



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

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President: Chris Hatton

Secretary: John Maley

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

Phone 0409322644

Phone 42675618

Phone 42715562

HELLO EVERYONE!

Presidents Note

The Exhibition draws closer. We need people to volunteer so I will place a roster of available times and locations on the door of the silver room. Please put your name down if you can assist. This is a problem every year but I am pleased to report that I have heard that the mineral group have arranged everything to do with their tables, rosters, transport of specimens etc – Bravo.

A thank you for the following members who have contributed time, effort and creations for our raffle and lucky door prizes at the exhibition.: Frank Williams, Barry Young, Mick Derrington, Bob Hanson, Bobs son- Paul, Rebecca O'Donnell, Jenny Bult, Herb Csellich, Lynne Webb, Terry Hogarth, Maureen Young and Peter Walsh.

Also a big thank you for Vibeke Henriksen for the valuations.

UP-COMING EVENTS: WHATS HAPPENNING AT YOUR CLUB

Supervisors lunch – 22nd September at 12 noon.

All members welcome - Put your names in the book for this at Dapto Leagues club

Competition entries to be submitted by next business meeting (17th September) or you miss out for this year. Contact Eva

Gemkhana – Saturday 28 & Sunday 29th September, 2019 – Hawksbury District Agricultural Show Grounds 40 Racecourse Road, Clarendon. Entries have closed.

Illawarra Lapidary Club's Annual Exhibition - 2 & 3 November –
Heininger Hall, Ribbonwood Centre, 109 Princes Highway, Dapto

Open Day – November 24 , If you are interested in selling contact John ASAP as table are being snapped up fast.

Christmas Party – Dapto Leagues Club. A page will be placed in the book this coming week so we can ascertain numbers and book appropriately

Gemboree 2020 – Australia's National Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show – 10 – 13 April, 2020 at the Albury Showgrounds. There has been a Booklet placed on the Information Board in the Club Rooms regarding next year's show which has the Competition Schedule.

FOSSICKING TRIPS - DATES TO REMEMBER:

Muttama 19, 20, 21 and 22nd of September
Grabben Gullen 18, 19 and 20th October
Campbelltown Lapidary Club Open Day 19th Oct (DIY)
Lapidary House, Surry Hills 26th - 27th October (DIY)

Put your names in the trips book

I hear changes for the mineral group are mooted. Noel wears numerous hats and will continue as the convenor and leader of the group but the load needs to be shared and plans are underway to arrange a seamless transfer of some of the responsibilities. On behalf of the Club and the mineral group, thank you Noel, for all the years at the helm.

Watch this space, I will outline the changes when they are put to bed.

General Business

Eva is organizing the judging of entries for this years club competition and the closing date is the next business meeting in September (18 th). The results will be displayed at the exhibition. If she has not received them by this time you have missed the boat for 2019. Entry forms from Eva.

The judging takes place in the clubhouse with independent judges but we need pencillers to write down the points accrued , so put your name down in the book.

Thanks to John and Eva for sorting out (finally) a suitable method of payment with our garbage contractor which has been an ongoing problem. The old fashioned direct approach still works well in this electronic age.

The meeting discussed a prorata system of payment of club dues. it was decided unanimously to retain the status quo rather than adopt a change to our constitution.

Social Night 21 August

Only four entries but new members walked away the an arm full of prizes thanks to the generosity of Carol.

Social Night – September 17th - This is the annual display competition.

There are two sections - display specimen or specimens, and lapidary work (cabochons, silver work, glass beads etc) that you have made. You can compete in one or both sections. Maximum display area 40x40cm, no stands allowed. Specimens must be clearly identified. There are prizes for each section winner and for the overall winner as voted by all members attending on the night.

Fossicking Trips - Hill End club trip 8th - 12th August 2019

Snowy one day, sunny the next...



The hunt for gold and crystals is what brought four ILC club members to a well known private property in Hill End for a cold and wet weekend. There was rain, there was sleet, there was light hail...and there was plenty of snow! This however, did not deter the group from doing some looking around.

Our first outing found us at Valentine's Mine, where a couple of loupe requiring, dots of gold on quartz were found, better than nothing...right? (10 points to the person who spots it in the photo below)

□





After that, we ventured off to see a bit more history at the Hill End Quartz Roasting Pits. These pits were designed to roast and crush gold-bearing ore, unfortunately it wasn't as profitable as they thought it would be. It was closed after barely a year and the machinery was sold.



The first day of detecting proved fruitful for 'birdshot'...at the least the detectors were working properly, or so we told ourselves...This was the first day of very light snow, which was definitely not a deterrent for detecting.



The next day the racecourse proved to be a bit more of a challenge, the snow was a bit much, alas detecting had to be put aside and the snow enjoyed. Apparently the trip leader thought it would be funny to throw snow balls at the unsuspecting, who felt the need to return the favour ten fold ;)



One rather dedicated club member took to the hills as the snow lightened and brought back some treasures of his own! Congratulations on the finds!



For those who are interested, there is Optus reception in the town of Hill End. However, at our camp (Tambaroora) voice calls were possible, but the Internet was a bit of a hit and miss.

We would very much like to **thank Jen and Ted** for allowing us to camp on their property for the trip!

Mineral Group - July

Hello All

What a great night we had last night. First Roly gave us a run down on the Apollo Mission that landed three astronauts on the Moon as part of the massive celebration of the 50th anniversary of that venture - thanks Roly for thinking to add that to our program.

Then Adrian gave us a detailed account of how gold forms in primary deposits and whereabouts it is most likely to be found by metal detecting. He backed up his power point presentation with specimens of quartz from areas where he had been prospecting and with

genuine gold specimens for all in his audience. Thanks Adrian for explaining the background to your fossicking activities.

Finally Ann gave us a once over molybdenite - what it is, its properties and uses with plenty of photos and specimens and freebie crystals from Kingsgate Mines in the New England part of NSW. Thank you Ann.

Next Meeting - Bring your lenses, August 28 th another set of 10 micros to ID to reinforce what you learned in July.

Finally WAI 8 is attached.

