

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 FEBRUARY 2025

February Meeting Changes

Due to several unexpected circumstances, with people normally involved in running Meetings not being able to be there, the advertised program for February will be rescheduled to another Friday in the next few months.

It is proposed that the February meeting will still go ahead, but will be a simple, unstructured evening where those that can attend can chat, (which everyone seems to be rather good at), over the normal selection of nibbles and refreshments. Bring along your latest acquisitions for a casual Show and Tell, tell tall stories about sites visited recently or in the past, and if you want to buy, swap or sell a specimen or two, that will be the ideal time. More of the Godwin collection will be available as well.

There will be no Zoom facilities for the February meeting.

We are sorry about this change of plan, but hope that those that can attend will be able to relax around a table and have a fun evening. We will return to normal programming in March.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS and PROGRAMS

March 7th: Dayna McGeeney will deliver a lecture on 'Rare and Unusual Gemstones in the Australian Museum Collection'.

There will also be a talk to be given by Graham Ogle on:- 'Minerals from Deposits in the Otto Mountains in California'.

April 4th: Program not yet finalized but may include a lecture on Wulfenite and the second part of David Colchester's 'Introduction to Crystallography – Part 2'

May 2nd: Member's Annual Mineral Auction

June 13th : The lecture by Dioni Cendon on : - 'Rare Earth Elements (REE): Misconceptions, Oddities, and some Minerals' will be given at the June Meeting.

David Colchester will give the third of his talks on: - Introduction to Crystallography – Part 3.

July 4th: Program not confirmed

August 1st Society A.G.M. and the Mayne/Walkers Memorial Lecture. The Memorial lecture may be given by Lindsay Gilligan, title to be confirmed.

The SOCIETY COMMITTEE

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The December Christmas Social

The 2024 Christmas Social held at the Parramatta and Holroyd Lapidary Club was very successful although with a disappointing low attendance of only about thirty members instead of the fifty or even sixty that we were hoping for. Possibly the intermittent very light rain may have discouraged some members from attending. As it happened therefore it proved unnecessary to set up tables in the car park and all sales were held inside the Club rooms. The Club has constantly up-graded its outside BBQ facilities now with permanent roofs over the outdoor cooking and seating area and by lunchtime all the members were able to sit down outside for the sausage sizzle well-protected from the rain. Since the Society had ordered food sufficient for the hoped-for fifty to sixty members, the lower number of attendees probably ate very well.

National Gem & Crystal Expo 2025

The National Gem & Crystal Expo has become an annual event and will be held again on Saturday and Sunday the 12th & 13th of April this year in the Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium, South Windsor.

The Society has again been invited by the organiser, Peter Beckwith, to participate in the Expo. As before it is intended to provide a Society information table which would be attended by a roster of members who would be able to answer questions from the public about Mineralogy and the Society. Demonstration materials and equipment including a microscope would be available.

In addition and as in previous years, members are invited to bring in specimens from their collections to display in the Expo. Illuminated display cases centrally located in the exhibition hall would be provided.

Any members who are able to provide a morning or afternoon of the two days of the Expo to 'man' the information table or provide a mineral specimen display are asked to contact the Secretary, George Laking on 0468 387 899.

The notice about the Expo is as follows : -

Over April 12th & 13th 2025 in the Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium, 16 Stewart St, South Windsor.

'The largest indoor Gem & Crystal Expo in AUSTRALIA'.

Hosted by Australian Gem & Mineral Expo's and the Hawkesbury Valley Lapidary Club. There will be displays and demonstrations by the Hawkesbury Valley Lapidary Club as well as traders and dealers from around Australia. Items for sale by the many traders will include jewellery, gemstones, beads, opals, carvings, gem rough, lapidary cutting rough, fossils, meteorites, metaphysical and healing crystals as well as mineral specimens from Australia and all over the world.

Opening hours are 9:30 till 5:00 on Saturday and 9:30 till 4:00 on Sunday. Entry Adults \$10

For more information please contact Peter by email: agamexpos@outlook.com

You can also find and follow us on [Facebook Australian Gem and Mineral Expos](#)

Or Website : -AGAMEXpos

GODWIN COLLECTION

In October last year the Society was contacted by a member of the Godwin family in Minto who wished to dispose of a large collection of many thousands of specimens collected over many years by their patriarch, the late Ross Godwin. The family was prepared to donate the collection to the Society on the understanding that we would try and sell as much of it as possible with the proceeds to be given to charity. Some of the specimens were brought in to the November and December meetings with members buying a total of about \$350 worth so far, mostly at low \$1-\$2-\$5 prices. The collection is very largely of samples of rocks and minerals, mostly with labels, only a small proportion with crystals but quite a few partially polished stones and slabs, collected from all over Australia and a small amount from overseas.

It has been recommended that the Society attend the **Illawarra Rock Swap** this year specifically to try and sell an amount of the Godwin Collection specimens. The Society has been give permission from the Illawarra Club to set up a stall at the Rock Swap. Helpers are requested to transport minerals to the venue and help sell the specimens during the sale. They would need to leave Sydney early to get set up at Stuart Park. (See the following notice, The Rock Swap opens at 8.00 am). One of more tables will be taken for the stall and as many trays of minerals as possible, most at present being stored by John Chapman.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ROCK SWAP - ILLAWARRA LAPIDARY CLUB INC

Sunday 23rd February, 2025:

At Stuart Park, George Hanley Drive, North Wollongong Between 8am and 2 pm.

Club members and others will be selling Jewellery, Gemstones, Cabochons, Minerals, Opals, Findings, Beads & Fossils and maybe some Lapidary equipment. A great day out!

You can find us at our website www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au or like and follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/IllawarraLC> or Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/illawarralc/>
