



Gem & Lapidary News
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2021

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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).

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President	Barbara Try (Northern Districts) 0417 676435
Senior Vice President	Colin Wright (AFG)
Vice president	Tony Try (Central Coast)
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Minutes Secretary	Mick Lane (Blue Mountains)
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Assistant Treasurer	Tony Offord (Port Hacking)
Committee:	Sue O'Neil (Goulburn) Joan Zealey (Illawarra) Marcia Hill (Western Suburbs)

APPOINTMENTS

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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: April 28th 2021 at 1pm

EDITOR'S NOTES

I hope everyone had a great Easter and enjoyed the break.

As always, if you have anything you would like shared in the G&L News send it through.

Alishya

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

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:

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Message from the President

The next big event for the Gem council is the GEMKHANA. This will take place at the Hawkesbury Showground—40 Racecourse Rd, Clarendon on the 25th & 26th September 2021. The competition schedule is on the council's website if anyone is interested in entering please check it out on <http://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/>.

In roughly 12 months time we will be hosting the 2022 GEMBOREE at Mudgee, preparations are in full swing and the GEMBOREE Booklet will be released at the Hobart.

I am still looking for potential judges to take part in some training courses in the near future, if you are interested please contact me.

Barbara Try
President

Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 24 March 2021 Via Zoom

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 (Ainslie & Shirley Flynn), Parramatta/Holroyd (John Behrens), Illawarra (Joan Zealey).

Apologies: Blue Mountains (Kim Cooke), AFG (Col Wright), Port Hacking (Bob McLean), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane), Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill), Port Hacking (Tony Offord).

Moved: Central Coast, Seconded Parramatta/Holroyd that apologies be accepted.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 24 February 2021

Moved Parramatta/Holroyd, *seconded*, Western Suburbs that minutes be accepted.

Business Arising:

- 1/ Storage bill for trailer coming via snail mail
- 2/ Mick's testing & tag machine cost
- 3/ Trailer insurance done

Business arising from minutes: moved Illawarra seconded Central Coast

Correspondence: See attached list.

Business Arising:

- 1/ Paul Howard letter – trophies, QLACCA had a meeting & will take trophy on.
- 2/ Arthur Cleary – AFLACA CONSTITUTION submission should go to AFLACA Constitution subcommittee.

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 \$1,190.00	Exp \$850.00	Bal at 26/02/2021 \$2,259.78
GEMKHANA a/c:	Inc \$0.00	Exp \$400.00	Bal at 26/02/2021 \$6,438.23
GEMBOREE a/c:	Inc \$0.00	Exp \$183.00	Bal at 26/02/2021 \$3,851.72

Accounts for payment:

- 1/ P.O. Box 188 - \$205.00 paid
- 2/ Sue \$47 judging expenses paid
- 3/ P.O. Box for GEMBOREE \$136.00 paid
- 4/ Parramatta room hire \$600.00 paid
- 5/ John Mackenzie \$103.25 judging expenses paid
- 6/ Officeworks account \$35.75 paid

Moved Orange seconded Western Suburbs that the report be accepted.

J&R Report:

1/ Hawkesbury show judging 19 April judges allocated.

2/ Bathurst show – Judge allocated

Webmaster: No report

G&L NEWS Editor: Has got Publisher loaded and is in a better position **NOW**.

Education Report: No report

Facebook: No report

Mail Person: No report

GEMKHANA

1/ Schedule on Web

GEMBOREE: Mudgee 2022.

Event insurance to be arranged 2021

Paperwork on web for Mudgee grants Quarter 2 open 1st July closes 12 August –
Kathy & Col to organise completion

Field Trips maybe maps meeting needed on fossicking

Trophies splitting, facing & shaping continuing

Catering – Men's shed, Cooks Gap, coffee cart (2), ice cream van

Age of Fishers display keen to hear from us – will sent email.

Dinosaurs display to be asked

Book printed

Mudgee meeting date to be set

Committee was in agreement –tail gating for clubs who have assisted with the
GEMBOREE

Shirts ready for Hobart

Receipt & small float – Hobart

Roster to be done in Hobart

Reports to be accepted moved: Central Coast Seconded: Western Suburbs

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1/ Illawarra & Canberra rock swap & open day went well.

General Business Moved Orange, Seconded Central Coast.

Meeting closed 1.34pm

Next meeting: 28 April Parramatta/Holroyd rooms

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

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

2021 NSW GEMKHANA—25th & 26th September 2021

THIS IS A CHALLENGE TO ALL NSW CLUBS

The competition schedule is now out on the Council's website, and available for download and we ask for your support to encourage your members to compete in the competition. "Interstate Clubs are also welcome to enter

Entries close on the 21st August 2021.

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 SURPRIZED AND WIN A PRIZE.

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The Booklet for the 58th GEMBOREE 2022 National Gem & Mineral Show to be held at Mudgee, New South Wales over Easter 2022, will be released at Hobart over Easter 2021.

If you wish to have copies for your club please let us know and we will arrange to get them to you.

Contact the secretary on secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

If you are wanting **off-site accommodation**, bookings are currently at 75% so do not leave it too long before you make your arrangements.

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“M” is for Malachite

Malachite is a copper carbonate hydroxide mineral, and most often forms in fractures and deep underground spaces where the water table and hydrothermal fluids provide the means for chemical precipitation.

The mineral was given this name due to its resemblance to the leaves of the Mal-low plant.

Malachite was extensively mined at the Great Orme mines in Britain 3,800 years ago, using stone and bone tools. Archaeological evidence indicates that mining activity ended c. 600 BCE, with up to 1,760 tonnes of copper being produced from the mined **Malachite**. Archaeological evidence indicates that the mineral has been mined and smelted to obtain copper at Timna Valley in Israel for more than 3,000 years. Since then, **Malachite** has been used as both an ornamental stone and as a gemstone. **Malachite** is typically associated with copper deposits around limestone.

Malachite is found in many deposits worldwide including at Broken Hill in Australia and the Ok Tedi mine in PNG.

While **Malachite** gemstones are renowned for their rich green colour, there is also a gemstone known as *red malachite* that is just as loved for its warm terra cotta colour. Green **Malachite** has been valued since antiquity, especially in Egyptian culture as far back as 4000 BC for creating amulets and statues, lining pharaoh headdresses and even as pigment for makeup. **Red malachite is actually only fancy name for a type of jasper** with banding that closely resembles the banded patterns found in natural green **Malachite**. Various forms of jasper were also loved by the Egyptians for use as amulets.

The high copper content of **Malachite** (57%), makes the dust toxic. This can make it dangerous to mine, cut, or hand-polish without proper protective equipment. Luckily, it is completely safe to handle rough and polished specimens.

Synthetic **Malachite** has been produced and used to make jewellery and small sculptures. Poorly done synthetics are often recognized by their unnatural colour. The better synthetics can usually be recognized because their banding and eyes do not have a natural botryoidal shape. An experienced person can identify most of the synthetic and man-made materials on sight.

Malachite is said to be a stone of balance, abundance, manifestation and intention. It is also said to absorb energy and draw emotions to the surface. It apparently clears and activates all Chakras, and is especially helpful in the stimulation of the Heart and Throat Chakras.

Tony Try

This information has been taken from a wide variety of “expert” sources, which unfortunately have conflicting data re the benefits and toxicity of **Malachite**.

CLUB NEWS

Email: editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

Changes to Fossicking Areas in NSW

Over the past couple of months I've seen numerous amounts of information posted on Fossicking and prospecting pages showing some of the areas we've all come to love and cherish being miss treated. Unfortunately due to this reoccurring issue Forestry's are being forced to close many public fossicking areas as a last resort to save them.

Just a reminder to check with the relevant forestry departments before planning any trips to avoid being caught out.

www.forestrycorporation.com.au



The Georgetown Meteorite

The Georgetown (Iron) Meteorite, which is the largest example of an incredibly rare 24.3kg meteorite has become part of the National Mineral and Fossil collection of Australia which is now on display at Geoscience Australia.

For those who cant make the trip, the Georgetown meteorite story can be viewed through the below link for the virtual exhibition.

https://artsandculture.google.com/story/the-georgetown-iron-meteorite%C2%A0/_wJipSaHnu9GJw

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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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- ◇ **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.
- ◇ **Fri 23rd-Sun 25thApril** Hawkesbury Show
- ◇ **Sat 1st May** 8am - 3pm Free entry. Display and Sale of Lapidary work, Demonstrations of cutting, grinding and polishing gemstones. 15 The Valley Road, Valley Heights
- ◇ **Sun 2nd May** Illawarra Lapidary Club 'Open Day' Free Entry, Mineral Specimens, Fossils, Lapidary Materials, Jewellery, Morning Tea available & sausage sizzle lunch. 51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna.
- ◇ **Sat 29th-Sun 29th May** Winter Gem Show, EPIC, Canberra, ACT.
- ◇ **Saturday 24th-Sunday 25th** GEMKHANA, Hawkesbury Show-ground, Clarendon