



Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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

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March. 2019

President: Rose Cook

Secretary: John Maley

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

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HELLO EVERYONE!

ENGAGEMENT CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Romina and David on their recent Engagement. Best wishes from everyone that this will be the beginning of a long and wonderful journey filled with love, laughter and rocks. You make a wonderful couple!

Editor Congratulations David, you have fossicked a rare gem.

I will continue the newsletter when I am away as I have email access. Anything that you wish to place in the newsletter just email it to me, photos should be in reduced size (less Kb reduce the total size of the newsletter and there are limits on what can be sent) and general gossip. I cannot publish anything unless I know.

Mineral Group

Fifteen members attended this meeting with reports given. After some yummy food we watched a very interesting DVD from the conference at Dallas, Texas, 2014 by Dr. James Houran-- thumbnail specimens. This is a collection of small specimens. The reason people collect these specimens-- to collect a uniform collection to the highest quality. The benefits are: find more easily, only occur as small specimens, easily stored, cheaper to buy & they are usually a good specimen because of their size. WA12-gypsum-- most of us were fooled-- Adrian got it right.

Mineral of the month- stichtite, from stichtite hill Tasmania. Usually with serpentine--purple colour. Stichtite was also the freeby.

The ID exercise this month was different to most of the others. There were 20 minerals placed on the tables & a list of ten minerals named which were amongst the 20 minerals. The task was to name the 10 minerals on the list & to name as many other minerals as you could.

The list included aragonite, barite, dravite, graphite, hematite, jadeite, opal, rhodonite, scheelite & vanadinite. The other 10 were: ilmenite, marcasite, quartz, chalcopryite, natrolite, pyromorphite, fluorite, zircon, epidote & topaz.

Noel is looking for someone to take over as convenor. Please nominate if you can & give the form to John.

Next Meeting 6.30 Wednesday 27th

Usual ID exercise and Roly will be talking on photography

Fossicking Trips

David and Romina are already in the Northern Tablelands and here is the latest. We're going to start a collection for kid's attractions at the Gem Show/Rock Swap etc. on these club trips, so members can add whatever they want for the kids to fossick for etc. Barry mentioned they needed stuff. It'll be the 'Young Fossicker Encouragement' donation bag. Hopefully each person drops a few handfuls or more in! We'll be starting with some Jellybeans from Tingha with next week's trip.

Glen Innes Show 6th - 9th March 2019

Minerama found a new home this year at the Glen Innes showground where over 90 stalls full of minerals and bling were to be found. Opal was very popular at the show. There were also quite a few trips organised for visitors to private properties in the area. A couple of our club's members went on a Sapphire hunting trip, however only a couple sapphires were to be found. A BBQ for the stall holders were held on Friday and the 1cent auction held on Saturday with a dinner. For those who are interested, Optus internet coverage was very much a hit and miss due to only one tower in the area. Voice calls were fine.



Armidale Show 16th - 17th March 2019

The New England Lapidary and Fossicking Club held its gem and craft show at the Armidale showground this year. A collection of stalls sold a variety of minerals, gems and craft items. The one cent auction was most amusing and some very interesting items were to be won. One of these most interesting and highly sort after items to be won were bags of delicious looking tomatoes. A very popular activity was the children's fossicking table. Eyes peeled, spray bottle and tweezers in hand, young fossickers found a collection of small gems and crystals to add to their collection.

Tingha Fossicking trip

Romina and David are already there along with Carol and Bob and there is over a dozen names in the trips book. The important days are 26th, 27th and 28th where the local guide, Shaun, will be leading the morning trips. I found him to be good value in a couple of times I have dug at Tingha – don't miss it

General Business

Supervisors are needed – put up your hand.

Our librarian tells us that lots of books are outstanding, please return them.

There will soon be a DVD on Agate Creek (thank you Alan) . There is a DIY trip proposed with Alan there from May to June. Keep a careful eye on the weather as it is black soil country and you don't want to be there if the current cyclones saturate the area.

Our programme of equipment renewal continues with two new faceting machines due in the next few weeks or thereabouts.

John gave a worrying report about the adult behavior at the rock scramble. The continuation of this particular event is a concern.

There are several display cabinets for sale and if not sold earlier, they will be put up for sale at the open day. Interested??, then contact John.

Due to complaints about the costs of memberships , the family rates have been set at \$45.

The Gemboree is at Mudgee 2022 and we have been seconded to help but we don't know what just yet.

There are spaces available for cabbng on Wednesday and Friday but Monday seems to be at capacity. We are planning a six week Friday night Course for cabbng as well.

The next business meeting will be on Wednesday 17th April with the following **social meeting** being Paul Carr talking on Botswana. I am tipping this will be a very interesting speech based on past presentation from Paul – a must attend.

The meeting was closed and Bob Webb took the chair as the returning Officer, below are the results. There are a few positions unfilled, if you can let me know as it spreads the work load and makes life less stressful.

Eva had to retire unwell and the auditors report was read by Bob. Best wishes for a speedy recovery Eva.

Retiring President Rose thanked her committees and her supervisors for their support with particular reference to Bob and Barry who “always put up their hands “ to assist with any job.

Her theme was continuing the renewal of our equipment during her term as President and her legacy is easily seen in the cutting room with new equipment at every turn. Thank you Rose , you have left big shoes to fill.

The new Officers elected are :-

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| President | Chris Hatton |
| Senior Vice President | Rose Cook |
| Junior Vice President | Bob Hanson |
| Secretary | John Maley |
| Ass. Secretary | Lynne Webb |
| Treasurer | Eva Aurebach |

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|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ass. Treasurer | Veronica Baker |
| Publicity Officer | Lynne Webb |
| Ass. Publicity Officer | Suzy Brandstander |
| Lapidary Officer | Veronica Baker |
| | Bob Webb |
| Catering Officers | Carol Strachan |
| | Bob Hanson |
| | Coral Anderson |
| Webmaster | Romina Del Noro |
| Festival Co-Ordinator | Chris Hatton |
| Ass. Festival Co-Ordinator | Greg Cook |
| Minute Secretary | Romina De Noro |
| Programme Secretary | Joan Zealey |
| Ass. Programme Secretary | Vacant |
| Public Officer | John Maley |
| Hall Booking Officer | John Maley |
| Library Officer | Janelle Bydder |
| Sales Officers | Barry Young, Bob Webb, Terry Hogarth |
| | And Lynne Webb |
| Trips Leader | David Hastings |
| Ass. Trip Leader | Peter Stanley |
| Faceting Officers | Bob Webb, Peter Walsh |
| Silver Craft Officers | Bob Hanson, Mick Derrington |
| Silver Casting Officer | Barry Young |
| Welfare Officer | Maureen Young |
| Competition Officer | Eva Auerbach |
| G & L Delegate | Joan Zealey |
| Enamelling Officer | Michael Derrington |
| Membership Renewals Officer | Alan House |
| Safety Officer | John Wiltshire |
| Newsletter Editor | Chris Hatton |
| Ass. Newsletter editor | Lynne Webb |
| Mineral Group Convenor | Vacant |
| Ass. Mineral Group Convenor | Vacant |
| Ass. Library Officer | Vacant |
| Ass. Competition Officer | Vacant |

CHAINMAILLE – The Basics

SUNDAY – 7th April, 2019 – 9am to lunchtime

Chainmaille is a no solder method of jewellery making which has been around for centuries. You will learn the use of the jumpring maker and how to put those little links together to make a beautiful bracelet. Bracelet kits will be available from \$30 each (or you can bring your own wire, you will need at least 3.5metres of 1mm soft sterling silver wire). Your tutors will be Maureen Young, Barry Young and Lynne Webb.

You will need to bring with you

- * A teatowel or mat to work on
- * 2 x Chain Nose (or flat) pliers
- * Glasses or magnifying Visor if you vision is not so good

To attend the Workshop:

* You must contact Lynne on Ph: 0428310697 or e-mail casacademinerals@gmail.com with details. There is a limit on numbers.

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

We would love it if some Juniors between 12 and 18 years would come. You must bring a parent or guardian with you. Chainmaille requires very little equipment, so it's a great starter for jewellery making.

Basic Chainmaille kit - \$30

For a more advanced design kit - \$40

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

No experience is a prerequisite – this is a Workshop for beginners!!!!

And you will go home with your first chainmaille creation

Proposed Workshops

Below are our proposed weekend work shops for this year .**Put your names in the book** under which course you want to attend and if there is sufficient interest then it will happen.

Gemstone carving

Polymer Clay

Cabachon Making (6 week class)

Wire wrapping

Basic Silverwork

Dichroic Glass

I certainly enjoyed the wax carving and enameling last year. Mick Derrington has already cast his creations in silver and they are excellent. If you are new to the club have a go at these , put your name down

VALE - HERB DEACON

It is with sadness that we report the recent passing of Herb Deacon. Herb and his wife, Margaret had been long term members of the Club. They enjoyed travelling Australia in their motor home visiting National Parks and other places of interest. Herb was an accomplished photographer and long term members may remember some excellent slide show social nights featuring, what else, but photos of glorious rock formations.

Herb was a softly spoken man with lots of interesting stories to tell. He had a glint of adventure in his eye (with perhaps just a hint of mischievousness too).

Another of nature's gentlemen has gone. Rest in Peace Herb.

Terry Hogarth

For Sale

A 10 inch diamond saw, Six wheel grinder. Small tumbler and a Large tumbler. Treasured items well maintained but regretfully selling due to household downsizing

Contact : Bob Webb 0428333602

DATES TO REMEMBER:

31st March - I love you beads trip, contact Veronica 0423632755

30 – 31 March 2019 – Canberra Rock swap,

Epic-Exhibition Pk, Wagtail Way

13 – 14 April 2019 – Blue Mountains Lapidary Club Show

Progress Hall , Cnr Great Western Hway & Noble St, BullaBurra

April 17th Social Night Paul Carr - Botswana and Namibia

- a travelogue from a geologist's perspective

19 – 22 April 2019 – Gemboree, Rockhampton

26 - 29 April 2019 – Tambar Springs put your name in the book

4th May 2019 – Open Day , Blaxland Gem and Mineral Club

15 the Valley Rd , Valley Heights

5th May - Club Open Day at the Club Rooms 9am to 2pm

and morning tea for cancer council

18 – 19 May 2019 – Gemfest, Lismore Showground

