

Rockgrinders Gazette



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Club rooms opening hours

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

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	\$5.00 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.

Silver Classes

Silver Casting Classes have resumed Barry and Dorothy will be happy to help you learn to cast sterling silver jewellery.

Open Day

A big congratulations to everyone involved in the Open Day. It is wonderful to see what a fantastic result we get when we all work together to get the job done. It was lovely to see so many people turn up to help with the day.

A special thank you to all the new members who not only helped on the day but also helped to get things ready before the day and also helped to pack away and clean up on the Monday. Carolina and Eugenio deserve
Campbelltown Lapidary Club – November Topaz edition 2015

a great big pat on the back for ensuring that the club stall was a success (weeks and weeks of work) and they also worked all day on Monday putting things away and cleaning up.

Thanks Eugenio for collecting all the signs after the event. Leanne did a great job organizing the kitchen and purchasing all the food. Ron cooked a great BBQ as usual. All stallholders had a great presentation with lots of variety and good prices. a good day enjoyed by all. Thanks to Bob Thompson for making time to visit.

A good number of people picked up membership forms so hopefully we will get some new members starting.

On the subject of new members. If you see a new person at the club, make them welcome and help them get started. I know if various club members hadn't 'adopted' me in my first year at the club, I certainly wouldn't have stayed and become an active club member.

GEMKHANA 2015

Our club had a very good representation at this year's Gemkhana with our members having three of the stalls and many other club members attending over the three days.

Lapidary Christmas Party



Our Club Christmas dinner will be held on Saturday 12th December 2015 from 5.30pm cost is \$25.00per person.

Please add your name and numbers to the list on the whiteboard at the club and pay by Saturday 28th November as we need to finalize food quantities.

Cat's Eye Chrysoberyl

The traditional birthstone for November is Topaz. The Indian birthstone for November is Cat's Eye. Cat's Eye is a type of Chrysoberyl which shows a "chatoyancy" effect. When the stone is polished into a cabochon a concentrated narrow band of reflected light across the centre of the stone. This is caused by inclusions of fine, slender parallel mineral fibres in the gemstone that reflect light in a single band.



Chrysoberyl Cat's Eye is the best known of the stones which exhibit a 'cat's eye' effect. There are other stones that can exhibit a Cat's Eye effect such as tourmaline. The term "Cat's eye" when used alone without any gemstone name prefix will always refer to Chrysoberyl Cat's eye, which is the most famous and valuable of the cat's eye gemstones. All cat's eye gemstones other than Chrysoberyl must be designated by their gemstone name, such as "Tourmaline Cat's eye", or Cat's Eye Tourmaline.

Some specimens of cat's eye will appear to have a different colour on each side of the cat's eye line when illuminated from the proper direction with respect to the observer's eye. It gives the illusion that the stone is made of two different materials, a light material on one side of the line and a dark material on the other. This phenomenon is known as the "milk-and-honey" effect.

The most common colours for Chrysoberyl jewellery are yellow, greenish-yellow, and brownish-yellow.

Chrysoberyl deposits are found mainly in Brazil, but there are deposits in Australia, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, Myanmar (Burma), and Russia.

Chrysoberyl is a beryllium-aluminium oxide mineral with a chemical composition of BeAl_2O_4 . It is distinctly different from the beryllium-aluminium silicate ($\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_3)_6$ mineral known as "beryl," although the similar names can cause confusion. It is 8.5 on Moh's scale of hardness. It is the third-hardest gemstone and the third-hardest mineral.

Alexandrite is a rare, very expensive and well-known variety of Chrysoberyl that exhibits a different colour in artificial and natural light.

Metaphysical Meaning

Chrysoberyl Cat's Eye - is a stone of good fortune and good luck. It is said to bring serenity and happiness, along with optimism and generosity. It is used in emotional crystal healing to bring forgiveness, balanced emotions, and self-esteem. Natural Cat's eye can enhance creativity and kindness. It is also a stone of protection.

November (Topaz) Birthdays

11 Clarice Stretch	24 Sarah Lawton	29 Bob Pullan
21 Michael O'Shannessy	26 Eugenio Cordova	
24 Ann Thompson	28 Brandon Burke	

November Workshop - 21/11/15

Crystal Necklace

10.30am start

Tutor: Suzy

Cost \$15

*All tools and equipment provided
but bring your own tools if you
have them.*



(please note the workshop is on the third Saturday of the month due to tutor's other work commitments)

Brad Smith's Bench Tips

Homemade Wax Tools

Save your used X-Acto or scalpel blades for utility work on the bench. They're wonderful for delicate wax work. Use a cutoff wheel or other type of grinding wheel to shape the blades to what you need. For instance, you can carve away excess metal on the spine to make yourself some narrow carving knives that do a great job of detailing small pierced areas of your waxes.

Removing A Stone From Bezel Setting

If you've forgotten to use dental floss and got your stone caught in a bezel, there's one thing you can try before starting to pry. Find some sticky wax or beeswax. Roll it into a pencil-sized cylinder and stick the end onto the top of the stone. Mold it on well and yank. But if the stone is really stuck, there are two other tricks - but each with risks and consequences. The first is to pry open the bezel with a sharp knife blade being very careful not to wrinkle or tear the bezel. If you try this, make sure to pry gently in several passes around the stone.

The last solution is to drill a small hole into the bezel setting from the back side so that you can push the stone out. Note that this does leave a hole, but in some cases you can use it to saw out a design under the stone.

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon

October Workshop



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.

We are grateful for any submissions

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
7-8 November 2015	Illawarra Gem Show For this year admission will be \$3 for anyone over the age of 12 years that includes a major raffle ticket and a lucky door ticket – there are total of six lucky door prizes. Four lucky door tickets will be drawn at 10.30 am, 12.30 pm, 2pm and 3.30pm on Saturday and two on the Sunday at 11 am and 1 pm	Ribbonwood Centre, Dapto, NSW . http://www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au/news-2/exhibition-news/
Sat 7th – Sun 8th November 2015	Spring Gemcraft & Mineral Show Canberra Lapidary Club . 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 http://www.canberralapidary.org.au
Sunday 7th Nov	Cessnock Gem and Lapidary Club Rock Auction (viewing 12 noon),	Hall Park Clubhouse, Stephen St, West Cessnock, NSW http://lapidaryworld.com/cessnock_gem_club
13th to 15th November 2015	Parramatta Holroyd Lapidary Club Annual Exhibition 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. Free entry http://www.freewebs.com/parraholroydlapidaryclub/events2015.htm
Saturday 14th – Sunday 15th November, 2015	Newcastle Lapidary Club's Annual Gem Show. Sales of gemstones, beads, silver, tools, jewellery and displays of faceting and jewellery making. Devonshire Teas, Sausage Sizzle, Tea, Coffee and drinks.	9.00am to 4.00pm at the Club, 2 Dora Rd Adamstown Free entry and parking.
28th & 29th November 2015	Windsor Gem & Mineral Fair Gem, mineral, jewellery & lapidary dealers Minerals, fossils, jewellery, rough & cut gemstones, opals, beads & supplies. Kids quiz, Lucky door prize as well as the club raffle held by Hawkesbury Valley Lapidary Club Displays of members' collections, cabbing, faceting and jewellery making demonstrations	The Windsor Function Centre, on the corner of George & Dight Streets Windsor. Entry fees are \$7 for adults and children under 18 accompanied by parents are free. More info email peter at peter@optusnet.com.au
5th and 6th December 2015	Nepean and District Lapidary Club Gem Show	St. Marys Memorial Hall, Saturday 9am to 5pm Sunday 6th 2015, 9am to 4pm https://www.facebook.com/pages/Nepean-district-lapidary-club/719535098118214
Sat 12th December 2015	Campbelltown Lapidary Club Christmas Party	Lot 1 Bensley Rd Macquarie Fields



Missed out on the last newsletter?

Contact suzybrandstater@hotmail.com and it will be emailed to you.