



## Bribie Island Gem & Fossicking Club Inc.

Cabochon      Silver Smithing      Faceting

### MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

BRIBIE ISLAND GEM & FOSSICKING CLUB Inc. ABN 13 979 152 201  
Club rooms situated adjacent to the Community Arts Centre complex.  
191 Sunderland Drive, Banksia Beach, Bribie Island Q 4507.  
Web site : <http://bribiegemclub.com.au> Facebook: [Bribiegemclub Bgc](#)

**CLUB OPENING HOURS:** Mon, Tue, Wed & Sat; 8.00 am to 1.00 pm. Thu & Fri; Reserved for Club Instructional & Club Working activities. Mon Nights; 6.00–9.00 pm.

#### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:-

President -            Greg Hemphill      tel            0418 835 137  
Vice-President -    Debbie Burles      tel            0406 207 282  
Secretary -            Merilyn Matthews tel            0438 347 078  
Email for Club - [secretary@bribiegemclub.com.au](mailto:secretary@bribiegemclub.com.au)  
Treasurer -            Julie Evans            tel            0449 113 549

Committee Meeting shall be held on the Monday (10:30 am) preceding the 2nd Saturday, when the General meeting (at 10.15am) is held in the breeze way.

*To all our Members having a birthday in March, we wish you a very Happy Birthday. May your day be full of happiness.*

**Life Members: Greg Hemphill, Syl Lewis, Val McKenzie, Elaine Smelt, Phillip Scutts, Col Thorpe, John Watts.**



**PRESIDENT Greg Hemphill.** It was great to see so many members at the AGM (8<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020), it was so good that every position was filled and not only that but 75% were pre-nominated before the meeting, that hasn't happened in the last ten years. It was great to see so many new members coming on board and taken up positions on the committee. If Vicki can get that same response for her coordinator roster it would start us off to a successful year, so if you would like to help out give her a call, it's not that hard it's only one day of the month and there's rewards for doing it.

We are a happy club and we like to see everyone enjoying their hobby but sometimes upsetting things happen, don't bottle it up please come and see one of the management committee that's part of our job everything is kept within strict confidence there is nothing worse than getting information secondhand. We have a great membership and we have a lot to achieve this year so let's get down to it and enjoy. Greg Hemphill

**GENERAL COMMITTEE (Sub-Committee) GROUP:**

Assistant Secretary - Annette Banks  
Assistant Treasurer - Kristen Lineham-Blair  
Gem Fest Coordinator - Sandra Moran  
Purchasing Officer - Judy Jensen  
Editor & Publicity - Colin Thorpe  
B Shed Cabochon Coordinator - Bill Sargent  
D Shed Silversmithing Coordinators Phil Connolly & Judy Jensen  
Faceting Coordinator - Rob Bettridge  
Club Sales Coordinator - Kaye Parish  
Functions Coordinator - Peter Gibbs  
Field Trip Coordinator - Greg Hemphill  
Grounds & Area Maintenance - Graeme Banks

**NON-COMMITTEE Helpers/Assistants, as at the AGM - more are welcome:**

Publicity - Kerrie Western.  
B Shed Cabochon Coordinator - Barry Anderson  
Fire Officer - Bill Sargent  
Club Sales Coordinator - Loretta Leenen  
Grounds & Area Maintenance - Peter Gibbs  
Library - Diane Poole

**MARCH GEM FESTIVAL EVENTS**

1st Mar: North Brisbane. Earnshore College, Cnr. Earnshore & Tufnell Rd. Banyo. Sat/Sun  
08.30am - 4.30pm.

13-15<sup>th</sup> Mar: Minerama Fossicking. Glenn Innes Showgrounds.

14<sup>th</sup> Mar: Qlacca General Meeting, at Caboolture Gemfest, Historical Village, 280 Beerburum Rd, Caboolture 0900 -4.00 pm

28<sup>th</sup> Mar: Mudgeeraba Community Gem Show. Showgrounds Mudgeeraba. 0800 – 4.00 pm

**CASTING CLASSES:** Jewellery Casting is the process by which a wax pattern is made into a jewellery mould and then filled with molten metal or silver to create a custom piece of jewellery. It is also called lost wax casting because the wax is always lost during the process of making jewellery. The investment casting process; Investment casting is a manufacturing process in which a wax pattern is coated with a refractory ceramic material. Molten metal is poured into the cavity where the wax pattern was.

**Class 1:** Introduction to casting, making a Silicone mould from item you wish to cast (1 day class).

**Class 2:** Cutting out mould, making wax patterns in silicone moulds, building a casting tree (1 day).

**Class 3:** Investing moulds, weighing out silver for each mould, stacking in oven for next morning pour.

**Class 4:** Melting silver, pouring silver into flask moulds, cooling down flasks, cleaning moulded silver jewellery (1 day class). NOTE: Classes 3 & 4 have to be on consecutive day.

Members wishing to learn Casting, contact Graham Phillip 0479 120 150 or at the Club 8:00 am Mondays.

## CLUB DUTY COORDINATOR ROSTER - MARCH 2020

If at any time you are unable to do your rostered day please try a swap with another Coordinator. If unsuccessful contact the Club Secretary

### MARCH ROSTER

Mon 2	JOHN LANKHEET	
Tues 3rd	GRAEME BANKS	
Wed 4th	BARRY ANDERSON	
Sat7th	VICKI PARTRIDGE ,NEWIES	
Mon9th	COL THORPE	
Tues 10	ROB BETTRIDGE	
Wed 11	CRAIG BURNS	
Sat14	BOB CAMPBELL	
Mon 16	PETER GIBBS	
Tues 17	MERILYN MATTHEWS	
Wed 18	DEBBIE BURLES	
Sat 21	GREG HEMPHILL	
Mon 23	KIRSTEN LINEHAM-BLAIR	
Tues 24	JULIE EVANS	
Wed 25	BILL SARGENT	
Sat 28	WES/MARG SANDERS	
Mon30	MARG CAMPBELL	
Tues 31	PHIL CONNOLLY	
SILVERSALES D SHED COORDINATOR mon /wed		
1st	LANA DALEY	Silver Smithers
2nd	DEBBIE BURLES	Can you sort this out
3rd	. ? PHIL CONNOLLY	Between yourselves
4th	MARG CAMPBELL	
5th	MARG THORPE	

Monday Nights: Co-ordinator is Helen Mitchell. Time is 5.30pm to 9pm.

Please contact Helen to ensure she is opening 0427 038 733.

To our co-ordinators, if you're planning to be away on holidays etc., would you please let Vicki Partridge know 0490 119 526.

To new members, becoming a co-ordinator is rewarding, we are always needing more members to join the "tribe".

You will be required to do one day, 8am to 1pm, a month, to open/close the club. Please contact Vicki Partridge if you would like to join up, we would love to have you on board.

**LIBRARY:** Members may borrow **2 items** from the library at any one time for **2 weeks**. A Club Coordinator or Librarian must sign the card on the date of borrowing and on the date of return. If anyone does still have any outstanding items please return them as soon as possible to allow all members the same borrowing privileges. There is a good range of books, magazines and DVDs for you to borrow. A catalogue is available for your perusal in a folder on the bottom shelf. If you know of any books or DVDs which would benefit club members please let the Librarian (Diana Poole) know.

## LAPIDARY:



**WHAT IS THAT ROCK?** That sits in the corner of A Shed (beside the UV display). It is GYMPIEITE and a magnificent large quality specimen at that. How did the Club come to acquire that rock? A few years ago when John Volschenk & myself were the B Shed Cabochon Instructors, we took a liking to slabs of this green material and its behaviour, especially to yield a very good polish. John, whilst on the road up Caloundra way, paid a visit to Cooloola Rocks & Minerals, Kybong Qld. Spotted this beauty of a rock & bought it. Being as large as it is we could not cut it with our 18" saw, needed a 24" (the type that Bill is chasing!). John offered it to the Club for \$50. The Club accepted such offer & it has sat as a specimen on the display case shelf to this day. If this rock were slabbed then most likely the Club would yield a profit due to its apparent quality.

**So what is GYMPIEITE?** Gypsite may be a term for someone from Gympie, but it also refers to a gemstone mineral unique to that region, which is found just north of Gympie. It is a type of green/blue/grey **Chert**, composed of sedimentary microcrystalline silicate material laid down about 400 million years ago. The stone is very hard and takes a fine finish. So our large specimen is in the region of being 400 million years old. It is a sedimentary gemstone mineral as is Chert.

**What is CHERT?** The usually pale cream and fawn dense siliceous material used by the Australian aboriginal for his artefacts is commonly referred to as Chert.

It is a homogeneous fairly pure form of Chalcedony. The term "Flint" is essentially synonymous with Chert, but its usage is more restricted, at least in geology where "Chert" is preferred. Flint is a dark variety of Chert. Archaeologists also talk about Flint when they refer to prehistoric tools made of cherty material.

Chert is a very hard rock and it may splinter when struck with a hammer. Warning, wear safety goggles if you intend to hammer it. **ED.**

## SILVER CRAFT:

**"THIS IS A HOBBY HAVE FUN".**

Spring chickens we may not be, but we like to think we are smart progressive people.

But, just sometimes we forget. So, go out and buy yourself a big thick school lines book.

Like the one you used in 1st grade, so you can write down notes on what you're learning,

Purchases made, especially silver and solder you bought. How often do you hear, what gauge was that.

Taking notes down on what you're learning, saves you time when you come to repeat making it at a later stage.

While in the supermarket, buy some plastic food bags for keeping your silver, solder and the likes. Write on the bags the details i.e. gauge of the silver, type of solder etc.

Have you noticed how tools look alike, when you buy a new tool etc.? Put your name on it.

Did you realise there is a way your hobby can start to pay for itself.

By putting your creation up for sale in the show room. See Kaye or Loretta who will explain how you can sell your work.

We also have "Club" sales, these are items the Club has paid for the stones / silver and members make.

Supplies are urgently needed for the cabinets.

So if you would like to make items see the coordinator of the shed for club stock to use.

Ear rings sell really well, design ideas can be discussed again with fellow members, using one of the many books in the Club's library or google ideas.

Wise words from a Club Member -

"Preparation of your work is so important. Do not rush it.

Take time to finish the work so that it looks great.

Close your eyes and run your fingers over the work. If it feels ruff, then it is." *Kerrie Western.*

**Hi, Gemmies. Thank you to the few members who volunteered to man the silver cupboard one day each month. We still need a couple more happy helpers. Remember it is only from 8am to 10 am one Tuesday or Wednesday morning a month, and you are rewarded in that the Silver Co-Ordinators get that day Fee-free, plus another day Fee-free for doing Silver Co-Ordinators' duty, and the people's ovation and fame forever!**

Thank you, Lovely people.

*Merilyn.* Club Secretary.

### GENERAL INTEREST:

#### **Very tricky arithmetic!**

Note: This must be done in your head only.

Do NOT use paper and pencil or a calculator. Try it.

Take 1000 and add 40 to it. Now add another 1000. Now add 30.

Add another 1000. Now add 20. Now add another 1000.

Now add 10. What is the total? Did you get 5000?

The correct answer is actually 4100.

If you don't believe it, check it with a calculator!

Today is definitely not your day, is it?

*Thanks Ed Col*

**DID U KNOW! The word "swims" upside-down is still "swims".**

**100 years ago, everyone owned a horse and only the rich had cars.**

**Today everyone has cars and only the rich own horses.**

**Every time you clean something, you just make some-thing else dirty.**

*HAPPINESS: When one's spiritual needs are met by an untroubled inner life, happiness comes when your work and words are of benefit to yourself and others.*

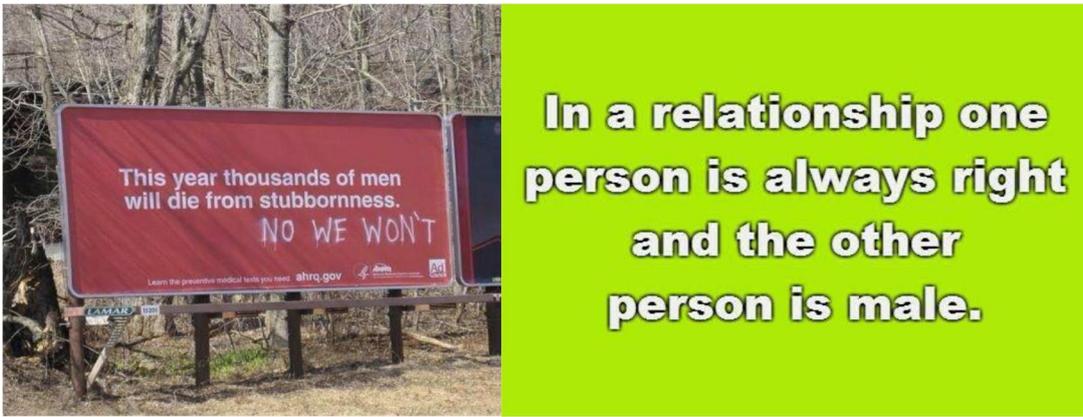
#### **Handy hint:**

##### **Getting rid of ants.**

It may sound cruel, but if you have an ant problem, desperate times call for desperate measures. Put small piles of polenta where you see ants and they'll gobble it up, return 'home' and won't be able to digest it.

Your ant problem (and the ants) will soon be dead. (Polenta, a Northern Italian dish made from coarsely ground yellow corn, has always been popular for its simplicity and versatility. A classic

preparation of polenta requires just a few basic pantry ingredients—water or stock, butter, salt, and pepper).



## MEMBER'S NOTICE BOARD:

### ARTICLES:

We ask you to help us with this newsletter. It is yours. Any stories about fossicking, travel, technical stuff, you name it we'll have it. It shows new and potential members what we do and what we are about. Contributions for the newsletter need to be passed on to me no later than one week before the end of each month. Talk to me! Or email direct to [colthorpe01@bigpond.com](mailto:colthorpe01@bigpond.com)

Thanks for your help.

*Col Thorpe. Editor 0420 917 625*

**GEMBOREE 2020**  
10th to 13th April 2020 Albury Showgrounds

58th NATIONAL GEMBOREE  
ALBURY 2020

**Australia's National Gem,  
Mineral & Fossil Show**

The mighty Murrumbidgee

ALBURY CITY  
ALBURY LAPIDARY & ALLIED CRAFTS INC  
VICTORIAN GEM CLUB ASSOCIATION

The GEMBOREE Booklet, Competition Form, plus Registration, Tailgating and Volunteering Forms are all now available. Gemboree 2020 Co-ordinator: Joan Barrows Mobile 0488 440 493  
Email [joaba99@bigpond.com](mailto:joaba99@bigpond.com)

Copy of the Gemboree Booklet is at the Gem Club for your perusal.  
Booklet is not to be removed from the Club.  
(Reference only).

Gemboree to be held at Albury Showgrounds  
10 - 13th of April 2020.

*Disclaimer: Opinions expressed are those of the original authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, Bribie Island Gem & Fossicking Club Inc. or its members. Persons acting on any opinion, advice, fact or advertisement published in this newsletter do so at their own risk.*