

Rockgrinders Gazette



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Club Rooms Opening Hours

Monday	9am till 1pm
Wednesday	9am till 1pm
Friday	5pm till 9pm
Saturday	9am till 1pm

May 2018 Emerald Edition

New members are welcome

Are you interested in: Lapidary, Fossils, Gems, Crystals, Beading, Silver Smithing or Lost wax casting in a relaxed and 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 each day, who will assist you. All members would also love to help you if they can.

Membership Fees

Single	\$15.00
Family	\$20.00
Pensioner Family	\$15.00
Pensioner / Student	\$10.00
Insurance	\$ 5.00 per member
Workshop/Day fee	\$ 3.00
Joining Fee	\$10.00

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 renewal is due on 1st July each year.

If you are not financial, you cannot use the equipment.

Remember: No pay, no play

Silver Classes

Silver Casting Classes on Fridays 5pm-9pm.
Investment 3rd week of the month
Pouring 4th week of the month.
Decided upon by Barry and Dorothy.

New Members

Welcome to:

Darrin Toohey,
Orlando Williams,
Gary Davies,
Peter Dean,
Meeta & Raj Kotwal,
Chris Clark,
Megan Jones.

We hope you will enjoy yourself, make new friends and learn lots about Lapidary. Feel free to ask questions.

Notice

Margaret, the Club's current Event Co-Ordinator, has after many years in this position, has decided to step down. We would like to express our sincere thanks to Margaret for her attention to detail in this position and always willing provide anyone who needed information about the Open Days and Exhibitions with that information.

Elizabeth and/or Margaret encourage one or more Club Members to step forward and take over the Event Co-Ordinator role. Please know that Margaret has offered to assist the new Co-Ordinator whilst they are learning what to do. To assist Margaret with the Exhibition in July would be extremely advantageous.

We look forward to hearing from you.....

Exhibition 14th & 15th July 2018

We are in the process of preparing for our Exhibition.

- Volunteers are needed to assist on the day.
- Display Cases are available for Member's work.
- Member's Stall details.
- All the above are shown on the Whiteboard. Please check there for more details.
- Flyers for distribution will be available soon.

Thankyou

- Carolina, Margaret, Bob, Josh, Tim, Ron & John for cleaning out and re-organising the back storage shed.
- Bob, Tim, & John for the maintenance of the small, worm-drive rock saw. It is now fully operational.

Glen Innes Field Trip Report

15/4/18 – 22/4/18

by Suzy Brandstater

Fourteen brave club members embarked on another adventurous trip. This year, we decided to base ourselves in Glen Innes instead of Inverell as we wanted to spend some time at Mt Torrington and Emmerville. We were lucky enough to secure the services of Steve Cullen, a local Geologist who also owns the Emmerville Tin and Emerald Mine.

Monday 16th April.

An early start as we were due at Emmerville Tin and Emerald Mine at 9.00am. We met up with Steve who then took us up to his mine. We looked for Emeralds, Topaz, Fluorite and Smokey Quartz in the over burden from the old tin mine. We found small emeralds, topaz, fluorite and smokey quartz. A great day was had by all. While we were there, Steve told us about the night tours he has run at the mine. My ears pricked up and next thing, Steve was booked up for a night tour on Wednesday night.

Tuesday 17th April

We started our day with a trip to the Emmerville Mining and mineral museum. This place is really worth a visit. There is just so much stuff there. We then met up with Steve and he took us to a friend's property to look for Jelly Bean Quartz. I found some haematite chunks which are going to be great for tumbling. We then went to another site



where we looked for fossilised corals, we found heaps.

Wednesday 18th April

We met Steve at Deep Water and had our morning tea there. Deep Water has a great pie shop. We then followed Steve up to Mt Torrington. We drove on some pretty rough roads.

We found lots of Topaz and a few sapphires there. Lots of fun sieving for them. On our way back from Torrington we stopped at Ford's Crossing to look for Candle Quartz clusters and we did find quite a lot.

The final stop on our trip back to Emmerville was to look at the Ottery Mine, an old disused Tin and Arsenic mine. The place was fenced off, but there was a lot to look at. You could see bright pink arsenic salts encrusting the brickwork, it was very poisonous. A fascinating place to explore, amazing brick works and wooden structures. We finished up back at Steve's place for a BBQ and night fossick. We purchased UV torches for the job. After a great BBQ cooked in Steve's woolshed, we headed up the mountain. It was quite eerie. Many of the stones glowed which showed that they were fluorite. A piece of Topaz was also found, it glowed too. Many of the rocks had rare earth minerals on them and they glowed even brighter. Steve said that is why he is so insistent that people wash their hands thoroughly before eating.



Thursday 19th April

This was our big Sapphire day. We couldn't get into 7 Oaks so we went to Billabong Blue. Didn't have a great start to the day, the people running it were grumpy and stingy with the sieves. But we found quite a few sapphires



at the start of the day and then they tapered off. Some of us decided to call it a day and went to have a look at the New England Wood Turning place. The woodwork was amazing as ever and we were treated to an impromptu Didgeridoo concert. The owner has designed a new didgeridoo which was a 'Steam Punk' one, very creative. We headed over to the old Tingha sand dumps and found lots of tiny quartz, smokey quartz and citrine crystal points.

Friday 20th April

We had a 9.00am appointment at Aussie Sapphire to pick up some equipment and supplies. We then went to Inverell to Innes Engineering where we all bought some lovely rock specimens. I took everyone to the Inverell tourist information centre to see their excellent collection of 'grass stones', rutilated quartz, and of course, their sapphires. I mentioned to the Billabong Blue shop owners (they also own Billabong Blue Sapphire Fossicking) about being not happy with the customer service. The owner was surprised and told us that the people running it for the day were just some long term campers who were helping them out. The person running it had an emergency medical appointment and the campers offered to help out.

We finished our day looking at the shops in Inverell and then headed for home.

For our final day we went for a drive to Kookabookra to look for sapphires. Not much success, but we had a lovely day. That afternoon I taught a workshop on how to wrap tumble stones with craft wire.



May Birthdays (Emerald)

Linda Bosmans
Roy Callender
Ray Gill
Calim Kanric

Suzy Brandstater
Steve Cohen
Melissa Hoare
Raj Kotwal

Ian Browne
Judith Ferris
Kyle Hokin
Nick Pastor



Wanted

- Faceting machine, please contact Bob Owens on 0412 387 239.

What's On

Events are generally from the Gem and Lapidary Council of NSW <http://www.gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/events.html>

Other contributions or back issue requests may be made to ctownlapidaryclub.editor@gmail.com.

We are grateful for any and all submissions.

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
Sat 19 – Sun 20 May 2018	GEMFEST – Lismore Gem & Lapidary Club	Venue: Lismore Showground More information: PO Box 743, Lismore NSW 2480 Email: bruce.copper@bigpond.com
Sat 26 – Sun 27 May 2018	Canberra Lapidary Club Gemcraft & Mineral Show Gem, Mineral, Jewellery & Lapidary Dealers Time : Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 10am-5pm	Venue: EPIC – Mallee Pavilion Adults \$5, Family \$10, Children/Concession \$2 More information contact: www.canberrallapidaryclub.org.au email: canberrallapidaryh@gmail.com phone: 02 6260 5322
Sat 2 – Sun 3 June 2018	Bankstown Gem & Mineral Fair Time : Sat 9:30am-5pm, Sun 9:30am-4pm	Venue: The Arena Sports Club, 140 Rookwood Rd, Yagoona, NSW 2199 Adults \$7, Children under 16 with Parent(s) Free More information contact: Peter 0412 333 150 www.bankstownlapidary.com
Sat 14-15 July 2018	Campbelltown Lapidary Club 40th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewellery Exhibition Time : Sat 9:30am-5pm, Sun 9:30am-4pm	<i>Greg Percival Community Centre Cnr Oxford Rd & Cumberland Rd, Ingleburn Contact Margaret on 02 9618 3206 during Club Opening times for more information.</i>
Sat 18 - Sun 19 August 2018	Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club Gem Show Time : 8 am to 4 pm Daily.	Glenbrook Community Hall, Great Western Highway, Glenbrook, NSW Next to Glenbrook Theatre, just west of Information Centre. http://www.freewebs.com/blaxlandgemmineralclub/BGMCshow.htm Entry: Adults: \$3 Children \$1.
Saturday 20 October 2018	Campbelltown Lapidary Club Open Day Gemstones, jewellery, rough Come into the club and have a look around Sausage sizzle, cakes, and slices on sale.	<i>Lot 1 Bensley Rd (Hazlett Oval), Macquarie Fields (through the 'Abbotts-Ann' gates) Contact Margaret on 02 9618 3206 during Club Opening times for more information</i>
Sat 3 – Sun 4 Nov 2018	Illawarra Lapidary Club Jewellery, Gems & Mineral Festival. Time : Sat 9am-4pm, Sun 9am-3pm	Venue: Heining Hall, Ribbonwood Centre, 109 Princes Hwy, Dapto Entry: Adults \$3, children under 12 years free. Enquiries: John (02) 4267 5618 http://www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au/
Sat 10 – Sun 11 Nov 2018	Canberra Lapidary Club Gemcraft & Mineral Show Gem, Mineral, Jewellery & Lapidary Dealers Time : Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 10am-5pm	Venue: EPIC – Mallee Pavilion Adults \$5, Family \$10, Children/Concession \$2 More information contact: www.canberrallapidaryclub.org.au email: canberrallapidaryh@gmail.com phone: 02 6260 5322
Sat 10 – Sun 11 Nov 2018	Newcastle Lapidary Club Gem & Jewellery Fair Time: Sat 9am-4pm, Sun 9am-3pm	Venue: Newcastle Basketball Stadium, 27 Young St, Broadmeadow NSW (a short walk from Broadmeadow Railway Station) Entry Free, plenty of parking. Sales of Jewellery, gemstones, rocks, beads, tools and related items. Displays of club's activities and demonstrations of faceting & jewellery making. Full canteen facilities available.