



**TAURANGA GEM & MINERAL CLUB INC**

**P.O. BOX 841 TAURANGA 3144**

**GEMZONE**

# February 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](mailto:rotorualapidary@xtra.co.nz)  
[www.rotorualapidary.co.nz](http://www.rotorualapidary.co.nz)

Colin & Bev Simmons

# February Club Events

## Workshop

**Every Tuesday night** from 6pm to 7-30pm.  
Workshop reopens 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2022

**Use of the workshop during shop hours:**

**\$2 per hour**

**Please pay at the counter**

Shop Closed 24<sup>th</sup> Dec – 5<sup>th</sup> Jan

## Club Night

**Monday 14th February**

**Please don't attend if you are unwell**

Vaccine Pass required to enter building

**Juniors from 6 pm – 7.30pm**

Jewellery making

**Seniors at 7.30pm**

Discussion on Pet Wood

Summer finds for the interest table

## Committee - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of Month

**- 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7.30 pm.**

Meet at the clubrooms.

## Field Trip

**Sunday 27 February** Field Trip – To Hauturu.  
Meet at the corner of Harbour Rd and Kawhia Rd.  
We will leave at 10.30 sharp for ammonites  
**Please remember to bring a Koha for the land owners,**  
**as this trip is on private land.**

## South Island Fieldtrip 2023

18<sup>th</sup> February to 3<sup>rd</sup> March

We have pre-organized a 2-week rock hunting expedition encompassing North and South Otago, Southland, and West Coast. The full itinerary can be emailed to you by Graham Hill, contact him via [grahmsgardens@outlook.co.nz](mailto:grahmsgardens@outlook.co.nz).

Please express your interest early as we are limiting this trip to the first 20 people.

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



**Stone Of The Month**

Pet Wood

**Field Trip cancellations:** TGMCM 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.

## Collection Viewing Night Last Wed of Month

**Ian & Laverne Mason**

4 Valley View Rd

Lower Kaimai

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

## Club notices

**Vaccine Passes are required to enter building**

Remember to take a camera or your phone on the field trips then you can submit your photos for the next newsletter or our Facebook page.

WANTED: Mechanically minded person to help Bryce in the workshop

- People to help paint the inside of our shop a bit closer to summer

## Club membership.

Your club membership is due for renewal for the year 2022.

**Please fill out the new subscription form and return by email to;**

[sec.tgmc@hotmail.com](mailto:sec.tgmc@hotmail.com) or drop off at the club rooms.

Payment can be made online or at the shop.

TGMC Committee Members 2020 and other Club Officers			New Zealand Events
President Shared	Graeme Dewhurst Carla van den Hout	576 7874 552 5175	<b>2022</b> – National Show. To be hosted by the Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club.
Vice President Shared	Carla van den Hout Graeme Dewhurst	552 5175 576 7874	
Treasurer	Johanna Raynor	072828126	<b>Australian events</b>
Secretary Club Email	Steve Raynor sec.tgmc@hotmail.com	282 8126	
Membership			
Publicity	Bryce Cooper	0276950606	
Shop	Carla van den Hout Olga Nicholson	552 5175 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	Roger Eade	576 0117	
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	

## 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."



## SUBSCRIPTION PAYMENT FORM 2022

Tauranga Gem & Mineral Club, PO Box 841, Tauranga 3144

Email: [sec.tgmc@hotmail.com](mailto:sec.tgmc@hotmail.com)

Surname.....

Christian Names.....

**Junior** members.....

.....

Address.....

.....

..... Post Code.....

Phone: Home..... Mobile.....

Email.....

New member ☐ Renewing member ☐ Any Junior members ☐

I wish to receive my newsletter by: Email ☐

Posted (\$12 extra) ☐

Financial year ends 31st Dec. Subs due for payment by 31<sup>st</sup> March. If sub unpaid by 31st March all Club privileges lapse, including newsletter

**Subs: Family \$35.**

**Individual \$25.**

Subs can be paid to Westpac Bank a/c no. 030435 0467603 00

Use your name as reference. Please still fill out this form and return by email or send to club to ensure your payment is recognised.

Payment by: Cash ☐ Eftpos ☐ Online Banking ☐



# TGMC 2022 Regular Activities Calendar



**Club night**  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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

## BOOK REVIEW

Book Reviews for the newsletter can be emailed to Ian Mason

[imn.mason@hotmail.com](mailto:imn.mason@hotmail.com)

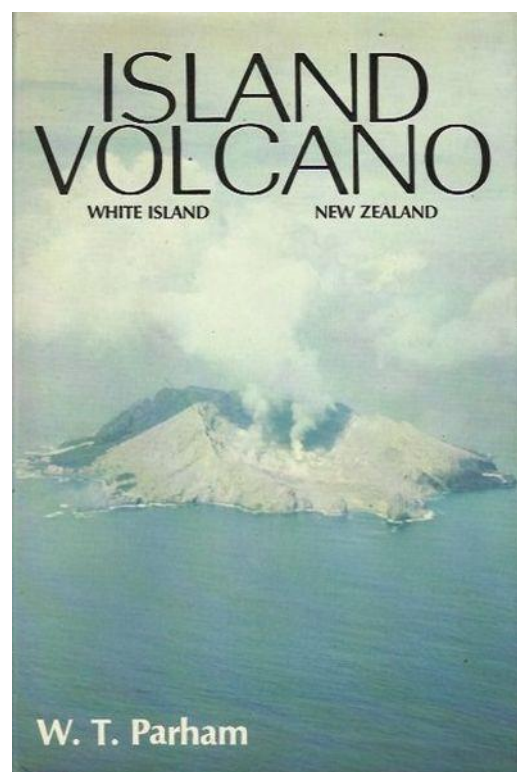
### Island Volcano

By Bill Parham

Natural phenomena such as volcanoes and various forms of thermal activity are a distinctive feature of New Zealand, and White Island, linked to the chain of volcanoes which runs through the centre of the North Island, has been widely credited as being the safety valve which protects us from major disasters such as the Taupo and Tarawera eruptions.

Though scientists may disagree on this, New Zealand's only marine volcano has the added fascination which all islands seem to have, and since the coming of the Maori to the present day has served as an irresistible magnet to the bold, some of whom have paid with their lives. Fishermen, muttonbird hunters, sulphur miners, scientists and conservationists alike have heeded its call, possibly to be joined in the future by the tourist.

In this book we are given a comprehensive picture of the geological formation of the island, its flora and fauna – both remarkable in their ability to survive in extremely adverse conditions -, the history of the island both as a mining centre for sulphur, and later as a private scenic reserve, the expeditions to study gannets, the short-tailed bat and muttonbirds. Many myths and legends about Whakaari are explained or disposed of, and the book is based upon the most careful and fully documented research.



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Email [tsm@historic.org.nz](mailto:tsm@historic.org.nz)



Mr Parham knows the island well and vividly describes what it must have been like to live and work in this weird and isolated place – unpredictable and frightening, but with its own strange beauty and fascination.

Cheers John Clark  
Tauranga Gem & Mineral Club.

**You Can Borrow  
This Book From The  
Club Library**

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:carver.petersen@xtra.co.nz)

## What are the Birthstones for February?

Amethyst

Jasper

Garnet

Jade

Serpentine

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- wheel alignment
- suspension and steering
- workshop
- mag wheels
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[www.tyremaster.co.nz](http://www.tyremaster.co.nz)

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
OTUMOETA	95 ngatai road (near the otumoetai golf club)

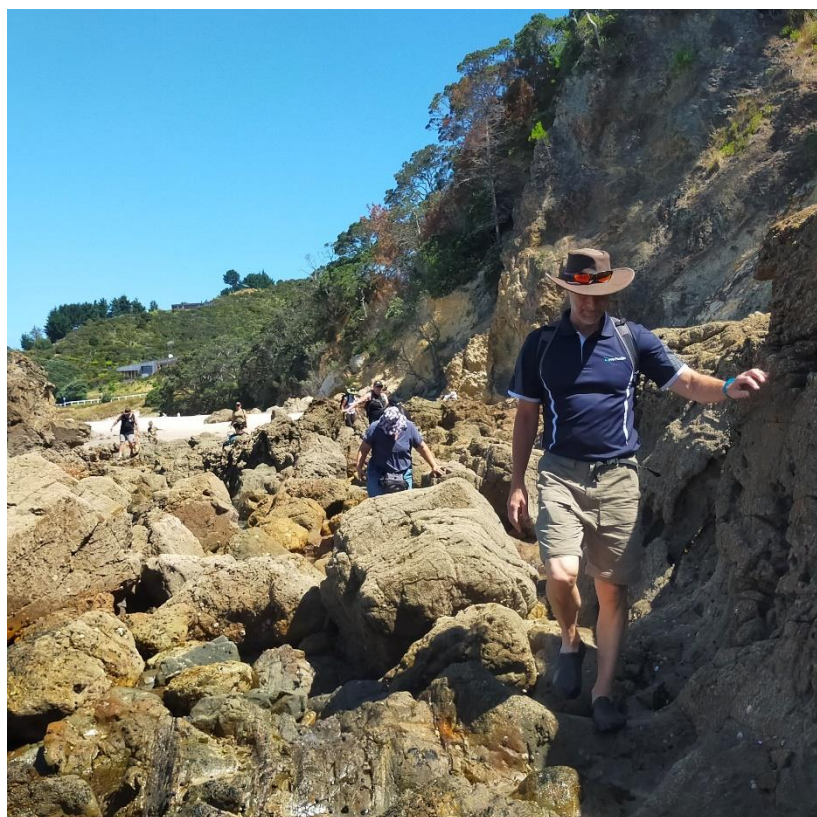




# Tauranga Gem and Mineral Club's Extended Weekend Away

Gordon Sherwood

Starting on the Friday club members booked into the River Glen campground early as we had the 3pm target to assemble at the end of Blackjack Rd to find what is locally known as Blackjack or fossilized swamp chert. A cloudless sky beat down on the intrepid fossickers as we sought out shelter



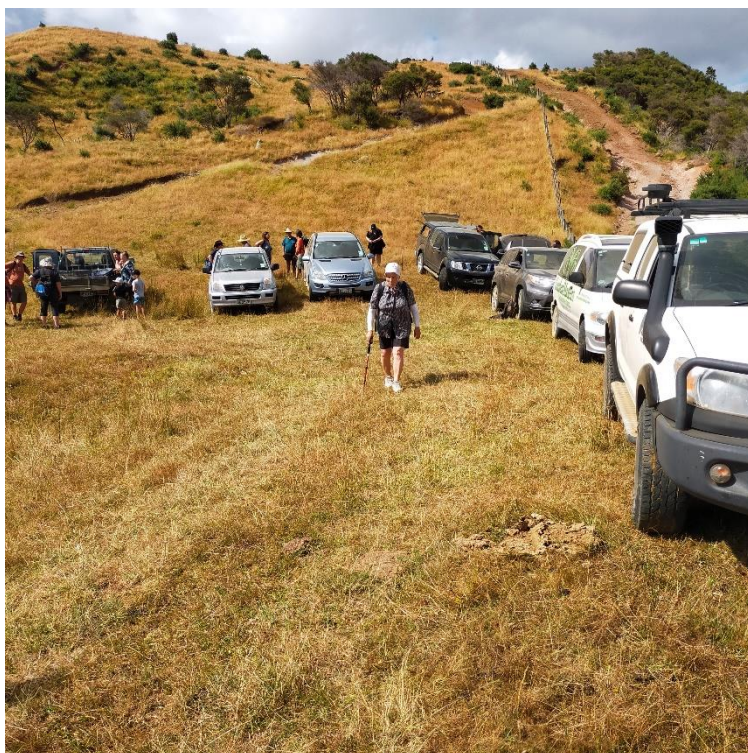
under the Pohutukawa while everyone assembled for this adventure. The usual briefing was given by Graham and some examples of what we were to look for. Setting out around the rocky outcrop with the tide lapping at one's feet we traversed the short distance to the first bay that held the treasure for us. Blackjack was everywhere as happy campers eagerly scrambled over the small boulders filling backpacks and bags with the very heavy chert. Several packs were emptied several times as better quality examples were found and needed the space. A move to the next bay saw even larger boulders of Blackjack but only in half of the bay, speculation as why this was so was entered into.

After a balmy night under canvas for some and cabins for others, we were rearing to go for our next adventure for Pet Wood with the destination less than half an hour away. At the rendezvous, we were met

with more local members all keen to fossick on the private property graciously opened to us by the farmer. Another briefing, essential to ensure that we all knew what was required from us while on the property. Another pitstop on the farm to fill the 4X4s with bods as the accessway is not suited to anything but. The bumpy journey down the road had some of the lower SUVs scraping their undercarriages on rocks during the descent to the creek that held the prize we all were so much looking forward to. No starters gun was necessary as the keen members wanting to forget the decent of the past few minutes headed out into the scrub, gorse, and blackberry in search of the creek that promised so much.

Lunchtime was a great opportunity to boast of one's exploits of the big carry out of the creek back to the vehicles, there were a few mammoth efforts put in as this year there was not many smaller examples to be found, many of the petrified wood fragments were only to beheld not held as several hundred kilo of rock was a bit out of our league.

With vehicles laden, the trip back to the campground was undertaken by weary explorers who knew that victuals were soon to be served to replenish the energy spent during the day. As is the club's custom we had a BBQ Saturday night with







the best of our finds being judged. Our esteemed judge was chosen and the judging was underway. If you want to place in the comp enter pretty crystals that sparkle seemed to be the criteria to secure a placing. All good fun, chatting catching up, and sharing stories until it was way past that time again.

Sunday dawned and for some the arduous effort of the preceding days had caught up, but it was our final day and the prize was about an hour away that required traversing a narrow windy gravel road, I've never been on a trip where this is not the case, to meet up again for another briefing. This time the prize was only a few minutes into the Coromandel bush, and soon the sound of puffing blokes, some puffing harder than others, was heard as laden packs broke through the undergrowth determined to grind the wearer into the ground. Yet others quite restrained

had an exceptional quality toffee-like substance that drew gasps and sounds of awe and wonder, as these pieces were reverently handed around for all to imbibe of the gemmy goodness.

Lunchtime saw most of the crew head over the hill to Coromandel township for a feed of fish and chips at the oyster place, while others broke out the three-day-old sandwiches as if they were a regal banquet ready to sustain them for the next and final phase. Actually that was me. Crystals are rumoured to be found on Preece Point for the hardy. An easy walk to the beach, yet once gain it was an acrobatics display leaping from rock to rock due to an inconsiderate high tide blocking the way. This weary traveller decided that crystals could be left for the adventurous or another day. Still, the raw beauty of the Coromandel is a sight to behold any day and so much more enjoyable with such a fantastic team that the Tauranga Gem and Mineral Club are.



Image courtesy of pareldolla/reddit

# WANTED TO BUY

Collections of minerals  
and crystals.

Lapidary material rough  
and cut.

Phone Greg 07 574 0905

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## Facebook Groups To Follow



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[New Zealand lapidary, Rocks, Minerals, Fossils](#)

[NZ Rocks, Fossils, Crystals Buy Sell & Exchange \(Only NZ nothing imported\)](#)

[Coromandel Peninsula Rockhounds](#)