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LAPIS

"SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE"

VOLUME FORTY ONE NUMBER THREE NOVEMBER 2006

CLUB NEWS

The next General meeting will be on Tuesday Evening 14 November 2006. The meeting will start at 8 pm. Following the November General meeting an exhibition post mortem will be held whilst details are fresh in our minds.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any of the myriad ways that made the Exhibition a success. The Hall decorations looked great and the quality of the items in the display cases was as good as I have ever seen. It was good to see another increase this year in the number of entries in our major Club competition and I would like to extend my congratulations to all those who were successful in the various sections (see attached results sheet). I would especially like to congratulate Jean Macleay as the winner of this year's Don Hudson Championship Shield. While the number of people through the door was down on previous Exhibitions the net profit result is approaching our 2004 result which is quite satisfactory. Congratulations to all! Final figures for the Exhibition will be available at the General Meeting.

Instead of having a guest speaker at our November General Meeting (Tuesday next week) we plan to have a general post mortem on the Exhibition while the details are still fresh in our minds. I would like to invite you all to come along and share your thoughts on what worked and what didn't so that we can continue to build and improve our future Exhibitions.

Brian Burns

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome our newest members –

- Laura Hazell – Milson's Point
- Joh Vos – Mona Vale
- Skye Taylor – Cherrybrook
- Alexander Frick – Hornsby
- Rhys Halvey – West Pennant Hills

We wish them many long hours of enjoyment cutting gemstones.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

A reminder that the Club Christmas party will be held on Saturday 9th December in the grounds outside the Clubrooms, starting about 4pm. As usual, the Club will provide the meat and members are to bring their own salad, nibblies, drink, etc. After the meal we will retire to the Clubrooms for the fun and mayhem of the Tombola so if you have any items that you would like to dispose of (sorry, I mean donate!) then please bring them along on the day.

The beginnings of two Christmas hampers are now in the Clubrooms. Please show your usual generosity in bringing along suitable items to fill the two baskets. The Club will provide a large ham for each basket and both hampers will be raffled at our Christmas party.

The Committee has also recommended, in line with our intention of formally recognising those members who reach major milestones with the Club, that the Christmas Party would be the most appropriate time to play 'catch-up' and collectively acknowledge all those members who have already achieved more than 20 years membership with the Club. So come along to the celebration and show our appreciation of their contribution to the Club. A list of the Club Members in this category will be published in the December Lapis.

CLUB WEEKEND TO NUNDLE
18TH AND 19TH NOVEMBER

Please add your name to the list in the cutting room if you can come or ring Bruce Macleay on 43530240.

To make a booking for a powered caravan site or on site cabin ring Lesley on 67693355 or mobile 0427764760.

We have made a tentative booking for dinner on the Saturday night at the Nundle Hotel. The kitchen manager at the hotel has promised a delicious dinner. A la carte or buffet will be available. You need to indicate on the list or by phone to Bruce if you are joining us for this dinner so we can let them know approximate numbers.

On Sunday we have been invited to the beautiful hill top garden of Beth Moore for a picnic lunch on the lawn. You will need to take a rug or chairs to sit on, a picnic lunch, and maybe a bottle of wine. Beth has an extensive and colourful garden and has a little nursery patch and is glad to sell her stock of plants. Sunday night we will have a BBQ at the caravan park.

Beth tells us that the new managers at the park have made huge improvements including refurbished bathrooms, a BBQ area and two new cabins with two more to be constructed. There are also on site vans available.

In town, there is a craft shop by the local ladies on Saturday morning, a new silver shop, as well as the woolen mill, and several shops selling old wares.

Golfers, bring your clubs for a game on Saturday morning.

Please try to come on this weekend it is a highlight of the club social calendar.



Marriage is a relationship in which one person is always right, and the other is a husband

I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day but I couldn't find any

AND THE WINNERS ARE.....

CONGRATILATIONS to the winners of the Clubs major trophies awarded as part of the Exhibition Competition.

The Don Hudson Championship Shield.

Winner - Jean Macleay

The Past Presidents Cabochon Trophy.

Winner – Tony Rigg

The Jewellery Trophy.

Winner – Jean Macleay

The Alec Campbell Faceting Trophy.

Winner – Brian Burns

The Hugh and Jess Joyce Carving Trophy.

Winner – Bill Ashman

The Mathew E Staley Junior Trophy

was not awarded this year as there were no qualifying entries.

A double sided sheet containing a full list of all exhibition sectional winners is included in this issue.



A woman came home, screeching her car into the driveway, and ran into the house. She slammed the door and shouted at the top of her lungs, "Honey, pack your bags. I won the lottery!"

The husband said, "Oh my God! What should I pack, beach stuff or mountain stuff?"

"Doesn't matter," she said. "Just get out."



Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent

What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fsh.

The Happy Foursome

The Try's and Weatherburn's roaming free somewhere up North (or West? or somewhere else??)

From Darwin.

Barbara & I left home late in the afternoon after seeing her Specialist on Tuesday 22 August, 2006. Our first night was spent at John's Place (Willow Tree) camped in amongst 15 to 20 large trucks, which was rather intimidating. Equally intimidating was the size of the servings we were given for the evening meal.

We then met up with John and Gina at Miles in Queensland arriving within seconds of one another. We celebrated Gina's Birthday before going to bed fairly early after walking the town.

From Miles to Tambo we saw road kill very fifty metres - more than we had seen anywhere else. From Tambo John & Gina went to Longreach and the Hall of Fame, while we continued on to Cloncurry. Noises from our front wheel sounded as though we had a bearing problem. However it proved to be even worse than that culminating in a couple of extra days stay in Mt Isa as we had new free wheeling hubs flown in from Melbourne. They had been incorrectly assembled when last serviced resulting in a few broken bits of metal. Time to change mechanics - after I have a few terse words!!!!

John & Gina caught up with us in Mt Isa and we headed out to Camooweal where we both picked up quite a bit of red mud from new road works, which will ultimately remove the dips from that section of road.

We refuelled at Barkely Homestead - the dearest petrol so far at \$1.80.09 - before heading north towards Cape Crawford and Daly Waters. Katherine Gorge was great both on the water and from the helicopter - lots & lots of photos. The doona also came of the bed at Katherine as night temperatures now meant only sheet was needed.

Kakadu National Park was our next stop with a few days each at Coorinda Lodge and Jabiru. The Yellow Waters and Guluyambi cruises were great as was the plunge pool at Maguk. Being the end of the season roads were pretty bad and some areas were very dry, with a lot of burning off in

preparation for the coming wet season. The cyclone "Monica" in April 2006 caused a lot of damage with a great number of trees blown over.

Days have been hot and relatively humid - the car air-conditioning getting a good work out. We are all well and enjoying the afternoon swims and taking heaps of photographs.

We have now arrived in Darwin where we will spend the next few days looking at all the sights.

Later From Broome.

A few more weeks; plenty of kilometres and many more photos and we are now in Broome where we expect to stay about a week.

Although it is the end of the season and temperatures are rising - a few days over 40° C - it has worked in our favour for other things. We have been able to choose shady sites in most caravan parks as there are a lot less travellers at this time.

Needless to say we "did the markets" in Darwin etc and then visited Litchfield National Park where we had several dips in various pools under waterfalls. A few mango smoothies later we arrived in Timber Creek in time to do the last cruise for the season on the Victoria River. We had purchased mangoes at the Parap Markets in Darwin but as they had not ripened we surrendered them at the quarantine station at the border on the way into Kununurra. Another evening cruise on Lake Argyle was very nice and a flight into the mine got Barbara a free diamond as a souvenir (less than 0.01 points by the look of it).

From Kununurra we also made trips out to Wyndham; Parry Lagoon; El Questro and various water holes (Zebedee thermal springs was my kind of temperature !!). We drove out to Bungle Bungles from Turkey Creek where we did a very good helicopter flight over them. It was our first clear day for some time so photos should be good. There has been quite a bit of smoke and heat haze for the last week or so.

From Turkey Creek we went to Halls Creek where they are still actively mining gold with some very nice nuggets for sale in the Information Centre. Fitzroy Crossing was our next stop where we had quite a bit of ash and smoke from local fires and a cruise up Geikie Gorge. (We are "cruising well")

with a total of seven boat trips so far) From there we over-nighted in Derby and came on to our present location at Cable Beach Caravan Park in Broome.

We are all well and getting plenty of sleep and even though it is full daylight at 5:00 am and the birds start their morning songs long before that, so we are generally awake early in the cool of the day and often having "Nanny Naps" of an afternoon to give us the strength to enjoy 'Happy Hour' etc "it is a hard life".

Petrol prices have gradually been coming down as we approached the coast with local prices at \$1.36.9. (Barclay Homestead has still been our dearest fuel by far!!)

Best wishes,

Tony & Barbara & John and Gina

P.S.

Sipping bubbly and eating chicken on Cable Beach while watching the sun set is highly recommended and we have managed to do it twice so far!!!

Spraining an ankle while getting out of a tour bus on the way to Cape Leveque and having the bus break down is another story and not recommended. Still all is well and after a few days on crutches I will be mobile again. The beauty of Cape Leveque will have to wait for another time.

GEMBOREE 2007

"The Gatton Gang" An early advice for your calendar!!!!

Be part of the NDLC Gatton Gang and join us for a Field Trip to include the GEMBOREE in April 2007, and a number of other areas for fossicking and a good time.

It is planed to visit Girraween and Queen Mary Falls National Parks before going to the GEMBOREE at Gatton. We will then look for Petrified Wood in the Miles/Chinchilla area: Roma cattle yards (Cattle sales?): Canarvon Gorge: Springsure for Labradorite and Opalised Wood: the Anakie fields for Sapphire: Cania Gorge and Bunya Mountain.

It is estimated that the total trip time will take between five to six weeks. A more detailed itinerary (from which copies can be made) will be placed on the notice board soon after Christmas.

This is an ideal chance to see the country: get to know members of your Club in different settings and have the opportunity to find your own piece of material to work on at a later date.

In the meantime I would like you to plan to be with us for part – if not all – of the trip.

Everyone is free to join or separate from the itinerary as their situation requires.

If you can join this trip it will give you an insight into another aspect of the Club's activities. It would also be great to have a good representative group at the GEMBOREE to ensure our presence in noticed – whether you have entered any of the competitions or not.

I look forward to having you join us and will place a list on the notice board for you to add your name so that we are all situated together, which ensures great Happy Hours and BBQ evenings.

Tony Try



"Doc, I can't stop singing 'The Green, Green Grass of Home.'"

"That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome"

"Is it common?"

"Well, It's Not Unusual"



One day, a man came home and was greeted by his wife dressed in a very sexy nightie. "Tie me up," she purred, "and you can do anything you want."

So he tied her up and went golfing.

DIRECTORY

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NORTHERN DISTRICTS LAPIDARY CLUB INC. holds the majority of its monthly meetings in the Beecroft Community Centre, Beecroft Road, Beecroft at 8pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month except January. The Entrance to the clubrooms is on the railway side of the building. ~

Membership Fees: effective from 01/07/2001

	Entrance	Annual Subs
Full Member aged 18 or more yrs	\$20	\$15
Junior member aged 10 to 17 yrs incl.	\$5	\$2.50
Junior Associate member aged less than 10 yrs	No charge	
Family Concession	\$30	As Above

In case of a person being admitted to membership on or after January 1st in any Club financial year, the subscription fee that year shall be half the amount.

THE CLUB FINANCIAL YEAR IS FROM JULY 1ST – JUNE 30TH

CURRENT CLASSES & ACTIVITIES HELD IN CLUB ROOMS

Monday	7.30pm CABOCHON CUTTING Instructors Joy Sippel / Tony Rigg 9980 6963 7.30pm SILVER JEWELLERY Instructor Johan ten Hoedt 9484 6521 7.30pm FREEFORM Instructor Bill Ashman 9484 0356
Tuesday	9.00am SILVER JEWELLERY workshop Contact June Staley 9869 0054
Wednesday	10.00am ALL DAY WORKSHOP Contact George Hunter 9871 2126 7.30pm SILVER JEWELLERY Instructor Brian Burns 9878 4073
Thursday	7.30pm CABOCHON CUTTING Instructor John Weatherburn 9871 3302 7.30pm FACETING CLASS Instructor Norm Fitzpatrick
Friday	CASUAL COMPETITION CUTTING No teacher – self help - enquiries please contact John Weatherburn – 9871 3302
Saturday	1.00pm JUNIOR CLASS Instructor Kevin Davey 9869 1950 1.00-3.00pm FREEFORM Instructor Bill Ashman 9484 0356

CLASS, CASUAL & WORKSHOPS FEES – EFFECTIVE FROM 10/10/05

First Class – per term (School Term)	\$25
Any Additional Class – per term (School Term)	\$20
Casual Use of Machinery – per attendance	\$4

Occasional Workshop Weekends: Subject, Date, and Cost and requirements will be printed in this newsletter as they occur.

There are waiting lists for some classes.

DISCLAIMER: Opinions expressed in LAPIS are those of the original Authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, Committee or Members of the Northern Districts Lapidary Club Inc. Persons acting on any opinions, advice or facts published in the Issue do so at their own risk.

From the Editor's Desk

Members are invited to send me contributions for LAPIS. I am interested in articles that would be enjoyed by one and all.

Ph. 4393 6168 or Mobile 0417 676 435

Email editor@ndlapidary.org.au

DATES OF INTEREST

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.