

Mineralogica Tasmanica



**THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA
JOURNAL & NEWSLETTER
NO. 77, MAY 2011**

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All correspondence to: **P.O. Box 1111, Rosny Park, Tas., 7018**

Meetings Are held on the second Friday of each month at 7.00pm, in the first year lecture theatre, Geology Dept., University of Tasmania, Sandy Bay. Visitors are most welcome.

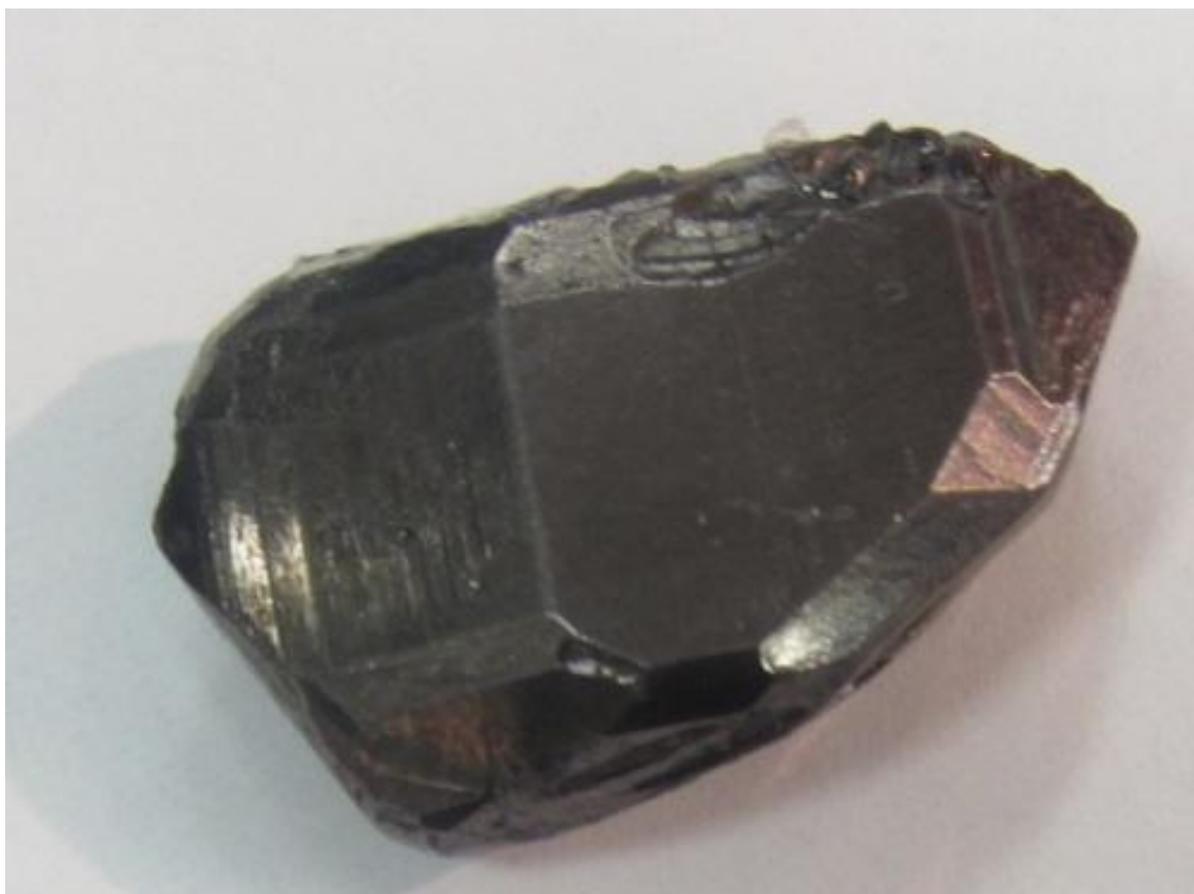
Membership fees \$15: single, \$20: family (includes 4 newsletters/yr)

Patron: Professor Ross Large, University of Tasmania

Website: <http://www.mineral.org.au/socs/taspg001.html>

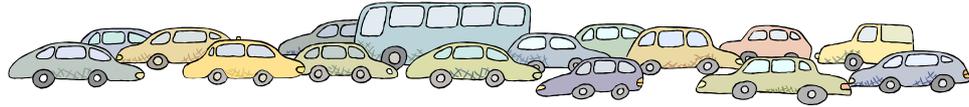
ABN: 49 582 252 658

*The Mineralogical Society of Tasmania is a member body of the
Tasmanian Lapidary and Mineral Association Incorporated.*



*Wittichenite, Mt Gunson mine, S. Aust.
Smithsonian Museum specimen About 40mm diam. (worlds largest?)*

PROGRAM / EVENTS



May 13	Meeting: Bathurst Gemboree, M. Pope
June 10-13	Mineralogical Symposium, VIC
June 17	Meeting: Dave Duncan - Zeehan
July 8	Meeting: Ross Large: Witwatersrand gold fields & AGM
August 12	Meeting: Ambros Kissling - Sweet Home mine
September 9	Meeting: Ralph - Tucson talk
September	Field Trip?
October 14	Meeting: Tony Joyce: Lord Howe Island
October	Field Trip? NW?
November 11	Meeting: Auction/quiz night
November	Field Trip TBA
December ?	Xmas Function TBA

TLMA programs: see p. 5

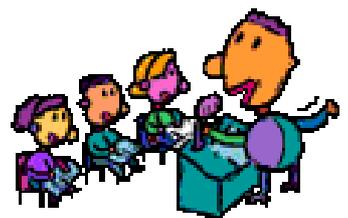
Italicized items are non-MST events: ask Ralph for contacts.

Nb: Most trips are tentative dates. PLEASE CONFIRM field trip details and your attendance, at least two days in advance, with a nominated **Field Trips Officer** or contact the president.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Recent MST affairs

- February 11 Meeting was a quiz night, run by the Popes.
- February 19 Trip was to the Rosebery Open day.
- March 11 Meeting: Mike Jagoe – minerals of Ontario
- March 18-20 Hobart Exhibition (see p. 8)
- March 25-27 Latrobe Gem & Mineral show (see p. 9)
- April 8 Meeting: Ralph – Gold Fever II DVD
- April Field Trip: Bridgewater (see p.17)



T.L.M.A. NEWS AND FIELD TRIPS 2011

Tasmanian Lapidary & Mineral Association Inc.

The last meeting was held in Latrobe on 26/3/2010. It was reported that the Campbell Town 'Swap and Sell' was poorly attended but the Hobart and Devonport shows were very successful. The Tasmanian Gemboree, planned for 2016, is, however, in desperate need of volunteers, so please contact us if you can help with anything? The next meeting will be held by Skype on 3/06/2011.

A list of trips has been compiled for 2011 (see below).

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Information</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Leader</u>
* April 22-25 th	Bathurst. NSW.	GEMBOREE		
May 14 th - 15 th	Gladstone	Quartz Pick & Shovel	L.C.N.T.	J. Ames-Smith 63 442092
June 12 th Sunday	Beaconsfield*	Information Day	BG&MC	Nigel Burch 64 346264 0416195316
July 10 th Sunday	Calder Penguin	Agate & Jasper Pick & Shovel	D.L.C.	Neil Newman 64 270492
August 21 st Sunday	Flowery Gully	Calcite, Pick & Shovel	NWTMC	Sam Caberica 64 254340
September 18 th Sunday	Little Swanport	Agates & Wood Pick & Shovel	MinSoc Tas	Barry Pope 62 442023
October 16 th Sunday	Milton	Wood & Agate Pick & Shovel	L.C.T. Inc Hobart	Pam Sawyer 62 633237
November 5 th -6 th	Zeehan	Gem & Mineral Show		Kim Dunstan 64 716553
November 20 th	Lune River	Agate, Wood, Fern Pick & Shovel, Probe	L.C.T. Inc Hobart	Rod Hewer 62 487669
December 3 rd Saturday	Campbell Town	TLMA BBQ Swap Meet	TLMA	Gavin Linger 63 678143

The trip leaders **MUST** be contacted with **2 days** prior to the trip.

Please remember the **T.L.M.A. Code of Ethics** at all times.

Stone swaps can be held at field trips – check with trip leader.

Note: Safety Gear: Hard Hat, Safety Glasses, High Visibility Vest, Steel Cap Boots.

*The field trip for Sunday June 12th will be to Beaconsfield. It will include a guided tour of the museum (at which there was a major upgrade in 2008) and a visit of old workings. The museum visit costs \$9 admission (\$7 concession), and is brilliant! An absolute must. We should be able to pick up samples of ores from the old workings, but won't actually be fossicking. Meet Nigel at the museum in the middle of Beaconsfield at 1100. Any cars going in to the mines need good ground clearance as the tracks have deeply eroded patches, though 4WD is probably not necessary. Suggest car pooling and bring your own lunch, as the bakery at Beaconsfield is closed Sundays. See you there. Nigel

MST LIBRARY

Interesting articles in journals recently received include:

Tucson Gem & Mineral show Guide

Tucson Fossil Show Guide

The Vug Quarterly Mineral magazine
Minerals of California

Micronews (Canadian Newsletter)
Mt St Hilare species list

Mineralogical Society of Vic Newsletter
Feb 2011: Bethanga mine, Victoria
Apr 2011: Wellington River Chromite prospect

NW Tas Min Club
Nov-Dec 2010: Crocoite
(Jan-Feb 2011): Torbernite, Gibbsite, Adelaide mine

Taslap 44 (1) Doggerland; Growing Opal

Mineralogical Society of WA Newsletter
Mar 2011: Kryptonite; Mislabeled minerals

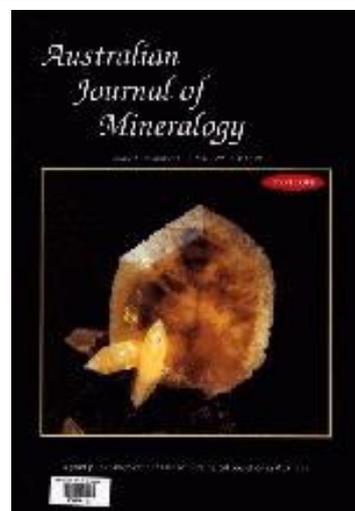
Mineralogical Society of NSW Newsletter
Dec: Indian Zeolites; Olympic Dam; Feb
Mar: 'Mines in the Mist – Mt Lyell'.
April: Collectors of the New England'

Many interesting articles occur in these newsletters; please don't hesitate to ask to borrow these, or any of our books. We also hold many mineral-related books and some videos and CD-ROMs. A catalogue is available from Michael Pope (pope00@ozemail.com.au, ph 03 62442023), who also curates a photo album for the Society; all relevant donations (eg. from field trips) are most welcome (electronic or hard-copy, but please add some details). .



Australian Journal Of Mineralogy

The latest issue of this great journal (15/1-2) is now out (see below). We can show you copies on request and provide subscription forms (\$28/yr). The journal is a must-have for all Australian mineral collectors and mineralogists. It is of a similar standard to the Mineralogical Record, but the focus is on articles on Australian minerals and localities. Any contributions, advertising, suggestions can be directed through the editor Dermot Henry (dhenry@museum.vic.gov.au) or the president. The second Tasmanian issue is still in prep. Several back issues of the AJM are available from the society for discount prices to members (via Ralph).



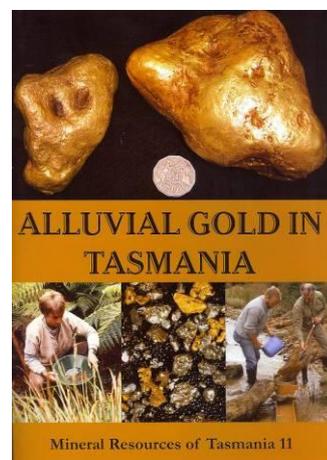


AJM Volume 15:

- History and mineralogy of the Mullaley prehnite locality.
- Neotocite, nambulite group, and other minerals from the Woods mine, New South Wales.
- Coulsellite, a new mineral from the Cleveland mine, Luina, Tasmania.
- Maldonite from the type locality, Maldon, Victoria, Australia: a new investigation of its occurrence.
- Gold in South Australia.
- The supergene zone of the Peak Hill Gold mine, New South Wales.
- The gold nugget bonanza of Goanna Patch, Western Australia.

Alluvial gold in Tasmania

The revision of this book is now out, and contains more information on prospecting requirements, nuggets found in Tasmania, and updated information on all the alluvial goldfields in the state. It contains 28 pages, including a map of the main goldfields and GPS locations and information on all known alluvial gold locations. It costs \$7.70 and is a must-have for all gold prospectors. We can show you copies on request (via Ralph).



ANZ Mineral Collector magazine

Issue 10 contains articles on:

- Editorial - Mineral Magazines and all that...
- News Release - Angastonite
- Sceptre Quartz Crystal Inclusions
- Down Under Trip Report

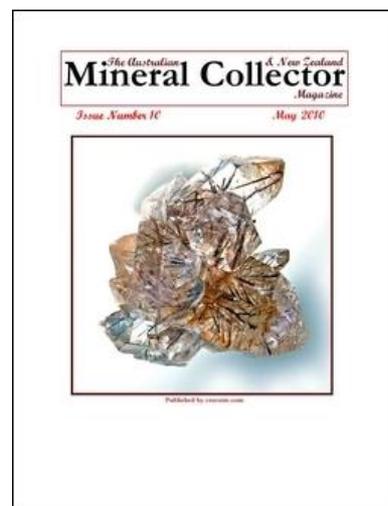
Purchase options:

The first is to order directly through Lulu in the same way as in the past.

High quality printing and a cost of \$US12.50 plus postage: See: <http://www.lulu.com/smartarts>.

The second option is through a printing facility in Melbourne, Australia.

The quality is still good, but not quite as high as Lulu. The benefit, particularly for Australian and New Zealand subscribers, is the lower cost which is \$AU12.50 post paid in Australia, and \$AU15.00 post paid to New Zealand. To take up this option, orders will need to come through Steve Sorell: steve@crocoite.com. The third option is an electronic one. Each issue can be downloaded directly from Lulu. Cost for this option is \$US5.00.



THE HOBART GEM AND MINERAL EXHIBITION

19th-20th March

This has become an annual event, and is now held in the Grandstand Hall, Hobart Showgrounds, Glenorchy. every year. This is the principal gem and mineral show in Tasmania, jointly run by the Mineral Society and the Lapidary Club of Tasmania. The show was very successful, with about 1500 people attending, and everyone involved seemed happy with proceedings.

For further information on the next show, Ph. Rosemary Aheimer
(03) 6249 1408



10/5/11

THE LATROBE GEM & MINERAL FAIR

This event was organised by Devonport Lapidary Club, and held at the Latrobe Memorial Hall on Saturday and Sunday March 26-27 2011. There were trade tables, gem, crystal and mineral displays and working demonstrations of gem faceting and rock polishing and activities for kids. It appeared to be very successful, attracting about 600 people.



A Catalogue of the Minerals of Tasmania

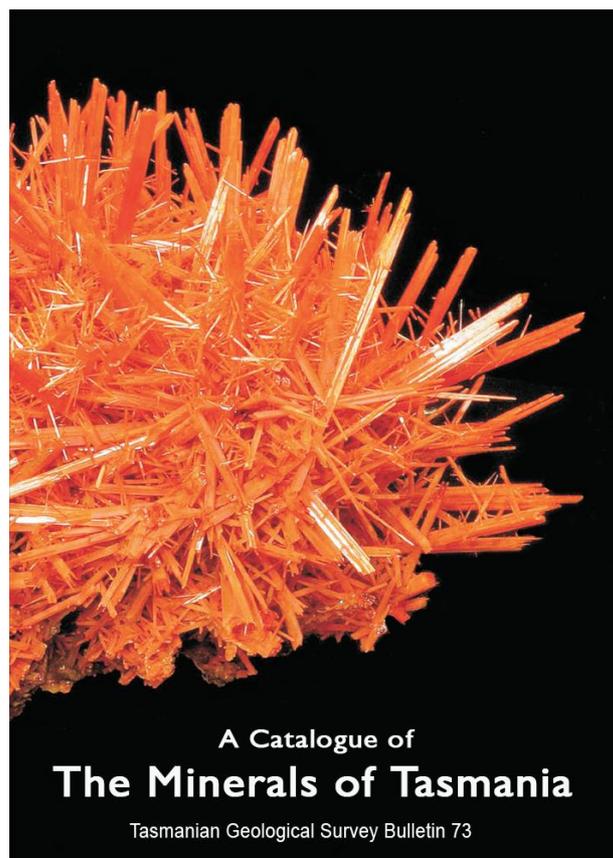
by R S Bottrill and W E Baker

Catalogues of the minerals found in Tasmania have been kept since almost the earliest days of mining and have been of invaluable assistance to prospectors, mineral explorers, mineralogists and collectors. The catalogue was first published by the Tasmania Department of Mines in 1910, and was extensively revised in 1969. Since then the improvements in technology and further investigations of minerals and mineral deposits have not only increased the number of identified species and data on mineral occurrences, but have also invalidated many previous 'species'.

The new Catalogue, published in late 2008, extensively updates the previous catalogue. A total of 753 minerals are described, comprising 483 confirmed species, 162 unconfirmed species, 72 variety or invalid names, and 36 series and group names. All entries in the 1969 catalogue have been re-evaluated and are now reclassified as to their known or likely validity.

Species invalidated or doubted from the 1969 listing have been retained, with comments. The new 254 page A4-size catalogue includes information on mineral occurrences and 314 colour photographs of Tasmanian mineral specimens. The soft-cover book has a recommended retail price of \$49.50 (including GST and post/packing). A very limited number of hard cover books are available only from MRT at \$75 (plus \$5 post/packing).

More info: see MRT Website:
<http://www.mrt.tas.gov.au>



How to get a copy

Copies can be purchased from Mineral Resources Tasmania:

In person:

From our Rosny Park offices,
30 Gordons Hill Road, Rosny Park

By mail:

PO Box 56, Rosny Park, Tasmania 7018

By phone:

(03) 6233 8377

Email:

info@mrt.tas.gov.au

Some will also be available to collect in Hobart from the Mineralogical Society for a small discount – please contact Marnie (pope00@ozemail.com.au).

Cerussite, Magnet

JOINT SEMINAR 2011 – NOTICE

JOINT MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES OF AUSTRALASIA 34rd ANNUAL SEMINAR

The 34th Annual Joint Mineralogical Seminar will be held on the Queens Birthday weekend on the 11th -12th June 2011 in Melbourne Victoria. The venue is Gemmology House, 380-382 Spencer Street, West Melbourne. The theme for the Seminar is topical subjects on trends and future developments in the field of mineralogy and will host prominent guest speakers talking on a diverse range of interesting topics.

Theme: What is the future of Mineralogy?

Come to the seminar to get the insiders view from those who know.

Seminar Presentations and Speaker List: (this is still evolving - check nearer the seminar) Steve Dobos, Ian Grey, John Haupt, Dermot Henry, Rod Martin, Allan Pring, Nicola Scarlett, Roland Maas, Pete Williams, Peter Elliott, Ralph Bottrill, Bill Birch, Tony Forsyth

Download the latest [seminar brochure](#) (01/03/11), (pdf format 1.4MB) which has details of speakers, dinner venue and suggested accommodation.



Seminar Dinner and Mineral Market:

In addition to the formal presentations there will be a mineral market on Sunday morning with a chance to buy, sell and swap mineral items, and an informal dinner on Saturday night at Il Vicolo Restaurant, 50 Grattan Street, Carlton (BYO wine or drinks at bar prices).

Registration Form:

Follow this link to download a [seminar brochure](#). Send your completed registration form together with a cheque or money order before the **30th of April 2011** to:

The Treasurer
The Mineralogical Society of Victoria
PO Box 12162 A'Beckett Street
Melbourne, Vic 8006

Contacts:

For further details please contact:

John Bosworth

Tel: (03) 9801 1304

Email: ajmineralogy@iprimus.com.au

Alex Blount

Tel: 0407 879 097

Please note: Please visit the Mineralogical Society of Victoria's website for further up-to-date information. <http://www.minsocvic.websyete.com.au>

and if you get bored . . . there's always Aussie Rules Collingwood vs Melbourne on Monday night and King Tut at the Museum if you'd like a bit of gold with that!

MMG ROSEBERY MINE (TAS) OPEN DAY.

Celebrating 75 years on continuous operations

On Saturday 19th February, 2011.

Many members of MST and NWTMC travelled to Rosebery for the Open Day celebrations held in conjunction with the Rosebery Festival, of which MMG Rosebery Mine is a proud sponsor.

There was a community Market, lots of entertainment and fun filled activities for the children including a pet parade. We checked out the art exhibitions, drama shows and poetry readings, as well as visiting 'The Rosebery Heritage Centre' to view the pictures, memorabilia and displays that provided an insight into the history of Rosebery and the mine.



Panorama of the Rosebery mine.

The Rosebery ore body was discovered on 13th November 1893 by Tom McDonald while prospecting in the misty, heavily forested Mt. Black. There he found alluvial gold and boulders of zinc/lead ore in a creek on the southern slopes of the mountain. In 1900 the Emu Bay Railway was constructed connecting the Port of Burnie to Waratah, Rosebery and Zeehan. This allowed for the commercial development of ore bodies in the areas.

The initial production from the Rosebery area occurred at Williamsford through the Tasmanian Metals Extraction Company (TME) using ore from the Hercules deposit. This ore was processed at the Zeehan smelter until 1913 when an economic downturn ceased operations. Remnants of the TME operation are still observable next to the access road to Williamsford. The TME facilities were dismantled during the late 1920's and the usable timber, tin and machinery were put to use in the construction of the Rosebery concentrator.

Construction of the mill began in 1926 following extensive studies conducted by Harry Hey, then the Chief Metallurgist for the Electrolytic Zinc Company of Australasia (EZ) as to process suitability and plant location. Construction of the aerial ropeway from the Hercules to the mill site began in April 1929 and was successfully commissioned in July 1930. In parallel the employees were busy constructing sporting ovals at Williamsford and Rosebery as well as company housing and road upgrades.

On 18th February 1936, full production began, with the commencement of the concentrator operations and the transport of metal concentrates to the Port of Burnie, via the Emu Bay Railway. Ore supply to the concentrator was supplied from both Hercules and Mt Black ore bodies with additional ore being supplied from Tullah and Que River. The Hercules mine closed in 1986.

The mine and mill have been in continuous operation since that time and are considered vital to the economic success of the town. During that time there has been multiple ownerships and changes e.g. from the original owner EZ, to North Broken Hill, to Pasminco, to Zinifex, to OzMinerals, and finally to the current owner MMG, who has a very close association with the community.



Inside the Rosebery mill.



The sulphide flotation tanks in the mill.

Nestled on the slopes of Mt. Black, Rosebery is build around the zinc and lead mine.

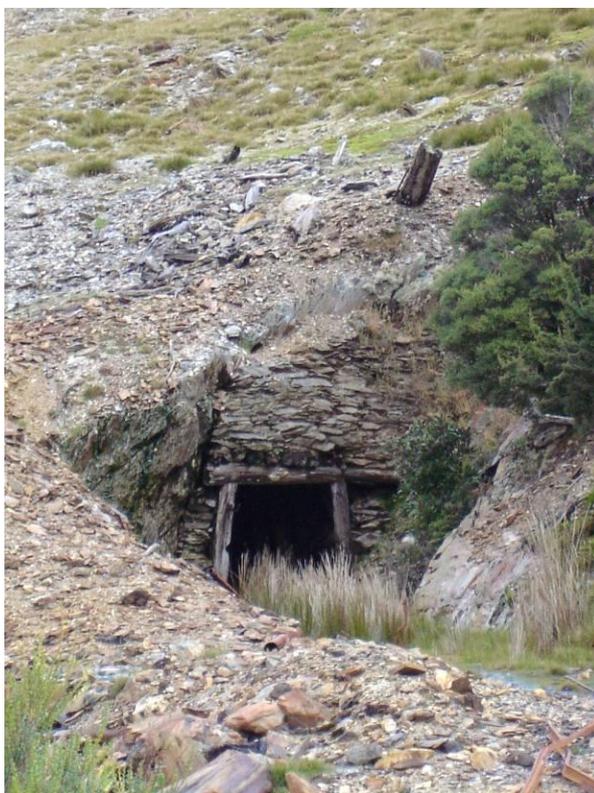
The MMG Rosebery Mine Open Day provided visitors the opportunity to see how the company operates and view their future developments. Tours of the Concentrator and Environmental works at Bobadil Dam were held hourly starting at 10 am. Safety gear was provided for wearing while in the mill viewing the process of the ore from the stockpile through the various

concentrator machines to the final product of metal concentrates ready for transportation. The mini bus then followed the flume which carried the waste to the settling ponds, where the water is drained off and returned for re-use in the mill concentrator. MMG is setting a fine example with their environmental plans and protection for the future.



Hercules open Cut

Also on offer was a ‘Hercules Tour (about 1 ½ hours) offering magnificent views of the Rosebery Township and surrounding areas (on a nice day), to see how close other mining operations are, see an old mining area and preparations for a new mining area with beautiful flora and fauna.’ This tour started off in brilliant sunshine heading south down the Murchison Highway, turning left at the old Williamsford access road. Turning left again and through a locked gate our Mine Representative Guide told us of ‘The new South Hercules Project’ located 7 kms from Rosebery and 800 metres higher on top of nearby Mt Hamilton, in a sensitive alpine environment above the snowline, with up to 4 metres of rain per annum.



An old adit of the Hercules mine, and a scene from the summit.

The South Hercules was originally discovered 40 years ago and sits along strike of the historic Hercules Mine and remains unmined. Estimated resource of 500,000t @ 2.5%Zn 1.4%Pb 0.08%Cu 133g/t Ag 2.3g/t Au

South Hercules – Stage 1 : Upgrade access tracks.

- Construction of a new 1.5 km access track from Mt Read Road to South Hercules site.
- Upgrading of approximately 7 kms of the Mt Read Rd.
- Earthworks at the Murchison Highway-Williamsford Rd intersection to improve visibility.
-

South Hercules – what are we doing differently.

- Monitoring water parameters.
- Flora and Fauna survey complete.
- Collaboration with professional Botanist throughout process.
- Located and marked out Threatened species.
- Historical and Ecological survey conducted.
- Rigorous and challenging Environmental Protection Notice signoff process
- Contract Management Plans extensively reviewed to ensure alignment with Environmental Protection Notice requirements.
- In ground Hydrology
- NAG testing of all materials.
-

Opportunities for the area – Upgraded roads to the site allow

- Recovery of further mine-able ore (at both South Hercules and Hercules.
- Test work to assist with remediation of parts of the Hercules affected areas.
- Water treatment – look at a long term solution to clean up the water so it is sustainable and self sufficient.
- Innovation Opportunity: Engage with university students to look at innovative/cost effective solutions for the site rehabilitation.
- Works on Hercules effectively ceased under OzMinerals. With MMG's commitment and the upcoming works at South Hercules rehabilitation and closure plans are being reviewed with the ultimate goal of effectively rehabilitating the Hercules legacy.
-

Flora

- Planocarpa sulcata (Grooved Cheeseberry)
- Athrotaxis xilaxifolia (Hybrid Pencil Pine)
- Pineorites milllligani (Toothed orites)

We were fortunate with the weather remaining fine throughout this tour affording us brilliant views through to the coastline, but unfortunately during the following tours damp weather settled in.

The MMG Rosebery Mine offices were open to the public and maned by staff with display boards of information, area maps, ores and minerals found in the area, along with visual demonstrations. Outside in the car park were Asset, Commercial and Geology displays. Mine Rescue equipment and Big Boys toys – trucks, loaders and drilling rigs were also on display.

Most of us left the town knowing more than when we arrived, but missed out on the Friday night Welcome Concert at the Rosebery RSL club. Saturday night entertainment started with a Street Parade with the history and heritage filing by as the town dressed up for it's special day. The school children lit the night with a 'Chinese Lantern Parade' and as the lanterns reached skywards, so did the Fireworks – one of the best shows in the entire state. Sunday entertainment continued with more music, more beer and 'Cheffy Geoffys World Famous BBQ.'

A wonderful entertaining day/weekend was had by all visitors due to a well organised program manned by the happy, friendly, knowledgeable staff of MMG.

(Information courtesy of MMG Rosebery Mine Open Day brochures, and photos by Michael Pope.)



The view from Mt Read to Mt Dundas.

FIELD TRIP: BORAL BRIDGEWATER QUARRY

R. Bottrill

A half-day trip was held to this regularly visited location on 30/4/11.

It was attended by Della Roberts and sons; Ron, Sarah & Mylus Krulow, Peter and Barbara Meyer, Steve Sorrell and Ralph Bottrill.

This trip we found no barite and only minor aragonite and quartz crystals, but there was some nice globular calcite and some interesting bright blue and green minerals awaiting identification. Thanks to Mike Pilcher and Boral for permission.



Ron Krulow about to demolish a huge boulder



Unusual pipe vesicles in basalt with glob



Steve showing new members what to loo

FINDING INFORMATION ON PROSPECTING AND FOSSICKING IN TASMANIA. (PT. 1)

R. Bottrill

There is a lot of useful information of interest to prospectors and fossickers on the MRT website: <http://www.mrt.tas.gov.au/> including reports, maps, databases and application forms. Much of this is relatively obscure, and this is a brief summary of how to access some of this information, that could be of greatest interest to the mineral collecting public. This will be the first of several parts, and focus on mineral deposits.

Introduction

After getting on the MRT site, eg. by clicking on the above link, you get two menus with the right-hand one being the following:

On Line Services

[Search The TIGER Database](#)

[Make an Online Exploration Licence Application](#)

[Tenement Downloads](#)

[Tenement Forms](#)

[Geoscientific Datasets](#)

The TIGER databases (menu item 1) include information on mineral deposits (more info below), mining leases, drill holes, reports, geological samples and analyses, etc. Tenements are mineral leases, exploration licences, etc., and include prospecting licences (see below). “Geoscientific Datasets” is a summary of MRT datasets available commercially.

Prospecting Licences

After clicking on the fourth item (Tenement forms), you get another menu with the items including the following:

Prospecting Licence Forms

MRDA_P1 Application for Prospecting Licence (updated October 2010)

[Application form \(pdf file, 65 kb\)](#)

MRDA_P2 Conditions Relating to Prospecting Licences (updated July 2010)

[Conditions \(pdf file, 40 kb\)](#)

Please note that the prospecting licences were designed to permit small scale prospecting and fossicking; legally fossickers are liable to prosecution and confiscation of their finds if they cannot produce a current licence, except in designated fossicking areas..

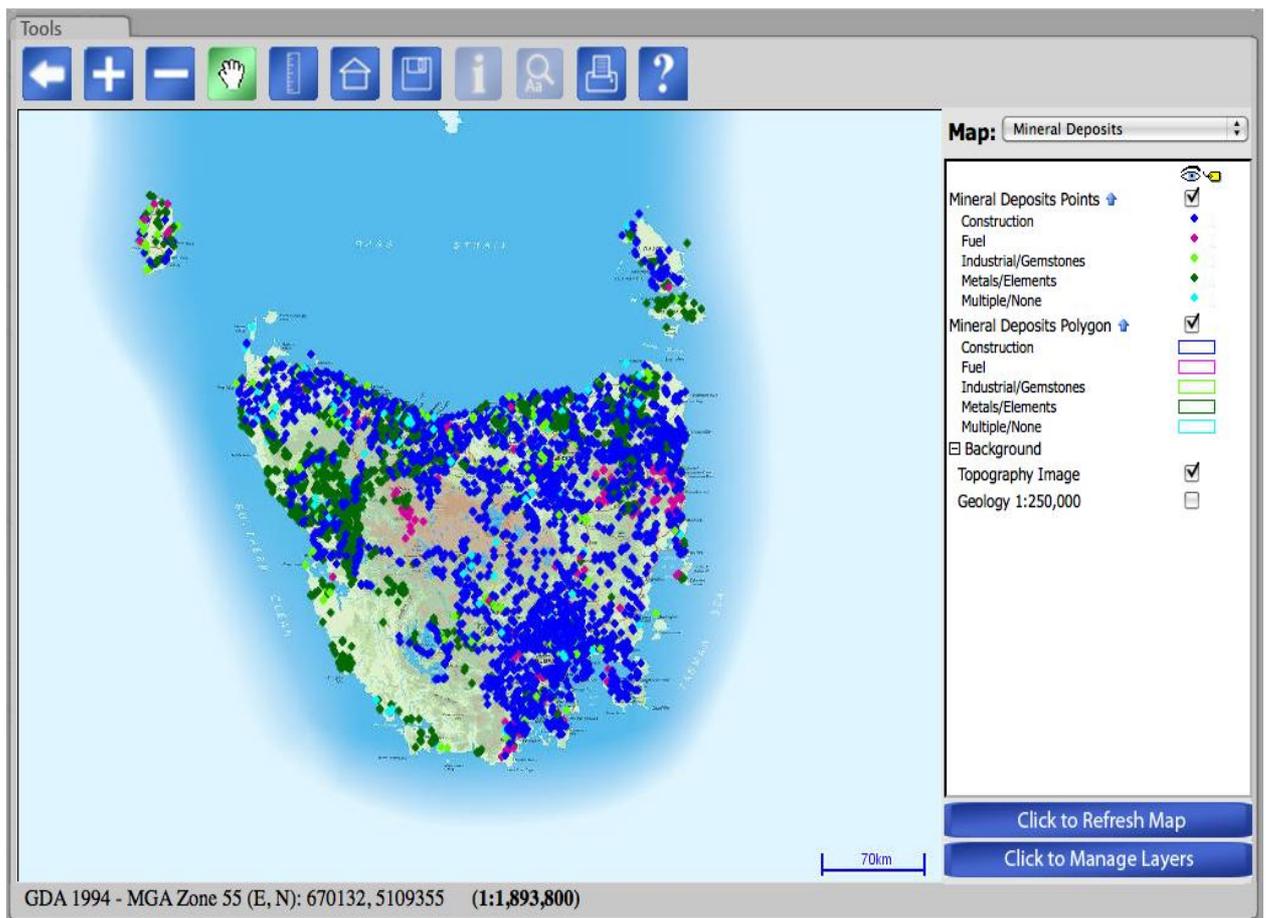
Mineral deposits and Mines

After clicking on the first item in “Online services” as above ([Search The TIGER Database](#)), you get another menu with the top items being the following:

Deposits and Construction Materials

- [Minerals and Construction Materials Map](#)
- [Minerals and Construction Materials Text Search](#)

This data set contains all known mines and mineral occurrences in the state. You can search these by drawing a rectangle on a map: clicking on the first item shows a map of the state. You can click on the map or on [Full browser Map Viewer](#), and this will give a map showing all mineral occurrences in the state. There is a menu at the top, which enable zooming in and out with the +/- buttons, and other tools.

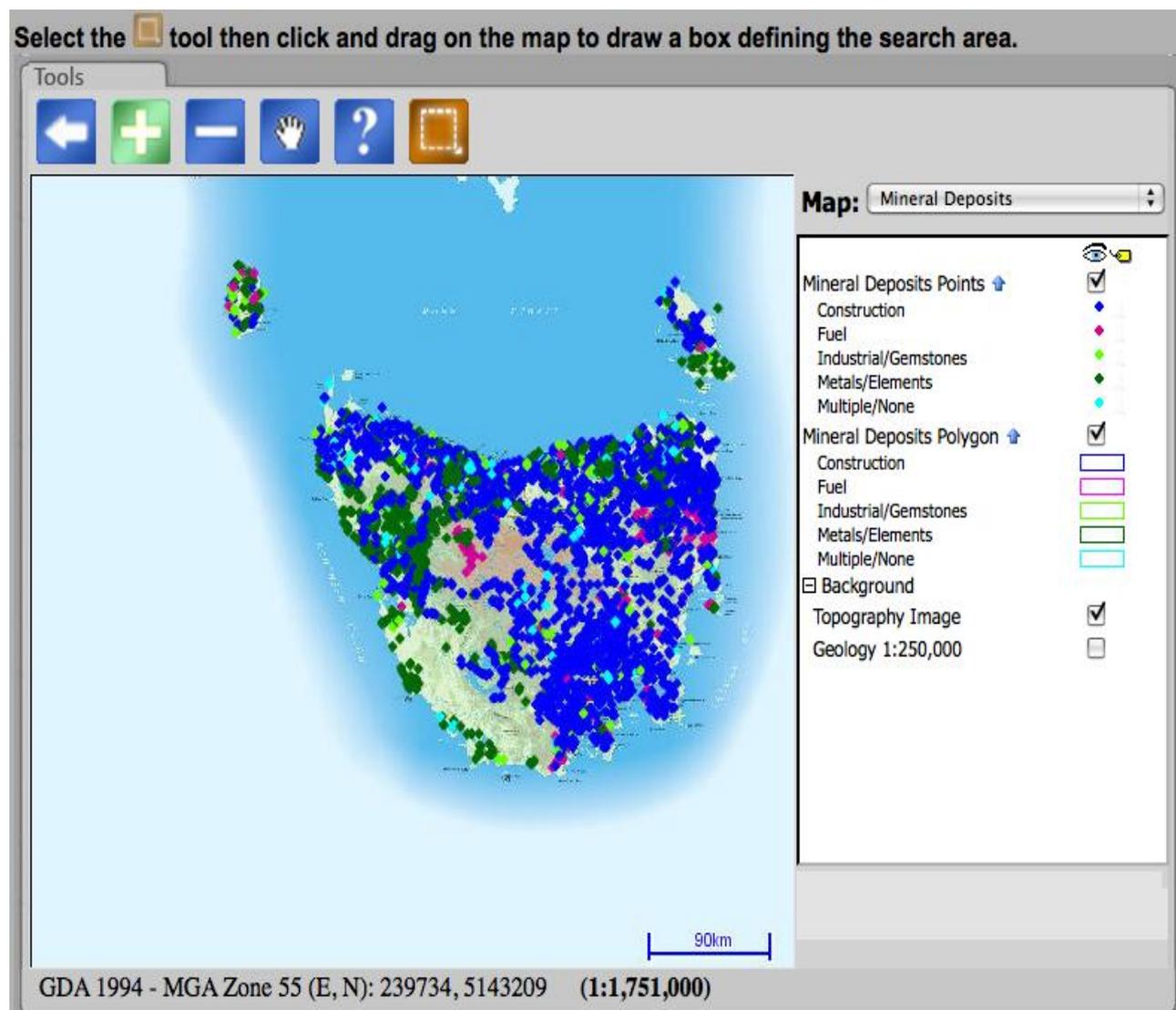


Unfortunately at present this does not give information on the deposits, but this can be found by the second method, the Text Search facility. Here you can search for a mine name, or a commodity (eg. gold), or various other keywords on a form.

You can also search on a map. If you click on the Location drop down list:



near the bottom, select map search, and hit the “Set Location” button, it brings up a similar map to the above map. Use the brown button to draw a rectangle in the area of interest.



After drawing the area, close the window and return to the form. Clicking on the search button, you get a list of deposits in the search area, with some details of commodities, etc. You can click on the deposit names and this will give a more detailed description of the site, with two maps of the site at different scales, and some description of what was mined and how it occurs, and the mine status.



Deposit Details

Deposit Id	94
Name	Tanners Bay
Aliases	
Parent Deposit	
Type	Mineral Occurrence
Operational Status	Mineralized area
Status Date	Abandoned
Main Commodity Type	Industrial Minerals/Gemstones
Description	Topaz located in gravel in this area
Locality	Flinders Island
Location	574000mE 5583000mN
Map Datum	AMG66
Deposit Size	Not determined
Host Rock Ages	Quaternary
Use	Gems
Form	Placer
Rock Type	Gravels
Commodities	Gems, Topaz
Gangue	Quartz
Exploration	Prospecting
Structure (dip, strike, comments)	
Resources	Unknown

NEXT: Part 2 will discuss how to find information on

- Fossicking areas
- Minerals and rocks in the MRT collections
- Reports and publications by MRT and in the MRT library

PILLOW BASALTS FOUND IN SHEFFIELD SUBDIVISION

Reuters International reports- from an article in "The Scottish Field"

Excellent examples of pillow basalts have been found in Sheffield, Tasmania. The basalts hitherto unsuspected have evidently been dug up by workmen while preparing the foundations of a house in a new subdivision. They were reported by a vigilant building inspector and are now piled up beside the road evidently bound for a garden centre.

"Over my dead body", said Dr Fred Lin Sutherland, Australian Museum (retired). "I immediately ordered the area to be evacuated and the samples confiscated but no one listens to me anymore. The basalts are so fresh that they look like they were erupted yesterday and probably were. The fact that there are pillows proves that the basalts erupted into water and that can only mean that they have struck a water main."



Basalt pillow and white zeolites.

"I've been warning the State Government for years of an imminent volcanic eruption and these pesky Tasmanians have gone and discovered one behind my back" said Dr Sutherland.

"We will have to avoid panic but the Parliamentarians will be running around like headless chooks. These events start small but relax your guard and next thing they could make Mt Merapi look like a boil on a redneck. The mothers are so big they could take out the whole island."

Rising mineralogist, Bart Ralphdrill of Mineral Resources Tasmania rushed to the area and was seen on site through drifting steam. His last words were reported as "What the hell was that?....."

Report ends.

DMD



Boulders of basaltic agglomerate with small basalt pillows and white zeolites.