

# SNIPPETS

February 2015

Issue 432



## GOLD COAST MEETINGS

General Meetings:

Management Committee Meetings- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month

Australian Facetors' Guild Gold Coast Region- 3rd February  
6.30pm  
contact R. Turville 55-394450

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[www.goldcoastlapidaryclub.com.au](http://www.goldcoastlapidaryclub.com.au)

**Monthly Newsletter of the Gold Coast Lapidary Club Inc**

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Members of Queensland Lapidary & Allied Craft Associations Inc.

80 Pacific Avenue, Miami. Queensland. PO Box 12, Nobby Beach, Queensland 4218 Phone: 5526 1190

Hon Patron: Ken Wilks

## Gold Coast Lapidary Club Inc

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80 Pacific Avenue, Miami. Queensland.- PO Box 12, Nobby Beach Queensland 4218  
Phone: 5526 1190

### The Management Committee 2014-2015

President Wayne Schulz 55 961865 / 0417-961865 email: president@goldcoastlapidaryclub.com  
Vice President 1 Geoff Saunders 0407125567 Vice President 2 Ken Wilks 55 789419  
Secretary Lenora Collins de Luthe 0402605935 Treasurer Daniel Renneberg 0409729676  
Member Secretary Deborah Ensor 0418537234

### General Committee

Chez Siwka 55 799989 Jadwiga Siwka 5579 9989 Denis Burton 55 276488  
Robert McGregor 55323469 Allen Frentz 5571 6436

### Management Positions

Snippets Editor Deborah Ensor 0418537234/55292884 Purchasing Officer Geoff Saunders 0407 125567  
Club Curator Burt Last 0401355271 Senior Librarian Liz Nicholas  
Assistant Librarian Jadwiga Siwka Raffle Coordinator Elena Sparks  
Show Co-ordinator Uta Sorenson 0424206610 Show Stall Conveners: Elaine Arch-Row & Pru Aguinaldo

### Judges

Faceting - Robert McGregor Cabochons - Ken Wilks Carving - Allen Frentz  
Silversmith/wire work Lady Marie Howard and Jadwiga Siwka

### Instructors & Workshop Times

#### **Monday 10am to 3pm**

Cabbing Alex Toro 0411 805378

#### **Monday 7pm to 9.00pm**

**Evening** Cabbing John Nelmes 0412 575995 & Terry Houghton 55 946814  
Opal Cutting and Polishing Jason Neville 0433 691025

#### **Tuesday 10am to 3pm**

Faceting Bert Last 0401355271 (every 2nd week) must have done basic faceting  
Cabbing Robert Keane 0417 141950  
Bone Carving John Tonkin 55 3471121  
Free Form Boats ( 1st and 2nd week of the month) Laurence Yannacelli 55 772185

#### **Wednesday 10am to 3pm**

Silver Jewellery/Wire Wrapping Marie Howard 0428 732276 & Jadwiga Siwka 55 799989  
Robert Keane 0417 141950  
Cabbing Denise Burton 55 276448  
Faceting Chez Siwka 55799989/0407598755 & Deborah Ensor 0418 537234  
Investing Book with Instructor Geoff Saunders 55 687616 / 0407 125567

#### **Wednesday 7pm to 9.00pm**

**Evening** Basic Silver Jadwiga Siwka 55 799989 / 0419 756533 (A/I) Esther Shelley 0402 858208  
Cabbing Mal Wanchap 55 798908

#### **Thursday 10am to 3pm**

Cabbing TBA  
Silver/Casting/Cabbing Ron Barr 55 394737  
Faceting Brian Brown 55 278552 & Lawrence Yannacelli 55 772185  
Casting Book with Instructor Geoff Saunders 55 687616 / 0407 125567

#### **Friday 10am to 3pm**

Facetors Owners Group TBA

#### **Friday 7pm to 9.00pm**

**Evening** Cabbing Ron Palmada 55 345701

#### **Saturday 9am to 3pm**

Cabbing Alex Toro 0411 805378  
Faceting George Tsakmakis 55 909470  
Soap Stone Carving/Viking Chain Merv Scott 55 314576 (arrange with Merv)

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

February 2015

Well hopefully you have all had a good break and special time with family and friends and now you are looking for something to do. As the Club slowed and closed for the break I am afraid so did I and now I find myself trying to get up to speed again so this report will be short. Thanks to members that have been helping out with the revamp and to those that are demonstrating patience, we are getting there. Shortly the call will be for some dedicated painters so keep your ears open for a chance to have some input into the changes. We are starting the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of our Members Challenge which is the Clubs way of stimulating your knowledge in the lapidary associated areas, minerals, types of stone etc so please grab one and have a go, they are in the box near the Cabbing door. Beware of the (\*) see the bottom of the Form. Completed forms can be dropped in the black box. The Club Show Competition Shedule is out and available from the display case and I encourage you to take part and promote your skills. They have been posted to other clubs and we look forward to their entries as we get closer to June. So for now please be mindful of fellow members and continue to enjoy you're the activities that your club provides. Look forward to seeing you working on a project.

Wayne

Some of the smokey quartz & petrified wood on display in the Desert Section—Flower Dome,- Gardens by the Bay, Singapore—2014



# January's BIRTHSTONE

## Garnets:

Can be found in a variety of colors including red, orange, yellow, green, purple, brown, blue, black, pink and colorless.

India leads the world in the production of garnet; in 2011, it produced an estimated 700000 metric tonnes. The second-largest garnet producing nation in the world is China with an annual production of 470000 metric tonnes. The third place is occupied us here in Australia (150000 metric tonnes) followed by the United States (54000 metric tonnes).

Russia and Turkey also produce large amounts of industrial garnet, but they are not yet exporting much of this material to my knowledge.



Garnets are believed to prevent nightmares and being bitten by snakes (?????) and can provide directional guidance in darkness. Wearers may see an increase in their self-image, will power and energy levels, and the nervous may feel calmer. Other garnet attributes are faith, love and constancy.



Garnets



# February's BIRTHSTONE

**Amethyst:** It was believed by the ancient Greeks and Romans to ward off the intoxicating powers of the God of grape harvest, Ritual Madness— Bacchus.

It is a beautiful purple stone associated with sincerity, peace of mind and good health. Amethyst is a purple quartz, a beautiful blend of violet and red that can be found in every corner of the earth. Historically, the finest amethyst were found in Russia and were featured in much of the Royal European jewelry. Today, while Brazil is the primary source of this gemstone, fine material can be found elsewhere, especially in Zambia.

Amethyst is a symbol of protection and has the power to overcome difficulty. It also encourages self control and strengthens the bond in a love relationship.

Amethyst is also believed to have great mystical qualities and it can help to steady a restless mind and bring mental and emotional well-being. It also can bring intuition, motivation and sincerity. And can aid in meditation and stabilizes harsh emotions



**Worlds biggest Amethyst Geode - The 'Empress of Uruguay' - can be found in the Atherton Tablelands, Cairns, Australia. It stands three metres tall (that's eleven feet) and weighing two and a half tones. It is worth a trip to see her if you are up that way.**



# CAUGHT BY YOUR 'CAMERA'

Rex, Michel and Josh with their finished Silver Rings



Isle and Elena working hard at the Raffle stand



Robyn and Georgina showing off their Silver Rings



Part A Group shot for the final Wednesday class for 2014



Part B Group shot for the final Wednesday class for 2014



Wayne being presented with the 1st Prize – Opal Pendant by Elena



*If any member would like to share photos or even an article, please send them to me, either by email [seira@bigpond.net.au](mailto:seira@bigpond.net.au) or place them in the black box near the front door..... Thanks in advance Deb*



**Belated Birthday Wishes for January to the following members:**

V. Bedwell, B. Crosby, T. Dacey, P. Dixon, M Handy, Sir Paul Howard, P. Ivascanin, R. Lloyd, D. Mant, E. Nicholas, A. Pytel, M. Redman, A. Toro, T. Williams, M. Yeomans

**February Birthday Wishes to:**

B. Brown, B. Coleman, J. Johnson, R. Kaplum, R. Karipa, E. Lee, C. Loughlin, V. Lum, E. Muhlberger, K. Nicoloff, G. Patino, A. Richmond, S. Robinson, G. Saunders, W. Schulz, T. Thompson, A. Vine, M. Wanchap

**VALE**

**Florence May GIBSON**



Passed away suddenly 12th of January 2015. Aged 76. Beloved wife of Patrick (deceased). All of Flo's family and friends are welcome at her funeral, in the Integrity Chapel, 18 Tonga Place, Parkwood on Tuesday 20th January 2015 at 11am, followed by burial in the Southport General Cemetery.

**UPCOMING GEM SHOW & FESTIVAL DATES**

**2015 Gem Show Dates**

- March 7th-8th North Brisbane Lapidary Club Annual Gem Festival, Bracken Ridge High School 68 Barfoot st, Bracken Ridge (note new venue)
- March 13-15 Glen Innes Minerama RSL Club, Grey St, Glen Innes NSW
- March 14th, Gatton Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, Gatton Shire Hall, North St, Gatton, QLD
- March 21st-22nd New England Lapidary and Fossicking Club Inc, 24th Annual Gem and Craft Show, Armidale Showgrounds, Kirkwood St Armidale NSW
- April 3rd-6th GEMBOREE, Wimmera Events Centre, Dooen, near Horsham
- May 2-3 Redcliffe Gem Show Southern Cross Catholic College, Kippa-Ring QLD
- May 16-17 Lismore Gem Show Lismore Show Grounds NSW
- June 27 Gold Coast Gem Show Pizzey Park, 80 Pacific Ave, Miami QLD
- July 11 Caboolture Gemfest Caboolture Historical Village, Beerburrum Rd, Caboolture QLD
- July 18th-20th 2015 Yowah Opal Festival, Harlequin Drive, Yowah, via Cunnamulla
- July 30-August 2 Lightning Ridge Opal Festival RSL Club, Lightning Ridge NSW
- October 3 Beenleigh Gem Show Beenleigh Showgrounds, Beenleigh QLD
- October 10-11 Central Coast Lapidary Club Show Mingara Sport & Recreation Club, Mingara Drive, Tumby Umbi
- November 7-8 Illawarra Gem Show Ribbonwood Centre, Dapto NSW
- November 14-15 Newcastle Jewellery & Gem Show Clubrooms, Dora St, Adamstown, NSW

*If you know of any other Gem shows , please place the info in the SNIPPETS BOX or email me on seiira@bigpond.net.au - Thanks Deb*

*The Gold Coast Lapidary Club wishes to express their sincere thanks to Michael Hart local MP, who has offered the facilities of his office for photocopying our Snippets Newsletter.*



## Smiling silver smiths

In the second half of December 2014, while visiting my family from Europe on the Gold Coast, I was invited to spend a few hours at the Gold Coast Lapidary Club by my dear sister Jadzia to meet the team. To say that it was a wonderful surprise is far too little said.



To make my point in short, I have spent over 15 years in the jewelry industry, I operated my own business in Melbourne for many years and I had the pleasure of cooperating with many top people in the industry so now for the part which earlier I called a surprise.

As a budding junior, I saw the wonder in this field but as time went on I became a so called professional and that changes things. Yes you become better at what you do and that is a good thing on the technical level but something gets lost in that process.

My meeting the team at the club brought all that simple and priceless sense of the magic back which I felt as I was learning the ways.

My great thanks for the chance to feel that again guys, you are a great bunch of very enthusiastic people and never loose that wonder!!!

With great respect.

Les Hetnal

### **GLOBAL EAST—MARKET DAY Saturday FEBRUARY 21st 9am—12md**

*Steve and Theresa have kindly offered to have a stall in the quadrangle. All items will be at a 20% discount (**please note it is CASH ONLY on the day**) They will be bringing a variety of items which include notched blades, flat laps Dremel drills, spheres, pearls, packaging, round pod trays, organza bags, plus heaps more. Should you wish a particular item you can contact Steve on 55-006910 . Pre-orders are also available just contact Steve.*

***Again please note it is CASH on the day, no eftpos is available.***

### *Deb's Quote of the Month*

*"You never learn anything from doing something right"*

*Thomas Edison*



## Table of Grit, Mesh and Micron Conversion

I don't claim to be an expert in this subject, but I did need to get across it when setting up my workshop at home and wanting to order supplies from China in particular. Some members have asked about this subject, so a reference table (with some rounding errors) is included in this edition of Snippets.

Loosely, if it is affixed to something (e.g. a disc or a wheel) it will be measured in grit. That said, Chinese suppliers commonly use the expression "mesh" when we would normally call it "grit" size. Diamond powder or paste is normally quoted in microns, as are polishing powders such as the various oxides. Other powders may be quoted in either grit or microns, but grit seems to be the more common.

If you have any further questions, please consult an expert.

Grit = Mesh = Micron Conversion Chart		
Grit	Mesh	Micron
100,000	0- 0.5	0.25
60,000	0-1	0.50
14,000	0-2	1
13,000	1-2	2
9,000	2-3	3
8,000	2-4	3
5,000	2-6	4
4,500	4-6	5
2,800	5-10	7
1,800	6-12	9
1,400	8-20	14
1,200	10-20	15
1,050	12-25	18
800	20-30	25
600	20-40	30
500	30-40	35
325	40-50	45
285	50-60	55
240	60-80	70
225	80-100	90
160	100-120	110
100	120-160	150

*“an anonymous contribution”  
so please do not shoot the messenger*

# GOLD COAST LAPIDARY CLUB INC

## 2015 ANNUAL FEES NOW DUE

Annual Membership fees are due 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014. Members who are unfinancial for more than 2 months may be asked to pay another rejoining fee.

### Annual Subscription Rates

Renewal Membership \$40.00	Reciprocal Membership \$15.00
New Member \$50.00 <i>(includes joining fee)</i>	Juniors—14 to 16 years \$13.00 <i>OR ANY CHILD (12 yrs old, ) WHOSE PARENT IS A FINANCIAL MEMBER. PLEASE NOTE A PARENT/GARDIAN <u>MUST</u> ACCOMPANY THE JUNIOR MEMBER AT ALL TIMES WHILST ON THE CLUB GROUNDS OR DURING CLUB ACTIVITIES</i>
Associates <i>(includes insurance)</i> \$19.00	Name Badge \$10.00
	Joining Fee <i>(new members)</i> \$10.00

Please fill in and return with your subscription to:

<b><i>The Secretary</i></b>	<b><i>NOTE: For direct deposits</i></b>
Gold Coast Lapidary Club Inc. P.O. Box 12 Nobby Beach Qld 4218	Please use: Westpac BSB: 034 230 Acc. No: 267 961 <i>please use your name as the reference i.e: A.Citizen</i>
Or return this form completed to the Instructor on Duty at the Club with payment	
(All sections <b>MUST</b> be completed)	

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