

# Rockgrinders Gazette

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## Club rooms opening hours

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

June 2013: Pearl Edition

## Save the date and spread the word

### 2013 Gem & Lapidary Show July 13th & 14th @ the Greg Percival Centre, Ingleburn

*Volunteers needed to help out*

Members are encouraged to display their works of art at our Annual Show - please put your name on the Board for a display case by 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Tables are available for Members at ½ dealer's price – Contact Ron or Clarice

Wide range of Lapidary, Fossils, Gems, Crystals, and Beaded Jewellery for sale

## New members welcome & Welcome to our new members

Interested in: Lapidary, Fossils, Gems, Crystals, Beading, Silversmithing or Lost wax casting in a relaxed friendly environment. Pop in and have a chat

To all new members, we trust you will enjoy your experiences with us & benefit from our classes. If you have any questions there is a duty officer who will assist you. All Members would also love to help you if they can.

### Membership

Single	\$15.00
Family	\$20.00
Pensioner Family	\$15.00
Pensioner / Student	\$10.00
Insurance	\$3.50 per member
Workshop fees	\$2.00

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

## Workshops

Ron Dean will be conducting silversmith classes on Wednesdays at the club rooms. Costs of materials are calculated per project.

## Friday Evening Silver classes finished until September



We had our final night of silver classes before Barry and Dorothy depart for a warmer climate. To celebrate a successful silver season we had a 'small' meal together and then Barry demonstrated a new technique he has been working on. It involves melting the silver and then pouring it into a bunch of straw that has been soaking in water overnight. The silver goes between the stalks of straw and makes an unusual pattern. It sort of looks like a cityscape.



Well done to Tristan for the cake he made for us. His brief was to make a cake for lapidary club. So he made a chocolate cake and put triangles of white and dark chocolate around the sides to represent facets and made a faceted diamond on the top out of white chocolate. He was a bit worried that Bob might see it and notice that the girdle wasn't thick enough.

I finally got to fulfil a longtime wish. As a young child I used to watch my father melting down lead to make sinkers for fishing. I was only allowed to watch from a distance. I used to be very resentful because I really wanted to pour the molten lead. It really fascinated me watching the red hot metal hiss and splatter, my father only got a few burns, he hadn't heard of wearing protective equipment, that was only for 'sissies'.

Thankyou Barry, I have finally fulfilled one of my childhood wishes.

By Suzy Brandstater

## 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

**Sterling Silver Chain Mail Bracelet**  
by Ron Dean

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2013 @ 0930



## Workshop News

### Web of Silver Bracelet Workshop



We had a fun workshop on Saturday 25th May. Lil taught us how to make a 'web of silver' bracelet. It is actually easier than it looks. I didn't think I'd be able to make anything that complicated, but Lil did a wonderful job of teaching us the technique. We didn't finish as it is a very time consuming project but we all left feeling confident we could finish it at home.

Suzy, Margaret, Clarice and Caroline all learnt quite a lot from Lil, she is a patient teacher who easily enthuses her students with her love of beading.

### June Birthdays (pearl)

Theodore Vassiliou	Nathan Ting
Bev Carnegie	Megan Amos
John Franks	Steve greaves
Charles Doggett	Mark Amos
Jess Iliadis	Ross McKenzie

### Birthstone for June: Pearl

Giving a piece of jewellery containing a birthstone gem will bring the wearer with good luck and protection. Monthly birthstones symbolize the month of birth according to the Gregorian Calendar. What is the Birth stone for June? The following old poem provides the answer! And this page provides some information about the meaning of the June gem stone, the colour, symbolism and significance of this lovely birth stone:

### June Birthstone poem - the Pearl

*"Who comes with summer to this earth  
And owes to June her hour of birth  
A pearl should wear against her skin  
Who's innocence many a heart shall win."*

Ref: <http://www.birthdaygems.org/june-birthstone.htm>

# Lightning Ridge/Grawin Fossicking Trip

Sunday 30th June - Saturday 6th July

Sunday 30th June - - Tuesday 2nd July Grawin

Tuesday evening 2nd July - Saturday 6th July Lightning Ridge

## Accommodation

**Peter's Glengarry Hilton** 6829 3983

Grawin - camping or backpacker style accommodation available

**Opal Caravan Park** Lightning Ridge 02 6829 4884

Camping or ensuite cabin accommodation available.



We'll spend two days fossicking at the mullock heaps and the roads at the Grawin. They have recently covered the back road into the Grawin with opal dirt. There is 19kms of road to fossick along, people have been finding some good stones. If you get tired of fossicking you can visit the Sheepyards Pub in the scrub or visit the war memorial.



On Tuesday afternoon we'll head to Lightning Ridge. Lightning Ridge has the best Thermal Pool in Australia (well, the best I've been in) It will be nice to soak aching muscles and back in after two days fossicking.

For those who haven't been to Lightning Ridge before the Black Opal Tour is great way to see the highlights of the town.

I have organised with Daryl (a local miner) to take us down into his mine where we can dig for opal ourselves. We will also be able to meet some of the local opal dealers to buy rough if you are interested.

Apart from fossicking, there is a lot to do in Lightning Ridge. Bring your camera, the sunsets are beautiful.

For more information talk to **Suzy Brandstater** (I'm at the club most Saturdays)

Or call 46810220 or 0414574057

Email [suzybrandstater@hotmail.com](mailto:suzybrandstater@hotmail.com)



## Whats On

Events are generally from the Gem and Lapidary Council of NSW <http://www.gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/events.html>  
Other contributions can be made via email to the club [ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com](mailto:ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com). We are grateful for any submissions

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
June 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Canberra Lapidary Club Winter Gemcraft & Mineral Show <a href="http://www.canberralapidary.org.au">www.canberralapidary.org.au</a>	Parkes Room, Exhibition Park
July 13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Campbelltown Lapidary Club Annual Gem &amp; Lapidary Show</b>	<b>Greg Percival Centre Ingleburn – save the date</b>
July 19 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup>	Yowah Opal Festival – Tailgaters welcome Enquiries Danny 0417639311 or Glen 0488542175	Yowah
August 17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup>	Blaxland Gem & Mineral Show	Glenbrook Community Hall, Great Western Highway Glenbrook (next to NPWS)
November 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Canberra Lapidary Club Spring Gemcraft & Mineral Show <a href="http://www.canberralapidary.org.au">www.canberralapidary.org.au</a>	Parkes Room Exhibition Park
November 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>	Zeehan Lapidary Club Gem & Mineral Show	Basketball Stadium Zeehan Primary School



### Mother's Day Raffle

Congratulations to Steve Bourke for winning the Mother's day raffle

The mystery stone was Synthetic Turquoise