



Gem & Lapidary News
September
2024

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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) |
| Secretary | Kathy Selwood (Orange) 6362 7917 secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au |
| Minutes Secretary | Mick Lane (Blue Mountains) |
| Treasurer | Vacant |
| Assistant Treasurer | Tony Offord (Port Hacking) |
| Committee: | Sue O'Neil (Goulburn) Joe O'Neil (Goulburn) Marcia Hill (Western Suburbs) |

APPOINTMENTS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Public Officer | Paul Sabolta |
| Auditor | Colin Russell |
| Editor | David Wilson editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au |
| Webmaster | Alex Maitland (Temporary Webmaster) webmaster@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au |
| 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, for this month the Executive will meet at the Hawkesbury Showground at 2pm

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: 25 September 2024

EDITOR'S NOTES

Its September already, this years is going fast, just around the corner we have the State Gem and Mineral show, see you there.

Hope you enjoy this newsletter.

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 can 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

Only four weeks to go before the State Gem and Mineral Show. The entries for the GEMKHANA have closed and the Judging will take place on 7th September at the Club rooms of Parramatta/Holroyd Lapidary Club.

Nepean District Lapidary Club sent a delegate to the Council Committee meeting last Wednesday which was great to see.

Please read the upcoming events page to see what is on and what Clubs are holding their shows and where.

On a serious note most clubs have been advised by the ATO that a self-assessment or a self-review is required. This will depend on what your status is with the ATO. Please do not ignore this requirement and if you need advice the Council is recommending that you talk to a tax accountant for legal advice to help you.

Barbara J Try OAM

President

Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 28 August 2024**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), Blue Mountain (Mick Lane), AFG (Paul Sabolta), Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill & Ainsley Flynn) Orange (Kathy Selwood), Port Hacking (Tony Offord), Blaxland (Robert Kneale), Fairfield (Karen & Jim Wag-horn), Nepean (Nicholas Mecser), **Apologies:** Blue Mountains (Kim Cooke), Illawarra (Joan Zealy), Bathurst (Robert Porter), Goulburn (Sue & Joe O'Neil), **Visitor:** Nepean (Terry Vanhoff): **Moved:** AFG seconded Central Coast that apologies be accepted.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 24 July 2024. Moved Blue Mountain seconded, Parramatta/Holroyd that minutes be accepted.

Business Arising from last minutes: 1/ Exec to talk to a person about the taxation office "Your self-review reporting obligation" for all not-for-profit organisations was done. The advice given will be acted upon and the flow on is that a recommendation that the council use YBM accountants to act as official ATO tax agent on behalf of G & L Council. This motion was moved by NDLC and seconded by Orange - passed

Correspondence: See attached list

Business arising from correspondence.

- 1/ Newcastle, regards insurance
- 2/ Nepean delegate welcomed

Moved Orange seconded Western Suburbs that Inward Correspondence be received, Outward Correspondence be endorsed, and business arising be approved.

Treasurer's Report: **Moved** Fairfield seconded Nepean that the report be accepted and accounts for payment be paid.

Reports:**J&R Report:**

- 1/ Central Coast judging completed
- 2/ Judging for GEMKHANA 7th September at Parramatta
- 3/ NDLC judging 5 October
- 4/ Parramatta judging 12 October
- 5/ Illawarra judging 20 October

GEMKHANA Competition:

- 1/ Entries close today.

Webmaster: Added another email address for Public Officer

G&L NEWS Editor: No report

Education Report:

- 1/ Orange minerals (delayed)
- 2/ Campbelltown-Silver (27&28th July) (Kathy Selwood)
- 3/ Lismore Carving course 29&30th June - completed
- 4/Lismore jewellery course delayed till next year
- 5/Port Hacking advanced enamelling to be arranged.
- 6/Bathurst advanced Enamelling to be arranged.
- 7/ Illawarra carving course Kathy to chase up.
- 8/ Illawarra Jewellery course specifically to do Claw Setting – Ainsley Flynn date to be set
- 9/ Hawksbury faceting course 3-4 people – No detail yet

Mail Person: no report

STATE GEM & MINERAL SHOW

- 1/ Traders contracts are coming in.
- 2/ Signage to purchase Tony done

- 4/ 5 Clubs have taken up the offered of free tables, AFG, NDLC, WSLC, BM, PH,
- 5/ booked banner pole 17 Sept
- 6/ Test & tag of leads 7 July or at show
- 7/ Coffee van, Lions Club and others booked
- 8/ new layout plan don
- 9/ Raffle prizes

Social Media:

- 1/Advertising for State Gem & Mineral Show underway.
- 2/ Tony Offord to chase traders who have put their contracts in for advertising material

GEMBOREE

- 1/Parkes Showground contacted.
- 2/ Trophies, secretary to chase 3 ideas

Reports to be accepted moved Blaxland Seconded: Parramatta/Holroyd

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- 1/ Purchase a computer, software & terabyte drive for backup moved Parramatta/Holroyd seconded Port Hacking
- 2/ G & L to purchase a portable speaker system \$879.99 moved Blue Mountain seconded AFG
- 3/ Nepean asked if they could have a faceting course in the near future. Education Officer Paul will arrange a date and report back.

That general Business be accepted Moved: Fairfield seconded: Northern Districts

Meeting closed: 2.05pm

Next meeting: 25th September, Hawkesbury Showground at 2pm

Meeting dates for 2024: 23rd October, 27th November, 11 December & AGM.

Emmaville Mining Museum

On the editor's yearly sojourn north for winter and almost warmer weather, we called into the Emmaville Mining Museum. It had been a number of years since we last called into the Museum so we thought it was about time to have another look.

It was good to see that they are still going strong and have added a few more collections and rooms to there already wonderful display. If you have not been for a while it's worth the detour to have another look. In one of the collections, they had acquired there is a mystery mineral that did not come with its label. A google search came up with a few likely possibilities. See what you think the picture is on the top of page 8.

2024 STATE GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

SATURDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 9am - 5pm
SUNDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 9am - 4pm



**FREE PARKING AND
ATM ON SITE**

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*HAWKESBURY DISTRICT
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- POLISHED STONES (CABOCHONS)
- STONE CARVING
- MINERALS & FOSSILS
- CRYSTALS

**CONTACT:
TONY OFFORD**

gemkhana@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

<https://www.facebook.com/gemlapidarycouncilnsw/>

STATE GEM AND MINERAL SHOW FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GEMKHANA RUN BY THE GEM AND LAPIDARY COUNCIL OF NSW

Note: The Katoomba Family Hotel is donating a meal for two and overnight accommodation for one evening for our Raffle at the Show. We thank them very much. The Gem Council appreciates the support we receive from The Katoomba Family Hotel



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CLEAVAGE: Continued DESCRIPTIVE TERMS FOR CLEAVAGE

Perfect – Mica, topaz

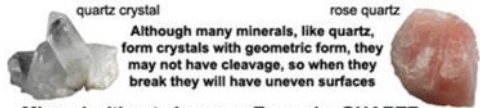
Good – calcite

Poor – Chrysoberyl

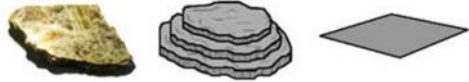
Indiscernible (Indistinct) – beryl

None – quartz

Broken surfaces may show evidence of cleavage, by "steps and stairs", or a series of small, plane surfaces indicating two or three cleavage directions. An iridescent reflection from a surface or from within a transparent mineral often indicates a cleavage surface or incipient cleavage. A regular pattern of short,



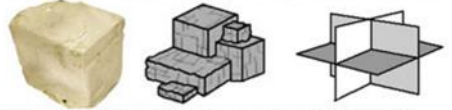
Mineral without cleavage. Example: QUARTZ



Cleavage in one direction. Example: MUSCOVITE



Cleavage in two directions. Example: FELDSPAR



Cleavage in three directions. Example: HALITE



Cleavage in three directions: Example: CALCITE



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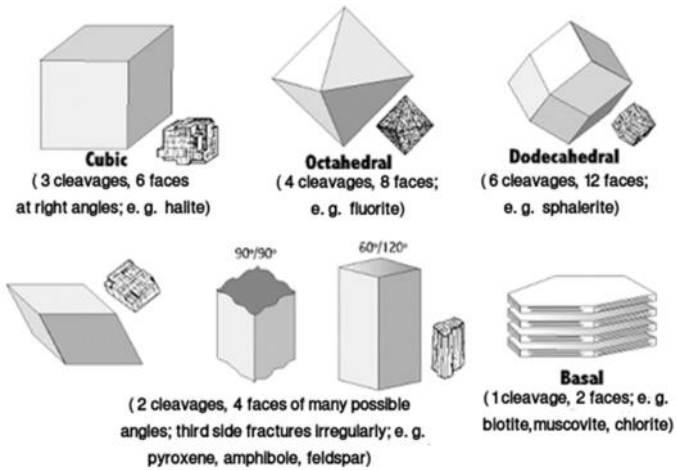
<https://www.gemcuts.com.au/>

linear traces (fine, straight cracks) on one surface may be caused by cleavage planes intersecting that surface.

Not all crystalline materials show cleavage. But if cleavage does occur, then it indicates that the substance is indeed crystalline, and cannot be amorphous.

Because cleavage is a weakness in the structure, those substances showing it to the least extent, are really the most likely to be suitable for gemstones, e.g. garnets, quartz, spinel. Two exceptions are diamond and topaz in which the hardness compensates to a great extent for the cleavage.

Mineral Cleavage and Crystal Form

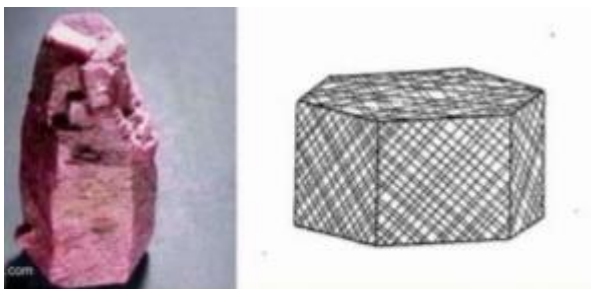


Difference Between Fracture and Cleavage



PARTING











False cleavage due to twinning* – corundum



***Twinning:** twin crystal is a crystal consisting of two or more portions of the same mineral crystal which have grown in such a way that some crystallographic plane is common to the parts of the twin. There are two main types of twin crystal - contact twins or interpenetrant twins.

HARDNESS

Mohs Hardness Scale

| Name | Scale Number | Common Object |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|
|  Diamond | 10 | |
|  Corundum | 9 | Masonry Drill Bit / 8.5 |
|  Topaz | 8 | |
|  Quartz | 7 | Steel Nail / 6.5 |
|  Orthoclase | 6 | Knife / 5.5 |
|  Apatite | 5 | |
|  Fluorite | 4 | Penny (Copper) / 3.5 |
|  Calcite | 3 | |
|  Gypsum | 2 | Fingernail / 2.5 |
|  Talc | 1 | |

To remember the Mohs Hardness scale, it is easy to make up a sentence that helps you remember above is just two examples starting with T for Talc:

The Gemmologist Can Find An Ordinary Quartz Tourist Call Diamonds

Two Giddy Chickens Found An Oddly Quiet Turtle Cooking Dinner

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DATES

**Sat 19th October 2024, 9am-5pm
Sun 20th October 2024, 9am-4pm**

VENUE

Mingara Events Centre
Wyong Rd, Tumbi Umbi NSW 2261

Adults \$5 entry fee
Children under 18 FREE

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

P: 02 4362 2246

E: secretarycclc@gmail.com

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**Northern Districts Lapidary Club
Present Our Biennial**

GEM & MINERAL SHOW

**Saturday 26th October 2024 9am to 5pm
Sunday 27th October 2024 9am to 3pm**

**Beecroft Community Centre,
Corner Beecroft Rd. & Copeland Rd, Beecroft**

**Adults \$5.00
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**Sale of Mineral Specimens, Crystals, Slabs & Fossils
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Books & Plants**

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**Tea, Coffee & Cakes
(gold coin donation)**

Enquire about Club Membership

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/>

- ◇ **28-29 September 2024** State Gem and Mineral Show—(Gemkarna Competition), Hawkesbury Agricultural Showground. <https://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/state-gem-and-mineral-show/>
- ◇ **11-13 October 2024**, Gem & Craft Show, Inverell & District Lapidary Club Inc. McIlveen St Inverell. Info Ross (02) 6721 4563.
- ◇ **19–20 October 2024** Central Coast Lapidary, Crystal, Gem & Jewellery Show, Mingara Events Centre, Wyong Rd, Tumbi Umbi, NSW. Phone: 02 4362 2246, Email: secretarycclc@gmail.com ,[facebook.com/centralcoastlapidaryclub](https://www.facebook.com/centralcoastlapidaryclub)
- ◇ **26-27 October 2024**, Biennial Gem & Mineral Show, Northern Districts Lapidary Club. Beecroft Community Centre, Corner Beecroft Rd & Copeland Rd, Beecroft.
- ◇ **2-3 November 2024** Jewellery Gems and Minerals Festival – Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc. – 62nd Anniversary, At Heining Hall, Ribbonwood Centre, 109 Princes Hwy, Dapto. <https://www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au>
- ◇ **2-3 November 2024** Canberra Spring Gemcraft & Mineral Show, Exhibition Park (EPIC) – Mallee Pavilion, Norm-0407 718 347, nmena-due@optusnet.com.au
- ◇ **8-10 November 2024** Cavalcade of Colour 2024, Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club.
- ◇ **9-10 November 2024**, Newcastle Lapidary Gem and Jewellery Fair-PCYC Newcastle. Free entry.
- ◇ **24 November 2024** “Open Day” Christmas Market – Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc 51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna. You can find us at our website <https://www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au> or like and follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/illawarralC>
- ◇ **18-21 April 2025**. Gemboree, Ballarat, St Helens Campus of the Federation University, Victoria