 63321017 or 0427 896 945 or email martensz.paul@gmail.com for Registration and Payment details.

A Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables & Lapidary Club Inc. club member,

Dr Lawrence Joseph Sherwin passed away earlier this year. His funeral was on 11th June 2020. He will be greatly missed.

Canberra Lapidary Club;

Lismore Lapidary Gem & Lapidary Club Inc;

Grafton Gem and lapidary Club;

Western Suburbs lapidary Club;

Goulburn Gem and Lapidary Club;

Northern Districts Lapidary Club;

and **Port Hacking Lapidary Club** are also operating with strict adherence to social distancing and sanitizing procedures.

Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc., are hoping to have the Club open for activities in September. They have taken the decision to cancel the Club's Open day and Exhibition, scheduled in November.

Central Coast Lapidary Club will reopen after some maintenance has been done to their premises.

***Margaret Whish-Wilson**, an opal carver from Grawin, is offering her services to teach people to clean/carve/polish opal using a flex shaft if any Clubs are interested you can contact Margaret on 0407 148 105 or email on margscarving@gmail.com*



GEMKHANA COMPETITION 2020

ATTENTION:

It is very unfortunate that the GEMKHANA 2020 will NOT be taking place. This is due to COVID-19 and the necessary restrictions to keep everyone safe.

However, the 2020 GEMKHANA competition will go ahead no matter what further restriction are applied. Unfortunately, those entries that were required to be delivered to the venue on Friday 25 September 2020, will not be eligible (Sections: 5, 16, 17, 29, 32, &34)

To all those members that are fortunate to have their own machinery, this is a great opportunity to fill in those long days of isolation/ lockdown and complete those entries and support the competition.

Entries close 14 th August (schedule available on the web site)

Hope you can support the competition.

Colin Wright

Competition Co-ordinator

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VALE NELSON ROBERTSON

Nelson was born in Yass in 1927. The family moved to Enfield 8 years later. He was educated at Enmore Activity School where he was school captain. Nelson started work with the Tramways as an Electrical fitting apprentice. He worked in several areas and at the instrument shop he concentrated on fine detail and in the drawing office he developed an eye for design. He was required to make his own tools using lathes and milling machines. Nelson's foreman had a small jewellery business on the side and Nelson was the craftsman ...on the side.

In 1962 Nelson and Gwen decided that caravanning was the affordable holiday that they and their 8 year old twins would enjoy. So began the collection and fascination with rocks. Nelson decided to attend Chatswood Evening College Geology class to understand more about the rocks he was collecting. In 1974 Nelson and Gwen spent 6 months travelling around Australia, Gwen enjoying the landscapes for painting and Nelson enjoying the landscape for the rocks he found and understood and now collected with discrimination.

In 1975 Nelson joined Greenwich Gem Club and served as President from 1981-1990 and was subsequently made a Life Member. Nelson became a Cabochon Judge in 1979 and a Faceting Judge in 1980 and was also a judge in Carving and Scrimshaw as well as Jewellery and Metalcraft.

Nelson joined the Australian Facetor's Guild in 1984. He served in many positions for AFG and was their representative on the Judges and Rules Committee of the Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW and was the representative to AFLACA for many years. Nelson was involved in the organisation of the International Faceting Competitions from 1990 to 2000. He was awarded life membership of the AFG in 2006. Nelson has been a Tutor and Education Officer for the Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW in all aspects of his craft. He travelled far and wide to give workshops before and after GEMBOREE's as well as to any club that requested a course. He also ran numerous courses for those who wished to become a judge.

Continued next page

When Nelson and Gwen retired to the Central Coast in 1994 has soon found himself involved in the Central Coast Lapidary Club. He was asked in 1996 to become a patron and he accepted with pleasure. Nelson gave so much of his time to our club instructing in carving, scrimshaw, faceting, jewellery making and cuttlefish casting. He ran a course over 2 weekends for those members who wished to be jewellery instructors. He was always a regular at the judging days for our festival. Nelson always gave his time to our annual festival bringing a showcase with his carving and scrimshaw plus demonstrating on all days. Nelson was so generous with his time and knowledge. Nelson was also made a Life Member of Central Coast Lapidary Club.

He will truly be missed by all at our club.

Annette Clarke - Central Coast Lapidary Club Inc.

Snippets taken from "Splinters and Threads" produced by Wyong Shire Council 2010 and Facet Talk 150

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EVENTS

Information on which events are going ahead and which have been cancelled, can be found on the following link:

<https://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/events/>

⇒ Northern Districts Lapidary Club

31st October and 1st November 2020.

Planned Biennial Exhibition—Has been **CANCELLED**

⇒ Canberra Lapidary Club

New dates for Rock Swap next year. Now to be held on 13th & 14th March 2021



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