



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

PO Box 15, Wollongong NSW 2520 Clubrooms – Tarrawanna Hall, 51 Meadow St, Tarrawanna

Print Post Approved No 224952/00012 Web site: - illawarralapidaryclub.com.au

Email address:- illawacq@illawarralapidaryclub.com.au

January 2014

President: Eva Auerbach

Secretary: Dorothy McGonigle

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

Phone 02 42440280

Phone 42842404

Phone 42715562

Past Activities

Dec 2013

Christmas party and everyone that attended the party enjoyed themselves. A great event on the social calendar of the club.

January 2014

The first social meeting of the new year and the annual "Skite Nite". Members presented some of their "finds" or "gifts" and the stories behind them. Peter Stanley and his broken geode that he had found in bits and stuck most of it back together again. His meeting with perhaps one of the luckiest "new" fossickers at Agate Creek and that persons find of a large vug of smokey quartz. Noel Kennon and his visit to Tasmania and friends who own a stichtite mine and use some of it for their driveway. Ken Mitchell and his meeting with "Mad Mick" again and the find of one of the largest blue fluorite crystals (as seen at our annual exhibition). Joan Zealey with some prehnite in a different form from that has been found by our club members. Aaron Maley brought along the latest additions to the "million dollar" collection. A very nice carving of polar bears on rock and a lizzard carved from some sort of stone plus other items.

The next social night meeting Noel Kennon will talk about diamonds. When asked if there would be freebies the only reply was a smile.

Mineral Group

Eighteen members attended the last meeting of the year. Noel's mineral of the month "Flourite" which was meant to be Fluorite when presented by John earlier in the year. Aaron has never let John forget his spelling mistake!!!

Noel revised the entries for the Mineral and Photographic competitions and explained where we went wrong and how to rectify for next year. The specimens selected for the Mineral competition were the best selected so far, however, the specimens selected for photographing were poor. Remember to always get the label correct and you gain 10 marks before any other judging.

The first meeting for 2014 is on 22nd January. For the ID over the year, 4 specimens only. The mineral of the month, one page only and presenter not read from the hand out, but tell the group about the mineral from own notes.

The final examination was well answered, with Ed the dux of the group with 83%. Everyone enjoyed the evening and Santa gave presents to all the group. ALL mineral group members would again like to thank Noel for his tremendous efforts throughout the year.

Fossicking

Last trip of 2013 was to Oberon and had 20 members attending and several members finding sapphires.

2014 Trips

15th February 2014 Saturday Gold Fossicking workshop at Ernie Stevens, Dapto

23rd February 2014 Sunday Rock Swap at Stuart Park

22nd March 2014 Saturday Kangaroo Valley for petrified wood etc

31st March 2014 Monday 10 day trip to Tambar Springs

As usual members must enter their name into the trips book located on the table immediately upon entering the club hall.

Brigitte would like to take this opportunity to thank all those members who assisted her with the collection and laundering of the table cloths following the exhibition last November. She was very appreciative of the help she received. Thank you all very much.

Annual Fees

Please be advised that annual membership fees are now due and should be paid before 28th February 2014:-

Members \$20

Family (Inc 12 to 18 yr old) \$35

Concession/Pension \$15

Junior (12 to 18 yr old) \$15

Annual insurance - COMPULSORY
additional fee of \$4 PER Person

Annual General Meeting March 2014

Nomination forms are now available and are situated in the hall. The annual General Meeting is not far away and it would be appreciated if members would consider taking on a position and assisting with the management of the club.

Younger members and new members are very welcome to nominate and any assistance needed would be available.

ALL positions will become vacant. Please do not leave the executive and committee positions to others - please offer Your assistance, it will be greatly appreciated.

Nominations must be handed to the secretary prior to the commencement of the Annual General Meeting.

All positions are attached to the nomination forms.

From your Executive:

1. It was agreed to reinstate our working bees for a trial period every 3rd Thursday of each month (the day after the General Meeting).
2. It was agreed that anything required by the Lapidary Officer under \$ 100.00 can be purchased without bringing it to the attention to the Business Meeting, anything over \$ 100.00 has to go to the Business Meeting for approval.
3. It was approved to buy new bearings for the saw.
4. The repair for the Testing Machine for electrical leads for abt.\$ 375.00 was approved. Due to this problem Greg had to borrow a testing machine from a neighbour to test the electrical equipment for the Exhibition in November 2013. Greg felt that a suitable gift of appreciation should be given to the neighbour. Approval for this was given by the executive.
5. Volunteers were requested to cater for the G.L.C. Meeting on 22/2/14. Several members offered to assist and donations of slices, salad etc would be appreciated.
6. Greg will repair the old grinding machine to use as a spare.
7. Cec informed the assembly that Bill Dakers, a long standing member, has died and was buried last Friday.

Business Meeting

Geoff Erwin has submitted his resignation from all positions held and as a consequence Eva requested and moved that an independent auditor be appointed to check our accounts.

Cec requested that the General Meeting direct the Executive Committee to communicate with Mr Irwin to try to resolve the difficulties arisen. Noel moved that the General Meeting direct the President to investigate allegations of a lack of adherence to Club Constitution and Club Rules (presumably the By-Laws). Should one or both allegations be proven false it is requested that the President consult with Mr Irwin to determine how any misunderstanding arose and to resolve the issues. On the other hand, should one or both allegations be proven true the President is directed to take appropriate steps to correct any breach of either or both Constitution and By-Laws and further to ensure no further breaches during term of her leadership. In addition Noel moved that the General Meeting request that the Committee and President report back to a future General Meeting as soon as actions on those two matters are taken and the issues resolved.

Ken moved for 3 rock scrambles at Stuart Park on 23/2/14 to make it more interesting, at 11.00 am, 12.00 pm and 1.00 pm. It was suggested by WCC that the Hall Booking Officer have a mobile telephone. Any change in Hall Booking Officer then does not change contact details.

Solar Panel Grant has been approved and the Green Solar People were informed by letter of the conditional permission regarding the installation from Council. We now wait for an installation date. Prior to installation some trees will be pruned. Cupboards for the Hall - A model cupboard has been supplied, the basic concept is good but about 15 cm additional depth was required. Sample cupboard was priced \$ 500.00 and we need five. Although Council has given permission for cupboards to be installed, they still need to see the plan and costs. Dorothy rang Council and asked if we still need official consent if the cupboards were moveable and not built in. She was told that the Council would still need to inspect as a matter of interest.

A thank you to the members who helped clean and polish the club floor over the break.

New members inducted: Mark Kulyk, Sophie Kulyk, Catherine Cameron, Bryce van den Berg, Sharon van den Berg and Louis van den Berg. Welcome to the club.

Club Dates To Remember

22 Jan Wed	7.00 pm Mineral Group - Apatite
12 Feb Wed	6.00 pm DVD-night - Munich & Tuscon (Bring a plate)
15 Feb Sat	Gold Fossicking workshop at Ernie Stevens, Dapto
19 Feb Wed	7.00 pm General Meeting
	8.00 pm Social night - Noel will talk about diamonds
22 Feb Sat	Gem & Lapidary Council Meeting at ILC - All members welcome to attend
23 Feb Sun	9.00-2.00 Rock Swap Stuart Park
26 Feb Wed	7.00 pm Mineral Group
22 Mar Sat	Kangaroo Valley for petrified wood etc (Meet at Berry Apex Park)
31 Mar Mon	10 day trip to Tambar Springs

Other Club Dates To Remember

2 Mar Sun	Newcastle Lapidary Club Rock Auction
	2 Dora Rd, Adamstown
15/16 Mar	23rd Annual Gem & Craft Show - New England Lapidary club Armidale Showground
22 Mar	Campbelltown Lapidary Club Open Day
	Lot 1 Bensley Rd, Macquarie Fields
5/6 Apr	Rock Swap - Canberra Lapidary Club
18/21 Apr	Gemboree Gatton, Qld
17/18 May	Lismore - Gemfest