



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
Website: www.minsocnsw.org.au

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2012

The June Meeting will be held on Friday the 1st of June 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.

There will be a demonstration and talk by Penny Williamson and Doug Austen on : -

Diamond Crystal Forms

The demonstration will be followed by a lecture to be given by Paul Carr and Penny Williamson on

‘Recent Additions to the University of Wollongong Mineral Collection’.

Tambar Springs Specimen Display

Members who attended and collected specimens on the **Tambar Springs Field Trip** are invited to bring a selection of those specimens to the June Meeting to display.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Society General Meetings will be held on the first Friday of each month for the rest of the year. Subject to circumstances some changes to the following schedule of program subjects and speakers may have to be made in due course.

July 6th : There will be a talk to be given by Gary Sutherland on the Museum of Lead Mining at Wanlockhead in Scotland. It is hoped that this will be followed by the lecture by Larry Barron on 'Australian Diamonds'.

August 3rd : The Society Annual General Meeting will commence at 7.30 p.m. with the President's report for 2011/2012, the Treasurer's report and presentation of the annual financial accounts for 2011/2012 and the election of the Society Committee and office-bearers for 2012/2013.

The A.G.M. will be followed by the Betty Mayne Memorial Lecture to be given this year by Professor Peter Williams on : - 'Gazing into the Mineralogical Crystal Ball. Where is it all going?'

September 7th: Member's Forum: - 'Return to Kingsgate' Members will be invited to bring in specimens, information, collecting experiences and anecdotes from this significant and productive site.

There may also be a talk to be given by Sylvia French on 'Gem Analysis'.

October 5th: Lecture and photographic display by Gary Sutherland on 'The Museums of England'.

November 2nd: Depending on the situation with the development of working at Mineral Hill and speaker availability it is hoped that there will be a lecture on 'Mineral Hill Update'. Alternatively there may be a lecture to be given by Dr Peter Leverett on 'New Minerals from Australia'.

December 7th: Annual Christmas Social and 'Swap n' Sell.

The SOCIETY COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:	Dieter Mylius	Tel: (02) 9477 1060
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	Tel: (02) 9876 5224
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	David Colchester	Tel: (02) 9449 3862
	Gary Sutherland	Tel: (02) 9871 1379
	Penny Williamson	Tel: (02) 4221 4075

MAY MEETING

The May Meeting program was entirely taken up with the **MiniAuction** with ninety-eight specimens being sold in a little over two hours for a total of just over \$2,500. The auction was competently conducted as in previous years by Dieter Mylius ably assisted by Arthur Roffey displaying the specimens. There were also a number of silent auction trays all of which were sold, some for amounts of over \$50.

Before the Auction commenced shortly after 7.30 pm there were a few announcements. The next meeting of the **MicroMineral Group** was to be on Saturday, May 26th at Brian England's house in Maitland. The topic for the meeting would be on the minerals from Mt Stewart and other mines in that area.

Noel Kennon provided an addendum to an item mentioned at the '**Return to Ben Lomond**' Forum at the April General Meeting. Peter Williams had advised that a few years ago he had given two large boxes of micro specimens from the Ben Lomond highway deposit site to Noel Kennon. This had been on the occasion of the last Mineralogical Seminar in Sydney in 2006 and Noel reported that the box of zeolite specimens had been well received by the members attending the MicroGroup sessions at the time who had promptly eagerly sought and taken away all of them. Accordingly there were now none left.

John Chapman reported on the **Field Trip to Tambar Springs** held over the previous extended weekend commencing on Wednesday the 25th of April which had been attended by seventeen members. Whilst one or two of the members had turned up for only one or two of the days most of the people had stayed for the whole four and had been very comfortably and very cheaply accommodated in the Tambar Springs Royal Hotel. The evening meals available at the hotel had been of very high quality and quantity as well as also being very cheap. In the mornings members were allowed complete run of the hotel kitchen to prepare their breakfasts and snack meals to take away for midday.

A fine specimen of heulandite collected on the Trip had been brought in for the evening by Brian Holden to display but John Chapman recommended that everyone else who had collected on the Trip try and bring in a selection of their specimens to display at the June Meeting. No-one on the trip would have come away empty-handed although as might be expected the best specimens came from the most work being done, involving much digging into soil and weathered rock on hillsides.

The first two days of the Field Trip were spent at a site on the Glendowda farm property which the Society had visited on a previous field trip some ten years ago. (And from the amount of disturbed ground in many places has also been visited from time to time by various other groups over the years). This did not detract from the amount of stellerite on, or in, that site in the form of a horizontal seam outcropping at intervals on hillsides about ten meters above the adjacent paddocks and probably continuing for several kilometers. The countryside was very attractive with knee to waist-high yellow grass everywhere and some of the members apparently spent quite as much time bush-walking over the area as they spent digging.

The third day was spent at a site on the Portobello farm property where over about a hectare of ground slabs of drusy quartz on basalt were to be found, much just lying on the surface amongst the grass although as before digging produced more material. The site was reached, strictly by four-wheel drive vehicle, after a careful drive along a very rough, convoluted and barely visible farm track for about two kilometers after turning off from the 'main' road near the farm homestead. On the fourth day some of the members returned to the Portobello site whilst others started to return home.

John Chapman paid particular compliments to tour leader Ken Mitchell who had largely organized the trip, arriving in the area in advance of the rest of the party to reconnoiter the sites and access routes and obtaining entry permits from property owners. Compliments were also paid to Noel Kennon who had recommending visiting the various sites and supplied information on the locations. It was hoped that the Society would be able to make another trip to the area next year.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Canberra Lapidary Club Gemcraft & Mineral Show

Over Saturday and Sunday the 2nd and 3rd of June. From 10.00am to 5.00pm
In the Exhibition Park (EPIC), Flemington Road, Mitchell, Canberra.

Minerals, fossils, opals, rough & cut gemstones, Lapidary equipment and supplies, Beads, jewellery and findings, Displays of members' collections, Demonstrations of cabochon making & faceting, FREE fossicking and gold detecting sessions, Food and drink available.

Information available from : - www.canberralapidary.org.au

The WINDSOR JEWELLERY, BEADING, GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Saturday & Sunday, June 16th & 17th 2012

At the Windsor Function Centre on the corner of Dight & Macquarie Streets, Windsor.
Next door to Windsor Public School.

Saturday open from 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. & Sunday from 9.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Admission \$5, children \$1. Light refreshments.

SALES of jewellery, gemstones, beads, opals, mineral specimens from all over the world,
tools and equipment for lapidary and beading work, metaphysical and healing crystals.

Inquiries to Peter Beckwith on 0412 333 150.

ANNUAL GEM, MINERAL & JEWELLERY SHOW CAMPBELLTOWN & DISTRICTS LAPIDARY CLUB

Over Saturday and Sunday July 21st and 22nd from 9 am to 4 pm at the
Greg Percival Community Centre (formerly Ingleburn Community Centre),
On the corner of Cumberland Road. and Oxford Road., Ingleburn

GEM SHOW by the BLAXLAND GEM & MINERAL CLUB

Over Saturday and Sunday, the 18th and 19th of August 2012

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

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

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

8 am to 4 pm Daily. Entry: Adults: \$3 Children \$1

The CUMBERLAND GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Over Saturday and Sunday the 25th & 26th of August 2012

in the Roselea Community Centre, Pennant Hills Road, Carlingford

SALES of jewellery, gemstones, beads, opals, mineral specimens from all over the world,
tools and equipment for lapidary and beading work, metaphysical and healing crystals.

Displays of mineral specimens, cut & polished stones, carvings & gemstones.

GEMKHANA 2012

In the Showground at Mudgee over the long weekend Saturday, September 29th 10.00am-5.00pm;
Sunday, September 30th 10.00am-5.00pm; & Monday, October 1st, 9.00am to midday.

'We are returning to Mudgee Showground this year.

The competition brings entries from all across NSW and quite a few from interstate.

Dealers and tailgaters will attend. We will have children's activities. Refreshments will be available.

There is wheelchair access and plenty of parking. On-site camping is available.

Contacts are :- Una (Co-ordinator) 02 4759 2440, Marilyn 02 9635 8218, email to : -
gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au or Website *http://www.gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au/gemkhana.html*

ANNUAL GEM FESTIVAL by the CENTRAL COAST LAPIDARY CLUB

Saturday & Sunday October 13th & 14th at the Mingara Recreation Club,

Mingara Drive, off Wyong Road, Tumbi Umbi.

Saturday 13th 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Sunday 14th 9.00 am To 4.00pm

Club Competition and dealers selling tools and equipment.

Beads, Crafts, Minerals, Faceting And Cabbing Materials.

GEM SHOW 2012

By the Northern Districts Lapidary Club

Theme: 'The Origin of Gemstones'

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, the 26th, 27th & 28th of October 2012.

In the Beecroft Community Centre, Cnr Beecroft & Copeland Roads. Beecroft.

Gems, Jewellery, Minerals, Fossils, Slabs, Lapidary Books, Machinery,

Workshop Demonstrations, Plants, Free Light Refreshments.

Small entry charge. Inquiries to : -

www.ndlapidary.org.au Telephone 9484 0014 or 9878 4073

The November

WINDSOR JEWELLERY, BEADING, GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Saturday & Sunday, November 24th & 25th 2012

At the Windsor Function Centre on the corner of Dight & Macquarie Streets, Windsor.

Next door to Windsor Public School.

Saturday open from 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. & Sunday from 9.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Admission \$5, children \$1. Light refreshments.

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