



## Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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**June 2018**

President: Rose Cook

Secretary: John Maley

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

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### **HELLO EVERYONE!**

### **PAST ACTIVITIES**

#### **Social Meeting:** - Wednesday 20 June, 2018

Alison from The Department of Fair Trading gave us a wonderful in depth talk on Australian Consumer Law. This talk answered a lot of queries regarding the do's and don'ts. The Internet is a minefield and all auctions are "buyer beware". All Members came away with a greater understanding of what is required. If in doubt give them a call.

#### **Open Day:** 27 May, 2018

The weather was beautiful and the attendance was very good. We had only 2 Applications for Membership but many put their names on our database to be informed of our future events. John, Bob, Barry & Robert worked so well at the BBQ that the sausages were sold out by 11.30 am! Carol, Coral, Don and helpers did an amazing job organizing the kitchen and a big thankyou goes out to them and to all those who donated cakes and goodies as they looked and tasted amazing. We managed to raise \$406 for the Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea which was a great achievement and there was a profit of \$500 to The Club. Thank you to everyone that participated to make this such a great fun day.

#### **Workshops:** Enameling – 17 June, 2018

What a hoot! With a full class of 10 a fun and productive day was had, thanks to Veronica and Mick. Our Supervisors took us through all the steps to make our own precious piece of art with everyone coming away with "the fever" to do some more. Thank you again Veronica and Mick for a great day.

Our regular Enameling classes are held on the 1st and 2nd Wednesday of each month between 9 and 1 pm.

For those of you that are unable to make a class through the week, keep an eye out for more Sunday Workshops.



The results



The Usual Suspects

## **Mineral Group Meeting:** 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

Fourteen members attended with reports given by Noel & Ann.

The mineral of the month: Vesuvianite - like quartz with colours of brown, yellow, blue & green.

The e-mailed ID for May was calcite-reason for pink colour- cobalt.

Two presentations, Aaron, John & Adrian.

1. Aaron & John - John presented a power point display & photos on "native metal". John explained that a native metal is any metal that is found in its metallic form, either pure or as an alloy, in nature. The main ones John spoke about were: gold, silver platinum group, copper, iron, nickel & cobalt.
2. Adrian - A power point presentation also on a native metal, "mercury". Adrian explained how mercury was named in the early years & mercury the planet named.. Adrian gave a well presented talk on mercury, how most people think of it only in the liquid form. Several videos were displayed including one showing how mercury is transformed from liquid to solid & vice versa.
3. The ID exercise - ten minerals named from a list of eight metals- most of us found this exercise difficult & only a few minerals named correctly. Nine minerals were metallic oxides & the tenth "ice". The ten minerals identified were:  
hematite (iron), corundum-variety, sapphire (aluminium), cassiterite (tin), cuprite (copper),  
quartz(silicon), minium (lead), rutile (titanium), magnetite (iron), psilomelane (manganese) & of course ice.
- 4 The freebie of the month was "ice" & Noel explained why he could not give away "freebies"! Why Not!?!?

## **Field Trips:**

**April** – Our Field Trip to Tambar Springs was a success and saw 8 keen Club members coming away with lots of Drusy Quartz, and some with Stellerite. A great trip was had by all.

**May** - Lismore Gemfest saw 6 club members attend and all reported that it was a fabulous show. Beautiful weather and lots to buy!

**June** - Nundle – 2 souls braved the cold to find a speck of gold each and a few quartz crystals. No water in the creeks due to the drought, maybe worth another look next year if the rains come.!!

## **COMING EVENTS**

**Social Meeting:** Wednesday 18 July, 2018

The beauty of opal is unique. Precious or common. Black, white or boulder. Where do you find them? What can you do with them? An insight into “the Opal” will be shared by Bill Pieterse who has a fire for all things Opal. Come along for what will be a great night!

**Mineral Group:** Wednesday 27th June 2018 at 6.30 pm

Mineral ID is on gemstones with talks on Metasomatism and Q minerals

( what is metasomatism ? – sounds psychiatric )

**Field Trip:** 14 & 15 July – Campbeltown Club Show

Where: Greg Percival Community Centre, Oxford Road, Ingleburn – make your own way there but remember to put your name in the Trips Book in the Club Rooms. Seniors \$3 Adults \$5 and Families \$15.

## **General Business:**

The Club has acquired 19 pieces of good quality Chrysoprase which will be made available for sale to the club members. The pieces range from 690 grams down to 5 grams. Exquisite material for cabochons.

The disposal was discussed at length at the Club Executive meeting with the following arrangements to be implemented for sale:

- 1) The sale is to be conducted by silent auction and you can bid on any/all specimens.
- 2) If a club member wins an earlier piece/auction they will be ineligible to win a further piece even if they are the highest bidder on that piece.
- 3) Pieces will be auctioned from the best/biggest piece down
- 4) The date of the sale is to be extensively advertised
- 5) The sale will occur at the October Meeting
- 6) Payment is in cash on the night
- 7) There will be a “reserve” on all pieces

The silent auction was chosen as it is fair and not open to “deals”.

The participation clause allows 19 club members to obtain a specimen rather than one member to get the lot

The October date allows the attendance of many members who are currently away

This arrangement will maximize the return to the Club and give all members a chance to win a piece.

The specimens will be on display at each business meeting until October.

A small sample of the 19 pieces for sale/auction



Lynne Webb tells us that from July 1 we can only purchase from Rio Grande if we have an ABN.  
(The governments' way of gathering more taxes on internet purchases I suspect.)

Eva tells us that the entries for The Club competition closes after the business meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> September with judging to be done on the 24<sup>th</sup> October. Get yourself moving.

## **Exhibition:**

### **Our 56<sup>th</sup> Jewellery Gems and Minerals Festival – November 3 & 4, 2018**



## **We need you**

Some members have been diligently working behind the scenes since last year to get our 2018 Exhibition in November up and running. Now it is time for the rest of us to do our bit.

Maureen Young is continually making beading and jewellery items to sell at the Exhibition to raise funds for your Club. If you are interested in helping Maureen, meet at the Club Rooms any Thursday between 10 am and 2 pm (Bring your lunch). Your help would be very much appreciated.

All Club Supervisors are now requested to take on the task of getting your “class participants” to put some of their work in the Club competitions (or put in a Showcase). They will get a bit of feedback on their articles and might surprise themselves with a 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place. All members wishing to place entries into the competitions at the Exhibition, please note that the cut off for submitting them is the Business/Social meeting of the 19th September, 2018. Entry forms can be downloaded from the Website or collected at the Club. Now is a good time to get those projects underway.

The printing of ticket books for our Raffle - Annual Guessing Competition has been done and books to be sold can be collected from the front table at the Club House. Good luck with ticket sales, it shouldn't be too hard, as once again we have some great prizes. Everyone is encouraged to get a book. Remember this is our biggest fund raiser for the year and this is how you can help keep your Club remain fully equipped and maintained!

Would you have some donations for the kid's sand sieving or lucky dips. These would be greatly appreciated. Donations of rocks for tumbling are requested and can be dropped off at the Club.

Rebecca is after people to demonstrate at the Exhibition, please let her know if you can help out, you can contact her at [symcom@outlook.com.au](mailto:symcom@outlook.com.au)

Below are the prizes for our Exhibition raffle, get a book of raffle tickets and start selling, the mans sapphire ring has taken my eye (makes up for the loss of my silver dinosaur last year ) and my grandson has got dibs on the ammonite.



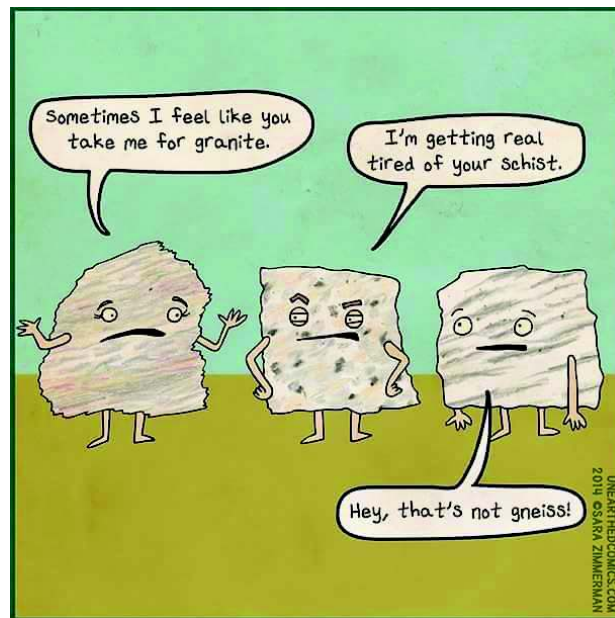
## GEMKHANA:

Please read the attached flyer from Col Wright

Entries close August

## Position filled

We now have a **Trips Leader**, thank you David Hastings



## DATES TO REMEMBER:

14th & 15th July - Campbelltown Lapidary Club - 40th Annual Gem Mineral & Jewellery Exhibition

20-22<sup>nd</sup> July - Yowah Opal Festival

25 - 28<sup>th</sup> July - Lightning Ridge & Gem expo and Trade Show

9- 12 Aug - Anakie Gem Fest

18th 19th August - Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club Gem Show

14,15 & 16<sup>th</sup> September, Parramatta /Holroyd Club Gem Show, 73 Fullagar Rd , Wentworth , free entry.

**3rd & 4th November - Illawarra Lapidary Club Annual Exhibition, Heininger Hall, Dapto**

10th & 11th November - Canberra Lapidary Club - Gemcraft & Mineral Show

10th & 11th November - Newcastle Lapidary Club - Gem and Jewellery Fair

**25<sup>th</sup> November - Illawarra Lapidary Club - Open Day - Christmas Market**



### **CUTTING ROOM ETIQUETTE:**

Do you spend too much time on the one machine when attending cutting classes? If so, please show consideration to other cutting class members by circulating between machines. This can be achieved by having several stones at different stages of completion, by taking a rest break, or organizing a time changeover (musical machines) with all your fellow class members.

### **YOUR NEWSLETTER:**

To make your newsletter better, please send photos or information to your Editor, at [chris@drbloke.com](mailto:chris@drbloke.com) . I cannot get to every meeting or event but it is a fairly easy task these days to flick me a photo and some text for inclusion. Even photos of items you have made at the Club, interesting lapidary ideas, tips and hints, places you have been on fossicking trips. Even if you have something to sell , let me know.

### **JEWELLER'S HINTS:**

This is a great way to keep you sterling silver jewellery from tarnishing. Tarnish is caused by sulphur gases in the air. Chalk is a natural absorber of sulphur. So place sticks of chalk (blackboard chalk) in your cases, jewellery boxes, jewellery drawer or just around your jewellery.

**During labor,  
the pain is so  
great that a  
woman...  
can almost  
imagine what a  
man feels like  
when he has a cold.**

