



THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC

C/o School of Natural Science
B.C.R.I. Parramatta Campus University of Western Sydney
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Website: www.minsocnsw.org.au

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2015

The September Meeting will be held on Friday the 4th of September 2015 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 Wonderful World of Micro-Minerals’

The program will comprise a short introduction to micro-minerals and to the **Society Micro-Mineral Group**.

There will be a number of microscopes set up in the lecture room to demonstrate a variety of micro-minerals.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

October 9th : Lecture by David Colchester and John Chapman on : -
(Second Friday) **‘Mudgeeite. Establishing a New Mineral.’**

In order to illustrate and display at the lecture members are invited to bring in any specimens they may have from the Mt Knowles site near Mudgee where examples of the new mineral have been found, particularly any samples which they think may contain the new mineral.

November 6th : Talk by Dieter Mylius on the **Minerals of the Clara Mine**
and a lecture by John Rankin on **‘Aspects of the Block 14 Mine’**.

December 4th : **Christmas Social.**

February 5th 2016: The Society does not hold General Meetings in January; the first Society Meeting in 2016 will be on February the 5th.

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:	<i>bglaking@tech2u.com.au</i>
TREASURER:	Graham Ogle	Tel: (02) 9868 4446
	E-mail:	<i>grahamo@diabetesnsw.com.au</i>
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:	<i>etzed@optusnet.com.au</i>

WELCOME

Welcome to new member Karen Smith of Baulkham Hills

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

All previous and current members of the Mineralogical Society of NSW Inc are invited to the Commemorative Dinner marking the 40th year since inauguration in May 1975.

This is a great chance to catch up with members, past and present, in a social environment to celebrate this milestone for our Society.

The Dinner will be held in the Ryedale Room at the Ryde-Eastwood Club at 117 Ryedale Road, West Ryde, at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday the 30th of September. This is the same venue in which the Joint Mineralogical Societies Seminar was held in 2013.

Members, guests and visitors are asked to register for the Dinner well in advance so that the total number for catering can be provided to the venue. The subsidised cost is \$40 per person which includes a three-course meal and two bottles of wine on each table. Extra beverages or wine can be purchased at the bar. Members wishing to attend should register by September 23rd.

Registration and payment may be made at the General Meeting on September 4th or by or sending cheques or money orders to the Secretary, 58 Amazon Road, Seven Hills, N.S.W. 2147.

Alternatively payment could be made by direct debit to the Society's account :-
The Mineralogical Society of NSW Inc. BSB: 062016 Account number: 28023647

If paying by direct debit, please put your name in the Memo line.

The Committee hopes to see as many members and particularly ex-members of the Society coming together for the 40th Commemorative Dinner but does not know the present addresses or locations of many of the people who were members during the earliest years of the Society. If anyone knows the whereabouts of any such ex-members it would be ideal if they could be advised about the forthcoming event and invited to attend or their contact details provided to the Secretary who can issue an invitation.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AUGUST 7th 2015

The 2015 A.G.M. was held in the LZG14 lecture room at U.W.S. North Parramatta as scheduled and attended by over fifty members. The Meeting was opened by the Society President, Dieter Mylius who welcomed all the members present particularly including Peter Black OAM who is resident in Broken Hill but had been able to attend the Meeting on this occasion, and a new member, Karen Smith.

Members were reminded about the forthcoming Society **40th year Commemorative Dinner** which would be held at the Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club in West Ryde at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday the 30th of September. Members could register for the Dinner this evening with either the Secretary or Treasurer or at any time up to a week before the 30th for a subsidised sum of \$40. The President stressed that the Society would like to see ex-members attending the Dinner also and asked that if anyone knew the current addresses of ex-members they could contact them or provide the address to the Secretary to notify and invite them to attend.

Ed Zbik advised that there were five **Field Trips** being planned for the next 2-3 months. On the day after this meeting a group was going again to Mt Tennyson and Ed Zbik warned members to beware of the Bell Line of Road over the Blue Mountains which is notorious for black ice in the winter. Later in the year there would be a trip to Muttama in company with members of the Illawarra Lapidary Club, and in November a trip to the Mudgee area.

The President advised that due to the **University of Western Sydney** having warned that the campus buildings LZ and LY were scheduled for substantial renovation, if not demolition, the Society **G14 Meeting venue** would become unavailable and an alternative venue would have to be found. The timetable for this was unclear and might still be several months away but in the meantime the Committee had moved the **Society Library** from where it has been kept at the University and distributed it for temporary storage among Committee members.

Lists of the books and magazines would be provided and distributed in due course to all members. Anyone wishing to borrow a particular book or magazine could contact the Librarian, David Colchester, who would arrange for the item to be brought in to the next General Meeting by whoever was looking after it. Alternatively books or magazines could be posted to members.

The **Micro-Mineral Group** would be meeting on Saturday the 15th of August and since this would be the 50th meeting of the Group there would be a BBQ lunch held at Dieter Mylius's residence starting at about 11.30 a.m.

With no further announcements the President moved to the official business of the Meeting. Initially he advised that the minutes of the previous A.G.M. of August 2014 had been provided in the previous year's September Newsletter and that copies were available at this Meeting if required. He also advised that the Society Constitution required a quorum of at least fifteen members to be present at an A.G.M. and clearly at this Meeting there was well in excess of that number.

The President then delivered his Report for 2014/2015. The following text of his report has been provided by Dieter Mylius.

Presidents Report 2014-2015

It has been another great year for the Mineralogical Society of NSW - plenty of interesting talks, an ongoing resurgence of field trips and members sharing their passions, interest and knowledge. And it is our 40th year.

Our meetings have been well attended, with overall membership fluctuating around the 120 mark and a small dribble of new members.

We continue to be in great shape financially, which will be borne out by our Treasurer Graham Ogle in his financial report. Not only are our expenses kept low, we have two substantial bequests earning interest.

The program of talks in the past year had something for everyone, interspersed with an auction of mineral specimens, member's evenings and mineral sales.

At last year's Betty Maine and Edna Walker lecture, Lyn Sutherland battled electronic challenges to give a entertaining talk titled "Zeolites from India and other Delectable, (Collectable), flood Plain Basalt Mineral Suites" (got to give it to Lyn for brief titles), followed the following month by the images that we could not see first time 'round. We also learned about the famous Langban mines in Sweden, the Geology and Mineralogy of Kulnura, an entertaining discussion of The Cobalt Deposits of Cloncurry & Mt Isa, The Burning Question of where the fire started at Mt Wingen, Applications of Mineralogy in Forensic Science, the Emergence of Chinese Mineral Treasures, and the Creative Power of Ground Water. In addition we had several shorter talks including the Tucson show, minerals of Mt Tennyson, mineral collections in Vienna, sampleite and tenorite.

In September we had an evening where members presented short talks on aspects of a particular specimen, experience or interest to them and no less than eleven short presentations were given. These evenings of member participation are especially encouraging and enjoyable. The amount of knowledge, passion and wisdom amongst members is astounding and so thank you all for being part of that evening.

Our February sale of donated minerals to aid Kids for Cancer saw over \$1700 going to the charity. Congratulations to everyone - a wonderful result.

The May Auction saw over 90 mineral specimens finding new homes. Thanks to John Chapman for being auctioneer for the evening.

The success of the talks program, February sales and organising the auction is mainly due to the hard work of Jim Sharpe, who has already bedded in most of next year's program. Jim has been Vice President for the past year, but has requested to have a rest from the committee. Jim we all thank you for all you have done. But members can rest assured he will continue doing many of the things he has been over the years, albeit behind the scenes.

So thank you to all who have contributed to the Friday meetings, whether by giving a talk or mini talk, bringing in specimens for us all to see, and of course John, George, and all those who provide refreshments each month for us all to enjoy.

Christmas as usual was our best attended evening with about 80 people crammed into this room. However, many members pitched in and there was a great range of minerals to look at and buy. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the catering, setting up and bringing in specimens to exchange and sell, to make this a great night of food, chats and rocks.

Our website continues to improve making it easier to find your way around and a pleasure to use. For those that haven't had a look, here you have access to past newsletters and talks, information about field trips and other details of the society.

This year saw a welcome continuation of an active field trip program, with trips to Hartley and Bathurst, Cow Flat and Prospect amongst others, with Ed Zbik putting in a huge amount of time to gain access to sites. He has also introduced a certificate system, so that members can answer a Safe Work Methods Statement questionnaire which in future will help us gain access to active working sites that would in most cases be closed to us. It's a great effort and I am sure we all thank Ed for this initiative.

The Micro Mineral Group continues with a regular attendance of up to 10 people, ably convened by Graham Ogle. To give it some direction, the group has completed papers on the minerals of Woodlawn mine and Bunnan road cutting, with the present project being the minerals of the Tolwong mines. The quest for society microphotography equipment is ongoing - there will be some expense to the society but we feel the acquisition of equipment that will allow society members to photograph their tiny specimens, is worthwhile.

Ongoing, the Mineralogical Society has the usual challenges of encouraging new members, especially younger ones, to join and hopefully become involved in the running of the society. This year we will at some stage have to look at our accommodation as changes occur on this campus. We have enjoyed using this room free of charge for many years, but within a year we may have to look for another home and that is likely to involve some costs. This will also involve changes in how our library operates.

We also need to consider the use of our resources so the bequests can be used responsibly and meaningfully for the Society and/or mineralogy in the future.

I'd like to extend my thanks to the committee for their dedication and work during the last year. While many matters were considered and resolved (or shelved) the job is not onerous, so if you have ever wondered about serving in the running of the society, please jump in and give it a go. Remember, if you want to see what goes on, anyone is welcome to attend committee meetings.

I'd like to thank our Treasurer, Graham Ogle, for very ably managing our finances. There is a more than a few dollars in a piggybank to account for.

I must make a special mention about the man who holds everything together. George Laking, has for years managed the load of secretary. He has done a tremendous amount of work in the background but you can all see the results – the newsletter, minutes at committee meetings, the attendance book, membership lists, deals with correspondence, name tags, and mail. He's the one that can fill in historical facts and what's in the constitution. George, we salute you.

As always, I thank Peter Williams and the University of Western Sydney for the use of this room, which has been our home for many years, all at no cost to the Society.

Finally, thank you to members and visitors, for being here each month. It's what makes it all worthwhile.

In closing I would like to wish the incoming committee a successful year ahead.

Dieter Mylius
August 2015

At the conclusion of the President's Report the Society Treasurer, Graham Ogle, handed around copies of the Annual Financial Report which also provided figures for the previous financial year July 1st 2013 to June 30th 2014.

The Treasurer then described the 2015 figures comparing some to the previous year and otherwise explaining aspects of many of them as he proceeded. Notably and thanks to the bequests that had been received, Society total funds had exceeded \$100,000 for the first time.

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

<u>Funds in hand:</u>	<u>2014-15</u>	<u>2013-14</u>
1. Balance in Operating account CBA # 06 2016 28023647 @ 30 th June 2015	\$13,805.90	\$63,415.77
2. Funds in CBA Term Deposit 1 – Betty Mayne Bequest	\$31,966.32	\$31,966.32
3. Funds in CBA Term Deposit 2 – Walker Bequest	\$55,660.62	\$0
4. Cash in Hand	\$46.00	\$46.00
5. Total Funds at 30 th June, 2014	\$101,478.84	\$95,428.09

(Second Term Deposit created 2nd July 2015 with the \$54,654.87 of the Walker Bequest).

<u>Increase in funds</u>	<u>\$6,050.75</u>	<u>\$45,550.61</u>
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Income

Membership subscriptions	\$2,705.75	\$2,955.00
Supper donations and mineral sales	\$1,248.85	\$1,355.05
Sale for Kids with Cancer	\$1,793.00	\$1,833.30
George Smith book sales	\$1,446.65	\$3,924.90
Interest on Operating account	\$68.39	\$116.63
Interest on term deposit into main account	\$1,838.08	\$1,342.59
Interest on term deposit into term deposit	\$1,005.65	\$0
Walker Bequest	\$1,680.36	\$54,654.87

Total :	<u>\$11,786.73</u>	<u>\$66,182.54</u>
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Expenditure

Supper items	\$1,390.51	\$1,429.99
Subscriptions, internet	\$753.13	\$899.88
Transfer of money raised for Kids with Cancer	\$1,793.00	\$2,056.30
Printing, postage, stationery etc.	\$639.39	\$672.62
George Smith book	\$0	\$6,800.00
Seminar	\$0	\$7,583.40
Other - PL ins./ Dept Fair Trading/PAI/Speaker Trvl etc.	\$1,160.05	\$1,189.74

Total :	<u>\$5,736.08</u>	<u>\$20,631.93</u>
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<u>Income – Expenditure</u>	<u>\$6,050.75</u>	<u>\$45,550.61</u>
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Liabilities

	\$0	\$0
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Other Assets

Estimated value based on 10% depreciation pa.

Mineral trimmer	\$26
Display cabinets	\$183
Library	\$810
Microscope	\$86
George Smith books	\$2,400
<u>Total fixed assets</u>	<u>\$3,505</u>

The above statement indicates that the Society is in a sound financial position

The accounts have been examined and confirmed by Jim Sharpe.

Graham Ogle

Treasurer

6th August, 2015

The Treasurer advised that the Society was in good financial shape and had finished the year well in the black, the figures to June 30th 2015 showing a comfortable surplus. Jim Sharpe was thanked for having scrutinized the Financial Report.

Graham Ogle mentioned that some members who had been financial in 2014 had overlooked renewing their memberships this year. As a reminder he read out the list of currently financial members, advising anyone whose names were not read out that they should adjust their status promptly.

Finally he advised that the Society was considering purchasing microphotographic equipment including a computer component for probably about \$5,000 which would greatly facilitate taking digital photographs of member's micro-mount specimens. Apart from this one proposal the Committee was open to suggestions from members to make further use of the Society funds.

After the presentation and description of the Annual Financial Report the President asked if there were any questions and with no other queries being made Graham Delaforce proposed that the Report be accepted. The motion was seconded by Ann Kennon with all in favour.

ELECTION OF THE SOCIETY COMMITTEE FOR 2015 / 2016

Dieter Mylius asked Arthur Roffey OAM. to assume the task of Returning Officer and to take the chair of the Meeting for the election of the 2015/2016 Society Office-Bearers and Committee members.

The Returning Officer noted that only single nominations had been put forward for the Committee positions and after asking if there were any more nominations was able to dispense with a ballot. He read out the names and positions of the nominated Committee members and declared them elected unopposed.

PRESIDENT:
VICE-PRESIDENT:
SECRETARY:
TREASURER:

Dieter Mylius
John Chapman
George Laking
Graham Ogle

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Peter Beddow
David Colchester
Geoff Parsons
John Rankin
Edward Zbik

Arthur Roffey then handed the chair back to the elected Society President, Dieter Mylius, who upon asking if there was any further business for the A.G.M. and there being none declared the official proceedings closed.

The President then introduced the Memorial Lecture and Lecturer for the evening by describing the reasons for holding the Memorial Lectures and the background of the two Society benefactors.

Betty Mayne/Edna Walker Memorial Lecture

Each year in August, after the AGM, the Society has held the Betty Mayne Memorial Lecture, but in the last years the name has been changed to the Betty Mayne Edna Walker Lecture. It is the premier keynote presentation of the year, on a subject of mineralogical interest. Why the name?

Betty Mayne joined the Society in the mid 1980's, being an avid collector of minerals, gemstones, rocks and fossils. After a short time she became Secretary of the Society for 2 years and finally was voted in as President of the Mineralogical Society of NSW. Betty brought her considerable organization skills developed during her nursing career to the position, and during her presidency organised and presided over the highly successful 1991 Joint Mineralogical Societies Annual Seminar.

Betty sadly passed away shortly after the seminar. Her will stipulated that her fine collection be sold by auction and the proceeds divided equally between the Mineralogical Society of NSW and the Friends of the Geological and Mining Museum.

The Mineralogical Society used the proceeds to set up a Bequest Fund, which is kept in a separate term deposit. The interest is used to fund projects, which the committee deems suitable. The Betty Mayne Memorial Lectures were established at the suggestion of the late Professor Laurie Lawrence and have been held every year since.

The title of the lecture was extended to include Edna Walker, in joint honour of both Betty Mayne and Edna Walker. Edna and her brother Harold were constant attendees at our meetings up until the early 2000's. Although they did not drive, they came to most meetings, many of the field trips and other events. They participated in everything. In Edna's will she bequeathed a substantial sum of money to the Society.

On the basis of this, the committee decided to rename the Memorial Lecture in honour of both ladies.

This year's Betty Mayne/Edna Walker Memorial Lecture will be given by one of our members, Noel Kennon. Over the years, Noel has given several enjoyable talks on a variety of topics, including British minerals, crystallography, looking at tiny minerals and together with Ann, organised and ran a rather enjoyable trivia night about 15 years ago. Noel is also very involved in the micro mineral group, being the major contributor to the Woodlawn and Bunnan papers we have produced, and in many ways our driving force. He is also a keen field collector, seems to have mineralogical contacts everywhere and is the convener of the minerals group in the Illawarra Lapidary Society. Tonight, Noel's topic is:

'The History of Broken Hill'

Ladies and Gentlemen, Noel Kennon

BROKEN HILL - THE STORY, MOSTLY ABOUT THE MINES

Noel Kennon

In introducing his lecture, Noel thanked individuals and the staff of the Broken Hill Historical Society Inc. for helping with answers to his questions and issued a disclaimer that as some of the information about the early days was contradictory, not all of the talk might be quite accurate.

The story was told in seven chapters. First he looked at the early days starting with the aboriginal people who lived in the central west of New South Wales, the pastoralists and the silver miners of Thackaringa and Silverton. These miners were aware of a long black rocky outcrop on Mt Gipps station but believed it to be void of any valuable minerals. Then followed the tale of Jerome von Pereira from Stuttgart who deserted from the Royal Saxon Army, fled to Australia and, fearing recognition, grew a black beard and changed his name to Charles Rasp. As a boundary rider on Mt Gipps. Rasp knew about the rocky outcrop and believed it might conceal valuable minerals. On 3 September 1883, along with two hands from the station, he pegged a mining claim, called Block 12, then pegged much of the rest of the outcrop, as Blocks 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, and 16, with the station manager and three other hands. These men formed a syndicate of seven and, after much frustration, in January 1885 discovered the largest lead-zinc-silver lode in the world.

Noel then went on to describe **the lode**, a theory about its origin and in particular, the effects of erosion over the last 65 million years in exposing the lode and the consequent weathering in forming an oxidised zone of secondary minerals capped by the black rocky outcrop – the gossan. He then went on with the history of the mining of the lode which essentially comprised six strands.

The **first decade** started in 1885 with the syndicate of seven, in desperate need of funds, floating a company called the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited – BHP or The Big Australian. This float provided sufficient capital to commence mining by open cutting into the oxidised zone. Workers moved in from Silverton, South Australia, and overseas to establish a settlement called Willyama. By 1888 the settlement had grown sufficiently to become a municipality which was named Broken Hill. Earlier, in 1886, BHP built the first of many blast furnaces to smelt the ore on site. By 1890 BHP had established satellite companies to exploit the rest of the of the seven Blocks, and other mining companies were established at both ends of the lode. About 600 yards south of the lode, an erratic silver-rich channel had been discovered, and was mined from 1890 to 1903 by Australian Broken Hill Consols Co., producing over 26 tons of silver. As an aside, Noel then talked briefly about the fates of the seven men - the syndicate of seven – who were responsible for all the wealth that was being generated.

Returning to mining of the lode, Noel pointed out that only BHP had access to the oxidised part, which was easy to dig out and smelt, enabling the company to pay millions in dividends annually until it closed down all leases in 1939. Companies to the north and south had to go deep underground for ore, which was mostly sulphides of lead (galena) and zinc (sphalerite). When the oxidised zone was exhausted in the mid 1890s all mines were dependent on sulphide ore, and it was well known that for effective smelting the sulphides in the ore needed to be separated. Gravity separation was not efficient, but froth flotation offered an answer to the so-called sulphide problem of zinc partly blocking the gas channels in the furnaces. With help from a Melbourne based “Hills Syndicate” a workable process was developed, and progressively solved the problem. The syndicate morphed into the Zinc Corporation, which led Noel to the stories of the three big companies.

The **Zinc Corporation** was formed in 1905, and bought the rights to process 6 million tons of contaminated sphalerite. In 1962 it merged with Rio Tinto Co. to form Rio Tinto Zinc Corp. (RTZ), with Conzinc Riotinto of Australia (CRA) as the main subsidiary. Following two mergers, Pasminco Ltd. was formed. Noel mentioned that, in 1995, RTZ became the Riotinto Group, now owners of Hamersley Iron and the Argyle Diamond Mine.

The second major company, **North Broken Hill Ltd.** was formed to mine Block 17 and progressively acquired leases to the north east and, as they became available, three of the BHP leases, later to be sold to Broken Hill South Ltd. In 1988, having taken over Peko Wallsend, it merged to form Pasminco Ltd. which, in **recent times**, ran the north mine as Pasminco Northern Operations and the south mine as Pasminco Southern Operations. In 2002, Pasminco collapsed and the leases were acquired by Perilya Ltd., a Perth-based company. The north mine was reopened until the global financial crisis of 2008 forced closure, while the south mine continues today as Perilya Southern Operations.

The third company, **Broken Hill South Ltd.**, originally held leases to the south west of the BHP leases and, over nearly 80 years, progressively acquired those leases until it operated the entire line of lode. In 1972 it closed operations and the leases, combined as Consolidated Mining Lease 7, were transferred to Minerals, Mining & Metallurgy Ltd. (MMM), a subsidiary of Poseidon Ltd., an Australian mining concern. MMM commenced mining by developing open cuts into low grade ore – first Blackwood and Block 14 in 1973 and, finally, Kintore two years later. In 1991 MMM ceased operations and, after several transfers of the lease, the NSW Government approved a new mining development which saw the Rasp mine opening in 2012. Operating from a decline in the Kintore open cut, this mine will access several million tonnes of ore mostly as yet untouched.

As of the present day, the mines have produced nearly 30,000 tonnes of silver and generated over \$300,000,000,000 of wealth, thereby funding the change in the Australian economy from rural to industrial. Of course, there is more to come with two mines still operating into substantial reserves.

Noel then turned to our **mineral heritage** of more than 300 species from the ore, gangue and oxidised zone, pointing out that most of the material from the mines went straight into the crushers and furnaces. Even so, many superb specimens remain in private and institutional collections. He then gave brief accounts of **collectors** Maurice Mawby, Albert Chapman, Milton Lavers and Howard Worner.

He concluded the talk by showing slides of a few of those **minerals**. First, there was information about some of the type minerals and, finally, a show case of 15 of the most spectacular species from the mines of Broken Hill.

Noel Kennon
August 2015

The preceding text and summary of his lecture was provided by Noel Kennon. In due course he is hoping to write up the lecture and subject in full detail with the view to publication.

The lecture was extremely thorough and substantially illustrated. At the end of the program a number of members made comments or provided items of extra information about points made during the lecture. Notably Peter Williams advised that he knew of a number of new minerals from Broken Hill that were currently awaiting approval.

In particular Peter Black, OAM, addressed the Meeting to compliment Noel Kennon on his very good presentation which clearly represented a very great deal of work. Drawing from his own considerable knowledge about Broken Hill and its history after living and working for some nineteen years in the town and representing it in Parliament, Peter Black also made a number of comments about the lecture providing a considerable amount of additional information and advice about the reliability or not of some of the points made that were to be found in some of the stories or references that have been reported or written.

Peter Black finally stated that he was pleased to have been able to attend this Society Meeting which had been *“Worth every dollar of the \$80 trip and taxi fare to get here and the \$80 to get back !”*.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Bendigo Gem Club Expo

Sat 12 Sept 10am – 5pm, Sun 10am – 4pm at 757 McIvor Hwy, Junortoun Victoria 3551

“The Bendigo Gem Club Expo (formerly Gemarama) has moved to a larger venue at 757 McIvor Hwy, Junortoun, VIC 3551. Shop at over 30 quality stalls- gemstones, minerals, silver, gold, jewellery making and lapidary supplies. Come and try Gold Panning, metal detecting and gem sifting. See Australian gold nugget replicas, club competition entries & gemstone sculptures. Jewellery making demonstrations on stage will be streamed live to the big screen with guest presenters, mineralogists and prospecting experts. Enjoy refreshments from the BBQ & canteen. A great family day out! \$6 Admission includes a ticket for your chance to win a Minelab metal detector. Children U16 free when accompanied by an adult”.

More info at www.gembendigo.org.au

Enquiries: Andie 0427 755 205.

WHITE CLIFFS GEMFEST AND CAR BOOT SALE

In the White Cliffs Community Hall.

From 9.00am to 5.00pm Saturday and Sunday the 26th & 27th of September 2015

For further information contact Jane Stevenson on 0438 790 510, e-mail wema2015@hotmail.com

The Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables & Lapidary Club Inc presents the

BATHEX 2015 EXHIBITION & BATHURST BICENTENARY

‘The Bathurst Remembers 200 Years of History Exhibition’

‘NSW Central West's biggest collectables triennial event’

‘To be held over Saturday and Sunday the 26th and 27th of September in the Bathurst Showgrounds, Sydney Road, Bathurst. There will be NSW & interstate dealers offering a range of Australian & world stamps, coins & accessories, as well as competition stamp and coin displays in the regional show.

**“LESS THAN SIX WEEKS TO GO TO THE BATHEX EXHIBITION ON SATURDAY THE 26th
AND SUNDAY THE 27th OF SEPTEMBER AT THE BATHURST SHOWGROUNDS.**

‘Displays of Militaria, stamps, coins, movie posters and memorabilia, model railway, gemstones, Morse Code and early Telegraph displays, stationery, engines, fossils, Boxer Rebellion, Australian Light Horse, clothing displays, RAAF memorabilia, colonial firearms, jewellery, model building demonstrations, horse-drawn carts, shearing memorabilia, rock carving, minerals, Campaign and War medals, banknotes, models and dioramas, old photographs and documents, zeppelin display, sea shells, train models, farm implements and memorabilia, Roman and Greek artefacts, Tarana Railway and railway memorabilia, Cobb & Co coach and memorabilia, vintage vehicles, miniature steam engines, antiques, Chinese coins, Postal History, Pigeon flights - flying out messages, vintage radios and gramophones, colonial displays, collectables, rare books and magazines, and lots, lots more.

Dealers and traders buying, swapping and selling all sorts of things from antiques, stamps, coins, militaria, books, etc Refreshments and food available.

Alan McRae FAIHA".

Selling Space Applications, Dealers and Tailgating Enquiries or Bookings Application forms and charges at the Bathex Show can be obtained from : -

Ernst Holland, BATHEX 2015 Co-Ordinator, on telephone 02 63373661 or e-mail ernst.holland@bigpond.com

Alan McRae, Secretary, Telephone 63315404 - evening is best, - or email amcrae@lisp.com.au

Or write to the Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables and Lapidary Club Applications, PO Box 1351, Bathurst NSW 2795.

GEMKHANA 2015

The Annual Gem & Mineral Show and Competition of Lapidaries from all over NSW will be presented by the Gem & Lapidary Council of NSW Inc. at the Hawkesbury Showgrounds, directly opposite the RAAF base, on the Windsor Road at Clarendon, approximately mid-way between Richmond and Windsor, turn-off on to Racecourse Road.

Over Saturday to Monday, the 3rd, 4th & 5th of October 2015 from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm on Saturday & Sunday, and from 9.00 am to 12 noon on Monday.

'Sales and Displays, Demonstrations, Jewellery, Gem Faceting, Gemstones, Gem Identification. Minerals, Gemstone Carving, Crystals, Fossils, Beads & Equipment. Local and interstate Gem, Jewellery and Mineral Dealers, Raffle , Children's Activities, Attractions for everyone of all ages, Refreshments, Plenty of parking.'

The EMMAVILLE ANNUAL GEMFEST and SWAPMEET

Being held over the long weekend, Saturday to Monday, the 3rd, 4th & 5th of October in the Emmaville Community Centre (Old Court House) on Glen Innes Road, Emmaville.

'Plenty of market stalls and tailgaters to swap and sell with or just view the many collections of gems on display. Fossicking field trips will be conducted on all three days commencing at 9.00 a.m. each day, cost \$15 adult per day. Bring a small pick, shovel, bucket or back pack, container for specimens, kneeling pad or ground sheet. Wear long sleeves, hat, walking boots or sneakers, gloves, (gum boots and rain coat if wet).'

It is reported that the Gemfest organisers have negotiated access to the Fluorite Mine at The Gulf for one of their field trips which would be the first time in about eight years that anyone has been allowed near the site.

Inquiries to : -

Rodney Robinson 0427 494 335; Ann Fairbanks 0467 965 833; Mick Scherf 0427 347 159
or www.emmavillegemfest.com

GEMS AND TREASURES FROM AROUND THE WORLD
The ANNUAL FESTIVAL of the Central Coast Lapidary Club Inc.

will be held at the Mingara Club, Wyong Road, Tumbi Umbi

Over Friday to Sunday, the 9th to 11th of October 2015

Set up from Thursday 8th October at 1:00pm. Open from Friday 9th, 9am until 8pm,
 Saturday 10th, 9am until 5pm and Sunday 11th, 9am to 4pm.

‘Participants and vendors, please join us for our Central Coast Lapidary Club Dinner and Presentation on Saturday night, 6pm until 9pm, at \$33.00 per head’.

Enquiries: please email cclapidary@optusnet.com.au or the thelittlerockshop123@gmail.com
 or telephone Robert Scott on 02 4362 3626, mobile 0405 904 881.

The 38th AUSTRALASIA JOINT MINERALOGICAL SEMINAR
TASMANIA 2015

The Joint Mineralogical Societies of Australasia will be holding the 38th annual Mineralogical Seminar at Grindelwald, Tasmania this year between the 1st and 15th of November 2015 hosted by the Mineralogical Society of Tasmania Inc.

The theme for the Seminar is : - **What’s new in Australian Minerals**

The Seminar lecture program will be held over Wednesday and Thursday the 4th and 5th of November at Grindelwald, a resort near to Launceston, and there is an extensive program of field trips to collecting sites, visits to museums, mines and events including the Zeehan and Launceston Gem & Mineral Shows being planned over the period from the 1st to the 14th of November.

There is a link for information on Seminar-priced accommodation at the **Grindelwald - Tamar Valley Resort** in the Society Website with other Launceston/Tamar Valley accommodation information readily available on the internet.

‘This is the 4th Seminar to be held in Tasmania and will be dedicated to new minerals and discoveries in Australian Mineralogy. Some of the World’s foremost Mineral Speakers and subjects will include :-

Paul Carr:	The Milton Lavers Collection
Dehne McLaughlin:	The Areyonga azurite mine
Alan Longbottom, Elliott, P.,	Putnisite
Jolyon Ralph:	Mindat update
Steve Sorrell:	What’s new in old collections?
Plus: Lin Sutherland, Frank Reith, Allan Pring, Joel Brugger, Stuart Mills, Erik Melchiorre, John Cornish and more.	

In addition. View the Beaconsfield gold museum, the Crocoite display at the legendary Pioneers’ Museum, Zeehan with associated field trips to world famous West Coast Mines.’

The Registration form for the Seminar is now available on the Tasmania Society website at : - <http://tasmanianlapidarymineral.weebly.com/joint-australian-mineralogical-societies-seminar-tasmania-2015.html> Registrations with full payment are required by 31st August 2015. Persons wishing to attend this year's National Seminar should fill out the Registration application form and forward it to Marnie Pope, Treasurer/Secretary MST, at the email address pope00@ozemail.com.au or mail it to P.O. Box 1111, Rosny Park, Tasmania, 7018.

For further details contact : -

Ralph Bottrill (President MST), Convenor: The 38th Annual Joint Mineralogical Societies of Australasia Seminar - on 0429 173 055 - rbottrill@mrt.tas.gov.au
 Marnie Pope, Treasurer/Secretary MST, pope00@ozemail.com.au
 Kim Dunstan (Zeehan Gem & Mineral Fair) ph: 0417 157 678 - kim.dunstan@hotmail.com

FESTIVAL OF MINERALS & GEMS

by the **ILLAWARRA LAPIDARY CLUB INC**

Over SATURDAY 7th November 9am to 4pm & SUNDAY 8th November 9am to 2.30pm

At the RIBBONWOOD CENTRE, PRINCES HIGHWAY, DAPTO

Our 53rd Exhibition featuring top Mineral Dealers plus Lapidary Supplies, Jewellery, Beads, Opals, Jewellery Valuations, Fossils & Displays. Food & refreshments available. Adults \$3, Children free.

<http://www.illawarralapidaryclub.com.au/>

THE AUSTRALIAN FINE MINERAL SHOW

Saturday 5th December, 2015 10am to 5pm

ONE DAY ONLY – AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED

At the AUSROX/CRYSTAL UNIVERSE SHOWROOMS

202 Turner Street, Port Melbourne, Victoria

Featuring newly prepared Broken Hill specimens from the MILTON LAVERS COLLECTION and other superb Australian & overseas mineral specimens. International and Australian Dealers including Crystal

Classics (England), Ausrox (Australia), Trinity Minerals (USA), Allan Arnold (ACT), Dehne &

Maureen's Minerals (TAS) and Terry Hogarth & Lynne Webb (NSW).

Enquiries (03) 96461744 or rob@crystaluniverse.com.au

The 1st Annual SYDNEY CRYSTAL SHOW

Over Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th December from 9.00am to 5.00pm each day

To be held in the Fraser Park Pavilion, 100 Marrickville Road, Marrickville

(Close to the Sydenham Train Station), Less than 10 klm from the CBD!

'Two full days of incredible natural wonders from Australia's leading mineral, fossil & jewellery merchants. Join us for the best crystal show in town! Amazing natural wonders; Minerals, Crystals, Fossils, Jewellery, Gems, Lapidary Supplies & more, all in one place and just before Christmas. Lock in the dates & tell your mates! An oresome event for all ages !'