

Rockgrinders Gazette

Campbelltown & Districts Lapidary Club Inc.

ADDRESS: Lot 1 Bensley Road Macquarie Fields NSW 2564
MAIL: PO Box 477 Ingleburn NSW 1890
EMAIL: ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com
WEBSITE: campbelltownlapidary.cjb.net
PHONE: (02) 9618 3206



Club rooms opening hours

Monday 9am till 2pm
Wednesday 9am till 2pm
Friday 6pm till 9pm
Saturday 9am till 1pm

DECEMBER 2012/ JANUARY 2013 – TURQUOISE / GARNET EDITION

Email Address

We are still seeking your email address – please send your email details or update the sheet on the table at the club.

We will send you the newsletter and any hot items.

You are also welcome to post notices on the Members Notice Board – email details to ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com

To cover the cost of rising electricity prices we regret to advise that the Workshop fee has increased from \$1 to \$2 from 1st November 2012

Membership

Single	\$15.00
Family	\$20.00
Pensioner Family	\$15.00
Pensioner / Student	\$10.00
Insurance	\$3.50 per member

NOTE: You must be an insured member over 12 years of age to use machinery & cutting implements

All visitors are welcome however only members can use machines or gas.

ARE YOU A FINANCIAL MEMBER?

Congratulations Lil Klepser



1st Prize entry in the Jewellery Competition – 2012 Fishers Ghost Festival (note photo does not indicate winning entry – Lil had 2 entries). Also well done to Clarice Stretch & Linda McCulloch for entering and supporting the Fishers Ghost Jewellery Category

Christmas Message

By Steve McCulloch



Merry Christmas and may your season be full of joy with family and friends

We hope you will join us at the Club Christmas party on the 8th December. We promise good food, good company & good music. It

is not too late to register; add your name to the list on the board and cost is \$15 per person

The club will close from Saturday 22nd December and reopen on the 5th January 2013 and we look forward to year of fun, activities and personal fulfilment for all members.

Workshops

Silver Casting

Classes are conducted every Friday evening – please inquire at the Club for future classes

Saturday Workshop

Commence at 9.30 on the fourth Saturday of the month unless otherwise notified. If you wish to use precious metals for larger items (eg bracelet) please book & pay a non-refundable deposit of \$30 towards the purchase of your materials. The final cost will be calculated on the day.

Workshop activities require *member only* use of mechanical tools including the kiln.

Next Workshop: Begin again in January and notice of workshop will be posted on the notice board

Welcome to a New Members

To all new members, we trust you will enjoy your experiences with us & if you have any questions just ask our members would love to help you if they can.

December Birthdays

Steven McCulloch
Dieter Klepatzki
Helen Standing
Casy Conway
Eleni Vassiliou
Steve Borke
Scott Fraser



Turquoise, the blue cousin to lapis lazuli, has been known and valued for thousands of years. The early mines in Sinai, Egypt, were already worked out in 2000 B.C. Today the best quality Turquoise is found in Iran. Turquoise was

first sent to Europe through Turkey, hence its name, which means "Turkish" in French.

The brilliant sky-blue colour has made Turquoise a classic gemstone, especially when set in silver. Cut en cabochon Turquoise stones are used for all kinds of jewellery: brooches, necklaces, bracelets, rings and earrings. Due to its relative softness, 5-6 (Mohs scale) it can be carved into ornamental objects but requires some care. Light, perspiration, oil, cosmetics and household chemicals can all affect the colour of Turquoise.

Campbelltown Lapidary Club – Turquoise Edition Dec/ Jan. 2012 - 2013

Turquoise has long been appreciated as a holy stone, a good-luck-charm or a talisman. It is believed to promote good fortune, happiness, and long life.

Turquoise colours

Turquoise comes in sky-blue, blue-green and apple-green. Sky-blue is the most popular colour, though green is the rarest. Pure blue coloured Turquoise is rare. The gems are mostly mixed together with brown, dark gray, or black veins of other minerals or of the hosting rock (like chalcedony or opal, brown limonite, black chert, or white kaolinite). Those stones are called Turquoise matrix. Colour ranges through shades of blue to blue-green, to yellowish green depending on the amount of copper (responsible for blue) chromium or vanadium (responsible for green,), and iron (responsible for yellow). There are rare specimens of blue-violet colour, which contain strontium impurities.

In general the colour is only stable if the stone is not exposed to strong light, high temperatures, perspiration, oil, cosmetics and household chemicals. A loss of its natural water content (18-20%) results in undesirable colour-changes as well. The most desired sky-blue colour changes at 250 degrees C (482 degrees F) into a dull green. Most of the Turquoise found in the United States contains Fe, substituting Al, which causes a greenish colour.

Turquoise gemology

Species: Turquoise

Colour: Sky-blue, blue-green, apple-green

Chemical composition: $\text{CuAl}_6(\text{PO}_4)_4(\text{OH})_8 - 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$; a copper containing basic aluminium phosphate

Crystal system: Seldom triclinic, grape-shaped aggregates

Hardness: 5-6 (Mohs scale)

Specific gravity: 2.31 – 2.84

Refractive index: 1.610 – 1.650

Birefringence: +0.040

Colour of streak: White,

Absorption spectrum: (460), 432, (422)

Fluorescence: Weak; green-yellow, light blue

Turquoise is a birthstone for those born in December

Ref Minerals Ebook by Mr. Le Hong Tan

January Birthdays

Linda McCulloch
Cecilia Grieshammer
Ron Bryant
Michael Shay
Greg Thompson
Peter Callen
Libero Davino
Robyn Talor
Betty Thompson
Eileen Gollian
Grace Hemans
Don Jones



Garnets as a group are relatively common in highly metamorphosed rocks and in some igneous formations. They form under the high temperatures and/or pressures that those types of rocks must endure. Garnets can be used by geologists as a

gauge of how much temperature and pressure the rock has endured. As a gemstone, garnets have had a mixed reputation. Garnets do possess high indices of refraction, are hard enough, have pretty colours, are wonderfully transparent, lack cleavage and are durable; thus making good candidates for gemstones. However, many people consider garnets to be inferior to other coloured gems. This may be due to garnet's relative abundance and widespread use, and therefore a (typically) low price. Garnets are greatly variable in colours and varieties, though, and many of these are both rare and beautiful, producing genuinely precious gemstones. Some garnets are truly unique in the mineral kingdom and have much to offer as both gemstones and mineral specimens. Of course,

The general formula for most of the garnets is $A_3B_2(SiO_4)_3$. The A represents divalent metals such as calcium, iron, magnesium and/or manganese. The B represents trivalent metals such as aluminium, chromium, iron and/or manganese and in the rarer garnets; vanadium, titanium, zirconium and/or silicon. The general formula for a couple of rarer garnets (hibschite and katoite) is $A_3B_2(SiO_4)_3-X(OH)_4X$. The main differences in physical properties among the members of the garnet group are slight variations in colour, density and index of refraction.

Garnets are isostructural, meaning that they share the same crystal structure. This leads to similar crystal shapes and properties. Garnets belong to the isometric crystal class, which produces very symmetrical, cube-based crystals. The most common

crystal shape for garnets however is the rhombic dodecahedron, a twelve sided crystal with diamond-shaped (rhombic) faces. This basic shape is the trademark of garnets, for no other crystal shape is so closely associated with a single mineral group like the rhombic dodecahedron is with garnets. Most garnets are red in colour, leading to the erroneous belief that all garnets are red. In fact a few varieties, such as grossular, can have a wide range of colours, and uvarovite is always a bright green. As a mineral specimen, garnets usually have well shaped and complex crystals and their colour and lustre can make for a very beautiful addition to a collection. At times, garnets are accessory minerals to other valuable and pretty gem minerals such as topaz, beryl, tourmaline, vesuvianite and diopside making these specimens extra special.

Garnets are the January Birthstone.

Ref Minerals Ebook by Mr. Le Hong Tan

Members Creations from Workshops

October Workshop



November Workshop



PEYOTE STITCH BEADED BEZEL

Well done to Suzy Brandstater (Light Green) Carolina Cordova (pink) & Class by Linda McCulloch (Dark green)

Golden Syrup Dumplings – an old recipe great dessert for the campfire



Dumplings:

- 1 cup self-raising flour
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 tablespoon milk

Syrup:

- 1 cup water
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons golden syrup or honey
- 1 tablespoon butter

Method

1. Sift flour into a bowl, and rub in the butter until it is like breadcrumbs.
2. Beat the egg and milk together, and carefully mix with the flour to make a soft dough. Do not over-mix as this will make the dumplings tough.
3. Place the water, sugar, butter and golden syrup into a large saucepan and bring to the boil.
4. Drop in teaspoonfuls of the dough, cover with a lid and simmer over a moderate heat for about 12 minutes or so until cooked.
5. Remove from the heat and serve with warm runny custard or ice-cream

Members Notice Board

Members are welcome to post notices by emailing details to our club email

ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com

FOR SALE

Willing to Buy & Sell new & retro games at an affordable price, Includes Nintendo 64, Gameboy, Gameboy advanced, Nintendo Series & Wii. Plushie & > 4 decks of Pokemon cards

DETAILS

Currently 14 games for sale (including):
Mario Power tennis – Wii - \$35
Space Invaders Anniv – PC (wind 95 or XP) - \$5
Banjo- Kazooie – N64 - \$35
Buck Bumble – N64 - \$25
Mario Kart 64 – N64 - \$45
Star Wars Ep1 Racer – N64 – \$30
Tetrisphere – N64 - \$20

CONTACT: Alison Cordova at the Club

Fieldtrip News

SAVE THE DATE: THUNDER EGG PARK

Suzy Brandstater is now organising a Field Trip for Thunderbird Park from 22nd to 24th January, 2013. Please let contact Suzy on suzybrandstater@hotmail.com or phone 4681 0220 for more details if you are interested in joining the trip. An activity guide is enclosed and there is guaranteed loads of fun for the family

Dates to Remember

are generally from the Gem and Lapidary Council of NSW. Contributions can be made via email or regular Post to the Editor. We grateful for any submissions

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
Dec 8 th	Campbelltown Lapidary Club Christmas Dinner 	Club
January 22 nd – 24 th	Thunder Egg Park Field Trip – see article above	
March 27, 2013	GEMBOREE South Australia	

Moments from Time: getting to know your club

By Bob Pullan

Our current Clubhouse:

On February 4th 1974, Campbelltown Council offered the club the use of the disused Fire Station in Ingleburn where we remained until 1977. On October 5th 1977 the Council offered the club a 3 bedroom house in Bensley Rd. Macquarie Fields at a rent of \$5 per week plus rates and electricity. This offer was accepted and Ken Rivett, Vonnie Brogan and Bob Pullan signed a 12 month lease at Marsden's solicitors. The rent was to be paid monthly and this arrangement still applies.

Our present location (still in Bensley Rd.) came about due to a Council blunder when they failed to notify us that the premises in the Fire Station were to be demolished. Ken Rivett arrived at the club to find heavy machinery on the site about to start work on demolishing the building. The council was very apologetic, delaying the demolition while our machinery was moved into the present clubhouse on the original lease terms.

