

# Rockgrinders Gazette

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



## Club rooms opening hours

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

July 2015 Ruby Edition

## New members welcome

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 and 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	\$4.50 per member
Workshop fees	\$2.00

**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.

**Membership is due 1st July**

## Silver Classes

Silver Casting Classes are now in recess. Barry and Dorothy will be happy to help you when classes resume in September.

## Display cases for the exhibition

Have you prepared your display case for the exhibition? If you don't have one, the club has a small number of cases available for use of members for the exhibition. Please write your name down on the list at the club so that we know how many display cases to allow for.

Campbelltown Lapidary Club – July Ruby edition 2015

## Exhibition 2015

**Its nearly here!** The exhibition will be held at the Greg Percival Centre Ingleburn on the weekend of the 11th and 12th of July. There are many jobs to be done to make this a successful exhibition. Setting up on Friday afternoon and packing up on Sunday. Other jobs to do on the days of the exhibition are the children's table, the canteen, general security - to name a few. We particularly need people to help with the kitchen and with the children's table. You don't have to be there all weekend, but if you can help us with putting in a couple of hours in the kitchen/canteen or helping at the children's table, we would greatly appreciate it.

## Donations still needed!

If you have anything lapidary related that you can donate we would appreciate it. We are after rough, polished stones or jewellery.

## July Workshop - 24/7/15

### Jewellery Basics 102

At our last jewellery basics workshop we learnt how to insert a bead into a chain and how to attach a bead to a pendant.

At our July workshop we will learn how to make necklaces and bracelets using Tiger Tail. We will learn how to use crimping pliers to attach a clasp.



## Carnelian

Ruby is the traditional birthstone for July. Carnelian is the Arabic birthstone and also an alternative British birthstone for July.

Carnelian is the red, orange, or amber variety of Chalcedony which is a member of the quartz group of minerals. Quartz crystals are made up from silicon dioxide and have two types of crystal formation: Macro crystalline quartz and Cryptocrystalline Quartz. Carnelian is Cryptocrystalline Quartz which a number of other gemstones belong to such as Agate, Onyx and Jasper Carnelian. Though often a solid colour, in some cases it may be banded. When you find a piece of banded Carnelian you could classify it as both Agate and Carnelian. Sometimes the brownish stone is called Sard. Carnelian is also sometimes known as 'Cornelian'. It is thought to be names after the Cornel Cherry.

Carnelian is sometimes confused with Jasper. One difference between them is if you hold them up to the light, Carnelian will be translucent and Jasper will be opaque. Jasper usually has multi coloured patterns or splotches on it whereas Carnelian us usually one colour with some darker or lighter areas.

Carnelian is used for jewellery, most commonly made into cabochons or carved. Carnelian cabochons were often referred to as 'Carbuncles'. Carnelian was also used in Roman times to make a seal or signet ring. Sealing wax does not stick to the Carnelian, so it was an ideal stone to use.

Carnelian gains it's colour from iron oxide forming impurities in the stone. Some stones in their the natural condition are of a dirty yellow colour and unsuitable for gems. When they are being heated, they develop the traditional Carnelian colour which makes them much more valuable.



### Properties

Chemical Formula:	Carnelian: SiO <sub>2</sub> - Silicon dioxide
Crystal Structure:	Cryptocrystalline - microcrystalline aggregate (Trigonal)
Colour:	Brownish-red, red, orange, yellow-orange
Hardness:	6.5 - 7 on the Moh's scale
Refractive Index:	1.530 - 1.540
Density:	2.60 - 2.64
Cleavage:	None
Transparency:	Translucent to opaque
Streak	White
Double Refraction / Birefringence:	Up to 0.004
Luster:	Waxy - dull
Cleavage	None



### Metaphysical Properties

Carnelian is said to be a stabilising stone, restoring vitality and motivation, and stimulating creativity. It is often called the actor's stone as increases confidence and enhances memory. It is said to give courage, promote positive life choices, dispels apathy and motivate for success. It is said it helps overcome negative conditioning and encourages steadfastness. It is considered to improve analytic abilities and clarify perception, sharpening concentration and dispelling mental lethargy. It also is said to help protect against strong negative emotions such as envy, rage and resentment, calming anger and banishing emotional negativity. Replacing it with a love of life and boosting fertility sexuality.

Crystal healers use Carnelian to treat lower back problems, rheumatism, arthritis, neuralgia and depression. They also use it to regulate the kidneys, and accelerate the healing process in bones and ligaments.

In ancient times it was a stone used to protect the dead on their journey to the after-life.

It is used as an aid to help you moving forward on a new life path, and will aid you to make new, clearer decisions and better future career choices.

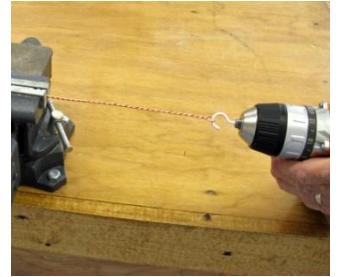
### July (Ruby) Birthdays

11 Matthew Jones	14 Janet Kelpatzki	20 Lil Klepser
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## Brad Smith's Bench Tips

### Soldering Prongs

I often use prongs to hold an irregular cab or other object on rings and pendants. But prongs can be a little tricky to solder. You have to find some way to hold them all upright while soldering, and the simple butt joint that looks strong sometimes breaks when you start to bend the prong over the stone. There's nothing worse than having a prong break off when you're setting the stone \*#~\*! I solved both problems with one little trick. It holds the prongs in position while soldering and it gives you a stronger joint at the same time. Locate and center punch the position for each prong. Then drill holes a little smaller than your prong wire. Sand a small taper on the ends of your prong wires and stand them up in the holes. The wires support themselves, soldering is easy, and the joint is stronger because of the increased soldering area.



### Twisting Wire

Twisting wire can be done with an old hand drill but goes much faster with a power tool. My preference is to use a screw gun, although Foredom should do well. Just make a little hook out of coat hanger wire (or use a screw-in cup hook) and chuck it up in your screw gun. Grip the free ends of the wire in a vice and slip the looped end onto your hook. Keep a little tension on the wires as you twist. Note that a power drill is too fast a tool for this unless you have one with variable speed.

*Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon*

*You can also look online at his book at <http://amazon.com/dp/0988285800/>*

## June Workshop Report

This month we learnt how to make a copper cuff bracelet using the rolling mill.

The rolling mill is a wonderful machine for imprinting a texture onto metal. You can use lace, mesh, cardboard, feathers, leaves or any dry object that can be squeezed between two rollers.

Before you get to do the fun stuff, you have to prepare your copper. We cut, shaped, filed and then sanded the strip of copper until we were happy with its edges and surface.

We then annealed it using a gas soldering torch. When you heat the metal up it softens it, making it malleable. Once the metal has been through the rolling mill it becomes hard again. So if you want to do further work on it, you have to anneal it.





## What's 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
11th & 12th July 2015	<b>Annual Exhibition Campbelltown Districts Lapidary Club</b> 11th & 12th July 9.30 4.00pm, Displays of lapidary work and gem, mineral and crystal sales	Greg Percival Centre. Oxford Rd Ingleburn
15th and 16th August 2015	<b>Blaxland Gem &amp; Mineral Club Gem Show.</b> Refreshments available. Entry: Adults: \$3 Children \$1 8 am to 4 pm Daily	Glenbrook Community Hall Great Western Highway, Glenbrook, NSW (Next to Glenbrook Theatre) Just west of Information Centre.
22nd – 23rd August 2015	<b>Carlingford Gem &amp; Mineral Fair</b> Entry fees are \$7 for adults and children under 18 accompanied by parents are free. Gem, mineral, jewellery & lapidary dealers Minerals, fossils, jewellery, rough & cut gemstones, opals, beads & supplies. Displays of collections, cabbing, faceting and jewellery making demonstrations by the local clubs	To be held at The Roselea Community Centre, 645 Pennant Hills Road, Carlingford. (in-between The M2 and North Rocks Road) More info email peter at <a href="mailto:peter@optusnet.com.au">peter@optusnet.com.au</a>
26 and 27 September 2015	<b>BATHEX 2015 Exhibition</b> Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables and Lapidary Club Inc, 26th and 27th September 2015	
Sat 3 – Mon 5 October 2015	<b>GEMKHANA 2015</b> The Annual Gem & Mineral Show and Competition of lapidaries from all over NSW, will be presented by the Lapidary Council of NSW Inc, at 2756 over the Labour Day Weekend. Demonstrations, Jewellery, Gem Faceting, Gemstones, Gem Identification, Minerals, Gemstone Carving, Crystals, Fossils, Beads & Equipment. Local and interstate Gem, Jewellery and Mineral Dealers, Raffle, Children's Activities, Attractions for everyone of all ages, Refreshments,	Saturday October 3 – 10am to 5pm, Sunday October 4 – 10am to 5pm, Monday October 5 – 9am to 12 noon. Sales and Displays, Plenty of parking. Hawkesbury Showground, Racecourse Road, Clarendon NSW Contacts: <a href="http://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/gemkhana/">http://gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/gemkhana/</a>
Sat 7th – Sun 8th November 2015	<b>Spring Gemcraft &amp; Mineral Show Canberra Lapidary Club</b> . Gem, mineral, jewellery & lapidary dealers Minerals, fossils, jewellery, rough & cut gemstones, lapidary equipment & supplies, opals, beads & supplies. Displays of members' collections, cabbing, faceting and jewellery making demonstrations	Sat 7th – Sun 8th November 2015 10.00am to 5.00pm EPIC – Mallee Pavilion \$5 adults, \$10 family, \$2 children/concession More info Phone: 02 6260 5322 <a href="http://www.canberralapidary.org.au">http://www.canberralapidary.org.au</a>
13th to 15th November 2015	<b>Parramatta Holroyd Lapidary Club Annual Exhibition</b> This year's theme is Birthstones. Sales, demonstrations, displays, children's activities. Sausage sizzle and light refreshments.	November 13-15 at the clubrooms, 73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville. Plenty of parking and disabled access. Free entry <a href="http://www.freewebs.com/parraholroydlapidaryclub/events2015.htm">http://www.freewebs.com/parraholroydlapidaryclub/events2015.htm</a>

Missed out on the last newsletter?

Contact [suzybrandstater@hotmail.com](mailto:suzybrandstater@hotmail.com) and it will be emailed to you.

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