



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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

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November 2015

President: Bob Hanson

Secretary: Dorothy McGonigle

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

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Valedictory

It is with deep regret we record the passing of one of our younger members, **Mark Hanson**.

Mark was unfortunate to be born with a very rare heart condition which meant he spent much of his life in and out of hospitals.

Although this was a debilitating condition it did not stop him living as normal a life as he was able.

Mark joined the Illawarra Lapidary Club in February 2013 and from the beginning he proved to be very artistic and was able to just look at something and then make it for himself. During his stays in hospital he had the medical profession interested in his lapidary expertise.

During the last few months he spent most of his time in hospital, this unfortunately proved to be the beginning of the end. He came home to spend time with his family and his last wish was to have a BBQ with family and friends. The BBQ was held on Saturday 31st October, but sadly, in the early hours of the following day (Sunday 1st November) his body could take no more and he succumbed.

Our sincere sympathy goes to his wife Rhonda and two children Emma (13) and Brock (11) also to his parents Bob and Betty Hanson.

Valedictory

We have also lost another member of the Illawarra Lapidary Club, **Kayleen Ollson** - better known as Kay.

Kay joined the club in November 2011, her husband having already become a member two years earlier.

Kay was a friendly, bubbly person who enjoyed travelling around the country with Geoff in their caravan. Although she didn't pursue cutting cabs etc. she was always ready to give a helping hand at any of the club events held during the year.

Unfortunately, Kay was diagnosed with breast cancer a few years back which, after treatment, received the all clear. In April 2015 symptoms appeared and again were treated by an oncologist whose diagnosis was (non-smokers) lung cancer. She was transferred to and from different hospitals, but despite the best care and medical expertise, her condition deteriorated and she came back to Wollongong where she passed away on Wednesday 4th November, 2015.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to her husband Geoff and her two sons Craig and Scott also Jen, Scott's wife and their children, Ellie, Milly and Lacey.

Mineral Group Meeting

Thirteen members at this meeting. Reports from:- 1. Keith-on last weekend's visit to NSW Lapidary Club & the Museum, 2. Roland - magazine on planet earth, 3. Peter - recent visit to Muttama. This month's ID mineral exercise -1. quartz, 2. malachite, 3. dravite, 4. quartz -variation amethyst, 5. pyromorphite, 6. rhodonite & galena. Noel discussed the proposed program for next year & all present members agreed with the format. The topic of the night was micro minerals with a power point presentation by Noel - micro specimens - what, why & how. Micro specimens are less than 25mm & are less likely to be damaged. The reasons for collecting micro minerals are:- 1. less damage, 2. affordability of rare minerals, 3. crystal size - small but good condition, 4. common minerals - good small crystals on large specimen, 5. appreciation through magnification, 6. mounting micro's in small boxes - storage easier. Freebies of calcite & barite supplied by Ann & Noel.

Fossicking/Trips

Names in the trips book please

November 21st, 22nd Glen Innes - trip cancelled.

December 5th & 6th – Sydney Crystal Show

December 6th Club annual Christmas party at Collegians

Trips for 2016 to be announced at the January meeting

Social Night

The theme of the November 18th social night was the - bring, buy, swap and sell. Next social night will be on the 20th January 2016 where the theme is "skite night" where members, for example, bring along a lapidary item/specimen and tell the story behind it or just tell of their experience out fossicking. Great little insights.

Workshop

A workshop will be run by Barbara Try on how to cut cabs to judging standard. This will be a two day workshop and will be held sometime in February 2016. The date to be confirmed later. For those members whose names are in the workshop book, Barbara has requested that they bring a piece of obsidian. Further details will be available in the new year.

PLEASE NOTE:- There will be **no cutting class on the 28th November 2015** as the hall is hired out to the Illawarra Art Society.

The oval template for the cutting room has gone missing. Has anyone inadvertently put it into their bag? Please check and if so please return it to the cutting room.

Membership

It is now time to start thinking about the Annual General Meeting in March 2016. **ALL positions** of officer bearers will become vacant. Please consider taking on one of the positions which will be attached to the nomination form. The secretary position will definitely become vacant and without a secretary the club **CAN NOT** function. Unless someone is prepared to nominate for this position the club may have to fold and I do not think we want that to happen. Please do not let the club down.

Dorothy Club Secretary.

Membership Fees

Membership fees are due on the 1st January 2016. There is a lee way for late payment until the last day of February (29th for 2016). Payment after that date will incur a fine of \$10.00 so please endeavour to pay your fees promptly.

Note all members 2016 Fees are:-

Insurance	\$4.00 (Compulsory for all members)
Concession	\$15.00
Students	\$15.00 (Under 18 years old only)
Members	\$20.00

General Business Meeting

The copy of the General Business meeting will be available in the Silver room.

Some of the items discussed:-

1. Post exhibition meeting to be held in the club hall on Sunday 29th November 2015 at 9 am. All members invited to attend.
2. The exhibition was very successful and the sales of mineral specimens was so successful that the supply is severely drained. Donations of specimens is called for in preparation of the Rock Swap and next year's exhibition.
3. No classes on the 28th November 2015 - Hall is hired
4. Fans to be purchased and fitted in the hall.
5. Hall is due its annual floor polish.
6. Lenny Sandy Trophy for "Fossicker of the Year" awarded to Bob and Carol Strachan.
7. First General Business meeting for 2016 will be on the Wednesday 20th January 2016

There were three new members inducted into the club. Welcome to the new members and please enjoy the facilities and social aspects of the club.

Classes

The club closes down all classes during the Christmas period.

	Class Finish Date	Class Restart Date
Monday	14th December	18th January 2016
Tuesday	15th December	19th January 2016
Wednesday	2nd November	27th January 2016
Thursday	10th December	21st January 2016
Friday	18th November	22nd January 2016

If you have any queries please contact your supervisor.

Note - NO classes on 28th November

Christmas Party

Our club Christmas party will be held on Sunday 6th December 11.30 a.m. for 12 Noon. It will be held at the Collegians club, Flinders Street, Wollongong. Anyone interested in attending please put your name and telephone number in the trips book.

Exhibition

Has anyone found a bag of crystals that were left at the Ribbonwood centre during the exhibition. If you have any knowledge of these crystals please telephone 0402 575 991 - Thank you.

Dates to Remember

5 - 6 Dec	Sydney Crystal Show
25th Nov	7pm Mineral Group - Christmas session
6th Dec	Club Christmas party - Collegians

Dates to Remember - Other Clubs

28 to 29 Nov	Windsor Gem & Mineral Fair
5 to 6th Dec	Nepean and District Lapidary Club Gem Show