



# December Newsletter 2018

## Diamond Valley Gem Club

### clubrooms

Grace Park Cottage, (Corner of Henry and Duncan Avenue,  
Greensborough, Victoria, 3088  
P.O Box 335,  
Greensborough, Victoria, 3088.  
Phone: 0413 435 899 (Keith Billing)  
Website: [www.diamondvalleygemclub.com.au](http://www.diamondvalleygemclub.com.au)  
E-mail: [dvgcnewsletter@Gmail.com](mailto:dvgcnewsletter@Gmail.com)

The Club fosters the interests of all people who are interested in the collecting, cutting and polishing gemstones, lapidary work, in addition with all associated arts, crafts and activities.

### CLUB TIMES.

Monday: 7.30 – 9.30 pm  
Tuesday: 10.30 – 3.00 pm  
Tuesday: 7.30 – 9.30 pm  
Thursday: 7.30 – 10.00 pm  
Saturday: 1.30 – 4.30 pm



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## Monthly Notices

Monthly Meeting . 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 Minutes and Correspondences are on the Club Room Notice Board

### Office Bearer

President: Keith Billing 0413 435 899.  
Maureen Boyle 04 12303 816

Treasurer: Keith Kerr 0409 504 021

Secretary: Leigh Carbines 9846 2335.

Minutes Secretary Robert Cooper

### Duty Officers

Monday: John Milner.

Tuesday : Neil Crammer.

Tuesday Evening: John Milner.

Thursday: Keith Billing/John Neville/John Milner.

Saturday: Neil Crammer.

### Committee Members

Gary Benson (9467 1174), Anne Brewster, Neil Crammer (0419 021 221), Claire Gleeson (0409 511 751), Mike Griffin,, Dawn Lee (9434 1512) , John Milner(9439 5820,) Jaci Anderson

### Newsletter

Douglas Ramsay  
(0411 105 031) [douglas.ramsay1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:douglas.ramsay1@optusnet.com.au)



## Membership Renewals 2018-19

Becoming a member is a great way to get involved in the club. Members between the age of 16 and 90 are included in our Public Liability Insurance and Personal Accident Insurance.

**Joining Fee: \$10.00 Annual Subscriptions: First Adult: \$30.00 Additional Adults: \$20.00 Under 15: \$15.00 Life Members: nil**

**Note, The club will be closed from Thursday 20th December, re-opening Thursday 3rd January 2019**

Merry Christmas - Drive Safe



## 2018 Presidents Report Keith Billing

2018 has been another successful year for our Club. We continued to get new members and have maintained strong and active membership now close to 100 and more coming most months.

Our 2018 show was the most successful in recent years in both monetary terms and in putting our name out there to attract new members, all of our traders have indicated that they want to continue trading at our show in the future.

In November 2018 we received a grant of just over \$5400 from the Banyule Council to re-organize the plumbing in the Cab room which will enable us to regulate the temperature of the water at all times. This has been a while coming, however it will be in place prior to next year's cold weather and water. We also continued to keep our equipment in top condition this year particularly in the faceting room and are prepared to replace anything that needs it.

During 2018 we made strong representations to our Landlord, the Banyule Council in order to obtain bigger club rooms and parking. To date this hasn't been successful however it's ongoing, we are encouraged by the council, and are hopeful that in 2019 we will be successful.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of our members for their contributions throughout the year, and in particular I thank,

1. Dawn and the show committee for organizing and conducting our show so well, and all members who assisted with our show including those who pro-

## Presidents Report Continued

vided raffle prizes.

2. All of our duty officers for their consistent commitment to keeping the club room open.

3. All members who have assisted with maintenance of the equipment and the club rooms.

4. All of our members who have conducted courses and assisted in passing on our craft to new members.

5. Our executive and this committee for their commitment to the betterment of our club. A special thanks to Keith for his meticulous abilities in doing the Treasurers job and Leigh for being Secretary and his efforts with the Council.

6. The News Letter editor and his assistant for keeping all members informed as to our activities and note that from now on Douglas Ramsey will take over as Editor. Thank you Douglas

7. Robin Jongebloed for taking over as our Field Trip coordinator.

In 2018 our club started on its second 50 years in existence having celebrated our first 50 years last year. I have had the privilege of being your President for 20 of those years and where as I will continue in various roles in the club in the future, my personal situation with the health of my wife dictates that this year will be my last in the president's role. I have complete confidence in the current committee and executive, and I'm sure that there is adequate talent and commitment there to take the club forward in the future. Finally I thank all of you for your confidence and for supporting me over the years that I have been your president.

Finally on behalf of all members, the committee, the clubs executive, and myself, I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous 2019.

Keith Billing

President. Diamond Valley Gem Club Inc.

## Field Trip Report—Robin Jongebloed

Hi All,

I am not aware of any up and coming field trips for the club in December but I intend to organize at least two trips next year.

The Eldorado trip went well so I will try and do a tag along before winter. I received a field trip suggestion namely a trip to the Mount Shadwell quarry at Mortlake.

This is a working quarry and olivine (peridot) volcanic bombs may be found.

I have contacted the locals and this can be arranged.

So Season Greetings to all and hope to see you at the next field trip.

Robin Jongebloed (0418 806 410)

### Editors comment

Folk

Hi, it's Douglas Ramsay Here. I have taken over the editing of the newsletter. I would like to interview members about their experiences, and interests, to add some spark to the newsletter, If anyone wishes to volunteer, please contact me on

## Findings & Windings:

Whether cutting & polishing a cabochon or faceting a stone, colour & light is what lapidarists work with. Mother Earth hides a rainbow beneath her skirts which humanity has been mining for millenia. From cave paintings to jewellery to an artists brush, nature has been giving up the full frequency spectrum for us to decorate & enhance our selves and surroundings.

Each month will explore, albeit briefly, how the earth's minerals have influenced the arts, to inspire our own lapidary creations.

### RED:

- **Red ochre** (clay) was first used in prehistoric cave art. Neanderthals used the iron-rich soil as far back as 250,000 years ago. Cave art was a means of communicating stories & cultures that can be found all across the world. Much more than graffiti, it depicted myths & rites of passage of ancient peoples.
- **Carmine** (a white cochineal insect) was a popular pigment during the 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. It came from a prickly-pear cacti plant in Mexico. Once crushed, it produced a potent red dye & turned into paint for the European Masters to use. Carmine became the third greatest import, after gold & silver, out of the New World. Its non-toxic properties are still used as pigment for lipstick & blush!
- **Cinnabar** (natural mercuric sulfide) is extremely toxic. In ancient Egypt & Rome slaves were used to mine it, & meant certain death. This compound was used as frescos for homes, & has been found on walls from Pompei. From the 12<sup>th</sup> century China also used it in the carved lacquer arts.
- **Minium** is highly poisonous. Despite this, it was used to embellish medieval manuscripts. It was also used by popular Mughal artists from India & Persia of the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Post-impressionist painter, Van Gogh, used it in his works – which probably didn't help his delicate mental & physical condition.
- **Vermilion** was originally invented in China. It became a ubiquitous pigment from the 16<sup>th</sup> century art throughout Europe.
- **Cadmium Red** is an element that was only discovered by a German chemist in 1817. The red colour was only introduced in 1910, & has since been used in many 20<sup>th</sup> century artworks.

*Red is:* The first colour humans recognise after black and white.

The first colour to return after losing one's sight.

Associated with; energy, danger, war, passion, love, power.

Enhances human metabolism, increases respiration rate and blood pressure.

Brings text and images to foreground (think about the Buy It Now button).

*Quotes & Colloquialisms:*

"Put on your red shoes and dance the blues" (David Bowie)

"The man who invented the red carpet needed his head examined" (Prince Philip)



"Nothing attracts attention like a red dress" (Laura Bush)

A red rag to a bull      Be on red alert      A red-letter day



*Rough Garnet*



*Garnet Ring*



*Mookaite Jasper*



*Moussaieff Diamond*



*Red Peitersite*



*Ruby Pendant*



*Rhodochrosite*



*Section of rock wall painting, ca. 8000-2000 B.C.  
ArtHistory 101*

*Section of rock wall painting ca.  
5000-2000BC*



*Attributed to William Scotts  
Elizabeth I when a princess*

## Christmas Party 2018

The Christmas party has come and gone. We caught up with some old friends, and made some new ones. The barbeque was successful, though there was a bit of effort to pull it out of the shed, and ensure there was a bottle of gas available to use. There was plenty of salad, and lots of great goodies all round.

The secret Santa went off well, and all had a great time. There was som hilarious gifts

Thanks, Dawn , for the pavlova, and thanks ,Keith ,for the cherries.

All was delicious, and fun all round.



## Diary

Month	Date	event
January	25	<b>Gemkhana entry forms</b> , fees and pre judged entries with return postage, must be received by this date.
	25	<b>GEMBOREE entry forms</b> , fees and entries with return postage, must be received by this date.
February	1-4	<b>Victorian Facetors Group Traralgon Workshop</b> . Contact Graham Young 9363 1803. Mob: 0487283598.
	9	<b>V.G.C.A. Meeting</b> , Nunawading Clubrooms, 2 Silver Grove, Nunawading. Melway Ref 48 E10. 4pm.
	24	<b>Alexandra Eildon and District Lapidary Club Gem fair and sales</b> . Stall holders welcome . Thornton football ground, Taggerty Rd, Thornton. Bookings Ross. 0419 362 514
March	9-10	<b>Combined Victorian Gem Clubs show (Gemkhana)</b> . Hosted by the Warragul & District Lapidary Club, Logan Park, Howitt Street, Warragul. 9.30am-4.30pm. Contact Carol Kirby 0411055297.
April	19-22	<b>GEMBOREE</b> , 55th National Gem, Fossil, Mineral and Jewellery Show. Rockhampton Showgrounds Queensland.
May	17-20	<b>Victorian Facetors Group Shepparton Workshop</b> . Contact Graham Young 9363 1803. Mob: 0487283598
August	17-20	<b>White Cliffs Gem Fest &amp; Car Boot Sale</b> . Contact Jane Stevenson 0429601870.
	31-1st Sept	<b>Frankston and Peninsula Lapidary Club Exhibition</b> . Peninsula Community Theatre, corner Nepean Highway and Wilsons Rd, Mornington.
September	21-22	<b>Waverley Gemcraft and Mineral Exhibition</b> , Brandon Park Community centre, 649 Ferntree Gully road, Glen Waverley. Contact - Peter - 9570 5401, Gwen - 0407512883
October	11-13	<b>New Zealand National Show</b> , Hosted by the Otago Rock & Mineral Club
	19-20	<b>Nunawading &amp; District Lapidary Club Annual Exhibition</b> . Dorset Primary School, Rescorla Ave, Croydon. Melway Ref 50 K 7. Contact Phil Toland 9761 3169 or ndlccgem@hotmail.com



**Diamond Valley Gem Club Inc. Registered No. A0007700S**

**ABN 49 690 669 155**

**Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

**Meeting opened:** - 7:15 pm

**Present:** - Keith Billing, Gary Benson, Leigh Carbines, Robert Cooper, Neil Crammer, Keith Kerr, John Milner, Roger Williams

**Apologies:** - Jaci Anderson, Amrei Bertelsmann, Maureen Boyle, Anne Brewster, Dawn Lee

**Visitors:** - Brian Hay, Adele Satchiw, Brenda Waters

**Minutes from the previous meeting:** Read by Keith Billing

- Minutes accepted.

Moved – Roger Williams, seconded – Neil Crammer Carried

**Matters arising from the previous minutes:**

- Blind purchased for the kitchen window – to be installed

- Draft a Membership Card - ongoing

- Information of rotation of roles (president, etc.) – ongoing

- Investigation of miners' rights – ongoing

- List of club positions and the duties – ongoing

- Relocation of notice board etc. - ongoing

Moved – Neil Crammer, seconded – Robert Cooper - Carried

**Treasurer's report:** - Read by Keith Kerr

Total funds \$41,719.33 as at 30/11/2018

Moved - Keith Kerr, seconded - Leigh Carbines - Carried

Accounts to be paid – Nil

**Correspondence:** – Read by Leigh Carbines, see report

Moved – Leigh Carbines, seconded – Neil Crammer - Carried

**General Business:**

Duty Officers: -

Douglas Ramsay was confirmed as a duty officer

Monday 7:30 pm 9:30 pm John Milner

Tuesday 10:30 am – 3:00 pm Neil Crammer 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm Robert Cooper

Thursday 7:30 pm – 10:00 pm Keith Billing

Saturday 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm Douglas Ramsay/Neil Crammer

Other General Business: -

- Club received a grant of \$5,430.00 from the Banyule City Council to provide hot water to the cabochon room.

- Sub-committee comprising Gary Benson, Leigh Carbines and Keith Billing formed to determine best way to spend HWS grant.

- Possibility of a hall being available in Briar Hill to be investigated by Leigh Carbines

- Jaci Anderson to be requested to correct club rooms opening hours shown on the website and newsletter available for download from the website

- Douglas Ramsay will publish the newsletter from now on. Moved – Neil Crammer – Seconded – Robert Cooper - Carried

- Club to purchase four (4) sets of ear muffs for the cabochon room up to the value of \$40 each

- Club rooms will be close for the Xmas/New Year period from Thursday 20th December until Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

All other general business Moved- Robert Cooper, seconded – Leigh Carbines - Carried

Meeting closed: 9:05 pm

Signed Robert Cooper (Minute Secretary)

Keith Billing (President)