



## Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc.

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**HELLO EVERYONE!**

### **Presidents Note**

Our combined committee and supervisors working bee accomplished most of what was required to fulfill our Covid 19 requirements so we can open as planned on the Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021. John and Vicki have procured the sanitisers, cleaning utensils etc and several stacks of chairs were moved to the Ladies loo and the remainder were taped up and marked with signs marked "Do not touch ". There are 18 chairs left out for use – seventeen in the hall and one in the kitchen.

The facetters cupboard was moved into the hall, cleaned out and Bob Webb supervised the restoration of the contents. A small amount of redundant and out of date material was consigned to the garbage. The table cloths, used at the exhibition, and the cupboard was moved to the silver room and both looked more in place than before.

Bob H was against moving some equipment out of the cutting room given the favourable progress of the vaccine development and also the possible reduction in social distancing space. The latter now seems likely before we open and so saved us considerable and unnecessary labour. Thankyou to all who helped.

There is one last committee and supervisors meeting which John has convened at the Clubhouse at 10AM Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November. If there are any last minute developments they will be outlined in the December Newsletter or a special notice.

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

While there has been great success with the "Bob is Lonely "meetings in Stewart Park for club members to catch up another suggestion has been offered for consideration. How about we arrange a Christmas gathering on the lawns of the clubhouse in Tarrawanna as was the custom many years ago. Let's tentatively say 10 AM Thursday 10 December. PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY.

Sounds good to me and I will confirm this after the meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> and will send out a special notice outlining the details if agreed.

It will be the same format as "Bob is Lonely " - bring your hat, a cuppa, a chair and observe the social distancing rules.

## Mineral Group

Hello All

Now to WAI 10.2a which is attached, and which I think you will all get right. There are two more photos for you to have a go at if you want to. 10.2b is an isomorph of WAI 10.2a. That means you have to know what an isomorph is to solve 10.2a and I have talked with you about that on several occasions. Then there is 10.2b which has similar composition to the other two. I hope that you do have a go.



WAI 10.2a



WAI 10.2b

Now to the questions posed by Roly.

1 How many minerals are composed of a single element? His answer was 42 as shown in the attachment ELEMENT, but 7 are not listed in Fleischer. So the best answer is 35.

2 Which mineral consists of most elements? Roly and Ed were the only two to send answers. Both said that that mineral was **byzantievite** which has 11 elements plus the rare earth elements as also shown in the attachment.

My answers to the two questions differ from those of Roly and Ed – see the attachment.

1 No minerals have one element as they are all impure

2 And all minerals contain 92 elements for the same reason. Note that some elements will be present in exceedingly small amounts but all of them will be there.

I believe that one or two of you are going to Muttama with David and Romina to find great quartz crystals sometime soon. Long weekend. Good digging.

Finally, I received responses from 11 of you about when you would like to start up our meetings again. Two said ASAP and nine said leave it until it is absolutely safe to do so. So I guess that means not until sometime next year. When, I can't say but I'll be asking you the same question again when things look to be on the up.

I hope you are all well and will be staying well until we start to look at that question again.

Cheers

Noel

Please contact Noel about the mineral group Christmas Party scheduled for Monday 7th December.

### **Fossicking Group**

There is not much more frightening as easily cruising up a steep hill in low range four wheel drive, then suddenly losing forward traction due to slippery clay from the juice of crushed Pattersons curse, then careering backwards out of control, not being able to see or steer where I was going. Thank you David for the rescue.

A trip to Tambar Springs is planned for early 2021 – watch this space for more details

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**Rock Swap** - 28th February 2021 – Stuart Park

**Dichroic Glass firing** – will start again after summer ? March, watch this space

**Enamelling Classes** - will start again in March, put your name in the book,

No names, then these classes will be abandoned.

**Gemboree**, Easter 2 – 5 th April 2021. Hobart Tasmania,

Book now, entries for camping on site close end January 2021.  
Visit website for further details.

Stay Safe

Cheers

Chris Hatton

Editor