

# Newsletter 1 - September 2024

## Mineralogical Society of Queensland Inc.

Information for the 46th  
Joint Mineralogical Societies of Australasia  
Seminar to be held in Brisbane, Queensland  
5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024



*Brisbane CBD and newly opened Neville Bonner  
Bridge and Star Casino*

**Thank you to our sponsor partners:**

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V1 12/09/24

# General information:

This newsletter is to just give delegates some information prior to the seminar. We may email another prior to the seminar if there is any updated information available.

The venue is the theatrette in the Queensland Museum which features a large stage area and tiered seating. It is situated on Level 2, adjacent to the main southern entrance, closest to Melbourne Street and the pedestrian overpass. Museum staff and Minsoc members will be on hand to allow entry to registered attendees. The seminar registration desk is situated inside the Museum theatrette. Queensland Museum has asked that delegates remain in the entrance area and theatrette, and do not wander round the museum or shop before the museum's official opening hour of 9.30am.

## **Registration for the seminar:**

All registrants must sign in at the Registration Desk in the Museum theatrette, which will be open for delegates from 8:30 am on Saturday 5th October and Sunday 6th October.

## **Seminar catering:**

- 10:30 am Morning tea (*Café Muse terrace*)
- 12:30 pm Lunch (*Café Muse terrace*)
- 2:30 pm Afternoon tea (*Café Muse terrace*)

Morning tea, afternoon tea and lunches are catered for all registered participants and are served in the Café Muse terrace within the Queensland Museum. If however you prefer to eat elsewhere, there are also a large range of restaurants and takeaway food outlets located within the Southbank complex within a 10 minute walk. **If you have special dietary requirement, please let us know in advance.**

## **Seminar dinner: (on Saturday night 5<sup>th</sup> October)**

The seminar dinner will be available for delegates and guests who have prepaid at the **Plough Inn hotel**, 29 Stanley St Plaza, South Brisbane. The Plough Inn is a 15 minute walk from the Queensland Museum, and opposite the Southbank Beach. Dinner is 7:00 pm for 7:30 pm and drinks will be available at the bar from 6:30 pm onwards.

## **Getting to the seminar:**

The Queensland Museum venue is a short walk (*200m*) from the Southbank bus and train stations. It is approximately a 15-20 minute walk from CBD hotels and Southbank ferry terminals.

# Microscopy session, events and field trips:

## **Meeting rooms are adjacent to the Westfield Mt Gravatt Library. Level R4 Yellow Car Park**

Located at the Garden City Library, Garden City Shopping Centre, Corner Logan and Kessels Road, Upper Mt Gravatt. **Parking is paid after 3 hours.** If you download and join the **Westfield app** you gain an additional hour of free parking.

### **State delegates meeting (if required):**

If a meeting of state minsoc delegates is required, it will be before the swap and sell sessions and commence at 8:15 am on Monday 7th October in the Mt Gravatt Library meeting rooms. Delegates will be advised over the prior weekend.

### **Monday 7th October - Microscopy session**

For those delegates with an interest in the micro side of mineralogy, a session is organised to be held at the Mt Gravatt Garden City Library meeting rooms from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm . Microscopy session is a swap session for delegates with microscopes available to view their choice!

Please ring **Sue Eriksson** if more information required Ph. **0431 906 769.**

### **Monday October 7th - Mineral Bazaar - morning**

A number of delegates will be selling and swapping minerals at a mineral bazaar to be held on Monday morning. The venue is also at the Mt Gravatt Garden City Library meeting rooms. The event is from 9:00am until lunchtime (setup from 8:45 am), giving delegates time to attend the afternoon trips.

### **Monday October 7th - Mineral seller visits - afternoon until 4:30pm**

Two members will be offering open houses on Monday afternoon for any delegates wishing to purchase or view mineral specimens. Delegates wishing to visit on the afternoon are asked to express their interest, and maps will be provided for those wishing to visit.

**David Bissett - Birkdale - Mineral Store Australia - 0403 052 402**

**Tony Forsyth - Wynnum, - 0419 661 962**

### **Tuesday October 8th - Field trip to Kingaroy/Cloyna area**

An easy day's drive to Kingaroy (*which is about 3.25 hours drive north west of Brisbane*). Stay overnight in Kingaroy or nearby Murgon or Wondai. In the afternoon, explore Kingaroy and surrounds. (**NOTE:** You must arrange **YOUR OWN** overnight accommodation for this trip).

### **Wednesday October 9th - - Field trip to Kingaroy/Cloyna area**

We will drive to Murgon to meet, then in convoy to the Cloyna area (*30 mins.*). Use toilets and stock up in Murgon as this is the last stop before we fossick and there are no facilities at the location. Tools required are hand rake, hand pick and a bucket as well as normal safety gear. You will require sunscreen and water bottles as there is no shade. Maps and access details will be provided at the seminar. The contact on the day is **Tony Forsyth Mb. 0419 661 962.**

# Things to do around Brisbane when you have had enough of minerals (or at least your partner has anyway!).

Brisbane in October is well into the “stormy” season and showers, lightning shows and warm weather are all on the cards at this time of the year.

For those delegates that have a bit of time up their sleeve, here is a bit of history and a few attractions in and around Brisbane that you might find of interest.

## A bit of Brissie history

The first European exploration of Moreton Bay was carried out in 1797 by Matthew Flinders, who landed on what is now the northern suburban town of Redcliffe. In 1799, Flinders, in the “Norfolk”, charted the east coast of Queensland. In 1823, John Oxley in the “Mermaid” named the Brisbane River after the Governor of New South Wales at the time, and then explored some 100 kilometres inland.

A convict settlement was established at Redcliffe in 1824 which was moved to Brisbane in the following year. At the time, this territory was still part of New South Wales. The first free settlers arrived in the district in 1837, and by 1840 all convicts had been withdrawn from Brisbane. Convict buildings fronted what is now the Queen Street Mall in the CBD. The only buildings now remaining from this period are the Commissariat Store (1829) just below the newly opened casino at 115 William Street and the “old windmill” (1828) on Wickham Street, which was initially manned by convicts as a treadmill. By 1851 the residents of Queensland petitioned Queen Victoria to separate from the colony of New South Wales. She agreed, preferring the name “Queensland”, to the alternative suggestion of Cooksland. Queensland was finally proclaimed on 6th June 1859. Brisbane became the official capital of Queensland and has since grown into today’s city of 2.8 million people.

## Queensland Museum

The Queensland Museum is part of the Cultural Centre at South Bank. Check out “the Investigator Tree” engraved by members of the Matthew Flinders voyage in 1802 and later by the crew of the third Beagle voyage of 1841, and of course the Minerals Heritage Museum joint display on the mezzanine floor. Grey Street, Southbank. Free entry (apart from the Science Centre).

## Queensland Art Gallery

The Art Gallery is at the southern end of Victoria Bridge, within walking distance of the city centre. It was established in 1895, but moved to this new building in 1982. There is a large collection of Australian art from all periods, and also of Asian art, as well as British and European works. Melbourne Street, Southbank. Free entry. climb the Story Bridge Rise to the challenge and climb Brisbane’s iconic Story Bridge! 360-degree panoramic views from the summit, taking in Moreton Bay, the Glass House Mountains, Mt Coot-tha, Lamington National Park and the Brisbane River in a 2.5 hour climb. (Ph.07 3188 9070 - book ahead for deals).

## Public Transport

All public transport in Brisbane is currently 50c per ride – on Bus, train and ferry – so very cheap!

## Take a ferry on the Brisbane River

This is a very cheap way to see a bit of the city. Fast CityCat ferries run from Bulimba and to the south down to the University of Queensland stopping at Riverside, Southbank, West End and a few others. A slower Inner City Ferry system operates in the CBD area with more stops from New Farm to North Quay. A Cross River ferry links Teneriffe to Bulimba, New Farm to Norman Park and the city to Kangaroo Point.

## Visit Manly Harbour Village

25 minutes drive, or a 40 minute train ride east of the city you'll find Brisbane's only bay-side village, Manly, which overlooks the largest man-made marina on Australia's east coast and is home to hundreds of yachts and boats of all shapes and sizes. There are plenty of eating spots..

## City Botanical Gardens

Situated within the CBD, the Brisbane City Botanical Gardens are an oasis of green. Worth a wander around to see century old fig trees and rare plants.

## Visit Queen's Wharf

Only opened in late August 2024, the Queen's Wharf precinct combines a casino, hotels, restaurants and bars. A Skydeck offers amazing views of Brisbane, Southbank and the Brisbane river from 30 stories above the ground, and it's open to the public at no charge. To get there, it's an easy walk from Southbank Parklands across the river on the newly opened Neville Bonner Bridge.

## Get a great view of Brisbane from Mt Coot-tha

Less than 10 kms from the CBD, Mt Coot-tha provides a wonderful viewing spot combined with a great cafe for breakfast, lunch or just a coffee. It can be reached by a 40 minute bus ride from Southbank or 20 minutes by car. There is also the Brisbane Botanic Gardens on this route, set on 56 hectares, featuring greenhouse, bonsai displays and is free entry. A planetarium on site is also worth a visit (entry fee).

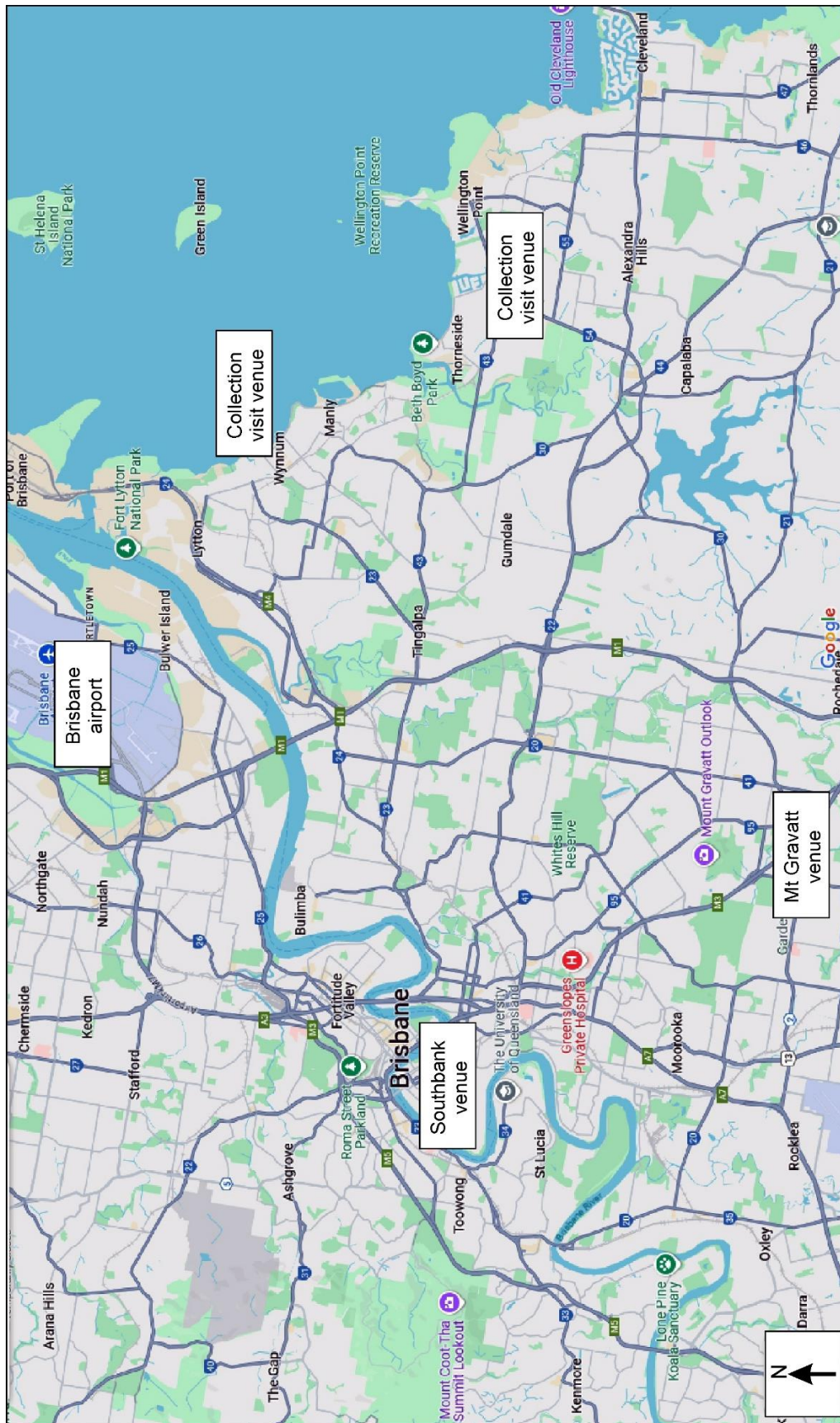
## Take an overseas trip to Straddie - by Bus or Car

North Stradbroke Island, colloquially referred to as 'Stradbroke' or 'Straddie', has kilometres of white sandy beaches fringing the island's eastern side. The calm waters of Moreton Bay lap against the shores of the island's western fishing towns. Take a train ride one hour south of Brisbane to Cleveland and North Stradbroke Island is accessible by bus, fast water taxi or car ferry from Cleveland. (Ph. 07 3415 3044).

## Seminar car parking at Southbank:

There are all-day undercover car parks within the Southbank precinct, however all are **pay per visit**. The closest recommended car parks available are directly below the Queensland Museum, the Queensland Art Gallery and the Queensland State Library for **\$17.60** per day on Saturday and Sunday from 7:00 am. Be aware that spaces are limited, so arrive early. *(Carparks in the Southbank precinct other than these are timed by the hour and can be quite expensive per day).*

# General map of seminar venue locations





# Seminar venue and Southbank precinct



**QUEENSLAND  
MUSEUM**  
SOUTH BANK

**Seminar venue - Queensland Museum**  
(Parking underneath Qld Museum or Qld Art Gallery)  
(avoid Parklands parking)

Walking route to CBD

Southbank Bus station  
(subject to construction works)

Southbank Train station

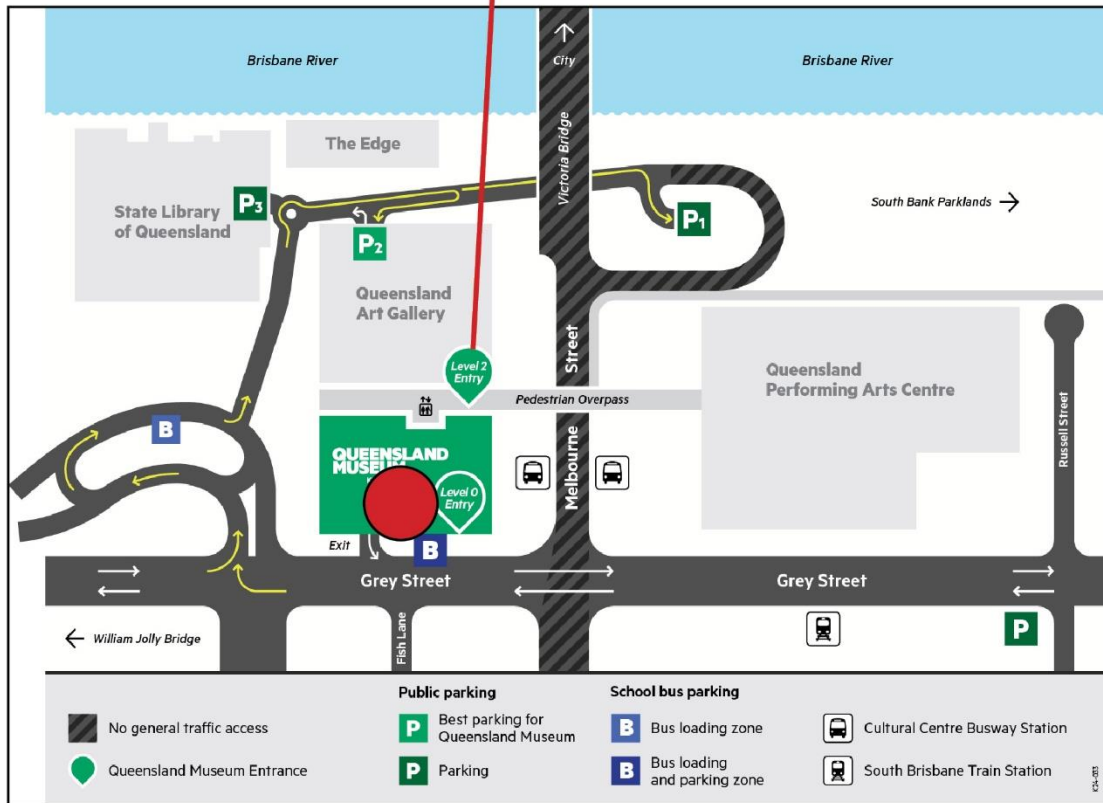
Walking bridge to CBD  
(Neville Bonner Bridge)

Ferry to CBD terminals

Venue of the seminar dinner:  
**The Plough Inn, 29 Stanley St Plaza, Southbank**

## Southbank Precinct

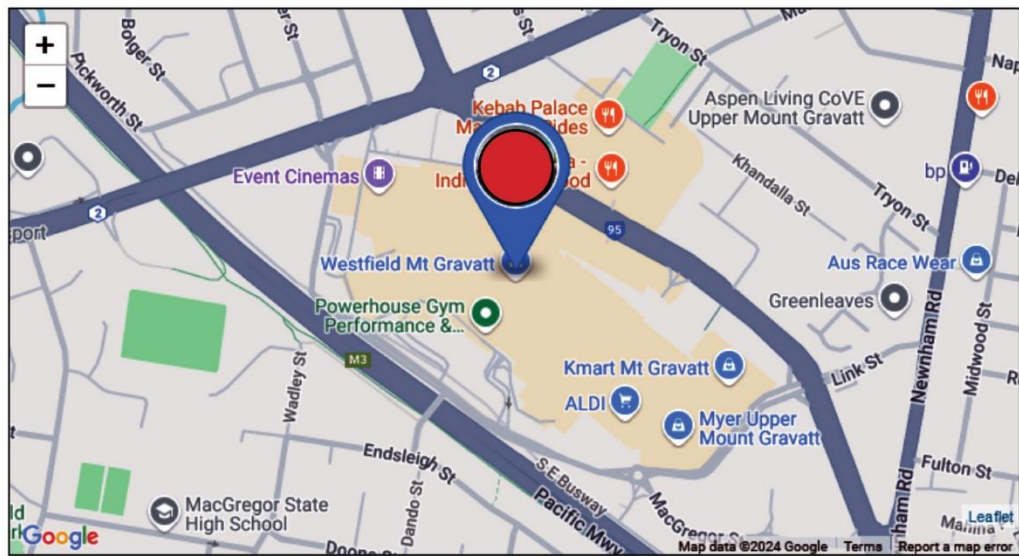
Use the Level 2 Entry please



## Garden City Precinct

To Southbank,  
Brisbane CBD

To Birkdale and Wynnum



To Gold Coast



# Seminar Program

<b>Saturday 5th October (Queensland Museum, Southbank)</b>	
8:30 am	Registration and welcome of attendees
9:15 am	Welcome by the president of the Mineralogical Society of Queensland, <b>Tony Forsyth</b> , and the formal opening of the 46th national seminar.
	<b>Session 1</b>
9:30 am	<b>Ross Pogson</b> - The New Minerals Gallery of the Australian Museum, Sydney
10:30 am	Morning tea break in Café Muse Terrace.
	<b>Session 2</b>
10:55 am	<b>Dayna McGeeney</b> - Rare and unusual gemstones in the Australian Museum, NSW collection
11:35 am	<b>Lawrence Queen</b> - Mineralogical curiosities from the Last Unknown: Collectable minerals of Papua New Guinea
12:30 pm	Lunch break in Café Muse Terrace. Visit mineral display on the mezzanine floor of the Queensland Museum or take a wander!
	<b>Session 3</b>
1:45 pm	<b>Valentine and Geoff McDonald</b> - Queensland Opals and Opal Deposits
2:30 pm	Afternoon tea break Café Muse Terrace.
	<b>Session 4</b>
3:00 pm	<b>Andrew Turkington - Minerals of Vietnam</b>
3:50 pm	Presentation by Harold Gallasch regarding the 2025 seminar
4:15 pm	Close of proceedings for Day 1. Queensland Museum closes at 5:00 pm
6:30 pm	Plough Inn Hotel      Meet for predinner drinks at the Plough Inn hotel, opposite the swimming lagoon, Southbank Parklands.
7:00 pm	Seminar dinner commences at the Plough Inn

## Optional afternoon trips on Monday 7th October

- \* **David Bissett**, Birkdale, is approx 24 mins or 17.5 kms by car from Mt Gravatt, Garden City Library.
- \* **Tony Forsyth**, Wynnum, is approx 24 mins or 24 kms by car from Mt Gravatt Garden City Library.
- \* **Brisbane Opal Museum** is approx. 22 mins or 22 kms by car from Mt Gravatt Garden City Library.

<b>Sunday 6th October (Queensland Museum, Southbank)</b>	
9:00 am	Registration and welcome of attendees
	<b>Session 5</b>
9:30 am	<b>Garry Gatfield</b> - Gold Rushes of Modern Times
10:30 am	Morning tea break in Café Muse Terrace.
	<b>Session 6</b>
11:00 am	<b>Tony Forsyth</b> - The Plainview Meteorite – a newly described Queensland meteorite
11:45 am	<b>John Haupt</b> - Mineralogy of Victoria
12:30 pm	Lunch break in Café Muse Terrace. Visit mineral display on the mezzanine floor of the Queensland Museum or take a wander!
	<b>Session 6</b>
1:45 pm	<b>Ralph Botterill</b> - 40 years of chasing minerals in Tasmania
2:30 pm	Afternoon tea break Café Muse Terrace.
	<b>Session 7 (final)</b>
3:00 pm	<b>Josh Irving</b> - Thackeringa Garnets
3:45 pm	<b>John Hayward</b> - Wave Hill, NT. Minerals and Mineralogy
4:30 pm	Final thank you and seminar closing address

<b>Monday 7th October (Mt Gravatt Garden City Library meeting rooms)</b>	
8:15 am	State society delegates meet to discuss genral business <i>(if required)</i>
8:45 am	Mineral Bazaar traders able to set up at Mt Gravatt library rooms
9:00 am	Mineral Bazaar trade begins (until 12:00 pm noon)
10:00 am	Micromount meeting and discussions for those that want
12:00 pm	Trading finishes and room packed
12:30 pm	Visit to mineral dealer David Bisset, buy or view, Birkdale *, and or:
12:30 pm	Visit to view collection, Tony Forsyth, Wynnum *, and or:
12:30 pm	Vist to view opal and MHM mineral collection, Windsor, Brisbane *

<b>Tuesday 8th October</b>	
Drive to Kingaroy <i>(or Murgon/Wondai area)</i> SE Queensland. Overnight stay. <i>(Drive to Murgon on Wednesday morning.)</i> Approx 3.25 hrs by car from Brisbane to Kingaroy.	

<b>Wednesday 9th October</b>	
8:45 am	Meet at the Lions Club carpark in Murgon. Toilet break and last chance to purchase food and drinks.
9:00 am	Travel in convoy to the Cloyna area. Fossick for agate and chalcedony specimens. Sunscreen, hat and hand rake or pick required.
1:15 pm	Finish fossicking, and end of official proceedings! A safe drive home to all thank you! Feel free to visit local wineries and attractions.