



Gem & Lapidary News
February
2021

Print Post Approved PP243352/00002
ISSN 2208-5556

Vol 47

No. 1

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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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
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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: March 24th 2020at 1pm

EDITOR'S NOTES

Alishya Dipple has taken over as editor of the G & L News.

Read more about Alishya's background on page 7.

Please send any interesting articles to Alishya so that they can be shared.

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.

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Message from the President

The Year 2021 is just beginning and we all hope that it will be some what better than the last year. It is hoped that all the Lapidary Clubs of NSW can resume activities even if some what limited .

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Suzanne Olsen for all her hard work as Editor of the G & L News for the last three years. Suzanne even managed to produce the newsletter while in Europe at one stage. Thank you Suzanne.

I wish Alishya all the best in taking on her new role as editor of the G & L News.

There are a number of the G & L Committee members planning on going to Hobart GEMBOREE in April where we will be promoting the Mudgee GEMBOREE 2022. The GEMBOREE Booklet is currently being compiled and is nearing completion, and will be available in Hobart

Barbara Try
President

Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 27 January 2021

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, Ainslie & Shirley Flynn), Port Hacking (Bob McLean, Tony Offord), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane), Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Parramatta/Holroyd (John Behrens, Ray Powell).

Apologies: Blue Mountains (Kim Cooke), Illawarra (Joan Zealey), AFG (Col Wright),

Moved: Central Coast, Seconded Western Suburbs that apologies be accepted.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 09 December 2020

Moved Goulburn, *seconded* Western Suburbs, that minutes be accepted.

Business Arising: nil

Correspondence: See attached list.

Business Arising: nil

Moved Orange seconded Parramatta/Holroyd, that Inward Correspondence be received, Outward Correspondence be endorsed and business arising be approved.

Treasurer's Report:

General a/c:	Inc \$585.00	Exp \$460.00	Bal at 31/12/2020 \$1,267.28
GEMKHANA a/c:	Inc \$400.00	Exp \$400.00	Bal at 31/12/2020 \$6,738.33
GEMBOREE a/c:	Inc \$860.00	Exp \$0.00	Bal at 31/12/2020 \$4,095.08

Accounts for payment:

- 1/ Parramatta/Holroyd room rent \$600
- 2/ Drapes \$300 for 150m payable to Mick
- 3/ \$360 deposit for shirts for GEMBOREE \$1201
- 4/\$109 calibrate Mick's test & tag machine
- 5/ check trailer storage & insurance

Moved Port Hacking seconded Blue Mountains that the report be accepted.

J&R Report:

- 1/ 13 & 14 Feb judging Parramatta and one on 20 & 21 Feb Central Coast for GEMBOREE Hobart
- 2/ Sunday 29 August Judging GEMKHANA

Webmaster: Nil

G&L NEWS Editor:

1/ Hand over to Alishya Dippel still has to be done

Education Report: Nil

Facebook: Nil

Mail Person: Annual report is OK. Envelopes – envelopes and stamps to be purchased separately

GEMKHANA

- 4 bolts of material have been purchased. They will be cut and hemmed at GEMKHANA.

GEMBOREE: Mudgee 2022.

Event insurance to be arranged 2020-1

Paperwork on web for Mudgee grants Web to be checked April.

Field Trips maybe maps; meeting needed on fossicking

Alan talking to publisher in Bathurst

Age of Fishers display to be asked

Dinosaurs display to be asked

Reports to be accepted moved: Goulburn Seconded: Parramatta/Holroyd

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1/ Club membership – AFLACA 2020 list

2/ March meeting to be Zoom – Availability delegates, Covid-19, Tassie,

3/ Pay Parramatta/Holroyd club in advance for meetings.

4/ Hawkesbury Showground rebook in 25 & 26 September for GEMKHANA.

5/ 100 Judging Manual still left in store - will take some to Hobart to sell on the GEMBOREE 2022 table.

General Business Moved Port Hacking, Seconded Western Suburbs.

Meeting closed 2.10pm

Next meeting: 24 February, 2021.

Meeting dates for 2020: 24 March, 28 April, 26 May, 23 June, 25 August, 22 September (GEMKHANA), 27 October, 24 November, 8 December & AGM

Hello everyone,

As you may be aware, I have recently taken over the editor position and am beyond excited to be getting more involved!

A little bit of my background about how I have come to be involved with lapidary. I've been part of the Blue Mountains Lapidary Club for about 5 years under the guidance of the one and only Mick Lane, who has done nothing but grow my passion for this wonderful club. I love being able to learn about all things gemstone and mineral related and am always keen for a much-needed fossicking trip to unwind as often as possible.

Not only am I rock mad, but have a true appreciation for each and every person I've been able to meet along the way and feel blessed to be a part of this amazing community.

Please if anyone has any ideas or anything they feel would be worth a read, feel free to contact me so we can share it.

Thank you!

Alishya Dippel

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Do you have any field trips coming up?

It's always nice to be able to catch up with some like minded people and do something we all have a passion for!

If anyone has any field trips coming up/or any ideas for trips we can set up... let us know! This could be a great opportunity for us to get involved with other clubs and for others to experience something different and pass on some knowledge.

Please contact me the Editor G & L News on
editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.or.au



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“K” is for Kunzite

Kunzite gemstone colours can range from pink to a lilac colour. It is a variety of spodumene with the colour coming from trace amounts of manganese.

Kunzite as a beautiful pink stone has been said to possess romantic, mystical powers. Irradiation is often used to intensify **Kunzite's** colour. Sunlight and exposure to strong heat can fade the colour of **Kunzite**, which is named after George Kunz, who discovered **Kunzite** in early 1902 in the pegmatites of Pala, California. However, it wasn't until the 1990's that this gemstone became a more mainstream gemstone, having been used only as a collector's gemstone prior to that time.

Since **Kunzite** tends to have very good clarity, clean specimens do not usually carry a higher price. Large, well-cut pieces can definitely be more expensive, but the per carat price of **Kunzite** tends to increase slowly with size when compared with other gemstones like sapphire or ruby.

The perfect cleavage and splintery fracture of **Kunzite** makes it a difficult gemstone to facet. It is very sensitive to knocks and will chip if hit too hard. **Kunzite** is known for its strong pleochroism, showing lighter and more intense colouring when viewed at different angles. For this reason, it is always cut to show the deepest pink colour through the top of the gem. The deeper pink the Kunzite, the more valuable it generally is.

It is most often used as a pendant stone and as a large decorating stone on ornamental objects. It is less commonly used in rings. Many people prefer to wear their **kunzite** only in the evening, hence the nickname “evening stone”.

The most important deposits of **Kunzite** are from Minas Gerais, Brazil, but most of the current supply is from Afghanistan and Pakistan. Other sources include Madagascar, Myanmar and the USA. Smaller gem quality deposits have also been found in Canada, Russia, Mexico, Sweden and Western Australia.

Kunzite is known to produce gemstones of great size. In fact, it's not uncommon to find fine quality stones weighing 20 carats or more. **Kunzite** and the entire spodumene group are important industrial sources of lithium, which is used for the making of medicines, ceramics, mobile phones and automotive batteries.

The largest faceted kunzite is an 880-carat specimen on display at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C.

Tony Try
[Sourced from a wide variety of books/magazines]

CLUB NEWS

Email: editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

Hawkesbury Show 2021

For those wishing to enter the Hawkesbury show in the 'Craft' section please take note of the following dates:

Entry Closing Date (Post) – Tuesday 6th April, 4pm

Entry Closing Date (Online) – Monday 12th April, 4pm

Delivery Date – Friday 16th April 10am -4pm & Saturday 17th April
10am-4pm

Further entry information can be found on the G & L Website.

Bathurst Lapidary & Collectors Club Gets a Facelift

Bathurst club has undergone a few changes over the last few months and thanks to a few hard-working people and a government grant they have received a fully fitted out extension to the club house along with some brand-new signage to suit.

Gem and Lapidary Council Fees

Just a reminder that fees are due. There are still some clubs outstanding if you could arrange for these to be paid.

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EVENTS

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

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

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- ◇ **Fri 12th-Sun 14th March** Minerama, Glen Innes, northern NSW Annual Gem Show - Show Grounds, Glen Innes
- ◇ **Sat 13th-Sun 14th March**, Canberra 2021 Rock Swap
- ◇ **Fri 19th-Sun 21st Wollongong** Crystal, Craft and Jewellery Festival Wollongong, New South Wales, City Diggers, Wollongong.
- ◇ **Sat 20th- Sun 21st March** New England Lapidary and Fossicking Club Inc 2021 30th Annual Gem and Craft Show, Armidale Show Ground.
- ◇ **Sat 27th- Sun 28th March** Jewellery, Gem & Mineral Fair, East Devonport School Gymnasium
- ◇ **Fri 2nd- Mon 5th April 2021 GEMBOREE 2021** will be held at Hobart Show Grounds, Glenorchy

Full details can be found on the AFLACA GEMBOREE website:

<https://aflaca.org.au/gemboree/>

- ◇ **Sat 17th -Sun 18th April** Greater Sydney Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Crystal Expo, South Windsor, western Sydney, NSW. The show venue is the Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium, Drummond St, South Windsor.