



**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

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2009

The March Meeting will be held on Friday the 6th 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 March program will commence with reports to be given by Penny Williamson and Peter Beckwith

on the : - **2009 Tucson Mineral Show.**

The report will be followed by a lecture to be given by Arnold Van der Heyden on : -

‘The Sepon Gold Mine, Laos’

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Subject to circumstances some changes to the following schedule of program subjects and speakers may have to be made in due course.

April 3rd: 2009: There will be a description of the Mineralogical Society Website by Graham and Toby Ogle followed by a lecture to be given by John Rankin on : -
‘Early Collectors - George Smith’.

May 1st: Members Mini Auction.

June 12th, (Second Friday): Minitalk by Jim Sharpe on ‘Malachite, Azurite and Pseudomorphs’
Followed by lectures on ‘Gold’ by Paul Meszaros or on the ‘Burra Mine’ by David Colchester.

July 3rd: Talk by Bruce Myles on ‘Zircons from Malawi’ and Lectures on the ‘Burra Mine’ by David Colchester or on ‘Gold’ by Paul Meszaros.

August 7th: Society A.G.M. and the Betty Mayne Memorial Lecture to be given by Peter Williams on 'The Sunny Corner Silver Mines'.

September 4th: Talk on 'Scheelite in Australia' by John Chapman and a lecture on 'The History of Copper Mining in NSW' by Derek Dolstra.

October 9th, (Second Friday): Lecture on the 'Minerals of Mt Vesuvius' by Graham Ogle.

Field Excursion to the Shooters Hill Quarry (Blue Hill), south of Oberon Saturday 14th March 2009

On Saturday the 14th of March we will visit the Shooters Hill Quarry south of Oberon. Quarrying operations over recent times have exposed new opportunities and there are reports of some very good finds of smoky quartz crystals.

Collecting at this quarry can be hard work and good digging equipment is recommended. There is the possibility of extending the trip to Sunday 15th (overnight in Oberon), either to return to Shooters Hill Quarry if collecting results warrant, or to visit other localities in the Oberon district.

Please advise John Chapman if you wish to go on this excursion. Also indicate if you would like to stay over for Sunday 15th. A full itinerary and location details will be provided in due course. John may be contacted on (02) 9808 3481 (Home) or 0435085050 (Mbl) or by email at : -

chapmanjr@optusnet.com.au

Cheers
John Chapman
February 2009

MAY MEETING MEMBERS MINI AUCTION

Members are advised that the meeting on the 1st of May will be in the form of a Mini Auction of members' mineral specimens similar to the auctions held in May 2007 and 2008.

A member can submit up to 3 **boxes** of specimens for a **silent auction**. There will be no need to pre-register your intention to sell in the silent auction. Just bring the box to the meeting, register and place the *Silent Auction* form on your box.

For this to be a success in the limited time available on the evening we need to work strictly to the planned program. Members selling minerals should be at the University by 6.30 PM. to allow time for setting up and inspection.

Members who wish to sell or bid must register. The owner as well as the auctioneer's clerk must note the purchaser's number or name on completion of the bidding for their specimen. Please bring a note pad and pen.

Transactions must be CASH ONLY and paid directly to the vendor at the completion of the auction. The Society will not handle any money. The Society cannot take responsibility for ensuring transactions are completed or enter into any disputes should they arise.

The Society will receive no commission. There will be no reserve on specimens but if a vendor is dissatisfied with the final bid, the vendor can make a higher bid in order to retain the specimen.

The number of specimens to be sold will depend on how quickly the sale can be conducted but at the last sale in May 2008 80 specimens were sold in about one and a half hours. Next May the sale will continue to finish when all specimens are sold or at the discretion of the auctioneer.

So that a catalogue can be prepared and distributed, please send details, name, mineral name and locality to Jim Sharpe. E-mail: sharpemin@dodo.com.au , phone (02) 9871 2502 or post to 190 Ray Rd Epping 2121, - not later than 18th April.

MEMBERS SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE MEETING NOT LATER THAN 7.10 SO THAT TIME IS AVAILABLE FOR REGISTRATION AND VIEWING.

The meeting will commence at 7.30 p.m.

2009 SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FEES

To date only a little over half of the Society 2008 members have renewed their subscriptions for 2009. Fees were due from January 1st 2009 and members are urged to attend to their financial status promptly. 2009 Subscription renewal forms were sent out with the November Newsletter and would be available from e-mail-enabled member's computer files or hard copies are available from the Secretary or Treasurer at any Meeting.

Any members unsure of their financial status should check with the Treasurer, Jim Sharpe.

THE SOCIETY COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:	Arthur Roffey	Tel: (02) 4572 5812
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Gary Sutherland	Tel: (02) 9871 1379
SECRETARY:	George Laking	Tel: (02) 9636 7145
	E-mail: bglaking@tech2u.com.au	
TREASURER:	Jim Sharpe	Tel: (02) 9871 2502
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	John Chapman	Tel (02) 9808 3481
	E-mail: chapmanjr@optusnet.com.au	
	David Colchester	Tel: (02) 9449 3862
	Dieter Mylius	Tel: (02) 9477 1060
	Graham Ogle	Tel: (02) 9876 5224
	Peter Williams	Tel: (02) 9685 9914

FEBRUARY 2009 MEETING

At the commencement of the February Meeting the Society President, Arthur Roffey, complimented and offered thanks on behalf of the Society to John Chapman who with a number of assistants had very competently and thoroughly organised the spread of **refreshment supplies** for the **Christmas Swap n' Sell Social** meeting in December.

Graham Ogle announced that the next meeting of the **MicroMineral Group** would be held at Andy Paterson's house in Belmont, Newcastle, on Saturday the 21st of March.

John Chapman advised that periodically he has received by e-mail **Newsletters** and sometimes other publications from other state **Mineralogical Societies**. He had previously been sending these out to the (N.S.W.) Society members when received but since some of these publications might run to a substantial number of pages and therefore megabytes of up-loading he advised that in future he would send out a notice that a publication had been received but then send the entire document only to those members specifically requesting this to be done.

In this connection Lin Sutherland reported that there was a new catalogue '**Minerals of Tasmania**' that had been published by the Tasmanian Department of Mines. It would probably be available electronically from Ralph Bottrill of the Tasmania Mineralogical Society and John Chapman would notify members in due course when he received notification.

Jim Sharpe was asked to introduce the guest speaker of the evening. Professor Ken McQueen is a Professor of Earth Science at the University of Canberra and has previously lectured to the Society in 2006 on aspects of the mineralogy of the Cobar area and last year in February on the Mount Boppy mine. Professor McQueen was clearly an expert on the mineralogy of the Cobar area and would be sharing some of his knowledge with the members this evening.

'Copper Revealed: the Story of the CSA Mine Cobar, NSW'

Professor Ken McQueen

Full talk notes are available at

http://www.minsocnsw.org.au/newsletter/archive_of_meeting_talks.htm

THE AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF MINERALOGY

Subscribers to the Journal should have received copies of the issue, Volume 13, Number 1, June 2008 which has just been distributed. The issue had unfortunately become overdue because of substantial work pressure in the Department of GeoSciences of the Museum of Victoria where the Journal is edited. There is, happily, no shortage of interesting articles and contributors providing copy for the magazine. Over the next few months the Journal editorial team is expecting to bring out the

December 2008 issue and catch up to the established schedule of publishing the two issues per year in June and December.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

BACK FROM TUCSON MINERAL SALE

Over Saturday and Sunday the 7th and 8th of March from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. at 52 Macpherson Road, Londonderry. Presenting a fine selection of mineral specimens, decorator pieces, faceting and cabbing rough, gemstones and beads. Also on display and for sale will be a quantity of fine quality alpaca products.

Inquiries to Arthur Roffey on (02) 4572 5812; to Peter Beckwith on 0412 333 150
or to John and Val Tunzi on (03) 5422 1720

The Glenn Innes MINERAMA 2009

The **Minerama Fossicking & Gem Show** is held every year over the second weekend in March, this year over Friday to Sunday 13th to 16th of March in the Glenn Innes & District Service Club, Grey Street, Glenn Innes. The event features the Gem Show with sales of mineral specimens, fossils, gemstones, fine jewellery, faceting rough, lapidary tools & supplies and arts and crafts and also displays of gem cutting and beading, lapidary work and an art exhibition.

Information on the Minerama may be found on the Web at : - www.minerama.com.au

CANBERRA ROCK SWOP 2009

The 2009 ROCK SWOP is being held in the EPIC site in Canberra again this year over Saturday and Sunday the 28th & 29th of March 2009 hosted as usual by the **CANBERRA LAPIDARY CLUB**.

A description of the Rock Swop event, location, program, facilities, accommodation, contact and inquiry numbers and Registration forms were circulated with the February Newsletter. More are available at the General Meeting from the Secretary George Laking or inquiries may be made to the Rock Swop convenor, Norm Menadue on (02) 6258 6631 or e-mail : - nmenadue@optusnet.com.au

GEMBOREE 2009

Over EASTER 2009: Friday to Monday, the 10th to 13th of April

The 45th Gemboree this year is being held in the Wimmera Field Day Site, Longerenong Road, Doon, 12km from Horsham, Victoria, hosted this year by the Horsham & District Lapidary Club.

The Site includes the large Moore Pavilion which will house most of the dealers and displays and there is ample room over the Site for a large number of tailgaters and campers.

Inquiries can be made to the Gemboree Committee at 22 Hutchesson Street, Horsham, VIC 3400. Accommodation inquiries may be made by the Internet on Google at *totaltravel.com/theWimmera*, to *tourism@hrcc.vic.gov.au*, to the Horsham Visitor Centre, *www.horshamvic.com.au* or by freecall to 1800 633 218.

19th Annual LISMORE GEMFEST

Presented by the **Lismore Lapidary Club** over Saturday and Sunday the 16th and 17th of May 2009 at the Lismore Showground, Lismore.

32ND JOINT MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES OF AUSTRALASIA SEMINAR JUNE 2009

The Seminar is being held this year over the usual period of the Queen's Birthday long weekend in June, from Saturday 6th to Monday 8th of June. It will be hosted this year by the Queensland Mineralogical Society on the theme **Minerals, Mines & Collectors** and held in the Theatre of the Queensland Museum, Southbank, Brisbane.

Seminar presentations will be held through Saturday and Sunday with a swap and sell held on the Monday morning. The Seminar dinner will be held on Saturday night at a venue to be chosen but within easy walking distance of the Museum.

BLAXLAND GEM & MINERAL CLUB GEM SHOW

Over Saturday and Sunday August 15th and 16th 2009. 8 am to 4 pm Daily

In the Glenbrook Community Hall, Great Western Highway, Glenbrook, NSW
(Next to Glenbrook Theatre), Just west of Information Centre.

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

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

Refreshments available. Entry: Adults: \$3.00, Children \$1.00.
