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LAPIS

"SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE"

VOLUME FORTY ONE NUMBER TWO OCTOBER 2006

The next General meeting will be on Tuesday Evening 10 October 2006 at 8 pm.

New Members

We would like to welcome our newest members –

- Sarah Eccles
- Mark Harris
- Ian McLean
- Liam Sprott

We wish them many long hours of enjoyment cutting gemstones.

Membership Renewals

If you have NOT RENEWED YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP then be advised that this will be the last copy of Lapis that you receive. Please return your renewal form and cheque to the Treasurer forthwith.

Exhibition Notes

SCONES:

Flour can be collected from the Kitchen for those who can help making scones for the Exhibition. The baked scones can be stored in the freezer in the kitchen.

FINAL WORKING BEE:

All hands are required for our final Working Bee on SUNDAY October 15 from 9.30 am. We need to finish off various jobs, clean the showcases and trestles, prepare some more decorations, small boxes, etc. and give the Clubrooms a good clean-up prior to the Exhibition

President's Report

Well, it's nice to be back on Committee again. I'd like to thank my fellow Committee members for also putting their hands up for another year.

I would especially like to thank Barbara Try for all the work that she, and several others, have put in over the last year, and especially in the last couple of months in the lead up to the AGM.

The Committee is still not quite complete – we need people for the roles of Publicity Officer (organizing speakers for our General Meetings etc) and Education Officer (being the link between our Teachers, classes and the Committee). Neither of these roles is difficult and can easily be done by 'first timers'. So, if you are a member – new or old - who has not previously thought it necessary, or desirable, to become more involved with the running of the Club, then perhaps now is your time to reconsider.

In our Classes we operate very successfully on the Club's Motto of "Share Your Knowledge" and it is this sharing that has enabled all of us to learn and improve our lapidary skills and knowledge. If the same sense of sharing was also applied to our involvement in the Club's other activities then perhaps we would have less problem in filling our Committee positions. Think about it!

On behalf of all Club members I would like to extend our sincere sympathy to Norm Fitzpatrick and his family on the recent passing of his wife, Denise, after a long illness.

Brian Burns

Exhibition Notes

EXHIBITION SHOWCASES:

Please contact Brian Burns (9878 4073) NOW if you want to use one of the Club showcases for your display. Also could teachers let me know if they are going to put together a Class display.

Likewise, if you are planning to use your own showcase then please let me know so that we can allocate the correct space, etc.

MEMBERS are urged to **WEAR THEIR BLUE CLUB SHIRT** when attending the Exhibition. It looks great and can help visitors who want to ask questions about the Club's activities. All Members, including stall holders, are asked to pay the normal admission fee – but only pay it once no matter how many times they actually attend the Exhibition over the three days. (New shirts are available in the Shop for \$38 ea – excellent quality and all sizes.)

THANK YOU:

Thanks for all those who have prepared entries for the Club's Exhibition Competition – we have again exceeded the number of entries at our last Exhibition and so we can look forward to another magnificent display in our main showcases. Fantastic work!!

JUDGING DAY – Sat 14 Oct:

We need some volunteers to act as pencilers for the official judges who are coming to the Clubrooms on Saturday 14 Oct to judge all our competition entries. No previous experience is required and it is a great way to learn some of the finer points that judges look for – it can really help you to improve your techniques. Lunch will be provided.

HELP STILL NEEDED:

We still need volunteers for:

Help in manning (or womaning??) the Raffle Table during the Exhibition (easy work, just sitting down and selling tickets); and for Looking after the Children's Corner – helping them to make rock critters etc (all materials supplied).

If you can help in any way then please put your name on the yellow sheet in the Clubrooms (or contact Brian on 9878 4073).

WINNING DISPLAY:

In order to show the world (or at least the visitors to our Exhibition) just what the Club has achieved over the years we want to fill the new display cabinet in the foyer with lapidary items THAT HAVE WON FIRST PRIZE at any previous competition (Club level, Gemkhana, Gemboree, etc). Please bring your items (discretely labeled or tagged for identification) along to the Club and talk to Brian or Tony Rigg and we will organize the display.

RAFFLE TICKETS:

Please remember to return your raffle ticket books **SOLD OR PARTLY SOLD** to the Club Rooms as soon as possible. As it makes it so much easier for the tickets to be folded in time and the money to be accounted for. If you really can't make it to the Club Rooms then bring them along and hand them in at the special table at the exhibition. The four prizes (see below) are on display in the new cabinet in the foyer.

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

SOMETIMES PLASTIC BAGS ARE GOOD?? :

For all those involved on our various Exhibition stalls:- A lot of the things that we will be selling at the Exhibition (eg plants, slabs, books, minerals, etc.) are bulky and so people generally appreciate or need something to carry their goodies away. Plastic shopping bags are still the most convenient way to meet this need. So the least we can do is to save up all the plastic bags from our weekly shopping excursions between now and the Exhibition and give them one more go around from our stalls.

Happy Golden Jubilee

Congratulations to Bert and Jean Deane who have just celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. What a fantastic achievement! – 50 years, that's about 2,600 weeks, or 18,250 breakfasts!!!! Sincerely - All the best to both of you from all your friends at the Club.

Cool Nundle

Please come and join us on our Nundle Field Trip (on the weekend of Nov 18-19) as we take a well earned break and wind down and chill out after all the hard work of the Exhibition. It is a quiet relaxing spot where you can go for a bit of fossicking or just laze around in a fabulous scenic location. Put your name on the list on the notice board.

Recognition

The Committee is investigating options as to how we might have some way to acknowledge significant 'milestones' of the members – for example 20 or 30 yrs of membership, major wedding anniversaries, Big birthdays, etc. (note, Big birthdays will probably be only for the men since the ladies never admit to being over 40!!!!). We will keep you informed (if you have any great suggestions then let one of the Committee know about it.)

The **NEW JUDGING MANUALS** have finally arrived and are available from the Clubroom shop for \$5.

SALE - 2nd Hand Machinery

The club has some second hand machinery that will be offered to members to purchase. Our Cutting Room Supervisor George Hunter is preparing a list of the machines available.

Humour

Tom had two horses he could never tell apart. It caused him lots of trouble until one day he discovered that the black one was two hands taller than the white one.

THE VISITOR

*This meeting was her very first
And she began to fear the worst.
Such consternation.*

*For judging by the things she'd heard,
She'd never understand a work
Of conversation.*

*"Just mingle with the members, dear,
And try to take in what you hear."
Assimilation.*

*Now first she heard about a chap
And what he'd polished on his lap.
His corporation?*

*And then she heard a story good
About a "lovely piece of wood".
Afforestation?*

*"I pick up all the quartz I can."
She thought he was a drinking man,
In moderation.*

*Then someone said, "Just wait a bit
I have to go and get some grit".
Determination?*

*So she was glad when supper came,
A cup of tea still tastes the same
Without translation.*

Claire Schofield.

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

Funny Bumper Bar Stickers



I don't suffer from insanity. I enjoy every minute of it.

I started out with nothing & still have most of it left

I intend to live forever - so far, so good.

There are 3 kinds of people in the world: those who can count & those who can't

Update on Personal Accident Insurance

The Gem & Lapidary Council have released, in their September Journal, the details of the Personal Accident Insurance they have arranged for all member clubs, commencing 1 September 2006.

Premiums of \$2.50 per member **are paid by the club** each year. This insurance covers you on all Club activities, functions at your Club, travelling to and from your Club, on Club outings and while attending to Club business.

The insurance is arranged by the Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW's insurance broker, Webster Hyde Heath.

Here is an extract of the article from G&L News September edition page 9.

Personal Accident cover for 24 hours per day and 365 days per year for all members, registered with the Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW whilst on any activity arranged and/or sanctioned by either the G&L Council and/or their Club, including traveling to and from such events.

Death Benefit: \$40,000
Accident Weekly Benefits: \$400 per week, maximum 104 weeks
Waiting period: 7 days
Aggregate Limit of Liability: \$2,000,000 for any one claim

This Policy provides a \$10,000 Death Benefit for members aged 12-16 years

The age limit is 12 to 80 years however the policy provides a funeral expense benefit of \$5,000 for members aged under 12 years.

The Policy also provides a Care Benefit of \$200 per week for those members who either do not receive an income, or whose income (Pension) is unaffected by any disablement.

HUMOUR

A woman reported the disappearance of her husband to the police. "Is there any message you wish to give your husband if we find him?" asked the officer in charge of the investigation.

"Yes," she replied, "tell him Mother didn't come after all."

THE NEW EURO LANGUAGE

The European Union commissioners have announced that agreement has been reached to adopt English as the preferred language for European communications, rather than German, which was the other possibility. As part of the negotiations, Her Majesty's Government conceded that English spelling had some room for improvement and has accepted a five-year phased plan for what will be known as EuroEnglish (Euro for short).

In the first year, "s" will be used instead of the soft "c". Certainly, sivil servants will resieve this news with joy. Also, the hard "c" will be replaced with "k". Not only will this klear up konfusion, but typewriters kan have one less letter.

There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year, when the troublesome "ph" will be replaced by "f". This will make words like "fotograf" 20 per sent shorter.

In the third year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling kan be ekspekted to reach the stage where more komplikated changes are possible.

Governments will enkorage the removal of double letters, which have always ben a deterrent to akurate speling. Also, al wil agre that the horrible mes of silent "e"s in the languag is disgrasful, and they would go.

By the fourth year, peopl wil be reseptiv to steps such as replasing "th" by z" and "w" by v

During ze fifz year, ze unesesary "o" kan be dropd from vords kontaining "ou", and similar changes vud of kors be aplid to ozer kombinations of letters.

After zis fifz yer, ve vil hav a reli sensibl riten styl. Zer vil be no mor trubls or difikultis and evrivun vil find it ezi tu understand ech ozer.

Ze drem vil finali kum tru!



DIRECTORY

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|------------------|
| President | Brian Burns | 9878 4073 |
| Vice President | David Broome | 9484 7259 |
| Secretary | Alex Maitland | 9876 6362 |
| | secretary@ndlapidary.org.au | |
| Treasurer | Gina Potter | 0412 999 411 |
| Minutes Secretary | Lou Sun | 9449 4434 |
| Cutting Room Supervisor | | |
| | George Hunter | 9871 2126 |
| Field Trips Officer | Tony Try | 4393 6168 |
| Librarian | Francis Sun | 9449 4434 |
| Social Secretary | Marian Bruce | 9402 7078 |
| Publicity Officer | | |
| Education Officer | | |
| Gem Council Delegate | Norm Savage | 9484 7075 |
| Editor of Lapis | Barbara Try | 4393 6168 |
| Committee Member | Pamela Retamal | 9817 1210 |
| | | |
| Club Telephone Number | | 9484 0014 |
| Public Officer | Brian Burns | 9878 4073 |

Postal Address Secretary
Northern Districts Lapidary Club
PO Box 59
Beecroft NSW 2119

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 |

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

- Oct 10** NORTHERN DISTRICTS LAPIDARY CLUB General Meeting 8 PM
- Oct 14& 15** Central Coast Lapidary Club – Gem & Mineral Festival
Wyong Memorial Hall, Anzac Avenue Wyong
- Oct 31** NORTHERN DISTRICTS LAPIDARY CLUB Committee Meeting 7.30 PM
- Oct 26- 29** NORTHERN DISTRICTS LAPIDARY CLUB – Biennial Exhibition
- Nov 10 -12** Parramatta-Holroyd Lapidary Club, Gemstone & Mineral Show
Clubrooms 73 Fullagar Road, Wentworthville
- Nov 14** NORTHERN DISTRICTS LAPIDARY CLUB General Meeting 8 PM
- Nov 18 – 19** Northern Districts Lapidary Club - Nundle Field Trip
- Nov 28** NORTHERN DISTRICTS LAPIDARY CLUB Committee Meeting 7.30 PM
- 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.