



# LAPIS

[www.ndlapidary.org.au](http://www.ndlapidary.org.au)

"SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE"

VOLUME FORTY ONE NUMBER ONE SEPTEMBER 2006

## CLUB NEWS

The next General meeting will be on Tuesday Evening 12 September 2006. The meeting will start at 8 pm. Following the September General meeting we will have a "talk fest" as we do not have a guest speaker.

**Annual General Meeting:-** The AGM took place on 12 August and we now have a new President and a committee of twelve. Brian Burns is the new President and we only have two vacancies ie the Publicity Officer and the Education officer. If any member would like to take on either of these positions please contact a committee member.

## Life Member

Congratulations to George Hunter who was awarded Life Membership to the Club, for his many years of dedicated service to the NDLC. This was a unanimous decision at the AGM

## EXHIBITION NOTES

### Raffle Tickets

If you find a book of 10 raffle tickets enclosed with your LAPIS, please sell these tickets to your family, friends, relatives or even perfect strangers if you feel so inclined.

Fill in the name and phone number of the buyer on the ticket butts and return the butts with the money to the clubrooms please. You can hand them in to any committee member or pop them in a sealed envelope into the slot of the filing cabinet in the cutting room.

**Additional raffle tickets are available at the Club rooms.**

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize | Amethyst Pendant and Earrings set in silver |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize | Silver Snake Chain                          |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize | Rock Clock                                  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Prize | Hand painted picture on stone               |

**Please do not forget the  
SCONE MAKING WORKING BEE**



**When:** 16 September starting at 9:00 AM at the Club rooms. Bring your best recipe and all necessary equipment to make scones. All the ingredients for the scones will be supplied.

Donations of scones that you have made at home will still be greatly appreciated.

## Cleaning Schedule

Our resident cleaner is still on leave and we would like the classes to assist with the cleaning - especially after you have completed your class. To ensure the Clubrooms and the Cutting room are cleaned the committee would like the following classes to clean on the specified dates listed:

- Monday Night Classes – on **4 September 2006**
- Thursday Evening Classes – **29 September 2006**

Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

The Committee



## Refreshing Tea Cocktails

As demonstrated at the July non meeting by Luis Bruce. Luis also discussed the difference between ale and lager, and how to pour the perfect beer.

Some very refreshing cocktails that are not too intoxicating but very nice as a drink were made and sampled on 11 July 2006.

### **Peppermint & Tia Maria Cocktail**

Brew the peppermint tea chill add Tai Maria to the required taste add crushed mint and lot of ice.

### **Green Tea and Contreau**

Brew the green tea and chill add the Contreau with orange and lemon slices and lots of ice.

### **Vanilla Tea & Butterscotch Schnapps.**

Brew the vanilla tea and chill mix with the schnapps to the required taste add ice.

### **Strawberry /Cranberry Tea and Vodka**

Brew the strawberry/cranberry tea chill and mix with fresh strawberry, crushed fresh basil, vodka and lots of ice.



## Facetors Guild Workshop

The Australian Facetors Guild has obtained a limited amount of space to hold a workshop/demonstration at the 2006 Gemkhana at Mudgee.

There will be planned space for approximately 10 machines in the dining room area.

This is an opportunity to learn or brush up on some techniques, demonstrate your art to the public by actually participating in the demonstration, talking to other facetors and having a good time.

If you are interested you will need to bring your own machine and all the bits and pieces.

As space is a premium get in early and contact Paul Sabolta, Secretary of the Australian Facetors Guild (Sydney Branch).

Paul's Contact details are as follows:

BH (02) 8844 4427  
AH (02) 9674 4641  
Mobile: 0415 211 478  
Email [atlobas53@yahoo.com.au](mailto:atlobas53@yahoo.com.au)

## **E** xhibition Competition.

**Only a few more weeks to go.** Please keep going with your preparation of entries for the Club EXHIBITION in October. We encourage you to enter as many items and as many categories as you can. It is up to everyone of us to ensure that our Competition Display will again be a highlight of the show.

*We would especially like to encourage all of the active members who do their lapidary work at home to keep putting some of their work aside for the Exhibition.*

Copies of the *Competition Entry Form* are available in the Club Rooms, so now is the time to start listing the items that you plan to enter this year. All entries are Free, and **Entry Forms** must be received **by 16 September 2006**. Entry forms can be placed in the Competition Box in the Clubrooms or posted to the Competition Committee at PO Box 59, Beecroft, NSW 2119. Your **actual Entries** must be received by 30 September 2006. A copy of the Competition Schedule is also available in the Club Rooms.

Competition Sub-Committee.

## Precious Metal Clay Work day

The PMC workshop was held on Saturday 29 July with the Instructor Margaret Lightfoot. Eight members enjoyed the experience to learn a new skill.

A new book for the library - Introduction to Precious Metal Clay by Mary Ann Devos has

been purchased for the members. This book has been placed in the Reference Section.

### VALE DICK WYBROW

Sadly we have farewelled our friend of 33 years Dick Wybrow. He joined our club with May when she commenced her involvement with lapidary, a craft in which she excelled. Dick found that his forte was in faceting. He had spent virtually all of his working life as a fitter machinist with the Railways and the precision of his job proved an assent in this craft. We will remember Dick as a personable member at all social occasions and a very able and popular demonstrator of faceting at our exhibitions. We will all remember Dick for his pleasant company and his regular saying "I'm fancy free and free for anything fancy".

Jean Macleay

### THE CLUB HISTORIAN

*Since human beings first began  
The stone has shaped the fate of man,  
Once, any useful bits of flint  
Would cause the stone age eye to glint,  
For cave man carved his meat up with  
Some crudely fashioned eolith.*

*In middle ages, like as not,  
They said the sling was quite the shot,  
And scores of medieval groans  
Were cut off short by flying stones.  
So masons chiseled R.I.P.  
On slabs of marble, frequently.*

*Then when we had progressed a bit  
The lithograph made quite a hit,  
And printing from a piece of rock  
Gave all the skeptics quite a shock,  
Still, people soon found lots of use  
For this new way to reproduce.*

*And now, though we are civilized,  
The stone still dominates our lives,  
For science can't alleviate  
The anguish caused by over overweight,  
And hence the oft repeated moan,  
'I wish I could lose half a stone'.*

Claire Schofield.

This poem was written a number of years ago and was published in Lapis by one of our Foundation Members.

## **T**ime to do a Spring-clean of the basement and shed?

Mineral specimens have proved to be popular items for sale at our Exhibition – so much so that we have sold-off much of the material that the Club has previously acquired. We urgently need to replenish our stocks and so this appeal goes out to all those members who have ventured afar on field trips across Australia and – as we all do – brought back as many kilograms of rock specimens as the caravan/car springs would allow. Much of the 'excess' material from Broken Hill, Mt Isa, etc now forms borders around our gardens or lies 'buried' in old boxes under the house. If this is the case at your home then it might be mutually beneficial should you decide to do an early spring-clean of your old rock/mineral specimens. The Club would greatly appreciate any donations of surplus mineral specimens. Specimens with crystals are always popular as are samples of ore bodies, etc. Samples can be left at the Clubrooms or contact Brian Burns on 98784073 if you need assistance with pick-up etc.

### MARLBOROUGH CHRYSOPRASE

#### **A warning from "Bundy Gem & Mineral New" May /June 2006**

The fossicking area for Chrysoprase is no longer available to the Public. The area is now under a "mineral exploration lease" held by Gladstone Nickel. A map showing the extent of the exploration lease is available from the Mines department.

The leased area is being checked regularly for trespassers, and anyone caught is being prosecuted and fined.

#### **A date for your diary**

Please put the **9<sup>th</sup> December 2006** in your diary. This is the date for your Christmas Party. Just in

case you have forgotten Christmas is only 4 months away

## Safe Ways to Clean Pearl Jewelry

The pearls most of us wear today are cultured pearls. Their existence was initiated by humans who insert a bead or other object into an oyster or clam. The clam coats the foreigner with nacre, the patina that gives pearls their unique appearance.

The depth of the nacre coating depends on the type of creature involved, the water it lives in, and how long the intruder is left in place before it is removed. As nacre thickness increases, so does the quality and durability of the pearl.

## Caring for Your Pearls

Even cultured pearls with thicker coatings are more fragile than most other gemstones, so you must handle them carefully to keep them in the best condition.

- Your pearls will stay cleaner if you put them on after you've applied your makeup and perfume.
- Be sure to take off your pearl rings before you apply hand and body creams.
- Wipe your pearls with a soft, lint-free cloth as soon as you take them off.
- The cloth can be dampened with water or it can be dry. If damp, allow the pearls to air dry before putting them away.
- Dirty pearls can be cleaned with a mild soap and water solution (try Lux flakes).
- Never clean your pearls with solutions that contain ammonia or harsh detergents.
- Don't put pearl jewellery in an ultrasonic cleaner.
- Don't use abrasive cleaners or rub pearls with abrasive cloth. Both can wear away the nacre coating, leaving you with a plain looking bead.



## Funnies

### Great Pun Is Its Own Re-Word

1. Energizer Bunny Arrested & Charged with Battery.
2. A pessimist's blood type is always b-negative.
3. Practice safe eating -- always use condiments.
4. A Freudian slip is when you say one thing but mean your mother.
5. Shotgun wedding: A case of wife or death.
6. Marriage is the mourning after the knot before.
7. A hangover is the wrath of grapes.
8. Corduroy pillows are making headlines.
9. Is a book on voyeurism a peeping tome?
10. Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
11. A successful diet is the triumph of mind over platter.
12. A gossip is someone with a great sense of rumor.
13. Without geometry, life is pointless.
14. A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
15. When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
16. A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two-tired.
17. What's the definition of a will? (Come on, it's a dead giveaway!)
18. A backwards poet writes inverse.
19. A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
20. If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed.
21. With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
22. When a clock is hungry, it goes back four seconds.
23. The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
24. A grenade in a French kitchen results in Linoleum Blownapart.
25. A lot of money is tainted. It t'aint yours and it t'aint mine.
26. A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
27. He had a photographic memory that was never developed.
28. Those who jump off a Paris bridge are in Seine.
29. An actress who saw her first strands of grey hair thought she'd dye.





## DATES OF INTEREST

- Sept 12** NORTHERN DISTRICTS LAPIDARY CLUB  
General Meeting Tuesday 8 pm, Clubrooms Beecroft all members welcome
- Sept 23** Nepean District Lapidary Club- Jewellery Gem & Craft Sale  
12 North Street, Penrith
- Sept 30 Oct 1 & 2** GEMKHANA 2006, Presented by the Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW inc.  
**Mudgee Showground**
- Oct 14& 15** Central Coast Lapidary Club – Gem & Mineral Festival  
Wyong Memorial Hall, Anzac Avenue Wyong
- Oct 26- 29** NORTHERN DISTRICTS LAPIDARY CLUB – Biennial Exhibition
- Nov 4-5** Canberra Lapidary Club- Spring Gemcraft & Mineral Show  
Parkes Room EPIC
- Nov 4-5** Illawarra Lapidary Club – Annual Exhibition Festival of Minerals & Gems  
Heininger House, Ribbonwood Ctr, Princes H'way Dapto
- Nov 10 -12** Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club, Gemstone & Mineral Show  
Clubrooms 73 Fullagar Road, Wentworthville
- Nov 18 – 19** Northern Districts Lapidary Club - Nundle Field Trip
- Dec 9** NORTHERN DISTRICTS LAPIDARY CLUB  
Christmas Party

**2007 – GEMBOREE – Queensland, Gatton – April 6-9**

**2008 – GEMBOREE – SA – Mar 21 -24**

**2009 – GEMBOREE – Vic, Horsham – April 10-13**

For information on Interstate and Overseas Gem Shows see back pages of the Gem & Lapidary News available in clubrooms on shelf near library.



### Northern Districts Lapidary Club Shirts

Good quality polo shirts are available from the shop for field trips and future GEMBOREE'S.

They are royal blue with the Club's badge embroidered above the pocket on the left hand side of the shirt.  
Cost is \$35.00. Sizes range from small to XXXL.

If your size is not available in the shop please complete the form below.

Please indicate the size and number you require.

Name:.....

Size:.....Number:.....

Return to Secretary NDLC – PO Box 59, Beecroft NSW 2119

**Lapis now available by  or  !!**

Members if you would prefer to receive your LAPIS by email rather than by snail mail please send you email address to John Andersen. John's email is [bonstyle@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bonstyle@bigpond.net.au).