



# **Gem & Lapidary News**

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**2023**

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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**

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Senior Vice President	Tony Offord (Port Hacking)
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Assistant Treasurer	Tony Offord (Port Hacking)
Committee:	Sue O'Neil (Goulburn) Joe O'Neil (Goulburn) Marcia Hill (Western Suburbs)

**APPOINTMENTS**

Public Officer	Tony Offord
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G&L News Mailman	Sue O'Neil
Education Officer	Paul Sabolta
GEMBOREE Coordinator	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 Kathy Selwood (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 22, 2023**

## EDITOR'S NOTES

Please, if anyone has a flair for writing and would like to help, we need an editor for the G & L Newsletter. If you can help 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](mailto: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**

Holidays are over and time to get busy. We have had a good response to the Courses being offered by the council. Several Clubs have sent us their requests.

We are now in the process of organising tutors to facilitate and organise these courses.

We are working on the State Gem and Mineral Show / GEMKHANA which will be at the Hawkesbury District Agricultural Show Grounds on 23rd & 24th September 2023.

Barbara J Try O.A.M.

President

**Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023****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: Central Coast (Tony Try), Parramatta/Holroyd (Ray Powell), AFG (Paul Sabolta), Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill, Ainslie Flynn), Port Hacking (Tony Offord, Bob McLean), Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner), Orange (Kathy Selwood), Goulburn (Joe & Sue O'Neil), Bathurst (Robert Porter)

**Apologies:** Blue Mountain (Mick Lane, Kim Cooke), Illawarra (Joan Zealy),

**Moved:** Goulburn, **seconded** Blaxland that apologies be accepted.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023**

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

**Business Arising:**

1/ Jersey material 4 bolts, 1 bolt left for future tables other 3 all sewn up.

2/ Memo to be sent to all member clubs asking whether they would like to join us in a social media meeting for example Zoom a couple of times per year. Couple of clubs have said yes.

3/ Event name – State Gem and Mineral Show registered as business and domain name.

Business arising from minutes: moved Central Coast, seconded Bathurst

**Correspondence:** See attached list.

**Business Arising:** GEMKHANA business name alternate – completed.

Batemans Bay email, publish short story, contact details, if you can help Batemans Bay out.

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

**Treasurer's Report:****Accounts for Payment**

1/ Trailer rego \$138.69

2/ Parra/Holroyd rent of meeting room

3/ Bob petrol for travel to Lismore – 5 yes, 5 no, chair casting vote yes. Fuel claim passed.

4/ \$360.00 approved for flyers

Motion: Approval for claims for petrol costs on travel must be approved by the committee prior to the travel. Moved Orange seconded Central Coast. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report accepted Moved: Port Hacking seconded: Goulburn

### **J&R Report:**

- 1/ Hawkesbury Show Judging - Paul Sabolta, interesting day
- 2/ Central Coast 16 September
- 3/ State Gem & Mineral Show/ GEMKHANA judging 2 September
- 4/ Parramatta/Holroyd show judging 21 October

**Webmaster:** Domain name added State Gem& Mineral Show. This has now be linked to the GEMKHANA page on the G & L website.

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

### **Education Report:**

1 /Teaching courses for Member clubs; So far 7 clubs have taken up the offer. They are, Orange, Western Suburbs, Central Coast, Northern Districts, Goulburn, Bathurst, Parramatta/Holroyd. Bone to be sourced for carving – secretary & president to investigate.

**Social Media:** No report

**Mail Person:** Printing- \$107.69, stamps - \$196.79 balance of money still in hand \$326.96

### **State Gem & Mineral Show (GEMKHANA)**

- 1/ 20 Corflute signs A1 size plus Garden stakes to be purchased, plus, directional arrows, colour & cost.
- 2/ Large signs lettering to be changed from white to black- investigate
- 3/ Working bee to be May 6 & 7<sup>th</sup> May Parramatta/Holroyd Club - completed
- 4/Where did you hear about GEMKHANA Survey to be redone in September? It was also suggested that we ask for email addresses- secretary to design one for next meeting.
- 5/ Traders have been contacted with contracts - completed
- 6/ Free tables to financial Member Clubs at show, 3 clubs- Western Suburbs, Northern Districts, AFG (demonstration).
- 7/ Camping at the showground on all advertising material
- 8/ Business name – completed **State Gem & Mineral Show**

### **GEMBOREE**

- 1/ 2<sup>nd</sup> choice ideas coming in.
- 2/ Hawkesbury showground suggested. Committee to investigate.

Reports to be accepted moved: Port Hacking, Seconded: Bathurst

### **GENERAL BUSINESS: Nil**

Moved: Parramatta/Holroyd Seconded: Western Suburbs

Meeting closed: 2.35pm



**RENAMING AN ICONIC SHOW**

The show known as the GEMKHANA has been renamed to the **STATE GEM AND MINERAL SHOW.**

The reason being there was a lot of confusion with the GYMKHANA which means an event in which horses and riders display skill and aptitude in various races and contests. Particularly when our event is held at the Hawkesbury showground, Racecourse Road, Clarendon. A lot of the public thought that the GEMKHANA was a horse event.

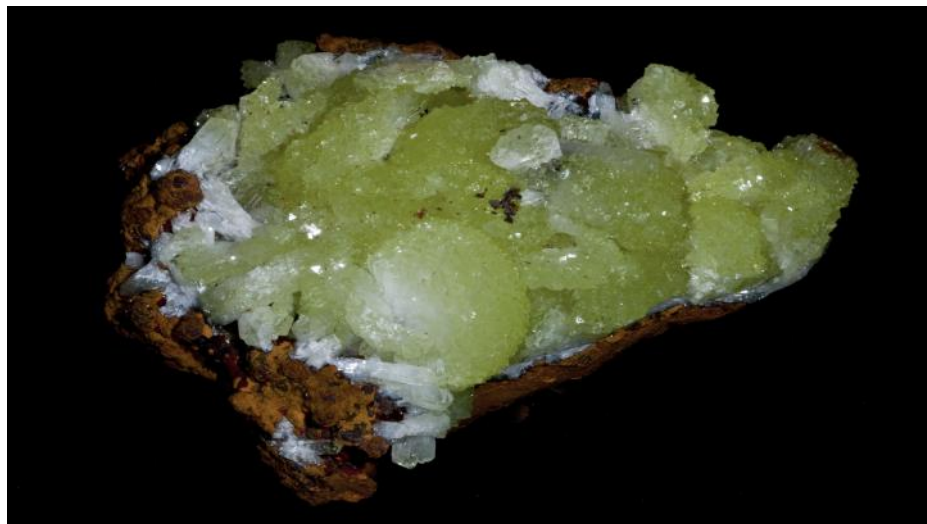
The Competition is still the "GEMKHANA competition" as this known to all lapidary people and will not change. It is only the name of the show, which has been changed.

As in the past everything else remains the same - there still will be outside and inside traders with their lovely items for sale. Clubs can have a free table inside to sell Club items only. Do not forget that there is plenty of camping available.

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**Adamite** -  $Zn_2(78mm \times 60AsO_4)(OH)$ 

Specimen size mm x 36mm



Specimen Locality OJUELA MINE, MAPIMI, DURANGO, MEXICO .Fluorescent under both long wave and short-wave UV light, Crystal system: Orthorhombic

Batemans Bay Lapidary Club Inc.

Website: <https://batemansbaylapidaryclub.org/>



## HELP NEEDED FOR BATEMANS BAY LAPIDARY CLUB

### Our story

We are a not-for-profit organization founded in 1985 when 26 local persons interested in Geology, Lapidary and Fossicking attended an Inaugural Lapidary meeting at the Batemans Bay CWA Hall on Thursday 28th February when it was officially moved to form a Lapidary Club and named the Batemans Bay Lapidary Club. We are registered with the NSW Fair Trading Inc No Y0691419, a member of the Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW Inc. who are members of The Australian Federation of Lapidary and Allied Crafts Association (AFLACA).

At present we have 64 members including 5 honorary and 1 life member. The Aims and objectives of our club are to:

Promote interest and participation in the lapidary and associated crafts and the science of gemology.

Provide a program of activities including excursions, education, meetings, exhibitions, and demonstrations, which will, further these objectives.

Support and promote the responsible development of Australia's gemstone and mineral resources in the interest of both the amateur craftsperson and the Australian gemstone industry.

Establish and maintain a Workshop in which members may learn and practice lapidary craft.

Since the beginning our club strived to establish a workshop and finally achieved this in 2018 when we received an invitation from the owner of the Mogo Original Gold Rush Colony, Maureen Nathan, inviting us to use an old slab hut to perform Lapidary activities.

Then in late December 2019 bushfires destroyed the Original Goldrush Colony at Mogo and parts of the village.

The NSW government issued a disaster declaration registered with an Australian Government reference number (AGRN) for the financial year 2019-20, AGRN 871.



Our workshop activities stopped for some time until our president allowed his home carport to be used temporarily for our members to continue operations.

Later that year the Batemans Bay Heritage Museum announced a “gem of a partnership” by hosting the Batemans Bay Lapidary club following bushfire destruction of our former home in Mogo’s original gold rush colony.

This has allowed us to continue limited operation in an outside environment weather permitting.

Our local Eurobodalla Shire Council has issued a Mogo Village Activation Plan 2022 and invited our club to rebuild a fit for purpose workshop and clubhouse in an Artisans Centre there to be part of the local economic recovery of Mogo after the 2019/20 bushfires that destroyed parts of the village.

We now have a chance to recover from this disaster if funds come our way to fund this project, and the Eurobodalla Shire Council have provided us with a letter of support.

Along with 3 other clubs similarly affected we are in the process with Council to rebuild there, and a DA has been submitted, currently Council have released a public notice for submissions of support for this development.

Our message to our members reads as follows:

The Council has now released a Public Notice allowing for the community to comment in relation to the Artisans Centre development.

This is Council procedure to dealing with our DA, because should there be an excess of objections, our DA will not proceed.

The BBLC club came into this project after 3 years of effort by the Woodies and MATAMA, and our opportunity for a workshop at the Artisans Centre is now or never, so the time has come for **all members who want this to go ahead** to join in that effort and submit a favourable comment to Council, supporting the idea.

We would ask you all to not only put your submission in, but encourage non-members, friends, neighbours etc, to do the same. In some ways, “outside” submissions may carry more weight.

Some considerations for you to register your support are:

The members of the BBLC are pleased that development of the Artisans Centre will finally provide a fit for purpose replacement of our bushfire destroyed former workshop at the Original Gold Rush Colony.

We believe that this will build Community resilience to recover from the bushfire devastation of 2019/20 that destroyed parts of Mogo, and the development of the Artisans Centre will provide an additional tourist feature, much needed to restore the village of Mogo.

Supporting the community with investment in infrastructure and development by our group of Artisans will promote tourism, and for our members restore individual and community health and social wellbeing, physical & mental health, and offering people to participate in social and community activities at this new centre.

If you highlight the link below, “Copy” and then “Paste” to your search engine, “Google” etc, it will take you directly to the linked page.

<https://www.esc.nsw.gov.au/council/have-your-say/public-exhibition/other/public-notice-lease-for-mogo-artisans-community-facility-mogo>

We hope to receive all the help we can get to get this done.

Best regards  
Bob Kolderie  
Secretary  
BBLC Inc.  
Email: batemansbaylapidaryclub@gmail.com



## **FACETING JUDGES COURSE**

Paul Sabolta will be conducting a Faceting Judges course on 30 –31 August 2023 at Narrabri. It will be held prior to the AFG Muster which is on 2-3 September 2023.

This is a great chance for anyone who wishes to become a faceting judge. It is very rewarding pastime and the benefits are many. It also means that you will be giving back to your hobby in very important manner.

Please consider and ring Paul on 0415 211 478 or email him on atlobas53@yahoo.com.au

**Fossicking Trip to Bellata—6th. April 2023**

A group from ***Goulburn Gem and Lapidary Club Inc.*** went on a fossicking trip to Bellata over the Easter break. We found some nice rocks to cut and polish and some good size jaspers to practice carving on. We went to a few pits to collect these stones.

We had set up camp at the Bellata Golf Club at \$20-00 per night for a powered site. There was six of us in the group. We had a camp fire some nights.

We went across to Inverell on Easter Sunday and out to Billabong Blue to look for some sapphires, but they ran out of material by 11-00 a.m. so that didn't happen.

We went back to Inverell to the Inverell Lapidary Gem Club to have a look at their club. We were made very welcome by their members.

Saturday night we were all invited to a family dinner with some of the local people. It was a great night.

Some of our members went home on the Monday for work and other commitments.

Joe and I were invited to have a look at a pit on another property but were told we couldn't take anything from there. We approached property owners for permission to fossick on their properties and were told under no circumstances there has been too much damage done by opportunistic fossickers, who are cutting locks and fences. They are using drones to locate these areas.

We came home on Tuesday. It was a good trip all around with good company as well.



**ONE MONTH TO GO !!!!!!!!!!!!**

**IMPORTANT OFFER FOR ALL FINANCIAL MEMBER CLUBS OF THE  
GEM AND LAPIDARY COUNCIL OF NSW**

Member Clubs will be asked if they want an education/teaching course.

The Clubs need to send a letter/email in (with their club letterhead) saying what course they would like – First course and a second choice, courses as per the sections of the judging manual or courses to educate the clubs on running competitions or similar.

**The offer ends 30 June 2023**, clubs will get one course each, to which the gem and Lapidary Council will pay up to \$500 max - \$300 to tutor and \$200 for incidentals.

If your Club is interested please respond within the time frame shown.

If you need further information please contact the secretary via email [secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au](mailto:secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au)

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## **Robilt Lapidary Supplies**

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# 2023 State **GEM** and Mineral Show



Formerly know as the GEMKHANA Run by the Gem and Lapidary Council of NSW

*9am - 5pm Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September*

## *Featuring*



- ➔ Hand crafted Jewellery.
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- ➔ Polished Stones.(Cabochons)
- ➔ Stone Carving.
- ➔ Minerals & Fossils.



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*Camping is also available on site.*

**Hawkesbury District Agricultural Show Grounds**

**40 Racecourse Rd, Clarendon.**

Traders will be offering:- Jewellery, Crystals, Minerals, Cut

Stones, Lapidary Equipment, Faceting Rough and Slabs.

**Gem Cutting Demonstrations.**

**Adults \$10 Children under 16 Free**

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/>

- ◇ **8—9 July 2023**—Campbelltown & District Lapidary Club—Annual Gem & Mineral Exhibition, Greg Percival Community Centre, Ingleburn
- ◇ **22 July 2023**—Central Coast Lapidary Club – Annual Rock Auction- at the Clubrooms
- ◇ **23 –24 September 2023**—***State Gem and Mineral Show*** / GEMKHANA, Hawkesbury Show-ground, Clarendon
- ◇ **13—20th October 2023** -Open House—Inverell and District Lapidary Club, Inverell Lapidary Centre, McIlveen St, Inverell
- ◇ **14 –15 October 2023**—Central Coast Lapidary, Crystal, Gem and Jewellery Show—Mingara Events Centre