



**Gem & Lapidary News**  
**February**  
**2025**

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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 <a href="mailto:secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au">secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au</a>
Minutes Secretary	Mick Lane (Blue Mountains)
Treasurer	Vacant
Assistant Treasurer	Vacant
Committee:	Sue O'Neil (Goulburn) Joe O'Neil (Goulburn) Marcia Hill (Western Suburbs)

**APPOINTMENTS**

Public Officer	Paul Sabolta (AFG)
Auditor	Colin Russell (Port Hacking)
Editor	David Wilson (Canberra) <a href="mailto:editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au">editor@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au</a>
Webmaster	Hon Alex Maitland (Temporary Webmaster) <a href="mailto:webmaster@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au">webmaster@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au</a>
Equipment Officer	Mick Lane (Blue Mountains)
G&L News Mailman	Sue O'Neil (Goulburn)
Education Officer	Paul Sabolta (AFG)
GEMBOREE Coordinator	Tony Offord (Port Hacking) 2028
State Gem & Mineral Show Coordinator	Tony Offord (Port Hacking) with Robert Porter (Bathurst)
AFLACA delegates	Barbara Try (voting) and Kathy Selwood (non-voting)
Social Media Officer	Kim Cooke (Blue Mountains & Carolyn Farbrother (Central Coast))
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 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville, NSW

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: February 26 February 2025 12:30 start**

## EDITOR'S NOTES

This is the first Newsletter for 2025.

I 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.

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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:

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](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    1/4 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

The holidays are now over and we are planning for the next twelve months.

The first announcement is that the State Gem and Mineral Show will be on the Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025. This change is due to the RAAF holding an Airshow on the weekend we had booked. The Hawkesbury showground will be used for parking for their event. It is unfortunate that this has happened but we can only do our best with the new date. Please mark your calendars so that you do not forget the date.

The GEMKHANA Competition is held in conjunction with the State Gem and Mineral Show. The schedule is now up on the Gem and Lapidary Council website.

<https://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/state-gem-and-mineral-show/>

We have lots of educational courses requested and we are hoping to have them complete in the first part of the year.

Barbara J Try OAM  
President

**Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 11 December 2024**

Starting time: 12:30pm

Location: 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), Parramatta/Holroyd (Ray Powell), AFG (Paul Sabolta), Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill & Ainsley Flynn) Orange (Kathy Selwood), Port Hacking (Tony Offord), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane), Nepean (Nicholas Mecsery), Bathurst (Robert Porter), Goulburn (Sue & Joe O'Neil), Blaxland (Robert Kneale): **Apologies:** Blue Mountains (Kim Cooke), Illawarra (Joan Zealy): **Moved:** Central Coast seconded Western Suburbs those apologies be accepted.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** 27 November 2024 **Moved:** Blue Mountains seconded: AFG that minutes be accepted.

**Business Arising** from last minutes:

1/ Purchase a computer, software, terabyte drive for backup & a small printer, to be looked at in New Years

2/ Members of one club ok to go on fossicking trips with another club without being members?

2a/ If first club invites second club to a fossicking/outing then it is classes as a CLUB outing by the second club and would be covered by insurance.

**2b/ If a person from a second club not a club member to the first club, attends the first club fossicking /outing it would not be deemed a club outing by the second club and therefore that person would not be covered by insurance.**

**Correspondence: Business arising from correspondence.**

1/ NEW Date for State Gem & Mineral Show – 13 & 14 September 2025. This was due to the RAAF holding an Air Show on 27 & 28 September and the Hawkesbury Showground was required for their parking.

**Moved:** Orange seconded Bathurst that Inward Correspondence be received, Outward Correspondence be endorsed, and business arising be approved.

**Reports:**

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

**J&R Report:**

1/ Change to 2025 schedule Vic – Jack Bushby trophy needs to be 3 entries not 1

2/ Discussion on 3D wax printing in casting section of judging manual – this is considered as commercial waxes to be bought up at GEMBOREE to be sent to AFLACA.

**GEMKHANA Competition:**

1/ schedule for 2025, Paul to do Faceting, Barb & Kathy rest – for Jan 2025 meeting

2/ judging will be either 30 or 31 August 2025

3/ entries closing date would be 15 August 2025

**Webmaster:** No report

**G&L NEWS Editor:** No report

**Education Report:**

1/ Orange minerals (delayed)

2/ Nepean faceting course –completed

3/ Lismore courses 1&2/3, 29&30/3, 31/5 & 1/6 (Jewellery, Carving & Scrimshaw)

4/ Port Hacking advanced enamelling 24 & 25 February

5/ Bathurst advanced Enamelling March

6/ Illawarra carving course dates to be selected

7/ Illawarra Jewellery course Claw Setting – Ainsley Flynn – 2025 dates to be confirmed

8/ NSW Lapidary Club – faceting course – 2025 dates to be confirmed

**Mail Person:** Nov \$96.15 Balance \$408.55 Dec \$94.00 Balance \$314.55

### **STATE GEM & MINERAL SHOW**

- 1/ Meeting decided on 13 & 14 September 2025 for September 2025
- 2/ All Paperwork needs to be corrected, and bookings made for 13 & 14 September
- 3/ Banner pole to be booked
- 4/ Indoor & outdoor contracts decisions made
- 5/ 2025 pricing same as last year
- 6/ Catering to be contacted with new date to see if available
- 7/ Tractor inventory at GEMKHANA, invoice from storage people requested
- 8/ Permits needed from councils – Blue Mts & Penrith
- 9/ lockable chair seating to stop outside chairs going missing
- 10/ Traders need to be contacted with new date

**Social Media:** - No report

### **GEMBOREE**

- 1/ Parkes Showground revisit next year to be scheduled March 2025 Secretary to arrange
  - 2/ Trophies, to go with Robert Porter's proposal
- Reports to be accepted moved Goulburn Seconded: Parramatta/Holroyd

### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- 1/ G & L News advertisement 2025 contact business and start again.
- 2/ Nepean District club exec & what details would they like on Web site
- 3/ Hawkesbury delegate no longer delegate – 6 months absent.

General Business to be accepted moved Nepean Seconded: Northern Districts

**Meeting closed** 1.40pm, Next meeting: 22 Jan 2025, Parramatta/Holroyd

**Meeting dates for 2025:** 22 Jan, 26 Feb, 26 March, 23 April, 28 May, 25 June, 23 July, 27 August, 24 September State Gem & Mineral Show, 22 October, 26 November, 10 Dec & AGM.

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## **Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 22 January 2025**

Starting time: 1:00pm

Location: 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), Parramatta/Holroyd (Ray Powell), AFG (Paul Sabolta), Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill & Ainsley Flynn) Orange (Kathy Selwood), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane), Bathurst (Robert Porter), Goulburn (Sue & Joe O'Neil), Blaxland (Robert Kneale), Illawarra (Joan Zealy), Fairfield (Karen & Jim Waghorn): **Apologies:** Blue Mountains (Kim Cooke), Port Hacking (Tony Offord), Nepean (Nicholas Mecser): **Visitor:** Terry Vanhoff: **Moved:** AFG seconded Bathurst those apologies be accepted.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** 11 December 2024 **Moved:** Blue Mountains seconded: Western Suburbs that minutes be accepted.

**Business Arising** from last minutes:

- 1/ Purchase a computer, software, terabyte drive for backup & a small printer, completed
- 2/ Purchase of anti-virus software, 365 office & a network dongle. Moved Northern Districts seconded Western Suburbs that items be purchased. carried

**Correspondence: Business arising from correspondence.**

- 1/ Hawkesbury delegate resigned from position at their AGM in September.

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

**Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report:**

- 1/Change of registered address for council on banking details from 21 Edinburgh Drive Revesby Heights NSW 2212 to 18 Heath Place Orange 2800 NSW moved Northern Districts seconded Orange. carried
- 2/ A Lapidary club deposited on 2 Dec - JG NSW \$70.00? but invoice number has been cut off

**Moved:** Orange seconded Parramatta/Holroyd that the report be accepted and accounts for payment be paid.

**J&R Report:**

- 1/ Change to 2025 schedule Vic – Busby trophy needs to be 3 entries not 1 fixed
- 2/ Discussion on 3D wax printing in casting section of judging manual – this is considered as commercial waxes to be bought up at GEMBOREE to be sent to AFLACA
- 3/ J & R received a copy of 2027 schedule, corrections to be submitted back to TLMA

**GEMKHANA Competition:**

- 1/ schedule for 2025, on Web
- 2/ judging will be either 30 or 31 August 2025
- 3/ entries closing date is 15 August 2025

**Webmaster:** No report

**G&L NEWS Editor:** No report

**Education Report:**

- 1/ Orange minerals (delayed)
- 2/ Nepean faceting course –completed
- 3/ Lismore courses 1&2/3, 29&30/3, 31/5 & 1/6
- 4/ Port Hacking advanced enamelling 24 &25 February
- 5/ Bathurst advanced Enamellings 10 & 11 march
- 6/ Illawarra carving course dates 23 & 24 August
- 7/ Illawarra Jewellery course specifically to do Claw Setting – Ainsley Flynn 16 March 1 day \$150
- 8/ NSW Lapidary Club – faceting course – dates to be confirmed
- 9/ Hawkesbury faceting course – dates to be organised

**Mail Person:** December \$132.65 enveloped \$22.00 Balance \$182.00

**STATE GEM & MINERAL SHOW**

- 1/ Dates are 13 & 14 September 2025
- 2/ All Paperwork needs to be corrected, and bookings made for 13 & 14 September
- 3/ Banner pole to be booked
- 4/ Indoor & outdoor contracts decisions made going out
- 5/ 2025 pricing same as last year
- 6/ Catering to be contacted with new date to see if available
- 7/ Traylor inventory at GEMKHANA
- 8/ Permits needed from councils – Blue Mts & Penrith for road signs
- 9/ lockable chair seating to stop outside chairs going missing
- 10/ Traders need to be contacted with new date, done
- 11/ invoice from storage people completed

**Social media:** - No report

**GEMBOREE**

- 1/Parkes Showground revisit 12 March, 10am-12
- 2/ Trophies, to go with Robert proposal need to design & samples

That Reports be accepted **Moved:** Fairfield seconded: Blaxland

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- 1/ G & L News advertisement 2025 contact business and start again. AJ has already paid. Others have not been contacted yet.
- 2/ Orange Club to send out email to NSW club – re sale of excess equipment
- 3/ Canberra Judging 16 February 1-6pm – Judges to be organised.

That general Business be accepted **Moved:** Illawarra, seconded: Northern Districts

**Meeting closed** 1.40pm, Next meeting: 26 Feb 2025, Parramatta/Holroyd

**Meeting dates for 2025:** 26 March, 23 April, 28 May, 25 June, 23 July, 27 August, 24 September, 22 October, 26 November, 10 Dec & AGM.

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# GEMBOREE 2025

61<sup>st</sup> National Gem & Mineral Show

**Easter Weekend 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> April  
Ballarat Victoria**



Staged by  
Victorian Gem Clubs Association Inc  
Under the auspice of AFLACA Inc





## NSW State Gem and Mineral Show GEMKHANA 2025

The State Gem and Mineral Show, GEMKHANA 2025, will be held on Saturday **13th September and Sunday 14th September 2025** at Hawkesbury District Agricultural Showground, Clarendon. The show will feature handcrafted jewellery, faceted stones, polished stones (cabochons), stone carving, minerals, fossils and crystals. Traders will be on site selling jewellery, crystals, cut stones, lapidary equipment, faceting and slabs.

### **GEMKHANA 2024 – COMPETITION SCHEDULE AND CONDITIONS GENERAL CONDITIONS**

1. This is a Level 3 Competition and will be judged in accordance with the rules and definitions of the ***Competitor & Judging Manual for Lapidary and Allied Competitions Issue no. 8 April 2015***. (referred to in this Schedule as the Manual), unless otherwise stated in this Schedule.

2. All competitors are advised to familiarise themselves with all the “Conditions for Competitors” in the Manual (particularly pages 5 to 13)

3. Competitors should be aware of, or check their eligibility to enter a Novice or Intermediate Division either by: -

- Reading Section B4 of the manual (pages 6 & 7) relating to Competition Divisions, or by
- checking the updated results list on the AFLACA website (<http://aflaca.org.au>)

4. Enquiries, correspondence and ALL POSTAL ENTRIES relating to this Competition should be directed to:

**GEMKHANA Competition Committee 2025**

**P.O. Box 188**

**Orange NSW 2800**

**Phone enquiries to Kathy Selwood: 0437 917 074**

5. Maximum number of entries allowed is two (2) per person per section except for Showcase Sections where only one entry per person is allowed.

6. It is the Competitor’s responsibility to ensure that their entries are entered in the correct section and that the sections are correctly marked on the Entry Form. If in doubt ring the Competition Committee.

However, the Competition Committee may transfer an entry into another section if they are of the opinion that it has obviously been enter in the incorrect section.

7. Entry Fees: - \$1.00 per entry for the first 10 entries, thereafter free.

(Payable by cheque or money order to Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW Inc)

8. All entries not being collected in person at the GEMKHANA must be accompanied by the **cost of return post** or **pre-paid post bag** included with the entry form (see Page 13).

9. While every care will be taken, the GEMKHANA 2025 Committee will not accept any responsibility for the loss or damage of any entries or exhibits that may occur in transit or whilst in the possession of the GEMKHANA 2025 committee.

10. Competitors and exhibitors are responsible for the insurance of their entries or exhibits while in transit, and whilst in the possession of the GEMKHANA 2025 Committee.

**11. How to enter the Competition – Sections 1 to 4, 8 to 13 and 18 to 26**

a. Package up your entries to cushion them from damage whilst in transit – also see SC3.

b. Fill out an official entry form – see page 13 of this Schedule.

c. If you want acknowledgement of receipt of your entries, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

d. Organise a cheque or money order payable to the Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW Inc for the entry fees (and return express postage if you are not collecting the entries in person at the GEMKHANA.

e. Submit your Entries + Entry Form + All fees to the Competition Committee. This can either be: -

- By Express post to

**GEMKHANA 2025 Committee**

**P.O. Box 188 Orange**

**NSW 2800**

**They must be received by Friday 15th August 2025**

NOTE that late entries will not be eligible for competition and will be returned.

**12. How to Enter the Competition – Sections 5, 16, 17, 29, 32, 34 and showcases**

a. Send your Entry Form and All Entry Fees to arrive by Friday 15th August 2025 to:-

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**GEMKHANA 2025 Competition Committee**  
**P.O. Box 188 Orange**  
**NSW 2800**

b. Hand deliver the entries to the Competition committee in the Competition Hall at the **GEMKHANA 2025 VENUE** between **1pm and 5pm on Friday 12th September 2025**

c. Note that entries in Sections 29, 32 & 34 must be set up and ready in the Exhibition Hall by **5.00pm Friday 12th September 2024**

**13. Judging, Judging Sheets and Entry Pickup**

a. Entries in Sections 1 to 4, 8 to 13, 18 to 26 will be judged prior to the GEMKHANA.

b. Entries in Sections 5, 16, 17, 29, 32, and 34 will be judged at the GEMKHANA.

c. Judging Sheets may be collected from the Competition Office between 10am and 12 noon on **Sunday 14th September 2025**

d. Entries may be collected between 6pm and 7pm on **Sunday 14th September 2025**

e. Entries not collected will be returned to the competitor in the manner specified on the entry form together with the applicable judging sheets.

Competition Schedule for GEMKHANA 2025 is now available on our [State Gem and Mineral Show page](#)



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**I don't know if  
Facebook has ever  
caused the lame to  
walk but it has sure  
caused the dumb to  
speak.**



## Canberra Lapidary Club—Rock Swap

The 2025 Canberra Rock Swap will be held from 9am to 5.00pm on Saturday 22; and 9am to 4.00pm on Sunday 23 March.

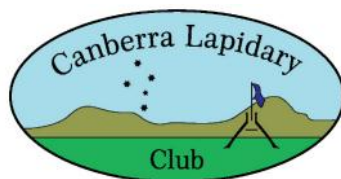
**Location:** Parrot Park, EPIC (Exhibition Park off the Federal Highway), Canberra.

**Entry fee:** nil.

Tailgaters and campers on site will be selling rocks, mineral specimens, crystals, jewellery, rough & cut gemstones, opals, and fossils.

The event is entirely outdoors in a camping area, with both campers and day sellers on site.

Food and drinks will be available for purchase.





**The Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc**

# ★ ROCK SWAP ★

**Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2025**

**8am to 2pm**

**Stuart Park, George Hanley Drive,  
Wollongong**

***Admission is Free !!!***



**Kid's Rock Scramble  
at 12 Noon**

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Crystals, Minerals, Fossils,  
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and Books**

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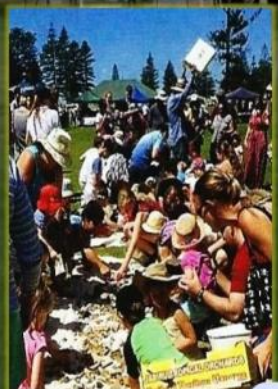
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OR Visit our website:

[www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au](http://www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au)







# New England Lapidary & Fossicking Club Inc.

## **34th ANNUAL GEM AND CRAFT SHOW** **ARMIDALE SHOWGROUND**

**Saturday March 15th 2025** 9am to 5pm

**Sunday March 16th 2025** 9am to 3pm

*See a spectacular array of:*

**Gems, Rocks, Crystals, Jewellery, Crafts  
Beads & Lapidary Books/Supplies/Equipment  
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Phone Mick: 0474 726 441

email: [nelfc@hotmail.com](mailto:nelfc@hotmail.com)



## 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/>

- ◇ **23 February 2025 Sunday** Rock Swap Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc, At Stuart Park, George Hanley Drive, North Wollongong, Between 8am and 2 pm. <https://www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au/>
- ◇ **8 March 2025** Campbelltown & Districts Lapidary Club Inc Open Day 9 am—3 pm Bensley Road, Macquarie Fields
- ◇ **15-16 March 2025** New England Lapidary Club, Annual Gem & Craft Show, Armidale Showground, Armidale, NSW. Contact Mick 6778 5122 or Kerry 0407 308 620, Mick 0474 726 441, email: [nelfc@hotmail.com](mailto:nelfc@hotmail.com)
- ◇ **22 March 2025** Saturday, Macleay Gem and Mineral Club, Nambucca-Macleay Annual Auction, 9am viewing for 10am start- Macksville Showgrounds, 111 Rodeo Dr, North Macksville NSW. Contact - [macleaygemandlapidaryclub@gmail.com](mailto:macleaygemandlapidaryclub@gmail.com)
- ◇ **20-23 March 2025** Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday - Sydney Stamp & Coin Expo 2025 , Wentworth Park Sporting Complex very close to the Sydney CBD
- ◇ **22-23 March 2025 Canberra Rock Swap**, Parrot Park, EPIC (Exhibition Park) off the Federal Highway), Mitchell, ACT. Contact [canberralapidary@gmail.com](mailto:canberralapidary@gmail.com) - Norm Menadue on (02) 6258 6631
- ◇ **18-21 April 2025**. Gemboree, Ballarat, St Helens Campus of the Federation University, Victoria. [2025 GEMBOREE Booklet](#)
- ◇ **4 May 2025** Sunday, Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc, Open Day - 51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna
- ◇ **24-25 May 2025** Canberra Lapidary Club Winter Show, Mallee Pavilion EPIC, Mitchell, ACT. Contact [canberralapidary@gmail.com](mailto:canberralapidary@gmail.com)- Norm Menadue on (02) 6258 6631
- ◇ **20 July 2025 Sunday**, Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc, Open Day Christmas in July - 51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna
- ◇ **13-14th September 2025** NSW State Gem and Mineral Show, GEMKHANA 2025 - Hawkesbury District Agricultural Showground, Clarendon
- ◇ **1-2 November 2025**, Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc, Jewellery Gems and Minerals Festival – 63rd Anniversary, Heininger Hall, Ribbonwood Centre, 109 Princes Hwy, Dapto
- ◇ **1-2 November 2025** Canberra Lapidary Club Spring Show, Mallee Pavilion EPIC, Mitchell, ACT. contact: [canberralapidary@gmail.com](mailto:canberralapidary@gmail.com)- Norm Menadue on (02) 6258 6631
- ◇ **30 November 2025** Sunday, Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc, Open Day Christmas Market - 51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna