The June Meeting will be held on Friday the 1st of June 2007 at 7.30 p.m. in the LZG14 lecture theatre on the ground floor of Building LZ in the Science campus of the University of Western Sydney on the corner of Victoria Road and James Ruse Drive in North Parramatta.

Members are reminded to park cars outside the U.W.S. grounds or buy a parking ticket.

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The program for the June Meeting will commence with a talk to be given by Sylvia French and illustrated by Power-Point screening on: -

‘The Fluorescent Spectroscopy of Some Minerals’

The Talk will be followed by a Members Interactive Forum and Discussion on Cleaning, Etching, Trimming, Preparing, Preserving, Repairing and Displaying Minerals.

During the Forum a number of speakers will deal with the subjects listed following and if members have any queries to raise or comments to make about methodologies they are invited to address these to the various speakers. Members are also invited to bring in examples of tools or specimens which have been treated to illustrate methods or make inquiries.

The subjects dealt with may cover the following details: -

**Cleaning:**
- General cleaning methods
- Effect of solubilities of cleaning method.
- Acids, safe methods of handling. MSDS.
- Cleaning of native copper, silver.
- Cleaning of quartz.
- High pressure methods, spray guns, water jets.
- Ultrasonic

**Displaying**
- Mounts for specimens.
- Lighting.
- Cabinets.

**Etching**
- Etching of calcite or quartz, extreme danger of using hydrofluoric acid.
Preserving
‘Pyrite disease’
Effects of light
Use of coatings
Exclusion or retention of moisture.

Repairing
Glueing, types of glue
Repair of damage, ‘dings’

Trimming
Trimming devices, Sawing
Hand picking tools,
e.g. dental picks

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FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

The following schedule of program subjects and speakers has been compiled for the next few months. Subject to circumstances some changes may have to be made in due course.

Friday July 6th: Lecture by Peter Williams and Meagan Clissold on The History and Minerals of Kingsgate.

Friday August 3rd: Society A.G.M. followed by the Memorial Lecture to be given by Brian England on ‘Minerals of the Hunter Valley’.

Friday September 7th: Lecture by Dougal Munro on ‘Cadia – Past and Present’.

Friday October 5th: The lecture by Simon Pecover on Opals may be given in October or November.

Friday November 2nd: Program not finalised.

Friday December 7th: Society Christmas Social and annual Swap n’ Sale

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Field Trips 2007

The Field Trip to Armidale and Kingsgate over the long weekend in June is full having received applications from the maximum number of members that can attend.

Virtual Field Trip to Broken Hill via Cranebrook, West Sydney. See details following below.

A Field Trip is being organised by the Bathurst Stamp, Coins and Collectables Club to Tambar Springs over the 22nd to 25th of September and to which Society members have been invited to attend. Details are to follow but in the meantime interested members could ask Peter Exton to put their names on a list.

The Joint Mineralogical Societies Seminar is being held in New Zealand this year over the 25th to 27th of October 2007. It is being organised and hosted this year by the NZ Micro-Mineral Group on the theme of Volcanic Minerals and Mineralogy. Details following below.

The New England Lapidary Club is organising a Field Trip to Torrington in November to which Society members are also invited. Details to follow.
The Field Trip to **Armidale and Kingsgate** over Saturday, Sunday & Monday 9\(^{th}\), 10\(^{th}\) & 11\(^{th}\) June 2007 has been organised by Harvey and Joan Henley, Society members in Armidale. The Trip will include a visit to their collection and fossicking visits to various locations in the area. Harvey has advised that “The trip up through Gloucester/Walcha from Sydney, (along the ‘Bucketts Way’), takes about 6 hours with spectacular views. Definitely quicker than the New England Highway.”

The program will be as follows:

**Saturday 9\(^{th}\) June pm:** Meet at Harvey and Joan Henley’s house ‘Stonehengley’ at 39 Lynland Drive, Armidale, to view the Henley Collection and for an evening BBQ and get together (BYO meat and drinks).

**Sunday 10\(^{th}\) June:** The Society has gained permission for a field trip to the Kingsgate mine. Kingsgate is well known for molybdenum, bismuth and tungsten minerals as well as for very large quartz crystals and is currently being explored by Auzex Resources Ltd. Auzex, following geophysical surveys and drilling have exposed new mineralisation and have carried out trial mining. For details see [www.auzex.com.au](http://www.auzex.com.au). The visit is subject to strict safety rules and numbers are limited to a maximum of 16 registered trip members.

Harvey proposes to lead us to the site arriving at 9:30am on Sunday 10th June and departing at about 4pm that afternoon. The party will be given an overview of the area’s mining history and current exploration. This will be followed by a safety talk on where access is permitted and safe collecting practices (hand tools only). Participants will be asked for a donation to present to any company personnel deemed necessary to attend. We will follow any guidelines given to us. All members will be required to have on full safety gear (hard hats, protective glasses, safety boots and gloves).

The meeting place for the start of the visit will be at the Glen Innes Information Centre on the left-hand-side of the New England Highway just before the Grafton turnoff at 9:00 am on Sunday 10\(^{th}\) June. Members will need to be self sufficient with food and drinks and with suitable warm clothing. (It can be cold, wet and even snowing in June at Kingsgate).

For a detailed article on Kingsgate members are referred to the Paper by Brian England *Famous mineral localities: the Kingsgate mines, The Mineralogical Record Volume 16 Number 4, July / August 1985.*

**Sunday 11\(^{th}\) June:** In the morning Harvey will lead a trip to the Tulloch Mine at Rockvale, 40km from Armidale. This mine well known for its silver minerals and hopefully can still provide interesting micro specimens.

Harvey and Joan have also kindly offered accommodation at their property ‘Stonehengley’ at 39 Lynland Drive, Armidale, for people going on this trip. They are also quite happy for everyone to stay overnight and have seven acres suitable for camping both near with access to power and water and away from the house and also limited floor space for those prepared to sleep in their lounge area. Members wishing to accept this invitation should contact Harvey or Joan Henley on harvey.henley@dpi.nsw.gov.au, or phone ah (02) 6771 4314.

Any members planning to attend the New England Trip and who have not yet registered should contact Peter Exton on (Home) (02) 9546 3620, or by e-mail extonp@optusnet.com.au to confirm details and also for those needing it, to obtain a mudmap giving directions to ‘Stonehengley’.

Peter Exton  
March 2007

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Field Trip Notice Sunday 15th July 2007

Virtual Trip to Broken Hill via Cranebrook, West Sydney.

Peter Beckwith has kindly made available to the Society an amount of material (about 1,000 specimens) collected from Broken Hill from the stockpiles at the Pinnacles Mine. These stockpiles were originally obtained from the Broken Hill Line of Lode opencuts and were accessible to mineral collectors for a fee. The stockpiles have since been crushed and treated and no longer exist. The material to be made available to Society members contains a range of specimens, particularly micros, and was originally collected by Rod and Max Murn in the late 1980s and early 90s.

Peter Beckwith has offered to host a collecting and identification workshop at his home on Sunday 15th July 2007 from 10.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. Members can glean through the material, trim it if necessary and keep anything they fancy. Peter has a microscope and trimmer that can be used. If someone else would like to bring their microscope as well that would make better access for all. Bring eye protection if you plan to use the trimmer and some wrapping for your specimens.

This will be an excellent opportunity to obtain a representative group of Broken Hill specimens without a major expedition and would be very suitable for newer members or family members who have not experienced a trip to Broken Hill to collect minerals.

Peter’s place is at 12 Citronelle Court, Cranebrook. Peter also has a fine bar-be-que so a BYO BBQ is planned for lunchtime.

Any members planning to attend should contact Peter Exton on (Home) (02) 9546 3620 or by e-mail exton@optusnet.com.au to confirm details.

Peter Exton
May 2007

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THE SOCIETY COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:         Arthur Roffey   Tel: (02) 4572 5812
VICE-PRESIDENT:    Dieter Mylius   Tel: (02) 9477 1060
SECRETARY:         George Laking    Tel: (02) 9636 7145
                   E-mail: bglaking@bigpond.com.au
TREASURER:         Jim Sharpe       Tel: (02) 9871 2502
COMMITTEE MEMBERS: David Colchester Tel: (02) 9449 3862
                   Peter Exton       Tel: (02) 9546 3620
                   Graham Ogle       Tel: (02) 9876 5224
                   Peter Williams    Tel: (02) 9685 9914
                   Gary Sutherland    Tel: (02) 9871 1379
Consultant Members: John Chapman     Tel: (02) 9808 3481
                   E-mail: john.chapman@dpi.nsw.gov.au

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WELCOME

Welcome to new Society member Michaela Fackrell of Mt Colah

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LIBRARY

The March/April and May/June issues, Vol 82, No 2 & 3 of the (U.S.) Rocks & Minerals Magazine have been received and will be available in the Library.

The March/April issue contains a number of articles on Australia by Australian contributors. The major articles include titles such as ‘Australian Opal Resources: Outback Spectral Fire’ by Simon Peckover; ‘Australian Sapphires & Rubies’ by Lin Sutherland and Gayle Webb; Profile on Andre Vic Cloote, Australian Mineral Artist; ‘A Mineralogical Note: New Data on Arsenate Minerals from the Tsumeb Mine, Namibia’; 31st, 32nd & 33rd Rochester Mineralogical Symposium, Part 1’; ‘Connoisseur’s Choice, Molybdenite from the Allies Mine, Deepwater, New England Region, New South Wales, Australia’; ‘Mining for Emeralds in Hiddenite, Alexander County, North Carolina’; ‘Paraiba Tourmaline’; ‘Greissen Explained’; as well as the regular features etc.


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The Librarian, David Colchester, has noted that there are two magazines missing from the Library, presumably borrowed by members and not yet returned. If any members have the following magazines please bring them in to the next Meeting or inform the Librarian that you have them.


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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Canberra Lapidary Club Winter Show

Sat 2nd/Sun 3rd June, in the Conference Centre, Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC), Federal Highway, Lyneham.

“Twenty one local and interstate dealers will offer all the usual wares. Displays of members' treasures. Continuous displays of faceting and cabbing. Demonstrations of fossicking for gold and gems.”

For more details, contact Mike Wright on 02 6286 3384 or howardr@homemail.com.au

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FESTIVAL OF TREASURES.  2007 GOSFORD SHOW

Being held in the Gosford Showgrounds in Showground Road, Gosford, over the Queen’s Birthday weekend, Friday to Monday the 8th to 11th of June 2007. The theme for the 2007 Show is: -

‘Australia’s National Gemstone:  OPAL’

As part of the Show activities there will be four auctions held of gemstones, fossils, minerals, jewellery, as well as rough, cut and polished slabs of agate. Auctions will be held on the 9th at 9.30 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. and on the 10th at 10.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. Inquiries to The Australian Fossickers Association, P.O. Box 9095, Wyee, NSW 2259 or telephone (02) 4300 2457.

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WINDSOR GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Saturday 9:30 – 5.00 pm & Sunday 9:30 – 4.00 p.m., JUNE 16th & 17th 2007.

At the WINDSOR FUNCTION CENTRE on the Corner of Dight St. & Macquarie St. Windsor, Next door to Windsor Public School.

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30th JOINT MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES SEMINAR 2007

The 30th Annual Joint Mineralogical Societies Seminar this year is being held in New Zealand over Thursday to Saturday the 25th to 27th of October 2007 at the Te Rau Aroha mission camp in Seaforth Road, Waihi Beach, Coromandel, New Zealand. It is being organised and hosted this year by the NZ Micro-Mineral Group on the theme of Volcanic Minerals and Mineralogy. The program will include a number of lectures being given by speakers over Thursday and Friday, 25th & 26th from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. with the dinner being held on Thursday evening and a field trip held on Saturday.

The 2007 Seminar is being held in conjunction with the 25th N.Z. Micro-Mineral Symposium which is being held at the same venue from Friday 19th October to Tuesday 24th October. The Symposium and Seminar programs include a number of field trips to sites of significance in the area and to White Island, (weather –dependent). Information and registration forms for both the Symposium and the Seminar can be downloaded from the NZ Micro-Mineral Group website, (below) or obtained from the (NSW Society) Secretary, George Laking. Both registration forms read similarly and presumably either could be used to apply and pay for registration for one or both events but the Seminar form has details only of the Seminar program. Registration is requested by September 1st 2007.

The Te Rau Aroha mission camp venue apart from the lecture hall provides chalets with dormitory accommodation, (visitors bring sleeping bag and pillow). Attendees will otherwise have to find and arrange other accommodation in the Waihi Beach area.

Information on the Symposium and Seminar events can be examined on the NZ Micro-Mineral Group website, -- http://homepages.ihug.co.nz - or by contacting :-

The Secretary, NZ Micro-Mineral Group
C/o Rod Martin      5 Odette Road, Glenfield, North Shore City 0629, New Zealand.
Tel (International & NZ codes) : - 09 4445 463
or e-mail Rod Martin to : - pincha@ihug.co.nz