



## Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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

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**November 2016**

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### **Social Meeting**

The last social night for 2016 held on the 16th November was the bring, buy and swap night. Several members had items to sell or swap and Janelle had some of the duplicate books from the library for sale. As there were new members inducted on the night they were invited to remain after the induction to socialise with members present. The next social night will be the first for the new year, Skite Night. Come along with tales of your exploits.

### **Mineral Group Meeting**

On October 27th thirteen members attended the mineral group meeting with Ann and Carol in charge. Reports were given by various members. Noel went through the 2017 program, confirming what members would be doing next year. Will all be fun nights and learning more all the time how to identify minerals. Ann did a power point presentation on the various colours in minerals. Carol did the ID exercise with 10 minerals, several of them had two or more minerals present. Noel made the comment that this was the hardest ID of the year with a lot of the specimens in their raw state. The minerals were: quartz, prehnite, quartz, barite and hematite, pyrite and biotite, prehnite, glendaneite, olivine and labradorite, Chalcopyrite, galena and sphalerite, fluorite and prehnite and quartz. Carol spoke about and displayed photo's of their trip to Flinders Isle as well as Mount Surprise, Alice Springs, Wave Hill, Harts Range and Kununurra WA - zebra rock. Ann, via a power point presentation, explained how to distinguish between beryl and epidote and anglesite and cerussite. As Ann said, it is easier to distinguish between beryl and epidote (because of the crystal shape for one thing) than the other two, which are very similar.

The final mineral group meeting for 2016 starting at 6.30 pm is to be a fun night. The usual end of year "exam" and discussion about the photo competition. Suggested all members wear a funny neck tie/scarf? Bring a plate of goodies to share round and have fun.

### **Exhibition**

The exhibition this year at least had good weather and the number of visitors over the two days was very encouraging. Close to 600 visitors over the two days. A big thank you to Brigitte and all the members that gave up their time, made donations and put such effort into making the event a success and special mention to two young ladies, Isabella and Kiara Pickett, who helped John out on the lucky dip area on both days.

The raffle prize winners have been notified and results appear in the Illawarra Mercury and on our club Facebook page. Photographs of the exhibition are also on the Facebook page and web site.

### **Fossicking**

The last fossicking trip for the year is at Tuena looking for gold under the leadership of Ernie Stevens. This year's winner of the Leni Sandy fossicking trophy is Vickie Christi. Congratulations Vickie. The Christmas Party is at the Collegians Club on Sunday 11th December. Those attending the party should put their names down in the book in the hall. It is an 11.30am meet at the club for a 12 Noon lunch.

As yet no proposed list of trips planned for 2017 are available other than the bus trip at Easter. The cost is \$25 per person and that will include an afternoon tea. Great value and not having to contend with the drive and parking while visiting the exhibition.

## **Classes**

The club will have a break from classes over Christmas. All classes will finish in the week 5th to 9th December and most will start again the week of the 16th January. The exception is the Wednesday class that will restart 1st February.

It is proposed to hold an evening faceting class to run for six weeks starting in February. Hours for the class 6pm to 9pm with Bob Webb and Peter Walsh as the supervisors. Members wishing to attend these classes please contact Bob or Peter as we have a limited number of machines.

## **Workshops**

At the exhibition a local manufacturing jeweller offered to conduct a workshop for gem setting. Details of when and how the workshop would be conducted ie demonstration or hands on and how many people is yet to be worked out. Probably a Saturday afternoon.

## **General**

A list of winners of the club competition will appear in the club web site in the near future.

Club subscriptions become due in the new year. It is not too early to also be thinking about nominations for club positions at the Annual General Meeting in March. One position that will be vacant is that of the newsletter editor. If the position is not filled there will be no newsletter!

## **Items for Sale**

The club is replacing some of the older pieces of equipment and is offering those items to club members as they become available for sale. For details see Bob Webb or Barry Young. Currently a grinder is for sale at \$200 and a facet machine at \$1200.

## **General Business Meeting**

The minutes will be available in the silver room.

Over the Christmas break the hall floor will require cleaning and polish. Several members volunteered their time and effort to do this task.

In 2017 there will be the need for a number of working bees to be conducted in and round the club hall. As we lease the hall there is an obligation to keep it in good order. Volunteers to help out will be called for at future General Business Meetings.

New members were inducted into the club Slobodoan Zjalic, Cris Terry, Peggy Monck and her two daughters joined as junior members- Maddison 17yrs., Hannah 13yrs, Daryl & Maria Shumack, Valerie & Rodney Wilson and their daughter Jessica Turnbull and Maria Romano. Wonderful to see so many new members joining the club. Welcome to you all. Please enjoy all the club has to offer and the social aspects of the club.

### **Dates to Remember**

23 Nov	6.30 pm Mineral group Final "exam" and discussion on photographs. Bring a plate for the fun night. wear a funny neck tie or scarf.
5 - 10 Dec	Last week of classes for this year.
11 Dec	Christmas party at Collegians Club 11.30am for 12 Noon
2017	
16 - 20 Jan	Restart of classes except Wednesday class restarting February

### **Dates to Remember - Other Clubs**

26-27 Nov	Windsor Gem & Mineral Fair
4 Dec	Sydney Crystal Show