



May Newsletter 2021

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

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 . 5th March 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 (9439 5820)
Tuesday :	Robert Cooper (0418 392 861)
Tuesday Evening:	Leigh Carbines (0499 233 500)
Thursday:	Leigh Carbines (0499 233 500)
Saturday:	Douglas Ramsay (0411 105 031)

Committee Members

Leigh Carbines, Robert Cooper, Dawn Lee, John Milner, Douglas Ramsay, Anne Brewster, Keith Billing, Maureen Boyle, Keith Kerr, Brenda Waters

Newsletter Douglas Ramsay

(0411 105 031) douglas.ramsay1@optusnet.com.au



Membership Renewals 2021

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

Show Report Dawn Lee



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

Dear Members,

Due to such a massive show weekend, I am a bit behind with my usual reports.

So firstly, I would like to mention the winners of both raffles.

Major Raffle.	Prize	Winner
Draw No.1	Selenite Candle Holder	Yani Moedimen
No.2	Large Agate (donated by Adele)	Vicki Srblin
No.3	Amethyst Cluster	Mike

Show Report Dawn Lee—cont

No.4 Agate Generator
No.5 Fluorite Heart

Lisa
Zac Ryder

Mother's Day Raffle.

Terrarium

Gary Benson

How Many Jelly Beans.

(259) Jelly beans

Millie

All prizes have been collected and each winner was delighted with their prize.

Sincere thank you are extended to all the following:

Maureen with help of mailing out raffle tickets.



Jaci for photography of raffle prizes.

Vicki for doing our signage once more, such great help.

John M son Darren, for coming to our rescue with the tagging of electrical equipment.

Anne's son Craig, for supplying us with a large quantity of mugs for the canteen.

Toni and Chris for once more being our overnight security.

Stef for supplying and fitting out the electrical side of our security.

Each and every one who helped with loading and unloading vehicles.

Yani and hubby for the fitting of all tablecloths. There were also some other much appreciated helpers of whom I can't recall – thank you.

Our little pirate "Ally" who did a marvellous job on both days. Three cheers ALLY!!

Special thanks to our super chef Brendan for once again looking after us all so well.

Marian spoiled us with some very yummy Rocky Road on Friday. Excellent – Thank you Marian.

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

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 catchment area.

Show Report Dawn Lee—cont

- 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>

Ian and Keith K did a fabulous job on the entry tent (something of which we have never done before), also thank you to "MAT" and her friend for helping with Covid-19 Check in.

If I was found guilty of not thanking Gary, I would never hear the end of it. So, Gary – a huge thank you for handling the cash register once more. YAY!!

This year we had four lovely ladies working of the rock stall with Rob and Douglas. They were Carmen, Rosemary, Mimi and Gloria, I understand they were killer sales ladies. "Great job ladies".

Margaret worked between helping Brendan and her own stall on Saturday, very much appreciated Marg for all your help.

On Sunday we had Sarah helping Brendan. Sarah has been with us once before as our "Fairy" in the kids' game. (Also, she is Greg's niece). We were very pleased to have Greg with us once more helping in any way that he possibly could. Than you Dear Pal!!

Now we come to our demonstration group who attracted a lot of attention with their knowledge and expertise. Heading this group were Adele and John M, George, Mike and Grant. Great Job!

Last but not least our champion ticket seller- AMREI put in one heck of a weekend. We have never sold so many raffle tickets. Fantastic job lovely lady!!



So, I offer my sincere thank you to everyone once more for all of your assistance. Without everyone's efforts we could never have had such a great success. We could only guess as to how this weekend Show would turn out with Covid-19 situations to manage. Also we could not have wished for better weather or attendances.

At some time or another everyone needs fantastic pals to work with and I am fortunate enough to say that I have had that pleasure. Thank you most sincerely John N and Pauline for your great support.

Show Report Dawn Lee—cont



Dawn
Show Co Ordinator
11/5/2021

Field Trip—Brittania Creek

Brittania Creek is about 1 ½ hours drive from DVGC. It is a location which is great for beginners to fossick and to learn the technique of sieving for gemstones. There are many small, clear quartz, smokey quartz, citrine and topaz? crystals to be found. Opposite is a pic of a nice piece of citrine from this location – but good quality stones are a rare find. There is also a cave in the granite boulders in walking distance, which is apparently easy to access, a torch and hard hat recommended for this. Please note I have not been to this location for about 8 years so if for some reason we cant get into fossick we will try to find somewhere else to have a fossick. Else it might just be a social picnic.

We will meet in the Diamond Valley Gem Club car park at 8.15am on the May 23rd and will leave at 8.30am

sharp –car pooling could be a good idea.

WHAT YOU REQUIRE:

- Lunch as we will stop as a group for lunch 12noon - 1pm – no shops close by.
- Fluoro vest for safety – there is quite thick undergrowth along the creek (I have some spares).
- A sieve set is needed – try to borrow one if you don't have one (12cm and 6cm holes are about the right size)

Quiz— May 2021

- Rubber boots - are essential
 - An old hessian bag or towel (not too light in color) is useful for emptying your sieve onto to look for treasures
 - Long handled shovel and a smaller shovel, maybe a small pick also
 - A container/bucket for your treasures
 - Torch and hard hat if you intend to go into the caves
- Please text me if you want to know if the trip is still on or has been cancelled. I will try to get an update email out on Friday night 21st May. And will provide more detailed directions on the day.
- Margaret Holmes 0424 963 698 (For Diamond Valley Gem Club (Inc.))



- 1 .What is a mineral ?
- 2 . Name two mineral based gems ?
3. Name three sources/ groups / institutions you may go to identify a rock or mineral ?
- 4 . Name three of the five primary types of intrusive igneous rocks with large crystals ?
- 5 . What are Gem Crystals ?
- 6 . Are all Crystals Gems ?
7. Name three of the methods used to identify Rough Gem Stones ?
- 8 . Name an organic based gem ?
- 9 . Name three Crystals which may disintegrate if immersed in water for lengthy periods of time ?
- 10 . Define Refraction relating to rocks ?

Members work—Leigh Carbines

An Example of Leigh Carbines work - Boulder Opal



Calendar of events

May	21-22	Victorian Facetors' Group - Marong Community Hall For details contact Secretary, Graham Sherar Phone: 0417 520 756 Email: secretary@victorianfacetorsgroup.com
	23	Field Trip –Brittania Creek We will meet in the Diamond Valley Gem Club car park at 8.15am on the May 23rd and will leave at 8.30am Margaret Holmes 0424 963 698
	29	Social Function Diamond Valley Gem Club New Rooms Telfer Reserve
June	5-6	Combined Victorian Gem Clubs' Show - GEMKHANA hosted by GV Gem, Mineral and Craft Group. Quest Shepparton Racing Complex. Goulbourn Valley Highway, Kialla. Contact vgac1lapidary@gmail.com
July	9-10	Queensland Boulder Opal Association: Winton Opal Festival 2021 www.qboa.com.au Facebook/Winton-Opal-Festival
	16 - 18	Yowah Opal Festival & Yowah Opal Designer Jewellery Competition. Enquiries Gwen Burney 0427068254 Email yowahcommunity@gmail.com Designer Jewellery Comp. Dave 0411647079
August	21 - 22	Ballarat Gem, Mineral, Crystal and Fossil Show, August 21st & 22nd 2021 Venue "The Victoria Bowling Club" Victoria Street Ballarat, Access Via Gent Street
September	4-5	Mildura & District Gem & Mineral Club - Gem & Jewellery Show. Sunraysia Masonic Hall, Fifteenth street, Irymple. Contact Joe Watson on 0428 540 933 or josephwatson28@icloud.com
	4-5	Frankston and Peninsula Lapidary Club Exhibition at the Peninsula Community Theatre, corner Nepean Highway and Wilsons Rd Mornington. Contact Jo 0420 364 980 or Heike 0401 305 707
	11-12	Bendigo Gem Club plan to hold the next Bendigo Gem Club Expo on the weekend of September 11 & 12, 2021 at the Baptist Church, 757 Mclvor Highway, Junortoun, Victoria. Enquiries:Bendigogemclubinc@gmail.com
	18-10	Waverley Gem Club, Exhibition. Brandon Park Community Centre, 649 Ferntree Gully Road, Glen Waverley. 10am – 5pm both days. Contact Gwen – 0407 512 883
	TBC	VGCA AGM
October	1-4	Broken Hill Mineral Club - Broken Hill Mineral Show - Memorial Oval Williams Street. Contact Bernard 0419 609 629
	9-10	Mordialloc Gem Club Show. Details to be confirmed
	15-17	Nunawading and District Lapidary Club Exhibition Details to be confirmed
	30-31	Geelong Gem and Mineral Club Show - Geelong West Town Hall 153 Packington St, Geelong West. 10-5pm Sat. 10-4pm Sun.
November	14	V.G.C.A. Meeting,

Calendar of events –Cont

November	13-14	South Gippsland Gemstone and Lapidary Club Inc Show (As part of 50th Anniversary Celebrations). Koonwarra Hall. Contact email: 2jinkers@tpg.com.au
	19-22	Victorian Facetors' Group - Marong (Bendigo) Workshop For details contact Secretary, Graham Sherar Phone: 0417 520 756 Email: secretary@victorianfacetorsgroup.com Or visit our Website: www.victorianfacetorsgroup.com
GEMBOREE® 2022 NSW, 15-19 April. Australian Rural Education Centre MUDGEE		

Clubroom update

We have a number of options we are talking to the Council about. Our preferred option is the use of a single transportable to be installed in close proximity to the existing room, an alternative is for 2 container based transportable to be provided. The cost of these options are estimated to be between \$90,000 and \$120,000, which is a considerable savings on the \$230,000 that the council originally estimated it would cost. We are working to achieve an optimal result, and we thank the council for their assistance to resolve.



Figure 1 Artist Impression of improved community facility



Stichtite, - Zeehan, Tasmania Travels

On our travels around Tasmania, travelling in an anticlockwise direction down the rugged west coast we, Amrei and myself – Leigh, came upon Zeehan, named after Dutch explorer Abel Janszoon Tasman's ship, the Zeehean.

Zeehan is a mineral rich area in which silver-lead ore was discovered in 1882, reaching a population of over 10,000 people now reduced to less than 700. Copper ore, Stichtite, tin and nickel are still being mined.

The Mount Lyell mining operations produced more than a million tonnes of copper, 750 tonnes of silver and 45 tonnes of gold since mining commenced in the early 1890s - which is equivalent to over 4 billion dollars' worth of metal in 1995 terms.

Note: The Renison Tin Mine has over 160 Kms of tunnels.

Stichtite is a mineral, a carbonate of chromium and magnesium; formula $Mg_6Cr_2CO_3(OH)_{16} \cdot 4H_2O$. It is formed from hydrated magnesium carbonate mineral, when combined with green serpentine is referred to as Atlantisite.

It was named after Robert Carl Sticht the manager of the Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company in 1910. It is observed in combination with green serpentine at Stichtite Hill near the Dundas Extended Mine, Dundas - east of Zeehan, as well as on the southern shore of Macquarie Harbour.

Stichtite is thought to be a "stone of forgiveness, allowing one to see and experience both sides of emotional issues, facilitating understanding and compassion for ourselves, and for those who may have hurt us in the past. Stichtite's vibrations help one experience the magical opportunity of a deeper Love that come with forgiveness."

Stichtite is a soft stone 1.5 – 2 Mohs scale, waxy to resinous lustre with a pale lilac streak. It is used in Jewellery but is not suitable for constant use, as in rings.



Function—New Clubrooms

Next club function will be at the new Telfer reserve club rooms (20 Noorong Ave.) from 5:00 p.m. on 29 May, at a cost of \$5:00 we will provide meat and a soup, Tea and coffee also provided. If anyone wants to bring food, they are welcome, if you have any special dietary requirements, or wish to bring your own other drinks, they would be fine. Adele Stachiw will be doing a presentation on "Why Gemology" as well. This is to say thank you for the efforts over the show.

Courses

We are planning a number of Courses over the next few months. Course fees are \$35, plus the cost of material, and will be on the basis of 1st come. To register for the course you need to enter your name in the orange folder in the Grace Park Cottage, Corner of Henry and Duncan Avenue. Course location will be as indicated below.

June

Faceting Ongoing enrolments – Grace Park Cottage

Cabochoon Ongoing enrolments – Grace Park Cottage

Metal Clay Forthcoming course with Sue Treloar - Telfer Reserve -

Silversmithing

1st Tuesday 7 pm – Silver Smithing with Mike Griffin -Telfer Reserve

2nd Wednesday 7 pm – Silver Smithing with Mike Griffin - Telfer Reserve

8th Tuesday 7 pm – Silver Smithing with Mike Griffin - Telfer Reserve

9th Wednesday 7 pm – Silver Smithing with Mike Griffin - Telfer Reserve

15th Tuesday 7 pm – Silver Smithing with Mike Griffin - Telfer Reserve

16th Wednesday 7 pm – Silver Smithing with Mike Griffin -- Telfer Reserve

(Jade / Rock) Carving

21st Monday 7pm - Carving course with Leigh Carbines - Telfer Reserve

28th Monday 7pm - Carving course with Leigh Carbines - Telfer Reserve

July

5th Monday 7pm - Carving course with Leigh Carbines - Telfer Reserve

12th Monday 7pm - Carving course with Leigh Carbines - Telfer Reserve

19th Monday 7pm - Carving course with Leigh Carbines - Telfer Reserve

Lost Wax Casting

26th Monday 7pm - Lost Wax Course with Leigh Carbines - Telfer Reserve

28th Wednesday 7pm - Lost Wax Course with Leigh Carbines - Telfer Reserve

August

4th Wednesday 7pm - Lost Wax Course with Leigh Carbines - Telfer Reserve

9th Monday 7pm - Lost Wax Course with Leigh Carbines - Telfer Reserve

11th Wednesday 7pm - Lost Wax Course with Leigh Carbines - Telfer Reserve

Diamond Valley Gem Club Inc. Registered No. A0007700S ABN 49 690 669 155

Minutes of Committee Meeting held 11th May 2021

Meeting opened: - 7:20 pm

Present: - Leigh Carbines, Robert Cooper, Dawn Lee, John Milner, Douglas Ramsay

Apologies: - Anne Brewster, Keith Billing, Maureen Boyle, Keith Kerr, Brenda Waters

Visitors: - Bob

Confirmation of Minutes from the meeting held on 6TH April 2021 (as read)

Moved –Leigh Carbines, seconded — Douglas Ramsay – CARRIED

Matters arising from the previous minutes:

- Telfer Reserve club rooms
 - It was agreed that the 2021 budget submission to Banyule City Council be forwarded to each councillor along with any other relevant information.
 - Moved – Robert Cooper, seconded – Douglas Ramsay – CARRIED
- Name of Telfer Reserve club rooms
 - Robert Cooper advised that the business name 'Bundoora Lapidary Centre has been registered.
- Social function
 - Next function deferred until Saturday 29th May 2021 from 5:00 pm at Telfer Reserve club rooms.
- Supplier discount list
 - Deferred until next meeting
- Credit card payments
 - Robert Cooper advised that he purchased a new Square Reader but was unable to activate it as Square do not support incorporated associations in Australia.
 - Robert Cooper advised that, as an alternative, he purchased a PayPal Here reader (cost \$99.00) but was unsuccessful in activating it as PayPal are ceasing to support PayPal Here in Australia. A refund for the cost of the reader is being requested.
 - Robert Cooper will continue to investigate credit card payment solutions for the club.
- Prepayment of workshop fees (Loyalty Card)
 - Robert Cooper has not yet received a response from Darren Srblin regarding the amendments to the design.
 - It was agreed that the Club trial the Loyalty Card using the initial design.
 - Moved – John Milner, seconded – Leigh Carbines – CARRIED
- Covid check-in
 - Robert Cooper advised that many members are not using the QR code to check-in for Covid tracing and are continuing to check-in manually.
 - Signage will be updated, and members will be required to seek assistance from the Duty Officer or ask another member to check them in using the QR code.
- Annual show
 - Dawn Lee advised that a Show report has been finalised and will be forwarded to members by email or in the newsletter.
- Treasurer's report: - Read by Robert Cooper
 - Total funds \$34,067.67 at 29/03/2021
 - Moved – John Milner, seconded — Robert Cooper– CARRIED
- 2021 Show
 - The 2021 show resulted in a profit to the club of \$7,902.30
 - Moved – Dawn Lee, seconded – Leigh Carbines - CARRIED
- Accounts to be paid: Nil
- Correspondence: – Read by Robert Cooper

- Moved – Robert Cooper, seconded – Douglas Ramsay - CARRIED
- General Business:-
 - Opening times and Duty Officers: -
 - Monday 7:30 pm 9:30 pm John Milner (9439 5820)
 - Tuesday 10:30 am – 3:00 pm Robert Cooper (0418 392 861)
 - Tuesday 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm Leigh Carbines (0499 233 500)
 - Thursday 7:30 pm – 10:00 pm Leigh Carbines (0499 233 500)
 - Saturday 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm Douglas Ramsay (0411 105 031)
- Honorary membership
 - It was agreed that in recognition of the security services provided during the annual show over many years, Toni Baldachino be made an honorary member of the Club.
 - Moved – Dawn Lee, seconded – John Milner - CARRIED
- Field Trip to Britannia Creek
 - It was agreed that the Club undertake a field trip to Britannia Creek on Sunday 23rd May 2021 as proposed by Margaret Holmes.
 - Moved – Douglas Ramsay, seconded – Leigh Carbines – CARRIED
- Unsold slabs from the show
 - It was agreed that a selection of unsold slabs from the show that were priced at \$1.00, \$2.00 or \$3.00 be made available to members at 50 cents each or 5 for \$2.00
 - Moved – John Milner, seconded – Douglas Ramsay - CARRIED
- Meeting closed: 9:40 pm
- Next meeting: 6th June 2021 @ 7:15 pm