



**Gem & Lapidary News**  
**July**  
**2022**

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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 O.A.M. (Northern Districts) 0417 676 435                            |
| Senior Vice President | Colin Wright (AFG)                                                              |
| Vice president        | Tony Try (Central Coast)                                                        |
| Secretary             | Kathy Selwood (Orange) 6362 7917<br>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)<br>Joe O'Neil (Goulburn)<br>Marcia Hill (Western Suburbs) |

**APPOINTMENTS**

|                      |                                                                               |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Public Officer       | Tony Offord                                                                   |
| Auditor              | Colin Russell                                                                 |
| Editor               | Vacant<br>editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au                                 |
| Webmaster            | Alex Maitland (Temporary Webmaster)<br>webmaster@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au |
| Equipment Officer    | Mick Lane                                                                     |
| 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: July 27 at Wentworthville**

## EDITOR'S NOTES

Please help we need an editor for the G & L Newsletter. If you do please contact Barbara Try on 0417676435.

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### 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

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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**

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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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### **Message from the President**

Well the GEMBOREE is a memory, we are now moving forward with our GEMKHANA which will be held on September 24 & 25 at Hawkesbury Showground at Clarendon. The schedule for the competition is on the website and the entries close on the Friday 19th August (20th if you deliver your entries to the Port Hacking Clubrooms). The Judging will take place at the Parramatta/Holroyd Rooms on 3rd September.

Lots of the Clubs are now back in full swing and are preparing for their annual shows, which due to Covid have been put on the back burner.

It is great to see everyone getting back to our hobby.

Barbara J Try O.A.M.

President

**Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 22 June 2022****Held at Parramatta Holroyd Club, Fullagar Rd Wentworthville**

**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), Western Suburbs (Ainslie & Shirley Flynn & Marcia Hill), Parramatta/Holroyd (Ray Powell) Illawarra (Joan Zealey).Port Hacking (Tony Offord & Bob McClean),Blue Mountain (Mick Lane), AFG (Colin Wright).

**Apologies:** Blue Mountains (Kim Cooke), Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Orange (Kathy Selwood)

**Moved:** Goulburn, Seconded Central Coast that apologies be accepted.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

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

**Business Arising:**

1/Hurrell – considered your bill and we will pay a fee of \$100.00 due to venue owner saying no water cleaning. Bill to be sent to Bob McClean - No bill received yet.

2/GEMKHANA name registration - Done.

3/ Acquittal form for Western Area Grant Council Part A completed part B to be done

4/Forms for Tailgaters & camping to be revised by Tony Offord, Bob McClean &Robert Porter to

Be done at GEMKHANA.

Business arising from minutes: moved AFG seconded Parramatta/Holroyd

**Correspondence:** See attached list.

**Business Arising:**

1/ Trailer Rego Done

2/Competition Facetors diagram (J 10.4 for the GEMBOREE 2023) error to be reviewed and amended by Facetors Guild before it is put on the AFLACA website.

3/ Committee discussed email re – Opal Kits for sale to clubs, Barbara to reply advising that our Club teach opal cutting etc...

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

**Accounts for payment:**

1/ Trailer rego check \$33.00 & Registration fee \$191.00 = \$224

2/ Postage \$478.57 (T Offord)

3/ Hall hire Parramatta/Holroyd club \$80.00

4/ JR Richards Waste Removal - \$347.23.

Moved Port Hacking seconded Central Coast that the report be accepted.

**J&R Report:**

- 1/ Judging for GEMKHANA 3<sup>rd</sup> September
  - 2/ Judging for Central Coast competition 17<sup>th</sup> September
  - 3/ Judging for Northern Districts competition 8<sup>th</sup> October
  - 4/ Judging for Illawarra Competition - Possibly October
- No Judges have been allocated for the above competitions yet
- 5/ Judges Course for Jewellery to be arranged for August or when possible

**Webmaster: NO report**

**G&L NEWS Editor:** Still need an Editor

No June edition – due to temp Editor being sick

**Education Report:** No report A combined Jewellery workshop was conducted between Illawarra & Port Hacking enjoyed by all participants.

**Social Media:** Advertising for GEMKHANA already under way A \$500.budget has been allocated for this project.

**Mail Person:** Expenditure stamps \$155.00 leaving a balance of \$167.30.

**GEMKHANA**

1/ Wrist bands instead of entry tickets were considered but decided not at this stage.

2/ 23 Traders have already confirmed, Bob to obtain quote for 100 corflute signs.

3/ Lyne Thompson from Central Coast to do Demo on Skin Polishing.

**GEMBOREE:** Mudgee 2022.

Reports and statistics were compiled and submitted.

Les Hathaway was sent info on GEMBOREE 2022 for 2023.

Reports to be accepted moved: Port Hacking Seconded: Goulburn

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

1/ Mick Lane to obtain quote for more Jersey material to replace cotton table clothes.

General Business Moved Blue Mountains, Seconded Central Coast.

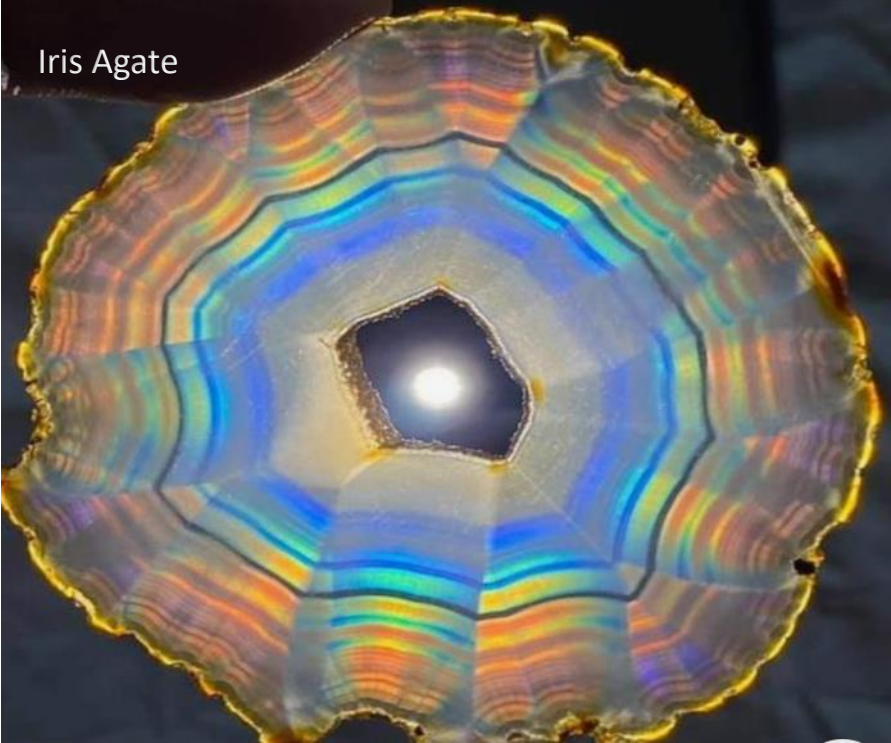
Meeting closed 2,15pm

Next meeting: 27<sup>th</sup> July at Parramatta/Holroyd rooms Fullagar Rd Wentworthville.

**Meeting dates for 2022:** 24 August, 21 September (GEMKHANA), 26 October, 23 November, 14 December & AGM



Iris Agate



## **Robilt Lapidary Supplies**

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July 2022

G&L News



*MetalCraft (Jewellery) Judging Course*

***Will be held very shortly anyone interested please contact - Barbara Try on 0417676435***

***We are very short of metalcraft/jewellery judges and it would be very helpful if we can train a few more to assist with the judging.***

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**CLUB NEWS**

- **The Blue Mountains Lapidary Club are looking for 6” machine that will take two wheels for polishing. If you can help please contact Mick Lane on 0402 496 712.**
- **Bathurst Lapidary & Collectors club Inc. will be holding Student School Holidays Lapidary Workshops on 4th & 5th July and again 14th & 15th July these workshops have proved very popular. (anyone interested contact Paul Martensz on 0427 896 945.**



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**“Z” is for Zircon**

Gem-grade **Zircon** has been produced from alluvial deposits in Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Myanmar, and Vietnam for hundreds of years. More recent gem-grade deposits are in Australia, Nigeria, and Madagascar. Deposits mined for gem-grade **Zircon** must contain crystals at least several millimetres in size with good clarity.

The major source of Australian gem quality **Zircons** is alluvial deposits from alkaline basalts in Tasmania, New South Wales and Queensland. The most well-known fossicking location for gem-quality **Zircon** is at the Mud Tank in the Hart's Ranges in Northern Territory. A number of sites in New South Wales, especially the sapphire fields of the New England area also produce attractive , large **Zircons**

The name **Zircon** is derived from the Arabic word 'Zargun,' zar meaning gold and gun meaning colour. However, this is not completely accurate as **Zircon** can be found in many colours ranging from colourless to; green, blue [often heat treated], light red, purplish red, yellowish brown, yellow, orange or white. Green is probably the rarest of the naturally coloured **Zircon**. These colours are caused by traces of rare, radioactive elements in varying stages of radioactive breakdown. Some **Zircon** crystals can actually be of gemstone quality and much of the mineral is sought after for this purpose. Colourless and blue **Zircons** seen in jewellery have often been artificially heat treated, since their occurrence in nature is rare. Because of its high lustre and dispersion [“fire”] colourless **Zircon** was used as a diamond substitute until it was displaced by synthetics such as cubic zirconia. Its hardness also makes it valuable as an abrasive. **Zircon** is also used in chemical processing plants and nuclear reactors because of its high melting point.

**zircon** is contained in most mineral sands deposits and Australia is the world's foremost producer as it provides up to 45 per cent of the world's **Zircon** requirements

**Zircons** can survive processes like erosion, transport and metamorphism, so they preserve a record of past geological processes. They are one of the key minerals used by geologists to determine the age of rocks. **Zircons** contain trace amounts of uranium and thorium, which decay radioactively over time. Because the rate of radioactive decay is known, scientists can measure the tiny amounts of these elements in a **Zircon** to work out how old a host rock is. **Zircons** extracted from rocks from Jack Hills in Western Australia are up to 4.4 billion years old.

Tony Try

[Information taken from a range of sources]

***Even today a lot of people still confuse natural Zircon with cubic zirconia***

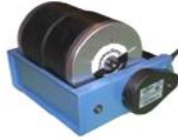
This is the last letter of the alphabet and so the last of these articles – I trust that I have not bored you all too much !!

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# JEWELLERY, GEMS

## Crystals & Minerals

# GEMKHANA 2022



9am - 5pm Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September

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Contact Bob McLean [gemkhana@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au](mailto:gemkhana@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au)  
<https://www.facebook.com/GemLapidaryCouncilNSW/>

## 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/>

- ◇ **9th & 10th July 2022—Crystal, Mineral Gem & Lapidary Show—**Greg Percival Community Centre, Oxford Rd Ingleburn
- ◇ **24th & 25th September 2022—****GEMKHANA—**Hawkesbury Showground
- ◇ **15th & 16th October 2022—**Central Coast Crystal Gem & Lapidary Show, Mingara Event Centre, Wyong Rd, Tumbi Umbi 2261
- ◇ **29th & 30th October 2022—**Northern Districts Lapidary Club—Gem Show, Beecroft Community Centre Beecroft
- ◇ **29th & 30th October 2022—**Canberra Lapidary Club Spring Gem Show