



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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

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Aug. 2018

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Secretary: John Maley

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HELLO EVERYONE!

What a busy month, and I was retrieving my van from Gemtree and missed events that I would have liked to attend. I did find this little beauty, fossicked in a \$10 bucket of wash at Anakie Caravan Park, a 23 carat yellow green sapphire with a very dark green crosstable.



Those far more experienced cutters in the club feel it will cut dark but it was a find that caused much jubilation at the time.

LAST MONTHS ACTIVITIES

Mineral Group Meeting 27th June 2018

Fourteen members attended & reports given by Roly, Aaron & Noel.

There will be a working bee on Monday 13th August 2018 8.30AM-12noon to sort items in shed for exhibition.

WAI7- aragonite. (what am I No.7). Very similar to calcite with same chemical composition. Aragonite - one difference is stems on aragonite are not straight like calcite on that form of specimens. July mineral of the month-pyrite- there has been a new find slightly different to normal pyrite.

Noel examined the photos members had (Adrian 50!) advising what was wrong & what to do to make photos better. Noel then examined the specimens members had to possibly enter the mineral specimen competition. There were some good specimens presented & Noel explained what needed to be done to make them better. The entries are due in October for the competition & the entries will be displayed at the exhibition.

The freebee for July is scoria from Mount Shadwell, Mortlake, Victoria

SOCIAL MEETING:

Bill Pieterse fell in love with opals while he was still a boy in Holland, and his neighbour brought some back from Honduras. He moved to Australia, and first visited Lightning Ridge in 1959, when it was a much smaller place than it is today. Bill showed us some old photos from the days when he spent his vacations at his opal mine at the Ridge, and a modern tourist video of the town. He also brought along a beautiful collection of his opals and opal rings. Thanks Bill

Members of Thursday silverwork class gave an insight into their Thursday morning activities. Soldering, practice and patience is the trick – thanks to all. As a result we are currently arranging a series of workshops for next Winter and envisage 3 such events, Firstly –Jump ring making & basic soldering, Secondly – Bezel making and setting a cabochon, Thirdly – TBA.

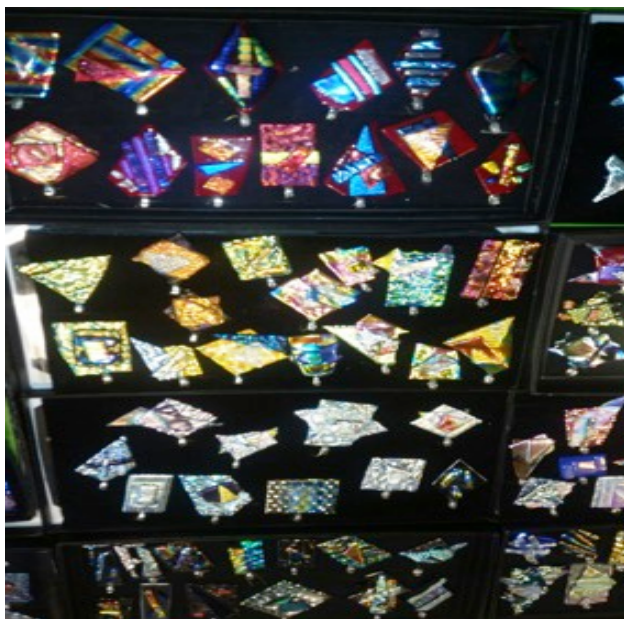
September – A DVD of the specimens from the Munich Mineral Show – breathtaking I am told

The Lightening Ridge Opal Festival



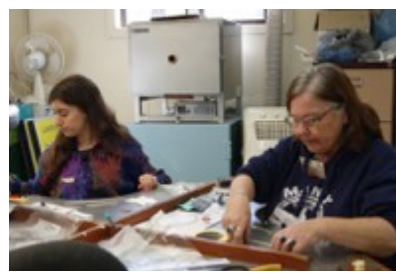
A selection of photos of Opals and Dichroic Glass from our roving reporters Dale & Tim Fitzgerald -Severs at the Lightening ridge Opal Festival.

Thanks guys and “ keep “em coming”.



WORKSHOPS LAST MONTH:

22nd July, 2018 – Wire Wrapping – Beginners Class – thank you to Betty and Suzy
Getting a little twisted and bent was the aim and everyone came away with something special!



22nd July, 2018 – Dichroic Glass Beginners Class – thank you to Veronica and Maureen
A very keen and colourful group produced some very colourful and beautiful pieces. A great day had!

29th July, 2018 – Dichroic Glass Intermediate Class – thank you again to Veronica and Maureen
Another fun day with a full kiln. Lovely work everyone!



Dichroic Glass (both workshops) - Your Instructors are Veronica Baker and Maureen Young.

All glass and materials will be provided at cost (approx \$25 - \$30) plus \$4 club class fee

You will need to bring along:

Safety Glasses

Glass cutter and/or nippers - if you have them

This Workshop will start at 9am sharp as all items have to be prepared and fired in the kiln and this will take some time. Finish time should be around 12 pm approximately. Bring your own Morning Tea (and you can also bring your lunch if you like to stay on for a bit).

* PLEASE NOTE: Items **will not** be ready for collection on the day and arrangements will be made for you to collect them after they have been fired and cooled down.

Watch this space for the advanced class

COMMITTEE MEETING:

2nd Thursday of each month – Committee Members wishing to attend should contact John Ph: 42675618 for details.

LAMPWORK BEAD MEET:

12 August, 2018 –

The Lampwork class Bead meet on Sunday was very well attended, about 30 non member and of course the club members and the class, thanks to Bob Webb for the boost on Facebook.

We entertained many interested people who enjoyed the demonstrations and browsing the beautiful beads and jewellery on display, several will be becoming members so as to join the Tuesday class.

We were busy for most of the time, but I did get to take a few photos.

A big thank you to the class and 'partners' for their help and the excellent 'refreshments' provided, which was enjoyed by all.

Editor :The hands on with torches excited the assembled throng and we have another group of new members who are itching for the next beading class - thank you to Jan Cahill and helpers.



The master at work.



Just some of the results



Cabbing Workshop – Intermediate Level

19 August, 2018 - Cabbing Workshop – Instructors: Bob Hanson and Barry Young

So you have cabbed a little and want to take your knowledge to the next level, then let your Supervisors, Bob and Barry share their secrets with you!

- * All you need to bring is a slab or rock you wish to work on. No worries if you don't have something suitable you can purchase an item to get you going on the day (approx. \$5).
- * You will also need to bring some safety glasses.
- * DO NOT wear loose clothing or any accessories which may get caught in the machinery (long hair should be tied back).
 - You must wear closed in shoes.

To attend the Workshop: Pop your name in the Workshop Book at the Club or ring Veronica on Ph: 0423632755. There is a limit on numbers.

The Workshop will start at 9 am and finish around 2pm. Bring your own Morning Tea and Lunch.

Juniors between 12 and 18 years of age are very welcome but must bring a parent or guardian with them.

There is a Class Fee of \$4 per person (in addition to any items you may purchase).

WORKSHOP BOOK:

You can find the Workshop Book in the Clubroom with current workshops being organised and you can add your name to the list. If you have a particular interest that is not shown, start a page with a description of the workshop you would like to have organised. When there are enough names on the list of "interested persons" we will try to organise Instructors and you will be contacted.

The Instructors are mostly volunteers and workshops are organised at times and dates to suit the Instructor and the majority of people on the list



We need more Instructors and anyone interested in putting on or assisting with a Sunday Workshop please contact Lynne on Ph: 0481267781 or e-mail cascademinerals@gmail.com

ANNUAL EXHIBITION

– Our 56th Jewellery Gems and Minerals Festival – November 3 & 4, 2018



Volunteers: New people – new ideas. We welcome all comers who are willing to help.

Club Table: Thank you to those who have been busy making glass beads and items that have been donated to the Club for Maureen Young and helpers to turn into jewellery to be sold at the Exhibition on the Club table. Maureen is now in need of more helpers. If you ever wanted to learn to bead, come along and help and get free tuition from Maureen. All you need to do is turn up at the Club Rooms any Thursday between 10 am and 2 pm (Bring your lunch). Your help would be very much appreciated.

Competitions: How are we all going with items for entry in the Club competitions? Now is a good time to get those projects underway if you haven't started yet. 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.

Guessing Competition: EVERYONE NEEDS TO GET BEHIND THIS! Books can be collected from the front table at the Club House. Good luck with ticket sales, 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! Prizes:

1st Prize



Manufactured by Herb Csellich

1st Prize



Manufactured by Herb Csellich

2nd Prize



Manufactured by Herb Csellich

3rd Prize



Manufactured by Herb Csellich

4th Prize



Donated by Lynne Webb
and Terry Hogarth

5th Prize



Donated by Mick Derrington

Donations from Members: Do you have any unwanted stones, slabs, broken crystals, offcuts, etc? They are needed to produce tumbled stones to be used in lucky dips and sand sieve for the kids on the different sales functions during the year. If so, leave any parcels at the clubroom marked attention of Barry or Bob

Demonstrations: Rebecca is after people to demonstrate at the Exhibition, please let her know if you can help out! Rebecca can be contact at symco@outlook.com.au

Display Cases: Each member is encouraged to take one of the Club's display cases, or you may have one of your own, to show off some lapidary work you have done, or specimens you have collected. You don't have to do it by yourself, it can be a group effort. It doesn't have to be an elaborate display, just interesting to look at to show others what the Club is about. Please think about setting one up to share our enthusiasm and skills.

Facetors: All the new learner facetors should be getting their entries ready for the Novice Section and our many experienced member facetors, getting theirs ready for the Intermediate and Open Section. You are allowed two entries for each section in each division you are eligible to enter. **LAST Day to enter is the September Business meeting**

Jewellery Making: The Jewellery making Competition will be held in accordance with the Competitor and Judging Manual for Lapidary and Allied Competitions issued by the Australian Federation of Lapidary & Allied Crafts Associates in April 2015, a copy of which can be found in the Club Rooms.

General Business:

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

The following arrangements are 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 (before the Social 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 are away

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

Some of the specimens will be on display at each business meeting until October.



An example of the pieces

We welcomed Sharyn Girdler to the club. There are lots of new things to learn but you have to have an idea what you want. After that just ask and you will be surprised, Some one will have your answers and can help.

Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW has agreed to a wax carving workshop, the exact date will be finalised after Joan Zealey returns from holiday. At this time no workshops have been planned for September.

David Hastings has agreed to be trips leader but will need support in his first few months.

Any orders for items from Rio Grande to be referred to Maureen Young, Veronica Baker or Lynne Webb. Ring Jon for further details.

If you have some old towels they will be gratefully accepted for the cutting room.

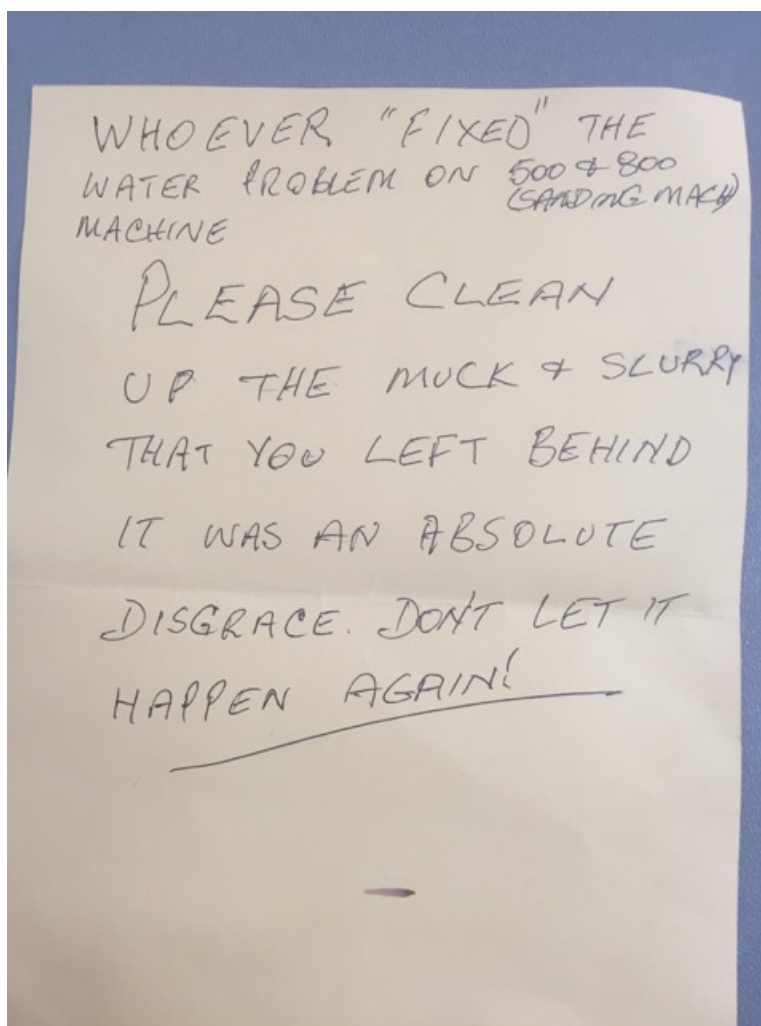
Two extensive collections in QLD are for sale, these are beyond our resources but, if you win Powerball these may be for you. Contact Jon for further details if you are interested.

The club has purchased John Lajoie's collection for \$700.

Stuart Park fees for 2019 have be set at \$10 per table for members and \$15 for nonmembers and you need your own insurance.

Signature Required

This was found in the cutting room



The mess was left by the plumber who passed an electric eel through all the blocked drains so that the room could function. He left so late that no cleaning could be done. It was to no avail however so an expensive but far more user and maintenance friendly revamp of all the plumbing was performed on following Thursday costing \$1600 and some change.

If you have a gripe/grievance/or a suggestion lets us know who you are so we can help.

GEMKHANA:

Please read the attached flyer from Col Wright
Entries close August

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS:

26 August - Sunday coastal walk from Minnamurra to Bombo or Kiama visiting Bombo Quarry

The 8.16AM train from Wollongong, 9 AM get off at Minnamurra and take the coastal walk

21,22, 23rd September – Weekend trip to Muttama for clear quartz crystals, talk to Peter about accommodation.

October - DIY week trip to Emmaville Gemfest, then Tingha Sands etc.

- DIY week trip to Inverell Gem Show, then Tingha Sands etc.

- Shaun will be our guide for two days to the tailings dumps around Stannifer and he has some good, new sites in mind he tells me.

27 October – day trip by train to Sydney for the Lapidary Club of NSW Open Day followed by a visit to the Albert Chapman Collection at the Australia Museum

24 & 25 November – Weekend trip to Grabben Gullen for Sapphires.

MINERAL GROUP:

1. Next meeting is 25th July, 2018 (4th Wednesday of the month) at 6.30PM. Noel running workshop on mineral photography & mineral display competitions. Usual ID exercise.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

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

7th October,2018. Supervisors Luncheon venue Illawarra Leagues Club - Please put names in book.

29th – 1st October – NSW Gemkhana 2018 – Hawkesbury Showground

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

25th November – Illawarra Lapidary Club – Open Day - Christmas Market

16th December,2018 - Christmas party at Illawarra Leagues Club -11.30 for 12 noon.

