



# Jan Feb Mar Newsletter 2020

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: 03 9846 2335 Leigh Carbines  
Website: [www.diamondvalleygemclub.com.au](http://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: 7.30 – 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 Minutes and Correspondences are on the Club Room Notice Board**

### Office Bearer

President: Leigh Carbines 03 9846 2335.  
Treasurer: Keith Kerr 0409 504 021  
Secretary: Robert Cooper 0418 392 861

### Duty Officers

Monday: John Milner  
Tuesday : Gary Benson/Robert Cooper  
Tuesday Evening: John Milner  
Thursday: Leigh Carbines/John Milner  
Saturday: Douglas Ramsay/John Milner

### Committee Members

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

### Newsletter

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

## Membership Renewals 2020

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:**

**\$40.00 Additional Adults: \$30.00**

**Under 15: \$15.00**

**Life Members: nil**

**Note, when renewing it is important to fill out the membership form, copies of which are available in the club room**

I am interested in members who have a favorite piece they are willing to provide and discuss in the newsletter

## Paul Alexander Mokume Gane (木目金) ring

Paul Alexander has experimented with the technique called Mokume Gane, which is a way of layering different col-



oured precious metals, fusing them together to form a billet, that can then be manipulated to form a decorative object. Originating in Japan, the word means “Wood Grain Metal”, it was first used to produce decorative sword fittings, and first used in the 17th Century.

Developed by Denbei Shoami, in the Akita prefecture, it usually uses softer metals and alloys, it uses a stacked billet of metals that are then heated up until they are on the verge of melting, then the surfaces of the metals then bond together. The metal is then often rolled and relayered to increase the number of layers.

After the use of swords fell in the 19th century, the technique fell into disuse, until Tiffany and Co, under the direction of Edward C. Moore began to experiment with the technique, culminating in the 1878 Paris Exhibition with what was called the “Japanesque “ silver, which won the Grand Prize.

Paul notes a couple of points. It is important to ensure that the surface touching the skin should be silver or gold, as otherwise it is not good for you.



Thank you, Paul, for letting me show you these items.

# New year meet and greet



## Diamond Valley Gem Club Social “Properties of Gem Stones” Presented by Adele Stachiw

**Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup> 2020**

**6.30 - 9.30 pm**

**\$ 5 per Head**

Bring a plate of food to share

Quiz and laughter

BYO drinks, Tea and Coffee provided

Special Offer to Club Members

Cabochons

And Cabochon Slabs Rocks for Sale

Plus Collectables

**At**

**Contact Community Centre Annexe**

**Bundoora Hall, Noorong Ave, Bundoora**



## 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 0411 105031

## Field trip Ethics

- You must have a Current Victoria Miner's Right.
- Before entering private property, be it grazing, farming, mining, quarrying etc, permission must be obtained from the owner, lessee, manager or other responsible person, for prospecting, mining, collecting gemstones or camping.
- When permission has been obtained, members will obey any direction, restriction, order, advice or precaution given by the person in charge of the property.
- Ensure that gates of properties are left as found, shut or open.
- Stock, including domestic animals, are not to be interfered with under any circumstances.
- Firearms and explosives shall not be taken on field trips.
- Do not take pets on field trips.
- Leave an area as you find it. Fill in all holes and remove all litter. Be sure that gutters and drains are clear.
- Do not dig in banks of streams.
- Do not dig in or foul streams which are part of a water catch-

## Presidents message Leigh Carbines

ment area.

- Do not damage or undermine trees or other vegetation.
- Keep off crops and tilled land unless permission is granted. Use furrows to walk in if you must traverse tilled land.
- Do not remove excessive amounts of material. Take only enough for your personal use, not for commercial purposes.
- Extinguish all fires by covering them with soil. Don't chop trees to make your fire
- Use fallen and broken limbs. Do not light fires when restrictions are in force, including TOTAL FIRE BAN DAYS.

**A reminder that if you would like to fossick a “Miners Right” is required.**

A Miner's Right allows the holder to search for, and take possession of, any mineral located on many areas of public land, or, on private land with the landholder's prior consent. Only basic non-powered hand tools (i.e. pick, shovel, sieve, etc.) can be used. This can be purchased online at <https://checkout.payments.com.au/minersRight/>

For information on fossicking in Victoria <https://parkweb.vic.gov.au/visit/popular-activities/fossicking>

Welcome to 2020 which promises to be an important year in the history of our club.

Last year 2019 was a year of change for the Diamond Valley Gem Club ,it's been a year in which to plan for the future in which we have a “new clubhouse” with new equipment and work stations to allow our members to make whatever they desire with their newly acquired skills from our courses .

By all measures 2019 has been a successful year , we have now more members , our gem show was from a financial position the most successful we have held and this has allowed all of our equipment to be put in good working order with spare motors available in the cabling room and all of our 7 saws in the Saw room in good working order while our faceting machines have been well used and well maintained .

Our financial position is as strong as it has ever been and with the club receiving 2 grants , the first for a complete replacement of our hot water system throughout the club house, now providing warm water to all our cabling machines , the second grant for gemological equipment to identify gem stones should be fully implemented within the forthcoming month .

None of these achievements have naturally occurred , it is thanks to the many members who have worked to achieve change while maintaining a happy ,well run and well-resourced club .

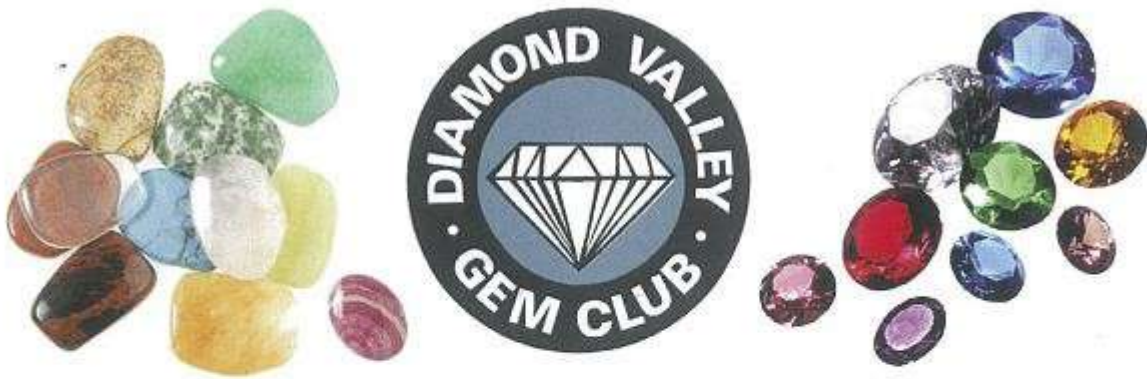
I would like to thank all those within the club who have taken on rolls which allow the club to for fill its many functions - the committee , all the duty officers , all those who teach skills and those who assist with our Annual show , social events ,field trips , fund raisers and those who maintain the club – machine maintenance ,news letter production , record keeping and financial accountability . As you can see there are many facets to running a gem club ( bad pun ! ) , but if you would like to help our club grow there's always room for one more .

# Sapphire facts from the Sapphire Fields of Queensland

Did you know?

1. Sapphires were first reported in the Sapphire gem fields of Australia by John Archibald Richardson in the 1870s
2. By 1970 Australia was producing over 80% of the world's Sapphires
3. Sapphires are one of the most highly prized gems in the world
4. Natural Sapphires are second only to Diamond on the Mohs scale of hardness (There are synthetic stones harder than Sapphire)
5. Sapphires crystallize in the trigonal system showing a six sided cross section
6. They are generally found in gem gravels well away from their area of geological origin
7. Sapphire is the name given to the coloured gem variety of the mineral corundum ( $\text{Al}^2\text{O}^3$ )
8. Corundum comes in all colours including colourless (if that can be called colour?)
9. Red corundum is called Ruby
10. Australian Sapphires generally come in the colours - yellow, green and blue, however it is the yellow sapphire that is most highly prized
11. Multi coloured Sapphires are known as Parti-Coloured Sapphires
12. Australia also produces Star Sapphires, generally of bronze or blackish colour showing a 3-ray, 6-pointed star under light
13. Sapphires are the birth stone for the month of September and are the 45th Anniversary stone
14. Some famous Australian sapphires include:
  - The Pride of Queensland – the largest cut yellow Sapphire in the world weighing in at 169 carats
  - The Tomahawk Tiger – a parti-coloured crystal of over 82 carats
  - The Black Star of Queensland – a Star Sapphire weighing an incredible 1,156 carats, recently offered for sale at over \$90 million
  - Four large sapphires carved as the heads of American Presidents weighing more than 1,700 carats each. These are housed in the Oval Office, Washington DC.

Finally, a little caution to fossickers in the Sapphire fields – DO NOT throw away any unidentified stones. One may prove to be the next famous Australian Sapphire.



## ANNUAL GEM & CRYSTAL EXHIBITION 2020

SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> MAY 9:00AM - 5:00PM  
SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> MAY 9:00AM - 4:00PM

TO BE HELD AT THE MASONIC CENTRE  
23 ESTER STREET, GREENSBOROUGH  
(BEHIND WOOLWORTHS)  
MELWAYS REF: 20 H2



For more  
information  
contact:  
Leigh Carbines  
0499 233 500

**Club Sales, Traders, Demonstrations, Refreshments**

## Calendar of events

2020		
March	21	<b>Diamond Valley Gem Club social event.</b> "Properties of Gem Stones" by Adele Stachiw 6;30 to 9.30
	21-24	<b>Victorian Facetors Group Traralgon Workshop.</b> Tandara Caravan Park. Contact Graham Young 9363 1803. Mob: 0487283598.
April	10-15	<b>GEMBOREE</b> , Albury Show Grounds.
May	1	<b>Membership return required from Clubs</b> so invoices re membership fees can be invoiced and accident insurance organised for those clubs that want it.
	2-3	<b>Diamond Valley Gem Club Annual Show.</b> Masonic Centre, 23 Ester St, Greensborough. Sat 9am-5pm Sun 9am-4pm Contact Leigh Carbines 0499 233 500
	15-18	<b>Victorian Facetors Group Shepparton Workshop.</b> (Kialla Scout Hall). Contact Graham Young 9363 1803. Mob: 0487283598.
	17-18	<b>30th Lismore GEMFEST</b> , Lismore Showground (Northern Rivers NSW). Tailgating, Dealer or general enquiries email <a href="mailto:lismore.gemfest@gemclublismore.org.au">lismore.gemfest@gemclublismore.org.au</a>
August	15-18	<b>Ballarat Gem Club.</b> Gem, Mineral, Crystal and Fossil Show. Greyhound Racing Track, corner of Sutton & Rubicon Streets, Redan.
	22-23	<b>Frankston and Peninsula Lapidary Club Exhibition.</b> Peninsula Community Theatre, corner Nepean Highway and Wilsons Rd Mornington. Contact Jo 0420 364 980, Heike 0401 305 707
September	12-13	<b>EXPO - BENDIGO Gem Club Inc.</b> 757 Mclvor Road Junortoun, Sat 10 - 5. Sun 10 - 4. Entry \$8 - Kids under 12 Free. Facebook.com Bendigo Gem Club. Contact Andie, <a href="http://www.gembendigo.org.au">www.gembendigo.org.au</a>
	19-20	<b>Waverley Gem Club, Exhibition.</b> Brandon Park Community Centre, 649 Ferntree Gully Road, Glen Waverley. 10am - 5pm both days. Contact - Peter 9570 5401, Gwen - 0407 512 883
October	9-11	<b>NZ National Show.</b> Christchurch. Woolston Club Inc. 43 Hargood Street, Woolston. Link to competition schedule from
	10-11	<b>Mordialloc Lapidary Club GEMFAIR.</b> Contact Club: 9580 0401 or email <a href="mailto:mordialloc-lapidaryclub@gmail.com">mordialloc-lapidaryclub@gmail.com</a>
	17-18	<b>Nunawading &amp; District Lapidary Club Annual Exhibition.</b> Dorset Primary School, Rescorla Ave, Croydon. Melway Ref 50 K7. Contact Phil Toland 97613169 or <a href="mailto:ndlcgem@hotmail.com">ndlcgem@hotmail.com</a>
<b>GEMBOREE 2021 Tasmania, 2-5 April</b>		
<b>GEMBOREE 2022 NSW, 15-19 April. Australian Rural Education Centre MUDGEES</b>		
<b>GEMBOREE 2023 QLD, 14-18 April. Hosted by QLACCA.</b>		