



TAURANGA GEM & MINERAL CLUB INC

P.O. BOX 841 TAURANGA 3144

GEMZONE

May 2022

VILLAGE GEMS

TAURANGA GEM & MINERAL CLUB Inc.

HISTORIC VILLAGE

17TH AVE TAURANGA

POLISHED STONES - CLOCKS – GREENSTONE PENDANTS - MINERALS

NOVELTIES - KAURI GUM - JEWELLERY - POLISHED FACES

MUSEUM & FLUORESCENT DISPLAY

Rotorua Lapidary



WE HAVE BEEN SERVING NEW ZEALAND SINCE 1981

STOCKISTS OF:

- Tumbling Machines for Stone, Glass & Shell
- Rock Cutting, Polishing & Carving Machines
- Grinding & Polishing Media for Stone, Glass, Shell, Bone and Metal
- Crystals, Minerals & Rough Rock
- Polished Stones
- Fossils
- Gemstone Beads & Metal Clasps & Fittings
- Greenstone & Jade Carvings

SERVICES:

- Stone Cutting, Polishing & Drilling
- Jewellery Repairs & Bead Threading
- Stone Bead Necklace & Earring Making

**HOURS: Monday – Friday 9.30am to 5pm
Saturday 10am – 2pm**

Rotorua Lapidary Rock & Mineral Supplies Ltd
1120 Eruera Street, Rotorua 3010
Postal Address: P O Box 569, Rotorua 3040

Ph: 07 348 8996 Fax 07 348 8621

rotorualapidary@xtra.co.nz
www.rotorualapidary.co.nz

Colin & Bev Simmons

May Club Events

Workshop

Every Tuesday night from 6pm to 7-30pm.

Use of the workshop during shop hours:

\$2 per hour

Please pay at the counter

Club Night

Monday 9th May

Please don't attend if you are unwell

Masks are required to enter building

Juniors from 6 pm – 7.30pm

Fossil making

Seniors at 7.30pm

Fossil Making

Training in the workshop

Silent Auction The silent auction is a collection of Australia stones and minerals.

Finds for the interest table

Committee - 3rd Wednesday of Month

18th May 2022 at 7.30 pm.

Meet at the clubrooms.

Field Trip

29 May Tairua Meet 9:45am by the toilets/rest area just north of the one way bridge heading into Tairua

NOTE: Contact Graham if you need to carpool. Do check your email in case of bad weather. Graham Hill: 027 2566399 / 07 552 4496
Remember to bring your camera.

Field Trip cancellations: TGMC takes the safety of its members seriously and has the right to cancel field trips in the event of severe weather warnings or other factors that prevent any trip from taking place. News about changes, postponements or cancellations to a proposed field trip will be advised via email and posted on the Facebook page as soon as possible.



Stone Of The Month
Corromandel Quartz

Collection Viewing Night Last Wed of Month

Wednesday 25th May

Is at the home of Graham Hill

Address; 120 Borell road,

Phone: 552 4496 or 027 256 6399

Please Don't Attend If Unwell

Please bring a plate to share for supper and any rocks or fossils for identification or discussion.

Club notices

Masks are required to enter building

WANTED: Mechanically minded person to help Bryce in the workshop



| TGMC Committee Members 2020 and other Club Officers | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| President Shared | Graeme Dewhurst | 576 7874 |
| | Carla van den Hout | 552 5175 |
| Vice President Shared | Carla van den Hout | 552 5175 |
| | Graeme Dewhurst | 576 7874 |
| Treasurer | Johanna Raynor | 072828126 |
| Secretary Club Email | Steve Raynor sec.tgmc@hotmail.com | 282 8126 |
| Membership | | |
| Publicity | Bryce Cooper | 0276950606 |
| Shop | Carla van den Hout | 552 5175 |
| | Olga Nicholson | 575 2070 |
| Shop supplies | Bryce Cooper | 0276950606 |
| Field trips | Graham Hill | 552 4496 |
| Field trip assist. | Charlie Harris | 021 0409332 |
| Workshop | Bryce Cooper | 0276950606 |
| | Raymond Schroder | 576 3027 |
| Museum display | Margaret Parker | 576 2660 |
| Facebook admin | Ian Mason | 543 4951 |
| | Kristy Phillips | 0210397340 |
| Newsletter advertising | Ian Mason | 021 235 5818 |
| Patron | | |
| Newsletter | Ian Mason / Gordon Sherwood | 0212355818/ 0226323534 |
| Library/Museum | Marcel Authier | 572 3034 |
| | John Clark | 022 0206812 |
| Maintenance | Bryce Cooper | 0276950606 |
| Microscopes | | |
| Silent Auction | Ian Mason | 021 235 5818 |

New Zealand Events

2022 – National Show. To be hosted by the Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club.

**TGMC Show 7-9 October-
Tauranga**

Australian events

Health & Safety Matters

Health & Safety for The Workshop

Please note that the club can no longer provide earmuffs and safety glasses for use in the workshop, due to hygiene regulations.

Therefore **we ask everyone who will use the workshop to bring their own safety glasses and earmuffs**. We also ask for everyone to put their name and phone number on the earmuffs and safety glasses.

However, the club will have ear plugs available at cost price. The earplugs can be purchased at the shop counter.

TGMC Website: <https://www.tgmclub.com/>

We have a new web master updating our web page.

"Please bring along on club night something you've created at the club or from field trip finds. These are to be photographed and placed on a new montage page on the website."



Health and Safety WORK SHOP TRAINING

Some important issues need to be addressed regarding the use of the work shop. As health and safety is important the committee have decided to close the work shop except for Tuesday night and club nights.

This is a temporary arrangement So we can evaluate and upgrade the workshop machinery as well as implement a training program To ensure everybody knows how to keep themselves safe and look after the machinery,

Thank you for your patience
Feel free to contact Bryce on 027 6950606
if you have questions or ideas
they are always welcome .



BOOK REVIEW

Book Reviews for the newsletter can be emailed to Ian Mason
imn.mason@hotmail.com

Jurassic Mystery Fossil – Peter Nixon

A field trip by Club members to the Hauturu Road fossil site near Kawhia recently found a number of unusual shaped flat circular fossils in the Upper Jurassic rocks there. After a number of queries, I decided to send the fossils to Marianna Terezow in GNS Science for identification. No one seemed to have a clear idea what they were – a new species, maybe? Even the experts did not seem to be able to identify them – some thought they were non –biological concretionary structures of some kind, others thought they were biological, but from what animal? Eventually they were sent to James Crampton , an expert Jurassic Geologist, for his opinion .

They were identified as pieces of belemnite phragmacone, the chamber dividing septa of a Jurassic squid like animal. Single and pairs of chambers are often preserved isolated from the remainder of the phragmacone and the belemnite guard or rostrum. The illustration attached shows how the various parts of the belemnite fit together. The phragmacone is a sort of internal skeleton enclosing the soft parts of the animal. GNS Science thought it was interesting that we found a number of these chambers, and suspects they were from the same individual, rather than a number of Belemnites.

So, the mystery was solved after some Sherlock Holmes detective work. GNS science commented” Thanks for sending in such an interesting query! Its fun for us to do this sort of Paleo-detective work and learn new things. ”

For me, the most interesting thing about Geology are the new mystery fossils which are found, which generate interesting debates, both in our Club and in GNS Science. We look forward to the next unusual fossil find. Thanks to GNS Science for their input.

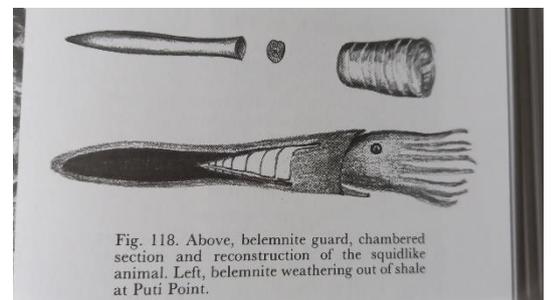


Fig. 118. Above, belemnite guard, chambered section and reconstruction of the squidlike animal. Left, belemnite weathering out of shale at Puti Point.

Cleaning Quartz with Oxalic Acid

By Gordon Sherwood

Reprint from last year after so many excellent finds after the Komata Reefs Trip.

Oxalic acid is easy to use and gives great results but not everyone gets the expected results first time around, why is this? For myself, the first time using Oxalic acid I was terribly disappointed with the results as my quartz came out with a yellow scum over them. So, what did I do wrong, I was sure I followed the directions I had been given and surely, I had not been led up the garden path! Further research via YouTube and more questions asked of fellow club members I found a few tips that made all the difference. Firstly, as I had originally read that the acid works best warm. I had initially mixed the acid in warm water but being in a bucket it soon cooled down. Not a problem I thought as research had shown that the quartz could remain in the acid until it had done its job. But it wasn't working so left it longer and still longer a good week maybe more due to work hours and what was seen was a yellow scum covering the crystals. "This is not good", I thought. Time to ask some more questions.

The answer was simply to redo it again. Then the magic ingredient was mentioned, YES, a very magic ingredient. Surely this was someone playing me for a fool, but why not give it a go. What was that magic ingredient you ask, why it was tinfoil, scrunched up tinfoil. Apparently, this helps stop the yellowing. Secondly, it was suggested to keep it warm the whole time and a crock pot was suggested as a good means to do this. Having a reasonably large amount of crystal to clean I thought about the mother in law's old steriliser for preserving fruit would be ideal fit for the purpose if used as a double boiler as the thermostatically controlled temperature would ensure a constant temperature during the process. Time to give it a go in the good old Kiwi way, all was working sweet as, YES, the crystals were going white, and the quartz was being cleaned as expected, awesome. Then disaster. The 16ltr bucket split and acid had leaked into the main heating area where the copper element was. Acid and copper do not mix I know that much. Fortunately, I had discovered the disaster early on and quickly emptied the steriliser and added baking soda to neutralise the rinse water, hoping that I had not wrecked the element. Phew, seems like it is still OK.

Round Three. New Bucket like brand new, Check. Tinfoil scrunched up, well three balls of scrunched up, tinfoil, Check. Temp set at 55DegC being the temp of the hot water cylinder, Check. Acid added to the crystal water, never put water in acid. After a couple of hours everything was going fine, the quartz was looking cleaner. After 5 hours it looked nearly done, being later in the evening I turned the temp down a bit and waited for the morning to arrive. Rubber acid proof gloves donned, respirator mask to minimise the fumes from the acid which are not advisable to breathe, I was ready to check on my rocks. This time I was not disappointed in the least.

What did I use to get this great result?

1 cup of Oxalic Acid crystals to the 16ltr bucket approx..

10ltrs of water

3 scrunched up balls of tinfoil.

Boiler set at 55DegC.

Crystals soaked for approx.. 12hrs.



Some Dirty Quartz Pseudomorph and the cleaned Quartz

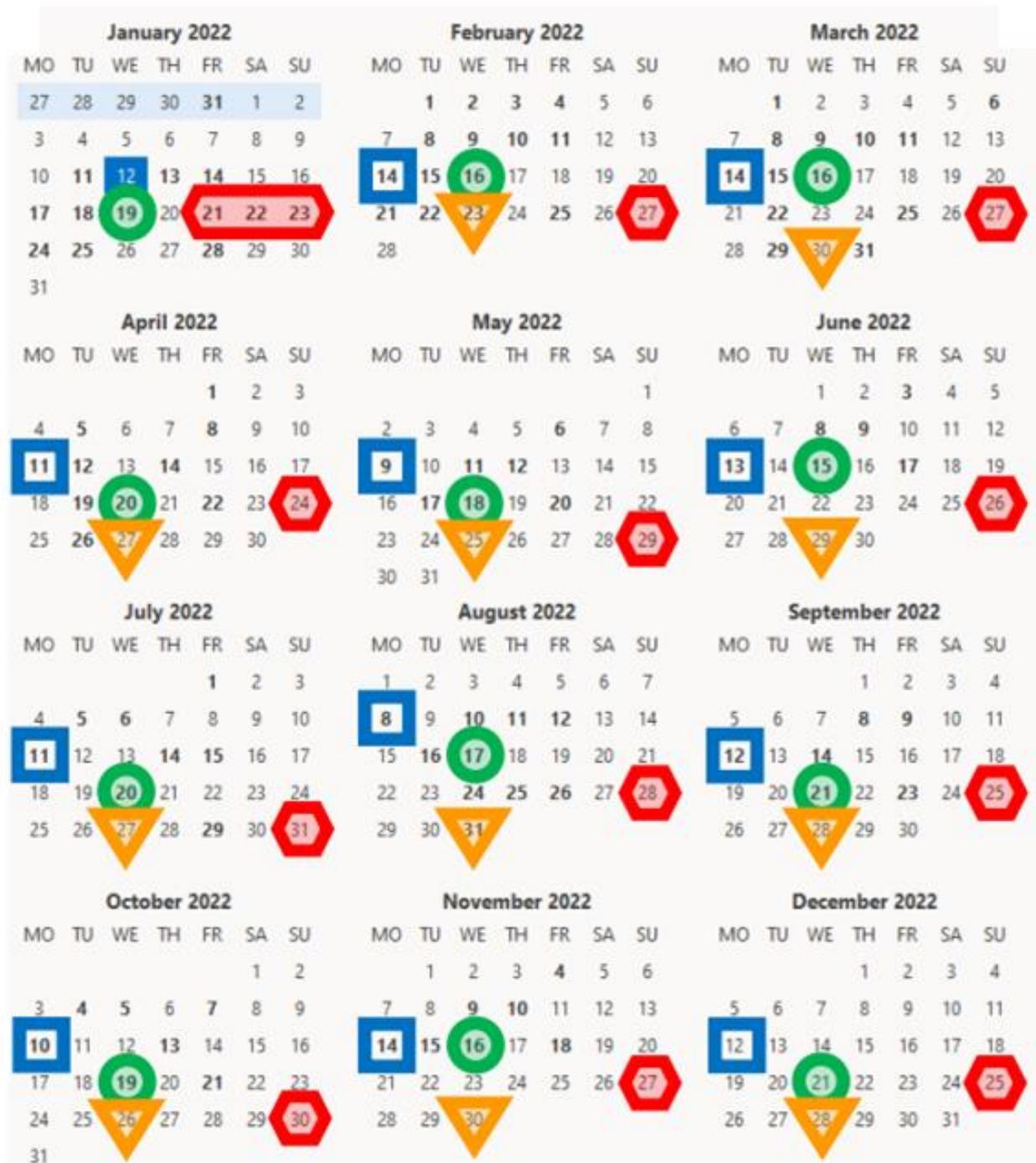


Cleaning Quartz With Oxalic Acid

Visit this You Tube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rrXObM0tdho&t=221s>

TGMC 2022 Regular Activities Calendar



 **Club night**
2nd Monday
6:00pm children 7:30pm all club

 **Field Trip**
Last Sunday

Workshop night
Every Tuesday 6:00-7:30pm
February through Nov

 **Committee meeting**
3rd Wednesday 7:30pm

 **Collection Viewing Night**
Last Wednesday 7:30pm

Updated 19 Jan 2022

WANTED TO BUY

Wanted to buy: I am looking to buy any lapidary equipment. I am most hoping to find any slab / trim saw 8" or 10" or larger. Any equipment for cabbing & grinding. Contact: kathy.gott@gmail.com

Wanted to buy: Collections of Minerals, Crystals and polished faces. Large or small, part or all.
Contact Greg 575 3851.

Wanted to buy: Bob Vear is looking for NZ Fossils Ammonites and Trilobites or any interesting fossils. Location identified preferably. Contact Bob (07) 543 0660.

Wanted: Please drop off any surplus egg cartons at the shop for Ian Mason.

Wanted to buy: Gold, silver, any old or unwanted jewellery made of gold or silver for scrap. Top scrap prices paid. Contact Graeme on 07 577 1979 or 027 4496 960; email carver.petersen@xtra.co.nz

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| | |
|-------------|---|
| TAURANGA | cnr elizabeth & glasgow sts (OPEN 7 DAYS) |
| MOUNT | 37 hewletts road. (beside the flyover) |
| GREERTON | 1231 cameron rd (next to super liquor) |
| FRASER COVE | corner of fraser & brook streets |
| OTUMOETAU | 95 ngatai road (near the otumoetai golf club) |



**Don't Forget the silent auction
next meeting Mon 9th**

**What are the Birthstones
for May?**

Emerald

Agate

I'm only buying one more rock



False Information

Checked by independent fact-checkers

WANTED TO BUY

Collections of minerals
and crystals.

Lapidary material rough
and cut.

Phone Greg 07 574 0905

DIAMOND & Co

Custom Jewellery Design & Manufacture

diamondandco@xtra.co.nz • www.diamondandco.co.nz

155 Maunganui Rd,
MT MAUNGANUI

07 575 3851

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