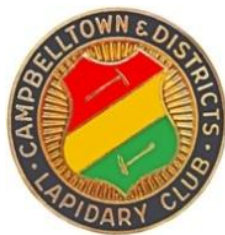


# Rockgrinders Gazette



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June 2016 Pearl Edition

## 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.

**Membership is due 1st July**

## Annual Exhibition

The exhibition is fast approaching. We need your help. We need people to help with publicity, with packing, transporting and setting up the exhibition. We desperately need help in the kitchen.

What can you do? Give us a few hours of your time to make the exhibition a success. We have flyers that need distributing, you can get some from the sign on book or a digital one from a committee member. Remember every person through the door is another \$5 to the club. The more people through the door, the happier our dealers will be, we really want our top class dealers back again next year.

If you can help, put your name down on the list on the whiteboard at the club.

Campbelltown Lapidary Club –June Pearl edition 2016

## Silver Classes

Are in recess and will be reopening in September.

## No Workshop in June

We won't be having a Saturday workshop in June. Watch this space for news about the July workshop.

The **Biggest Morning Tea** was on for a week at the club from Monday 23rd - Saturday 28th May. The cakes and food were yummy. We raised \$86.00 plus \$30.00 for the raffle. so total \$116.00.



*The Friday night Silver group's biggest morning tea*

CAMPBELLTOWN & DISTRICT LAPIDARY CLUB

## ANNUAL GEM MINERAL & JEWELLERY SHOW

**9th & 10th July 2016**  
 Times: Sat 9.30am - 5pm Sun 9.30am - 4pm  
 Venue: Greg Percival Centre  
 Oxford Rd Ingleburn NSW 2565

Entry Fee: Children & Seniors \$3  
 Adults \$5 Families \$15  
 Cold Drinks, Morning Tea & Lunch Available

**Handmade Jewellery**  
**Rough & Polished Gem Stones**  
**Opals - Agate - Quartz**

Dealers Supplying, Gems, Fossils  
 Crystals, Minerals, Beads, Tools, Findings

Phone: **9618 3206**  
 Email: ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com  
 Web: campbelltownlapidary.org.au

## Stone of the Month - Aqua Aura

The birthstone for June is Pearl, but this month we are going to look at a relatively new stone "Aqua Aura".

I was fascinated by this beautiful blue stone and thought I should learn more about it.

Aqua Aura is actually clear quartz that has a very fine layer of gold bonded to it which gives the stone an iridescent sheen.



The Miracles are Made website explains how the crystals are made. "The process takes 12 hours to both heat the quartz to 1600 Fahrenheit while setting a vacuum equal to 2 earth atmospheres and letting chemically purified gold (purer than 24 Carat bullion) vapours into the chamber when the temperature and vacuum are correct. This in turn bonds the gold to the lattice of the crystal forming a permanent bond that only strong acids or grinding can take off. This creates a beautiful blue like nothing else on Earth has. During the process the heat is turned up one degree at a time. At the end of the process, the heat is reduced again – one degree at a time. This results in the beautiful blue not being able to be rubbed off."

Another explanation of how the crystals are made comes from Wikipedia. "Aqua aura is created in a vacuum chamber from quartz crystals and gold vapour by vapour deposition.[1] The quartz is heated to 871 °C (1600 °F) in a vacuum, and then gold vapour is added to the chamber. The gold atoms fuse to the crystal's surface, which gives the crystal an iridescent metallic sheen. When viewed under a gemmological microscope in diffused direct transmitted light, aqua aura displays the following properties:[2]

- a coppery surface iridescence in tangential illumination
- diffused dark outlines of some facet junctions
- a patchy blue colour distribution on some facets
- white facet junctions, irregular white abrasions and surface pits, where the treatment either did not "take" or had been abraded away.

### Other types of treatments

Rainbow quartz have been enhanced with a combination of titanium and gold. Titanium molecules are bonded to the quartz by the natural electrostatic charge of the crystal in a process known as magnetron ionization. The brilliant colour of flame aura is the result of optical interference effects produced by layers of titanium. Since only electricity is used to deposit the titanium layers and create these colours, very little heat is involved and the integrity of the crystal is maintained. The crystal does not become brittle or prone to breakage as with other enhancements.

### Metaphysical Information



These beautiful crystals combine the properties of gold and quartz. This allows greater direction to be given to the energy of the gold via the ability of quartz to be programmed. Gold has been called the master healer, symbolizing purity of heart, the perfection of alchemical transformation. Purifying at all levels, the beneficial effects of gold are considerable. Thought forms are enhanced and the heart chakra is balanced and soothed. The primary chakra healing properties are dependent on colour, so aqua aura resonates most strongly with the throat chakra.



## May Workshop - Viking Knitting

We were treated to a fabulous workshop by Lil. She taught us how to do Viking Knitting. Lil is a wonderful teacher and an inspiration to all.



## July (Pearl) Birthdays

Ron Dean  
John Franks  
Theo Vassiliou  
**Zedd Lawton**  
**Steve Greaves**  
**Sandy Davis**  
**Joanne Cremen**

**Beverly Carnegie**  
Penny Jones  
**Tracey Poole**  
Angelo Kessanis  
Stephen Bruce  
Marie Hoare

**Andrew Woodley**  
**Belinda Gunn**  
**Glen Bannon**  
**John Mainwaring**  
**Inez Patterson**  
**Sharon Lahiff**

## Donations needed

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

## Showcases for the exhibition

If you would like to use one of the club's showcases or have a showcase of your own that you would like to exhibit at the exhibition, please put your name down on the list on the white board

## Club 50th Anniversary

**Our club is turning 50 this year. We are planning on have a special 50th anniversary dinner. This dinner will be in place of the Christmas party**

## Brad Smith's Bench Tips

### Quick Close Ups

Often when trying to get a close-up photo with your iPhone or Android, you end up with a fuzzy, out-of-focus image. Next time try using your loupe over the camera lens. It works quickly and easily.



### Little Things can Bite

Most jewellers treat motorized equipment with caution. We've all heard stories about work pieces coming loose in the drill press or about getting long hair or clothing caught in the polishing machine. It stands to reason that a machine with a motor of a half horsepower or so is going to win out over its operator. We all know that, and I'm not going to harp on it. That's not the point of this story.

I want to talk about the smaller motor powered machines we often use, the ones with little 3 inch diameter motors. For instance, these small motors are used in flexshafts and micro buffers. They're so small that many of us forget caution when using them. I'm guilty of it myself sometimes, and believe me it can get you in trouble. Here's what happened to two people I know.

One friend had a polishing bur bend in the handpiece and then whack the thumb that was holding the work piece so badly that it seemed the bone might be broken. The swelling was substantial, and it took several weeks to regain normal use. A small underpowered motor? I don't think so.

Another friend was using one of the small buffing machines, the kind you can stop when you apply too much pressure to the wheel. Not to worry about such an underpowered beast you say. Wrong, it literally jumped up and bit the hand that feeds it !

Buffer was set on a low table to do a quick polish, so was not mounted or clamped. A buff was installed on the right spindle, no buff on the left. Friend was wearing a tight-fitting, long-sleeved sweater. While buffing on the right wheel, the left tapered spindle caught a thread on the friend's left sleeve and started grabbing more and more threads and sleeve.

Rather than pulling the arm into the machine, the light buffer quickly lifted off the table and started climbing up the underside of the friends arm. There was no way to get a hand of the on/off switch because the unit was spinning wildly and battering my friend like a club wielded by a mad man. Only when my friend could grab the gyrating power cord and yank it from the wall did the mayhem stop.

So when you're in the shop, please think safety. Don't take even those little motors for granted.

Brad Smith's "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon

## 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
11-12th June 2016	<b>Grafton Gem &amp; Craft Show</b>	Grafton Showgrounds, Grafton, NSW
<b>9-10 July 2016</b>	<b>Campbelltown &amp; District Lapidary Club Gem, Mineral &amp; Jewellery Show</b> Our venue has good lighting and our displays and dealers fill two large rooms. Our members display their lapidary & Silver work & our dealers have amazing fossils, polished gems, rough and slabs, tools and jewellery, including handmade silver items. Special activities for children. We also have a large dining room where we serve hot & cold drinks, cakes, slices, pies & sandwiches throughout the day. And best of all we have two days for likeminded people to get together and talk about their favourite pastime.	<b>Greg Percival Community Centre, Ingleburn, NSW</b>  Entry Fees are: Children & Seniors \$3. Adults \$5 and Families \$15.  Open Both days at 9.30am and close on Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 4pm.
<b>6 &amp; 7 August 2016</b>	<b>Sydney Crystal Show</b> 9am to 5pm, 6 & 7 August 2016. Two full days of incredible natural wonders, unique gifts and treasures. \$10 adults, \$5 kids.	Located at Fraser Park, 100 Marrickville Road, Sydney 350m from Sydenham Station. <a href="http://www.sydneycrystalshow.com">www.sydneycrystalshow.com</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/sydneycrystalshow">www.facebook.com/sydneycrystalshow</a>
<b>20 – 21 August 2016</b>	<b>Blaxland Gem &amp; Mineral Club Gem Show</b> Displays of lapidary work and gem, mineral and crystal sales. Refreshments available. Entry Adults \$3 Children \$1	Glenbrook Community Hall Great Western Highway, Glenbrook, NSW (Next to Glenbrook Theatre) Just west of Information Centre. 8 am to 4 pm Daily
<b>1-3 October 2016</b>	<b>GEMKHANA 2016</b> The Annual Gem & Mineral Show and Competition of lapidaries from all over NSW, will be presented by the Lapidary Council of NSW Inc	Hawkesbury Showground, Racecourse Road, Clarendon NSW 2756 over the Labour Day Weekend 1-3 October 2016 9am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday, and 9am to midday on Monday.
<b>8th to 9th October 2016</b>	<b>Gem and Mineral Festival</b> Saturday, 8th October, 2016 from 9am to 5pm and Sunday, 9th October, 2016 from 9am to 4pm by Central Coast Lapidary Club	Mingara Club, Tumby Umbi. For further details please phone 02 4362 2246. Festival organizer is Rob Scott phone number 0405 904 881
<b>15th October 2016</b>	<b>Campbelltown &amp; District Lapidary Club Open Day</b> Open Day on the 15th October and we will be open from 9am to 2pm.	This day will be held in our club rooms and grounds at Lot 1 Bensley Rd. Macquarie Fields
<b>Friday 28 to Sunday 30 October 2016</b>	<b>Gem and Lapidary Exhibition Beecroft.</b> Northern Districts Lapidary Club Gem Show –	Beecroft Community Centre, Beecroft <a href="http://ndlapidary.org.au/gem-show-at-beecroft/">http://ndlapidary.org.au/gem-show-at-beecroft/</a>

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