



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) |
| Secretary | Kathy Selwood (Orange) 6362 7917 secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au |
| Minutes Secretary | Mick Lane (Blue Mountains) |
| Treasurer | Bob McLean (Port Hacking) |
| 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 |
| Editor | Suzanne Olesen editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au |
| Webmaster | Alex Maitland (Temporary Webmaster) webmaster@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au |
| 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

I am always looking for interesting articles to publish in the Newsletter. So please if you come across anything that would be worthy of reading please send me a copy.

ADDRESSES

for the Gem & Lapidary Council NSW

Website : <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 |
| Committee Meeting Minutes | 4, 5 & 6 |
| I is for Iolite by Tony Try | 7 |
| Club News | 9 & 10 |
| Newsletter articles submissions notice | 11 |
| Events | 12 |



The meeting was opened at 1:00pm 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 (Marcia Hill), Illawarra (Joan Zealey), Port Hacking (Tony Offord),

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

Apologies: Moved Goulburn, Seconded Western Suburbs

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (23 September 2020):

Moved Orange, seconded Central Coast, that minutes be accepted.

Business Arising: Nil

Business arising moved seconded

Correspondence: Not attached. Copies available.

Business Arising:

- Check that Office works account has been paid
- Constitution changes changed in Fair Trading
- QLACCA P.O. Box number

Moved Orange seconded Illawarra, that Inward Correspondence be received, Outward

Correspondence be endorsed and business arising be approved.

Treasurer's Report:

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| General a/c: | Inc \$0.00 | Exp \$307.41 | Bal at 20/10/2020 \$1112.16 |
| GEMKHANA a/c: | Inc \$84.60 | Exp \$243.00 | Bal at 20/10/2020 \$6693.43 |
| GEMBOREE a/c: | Inc \$320.00 | Exp \$0.00 | Bal at 20/10/2020 \$2,974.73 |

Accounts for payment: Postage for mailing

Moved Northern Districts seconded AFG that the report be accepted.

J&R Report:

- One query on Vic GEMBOREE 2020 competition – handmade or cast chains

Webmaster: No report

G&L NEWS Editor: No report

Education Report: The Enamelling workshop for Grafton, Done.

Facebook: No report

Mail Person:

Sue needs treasurer to forward \$500 for envelopes & postage. Still waiting

GEMKHANA

- Table drapes to be replaced dark blue jersey or polyester, Mick reported back, \$2.50 per metre.
- Sample to check out, material comes in 150 wide length 30m bolt.

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,

Rose Cook Illawarra Lapidary Club, P.O. Box 117 Corrimal NSW 2518

Field Trips maybe maps

A PO Box to be arranged for competition entries closer to November

Trophies dug up. Splitting, facing & shaping to be done

Advertising email & traders prices sent

Check forms are correct need to be finalised by end November

Art work to booklet end of November

Zoom meeting stopped (time ran out) 1:30pm

Zoom meeting recommenced at 1:45 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 (Marcia Hill), Illawarra (Joan Zealey), Port Hacking (Tony Offord), Western Suburbs (Ainslie Flynn)

Apology: AFG (Col Wright)

GEMBOREE: Mudgee 2022 continued

Fees approved by G& L Council for GEMBOREE committee.

Catering – Men's shed, Cooks Gap, coffee cart, ice cream van

Security booked

Chair/tables booked

Skip bins booked.

Reports received Central Coast, seconded Goulburn

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Special Meeting called for AFLACA - Manual on the web via e-book, reimbursement to VGCA for competition medals & engraving, levy on GEMBOREE \$500.
- Central Coast reopening 3rd November

General Business Moved Western Suburbs, Seconded Orange.

Meeting dates for 2020

Next meeting: November 25th at 1pm at this point Zoom on computers.

December 9th + AGM.

"I" is for lolite

In legends, ancient Viking navigators used thin slices of lolite as filters to help locate the sun on cloudy days. Whether or not the tales are true, lolite (mineralogists call it cordierite) can be fashioned into beautiful gems. Strongly pleochroic lolite has been incorrectly called 'water sapphire,' as it can display a blue to violet hue in one direction and pale yellow to colourless in another.

The name lolite comes from the Greek word "ios", meaning "violet." Some believe that the gem aids sleep and helps to unlock creativity. Lolite is often cited as the twenty-first wedding anniversary gemstone.

Legends describe lolite as a way to strengthen one's eyesight. There are also many emotional attributes to the stone. Lolite has been said to enhance curiosity and achievement, guiding one through spiritual growth. It has also been said to overcome co-dependency with a partner. [I am not going any further there !!!!]

Although the mineral has a history that dates back hundreds of years, the actual gemstone lolite is considered to be relatively new and lesser-known. Cordierite was officially named after the French geologist, Pierre Louis Antoine Cordier (1777-1861) in 1813. The first significant and exciting discovery of large transparent, gem-quality deposits of lolite was made in 1996 in Palmer Creek, Wyoming (USA) by the American geologist, W. Dan Hausal. The world's largest lolite crystal was discovered south of Palmer Creek, in Grizzly Creek, Wyoming. This record-breaking crystal weighs over 24,000 carats.

Lolite deposits can be found in numerous locations around the world. Most of the lolite gemstones available today come from India, but some other significant sources include Australia (Northern Territory), Brazil, Canada (Yellowknife), Madagascar, Myanmar (Burma), Namibia, Sri Lanka (Ceylon), Tanzania and the United States, including Wyoming and Connecticut.

There are no known treatments or enhancements for lolite, although there is a synthetic cordierite available, which is primarily used for ceramics and other industrial purposes, such as electrical insulators and heating appliances.

In terms of taking care of your lolite, do not use a steamer or ultrasonic cleaner on it.

It is also important to avoid exposure of the stone to any type of chemicals, heat, or scratches. The best way to clean your lolite is using a solution of mild dish soap, warm water, and a soft brush.

Tony Try

[Information taken from a wide variety of sources]

CLUB NEWS

Email: editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

Central Coast Lapidary Club – reopened on Tuesday 3rd November with reduced numbers and under strict COVID conditions. There will be no new members only existing members can attend on a roster basis. During the time the Club was closed a large amount of maintenance was carried out by a few of the committee and other members.

Illawarra Lapidary Club – will open on Monday the 18th January 2021 and there are limited numbers in the cutting room (a maximum of three) if your name is not on the list do not attend.

There is also a working bee happening where they aim to shuffle some of the furnishing of the silver room so to enable a greater number of members to “legally” satisfy the social distancing rules and use of the facilities.

Northern Districts Lapidary Club – held another Enamelling Workshop on Sunday 25th October with an early start of 8.00am to make the most of the available time There were of course some procedural and set-up changes thanks to Covid-19, so for example the ladies were spread over 2 tables instead of the usual one, which led to some good-humoured banter. Good use of the time was made, and some beautiful pieces were produced. All in all, an enjoyable and productive day.

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GRAFTON ENAMELLING COURSE

24th – 25th September, 2020

The 2 day enamelling course was organised by the Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW.

There were a maximum of 10 students attending. No one had enamelled before. I was very lucky to have the assistance of Ann who is an experienced enameller from Central Coast Lapidary Club. Thank you Ann.

The course involved learning the basics of applying enamel to small copper shapes. Once the basic coats were applied to the front and back of the piece different techniques were used to decorate the pieces. Some very attractive pieces were made. A demonstration of applying enamel to a curved surface was given.

Thank you to Grafton Gem Club for their hospitality and friendliness during the course. The club opened up the day before to allow the setting up so the class could commence at 9am on the first day. A big thank you to Elaine for organising the course and to all the members who helped with the setting up. The club supplied lunch on both days for Ann and myself, this was very much appreciated.

Annette Clarke

Tutor

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Send us your stories and share your lapidary triumphs, tribulations, tips and tricks with a like-minded crowd.

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

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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/>

Nov 2020

Sat 7 and Sun 8

Canberra Lapidary Club

Spring Gemcraft & Mineral Show

Mallee Pavilion, Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC)

- This year due to Covid Restrictions there will be No Food Stall.
- The Venue Layout has been slightly revised.
- Maximum Venue Occupancy is 100.
- Face Masks will be available for all volunteers & visitors.
- Hand Sanitiser will be available.
- 1.5m spacing will be maintained.

13th & 14th March 2021

New dates for **Canberra Lapidary Club**

Rock Swap next year.