



**Gem & Lapidary News**  
**September**  
**2020**

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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: September 23rd 2020 at 1pm**

## EDITOR'S NOTES

**For any Club that would like more GEMBOREE 2021 Booklets:**

Please contact Barbara Try via email ([twotrys@bigpond.net.au](mailto:twotrys@bigpond.net.au))

or

Phone 02 43 93 6168 or 0417 676 435.

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## 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

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## 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](mailto:editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au)**

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## 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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### 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 26 August 2020****held via delegate's computers and Zoom**

The meeting was opened at 1:05pm 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) Western Suburbs (Ainslie Flynn, Marcia Hill), Illawarra (Joan Zealey),

Apologies: Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane) Port Hacking (Bob McLean & Tony Offord), Hawkesbury (Peter Beckwith), Blue Mountains (Kim Cooke), AFG (Col Wright), Parramatta/Holroyd (John Behrens).

Apologies: Moved Central Coast, Seconded Goulburn

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (22 July 2020):

Moved Illawarra seconded Western Suburbs, that minutes be accepted.

Business Arising:

1. Peter to check on Hawkesbury club postal address, mail coming back as box closed.

*Business arising moved Orange seconded Goulburn.*

**Correspondence:** Not attached. Copies available

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

Business Arising:

1. Webster quotes:- meeting choose option 2

Limit of Indemnity

\$ 2,000,000 Any One Claim

\$ 4,000,000 In the Aggregate

Deductible

\$ 5,000 Each & Every Claim

Annual Premium \$2,141.73

*Business arising from correspondence moved Orange second Central Coast.*

**Treasurer's Report:**

General a/c: Inc \$1000.01	Exp \$163.85	Bal at 31/07/2020 \$913.97
GEMKHANA a/c: Inc \$30.96	Exp \$1490.00	Bal at 31/07/2020 \$10021.51
GEMBOREE a/c: Inc \$0.22	Exp \$0.00	Bal at 31/07/2020 \$2,654.30

Accounts for payment:

Postage GEMBOREE Tassie booklets \$163.85 & cheque for Fair Trading change to constitution.

*Moved Northern Districts seconded Western Suburbs that the report be accepted.*

**J&R Report:**

GEMKHANA competition judging is under way.

A faceting judge has retired from competition judging. Paul to be approached to do a refresher course & a judging faceting course for new-year.

**Webmaster:** No report

**G&L NEWS Editor:** No report

**Education Report:**

The Enamelling workshop for Grafton, still on for 19-20 September.

**Facebook:** No report

Mail Person:

Sue needs treasurer to forward \$500 for postage. Sue purchased paper for labels - \$32.00 & printer ink \$29.00

**GEMKHANA**

1. Table drapes to be replaced dark blue jersey or polyester, on hold till Mick reports back, Barb to look into a second quote.

**GEMBOREE:** Mudgee 2022.

1. Event insurance to be arranged 2020-1
2. Paperwork on web for Mudgee grants Web to be checked.
3. Donations and sponsors to be acknowledged in booklet
4. Positions: Camp site Manager Registrar– Illawarra, what P.O. Box to be used? Joan to see Rose & Greg
5. Field Trips maybe maps
6. A PO Box to be arranged for competition entries closer to November
7. Trophies contacted, waiting on date once the ground has dried out a bit.
8. Advertising email & traders prices sent
9. Check forms are correct before printing booklet.

*Reports received Central Coast, seconded Goulburn*

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

No General business

*General Business Moved Western Suburbs, Seconded Illawarra.*

Meeting closed 1.33pm

Next meeting: Sept 23rd, at 1pm at this point Zoom on computers.

Meeting dates for 2020 - , October 28th, November 25th, December 9th + AGM.

## CLUB NEWS

Email: [editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:martensz.paul@gmail.com) for Registration and Payment details.

**Canberra Lapidary Club**; are currently not holding social meetings or field trips, due to the government's social distancing restrictions.

**Lismore Lapidary Gem & Lapidary Club Inc**; had a field trip planned to Hogarth Range but it was washed out. The Club has a field trip to Mallanganee/Cherry Tree planned for Sept 20th to look for obsidian, jasper and labradorite.

**The Hawkesbury Valley Lapidary Club** will be assisting with the Mineral Expo at Windsor function Centre, to be held this month.

**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.

**Batemans Bay Lapidary Club Inc** have changed their address. The Club is located in the Batemans Bay Heritage Museum, No 3 Museum Place, Batemans Bay NSW 2536. Monthly meetings: Held on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 12 noon, Except December and January. Enquiries—Please contact their President on 0439725959 or Secretary on 0427667670. Other points of contact are:- The Club Website: [batemansbaylapidaryclub.org](http://batemansbaylapidaryclub.org) and Email Address: [batemansbaylapidaryclub@gmail.co](mailto:batemansbaylapidaryclub@gmail.co)

**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](mailto:margscarving@gmail.com)

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## **“G” is for Garnet**

Garnet has been used as a gemstone for over 5000 years. It has been found in the jewellery of many Egyptian burials and was the most popular gemstone of Ancient Rome. It is a beautiful gem that is usually sold without treatment of any kind. The opaque garnets have been used as an abrasive since the Bronze age.

Garnet is not a single mineral, but describes a group of several closely related minerals. Garnets come in a variety of colours and have many different varieties. However, the most widely-known colour of Garnet gemstones is dark red.

Garnet comes in almost every colour of the rainbow. While red is the most common, pink, yellow, brown, almost black can be found, and you can find more rare Garnets in orange, green and even alexandrite-like colour changing Garnets. Colourless also exists but is rarely seen. Blue Garnet is named for a dominant hue rarely seen in Garnets, Blue Garnet is an incredibly rare, undeniably beautiful, and an extremely unusual variety of colour-change Umbalite Garnet.. Blue Garnets were unheard of until spring 2011 when they were found in Africa. In a certain light, they do change colour

Garnets are often found in mica schists. They are also commonly found in black sands when panning in gold mining districts. Anthills are also good places to search for Garnet. Garnet is also found in the rocks of contact metamorphism, subsurface magma chambers, lava flows, deep-source volcanic eruptions, and the soils and sediments...

Garnet, in various forms, can be found in many sites throughout Australia. Two of the most prolific sites are the Harts Range area in the Northern Territory and Fullarton River in Queensland. Found mainly in small sizes, tsavorite over 2 carats are very rare. Prices range from \$500 a carat for good colours with some inclusions. to \$2,000 to \$7,000 for clean larger stones with top colour. [Tsavorite ]

Garnet ranges in colour from bright yellowish green to deep green or bluish green]. Demantoid Garnet is the rarest and most valuable of the Garnets and is one of the rarest of all coloured gemstones. Demantoid can have a green colour that rivals emerald and a fire that exceeds diamond.

Garnet is the birthstone for January. Garnet is said to be a lucky stone for love, success, and for business relationships. It is the stone of those born under the zodiac sign of Aquarius, and as an enhancer, strengthener crystal it has been worn for centuries as a protective and powerful talisman.

Tony Try

[Information taken from a wide range of sources]

I would be very interested to know if any readers have seen, or even heard of blue garnets ?

Email: [twotrys@bigpond.net.au](mailto:twotrys@bigpond.net.au)

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## **Robilt Lapidary Supplies**

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*The entry voted as the best submission throughout the year is awarded a prize at GEMKHANA in September*

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## EVENTS

**September.** Sat 19<sup>th</sup> - 9.30am to 5pm and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> - 9.30am to 4pm

### **Australian Gem & Mineral Expos with The Hawkesbury Valley Lapidary Club “Boutique” Gem & Mineral Expo**

Windsor Function Centre, corner of George & Dight Sts Windsor, on Covid Safe Plan in place

Face masks will be available at the door at no cost

hand sanitizing stations around the hall.

Everyone will need to sign in as part of the governments requirements.

Entry to the Expo is \$7.00 for adults and kids still enter free of charge.

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

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

### **Canberra Lapidary Club**

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