



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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

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August 2014

President: Bob Hanson

Secretary: Dorothy McGonigle

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

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Next Social Meeting.

Wednesday September 17th

Mineral Group

Twenty one members attended this very interesting meeting, Keith presented the ID exercise and the minerals were; quartz with rutile, molybdenite and quartz, malachite and azurite, prehnite and fluorite. Eva presented the item of interest, the healing power of minerals. Terry presented the mineral of the month - cassiterite.

Cassiterite (tin oxide SnO₂) is the most common ore of tin and has been known and mined since prehistoric times. The origin of the name is disputed but is most likely a reference to the Cassiterite, Islands off Britain or off Spain history is uncertain which.

The pure mineral is colourless but in nature is always coloured a dark red/brown by impurities, principally iron. Cassiterite was mined in hard rock mines in Cornwall UK for centuries. These are all now worked out. The topics of the month were presented by Noel and were - 1. How to photograph minerals. - 2. How to select a mineral for mineral competition. - 3. A workshop on how to determine the density of minerals.

Classes

Seed bead classes on the fourth Saturday have been well attended and enjoyable.

Lampwork classes are fully booked and no more names can be taken until further notice. Thank you

Raffle tickets

Raffle tickets are now available for members to sell. There are four excellent prizes offered and these are listed on the raffle tickets. A book is available for you to record the numbers of the raffle ticket books you have taken.

The same situation exists as last year. All money taken should be handed over, together with the raffle butts to Eva Auerbach, Rose Cook or Dorothy McGonigle.

Exhibition

Pre - Exhibition meeting will be held at the club rooms on Sunday 14th. September 2014 commencing at 9.a.m All members are welcome to come and see what is needed in order to make the November Exhibition a success. There are Leaflets (flyers) on the front table for all members to distribute (letter box drop) which would be very much appreciated, please take a few to help with the advertising of our Exhibition.

Following on from this meeting Greg Cook will test all electrical leads. This is a good opportunity to get your leads tested for free. Unless all electrical leads, lights and showcases have been tagged recently they will not be allowed to be used at the exhibition.

Competition Entries

All competition entries must be handed in by or at the club meeting the 17th. September.

Supervisors' Luncheon

Luncheon will be held on Sunday 28th. September 2014 at the Master Builders Club in Church Street, Wollongong 12 noon. Please put your name in the trips book as soon as possible to allow for booking.

You do not have to be a supervisor to attend, but only supervisors will have their luncheon paid for by the club. Please consider attending as it is a good time to get together as a social group.

Club Trip

9 members attended a 'fossicking trip' to I Love You Beads at Leichhardt on Sunday August the 17th. despite the terrible weather down here, Sydney weather was quite good, Lots of treasures were found and lots of \$ spent, a luncheon break on the way home, with a couple of members got side tracked ending up in the centre of the Sydney CBD we wont mention any names.

Open Day

The next open day will be held on 16th. November 2014 at the club rooms. You will notice that the date has been

changed from October. The reason for this is it was felt it would be more beneficial closer to Christmas as it would allow purchasers to buy Christmas presents. It will also be known as "Christmas Sale" or similar depending on what the members wish to call it.

Gem & Lapidary Council Visit

Judges from the Gem & Lapidary Council will visit the club on Saturday 18th. October to judge the competition entries for the exhibition in November. We have to provide morning tea and also luncheon. The judges should arrive about 9.30am. but it is not known at this stage how many will attend.

They will need members to act as pencilers and any other tasks that may arrive. Please give your name to Eva Auerbach or Bob Webb if you can help in any way, it would be appreciated.

The catering officers will also require assistance on the day and also donations of cakes etc. please leave block cakes whole.

Attention Supervisors

Once again we are having a problem with the men's toilet, despite the fact that there is a notice in the toilet asking that the toilet be left in a clean condition. It has also been drawn to the attention of the executive that the toilets are not locked - this is not happening every day but it should not occur at all. When the Art Society arrived on Saturday 1st August, Tony Good reported in the book that the toilets were unlocked when he arrived. The main problem is the filthy state in which the toilet is left. The bowl is not being flushed and there are faeces in and around the bowl. There is no excuse for this.

The Executive request that the supervisors please check the men's toilet before each class and at the end of each class to check on the state of cleanliness.

This may help in isolating when this abhorrent act is being done. If this continues the toilet will not be cleaned by Gabbi, who is doing an excellent job in keeping the hall and toilets in a clean and hygienic condition.

Thank you Executive.

General

Although the working bee which was held on Saturday 16th. August was advertised in the July Newsletter only **two** members turned up. This is very disappointing and doesn't say much for the rest of club members.

Wollongong Council has supplied the club with a brand new (Pricey) Polishing machine, which council feel should be used at least once a month to maintain the floor. We need members to come and have a demonstration on the machine and then use it. It seems that no one is interested in keeping the club and surrounding grounds in a good condition.

We all have extra club activities but surely once a month could be 'given' up for a working bee.

Secretary.

There is still one George Smith's book available at \$40. Please contact Dorothy.

The contents are still relevant today and there is a possibility that the book will become a collectors item.

The Neil Kinnane Collection will be on display at the Cumberland Gem & Mineral Fair.

Saturday and Sunday 23rd. 24th. August 2014 at the Roselea Community Centre, Carlingford

Impressive collection of 1300 mineral specimens world wide and Australia. First time and possibly the last time on public display as mineral and gemstones will be on sale on the days or will be sold to overseas collectors.

Letter and information from Greg McKay of Lightning Ridge offering silver set stones email address opals@opalsaustralia.co Phone 0407747611

Hervey Bay Gem & Mineral Club. Inc. sent information on their faceting competition 2015 Bob Webb for details New members

Mrs. Chulpan Bayguzin, Mr Robert Kennedy. - welcome

Club dates to remember

26 - 29 Sept. Tambar Springs (4 days)

25 - 26th.Oct. Wee Jasper or Muttama

15 - 17th.Nov. Sogala for gold with Ern & Bet Stevens

Other Club date to remember

19 -21 Sept The bead show, Marrickville Town hall, 303 Marrickville road.

4 - 6 Oct. GEMKANA 2014 Goulburn. Goulburn Showground Recreation Area, Braidwood Road.

Labour Day weekend. Adults \$3 children \$1 Families \$8

17 - 24 Oct. Inverell & District Lapidary Club Inc. Gem and Craft show - There is also lots of fossicking trips planned.

