



## Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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**July 2019**

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### **HELLO EVERYONE!**

Our club exhibition moves closer and for those who wish to enter the competitions entries are to close on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September. Not much time for you to “have a go.”

The roster for the Exhibition will be on the silver room door in the next few weeks,  
Put you name down, we need lots of volunteers

### **UP-COMING EVENTS: WHATS HAPPENNING AT YOUR CLUB**

#### **Working Bee and Sausage Sizzle – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2019**

This should finish off what we started last month. Further wood chips have been ordered so those who could not make it now have the opportunity to help. Please come along and help , 8.30 AM start.

#### **Dichroic glass Workshop - Wednesday 31 July.**

This class starts at 9 AM sharp, supply your own dichroic glass but black and white backing is available. Cost \$ 10 or thereabouts

#### **Social Night – August - Wednesday 21 Aug - Pick of the table**

Bring two items, one worth \$5 and another worth \$0.50

Put on the table and then take a number. No items, no pick, just watch

Some extras will be available for new members , if you are unsure just come and look.

#### **Fossicking trip - August 8-9-10-11.– Sofala - Hill End**

Legendary locations as far as GOLD is concerned and we may be lucky here with David sourcing some local knowledge. It will be cold so come along well prepared. Put your names in the trips book.

#### **Fossicking Trip – Sept 19-20-21-22 - Muttama Private Property.**

Costs \$10.00, see trips book.

**Gemkhana – Saturday 28 & Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2019** – Hawkesbury District Agricultural Show Grounds 40 Racecourse Road, Clarendon.

**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. You have a whole year to work on your entries.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

21 August Business and Social meeting, pick of the table

28 August Mineral Group

28 & 29 September – State Gem, Mineral and Lapidary Show – GEMKHANA  
Hawkesbury Agricultural Society Showground, Clarendon

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

24<sup>th</sup> November – Illawarra Lapidary Club Open Day. Talk to John, tables going fast.

## **General Business**

We are attempting to arrange a weekend for Kath Selwood to teach a work shop on stone carving, but are unable to arrange for this year a suitable date for her & the club. We will arrange for next year as early as possible, after January & February.

John has arranged a coup with our cleaning at a very reasonable price and the meeting expressed their thanks for your effort

Eva to arrange Sunday in October for Club Judging with entries to be in by the 18<sup>th</sup> September.

## **Social Night \_ September** 17th Annual Display Competition

Please think about your entries.

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.

Joan would also like more members to participate in skite night as it has been lagging in recent years.

## **Mineral Group**

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.

Working Bees to box, label and price specimens for the Show are coming up on August 5, September 9 and October 7. Mark them in your diary if they are not already there. 8.30 till midday in the Clubroom; bring blue and red pens please.

## Past events:

### Campbelltown Districts Lapidary Club Exhibition

A group from the club supported this event with a good variety of stalls selling beads, minerals and jewelry. It is always nice to catch up and renew long standing acquaintances.

### Social Meeting August 17 Dinosaurs by Joan Zealey.

A multitude of sensational photos of South and North American fossils especially of the Jurassic period – Dinosaurs, Ichthyosaurs and the ancestors of Hoop and Bunya pines. It was surprising the similarity that was demonstrated between these and those being uncovered in North Queensland. Thank you Joan.

### Agate Creek Field Trip

Three members travelled to Agate Creek in North Queensland on a club field trip led by Allan House.

They left for Agate Creek on 12 May travelling by the inland route to Mt Surprise and spent a couple of days at the O'Briens Creek fossicking area where they scraped and dug for topaz bringing back more than 500 carats, the largest being 155 carats. A good effort.

On arrival at Agate Creek camping ground, there were far more campers there than expected and soon found most had come up after the Gemboree at Rockhampton. They had specked in Agate and Spring creeks. Having checked both with low success, they concentrated on the tributaries and the escarpment and was rewarded with many fine pieces. The largest agate measures 22cm x 15cm x 10cm with several others measuring over 15cm. They dug for thundereggs at two previous locations and for the first time at Black Soil where pancake thundereggs are common. Allan brought back a double pancake 36cm x 24cm and altogether more than 100 others from that spot alone.



## WORKING BEE on the Garden on Sunday 30th June, 2019

We had a great response to our working bee with 11 members helping out and we could not have asked for a better day. Many hands made light work with the weeding, laying of newspapers and the placing of mulch and that was so true in this case. Unfortunately, we did run out of mulch only half way through, so, we are planning another day to finish off on Sunday the 28th July, 2019. Please put your name in the Workshop Book if you can help out. Bring with you some gloves, a shovel or a bucket.



John was planning a BBQ for lunch but we were finished before morning tea.

Stay safe,

Editor, Chris