



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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HELLO EVERYONE!

Happy New Year, all the best for 2019. I have put in this letter our scheduled activities for the year so you can plan ahead. Our winter workshops will be notified in this letter when they are arranged and if 2018 is any guide, they will be very well attended – watch this space.

I wondered whether we should have a Business meeting in January 2020 at all as everyone is still in holiday mode but with 33 people attending for this meeting, that will require more thought and discussion.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

21st January 2019 - classes recommence.

24th February 2019 – Stuart Park.

Membership fees are Due in January

Christmas Party

This was well attended although the Illawarra leagues club “lost” our booking in spite of the efforts of John Maley who reconfirmed it just days earlier- there was steam rising from John’s collar and I think this spoilt his day. There was a quick rearrangement and we carried on but I doubt that we will be there again in 2019

Santa (AKA Rose) presented Aaron with his award for the most tickets sold and he certainly celebrated this day. Santa was also busy with Christmas Presents – Thank you Rose.

To all those who could not make it maybe next Christmas, maybe somewhere else.

General Business Meeting

Eva has crunched the numbers on the exhibition and has presented us with a profit just over \$5000. Well done everyone. This is where our new equipment will be financed from.

It was with disappointment that Bill Roth tendered his resignation as supervisor for Tuesday & Saturday cabling classes due to health reasons. Thank you for your time and energy in this position over the years and best wishes ,from the club, for a prompt recovery.

Roly Smith will do Tuesdays with Joan Zealey happy to help out.

Bob Hanson volunteered to do Saturday cabling classes. Thank you.

John Wiltshire to arrange talk with all supervisors about safety rules and, I believe that these will be written into the new constitution.

President Rose inducted two new members - John Gould & Bill Van Brakel.

Welcome to the club, you will find there is a lot to learn and a vast pool of knowledge and experience at your fingertips, but you have to have an idea of what you want. Once that is sorted just ask.

Social Meeting

Alan Houses video on Agate creek went for 40 minutes & was very informative about when to go to in the area, where all the fossicking areas are located e.g. O'Briens Creek.etc
Alan showed talks with a lot of people fossicking & they spoke about what they found. However, they would not say exactly where they found them – you will have to twist his arm I suspect.

The video showed Alan his wife & Peter & Marie Stanley digging and Alan brought home a large amount of rocks & brought about six boxes to the meeting for people to look at.

Alan did have notes & mud maps, but only a few so, if you are going , talk to Alan first. No point reinventing the wheel.

For Sale.

Smiths torch, hoses and Australian regulators for both Oxygen and Propane in good order from ex jeweller who has fallen on hard times. Gases can be purchased from Bunnings. If you are interested call me.

Trips - Grabben Gullen 23rd - 26th November 2018

The club's last trip for the year found a dozen members from our Lapidary club making a trip to a private property in Grabben Gullen for a weekend to fossick for Sapphires.

We had a very cold and windy start to the weekend on Friday. So windy in fact, that we camped in a different spot to avoid any wind damage. Unfortunately, there was a total fire ban in place set by the owner so Friday evening didn't get any warmer.



Effort and backache but.....



It is a pretty spot to fossick



Some sizable stones were found

Saturday was much nicer and also had some day trippers turn up to try their luck. We had perfect weather on Sunday. Two of our members were 'lucky enough' to spot a snake sunning by the creek, thankfully it was frightened off by them and left us in peace!

The creek was running nicely and many members found some small sapphires to take home. At the end of the trip, the club was able to make a \$140 donation to the farmer who allowed us to fossick on their property, one couple generously doubled their donation.

For those who are curious for next time, there is absolutely no Optus phone reception on the property. We cannot confirm other networks. We look forward to going back next year!

Thank you David Hastings and Romina for the photos

Open day

Open Day was a great success in spite of my misgivings about being on at the same time as the trip to Grabben Gullen. The club made a tidy profit of over \$500. We will be more careful about our schedules in 2019



Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it. --**Ronald Reagan**

The MINERAL GROUP – Next Year (2019)

Every meeting will begin with reports and announcements,
Mineral of the Month, and a 'What Am I mineral',
then presentations by members, a DVD or Work Shop.
We will usually end with a significant mineral identification exercise
followed with freebies and supper.

January 23	Presentation 1 Noel Presentation 2 Roly	Principles of Identification Photography 1: Set Up & Composition
February 27	DVD	
March 27	Presentation 3 Ed Presentation 4 Roly	Daln'gorsk II Photography 2: Illumination & Lighting
April 24	Work Shop	Fossicking & Cleaning Minerals
May 22	Presentation 5 Noel Presentation 6 Roly	Formation of Minerals Photography 3: Macro Focussing
June 26	DVD	
July 24	Presentation 7 Adrian Presentation 8 Romina	Gold Molybdenite
August 28	Work Shop	Group Competitions
September 25	Presentation 9 Don Presentation 10 Bill	Pseudomorphs Orogenesis and the Gem Collector
October 16	Mineral Group presentation to the October Social Meeting	
October 23	DVD	
November 27	End of Year Celebrations	

Club Classes 2019

Monday Classes	Recommences 21st January
Tuesday Classes	Recommences 22nd January
Wednesday Class	Recommences 30th January
Thursday Facetting And Silver Class	Recommences 24th January
Friday Class	Recommences 25th January

The Beading Classes will recommence at a date to be announced in March
when the weather gets cooler

Social Programme for 2019.

Also another change to the social programme –Ken Mitchell is going to give the second part of his fossicking talk in November.

February	Noel Kennon on quartz
March	AGM
April	Paul Carr - Botswana and Namibia - a travelogue from a geologist's perspective
May	Peter Clarke - Gerroa
June	Bill Pieterse - Opal Hunting part 2
July	Skite Nite
August	Pick of the table
September	Annual display competition
October	Mineral Group Evening
November	Ken Mitchell - Fossicking talk part 2

DATES TO REMEMBER:

24th February 2019 – Stuart Park Rock Swap
19 – 22 April 2019 – Gemboree, Rockhampton

