



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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HELLO EVERYONE!

Our Club meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month except December. Next Meeting Wednesday 18th October 2017. Arrive for a 7.00pm start. *See you there!!!*

Meetings:

Social:

David and Diana Hindmarsh's talk on fossils met with the usual round of jibes about being a well preserved pair of specimens etc. which was totally ignored by both. As trips coordinator for the Fossil Club of Australia this pair have been everywhere. Their specimen collection, part of which was on display was testament to the miles travelled and the effort spent in their pursuit of the perfect fossil. It shows that, if the property owners and their land are treated with respect, then access to these areas are still available – a message in that for all fossickers. I liked the sharks teeth and the trilobites. Thanks David and Diana.

Equipment Forum – Wednesday 20th Oct. Equipment officers Veronica Baker and Bob Webb will talk about new equipment which has arrived, or is on order for the cutting room. They will also discuss other equipment that the club owns, problems with maintenance, and the correct use of some of the cutting room equipment. Come along and have your say on where the club is going.

Mineral Group Meeting 23rd August 2017.

Fourteen members attended, reports given. Noel advised there will be a working bee on Monday 11th September, 8.30AM to box & sort minerals for the exhibition. The two I D'S Noel emailed were chrysoberyl & pentagonite (always blue). The competition entries for mineral specimen (one) & photograph (max. 3) are due at the October meeting. The new mineral of the month is aurichalcite (Zn Cu)₅(CO₃)₂(OH)₆- monoclinic-always blueish green.

Two presentations tonight from Roly & John & Aaron. Roly did a power point presentation on "the size of mineral crystals". Roly explained how mineral sizes are grouped & displayed some interesting & large mineral crystals.

John & Aaron also did a power point presentation on metamorphic minerals. John explained how metamorphic rocks form when pre-existing rocks (igneous, sedimentary, or metamorphic) are exposed to high temperatures & pressures under the earth's surface. Metamorphic rocks tend to be dominated by common minerals- feldspar, quartz, muscovite, biotite, amphibole & calcite/dolomite. However, a few minerals are found exclusively or mainly in metamorphic rocks: garnet, kyanite, staurolite, chlorite, serpentine, schist, quartzite, gneiss, anthracite, migmatite & hornfels.

The ID exercise, conducted by Noel, was interesting to say the least. The task was to identify ten minerals from the specimens presented by using ten pieces of information relating to the specimens. The result was good with the average mark of seven. The minerals were: quartz, cuprite, lepidolite, apatite, graphite, calcite, opal-var. hyalite, rutile, stichtite & talc. The freeby supplied by Noel & Ann was Stichtite from Stichtite Hill, Dundas, Tasmania.

Next mineral group meeting 27th September 6.30pm- two presentations-Peter Stanley & Di Alcorn.

Field Trips:

Muttama had to be cancelled due to lack of permission. The property owner had died.

28th Oct – Daytrip to Sydney by train to see the Lapidary Club of NSW then on to the Australian Museum to see the Albert Chapman Collection. Train departs Wollongong 8.40.

18 th Nov – Oberon – weekend fossicking trip for sapphires

General Business Meeting: Lots of news this month

Congratulations Lyn Webb, first place in A.F.G novice division for faceting. It gets harder next year.

Public Liability – Our insurer tells us that some activities by the members will not be covered by the clubs public liability insurance. We have asked the Gem and Lapidary Council for guidance. **If you sell and it is not related to the club, then it is prudent that you have your own cover** . Open Days, Stuart Park and the Nov. Exhibition are some of the events where you may need this. Talk to John Maley, he has good news and bad news.

I note precious few have volunteered for the exhibition, put your name down in the book even if for a couple of hours – it all helps and it is a good time to boot. Only 6 weeks to go. Campbelltown Club are impressed by our prizes and rightly so. Pass the attached flyer onto your friends. Are there any cooks out there willing to supply cakes/ help in the kitchen talk to Carol.

60 raffle books have been printed and there are 17 remaining, can you take one to sell?

Gifted children. Rees Hall at TIGS Friday 6.30 to 8.30pm , Friday 17/11/17. You may need a police clearance (Blue card) as you will be dealing with children.

Don't forget our master class for jewellery setting as well as electric cable tagging and a shed cleaning bee this weekend. We have the last 8 inch saw blade in use, there is a supply issue so be gentle and careful.

New members inducted by Rose Cook : Peter Braicovic, Tammy Westman, Navana Watt & John Zammit.

Dates to Remember:

Sat 30 Sept- Mon 2 Oct – **GEMKANA** - Hawkesbury District Agricultural Showground

Sat 14 Oct – Campbelltown Lapidary Club Open Day. Lot1 Bensley Rd, Macquarie Fields

Sat 28 – Sun 29 Oct – Lapidary Club of NSW Inc Annual Show, Lapidary House ,136 Reservoir St
Surry Hills

Sat 04 – Sun 05 Nov - Illawarra Lapidary Club Exhibition – Ribbonwood Centre , Dapto