# 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

November 2020 - Topaz/Citrine

# What's in the newsletter?

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# **A Wonderful Picnic Day**

A great day was had by all who attended the Club Picnic in the Park at Ingleburn Reserve on 4 November. We had a lovely gathering and it was wonderful to see so many familiar faces after so long.

The weather was perfect, the location beautiful, and members enjoyed a drink and a bite to eat, and of course much chatting, laughing and catching up after a long absence from the Club.

Seems a few members have been busy and getting creative with their gems at home, others have been making use of opportunities to travel as far and wide as they can within the State, and others have spent their time developing new skills in other crafty endeavours, and helping out where they can in the community.

# **Upcoming Picnic in December**

We all enjoyed it so much, we are going to do it again in December. Another Covid-safe social outing at the same place.

This time if you have a chair, I suggest you bring it along.

#### **December Club Picnic Invitation**

The plan is to meet up at Ingleburn Reserve for a socially distancing picnic.

**Place**: Ingleburn Reserve Picnic Grove off Bensley Rd

267 Bensley Rd, Ingleburn

Date: Wednesday 9 December

**Time**: 10.00 am- 1.00 pm

Bring a picnic morning tea/lunch.

There is seating available, or you can bring your own picnic table and chairs.

Plenty of parking.

There are trees and a unisex toilet.

If you feel the need for exercise, there is a bush walking track there.

No need to RSVP. Just turn up with your food, drink and chair.

# Thank you from the Treasurer

A big THANK YOU to all those who have paid their membership fees and continued to support the club throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. It is much appreciated.



Club members enjoying the picnic at Ingleburn Reserve

# **Grawin Job Opportunity**

The Lapidary Council forwarded an email from Margaret Whish-Wilson of Grawin.

Margaret and Suzy had the pleasure of watching Margaret carve opal a few years ago, and may have some thoughts regarding this opportunity.

The message of the email is reproduced below for anyone who may be interested in applying.

My name is Margaret, my husband and I, have a small business on the opal fields at Grawin (74 kms nth/west of Walgett) NSW. see ref. Www. <u>margscarvings.net</u>

We had a display/work room in Lightning Ridge for over 6 years, became far too busy, decided to go back into mining, also established a display/teaching room and work room at Grawin.

We are hoping to be able to find a retired person/couple that has the ability to silver smith and set opal cabochons and carvings.

The person or persons, will have their own camp site, water, their own entrance, all is fenced.

Along with this, we have built a secured room for them to work in.

Perhaps among your members or maybe other clubs, there is a possibility it would of interest to some lapidary members.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Margaret Whish-Wilson. 0407 148 105

### **Smile Time**

Some of the worst Newspaper headlines - found on boredpanda.com.





# ON TEENAGERS, ADULY:

tatistics show that teen pregnancy drops off significantly after age 25.

Mary Anne Tebedo, Republican state senator from Cotorado Springs (contributed by Harry F. Puncee)











# **Trivia Quiz**

Answers at end of newsletter.

- 1 Feldspar is the most abundant mineral in the earth's crust, with approximately 60%. Citrine is a variety of the second most common. What is this mineral?
  - a) Pyroxene
  - b) Carbon
  - c) Quartz
  - d) Mica
- 2 There are four types of birthstone traditional (based on older stories), modern (standardised by American jewellers in 1912), mystical (supposedly Tibetan in origin) and Ayurvedic (dating from Indian philosophy and medicine). Just to make it even more confusing, there are also stones based on your zodiac sign. We already know citrine is one of November's birthstones, but which one of these is not?
  - a) Beryl
  - b) Topaz
  - c) Opal
  - d) Pearl
- 3 Although citrine is a natural stone that is mostly produced in Brazil, these jewellers are tricky people and will often sell you amethyst or smoky quartz. What has been done to these stones to make them resemble citrine?
  - a) Artificially chilled
  - b) Painted
  - c) Gamma rays (cobalt 60 irradiation)
  - d) Artificially heated
- 4 According to traditional medicine, people have seven chakra points. These are represented by various colours and have gems and crystals associated with them. Which chakra is represented by yellow and is therefore associated with citrine?
  - a) Muladhara: The Base Chakra
  - b) Manipura: The Solar Plexus Chakra
  - c) Anahata: The Heart Chakra
  - d) Sahasrara: The Crown Chakra

- 5 For which wedding anniversary should you (according to jewellery sellers, anyway!) give citrine? Hint: Traditionally this is your lace anniversary.
  - a) 13th
  - b) 20th
  - c) 5th
  - d) 40th
- 6 Which Wicca festival or sabbat, held in August in the northern hemisphere and February in the southern, can use citrine as part of the rituals?
  - a) Ostara
  - b) Mabon
  - c) Lammas
  - d) Samhain
- 7 On the Mohs scale of hardness, citrine, being a form of quartz, checks in at number 7. Which 3 other gemstones (8-10 on Mohs scale) could therefore scratch citrine?
  - a) Talc, feldspar, diamond
  - b) Gypsum, fluorite, corundum
  - c) Calcite, apatite, feldspar
  - d) Topaz, corundum, diamond
- 8 What is not a description of a colour of citrine?
  - a) Madeira
  - b) Turquoise
  - c) Cognac
  - d) Gold
- 9 Citrine gets its yellow colour from what, trapped in the quartz?
  - a) Sunlight
  - b) Lead
  - c) Gold
  - d) Iron
- 10 As the citrine is known as the 'Merchant's Stone', where is it recommended that a merchant should place a citrine to increase cashflow?
  - a) On the roof
  - b) In the cash drawer
  - c) Under the bed
  - d) At the bottom of the garden

# **November Birthdays Topaz - Citrine**

Pau Malili	Topaz	
Clarice Stretch	Topaz is an aluminium silicate fluoride hydroxide mineral that belongs to the silicate class of minerals. Its crystal structure	Page 1
Patrick Werne	is orthorhombic, and it frequently forms prismatic crystals,	
Ryan Cichonski	often eight sided with striations along the length. The crystals are transparent to translucent with a adamantine to vitreous	Vice
Michael Jackson	lustre.	NOVEMBER
Ann Thompson	The colours of topaz are created through the deposit in the growing process of other trace minerals. Yellow and Pink	TOPAZ CITRINE
Eugenio Cordova	topaz are coloured with chromium, Blue topaz is coloured	
Brandon Bourke	with iron, Brown topaz is coloured with manganese and the Orange and Red topaz are coloured with phosphorus.	
Thomas Spencer	Topaz is found in Brazil, Pakistan, USA, Russia and Mexico. <a href="https://www.healingwithcrystals.net.au/topaz.html">https://www.healingwithcrystals.net.au/topaz.html</a>	

#### **Healing Properties of Topaz**

This crystal radiates gentle power that soothes, heals, stimulates, and recharges. It will bring you lasting and solid energy that will fill your life with abundance, peace, and joy.

As a silicate mineral it acts as an enhancement crystal, a crystal of potency, and it will bring you forces of manifestation and attraction.

It's a crystal that will reflect the energy of your mind. It will bring you intense clarity on your intentions, and it will strengthen your focus so that you can manifest your desires to reality.

It will stimulate your self-confidence and your ability to learn new things. It will help you understand complex ideas and concepts.

Topaz will inspire creativity and increase your attention span. It will help you achieve perfection and your desired results when it comes to your projects and endeavours. https://meanings.crystalsandjewelry.com/topaz/

#### Citrine

Citrine is a variety of quartz whose colour ranges from pale yellow to a rich golden yellow to a dark yellow/orange. It gets its colour from inclusions of colloidal iron hydrate. It commonly occurs as clusters, drusy, geode or points. https://www.healingwithcrystals.net.au/citrine.html

#### **Healing Powers of Citrine**

Citrine is said to aid in the treatment of diseases related to the urinary tract, the kidneys, and the digestive system. It can also help regulate imbalances in the thyroid gland and with issues in the gall bladder.

It can improve the function of your endocrine system and help relieve constipation. And it also acts as a purifier and helps counteract the harmful effects of pharmaceutical medicines.

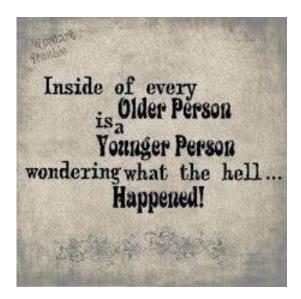
Citrine crystals give energy to the body and enhance electrical impulses in the nervous system. They also help in fortifying the nerves and strengthening the spine.

They can be beneficial to people who suffer from reverse degenerative diseases. And they can improve blood circulation, and even remove cellulite!

Citrine can stimulate proper digestion and the proper functions of the spleen and the pancreas. It can also help with problems that affect your eyes. <a href="https://meanings.crystalsandjewelry.com/citrine/#physical-healing-powers">https://meanings.crystalsandjewelry.com/citrine/#physical-healing-powers</a>

#### **Words of Wisdom**

The secret to happiness, you see, is not found in seeking more, but in developing the capacity to enjoy less. - Socrates



## Call for contributions to the newsletter

As you have probably noticed, the newsletter has taken on some changes over the months since the pandemic began. I've tried to keep you updated with what's happening and what's not happening, in the Club, and introduce some items of interest and slight humour, to keep the newsletter relevant, and also to remind you all that the Club is still here and you are not forgotten. The Club will reopen .... it will happen soon.

In the meantime, life goes on, and those lives going on are quite interesting, as I found out at the recent Club picnic. Soooooo ..... I thought I'd remind you all that the newsletter is always very happy to receive and welcomes new ideas, contributions of stories, poems, jokes, pictures of your creative works, snapshots of what's happening in your world, or interesting events in your lives, travels (NSW covers a large area), new discoveries, hobbies, fossicking sites, techniques and skills you've picked up or found out about, or questions on what you hope to find out about ... Anything, no matter how short, or long, would be appreciated. Just email your contributions or ideas to <a href="mailto:ctownlapidaryclub.editor@gmail.com">ctownlapidaryclub.editor@gmail.com</a>, and I'll add them to the newsletter.

I would also like to remind you of the <u>Campbelltown and Districts Lapidary website</u>, managed by Kathy. If you are for any reason unable to access a newsletter, or have a need to refer to an old one, the website has an archive of newsletters dating back to as far as July 2011. Kathy has told me there are quite a few stories from members in those earlier editions that may be of interest to you.

I'll be waiting to hear from you .... here's to a more interesting newsletter next month!

Judy Editor

# What's On .... Or Not ??

Events are generally from the Gem and Lapidary Council of NSW <a href="http://www.gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/events/">http://www.gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/events/</a> Other contributions or back issue requests may be made to <a href="mailto:ctownlapidaryclub.editor@gmail.com">ctownlapidaryclub.editor@gmail.com</a>.

Alternately, download back issues from the Club's website.

We are grateful for any and all submissions.

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE		
Please note all events are subject to rules and restrictions relating to Covid-19 pandemic.				
13 – 14 March 2021	Canberra 2021 Rock Swap	TBA		
20 - 21 March 2021	New England Lapidary and Fossicking Club Inc 2021  30th Annual Gem and Craft Show  Time: 9 am - 3 pm  Entry: Free	Venue: Armidale Show Ground  See a spectacular array of gems, rocks, jewellery, crafts, beads and lapidary books/supplies/equipment and much more. All on sale at the show.  Raffle Tickets \$1.00 Great Prizes  B.B.Q Breakfast & Lunch/Light Refreshment Available  For details contact the organisers on (02) 6772 2161 after hours.  Email info@nelfc.net		
2 – 5 April 2021	Gemboree 2021	Venue: HOBART Show Grounds, Glenorchy Further details: https://aflaca.org.au/		

# Have fun, take care and stay safe!