

CRYSTAL LINES

NORTH BRISBANE LAPIDARY CLUB Inc.

Newsletter October 2011

**PRESIDENTS
REPORT**

**COMING EVENTS
ROCKTOBER IS
GO
POSITIONS
VACANT**



If undeliverable, return to
North Brisbane Lapidary
club Inc.
P.O. Box 1248
Toombul Q. 4012

**SURFACE
MAIL**

NORTH BRISBANE LAPIDARY CLUB INC.

Phone: (07) 3260 7025. E-mail Club: info@nblc.com.au

WEB SITE: www.nblc.com.au

PATRON Neil Roberts MP
PRESIDENT Stephen Bell
VICE PRESIDENT Barry Waller
SECRETARY Ray Wilson

TREASURER Peter Moller 0447 167 136
MEMBERSHIP Helen Moriarty
LIBRARIAN Mike Mahoney
EDITOR Peter Moller 0447167 136

WORK SESSIONS

Monday 7.30pm-9.30pm
Tuesday 7.00pm-9.00pm
Wednesday 9.00am-12noon
Friday 7.30pm-9.30pm

Open other times by arrangement

WORKSHOP FEES

\$3.00 Per work session
\$5.00 Badges members
\$6.00 Badges non-members
\$30.00 Club T-shirts
Free Club bumper stickers

Silver sales @ \$1.30 per gram

JOINING FEES

\$15.00 First member
\$13.50 Second member
\$12.00 Pensioner
\$35.00 Family (at same address)
\$12.00 Associate member
\$12.00 Junior member

CUTTING FEES

Diamond grinders \$1.50 per ½ Hour or part thereof
24" saw 50c per sq inch
14" saw 50c per sq inch
10/12" saw 50c per sq inch
Trim saw 50c per cab
Tumbler hire \$15.00 per month

Annual postage required for *Crystal Lines* - \$6.00 (members only)

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

\$26.00 First member
\$22.00 Second member
\$50.00 Family (2 adults & 2 children 12-18 years)
\$18.00 Pensioner Under 70 Years & Junior members

NBLC CLUBHOUSE ADDRESS

Albert Bishop Park
Nudgee Road
NUNDAH QLD.

POSTAL ADDRESS:

P.O. BOX 1248
TOOMBUL
4012

BASIC REQUIREMENTS NEEDED TO CARRY OUT LAPIDARY WORK (CABS)

- Waterproof apron
- 3 power head loupe, cost approx \$30.00
- 10 power hand loupe
- Dop stick
- Slabbed stone of your choice

BASIC REQUIREMENTS NEEDED TO CARRY OUT FOSSICKING

- Good maps of the area you intend to visit
- 1 x Aluminium sieve 305mm diameter by 3mm, mesh 1/8 inch
- 1 x Aluminium sieve 305mm diameter by 7mm, mesh ¼ inch
- 1 x Small sturdy shovel (not the fold up type)
- 1 x Plastic gold pan
- Footwear – Preferably boots to support ankles
- Headwear – Wide brimmed hat
- Transport - A 4x4 is nice, but a lot of areas can be accessed by conventional vehicles
- Accommodation - Hotels, motels, caravans or camping. This can lead to very enjoyable family bush weekends
- Communication – With the outside world is not necessary, but very handy to have. A mobile phone is useful in case of emergency and we strongly suggest a handheld UHF CB. These cost around \$50-\$100

The above are only the basic requirements to enable you to carry out this hobby. Extra equipment can be obtained at a later date if required. Enjoy yourselves; leave fossicking areas clean for others and some material behind for others – good luck and good fossicking!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

. August meeting was drawn out due to previous deferred meetings. We had received an invitation to the opening of the Bribie Island Club's silver smithing and faceting building.

V.P. Barry and myself attended and can report they are fortunate to have a Councillor very active on their behalf.

It was reported that the saw room needed some serious maintenance Jim Jeavons, Les Wakefield, Steve Archie, Tom Power and Ray Wilson tackled the task, repairs and cleaning now completed. Duty Officers will police this area vigorously. All the machinery etc. housed in the building belong to and are used by club members, so treat them as your own.

The future of the club is looking prosperous with 15 new members this month. On behalf of the Management Committee I would like to welcome you and hope your club will reach your expectations, whether it be faceting, cabochon, silver or gold work or any other discipline available. Our club boasts a wealth of instructors only too pleased to assist you in your endeavours.

Secretary Ray was contacted by Peter Baker who was eager to donate machinery and rock samples. This was a much appreciated gesture, so Ray sent a 'thank you' and enclosed a 'cab' cut from the stone and earrings. Peter and wife Vicky replied thanking for the lovely memorabilia of his mother.

Show n Tell was a great night. The amount, quality and variety of gems was astounding .

The 50+ carat pink Zircon presented by Gary Gatfield took my eye. Barry Kirkham is yet to peruse his booty, hopefully the yield will surprise. On the tell side Peter Smith reported whilst travelling the Plenty Highway, in the distance there was a vehicle coming towards him,

All of a sudden there was a great puff of dust which trailed this car into the scrub. Soon after said car reappeared onto road (track) and pulled up beside Pete. Other driver asks "Ya got a lite mate?" Peter relayed that he didn't smoke but eventually matches were located. Enquiring as to why a fire lighter was required other driver stated "we gotta cook dinner" pointing to the back seat. Lo and behold there lay an emu, legs up, obviously lunch.

Ray and I met with Cinnamon O'Shanesy BCC R regarding drainage problem and signage. This is quite a procedure but watch this space for further updates.

Bev Wheatley was finally presented with her Club Person of the Year trophy.

Nundah Village Festival was again a successful venture. Warm sunny day brought out a big crowd. The stalwarts were there all day – Barry, Peter, Bev, Ray Jeanine- and Garry Carol, Helen, Ellen, Allyce and Ed made appearances throughout the day. Bev's gem trees head the best seller list - the financial result approx. \$500.00. There are many of events penciled in until the beginning of December so please check your Crystal Lines and the club notice board so nothing is missed.

STEVE BELL

PRESIDENT

2012 Fees Review

The management committee has reviewed all fees and charges and has decided on a small increase in member joining fees and annual subscription fees for the 2012 year. Work session fees and allied charges like diamond grinders and saw cutting charges will remain unchanged. This is the first increase in 6 years and the management committee believe that these are very modest increases. Fees applicable for 2012 are:

Joining Fees	
1st member	\$20.00
2nd member	\$15.00
Seniors and Retirees	\$15.00
Associate Member	\$15.00
Juniors Member	\$15.00
Family (same address)	\$40.00

Annual Membership Fees -2012		
Member Type	Full Year	1st June -30 September
Single	\$30.00	\$15.00
2nd Member	\$24.00	\$12.00
Family (same address)	\$60.00	\$30.00
Associate	\$20.00	\$10.00
Juniors	\$20.00	\$10.00
Seniors & Retirees	\$20.00	\$10.00
Seniors and Retirees > 70	\$17.00	\$8.50

MANY HAPPY RETURNS

October Birthdays

First Name	Last Name
Steve R.	Archie
Stephen	Bell
Barry	Chapman
Yen-chi Phil	Chen
William	Clarke
Don	Clarke
Linda	Forbes
Carol	Gatfield
Garry	Gatfield
Delvene	Heideman
Robert	Heideman
Graham	Kinsela
Beverley	Litvensky
Helen	Moriarty
Joshua	Pomfret
Amanda	Raff
Ellen	Stacombe
Barry	Waller
Jeanine	Wilson
Raymond	Wilson

Get Well:

To all those who are unwell or
and complete recovery.



injured please accept our best wishes for a speedy

Vacancy: Safety Officer

We are looking for a volunteer to take on the role of safety officer after the recent resignation from the position by Jim Lakey.

The safety officer role is not onerous, but it is necessary for someone to be regularly casting an eye over all of the activities and machinery to identify any potential problems before they arise.

Anyone interested, please contact the secretary.

By the way Jim was in the club recently with a nice parcel of opal that he has already found at Lightning Ridge.

Vacancy: Field Trip Officer

We are also looking for someone to fill the role of field trip officer. Garry Gatfield has indicated that after 10 years of organising the major field trip each year he is going to take a break. This means that unless someone comes forward and puts up a plan for 2012 there will not be a major field trip next year.

Rock-tober: What It Means To You

Rock-tober is a new concept that is intended as a family friendly event to showcase the activities of a lapidary club. In this way more members may be encouraged to join NBLC and interest in lapidary and associated activities will reach an increased number of the general public.

For most members the impact is that the club will be open from 8AM to 4PM on Saturday 15 October for you to come along and use all of the equipment that you may use in a general work session without charge. It is a great opportunity for members who might generally attend on a Monday evening to meet other members who perhaps only attend on a Wednesday and discuss and share ideas on your hobby. Of course an event doesn't just organise and run itself but the level of work commitment is designed to be very low key. Sandra Bell has already organised the canteen helpers, so we will be looking for some assistance in setting up and cleaning up on Saturday afternoon, but other than that the day is for you to come along and share your interests with other members.

What we are asking of members is to commit to being in attendance for one of the nominated session so that if visitors attend we can be assured that there will be activities occurring. The list of activities and sessions are listed at the club so if you are intending to come to Rock-tober could you please see if you can include your name and then be in attendance at that time.

I understand that here will be a display of some gold fossicking equipment from the old days with some old fossils doing the demonstrating.

Nundah Village Success

The recent Nundah Village Fair was quite successful for the hardy few volunteers who spent the day selling rocks, setting up kids fossicking and handing out information about the club. Just under \$500 was raised on the day.

Condolences

Condolences are offered on behalf of members to Graham and Milton Fox on the passing of their sister and also to Graham and Pam Kinsela on the sudden passing of Graham's sister

Blokes Smoko

The Golden Years Mens Shed from Nundah have accepted an invitation to have morning smoko with the blokes from NBLC. The invitation was issued in the spirit of extending a hand to a new start up community group who are basically our neighbours. It is intended to show the Mens Shed members through our club house and then share with them our experiences in building a successful club over a forty year period. We will also be exploring whether both of our clubs can benefit from the skills of each other's members. The initial approach was made by GYMS to ask if we could provide some advice on gold fossicking at Mt. Cootha.

BCC Dealings

The President and Secretary met with Brisbane City council leasing unit recently to put some issues forward for attention. Unfortunately, due to the floods earlier this year funding for parks that were not flood affected is very short.

However one quick response was that the potholes were filled on the access road almost within the week, but we were not successful in arguing for the access road to be widened.

We are still waiting on a final response to our suggestion to move our locked gate further up the road into our lease to allow us to pull into our lane and not block traffic while we open the gate. Apparently, due to safety concerns, chains across driveways are no longer so if funding can be found either a swing or slide gate will need to be installed.

We also are waiting for a response on replacing the drain between our building and the soccer grounds which was filled in during the ground works 2 years back. It was a stroke of luck that it had rained a few days before the Council visit and water was still ponding in front of our club.

Forward Plans

The management committee has decided on some plans for the coming months. Hopefully this gives everyone an understanding of the direction of the club and keeps things improving over the coming months.

Updating equipment:

It has been decided to purchase a refractometer and spectroscope for the gemmology room. Peter Moller and Ross Chapman have been tasked with sourcing this equipment while in Thailand in November.

Our bid for another 2 VJ faceting machines to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund was unsuccessful. This means our bid has been rejected twice and will now need to be resubmitted. The management committee has decided to purchase another machine and reapply for 2 new VJ machines next year.

Plans are also in place to purchase a jewellers drill. This will replace the current drill press, which I am assured by the appropriate technical authority, is "wonky".

We are going to explore the possibility of replacing the clerical desks currently used in the jewellery making area with proper jeweller's work benches. Initially the intention is to get 2 work benches built and see if they provide a better or more favourable working environment for jewellery making.

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Grant Application

A grant for solar panels connected into the power grid is to be lodged with Gambling Community Benefit. The government has given a direction to the fund that a percentage of funds has to be provided for this purpose for community organisations. A 2kw system has the potential to save us over \$200 per quarter off our power bill and if we get a grant for the expected \$6,000 cost then the system will be working for us from day 1.

Gold Fossicking Book

Another order for the popular Gold Fossicking in Queensland book and maps is going to be placed. If you missed out last time then here is another chance. Please add your name to the list on the noticeboard and pay the duty officer. Cost is \$25 per copy.

The order will be placed on October 24.

SEE ADD AT BACK OF NEWSLETTER

XMAS Breakup Lunch

So that members can complete their busy Xmas party itineraries, we have set December 4 as the date for our Xmas lunch. We will definitely be having the popular auction so if you have any surplus lapidary/jewellery/rocks/fossicking equipment please donate to the club for the auction.

Gem Show -2012 Theme

Shapes and Colours of Quartz has been decided as the theme for next year's gem show. This is in keeping with the large amount of quartz crystals that have arrived back from Wave Hill with the field trippers. Hoping to see some fabulous display cases.

Planning for the show has already commenced with the flyers being currently printed. If anyone is available to help hand out flyers and outdoor stall contracts at Beenleigh gem show on October 1 please contact Ray Wilson.

ROCKTOBER IS RAPIDLY APPROACHING

This new initiative for our club is looking like it will be an enormous success.

We already have bookings from dealers which is a good indication of the confidence felt in our club.

OCTOBER 15TH WILL BE THE BIG DAY.

October was chosen as it is half way through the year between gem shows and there aren't any other gem shows in and around Brisbane at that time.

The structure for this year has been set. The date has been set as **October 15**. There will be about 15 outdoor stall sites and one dealer inside. All participants will be invited. A rolling program of demonstrations has been scheduled which can be seen on the advertisement. I expect that at those scheduled times at least there will be club members participating in those activities. There will be a roster published and volunteers will be called for but if we don't get sufficient volunteers, members will be allocated to tasks for 2-3 hours on the day. If members wish to spend more time using the club facilities to facet, cabochon or do silversmithing then all the better. We will need some volunteers for food and drink sales but again this will be limited to something simple like sausage and onion on bread, sliced cakes, tea, coffee and soft drinks.

Promotion of the event will commence with notification to all of the south east Queensland lapidary and associated clubs. Event promotion will also be through web sites and hopefully through free local newspapers. Given that it is something new we should be able to generate some editorial interest.

So what do I need of you? Firstly, put a date claimer for October 15 in your diaries or calendars, be prepared to put in a few hours on the day and if you have any ideas on getting the message out to the broader community then I would be happy to hear from you.

Ray Wilson.
Rock-tober

There is a poster/leaflet in PDF form on the website, for Rock-tober, for those that have a notice board they can pin it to.

NBLC SHOW FACET COMPETITION

The competition forms and diagrams are available at the club and can also be downloaded online at <http://www.nblc.com.au/gem%20show.htm>

DOUBLE SIDED CABACHON WORKSHOP

A double sided cabochon work session will be run by **Graham Kinsela** on **Saturday October 8** at the clubrooms. The session will commence at **8:30AM** and conclude around **4:00PM**.

The aim is to cut a 30mm X 22mm oval cabochon in Prehnite.

The session will be limited to **6 members** due to the number of grinders that are available. Cost will be \$10.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK.

Don't forget . **ROCKTOBER IS NOT FAR AWAY.** If you aren't already committed get involved and enjoy the day telling the world about your wonderful hobby.

Peter Moller
peter.moller3@bigpond.com

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Where	Comments
Oct-08	Cabbing Work Session	NBLC Club Rooms	8:30AM - 4:30PM. Instruction in cutting double sided cabs using Prehnite. \$10 per person
Oct-15	Rock -Tober	NBLC Club Rooms	
Oct-19	Oct. General Meeting	NBLC Club Rooms	7:30PM
Oct-22	GEM Cad Course	NBLC Club Rooms	Instruction and Practical over 2 weekends. \$5 per person per day
Oct 19-23	Craft Fair	Convention Centre, South Brisbane	Volunteers wanted for QLACCA stand to promote lapidary.
Dec-04	NBLC Xmas Party	NBLC Club Rooms	Details still to come.
Feb-18	"Natural Facet Rough" Buying to dopping	NBLC Club Rooms	Jim Jeavons has proposed this 1 day workshop.

NBLC Members,

Due to the popularity of the first order we are going to place an other bulk order for the Gold Fossicking in Queensland book and maps. The cost is \$25 which can be paid at the club to a duty officer or by direct deposit to our account. The order will be placed on October 24 so please confirm and pay before that date.

Bank: Commonwealth

BSB: 064139

Acc: 00900263

Please use reference GOLD_XXX where XXX is your initials or membership number.

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Queensland
GOLD

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