

BENDIGEM

The official newsletter of
Bendigo Gem Club Inc.

April 2017

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Bendigo Gem Club Inc.
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 [BendigoGemClub](https://www.facebook.com/BendigoGemClub)

Bendigo Gem Club

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10 Galvin St
Bendigo
Victoria 3550

Club Contacts:

03 5442 3691
www.gembendigo.org.au



facebook.com/BendigoGemClub
facebook.com/groups/gemarama/?fref=ts

Executive Committee

President

Alan Martin 0436 381 329
president@gembendigo.org.au

Vice President

Charlie Bock

Secretary

Lea Smith
secretary@gembendigo.org.au

Treasurer

Julie Harrop
treasurer@gembendigo.org.au

Extra Committee Members

Social Secretary

Edith Oakes 5447 0014
Sandra Anderson 5443 3479
Neale Anderson 5443 3479
John Carey 5443 7135

EXPO Coordinator

Andie Downing 0427 755 205
andie@bendigoeventmanagement.com.au

Field Trip Officer

Currently Vacant

Workshop Manager

Neale Anderson 5443 3479

Bendigem Editor

Lea Smith 5444 4179
lea.smith@bendimail.com

Maintenance Officers

Charlie Bock

Mineral Reps

Pat Sutton 5441 5656
John Carey (see above)

Club Fees 2016

Joining Fee

\$30 one off

Name Tags

\$10

Yearly Membership

\$30/Single
\$40/Family
\$15/Associate

Adult Workshop Fees

Full day \$6.00
Half/Part day \$3.00
Evenings \$3.00

Workshop Times:

Tues. evenings
5-7 p.m.
John Carey and Peter Covington

6-8:30 p.m.
John Carey and Martin Ruffell

Thurs.
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Instructors in all fields

Thurs. nights
7-10 p.m.
Julie Harrop and Kate Middleton

Committee Meetings

3rd Thursday every month at 7:00 p.m.
All members WELCOME

Annual General Meeting

3rd Friday in November Unless stated otherwise.

Presidents Report

PROGRESS AT LAST!!!

The steel for the silver room expansion is in and cut to size, the old tables that were for sale have all sold with 3 left for tables left for bench tops.

The open day and membership drive went very well, Thanks to Nathan for his work on Facebook, posters, ringing up the Bendigo newspapers, the tourism authority and sorting out the activities crews for the day.

Thanks to our host and hostesses, thanks to Janet for teaching faceting, Peter Debbie and myself were flat out all day with cabbing classes and demos. What a day it was, they come from all over with a wide range of interests, old and young!

John, Manny and Sue in the silver smithing crew impressed all with their work and crafts Charlies work with waxes was well received and Charlie was even able to call time at 2.

Thanks to Ken and his Crew for keeping the Sausages coming all day which was well received by all

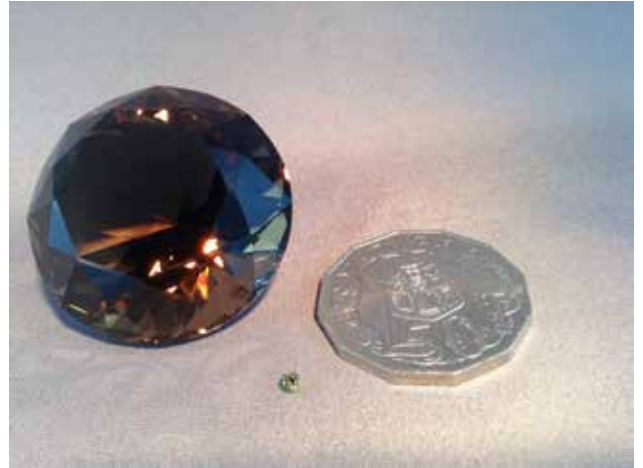
Well done to all, the day went perfectly from 8 to 80 everyone was impressed we had heaps of enthusiastic people (8 new sign ups) and some very nice things made. All in all a very successful day.

Like the beautiful Bendigo weather, you all shone

Al
President

Faceting at the Gem Club

As an extension of last months faceting article, I have been able to source some images of some of the work Janet has been doing. This is a clear topaz, 40mm oval brilliant cut design



The picture above is a smoky quartz with copper highlights. Cut into a round brilliant variation design. The 50c is to give you an indication of the size of the finished cut stone.



The round white stone is tv glass cut into an egg design and the yellow stone is citrine cut into an egg design.

As was mentioned in last months article, for those who wish to learn the art of faceting, the club has four facet machines for use and instruction can be done on either Tuesday afternoons or Thursday when the club is open.

Janet comes to the club on Thursday from 10 to 4 and is ready to teach anyone who is interested how to facet. Once you start and see what you can create, it can become addictive, but is one of the most rewarding hobbies I have ever undertaken.

Open Day

Open Day

On Saturday the 15th April, the club held its first open day. There was a bit of speculation as to how this first day would go as it was Easter Saturday, but I am happy to report that it was a success.

We had over 80 visitors through the door, even a visitor from the UK came to have a look. Considering there was a few hiccups with the address not being listed on the ad in the newspaper etc, the quantity of visitors was exceptional.

Nathan and Sandra manned the door and collected names, and welcomed each visitor with a friendly face and a happy invitation to come in and have a look around.

Visitors were free to walk around the club on their own, but most were escorted by one of our volunteer club members. Which was a better option, as they were able to explain what we do and what machinery we have.

Janet was busy showing a number of guests the facet machines and how to facet with a couple of visitors actually sitting at a facet machine and having a go. This is Scott trying his hand at faceting:



There was no rest for any of the volunteers. The cabbing room was filled with interested guests as Peter, Alan and Deb demonstrated cutting, grinding and polishing on the bench grinders and polishing wheels. Again we had some visitors trying their hand at shaping a rough peice into something fantastic. The below image is visitor Adam having a go at shaping some rough.



The silver-smithing room was a buzz with Manny, Sue and John showing their wares and techniques. I checked in on how John was going throughout the day and the chain necklace he was making just kept getting longer and longer and longer...

With plenty of hand made silver jewellery on display, a number of visitors were impressed and hopefully inspired to come along to try their hand at jewellery making.

Quite a few membership forms were handed out, with some new members signing up on the day. This is great for the club as the more members the better the club will be. Hopefully the guests that took membership forms home with them will also decide to join the club and become as enthusiastic about the club as we are.

Open Day (cont.)

We offered our visitors tea, coffee and cold drinks and Ken dished up the usual sausage in bread from the barbecue. We ran out of sausages and had to run down to coles for some more.



Ken, cooking up a storm

We had a number of books and magazines on the table for visitors to peruse, which were well used. While Pat was busy describing what minerals or rocks some the kids had picked up out at the rock pile.

A number of Bendigem's were taken as were flyers for the expo. Some of the visitors have been to our expos in previous years and were looking forward to coming along again this year.

Overall a great successful day. Thank you to Nathan for organising the day and to Sandra for her excellent work on the door. To all the volunteer demonstrators and volunteer guides and helpers. Thanks to Charlie for doing some silver casting and demonstrating this process.

The next open day is Saturday, 29th April, 10 to 2. Please come along and show your support for the club.



Open Day (cont.)



Next Open Day

The club is holding our next open day in April. We will be doing some extensive advertising for the open day so please make yourself available to help support this membership drive. This also coincides with our Silver Casting Day. This is a perfect opportunity to show case this to visitors.

10-2pm, Saturday 29th April

Lets have as many members as we can at the club to show visitors around and encourage people to join.

The more members, the stronger the club becomes.

Silver Casting Dates

Silver Casting Dates for 2017 are:

29th April, 22th July, 18th Nov

Please register on the form at the club.

Field Trips

The Field Trip officer position is currently vacant, if you are interested in taking up this position please let us know.

If anyone has any suggestions for a field trip, please contact the president or secretary.

General Information

What Am I?



This one is a bit tricky! What do you think?

Email your answer: secretary@gembendigo.org.au

Answer next edition.

Last months gem was a Herkimer Diamond, a doubly terminated quartz with fluid inclusions

Expo 2017

Wont be long before **Expo 2017** is on our doorstep. The committee has been busy getting everything organised and planning is well underway.

This is a reminder to all members of the club to please make yourselves available for the expo weekend.

If everyone pitched in to help out, you would only be required for a couple of hours.

The expo is our major fundraiser for the club and we need all hands on deck to help make it a success. We dont want to leave it up to the same group of members to do the work every year.

When the time comes, please volunteer some time. Expo dates are 9th and 10th September.

Upcoming Events

April

22-23 Essendon Gem & Lapidary Club Inc Annual Show, Cross Keys Reserve, Bridge St, Essendon
Contact: Daryl Bond 03 9350 1804 or www.essendongemclub.asn.au

29 Open Day, Bendigo Gem Club, 10-2pm, 10 Galvin Street, Bendigo, contact: 5442 3691

May

1-7 Trip to Flinders Island for Topaz, GV Gem Mineral & Craft Group, Contact George Fadersen
03 5831 8466 after 6.00pm

6-7 Diamond Valley Gem Club Annual Exhibition, Masonic Hall, 23 Ester St,
Greensborough, Contact: Leigh 03 9846 2335

13 Open Day, Bendigo Gem Club, 10-2pm, 10 Galvin Street, Bendigo, contact: 5442 3691

19-22 Facetors Group Workshop, Sheepparton. Contact: Graham Young 0487 283 598

August

11-14 Facetors Group Workshop, Maiden gully Contact: Graham Young 0487 283 598

19-20 Ballarat & District Gem Club Show, "The Farm", 800 Norman St, Nth Ballarat

Gemborees

2018 Willunga, South Australia

2019 Queensland

2020 Victoria



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Oval Motel

194 Barnard Stree, Bendigo, Vic, 3550
www.ovalmotel.com.au

Hosts: Lyn, Reuben, Olivia & Ash
Tariff: Room only. Breakfast to unit
Reception hours: 7.30am - 9.30pm



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BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
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