



Gem & Lapidary News

July

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 secretary@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au
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)
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Webmaster	Hon Alex Maitland (Temporary Webmaster) webmaster@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au
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: 23 July 2025 12:30 start

EDITOR'S NOTES

We are now in Yowah QLD for most of the winter.

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.

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 1/4 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

The Council is very fortunate in that the venue for the State Gem & Mineral Show is completely full. There is no room for any additional traders, there is however still vacancies as outside traders.

12 Lapidary Clubs have taken up the offer of a free table to promote their club.

The Illawarra Lapidary Club is having a carving course on 23 & 24 August 2025.

A decision will be made by the end of the year as to where the GEMBOREE 2028 will be held.

Barbara J Try OAM
President

Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING of 25 June 2025

Starting time: 1:00pm

Location: Parramatta Holroyd Club

The meeting was opened at 1:00pm by Vice President Tony Offord (Port Hacking), who welcomed delegates from the following clubs: Parramatta/Holroyd (Ray Powell), Western Suburbs (Ainsley Flynn, Marcia Hill) Orange (Kathy Selwood), Blue Mountains (Mick Lane), Blaxland (Robert Kneale), Goulburn (Sue & Joe O'Neil), AFG (Paul Sabolta), Hawkesbury (Sue Crick), Nepean (Nicholas Mecser): Phone connection: Northern Districts (Barbara Try), Central Coast (Tony Try): **Apologies:** Blue Mountains (Kim Cooke), Bathurst (Robert Porter), Hawkesbury (Paul Crick), Illawarra (Joan Zealey): **Moved:** Blue Mountains seconded Hawkesbury those apologies be accepted.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 28 May 2025, **moved:** Western Suburbs seconded: Nepean that minutes be accepted.

Business Arising from last minutes:

- 1/ Purchase of anti-virus software, 365 Office & a network dongle, held over

Correspondence: See attached list

Business arising from correspondence.

- 1/ Hawkesbury banner pole booking, tentative booking due to new

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

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: **Moved** AFG seconded Port Hacking that the report be accepted and accounts for payment be paid.

J&R Report:

- 1/ Canberra judging costs – in hand with regional agriculture shows
- 2/ CCLC Judging day 11 October
- 3/ Illawarra exhibition 1 & 2 November, judges needed date to be arranged, entries close September 19.

GEMKHANA Competition:

- 1/ schedule for 2025, on Web
- 2/ judging will be 30 August 2025
- 3/ entries closing date is 15 August 2025
- 4/ test tagging will be available on 30 August and a BBQ
- 5/ Dave Wilson has changed postage to new ruling for paid signature for all competition items in G & L News.

Webmaster: No report

G&L NEWS Editor: No report

Education Report:

- 1/ Orange minerals (delayed)
- 2/ Lismore courses 31/5 & 1/6, wax carving & scrimshaw- completed
- 3/ Illawarra carving course dates 23 & 24 August
- 4/ NSW Lapidary Club – faceting course – still to setup dates
- 5/ Hawkesbury faceting course – still to setup dates

Mail Person: Printing \$37.66, Stamps \$60.00 total \$97.66 Balance \$187.44

STATE GEM & MINERAL SHOW

- 1/ Dates are 13 & 14 September 2025
- 2/ All traders to have paid for table space by 31 August.
- 3/ Banner pole tentatively booked with Windsor council.
- 4/ 100 new corflute signs & stickers have been ordered
- 5/ Hills 2 Hawkesbury magazine layout & proof ready

- 6/ 17 Trader's info sent to Facebook
- 7/ Tractor inventory at GEMKHANA
- 8/ Permits needed from councils & RMS – Blue Mts & Penrith for road signs
- 9/ Community Radio @ Blue Mts
- 10/ Hall is full
- 11/ Magazine advertising & looks up – what's on in Sydney
- 12/ Destination NSW sent electronic copy of flyer
- 13/ 14 – 15 Club tables
- 14/ Flyers to tourist info centres
- 15/ Hungry boards need to be taken into Hall layout design.

Social media: - traders' information being done

GEMBOREE

- 1/ Parkes Showground has been revisited, new hall not completed looking for grants. Cut off time for Gem Council is June/Dec 2025.
- 2/ Trophies, 10mm thick. Parramatta/Holroyd, Orange, Port Hacking (cut 41), Blaxland and NDLC have offered to cut. Goulburn (5), Western Suburbs (doing 36), have offered to polish. Col W has agreed to do wooden bases. Thankyou Col.
- 3/ Tables & chair hire, depending on venue
- 4/ Plan B discussed if Parkes pavilion is not completed in time – Mudgee has been contracted and pencilled in.
- 5/ Plan C Wagga Wagga being accessed.
- 6/ Schedule being worked on.
- 7/ western Suburbs showed the red & grey marble polished – looks good.
- 8/ End of October look at feasibility of Sites including Wagga Wagga, decision to be made.

That Reports be accepted Moved: Orange seconded: Blaxland

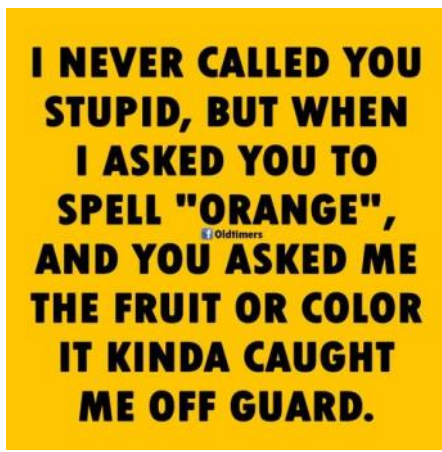
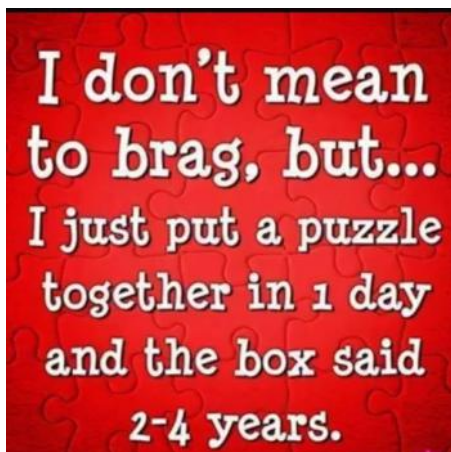
GENERAL BUSINESS:

- 1/ Thank you to Family Hotel for donation of a night's accommodation and meal for two in Katoomba.
- 2/ Nepean asked for GEMBOREE books 3.

That general Business be accepted Moved: Northern Districts, seconded: Central Coast
Meeting closed 1.25pm,

Meeting dates for 2025: 23 July 2025 Parramatta/Holroyd

Meeting dates 2025: 27 August, 24 September, 22 October, 26 November, 10 Dec & AGM.



Some Mineralogy and Gemmology Basics Continued

Geology – Rock Types - Continued

SEDIMENTARY:

Rocks are found and or formed on the surface and are a source of fossils.

Sedimentary Rocks are a product of the surface processes of the earth (weathering, erosion, rain, stream flow, wind, wave action, ocean circulation). The starting material for sedimentary rocks are the rocks outcropping on the continents. Processes of physical and chemical weathering break down these source materials into the following components:

- small fragments of the source rock (gravel, sand, or silt size) that may be identifiable rock fragments or individual minerals
- new minerals produced by weathering processes (mainly clays)
- dissolved portions of the source rock (dissolved salts in river and ocean water)

From accumulations of these materials (fragmental material, clays, and dissolved salts) all sediments on the earth's surface form. Sediments may form by:

- mere mechanical accumulation (wind, water) such as gravel and sand deposits in a river or sand dunes in a desert
- chemical precipitation, such as salt and calcite precipitation in shallow seas and lakes
- activity of organisms, such as carbonate accumulation in coral reefs (organic precipitation), or accumulation of organic matter in swamps (coal precursor)

Sedimentary rocks form when these initial sediments solidify by cementation and compaction.

2 Types:- **CLASTIC** (fragments) and **CHEMICAL** (biological).

4 STAGES OF CLASTIC :

1/ WEATHERING

Minerals/rocks formed beneath the earth's surface at high temperatures are unstable at Temperatures -10 to +30 degrees. Water (salt), expands on freezing and applies pressure. Hence pieces break off (Granite TORS – onion peel).

Water is the universal solvent pH5-8 is common and reacts with particularly Fe and K, Na & Ca of feldspars.

2/ TRANSPORTATION

- WATER: Abrasion with suspended particles - TUMBLING



Cont: Page 10

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.



GEMKHANA 2025 – 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:

Kathy Selwood

*****NOTE CHANGE IN ADDRESS*****

P.O. Box 188

Orange NSW 2800

Phone enquiries to Kathy Selwood: 0437 917 074 or Barbara Try 0417 676 435

5. Maximum number of entries allowed is two (2) per person per section except for Show-case 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, selfaddressed 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 ******NOTE CHANGE IN ADDRESS******

Kathy Selwood
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:

Kathy Selwood
P.O. Box 188 Orange
NSW 2800

******NOTE CHANGE IN ADDRESS******

- 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](#)

Continued from page 7

- ICE: Glaciers – U valleys – crush rocks – NZ lakes ‘flours’ (fine powder/silt)
- WIND: Sand blasted – Mesas – undercutting

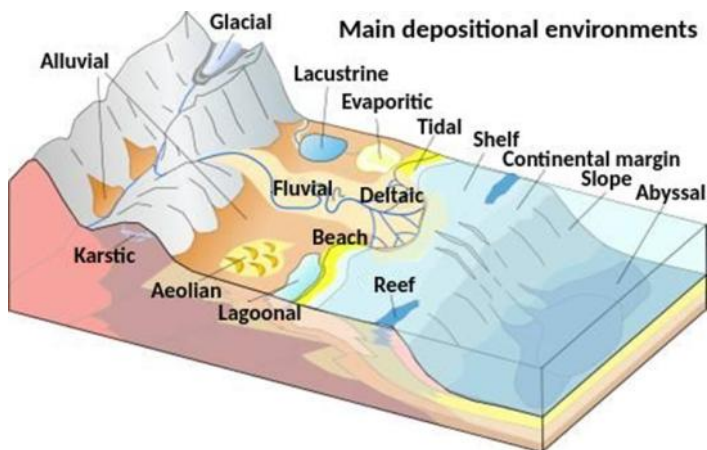
3/ DEPOSITION

The transportation agents lose their energy and deposit their load.

Placer Deposit in which can be found, Gold, Platinum etc, the majority of Sapphires, Spinel, Zircons in “the wash” derived from placer deposits.

These are deposits of heavy minerals, whilst lighter minerals are moved on again and again.

But eventually even sand and clays are deposited.



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4/ LITHIFICATION or CEMENTING

Deposits are buried – pressure squeezes out the water. In solution SiO_2 , CaCO_3 and Fe(OH)_2 acts as glues to cement the fragments together.

Clastic stages: conglomerate, Breccia.

Sandstone, mudstone, shale

CHEMICAL DEPOSITION

Precipitation from hot springs evaporates:- Salt, Gypsum, Calcite, Dolomite, Chert, Turquoise, Opal, Azurite.

The presences of fossils indicates **SEDIMENTATION**. Rocks often show layering and tend to split along planes.

Some common names:-

MARL – limestone and mudstone (dirty limestone)

GRAY WACK – Sandstone with clays and rock fragments

TUFF – Volcanic ash deposited in water

ARKOSE (Uluru - formerly Ayer's Rock) – Sandstone with high % (25%) feldspar



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2025 STATE GEM AND MINERAL SHOW



**FREE
PARKING AND
ATM ON SITE**

**ADULTS \$10
CHILDREN
UNDER 16 FREE**

**SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER - 9AM - 5PM
SUNDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER - 9AM - 4PM**

CAMPING SITES ALSO AVAILABLE

**HAWKESBURY DISTRICT
AGRICULTURAL SHOWGROUND
40 RACECOURSE ROAD
CLARENDON**

**TRADERS WILL BE OFFERING:
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FACETING AND SLABS**

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- HANDCRAFTED
JEWELLERY
- FACETED STONES
- POLISHED STONES
(CABOCHONS)
- STONE CARVING
- MINERALS & FOSSILS

**CONTACT:
TONY OFFORD**

**[https://gemlapidary
councilnsw.org.au/](https://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/)**

**[https://www.face book.
com/GemLapidary
CouncilNSW/](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 as prize for our Raffle at the 2025 State Gem and Mineral Show. We thank them very much. The Gem Council appreciates the support we receive from The Katoomba Family Hotel.



The Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.



OPEN DAY
CHRISTMAS IN JULY MARKET

SUNDAY 20 JULY 2025

At the Clubhouse: 51 Meadow Street,
Tarrawanna, 2518
9am—2pm

- ✦ **Stalls selling:** Gemstones, crystals, fossils, rough, minerals, books and beautiful handcrafted jewellery.
- ✦ **Morning Tea:** Homemade cakes and goodies.
- ✦ **Lunch:** Pies, sausage rolls and drinks available.

You can find us at our website www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au or follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/illawarralapidaryclub> or Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/illawarralapidaryclub/>




Campbelltown & Districts Lapidary Club

**20
25**

45TH ANNUAL GEM SHOW & EXHIBITION

SAT 12 JULY 2025
9.30AM - 5 PM &
SUN 13 JULY 2025
9.30AM - 4PM

Greg Percival Community Centre
Oxford Street, Ingleburn NSW




The Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.
proudly presents

**THE 63rd ANNUAL
JEWELLERY GEMS &
MINERALS FESTIVAL**

SAT 1 November – 9am to 4pm
SUN 2 November – 9am to 3pm

HEININGER HALL, 305 PRINCES HIGHWAY, DAPTO
PART OF THE RIBBONWOOD CENTRE

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- *Gemstone Faceting
- *Club Information
- *Mineral Group Display
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- *Gemming Competitions

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See you there!

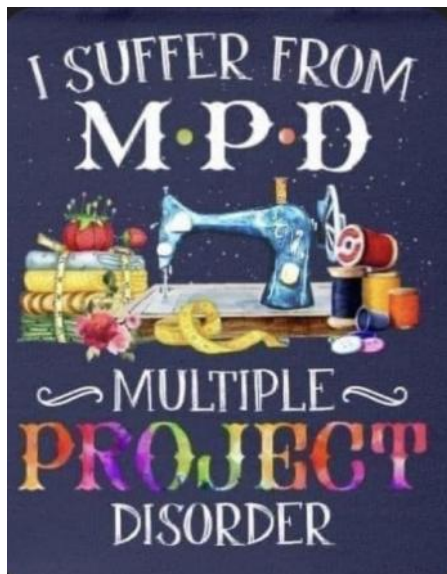



1-2 November 2025 Canberra Lapidary Club Spring Show

Mallee Pavilion EPIC, Mitchell,
ACT.

Canberra Lapidary Club Winter
Show, Mallee Pavilion EPIC,
Mitchell, ACT. Contact [canber-
ralapidity@gmail.com](mailto:canber-lapidity@gmail.com) - Norm
Menadue on (02) 6258 6631

2025 CLUB EXHIBITION









TREASURES FROM THE SUBCONTINENT

Where:
73 Fullagar Road
Wentworthville
7th - 9th November

When:
Friday: 9am - 4pm
Saturday: 9am - 4pm
Sunday: 9am - 4pm

Free Entry

Gems Minerals Jewellery For Sale

What's on:
Demonstrations
Childrens Craft
Novelty
Lucky Dip
Refreshments
Halal BBQ
Market Stalls




ILLAWARRA LAPIDARY CLUB INC.

OPEN DAY - CHRISTMAS MARKET
SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER, 2025
At Club House 51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna
9am—2pm



Stalls selling — Gemstones, crystals, fossils, rough, minerals, handcrafted jewellery and books

Morning Tea — Home made cakes & goodies

Lunch — Sausage sizzle and drinks available

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GEMBOREE 2026
62nd National Gem, Fossil, Mineral, Crystal and Jewellery Show
Easter Weekend
3 April – 6 April 2026
Nambour Showgrounds



GEMBOREE 2026
PO Box 574
Nambour QLD 4560
Organised by Queensland Gem & Lapidary Association Inc.
Under the auspices of AFLCA Inc.



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/>

- ◇ **12 -13 July 2025** 45TH Annual Gem Show & Exhibition 2025, Campbelltown & Districts Lapidary Club, Greg Percival Community Centre Oxford Street, Ingleburn NSW
- ◇ **20 July 2025 Sunday**, Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc, Open Day Christmas in July 9am to 2pm - 51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna
- ◇ **13-14th September 2025** NSW State Gem and Mineral Show, GEM-KHANA 2025 - Hawkesbury District Agricultural Showground, Clarendon
- ◇ **10-12th October 2025**, Inverell & District Lapidary Club Gem & Craft Show. 02 6721 4563.
- ◇ **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 - Norm Menadue on (02) 6258 6631
- ◇ **7-8 November 2025**, 2025 Club Exhibition, Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club Inc 72 Fullagar Road Wentworthville NSW. Fee entry 9am-4pm
- ◇ **30 November 2025** Sunday, Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc, Open Day Christmas Market -51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna
- ◇ **2026**
- ◇ **3-6 April 2026** - 62nd National Gem & Mineral Show, GEMBOREE 2026—Nambour, Sunshine Coast, Queensland. Venue: Nambour Show Grounds, Coronation Avenue Nambour, Queensland. <https://aflaca.org.au/gemboree/>