



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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

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January 2015

President: Bob Hanson

Secretary: Dorothy McGonigle

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

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Social Night

The social night on 21st January was the annual skite night where members talked about their trips over the past year.

Next social night will be a talk by Noel Kennon on Opals.

MINERAL GROUP MEETING 26TH NOVEMBER 2014.

Fourteen members attended the final meeting of the year. Reports were given by Aaron, Michael and Peter. The next meeting is on Wednesday 28th January 2015. Well, a fun night was had by all. Noel had the group doing several fun quizzes during the evening with thirty mineral ID's and an end of year test. Peter was the dux of the group. Carol won the best Christmas fancy shoe competition. Noel reviewed the groups photo's and mineral specimens for the two competitions and Coral won both. This was the first time a member had won both these competitions. Congratulations Coral. All the members of the mineral group would like to thank Noel for his fantastic input and help during the year and for making the last meeting so much fun with his wizardry and wit.

NOTICES

- 1. Notice of the cancellation of some classes.** Please note that **ALL** classes on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 3rd, 4th and 5th February are **CANCELLED**. The cancellation of classes is due to the installation of new lights in the main hall and cutting room. There will be no power on any of those days and normal classes will resume on Friday 6th February -Sorry for any inconvenience.
- 2. Annual fees are now due as from the 1st January 2015.** Please renew at earliest convenience. If fees are not renewed by 28th February it will be necessary to join AS A NEW MEMBER! Please remember that insurance fee of \$4 is compulsory in addition to annual fee. Please contact Eva (Treasurer) as soon as possible.
- 3. Use of Hall on Saturdays.** Cabochon cutting or any other aspect of lapidary can only be carried out on the third and fourth Saturday of each month. This is due to the hiring of the hall on the second Saturday of the month.
- 4. Post exhibition Meeting** will be held on Sunday 1st February 2015 commencing at 9 a.m. Please endeavour to attend so that all matters can be discussed and if necessary solutions found.
- 5. Annual Rock Swap** is usually held on the last Sunday of February however for this year the date has had to be **changed to the following Sunday 1st March**. The reason for the change is there has been a charitable run organised for the last Sunday in February and Wollongong City Council will not permit the club to have its Rock Swap on that date. There will be two rock scrambles on the day - the first at 11 a.m. and the second at 1 p.m. The cost of tables will remain at \$10 and \$15 for non members if they do not provide proof of their own insurance cover.

Authorisation to use the big and small saws

Due to misuse of the big saw in the shed, it has been necessary for the maintenance officers to spend a lot of their time and a great deal of club finances in order to get them into good working order again.

A list of members who are authorised to use the saws in the shed will be placed on the board in the silver room. Before this list can be finalised it will be necessary for all members who wish to use the saw to undergo training in how to correctly operate these machines and also to show that they are proficient in the use of the machines. Once the training has been completed and competency demonstrated these authorised members will have access to the key.

The co-operation of all members in this important issue would be appreciated.

Maintenance Officers

Judging Courses

At the last business meeting in November 2014, Noel Kennon moved (motion carried) that the Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc should contribute towards the judging of competition entries, not just for our club but to take an active part in the judging of other club's competitions.

Any member who is interested in becoming a judge in any aspect of lapidary is invited to give name and particulars to Barbara Try on (02)43936168 or MOB 0417 676 435. (Eva has also requested to be kept informed.) There will be a course operating on the 31st January - 1st February 2015 for the judging of cabochons. A faceting course is planned for the second half of February 2015. Barbara will let those interested know full details and venue, she will also know when other judging courses will become available. The club will covers the cost of the course.

Working Bee

A working Bee has been arranged for Saturday 24th January. This will involve vacuuming the hall and use of the polishing machine, general cleaning of the kitchen and toilets. Grass mowing and general maintenance outside the hall. The opportunity will also be taken to number the new cupboards in the hall and completion of key register.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting is rapidly drawing near (March). **All Positions Will Become Vacant** and nominations are called to fill the positions. Nomination forms are available in the club hall.

Please seriously consider nominating for one or more of the positions. Do not leave the administration of your club to the few members who have carried out these positions for years.

Please note that the club can operate without a president but it cannot operate without a secretary or treasurer. If these two positions are not filled then the club is in a position where dissolution is the next step!

Attached to the nomination form is a list of the positions vacant and the web site shows current positions and holders. All new members are invited to take on a position, even if in the first place it is that of assistant. This will at least give an insight into how your club is administered. You may have ideas on how you would like to improve any position - all suggestions will be considered.

Classes and Fossicking

Classes.

For those members currently working during the day please note you have not been forgotten. There is a class that you can attend - Monday nights from 6 30 p.m. through to 10 p.m. Bob runs the cabochon cutting and Betty runs silver work.

Fossicking

- The 2015 proposed trips (dates to be finalised)
- Feb - The Rock Swap on Sunday 1st March (date altered at Wollongong City Council's insistence)
 - Mar - Visit to Ken Mitchell's home - the 2014 finds Saturday 28th March 1.30 p.m. for 2 p.m. viewing
 - Apr - Horsham Gemboree 3-6th April (Easter) Note camping available \$120 power \$100 unpowered sites (1st to 7th April)
 - May - Tambar Springs/Belatta 7 or 8 days late April or early May for Quartz, Stellerite etc.
 - Jun - Open to members suggestions
 - Jul - Field trip half day Geology of Illawarra with Rowland Smith date/time to be set.
 - Aug - Visit Bob and Betty Hanson's collections rocks, dolls, ceramics 11 a.m. 23rd Aug
 - Sep - Muttama for quartz crystals 18 - 20th Sept
 - Oct - Visit Lapidary Club of NSW open day then Albert Chapman mineral collection at the Australia Museum in Sydney - train to Sydney Central on Sat 24 or Sun 25th
 - Nov - Members choice current suggestions (1) Tuena (for gold), (2) Grabben Gullen (for Sapphire), (3) Oberon (for Sapphire, zircon, quartz), (4) Glen Innes/Inverell (for Sapphire, quartz), (5) Mt Hope (for Quartz, copper minerals), (6) any other suggestion!

General Business Meeting

- Minutes for meeting to be available in the silver room.
1. There was a leak from the hot water system (in kitchen) over the Christmas break that had to be fixed at a cost of over \$300. Repair person advised that if the power is to be switched off then the water must also be switched off.
 2. John, Barry and Bob did a considerable amount of work on the maintenance of the hall over the Christmas break. A big thank you for your efforts.
 3. Lights in the hall are being installed 3rd to 5th February.

| Dates to Remember | | Dates to Remember - Other Clubs | |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Jan 28th | 7pm Mineral group 2015 program Minerals - what, where, when, why | Mar 7 | Campbelltown Districts lapidary club Open day - Lot 1 Bensley Rd, Macquarie Fields |
| Feb 18 | 7pm General Business 8pm Social - Talk on Opal - Noel Kennon | Mar 7 | Lapidary Club of NSW - Open & Sale Day 136 Reservoir St, Surry Hills |
| Feb 25 | 7pm Mineral group | Mar 21/22 | Canberra Lapidary Club - Rock Swap Wagtail Way, EPIC exhibition park |
| Mar 1 | Rock Swap - Stuart Park, Wollongong | Apr 3 - 6 | Gemboree - Horsham, Victoria |
| Mar 18 | 7pm General Business 8pm Annual General Meeting | | |
| Mar 25 | 7pm Mineral group | | |
| Mar 28 | Visit to Ken Mitchell's collection | | |