



# THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC

C/o School of Natural Science  
B.C.R.I. Parramatta Campus University of Western Sydney  
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Website: [www.minsocnsw.org.au](http://www.minsocnsw.org.au)

## NEWSLETTER

**JUNE 2014**

**MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: Due to the first Friday in June being before the long weekend the Society meeting will be held on the SECOND Friday of the month, June the 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**The Meeting will be held on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 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.**

The program will include lectures to be given by Peter Williams on :-

**'Polymorphs. A Mineral Enigma'**

The first lecturer will be followed by Noel Kennon speaking on :-

**'Ultra-Small Minerals and How We Can See Them'**

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## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings will be held on the first Friday of each month throughout the year except before the long weekend of October when it will be held on the second Friday. Some of the following programs and speakers are still to be confirmed and subject to circumstances some changes may have to be made.

July 4th: Talks by Gary Sutherland and John Rankin on : - **Some British Mines & Minerals: Part II.**

August 1st: Society A.G.M. and Betty Mayne Memorial Lecture to be given by Lin Sutherland. Title to be advised.

September 5th: Lecture by David Colchester on : - **'Mudgeeite. Establishing a New Mineral'.**

October 10th, (Second Friday) : Lecture by Graham Ogle on : - '**Långban, Sweden – Rarity and Fluorescence**'.

November 7th: Lecture by Brian England on : - '**Kulnura Zeolites**'.

December 5th: **Christmas Social.**

Some Society Meeting programs have been tentatively established for the first months of 2015.

February 6<sup>th</sup> 2015: Lecture by Vera Munro-Smith on '**Cobalt Mines of the Cloncurry District**'

March 6<sup>th</sup> 2015: Report on the 2015 Tucson Show by Penny Williamson and a lecture by Paul Carr on '**Wingen – Fire Mountain**'

April 10<sup>th</sup> 2015: (The Meeting will be held on the second Friday. April 3<sup>rd</sup> is Good Friday).  
Lecture by Rob Barnes on '**Mineral Deposits in NSW**'

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## The SOCIETY COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:	Dieter Mylius	Tel: (02) 9477 1060
VICE-PRESIDENT:	John Chapman	Tel: (02) 9808 3481
	E-mail: <i>chapmanjr@optusnet.com.au</i>	
SECRETARY:	George Laking	Tel: (02) 9636 7145
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TREASURER:	Graham Ogle	Tel: (02) 9868 4446
	E-mail: <i>grahamo@australiandiabetescouncil.com</i>	
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	David Colchester	Tel: (02) 9449 3862
	John Rankin	Tel: (02) 9482 7474
	Gary Sutherland	Tel: (02) 9871 1379
	Jim Sharpe	Tel: (02) 9871 2502
	Edward Zbik	Tel: (02) 9638 6586

Correction to the Society Committee list.

Due to an oversight the list of Committee members for the first months of this year has shown Jeremy Taylor-Edwards as a Committee member instead of Jim Sharpe. This was incorrect.

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## WELCOME

Welcome to new member Marian Ai Chiew Ong of Epping

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## The MAY MEETING

There were a few announcements at the commencement of the Meeting. Members who might wish to obtain a copy of the 2014 edition of **Fleischer's Glossary** were advised to speak to Graham Delaforce who had four to sell.

The President, Dieter Mylius, reminded members about the **Micro-Mineral group** which was now meeting monthly. The next meeting would be at his house a week on Saturday and the theme would be on the minerals of Woodlawn.

The Field Trips Officer and organiser, Ed Zbik, ran over the arrangements for the forthcoming **Field Trip to Mt Tennyson and Essington**, members staying overnight in Oberon were booked for a dinner at the RSL. Trip attendees would need to get to the assembly point at Yetholme by 10.30 a.m. on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May. On Sunday the party would visit the Cash Essington mine on a property alongside areas of the Essington state forest west of Oberon. Ed reminded members going on the trip that property owners would expect that visitors take care not to cause damage to tracks or disturb stock.

The President then advised the Meeting about arrangements for the evening's **Auction**, anyone who intended to bid should have availed themselves of a bidding number. There would be a break in the auctioning about half-way through the lots and at the end of bidding buyers were asked to promptly make their purchases from the vendors. Packaging materials had been made available by Jim Sharpe. There would also be fifteen minutes allotted from the end of bidding for members to examine the silent auction trays and make bids on those. There were no reserves placed on any of the lots but vendors were advised that they were at liberty to bid on their own lots if they felt the level of the bids was not approaching their valuation of the specimen.

The **Auction** was conducted by Dieter Mylius who moved briskly and efficiently through the ninety lots with the promised break at about 8.45 p.m. The total monies generated by the auction were a little less than last year whereas some of the more than a dozen silent auction trays with a variety of specimens in each were attracting bids in excess of \$100.

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## The 2014 LISMORE GEMFEST

Some Society members were able to visit the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Gemfest in Lismore over the weekend of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of May. The Show is described by its organisers, who include Society member John Hoffman, as '*The largest annual show in NSW purely dedicated to lapidary and allied crafts. A large number of dealers and tailgaters provide minerals, fossils, cutting material, cut stones, jewellery findings, tools, machinery and finished jewellery*'.

This would definitely appear to be correct since the visitor found that there were over 130 vendors spread over the Show area and some 26 dealers in an adequately large display hall. The Show is held in the Lismore Showgrounds which provided a covered area for about half of the vendors with all the rest having adequate tent cover. Many of the vendors were camping or caravanning within the Showgrounds near to their stalls which were all well set up under large tents with plenty of display table area and not as smaller 'tailgaters'. Overall there was a very large amount of minerals and mainly lapidary and polished material on sale. The traveler found that Lismore is about 750 klm from Sydney although with the inevitable substantial road work being conducted along various sections of the Pacific Highway causing lengthy sections to be speed limited to 80, 60 or even 40 kph. Eventually they may even finish it all !?.

## The MAY FIELD TRIP

The **Field Trip** to old mining sites in the Yetholme and Essington area over the weekend of the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of May was attended by thirty-six members. The Field Trip organiser, Ed Zbik, has prepared a detailed **Field Trip Report** on the Trip including location descriptions and maps, descriptions of the sites and the mineralogy, commentaries by some of the members attending and a number of photographs. The Report is quite extensive, it will be available on the Society Website and can be e-mailed or hard copies sent to members who request this. Because the **Report** provides a great deal of information only a very brief summary of what had been a very interesting, busy and rewarding weekend will be given here.

On Saturday the Field Trip party assembled by 10.30 a.m. along the Molybdonite road turn-off from the Great Western Highway at Yetholme to travel into a farming property which encompassed Mt Tennyson and the old molybdenum and tungsten Mammoth Mine. From the paddock where twenty-three member's cars were parked neatly lined up the mine site was about a kilometer walk over the top of the mountain and down a slope on the other side. If subsequent visits to Mt Tennyson are requested and allowed it was apparent that next time vehicles could be driven nearer to the mine site. The party stayed working at the site until 3.00 p.m. The Field Trip Report will describe the minerals found by members. On Sunday the party travelled to visit the Cash Essington copper mine site on a farm property in the Essington area after a turn-off from the Oberon to Rockley Road.

Whilst some members were only able to attend on the Saturday most had booked accommodation in Oberon to stay overnight and visit the second site on Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup>. By all accounts the overnight stay at Oberon was very comfortable for all and very considerably enhanced by a magnificent dinner held at the Oberon RSL in a room pre-booked for all the members by Ed Zbik.

Many thanks are due to Ed who, ably assisted by Peter Beddow, had put in a considerable amount of advance work researching the number, locations and accessibilities of mineral sites. Then travelling to the areas selected to contact property owners and establish permits as well as looking at a number of the aspects of organising a trip for a large group of people including safety issues. The Field Trip Report describes an amount of all this preliminary work and the health and safety considerations.

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### THE WINDSOR JEWELLERY BEADING GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Over Saturday 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m and Sunday 9.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m the 14th & 15th of June at the Windsor Function Centre on the corner of Dight & George Streets in Windsor.

'SALES of jewellery, gemstones, beads, opals, mineral specimens from all over the world, tools and equipment for lapidary and beading work, metaphysical and healing crystals

DEMONSTRATIONS: of gemstone facetting, precious metal clay jewellery, wire wrapping stones and hand-made jewellery.

DISPLAYS: of private collections including mineral specimens, cut & polished stone, carvings, gemstones and much more. Something for everyone.'

Admission Adults \$5, Children \$1, Children with parent/s – enter free. Light refreshments available.  
Inquiries to Peter Beckwith on 0412 333 150 or email at [raregems@optusnet.com.au](mailto:raregems@optusnet.com.au)

## **THE BLAXLAND GEM & MINERAL CLUB GEM SHOW**

Saturday & Sunday August 16th and 17th 2014

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

Glenbrook Community Hall, Great Western Highway, Glenbrook, NSW  
(Next to Glenbrook Theatre) Just west of Information Centre.

<http://www.freewebs.com/blaxlandgemmineralclub/BGMCshow.htm>  
8 am to 4 pm Daily                      Entry: Adults: \$3    Children \$1

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## **CUMBERLAND GEM & MINERAL SHOW**

Over Saturday and Sunday the 23rd and 24th of August  
in the Roselea Community Centre, Pennant Hills Road, Carlingford.

SALES of jewellery, gemstones, beads, opals, mineral specimens from all over the world,  
tools and equipment for lapidary and beading work, metaphysical and healing crystals.

Displays of mineral specimens, cut & polished stones, carvings & gemstones.

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## **GEMKHANA 2014**

### **A WORLD OF GEMS**

The Annual Gem & Mineral Show and Competition of Lapidaries from all over NSW,  
presented by the Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW Inc

To be held in the Goulburn showground-Recreation Area, Braidwood Road, Goulburn  
over the Labour Day Weekend of Saturday to Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>.  
From 10.00 am to 5.00 pm Saturday & Sunday, 9.00 am to 12 noon on Monday.

Sales and Displays of Jewellery, Gemstones, Minerals, Crystals, Fossils, Beads, Equipment  
by local and interstate Gem, Jewellery and Mineral Dealers.  
Demonstrations of Gem Faceting, Gem Identification, Gemstone Carving.

Contacts for inquiries: - Marilyn or John Behrens on (02) 9635 8218 or Arthur Roffey on 02 4572 5812

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