

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

August 2022 - Peridot

What's in the newsletter?

What's in the newsletter?	1
New members are welcome	1
From the President	1
The Exhibition	1
The Annual General Meeting	1
2022 Exhibition Photos	2
2022 Exhibition Winners	8
Next Meeting Dates	8
Members Projects - Beading	9
Hints and Tips	10
August Birthdays - Peridot	13
What's On Or Not ?	14

Looking forward to meeting some new members soon.

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			

From the President

The Exhibition

After being cancelled two years running, we finally got to hold our exhibition. A huge thank you for all those who rolled up their sleeves and pitched in. Especially those who jumped in when the dreaded covid left us short-staffed. The exhibition was an outstanding success, record crowds and amazing things to see.

Special mention to the guys who stayed back at the end, packing up the tables and returning them to where they were borrowed from, plus packing up all the club equipment and returning it to the club. This was a huge job and we didn't have many helpers for this stage of the event. So thank you guys, the club really appreciate your dedication and hard work.

The Annual General Meeting

The First Saturday in September will be our AGM. All positions will be declared vacant and our executive have all served their maximum of three years in their positions, so we will be looking for a new executive. This is your chance to have your say in how the club is run.

Positions in the club include President, Vice President x2, Secretary, Treasurer, and Committee. Other club

Welcome to New Members

Adrian Pinkus
Sokuntheary Ou
Arianna Pinkus
Sovannah Pinkus
Kelli-Rose Jones

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), or Friday (5pm – 9 pm) and someone can show you around and answer your questions.

roles to be appointed that do not have a mandatory time limit are Public Officer, Duty Officers, Newsletter Editor, Events Coordinator and Publicity Officer.

If these roles are not filled, we do not have a club. Fair Trading rules are quite strict with the structure and responsibilities in registered clubs and if we are not a registered club, the council will not allow us to have our building. So I look forward to seeing these roles filled at our AGM.

We have come through some pretty hard times over the last two years, we lost much loved club members, we lost time at the club working on our projects and socialising with our fellow lapidarists. But, somehow,

through the support of the members, we have pulled through and the future is looking bright again. Our workshop days are well subscribed and we have been able to open again on Friday evenings. At this stage, we still do not have a Duty Officer for Mondays, so until someone steps forward to take on the commitment of this day, we are still unable to be open for all of our pre-covid times.

I very much look forward to handing the Presidency over to another club member and watching the club continue to grow.

Suzy Brandstater
President.

2022 Exhibition Photos

Photos of the Exhibition held at Greg Percival Community Centre in Ingleburn, (below and on following pages) display an excellent array of specimens, and items for sale, gems, polished rocks, roughs, crystals, fossils, and all other things lapidary, with a few of our enthusiastic club members and customers. By all accounts, a great time was had by all.















2022 Exhibition Winners

Lucky door prize winners were:

- 1 Sue Easterbrook won a calcite sphere on a stand
- 2 Roystor Roderick won a quartz crystal cluster
- 3 Andrea Diaz won an amethyst cluster
- 4 Michael Dikrion won a pendant

Raffle winners were:

- 1 Noel with Blue Ticket No E10 won a free standing amethyst cluster
- 2 Luke Gannon with Blue Ticket No E59 won a handcrafted sterling silver pendant and earrings

- 3 Tamara Kearns Green Ticket No E27 won a fossil bowl with calcite sphere
- 4 Kim with Orange Ticket No E09 won a salt lamp

Next Meeting Dates

Next Management Meeting is on 6/8/2022 commencing 9 am. Workshops will not be open until completion of the meeting around 10 am.

Next General Meeting is on 3/9/2022, commencing 9 am. Workshops will not be open until completion of the meeting around 10 am.

Members Projects - Beading

Lillian's Indian Hat Band. Following a request from another club member, Lillian set out to create a traditional Indian hat band (pictured below). With only a photo for reference, Lillian had to work out a pattern for the design and sizing, as well as find the correct colours, sizes, and number of beads required. Then, she had to fabricate a special weaving loom for herself, one of the right dimensions for the task, before meticulously weaving each individual bead into the specific design, applying leather caps and thongs to the ends and even weaving the decorative beads attached to those thongs.



On seeing the wonderful job Lillian crafted when she presented him with the hat band, he told Lillian he was so pleased with the work, he had two more designs he would like her to do... Lillian said she enjoyed the challenge of the project, and is very pleased with the finished job, but would not be doing another one of those anytime soon. We'll see ...



Lillian – skilled bead crafter

If you or anyone you know is interested in beading come along to the club on Wednesday mornings, when the beading group meets. Lillian and other members of the beading group will be happy to show and share their beading knowledge and skills, using a variety of beading techniques and styles. All are welcome, including beginners.



Note: As mentioned previously, all members are invited to submit any interesting or lapidary related items, and/or photos, for publication in upcoming newspapers. If you have something to contribute, please feel free share by email to: ctownlapidaryclub.editor@gmail.com, before the last week of the month, and we'll publish your article in the next newsletter.

Hints and Tips

10 Types of Stone Setting for Your Jewellery Designs

By: Karla Rosenbusch February 3, 2022

<https://www.interweave.com/article/jewelry/10-types-stone-setting-jewelry-designs/>

Who doesn't love including gorgeous stones in their jewellery designs? Nothing enhances a piece more than a colourful fabulous gem. The first technique that comes to mind when thinking of stone setting is, of course, the traditional bezel. But there are a lot more ways to set stones—and experimenting with those alternative techniques can be a joy!

Prong Settings

I'll admit that I love prong settings. Using prongs instead of a bezel can often let more of the stone show, making it truly the centrepiece of your design. One of my favourite prong-set designs is Roger Halas's Dawn of the Trilobite Pendant from the November 2016 issue of *Lapidary Journal Jewellery Artist*. Roger combines prong and bezel settings in this design. I love the setting, and I love the awesome fossil—although the prong technique would obviously work for many other stones.



Roger Halas, Dawn of the Trilobite Pendant. PHOTO: JIM LAWSON

Wire working also lends itself very well to creating prongs. The Reversible Cabochon Prong Setting by Margie Farrin O'Connor was featured in the Fall 2007 issue of *Step By Step Wire Jewellery*. Not only does the wire make great prongs (by heating and balling the ends of the wire), but the open wirework on the back shows off the other side of the stone perfectly.



Margie Farrin O'Connor, Reversible Cabochon Prong Setting. PHOTO: JIM LAWSON

Flush Setting

Helen Driggs' Secret Sapphire and Sterling Ring (from *Lapidary Journal Jewellery Artist*, February 2013) is a masterpiece! The stones are set directly into the sterling silver instead of on top of the metal. It's a very streamlined and elegant look, perfect for a ring.



Helen Driggs, Secret Sapphire and Sterling Ring. PHOTO: JIM LAWSON

Tube Settings

A different take on traditional bezels is tube setting. The stone is set into an appropriately sized and shaped tube. You can get pre-made tubes or create your own. An awesome example of tube setting is Eva Sherman's Three Stone Ring from the April 2017 issue of *Lapidary Journal Jewellery Artist*. The three tubes and three stones make a fantastic open design.



Partial Stone Setting

If you have an incredible stone and you want to show off every possible side and angle, try a partial setting. A partial setting doesn't surround the whole stone; it just touches parts of the stone while still holding it securely. Check out Andy Lucas's *Partial Settings Pendant* which was shown in *Lapidary Journal Jewellery Artist*, January/February 2012. A gem setting doesn't get more beautiful than this!



Andy Lucas, Partial Settings Pendant.
PHOTO: JIM LAWSON

Stone-on-Stone Setting

Do you have two contrasting or complementary stones? Want to put them together? Well, you could always put one stone on top of the other! Stone-on-stone settings look tremendously complicated. Everyone will wonder how you did it. (Tell them it's magic.) But these settings can be deceptively simple to do. For an excellent example, see James Dunakin's *Stone on Stone Ring* (from *Lapidary Journal Jewellery Artist*, December 2013). How cool is that?



Stone Setting: Inlay

One of the most beautiful ways to set your stones is to use an inlay technique. Basically, you fit your stones (cut to the right shapes) into your metal like a jigsaw puzzle. It's stunning!



Jeff Fulkerson, Native
American-Inspired Hammer Set
Pendant. PHOTO: JIM LAWSON

Jeff Fulkerson is the master of this technique as you can see in both his Native-American Hammer Set Pendant (from *Lapidary Journal Jewellery Artist*, August 2015) and Inlaid Cuff (February 2010). I must admit that, in all of the jewellery-making projects we've featured over the years, these are two of my very favourites.



Jeff Fulkerson, Inlaid Cuff. PHOTO:
JIM LAWSON

Wire Wrapping Stones

One of the most popular ways to set stones (especially if you're not into metalwork) is wire wrapping. Wire wrapped jewellery designs can have a very elegant, almost ethereal look. And the basic techniques can be fairly simple to master. You can then build on the basics to create some absolutely stunning designs. I love to play with different wire wrapping techniques. They're fun! One of my favourite examples is Dale Armstrong's *Wire Wrapped Malachite Pendant*, featured in the July 2009 issue of *Lapidary Journal Jewellery Artist*. Not only does it demonstrate a great wire-wrapping design, it also uses my all-time favourite stone, malachite. I adore the play of the deep green against the Argentinian silver. Awesome!



Dale Armstrong, Wire Wrapped Malachite Pendant. PHOTO: JIM LAWSON

Wire Bezels

Another less structured way to use wire for setting stones is to create your own wire bezels. You can really let your imagination soar! Your freeform wire bezels can be as simple or complex as you want. And if you make a mistake, you can easily tell everybody that you meant to do it that way. Score! For inspiration, check out Lisa Niven Kelly's *Entangled Wire Bezel* from *Step By Step Wire Jewellery*, Summer Preview 2007. Then take the design from there and make it your own.



Lisa Niven Kelly, Entangled Wire Bezel. PHOTO: JIM LAWSON

Metal Clay Stone Settings

Have you ever tried using metal clay for your jewellery creations? If not, give it a try! It's fun and versatile . . . and just so cool! There are actually several ways to set stones in metal clay. Arlene Mornick's *Linked Metal Clay Bracelet with Stones* (*Lapidary Journal Jewellery Artist*, November 2016) demonstrates six (count 'em, six) such techniques. And there's no torch required—although you do, of course, need a kiln to fire the metal clay. But the end result is amazing!



Cap Mounting

Last but certainly not least, here is a fantastic way to set odd stones, especially fabulous fossils. Do you have a fossilized tooth? A dinosaur claw? Or just something tooth-shaped that you want to show off to its best advantage? Well, consider a cap mounting. It's exactly what the name says it is—a cap that fits over one end of the stone. You end up with a funky, modern design—just like Roger Halas did with his *Cap Mounted Pendant with Solder Inlay* from *Lapidary Journal Jewellery Artist*, May/June 2014. It's wonderful!



Roger Halas, Cap Mounted Pendant with Solder Inlay. PHOTO: JIM LAWSON

Note: If you need help or advice, or have any questions regarding hints and tips, or techniques for current or potential lapidary related projects, feel free to email ctownlapidaryclub.editor@gmail.com, and we'll endeavour to find answers to your queries, and print them in the next newsletter for all members to see.

August Birthdays - Peridot

Happy Birthday to:

Lauren Jubb
John Colless
Marieta McNaught
Mitchell Cross
Zhimin (Jimmy) Liu
Anita Allen
Bradley Foster
AnneMarie Arends

Peridot

In Hawaii, peridots are said to be the tears of Pele, the goddess of volcanoes and lava. Meanwhile, the Egyptians called peridot the “gem of the Sun” and believed it had special healing powers. Learn all about the history, meaning, and symbolism of peridot, the August birthstone!



Best known for its lime-green colour, the peridot receives its envious colouration from the composition of the mineral olivine. This is unlike many other gems, whose colours come from impurities. It's one of the few gemstones that comes in a single colour, too. However, peridot can vary in shade from yellow-green to olive to brown-green.

Peridots are made up of a chemical composition that includes iron and magnesium, and the colour depends on the amount and type of iron that is present. Ferrous iron (FeO) creates the green colour, while ferric iron (Fe₂O₃) is responsible for the more yellow shades.

Peridot is both a day stone and a night stone, keeping its shining colour even under artificial lighting. For this reason, it is sometimes called “Evening Emerald”.

It is unclear where the name “peridot” originated. Some believe it is derived from the Arabic *faridat*, meaning “gem,” or from the Greek word, *peridona*, which means “give in abundance.”

Given its resemblance to the colour of money, peridot has often been associated with prosperity and good fortune.

Ancient Egyptians called the peridot the “gem of the Sun,” as they believed it protected those who wore it from the terrors of the night.

Some strung the peridot on donkey hair and tied it around their left arms in an attempt to ward off evil spirits.

Egyptian priests believed it held the power of nature, using goblets encrusted with peridots to communicate with nature gods.

According to Hawaiian religious beliefs, peridots are said to be the tears of Pele, the goddess of fire and volcanoes and the creator of the Hawaiian Islands.

Peridots were seen as a way to help with respiratory ailments, insomnia, and bleeding. At one time, it was also thought to improve memory and ease labor and delivery.

For years, peridot beads and talismans were believed to offer protection, as well as promote love, happiness, and wealth.

The biggest – and most expensive – peridot comes from Zebirget, Egypt. It is 311.78 carats and weighs 62.35 grams. It's now on display in the Smithsonian Museum in the USA. Another exquisite piece is the 192.75-carat peridot that belongs to the Russian Diamond Treasury. <https://www.almanac.com/august-birthstone-colour-and-meaning>



<http://www.geologypage.com/2020/04/what-is-the-largest-peridot-in-the-world.html>

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.		
20-21 August 2022	Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club Annual Gem Show Time: 8:30 am to 4 pm Entry: Adults \$3, Children \$1	Venue: Glenbrook Community Hall Great Western Highway Glenbrook (adjoining the Glenbrook Theatre) Displays and Sales of lapidary work, gems, rocks, minerals, jewellery, beads and gemstones Refreshments available See flyer attached
24-25 September 2022	NSW's Annual Gem and Lapidary Show Gemkana Time: 9 am to 5 pm Cost: \$10 Adults, Children under 16 Free	Venue: Hawkesbury District Agricultural Showgrounds Jewellery, Gems, Crystals and Minerals Featuring Desert Fire Designs See flyer attached
15-16 October 2022	Central Coast Crystal, Gem & Jewellery Show Time: Sat 9 am to 5 pm Sun 9 am to 4 pm Cost: \$5 Adults, Children under 18 Free	Venue: Mingara Events Centre, Wyong Rd, Tumby Umbi 2261 Exhibitors and sellers of crystals, gemstones, minerals, fossils, jewellery, beads and more. For more information: P: 02 4362 2246 Email: secretary@cclcinc.org facebook.com/centralcoastlapidaryclub See Flyer attached

Words of Wisdom

"Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds, cannot change anything" – **George Bernard Shaw**

Have fun, take care and stay safe!

**Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club
Gem Show 2022**



Sat/Sun 20/21 August 2022
8:30am to 4pm daily

Displays and Sales of lapidary work, gems, rocks, minerals, jewelry, beads and gemstones

Refreshments available

Entry: Adults \$3, Children \$1

Glenbrook Community Hall

Great Western Highway
Glenbrook
(adj. to the Glenbrook Theatre)



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/>

**CENTRAL COAST
CRYSTAL,
GEM &
JEWELLERY
SHOW**

Exhibitors and sellers of crystals,
gemstones, minerals, fossils,
jewellery, beads and more.

DATES
Sat 15th October 2022, 9am-5pm
Sun 16th October 2022, 9am-4pm

VENUE
Mingara Events Centre
Wyong Rd, Tumby Umbi NSW 2203

Adults \$5 entry fee
Children under 10 FREE

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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