

Geelong Bottle & Collectables Club



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The Festival of Glass

2020 GB&CC Office Bearers

President – David Smith

geegandsmithy@bigpond.com.au

Vice-President – Cam Ward

4ozwards@gmail.com

Treasurer – Alan Snowden

meldaddy@yahoo.com.au

Secretary – Paul Bruce

pbruce2@bigpond.com

New Editor – Tony Keunen

keunentony@gmail.com

The Geelong Bottle & Collectables Club meets on the fourth Monday of every month (except December) from 7.30pm, upstairs at the Barwon River Pavilion, under the James Harrison Bridge near the intersection of Barrabool Rd and High St, Belmont

GB&CC postal address

**PO Box 1514,
Geelong 3220**

Front cover: *"The Festival of Glass."*

This edition's cover photo and the below snaps were supplied by Cam Ward and taken at the 2020 Festival of Glass, at Drysdale.

The FoG is an held annually and run over several weeks to showcase all aspects of glass from hobbyists to professionals, and includes artist workshops, glass blowing, and Master Class exhibits and more.

Cam and Noel showed off the impressive new GB&CC banner and staying in theme, also set up a display of glass items. The displays provided the opportunity to promote the club to a friendly group a 'glass enthusiasts' and also promote our Victorian State Show in October.

With a bottle appraisal day on the Sunday there was plenty of discussion about our club and bottles, and hopefully we'll see some of the people from FoG at our show in October.



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# **Our President “trumps” them all, so it’s time for a word from The President’s desk.**



## **GB&CC PRESIDENT'S REPORT FEBRUARY MARCH 2020**

“The only constant is change”

And how rapidly things changed since our February meeting! We hope that everyone stays safe through this modern crisis.

The committee made the reluctant decision to suspend the March AGM and review future meetings month by month. We can hold an AGM up to five months after our financial year. Treasurer Allan Snowden will prepare the financial statements and report on these to us via email.

Bunnings have suspended BBQs but we were discussing the future of these and whether to keep running them as we are in a very sound financial position thanks to several years of BBQs.

We will continue to prepare for the October 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Show. The hunt for stallholders and displayers continues. Paul Bruce has made marvellous progress in getting lost trades displays.

Committee positions will be status quo so the joke that we are “Doing it because no one else will” is quite apt! As we were preparing for the A.G.M. we had other nominations but succession planning is a must. We have a challenge in front of us to recruit new members, get an expanded social calendar running. Individual members can help in all these roles. As Noel Dawson did in organising a fantastic Eastside Murder History walking tour.

Congrats and thank you to all the Committee who have continued in their roles, at least for the immediate future! Without Paul, Allan Peter, and Noel continuing we would struggle.

And what a first edition from our new newsletter editor! Well done and big thank you Tony Keunen.

I have just returned from the New Zealand national (see separate report) and I am in 14 days self-isolation. NZ plus Coolamon will be the last shows for a while. With all shows, in-room auctions, swap meets etc. being cancelled or deferred for the immediate time, the future the hobby is in for a very tough time. The internet, including online bidding and facebook could fill a lot of this gap.

**Please forward me any photos, stories of any outings etc. as we can only try to keep in contact with each other by email and facebook, and share with Tony for the next Newsletter.**

The future of my tourism businesses is very cloudy as I do not know if my customer base will exist or even if I will be able to operate!

Yours in collecting,

David Smith.

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Just when we thought things were expensive...

We think some of our prices are high ---the pictured bottle just set a US bottle auction record US\$ 155, 000, or at today's exchange rate, over a quarter of a million Aussie Dollars!!

The rare blue Cassin's Grape Brandy Bitters was made in 1867 or 1868 with the bottle design meant to represent a cello.

The American bottle auction in New York recently auctioned a collection of some 300 Bitters bottles but what made this bottle so desirable was the colour. Whilst Cassin's Bitters bottles can be found in various colours, this aqua blue was so rare that seasoned collectors never knew it existed.

I'm sure they do now.

Thanks to Paul Bruce for the heads up on this result.

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### **And speaking of Money ....**

*Our Treasurer Alan Snowden has asked to remind members that membership Subs are due for payment. Single \$30 or Family membership \$40.*

*In the current climate of Isolation we might suggest that an electronic bank transfer into the Club account could be an appropriate option. We provide the following account details:*

**GB&CC    BSB633-000    A/C No. 101871713**

*Please don't forget to add a reference comment with your name so we can allocate correctly.*

*Alternatively, you can pay by cheque made out to Geelong Bottle & Collectables Club and send same to: **P.O. Box 1514, Geelong VIC 3220***

*It goes without saying that membership fees are extremely important for the running of the Club, so please assist accordingly*

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New Zealand National Show March 2020, Tauranga North Island – Report by David Smith.

For the first time the NZ national show wasn't going to be at Easter so I grabbed the opportunity to attend as my tourism businesses are always too busy at Easter.

I flew to Auckland and made my leisurely way towards Tauranga after my first task of posting a Wanted photo of a rare ENZED SPECIAL Jar on the Kiwi Bottle Facebook page the day before I left.

As I walked into the show, being a two-basketball court sized venue, similar as what we use at AWA and trying to find my ID tag, a fellow collector approached me and figured out that I was the Aussie traveller and said “Hey I’ve got an ENZED jar for you.” I nearly fell over and was letting him out of my sight when he said “I’ll get it from the car.”

I followed him to his car and couldn’t believe my eyes when he pulled out the ENZED SPECIAL, all less than 48 hours after putting up the Wanted photo!

He told me of he’d called into his sister’s place on the way to the show to help with a small job when he looked up he spotted the ENZED jar on a shelf. He told his sister, “Hey, I saw a photo of that jar last night - Some Aussie jar collector wants one.” So she gave the jar to him to sell and I managed to buy it cheaply, though I told him it was worth much more to me. What an amazing set of coincidences, hey?

Turns out it is far rarer than I knew and I can only trace three examples made by AGM Auckland plant.

The show was a smallish affair with about 3 rows of selling and 3 rows of displays. The Friday night auction was very efficient with Warren Roberts getting through 100 lots per hour even with internet bidding. Highlight was a unique green glass Maori Head Syphon selling for \$15,000 plus costs.

If the show had been held a week later it would have been cancelled and I got home before the lock out dates but in self isolation as I write this. I’m glad I made the effort to get away as who knows when we will be able to travel again.

Highlights include the Mt. Manganui hot salt water bath, thermally heated natural sea water & great for the knee. As a J.J. Tolkien fan, the Hobbiton Town Movie set was another. Leaving AKL on a rainy morning, I did the sky tower and it was like a ghost town.



**2020 Geelong
Collectables
Fair and Exhibition
Victorian State Show**

Friday, October 2

Set-up

Saturday, October 3

9am-4pm

Sunday, October 4

8.30am-2pm

**AWA Basketball Stadium,
Crows Rd, Belmont**

Inquiries – David Smith 0419 434 306

Show Sec. Paul Bruce 0427 338 098

info@geelongbottleandcollectables.club

Hosted by

GEE LONG BOTTLE & COLLECTABLES CLUB

*The Most
Important Date in
our Calendar.
– Make your
plans NOW!!*

*We want your
Display and
selling stall.*

The following is the formal format to be used for all communications:

2020 Geelong Collectable Fair and Exhibition

“The Victorian State Show”

Oct 2nd-4th 2020

Venue AWA Basketball Stadium

15 Crows Rd

Belmont

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## Business – Minutes of our General Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2020

**Present:** Noel Dawson, Ernie Taylor, Alan Snowden, Graham Tomkins, Paul Bruce, Les Bell, Tony Keunen, David Smith, Joe Votava, Cam Ward, Adam Van Lieshout, Tink Van Lieshout

**Apologies:** Peter McMillan, Mark Young

**Visitors:** President David welcomed potential new members Adam and Tink Van Lieshout

**Correspondence:** Gippsland and Mornington newsletters

**Minutes of previous meeting:** Moved that the minutes as distributed to members were a true and correct record  
Graham Tomkins seconded Tony Keunen - Carried

**Business Arising from the Minutes:** Nil

**Community Grants Briefing by COG:** Resolved that we would apply to attend the briefing—Secretary Paul to apply

**Treasurers Report:** *Presented by Treasurer Alan*

|                                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>                     |                  |
| Bunnings BBQ 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov | \$448            |
| Bunnings BBQ 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec  | \$758.30         |
| Supper                            | \$4              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                      | <b>\$1210.30</b> |
| <b>EXPENDITURE August</b>         |                  |
| Buckleys Xmas breakup             | \$693.48         |
|                                   |                  |

|                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b> | <b>\$693.48</b>   |
|                          |                   |
| Balance as @27/1/2020    |                   |
| Statement a/c            | \$7067.27         |
| Term Deposit             | \$18000           |
| Petty Cash               | \$131.40          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>\$25198.67</b> |

*Moved "That treasurers report be received as a true and correct record" Moved ...Colin France... ..  
seconded ...Joe Votava... Carried*

### General Business

#### **Reflection on Xmas breakup at Buckleys – Some comments:**

Great to have room to ourselves, Food was excellent, Good of the club to pay for members-virtually refunded the membership fee. Would be a good venue for a meal during our show ---highly endorse for next year

**Major Business –2018 Show-** *General discussion around the topics listed below: David will contact Basketball Stadium and confirm dates and ask them to prepare a contract. Dates are October 2nd to 4<sup>th</sup> 2020*

- *It was resolved to standardise the wording on all our promotions.  
To be used on all of our communications about the show, as follows:*

## 2020 Geelong Collectable Fair and Exhibition

### "The Victorian State Show"

Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> 2020

Venue AWA Basketball Stadium

15 Crows Rd

Belmont

- *Alan raised the idea of involving other Geelong collectables clubs offering space for them to promote their clubs at the State Show -letter to be written by secretary to clubs offering them space It was resolved that space would be available at no cost to clubs **Members to advise Paul on clubs to invite***
- *Paul introduced the idea of having a lost skills/trades component to the show where people demonstrate their skills to the public -they may also want to sell things they make. He indicated the idea had been trialled successfully in Kyneton & had great success in attracting the public. It was resolved that **Paul will follow up** & develop the idea further for us to implement.  
**Members to give any ideas or contacts to Paul***
- *Noel introduced the idea of inviting the Australian Historic Telephone Society to the show –they may set up a working display that would engage the public **Noel to follow up***
- *We agree to have Darren the artistic glass photographer. We will need to provide space **David to contact***
- ***David will follow up** with COGG to get us included on their event calendar*
- *Graham Tomkin to approach Lamplighters re their display*

**Social Events/Projects** - Not discussed

#### Reports

**Cam** --Glenlyon swap and sell. Cam was the driver—6am start from Geelong with Alan and David. Glenlyon venue was very nice but wet. Lots of open greenery. 15-20 stalls a few bargains to be had -Trip then included a trip to Daylesford Mill market and ended with a visit to see Joe's great collection

**Noel - Hall committee:** Noel made contact with John Hodges from Hall committee—we are entitled to two voting members at meetings and other observers are welcome

#### Upcoming Shows and Swap and Sell

**Editor Note:** *In view of the Covid-19 cancellations, I've taken the liberty to save space by deleting 1<sup>st</sup> half year*

2-4 Oct Geelong **State Show** Vic

9-11 Oct Cannington WA National Show

#### Bunnings BBQ Dates

Wednesday 29-1-2020 Wed 19-2-2020 Wed 25-3-2020 Wed April 29<sup>th</sup>, Wed May 27, Wed June 24

Members who can help please tell Paul or Alan

#### Latest Finds

**1<sup>st</sup> Cam-** Moores Dairy milk can and bottle carrier

**2<sup>nd</sup> Paul** Six Blob Top Internal threads—all Melbourne ones

**3<sup>rd</sup> David Smith** A group of collectables



## **Finder of the Year 2019 – ALAN SNOWDEN**

**Alan Snowden** regularly brings new finds to our monthly meetings, thus providing great interest and discussion always. Based on our voting system of 3, 2 & 1 votes by those in attendance, Alan Snowden was anointed “Finder of the Year” for 2019, by just one vote from Cam Ward.

**Congratulations to Alan and thanks for your terrific contributions to our meeting forums.**

For your information, Paul Bruce was the current holder of the trophy, with the crown now being passed to Alan.

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Bunnings Report - Update

Fine weather graced our great team of volunteers at the February Bunnings BBQ who were able to cover the demands of the day. Tremendous thanks to Paul, Alan, Sylvia, Mara, Noel, Cam and our President David (and his wonky knee) who, after a slow start managed to turn a profit of \$673 for the day. A great team effort as always, albeit we did run out of gas at one point, but hey, lucky we had a Bunning store nearby for a Swap N Go.

It was particularly good to sell our defrosted stock, particularly not being able to foresee the future events coming our way. The March BBQ date was becoming impossible while panic buying took over for Covid-19 meaning we were unable to get fresh supply and even direct contact with Coles could not guarantee supply for our day.

Eventually due to the virus, Bunnings have been forced to cancel ALL up-coming barbecues as part of stage 2 of community cut backs to contain the Corona virus and whilst we didn't enjoy any profits for March and a lot of effort already put in, in the end it was an important thing for protecting our volunteer members too.

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## **Editor's Message**

Best wishes and keep safe, all. Remember, our website can be a conduit in these difficult times and your fellow members are your friends. If feeling lonely, or simply suffering a bit of 'Cabin Fever' don't hesitate to call a club member for a chat.



Nb. My mobile number will be changing soon, so preference will be by email.  
Friendly pointer: Keunen does not have the letter "A" in it and hence emails will not deliver.

**Noel Dawson** suggested at this time of glum that a couple of jokes might add some cheer.

Disclaimer: please blame Noel 😊

- I was driving this morning when I saw a parked RACV Van. The driver was sobbing uncontrollably and looked very miserable. Thought to myself, that guy's heading for a breakdown.
- Did you know statistically, six out of seven dwarfs are not Happy.
- Paddy says to Mick, "I'm thinking of buying a Labrador". "Blow that" says Mick, "Have you seen how many of their owners go blind."
- I was at an ATM yesterday when a little old lady asked me if I could check her balance, so I pushed her over.

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We trust that everyone is doing the right thing during Covid-19 virus and taking all the necessary precautions. The sorry effect is that markets, Swap n Sells, shops and Shows are cancelled and the overall economy stalls.

On-Line becomes our closest friend so it will be very interesting to see how the market responds to ABCR's coming auction. I'm betting the interest will be stronger than ever.

ABCR
AUCTIONS
BY COLLECTORS. FOR COLLECTORS

**Reminder: Auction #40 starts April 15th
through to April 25th, 2020.**



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## 2019 Monthly Find of the Year.

In our next edition Newsletter, we will seek to announce the winner of 2019 "Find of the Year". The winner with the best item will be awarded the Votava trophy, which co-incidentally is currently is held by Joe Votava.

We need your help to judge our monthly winners and the pictures we provide for you. Please advise Paul Bruce or Dave Smith of your choice by the end of the month so we can announce this important club award. Please submit your votes in a 3, 2, 1 format.

|      |                                 |            |
|------|---------------------------------|------------|
| Jan  | Two Early 1840's Sealed Bottles | Paul       |
| Feb  | Dahlke Water Filter             | Cam        |
| Mar  | Watson Whisky                   | Alan       |
| Apr  | Gaelic Old Smuggler Jug         | Alan       |
| May  | Hans Irvine wine sign           | Paul       |
| June | Old Camera                      | Eli France |
| July | Gunsser Ballan Torp             | Tony       |
| Aug  | E Nash Geelong Sundial          | Cam        |
| Sept | American Civil War Swords       | Colin      |
| Oct  | J. Richardson Wine Store Flagon | Tony       |
| Nov  | Mauve Bollington Cordial        | Les        |



January



February



March



April



July



May



June





August



September



October



November

Definitely shows the variety of items that have come through our club rooms through the year. **Please submit your 3, 2 & 1 Votes to Paul Bruce or Dave Smith asap, thanks**

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With Covid-19 impacting everything we do and no definite answer when it will clear, our Committee can only continue plans for the 2020 State Show in October in the hope that an end will be in sight. Plans must continue as contingency and we hope and pray life (and collecting) can return to normal soon. Thanks to the Show Committee for their efforts.

