



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).

EXECUTIVE

President	Barbara Try O.A.M. (Northern Districts) 0417 676 435
Senior Vice President	Tony Offord (Port Hacking)
Vice president	Tony Try (Central Coast)
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Assistant Treasurer	Tony Offord (Port Hacking)
Committee:	Sue O'Neil (Goulburn) Joe O'Neil (Goulburn) Marcia Hill (Western Suburbs)

APPOINTMENTS

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Equipment Officer	Mick Lane
G&L News Mailman	Sue O'Neil
Education Officer	Paul Sabolta
GEMBOREE Coordinator	Tony Offord
State Gem & Mineral Show Coordinator	Tony Offord with Robert Porter
AFLACA delegates	Barbara Try (voting) and Tony Try (non-voting)
Social Media Officer	Kim Cooke
AFLACA J&R delegates	Barbara Try (voting) and Kathy Selwood (non-voting)
Archivist	Barbara Try

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: February 28, 2024

EDITOR'S NOTES

I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year.

This is the first Newsletter for 2024 so I hope you enjoy it.

If you have an article, or a show you wish to advertise in future newsletters please send them in.

Due to increased Cost for postage and printing please let the Council know if you will receive the newsletter via email only.

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:

Fourth Friday 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

I trust everyone had a relaxing Festive Season and ready to start work on your Lapidary projects.

The Education Courses are still in progress with Faceting, Wire Wrapping, Fossil and Mineral appreciation and two more Silver Jewellery to be completed in the coming months.

I would ask all club to go on the G & L Council's website to ensure your information is accurate and the contacts are correct. If you would like a change made, please contact Kathy our secretary and she will ensure your information is updated.

<http://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/>

Barbara J Try OAM
President

Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 13 December 2023**Held at Parramatta Holroyd Club Fullagar Rd Wentworthville**

The meeting was opened at 1:00pm by President Northern Districts (Barbara Try), who welcomed delegates from the following clubs: Central Coast (Tony Try), Port Hacking (Tony Offord) Parramatta/Holroyd (Ray Powell), AFG (Paul Sabolta), Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill, Ainslie Flynn), Orange (Kathy Selwood), Illawarra (Joan Zealey), Blaxland (Robert Kneale). Blue Mountain (Mick Lane), Goulburn (Joe & Sue O'Neil), Fairfield (Karen & Jim Waghorn). **Apologies:** Blue Mountain (Kim Cooke), Bathurst (Robert Porter), Blaxland (Pam & Alec Gardiner). **Moved:** Central Coast, seconded: Blue Mountain that apologies be accepted.

Confirm Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 22 November 2023. Moved: AFG, **seconded:** Western Suburbs that minutes be accepted.

Business arising from previous minutes: 1/ Beckwith reply sent. 2/ Annual reports are all in.

Correspondence: See attached list. **Business arising from correspondence:** 1/ Campbelltown will be discussed in Education. That Inward Correspondence be received, Outward Correspondence be endorsed and business arising be approved. Parramatta/Holroyd seconded: Illawarra

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report accepted Moved: Fairfield seconded: Goulburn.

REPORTS**J&R Report:**

1/ J & R Committee has approved changes to J & R Manual to be submitted for AFLACA J & R Meeting at Willunga

GEMKHANA Competition:

1/ 2024 schedule in hand, Paul to look into faceting diagrams.

Webmaster: - No Report

G&L NEWS Editor: - No Report

Education Report: 1/ To Do- **Northern Districts-** faceting (Feb), **Orange-** minerals (March), **Parramatta** scrimshaw (13&14 Jan), **Blue Mountains** Wire wrapping (end Jan). **Illawarra** – Cabs (20&21 Jan), **Port Hacking** – Enamelling (15&16 Jan), **Fairfield** – silver beginner (6&7 Feb), **Campbelltown** – silver (June or July). 2/ Completed: **Goulburn, Western Suburbs, Bathurst, Blaxland, Bankstown, Central Coast.**

Social Media: Can I please make a suggestion. When you have locked in the 2024 date for the SG&MS it would be a good idea to email Australian Gold, Gem and Treasure Magazine ASAP with the details to ensure as much notice to traders and the public as possible. As you may know, it's free. However, it takes about 3 months from notifying them to publishing. Tony Offord to follow up.

Mail Person: Expenses \$167.20. A meeting is planned in New Year to discuss all costs.

STATE GEM & MINERAL SHOW

1/ Final contracts for 2024 to be in by DEC 31st 2023 to be eligible for 2023 price, so far 16.

2/ 2024 Coordinator – Tony asked to stand at the AGM

3/ Cost per metre to meet the increase in the cost of the tables 2024 outdoors by \$5 per space & indoor \$5.00 per metre.

4/ Show flyers - paper & design to be looked at for 2024

5/ Dealers with findings – discussions in hand

6/ Advertising – Where & what type

7/ Special signage – disabled parking, speed limit, traders in main hall.

GEMBOREE 2028

1/ Parkes show ground need to visit next year on way to SA, date to be arranged

2/ Trophies, any ideas put your thinking caps on. 2 suggestions made, secretary to investigate.

Reports to be accepted moved: Port Hacking Seconded: Blaxland

GENERAL BUSINESS: None - Meeting closed: 1.55pm - Next meeting: Wednesday 24 Jan, @ Parramatta Holroyd Club.

Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 24 January 2024**Held at Parramatta Holroyd Club Fullagar Rd Wentworthville**

The meeting was opened at 1:00pm by President Northern Districts (Barbara Try), who welcomed delegates from the following clubs: Central Coast (Tony Try), Port Hacking (Tony Offord) Parramatta/Holroyd (Ray Powell), AFG (Paul Sabolta), Western Suburbs (Ainslie Flynn), Orange (Kathy Selwood), Illawarra (Joan Zealey), Blaxland (Robert Kneale), Blue Mountain (Mick Lane), Goulburn (Joe & Sue O'Neil), Fairfield (Karen & Jim Waghorn). **Apologies:** Blue Mountain (Kim Cooke), Bathurst (Robert Porter), Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill)

Moved: Central Coast, seconded: Blue Mountain that apologies be accepted.

Confirm Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 13 December 2023. Moved: Central Coast **seconded:**

AFG that minutes be accepted.

Business arising from previous minutes: Nil

Correspondence: See attached list. **Business arising from correspondence:** 1/ Nepean, no reply to email as yet. 2/ Beckwith, discussed – Thank you for your correspondence. 3/ Hawkesbury – delegate no reply from club – Barb to confirm. That Inward Correspondence be received, Outward Correspondence be endorsed and business arising be approved. Orange seconded: Blue Mountain

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report accepted Moved: Orange seconded: Illawarra

REPORTS**J&R Report:**

1/ Hawkesbury Show schedule – judges need 15 April . 2/ Central Coast judging – August 4 Sunday

GEMKHANA Competition: 1/ 2024 schedule on web

Webmaster: - No Report

G&L NEWS Editor: - No Report, items from Courses from Parramatta, Port Hacking and Illawarra to be sent

Education Report: 1/ To Do- **Northern Districts**- faceting (10 & 11Feb), **Orange**- minerals (2 March), **Blue Mountains** Wire wrapping (10 & 11 Feb), **Fairfield** – silver beginner (6&7 Feb), **Campbelltown** – silver (June or July). 2/ Completed: **Goulburn, Western Suburbs, Bathurst, Blaxland, Bankstown, Central Coast, Parramatta, Illawarra, Port Hacking.** 3/ Paid courses: Lismore Cabs (20 & 21 April), Carving , Silver smithing.

Social Media: Can I please make a suggestion. When you have locked in the 2024 date for the SG&MS it would be a good idea to email Australian Gold, Gem and Treasure Magazine ASAP with the details to ensure as much notice to traders and the public as possible. As you may know, it's free. However, it takes about 3 months from notifying them to publishing. Tony Offord to follow up.

Mail Person: Emails sent Dec, Waiting on printer to come back from break for paper copies.

STATE GEM & MINERAL SHOW

1/ Traders contracts 11 inside, 7 outside so far. 2/ 2024 Coordinator – Tony O

3/ Cost per metre to meet the increase in the cost of the tables 2024 outdoors by \$5 per space & indoor \$5.00 per metre. 4/ Show flyers - paper & design to be looked at for 2024

5/ Dealers with findings – discussions in hand. 6/ Advertising – Where & what type

7/ Special signage – disabled parking, speed limit, traders in main hall.

GEMBOREE 2028

1/ Parkes show ground need to visit next year on way to SA, date to be arranged

2/ Trophies, secretary to chase 2 ideas given.

Reports to be accepted moved: Western Suburbs Seconded: Goulburn

GENERAL BUSINESS: None - Meeting closed: 2.25pm

Next meeting: Wednesday 28 Feb, @ Parramatta Holroyd Club. **Meeting dates for 2024:** 24 April, 22 May, 26 June, 24 July, 28 Aug, Hawkesbury 25 Sept, 23 Oct, 27 Nov, 11 Dec & AGM. Judging 7 Sept State Gem & Mineral Show.

**Natrolite**

$\text{Na}_2[\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{10}]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Specimen Locality: Bowral, NSW,

ENAMELLING WORKSHOP AT PORT HACKING LAPIDARY CLUB

On Sunday afternoon 14th January 2024 Barbara Try was at Port Hacking Lapidary Club setting up all the items needed for the enamelling workshop over the following two days. (Monday 15th, 9am to 4pm and Tuesday 16th, 9am to 4:30pm)

The club had an extremely good response from members to do the workshop with Merylyn, Sandra, Betty, Jenny, Denise, Clare, Lesley, Amanda, Natalie C, Natalie D, Josephine, Diane and Tom doing the workshop. Tom unfortunately, was not able to do much of the workshop, being called home for an emergency house issue.

The workshop was highly successful with most participants finishing 4 or 5 pieces. All were very satisfied with their creations. So much so they are looking at doing further enamelling sessions in the future. Unfortunately for Port Hacking Lapidary Club the kiln trolley needs to be taken in and out of the storeroom for each session.

Barbara was good to add to our own equipment, anything that was needed to do the workshop. Thanks Barbara.

Thanks also goes to Col Wright for spending all Monday and all Tuesday manning the kiln so that it was a safe working environment and all the firing was done in

an orderly fashion.

We express our thanks to the Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW for providing the tutor.

Thanks again, Barbara for giving up the time to do this enamelling workshop at Port Hacking Lapidary Club.

Tony Offord

President
Port Hacking Lapi-
dary Club



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SCRIMSHAW CLASSES Parramatta—13th / 14th JANUARY 2024

Those club members who took advantage of the generous educational offer extended to the club by the Gem and Lapidary Council, gained enormous benefit from the knowledge expounded by the tutor Kathy Selwood.

The subject selected by the club was Scrimshaw. It is a technique of scribing lines onto the surface of whale bones and whale teeth, usually by the whalers in the mid 19th century.

When the chosen design was drawn, and lines scribed onto the surface, they were then blackened by rubbing into the grooves, soot obtained from the ships lanterns.

In the tutorial, bones were selected, sanded very smoothly. Various designs were then drawn on the surface. They were then scribed, polished, and then blackened.

Those who participated in the event, found it extremely worthwhile and beneficial.

Ray Powell





Central Coast Silversmith Workshop, 25th & 26th November 2023

Earlier in the year when the G&L Council announced that they were offering courses to the clubs, our club sent out a survey to all members to see what craft they would like tuition in. Silver work was the most sort after course and very quickly we had a full class.

On the day, Kathy and Barbara arrived with a car full of equipment, unpacked and we were soon on our way to completing our first project. All of the ladies were enthusiastic and there were no questions that Kathy and Barbara couldn't patiently answer. By the end of the second day, we had all mostly completed three projects and had learnt many new skills. (and broken a few blades along the way!) There was lots of chit chat and a great time was had by all. Thank you to the G & L for this initiative and we look forward to a renewed interest in silver work within the club environment.

Carolyn Farbrother







Illawarra Cabbing Course

The Illawarra Cabbing Course was held over the weekend 20-21 Jan. There were 9 enthusiastic members in attendance all satisfactorily completing a Standard Cabochon. I'm sure they had a lot of fun.

Paul Sabolta

Marking out



Dopping





Shaping

Backs Done





Waiting to polish

Cabbing Done



A poster for a Rock Swap event. At the top, it says 'The Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc' with a logo. Below that, '★ ROCK SWAP ★' in large blue letters. A central white box contains the date 'Sunday, 25th February, 2024', time '8am to 2pm', location 'Stuart Park, North Wollongong', and 'Admission is FREE!'. To the right, a small box says 'Kid's Rock Scramble at 12 Noon'. At the bottom left, a box lists 'Stalls selling, Crystals, Minerals, Fossils, Jewellery, Equipment and Books'. Below that are Facebook and website links. The background shows a park scene with people and rocks.

The Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc

★ **ROCK SWAP** ★

Sunday, 25th February, 2024
8am to 2pm
Stuart Park, North Wollongong
Admission is FREE!

Kid's Rock Scramble at 12 Noon

**Stalls selling,
Crystals, Minerals, Fossils,
Jewellery, Equipment
and Books**

Find us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/illawarratlc>
OR
Visit our website:
www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au

A poster for an Open Day Market. The background is a collage of various colorful stones and minerals. Text is overlaid in white boxes. The top box says 'Campbelltown and Districts Lapidary Club's Open Day Market 9th March 2024 9am- 3pm'. The middle box lists items: 'Rocks, Crystals, Gemstones, Fossils Handcrafted Jewellery and Market stalls, BBQ, Cakes and Slices Cold and Hot Drinks'. The bottom box says 'Search 'Campbelltown Lapidary Club' on Google Maps to find us' and 'Lot 1 Bensley Road, Macquarie Fields'.

**Campbelltown and Districts Lapidary Club's
Open Day Market
9th March 2024
9am- 3pm**

**Rocks, Crystals, Gemstones, Fossils
Handcrafted Jewellery and Market
stalls, BBQ, Cakes and Slices
Cold and Hot Drinks**

**Search 'Campbelltown Lapidary Club'
on Google Maps to find us**

**Lot 1 Bensley Road,
Macquarie Fields**

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/>

- ◇ **25 February 2024** Illawarra Lapidary Club, Rock Swap - Stuart Park, North Wollongong 8am – 2pm
- ◇ **9 March 2024** - Open Day Campbelltown and Districts Lapidary Club Inc. At their clubhouse.
- ◇ **29 March-1 April 2024** GEMBOREE Willungs SA, booklet may be downloaded from AFLACA website <https://aflaca.org.au/gemboree/>
- ◇ **12-14 April 2024**, Reliance Bank Royal Bathurst Show, lapidary section.
- ◇ **13-14 July 2024**, 44th Annual Gem Show & Exhibition, Campbelltown and Districts Lapidary Club, Greg Percival Centre, Ingleburn
- ◇ **28-29 September 2024** State Gem and Mineral Show— (Gemkarna Competition), Hawkesbury Agricultural Showground
- ◇ **11-12 October 2024**, Gem & Craft Show, Inverell & District Lapidary Club Inc