



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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

Print Post Approved No 224952/00012 Web site: - illawarralapidaryclub.com.au

Email address:- illawacq@illawarralapidaryclub.com.au

**February
2018**

President: Rose Cook

Secretary: John Maley

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

HELLO EVERYONE!

Back to business and a couple of omissions from the last newsletter.

Apologies to Carol , her Killekrankie diamond and some corallines on plant stems, while David and May had some schorl tourmaline in quartz which were presented at Skite night.

Meetings:

Social Meeting Feb 21st " Quartz " - Noel Kennon.

A tour de force from Noel as we have come to expect from all of his presentations. For me some of the more obscure facts were the most intriguing. I did not know that Silica and Oxygen are the two most common elements on the planet, the oxygen existing, in the main as oxides, while Silica has numerous forms. La Dorma Rosa sold for A\$ 950,000.00 – a beautiful Quartz specimen, the picture said it all. Thanks Noel.

There will be no Social meeting as it is the AGM, the executive has reapplied for their existing positions, but there are still some casual vacancies. Talk to Rose.

Mineral Group Meeting 24th January, 2018.

Eighteen members attended the first meeting of the year with a warm welcome to four new members. After food, Noel, presented the DVD from the Dallas Symposium of 2016. The speaker was Joe Dorris, with a power point presentation on fossicking in Colorado. Joe was using heavy machinery to help with their digs & most of the specimens found were amazonite & smoky quartz. Their digs are operated by the Dorris family & you may have seen them on the TV show "the prospectors". Joe displayed several pockets where good specimens had been found & stated they had fossicked in about 950 pockets over the years.

The email ID number 8 was bixbite & 2018 number 1 brazilianite.

Roly Smith presented a power point presentation on "a mineral that changed the world"- it was "clay". Clay is not a mineral, however, there are minerals in clay which come from sedimentary rock. We heard about the properties, origin, types of clay & the many uses. Most of us have clay in some form around the house e.g. tiles, bricks pottery & of cause in the ground. Without clay the world would not have been the same in modern times.

The "mineral of the month" is creedite (mostly orange, purple & colourless).

The ID exercise was fairly easy for most of the members, with one exception. ID number 7 was foitite. Nobody correctly identified this mineral which is very similar to schorl-- most members said schorl. The minerals identified were: quartz-variety chrysoprase, calcite, malachite, azurite, muscovite, crocoite, foitite, pyrite, fluorite & gypsum. The freebie of the month is boulangerite, from Aclare Mine, Callington South Mount Lofty Range South Australia.

There was a working Bee on Monday 5th February, 2018 @ 8.30AM- 12 noon, to sort specimens in shed for exhibition & Stuart Park.

The next Mineral group meeting is on Wednesday 28 th, starts 6.30 pm
Anne Kennon will be speaking on Alpine minerals,
Keith will be talking on cleavage – this caused ribald sniggers and tittilation.

Field Trips: - Contact Peter Stanley

Veronica tells me that the beading group had a ball at "I Love You Beads "

Our first local local expedition (as part of our plan to have one month at home and the following month away). on the 23rd of Feb to the University of Wollongong to inspect the “ Howard Worner Collection” has been cancelled as there were only 3 members who put their names in the trips book

Our next away trip is a choice.

Firstly to Kangaroo Valley for Petrified Wood and Jasper (11 members so far)
Secondly , the Campbelltown Lapidary Club Open Day (9AM – 2PM) call 9618 3206

APRIL – Tambar Springs – Druzy Quartz and Stellerite, (2 members so far)

Put your name in the trips book otherwise it will not happen

General Business Meeting:

Auction Night April 2018 - after the business meeting

If you are after loved gear at a good price or you have something to sell that you no longer use, this is your chance.

FOR SALE
Noel Kennon – Auctioneer Extraodinaire

- 1) stuff owned by the club
- 2) stuff people wish to donate to the club to auction
- 3) stuff people wish to have auctioned on their own behalf. In this case there must be a reserved price on the item so we can ensure that it isn't sold for peanuts.

Each item to be tagged with **initials** of the seller, **numbered** if more than one, and clearly marked with a **reserve price** otherwise you may not be happy.
Jewellery/ specimens (Aaron will buy them)/Lapidary items / items of interest for club members are what we are after.

Sale Conditions – a 10% of the sale price is the clubs commission.

In the case of Spouses and Partners, generous warranties are necessary and all defects must be reported and advertised before sale- discuss with the auctioneer before event.

John and I have been reviewing our membership lists and have added 80 new members since July 2017. We are currently 206 strong. If you know of anyone who have not received our monthly Newsletter mail out let me know as it is easy to rectify. There are always a couple of members that fall through the cracks no matter how hard we try.

Condolences to the family of Ed Lawler on his recent demise.

The new members are

- 1 Helen Hargrave
- 2 Rosetta Di Noro
- 3 Bill Roberts
- 4 Stacy Bunker
- 5 Timothy Fitzgerald
- 6 Dale Severs - Fitzgerald

Welcome to the club, if you have an interest in jewelry / rocks / minerals / cups of tea then you have come the right place. Someone here knows what to do, just ask.

Clean up working bee 8.30 AM , 17th March. (will only take a few hours if there are numbers)

Barry will be buying a new wax injector – the old one went to that big injector heaven after 25+ years of heavy service. I wonder whether the quality and durability be the same, lets hope so.

NSW GEMKHANA 2018

A note from Colin Wright (V.P. of The Gem and Lapidary Council) asking us to consider entering the competition in all its disciplines.

(see the attached flyer)

Dates to Remember:

Stuart Park- Rock swap Sunday 25thFebruary. (see attached flyer)

Remember , no public liability insurance , no start . Talk to John about this – he has some innovative ideas on how to get the best value from insurance and it is so easy.

The rumours that the council will invoke paid, limited duration parking in the not to distant future will place the continued existence of this popular event in doubt. If you are new to the club, do not miss it and see what your club members can do. (see the attached flyer)

Gemboree – Willunga (McLaren Vale), S. A ., Easter weekend – a small fly in the ointment?

Due to circumstances beyond our control all Campers will now need to be off the oval by the end of the day on Monday 2nd April.

We have been granted permission to camp on the Willunga Park Reserve Oval, but in negotiating with the many stakeholders of the park, the Willunga Primary School has a significant say in the use of the Oval.

As 2018 GEMBOREE will be held during the school term, the school has granted permission for the Oval to be used on the Wednesday and Thursday prior to Easter but requires the oval to be available for school use from 8am on Tuesday 3rd April.

There are several caravan parks within an hour or so travel of Willunga with beautiful places to stay – eg Mt Compass, Normanville, Victor Harbor, Middleton, Goolwa, Second Valley, Wirrina Cove, Cape Jervis, and there are a few free camps around eg Frank Potts Reserve just out of Langhorne Creek or you could plan to head to Kangaroo Island - booking required– but well worth the trip.

REMINDERS:

. Please ensure water tanks are full on arrival – there is limited water on site. No connection to the few taps on site is permitted.

Please note **Black Water** ie toilet and shower water CANNOT be dumped in the septic system and there is NO DUMP POINT IN WILLUNGA. There is a Dump Point in Yankalilla which can be accessed on WikiCamps. However, we feel confident there are enough showers and toilets on site. Grey water (dish washing water) must be contained.

Limited Power available for lights and 240-volt fridges only. Please be aware that some sites will require longer electrical leads and all electrical leads must have current testing tags

For sale

Toyota T/D 2000 Model, 175,000km. Good condition \$11,000 ONO call Keith 0242614895



For your bench. At your side.