



GEMCLUB OCTOBER 2018

NEWSLETTER

Clubrooms: Grace Park Cottage (Corner of Henry and Duncan Avenue Greensborough). Postal Address: P.O. Box 3088.

Phone: 0413 435 899 (Keith Billing).

www.diamondvalleygemclub.com.au

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: 7.00 – 9.00 pm
Tuesday: 10.30 – 3.00 pm
Tuesday: 7.00 – 9.00 pm
Thursday: 7.30 – 10.00 pm
Saturday: 1.30 – 4.30 pm



Diamond Valley Gem Club Inc.

MONTHLY NOTICES

Monthly Meeting 2nd October 2018 Minutes and Correspondences are on the Club Room Notice Board

The Meeting was opened at 7.15pm and closed at 8.25pm

Office Bearers

President:	Keith Billing	0413 435 899.
Vice President:	Maureen Boyle	0412 303 816.
Treasurer	Keith Kerr	0409 504 021
Secretary:	Leigh Carbines	9846 2335
Minutes Secretary:	Robert Cooper	

Duty Officers

Monday:	John Milner.
Tuesday Day:	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), Clair Gleeson (0409 511 751), Mike Griffin, Dawn Lee (9434 1512), John Milner (9435 5710) and Jaci Anderson

Newsletter Editors

Neil Crammer and Rahn Krammaer
Email: dvgnewsletter@gmail.com (New Email Address)
(only for issues relating to the newsletter)

Business Monthly Meetings

Notice Board

It was decided that for any general business matters that members would like to discuss at the Monthly Meeting should be placed on the Notice Board list for that month. The Committee would then know of additional items of general business to be considered for the meeting.

This allows the Minutes Secretary to keep track of these matters.

Current and New Members can also attend the meeting to join in any discussion that they are interested in. If a member wishes to raise an item at the meeting but cannot attend the meeting, they are welcome to give the information to a committee member to raise for them or the item can be placed on the Notice Board.

Committee Meeting

- **Committee meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each Month (except January) at 7:15 pm**

Points of Interest

Inward Correspondence and Minutes

Pointer

- **October Pointer 2018 Club copy is available at the Club Rooms**

From Other Clubs

- The Gemini
- Gemform
- The Mordi-Agate
- Frank Stone Chaser
- Rockfella
- Gem Gossip

Other Inward Correspondence

Nil

Items of Interest

- The Museum Tour has been delayed
- Information of rotation of Executive positions is to be considered and will be explained in a future newsletter
- A discussion on holding regular lapidary night will be reviewed at our next committee meeting
- An Information Table is to be set up at the Watsonia Library in October.
- A letter is to be sent to the Victorian Assessment Council regarding the proposed reduction in forest and recreational areas for Fossicking.

Detailed Copies of the Minutes and Correspondence has been posted on the Notice Boards at the Club Rooms. Please Read. If you want any further information on any items listed in the minutes speak to a committee member for further clarification

CLUB MEMBERS CORNER

Dear Member

- **Members Please Note No Workshops are available or Courses to be undertaken on the club premises on Monthly Committee Meeting Nights. First Tuesday of each month**

Membership Renewals: 2018-2019

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**

Important Notice

Duty Officers please confirm that all members who are operating club equipment are financial.

Please note

Workshop Fees have been increased from \$3.00 to \$4.00 per session commencing from 30th March 2018

Newsletter Notice

If all members with an email address could give it to **Neil Crammer** or send an email to **dvgcnewsletter@gmail.com** (with your full name), so that we can send the newsletter to you. If you change your email address, please advise us in order to still receive the Club Newsletters and emails.

Current Newsletters will also be available to pick up from the clubrooms.

Field Trips DVGC 2018

Field Trips:

If a club member has a suggestion about what may be able to be organized for future field trips please contact me on the following mobile phone number. Alternatively, you can give a suggestion via a notice on the notice board I will be putting up leaving your phone number so I can contact you.

I will put on the notice board any field trip that may be coming up for anyone interested to put their name telephone number on for that particular field trip. I will contact those people who are interested.

DVGC Field Trip Officer - Robin Jongebloed – 0418806410

Field trip November Lake Cooper Quarry Report

Hi all,

As of writing the trip to Lake Cooper on the 14th of October is not happening.

November weekend of the 10th there is a V.G.C.A meeting to be held at Shepparton on the Saturday and a trip to Lake Cooper Quarry on the Sunday.

During the weekend a rock auction will be held as well as a visit to the Rockery at Longwood.

This is courtesy of the G.V. Gem, Mineral and Craft Group

All are welcome contact me or the G.V. Gem, Mineral and Craft Group for more information.

Robin Jongebloed

Miners Rights

All adult members will require a Miners Right that can be purchased on the Earth Resources web site children under 18 do not need a Miners Right if supervised by an adult with one.

The Miners Right is for 10 years so this allows fossicking on public or crown land (confirm before fossicking)

Visit www.earthresources.vic.gov.au and look up on the right hand side of the website to take you to the Miners Right page.

Read all the info to ensure you are aware of where you are allowed to fossick etc.

Visit the parks website for the Chiltern –Mount Pilot Park and take note of where you are allowed to prospect on their map overlay.

I believe the Eldorado Historic area is out of bounds.

Important: Where ever you fossick fill in all your holes, take all your rubbish with you and leave the area as you found it.

Brief Field Trip Report carried out at Eldorado

Hi all,

Thanks to all those that attended the Field trip to Eldorado.

Weather was perfect for fossicking all weekend.

Although crystals were hard to come by some of the smoky quartz found was of good quality.

Marion's water worn crystal looked to be the pick for polishing as its shape was unique and clarity was quite good.

Margaret and I were also able to pick up some water worn smoky quartz crystals, Amzar's daughter picked up a crystal with the classical crystal shape.

When panning we kept finding very small but beautiful red colored stones and after some overnight research by Margaret it was confirmed they were ruby colored Zircon's.

All were able to find some good gold color's and Keith came across a patch of fines with Margaret able to find a picker nugget.

Marion and myself on discussion thought what we could do to lighten Keith's load of gold either swapping sucker bottles or settling it the Kelly country way after Keith had finished getting all the gold.

Amzar and his children were able to learn some panning techniques and seemed to be having fun collecting the gold, zircons and crystals.

Brenda and I assisted each other on day one with a water worn crystal or agate and other quartz found.

Robin Jongebloed

Club Members Thank you

Thank you to the Members who have carried out activities for the benefit of our Club members during the month.

- *Our Volunteer repair people and other support members keep the club in a safe and clean condition for your personal safety and a good environment to work in. If you can assist and help the club, please contact the Committee.*
- *Members Sale of Materials and Machinery*

Check the Notice Board for any items of Machinery, which are for sale. Please contact number listed.

- *A big Thank you to club members who are contributing to the Monthly Newsletter. Your efforts are really appreciated.*

Jaci, Robin and John

Jaci's Findings

Jaci October 2018

The Lighter Side of Rocks

Q: Did you hear the one about the geologist?

A: He took his wife for granite, so she left him.

Q: What did the boy volcano say to the girl volcano?

A: I lava you!

Q: Why should you never expect perfection from geologists?

A: Because they all have their faults.

Q: What do you call a rock that never goes to school?

A: A skipping stone.

Q: Why did the tectonic plates break up?

A: It wasn't her fault, but there was just too much friction between them.

Q: What do you do with dead geologists?

A: You barium.

Q: Why was the sedimentary rock cheap?

A: Because it was on shale.

Q: Did you hear about the geologist who was reading a book about Helium?

A: *He just couldn't put it down.*

Q: What did the motivational speaker say?

A: *Don't take life for granite.*

Q: What do you call an Irish gem that's a fake?

A: *A sham rock.*

Q: What happens when you keep reading geology jokes in your free time?

A: *You know that you have really hit rock bottom.*

Q: If H₂O is the formula for water, what is the formula for ice?

A: *H₂O cubed.*

Watson: Sherlock, what type of rock is the amazing specimen?

Holmes: *It's sedimentary, my dear Watson.*

Why can't minerals ever lie?

A: *They're always in their pure form.*

WORKSHOPS

Cabochon

courses are conducted by Keith Billing for New Members to the club. New members should contact Keith Billing as to when the courses are available.

Faceting

The faceting room is overseen by John Milner. New faceting workshops will be help for members wishing to learn faceting. Contact John Milner for more information.

Last Wax Casting

Leigh Carbines teaches a lost wax course. Put your name on the list on the Notice Board so that Leigh can contact you with the relavent information.

Wire Wrapping

Claire Gleeson teaches a wire wrapping course. Please check at the club for an update on this course. Clair is currently unavailable.

Silversmith/Jewelry

For information contact Mike Griffin or Keith Billing.

Course Fee: all courses cost \$35.00 plus materials and usually run for five to six weeks.

Duty Officers

Duty Officers are always required. If you believe that you would like to be a Duty Officer inform **Keith Billing**.

- Duty Officers are appointed by the DVGC Committee of Management.
- Are in charge of working sessions and they can direct members on behaviour in the clubrooms.
- Can allocate (or no access) to machinery and/or facilities in the Club Rooms.
- Are responsible for the opening and locking of the premises for each sessions.
- See that the premises are clean and tidy, along with water, lights, power and heating are switched off.
- Are responsible for collecting the daily Workshop money.
- Can accept Membership Subscriptions ,issuing a receipt and ensure that the member fills out a **Membership Application Renewal Form** and making sure each person, including visitors are entered on the days worksheet.

Duty Officers are unpaid volunteers and deserve cooperation of help from members

Workshop Notes

Diamond Valley Gem Club .inc Web Page

Report from Jeff Hill

- We are Still looking for photos of our members work to put on the Web Page to show the world what we can do. Please send Photos of your work as an attachment to an email to Jeff.
- We have sent out the June/July VGCA Pointer on line in conjunction with VGCA. This will allow more of our members to be able to read this Monthly Magazine in detail. You will receive a monthly Email with an attachment. Open up the attachment and you will be able to view the monthly Pointer Issue. NMC Download the attachment to your computer. Save or Print out a copy
- Members, Check out our Public facebook.: <https://www.facebook.com/DVGCinc/>
- Our Private group page is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/diamondvalleygemclub/>
- Please join this group if you are not already using it.

jeff.hill@torsolutions.com.au

Mobile No .0407 548 692

John Milner Lapidary Corner

FACETING THROUGH THE AGES

The scintillating faceted stones of today have little resemblance to the crudely ground stones of 3,500 B.C. when, as records show, cut stones were first worn for ornamentation. Primitive cutting of diamonds was known in 1,000 A.D., but it was not until the 15th century that diamond dust was used for cutting. The “Brilliant” cut came some 200 years later and as my mentor would say “It still takes some beating!!”

Faceting in the early days was the privilege of the rich, for obvious reasons, (the poor were very, very poor) but, remarkably, using the hand held method they did get shape and polish without faceting machines, diamond laps, polishing materials and other exotics, in fact, some “native cut” stones are still done by this method.

Identification of stones was by colour in those times, purple sapphire was called “Oriental Amethyst” and red spinel was “Ruby”. Some of these misnomers persist even today, citrine being called “Oriental Topaz”. Fortunately the large number of gemologist about today are pushing these shady practices into oblivion. There is one beautiful story which was told to me by an ardent gemologist, who with a group toured the Asian countries (complete with testing equipment) and when shown some faceting rough identified it as synthetic (it had been broken up and tumbled to look like genuine rough). The natives were incensed to say the least, it must have been very interesting when the shady dealer made his next trip.

Amateur faceting it seems is relatively recent in origin, dating from the 1930’s onwards, the main concentration being in the U.S., Canada and Australia. The past 25 years has seen a huge rise in numbers of faceters. The standard of cutting is very high and, excepting some of the world’s foremost diamond cutters, hobby faceters are cutting the finest stones in the world, as evidenced by the magnificent museum collections.

The scientific engineering of today enables us to have, at quite reasonable prices, machinery so accurate that cutting top quality stones can be done with reasonable ease, just imagine the cost of an Ultra Tech or an Imahashi, say 50 to 100 years ago. Still, with all this technology, faceters are modifying and improving these machines to ensure even greater accuracy. The reasons seems to be that faceters are perfectionists, they don’t start that way, but continued faceting and a certain amount of idealism seems to point one in that direction.

Faceting has many appealing features, particularly for the inquiring mind, there are so many variables, i.e. MATERIALS soft and hard each requiring their own method of polishing and varieties of laps, wax, wood, tin, diamond and so on. SHAPES and cuts there are so many, so much adventurous research; the latest, to my mind, we have to thank a South African diamond cutter for the “Barion cut” where the brilliance fountains from the culet, fascinating, and too, of the five sided diamond cut which opens the brilliant to a new brilliance. And the last but certainly not least, ANGLES. There is so much to do in this area, so much

research, and new things keep popping up, i.e. John Howell (U.S.A.) says on the almandine garnet (standard angle pavilion 42° plus or minus 20%) that, factually it is possible to cut the pavilion at 37° and the crown at less than 30° and still get a good result, so, this being true for garnet, how many other pieces of material apparently too thin to cut a reasonable stone can be salvaged. The diamond too, is under fire.

Judging of stones is rapidly becoming more difficult as the standard improves, more and more stones are marking in the 90 upwards bracket and it seems that some instrumentation will be needed to compete with the intense instrumentation in the hobby. Perhaps the future will see computer controlled machines with laser angle-measuring devices cutting a stone that will be judged by a similar machine that will give a mark in 30 seconds, issuing the entrant with a result card, with recommendations for adjustment to achieve the standard.

Faceters are very fortunate really, because there are not more "trade secrets" because people are only too happy and willing to discuss and share their knowledge even to publishing their diagrams, theories and comments, and so we grow more scientifically curious, more of a perfectionist striving towards the ultimate goal "The perfect stone".

Will the perfect stone ever be cut and by what standard. Today's or Tomorrow's? Keep on seeking.

Article by Bill Bowker

Reproduced from "The Australian Lapidary Magazine" Vol.15 No 3, 1978

John's comment: - an interesting note regarding faceting angles. Generally gemstones are faceted with pavilion main angles calculated to produce greatest return of light to the eye (total internal reflection). John Howell's findings tend to question this. However, cutting main pavilion facets at smaller angles for Almandine Garnet, a strongly coloured stone, does have the advantage of creating greater transparency than seen when using traditional angles. This too is supported in history as the Almandine Garnet was generally cut en cabochon with a hollowed-out back (a carbuncle) thus creating a more transparent gemstone.

Happy Faceting!

John

<u>October</u>	12-14	2018 New Zealand National Show. Tauranga, New Zealand.
	14	Possible Field trip to Lake Cooper Quarry, GV Gem Mineral & Craft Group, See your club field trip officer for details, to be confirmed by George.
	13	V.G.C.A. Meeting, Nunawading Clubrooms, 2 Silver Grove, Nunawading. Melway Ref 48 E10. 4pm.
	13-14	Mordialloc Lapidary Club GEMFAIR. Moorabbin Senior Citizens Hall, 964 Nepean Highway, Moorabbin (near the House & Home Centre) Mel Ref 77, E6. Contact the Club on 95800401
	20-21	Nunawading & District Lapidary Club Annual Exhibition. Dorset Primary School, Rescorla Ave, Croydon. Melway Ref 50 K7. Contact Phil Toland 9761 3169 or ndlccgem@hotmail.com
	27-28	Combined Gippsland Gem Clubs Gem Show. Kernot Hall, Princes Highway, Morwell. Contact Trevor Pickering 0351341250 or 0428502547
<u>November</u>	3-4	Geelong Gem and Mineral Club. "Gem, Crystal and Jewellery Show." Geelong West Town Hall, 153 Pakington St, Geelong West. 10-5 Sat 10-4 Sun. geelonggemandmineralclub@gmail.com.
	10	V.G.C.A. Meeting, Nunawading Clubrooms, 2 Silver Grove, Nunawading. Melway Ref 48 E10. 4pm.
	16-19	Victorian Facetors Group Beechworth Workshop. The Old Priory, 8 Priory Lane, Beechworth, Vic 3747. Contact Graham Young 9363 1803. Mob: 0487283598.
<u>December</u>	8	V.G.C.A. Meeting, Nunawading Clubrooms, 2 Silver Grove, Nunawading. Melway Ref 48 E10. 4pm.
<u>February</u>	1-4	Victorian Facetors Group Traralgon Workshop, Contact Graham Young 9363 1803. Mob: 0487283598.

August 2018

POINTER

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<u>March 2019</u>	9-10	Combined Victorian Gem Clubs show.
<u>April</u>	19-22	Rockhampton GEMBOREE
<u>May</u>	17-20	Victorian Facetors Group Shepparton Workshop, Contact Graham Young 9363 1803. Mob: 0487283598.

GEMBOREE 2020 Albury
Yes, Its only 18 months away!

2021 Tasmania,

Clubs (including interstate clubs) do you know dates, locations and contact persons for your 2018 show? Please let us know when the information is available so that it can be published in forward diary.