



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

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President: Eva Auerbach

Secretary: Dorothy McGonigle

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

Phone 02 42440280

Phone 42842404

Phone 42715562

Important Notice

The nominations for positions at the AGM were very poor and despite the Chairperson calling for nominations from the floor, on two occasions, the response was NIL!. It is imperative that someone steps forward and nominates for President, senior vice President or 2nd vice President as well as other positions which were not filled. However, without the former positions being filled, **THERE IS A DEFINITE CONCERN THAT THE CLUB WILL NOT BE ABLE TO FUNCTION. THE EXECUTIVE CANNOT FUNCTION AT THE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS IF THERE IS NOT A QUORUM – THERE NEEDS TO BE A QUORUM OF THREE – WE DO NOT HAVE THREE AT THE PRESENT TIME. NO PRESIDENT MEANS THERE WILL BE NO-ONE TO CHAIR THE GENERAL MEETINGS. SURELY SOMEONE HAS A BIT OF SPARE TIME TO ATTEND THE MEETING ONCE A MONTH! IT IS IN THE CONSTITUTION THAT MEETINGS HAVE TO TAKE PLACE AND MINUTES OF THE MEETING RECORDED. WE WOULD ALL LIKE TO SIT BACK AND LEAVE IT TO OTHERS TO DO THE HARD YAKKA, BUT IT IS VERY DISAPPOINTING AND SELFISH THAT EVERYTHING IS LEFT TO THE FEW WHO HAVE BEEN TAKING ON THESE POSITIONS FOR MANY YEARS – I THINK THAT THELMA BERN IS NOW GOING INTO HER TWELFTH YEAR! I AM SURE SHE, ALONG WITH OTHERS, WOULD LIKE A BREAK. PLEASE SERIOUSLY CONSIDER TAKING ON ONE OF THE VACANT POSITIONS. IF THESE POSITIONS ARE NOT FILLED BY THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING, SERIOUS CONSIDERATION WILL HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO DISSOLVING THE CLUB AND I DON'T THINK THAT IS WHAT WE WANT.**

THANK YOU

DOROTHY MCGONIGLE – SECRETARY (GOING INTO THE SEVENTH YEAR!)

Past Activities

Sunday February 23rd Rock Swap at Stuart Park, Wollongong. The day started early for most of the stall holders setting up at about 7 a m in dull and dismal conditions with just a hint of the sun breaking through. By mid morning it wa a glorious warm and sunny day. Lots of people wandering round and buying. From what I could see most stalls were getting a fair share of people buying up the rockas and finished items. The three rock scrambles were a hit with the children, one child turning up at my stall with a shirt turned up and full of his trophies. By 2 p m most were packing up and leaving their patch tidy so that by 2.30 p m the park was back to normal.

Mineral Group

Fourteen members attended and Aaron gave a report on his purchases at the rock swap last Sunday. The four identification minerals were; garnet, amazonite, glouberite and gaspeite. Coral did a good job with four good specimens. Don presented his item of interest as the pseudomorph of quartz once heated. Michael presented zircon as the mineral of the month. Zircon (zirconium silicate- $ZrSiO_4$) is uncommon in most rock shops because attractive specimens are rare. The typical simple crystal of zircon is a tetragonal prism terminated with four sided pyramids at each end. The prism may be lacking and the crystal can look octahedral. More complex crystals have faces of a less steeply inclined prism that taper the terminations. Peter did the power point presentation in Keith's absence. There were two presentations, the first on large gypsum deposits some four kilometers underground in Mexico and the second the formation of thunder eggs. The topic of the month was presented by John as Noel is overseas. The topic was a continuation from last month - the family of minerals 2. The zeolite group of minerals was discussed by John.

From Executive

Motion passed limiting guest speaker or invited non member to attend club meetings on maximum of three occasions per year.

Renewal of Membership

If you have not renewed your membership you are overdue and should attend to this matter as soon as possible. The club's financial year is from 1st January to 31st December. Members are given until the end of February before being considered overdue. If any memberdoes not renew before the end of March, then they will have to complete an application form AND pay the extra charges ie joining fee. This is a rule of the club and is recorded in the ruleswhich are available for inspection in both the silver and cutting room.

Note from Secretary

An amount of money was handed to Dorothy recently however without identification as to who it was from. Would that person please contact Dorothy.

Thank You

Men's Toilet

There is an issue with the men's toilet again! It is still being left in a dirty state!

Please ensure the toilet is left in the same state as you would like to find it! Thank You

Important Notice from Executive

Please be advised that it is necessary to make changes to the constitution. The main reason for this is that, until now, the club has been reimbursed by Wollongong City Council for charges connected with the water rates, which means we have only paid for the actual water we use. This will now cease. As there is no mention in the present constitution that all members are voluntary and receive no remuneration Sydney Water is not prepared to give us a rebate on charges. If we want the most financial benefit from Sydney Water this statement will have to be included in the constitution. Accordingly, a special resolution is required to change the constitution. Other small changes will be made to the constitution at the same time.

Please Note:- A special resolution meeting to change the constitution will be held on SUNDAY 4th MAY 2014 at the club rooms commencing at 10 a.m. to change the constitution a 75% majority of club members MUST agree to the changes.

Please attend this meeting - it is for the benefit of the club. - Thank You. Executive

Workshops, Fossicking and Classes

Problem has arisen for the trip to Tambar Springs. One of the property owners has had problems and may not allow entry onto the property. Peter to advise

18 21 April Gatton - Members wishing to go should put names into the trips book to ensure cover with club insurance.

Missing Keys

A set of club keys were inadvertently left in the club at Christmas time. If anyone has picked them up for safe keeping, please hand them into any member of the executive as soon as possible. There is a small shifting spanner attached to the key ring. It is most important that these keys be found so if you have seen them at any time or know where they are please come forward. Thank You - Secretary

General Business

Minutes of the General Business meeting will be available in the silver room. Some of the items of interest:-

1. Preparation work has been carried out for the commencement of work on the solar panels. Contracts have been signed and trees lopping carried out. The natives require additional Council authorisation for removal.
2. New position of Club Safety Officer required. Peter Soms has volunteered to fill the position.
3. New life members: Dorothy McGonigle, Maureen and Barry Young. Congratulations to these hard working club members.

Annual General Meeting

The Club President invited David Hindmarsh to take over as the Returning Officer for the Annual General Meeting elections. ALL positions were declared vacant and nominations for each position in turn were called and where no nomination was received the position was put to the meeting for nominations. Those members elected to the various positions at this meeting will appear on the web site in the near future.

Unfortunately NO nomination was received for the position of Club President and several other key positions for example Hall Booking Officer and Annual Exhibition Co-ordinator. In light of that development, at the close of the Annual General Meeting, David Hindmarsh proposed the following motion:-

I move that the new committee contact all financial members by best means, including email/telecom and notify all members of the vacant positions which should be filled not later than the next monthly meeting which is 16th April 2014.

Nominations prior to this meeting can be submitted to Eva Auerbach. In the unlikely event that no nominations are forthcoming, the Committee should give serious consideration to co-opting members to these positions or nominating these positions as defunct.

The motion was put to the members and passed.

Club Dates To Remember

23 Mar Sun Kangaroo Valley for petrified wood etc (Meet Berry Apex Park)

26 Mar Wed 7.00 pm Mineral Group - Opal and evolution of minerals

31 Mar Mon 10 day trip to Tambar Springs

16 Apr Wed 7.00 pm Business meeting

8.00 pm Social night - Slide show

April Proposed trip to O'Allan Ford

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