

Rockgrinders Gazette



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Club Rooms Opening Hours

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

October 2019 – Opal/Tourmaline Edition

Welcome to New Members

David Ral

Amanda Duncan

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.

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.

Membership Fees

Single	\$15.00
Family	\$20.00
Pensioner Family	\$15.00
Pensioner /Junior/ Student	\$10.00
Insurance	\$5.00 per member
Workshop/Day fee	\$3.00 per session
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.

Bank Transfer Details

Bank: Commonwealth
Branch: Campbelltown
Acct. Name: Campbelltown & Districts Lapidary Club
BSB: 062 517
Acct. No.: 00905282

* Please include "Renew" and your Surname in the receipt description. *

Duty Officers' Roster

Days of month	Duty Officers
Monday	Margaret
Wednesday	Tim
Friday	Barry & Dorothy
1 st Saturday	Suzy
2 nd Saturday	Eugenio
3 rd Saturday	Kamilla
4 th Saturday	Ray
5 th Saturday	Suzy

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Clean Up for Open Day

Volunteers are required for cleaning up the Club from 12 noon on Wednesday 16 October, in preparation for Open Day on Saturday 19 October. If you are available to help on this day, please write your name on the notice board, and indicate if you will be staying for a light lunch, which will be provided by the Club.

Silver Casting

Friday 27 September saw the first casting day of the season. With thanks to those hard working members manning the centrifuge, Barry, Ray, Orlando, Josh, and others working on quenching, cleaning, pickling, etc, many lovely pieces of art/jewellery should result.

Casting Trivia

Lost-wax casting (also called "investment casting", "precision casting", or cire perdue which has been adopted into English from the French)[1] is the process by which a duplicate metal sculpture (often silver, gold, brass or bronze) is cast from an original sculpture. Intricate works can be achieved by this method.

The oldest known example of this technique is a 6,000-year old amulet from Indus valley civilization.[2] Other examples from a similar period are the objects discovered in the Cave of the Treasure (Nahal Mishmar) hoard in southern Israel, and which belong to the Chalcolithic period (4500–3500 BC). Conservative estimates of age from carbon-14 dating date the items to c. 3700 BC, making them more than 5,700 years old.[3][4]. Lost-wax casting was widespread in Europe until the 18th century, when a piece-moulding process came to predominate.

The steps used in casting small bronze sculptures are fairly standardized, though the process today varies from foundry to foundry. (In modern industrial use, the process is called investment casting.) Variations of the process include: "lost mould", which recognizes that materials other than wax can be used (such as: tallow, resin, tar, and textile);[5] and "waste wax process" (or "waste mould casting"), because the mould is destroyed to remove the cast item.[6][7]

(Lost-wax casting - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lost-wax_casting)

Upcoming Field Trip

We are currently organising a trip to "Grabben Gullen", Crookwell, to fossick for sapphire on a 3000 acre property.

Those who want to go please put your name on the notice board.

Date TBA, depending on participants, but anticipating around the end of October.

Remember there is **no toilet or washing facilities** on the property for those who intend to stay a few days.

For further information, please contact Bob Owens.


General Reminder

Playing Clean and Safe

All members have a responsibility to their club and its equipment, ensuring we can all play in a safe and clean environment.

- Protect your clothes wear a waterproof apron
- Protect your feet..... wear covered shoes near the wheels and saws
- Protect your hearing..... wear noise reducers near the wheels and saws
- Protect your sight wear eye protectors where necessary
- Protect your club leave your work area and kitchen clean
- Protect other members... by cleaning up spills, using machines and tools safely and advising the duty officer or an executive if you see any issues that need attention.

October Birthdays (Opal Tourmaline)

Norma	Castro Orellann	<p>OPAL is a hydrated amorphous form of silica (SiO₂·nH₂O); its water content may range from 3 to 21% by weight, but is usually between 6 and 10%. Because of its amorphous character, it is classed as a mineraloid, unlike crystalline forms of silica, which are classed as minerals. It is deposited at a relatively low temperature and may occur in the fissures of almost any kind of rock, being most commonly found with limonite, sandstone, rhyolite, marl, and basalt. Opal is the national gemstone of Australia.[4]</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Opal</p>	 <p>OCTOBER OPAL TOURMALINE</p>
Rita	Raman		
John	Dom		
Ruth	Valasini		
Chris	Schlegl		
Giuliano	Perrotta		
Margaret	Bryant		
Sarah	Malis		
Jeanine	Ball		

Healing properties of Opal: Opal is an emotional stone and reflects the mood of the wearer. It intensifies emotions and releases inhibitions. Encourages both freedom and independence. Opal enhances cosmic consciousness and induces psychic and mystical visions. It stimulates originality and creativity. Helps to release anger and claim self worth, aiding in accessing and expressing one's true self. Opal strengthens memory. It encourages an interest in the arts. Wearing Opal brings loyalty, faithfulness and spontaneity. Love ♥ Loyalty ♥ Peace ♥ Consciousness ♥ Faithfulness. <https://www.charmsflight.com/opal-healing-properties>

TOURMALINE: is a crystalline boron silicate mineral compounded with elements such as aluminium, iron, magnesium, sodium, lithium, or potassium. Tourmaline is classified as a semi-precious stone and the gemstone comes in a wide variety of colours. Usually, iron-rich tourmalines are black to bluish-black to deep brown, while magnesium-rich varieties are brown to yellow, and lithium-rich tourmalines are almost any colour: blue, green, red, yellow, pink, etc. Rarely, it is colourless. Bi-coloured and multi-coloured crystals are common, reflecting variations of fluid chemistry during crystallization. Crystals may be green at one end and pink at the other, or green on the outside and pink inside; this type is called watermelon tourmaline. Some forms of tourmaline are dichroic, in that they change colour when viewed from different directions. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tourmaline>

Healing properties of Tourmaline: Tourmaline aids in understanding oneself and others. It promotes self-confidence and diminishes fear. Tourmaline attracts inspiration, compassion, tolerance and prosperity. It balances the right-left sides of the brain. Helps treat paranoia, overcomes dyslexia and improves hand-eye coordination. Tourmaline releases tension, making it helpful for spinal adjustments. It balances male-female energy within the body. Enhances energy and removes blockages. ♥ Flexibility ♥ Happiness ♥ Objectivity ♥ Compassion ♥ Serenity ♥ Balance ♥ Positive transformation ♥ Healing ♥ Strength ♥ Tolerance ♥ Understanding <https://www.charmsflight.com/tourmaline-healing-properties>

Committee Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be held on Saturday 12 October at 9.00 am. All committee members are welcome. The general workshops will not be available until completion of the meeting around 10.00-10.30 am.

Resources/Links

The International Gem Society's "Learning Centre" page has very interesting and enlightening articles

<https://www.gemsociety.org/jewelry-lapidary/>

How to Cab ... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwoRjUoNwls>

How to Cab ... <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=AwM1dOsWsoo>

What's On

Events are generally from the Gem and Lapidary Council of NSW <http://www.gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/events/>
 Other contributions or back issue requests may be made to ctownlapidaryclub.editor@gmail.com.
 Alternately, download back issues from the Club's website.
 We are grateful for any and all submissions.

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
<i>TBA (possibly end October)</i>	CAMPBELLTOWN Lapidary Club <i>Field Trip – Fossicking for Sapphires</i>	Venue: "Grabben Gullen", Crookwell Interested? Write your name on the notice board. Further information: See Bob Owens
<i>Sat 12 - Sun 13 October 2019</i>	CENTRAL COAST Lapidary Club Annual Gem Show Time: 9 am Entry: \$2	Venue: Mingara Recreational Club, 12–14 Mingara Drive, Tumbi Umbi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huge range of Lapidary items for sale—a beading table— • Displays of fossils, gemstones, jewellery and raw and polished minerals; and of the Club's work
<i>Wed 16 September 2019</i>	CAMPBELLTOWN Lapidary Club CLEAN UP DAY in preparation for Open Day Time: 12 noon	Venue: Lot 1 Bensley Rd Hazlett Oval, Macquarie Fields Light Lunch provided Please put your name on the notice board, and for catering purposes indicate if you will be staying for lunch.
<i>Sat 19 October 2019</i>	CAMPBELLTOWN Lapidary Club Open Day Time: 9 am - 2 pm Entry: Free	Venue: Lot 1 Bensley Rd Hazlett Oval, Macquarie Fields <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rocks, • Crystals, • Gemstones, • Fossils, • Rough • Handcrafted Jewellery and market stalls • Family event – all ages welcome • Sausage Sizzle, • homemade cakes and slices • Hot and cold drinks.
<i>Sat 2 – Sun 3 Nov 2019</i>	ILLAWARRA Lapidary Club Jewellery, Gems & Mineral Festival Time: Sat 9 am - 4 pm Sun 9 am - 2.30 pm Entry: Adults \$3 Children under 12 years free	Venue: Heining Hall, Ribbonwood Centre, 109 Princes Hwy, Dapto <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gemstone Faceting, • Cabochon Cutting, • Silver crafts, • Jewellery Making & Valuations, • Mineral Group displays, • Club & Fossicking information, • Refreshments, • Raffle, Lucky Door Prizes & Kids' Games.

(continued over page)

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
		<p>Dealers selling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lapidary Supplies, • Minerals, • Jewellery, • Crystals, • Finding, • Fossils, • Beads and Opals. <p>Enquiries: John (02) 4267 5618 http://www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au/</p>
<p>Sat 9 – Sun 10 November 2019</p>	<p><i>NEWCASTLE Lapidary Club Gem And Jewellery Fair</i></p> <p>Time: Saturday 9 am To 4pm Sunday 9 am To 3 pm</p> <p>Entry: <i>Free And Parking</i></p>	<p>Venue: Newcastle Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC), Young Road and Melbourne Road Broadmeadow NSW (short walk from Broadmeadow railway station)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sales of jewellery, • gemstones, • rocks, • beads, • tools and related items. <p>Displays of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • club activities and demonstrations of lapidary, • faceting & • jewellery making. <p>Full canteen facilities available.</p> <p>Contact: Phone 02 4952 9611 (Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays) or email newlap@gmail.com.</p>