



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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

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April 2014

President: Bob Hanson

Secretary: Dorothy McGonigle

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

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Valedictory

It is with much sadness that we report the loss of another of our esteemed members of the Illawarra Lapidary Club.

Jeffrey Carey was born in McKay, Queensland on the 28th September 1935 and was the only son, he having three sisters. He went to school in Queensland and afterwards worked on sugar cane farms, carrying out this very labour intensive work for a number of years.

He met and married Shirley, they had two sons and a daughter, Glen, Shane and Michelle. The marriage did not last and they divorced. Moving to New South Wales in the 1980's, Jeffrey met and married Ina in 1987, living together in their home in Keiraville for almost 27 years.

Work in the early 1990's was hard to find and he became unemployed. That did not deter him and he found a niche by joining the Illawarra Lapidary Club in June 1992. He became very interested in this art and was soon cutting cabochons, for which he was awarded various prizes and became a supervisor and lapidary officer. The positions of supervisor and lapidary officer were carried out for a number of years and in 2012 he was awarded Life Membership of the club. He was very proud of this honour and his certificate was framed and hung in a very prominent place over his bed.

He was a very gentle and caring man, but also very private and did not say much about himself. He was more concerned in helping others. He had not been well for about two years and was hospitalised by a stroke and heart attack. He improved but not enough to be allowed home, so the last year of his life was spent in the Olunda Nursing Home. He improved quite significantly and was looking forward to returning home, unfortunately this was not to be, he was admitted to Wollongong Hospital on the 9th April 2014 where he died peacefully. He will be missed by his fellow lapidaries.

Mineral Group 26th March 2014

Fourteen members were present and good to see a new member attending. John presented the identification exercise and the four minerals were; calcite and pyrite, vanadinite and barite, fluorite and chalcopyrite and dolomite. Peter presented the item of interest which was to show members what minerals look like when out fossicking, before any cleaning or breaking of the rock occurs. Peter displayed seven different varieties of quartz he had found and what they looked like before and after work on the rock. Joyce presented opal as the mineral of the month. Opal ($\text{SiO}_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$) is a non-crystalline form of silica that contains water as part of its structure. Australian opal can be traced back about 100 million years when most of the central region was an inland sea. There are many variations of opal including, bolder, opal pseudo morph, fire, black and potch. 95% of opal comes from Australia and 90% of that is found in South Australia, mainly from coober pedy. Noel presented evolution of minerals as the topic of the month. Noel presented a power point presentation showing how minerals occurred from the big bang, star ignition and supernova. The first minerals formed were likely diamonds and graphite. Ann and Noel identified minerals members had brought along for identification. A CD night has been arranged for 14th May at 6pm. Bring finger food. Freebies supplied by Jane and Garry Farnham were specimens of cuprite, malachite and copper from the magpie mine at Cloncurry.

Executive Committee

Any member who has not paid their renewal fees is now considered **UNFINANCIAL** and their name badges will be taken off the wall, which means you are not allowed to use any of the equipment or amenities of the Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

Unless considered otherwise by the Executive Committee, to rejoin means you have to fill in an application form and pay the \$10.00 joining fee.

Classes/Fossicking

Jan Cahill will hold a "Bead Meet" on Sunday 18th May 2014 commencing at 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Anyone interested in attending is welcome - please put your names in the workshop book as soon as possible

Please bring a plate.

Jan

Fossicking

The trip to Tambar Springs was cancelled due to rain and problems with access.

Future trip to Wee Jasper is proposed. Further information at a later date.

April 27th 2014 - Walk to Bombo quarry. Meet at the Minnamurra train station at 9.45 a.m. names in book and suggest contact Peter.

July - proposed visit to a collection - suggestions welcome

General Business

Minutes of meeting to be available in the silver room.

Bob Hanson nominated for the position as Club President and was returned unopposed.

Rose Cook nominated for the position as Club Junior Vice President and was returned unopposed.

Brigitte Pickett nominated for the position as Club Exhibition Co-ordinator and was returned unopposed.

Following a call for a Hall Booking Officer Peter Soms nominated for the position as Club Hall booking officer and was returned unopposed. The position also required the provision of a mobile telephone to be paid for by the club.

Lapidary Officer requested approval to spend \$275 on lapidary supplies and suggested in future we buy supplies more in bulk to make savings on postal charges.

Newsletter editor indicated that postal charges had again risen to 70c per hard copy sent to members. Fees for the web site hosting and registration are due in May. Members should note that the newsletters are available on the web site. Editor will not be available for the next edition of the newsletter so may contain less than usual.

The trees outside the entrance to the club hall have been cut down and stumps are to be removed. Deposit to be paid to the contractor for the solar panels that are to be fitted in the near future.

Three new members were inducted into the club. Welcome and enjoy the facilities that the club has to offer.

Club Functions

23rd April	Wednesday	7 p.m. Mineral Group - Mineral identification Mineral - Ice
27th April	Sunday	9.30 a.m. Meet at Minnamurra train station for walk to Bombo Quarry
18th May	Sunday	Bead meet - Club hall 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. - bring a plate
21st May	Wednesday	7 p.m. General business meeting 8 p.m. Social night - bring sell, buy or swap
25th May	Sunday	Club Open Day and Biggest morning tea 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Other Clubs Functions

17 – 18 May	Sat/Sun	Lismore GEMFEST (24th Annual) http://www.gemclublismore.org.au/wordpress/gem-fest/
31 May – 1 June	Sat/Sun	Winter Gemcraft & Mineral Show Canberra Lapidary Club
31 May – 1 June	Sat/Sun	10.00am to 5.00pm EPIC – Mallee Pavilion \$5 adults, \$9 family, \$2 children/concession. More info Phone: 02 6260 5322 http://www.canberralapidary.org.au
14 June	Saturday	Parramatta Holroyd Lapidary Club Open Day (10am-4pm), entry is free. 73 Fullagar Road Wentworthville NSW http://www.freewebs.com/parraholroydlapidaryclub/