



Issue: April 2025
Next issue deadline May 10, 2025
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Future Meetings:

Monthly meetings are the fourth Friday of the month (no meetings July, August, or December).

Next meeting: Friday, April 25, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Hastings Community Centre Auditorium (on the main floor). May Meeting is May 23.

If you need to attend by Zoom, please contact Crystal for a Zoom link at secretary.hcr@gmail.com

Thanks to Silent Auction donors and shoppers!

New members might be happy to learn that in addition to participating in workshops, attending rock and gem shows, and learning from interesting speakers—some nights our club offers a silent auction. Auctions are wonderful “win / wins” as members and friends donate items they are willing to pass on, and new owners receive excellent deals on items that are new to them! On March 28, there were many lovely donations auctioned off after membership business was concluded. You can learn about funds raised at our April meeting from our Treasurer, Renee. Proceeds feed club coffers to assist with field trips, equipment needs, and rock and gem show expenses. [Send us photos](#) of your recently-acquired treasures!

New Member FAQs

Here are a few questions submitted from new members over the past few meetings.

1. Who do I contact about my first workshop?

⇒ *Silversmithing*: our Secretary, [Crystal](mailto:secretary.hcr@gmail.com) secretary.hcr@gmail.com will get you set up

⇒ *Lapidary*: call Jo at 604.928.9962, lapidary instructor and key contact for related equipment

2. I need to pay for membership...

⇒ *Membership*: [Nickell](mailto:nickell@gmail.com) sets up a membership table at meetings naktarian@gmail.com

⇒ Note that your HCR membership includes a BC Lapidary Society membership. BCLS cards are sent to Nickell once they have been prepared by BCLS (this can sometimes take a few weeks). The BCLS card needs to be shown at any BCLS field trip / rock-hounding adventure



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New Member FAQs, cont'd.

3. Who organizes your education workshops and keynotes?

⇒ Workshops: speak with [Sara](#) at sara.bureau@rogers.com

⇒ BTW, what is “knapping”? See the March 2025 issue of The Rocket and note that Sara may be securing Harley Slade, our past flint knapping guest speaker to return for a hands-on session so that we can really discover what knapping is about!

4. Who do I ask about getting something published in the newsletter?

⇒ The Rocket: Nancy at edrocket18@gmail.com

5. Who do I speak to about the website or social media?

⇒ Susan hsusanham@gmail.com is our webmaster

6. Who do I ask about ??? or I have feedback about this club and am not sure who to ask...

⇒ The Rocket: Nancy at edrocket18@gmail.com will try and direct your query!

Our next Rocket's deadline is May 10, email articles, photos, etc. to edrocket18@gmail.com Please remember to name of activity, date, short blurb / description, and photo credit if at all possible!

David Myer's Backlit Pendants



Photo credit: Richard

Thanks to Richard K. for this photo of six of David's backlit pendants. This display was part of the HCR members' contributions to showcases at the 2025 BCLS Gem Show which took place at Chilliwack Heritage Park April 11, 12 and 13.

These pendants give off a beautiful glow, and are powered by a plug-in power supply (rather than by battery). David describes his design as “a bingo chip with electrodes (+ and -)” which he secures with epoxy to either side, wires “together in parallel”, and connects to a plug.

Be sure to ask David about his work when you see him at a club meeting or show!

BC Gem Show April 11, 12 and 13

The 2025 BCLS Gem Show (what Linda was referring to at our last meeting as “the big show!”) took place at Chilliwack Heritage Park, April 11, 12 and 13. As always, our members volunteer, set up showcases, offer demos, host tables, etc. This event is hosted annually by the BC Lapidary Society and included a Tailgate Sale which consists of an additional building of dozens of informal sellers on the Saturday. Friday through Sunday there were countless vendors and activity stations. We’ve included info and credits where available—thanks to Richard K. and Paul P. for their photo submissions!



#19 A.J. Photo: Paul



#17 Robert, Claire, Guenter. Photo: Richard



#20 Stev, Midori, TJ. Photo: Paul



#20L Midori. Photo: Richard



#20C Stev. Photo: Richard



#20R TJ. Photo: Richard



Alison. Photo: Paul



Bolo Ties and Butterflies. Photo: Richard



BC Gem Show April 11, 12 and 13, continued...



Walt (Gem Show Committee).
Photo: Richard



Bolo Buddy. Photo: Richard



Tim at the Tailgate. Photo: Paul



Some of Guenter's work. Photo: Paul



Guenter demo table. Photo: Paul



HCR Club Stone. Photo: Paul

The HCR Club stone featured left: nickel silicate and Prychon stone named for longtime Club member, John Prychon.

Whassup in the Workshop

Richard's photo submissions of a recent Wednesday Silversmithing class. If you haven't yet tried Silversmithing—speak with Crystal to organize your starting kit and check the Workshop Schedule for available times.



*Jadeite discs from Myanmar available for \$1 for members to practice their skills!
Ask for information at the April meeting...*

2025 Workshop Hours

Members in good standing with the required lapidary training (usually during a workshop time), may drop in and use equipment on a first-come, first-serve (shared) basis. Be prepared to work on another project while waiting to use a particular piece of equipment.

Monday (10:00 am – 2:00 pm) – **Metalworks**
Instructor: Michael Ma

Monday (6:30 pm – 9:30 pm) – **Lapidary**
Instructor: Jo or Renee

Wednesday (9 am – 12 pm) – **Silversmithing***
Instructor: Robert

Wednesday (1 pm – 4 pm) – **Lapidary**
Instructor: David and Steve

Thursday (6:30 pm – 9:30 pm) – **Lapidary**
Instructors: Tim and Daniel

NEW Friday (1 pm – 4:30 pm) – **Lapidary**
Instructors: Richard and Al

Saturday (9 am – 12 pm) – **Silversmithing***
Instructors: Crystal and Robert

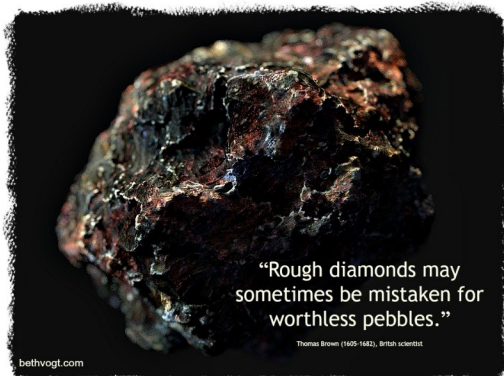
Saturday (1 pm – 4 pm) – **Lapidary**
Instructor: Robert

Alternate Lapidary instructor: Linda.

Please note that the schedule is subject to change based on instructor availability. Changes are often announced by email. ***Beginners to Silversmithing** are asked to [contact Crystal](#) before attending. Instruction is available only at the Saturday session and there is a \$35 beginners kit with supplies needed for silversmithing.

Workshop Rules and Regulations are posted on our website:
www.hastingscentrerockhounds.com/workshop/workshop-rules-and-regulations/

April birthstone is Diamond

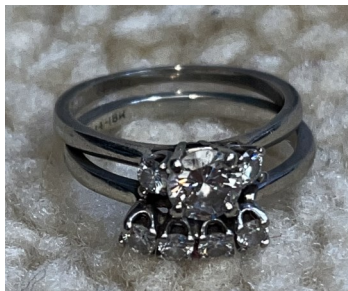


As a child, my mother often referred to me as a “diamond in the rough” - and I was never certain whether that was a compliment or an insult?? But a thing that starts out so rough and can be turned into something brilliant and highly-sought-after definitely demonstrates its value!

Beth’s photo on left shows how diamonds look upon discovery. The photo below shows what they ultimately can become...

“Due to their extreme hardness, overall durability, and undeniable beauty, diamonds are associated with strength and eternal love. It is no wonder that they are commonly used in both engagement and wedding ring designs.”

International Gem Society



Other clubs’ events

Richmond Gem & Mineral Show
April 25, 26 & 27, 2025

Richmond Library & Cultural Centre
Richmond, BC

Ripple Rock Gem & Mineral Club
June 7 & 8, 2025

Campbell River Community Centre www.campbellrivergemandmineralclub.org
401-11th Avenue
Campbell River, BC

Abbotsford Rock & Gem Club
Outdoor Tailgate & Garage Sale
June 14, 2025

Central Heights Church Parking Lot
1661 McCallum Road, Abbotsford, BC

Surrey Rock n’Gem Show
July 10-13, 2025

Cloverdale Agriplex, 17763 62 Avenue www.cangems.ca
Surrey, BC

1120 Rock Club and Vernon Lapidary
Mineral Club, July 11, 12 & 13, 2025

Rutland Centennial Hall, 180 Rutland www.okanagangemshow.rocks
Rd. N. Kelowna. BC

Get Involved!



- Introduce yourself at meetings!
- Participate in workshops
- Ask Sophia at our meetings' snacks' table if you can make or bake something for an upcoming meeting
- Purchase Ways & Means raffle tickets at Club meetings from TJ
- Volunteer for upcoming events (there is usually a call-out via email and live at regular meetings)
- Share photos of your recent creations on the Facebook group or send to Nancy at [The Rocket](#) to share in the newsletter
- Donate something to an upcoming silent auction to help raise funds (bring to a meeting and one of the board members can assist)
- Help Linda sew Grab Bags for upcoming shows (these are also sold as Club fundraisers)

Additional Club questions? Email secretary.hcr@gmail.com

Hastings Centre Rockhounds

Hastings Community Centre

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Vancouver, BC V5L 2A3

www.hastingscentrerockhounds.com



We'd love to hear from you!

Do you have workshop ideas? Or would like to get more involved?

Email editor, Nancy Nesbitt

edrocket18@gmail.com

May 10, 2025 is the deadline for our next issue