

ROCKBOTTOM NEWS

Established 4th February 1964

FMarch 2017

SHOW TIME — PLEASE TAKE NOTE

SECTION 1—28 are due on **SUNDAY** the 9th of APRIL
between **1PM AND 4PM**

TIME TO THINK ABOUT YOUR SHOW ENTRIES

SHOW ENTRIES

Competition

All members should have commenced their entries for the show and have some already completed.

All members including the Juniors and New Members should have their stones and silver ready for entry.

Do not be intimidated, last year only one person entered in novice silver and won a substantial prize with no competition.

We have had many beginner classes and a ring course, all these can be entries and you will have the judges tell you where you can improve.

WE ARE SEEKING GOODS FOR OUR SHOW STALL

If you have items at home you do not know what to do with, donate them to raise money on our stall. Trash, Treasure, Plants, Rocks, Books and many other things you can think of.

Must be at the club-house by 23rd May.

CATERING

Members donating baked goods to our stall.... This year we would like to simplify things by asking that you consider baking any of the following: Scones, Pikelets, Cheesecake or Chocolate/Mudcake

CLUB RAFFLE FOR THE SHOW

In previous year's raffle tickets and show flyers have been posted out to all the members.

Due to postage cost it has been decided flyers and raffle tickets will this year be available at the club for pickup.

If you are unable to pick these up at the club and would like to obtain them please contact the secretary on mglesecretary@gmail.com or phone Jim Horton on 0418 885 180.

Show Volunteers

Thank you to those members who have already come forward. There is now a book at the front desk for you to nominate the times you are available.

- This is one of the only times we expect our members to step up and volunteer their time and expertise for the good of the club and to raise money for the club. It is the only big fund raiser the club has annually.

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

Friendship and Fellowship – our precious gems

POSITIONS NEEDED for:

ORGANISER LOUISE FIELDHOUSE needs: Kitchen helpers

ORGANISER JASPER JOY needs: BBQ and helpers

ORGANISER NEEDED _____

Fencing off Club House for security helpers needed (5am start)

ORGANISER PETER BENNETT: Tailgater entry needs a helper (5am start)

ORGANISER TREVOR LEWIS: Set up of Tailgaters on the day (5am start) helpers needed

ORGANISER DAVID BUHMAN needs: Traffic Controllers and Parking attendants (5am start)

ORGANISER NEEDED:

Raffle sellers (7.30am start)

Entry ticket sellers (7.30am start)

Remember this is a club run by the Members with an elected Management Committee to coordinate and organize the voluntary workforce. They are not put in these positions to do all the work.

President Report

MARCH 2017

Hi

Another busy month has passed and the member should be starting to see things happening.

New sintered wheels have gone on in the cab room to improve the workflow.

Expandable wheels and fine sanding belts will improve the quality of stones being produced.

The change and instillation of these wheels will enable our members to produce competition stones.

Remember ALL MEMBERS need to can enter any work they have completed this year and previously if it has not won in the section. This includes pieces done in beginner courses.

Joe has ordered new high speed cutting laps for the faceting rooms and they are now in use.

The silver room has new equipment for the start of the next beginner round and mandrels for use by the more experienced silversmithers.

The Library has been cleaned and sanded thanks to David and his diligence. Last weekend the room was painted ready for the flooring to go down. The flooring will be discussed at this meeting and a decision will be made as to what and when this will happen. Then new specific shelving will need to be built ready to move the books in and give much more room for the silversmithing and improvement of the Silver room.

Thank you to those members who have offered assistance on show day however we need many more of you to volunteer.

There are some of us who know we are going to have a long day and are here from 5am to 6pm but most members are unable to spare this time.

Fabian and Louise will have a book at the front desk for you to indicate the hours you can work with us.

Jim

Management Committee

President:

Jim Horton
0418 885 180
mglsresident@gmail.com

Vice President:

David Buhmann

Treasurer:

Tina Horton
0432 288 670
mglstreasurer@gmail.com

Secretary:

Louise Fieldhouse
0414 960 069
mglssecretary@gmail.com

Chief Instructor:

Katherine Parsons
0
mglschiefinstructor@gmail.com

Assistant Chief Instructor

Publicity Officer

Linda Fountain
mglspublicity@gmail.com

Committee Officers

Assistant Treasurer:

Sue Horton

Assistant Secretary:

Trevor Lewis

Maintenance:

1 Jim Horton
2 David Buhmann
3 _____

Librarian

Sue Horton

Museum Curator

Sue Ericksson

Field Trip Officer

Darrell Bennett, Michael Siwek, Paul Opitz and Peter Lansbury

Providore

Trevor Lewis



Chief Steward

Tina Horton

Stewards:

Sue Erricksson, Katherine Parsons, Trevor Lewis

Gem Show**Convener**

Fabian Bracco

QLACCA**Representative**

Tina Horton

Housekeeper

Contracted

Silver Committee

To be formed

Life MembersJohn Brady
Val Cugola
Sue Ericksson
Bob Kelly
Helen Petterson
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.

VOTE OF THANKS

Viv Skrzewski moved a vote of thanks to David Buhmann for the hours for work he puts into the maintenance of tools and the building. "He never leaves a stone unturned." The meeting all agreed.

Mt Gravatt Lapidary Society has a new website if you would like more information on the Society and it's facilities please visit

www.mgslapidary.com.au

or if you would like to contact the Society our new email is

mgslapidary@gmail.com

Alternatively check us out on Facebook or instagram to know what is happening around your clubhouse

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mtgravattlapidary

Instagram: @mtgravattlapidary

Chief Instructor ReportCabbing

The cabbing room has now moved to all sintered wheels with the room running smoothly

We are currently half way through moving to expandable soft wheels

We are calling for more entries in the open categories of the show, lots of beginners are entering the novice categories

A quick reminder that you don't have to press hard on the wheels when working – let the wheel do the work for you

George is visiting the club on 1 April 2017 for all your slabbing needs.

Faceting

There are now new channel-cut laps which allow for faster pre-forming

Also introducing 1600 and 800 laps to the room

New competent faceter – Sarah Willoughby

New beginners to start beginner course in approximately two weeks time.

Silver

Accelerated beginners silver course went really well

Linda will be commencing a new beginners course on Thursday nights in April

Stay tuned for Richard's beginner silver classes on Tuesdays – to be announced

A ring course will be held over the Labor Day weekend – contact Louise if you are interested as there are only 6 places available

All new silver tools for the beginner classes (these were last replaced in 2012)

Also new silver tools including a hexagonal bangle mandrel.

General business

Membership is growing well with in excess of 275 club members

Reminder that Open Saturday is on 18 March and Open Sunday on 26 March

Also a reminder that membership fees are due at the end of this month (31 March 2017) –

if you do not pay by the due date you will be unable to work at the club.

I hope you have a great month and remember to get cracking on those entries for the Show!

BRAD THOMSON (assistant Chief Instructor)

Joined the club in 2007 And worked to advance and improve the club. Brad was President from 2011 – 2014 and chief instructor 2008 – 2010 and 2013 until his resignation in 2016 when he took on the position of assistant chief instructor. Rest in Peace Brad.

In remembrance of Brad there is a collection tin at the clubhouse which will be donated to Bowl Cancer. This tin will remain until the 20th April.



In Loving Memory of
Bradley Robert Thomson
24.09.1958—28.02.2017

RULES FOR THE CABGING ROOM

These rules were accepted and passed at the meeting in total to be reviewed as necessary.

NEW/ADDITIONAL CABGING ROOM RULES

Following recent changes in/to the Cabbing Room, it has become apparent to Instructors that additional procedures should be established in order to improve personal safety and minimise damage to equipment. Accordingly, the following rules are to be implemented:

SAFETY PROCEDURES WITH 'SOFT' WHEELS

In addition to the 'Novas', and the usual range of grit sizes which these cover eg. 280, 600, 1200 and 40 000), 'soft' wheels now include the expandable rubber type with replaceable belts. These belts can be quite sharp on the exposed edges and care needs to be exercised to avoid injury (cuts to fingers, etc). In addition to usual safety precautions for using wheels;

1.1. STARTING UP AND BELT ALIGNMENT

- 1.1.1. When first starting up, and after adjustment. Make sure the wheel is switched off and not still turning.
- 1.1.2. Align (centre) the belt on the wheel by hand.
- 1.1.3. After alignment switch on and check that the adjustment is correct.
- 1.1.4. If not, switch off and realign.

NOTE 1: Belts are more prone to overheating and drying out than Nova type soft wheels. Dry belts overheating cause damage to the adhesive holding the grit surface and can also result in scratches on the stone. Members should make sure that sufficient water is passing over the complete face of the wheel during use.

USE OF DOP STICKS

Whenever the use of 'soft' wheels is necessary, in order to keep hands away from the wheel and belts, all stones are to be correctly dopped.

NOTE 1: In some instances larger stones may be unusually shaped and not intended or suited for cabo chons. Instructors are to be approached and they then will determine whether this rule may be relaxed.

2 Nails are not to be used as dop sticks.

3 Whilst members are advised to wear eye protection, stones and other sharp object are hazardous to eyes and limb when loosed. The use of dop sticks on all stones reduces this risk.

2 MINIMISING SOFT WHEEL DAMAGE

In order to prevent undue wear presently occurring to soft wheels, and the premature replacement of wheels and belts due to accidental damage, the following rule is also to be implemented.

2.1. Before proceeding to any soft wheel, all stones being processed are to be finished of scratches on the 320/360 grit hard wheels.

NOTE 1: Hand held stones are responsible for almost all of the damage to soft wheel surfaces, whenever members lose grip on the stone and the wheel/belt tears it from their grasp. The use of dops on all stones being cabochoned on soft wheels will reduce this hazard to members from projectiles and minimise accidental tears to the wheel/belt fabric.

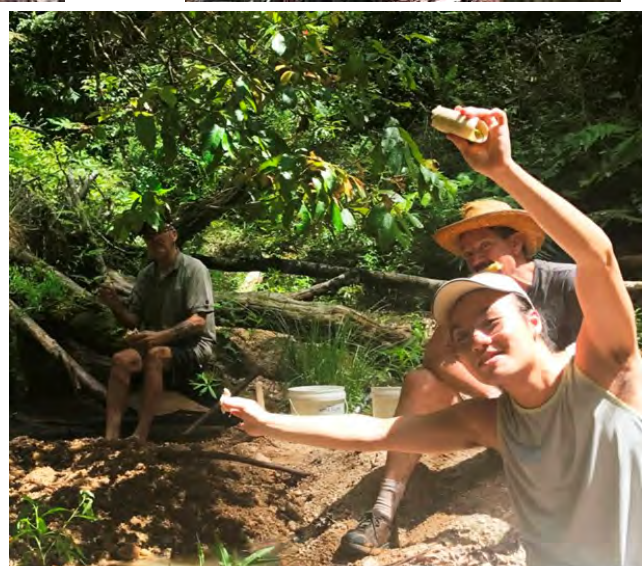
2: Some freeform shapes consist of sharp bends which cannot be processed on any soft wheel without causing undue damage to the outside edges. Frayed edges and loose ends are signs of this. Where any doubt occurs whether shapes should be finished with carving tools such as Dremel or Freedom drives, or the soft wheels, the Instructor will be consulted and will determine accordingly.

FOSSICKING REPORT

Left the club at 5.00 am to drive down to Casino to get some breakfast and head off to our first meeting point . Unfortunately option A Hogarth Range was cancelled due to lack of numbers on the day due to a number of late cancellations.

This allowed us all to go the backroads of the Ewingar State Forests as we had only 10 people on board, you can't park and turn around more than max 4 off 4x4x in the tracks up there.

We found the tracks had deteriorated in the last 12 months since our last visit and cars would not easily make it past the old forestry camp. Once we hacked our way through the scrub/rainforest to minimize the damage to our 4x4s we found the last 50 mts of the track closed by a fallen tree which we decided to try to leave after it proved to be a lot harder than it looked.



It was then a bit of a walk to the drop off and out with the rope down the steep slope after pointing out to avoid the thorny vine that grows so profusely down there, once we all managed to scramble down to the creek we were greeted by a cool mountain stream with a sand and gravel bed and patchy shade provided by the forest above.

At last we could begin to fossick the in creek and its banks a number of members did very well indeed coming away with a bucket filled with Smokey and clear Quartz and 1 part Amethyst, others had to work a bit harder to make finds but the only grumbles came when we had to make our way back up the rope at the end of the day to the 4x4s carrying extra weight in the rocks we found.



1 persons results with some hard work and a bit of luck

We then went to our overnight stay at Riders Rest, near Tabulam to clean up and have a dinner then finalize plans for the next day in the famous bike shed



Next day we headed back up the range (temperature when we got to the forest camp in the morning was a pleasant 16 C.) to try a new spot some of us had heard about but after 1 hour we decided to go back to Elkhorn Rd bridge area and walk back up where we had good success last year, in this area we found good quality chunks of Smokey & clear Quartz, a Citrine chunk with a Smokey Ghost (good for faceting or cabbing) and a combination of Amethyst & Smokey Quartz as a great specimen.

At 1 o'clock we called it a day in the creek as we still had a long drive home

Written by Michael Siwek

Upcoming Fossicking Trips - dates and details are to be advised

April - Byron Bay (private property) - day trip

May - Tamborine Creek - day trip

June - Yowah possibly week trip

LIBRARY REPORT

MARCH 2017

This month I have completed the Annual Audit and I am disappointed to see more books missing or not signed out. One of our Reference books purchased in 2015 (**The How to of Cabbing and Carving of Montana Agate and Chalcedony's**) is missing. This is a Reference book and are to remain at the clubhouse. They are not to go off premises. In Jewellery **both copies of "Silver Threads"** by Rhodes – Moen are not in the library and of course not signed out by anyone.

Two Mineral books and three from the miscellaneous are also new this year.

The audit report is available in the library.

Lists of missing books are on the window at the front office and on the wall in the Silver/Library Room.

PLEASE CHECK AT HOME AND MAKE SURE YOU DO NOT HAVE THESE MISSING BOOKS

Sue Horton

NEW EQUIPMENT

New sintered Wheels 220 and 360

New faceting laps

Mandrels

New Ratech Vibe V5 (Donation)

New Soft Expandable wheels and Belts

Beginner's Kits

Silver steel texturing hammers

NEW MEMBERS

This month the Management Committee welcomes:

Fran Bell, Debra Cushing, Justin Fainges, and Gaynor Long

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 every day. Viv Sakrzewski, Linda Fountain mglspublicity@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.

INSTAGRAM The club now has an Instagram account. If you would like to follow us and keep up with the club activities, it is the account is **@mtgravattlapidary**



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL	
Name:	
Renewal:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30 - Adults <input type="checkbox"/> \$60 - Family (2 Adults, 2 Juniors) <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 - Junior (10-15 years) <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member - free
Newsletter:	<input type="checkbox"/> Free Electronic <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Printed & Posted <input type="checkbox"/> Free - Collect at clubhouse
Total Paid:	\$
Received by:	Date:
If your contact details have changed in the last year, please complete the following:	
Address:	Postcode:
Home Phone:	
Mobile:	
Email:	
Emergency Contact:	Name: Phone:

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH

26th Open Sunday

APRIL

14th—17th The 53rd National Gem & Mineral Show, GEMBOREE 2017 will be held in : Tony Luchetti Show-ground Lithgow, NSW

14th—17th Warwick Rock, Antiques and Collectibles Fair, Warwick Showgrounds

25th ANZAC DAY

MAY

1st Labour Day

6th—7th Redcliffe Gem & Mineral, Jewellery and Craft Show, Southern Cross Catholic College, Kippa Ring

13th—14th Lismore Gemfest, Lismore Showgrounds

MAY CONTINUED

14th Mothers Day

27th Mt Gravatt Gem Show, Mt Gravatt Clubhouse, 1873 Logan Road, Mt Gravatt

JUNE

3rd—4th Gunyah Club Display, Mt Coot-tha Garden Auditorium

JULY

1st Gold Coast Gem & Craft Show, Miami State Primary School, 18 Oceanic Drive, Mermaid Waters

1st Caboolture Gem Fest, Caboolture Historical Village

8th—9th Hervey Bay Festival of Gems, Star of the Sea Catholic School, 39 Hughes Road

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 attend.

7.30 pm. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

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

3rd Saturday of the month

4th Sunday of the month

Silver Classes

Tue 9.00—12 noon

Thur 7.00—9.30

Mineral Society

Last Wednesday of the month at

7.00 pm

JOINING FEES

Adult Members - \$70 - Comprising \$30 joining fee, \$30 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 for posted Newsletters \$15.00 per year. Newsletters collected from the Club are free

Newsletters are posted to Life Members free of charge

Friendship and Fellowship – our precious gems