

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

June 2020 – Pearl/Alexandrite

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Message from the President

I hope everyone is keeping well, getting lots done around the home. I really miss seeing everybody at the club. I can't wait to get back onto the machines to grind some new slabs I bought in anticipation of the club re-opening.

Club Opening Update

The Club executive have discussed the possibility of the club re-opening for June and July. Even though many restrictions have been lifted, we are still not able to re-open. The same rules still apply.

Because of the layout of the club, we would only be able to have a few people in the club at any one time. One person in the grinding room, one person in the saw room, one person in the polishing room etc. To make things even more difficult, every single surface in the club would have to be wiped down after each person.

That is a mammoth cleaning job that would have to be carried out, because it isn't just a quick wipe down of your area, it has to be a complete disinfecting of every surface. Many of our members are in the vulnerable category or have vulnerable people at home.

Nothing has really changed since we closed, we are just lucky that our country locked down quickly enough to prevent a major outbreak in Australia.

We will be re-evaluating the situation in early August. If Australia can follow the example of New Zealand and be declared Covid 19 free, we will be very happy to get things back to normal and re-open.

Exhibition

With much reluctance, we have cancelled our annual exhibition. An exhibition would not be viable even under the relaxed restrictions. We have re-booked for the same weekend next year

October Open Day

At this stage we have not made a decision about the Open Day. We are hopeful that we can have it.

But, in this ever-changing world we live in, we cannot make a decision that far in advance. I have my fingers crossed.

Club Membership

For our club to remain being legally allowed to remain a club, we must have paid up members. The club still must pay rent, electricity, phone and internet each month no matter what. Some of our costs are down, but some remain the same whether we use the club or not.

Because the club is not open for workshops, our finances are being depleted as we don't have a continual income stream coming in. We have also lost

money due to the March Open Day and the Exhibition being cancelled, publicity had been paid for in anticipation of both events. We also lost our potential income from these events.

At the end of June our memberships expire, for our club to continue, we need members to renew their membership. Please check the information sheet Margaret has prepared about how to renew your membership.

Club Painting

When the club opens, members will be amazed at the work Bob and Tim have done during the club closure time. Rooms have been painted, new benches in the faceting area, lights changed – thanks for the lights Chris. It will be lovely to come into a new fresh-looking club. A big thank you to all those involved.

Thank you

A big thank you to the club executive who have continued in their roles during our club closure time (our jobs haven’t stopped). Also, a big thank you to Judy who has continued to publish our Newsletter and help keep everyone informed, and to Rachel for doing a great job managing our Instagram.

Stay Safe
Suzy Brandstater

Notice from the Treasurer

Annual Membership Fees due by 30 June 2020.

Note:

- All members are required to pay \$5.00 pa insurance
- Life members pay insurance only, per person
- To help with your payment please check the Fees Table in next column.

How to Pay your Membership Fees and insurance

As the club is still closed please pay your Annual Fees by **direct deposit** (see details in next column) and **include the initial of your first name and your surname eg FSmith**, as your reference.

Note:

If you are unable to use direct debit please pay by cheque or money order to our Post Office Box:

Treasurer
Campbelltown Lapidary Club
PO Box 477
INGLEBURN NSW 1890

If you have a problem please contact Margaret, (the Treasurer) at **ctownlapidarytreas@gmail.com**

Hopefully we will be able to rock on together soon.

Take Care
Margaret

Membership Fee Table			
	Fee	Insurance	Total Cost
1 single adult	\$15	+ \$5	=\$20
1 single pensioner	\$10	+ \$5	=\$15 (adults)
1 single fulltime Student	\$10	+ \$5	=\$15
1 family	\$20	+ \$5 p/p	=\$30 (2 adults)
2 adults 1 child	\$20	+ \$15	=\$35
2 adults 2 child	\$20	+ \$20	=\$40
2 adults 3 child	\$20	+ \$25	=\$45
1 pensioner family	\$15	+ \$5 p/p	=\$25 (2 adults)
Mix pay family			
1 adult	\$20	+ \$5 p/p	=\$30 (2 adults)
1 pensioner			

BANK TRANSFER DETAILS

Campbelltown & District Lapidary Club Inc.

BSB 062 517

Account: 00905282

Bank: Commonwealth

Branch: Campbelltown

Reference: Your first initial and Surname *eg* FSmith

Duty Officers’ Roster

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

Thank you from Beverly

Beverly says “thank you” for the Get Well card she received from the Club. Your best wishes and kind thoughts are much appreciated. She has been using her lockdown time to work on her paintings, and has some further treatment to undergo this month. Beverly is looking forward to returning to the Club when it reopens.

Next Meeting Dates

These dates may change depending on Covid-19 restrictions.

Date	Meeting type
1 August	Management meeting
5 September	General meeting
5 September	Annual General meeting
5 September	New Management meeting
10 October	General meeting
7 November	Management meeting
5 December	General meeting

Maybe we don't have it that bad.

With thanks to Clarice for her thoughtful contribution giving us all a hit of perspective.

It's a mess out there now. Hard to discern between what's a real threat and what is just simple panic and hysteria. For a small amount of perspective at this moment, imagine you were born in 1900.

On your 14th birthday, World War I starts and ends on your 18th birthday. 22 million people perish in that war. Later in the year, a Spanish Flu epidemic hits the planet and runs until your 20th birthday. 50 million people die from it in those two years. Yes, 50 million.

On your 29th birthday, the Great Depression begins. Unemployment hits 25%, the World GDP drops 27%. That runs until you are 33. The country nearly collapses along with the world economy.

When you turn 39, World War II starts. You aren't even over the hill yet. And don't try to catch your breath. On your 41st birthday, the United States is fully pulled into WWII. Between your 39th and 45th birthday, 75 million people perish in the war.

Smallpox was epidemic until you were in your 40's, as it killed 300 million people during your lifetime.

At 50, the Korean War starts. 5 million perish. From your birth, until you are 55 you dealt with the fear of Polio epidemics each summer. You experience friends and family contracting polio and being paralyzed and/or die.

At 55 the Vietnam War begins and doesn't end for 20 years. 4 million people perish in that conflict. During the Cold War, you lived each day with the fear of nuclear annihilation. On your 62nd birthday, you have the Cuban Missile Crisis, a tipping point in the Cold War. Life on our planet, as we know it, almost ended. When you turn 75, the Vietnam War finally ends.

Think of everyone on the planet born in 1900. How did they endure all of that? When you were a kid in 1985 and didn't think your 85-year-old grandparent understood how hard school was. And how mean that kid in your class was. Yet they survived through everything listed above. Perspective is an amazing art. Refined and enlightening as time goes on. Let's try and keep things in perspective.


Your parents and/or grandparents were called to endure all of the above – you are called to stay home and sit on your couch!!!

Smile Time



<https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/476326098068845867/>

June Birthdays (Pearl/Alexandrite)

<p>Leesa Spencer Beverly Carnegie Robert Knight Peter Mulhall Theodoros Vassillou Glen Bannon John Franks Inez Patterson John Mainwaring Chris Clark Margaret Aitken Norman Abboun David Ral</p>	<p>Pearl</p> <p>A pearl is a hard, glistening object produced within the soft tissue (specifically the mantle) of a living shelled mollusc or another animal, such as fossil conulariids. Just like the shell of a mollusc, a pearl is composed of calcium carbonate (mainly aragonite or a mixture of aragonite and calcite)[3] in minute crystalline form, which has deposited in concentric layers. The ideal pearl is perfectly round and smooth, but many other shapes, known as baroque pearls, can occur. The finest quality of natural pearls have been highly valued as gemstones and objects of beauty for many centuries. Because of this, pearl has become a metaphor for something rare, fine, admirable and valuable.</p>	 <p>JUNE PEARL ALEXANDRITE</p>
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The most valuable pearls occur spontaneously in the wild, but are extremely rare. These wild pearls are referred to as natural pearls. Cultured or farmed pearls from pearl oysters and freshwater mussels make up the majority of those currently sold. Imitation pearls are also widely sold in inexpensive jewellery, but the quality of their iridescence is usually very poor and is easily distinguished from that of genuine pearls. Pearls have been harvested and cultivated primarily for use in jewellery, but in the past were also used to adorn clothing. They have also been crushed and used in cosmetics, medicines and paint formulations.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pearl>

Alexandrite (chrysoberyl)

Alexandrite is named after Russia's Prince Alexander II because this stone was first discovered on his birthday in 1830 in the emerald mines near the Ural Mountains.

This stone's discovery makes a fascinating story. It is said that miners were working in the mountains one day and collecting emeralds. A miner gathered some emeralds and brought them back to their camp after a day's work.

However, when he brought out the emeralds and put them by the light of the campfire, they shone a lovely shade of red! This perplexed the miners, especially the next morning when they saw that the emeralds were colour green again. It was then that they realized they have stumbled upon something new, unique, valuable, and mysterious.

But it was only in 1839 when the stones were identified and given the name Alexandrite. Because the stone showed green and red colours, which happened to be the Old Imperial Russia's military colours, it became the national stone of Russia.

Because of this stone's special characteristic to change colour, it has also been called 'emerald by day, ruby by night'.

Alexandrite is the June birthstone. It's also the anniversary stone for 55 years of marriage.

It's quite a rare gemstone and a relatively modern one, owing to the fact that it was only first discovered in the 19th century compared to other stones with ancient histories.

Alexandrite is of the chrysoberyl variety. What makes Alexandrite unique is the presence of titanium and iron, as well as chromium, as significant impurities. <https://meanings.crystalsandjewelry.com/alexandrite/>

Healing properties of Pearl ♥ Purity ♥ Honesty ♥ Innocence ♥ Integrity ♥ Concentration ♥ Focus ♥ Meditation ♥ Tranquility ♥ Wisdom

Pearl signifies faith, charity and innocence. It enhances personal integrity and helps to provide a focus to one's attention. Pearl symbolises purity and is known as a "stone of sincerity". It brings truth to situations and loyalty to a "cause". Inhibits boisterous behaviour.

Pearl treats digestive disorders and the soft organs of the body. It relieves conditions of bloating and biliousness. Pearl increases fertility and eases childbirth.

<https://www.charmsoflight.com/pearl-healing-properties>

Healing properties of Alexandrite

It's a stone that's known to bring balance between your physical manifest world and the unmanifest astral or spiritual world.

It will unlock your crown chakra and allow you access to the healing energy and loving support of the universe.

It's a very good stone for people who have too much self-discipline. The stone will remind you of your purpose in life, and how fleeting life is.

It will remind you that you should fill your life with many happy moments, and that you should be surrounded by people you love and love you back!

If you're feeling desperate because you have hit rock bottom, Alexandrite will give you hope and encouragement.

It will bring you strength and guide you towards the path of hope, happiness, and light.

With this stone's changing colors, it's a reminder that life is filled with changes and challenges, and that life is not always what it seems to be.

This stone will help you in developing inner energy changes, which usually happen with age and time. Alexandrite will also aid in centering yourself.

Rather than just bringing you joy and happiness, Alexandrite will help you become your own source of joy and happiness within yourself.

<https://meanings.crystalsandjewelry.com/alexandrite/>

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>Please note</i> all events are/maybe subject to rules and restrictions relating to Covid-19 pandemic.		
Sat 26th and Sunday 27th September 2020	Gem and Lapidary Council of NSW GEMKHANA 2020	Enquiries Competition Schedule and more details on their GEMKHANA page
Saturday 7 November 2020	Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc Jewellery Gems and Minerals Festival Time: Sat – 9 am – 4 pm Sun – 9 am to 2.30 pm Entry: Adults \$3, children under 12 free	Venue: Heininger Hall, Ribbonwood Centre, 109 Princes Hwy, Dapto Enquiries: John (02) 42675618
Saturday 7 – Sunday 8 November 2020	Newcastle Lapidary Gem & Jewellery Fair Time: 9am to 3pm	Venue: PCYC Newcastle , Cnr of Young and Melbourne Streets, Broadmeadow NSW Enquiries and more info: Newcastle Lapidary Facebook page Phone: (02) 4952 9611
Saturday 7 – Sunday 8 November 2020	Canberra Lapidary Club Inc Gemcraft & Mineral Show	Venue: Exhibition Park (EPIC) – Mallee Pavilion For more information: Click on link to view Flyer Email: canberrallapidary@gmail.com or Phone: 02 6260 5322 (Workshop)
Sunday 29 November 2020	Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc – Open Day Christmas Market Time: 9 am to 2 pm Entry: Free	Venue: 51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna 2518 Stalls selling Crystals, Minerals, Fossils, Lapidary Materials and Jewellery. Morning Tea and Sausage Sizzle Lunch available. Enquiries: John Phone: (02)4267 5618

Take care and stay safe.