



# **Gem & Lapidary News**

## **September**

### **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: 24 September 2025 12:30 start**

## EDITOR'S NOTES

Our Time in Yowah is coming to an end so that we can make it to the State Gem and Mineral Show. Hope to see you all there.

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**

**“ITS SHOW TIME” the State Gem and Mineral Show is very fast approaching. The GEMKHANA judging is completed and the place cards are all printed ready for displaying the winners in the showcases.**

**There are 12 NSW Lapidary clubs involved with the show and will be displaying some of their wares for all to see and for you to buy. We even have a bus coming from Illawarra Lapidary Club.**

**We hope to see you all at the show.**

**Barbara J Try OAM  
President**

**Minutes of the COMMITTEE MEETING 27 August of 2025**

**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), Port Hacking (Tony Offord), Blue Mountain (Mick Lane), AFG (Paul Sabolta), Western Suburbs (Marcia Hill & Ainsley Flynn) Orange (Kathy Selwood), Parramatta/Holroyd (Martin Stoeckl), Bathurst (Robert Porter), Blaxland (Robert Kneale), Illawarra (Joan Zealey), Hawkesbury (Sue Crick), Nepean (Nick Mecsery), Rooty Hill (James Tzaferis), **Visitor:** Terry Vanhoff: **Apologies:** Blue Mountains (Kim Cooke), Paramatta/Holroyd (Ray Powell), Goulburn (Sue & Joe O Neil): **Moved:** Central Coast seconded Hawkesbury that apologies be accepted.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025** with amendment Tony O stationary **Moved:** Western Suburbs *seconded*, AFG that minutes be accepted.

**Business Arising:**

1/ Purchase of anti-virus software ,365 Office & network dongle sort out between President and Secretary.

Business arising from minutes: moved Blue Mountains seconded Port Hacking

**Correspondence:** See attached list.

**Business Arising from correspondence**

1/Nil

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

**Reports**

**Treasurer's Report:** **Moved** Orange seconded Blue Mountain that the report be accepted

**J&R Report:**

1/ CCLC Judging day 11 October

2/ Illawarra Judging day 28<sup>th</sup> September

3/Judging for State Gem & Mineral show 30 August.

**Webmaster:** No report

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

**Education Report:**

1/ Orange minerals (delayed)

2/ Illawarra carving course dates 23 & 24 August, completed

3/ NSW Lapidary Club – faceting course – dates waiting for their response.

4/ Hawkesbury faceting course – postponed

5/ Nepean – wire wrapping

6/ Central Coast wire wrapping

**Social media:** Nil

**Mail Person:** Postage \$34.80 stamps \$76.50, total \$111.30 and has a balance of \$40.77

**GEMKHANA Competition:**

1/ entries have closed, 47 entrants, 204 entries

2/ main judging will be 30 August 2025 Parramatta

3/ "post judging "has been sent and received back

4/ test tagging will be available on 30 August and a BBQ

**State Gem & Mineral Show**

1/ Banner pole at Clarendon Booked

2/ Publications are underway in several magazines

3/ 25 outdoor traders, hall is full with 40 indoor and 10 on cancellation step in list.

4/ Signs are going up around Sydney

5/ Food vans all confirmed

6/Schedule being worked on.

7/End of October look at feasibility of other venues and decide

Reports to be accepted moved Bathurst Seconded Nepean

### GENERAL BUSINESS

1/ 7 clubs have renewed their membership.

General Business Moved Blaxland Seconded Parramatta

Meeting closed 2.07pm

Next meeting: 24<sup>th</sup> September at Parramatta/Holroyd rooms Fullagar Rd Wentworthville.

**Meeting dates for 2025**, 22<sup>th</sup> October, 26<sup>th</sup> November, 10 December & AGM.

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## Correction and Addendum to Natures art Yowah-Koroit and Black Gate Opal Fields S.W. QLD.

The caption on page 10 of the August newsletter should have read

**“The pictures in the background are 200x magnified photos taken of some of the opal”**

As I ran out of room in the August newsletter, I thought I would add this ending to the original article.

You can find Eddie at his gallery (Sunflower Gallery) when he has his open sign out. It is well worth a look. You can also see some pieces of the collection on display in Tanya’s Blue Bus, The Opal Bus Stop, Yowah.



Sunflower Gallery 79 Matrix Drive



The Opal bus Stop, 7 Bluebonnet Boulevard



Unfortunately no opal at the end of this double rainbow,  
Yowah



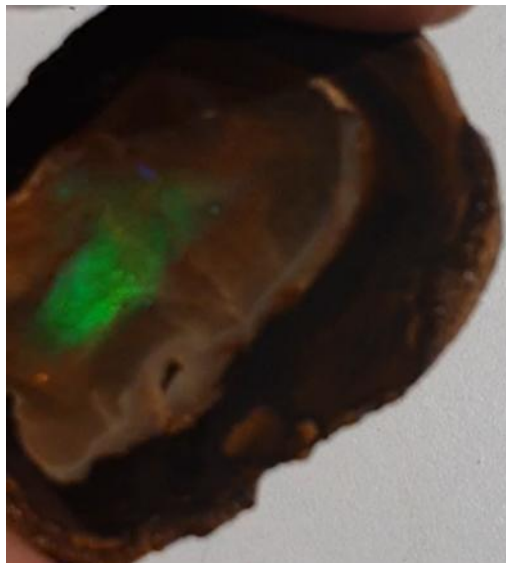
A friend asked if I could get some of his Yowah and Koroit opals cut for him while I was in Yowah, Kathy at Sowoc obliged.

While the shots do not do justice to the finish stone you can see a big difference. (Note the after shots are stills from the video I sent to my friend) .

Before:



After:

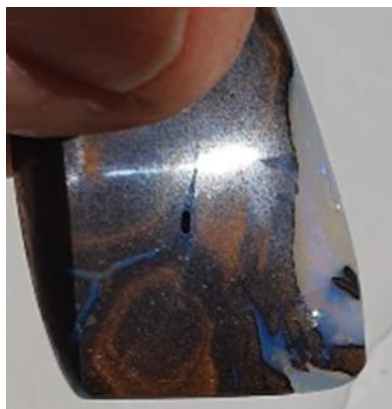




Before:



His piece was cut into the following 2 stones.



Front and Back of first piece

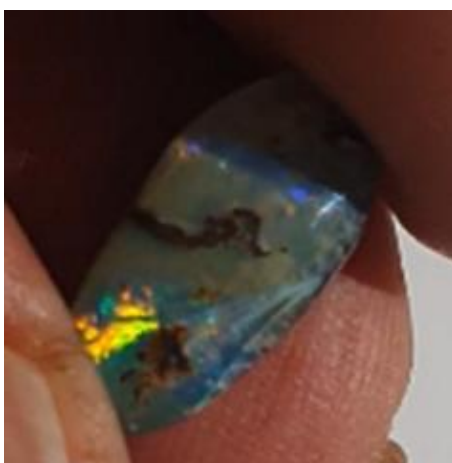


2nd piece of the opal on previous page.

**Before:**



**After:**



# **Robilt Lapidary Supplies**

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**Discount for Lapidary Clubs and Members**

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Brian & Liz

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INTERNET  
ORDERS

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



**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:  
JEWELLERY, CRYSTALS, CUT STONES,  
LAPIDARY EQUIPMENT,  
FACETING AND SLABS**

**FEATURING:**

- 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.

**GEM SHOW**  
Blue Mountains Lapidary Club



**4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025**  
Saturday 9am-4pm  
Sunday 9am-4pm  
Monday 9am-3pm

**Gemstone and Mineral Dealers  
Jewellery  
Slabs ~ Fossils  
Lucky Dips ~ Raffles  
Gold & Sapphire Panning  
Plus more**

**Bullaburra Progress Hall**  
Cnr Noble Street &  
Great Western Highway  
Bullaburra NSW 2784  
Entry fee \$5 Children under 16 free

The Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc  
proudly presents

**THE 63<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL  
JEWELLERY GEMS &  
MINERALS FESTIVAL**

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

HEININGER HALL, 309 PRICES HIGHWAY, DAFTO  
PART OF THE RIBBONWOOD CENTRE

\*\* Parking access from Heininger Street, off Princes Road\*\*

\*Foreseeing Information  
\*Jewellery Valuations  
\*Gemstone Faceting  
\*Club Information  
\*Mineral Group Display  
\*Silver Crafts  
\*Kids Games  
\*Gemsing Competitions

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Brads\*  
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<https://www.facebook.com/illawarralapidaryclub>  
OR Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/illawarralapidaryclub/>

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





# NEWCASTLE JEWELLERY FAIR 2025



## 2025 CLUB EXHIBITION



**40 + Exhibitors!**

- Handmade silver jewellery
- Opal
- Crystals
- Precious stones
- Jewellery tools and supplies

NewcastleLapidaryClub newlap@gmail.com

**Sat 8th (9-4pm)  
Sun 9th (9-3pm)  
November**

PCYC - Broadmeadow  
Free ENTRY & Parking  
Cnr Young & Melbourne st  
Food & Drink / Raffles  
Kids Activities (sun)



## TREASURES FROM THE SUBCONTINENT

**Where:**

73 Fullagar Road  
Wentworthville  
7th - 9th November

**When:**

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

**What's on:**

Demonstrations  
Childrens Craft  
Novelty  
Lucky Dip  
Refreshments  
Halal BBQ  
Market Stalls

**Free  
Entry**

Gems  
Minerals  
Jewellery  
For Sale



ILLAWARRA LAPIDARY CLUB INC.

## OPEN DAY - CHRISTMAS MARKET

**SUNDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> 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

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/illawarralapidaryclub/>  
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/illawarralapidaryclub/>  
Website: [www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au](http://www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au)



## GEMBOREE 2026

62<sup>nd</sup> National Gem, Fossil, Mineral, Crystal and Jewellery Show

**Easter Weekend**

**3 April – 6 April 2026**

**Nambour Showgrounds**



GEMBOREE 2026  
PO Box 474  
Nambour QLD 4560

Organised by Queensland Gem Clubs 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/>

- ◇ **13-14th September 2025** NSW State Gem and Mineral Show, GEM-KHANA 2025 - Hawkesbury District Agricultural Showground, Clarendon
- ◇ **4-6 October 2025**, Blue Mountains Lapidary Club Gem Show Bullaburra Progress Hall, Cnr Noble St & Great Western HWY Bullaburra
- ◇ **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](mailto:canberralapidary@gmail.com)- Norm Menadue on (02) 6258 6631
- ◇ **7-9 November 2025**, 2025 Club Exhibition, Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club Inc 72 Fullagar Road Wentworthville NSW. Fee entry 9am-4pm
- ◇ 8-9 November Newcastle Jewellery Fair 2025, Newcastle Lapidary Clubs annual event, At PCYC Newcastle cnr Young and Melbourne Streets Broadmeadow, Facebook page [Newlap\\_show2025](#)
- ◇ **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/>