



# THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC

C/o School of Natural Science  
B.C.R.I. Parramatta Campus University of Western Sydney  
Locked Bag 1797 Penrith South DC N.S.W. 1797  
Website: [www.minsocnsw.org.au](http://www.minsocnsw.org.au)

## NEWSLETTER

### MARCH 2016

**The March Meeting will be held on Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 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 at the March Meeting will commence with a talk to be given by Dieter Mylius on the

#### **‘Mineral of the Month - Calcite’**

Calcite is a mineral which occurs in 240 recognised forms. Members are invited to bring in specimens of calcite exhibiting as many the different forms as they may have available, to display at the Meeting.

The talk will be followed by a lecture to be given by Peter Buckley on : -

#### **‘Blood Diamonds of Liberia’**

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## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

Subject to circumstances some changes to the following schedule of program subjects and speakers may have to be made in due course. Meetings will be held on the first Friday of the months throughout the year.

April 1<sup>st</sup> : **A 40<sup>th</sup> Year Commemoration** will be held as the first half of the April meeting with a number of founding or early members of the Society invited to provide a few reminiscences, anecdotes and impressions of the earliest years. April will be the last month of the Society's 40th year since inauguration in May 1975. There will be extra refreshments provided, no extra refreshment fee will be requested. Since the evening program will be quite lengthy it is recommended to commence at 7.00 pm.

The commemoration talks will be followed by a **Mineral Quiz** presented by Ann & Noel Kennon.

## SOCIETY MEETING VENUE CHANGE

The 40<sup>th</sup> Year Commemoration Meeting will be the last one which will be held at the Western Sydney University due to the impending renovations and building demolition. The management committee of the **Parramatta and Holroyd Lapidary Club** has been approached to request that the Society be allowed to hold our monthly meetings in the Lapidary Club at Wentworthville for the foreseeable future to which the Club committee has very graciously agreed.

Accordingly from May 6<sup>th</sup> Society meetings will be held in the Lapidary Club rooms at **73 Fullagar Rd, Wentworthville**. The road is parallel to and one block north of the Great Western Highway at Wentworthville. On the street guides No 73 is at the south end of the small Lytton Park, alongside the road. There is an amount of parking space around the venue building and parking along Fullagar Road is not restricted.

The Parramatta and Holroyd Lapidary Club was formed in 1960 and is the second oldest in Australia with nearly 200 members. This is their 56<sup>th</sup> year with the anniversary on June 6<sup>th</sup>. General meetings are held every month and the clubrooms are open most evenings of the week and during some days for classes which are held regularly in cabochon cutting, faceting, silver jewellery, wire wrapping, carving and enameling. Field trips and exhibitions are also held at times during the year. Information on the Club is available from the website :- <http://www.freewebs.com/parraholroydlapidaryclub>

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## MEETING PROGRAMS AFTER APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> 2016

- May 6<sup>th</sup> : Member's **Mini-Auction**
- June 3<sup>rd</sup> : Open night, interactive forum on : - '**Kingsgate Re-visited**'. Member's collections and re-collections from Kingsgate and other molybdenite mines in the New England.
- July 1<sup>st</sup> : Lecture on the **Hera Copper-Gold Mine at Nymagee** by Adam McKinnon.  
(To be confirmed).
- August 5<sup>th</sup> : Society AGM followed by the Betty Mayne- Edna Walker Memorial Lecture : - '**Mineral Curiosities**' by Brian England.
- September 2<sup>nd</sup> : Lecture on '**Radioactive Minerals**' by Geoff Parsons.
- October 7<sup>th</sup> and November 4<sup>th</sup> : Programs to be confirmed.
- December 2<sup>nd</sup> : Christmas Social

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## 2016 Society Membership Fees: REMINDER

Society membership fees were due from January 1st and so far only about half our members financial for last year have renewed their subscriptions. Members are urged to consider whether they have

renewed yet and if not, to do so as soon as convenient. The Society carries several insurances to protect the Society and members against injury or loss etc but insurance protection is subject to them being financial for the current year. Subscription renewal forms have been sent out and are available from the Secretary or Treasurer at any Meeting and on the Society website.

Subscriptions may be paid by :-

Direct Credit / bank transfer to the Society's account :-  
the Mineralogical Society of NSW Inc. BSB: 062016; Account number: 28023647

by sending cheque or Australia Post Money Order to the Treasurer or Secretary;

or by cash or cheque delivered to the Treasurer or Secretary at any General meeting.

Members are requested to submit a completed membership renewal form with their subscriptions wherever possible including e-mailing copies to the Treasurer or Secretary if they pay by bank transfer, particularly if any of their details, addresses etc, have changed. It is important for the Society to keep up-to-date records of member's details. Membership infers one person to be insured but if a member wishes in addition to insure one or more family member/s they must pay an extra \$5 per person who must be named on the subscription form. Family members can only include spouse/partner and children.

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## **FIELD TRIP to Gerringong**

On Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> of February a small number of members took a pleasant drive down the south coast to visit Ken Mitchell at his house in Gerringong. The visitors were received very hospitably by Ken and his wife Margaret and treated to a BBQ lunch followed by an examination of his extensive mineral collection. Since the small town of Gerringong is right on the coast and mostly on higher ground above Warri Beach another impressive feature of the visit is the view from the Mitchell residence, down to the beach and with a magnificent view of the Pacific Ocean.

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## **FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS**

**The Tuena-Cordillera weekend field trip has been rescheduled to the weekend of 16th/17th April.**

Camping at Tuena camping grounds. Accommodation at Crookwell. This field trip is planned to include Cordillera, Peelwood mine and John Fardy mines, check AJM Vol 13 No 1 and Vol 13 No 2, Optional - Mt. Costigan and The Adits. Members traveling down on Friday may visit some out of the way localities. Members wishing to attend the trip please register for details with Edward Zbik by e-mail at [etzed@optusnet.com.au](mailto:etzed@optusnet.com.au) or SMS to mobile 0401 538 480.

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## **Field Trip to TOLLWONG**

After a considerable amount of negotiating with the NPWS by Ed Zbik a **Field Trip to the Tollwong mine sites** within the Morton National Park Wilderness Area is at a late stage of planning.

There is a short list of dates for the Trip from April 22/23/24, May 20/21/22 or May 21/22/23 being considered. The final date will be decided at the March Micro-Mineral Group meeting. This will be a three-day bush camp in the National Park requiring a six kilometer hike from cars to the designated camp site then a two-kilometer hike to the mine locations.

The Tollwong area is of particular interest to micro-mineral collectors since it is expected that there will be quite a variety of different species to be found and the Micro-Mineral Group is keen to examine as many specimens as possible. The Group has previously examined the minerals of Woodlawn and of the Bunnan road cutting writing up detailed reports which have been published in the *Crocoite.com* website. An article about on the Tollwong mineralogy is being prepared.

There is also a one day excursion being planned to the Bungonia State Conservation Area on Sunday March 20th, possibly to camp at Bungonia the night before to maximize a search to locate mineral occurrences. There are the Cobalt, Molybdenum and Block Mines in the area. The search would involve a 6-8 kilometer hike through ?? open woodlands.

The NPWS has a number of requirements to be followed while in the wilderness area and attendees are required to have been granted a Science License by the NPWS.

Inquiries to Edward Zbik by e-mail at [etzed@optusnet.com.au](mailto:etzed@optusnet.com.au) or SMS to mobile 0401 538 480.

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## WELCOME

Welcome to new members Marianne Lavidis of Menae,  
Owen Farrell of North Rocks  
Antony Zbik of Rydalmere  
Todd, Hayden and Tyler Fielding of Sydney  
and Simon Tanner of Gymea

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## The SOCIETY COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:	Dieter Mylius	Tel: (02) 9477 1060
VICE-PRESIDENT:	John Chapman	Tel: (02) 9808 3481
SECRETARY:	George Laking	Tel: (02) 9636 7145
	E-mail:	<a href="mailto:bglaking@tech2u.com.au">bglaking@tech2u.com.au</a>
TREASURER:	Graham Ogle	Tel: (02) 9868 4446
	E-mail:	<a href="mailto:grahamo@diabetesnsw.com.au">grahamo@diabetesnsw.com.au</a>
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Peter Beddow	Tel: (02) 8810 8446
	David Colchester	Tel: (02) 9449 3862
	Geoff Parsons	Tel: (02) 9548 3289
	John Rankin	Tel: (02) 9482 7474
	Edward Zbik	Tel: (02) 9638 6586
	E-mail:	<a href="mailto:etzed@optusnet.com.au">etzed@optusnet.com.au</a>

## R.I.P. Cyril Kovacic

The Society has received a notice from the President of the Mineralogical Society of Victoria

'Dear Society Members. It is with sadness that we must report the passing of Cyril Kovacic on Thursday last week. Cyril was a foundation member of the Mineralogical Society of Victoria in 1976 and was made a Life Member in 1986. Before and after the formation of the Society he was instrumental in the promotion and support of the mineralogical community through his publications and specimen dealing businesses.

His enthusiasm, dedication and ever-reliable supply of specimen material will be greatly missed.

A funeral service will (*have been*) held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February in Melbourne.

Regards            Alex Blount, President,  
The Mineralogical Society of Victoria Inc.  
[www.minsocvic.org.au](http://www.minsocvic.org.au)  
Wednesday, 24 February 2016'

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Cyril Kovacic would be well-known to mineral collectors outside Victoria and probably throughout Australia since ably assisted by his daughter Katherine he has owned and operated the successful mineral business '**CK Minerals**' for many years. In addition they have published a number of books on Australian minerals, gemstones and gold, as well as producing the journals *Australian Mineralogist*, *Australian Gems and Crafts Magazine*, and the *Australian Gem and Treasure Hunter*.

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## The FEBRUARY MEETING

At the commencement of the February Meeting there were several announcements the president, Dieter Mylius, reminding members about the forthcoming April 1<sup>st</sup> **Commemorative program** and that this would be the last meeting to be held in the University venue. He also advised that the April meeting would start earlier than usual, at 7.00 pm, since there would be a lengthy program to get through.

The President also reminded members about the **Micro-Mineral Group** meeting, the next one to be held in Dapto. Members wishing to find out more about the Group could inquire from himself or Graham Ogle. The Group was currently examining Tollwong minerals.

Graham Delaforce addressed the Meeting to report on a serious medical condition afflicting a Society member. **Jo Collas** had recently been diagnosed with an advanced and disseminated malignancy. He had spent all of Christmas in Nepean hospital and was currently undergoing extensive chemo- and radio- therapy.

Ed Zbik referred to the forthcoming **Field Trips** including the visit to Ken Mitchell's house in Gerringong to view his mineral collection and the Tuena/Cordillera/Peelwood camping trip for mid-April.

Arrangements and negotiations including applying for a NPWS Science License to enter the **Tolwong mines** within the Morton National Park Wilderness Area for a projected trip, probably to be held in May, were well underway. This would be a scientific investigative field trip with all minerals found to be shown to Dieter Mylius or Graham Ogle for examination, photographing and identification. A meeting of all members who had applied to join this trip would be held later to finalise details.

Peter Williams informed the meeting that there were certainly some very rare minerals in the **Peelwood mine**, particularly ones of copper and recommended that members on the trip look out for any pale sky-blue specimens however small.

Referring also to his request to members to report on the occurrence of **Crocoite in New South Wales** Ed Zbik reported that he had already received some information about chromium mineral deposits in the Nundle area which would warrant further investigation. If any members were likely to be travelling through that area and could conduct some fossicking Ed could suggest 4-5 sites to visit. He could also provide some documentation to show to land-owners who may be approached for permission to enter a property to assure them about the Society insurance and safety protocols.

Arthur Roffey reminded members about the sale at his house over the following weekend of the extensive **mineral collection** of the late **Betty Boughton** who passed away on Christmas Day. The collection was priced to sell and included specimens from thumbnail to large cabinet.

Jim Sharpe drew member's attention to the **Kids with Cancer sale** of donated specimens being held that evening, noting that in addition to a large number of mineral specimens there were trays of gem and semi-precious stones, geological maps, a number of books and some large specimens of Prospect pectolite. The pectolite had been mined from twenty-five to fifty years ago and there would be no more at all from the Prospect source which had long been worked out and now rehabilitated.

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The first talk for the evening was given by Dieter Mylius on : -

**‘Collecting Minerals from the Clara Mine in Germany’.**

The Clara mine is situated in the Rankach valley in the Black Forest in south-western Germany about ten kilometers from the small town of Wolfach. The mine is significant for the sheer number of minerals which have been found there. There have been 401 minerals recorded and the mine is the type locality for thirteen species. This compares to Broken Hill with 315 minerals found and Tsumeb with 339. Another significant feature of the site is that visitors are allowed to collect there.

The mineralisation occurs in hydrothermal veins with predominantly barite and fluorite which are the economic minerals produced but the veins also contain copper, silver and lead minerals. The mine has been known and worked at first sporadically from the Middle Ages, in 1726, and the workings are now underground with currently about 150,000 tons of barite and fluorite produced per year.

For many years mineral enthusiasts could readily collect at the mine but in 2007 for security considerations the policy was changed to collecting only being allowed on a fenced-off area of the dumps. This prompted two ladies, one possibly the wife of one of the mine managers, to set up an independent business, the *Mineralienhalde Grube Clara*, (Mineralheap Clara Mine), to promote and facilitate collecting. The arrangement now is that truckloads of new ore are dumped into the section near the treatment plant and collectors allowed in over designated periods of time during week-days and after

paying a small fee. The arrangement has become so successful that the mine and nearby town have become tourist attractions with local hotels kept quite busy.

At the time of Dieter Mylius's visit to the site some three years ago the entry fee was eight, now twelve euros, €12, about Au\$18.50 to take out eight kilos per person or an extra €0.75 for each additional kilo. Three times a year the main stockpile next to the fenced area is also opened to professional collectors. A number of views were shown of the town of Wolfach, then of the mine showing the colourful and well-maintained entrance in front of the dumps. There was even a view of one of the staff hosing down a section of the collecting area to show up any minerals. All very civilised.

Finally the speaker showed a large number of images of Clara minerals, some taken from Mindat but also many taken of specimens in the mineral museum in the smaller town of Oberwolfach, (upper Wolfach), a little further up the Rankach valley.

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The second speaker for the evening was Ross Pogson, Collection Manager, Mineralogy, at the Australian Museum. He was to speak on :-

**‘The Cliefden Caves and Speleological Themes at the Australian Museum’.**

The Cliefden Cave system is situated in central NSW on private land along the Belubula river about forty kilometers south-west of Orange and about twenty kilometers east of Canowindra. The caves are not open to the public in spite of the system being quite as extensive as any other in Australia and with limestone formations also as spectacular as any other. At the present time the entire system is under some threat of being inundated if plans for a dam on the Belubula are approved.

Ross Pogson commenced his talk by advising that it would be something of a mixture being partly historical, partly Museum display history and partly mineralogical. The talk was originally put together by the speaker's colleague, Armstrong Osbourne, at Sydney University on the occasion of a symposium sponsored by the Linnaean Society of NSW and held at Bathurst. The symposium was held to inform people of the spectacular geological features of the Belubula River Valley especially in view of the NSW state government having initiated a study to build a dam on the river which would flood the caves. Other important sites in the same area which would be obliterated include the Fossil Hill fossil site and a very interesting hot spring. The Cliefden limestone is rich in fossil material and is internationally significant.

The involvement of the Australian Museum with the Cliefden Caves goes back to 1917 when the then curator of minerals Dr Charles Henderson heard reports of very large clear calcite crystals which had been found in the Cliefden area, actually on a nearby property ‘Carlton’, owned by the Hosie family. Investigating the reports led the curator to explore the Cliefden ‘Main Cave, descending to more than 300 feet underground where he found a ‘crystal grotto’ with the walls, floor and roof covered in perfect calcite crystals. Some were reportedly at least seven and even up to eight inches long. Later in 1923 a member of the Hosie family presented the Australian Museum with a crystal group recovered from the cavity. An image of the crystal group was shown by the speaker who asserted that since its acquisition the specimen has been on constant display in the Australian Museum in every re-incarnation of the Mineral Gallery.

Dr Henderson acquired a number of the large Cliefden crystals and resolved to perform a crystallographic study and Ross Pogson took a little time to explain how his predecessor had set about this, measuring the angles between adjacent crystal faces. One of the instruments used to perform the measurements had been brought in by the speaker to display. This was a Two-Circle Theodolite Reflecting Goniometer that had been made in Heidelberg in about 1900, purchased by the Museum in 1906 and cost probably about £50 which would have been a lot of money in those days.

The speaker described something of the mode of operation of the instrument and noted that it was extremely difficult to use but that once the operator had become sufficiently adept it would give very accurate results. Dr Henderson worked on the Cliefden crystals for a time and published his results in an article in 1920. Images of some of the crystal diagrams, measurements, drawings and tables that he made were shown by the speaker.

Further limestone cave interest by the Australian Museum in 1932 involved the later curator Thomas Hodge-Smith deciding to build a facsimile of a limestone cave in the Museum. Accordingly a team of Museum workers helped by local property owners collected over two thousand mineral formations from the Cliefden Caves. Such action would obviously be severely frowned upon today and would be classed as vandalism. However in the 1930s this was of less concern and once all the material had been brought to the Museum Thomas Hodge-Smith set about constructing the crystal grotto over the next three and a half years. Ross Pogson described the work in some detail and showed images of stages of the construction and of the finished display which was opened in 1936. Since every limestone cave visited by people inevitably has one or more broken columns the constructed cave at the Museum was deliberately provided with one such example.

The limestone cave display remained in place until 1984 when the Mineral Gallery was extensively redeveloped and the grotto dismantled with most of the material placed into storage. Smaller and simpler versions of it were set up in the Mineral Gallery up to 2010 when heritage architects were hired to restore the Long Gallery to its original 1860s appearance and the material went back into storage.

Moving to describe the Cliefden cave formations with the aid of projected images the speaker referred to a very special feature of the caves which were the occurrence of very unusual pale blue coloured aragonite speleothems. These are thought to occur in limestone which is otherwise nearly all of calcite due to impurities, possibly of copper, barium, strontium or iron in the water in which the crystals grow. The presence of impurities apart from adding some colour to the formations have also caused the mineral crystallisation to become orthorhombic aragonite instead of the trigonal calcite. Mineralised deposits containing barite and another containing copper occur near to the Cliefden site. There was a small Belubula copper mine briefly established in 1845 in the area.

A number of other interesting formations were noted, of stalactites which in becoming exposed to saturated calcium carbonate solutions had acquired a sparkling overgrowth of dogs-tooth calcite crystals. Another type of formation featuring a spiky crystal overgrowth is referred to by investigators as 'pineapples'. Some of the stalactite formations displayed a blade-shaped polyhedral structure. Other large helictite formations were referred to 'antler' being reminiscent of the antlers on a deer.

Ross Pogson completed his talk by expressing the hope that plans to build a dam in the Cliefden area would not go ahead since it would be an enormous loss if the caves were to be flooded.

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### **BACK FROM TUCSON SALE:    Change of Venue**

The **Back from Tucson Sale** this year will be held from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm on Saturday and from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of March in the Turramurra Masonic Hall on the corner of the Pacific Highway and Turramurra Avenue in Turramurra. The Masonic Hall is just up the road from the station and there is ample parking in the carpark in Gilroy Lane about 50 metres away.

A new facebook page has been set up, the – 'Back from Tucson Gem & Mineral Fair.' :-

<https://www.facebook.com/backfromtucson/>

## ROCK AUCTION

Presented by the Central Coast Lapidary Club Inc.

On Saturday 12 March 2016 at 10 Ourimbah Creek Road, Ourimbah  
 Minerals, Fossils, Gemstones and Jewellery  
 Auction viewing 10am to 12 noon. Auction commences 12 noon.  
 Machinery Minerals Rock and Jewellery sales from 9.30am.  
 Sausage Sizzle from 10am.

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## THE 2016 MINERAMA GEM & JEWELLERY SHOW

From Friday to Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> of March in the Glen Innes & District Services Club at 120 Grey Street, Glen Innes. Friday and Saturday from 10.00 am to 6.00 pm and Sunday from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. Free entry, refreshments available.

'As the largest annual fossicking, gem and jewellery show in NSW, Minerama has been drawing regular visitors to Glen Innes for almost 20 years. Held every year in March, Minerama is perfect for all gem lovers, rockhounds and outdoor adventurers. Search for buried treasure in Celtic Country with a three day program (Friday to Sunday) of guided fossicking field trips to suit both beginner and experienced gem hunters. Great fun for the whole family with a wealth of gems just waiting to be unearthed.

There will be over 100+ stalls trading in gemstones, fine jewellery, faceting rough, lapidary tools & supplies, crystals, beads, rare fossils, mineral specimens, arts, crafts and more. Whether you are after a two-dollar special, a gemstone of world-class quality or a unique piece of jewellery you'll find it at Minerama. There are also featured gem cutting and beading displays, free advice from gemmologists, dealers, lapidaries & jewellers, and plenty of entertainment throughout the weekend.'

Inquiries to (02) 6730 2400 or e-mail: - [www.minerama.com.au](http://www.minerama.com.au)  
 General information from [tourism@gisc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tourism@gisc.nsw.gov.au)

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## The NEW ENGLAND LAPIDARY & FOSSICKING CLUB INC.

Presents their **25th ANNUAL GEM AND CRAFT SHOW**

To be held over Saturday and Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of March from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm on Saturday and from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm on Sunday in the Armidale Showground.

Camping available, fees for powered or unpowered sites, tables and tailgating. Insurance and bookings are essential. Hall access for setting-up from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm on Friday 18<sup>th</sup>. Free Entry.

'See A Spectacular Array of Gems, Rocks, Crystals, Jewellery, Gifts, Craft, Beads, Lapidary Books/Supplies/Equipment and much more. All On Sale At The Show. Raffle Tickets \$1.00. Great prizes B.B.Q breakfast, lunch & light refreshments available. Stall holders and tailgaters welcome. Public liability insurance is required.'

For details or to book - Contact Events Coordinator Cheryl Henderson on (02) 6778 4931, email [nelfc@hotmail.com](mailto:nelfc@hotmail.com) Or mail to P.O. Box 82, Uralla N.S.W 2358.

## **CANBERRA ROCK SWAP 2016**

The Canberra Rock Swap, organized by the Canberra Lapidary Club is being held on the camping ground at Wagtail Way in the EPIC showground alongside Northbourne Avenue in Canberra over Saturday and Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of April from 8.30 am to 5.00pm each day.

Fossickers, dealers and tailgaters. Camping available. All dealers and campers must register.  
Crystals, minerals, rough & cut gemstones, opals, fossils, jewellery, refreshments.

More information from : - [www.canberralapidary.org.au](http://www.canberralapidary.org.au)  
Norm Menadue, Show Convenor Ph : 02 6258 6631, or mobile 0407 718 347  
or e-mail : [nmenadue@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nmenadue@optusnet.com.au)  
Mail to Canberra Lapidary Club, PO Box 577, CURTIN ACT 2605

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## **GEMBOREE 2016      ULVERSTONE, TASMANIA**

### **AUSTRALIA'S 52nd NATIONAL GEM, LAPIDARY, JEWELLERY AND MINERAL SHOW.**

Presented by the Australian Federation of Lapidary & Allied Crafts Associations Inc. (AFLACA).

To be held in the Ulverstone Showgrounds on Flora Street, Ulverstone, north coast of Tasmania over Easter 2016, Friday March 25<sup>th</sup> to Monday March 29<sup>th</sup>.

A number of half to full day field trips are planned during the Gemboree.

The trips are to be confirmed but may include : -  
Beaconsfield/Flowery Gully and the Beaconsfield Museum, adjacent to the gold mine.  
Zeehan/Dundas visiting the mining area as well as local museums.  
Calder: Visit to the Calder Gravel and agate quarries.  
Penguin Iron Mines for Jasper and ironstones.

Contact:      Ralph Bottrill, Field Trip Manager  
Mineral Resources Tasmania  
PO Box 56, Rosny Park TAS 7018  
Phone: (03) 6165 4715 | Mobile: 0429 173 055;  
e-mail [rbottrill@mrt.tas.gov.au](mailto:rbottrill@mrt.tas.gov.au)

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## **The 26th Annual LISMORE GEMFEST**

Presented by the Lismore Gem & Lapidary Club Inc over the weekend of the 14th & 15th May 2016 in the Lismore Showgrounds. From 9am to 5pm on Saturday and 9am to 3pm on Sunday.

'The biggest annual lapidary show in the country'.

100+ tailgaters and stall-holders with substantial camping area, full dealer's pavilion.

Information on the Website [www.gemclublismore.org.au](http://www.gemclublismore.org.au).

Inquiries about tailgating and camping on-site at the Showground should be addressed to : -  
Jan Thompson at P.O.Box 743, Lismore, NSW 2480.

Dealer and general inquiries can be sent to Bruce Copper at the P.O.Box 743 or by e-mail to [bruce.copper@bigpond.com](mailto:bruce.copper@bigpond.com)

## **Open Day at Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club**

On Saturday 7th May 2016 from: 8:30am – 3:30pm at the  
Progress Association Hall, The Valley Rd, Valley Heights.

Activities: Rocks and slabs for sale, gem cutting and polishing demonstrations, sausage sizzle.

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## **Blaxland Gem & Mineral Club Gem Show**

Over Saturday and Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of August in the Glenbrook Community Hall  
Great Western Highway, Glenbrook, NSW.

(Next to Glenbrook Theatre) Just west of Information Centre.

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

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

Information from : -

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

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## **The 39th Joint Mineralogical Societies of Australasia Seminar.**

Over the 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2016. Hosted by The Mineralogical Society of Queensland.

Subject: "Mineralogy - Science and Passion"

Venue: Queensland Museum

Excursions will be held post Seminar.

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