

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

July 2022 – Ruby

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Welcome to New Members

Chase Baldwin
Kerry Weeks
Peter Van Oploo
Kelly Nowak
Deepak Shrestha
Mitchell Thompson

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?

Call into the Club on Wednesdays or Saturdays (9 am – 1 pm), and someone can show you around and answer your questions.

Looking forward to meeting some new members soon.

From the President

It has been lovely to see so many people back at the club using the equipment again. So happy that we can be open to all without restrictions. But, if you are unwell, please do not attend the club and if you are vulnerable, please feel free to wear a mask as Covid is still around.

Our Annual Exhibition is getting very close. It is on the 9th and 10th of July. We are hoping for a big roll up.

If you are able to assist your club in running this event, please let us know (if you haven't already) or just turn up.

We are still after helpers for loading and unloading on Friday for set up and Sunday for pack up. Any help is appreciated.

If you can spend an hour or two helping at the door, or the kitchen, please come along. This is your club and we are all working together to make the club financially viable again.

A huge thanks in advance for those who have already put their hand up.

See you at the Exhibition

Suzy Brandstater
President



You'll likely find something like these beautiful wire-wrapped cabochons at the Exhibition.

Club open on Monday 4 July

The Club will be open for workshop use between 9 am and 1 pm, on **Monday 4 July**, as a one-off. Bob has kindly volunteered his time to be Duty Officer for the day, as he did on 27 June. Thank you Bob for creating the opportunity for more members to access the club's facilities.

If you would like to see the Club open more often, on a regular basis, have a think about becoming a Duty Officer yourself, and speak to one of the Committee members, or the Duty Officer of the day. A lack of Duty Officers is the reason we can't open more often, or for longer hours.

Next General Meeting – 2 July

You are all invited and encouraged to attend the next general meeting commencing **9 am on Saturday 2 July** in the Club rooms. The main agenda item will be the upcoming Exhibition to be held the following weekend.

Annual Exhibition – 9 & 10 July

It's that time of year again – already. Though it has been 2 years since the last one! Thanks to Covid-19. We're hoping it will be bigger and better than ever, but we need your help for that to happen.

We need more items that you've made using the Club workshops, to display and sell on the Club stall, eg necklaces, cabochons, wire wrapped cabs and wire-wrapped tumbled stones, polished slabs etc.

We need helpers on the Friday to move display cabinets, tables, equipment, crates etc to the hall, and again on Sunday after the exhibition to move them all back again.

We need cakes, slices etc for the kitchen stall, and helpers for making sandwiches, and serving customers - an hour, or two, or more, whatever time you can spare will be helpful.

People to keep an eye on things and keep the floor clear of spills, hazards, and rubbish.

A more detailed list of tasks requiring volunteers is included in the Agenda for the meeting on Saturday 2 July, emailed by John recently, and is also attached at the end of this newsletter.

If you can't get in touch with someone to volunteer your help, just turn up on the day/time you can help out, and speak to one of our members, who can let you know how you can help.

The more helpers we have, the more time you can spend enjoying the Exhibition, looking at the stalls, displays, and maybe finding just the thing you've been searching for, and hopefully more.

Spread the word to your friends and family too!

Campbelltown Districts Lapidary Club
Presents

42nd Annual, Crystal, Mineral Gem & Jewellery Show

Venue: Greg Percival Community Centre
Oxford Rd Ingleburn, NSW
9th & 10th July 2022

Times: Sat 9.30am - 5.00pm Sun 9.30am - 4.00pm

Entry Fee: \$7
Children under 14 Free with Paying Adult

Parking close by, near Ingleburn station

Refreshments



Lucky Door Prize

On Sale

Handmade Jewellery, Beads
Rough & Polished Gem Stones
Opals - Agate - Crystals
Fossils - Findings

Exhibition of Members' Work



Phone 96183206
Web: campbelltownlapidary.org.au
Email: ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com

Hints and Tips

Safety Warning - for when purchasing Second-hand machinery!

Purchasing second hand machinery can be both **exciting, and dangerous!**

Components in old machinery deteriorate and eventually fail over time.

As can be seen in these photos, the saw looks perfectly fine.

It is only when it's connected to power and turned on that the truth becomes evident! I'd taken the precaution to connect this saw to an "Electrasafe Power Centre" (a Tradesman's power board with an inbuilt circuit breaker), this in turn connected to power in my workshop which is fitted with an Earth Leakage Detector.

The circuit breaker on the Power Centre tripped as soon as power was turn on to the saw!

See the close-up photo of the resulting short circuit at the motor.

The insulation on the power cord for the motor had deteriorated so much over the years, it simply failed !

A new motor should replace this one.

Please note that this second hand machine was bought in "as is" condition, and so I was totally responsible for all issues.



The second-hand machine, purchased 'as is'



Close up of the resulting short circuit at the motor

Powerboards

Electrasafe Power Centre - 10A

REPC410

There are strict rules about what goes on a construction site. And our powercentres meet all of them, and then some. This unit features four 10A double pole powerpoints with safety shutters, along with the best quality lead and residual current protection. Keep safer, add it to your kit.

+ View Specifications

The type of safety device used to test the power connection. A very valuable tool, as can be seen by the article above.

Reminder – Membership fees due.

If you have not yet renewed your membership, check out the table below to see how much you need to pay. You can pay by cash at the club, or direct to the bank – details below:

Please note that insurance fees are now \$10 per member, and day fees are now \$5 per day.

Fees and Charges Table (per year)			
Single	Family	Pensioner Family	Pensioner/Junior/ Student
\$15.00	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00
Insurance: \$10 per member from 1/7/22			
Workshop/Day fee: \$5.00 per session from 1/6/22			
Joining fee: \$10.00 (once only on joining club)			
NOTE: You must be an insured member over 12 years of age to use machinery & cutting implements			

BANK TRANSFER DETAILS

Campbelltown & District Lapidary Club Inc.

BSB 062 517

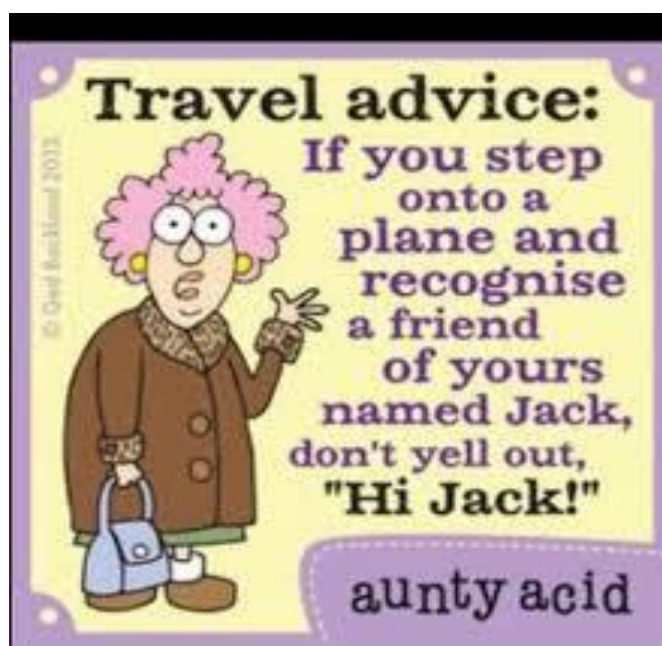
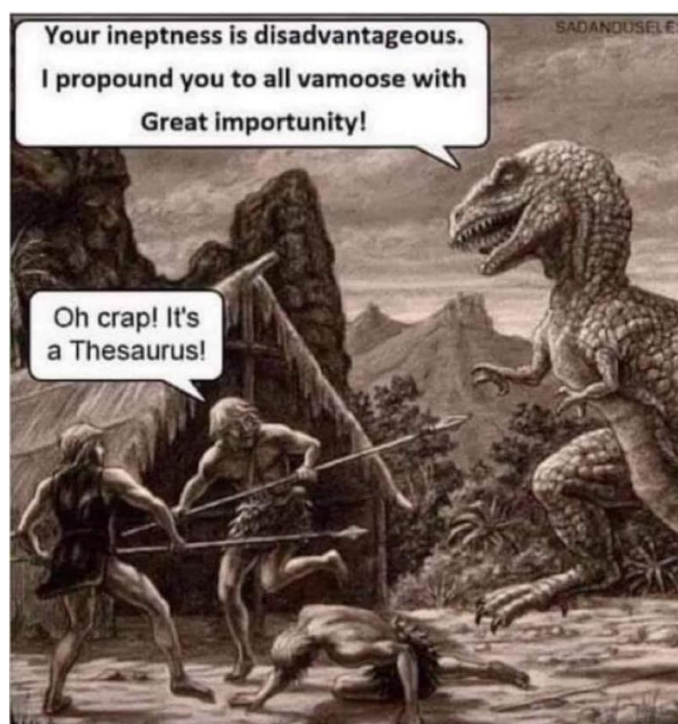
Account: 00905282

Bank: Commonwealth

Branch: Campbelltown

Reference: Your first initial and Surname
eg FSmith

Smile Time



July Birthdays – Ruby

Happy birthday to:

Kerry Weeks
Michael Khamas
Christopher Jones
Gary Davies
Deepak Shrestha
Janet Klepatzki
Rachel Barnes
Lil Klepser
Mike Robertson
Kelly Nowak

Ruby

Ruby is the July birthstone – and it's one of the most coveted of gems. The name is derived from the Latin word *ruber*, meaning “red” – the colour of love and passion. Few things catch the eye like the ruby birthstone. The finest colour of the birthstone for July is a deep red with a hint of purple, called “pigeon’s blood” in the trade. A variety of the mineral corundum, ruby gets its colour from trace amounts of the element chromium. The more chromium, the stronger the red.



GIA.edu

The 5.00 ct oval ruby in this designer ring is set in platinum with 18k rose gold, surrounded by halos of round rubies and diamonds. Courtesy: Omi Privé

In ancient India, ruby was called the “king of precious stones” for its rarity, hardness (second only to diamond), beauty and seemingly mystical powers. Long associated with the life force blood, ruby was a symbol of power and youthful energy in Indian jewellery. In past centuries, some believed this birthstone for July could predict misfortune or danger, and others claimed it would cure inflammatory diseases and soothe anger. Burmese warriors believed it made them invincible in battle. Medieval Europeans maintained that rubies bestowed health, wisdom, wealth and success in love.

Our search for the July birthstone starts in Myanmar (formerly known as Burma), one of the oldest recorded sources of fine rubies. For more than five centuries, the Mogok area in Myanmar has produced some of the most sought-after rubies – vibrant red beauties softened by light-scattering inclusions and a glowing red fluorescence. The region is a place of weathered marble and ancient Buddhist temples.

Since the late 20th century, Vietnam has been another important source for the July birthstone. The Luc Yen region in northern Vietnam, where rainforest-clad mountains rise over broad paddy fields, produces rubies of red to purplish red colour. Farther south, the Quy Chau district has also yielded many fine rubies. Today, artisanal miners work the soil in hopes of finding a gem that will change their fortunes.

Mozambique is an important new source for the July birthstone. This African nation is home to the prolific mines at Montepuez. Rubies found there have been compared to the famed gems of Mogok.

For many years in the late 1900s, the ruby deposits along the border between Thailand and Cambodia were the major source of rubies in the marketplace. Other important producers of the July birthstone include Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Tanzania and Madagascar. <https://www.gia.edu/birthstones/july-birthstone>

Some of the world’s most famous rubies:



The Liberty Bell Ruby

The Liberty Bell Ruby is the largest mined ruby in the world, found in east Africa in the 1950's. It weighs four pounds, is eight and a half thousand carats.

It is a single piece of ruby that was carved into a bell shape, surrounded by a white diamond border and topped by an eagle for the United States 1976 Bicentennial celebration. There are 50 diamonds, which represent the states. The Liberty Bell was stolen from Stuart Kingston Jewelers in Wilmington, Delaware during 2011 heist. Although the thieves were prosecuted, the ruby has never been recovered.

The DeLong Star Ruby

The 100.32 carat DeLong Star Ruby resides in the Museum of Natural History in New York City. The beautiful, deep red ruby with a 6-rayed star gets its name from Mrs. Edith Haggin de Long. She purchased the stone in 1937 from Martin Leo Ehrmann, the renowned gem and mineral collector and dealer. The DeLong Star Ruby was also stolen in a jewel heist. Along with the Star of India and the Midnight Star Sapphire, it was stolen from the museum in what became known as the ‘Jewel Heist of the Century’ in 1964. Luckily all three stones were ultimately recovered.



The Neelanjali Ruby



The star forms when titanium atoms are trapped within the growing corundum crystal. As the crystal cools, the titanium forms needlelike crystals of the mineral rutile, which orient themselves in three directions. When properly cut, en cabochon, light reflecting off of the three sets of needles produces the six-rayed star. This phenomenon is called asterism. It is believed that the largest star gemstone is the Neelanjali Star Ruby. It weighs 1,370 carats and features unusual 12-point double-star asterism..

The Sunrise Ruby

The Sunrise Ruby is the world’s most expensive ruby. The certified untreated, 25.59-carat Burma ruby set into a Cartier ring and flanked by white diamonds has a richly saturated natural “pigeon blood red” colour; a high clarity and brilliance and a finely proportioned cut and shape. It is named after a poem of the same name, written by the 13th-century Sufi poet Rumi. Selling for more than 30 million US dollars, it was a world record not only for ruby but for any coloured gemstone at an auction.

<https://www.gemportjewellers.ca/2018/07/01/check-out-some-of-the-worlds-most-famous-rubies/>



Rubies are often heat treated to remove purplish colouration, leaving a purer red. The process can also remove “silk” (minute needle-like inclusions) that can cause a gem to appear lighter in tone and be more opaque. The trade typically accepts heat treatment, as it is stable to normal conditions of wear and care. However, rubies may also be subjected to lattice diffusion treatment and dyeing. In lower-quality material, surface-reaching fractures and cavities may be filled with a glass to decrease their visibility so the gem appears more transparent. Some of these treatments may make the ruby more vulnerable to damage during normal wear and care.

Before you buy, always ask if your ruby has been treated and by what method. The Federal Trade Commission requires disclosure of treatments that affect a gemstone’s perceived value. A GIA Identification Report is important in identifying if a stone is natural or synthetic and whether it has been treated in any fashion.

In most cases, the July birthstone can be safely cleaned with warm soapy water and a soft brush. Ultrasonic and steam cleaners are usually safe for untreated, heat-treated and lattice diffusion-treated stones. Glass-filled or dyed stones should only be cleaned with a damp cloth. <https://www.gia.edu/birthstones/july-birthstone>

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.

Alternately, download back issues from the Club's website, . <http://www.campbelltownlapidary.org.au/>.

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.		
9 - 10 July 2022	Campbelltown And Districts Lapidary Club 42 Annual Crystal, Mineral, Gem, and Jewellery Show Time: 9.30 to 5.00 Sat 9.30 to 4.00 Sun Entry: \$7.00 Children under 14 Free with paying adult	Venue: Greg Percival Community Centre, Oxford Road, Ingleburn <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handmade jewellery • Beads, rough and polished gem stones, opals, agate, crystals, fossils, findings • Exhibition of Members' work • Refreshments • Lucky Door Prize For more information: Phone 9618 3206 or Email: ctownlapidaryclub@bigpond.com See Flyer on page 2
9 July 2022	Central Coast Lapidary Club Rock Auction	Venue: Clubhouse, 10 Ourimbah Creek Road, Ourimbah 2258 There are around 200 lots going up for auction with viewing from 9 am and auction start 10 am. Lunch break around noon.
24-25 September 2022	Gemkhana 2022 Jewellery, Gems, Crystals & Minerals Featuring: Desert Fire Designs Time: 9 am to 5 pm Cost: \$10 children under 16 Free	Venue: Hawkesbury District Agricultural Showgrounds, 40 Racecourse Road, Clarendon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handcrafted jewellery • Polished stones • Faceted stones • Stone Carving • Minerals and fossils • Children's activities FREE parking and ATM on site For more info: Contact Bob McLean by email: gemkhana@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au See Flyer attached

Words of Wisdom

"Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game." - **Babe Ruth**

Have fun, take care and stay safe!

Tasks needing volunteers for preparation and running of Annual Exhibition 2022

Exhibition - Tasks	Organiser/Details / Comments	Status
Event Co-Ordinator Assistant Event Co-Ordinator(s)		
COVID-19 Plan	* Sanitiser at Entry & strategic places throughout. * Maintain physical distancing.	Fri – 9 am-12 midnight Sat – 8 am-7pm, Sun – 9 am-10 pm
Tables and Electrical Set Up.	Need to be completed by 2 pm Friday.	
Caretaker / Amenities / Cleaning / Equipment	* Not provided by Council. * Club will have provide our own. * Access to cleaning equipment and supplies required.	* Floor to be kept clean, dry and tidy at all times.
Banner(s)	Street Banner(s) To Council Depot 2nd week in June with update.	Margaret contacting council, but great difficulty obtaining any reply/information.
Advertising/Publicity	Suzie Brandstater	
Publicity	Peter Beckwith - See "SMS" below	
Magazines	Metal, Stone & Glass Facet Talk Gold, Gem & Treasure GLC Magazine	
Internet/Websites/CD	CDLC Facebook Events page	
	CDLC Website (Kathy)	On the Website
Ingleburn RSL	TV screens	
Ingleburn High School		? Contact Greg Thomson
Local Papers	Free Ads	
Radio	? to arrange for a radio interview on the Day.	
SMS	Peter Beckwith for him to send an SMS to his subscribers as paid advertising.	
Flyers		
Member's Table	Who wants to put items on it ?	
Club Stall	Carolina Cordova to organise	
Children's Activity		
Club Workshop made items for the Club Stall at the Exhibition.	eg. Necklaces, Wire Wrapped items, Cabochons, etc. - Cabs + wire wrapped tumbled stones.	None to be held
Faceting Demonstration	Tim Twomey & Bob Owens to organise?	None
Psychic Reader(s)		None
Street Signs	Putting out of street signs the night before the event & collecting them after the event	
Kitchen	Kitchen Co-Ordinator - Assistants - suggested Party Pies & party Sausage rolls for the kids.	Judy Ferris Maggie Aitken Leanne Muir Sarah?
Front Desk	Entry Ticket sales, Memberships, General Info	Saturday - John Colless * Sunday - Leanne Muir
Transport	Helpers needed to load and unload before and after the event.	* Friday - * Sunday -
Display Cabinets	Get them out of the back shed for the Exhibition	

JEWELLERY, GEMS

Crystals & Minerals

GEMKHANA 2022



9am - 5pm Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th September

Featuring **Desert Fire Designs**



Tiger eye from the Brockman Formation.



'Golden dragon' native gold in quartz.



Variscite Set in 23ct native (nugget) gold.



- Hand crafted Jewellery.
- Faceted Stones.
- Polished Stones.(Cabochons)
- Stone Carving.
- Minerals & Fossils.



Free Parking and ATM on Site.

Camping is also available on site.

Hawkesbury District Agricultural Show Grounds
40 Racecourse Rd, Clarendon.
Children's Activities.

Adults \$10 Children under 16 Free

Contact Bob McLean gemkhana@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au
<https://www.facebook.com/GemLapidaryCouncilNSW/>