

# Rockgrinders Gazette



**ADDRESS:** Lot 1 Bensley Road, Hazlett Oval  
Macquarie Fields NSW 2564  
**MAIL:** PO Box 477, Ingleburn NSW 1890  
**EMAIL:** ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com  
**WEBSITE:** campbelltownlapidary.org.au  
**PHONE:** (02) 9618 3206

## 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

February 2021 – Amethyst

## What's in the newsletter?

What's in the newsletter?	1
Welcome Back – It's all happening folks!!!	1
From the President	1
How to make a booking	2
Smile Time	3
Talk Time	4
February Birthdays – Amethyst	5
What's On .... Or Not ?	6

## Welcome Back – It's all happening folks!!!

Happy times for those of you lucky enough to have secured a timeslot, and to those that haven't yet ventured back – I've reproduced below an extract from an email sent to members advising of Club opening times and how to book in, in advance.

Please find attached (at end of newsletter) a sample Booking Sheet which I hope will identify available time slots at the Club Rooms.

The Club is planned to be open the same days as we always have. The difference is that only a maximum number of members may attend the Club Rooms on any one day, at any one time.

### Monday, Wednesday & Saturday – 9 am -1 pm Grinding/Polishing Rooms:

- These are the only two rooms affected by 2 hour time slots.
- Cabochon Grinding/Polishing rooms (including Opal Only machine): Max 2 members per area at any one time. Cabochon Grinding/Polishing rooms (including Opal Only machine).

This area has been divided into 2 sessions of 2 hours duration each, 9am-11 am and 11 am - 1 pm.

It is best to have 2 projects on the go, one for grinding and one for polishing. So that if one area is booked out, there may be a vacancy in the other.

### Friday 5 pm - 9 pm - Silver Casting:

- Silver Casting - A maximum of 11 members including Duty Officer and Covid Marshal. Initial bookings please contact the Secretary, but once the Silver Casting night returns to the "new" normal, please consult Ray Jones for vacancies.

## From the President

It was so lovely to go to the club and actually get to do some work on some stones last week. The club is now open for business again. We still have to limit our numbers, but we are hoping to be able to relax some of the conditions in the near future. Things are constantly changing and as a club, we have to be flexible and roll with the changes, if we want to stay open.

I really appreciate how people have gotten on board and complied with the conditions of entry, booked in prior to attending the club and helped out with the extra workload.

The good news is that we are planning to have our Open Day on the 20<sup>th</sup> March. We are planning for this event and hoping that we don't have to cancel at the last minute like we did last year. But we are being very positive about it.

We will need help from club members to make this day a success.

## How to make a booking

Please contact John, the Club Secretary by email: [ctownlapidaryclub.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:ctownlapidaryclub.secretary@gmail.com)

When you attend your booking, you can make a new booking for the next week, using the booking sheet referred to earlier.

You should also have received a copy of the Conditions of Entry emailed to you previously.

***Some of the members happy to be back at the Club***





# OPEN DAY SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Open day is important to our club as it allows the public to find out about us, allows members to sell their items and provides money for our club equipment so please help.

We have a list of jobs that we need help with on the club notice board, **please add your name to the list. If more information is needed please ask Margaret.**

## Volunteers required from 7.30 am

We need volunteers for:

- 🔍 Flyer & Poster handout
- 🔍 Gate (QR code & hand sanitiser station)
- 🔍 Sign Placement
- 🔍 Club Stall help setting up & putting away
- 🔍 Raffle sales,
- 🔍 Cleaning prior to day
- 🔍 Cleaning at end of day
- 🔍 General Setting Up & spreading the word.

**Please help!**

## Smile Time

### DRIVING

Two elderly women were out driving in a large car - both could barely see over the dashboard. As they were cruising along, they came to an intersection. The stoplight was red, but they just went on through. The woman in the passenger seat thought to herself "I must be losing it. I could have sworn we just went through a red light." After a few more minutes, they came to another intersection and the light was red again. Again, they went right through. The woman in the passenger seat was almost sure that the light had been red but was really concerned that she was losing it. She was getting nervous. At the next intersection, sure enough, the light was red and they went on through. So, she turned to the other woman and said, "Mildred, did you know that we just ran through three red lights in a row? You could have killed us both!"

Mildred turned to her and said, "Oh, crap, am I driving?"




## Talk Time

### Dictionary. The Lapidary Difference.

WORD / SAYING	FIELD	MEANING
ANNEALING	Dichroic Glass	Glass is strengthened by reducing heat of kiln slowly
ANNEALING	Silver	Metal is tempered with heat to allow easier manipulation & reduce stress
BURNISHER	Silver	Used to smooth metal in polishing process
CENTRIFUGE	Silver LWC	Rotates at high speed to force melted metal into lost wax space
CONGLOMERATE	Lapidary	A mixture of stones formed into one
COUNTER ENAMEL	Enamelling	Enamels contaminated when colours mix together accidentally.
CRINOIDEA	Fossil	A fossilized echinoderm eg sea lily & feather stars
CROWN	Faceting	The raised area of a brilliant cut gemstone
CULET	Faceting	The bottom point of a brilliant cut gemstone
DIVIDER	Silver	For measuring & scoring metal & wax
DOUBLETS	Opal	A thin piece of Opal usually backed with a piece of black potch eg 2 layers
ENAMELLING	Enamelling	Permanent Colour designs can be formed with glass powder on metal
FACETING	Faceting	Cutting a gemstone at many angles to allow light dispersion & refraction
FINE SILVER	Silver	99.9% Silver
FLUX	Silver	An agent to help solder flow, the most common is borax
GIRDLE	Faceting	The middle rim of a brilliant cut gemstone
INDEX GEAR	Faceting	Numbered teeth used to set the facet angle. Our machines have 96 teeth
INVESTMENT	Silver LWC	A powder mix that forms a paste when mixed with water & encases wax
JEWELLERS SAW	Silver	An adjustable saw used by Jewellers. It uses very fine blades
LOST WAX CASTING (LWC)	Silver LWC	A wax mould is formed & used to turn the wax into a metal image
MANDREL	Silver	Steel shapes used for shaping or stretching metal jewellery pieces
MOHS SCALE	Lapidary	A scale to calculate the hardness of stones, Talc 1, Diamond 10
NEEDLE FILES	Silver	A Set of small assorted shaped files used to shape metal & wax
NUTS	Lapidary	An egg or walnut shape rock encasing minerals such as Opal or quartz
ORANGE PEEL EFFECT	Enamelling	Rough & uneven enamel is usually from under firing
PAVILION	Faceting	The Lower section of a brilliant cut gemstone
PICKLING COMPOUND	Silver	A chemical solution that removes oxides that formed as the result of heating
POTCH	Lapidary	Common Opal form usually white and/or Grey without brilliant colours
PRECIOUS METAL CLAY (PMC)	Silver	Fine silver combined with an organic "clay" that burns away when fired
PRECIOUS OPAL	Lapidary	A brilliant multi coloured form of silica mostly found in Australia.
SCRIBER	Silver	For scoring or marking designs on silver work. Also used for stone carving
SGRAFFITO	Enamelling	Use contrasting colours & use different shape tools to form patterns
SOLDER	Silver	An alloy that fuses metal together when heated.
SPRUE	Silver LWC	Is used to "glue" a shape onto a mould base to hold items together
STEEL SHOT	Silver LWC	Stainless steel balls used in a vibrator with water to clean & polish metal
STERLING SILVER	Silver	92.5% Silver & 7.5% Copper
SWIRLING	Enamelling	Swirl hot enamel while still in kiln to make individual designs
TABLE	Faceting	The flat top of a brilliant cut gemstone
TRANSFER JIG	Faceting	A metal jig used to transfer gemstone from one side to the other for cutting
TREE / BUTTON	Silver LWC	Wax trees & buttons hold shapes in place & convert to silver when cast
TRIPETS	Opal	A thin piece of backed Opal with a clear dome glued to top eg 3 layers
V BOARD (PEG)	Silver	A small piece of V shaped timber clamped to workbench
VULCANIZER	Silver LWC	Is used to make rubber moulds which are used to make wax moulds
WET CHARGING	Enamelling	Enamel can be used as a paste & detailed designs can then be formed
WINDLASS	Lapidary	A structure set on top of a mine hole for raising rocks & other weights

## February Birthdays – Amethyst

Jamie Bourke Kathy Schlegl Robert Owens Brendon Thompson Hans Bleeker Melissa Dimmick	<b>Amethyst</b> Amethyst is the purple variety of the quartz mineral species. It's the gem that's most commonly associated with the colour purple, even though there are other purple gems such as sapphire and tanzanite. Its purple colour can be cool and bluish, or a reddish purple that's sometimes referred to as "raspberry."	 <b>FEBRUARY</b> <b>AMETHYST</b>
--	--	---

Amethyst is a 7 on the Mohs scale of hardness. This means that it is appropriate for daily use in rings and other jewellery, but over time it may show wear and require repolishing. Because this February birthstone is more susceptible to damage than harder gems such as rubies, sapphires and diamonds, you risk scratching your amethyst jewellery if you place it next to these harder stones...

Heat treatment is the most common technique for improving the colour and marketability of natural amethyst. Heat treatment can't make pale amethyst darker, but it can lighten the colour of very dark amethyst and make it more attractive. It can also remove unwanted brownish inclusions in some amethysts. Some amethyst turns yellow – to citrine – with heat treatment.

Heat treating amethyst results in a permanent change in colour. However, submitting it to intense heat may render it slightly more brittle than usual, and care must be taken not to damage pointed faceted corners and sharp edges. Note, too, that excessive heat can remove the colour entirely, and some amethyst fades with prolonged exposure to strong light. Though the colour is stable with normal use, this is not a birthstone to wear to the beach every day.

Amethyst birthstone jewellery can be cleaned with an ultrasonic cleaner, but steam cleaning is not recommended. A soft brush with mild soap is the safest option.

Fine amethysts have been set in religious jewellery and royal crown jewels for ages. It was once considered equal in value to ruby, emerald, and sapphire. It's no wonder that fine amethyst adorns the fingers of bishops as well as the coronation regalia of British royalty.

The name "amethyst" derives from the Greek amethystos, which means "a remedy against drunkenness," a benefit long ascribed to the purple birthstone. Because of its wine-like colour, early Greek mythology associated the gem with Bacchus, the god of wine. Amethyst was also believed to keep the wearer clear headed and quick witted in battle and business affairs. Renaissance Europeans thought it calmed lovers overrun by passion.

Amethyst's purple colour can range from a light lilac to a deep, intense royal purple, and from brownish to vivid. Amethyst also commonly shows what is called colour zoning, which in the case of amethyst usually consists of angular zones of darker to lighter colour

<https://www.gia.edu/birthstones/february-birthstones>

### Words of Wisdom

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift of God, which is why we call it the present." — **Bill Keane**



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

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](mailto: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>Please note</i> all events are subject to rules and restrictions relating to Covid-19 pandemic.		
20 – 21 February	<b>AUCTION</b> <b>Mineral Collection of the late Arthur Roffey</b> Time: 10 am - 4 pm	<b>Venue:</b> 52 McPherson Road, Londonderry Collected over the last 50 years. Individually priced from \$5 with a large collection of Quartz and specialty pieces. <i>See Flyer attached</i>
28 February, 2021	<b>Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc – Rock Swap</b> Time: 8 am – 2 pm	<b>Venue:</b> Stuart Park, George Hanley Drive, North Wollongong. <i>See Flyer attached</i>
13 – 14 March 2021	<b>Canberra</b> <b>2021 Rock Swap</b>	<b>Venue:</b> Exhibition Park, Acton Arena (Camping Ground) <i>See Flyer attached</i>
20 March 2021	<b>Campbelltown District Lapidary Club</b> <b>Open Day</b> Time: 9 am – 2 pm Entry: Free	<b>Venue:</b> Lot 1 Bensley Road, Macquarie Fields <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crystals, gems, roughs, minerals</li> <li>• Handcrafted jewellery, and market stalls,</li> <li>• Readers, Reiki,</li> <li>• Tasty Greek treats, cold drinks</li> </ul> <i>See flyer attached</i>
20 - 21 March 2021	<b>New England Lapidary and Fossicking Club Inc 2021</b>	<b>Venue:</b> Armidale Show Ground <i>See Flyer attached</i>
2 – 5 April 2021	<b>Gemboree 2021</b>	<b>Venue:</b> HOBART Show Grounds, Glenorchy <b>Details</b> of GEMBOREE 2021 will be posted on the AFLACA on Sunday 12th April 2020 <a href="https://aflaca.org.au/">https://aflaca.org.au/</a>

*Have fun, take care and stay safe!*



## Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.



## Rock Swap



Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2021  
Stuart Park, North Wollongong  
8 am to 2 pm



Stalls selling  
Crystals, Minerals, Fossils,  
and Jewellery  
Equipment and Books  
Information: John Maley 42675618

Canberra  
2021 Gem Shows

Canberra Lapidary Club Inc.

Web : [www.canberralapidary.org.au](http://www.canberralapidary.org.au)Email : [canberralapidary@gmail.com](mailto:canberralapidary@gmail.com)

Ph : 02 6260 5323 (Workshop)

## Rock Swap

<b>Date</b>	Sat 13 - Sun 14 March 2021
<b>Venue</b>	Exhibition Park (EPIC) - Acton Arena (Camping Ground)
<b>Entry</b>	<b>Free</b>
<b>Sales</b>	Fossickers & dealers selling : Minerals, crystals, jewellery, rough & cut gemstones, opals, fossils. <b>Food Available</b>
<b>Other</b>	* Sieve for Sapphires * Pan for Gold

Winter & Spring  
Gemcraft & Mineral Shows

<b>Winter Show :</b>	Sat 29 May	10am to 5pm
	Sun 30 May	10am to 4pm
<b>Spring Show :</b>	Sat 30 Oct	10am to 5pm
	Sun 31 Oct	10am to 4pm
<b>Venue</b>	Exhibition Park (EPIC) - Mallee Pavilion	
<b>Entry</b>	<b>\$7 Adults \$12 Family \$4 Concession</b> <b>Free Children to Age 16</b>	
<b>Sales</b>	Gem, Mineral, Jewellery & Lapidary dealers Minerals, fossils, jewellery, rough & cut gemstones, lapidary equipment & supplies, opals, beads. <b>Food available</b>	
<b>Other</b>	Displays of members' collections. Demonstrations of cabbing & faceting. Age of Fishes Museum - Information & Fossil Exhibits	

## 2022 Show Dates

<b>Rock Swap :</b>	TBA
<b>Winter Gem Show :</b>	TBA
<b>Spring Gem Show :</b>	TBA

Rev : A3

New England Lapidary  
and  
Fossicking Club inc.

\*\*\* 2021 \*\*\*

30th Annual Gem and Craft Show  
20th March-- 9am - 5pm  
21st March-- 9am - 3pm  
Armidale Show Ground

See a spectacular array of:  
Gems, Rocks, Crystals, Jewellery, Crafts  
Beads & 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 Refreshments Available

FREE ENTRY

For Details - Contact the Organisers  
on (02) 67722161 after hours...email: [info@nelc.net](mailto:info@nelc.net)

## Due To Popular Demand

The Mineral Collection of the late Arthur Roffey is for sale.  
Collected over the last 50 years. Individually priced from  
\$5 with a large collection of Quartz & specialty pieces.

Don't miss this opportunity to obtain a piece of history!

**WHEN:** Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2021 - Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>  
February 2021

**TIME:** 10am - 4pm

**WHERE:** 52 Macpherson Rd Londonderry

Also view our New Alpaca Showroom which includes a wide  
range of Alpaca Garments & accessories as well as South  
American gift items.

Refreshments Available

Enquiries: Christine Roffey 0402 263 634

Credit Card Facilities Available

## Campbelltown Districts Lapidary Club

## Open Day

9.00am -2.00pm

Saturday 20th March 2021

\*Crystals, gemstones, fossils, rough, minerals

\*handcrafted jewellery and market stalls

Tasty Greek Treats

\*Readers, Reiki

\*Cold drinks

Free Entry



If you are interested in Lapidary, Crystals jewellery making or silver work, check out our club.

Come along, meet the club members, pick up a bargain.

Lot 1 Bensley Road Macquarie Fields

Email: [ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com](mailto:ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com)Web: [campbelltownlapidary.org.au](http://campbelltownlapidary.org.au)

Phone: 0296183206



Set your 'Sat Nav' to Hazlett Oval

## Campbelltown &amp; Districts Lapidary Club Inc.

MAIL : PO Box 477, Ingleburn, NSW 1890

EMAIL: [ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com](mailto:ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com)WEB : <http://www.campbelltownlapidary.org.au>

Lot 1 Bensley Road, Macquarie Fields, NSW 2564

PHONE: (02) 9618 3206

Mon 9-1pm, Wed 9-1pm, Sat 9-1pm

Casting Fri 5-9pm (summer only)

Date: Booking Sheet (during Covid-19)		
Member's Name	Time Slot (if applicable)	Machine or Activity
		Duty Officer
		Covid Marshal
		Main Room
		Main Room
		Main Room
		Main Room
		Main Room
		Main Room
		Faceting
		Faceting
	9am-11am	Grinding
	9am-11am	Grinding
	11am-1pm	Grinding
	11am-1pm	Grinding
	9am-11am	Polishing
	9am-11am	Polishing
	11am-1pm	Polishing
	11am-1pm	Polishing
		Saw Room
		Saw Room
		Silver Casting Room
		Silver Casting Room
		Silver Casting Room
		Flat Lap Room
		Flat Lap Room

CDLC Booking Sheet V1.0

25/01/2021