

ROCKBOTTOM NEWS

Established 4th February 1964

JULY 2015

ROCK AUCTION

(To be held towards the end of September)

It is that time of the year again when we ask all members to dig deep, donate unwanted rock and containers for our rock auction in aid of the *Flying Doctor*.

For those members who are not familiar with some of our practices, the Mt Gravatt Lapidary Club has a fund-raiser every year and donates funds raised to the charity of choice. The FLYING DOCTOR is currently the charity of choice because so many of our members are fossickers and may at anytime need their services.

PLEASE DONATE ITEMS TO AUCTION or ICECREAM CONTAINERS

The containers are used to section off the rock and make the mystery boxes.

COMMUNITY GAMBLING GRANT

The club was notified on the 31st June that we had been successful in obtaining this grant. The application was for lockable secure storage facilities at the side of the building and for new faceting machines for the faceting room when it is upgraded. This money must be spent and accounted before we can apply for another Community Gambling Grant or within 12 months.

COUNTRY CREDIT UNION GRANT

The club was notified on the 31st June that it had not been successful with this grant. We had applied for tools for the Silver crafts in this grant.

QLACCA REPORT

Tina Horton reported from the QLACCA meeting that there are two issues to be brought to the attention of all members:

- 1 They have heard a valuable meteorite stolen from the Atherton Crystal Cave Museum may be broken up and try to be sold at Gem Shows. If you are suspicious of this at gem shows please notify QLACCA and or the police.
- 2 There is a tailgater at gem shows (including ours) possibly defrauding members selling what he claims are small meteorites. He has also attempted to cause trouble between tailgaters on site and members at several gem shows.
- 3 Reports have come through that sapphires are being treated with resin and oil and being sold out of the gemfields. BE AWARE, when worked, this will damage equipment as well as stones.

Monthly Open Saturday & Sunday sessions

After open Saturday & Sunday morning sessions we will be holding a bbq lunch for club members. The cost will be \$2.50 person, so come along and enjoy a nice lunch with your fellow members. Donations of rolls, salad or meat are always welcome.

“This facility has been sponsored by the Queensland Office of Arts and Cultural Development “

Friendship and Fellowship – our precious gems

Hi,

This has been a very productive month for the club. The first Grant the BCC advised us to apply for to enable club improvements (from the Community Gambling Fund) has been approved. This grant must go through the acquittal process on or before the 23rd June 2016.

I have spoken to Michael and measurements are being done to enable the concreter to go ahead and pour the slab for the lockers. This concrete slab will follow the side of the building from the tank right through to attach to and extend the verandah slab. Allowing BBQ's etc to be rolled around to the back from the lockers or used at the side of the building.

The Halls Faceting Machines have been ordered, there will be a wait time on these as he has so many orders from ours and other grant holders.

The Facetron Machines are only one month away when the faceting room has been refurbished.

Unfortunately the Country Credit Union Grant was unsuccessful so the silver tools will not be available at this stage.

The external pipes to the carborundum pit have been replaced they were two thirds blocked with carborundum and stone grindings. The concrete for the new slab would have covered these and after twenty years of use were well and truly due to be replaced before blockage. The Cabbng workroom plumbing is in the process of being upgraded to enable the waste to flow much freer from the machines.

We have a problem with the green carborundum wheels and it may soon be time to look at an alternative. We have been able to obtain enough for 3 months as long as they are used concretely.

The electrician has completed the current work and has made an appointment to go through and do the electrical tagging.

Jim Horton

BUILDING EXTENTION

Jim Horton spoke at the club meeting explaining that the Committee through him had negotiated with the BCC obtaining land and the intention to extend the building.

He stated it is now time for the Members to take ownership of the project going forward. The BCC is moving very quickly and it is now time for Members with the appropriate skills to step forward and assist with the next stages. If Members do not assist from this point on the BCC will be notified that the extension is not going ahead.

The Management Committee is calling for expressions of interest (*in writing and signed*) from our members as to what they would like to see as a floor plan for the extension to the current clubhouse. This extension can be up to 180 square meters (approximately the size of the current club house). The extension would be partially offset to the current clubhouse to the south of the current building.

The following process has been suggested for the project:

In August a Planning Committee would be formulated to assess the expressions of interest, and along with planning consultation and a plan would be formulated. This would be put to the BCC for building approval (DA). This process usually costs several thousand, however we have been advised by the liaison officer that there is a very good chance if we put a business case to the council in the next few months these fees will be waived.

Once this has taken place the plan will taken to a General Meeting for a final decision. A Building Committee of members with building skills and experience would be formulated along with a Fund Raising Committee to work towards raising money through grants and other means

Management Committee

President:

Jim Horton
0418 885 180
mglspresident@gmail.com

Vice President:

Max Walsh
0403 349 071

Treasurer:

Tina Horton
0432 288 670
mglstreasurer@gmail.com

Secretary:

Louise Fieldhouse
0414 960 069
mglsecretary@gmail.com

Chief Instructor:

Brad Thomson
0407 576 094
mglchiefinstructor@gmail.com

Publicity Officer

Linda Fountain
mglspublicity@gmail.com

Committee Officers

Assistant Treasurer:

Andrea Horton

Assistant Secretary:

Trevor Lewis

Maintenance:

As determined by the management committee

Librarian

Sue Horton

Museum Curator

Sue Ericksson

Field Trip Officer

To be appointed

Providore

Trevor Lewis
Jim Horton

Chief Steward

Tina Horton

Stewards:

Trevor Lewis

Andrea Horton

QLACCA**Representative**

To be advised

Housekeeper

Contracted

Silver Committee

To be formed

Life Members

John Brady

Val Cugola

Viv Dadow

Sue Eriksson

Bob Kelly

Jim Norris

Helen Patterson

Albert Taylor

Joan Taylor

Laurel Viogt

Kevin Voigt

LIBRARY**BORROWING**

Members may borrow up to two books at a time.

Please return all borrowed books within 2 weeks of borrowing them.

Please sign out all books being borrowed from the library.

There is a register for this purpose on or in the desk in the library.

CHIEF INSTRUCTORS REPORT

The cabbing room wheels are about to be changed around. The standard wheels will be moved together as will the newer sintered wheels. This should make it easier for everyone to chose their way of cutting. With regard to the preferred silicon carbide wheels, we are finding these are becoming harder to source, but we have managed to pick up some through a supplier we used previously. This will at least keep us going for now.

By the time you read this, a new batch of silver beginners will have started classes on Tuesday mornings and Thursday nights. To those beginners, welcome and happy learning. I hope you enjoy the process and enjoy making the projects set for you.

Robert is in the process of setting up for carving courses, and once a beginners tool selection is available, he hopes to start a set course for those interested. We will keep you informed as to when this will happen.

LIBRARY REPORT

I would like to remind all members that reference books are to remain on premises at all times and are not for loan.

Other books in the library can be taken out on loan for 2 weeks. This enables all members to be able to use any of the books on a regular basis.

When books are returned they need to be placed in their appropriate sections in numerical order. The sections are being colour coded to make this a little easier.

The procedure for rare and expensive books has been passed at the July meeting, to be reviewed when a specific locked area is provided for them.

MUSEUM REPORT

Ted Barker has donated 147 mineral specimens to the Mt Gravatt Museum, part of "Thelma's Mineral collection". They are on display in the new display cupboard at the moment for all to see and at a latter date will be integrated into the full display. He has donated other items to Minsoc and some to private members. Thelma had a large collection over 300 specimens many unique.

All members would like to thank both Ted and Thelma for preserving these precious items for current and future generations.

INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

Due to the great job the demonstrators did at the show there has been a surge in new members and interest in all crafts. It is great to see so many younger people taking interest so the art of Lapidary and associated crafts is not lost.

CABBING

The increase in the new members is keeping the instructors on their toes and busy on Tuesday and Friday nights doing orientation, finding beginners stones and getting people on the wheels to start their stones

SILVER

Long awaited beginners classes have commenced this week and there are many more on the waiting list for further classes. Many enquiries at the show were directed at being able to participate in this craft.

CARVING

The interest has boomed and Robert Ross has several new members underway on different projects.

Robert is formulating a class format and we will be offering this as classes in the future.

FACETING

Bob and Mal are steadily getting through the list in Joes absence and hoping he will return soon to help with the increasing numbers wanting to learn this craft.

DISPUTES, GRIEVANCES AND EQUIPMENT ABUSE

It is to be made clear that the Instructor is in charge of the building, equipment, and security of the premises and the personal safety of ALL MEMBERS. The instructor is not just there to instruct in the craft that is in session at the time.

New policy and procedure has been formulated to give the instructors guidelines for expectations and handling of these situations. ***The Code of Conduct and the disputes and grievance procedure has been passed unanimously by the members at the meeting 17th July and will go into the procedure manual Please make sure you read them and are familiar with them.***

WISH LIST

Thank you Libby, Gordon and Richard we have taken on board the items you have placed on the wish list this will be helpful when the next grant comes up and hopefully we will be successful. Thank you Joan for your notes they were tabled at the June meeting in correspondence for the Chief Instructor.

Those wishing to add to the wish list:

Please fill out the form with suggestions and items needed in the folder marked wish list. The folder and forms are provided in the office. This form needs details and some research by the persons making suggestions. Keep in mind when applying for grants more than one quote is necessary

EQUIPMENT

Green Silicone Carbide wheels are getting more and more difficult to obtain. We need to conserve what we have and possible look at alternatives. Please use the Sintered 60 wheels where possible to start the cabochons off.

Carving tools and equipment has been purchased along with Soap Stone for carving classes.

New stainless steel bench top has been installed in the silver room with a lip to prevent the rumblers from vibration off the bench.

Gas cylinder and single plate gas cooker for use in casting to replace the butane gas one burner stoves banned earlier in the year.

The soft wheel bench and the silicon carbide/ sintered wheel bench have had all the plumbing replaced under bench to allow them to flow more freely. No more plunger needed.

NEW MEMBERS

This month the Management Committee welcomes:

Kay Ball	Haya Hershberg	Charles Phillipps
Maddy Ball	Glynis Hind	Mark Phillipps
Josephine Beaton	Bruce Humphrey Smith	Bethany Stanhope
Nerrisa Bellert	Jakobi King	Lloyd Stumer
Genevieve Callaghan	Kristin Langton	Michelle Zheng
Jordi Castella	Daniel Lawson	Jack Zhong
Joseph Castner	Johann Lawson	
Richard Chen	Lynda Lawson	
Leonie Clark	Lyn Lewis	
Lynn Deng	Sarah-Lyn Lewis	
Tony Dickfos	Ting Wer Lin	
Anthony Falivene	Lee Low	
Angela Fox	Russell Low	
Daniel Fraser	Mark Ma	
Kevin Geeves	Ty Pastorella	
Julie Hackett	Adrian Phillipps	

If you see these members at the club Introduce yourself to them and make them welcome

FACEBOOK

The club now has its own Facebook page up and running with likers joining everyday. Linda Fountain mglspubli-city@gmail.com and Louise Fieldhouse mglsecretary@gmail.com are the administrators of the page. Have a look and keep up to date with what is going on at the club, especially if you are away or unable to attend for an extended period.

DON WILKINSON MEMORIAL TROPHY

This trophy is awarded to the entry that scores the highest number of judging points for an individual freeform in competition.

Don joined the club in 1977 and was at various times President, Show Convenor, Chief Instructor, QLACCA delegate and other varying positions that nobody else would fill. He was an energetic and successful leader who was one of the driving forces, inspiring the club to get involved in September 1982, to present a major exhibition of Lapidary and Minerals in Mineral House.

Don was a skilled craftsman in lapidary specializing in free-forms and carving, there is still a display of his work in the clubhouse.

Don remained an active member of the club until his death in July 2009.

FREEFORM CABOCHONS

DEFINITION: A single piece of Natural Lapidary material not laminated in any form, polished on all surfaces, of geometric, asymmetrical or irregular shape, which has been hand-worked, not machine faceted in any way. NOTE: manmade lapidary materials and natural organic materials are NOT PERMITTED in this section.

A freeform cabochon can be any shape at all, but MUST NOT HAVE A DOMED TOP OR BACK BEVEL.

The best freeforms highlight, enhance and show the natural colours and patterns of the stone. This can be accomplished by forming the shape of the freeform to conform with the natural markings or by using these markings to enhance the shape you have chosen.

For how the judges mark your stones and what points you get for different aspects of your work see page 32 in the N0 8 J&R

SAFETY IN THE CLUB HOUSE

Be aware and take care:

We would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that:

- 1 Safety is everyone's concern.
- 2 Read the Club Rules, they are posted in the clubhouse and are on the back of your Membership receipt. Refresh this information at least annually
- 3 Familiarise yourself with the safety measurers at the club, ie. Where is the first-aid-kit, fire extinguishers, what to do in an emergency.
- 4 If you suffer from a medical condition that may incapacitate you – make sure that your club record has the relevant information that needs to be taken in the event of an episode or an emergency.
- 5 If you see something that is unsafe: **REPORT IT.**
- 6 If you see someone working in an unsafe manner – talk to him/her. If you do not want to do it, find an instructor to do it.
- 7 If you do not know or are unsure how to use equipment: find an instructor or another member that can help you.
- 8 You are working with power tools and they must be respected at all times and used safely
- 9 DO NOT wave gas torches around and make sure it is turned off every time when you finish soldering
- 10 Safety goggles and ear muffs are available for use at the club and to be purchased personally.

DATES TO REMEMBER

JULY

25—26th Cairns Gem Festival, Club Rooms, Mulgrave Road, Cairns

AUGUST

1st Ipswich & District Lapidary Club Show, Ipswich Show Grounds, Warwick Road Ipswich

1st Innisfail Club Gem Show, Club Rooms, River Avenue

2nd Atherton Show, Club House, Racecourse Road, Toga

TBA Anakie Gemfest, Anakie Central Qld.

29th Waterloo Bay Gem Show, Hemmant Community Hall, Brand and Ramsay Street, Hemmant

If undelivered please return to
Mt Gravatt Lapidary Society Inc
PO Box 150
Mount Gravatt Qld 4122

Mt Gravatt Lapidary Society Details

Address:

Mt Gravatt Park, 1873 Logan Road, Upper Mt Gravatt Qld 4122

Postal Address:

P.O. Box 150, Mt Gravatt Qld 4122

Phone: (07) 3219 3381

Email: mtgravattlapidaryclub@gmail.com

Website: mtgravatt.lapidaryclub.com.au

Club meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. All Members are welcome and are encouraged to

Club Opening Hours

Mon 7.30—9.30 pm

Tues 7.30—9.30 pm

Wed 9.00—12 noon

Fri 9.00—12 noon

Fri 7.30—9.30pm

Closed public holidays

Open Saturday

Open Sunday

Silver Classes

Tue 9.00—12 noon

Thur 7.00—9.30

Mineral Society

Last Wednesday of the month at
7.00 pm

3rd Saturday of the month

4th Sunday of the month

JOINING FEES

Adult Members - \$50 - Comprising \$20 joining fee, \$20 annual subscription and \$10 badge.

Junior Members (between 10 and 16 years) - \$25 - Comprising \$5 joining fee, \$10 annual Subscription and \$10 badge.

NEWSLETTER LEVY

There is an additional charge of \$5 per family per year to cover some of the cost of printing and distribution of the newsletter.

Friendship and Fellowship – our precious gems