



Pretoria Gem and Mineral Club

Affiliated to the Federation of Southern African Gem and Mineralogical Societies

Registered as non-profit organization – SARS 9830/639/14/3

December 2015

Pretoria Rockhound Digest

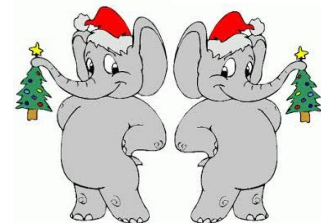
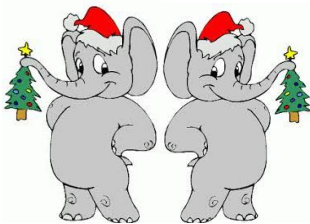
Pretoria Gem and Mineral Club
P.O. Box 36 888
Menlo Park
Pretoria 0102

Clubhouse: no. 29, 26th St., Menlo Park
Saturdays 11:00–15:00, Thursdays 18:00– 21:00
Website: www.pgmc.co.za
Bank: ABSA Bank, Acc. No. 405 584 9839

Chairman: Willem Vorster, 076 612 4888
wcs.vorster@gmail.com
Vice-Chairman: Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683
bernardstrydom@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lex Krabbendam, 083 449 6812
Secretary: Yvonne Olivier, 076 594 8914
Editor: Heidi Naudé, 072 923 2180
heidi.naude@za.bosch.com

Programme Highlights December 2015



- *** **Swop and Sell** **5 Dec.**
- *** **PGMC Year-End Function, incl. Auction** **5 Dec.**
- *** **“Bring-and-Braai”** **5 Dec.**



**The clubhouse will be closed from 20.12.2015 onwards
and re-open again on 09.01.2016.**



- *** **No Swop & Sell and/or other “special activities” during January 2016**
- Lapidary and Silversmithing Workshops will be open, see page 2

PGMC Programme for December 2015:

(as at 25.11.2015)

Date	Event	Time	Contact Details
3 Dec.	Silversmithing Workshop open	18:00 – 21:00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683
5 Dec.	Lapidary and Silversmithing Workshop open Swop & Sell and Social Auction – Minerals, Lapidary Material, Tumbler Year-End Function incl. Bring-and-Braai	11.00 – 15.00 11.00 – 14.00 13.00 – 14.00 13.00 – 15.00	Duty Members Open to All Committee All
10 Dec.	Silversmithing Workshop open	18:00 – 21:00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683
12 Dec.	Lapidary and Silversmithing Workshops open	11:00 – 15:00	Duty Members
17 Dec.	Silversmithing Workshop open	18:00 – 21:00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683
19 Dec.	Lapidary and Silversmithing Workshops open	11:00 – 15:00	Duty Members



PGMC Programme for January 2016:

(as at 25.11.2015)

09 Jan.	Lapidary and Silversmithing Workshops open	11:00 – 15:00	Duty Members
14 Jan.	Silversmithing Workshop open	18:00 – 21:00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683
16 Jan.	Lapidary and Silversmithing Workshops open	11:00 – 15:00	Duty Members
21 Jan.	Silversmithing Workshop open	18:00 – 21:00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683
23 Jan.	Lapidary and Silversmithing Workshop open Committee Meeting	11.00 – 15.00 15.00 – 16.30	Duty Members Committee Members
28 Jan.	Silversmithing Workshop open	18:00 – 21:00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683
30 Jan.	Lapidary and Silversmithing Workshops open	11:00 – 15:00	Duty Members





A very warm welcome to the new members who joined recently:

Douglas, Andy & Katy Racionzer, Daniela & Renate Streier and Michael de Scande.

May your association with the club be enjoyable, long and productive.

1. Duty Roster

	Duty Roster December 2015 and January 2016	
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December	5	12	19	28
Open – 11:00 am	Willem	Bernard	Lex	Club closed for Christmas Holiday
Duty Team	Henry Viviers Jean Snyman	Hendrik Swanepoel Karin Eggers	Lex Krabbendam Zelda Carey	
Close – 15:00 pm	Willem	Committee	Lex	


January	9	16	23	30
Open – 11:00 am	Willem	Bernard (?)	Dieter	Bernard/Willem (?)
Duty Team	Willem Vorster Heidi Naudé	Will v/d Berg Karin Mayerl	Dieter Heinichen Linda Stone	Len Botha Ada Beresford
Close – 15:00 pm	Willem	Bernard (?)	Committee	Bernard/Willem (?)

Please **check the dates assigned to you** and organize “stand-ins” for the days you might not be available; **please refer to your latest NL for final duty allocations.**





2. Membership Fees 2016

Club memberships expire on 31st December 2015; please renew your memberships for 2016 timeously; only fully paid-up members are entitled to use our clubhouse facilities, attend courses and participate in club outings. The fees for 2016 are as follows:

	R 500	Principal Members
	R 450	Pensioners (over 60's)
	R 100	per additional Family Member
	R 30	Joining Fee (new members only)

Bank deposits or EFT transfers can be made to: Pretoria Gem & Mineral Club, ABSA Bank, account no. 405 584 9839; cash payments can be made at the club on Thursdays or Saturdays.

3. For Sale

	<p>Several work benches for the silversmith enthusiasts for sale.</p> <p>Please contact Dieter Schidlowski at (012) 664 3645 or 072 395 9769. Make an offer!</p>	
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4. Personals



Get Well Wishes go to **Daphne Alp** who is recovering from recent health set-backs suffered. Keep up the good spirit Mrs. Alp, your friends at the club are thinking of you. We all pray for your speedy recovery and hope to see you at the club soon again.



A big **Thank You** goes to **Anton Jordaan** for donating the stolen generator to the club. Anton, initially borrowed us the generator, which enabled us to keep the club running during the many power outages. Unfortunately the generator was stolen during the break-in in September. Anton informed us that we do not have to replace it or refund him for the loss, which is tremendously generous of you Anton.



Another big **Thank You** goes to our Honorary Members **Helmut and Hannie Schönberger** who donated R 1000 towards the replacement of some of the stolen items. Helmut and Hannie we appreciate this kind gesture and will ensure to use the money for the intended purpose.



Last but by no means least we thank our untiring maintenance team **Willem Vorster, Lex Krabbendam, Peter Beresford, Bernard Strydom and Frans Olivier** for getting the alarm system fixed, repairing the fence, replacing locks and organizing extra keys and replacing the safety shields on the diamond wheel machine. We don't say it enough – thank you to all of you for the time and efforts made.



5. Year-End Function – Swop & Sell, Auction, Bring-and-Braai – Saturday, 05.12.2015



All members and their families are invited to join us for the last Swop & Sell in 2015 from 11.00 am onwards, followed by an Auction of Mineral specimen, Lapidary material and used machinery (tumbler).

The Year-end Bring-and Braai will start at 14.00.

Please bring your own food, drinks, plates and cutlery; the club will provide the braai fires.



Looking forward to see you all there!

**Wishing all our members and friends
Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.
Enjoy the holidays and travel safely.**



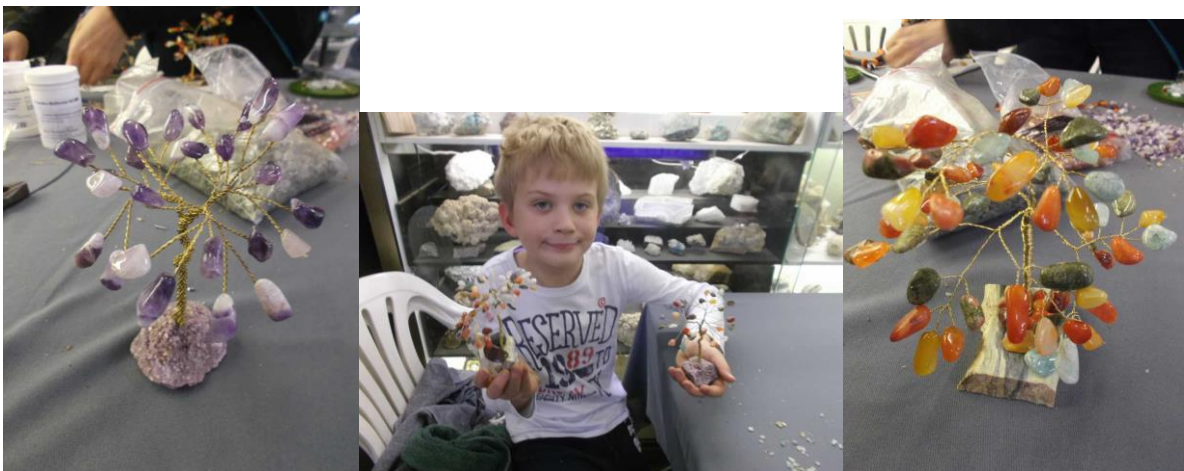
6. **Images Hobby Booster – Gem Tree Course offered by the club in September** (photos Heidi Naudé)



Participants getting started bending wires, assembling tree branches and putting tumbled semi-precious gemstones onto their trees.

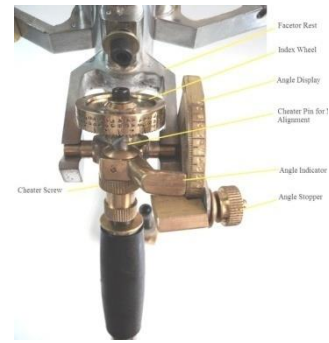


Look what we made !!! Everybody managed to make two beautiful little gem trees. They were all very proud of their achievements and rightfully so.



We also offered other courses such as, fancy cabochon making, slab drilling and faceting on that day. Wolfgang Windisch kindly gave an introduction into the wonderful world of Micromounting and brought specimens to admire through his microscope. Photos thereof will be published in the future newsletters.

Information from our Chairman – Willem Vorster:



Replacement parts for “Lee” faceting machines

There are several members in the club who have the old ‘Lee’ faceting machines. It has come to our attention that there is a company that is currently reproducing these machines. These machines have the removable quills as seen on the photo, the same as on Willem’s silver machine at the club.

We received a preliminary price list of some of the parts, although this is not comprehensive, it gives an indication of costs and availability. Should you require some parts such as dops or index wheels, etc. on the list or even parts not mentioned there, please contact Willem on wcs.vorster@gmail.com. It is quite possible that we can ‘break down’ the parts list further should there be a need. The idea is to make one order for all the members to make the importation viable. The RSA rand prices were calculated on the basis of \$1= R13.65 to have an idea of cost. This does not include the cost of transport to RSA.

Item	Description	Unit	Rate	Quantity	Amount	
			US\$		US\$	Rand
			Faceting Mast with 0-90 degrees and 96 index- 3D		Each	170
Grit Laps	600/1200 Grit	Each	20	1	20	273
Base Plate for Grit Laps	Aluminium	Each	4	1	4	54.6
Dopsticks - Hollow	1.50 to 8 mm	Each	0.3	10	3	41
Dopsticks- Solid	1.50 to 8 mm	Each	0.3	10	3	41
Dopstick Stand	Aluminium	Each	25	0	0	
Table Polisher for Faceting	Complete	Each	20	1	20	273
Polish Laps - 6"	Aluminium	Each	40	1	40	546
Polish Laps - 6"	Copper	Each	75	0	0	
Transfer Block	Aluminium	Each	25	1	25	341
Dopping Wax	Standard	Kilo	10	1	10	137
Index Wheel	80, 96 Teeth	Each	25	1	25	341
Spirit Lamp	Standard	Each	5	1	5	68.3
Polishing Powder	0-1/2, 0-1 microns	Carats	1	10	10	137
Operation Manual		Each	25	1	25	341
Rubber Belt	Extra	Each	10	1	10	137

A complete machine costs ± R 8500-00 without transport costs. It gives an indication for a reference point. However with a mast and a quill (R 2321.00) building a machine is not too much of a problem.
