

October 2022

NEWSLETTER



CONTACT US

www.diamondvalleygemclub.com.au

Phone: 03 9846 2335 - Leigh Carbines

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Spring has begun and the bees are busy with all the new blooms and nectar. It's a time of growth and the Diamond Valley Gem Club is certainly feeling changes.

A big welcome goes out to all the new members who have recently joined, we've been averaging over two new members a week for the last two months.

The Club has waited many years to realise their members potential through sharing skills with members in workshops, social events and development of individual skills. A great deal of work over the last five years should see this come to fruition with all the 'new' facilities, new buildings and new equipment the club has attained.

It is the members who make a Club. The skills they share, the willingness to help each other and the fun they bring, makes a 'great' club. By the looks of the enthusiasm of our current members, we will have progressed a long way to achieving our goals.

Changes are happening! Our Bundoora premises at Telfer Reserve is undergoing development with the installation of disability toilet facilities. We are promised a new building before Christmas to house our workshops. These will be larger spaces for cutting rocks, cabbing, faceting and metal working.

The one thing the club has been lacking over the past 55 years is space to provide individual workshop facilities, a space to socialise (to relax, read, discuss ideas,) a kitchen to cook shared meals, an outdoor space (for BBQ's, socialising, rock identification, rock storage and sorting,) disability access, accessible car parking and equipment to enamel, metal work, tumble rocks. All of which we envisage the new club rooms to have!

Location

OLD CLUBROOMS
Grace Park Cottage,
Corner Henry St & Duncan Ave,
Greensborough, Victoria, 3088



NEW CLUBROOMS
Bundoora Lapidary Centre,
20 Noorong Ave,
Greensborough, Victoria, 3088

Opening hours

Monday: 7.30 PM - 9.30 PM

Tuesday: 10:30 AM - 3 PM &
7.30 PM - 9.30 PM

Wednesday: CLOSED

Thursday: 7.30 PM - 10 PM

Friday: CLOSED

Saturday: 1.30 PM - 4.30 PM

Sunday: CLOSED

*Classes may run outside
these times but you will be
advised

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

The addition of WIFI and the provision of display equipment (like an overhead projector and TV) will assist with teaching and the sharing of skills and information. In time and with the technical skills, we could also be 3D printing for stone settings and casting our own jewellery items. It is an exciting time for the club as we are heading into the realm of possibilities.

The Club acknowledges the contribution of its members; especially those who teach, act as duty officers, sit on the committee, take responsibility for the operations of the club – the treasurer, secretary, social coordinator, vice president, occupational health officer, newsletter editor, website officer, librarian and those who help maintain the club. There are always opportunities to get involved with the day to day running of the club.

Currently, we are looking for a maintenance officer to oversee the operation of our equipment. This could be a shared role, as we have both mechanic and electronic equipment. Now that we have an outdoor area to landscape and maintain, there is also an opportunity for someone ('s) with "green thumbs".

The next major task for the club will be the moving of our equipment from Grace Park Cottage to Telfer Reserve, Bundoora. This will involve a fun Working Bee (hopefully in November) to strip out all our machinery and fittings and remove the hot water service. This will also be a time to celebrate our new premises with a social BBQ. More information to come!
Please help each other, so we can all enjoy our growing club and share our success.

Leigh Carbines – DVGC President.



NEW MEMBERS

Since our last newsletter, we would like to welcome the following people to our club:

- Jacob Agapito
- Lucie Balch
- Luigi Caruso
- Luca Caruso
- Amanda Congdon
- Bradley Doerksen
- Diana Dezilwa
- Melanie Dove
- Alison Draper
- Heather Hartwig
- Wesley Hutson
- Terry Lewis
- Michael Nativo
- Vincent Nativo
- Alexandra Georges
- Mala Pillai
- Ravi Pillai
- Gary Reeves
- Yulia Soutanov
- Sara Williams
- Harley Woods

MEMBERSHIPS

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

Note: when renewing your membership, it is important to fill out a membership form and to advise us of any changes to your contact details. Forms are located in the club rooms. Please ask the duty manager on shift for assistance if required.

COSTS:	
Joining Fee:	\$10.00
Annual Subscriptions	
First Adult:	\$40.00
Additional Adults (Eg, family member):	\$30.00
Under 15:	\$15.00
Life Members:	Nil

JOHN'S FACETING CORNER

Sakura 80
 The version for the 80 index wheel of the "Sakura" design.
 By Marco V
 Angles for R.I. = 1.540
 51 + 10 girdles = 61 facets
 5-fold, mirror-image symmetry
 80 index
 L/W = 1.051 T/W = 0.275 UW = 0.268
 P/W = 0.446 C/W = 0.187
 Vol./Wz = 0.205

PAVILION			
1	41.00°	03-13-19-29-35-45-51-61-67-77	Cut to centerpoint
2	90.00°	80-16-32-48-64	Establish size
3	90.00°	08-24-40-56-72	Nick the corners
4	57.20°	80-16-32-48-64	Meet 1, 2, 3
5	52.00°	08-24-40-56-72	Meet the girdle
6	42.20°	80-16-32-48-64	Cut until it looks good (no meets)

CROWN			
A	43.70°	80-16-32-48-64	Set girdle thickness
B	26.00°	03-13-19-29-35-45-51-61-67-77	Cut the petals and meet the girdle and A
C	43.70°	08-24-40-56-72	Cut to proper girdle thickness
D	26.90°	80-16-32-48-64	Cut until it looks good (no meets)
E	0.00°	Table	Table is floating (try to stay close to the diagram, for the size)

I cut it in quartz, topaz and tourmaline with success.
 You can leave A, C, D unpolished to enhance the "5-petals flower" effect.

Well, I hope that Covid has passed its peak and we can get back to some sort of organised chaos. It will be good to start helping those new students who have been held up with one thing or another. Congratulations should go to Gary, on the stone he recently finished. For a 'new kid on the block,' so to speak, it was a beautifully cut topaz.

I would like to see members faceting stones for entry in next year's Gemboree competition. You will find it a satisfying challenge. Your work doesn't have to be perfect (but it does help!) Just to have entries from the club would be great and the feedback helps you enormously. See me if you are interested.

Our sick list has unfortunately been growing this last month. The good news is that Rob, Ron and Keith K are all on the mend and will be back soon.

LEFT: A pattern you might like to try, however, not for the competition.

- John Milner, Faceting

INFORMATION NIGHT with GRANT PEARSON ON AMBER

Recently we had the pleasure of watching a presentation on Amber given by Mr. Grant Pearson at our new club rooms at Telford Reserve Bundoora. Grant is an Industrial Chemist with a Degree in Metallurgy which covers metals polymers glass rocks etc. He is also a Gemologist with Diplomas in Gemology and Research Gemology, and for over thirty years he has provided Gem Identification at our annual show.

It's not official but Grant is also a linguist as on the night he coined a new meaning for the word "Buggies", not the horse drawn type, but insects that have been captive in Amber for many tens of millions of years. One interesting point is that these Buggies are not fossilized in that they haven't been converted into rock like other fossils, but they have been preserved inside the amber which then for millions of years has prevented the normal process of decomposition.



The detail preserved on these insects is remarkable right down to the minute hairs on these very small insects. The amber shown that night came from many different areas around the world with Baltic amber being probably the most well-known.

We thank Grant for his very knowledgeable presentation on amber, it's not the first time that he has done presentations to our club and we hope there will be more in the future.

- Keith Billing, Cabbings

FORWARD DIARY

<u>October</u>	8	Bendigo Gem Club Open Day Sat Oct 8, 10am-4pm 10 Galvin St, Bendigo Free Admission, displays, demos, members stall, gem sifting & metal detecting for the kids, bbq & refreshments available
	8 - 9	Mordialloc Lapidary Club Inc GEMFAIR to be held at St Brigid's Primary School, 129 Albert Street, Mordialloc.
	8 - 9	White Cliffs Gem Fest & Car Boot Sale - Details are to be confirmed, If you wish to book a stall or be involved, feel free to contact Jane Stevenson WCMA Inc 0429 601 870
	14 - 16	New Zealand 2022 National Gem Show hosted by Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club. www.cmlclub.org.nz
	15 - 16	Nunawading & District Lapidary Club Exhibition - Whitehorse Community Hub 95 Springvale Rd Nunawading.
	22	VGCA AGM
<u>November</u>	5 - 6	Geelong Lapidary Club Show: Geelong West Town Hall 153 Pakington St Geelong West.
	13	Cheong Park Rockswap to be held on Sunday 13th November starting at 9am please contact Les Varga on 0400037651 . for details
	19	Warragul District Lapidary Club Gem, Jewellery & Mineral Market
	19 - 20	Lapidary Club of Northern Tasmania - Launceston Gem & Mineral Show - Elphin Sports Centre. Enquiries 0437 953 815, Bookings 0448 220 678 launcestongemandmineralshow@gmail.com
<u>2023 March</u>	19 - 20	Warragul District Lapidary Club Annual Gem Show
<u>February</u>	25 - 26	Bendigo Gem Club Expo NEW VENUE: Bendigo Exhibition Centre, Holmes Rd, North Bendigo
<u>2023 May</u>	6 - 7	Diamond Valley Gem Club Annual Gem & Crystal Exhibition Masonic Centre 23 Ester St Greensborough. Sat 9am-5pm Sun 9am-4pm Contact Leigh Carbines 0499 233 500
GEMBOREE® 2023 Queensland, 7 - 10 April. Hosted by QLACCA.		
GEMBOREE® 2024 South Australia March 24 - April 3 Hosted by GMCASA		
GEMBOREE® 2025 Victoria Hosted by VGCA Dates to be confirmed		

Upcoming Club Events

SOCIAL AND FIELD TRIP WEEKEND 12th/13th NOVEMBER 2022

STRATFORD AREA (Weather permitting)

Stratford is located about 240km East (of the clubrooms,) near Sale, on the Avon River. We will be based in the Stratford Caravan Park which is just beside the Avon River and is in easy walking distance to the river. Some cabins are available for hire or motel accommodation is close by. Accommodation and travel arrangements will be left to individuals.

PROPOSED ITINERARY

Saturday (10am) Travel about 25kms to fossick for thunder eggs. We have to hike for about 15 minutes through bush and down a slope to reach this spot, there used to be a cleared area on the side of the road here where those not confident walking in could wait, else you could meet up with us for lunch. I hope to check this area out on the day before to check just how difficult it is as I haven't been there for at least 5 years.

Saturday (Lunch): Potentially along Freestone Creek. BYO lunch and drinks. Tiny red zircon can be found in this creek, so bring along a pan if interested in having a fossick over lunch.

Saturday (After Lunch): Visit a nearby a roadside quarry containing Green Ash Flow Tuff.

Saturday (Mid-arvo) Return to caravan park. Those keen can walk down to the river to look for agates/jaspers and other interesting rocks, many good for cabbing.

Saturday (Evening): We will have a BBQ at the Caravan Park (under cover area and facilities available) BYO everything and share.

Sunday (10am): Drive a few kilometres and Fossick along the Avon River searching for agates and other interesting rocks for polishing. People can head off home when they wish.

FOSSICKING AND EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:

Everyone who intends fossicking and is 18 years and over needs a Current Fossicking Licence, called a Miners Right, available for \$26 for a 10 year license. Available from <https://www.service.vic.gov.au/services/earth-resources>

Thunder eggs and ash flow tuff fossicking: Fluro vests, sturdy shoes, shovel and pick for digging, bucket for collecting, a snack and a drink.

Freestone Creek: Goldpan, small shovel and small container for very tiny zircons,

River Strolling/Fossicking: Water spray bottle, to show up patterns in rocks.

We need a minimum of 10 people to attend to make this trip worthwhile (no maximum) Please put your name on the list at the clubrooms if you intend to come or let me know by EMAIL ONLY.

- Margaret

margy.holmes3144@gmail.com

Upcoming Club Events

SATURDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2022



PRESENTATION NIGHT & CHRISTMAS BREAK UP



Where? New Clubrooms, 20 Noorong Avenue, Bundoora.

When? 5pm, Presentations to start at 7pm

What to bring? Please bring a plate of food to share. The BBQ will be operating so if you want to use it, please bring your own meat.

Please note: Salad, Bread, Dessert, Water, Soft drinks, Tea and Coffee will be provided on the night.

Club president: Leigh Carbines 03 9846 2335

Vice President: John Milner 03 9439 5820

Treasurer: Keith Kerr 0409 504 021

Secretary: Robert Cooper 0418 392 861

Assistant Secretary: Douglas Ramsay 0411 105 031

This Club continues to foster 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. We thank our volunteers for the hours of work they put into our club and thank our members for their ongoing support and commitment.

CLUB DUTY OFFICERS

Monday: John Milner

Tuesday: Gary Benson/Robert Cooper (Day)
John Milner (Evening)

Thursday: Leigh Carbines/John Milner

Saturday: Douglas Ramsay/John Milner

DVGC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Keith Billing

Maureen Boyle

Mike Griffin

Ron Lavender

Dawn Lee

NEWSLETTER CONTACTS

Douglas Ramsay

0411 105 031

douglasramsay1@optusnet.com.au

Hannah Anyoso

0423514868

hannah_richo@hotmail.com

