



THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC

Website: www.minsocnsw.org.au

Please address all correspondence to :-
The Secretary, 58 Amazon Road, Seven Hills, NSW 2147

NEWSLETTER

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: AUGUST 2018

The August Meeting is the Society's ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and will be held on Friday the 3rd of August 2018 at 7.30 p.m. in the clubrooms of the Parramatta and Holroyd Lapidary Club at 73 Fullagar Road, Wentworthville.

The A.G.M. will present the President's report for 2017/2018, the Treasurer's report and presentation of the annual financial accounts for 2017/2018 and the election of the Society Committee and office-bearers for 2018/2019. In accordance with the Society Constitution the entire current Committee retires at the commencement of the A.G.M. and all positions are open for nomination and election. Nomination forms for election to the 2018/2019 Committee were circulated with the July Newsletter. According to the Society Constitution nominations should be received seven days before the commencement of the A.G.M. and currently nominations have been received for the full Committee.

At the A.G.M. any other business may also be raised and discussed. The minutes of the previous 2017 A.G.M. were circulated in the September 2017 Newsletter. Copies will be available at the 2018 A.G.M. or may be obtained from the Secretary.

After the A.G.M. has been concluded the Betty Mayne, Edna and Harold Walker Memorial Lecture will be given by Professor Patrick De Decker on :-

'The First Geological Map of England and Wales'

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

September 7th: There will be a talk to be given by Angela Lay on **'World Class Linarite from Drake'**.
The talk will be followed by a lecture by Jeff Davis on : - **Elements That Make Up Minerals'**.

October 5th: The program will include talk a by Professor Peter Williams on :- **'Misleading Mineral Locations'** The talk will be followed a lecture to be given by Ross Pogson on : - **'The Molong Pallasite Meteorite'**

November 2nd: Lecture to be given by Glen Cathers on : - **'The Sepon Copper Mine, Laos'**.

December 7th: **Christmas Social and 'Swap n' Sell'**.

FIELD TRIPS

Note: The Geoscience Australia and Paddy's River Skarn field trips have been rescheduled to November 2018

Date	Locality:	Leader
Check MinView, DIGS and Mindat for minerals and site information		
25/26 th August	Native Dog Ck, Hopes Ck, Sapphire Bend, Lowes Mount Open to all Members. State Forest Licence Required Camping or Oberon Accommodation. - RSL Optional	Site Leader Denis O'Brien
15/16 th September	McAlpine Mine Tumut Open to all members State Forest Fossicking Licence required. Tumut Hotel Dinner option	Need a site leader or group
27 th / 28 th October	Duckmaloi Bi & Garnet occurrences Lowes Mount SF. Open to all Members. Camping or Oberon Accommodation. State Forest Fossicking Licence required, RSL Optional	Need a site leader or group
24 th November	CANNBERRA Weekend	GeoScience Canberra Visit, limit 10, afternoon Open to all Members. Arrange your own accommodation, camp at Cotter Reserve
25 th November		Paddy's River, Corrin locality, Canberra Pending approval ACT Heritage Council Open to all Members. Camping at Cotter Reserve
FUTURE FIELD TRIPS	Your choice, Mineral or locality. Small Groups 2-4 members to evaluate sites found on MINVIEW, MINDAT, DIGS, AJM and other Mineral Publications articles on sites within NSW, Australia, etc.	Need a site leader or group

To register for any of the above field trips:
Contact Edward Zbik by e-mail: ecjz@optusnet.com.au
Any questions, call 0401 538 480 until 10:00pm

OPEN DAY at the GEOSCIENCE CENTRE in LONDONDERRY

Stories in Stone - the NSW Library of Rocks.
Presented by the Geological Survey of NSW,
Department of Planning and Environment.

The WB Clarke Geoscience Centre at Londonderry is having an open day on Wednesday 15th August 2018. Visitors can book for one of two sessions on the day at 10:30 am or 12:00 pm AEST.

Entry is free but visitors must register in advance. Registration can be made at: -
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/stories-in-stone-the-nsw-library-of-rocks-tickets47290272478#tickets>
 or just simply Google "NSW Library of Rocks" and select the www.eventbrite.com.au link.

The AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF MINERALOGY

The latest issue of the **Australian Journal of Mineralogy**, Volume 19, Number 1 has been published and distributed to subscribers. The issue continues the high standard long established for this important publication. Major articles in the current issue include : -

‘The Hagendorf Sud Pegmatite: Australian-Bavarian Collaboration on the Characterisation Of New Secondary Phosphate Minerals’ by W.Birch, I.E.Grey, E.Keck, S.Mills and W.G.Mumme;

‘The Diversity of Mineral Species:’ by A.G.Christy;

‘Exceptional Datolite Crystals from Albion Park, NSW’ by Ian Graham, David Colchester, Dioni Cendon, Angela Lay, J.M.Hergt, A.Greig and J.Larsen.

‘Marvellous Muscovite Mica: A Window into the World of Subatomic Particles’ by D.Mcoll and F.Russell.

‘Society News - What’s New from the Land of Oz?’ – Reports on items of news from around Australia and New Zealand. By Steve Sorrell.

Members who are not already subscribers to the Journal are recommended to consider becoming so. Subscriptions are \$32 pa for two issues including postage and GST.

Payment may be made by bank transfer to : -

AJM Publications Incorporated,

ANZ Bank, BSB number 013 040, account number 9000 20285.

Or by cheque to : -

The Subscription Manager AJM Publications Inc.

46 Gemmell Way, Hillarys, WA, 6025

THE JUNE MEETING

Ed Zbik described aspects of the forthcoming **Field Trip program**, the first trip in three weeks’ time on Saturday the 22nd being to visit the Canberra Geoscience Museum which was expected to last about three hours. On the Sunday the party would go out to the Paddy’s River skarn area to look for minerals including magnetite, fluorspar, muscovite, quartz and according to an article by Professor Ken McQueen from a few years ago, ilmenite is also to be found. Ed reminded members who were not SWMS certified and were likely to attend trips when the certificate would be required to continue completing the Statement which could be conducted with him entirely by e-mail.

John Tottenham, Society member in Horsham, had donated two boxes of books for the **Society Library**. One of these was entirely on books describing gold, gold locations and gold detectors. Ed suggested that with the information available and if there were sufficient members interested, and equipped with detectors, a gold prospecting expedition to suitable sites indicated in the books could be organised.

Ed was preparing a report on the recent Manuka trip in April and May and the **Australian Journal of Mineralogy** editors had asked that he provide an article for the Journal to be included as Society News in the next issue in December. Since the Journal required photographs for that issue by the end of July Ed asked that all members who had attended the Manuka Trip to send him copies of their photographs.

Graham Ogle reported that the next meeting of the **Micro-Mineral Group** would be held at 1.00 pm next Saturday at Dieter Mylius's house in Hornsby and the Group would be studying Victorian minerals. Notably the minerals would be ones from the Dookie and Mt Shadwell sites which were visited on field trips organised as part of this year's Mineralogical Seminar held in Ballarat.

Dieter Mylius reminded members that the next meeting would be the **Society A.G.M.** and that nominations forms for the Committee election had been distributed. He also noted that the subject of the lecture to follow the A.G.M. which would be given by Professor De Decker was on '*The First Geological Map of England and Wales*'. The lecture was based on the 1815 book of the same name by W.S.Smith and members were recommended to try and obtain a copy which Dieter recommended was an interesting read.

In introducing the first talk of the evening Dieter Mylius noted that the Society had been given several talks on Pyrite over the last year or two including the symposium in April but there were still aspects of this versatile mineral which had not been described recently.

The Growth of Filiform Pyrite

John Chapman

John Chapman noted that quite a number of minerals would form very thin crystal formations but notably only a very few would form sharp right-angle bends in such formations and pyrite was one of the few. Bends could be single or multiple and the speaker commenced displaying images of fairly micro specimens of pyrite demonstrating the feature. The bends occurred due to what the speaker suggested were 'screw dislocations' or distortions in the development of the pyrite crystal lattice. In explaining this John Chapman displayed images of diagrams of crystal structures showing various forms of dislocations.

Filiform formation with right-angle bending does not only occur with pyrite but with a few other minerals such as cuprite which will form the filamentous variety chalcotrichite. Images were displayed of specimens from Browns Creek of filiform cuprite. A host of other minerals such as millerite, boulangerite, ferrobustamite and cubanite will form filiform crystals but as far as is known, without right-angle bending. However in displaying images of other filiform minerals it was noted that some of them showed curious curved filaments which John Chapman suggested might be of interest to the Micro-Mineral members as a search project. Specimens of filiform minerals could be examined for the presence of curved crystals.

'What's New in Mindat'

Keith Compton

In commencing his lecture Keith Compton asked 'What is Mindat?' Mindat.org is said to be the most comprehensive data-base of mineral information and mineralogical references available. It was started in 1993, before 'Wikipedia', has continued growing and now has about 40,000 registered users. There is a governing board of six including the creator and founder, Jolyon Ralph, a large number of experts to examine information contributed and a very large number of contributors of information. Mindat.org is now part of the Hudson Institute of Mineralogy, incorporated in the state of New York.

Mindat.org lists over 45,000 mineral names including the 5,000+ currently recognised by the International Mineral Association, over 250,000 mineral localities throughout the World, (compared to about 5,000 for New South Wales), and with information including many photographs of the minerals found at the sites listed. The entire database information was available and accessible to anyone subject to them being registered. Since January this year the management team has been working to make Mindat more useable or accessible by mobile phones, 'I-pads' and laptops. There are also efforts being made to encourage more input from mining companies, providing information on current developments etc.

After initially describing Mindat Keith Compton commenced to demonstrate through a computer and by projecting images onto a screen many of the features provided by the database. In accessing any mineral name by 'clicking' on its icon, the information would immediately come up showing the location of the site, who made the entry and who found the mineral. Gradually the speaker took the Meeting through many entries in the database demonstrating how each screen or entry could be extended by accessing subsidiary entries 'clicking' on appropriate icons or headings within the first screen.

The lecture was very thorough and there were quite a number of comments and questions from members throughout the lecture which Keith Compton dealt with as he went along. In answer to one query about how up-to-date and accurate items of information may be the speaker advised that this should be near to current, subject to entries being checked although no doubt on occasion information which had been in the database for some time could be up-dated subject to more recent items becoming available. In reference to a question about funding the speaker advised that Mindat is a non-profit entity and was indeed constantly looking for support from donors.

(According to a page in the Mindat.org website it costs about US\$100,000 per year to run and urgently needs \$75,000 between now and the end of 2018 in order to continue).

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

BLAXLAND GEM & MINERAL CLUB GEM SHOW

Saturday and Sunday, August 18th and 19th in the Glenbrook Community Hall, Great Western Highway, Glenbrook, NSW. (Next to Glenbrook Theatre), just west of the Information Centre.

From 8 am to 4 pm daily. Entry: Adults: \$3 Children \$1

Displays of lapidary work and gem, mineral and crystal sales. Refreshments available.

<http://www.freewebs.com/blaxlandgemmineralclub/BGMCshow.htm>

The CARLINGFORD GEM and MINERAL FAIR

Being held in the Roselea Community Centre, 645 Pennant Hills Road, Carlingford,
over Saturday & Sunday the 25th and 26th of August
from 9.30 am to 5 pm on Saturday and 9.30 am to 4 pm on Sunday

Sales And Displays Of Jewellery, Gemstones, Beads, Opals, Gem Rough, Carvings,
Fossils, Mineral Specimens, and Crystals from all over the World.

Admission fee \$7. Refreshments available.

Inquiries to Peter Beckwith at raregems@optusnet.com.au or by mobile 0412 233 150

**The PARRAMATTA & HOLROYD LAPIDARY CLUB'S
57th GEM, JEWELLERY & MINERAL SHOW EXHIBITION & SALE**

From Friday to Sunday 14th, 15th & 16th September 2018 in the clubrooms at
73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville from 9am to 4pm each day.

FEATURING : Gem Faceting, Cabochon Cutting, Silvercrafts, Copper enamelling, Jewellery making,
Rock and Mineral Specimens and Slabs, Club and Fossicking Information,
BBQ & Refreshments, Raffle, Plants, Kids' Craft. Free Entry

Inquiries :- Website <http://www.parramattaholroydlapidaryclub.weebly.com>

The CENTRAL COAST LAPIDARY CLUB INC. ANNUAL GEM FESTIVAL

will be held in the Mingara Recreational Club, Mingara Drive, off Wyong Road, Tumbi Umbi Central Coast
over Saturday & Sunday the 13th and 14th of October, on Sat from 9am-5pm and Sunday from 9am to 4pm.

'Dealers from across the state will be attending selling everything from jewellery, gemstones, fossils,
specimen stones and stones polished and rough. There will be displays of the club members'
work and our own club tables selling Minerals and also a large table of beading.'

**The 2018 NORTHERN DISTRICTS LAPIDARY CLUB GEM SHOW –
GEMS, JEWELLERY AND MINERALS EXHIBITION**

'Our Gem show and exhibition, lapidary competition and display, will be held from Friday 26th to Sunday 28th
October at the Beecroft Community Centre, on the corner of Beecroft and Copeland Roads, Beecroft, Sydney.

The opening times are as follows:-

Friday 26th – 9am to 7pm; Saturday 27th – 9am to 5pm and Sunday 28th – 10am to 4pm

The Northern Districts Lapidary Club holds its Exhibition and sale of Gemstones and Rings, Faceted Gems,
Pendants and Earrings which are handcrafted by club members. There will be something for the
whole family with a fossicking fun area for children and demonstrations of craft working.

There will also be refreshments available as well as books and a range of plants.'

GEMKHANA 2018

'The Annual Gem & Mineral Show and Competition of lapidaries from all over NSW will be presented by the
Gem and Lapidary Council of NSW Inc, at the Hawkesbury Showground, Racecourse Road at Clarendon
outside Richmond over the Labour Day Weekend from Saturday 29th September to Monday 1st October.'

For further details email gemkhana@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

‘ROCK-ON’ - Broken Hill Gem and Mineral Show 2018

The 2018 "Rock-On" Gem and Mineral Show will be held over the Labour Day long weekend from Friday the 28th, to Sunday the 30th of September from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Saturday and 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Sunday in the Memorial Oval Showgrounds and the Adkins Pavilion in Broken Hill. Field Trips will be organised as part of the program and will be held on the Monday and Tuesday, 1st and 2nd of October. Visitors should allow two days to get to Broken Hill and return.

Quoted from the Rock-On website

‘Traders can contact the club to reserve a site within the Pavilion. There will be ample room for outdoor trading sites available where you can camp on site and sell from the front of your caravan annex or tent. The show site will have all facilities including toilets, hot showers, limited powered sites and plenty of shade. The city of Broken Hill offers many other attractions that are worth a visit for anyone attending the show. Shopping includes four supermarkets, all major banks, Target and many other speciality stores in three different shopping areas. Fuel and car mechanical servicing are also available in Broken Hill.

The mineralogically diverse Willyama Complex also offers opportunities to go fossicking for minerals at various locations in the Broken Hill district. As a part of the Rock-On experience, the club will be organising tag-a-long field trips on both the Monday and Tuesday following the main show to mineral fossicking locations. Registration for the field trips requires attendance at the show on either Saturday or Sunday.’

<http://brokenhillmineralclub.wikispaces.com/Rock-On+Gem+and+Mineral+Show>

THE ILLAWARRA LAPIDARY CLUB INC presents –

The 2018 Jewellery Gems and Minerals Festival

When: Sat 3 Nov 9am – 4pm and Sun 4 Nov, 9am to 3.00pm
Where: Heining Hall, Ribbonwood Centre, 109 Princes Hwy, Dapto
Entry: Adults \$3, children under 12 years free

Featuring: Gemstone Faceting, Cabochon Cutting, Silvercrafts, Jewellery Making and Valuations,
Mineral Group displays, Club and Fossicking Information,
Refreshments, Raffle, Lucky Door Prizes and Kid’s Games.
Dealers Selling: Lapidary Supplies, Minerals, Jewellery, Crystals, Findings, Fossils, Beads and Opals.
Enquiries: John (02) 42675618

<http://www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au/> Or Like Us on Facebook

GEMBOREE 2019

The 55th National Gem & Mineral Show will be held at the Rockhampton Showgrounds,
Rockhampton, QLD from 19th to the 22nd of April 2019.

‘Australia’s biggest Lapidary, Rock, Fossil, Mineral, Gem and Jewellery Competition and Trade Show. For the first time, the GEMBOREE in 2019 will include an international symposium sponsored by the Gemmological Association of Australia (GAA) and will include guest presenters and lectures. The aim of the

symposium is to attract more national and international visitors as well as provide an additional opportunity to learn more about minerals and gemmology, particularly those in the Central Queensland Region.

The GEMBOREE will give visitors the opportunity to visit the Sapphire Gemfields in the Central Highlands. They will be able to see operating sapphire mines, learn about fossicking and lapidary activities in the area. The site visit will also enable local gemstone retailers and supply businesses to showcase their products. Visitors can learn about end-to-end sapphire and other gemstone production for the area.

The GEMBOREE will attract competitors from all over Australia and Internationally and traders from all over Australia. Traders may sell only items related to lapidary. As well as the competition and trading there will be demonstrations and workshops of lapidary related skills.'

For full details and competition schedule, visit the Gemboree 2019 website at : - <http://aflaca.org.au/gemboree>
