



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 JUNE 2022

The June Meeting will be held in the clubrooms of the Parramatta and Holroyd Lapidary Club at 73 Fullagar Road, Wentworthville, on Friday the 3rd of June at 7.30 pm.

All members attending the meeting should be double vaccinated. Masks can be worn but are optional and social distancing should be maintained. Everyone should sign the Attendance Register although registering by QR code is not required. Anyone who feels unwell or has had recent contact with an infected person should not attend the Meeting.

The main presentation at Friday's meeting is by our member Kevin Capnerhurst on 'The NSW Economic Rock and Mineral Collection'. The Collection is housed in the W.B. Clarke Geoscience Centre at Londonderry and contains over 26,000 representative specimens of ores and minerals collected since the 19th century from mines and mineral deposits throughout NSW. In addition, it contains high quality specimens that were displayed in the old Geological and Mining Museum in the Rocks.

The State of the State's Economic Rock and Mineral Collection

Kevin Capnerhurst

In addition to the lecture there will be a talk to be given by Arnold van der Heyden on :-

The Benefits and Pitfalls of Collecting On-Line

Arnold van der Heyden

Collection Visit: In addition to Kevin's presentation on Friday he has organised a follow-up visit the following day for members to view the State Collection at Londonderry. There is a restriction on numbers so if you want to attend, please book with John Chapman by email (chapmanjr@optusnet.com.au) or by phone on 0435 085 050 or (02) 9808 3481.

When: Saturday, 4th of June 10 am to 1pm. The Society will lay on a BBQ lunch from 12 to 1pm.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

July 1st The program will include a lecture to be given by Luis Martins on 'A Mineral Collecting Trip to the Faroe Islands'.

There will also be a mini-talk to be given by John Chapman and David Colchester on : - **Iridescence – Now And Then.**

August 5th: The Society **Annual General Meeting** and the **Mayne-Walker Memorial Lecture**.

The SOCIETY COMMITTEE

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Inquiry from Member Luis Martins

"I'm searching for a complete set of the Australian Journal of Mineralogy, up until 2021 if possible. If you have one for sale please contact me on luismsoaremartins@gmail.com .

"I'm also searching for a used binocular or trinocular microscope, with or without integrated lights, with continuous zoom capabilities (ideally with more than 80x zoom capabilities). No particular requirement on brand. If you have one for sale please contact me on luismsoaremartins@gmail.com"

Luis Martins, Sydney"

The SOCIETY LIBRARY

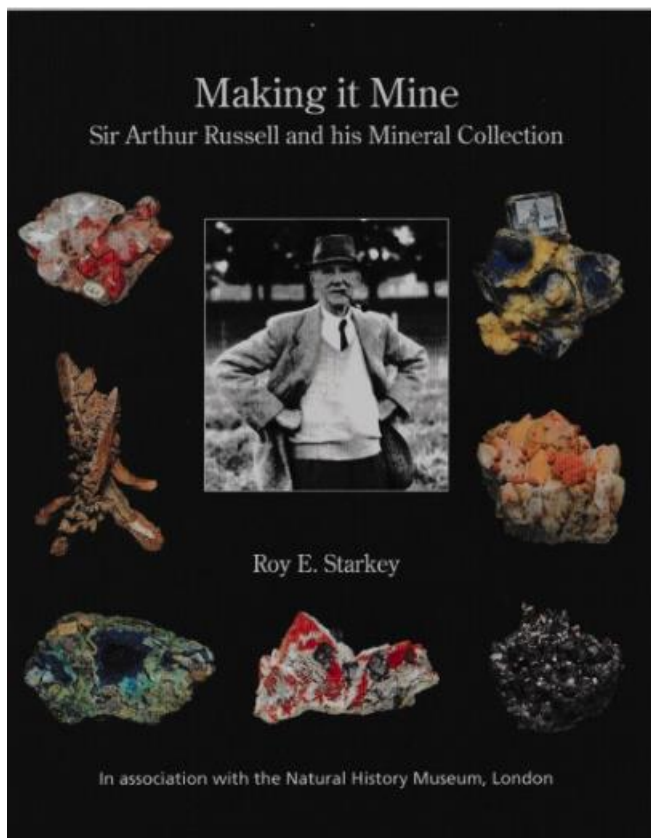
The Library has acquired a new book "**Making it Mine – Sir Arthur Russell and his Mineral Collection**" Roy E. Starkey, Natural History Museum London.

Members can obtain their own copy by directly contacting Roy's email at roy@britishmineralogy.com

The Society's copy of the book is currently doing the rounds of the Committee and any member who wants to obtain a loan, please send their request to Edward.zbik@bigpond.com for their name to be placed on the distribution list.

The library also receives the Magazines "**Rocks & Minerals**" and "**The Australian Journal of Mineralogy**", if you want to be placed on the "Pot Luck" distribution list of current and back issues. The magazines can be collected and returned at the monthly meetings. Send your request to the above email so sufficient copies can be made available for pickup. Also check their websites for specific issues. The Library has most copies of the "Mineralogical Records" until 2010 and these are also available for loan.

The Book



Sir Arthur Russell and his Mineral Collection.
Front Cover

Making it Mine explores the fascinating story of Sir Arthur Russell 6th Baronet as he pursued his quest to build the finest collection of British minerals ever assembled. Lavishly illustrated with more than 750 photographs and diagrams, including 445 previously unpublished images of specimens from Sir Arthur's collection, the book delves into his family history, the background to his passion for mineralogy and his single-minded determination to secure the very best specimens for his collection. The stories and people behind the specimens are woven into a compelling narrative together with sketches and anecdotes concerning the many colleagues and contacts that assisted him along the way.

Privileged access both to the Sir Arthur Russell Collection of British Minerals, and the Russell Archive, at the Natural History Museum in London has allowed the author to tell the story in detail. The book will appeal to all those interested in British mineralogy, to mineral collectors and dealers, to historians of mineralogy, museum curators, university researchers and to anyone who is simply interested in the treasures of the natural world. This is neither a coffee table book nor a biography, but rather a blend of the two that takes the reader on an absorbing journey through the last 200 years of mineral collecting.



432 large format pages (276 x 218 mm); 754 illustrations; 1100 references; comprehensive index.
Hardback £40 plus p&p. (ISBN 978-0-9930182-4-4)

For further information, or to order a copy, go to www.britishmineralogy.com
or email roy@britishmineralogy.com
British Mineralogy Publications, 15 Warwick Avenue, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. B60 2AH
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Sir Arthur Russell and his Mineral Collection.
Back Cover

Sir Arthur Edward Ian Montagu Russell, 6th Baronet, MBE, FRS (30 November 1878 – 24 February 1964), was a British mineralogist of the 20th century. He was a collector and a collector of collections and in his lifetime he amassed a huge collection of minerals.

The Russell Collection at Swallowfield Park became famous throughout the world, and was visited by mineralogists and collectors from across Europe and America. The collection of about 12,000 of the finest British minerals is now in the Mineralogical Collection of the Natural History Museum.

Message from Chris Bowman, Collector:

Chris Bowman, collector in Tamworth, advises that his collection of New England minerals and fossil megafauna material have been donated and are now on display at the Tamworth Astronomy and Science Centre at Piper Street, North Tamworth.

From the Internet: 'Tamworth is home to a number of professionally and volunteer run museums throughout the region. The Astronomy and Science Centre opened earlier this year and another museum of significance to mineralogy is the Gil Bennet Rocks, Gems and Minerals Collection located at The Nundle Visitor Information Centre, 103 Jenkins Street Nundle. The collection features 1300 specimens collected over a twenty-year period and contains minerals, oddities, spheres, petrified wood, quartz, agate, jasper, gypsum, calcite, aragonite as well as general Australian specimens sourced from areas including Nundle, Tambar Springs, Cobar, Broken Hill in New South Wales and Wittenoom Gorge in West Australia.

As part of this collection is a world class collection of spheres which were collected, cut and polished by Gil himself – products of thousands of hours of work.

Visit [The Gil Bennet Collection page](#) to find out more or visitnundle@tamworth.nsw.gov.au

THE MAY SOCIETY MEETING

The May meeting was held at the Lapidary Club and the evening's program comprised the **Annual Member's Auction** and was attended by about thirty members. Over the course of some two hours over eighty specimens were auctioned by the auctioneer, Society member Glenn Brown, for a total sum of near to \$4,000. There were several 'silent auction' trays also sold.

Thanks are due to Glenn for his competent and cheerful auctioneering and to Marian Ong who brought in a substantial amount of snack foods for the members, contributing to a comfortable and sociable evening.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The *PARRAMATTA-HOLROYD LAPIDARY CLUB Inc*

Will be holding a Club Open Day on Saturday 18th June 2022 from 10 am to 3 pm at :-
The Clubroom, 73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville, Phone 9636 7843.

'Demonstrations of cab cutting, jewellery and chain making, slabs, gemstones and jewellery for sale
An informal day with light refreshments available. Come along and bring your family and friends.'

GEMKHANA 2022, NSW's Annual Gem and Lapidary Show

9am – 5pm Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th of September 2022 at the
Hawkesbury District Agricultural Show Grounds 40 Racecourse Rd, Clarendon.

'Featuring Desert Fire Designs, Hand crafted Jewellery, Faceted Stones,
Polished Stones (Cabochons), Stone Carving, Minerals & Fossils.
Free Parking and ATM on Site. Camping is also available on site.
Children's Activities. Adults \$10 Children under 16 Free'.

Inquiries: Contact Bob McLean gemkhana@gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au

Central Coast Crystal Gem & Lapidary Show

15th & 16th October 2022 at the Mingara Event Centre, Wyong Rd, Tumbi Umbi
