



Pretoria Gem & Mineral Club

established 1957

Affiliated to the Federation of Southern African Gem and Mineralogical Societies

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

February 2019

Pretoria Rockhound Digest

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

Clubhouse: no. 29, 26th Street, 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

Admin.: Heidi Naudé, 072 923 2180
pgmcnewsletter@gmail.com



*** **Silversmithing Course** (to be confirmed)

t.b.a.

*** **Club Outing to Ollie Roon**

24 Feb.



Amethyst - Modern Birthstone for February

This gemstone has been found among the possessions of royalty throughout the ages. The intense violet hue of Amethyst appealed to early monarchs. Amethyst has been found in ruins dating as far back as the ninth century, adorning crowns, scepters, jewellery and breastplates worn into battle. Amethyst is also symbolic of spirituality and piety. It has been used to ornament churches, crosses and rosaries worn by bishops and priests. Once considered more valuable than diamonds, Amethyst is a member of the quartz family occurring naturally as crystals within rocks. Major deposits are found in Brazil, Canada, Australia, India, Russia, Madagascar, Namibia, Zambia, Sri Lanka and USA.

The gift of Amethyst is symbolic of protection and the power to overcome difficulties. It is said to strengthen the bond in a love relationship. Whether or not Amethyst holds such power, it's stunning beauty will certainly make anyone who wears it feel like royalty!

(source: www.about-birthstones.com)

Programme for February


(as at 04.02.2019)

2 Feb	Lapidary and Silversmithing Workshop open Swop & Sell and Social	11.00 – 15.00	Duty Members
7 Feb	Silversmithing Workshop open	18:00 – 21:00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683
9 Feb	Lapidary and Silversmithing Workshop open Committee Meeting	11:00 – 14.30 15.00 – 16.30	Duty Members Committee Members
14 Feb	Silversmithing Workshop open	18:00 – 21:00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683
16 Feb	Silversmithing Course – please re-confirm! Lapidary Workshop open	10:00 – 15.30 11.00 – 15.00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683 Duty Members
17 Feb	Lapidary Sunday (note new times)	08:00 – 13:00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683
21 Feb	Silversmithing Workshop open	18:00 – 21:00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683
23 Feb	Lapidary and Silversmithing Workshops open	18:00 – 21:00	Duty Members
24 Feb	Club Outing to Ollie Roon (to be confirmed)	t.b.a.	Willem Vorster, 076 612 4888
28 Feb	Silversmithing Workshop open	18:00 – 21:00	Bernard Strydom, 074 850 5683



A very warm **welcome** to our new members: **Heidi Schmidt, Tanja Joubert**, as well as **Dave and Marita Janse van Rensburg**, may your association with the club be enjoyable, long and productive 😊.

Duty Roster

February 2019	2	9	16	23	
Open – 11:00 am		Lex	Bernard	Willem	
Duty Team		Lex Krabbendam Joanne Fidos	Jan Oliver Joey Oliver	Yolanda Keyter Peter Beresford	
Close – 15:00 pm		Committee	Bernard	Willem	

March 2019	2	9	16	23	30
Open – 11:00 am	Dieter	Heidi	Bernard	Willem	Lex
Duty Team	Dieter Heinichen Linda Stone	Alan Crawford Dina Crawford	Willem Vorster Karin Mayerl	Oliver Green Anita Havenga	Lex Krabbendam Joanne Fidos
Close – 15:00 pm		Committee	Willem	Bernard	Lex




We still need **members** to serve on the **duty teams** and urge **all our members to avail themselves for administrative and/or machine duty**; training will be provided.

Please advise Willem or Bernard if you are willing to help, thank you.



1. Membership Fees 2019

Membership Fees for 2019 are now due and can be paid via EFT bank transfer to: Pretoria Gem and Mineral Club, ABSA Bank, account no. 405 584 9839; or cash at the clubhouse on Thursdays or Saturdays.

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

Please note that only fully paid-up members are entitled to use our clubhouse facilities, attend courses, participate at the Gemboree or any other club outings and receive the club's monthly newsletter.

2. New Date for the postponed Annual General Meeting 2018

Good News – the outstanding Financial Statements have been finalized and thus a new date for the AGM has been proposed for 2 March 2019 at the clubhouse at 13.30 pm.

Please come and join us for this event, tea/coffee and light snacks will be served afterwards.

3. Hobby-X 2019 – PGMC



To further promote our hobby the Committee has decided to participate at the well-known Hobby-X show held at the Ticketpro Dome, Northriding (Johannesburg) from 7 – 10 March 2019.

We urgently need members to indicate their willingness to help and man the stall. We have to have a permanent presence during the show time. Please report your names and preferred date/s to Willem or Bernard.

Section III - Club Activities:

4. Silversmithing Course February

The Silversmithing courses are usually planned for the 3rd Saturday of each month; unfortunately no details have been made available as yet, please check directly with Bernard at 074 850 5683.



5. Special Lapidary Sunday

Bernard Strydom has introduced a "lapidary only" work session on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Please note that this will be **lapidary work only** – **no cutting/slabbing of rocks, no silversmithing**. The session will run from **08:00 am to 13:00 pm** and the normal workshop fee of R 15/pp applies. Please re-confirm with Bernard beforehand as he will only open the clubhouse if requested.

6. Faceting Classes – Saturdays

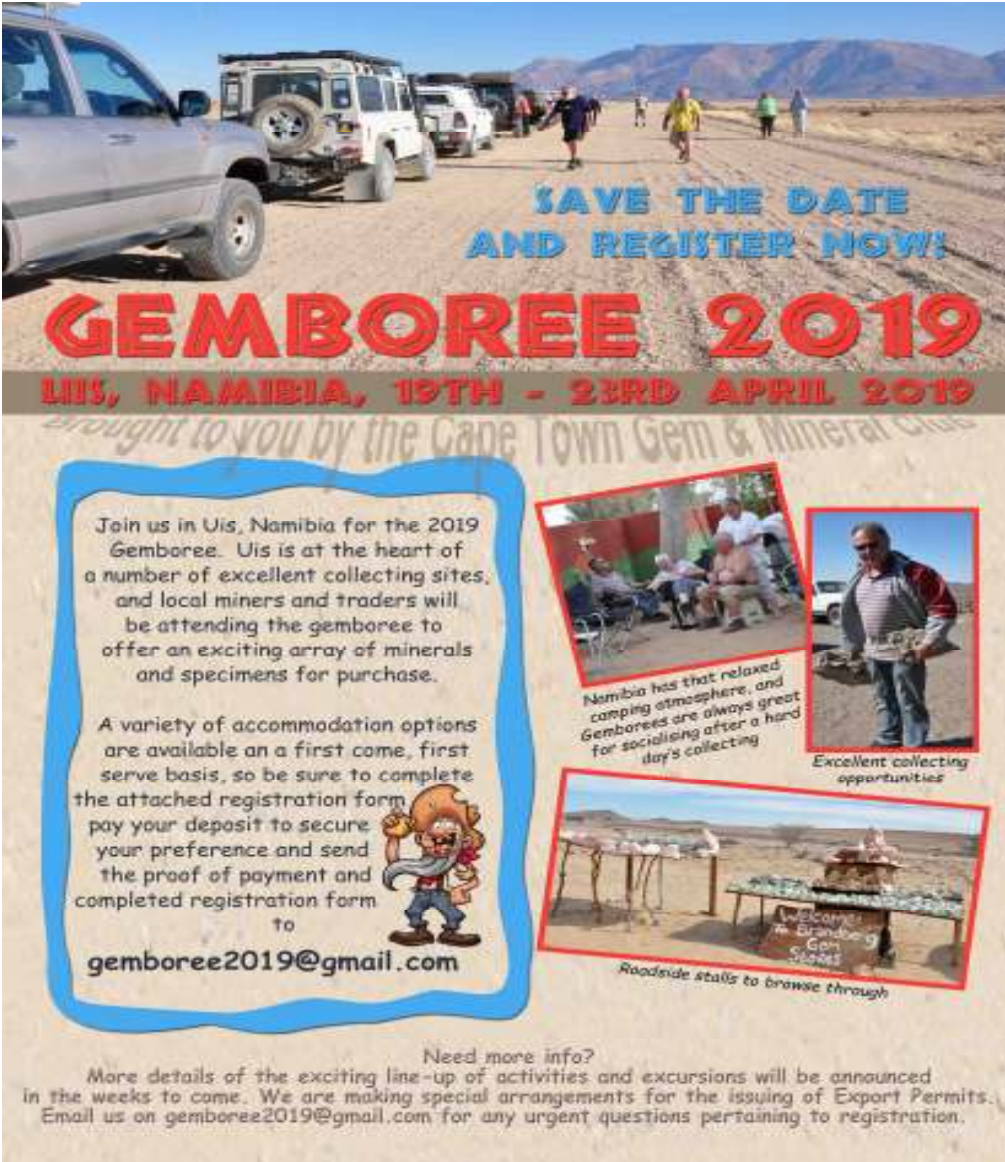
Contact **Peter Beresford** at 064 384 4514 to book your faceting place on Saturdays at the clubhouse. **Beginners and advanced welcome!**

Tuition, faceting machines, laps and polishing powders are supplied by the club – working fee/session = R 30. Faceting material (mainly Quartz varieties) will be available for sale.

7. Club Outing to Ollie Roon

Willem Vorster is trying to organize a club outing to Ollie Roon's place in Hartbeespoort on Sunday 24 February. Apparently she has various rocks and lapidary material for sale. More details, such as meeting point and time will be communicated as soon as they become available.

8. Gemboree 2019 – Have you booked already?



**SAVE THE DATE
AND REGISTER NOW!**

GEMBOREE 2019

UIS, NAMIBIA, 10TH - 23RD APRIL 2019

brought to you by the Cape Town Gem & Mineral Club

Join us in Uis, Namibia for the 2019 Gemboree. Uis is at the heart of a number of excellent collecting sites, and local miners and traders will be attending the gemboree to offer an exciting array of minerals and specimens for purchase.

A variety of accommodation options are available on a first come, first serve basis, so be sure to complete the attached registration form, pay your deposit to secure your preference and send the proof of payment and completed registration form to

gemboree2019@gmail.com

Namibia has that relaxed camping atmosphere, and Gemborees are always great for socialising after a hard day's collecting

Excellent collecting opportunities

Roadside stalls to browse through

Need more info?
More details of the exciting line-up of activities and excursions will be announced in the weeks to come. We are making special arrangements for the issuing of Export Permits. Email us on gemboree2019@gmail.com for any urgent questions pertaining to registration.