



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 2024

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

Program

Member's Forum on Maintaining and Cataloguing your Mineral Collection:

The Forum will be chaired by John Chapman & Dieter Mylius

Members are invited to contribute to the meeting with any ideas, experiences and tips.

Issues for discussion:

- Collecting: Hazardous materials
 Museums Handling Policy
- Protecting: Packaging and handling
- Recording: Don't put it off
- Processing: Repairing and Trimming,
 Cleaning,
 Acid etching
- Storing: Boxes, Drawers
 Display cabinets (stands and glass protection)
 Dust, Light, Moisture
 Cardboard trays
- Cataloguing: Cards vs Spread Sheet vs Relational Database**
Properties to record in the catalogue
- Imaging: Photo setup
 File type and naming
 Hyperlink to catalogue.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS and PROGRAMS

July 5th: There will be a lecture to be given by Ross Pogson on :-

Goethite Pseudomorphs after Marcasite and Pyrite: Farafra Oasis, White Desert, Egypt

August 2nd : Society A.G.M. and Memorial Lecture.

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
		Mobile: 0468 387 899
	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
	Denis O'Brien	Tel: (02) 6360 3412
	Geoff Parsons	Tel: (02) 9548 3289
	Mark Walters	Mobile: 0421 012 647
	Ed Zbik	Mobile: 0401 538 480

The MAY MEETING

The Program at the May Meeting was the Society Annual Member's Auction. Almost eighty specimens were sold briskly by the auctioneer, Glenn Brown, and with the sales of silent auction specimens and trays probably about \$2,500 changed hands. The evening program ended with members settling their purchases and enjoying the usual refreshments enhanced by the provision of a range of snack foods brought in by Marian Ong.

FIELD TRIPS

At the April Meeting the Society Field Trips Officer, Mark Walters, had reported on the forthcoming **Field Trip** to the **Manuka mine** near Cobar in central N.S.W. being held over the 20th and 21st of April and advised that a party of up to twenty members would be allowed to participate in the Trip. In the event nine members travelled to Manuka and quite apparently had a very rewarding and interesting time.

Denis O'Brien has prepared the following detailed and colourfully illustrated report on the Trip.

FIELD TRIP REPORT: MANUKA MINE, COBAR 16TH AND 17TH APRIL 2024

Nine enthusiastic Minsoc members gathered at Cobar for a much-anticipated field trip to the Manuka Mine to collect smoky quartz crystals and other minerals. The group was led by field trip officer Mark W. Other attendees were Geoff P., Denis O'B., Dioni C., John C., Lee S., Lachlan S., Brian H., and Brian E.

Our group gathered near the mine gate on the first morning where John found he had a flat tyre. A quick tyre exchange and we were on our way. Mine staff signed us in and led us to the ROM site where we spread out to look for the special smoky quartz crystals. The pits were strictly out of bounds.

Despite the heat everyone was successful in finding specimens around the ROM dump areas, which we have not had access to before. The material was full of vugs and quartz insitu, also collected was the rare zinc-iron-manganese mineral Chalcophanite, with glittery metallic crystals which was locally abundant.

After a long tiring day, we returned to our accommodation and dinner arrangements in Cobar. However, that evening John found he had a second flat tyre. Copper City Tyres conducted repairs on Wednesday morning and Denis and John were again on their way.

Wednesday proved to be quite successful and some outstanding quartz specimens were found in the southern dumps and later on the central dumps. Lee and Lachlan found several large quartz crystals at both the central dumps and later again at the ROM piles. Also of note are the abundant large Calcite specimens that fluoresce a vivid pink- orange colour. Mark collected several excellent specimens of this type. A side trip driving along the northern haul road, we found many crystals reflecting in the light as we drove.

Dioni unearthed a splendid large hopper crystal, the best found during the field trip.

On their way home John and Denis went via Mount Boppy, near the site of a large gold mine early in the 20th century. The views from Mount Boppy itself are amazing and show the wide-open landscape of the country.

Mark, Dioni, and Geoff called in to Bobadah and Blackfellows Dam and collected some specimens from each site on their way back to Sydney. Mark and Dioni later dropped into the Sunny Corner area and found scorodite associated with arsenopyrite vugs, galena and pyrite, all on a microscale.

Special thanks to Mark for arranging this field trip and thanks to all of the participants for making this expedition so enjoyable and rewarding.

Special thanks must also go to the Manuka Mine staff for allowing access to the site. Their courtesy and kindness was greatly appreciated.

Minsoc Manuka Mine field trip group - April 2024



L to R: Geoff, Brian E, Dioni, John, Mark, Lachlan, Lee, Denis,
Brian H behind the camera,



Johns first flat tyre – Tuesday morning



Lunch break at the central dumps – note the white clay.



Geoff ready to go



Brian H. and Brian E. collecting crystals at the central dumps



John collecting specimens around the ROM dumps



A large black double terminated crystal



Rare glittery metallic Chalcophanite in matrix



Denis's collection of specimens



Denis's multi terminated crystal



Dioni's splendid hopper quartz crystal
(Photo courtesy of Dioni)



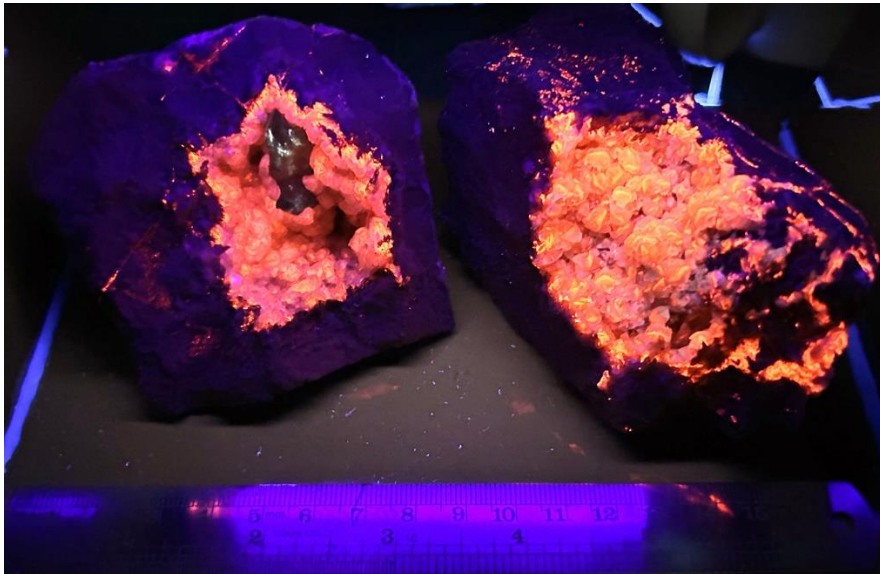
Dioni's multi terminated crystal specimens
(Photo courtesy of Dioni)



A great collection by Dioni – note the 30cm scale
(Photo courtesy of Dioni)



Brian E., Brian H., Geoff, and John



Vivid pink fluorescing Calcite specimen with 25mm quartz
(Photo courtesy Mark W.)

Mineralogical Records and Rocks & Minerals Magazines for Sale

Most of the **Mineralogical Records** and a number of the **Rocks & Minerals** magazines donated by Noel Kennon have been taken by members or for the Society Library. The remainder will be brought in to the Society Meeting and tabled for members to examine or buy for \$2 per copy.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Campbelltown & Districts Lapidary Club 44th Annual Gem Show & Exhibition Sat 13th & Sun 14th July

To be held in the Greg Percival Community Centre, Oxford Road, Ingleburn NSW,
over Saturday 13th 9:30 am – 5:00 pm, and Sunday 14th July 9:30 am – 4:00 pm.

“Enjoy a fun day out discovering crystals, minerals, gemstones, fossils,
and handcrafted jewellery direct from dealers and artisans.

Please see our Facebook page for more information. We look forward to seeing you there!”

Blue Mountains Lapidary Club Gem Show: 20th and 21st July

Saturday 20th 9am-4pm Sunday 21st 9am-3pm.

‘Gemstone and minerals, dealers, jewellery, slabs, fossils, lucky dips, raffles, gold & sapphire panning, plus
more!. In the Bullaburra Progress Hall, cnr of Noble Street & Great Western Highway. Bullaburra.’

Christmas in July “Open Day” – Illawarra Lapidary Club Inc

51 Meadow Street, Tarrawanna on Sunday 21 July, 2024 – 9am to 2pm.

‘Club members selling Mineral Specimens, Fossils, Lapidary Materials, Jewellery & more.

Morning Tea and Sausage Sizzle Lunch available.

You can find us at our website www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au

or like and follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IllawarraLC>’

The State Gem and Mineral Show and GEMKHANA. 28th – 29th September

The State Gem and Mineral Show, GEMKHANA 2024, will be held over Saturday the 28th
and Sunday the 29th of September in the Hawkesbury District Agricultural Show Grounds
at 40 Racecourse Rd, Clarendon.

Featuring Hand crafted Jewellery, Faceted Stones, Polished Stones (Cabochons),
Stone Carving, Minerals & Fossils, Crystals.