



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

**September
2019**

President: Chris Hatton

Secretary: John Maley

Club Welfare Officer: Maureen Young

HELLO EVERYONE!

Presidents Note

The Exhibition is just six weeks away and the list on the silver room door still has some vacancies - put your name down if you can help out for a couple of hours

Trailer – a box trailer is required to move “stuff” to and from the Exhibition. Can any one help with this, I can tow it and store it if needs be.

Raffle Tickets – there is a box of ticket booklets just inside the clubroom door - take one and sell the lot.

Christmas Party – put your name in “the book” to give us some idea of numbers to be catered for

UP-COMING EVENTS: WHATS HAPPENNING AT YOUR CLUB

16 th October - Social night - The mineral group will be performing - some Group members will be giving a presentation which will include a short history, the range of activities, the groups contributions to the Show and in particular the main activity which is mineral identification.

25 , 26 and 27th October – Fossicking trip to Grabben Gullen – Sapphires

Thursday 31 October - Dichroic glass class – on the months that have 5 Thursdays, this class operates . **The Kiln will be fired so bring along your Glass.**

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

Sunday 24 November - **Open Day** at the club. All tables are now allotted. Looks like a great day to grab a couple of bargains for Christmas presents

General Business

Judging of entries submitted for our club competition will be performed at the Club on Sunday 13th of October. Eva will check if more pencilers are needed but the low number of entries is disappointing.

Tagging of electrical leads will be available at the club Saturday 19th October at the club rooms from 9 till 12 midday. Contact Greg.

Phone numbers. A problem has arisen where a member has no email but has also changed their phone number and we are unable to contact them. If this is you, give me a call and I will amend the club records.

Joan Zealey will be arranging the social programme for 2020 but after that time will no longer take on this role. Anyone interested should nominate at the AGM in March 2020

We received a letter via our website from Scott Grenville who has Coober Pedy Opal for sale. Interested? – contact Scott at “Australian Opal Mining and Exploration Company” on facebook – then click the email link.

I am “lead” to believe that the Mineral group is “locked and loaded” for the exhibition – Well done.

Supervisors – the saw blades and belts continue to wear out quickly. Please make sure those on the machines follow the grit numbers closely and avoid excess pressure. If you use Cerium Oxide, wash your brushes when finished.

Library – would the person who borrowed “chains ...” on 01/03/2019 but failed to leave their name, please return the book – your current name is ANONYMOUS . There is a set of instructions to follow in the library cupboard when borrowing.

We need cakes and slices for the Exhibition – contact Rose.

Birthday Wishes - How many of you remember Jacquie Skinner who was our kitchen lady for a number of years but had great lapidary skills as well. Jacquie was seen at a recent 90th birthday party & wished to be remembered to all her friends at the club.

Insurance - The fees have increased dramatically over the last 12 months, John is investigating. The matter will be on the agenda for the October meeting. If you are one of those club members who sells, I think it will be in your best interests to attend and hear what John has uncovered.

Canberra Lapidary Club Newsletter - Interesting article on treatment of Agate Creek rocks

Nudawading Lapidary Club Newsletter – Cleaning Quartz crystals with citric acid in place of toxic Oxalic Acid.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

23 February 2020 – **Stuart Park Rock Swap** - Tables for club members \$11. Non members \$16. All sellers need insurance – bring proof.

10 – 13 April, 2020 **Gemboree 2020** – Australia's National Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show –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 less than six months to work on your entries.

Past Activities

Social Night – Sept 18th

Mick Derrington won in a canter with two boxes of cut gems including an impressive array of Australian Beryls.

Mineral Group – October 23rd

Ann and I will be unable to be with you for the October meeting. However that meeting will go ahead with Roly in the chair as per the program, with Ed & Tereska presenting a DVD and then all the usual with the ID exercise to finish. There may even be freebies before supper.

A working bee will be held on Oct 7th @ 8.30am. to finalize the materials for sale at the show.

The November Meeting will be our end of year party with lots of fun, and with prizes and Christmas presents for all. Not to be missed so mark up your diary. WAI 9 is attached for another think.



What Am I? 9 was a spectacular specimen of Azurite.

Mineral of the Month was Epidote – the large sample was from the Harts range.

Fossicking at Muttama – 19,20, 21 & 22 September

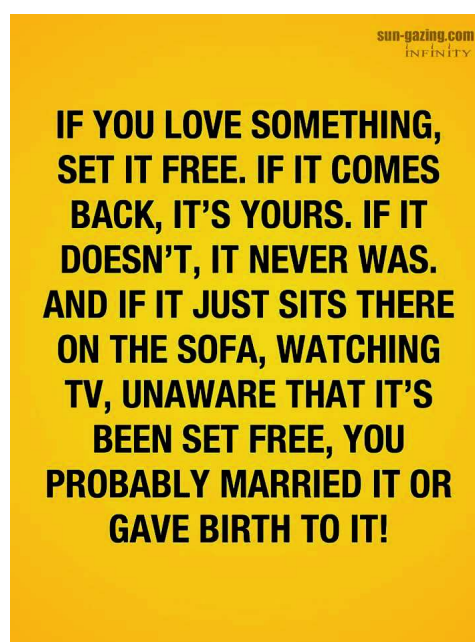


A group of eleven (11) ILC members made the trip to Muttama to fossick for beautiful crystals. Some stayed in Cootamundra and some stayed on the private property we were fossicking on. We drove in convoy to the camping spot with some of the farm animals there to welcome us.



After settling into our camping spots, the group decided to have a look at the fossicking site and the track for the next day, but it seems that no one could resist the urge to start digging a day early. Let's just call it "ground preparation" :) The track to the fossicking site definitely required one to engage 4wd.

There was lots of wind and dust flying about, there were also plenty of clouds that threatened and later produced some rain, but that didn't stop anyone from getting in and digging some very large, deep holes. The large holes paid off and some beautiful crystals were found! A couple of them can be seen below.



Enjoy

Chris