



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).

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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 19 at Mudgee

EDITOR'S NOTES

Does anyone know of a person who would be interested in being the editor for this newsletter? If you do please contact Barbara Try on 0417676435.

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)

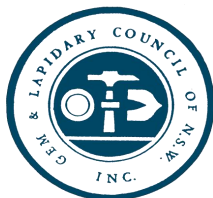
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Message from the President

As this newsletter goes to print we are in the final weeks before the GEMBOREE. The Gem & Lapidary Committee have been working tirelessly to ensure we have a successful event.

At this moment we have two bus trips planned and two field trips organised, with one still in the pipeline.

The trophies for this event are all one of a kind and hand made. I look forward to having them awarded to the appropriate winners on the presentation night.

We are all hoping the "Weather Gods" will be good to us and this terrible weather we have had will vanish and a beautifully fine Easter break will be enjoyed by all.

Barbara J Try O.A.M.

President

Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 23 March 2022

At Parramatta Holroyd Club

The meeting was opened at 1:00pm by President Barbara Try (Northern Districts) who welcomed delegates from the following clubs: Central Coast (Tony Try), Orange (Kathy Selwood) Port Hacking (Bob McLean, Tony Offord) Parramatta/Holroyd (Ray Powell), AFG (Col Wright), Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill, Ainslie & Shirley Flynn), Goulburn (Sue & Joe O'Neil), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane)

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

Visitor: None

Moved: Parramatta/Holroyd **Seconded:** Western Suburbs that apologies be accepted.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 23 February 2022 with amendments to Treasurers Report date should read 23/03/2022 not 30/12/2021.

Moved Central Coast, *seconded*, Goulburn that the minutes be accepted.

Business Arising:

1/ GEMKHANA schedule sent to Victoria

Moved AFG seconded: Blue Mountains that Business arising from minutes be approved.

Correspondence: See attached list.

Business Arising from Correspondence:

1/ 13 Clubs still not renewed membership – send reminder before membership list goes to AFLACA

Moved Goulburn **seconded** Port Hacking, that Inward Correspondence be received, Outward Correspondence be endorsed and business arising be approved.

Correspondence: See attached list.

J&R Report:

1/ Letter from Hawkesbury District Agricultural Association – Re judging for their show on Monday 2 May 2022, Judges have not been allocated.

Webmaster: No report.

G&L NEWS Editor: NEED an Editor

Education Report: Bathurst carving class 3 March completed 11 students with 11 good looking turtles

Social Media: Traders information to be forwarded to Kim

Mail Person: No bounce backs from emails that were sent out.

GEMKHANA

1/ Schedule is out

GEMBOREE: Mudgee 2022.

Event insurance completed \$1798.50

GEMBOREE programme final edition

Radio, TV, Macca – Alan McRae budge figure needed

Bus trips sorted for Saturday & Sunday

Field trips Saturday (2) & Sunday (1) trip leaders to be finalised

Trader's numbers still growing

Allocation of trading & camping sites done for those who names are in.

Food vendors sorted

Mayor or General Manager to be booked for opening time

Competition trophies engraving for pre event completed

Rock Clock donated for raffle

Plastic name card holders needed 150

Raffle tickets done

Main gate tickets done

Masking & yellow tape needed

CAMPING SITES STILL AVAILABLE AT GEMBOREE SITE –we are still taking bookings

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

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1/ AFLACA historian contracted, still no reply

2/2024 competition schedule replies discussed

3/ Discussion about AFLACA meeting at GEMBOREE

4/ Motion put: Current delegate from Hawkesbury Valley Lapidary Club Inc, has not been attending the G & L meetings and under Model rules a letter is to be sent to Hawkesbury Valley Lapidary Club Inc informing them of the situation and would they like to nominate another person. Moved Central Coast seconded Parramatta/Holroyd. All members were in favour of motion.

5/ SA delegate required at the GEMBOREE for schedule 2024 to be presented for approval.

General Business: moved: Blaxland Seconded: AFG

Meeting closed: 2.30pm





58th GEMBOREE 2022

At Mudgee's Australian Rural Education Centre, 267 Ulan Road, Bombira

Easter 15th to 18th April 2022

Camping and Off Site Registrations is still available

If you still have not complete you registration form for the GEMBOREE it is not too late. The GEMBOREE 2022 Committee would like to advise anyone who would like to book a campsite at AREC foe the GEMBOREE we are still taking bookings. Just complete the form and return it to the GEMBOREE Registrar, PO Box 117, Corrimal NSW 2518. Forms are available on the AFLACA website.

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

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HOW YOUR STONES / ENTRIES ARE PREPARED FOR JUDGING.

Several people have asked, or assumed, that Judges know who the entries they judge belong to. This is false and listed below is the way the Competition Committee guarantees that all entries are anonymous.

- Your competition entries are sent to the Competition Committee
- On Arrival the Competition Committee checks your entry form; checks that the correct number of entries are there.
- The committee then checks each entry to ensure it is what it should be. For example, if a standard cabochon in petrified wood has been specified, then that is what it should be. If the incorrect material has been sent, then the committee will endeavour to transfer the entry into the correct section. The same would apply if the entry was a double standard cabochon and not a standard cabochon. If it cannot be transferred the entry will be marked "Not Eligible".
- This process happens for every entry.
- If the entry is in the correct section, all the competitor's wrapping is removed. (We see lots of different types of wrapping.) The entry is then wrapped in plain tissue and transferred into a clear zip bag (that is large enough to hold a prize card if the competitor has been successful enough to gain a place for their entry) and given a number. Every entry has a different number. A sticker is placed on the bag showing the Section and the unique number.
- The entry is then placed in the correct Section Bag
- This process ensures that there are no identification marks left on the entry.
- The process continues until all entries are checked and in their right Section Bags
- From here the judges receive the Section Bag with enough judging sheets to enable them to judge the section. The Judge is also given a sheet listing all the entries that are in that section by number only.
- The Judge records on the judging sheet the section number and the entry number and a description of the entry. At no stage does the Judge know who the entry belongs to.
- The Competition Committee also goes to great lengths to ensure the judges are given entries that are NOT known to them in anyway. I.e., Not members of their Class or Clubs.

- The Judge does not add up the judging sheet, so that they are not aware of which entry has won.
- Independent people add up the judging sheets which are then double checked by another person and counter signed.
- Only then is the score recorded against its number.
- The Competition Committee are the only persons that know who owns what entry.
- It is then that the name of the entrant is written on the top of the judging sheet and the sheets are sorted into alpha order.
- The only time the Judge knows who the entrant for each entry was, is when the section is displayed in the showcases.

The whole idea is to ensure that all entries are anonymous, and to insist on confidentiality.

Barbara Try

Competition Chairperson, GEMBOREE 2022

“X” is for **Xanthite**

I have not been able to find a lot that has been written about this “gemstone”. ..Most of what has been written relates to “mystical” properties and uses

However, **Xanthite** is described as a manganese-rich variety of Vesuvianite or Idocrase. from Amity, N.Y. It comes from the Greek word for yellow, but, like all such local and superfluous names, **should not be used as classical gemstone terminology.**

It’s a light greyish-yellow colour comprised of masses of tiny rounded grains that separate easily. It’s transparent to translucent.

Xanthite is very fragile and disintegrates easily.

Tony Try

[My apologies to everyone, but the only other gemstone that I could find starting with “X” was Xalostocite. This is an ornamental stone consisting of crystals of pink grossular garnet in white marble, which is also known as Rosolite and Landerite]

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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/>

- ◇ **15th—18th April 2022—GEMBOREE 2022**, Venue: AREC at Mudgee
- ◇ **1st May 2022—Illawarra Lapidary Club— Open Day** from 9am to 2pm at 51 Meadow St, Tarrawanna
- ◇ **6th -8th May—Hawkesbury Show—**at the Hawkesbury Showground Clarendon
- ◇ **15 & 16 May 2022—30th Lismore GEMFEST** **CANCELLED** due to Flood damage to the show-ground
- ◇ **21—22 May 2022—Canberra Lapidary Club Winter Show—**Mallee Pavilion
- ◇ **24th & 25th September 2022—GEMKHANA—**Hawkesbury Showground