



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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Assistant Treasurer	Tony Offord (Port Hacking)
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: July 22nd 2020 at 1pm

EDITOR'S NOTES

Any Club that need copies of the GEMBOREE 2021 Booklet, please contact the G & L Council and they will be sent to you.

Barbara Try -President G&L Council NSW

It's wonderful to be able to include news of Clubs reopening and holding classes and events. We hope everyone is safe and well and The Council is looking forward to hearing more of your adventures. Suzanne

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 June 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)

Apologies: Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane, Kim Cooke), AFG (Col Wright), Illawarra (Joan Zealey),

Apologies: Moved Central Coast, Seconded Hawkesbury

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (27 May 2020):

Amendment GEMKHANA 94 cents not dollars in treasurers report.

Moved Western Suburbs seconded Orange that minutes be accepted with amendment.

Business Arising:

1. Amendments to G & L Constitution passed by delegates but need to be sent / emailed to Clubs for comment. Held after this meeting
2. Trophy sponsorship letters see correspondence.

Business arising moved Western Suburbs seconded Orange.

Correspondence: Not attached. Copies available

Moved Orange seconded Goulburn that Inward Correspondence be received, and Outward

Correspondence be endorsed.

Business Arising:

- Up to date mailing or email address for four postal address – 2 found, 2 being investigated

Business arising from correspondence moved Orange second Central Coast.

Treasurer’s Report:

General a/c: Inc \$0.05 Exp \$405.00	Bal at 30/04/2020 \$294.70
GEMKHANA a/c: Inc \$0.91 Exp \$0.00	Bal at 30/04/2020 \$11,479.55
GEMBOREE a/c: Inc \$0.20 Exp \$0.00	Bal at 30/04/2020 \$2,593.86
Accounts for payment:	Web \$203.90,

Moved Port Hacking seconded Hawkesbury that the report be accepted.

J&R Report:

GEMKHANA competition Judging – for judges- arrangements changed due to virus restrictions.

Webmaster: No report

G&L NEWS Editor: No report

Education Report:

The Enamelling workshop for Grafton will finally take place at the end of September.

Facebook: No report

GEMKHANA

- On hold waiting on information from Showground. Special meeting on 15 July.

GEMBOREE: Mudgee 2022.

- Event insurance to be arranged 2020-1
- Paperwork on web for Mudgee grants Web to be checked.
- Donations and sponsors to be acknowledged in booklet
- Positions: Camp site Manager Registrar– Illawarra has accepted
- Field Trips maybe maps
- A PO Box to be arranged for competition entries
- Trophies contacted, waiting on date.
- Advertising email & traders prices sent

Reports received Western Suburbs, seconded Port Hacking

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Hawkesbury postal address to be sorted out.

Mailperson: - Newsletter printing dropped to 45 from 50. Minutes being printed is now 13. 100 prepaid envelopes have been purchased at the cost of \$121.50 and labels are now required. Still sufficient funds for the time being. Late entry due to Zoom communication problem with Goulburn.

General Business Moved Orange Seconded Central Coast.

Meeting closed 1.32pm

Next meeting, July 22nd, at 1pm at this point Zoom on computers.

Meeting dates for 2020:

August 26th, Sept 23rd, at GEMKHANA, October 28th, November 25th,

December 9th + AGM.

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Special Meeting Regarding Amendments to G & L Constitution**24 June 2020 via zoom**

The meeting was opened at 1.33pm 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)

Apologies: Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane, Kim Cooke), AFG (Col Wright), Illawarra (Joan Zealey),

Business: Amendments to the Constitution

The Committee is proposing a minor amendment to Clause 42 "Financial Year".

At present the date of our financial year is 1st October to 30th September and our GEMKHANA Event occurs on or near that date and all profit or loss are not shown in that calendar year and are carried over to the following year.

The Committee's proposal for financial year date is 1st November to 31st October, this will be approximately 1 month prior to our AGM which would allow the Treasurer and Auditor enough time to prepare the financial statement.

In accordance with Fair Trading requirements we are to provide all members 28 days' notice of this proposal and we seek your approval or otherwise to proceed with this amendment.

Amendment put to meeting: carried, 24.06.2020 at 1.35pm

Meeting closed 1.36pm

Birthstone for July

Rubies, the birthstone of July, are considered the king of gems and represent love, health, and wisdom. It was believed wearing a fine red **Ruby** bestowed good fortune on its owner. A **Ruby** is the most valuable gemstone and its value increases based on its colour and quality.



Birthstones by Time Frame

Month	15 th – 20 th Century	Modern History
July	Turquoise, onyx	Ruby

Large, gem-quality rubies can be **more valuable than** comparably sized **diamonds** and are certainly rarer. In fact, smaller blue sapphires (1-3 cts) are relatively abundant compared to small, gem-quality rubies. As a result, even small rubies have relatively high values. Origin and colour greatly affect the value of a **ruby**.

Is Ruby a Lucky stone? Sun governs the Leo sign thus it is considered as the birthstone of Leo sign. Hence, those individuals whose zodiac sign is Leo must wear gemstone **ruby** to secure enormous benefits that are being provided by the sun. It offers good health, fortune, wealth, prosperity, and gain in business.



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

2020 NSW GEMKHANA

A special meeting on 15th July will decide whether the 2020 GEMKHANA will go ahead. This will depend on the NSW Government's stage 3 restrictions that should be announced at that time.

THIS IS A CHALLENGE TO ALL NSW CLUBS

The competition will still proceed, and we ask for your support to encourage your members to compete in the competition.

“Interstate Clubs are also welcome to enter. The Competition schedule is available to download from the 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.

“F” is for Fluorite

Fluorite is the mineral form of calcium fluoride, CaF_2 . It belongs to the halide minerals. It crystallizes in isometric cubic habit, with clusters that are similar to that of pyrites, although the Fluorite crystals can normally be much larger than that of pyrites, Fluorite comes in a wide range of colours ie.Green, Blue, Purple, Yellow, Black, White, Pink, Red, Orange , Brown. It is the only common mineral that has four directions of perfect cleavage, often breaking into pieces with the shape of an octahedron.

Most Fluorite occurs as vein fillings in rocks that have been subjected to hydrothermal activity. These veins often contain metallic ores which can include sulfides of tin, silver, lead, zinc, copper, and other metals. Fluorite is also found in the fractures and vugs of some limestones and dolomites.

There are numerous uses in the metallurgical, ceramics, and chemical industries. It is a source of fluorine, hydrofluoric acid and, metallurgical flux. High-clarity pieces are used to make lenses for microscopes, telescopes, and cameras.

In 1852, George Gabriel Stokes discovered the ability of specimens of Fluorite to produce a blue glow when illuminated with light, which in his words was “beyond the violet end of the spectrum” He called this phenomenon “fluorescence” after the mineral Fluorite. The name gained wide acceptance in mineralogy, gemmology, biology, optics, commercial lighting, and many other fields.

Specimens of Fluorite with exceptional colour and clarity are often used by lapidaries to cut gemstones and make ornamental objects. High-quality specimens of Fluorite make beautiful faceted stones; however, the mineral is so soft and cleaves so easily that these stones are either sold as collector's specimens or used in jewellery that will not be subjected to impact or abrasion. Fluorite is also cut and carved into ornamental objects such as small figurines and vases. These are often treated with a coating or impregnation to enhance their stability and protect them from scratches.

There is little or no specific production of Fluorite in Australia. While there are many known small deposits in Australia most are of insufficient size to warrant large scale development. However, a large, high-grade Fluorite deposit at Speewah, in the eastern Kimberley region of Western Australia, is the subject of a proposal by Mineral Securities Ltd to produce fluor-spar concentrate for the export market. This project has yet to begin production.

Known as the "Genius Stone," Fluorite represents the highest state of mental achievement, boosting aptitude and discernment, the absorption of new information, and helping one work through complex issues. [It has been suggested that I need to get some !!]

Tony Try

[Information has been taken from a wide range of sources]

Private Mineral & Crystal Collection for Sale.

All museum grade pieces.

Large (max 29kg) to small sized pieces, including facet grade sapphires and zircons. Specimens include: opals, pyrites, quartz, petrified wood, gypsum, calcite, malachite, azurite, molybdenite, magnetite, sulphur, mirror tin

Exotic pieces from all around the world!

Peru, India, USA, Mexico, Madagascar, Afghanistan, Africa, China, Germany, Poland. Many Australian and NSW pieces.

Part of collection is Pre WWII!

Full collection is photographed. Please email Dans assistant, Kristi-Ellen, on kristi.ellenn@gmail.com for photos of collection. Photos DO NOT do these crystals justice, they are more amazing in person.

First time this collection is up for sale. Price is firm.

\$65,000 AUD.

The collection is based in Inverell NSW 2360.

Inspection and collection in Inverell.

First in best dressed.

No holds.

Don't miss out on this opportunity!!!!!!!

Contact Dan ASAP on 0428 403 697 for any inquiries or questions.

Vale Evelyn Young

EVELYN ELEANOR YOUNG OAM - 10 October 1928 - 5 June 2020 Widow of Graham (dec, 2011) mother of Linda and Joanna. She died peacefully in Canberra after 6 years in care. Evelyn was a geologist who spent her last days at Villaggio S. Antonio, Page ACT . She had a keen interest in gemology and was very involved in the club when it moved to its current location and was our special guest at the club opening. With her husband Graham. they always had a stall at our Gem shows and when she went into the nursing home the club received a substantial donation of good quality minerals with lots of eggs and spheres. Evelyn was a Librarian at the Bureau of Mineral resources (BMR) now Geosciences Australia.

Vale Mary Sneddon

Mary Elizabeth Sneddon - 7 February 1941 - 19 June 2020, Died peacefully at Bu-pa Aged Care, Stirling.

Much loved - wife of John, who together had a stall at our gem shows a number of years ago. Mary will be remembered for her delicious cooking and her highly creative and artistic works.

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CLUB NEWS

Email: editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

Canerra Lapidary Club has reopened in a limited capacity. The Club is not having social events, but some classes have recommenced. Two club members have passed away. Rock Swap dates for next year are in March, as listed on the events page.

Lismore Lapidary Gem & Lapidary Club Inc. had a special meeting in mid-June and a decision was taken to reopen the Club. Activities will recommence on Tuesday 7th July.

Grafton Gem and lapidary Club; Western Suburbs lapidary Club , Goulburn Gem and Lapidary Club, and **Port Hacking Lapidary Club** , are operating with strict adherence to social distancing and sanitizing procedures. **Central Coast Lapidary Club** will reopen after some maintenance has been done to their premises.

Northern Districts Lapidary Club is open and plan to hold their Biennial Exhibition on 31st October this year. See Events page for details.

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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/Gemkhana news](https://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/events/Gemkhana%20news)

⇒ GEMKHANA

The Competition Schedule can be found on the following link:

<https://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/GEMKHANA-2020-Competition-Schedule-v4-14-04-2020.pdf>

⇒ Northern Districts Lapidary Club

are still planning to hold their Biennial Exhibition on the 31st October and 1st November 2020.

The exhibition will (if Covid 19 restrictions allow) be held in the Beecroft Community Centre, Cnr Copeland Road and Beecroft Road.

Times: 9am to 5pm both days.

⇒ Canberra Lapidary Club

The dates for Rock Swap next year have changed due to COVID-19 and EPIC. Now to be held on 13th & 14th March 2021