

Rockgrinders Gazette

Campbelltown & Districts Lapidary Club Inc.

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General Meetings are held on the
1st Saturday each month except January
Commencing at 9.30am



ADDRESS: Lot 1 Bensley Road Macquarie Fields NSW 2564

Mon 9-2pm Wed 9-2pm Fri 6-9pm Sat 10-1pm

Web Site: campbelltownlapidary.cjb.net

DECEMBER 2011 JANUARY 2012

Club Report

It has been decided to change the Committee Meetings to the 3rd Saturday in the month to allow all the committee to attend. The Committee are looking into ventilation for the club and have purchased new ropes & tent poles for the tarp. A new banner for the fence has also been approved. We have a new soldering station for waxwork & a new Magnifying lamp also for waxwork & other fine work. We have also purchased Safety glasses for Lampwork together with a marver & specialty tweezers.

BINGARA TRIP: This trip will be approx 5 days in Bingara from Sunday 17th April to Thursday 21st April 2012 when we leave for home. This is in the school holidays to allow for families to attend but it is after the Easter break (6th – 9th April). You will have to make your own bookings & way there. For Accommodation see the Bingara Riverside Caravan Park (run by the Gwydir Council) at this web site www.bingara.com.au

NOTE: The GEMBOREE will be held on the 6th April in Bundaberg for those who would like an extended trip.

*Merry Christmas
& a Happy New Year
& have fun on Australia Day*

Membership

Are you a paid up member?

Single	\$15.00	Family	\$20.00	
Pensioner Family			\$15.00	renew each July
Pensioners/Single/Student			\$10.00	
Insurance			\$3.00	

NOTE: You must be an insured member over 12 years of age to use machinery and cutting implements. Members must not use machinery prior to training.

NO MEMBERSHIP NO EQUIPMENT

Workshops

Commence at 9.30 on the fourth Saturday of the month unless otherwise notified. If you wish to use precious metals for larger items (eg bracelet) please book & pay a non-refundable deposit of \$30 towards the purchase of your materials. The final cost will be calculated on the day.

Workshop activities require *member only* use of mechanical tools including the kiln.

Jewellery Workshop Calendar

February 25th Silver Bezel

SILVER CASTING: If you are interested in Lost Wax Casting, pop into the club after 4pm on Friday nights to check it out. Next Investment 20th Jan 2012. Merry Christmas Dorothy & Barry.

Diary Dates

 Our main future events

- ◆ Club Christmas party 10th December 2011 at Club House starting at 6.30pm.

Club Will be closed for the Christmas Break from Wednesday 21st December to Wed Jan 4th 2012 when we reopen.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Steven McCulloch
Dieter Klepatzki
Helen Standing
Herb Eccleston
Eleni Vassiliou

TURQUOISE



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Linda McCulloch
Cecilia Grieshammer
Ron Bryant
Michael Shay
Greg Thompson
Robyn Taylor

GARNET

Leny Beahan
Betty Thompson
Eileen Golan
Grace Hemans
Don Jones

Smile awhile

Life

On the first day, God created the dog and said:

'Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years.'

The dog said: 'That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?' So God agreed.

On the second day, God created the monkey and said: 'Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a twenty-year life span.'

The monkey said: 'Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the Dog did?' And God agreed.

On the third day, God created the cow and said: 'You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years.'

The cow said: 'That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years.. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?' And God agreed again.

On the fourth day, God created humans and said:

'Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years.'

But the human said: 'Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?'

'Okay,' said God, 'You asked for it.'

So that is why for our first twenty years we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years we slave in the sun to support our family.... For the next ten years we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren.. And for the last ten years we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone.

Life has now been explained to you.

Recipe

STICKY DATE & BANANA PUDDING

(Cook in Microwave)

200g fresh dates, pitted, chopped
125ml (¹/₂ cup) water
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
1 ripe large banana, mashed
100g butter, at room temperature
175g (³/₄ cup) caster sugar
1 tsp vanilla essence
2 eggs, at room temperature
190g (1¹/₄ cups) self-raising flour, sifted



CARAMEL SAUCE

160ml (²/₃ cup) thickened cream
155g (³/₄ cup, firmly packed) brown sugar
75g butter, cubed

1. Brush a 7cm-deep, 20cm {base measure}, 2-litre (8-cup), microwave-safe ring container with melted butter to lightly grease. Line the base with non-stick baking paper.
2. Place dates and water in a medium, microwave-safe bowl. Cook, uncovered, on high/800watts/100% for 3-4 minutes or until liquid is absorbed and dates are soft. Use a fork to mash dates. Add bicarbonate of soda and mix well (the mixture will froth). Set aside for 10 minutes to cool. Stir in banana.
3. Meanwhile, to make the caramel sauce, combine the cream, sugar and butter in a 1 -litre (4-cup), microwave-safe jug or bowl. Cook, uncovered, on high/800 watts/100%, stirring every minute, for 3 minutes or until the sauce comes to the boil. Set aside.
4. Use electric beaters to beat the butter, sugar and vanilla essence in a medium bowl until well combined. Add the eggs 1 at a time, stirring well after each addition.
5. Add the banana mixture and mix well. Add the flour and use a wooden spoon to gently combine. Spoon into the greased container and smooth the surface.
6. Place a microwave-safe rack or upturned plate on the turntable to elevate the container by about 2cm. Place the container on top and cook the pudding, uncovered, on Medium/500watts/50% for 12 minutes or until it looks cooked (the surface will be a little sticky in patches). The pudding will rise quickly in the first few minutes and the surface will be uneven.
7. Remove the pudding from the microwave and gently pour 185ml (a cup) of the caramel sauce over the top. Return to the microwave and cook on Medium/500watts/50% for a further 3 minutes. Remove the pudding from the microwave and set aside for 5 minutes before turning onto a serving plate.
8. Serve slices of warm pudding drizzled with the remaining caramel sauce.

TIP

If you don't have a ring container, improvise. Use a 7cm-deep, 20cm (base measurement), plastic microwave-safe container and place a straight-sided drinking glass in the centre. Half fill the glass with water to prevent it cracking during cooking. serves: 8

Dates to Remember are generally from the Gem and Lapidary Council of NSW. Contributions can be made via email or regular Post to the Editor. We are grateful for any submissions.

2011		
December 3 rd	Campbelltown Lapidary Club General Meeting	Club house
December 10 th	Campbelltown Lapidary Club Christmas Party 6.30pm	Club House \$15.00 per head remember to book & pay early
December 17 th	Campbelltown Lapidary Club Committee Meeting	Club House
December 21st	Campbelltown Club Closes for Christmas & reopens Jan 4th	Merry Christmas
2012		
January 7 th	Campbelltown Lapidary Club General Meeting	Club house
April 6 th	2012 GEMBOREE 6 April	QCGA Bundaberg
April 17th – 21st	5 day Field Trip to Bingara (See notice board)	Commencing at Bingara. Make your own Booking
July 21st & 22nd 2012	Campbelltown Lapidary Club Annual Gem Show & Exhibition	Ingleburn Community Centre Cnr Oxford Rd & Cumberland Rd Ingleburn

Dates to Remember	Generally come from the Gem and Lapidary Council web site, http://www.gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au , if mistakes please let us know as soon as possible so we can correct item, your submissions will be gratefully accepted. Please check this website yourself for late additions. Thank you <i>Margaret</i>	*All workshops may change due to unforeseen circumstances; deposits given may be transferred to another workshop.
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Extra bits

NOTE: The GEMBOREE will be held on the 6th April in Bundaberg Qld..

It was not long after Europeans began using Christmas trees that special decorations were used to adorn them. Food items, such as candies and cookies, were used predominately and straight white candy sticks were one of the confections used as ornamentation. Legend has it that during the 17th century, craftsmen created the white sticks of candy in the shape of shepherds' crooks at the suggestion of the choirmaster at the Cologne Cathedral in Germany.

The candy treats were given to children to keep them quiet during ceremonies at the living creche, or Nativity scene, and the custom of passing out the candy crooks at such ceremonies soon spread throughout Europe.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

This is our club newsletter and it only exists for members to be kept up to date & for members to give other members ideas of where & what they can do & buy. So if you have anything you would like to pass on please let me know & I will do my best to put it into print for you. Have a very Merry Christmas & I'll see you again in February 2012.

Margaret