



# THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC

Website: [www.minsocnsw.org.au](http://www.minsocnsw.org.au)

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

## NEWSLETTER      JULY 2023

The July Meeting will be held in the clubrooms of the Parramatta and Holroyd Lapidary Club at 73 Fullagar Road, Wentworthville, at 7.30 pm on Friday the 7th of July.

The program will comprise a lecture to be given by Gary Sutherland on :-

### **50 years of Mineral Collecting**

There will also be a talk given by Geoff Parsons on a recent visit he made to :-

### **Lord Howe Island .... *Rocks***

**Introduction:** Lord Howe Island is a fascinating place with the two impressive mountains at the south end, the nearby Ball's Pyramid, the world's southern-most coral reef and one of Australia's shortest commercial airport runways (from sea to sea). The variety in the geology and the way it erodes gives an interesting range of landforms and micro climates.

**Members please note.** The previously-announced sale of minerals donated for the **Kids with Cancer Foundation** has been put back until the October meeting.

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## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS and PROGRAMS

August 4<sup>th</sup>: Society A.G.M. and Memorial Lecture. This year the Memorial Lecture will be given by Indrani Mukherjee, Lecturer and Researcher in Earth Sciences at UNSW on :- **Minerals - Earth's DNA.**

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## **The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING      Friday 4<sup>th</sup> of August 2023**

Members are hereby duly notified that the Meeting on Friday the 4th of August 2023 will be the Society **Annual General Meeting** which will commence at 7.30 p.m. in the Parramatta and Holroyd Lapidary Clubroom.

The A.G.M. will present the President's report for 2022/2023, the Treasurer's report and presentation of the annual financial accounts for 2022/2023 and the election of the Society Committee and office-bearers for 2023/2024. 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. Any other business may also be raised and discussed. The minutes of the previous 2022 A.G.M. were circulated in the September 2022 Newsletter. Copies will be available at the 2023 A.G.M. or may be obtained from the Secretary.

Nomination forms for election to the 2023/2024 Committee are included with this Newsletter. Further copies may be obtained from the Secretary if required. According to the Society Constitution nominations should be received seven days before the commencement of the A.G.M. If insufficient nominations are received before the commencement of the A.G.M. they can be accepted at the Meeting.

Only financial and Honorary Life members of the Society are eligible for nomination or allowed to participate in any voting. Any members who feel able to serve on the Committee are urged to discuss this with any of the current Committee members and then to arrange for another member to propose them and provide the nomination form. A member can be nominated for but cannot hold more than one position.

Nomination forms may be sent to the Secretary electronically but given any possible computer/internet delays, members sending forms by e-mail should ask for a confirmation that they have been received.

Members sending hard copy nomination forms by post are reminded to address all correspondence to :-

The Secretary, Mineralogical Society of NSW Inc,  
58 Amazon Road, Seven Hills, NSW 2147

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## The SOCIETY COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:	Dieter Mylius	Mobile: 0412 516 193
	E-mail:	<i>dieterm@internode.on.net</i>
VICE-PRESIDENT:	John Chapman	Tel: (02) 9808 3481
	E-mail:	<i>chapmanjr@optusnet.com.au</i>
SECRETARY:	George Laking	Tel: (02) 9636 7145
	E-mail:	<i>bglaking@tech2u.com.au</i>
TREASURER:	Graham Ogle	Mobile: 0400 683 574
	E-mail:	<i>quartzandsirius@hotmail.com</i>
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Haley Bambridge	Mobile: 0413 100 344
	Peter Beddow	Tel: (02) 8810 8446
	David Colchester	Tel: (02) 9449 3862
	Geoff Parsons	Tel: (02) 9548 3289
	Mark Walters	Mobile: 0421 012 647

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## WELCOME

Welcome to new members Scott Booth, Cecille Chu and Bethany Lidster of The Entrance, Central Coast.

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## AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF MINERALOGY

The latest issue of the A.J.M., volume 24, No 1, has been distributed to subscribers. This issue has a major emphasis on GOLD with articles on :- Mustard Gold, The I.C.I. Collection of Gold in the Victorian Museum, The Donnybrook Goldfield and Gold Fingerprinting. Another article is by Ross Pogson on the New Mineral Exhibition at the Australia Museum and reprises the lecture he gave to the Society in March.

The Journal Editors advise that due to increasing costs of publication subscription rates will have to increase to \$35, for new subscribers or when renewals are due for current subscribers

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## FOR SALE

Showcase 6' x 3' timber construction, with 7 glass shelves and glass fronted - \$80. (No image)  
A sloping Showcase - \$50, (image below) and a 6" Combination Unit - \$60, (no image).  
Also replica models of a Gold Stamper, Windlass and Oil Rig, (images below).  
Vendor makes no statement as to working condition of machinery.

For further details contact Terry Hogarth on Ph: 0481267781. Pick up Dapto.



Sloping Showcase \$50. (Not including contents)



Model Oil Rig



Model Stamper



Model Mineshaft and Windlass

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## FIELD TRIP REPORT

### DIAMOND HILL, LOWES MOUNT STATE FOREST, OBERON

17<sup>TH</sup> AND 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023

The Minsoc field trip had ten participants gather at Lowes Mount State Forest to search for Garnets, Vesuvianite, Scheelite, Epidote and Magnetite across the various skarn outcrops in the area. We were lucky to have good weather for both days. The enthusiastic participants were Mark, Denis, Dioni, Luis, Geoff, Marion, Haley, and a big welcome to new members Scott, Cecille and Bethany.

On the Saturday there were four areas explored:

- The garnet skarn across the creek opposite the car park.
- The Scheelite and garnet skarn on the hill opposite the old drill platform.
- The Scheelite and garnet pits further up the hill. Haley drove the indomitable Jeep up to the site along the old fire-trail to the top of the hill.
- The Vesuvianite skarn in the pine forest in the afternoon. The Southern Skarn was better than the Northern one.

The search was successful with good mineral specimens of:

- Garnets
- Epidote
- Scheelite from the pits
- Calcite
- Magnetite – Dioni's triple peaked specimen is a fantastic find.
- Actinolite
- Vesuvianite
- A few tantalising specks of Amethyst.
- And some possible tremolite / wollastonite (under analysis).

On Saturday, Scheelite crystals were found across the various garnet skarns as well as bright green Epidote crystals mixed with calcite, quartz, garnet, and Magnetite. Dioni found an excellent specimen of Magnetite that was the largest found on the day.

On Saturday night Geoff, Denis, Mark, Dioni, and Luis had dinner at the Oberon RSL Club and enjoyed an excellent evening. Geoff was lucky and won a pair of Toohey's socks in a competition.

On Sunday morning Denis went alone to the Vesuvianite site and found nice yellow Vesuvianite crystals in the loose rocks lying under the grass around the boulders. By lunch time the weather had closed in and it was time to finish for the day.

Mark, Dioni, Luis, Geoff, Scott, and Bethany checked out the Smokey Quartz pits and the amethyst area on Diamond Vale Road but did not find any significant specimens except a few points. Best pieces were in the spoil of previous diggings. We found one small quartz crystal with abundant trapped solid inclusion. We cleaned out some of the pits but nothing was left to find. The road was challenging with large ruts and trenches, Luis had to leave his little car behind.

All the sites explored at Diamond Hill over the weekend provided specimens of value and are worthy of further investigation. It was particularly exciting to find the Vesuvianite site again as Minsoc has not collected from here since 2017.

Thank you to all participants for attending the field trip and to Mark who has done so much work to arrange an entertaining weekend.

PHOTOS



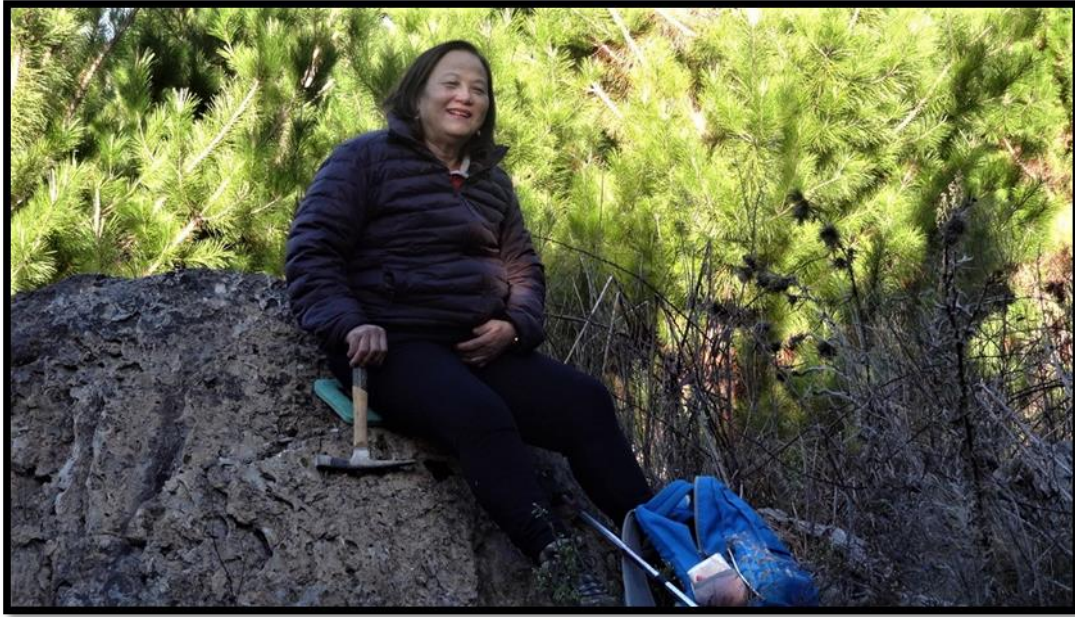
The lower carpark



Haley, Mark, Geoff, and Dioni looking for Vesuvianite in the pines



Marion, Hayley, and Karen enjoying lunch



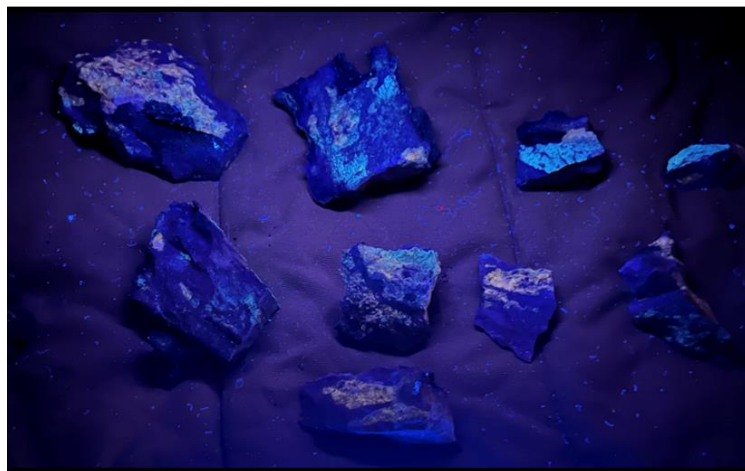
Marion supervising collecting work at the Vesuvianite site



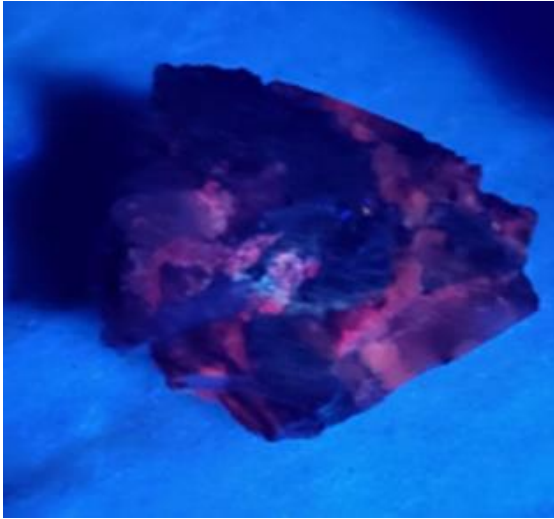
Amethyst – FOV 10mm (D. O'Brien)



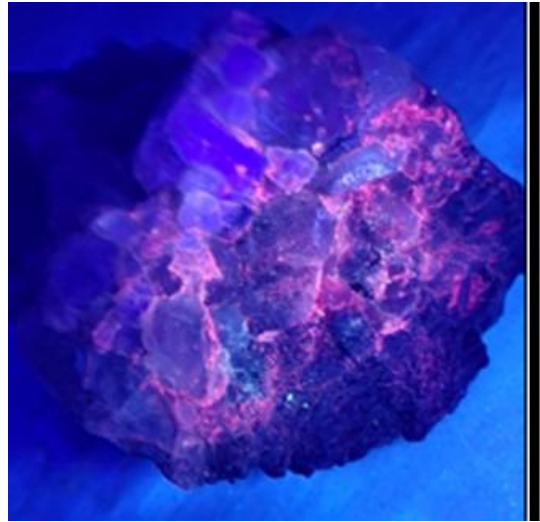
Vesuvianite – FOV 10mm (D. O'Brien)



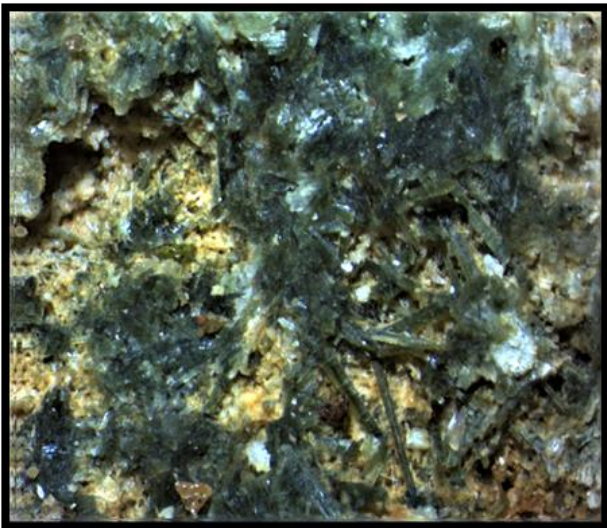
Vesuvianite Skarn under short-wave UV – largest specimen 10cm (M. Walters)



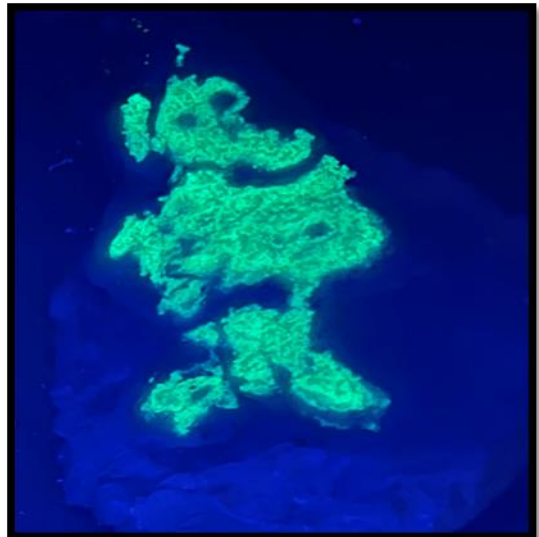
Fluorescent specimen (S. Booth)



Fluorescent specimen (S. Booth)



Green Actinolite – FOV 10mm (D. O'Brien)



Quartz area Sw UV  
FOV10cm (M. Walters)



Amethyst & Epidote – FOV 5mm (D. O'Brien)



Quartz with abundant trapped  
solid inclusions (D. Cendon)



Magnetite with quartz.  
Longest octahedral edge 12 mm  
(D. Cendon)



Magnetite detail of interlocking octahedral.  
(D. Cendon)

Report by Denis O'Brien

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## The JUNE MEETING

The June Meeting was opened by the President, Dieter Mylius, who welcomed members and two visitors who were attending in virtual mode. The virtual connection was still giving some trouble and hopefully more experience would improve the facility. There were a few announcements.

Mark Walters reported that the projected **Field Trip to Lowes Mt** near Oberon was going ahead as scheduled over the weekend of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of the month and at the moment he had ten applicants to attend and could take two more. Any further members wishing to attend should have their SWMS certificates up-to-date, have applied for a fossicking permit for State Forests and also be financial.

Graham Ogle announced that the next **Micro-mineral Group Meeting** would be on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> of June at John Chapman's house in Ryde and on the theme of 'Self-Collected Minerals'.

The President drew attention to information in the Society June Newsletter about the forthcoming **45th Annual Seminar of the Joint Mineralogical Societies of Australasia** being held in November at the Grindelwald Conference Centre, in Northern Tasmania, near Launceston.

The first lecture of the evening was given by Graham Ogle and described a visit he made a few weeks earlier this year to Cornwall particularly the **Levant Mine and the Royal Cornwall Museum**. There has been quite a history to Cornish mining because many miners gaining experience in Cornwall then immigrated to other mining areas around the World including South Africa and Australia. The Museum was threatened with being closed due to lack of funding but a grant had come through recently.

The second lecture was provided by Luis Martins on '**Pegmatites: What are they and why do we like them?**'

Both lectures were extensively illustrated with a series of images. Summaries of the lectures with illustrations will be provided in a subsequent Newsletter.



## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

### **Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewellery Exhibition**

Annual Show by the Campbelltown and Districts Lapidary Club in the Greg Percival Community Centre, Ingleburn, over Saturday and Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> of July.

### **Christmas in July “Open Day” – by the Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc**

Sunday 16 July, – 9am to 2pm – FREE ENTRY. At 51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna. ‘Club members selling Mineral Specimens, Fossils, Lapidary Materials, Jewellery & more . Morning Tea and Sausage Sizzle Lunch available. You can find us at our website <https://illawarralapidaryclub.com.au> or like and follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IllawarraLC>’

### **Central Coast Lapidary Club Annual Rock Auction.**

Being held at the Central Coast Lapidary Club rooms - 10 Ourimbah Creek Road, Ourimbah, Central Coast, on Saturday the 22nd of July. For information contact Secretary: [secretary@cclcinc.org](mailto:secretary@cclcinc.org)

### **2023 NSW GEMKHANA**

The NSW Jewellery, Gems, Crystals & Minerals Show, GEMKHANA 2023, will be held in the Hawkesbury District Agricultural Show Grounds, 40 Racecourse Rd, at Clarendon, - near the Richmond RAAF base, over the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of September. Featuring:- Hand crafted Jewellery, Faceted Stones, Polished Stones (Cabochons), Stone Carving, Minerals, Fossils and Crystals.

### **Gem & Craft Show 2023 – Inverell & District Lapidary Club Inc**

Being held over the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> October. Field Trips 15<sup>th</sup> To 20<sup>th</sup> – Open House – 13<sup>th</sup> To 20<sup>th</sup> in the Inverell Lapidary Centre, Mcliveen Street Inverell.

For further information:- Inverell Gem and Craft Show Program 2023.

### **‘Crystal, Gem & Jewellery Show’**

To be hosted by the Central Coast Lapidary Club at the Mingara Events Centre, Wyong Road, Tumbi Umbi, over the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> of October.

### **The 45th Annual Seminar of the Joint Mineralogical Societies of Australasia**

To be held over the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of November at the Grindelwald Conference Centre, Tamar Valley Resort, Grindelwald, Northern Tasmania, (near Launceston).

Field trips and Launceston Gem and Mineral Show visits after the seminar.

For further information :- <http://www.mineral.org.au/seminar/seminar23.html>

THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF N.S.W. INC

NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS

AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2023/2024

POSITION	Name of Nominee (Please print)	Signature of Nominee
<b>OFFICE-BEARERS</b>		
PRESIDENT	.....	.....
VICE-PRESIDENT	.....	.....
SECRETARY	.....	.....
TREASURER	.....	.....
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>		
MEMBER	.....	.....
MEMBER	.....	.....
MEMBER	.....	.....
MEMBER	.....	.....
MEMBER	.....	.....

PROPOSER:

Name (Please print): .....

Signature: .....

Date: .....