

SNIPPETS

April 2012
Issue 400



Total concentration from students at the PMC class run by Shirley

DATES OF UPCOMING GOLD COAST MEETINGS and EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING **SUNDAY 27 MAY**
the meeting will be followed by a B-B-Q (\$2.00)

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS **2nd TUESDAY** in the month

GENERAL MEETING **3rd TUESDAY** in the month at 7.30pm

SHOW DAY **SATURDAY, 30th June**

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Monthly Newsletter of the Gold Coast Lapidary Club Inc

www.goldcoastlapidaryclub.com.au

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: Joan Cardwell

The Management Committee 2011-2012

President	Geoff Saunders	5568 7616 - 0407 125 567	Vice President	Ken Wilks	5578 9419
Secretary	Wayne Schulz	0417 961865	Treasurer	Trevor Nelson	02 6676 0451
Committee	Mal Wanchap	5579 8908	Committee	Wendy Pollock	5523 1493
Committee	Chris Loughlin	5522 5184	Committee	John Nelmes	0412 575 995

Show Coordinator

Allen Frenz 5571 6436

Management Positions

Snippets Editor	Elaine Arch-Rowe	Competition Steward	Allen Frantz
Purchasing Officer	Committee	Senior Librarian	Liz Nicholas
Raffle Coordinator	Jenny Farmer	Show Case Steward	Rob Lachlan
Saw Master	Ray Tolley	Field Trip Coordinator	Kerry Chadwick

Judges

Faceting - Robert McGregor Cabochons - Ken Wilks Carving - Ken Wilks

Instructors & Workshop Times

Cabbing	Tuesday	10.00am - 3.00	Shirley Sunderland	0411 175 095
	Wednesday	10.00am - 3.00	Dennis Burton	5527 6448
	Wednesday	10.00am - 3.00	Ray Tolley	5524 4642
	Thursday	10.00am - 3.00	Shirley Sunderland	0411 175 095
	Thursday	10.00am - 3.00	Joan Caldwell	5594 1458
	Thursday	10.00am - 3.00	Ron Barr	5539 4737
	Wednesday Night	7.00pm - 9.30	John Nelmes	0412 575 995
			Terry Houghton	5594 6814
			Jadwiga Siwka	5572 0924
	Friday Night	7.00pm - 9.30	Malcolm Wanchap	5579 8908
Adv/Cab/Carving	to be announced			
PMC Classes	to be announced			
FreeFrm/Boats	Tuesday (1 st & 2 nd week of month/book with instructor)			Laurence Yannacelli 5577 2185
Carving/Bone	Tuesday	10.00am - 3.00	John Tonkin	5534 7121
Investing	Wednesday (book with instructor)		Geoff Saunders	5568 7616 - 0407125567
Casting	Thursday (book with instructor)		Geoff Saunders	5568 7616 - 0407125567
Faceting	Wednesday night	7.00pm - 9.30	Peter Smith	5530 5826
			Chez Siwka	5572 0924
	Thursday	10.00am - 3.00	Rod Turville	5539 4450
			Brian Brown	55278552
Silver/Cab/Setting	Thursday	10.00am - 12.00	Ron Barr	5539 4737
Silver Jewellery	Wednesday	10.00am - 3.00	Jadwiga Siwka	5572 0924
Basic Silver	Wednesday night	700pm (list)	Jadwiga Siwka 5572 0924	Paul Galea 5545 2667
	Friday night	7.00pm (list)	George Leskys 0409 583 8565	Jenny Farmer 0412 459 474
Wire Wrapping	Wednesday	7.00 pm	(list)	Chris Loughlin 0406 715 322
Creative Metal Arts	Thursday	7.00pm		Trev Nelson 02 6676 0451
Soap Stone Carving	Friday	7.00pm		Mervyn Scott 5531 4576

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello Members

My first subject is on the saw room. We have tried to get the saws working to a standard through the resources we have available in the club which would have kept costs down. Unfortunately every time we thought we were on top of things some other problem would occur so we have now contacted a saw company who may be able to rectify all the little problems; we will keep you informed on the progress.

The second matter I wish to cover is our *Annual General Meeting*.

IT WILL NOT BE HELD ON TUESDAY NIGHT BUT ON SUNDAY, 27th MAY at 11.00am

The meeting should not take much more than an hour so please come along and have your say as to who manages **your** club for the next twelve months or you may wish to step forward to play a part in the management.

When the meeting has concluded enjoy a chat and our \$2-00 Bar-B-Q. If you enjoy alcohol with your lunch you may B.Y.O. otherwise soft drinks are available for \$1-00 from the fridge and, better still, coffee and tea are free! See you there!

Our membership numbers are climbing back up and hopefully this will increase the attendance for the Saturday classes. While I am on classes, we are looking for a confident member in cabochons prepared to take part in Friday night classes. The arrangement will be that you go to Friday night class as a 'leading hand' to Chris Loughlin and Malcolm Wanchap with the intentions of becoming an instructor at a later stage. Please, don't be afraid to put your name forward. This is a way of giving back to the club something you enjoy doing

The Annual Gem Show is right upon us after our annual general meeting. The show date is Saturday, 30th June. It is important for all of us to lend a hand at this event as the monies we make out of the show determines whether there will be an increases in club fees. I have always opposed increases but the running costs to the club are not getting any cheaper so lets make our target to avoid the increases. Please make yourself known to Show Co-ordinator Allen Frentz and see where he needs help.

I hope you are making what you set out make when joining the club, if not keep at it, enjoy your selves, have tolerance to your fellow members

President



CLUB COMPETITION RESULTS

Open Cabachon	February 2012	1 st	Malcolm Wanchap	80.75
Novice Cabachon	February 2012	1 st	Len Wilkinson	83.30
		2 nd	Roy Davies	80.55
		3 rd	Roy Davies	76.40
		4 th	Dean Metcalfe	75.25
Novice Facet	February 2012	1 st	Brian Brown	83.90
		2 nd	Brian Brown	71.98
		3 rd	Malcolm Wanchap	58.75
Special Section	February 2012	<i>Sir Paul Howard Trophy</i>		
		1 st	Sir Paul Howard	86.50
		Equal Second	Lady Marie Howard	81.25
			Ray Tolley	81.25
3 rd	Ray Tolley	79.75		

JOAN BARRON SETS OUT ON ANOTHER EXCITING OUTBACK TRIP

The next time we went away it was to see the Hall of Fame at Longreach. We went the long way to get there. We ended up at Rockhampton and out to Mt Hay tourist park for thunder eggs and from there to Barcauldin and then Longreach. Spent most of the day there at the Hall of Fame.

Came home through Roma; Warrago Highway. Stopped at Yuleba for fuel and asked if there were any fossicking sites around there. They said to go to the council office. Well, they gave us a map for a quarry they used to work and asked if opalised wood would be alright as they had dug huge pieces out of it (the quarry) when in use. No one can imagine what we thought when we heard that! So we found the place and the first piece we found was 55kg shaped like a leg of ham. Remembering we were in the VW and only able to carry so much I had this huge stone under my feet on the passenger side and a couple of more pieces in the back. Just as well we were going home. Never a dull moment!

We always seemed to find something different every time we went somewhere as you know every stone is different no matter what it is. Being out in the bush fossicking is a great, rewarding life. We could never see ourselves just going from town to town looking at shopping centres etc.



Samples of Opalised Wood

There were no more fossicking trips until we went to Alice Springs Gemboree in 1993. Between times my husband had a by-pass operation. We also purchased a 4-wheel drive and a van. We had a gas tank fitted which held 92 litres and petrol 76 litres; so it was a fair way between fuel stops. Had a few days at Cooper Pedy fossicking for bits of opal and did the tourist thing.

The arrival at Alice Springs was a sight to see. The whole grounds were practically full of vans, buses and tents. It has been voted one of the best Gemborees, the most friendly of people all interested in the same thing; lapidary. Four days there and late nights just talking; a great concert with Ted Eagan.

After leaving so many people we went to the garnet fields out on the Plenty highway. At night it looked like a city with all the lights. One gentleman told us that one time many years ago he had found heaps of garnets which he thought was good. Took them home and put them in a cement mixer to clean them and all he had was a heap of grit. He could still laugh about it!

I'm afraid we were not into digging holes so we never stayed long as we were going to Wave Hill for a look. We passed Tenant Creed then the Three Way to Dunmurra and to Top Springs. 172k of dirt road, a service station; actually just a petrol and diesel bowser and a pub. Another 174k to Wave Hill; sealed road. Pieces of prenite were lying on top of the ground; probably plenty under it too. It was all sizes, some quite small; good size to tumble; pieces of crystal, some smokey, some clear. Amethyst quite unbelievable! We could not believe our eyes. So out came the newspaper and we wrapped every piece.

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From there we came back to the highway and went to Daly Waters, then to Cape Crawford and back towards the Barkley highway, stopped at Anthony Lagoon about halfway and picked up ribbon stone back over the border to Queensland. Then to Mt Isa and Cloncurry; one of our favourite outback towns. There we met a family from Victoria who we had met at the Gemboree. They had gone to Darwin and wished they had come with us instead. We took them out to Crystal Mountain at Cattle Creek where they picked up some nice pieces of crystal. They also found and dug out a couple of small slabs from a previous old digging. It really made their day! We told them we were going to Agate Creek so they decided to come also. To this day we still exchange Xmas cards etc. There would have been some great friendships established through the Gemboree.

Our last trip was in 2005 but in between we had a few trips to New South Wales to Tinga for Jelly Beans looking for Topaz. Also Chinchilla for petrified wood and of course back to Agate Creek, another favourite place with a good camp ground, water, toilet and shower. Such a peaceful place; so much so that a lady has had her ashes put on Crystal Mountain because she loved the place so much. Her husband and family visit every year on her anniversary.

All our fossicking trips have been typed out and put into separate folders, where we went, mileage, fuel process, what we found, the all-up weight, where the photos and videos were taken and what of. Every trip was like a new adventure. Perhaps a lot of fossicking places have changed since the times we were there. I know we thoroughly enjoyed every trip we made.

GEM SHOWS FOR MAY AND JUNE

MAY

5th QLACCA general meeting at Redcliffe Show - - - - - 10.00am
 5 - 6 Redcliffe Gem and Mineral, Jewellery and Craft Show
 Southern Cross Catholic College, Kippa-Ring - - - - - Hours: 9 - 4
 19 - 20 Lismore Gemfest - Lismore show grounds
 26 Mt Gravatt Gem Show, Mt Gravatt club house
 1873 Logan Rd Mt Gravatt - - - - - Hours: 8 - 4

JUNE

2 - 3 Gunya Club Lapidary Display
 Mt Coottha Botanical Gardens - - - - - Hours: 9 - 4
 2 QLACCA management meeting Mt Coottha Gardens - - - - - 10.00am
 16 Deception Bay Gem Show
 Community Hall cnr Ewart St and Raymond Terrace - - - - - Hours: 9 - 3
 30 **GOLD COAST GEM & CRAFT SHOW** - - - - - Hours: 9 - 4
 80 Pacific Ave Miami, Pizzey Park

POSSIBLY THE MOST EXCITING COMMITTEE POSITION AVAILABLE

EDITOR of your 'Snippets' newsletter.

The editor collates items and photos offered by members and friends of our club plus information sent to us from other clubs. The nominee will need some computer skills and be familiar with the programme 'Publisher.'

A computer is provided. Have a look through 'Snippets' and you will see what an easy and attractive position this is.

It's SHOWTIME once again

To maintain and operate our Lapidary Club we require a substantial amount of money each year!

A proportion of the money required comes from our annual fees and the balance has to be taken from the Show profits.

The RAFFLE is our best way of increasing our profits, but we require the help of all members to achieve this. Remember, not only does the selling of tickets increase our profits, but by selling to the public we help to advertise our club. Telling your relatives, friends and neighbours that you belong to a Lapidary Club usually creates some sort of interest.

So that all members can contribute to our profits, we are posting twenty \$1 tickets to each member. We would be very surprised if any member does not have twenty friends, neighbours or acquaintances who will donate to the cause.

Prior to the Show please place the \$20 and the ticket butts in an envelope with your name and give same to an instructor, committee member or to Alan Frentz.

Lapidary items of outstanding beauty which have been designed and created by our club members have been

donated for prizes and members will probably sell more than their twenty allocated tickets. Extra tickets will be available from the club instructors, show committee members or Alan Frentz.

Please notify Alan if you will be available to help with the organising of the Show or are available with the running of the Show. A few hours on the Friday afternoon or Saturday would help to share the workload.

For extra raffle tickets or any details to do with the show please contact

**Alan Frentz
on
55716436**

Gold Coast Lapidary Club



Gems, Craft and Jewellery Show

Saturday 30th June 2012

9am to 4pm at the Lapidary Clubrooms

80 Pacific Avenue, Miami (SEE MAP OVERLEAF)

Next to Olympic Pool *Pizzey Park (G.C. Yellow pages Map 44, M13)



Large range of Gemstones for sale including sapphires, topaz, citrine, zircon, quartz, opal etc.



Crystals, Minerals, Fossils and Handcrafts for sale. Trading tables and Tailgaters.



Working demonstrations. Lots of competitions for Open and Novice classes

\$5 ENTRY
which includes 2 Raffle Tickets
Children FREE

**Enjoy LUNCH
at our barbeque
or maybe a
sandwich and
hot cup of
coffee and cake
at our cafe**



Email: show@goldcoastlapidaryclub.com
or visit our website at: www.goldcoastlapidaryclub.com

**For Competition Entry Details and other enquiries
please contact ALLEN FRENTZ on (07)55716436**