



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

PO Box 117 Corrimal NSW 2518 Clubrooms – Tarrawanna Hall, 51 Meadow St, Tarrawanna

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March/April 2017

President: Rose Cook

Secretary: John Maley

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

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Social Meeting

Chris Hatton spoke and showed many photos on his trip to Flinders Island in February of this year searching for adventure and Killiecrankie diamonds, with Carol & Bob Strachan, Peter Stanley & Ken Mitchell from our Club. Killiecrankie diamonds are really, clear/pale blue topaz and despite extensive amounts being recovered, including by dredge and free diving, the group still found some nice pieces (but not too many tiger snakes, thankfully). Apart from fossicking Chris said that Flinders Island is a beautiful place for walking beaches, lazy scenic drives, or indulging in locally harvested food including wallaby, mutton birds and crayfish. Thank you Chris for a fun evening.

Meetings:

Our Club meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Arrive for a 7.00pm start. Hope to see you there!!!

May Social – Pick of the Table – Please bring an item to swap worth about \$5 and another item worth about 50 cents

Mineral Group Meeting

16 members attended this meeting. Ann presented a power point presentation on pegmatites. Pegmatites are rocks associated with the margins of granite intrusions cooling very slowly usually in veins. It's molecules have time to organise themselves into large well shaped pure crystals. Many unusual minerals and metals are often found in pegmatites. Ann explained that they can take up to 2 million years to grow and that there are very few found in Australia, however, they are found at Broken Hill and Torrington. Vicki discussed the density (specific gravity) of minerals. Density of mass of a mineral to its volume which is $D = M$ divided by its volume. Non-metallic minerals have a higher density. Noel introduced the new mineral of the month, Conichalcite – $\text{CaCu}(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{OH})$. The ID exercise identified 10 minerals which were crocoite, galena, prehnite, cerussite, molybdenite, malachite, biotite, quartz, copper and garnet. The freebie of the month was prehnite from the Careona property at Mullaley, NSW.

Library:

We have a well stocked library for our members use. When borrowing from the library fill out the card at the front of the book, then place the card in the box on the shelf. When returning items, fill in the return date then place the card back in the book and return the book to the shelf. Janelle has purchased a new book "Opal & Gemstone Jewellery – cutting designing and setting" which is available for borrowing.

Field Trips:

Past: Our Bus Trip to Lithgow for the Gemboree was greatly enjoyed by 25 people, with around 40 Club members overall attending. Lots of treasures and goodies were purchased and the showcases were a delight to be seen with a few of our members entering the competitions and taking out some places, highlighting our Club's talents. Lithgow turned on great weather for the show which had 29 dealers and over 75 tailgaters.

Future:

- * Field Trip - 4,5,6,7 May to Tambar Springs for Drusy Quartz & Stellerite – please put your name in the book
- * June Opportunity for any member to organise a trip -- enter in trips book please
- * July Visit to a member's collection – to be advised
- * August – Social walk from Minnamurra Train Station to Bombo Quarry (then Bombo/Kiama Train Station)

Club Promotion:

New Publicity Officer, Lynne, would appreciate any feedback and suggestions regarding additional advertising/promotion of Club events. Please e-mail her at cascademinerals@gmail.com with ideas, addresses and contact persons.

Items for sale:

Club Members with items for sale/giveaway to have them placed in the newsletter, please contact our new Editor, Chris.

New member:

Welcome to New Member, Meg Lofts.

We trust all new members will enjoy their experiences with us and benefit from our classes. If you have any questions there will be a Supervisor who can assist you. All members would also love to help you if they can. If you are not a new member, talk to a new member and become an ACTIVE member, we were all new at one time.

General Business Meeting

The minutes are available in the silver room.

- * The date for the Rock & Mineral Fair in February at Stuart Park will remain the last Sunday in February
- * Chris Hatton appointed as new Editor
- * Lynne Webb appointed as new Publicity Officer
- * May 28 – Club Open Day

We need donations of cakes and cookies for the day. A sausage sizzle will be organised for lunch. There will be flyers at the clubhouse, please take some and place them on community/shopping centre notice boards or anywhere else you can think. Let's get as many people as we can attending to help raise monies for the Australian Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea. Ring John Maley Ph: 42675618 if you would like a table to sell (first in until full).

*Congratulations to all Club Members who entered competitions at the recent Gemboree at Lithgow. In particular Bob Webb for a 1st in faceting, Betty Hanson for a 2nd in the wire wrapping and Mick Derrington for a 3 x 2nd places

Club Officers elected at our Annual General Meeting held on 15 March, 2017

President -	Rose Cook	Assistant Librarian -	Erin Reynolds
Senior Vice President -	Chris Hatton	Mineral Group Convenor -	Noel Kennon
2nd Vice President -	Bob Hanson	Assistant Mineral Group Convenor -	
Secretary -	John Maley		Don Anderson
Treasurer -	Eva Auerbach	Minutes Secretary -	Thelma Bern
Catering Officer -	Carol Strachan	Programme Secretary -	Joan Zealey
Editor -	Vacant (since filled by Chris Hatton)	Public Officer -	John Maley
Web Master -	Roger Stockins	Publicity Officer -	Vacant (since filled by Lynne Webb)
Grants Officer -	Peter Walsh	Sales Officers -	Barry Young, Bob Hanson, Peter Walsh, Bob Webb
Festival Coordinator -	Rebecca O'Donnell	Trips Leader -	Peter Stanley
Hall Booking Officer -	Michael Derrington	Faceting Officers -	Bob Webb, Cec Dwyer
Grounds Officer -	Barry Young	Assistant Faceting Officer -	
Assistant Grounds Officers -	Bob Hanson, Peter Walsh	Silver Craft Officers -	Peter Walsh Barry Young, Betty Hanson
Lapidary Officer -	Veronica Baker	Silver Casting Officer -	Barry Young
Assistant Lapidary Officer -	Bob Hanson	Competition Officer -	Eva Auerbach
Maintenance Officer -	Greg Cook	Welfare Officer -	Maureen Young.
Librarian -	Janelle Bydder		

Dates to Remember:

26 April –	Mineral Group Meeting – bring a plate – Noel showing a DVD
17 May –	Club Business and Social Meeting
20 - 21 May -	Lismore Gemfest, Lismore Showgrounds, Alexandra Parade, North Lismore
27 - 28 May –	Canberra Lapidary Club Winter Gem Show, Mallee Pavilion, Exhibition Park, Canberra, ACT
28 May –	Open Day, Illawarra Lapidary Club, 51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna
8 - 9 Jul –	Campbelltown Annual Gem Mineral & Jewellery Show, Greg Percival Community Centre, Oxford Road, Ingleburn 2565
19 – 20 Aug –	Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club Gem Show, Glenbrook Community Hall, Great Western Highway, Glenbrook
14 Oct –	Campbelltown Lapidary Club Open Day, Lot 1 Bensley Road, Macquarie Fields
4 – 5 Nov –	Illawarra Lapidary Club Annual Exhibition
11 – 12 Nov –	Canberra Lapidary Club Spring Gemcraft & Mineral Show, Exhibition Park in Canberra

If you have an interesting story or information, that you wish to share with the members that you think would be suitable to add to the newsletter, please forward to it to me for inclusion in the newsletter.

Stand in Editor: Lynne Webb (whilst your new Editor, Chris Hatton is off digging zircons! Good luck Chris)

Q. If H₂O is the formula for water. What is the formula for ice?

A. H₂O cubed