



# 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](http://www.minsocnsw.org.au)

## NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2011

**The April Meeting will be held on Friday the 1st of April 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 April program will include a talk to be given by John Smedley on :-

### **‘Labels for Minerals’**

The talk will be followed by a lecture to be given by Gary Sutherland on :-

### **‘A Photographic Tour of the British Museum of Natural History’.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

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

May 6<sup>th</sup> : Member’s Mini Auction.

June 3<sup>rd</sup> : Symposium on ‘The Prospect Intrusion. Brief History, Geology & Member’s Experiences.’

July 1<sup>st</sup> : Lecture on ‘The Mt McDonald Goldfield’ by William Butterfield.

August 5<sup>th</sup> : A.G.M. and Memorial Lecture.

\*\*\*\*\*

## MEMBERS MINI AUCTION

### 6<sup>th</sup> MAY

The Mini-auction will be held on Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> of May.

So that a list of minerals to be auctioned can be sent out with the Newsletter before the Sale, members intending to auction specimens should have the details to Jim Sharpe by 29<sup>th</sup> April. Phone 9871 2502, E-mail [sharpe4min@tadaust.org.au](mailto:sharpe4min@tadaust.org.au) or post to: 190 Ray Road. Epping 2121

Please label specimens with name, locality and a number which will be issued to you

The Society does not receive a commission. If you are not satisfied with a bid being made for your mineral, you may also make a bid.

A SILENT AUCTION will also be held. Members may submit a flat containing one or more minerals for this part of the evening. There will be a limit of two flats per member. There is no need to notify details beforehand of the minerals in the flats.

\*\*\*\*\*

## 2011 SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FEES

**Society membership fees were due from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2011.** Subscription renewal forms were sent out last year and more are available from the Secretary or Treasurer at any Meeting. Members are recommended to provide their e-mail addresses if available in the interest of placing as many people as possible within electronic communication, not to mention cutting down the cost of posting out hard copies of the Society Newsletters.

Members may pay their subscriptions by **Internet Banking** if they wish. Funds should be paid to :-

**Account name: Mineralogical Society of NSW Inc**  
**BSB: 062 016            Account number: 28023647**

Please put your name(s) in the memo line.

If you do pay by bank transfer, you must also return the filled membership form to the Treasurer –

Either :-

- 1). at the next General Meeting
- 2). or by scanned e-mail to :- [Graham\\_Ogle@hopeww.org](mailto:Graham_Ogle@hopeww.org)
- 3). or by fax to 02 9868 5281 (direct fax)
- 4). or by post to: -

*The Treasurer*  
*Mineralogical Society of New South Wales*  
*c/o School of Natural Science*  
*B.C.R.I. Parramatta Campus University of Western Sydney*  
*Locked Bag 1797*  
*Penrith South DC NSW 1797*

## 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
	Arthur Roffey	Tel: (02) 4572 5812
	John Smedley	Tel: (02) 9688 1284
	Gary Sutherland	Tel: (02) 9871 1379
	Peter Williams	Tel: (02) 9685 9914

\*\*\*\*\*

## MARCH MEETING

At the commencement of the February Meeting the Society President, Dieter Mylius reminded members again that the Society would be setting up a display and information stand at the **Bathurst Gemboree** being held over next **Easter**, 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April and asked for volunteers to help set up and then supervise the stand, on a roster basis and possibly just for a few hours on any of the days.

John Chapman advised members that he was looking for specimens to be loaned for the Bathurst display. He was particularly looking for unusual New South Wales specimens of any minerals which are not usually seen at shows. Anyone with interesting display-quality specimens were urged to contact John Chapman fairly soon since he would be collecting the specimens together to send to Society member Kevin Capnerhurst in Orange who would be setting up the display.

John Chapman also advised that the **Field Trip** to the **South Coast** which had been scheduled for September last year but cancelled due to bad weather would be held at a date still to be decided but within the next two months. It would be led as previously intended by Peter Williams and would visit sites in the **Kiama – Wollongong** area.

\*\*\*\*\*

The first speaker of the evening was Penny Williamson who gave the :-

### ‘2011 Tuscon Show Update’

Penny Williamson commenced her report by stating that as members would be aware by now the Tucson Show is a mega bonanza which runs for a minimum of three weeks with the main Show in the Convention Centre open for four days. This year the speaker had gone to Tucson for the final ten days and was first able to view the Westward Look Show, some of the in-suite shows and then the main Show. This year the speaker experienced some problem arriving at the airport in Los Angeles and being required to wait four hours to get through immigration. She finally got to Tucson on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February by which time the weather there had improved dramatically from having been bitterly cold up to then so her timing had been pleasantly critical.

To the Shows. In the foyer of the Westward Look Show there is always a main display on the Saturday by a particular collector and this year it was of the Wayne Sorensen Collection and Penny Williamson commenced showing images of parts of this display. Apparently the displays at the Show cannot have enough aquamarines the speaker discovered. Also because the theme for the main Show was 'Minerals of California' there were also a lot of tourmalines and gold specimens on display. In looking through the main Show the speaker noted that there was a huge number of rhodochrosites from China - and selling like hot cakes, although in the speaker's opinion these were not as attractive as the material from the Sweet Home mine in Colorado.

One mouthwatering image from a display cabinet in the main Show was of the Ausrox Gold nugget found by means of a metal detector in the Eastern Goldfields Kalgoorlie area of West Australia in April 2010. The Tucson Show has been the first major show to exhibit the nugget which at over 23 kilos has been said to be the third largest in the World. The nugget was given a temporary Australian export permit to be exhibited at the Tucson Show and was then returned and at the moment is generally on show in the Museum of Victoria. Another temporary permit will be applied for in order to show it at Houston then the plan is for it to go to Kalgoorlie or Perth. Eventually an American buyer may be allowed to take possession.

In view of the theme for the main Show being 'Minerals of California', some of the visitors dressed in period costume as 1850s era California miners and their lady friends and by soliciting donations collected \$2,600 for the Tucson police and various charities.

Many display highlights were pointed out such as the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum display, many geodes, emeralds from Zambia, the 'Emperor and Empress of China' - huge platy rhodochrosite specimens from Wuton in China and displays of Russian cuprites which are considered to be the World's finest ever found. A display by Bob and Evan Jones previewed the theme for the 2012 show, 'Minerals of Arizona' to coincide with the Arizona centennial.

One of the final images shown and referred to by Penny Williamson was of the display by the University of Wollongong which she had taken to Tucson. It was titled '**Australia's Cool Calcite**' - of glendonite calcite pseudomorphs and was voted 'The Display with the Ugliest Minerals'!, not 'The Ugliest Display' as she stressed.

\*\*\*\*\*

The second part of the **2011 Tucson Show Update** report was given by Peter Williams in the absence of Arthur Roffey who was recovering from a minor throat operation.

One feature that Peter Williams had noted about this year's Show, and in fact the previous year when he had also been to Tucson was that whilst there was a wealth of magnificent specimens on show there was very little new material on display or for sale. There were certainly fine specimens that had come out of deposits which were already known about and some deposits which were still active were producing specimens different from those which had been produced in the past. One absolute standout was the spectacular cuprites from the Rubtsovskiy mine in Altayskiy Kray, Russia. There is an article in the Mineralogical Almanac, Volume 16, Issue No 1 written by Igor Pekov devoted to the deposit.

In the article Igor Pekov, who works for the Russian Academy of Sciences, makes the observation that in his opinion the minerals in the Rubtsovskiy deposit "are the most significant discovery of any Russian minerals for two decades or more". Peter Williams's observation is a little different in that at this year's Tucson Show the minerals from the Russian deposit are the standout minerals from anywhere in the World that he has seen at any of the Tucson Shows that he has been to for the past five years. They are absolutely sensational. Native copper specimens coming from the deposit have been seen at Tucson for the past five years and some of them have been very handsome indeed. Over the last year however miners have been working away in the oxidized zone of the Rubtsovskiy deposit and broke in to a very unstable area, hard to mine and which was dominated by clay minerals.

Within the clay were growing essentially free-floating specimens of native copper, cuprite and a host of other comparatively rare associations of minerals. As a demonstration the speaker handed around to the members a specimen of cuprite which showed native copper and native silver on the underside. Other minerals of note found in the Rubtsovskiy deposit, and reminiscent of Broken Hill minerals, are miersite, the cubic copper iodide, large quantities of marshite the quality of which make Broken Hill marshite look comparatively very poor, iodoargyrite and the usual other minerals found in oxidized copper ores. There were also some strange specimens from the deposit such as native copper replacing octahedral cuprite crystals.

Peter Williams noted that Penny Williams had reported that people were referring to the Russian cuprites as being the best ever observed from anywhere in the World and he saw quite a number that he really would have liked to purchase. Unfortunately prices ranged from \$2,000 to more than \$15,000 for some of the finest. The deposit will cease mining operations this year so the supply of specimens will be exhausted. It has been an active mine and the mining company is moving operations to another site nearby. There have been a number of truly extraordinary specimens from a truly extraordinary deposit that bears a relationship in its iodine content to the Broken Hill suite.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **‘Collectors of the New England’**

#### **John Rankin**

John Rankin commenced his lecture by confessing that he had a soft spot for New England having been born and spent his early years in Bingara. His great-grandfather had worked on Elsmore tin mines in the 1800s and his grandfather was an alluvial tin miner at Stannifer in the early 1900s. Bingara does not have tin but does have gold and diamonds and to illustrate this the speaker displayed a picture of a specimen of crystallized gold which came out of Bingara in about 1895. It had broken into two pieces with the larger weighing 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> ounces and the smaller a little under two ounces. Unfortunately it has long disappeared. It was on loan for display in the Geological and Mining Museum in Sydney for a while but its location is now unknown.

In introducing the collectors that John Rankin wished to speak about he advised that some names would be known to members, others were people the members had probably never heard of before. The collectors were : - Samuel Stutchbury, George Herman Bruhn, Donald Alexander Porter, William Hatfield Yates, William Ironside Perry, Ira Robert William Huthnance, George Smith, the Sachs family and Robert Smith. Information on some of the collectors had been difficult to find and was still fragmentary to a degree but research was continuing. Specimens from all the collectors had been acquired gradually by the Australian Museum and whilst some had been lost John Rankin had managed to find examples of specimens from most of the collectors and was able to show images of the more notable of these to the Meeting. He had also where possible found photographs of the collectors to display as well as images of documents and newspaper articles relating to them.

**Samuel Stutchbury** (1798 to 1859) was the first collector that the speaker could find reference to who had actually collected in New England. Stutchbury was an Englishman and curator of the museum at the Bristol Philosophical Institution and in 1850 the New South Wales government appointed him to be Mineralogical Surveyor at the age of 54. After the appointment he took six months to get to Australia but then spent the next four years mapping much of eastern Australia during which he collected thirteen boxes of mineral specimens for the Australian Museum. In 1855 he returned to England where he died four years later. Unfortunately whilst the Museum still has his catalogue of finds, none of his mineral specimens have survived.

**Dr George Herman Bruhn** was born in Germany in 1810 and trained as a doctor coming to Adelaide in 1847. He worked as an assayer for the Burra copper mine in 1848 and three years later was exploring for mineral resources in Victoria during which he discovered gold at Clunes near Ballarat. Some years later there was a Committee of Claims for the original discoverer of gold in Victoria and three people got awarded £1,000 each and Bruhn £500. He went back to Germany for a while but then returned to Australia around 1860 and settled in Tamworth. He continued doing mineralogical work in that area and eventually died in 1889. The speaker had located a letter written by Bruhn in 1870 to the Sydney Morning Herald describing the silver ores in the Richmond and Clarence ranges which he had gone out to examine. In 1879 he was able to set up a display of some six hundred specimens in the Glen Innes Show which had started about three years earlier and in an image of a newspaper report shown to the members by the speaker Bruhn was reported as having won second prize.

The Town and Country Journal was very popular in those days and in 1881 the Australian Museum needing specimens ran an advertisement offering to purchase Australian minerals and rough gems. The good doctor then living at Swanbrook just out from Inverell wrote to the Museum offering to sell his collection of six hundred and twenty-nine specimens and provided a detailed catalogue of them. With the aid of images a number of the specimens listed in the catalogue were pointed out by the speaker. One specimen was of gold from Bingera, (spelt that way in those days before it was changed to Bingara to avoid confusion with a town named Bingera in Queensland). Most of the specimens have since gone from the collection having been traded out or disintegrated and the few that remain are mainly gold specimens.

**Donald Alexander Porter** was active in New England for a very long time from about the 1880s to 1920s and his work there was still being researched by the speaker. He was born in Sydney in 1858, married in 1876 a Caroline Dodds at Armidale, moved to Tamworth and in 1881 was appointed Clerk of Works in the New South Wales architects branch of Public Construction, (of schools). Living at Tamworth he inspected construction of new schools in the New England area. In spite of his family increasing to six daughters he found time to be an active mineral collector as well as attending to his school inspections and read several papers to the N.S.W. Royal Society in 1884, 1888 and 1894, all titled 'Notes on the Minerals and Mineral Localities in the Northern Districts of New South Wales'.

Porter interacted with other contemporary collectors, notably George Smith, Archibald Liversidge and the Australian Museum. He was also quite inventive and in 1885 had the idea of forming a mineral collecting expedition at seven shillings a week in which people could buy shares and receive mineral specimens in return. The Australian Museum actually took up two shares but the scheme fell through before any expeditions had been organised. In 1900 he sold the Australian Museum a large mineral collection of some six thousand specimens for the sum of £527,10/-. Robert Etheridge, the Australian Museum curator at the time, inspected the collection prior to purchase and reported that "*It is unquestionably fine. The finest portion consists of quartzes, tourmaline, tin ore and crystals, horneblende, molybdenite and wolfram*". Localities had been carefully recorded and the speaker was able to show a few images of Porter's New England specimens from the Australian Museum collections.

As well as selling minerals Donald Porter also donated them and there is an article in the Sydney Morning Herald of 1887 listing his donations to the Australian Museum. A number of his letters to various people and institutions describing his travels and finds had also been tracked down by John Rankin. In 1891 the Herald received a letter from Edgeworth David talking about the discovery of emeralds at Emmaville which had been reported by Porter. The collector was also interested in natural history and studied and collected Australian animals, frogs, lizards and insects. In 1897 he wrote to the Museum saying that he wanted to send them a box of insects which he would like identified. A number of other letters written by Donald Porter over the years had been found by the researcher indicating that he was a very active collector over a long period of time. In 1905 having sold the one large collection to the Australian Museum four years earlier he wrote that he had put another collection together and would the Museum like to purchase this also but this time he was declined. Donald Porter died in 1927 and another collection of his was purchased from the family in 1929.

**William Hatfield Yates** has been a difficult person for the researcher to find information on since Yates had written no papers, had not left much correspondence, relatives could not be tracked down and he did not get much of a mention in the newspapers. He was born in 1843 in England and came to Australia in 1864 starting off mining in Gippsland with his brother before moving to up to New England and acquiring mining leases at Kingsgate in 1881. He was there when the bismuth boom started and was mine manager of the Kingsgate Bismuth Mining Company for a period and kept an interest in Kingsgate all his life being still involved with mining there in 1918. Yates had a real love for Kingsgate, his home in Bondi was named 'Kingsgate' and in a family of four daughters and one son named the boy Arthur Charles Kingsgate Yates.

Yates also investigated mineral and mining prospects in other areas and was one of the first people to find opal at White Cliffs. He was associated with the opening up of Kalgoorlie and Mt Morgan and was very active in Queensland at Wolfram Camp chasing wolfram and bismuth deposits. He also came on the scene at the Australian Museum in 1891 selling some minerals.

Yates died in 1921 leaving an estate worth £42,000 so he had obviously been extremely successful in his mining career. In 1931 his family donated his mineral collection to the Australian Museum. It contained 340 New England specimens and a lot more from Queensland. The collection was rich in early Kingsgate pieces with some specimens not seen anywhere else and John Rankin displayed images of a number of these and other New England specimens to the Meeting. They included a large bismuth crystal which is on display at the Museum, a large two-feet tall quartz crystal also on display, smoky quartzes, examples of cassiterite and molybdenite and a very unusual native gold in bismuth, all from Kingsgate, bismuth and beryl specimens from Torrington and scheelite from Hillgrove.

**William Ironside Perry** was born in 1870 and came to Glen Innes in 1909 as a mining warden. His work covered a very wide area, basically from Nundle to the Queensland border and he was intimately involved with the mining industry. He was very highly regarded and was appointed stipendiary magistrate whilst at Glen Innes. He was a contemporary of William Yates, Ira Huthnance, George Smith, and Frida Sachs, they would all have known one another. Perry left Glenn Innes in 1926 to retire to Newcastle, dying in 1928. In leaving New England Perry was paid substantial tributes in the Glen Innes newspapers which at some length described and complimented his work as mining warden and magistrate there. After his death his widow sold his collection of 159 New England specimens to the Australian Museum a number of images of which were shown to the Meeting.

**Ira Robert William Huthnance** was born in Sydney in 1877 and arrived in Glen Innes in 1911 two years after Perry with his family which comprised two daughters and a son. Whilst Perry was the Mining Warden and magistrate Huthnance became the Sheriff's Officer and Mining Warden's bailiff so the two were closely linked in their work which lasted for fifteen years. Like Perry Huthnance was also very well respected in the district and made a mineral collection which was displayed in the Glen Innes courthouse until his death. One of his larger quartz specimens is still in front of the courthouse today although after his death in 1944 his son promptly sold his collection including 51 New England specimens to the Australian Museum. In his farewell speech when he retired Huthnance described having worked for many of the mining families in the district, the Yates, Sachs, Marshalls, Mauras, Webbs, Newsomes etc and being very well regarded and traveling around the district a great deal had been in a good position to acquire specimens from various mines. Also like Perry, when Huthnance retired his life and work at Glenn Innes was complimented substantially by local newspapers and in addition a special farewell function was organised for him by the district miners.

**George Smith's** history had been described substantially by the speaker in a previous lecture (April 2009) and he did not intend to say too much again this evening. However John Rankin advised that it never failed to amaze him when looking through the Australian Museum collections that the George Smith specimens always stand out as being the quality ones. To illustrate this images were shown of Donald Porter specimens of huebnerite five of which were acquired by the Museum and looked like red-brown minerals in matrix with no particular shape. By contrast a George Smith specimen of huebnerite whilst much smaller was clearly of better

quality with definite crystals all around. Recapping on the previous lecture about George Smith, he had been Inspector of Mines for the New England area from 1910 to 1920 and would have met and conversed with Huthnance and Perry. George Smith had sold or exchanged over 1,200 specimens including hundreds from New England to the Australian Museum and the speaker was able to spend some time displaying a large number of images of George Smith New England specimens to the Meeting.

There were three members of the **Sachs family** significant in New England mineral collecting although John Rankin is not sure which one was the main collector. **Valentine Sachs** came out to Australia from Germany in the 1880s starting out as a tinsmith and then went into mining at Kingsgate in 1901. **Pauline Spekhardt** was his stepdaughter and **Frida Sachs** his niece who came out to Australia in the early 1900s. Valentine died in 1913 at the age of 65 and left his estate to his stepdaughter and two other men. Pauline's share was worth £11,000 which was not a trifling sum in those days and she used the money to continue mining at Kingsgate and Glen Eden. She made contact with the Australian Museum and brought Hodge-Smith up to Glen Innes in 1927 for a week to visit the mines, picking him up at the railway station. She was known as 'the lady miner', never married, died in 1938 also at the age of 65 and left her estate to Frida Sachs. Unfortunately the estate by then was worth virtually nothing and in fact was £240 in debt.

John Rankin has not been able to find out very much about Frida Sachs but in 1941 she sold a collection of 103 mineral specimens to the Australian Museum. Which of the Sachs's had actually put that collection together is not clear because the speaker had not been able to establish that Frida Sachs had been directly involved in the mining operations. He had however found that Valentine Sachs had donated one specimen of molybdenite to the Mining Museum in 1902 which had been acknowledged as the best molybdenite specimen from Kingsgate and an image of this is on the front page of the New England edition, (Volume 4, Number 2, December 1988), of the Australian Journal of Mineralogy.

**Robert Smith** was born at Tingha in 1935 and started tin mining at the age of 13 upon leaving school and was a tin, diamond and sapphire miner for the next twelve years. His grandfather who was acknowledged to be the best lode tin prospector in the district taught him the work. Bob Smith also had an uncle named Tom Gollege who had a very fine mineral collection which was unfortunately destroyed in a fire although the Mining Museum has a very nice Elsmore cassiterite which was donated by Gollege. After the twelve years Bob Smith had given up tin mining and was living in Inverell having obtained a job with the electricity supply company. At that time in the 1960s the Elsmore Hill mine was taken over by a mining company which started stripping the hill of scrub with the intention to commence sluicing. Bob Smith was given permission to go on to the property to look for tin and because of his experience and knowledge gained earlier was able over the next twenty years to find a lot of specimens. He knew where to look, to follow the reef lines to locate the main deposits and ideally to locate soft greissen which was the more likely to contain crystal clusters.

In gradually acquiring a lot of tin specimens Bob Smith was able to trade some of it to visitors. Albert Chapman used to go up to New England and trade with him as well as a number of American collectors. In 1983 Bob Smith went to the Gemboree at Broken Hill and took his tin collection with him. In getting into conversation with a collector from Switzerland who made him an offer he could not refuse he sold the collection. After a break from collecting for a while he eventually took it up again by 1990 and continued searching. He did not find very much more material on Elsmore Hill which had been scoured extensively by then but obtained most of his subsequent specimens from the adjacent smaller Sheep Station Hill which although it had tin on it has never been actively mined.

John Rankin was able to show a few pictures of specimens from Bob Smith's first collection which the collector had kept and then worked through a number of other images of specimens from his later collecting at Elsmore and other locations in New England. If members had ever read the accounts of the first discovery of tin at Elsmore in 1872 which was the first commercial discovery of tin in New South Wales, the reader would have noted that the finders reported the presence of small beryl crystals in the tin. In all the time that Bob Smith searched on the main hill he only found one small deposit of the beryl crystals.

John Rankin pointed out that for every collection that had been saved there were probably several that had been broken up and lost and referred to one that he knew about but which has vanished. A schoolteacher at Elsmore, **Joseph William Parkins**, who was born in 1842 and came to Elsmore in 1890 as the only teacher at the small school there transformed the school within three years according to the Schools Inspector. Since he also acted as a stand-in doctor the residents gave him a testimonial for his services to the miners and their families. In the 1894 Inverell Argus there was a report on the mineral displays in the Inverell Show noting that Mr Joseph Parkins "*was the only exhibitor in his class and who for a number of years has brought fine collections to the Show*". He won the best collection of minerals prize again in 1900 with a display of tin, silver and diamond specimens.

The speaker posed the question how well a person might manage, being a collector of tin specimens at Elsmore in the 1890s, running the only school with all the miners children as well as doctoring all the miners. He would have had the run of the place, been known to everyone and no doubt many of the grateful miners would have brought him specimens and after almost a lifetime collecting he had about a thousand. In 1902 he was moved to Brunkerville near Cessnock and in 1909 retired. John Rankin had not been able to find out what has happened to Joseph Parkins's collection. He had only tracked down one relative so far who had not been able to help with any information.

In conclusion John Rankin thanked Ross Pogson for his help in locating all the specimens in the Australian Museum collection which the speaker had used to illustrate his lecture.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CANBERRA ROCK SWAP 2011

The **2011 ROCK SWOP** is being held in the E.P.I.C. site in Canberra again this year over Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> of April from 8.30a.m. to 5.00 p.m. each day in the EPIC park, off Northbourne Avenue, Canberra; hosted by the **CANBERRA LAPIDARY CLUB**.

Fossickers, dealers and tailgaters. Crystals, minerals, rough & cut gemstones, opals, fossils, lapidary supplies, jewellery. Sieve for sapphires. Refreshments available. No entry cost

Inquiries to the Canberra Lapidary Club, PO Box 577, Curtin ACT 2605  
Clubhouse Phone : 02 6281 3312                      [www.canberralapidary.org.au](http://www.canberralapidary.org.au)

\*\*\*\*\*

## GEMBOREE 2011

Incorporating the

## NATIONAL GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

In the Bathurst Showgrounds, Bathurst.

Easter 2011. Good Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April to Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

Friday 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., Saturday 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.,

Sunday 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. and Monday 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

Displays of minerals, gems, crystals, fossils and jewellery. National exhibition and competition.

Over 30 leading Australian dealers in attendance. Lapidary, Gemstone and Mineral trading.

Tailgate sales. Refreshments. Plenty of parking.

Inquiries to : - Ernst Holland. Tel: (02) 6337 3661

Arthur Roffey. Tel: (02) 4572 5812

Publicity Officer Alan McRae. Tel: (02) 6332 1622 or e-mail [amcrae@lisp.com.au](mailto:amcrae@lisp.com.au)

## The JOINT MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES OF AUSTRALASIA 34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SEMINAR

The 34th Annual Joint Mineralogical Seminar will be held on the **Queens Birthday long weekend in June** from Saturday to Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> –13<sup>th</sup> of June 2011 in Gemmology House, 380 – 382 Spencer Street, West Melbourne hosted by the **Mineralogical Society of Victoria**.

The theme for the Seminar is **MINERALOGY INTO THE FUTURE** and will feature a lecture program over Saturday and Sunday with a number of lecturers speaking on topical subjects of trends and future developments in the field of Mineralogy. The lecture program will be held from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on both days and on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June there would be the opportunity to view the Museum of Victoria mineral, 'Dynamic Earth' displays or the Tutankhamun 'Golden Age of the Pharaohs' exhibition which is at the Museum for the next few months. (There may be a waiting period, i.e. long queue, to view this exhibition). As is customary at the end of the Seminar there would be an informal dinner held on Sunday evening.

Seminar Registration for Society Members is \$75.00 pp, \$85 for non-members, \$50 for students, plus \$50 for the Sunday dinner. Registration costs include lunch and morning and afternoon refreshments.

Registration forms for the Seminar will be sent out electronically and as hard copies with this Newsletter. More are available from the (NSW Society) Secretary, George Laking, or the Vice-President John Chapman. Registration forms for attending the Seminar are required to be **submitted by the 30<sup>th</sup> of April next**.

Further information about the 2011 Seminar may be obtained from the Victorian Mineralogical Society,

from John Bosworth on telephone (day) (03) 9801 1304, e-mail : - [ajmineralogy@iprimus.com.au](mailto:ajmineralogy@iprimus.com.au)  
from Alex Blount on mobile 0407 879 097  
or from the Website [www.minsocvic.websyte.com.au](http://www.minsocvic.websyte.com.au)

\*\*\*\*\*

## GEMKHANA 2011 The NSW State Gem Jewellery & Mineral Show

To be held at Cessnock over 1st - 3rd Oct 2011 in the  
Cessnock Indoor Sports Centre, Mount View Road, Cessnock  
Saturday and Sunday, 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., Monday 9.00 a.m. to Noon.

Featuring displays of gemstones stones, jewellery, carving, enameling, minerals & fossils.  
Dealers. Tailgaters. Displays. Demonstrations. Field trips.

Inquiries to Marilyn and John Behrens Gemkhana Co-ordinators  
Telephone (02) 9635 8218 or e-mail : [mbehrens@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mbehrens@optusnet.com.au)

\*\*\*\*\*