



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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

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September 2015

President: Bob Hanson

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Social Meeting

Social night of the 16th September was the club annual display. This might be the last as previous years received a poor response. Rules were minerals specimens or lapidary items displayed on a 40cm x 40cm background. Prizes for the best mineral display, best lapidary display and an overall best display. Next social meeting will be a talk by Dr. Penny Williamson from Wollongong University

MINERAL GROUP MEETING

Eleven members attended. Reports from Noel: Ken Mitchell's sale of part of his collection by April next year. Contact Ken for viewing & putting in a silent bid. Aaron: Displayed his purchases from Lightning Ridge in July, 2015. Ed: On his recent fossicking trip to Mount Denison. Noel presented the ID exercise this month & the specimens were: beryl - variety emerald, beryl - variety morganite, beryl - variety aquamarine, beryl - variety aquamarine, & topaz x 2. Noel's idea to have a number of beryl's was to show the different colours - remember the main clue - crystal structure-hexagonal. There were two topic's of the month presented by Noel 1. Morphology - which is a term used to describe the form or shape in which individual crystals or aggregates of crystals occur. Several terms are used to indicate how well a crystal has formed - euhedral - well formed & bound only by flat crystal faces - anhedral - irregular shape with no crystal faces, subhedral - partially well formed, partially irregular & - xenomorphic - deformed, usually by growing within a confined space. 2. Power Point presentation on the identification of minerals - refer to May newsletter for details. Entries for the display & photographic competitions are due at the September meeting on the 23rd. Freebie of feldspar crystals from California supplied by Ann & Noel.

Fossicking/Trips

Names in the trips book please

3rd to 5th October Gemkhana at Hawkesbury Showground, Clarendon

17th October Campbelltown – Open Day & BBQ 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

24th October - Trip to NSW Lapidary Club Open Day. Visit to Aust Museum to see Chapman Exhibition.

November 21st,22nd Glen Innes three to four days.

December 5th & 6th – Sydney Crystal Show

Exhibition

Bill Cahill will be at the club on Saturday 26th September to tag electrical leads. He will be there at 10 a.m. and it is the only day that Bill is available, so if you have electrical leads which need to be tagged, this is your only chance. Unless they are recently tagged, they will not be allowed at the exhibition in November.

Reminder to sell as many raffle tickets as possible before the exhibition. Volunteers will be required for lots of jobs not only during the exhibition but also setting up and dismantling the exhibition. Let Brigette know you are available. Lastly the canteen would appreciate the donation of cakes and slices on the two days of the exhibition.

General

THE MEN'S TOILET WAS IN A VERY DIRTY STATE ON TUESDAY MORNING. THERE IS NO NEED FOR THIS TO OCCUR – SURELY WHOEVER IS LEAVING FAECES IN THE BOWL AND ON THE BACK OF THE SEAT AND LID COULD SPEND A LITTLE TIME IN CLEANING IT UP! NOBODY LIKES TO USE A DIRTY TOILET AND WHOEVER IS LEAVING IT IN A FILTHY STATE WOULDN'T WANT TO ENTER A TOILET HIMSELF AND HAVE TO FACE THIS UNHYGENIC SITUATION.

NOBODY FROM THE TUESDAY CLASS HAD USED THIS TOILET AS IT WAS DISCOVERED WHEN THE DOOR WAS UNLOCKED. HOWEVER, ONE OF THE MEMBERS WHO FOUND IT IN THIS REVOLTING STATE HAD THE DECENCY TO CLEAN IT UP!

PLEASE TAKE MORE CARE.

General Continued

JUDGES

Judges will be attending the club on Saturday 24th October to judge the competition entries for the Exhibition in November.

Members are required to assist the judges e.g. pencilers adding up points etc. on the day. It is a good day and you will learn quite a lot about how the items are judged, so please give some of your time. Carol Strachan will also require help in the kitchen, so please give your name to Carol if you are available. Donations of cakes, biscuits, slices and uncut large cakes are required.

The judges will be arriving at 9 a.m. so please come early so that they can have a cuppa and refreshments before they start to judge.

About six judges will be at the club on the day.

Thank you to all members who are currently cleaning the hall, toilets etc. Carol is doing an excellent job in the kitchen – thank you Carol

WORKSHOP ON CABBING

Barbara Try is willing to run a workshop on how to cut cabs to competition level. If you are interested please leave your name and 'phone number in the Workshop book. If enough members are interested a day and time will be organized. This is a suggestion for Supervisors but anyone is welcome to attend.

It has been suggested that the Supervisors check the condition of both ladies and men's toilets prior to the start of the classes and it may be a good idea to check them at the end of the class also. Maybe we can stop the toilets being left in an unsatisfactory condition.

Executive Committee

WISH LIST

The executive is in the process of up-dating equipment and we would like members to contribute by way of notifying the executive with a list of new equipment – or anything else you can think of which would up-date the facilities of the club – you would like to be obtained. Please leave your list in the Suggestion box next to the front door.

Due to the mis-use of saws, especially the trim saw, it has now been decided by the executive that if you wish to use any of the saws in the cutting room, please contact your Supervisor for advice on the size and thickness of the stone in question before using any of the saws. This is due to the fact that the trim saw is being used on stone/rocks that it is not meant to cut. Remember, this is only a trim saw and it should be used to trim stones only.

Bob Strachan has secured the guards on the 8" saw so that only the correct sized stone can be cut on this saw. Note also that the new saw will only allow the correct pressure to be placed on the blade. Press too hard and it just moves back.

General Business Meeting

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

Three new members – Leigh Strachan (Carol's daughter). Hayden Golding and Rebecca O'Donnell inducted into the club - welcome and enjoy all the facilities that the club has to offer.

Dates to Remember

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| 26 Sept | Electrical lead testing |
| 23 Sept | 7 pm Mineral group - four minerals and a DVD. Entries for photographic competition due this meeting. Possible working bee next month and DVD night on 7th October. |
| 3 - 5 Oct | Gemkhana at Hawkesbury Showground, Clarendon |
| 17 Oct | Campbelltown – Open Day & BBQ 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. |
| 21 Oct | 7 pm General Business 8 pm Social - Talk by Dr. Penny Williamson from Wollongong University |
| 24 Oct | Trip to NSW Lapidary Club Open Day. Visit to Australian museum to see Chapman Exhibition. |
| 28 Oct | 7 pm Mineral group - micro - minerals. |
| 7 - 8 Nov | Annual Exhibition |
| 21 - 22 Nov | Glen Innes three to four days. |
| 5 - 6 Dec | Sydney Crystal Show |

Dates to Remember - Other Clubs

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| 26/27 Sep | Bathex 2015 Exhibition - Bathurst |
| 3 - 5 Oct | Gemkhana, Hawkesbury Showground, Clarendon. |
| 17/18 Oct | Nunawading & District club annual exhibition |