



Mineralogical Society of Western Australia Inc.

JANUARY 2017 Newsletter

Contents

Editorial.....	2
Reminders	2
New Members.....	2
Membership Renewals	2
Carbon Mineral Challenge	2
Pending discussion on raising door charges from \$2 to \$3	3
Activity from other MinSoc's	3
Australian Journal of Mineralogy back issues for sale	3
Any members visiting Rottnest in the future?.....	3
RECENT ACTIVITIES	4
The 6th Frank Radke Memorial Mineral Auction Report – John Mill	4
New mineral specimen discovery over east ... the 'Harlequin Pocket'	7
FUTURE ACTIVITIES	9
40th Joint MinSoc's of Australasia Seminar – Hahndorf, SA - Sep30th – Oct6th 2017	9
General Meetings.....	11
NEXT MEETING DATE	11
Future Activity Days	11
Contacts	11



Editorial

Hi and welcome to your first MinSocWA newsletter for 2017. Many thanks to Vernon and Jason for their roles as Editors since January 2013 and the invitation to put my shoulder to the plough so-to-speak as Jason gets into the pointy end of his PhD work.

A brief introduction ... my name is Craig Bosel and I've been a member for a few years and a mine geologist for some 33 years, the majority of which has been in WA but with stints in New Zealand, Fiji, Northern Territory and Queensland. I originated from New Zealand and have been mineral collecting on and off since age eight when living on a cattle station in North Queensland close to Agate Creek (which regretfully I never visited!). Married to long-suffering West Australian wife Ruth, now the four girls have all left home and gotten married one of their old bedrooms has proven very handy for displaying a mineral or three.

Like many other unemployed geologists and mining engineers in Perth during this current mining downturn, I've embraced Uber driving in my 'semi-retirement' and have got to say I'm enjoying the change of pace and scenery a lot. A reminder: If you have any suitable articles you wish included in future newsletters; please email them to me at craig.bosel@westnet.com.au -Mob: 0478 633 810

Reminders

At all meetings the Society's microscope and UV lamp are available for use by members.

The Society has a library from which members may borrow free of charge. The library is housed at Stewart's office in West Perth, and the catalogue is available from the Secretary.

The policy that members may submit short advertisements free of charge will remain. Additionally, commercial advertisements will be accepted for a nominal charge.

New Members

The committee would like to welcome the following new members to the Society - Pete Willems, Sam Capstick, Des Lascelles and Greg Jorgensen.

Membership Renewals

The committee would like to remind members that annual membership fees are due by the 30th of June. New members please fill in the form on the website. Please use the following account details to pay your annual \$30 renewal into the Commonwealth Bank, whilst not forgetting to put YOUR NAME in the transaction reference.

Account: Mineralogical Society of WA Inc.

BSB: 066 124

Account: 10168786

Carbon Mineral Challenge

We have been invited as a Mineralogical Society to join the Carbon Mineral Challenge. The idea is to find and identify as many of the 145 carbon bearing mineral species estimated to remain undiscovered by 2019. You can read more about it [here](#) and [here](#).



Pending discussion on raising door charges from \$2 to \$3

John, our Treasurer has also raised this agenda item for discussion at our next general meeting: “the Lapidary Club is raising the hall hire charges from \$30.00 per hire period to \$50.00 per hire period from 1st January 2017. That means that in the last 18 months the hall hire has gone from \$10.00 per hire period to \$50.00, a rise of \$500%. It is not clear if the ‘per meeting’ rate is the same for an evening meeting and a full day hire, but I suspect it is. We should consider raising our door charges from \$2.00 to \$3.00 to cover this steep increase and I would like this issue put on the agenda”.

Activity from other MinSoc's

The New South Wales MinSoc December newsletter is now available on their website at http://minsocnsw.org.au/newsletters/MinSoc_Newsletter_Dec16.pdf

Contact me (the Editor) if you'd like to receive a 4MB email pdf with info about the upcoming Gemboree 2017 to be held in Lithgow, NSW next Easter.

Australian Journal of Mineralogy back issues for sale

“The stockpile of AJM journals has arrived from Melbourne, and back issues are now for sale. Geert Buters will be bringing the full range of available copies to the next MinSoc meeting. If you are missing any journals in your collection, purchase them from him here and save yourself the postage.” ... great advice, thanks Geert.

Any members visiting Rottnest in the future?

Rottnest Island, about 19 km west of Fremantle, is the largest and northernmost in a chain of islands representing the emergent part of a limestone ridge that was once part of the mainland of Western Australia.

Rottnest Island has some unique geological features of extraordinary local, regional and international significance. Fossilized corals, stromatolites, ‘Paddy-field’ terraces, and rhizoliths are just some of the many that can be observed around the island — these tell the story of many changes in sea level over the last 140 000 years. To help the wandering tourist to identify these features, the Geological Survey of Western Australia (GSWA) has produced a pamphlet and a matching app to describe nine of the best sites and examples around the Island (see figure).

The pamphlet can be picked up at the Visitor Centre on Rottnest Island or downloaded free from the DMP eBookshop. The Everywhere App can be downloaded from iTunes App Store (for Apple phones) and the Google Play Store (for Android devices). See detailed instructions below.

As you walk near key geological locations around Rottnest Island with your Everywhere App turned on, you'll get notifications about the geology and landforms of each spot. Each location gives you geological information written by geologists from GSWA.

Please note that the locations will not be visible until you are on the island and within range. So grab your bicycle, snorkel, fins and phone (wrapped in plastic?) and head over to Rottnest Island for some fun lessons in geology.

GSWA would love your feedback. Just follow the prompts on the app and leave your comments.

More geotourism activities are available through the DMP website at:

<http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/Geological-Survey/Geotourism-1402.aspx>

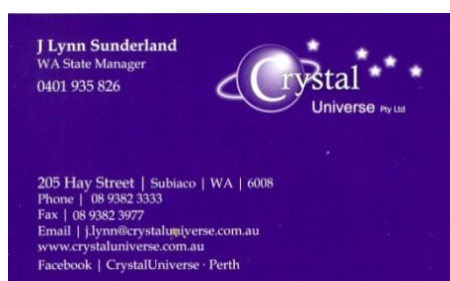
RECENT ACTIVITIES

The 6th Frank Radke Memorial Mineral Auction Report – John Mill

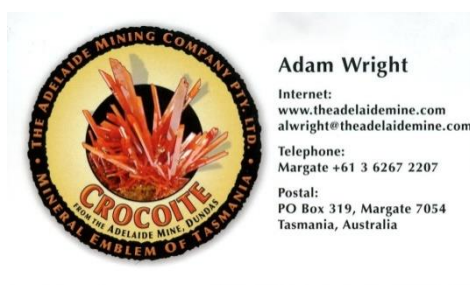
As many of you know, our Frank Radke Memorial Auction was held on Sunday 20th November. Months of hard work by the auction committee paid off and we achieved record registrations, record turnover and a record profit.

We started preparing for the auction early and the first task was to gather together a wide range of interesting specimens that would appeal to our members. Your committee decided to opt for a whole day event instead of the previous evening format. Our goal was to collect over 200 specimens and other items such as books, instruments and the like. In the end we had 297 items thanks to the generosity of club members, associates and commercial dealers. Our commercial sponsors were particularly generous and I have listed them below. I would encourage all our members to avail themselves of their services.

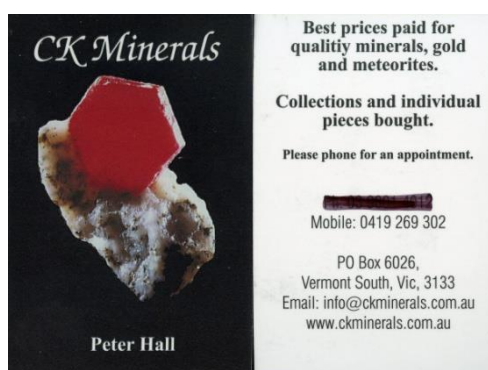
Crystal Universe – our locally based mineral dealer owned by Rob Sielecki and ably managed by J. Lynn Sunderland supplied us with a wide range of attractive mineral specimens from world-wide locations.



Adam Wright of the Adelaide Mining Company supplied us with 6 gorgeous crocoite specimens and 3 nice small cerussite specimens from the Adelaide Mine, all in perspex boxes.



Peter Hall of CK Minerals in Melbourne donated 3 specimens including azurite suns, a desert rose and a nice spessartine which featured in some of our advertising.





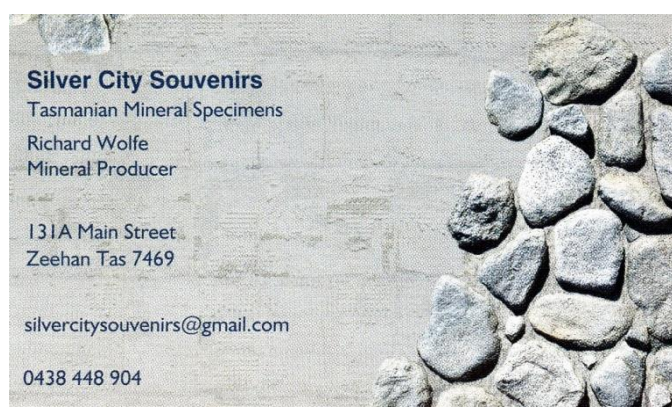
Tom Kapitany of Crystal World supplied a huge beryl in pegmatite plus dravite in schist and garnet in chlorite schist from his own mines.



For the first time we had an American based dealer support our auction. Dan Weinrich of Weinrich Minerals sent 4 compact specimens which were keenly sought after. Dan is a prominent exhibitor at Tucson and other international mineral shows.



Those of you who went to the Tasmanian Joint Mineralogical Societies Seminar will have seen Richard Wolfe's impressive crocoite specimens. He donated 2 for our auction and they fetched premium prices.



Another donor was Dehne and Maureen McLaughlin, well known Tasmanian dealers. Dehne donated 2 beautiful azurite suns, sourced from his own mine in the N.T.



Mineral specimens
& Azurite "Sun" mining
**Dehne & Maureen
McLaughlin**
Hobart, Tasmania, Australia
dehne.mclaughlin@bigpond.com
0402 450 905
+61 402 450 905



We also were lucky to source specimens from well-known Australian mines such as the Renison Bell Tin Mine in Tasmania and Western Australia's own De Grussa base metal mine. The beautiful copper specimens from Sandfire Resources' De Grussa mine were particularly sought after and fetched premium prices.

Paul Melville, a Darwin based collector, provided us with 34 beautiful specimens from around the world. Prized among them were 5 spectacular self-collected pyromorphite-on-malachite specimens from Brown's Open Cut in the NT. These are well known worldwide and we were truly blessed to be able to auction them and share some of the proceeds with Paul.

Our own members who run their own commercial mineral businesses were also generous beyond belief. Juan Fernandez-Buelga donated some lovely fluorite and pyrite specimens from Spain and Bert Macray of the Rock Shop in London Court gave us some attractive Western Australian emerald specimens.

SPANISH  MINERALS
Juan Fernandez-Buelga *BSc (Hons) BBus*
Mineral Art Specialist

The Rock Shop
Gemstones, Jewellery & Minerals

Bertrand Macray
Bsc Geol., FGAA

Ph: +61 8 9325 7052
49 London Court, Perth, Western Australia 6000
e.mail: rockshop@optusnet.com.au
website: www.therockshopwa.com.au

Our members were also extremely generous donating their precious specimens to the auction for the benefit of our Society. Of particular note were Ted Fowler and Clive Daw whose mainly Western Australian specimens fetched premium prices. Craig Bosel and Steve Turner also provided an attractive range of local and overseas specimens. Ken Ireland chipped in with a number of back issues of Gems and Gemmology and Rocks and Minerals and the Mineralogical Record Magazines. Stewart Cole/Mark Creasy donated some rare Rocklands native copper specimens which were eagerly sought.

Key to the successful auction was our magnificent website designed by Jason Bennett, complete with countdown clock. It was constantly updated with new specimens as they arrived. Vernon Stocklmayer undertook the photography and preparation of the Power Point presentations.

Many thanks to our volunteers who helped make the day so memorable. In particular, to Clive Daw who took on the mantle of auctioneer, extracting every last cent from the audience. Thanks also to the kitchen volunteers, Ida, Ann and Juan, the accounts volunteers, Susan S, Craig, Allan, Max and Vernon and also to Angela, Ted, Sue K, Geert and Lee. I hope I have not missed anyone.



Finally may I record my thanks to my fellow committee members Vernon and Jason whose untiring efforts resulted in this successful event.

In all, we managed to gross over \$18,000 and I think our surplus after all expenses will be in excess of \$11,000, almost double the previous auction. Feedback from people who have been following our auction suggest that this might be a record for a Mineralogical Society in Australia. Please let me know.

John Mill,
MinSocWA Auction Chairman



[New mineral specimen discovery over east ... the 'Harlequin Pocket'](#)

Computer savvy members may have been a part of the excitement in late 2016 when it was reported on the facebook group 'The Australian Crystals and Minerals Group' (13,963 members as at 6/1/17 ...worth joining) that two amateur collectors A. Miller and G. Melville had found and successfully excavated a large miarolitic cavity in a granite in the Inverill district of NSW.

What made the specimens from this cavity more desirable than usual was the co-existence of 'hoppered' feldspar masses with smokey quartz (morion) and occasional black tourmaline.

Experienced Aussie mineral collector, Nigel Richardson, took on the contracted task of prepping the specimens with oxalic acid and mechanical cleaning where needed, before holding a very professional facebook 'sale' at a nominated time and date. It wasn't an auction but rather a case of first in-best dressed typing 'SOLD' next to the relevant specimen photo at the listed asking price. It all made for a feverish 15 minutes or so! Some photos are shown below, for those that missed it. New social media technologies like facebook are certainly making the business of buying and selling mineral specimens very different to what it was even 10 years ago.



The dedicated mineral specimen collector ☺ 'whatever it takes'!!



Examples of some of the specimens sold in the facebook sale on November 12th 2016





FUTURE ACTIVITIES

40th Joint MinSoc's of Australasia Seminar – Hahndorf, SA - Sep30th – Oct6th 2017

Please find attached the flyer for the 2017 40th Joint Mineralogical Societies of Australasia Seminar to be held in the picturesque village of Hahndorf in the Adelaide Hills. **The MinSoc of SA invites expressions of interest from those wishing to give a presentation (and short abstract) at the 2017 seminar.** The theme of the seminar is Copper Minerals and the Copper State, however, those interested in presenting should know that we do not wish to be too restrictive on the subject of presentations, and talks on other topics of interest for professional and amateur mineralogists which are outside of the Copper theme will also be considered.

Those interested in contributing a presentation at the Seminar can email me at this address (Ben.Grguric@samuseum.sa.gov.au) and are recommended to copy in the current President of the SA Mineralogical Society, Harold Gallasch (gallasch@bukartilla.com.au). Please feel free to forward the flyer and invitation to mineral clubs and other interested parties or individuals in your state.

October is usually a popular and busy time in Adelaide Hills and Hahndorf. Although Hahndorf does have ample accommodation the venues do advise that bookings should be made early. The Seminar will be held at the 'Hahndorf Resort Tourist Park' where there is a range of accommodation including caravan and camp sites.

Hahndorf Resort Tourist Park
145A Mt Barker Road, Hahndorf
www.hahndorfresort.com.au
enquiries@hahndorfresort.com.au
Freecall: 1300 763 836
Phone: (08) 8388 7921
Email: enquiries@hahndorfresort.com.au

Some of the other venues, about which information can be found on the internet, include

The Hahndorf Old Mill Hotel
98 Main Street, Hahndorf
www.hahndorfoldmill.com
email: admin@hahndorfoldmill.com
08 83887888

Hahndorf Motel
60 Main Street, Hahndorf
www.hahndorfmotel.com.au
facebook/thehahndorfmotel

The Haus Studio Apartments,
34 Main Street, Hahndorf

www.hausstudioapartments.com.au
facebook/hausstudioapartments

The Manna of Hahndorf
25 Main Street, Hahndorf
www.themanna.com.au
facebook/themannahahndorf

The Hahndorf Motor Lodge
35a Main Street, Hahndorf
www.hahndorfinnmotorlodge.com.au
facebook/thehahndorfmotorlodge



Stables Boutique Motel
74 Main Street, Hahndorf
www.hahndorfstablesmotel.com.au
email: k.thomas46@hotmail.com
08 83887988

email: admin@oatscottage.com.au
0447 814 689

Oats Cottage of Hahndorf
9 Auricht Road, Hahndorf
www.oatscottage.com.au

Hahndorf House B&B
27 Auricht Road, Hahndorf
www.hahndorfhhouse.com.au
email: stay@hahndorfhhouse.com.au
0412 014 217

The above are all within walking distance of the seminar venue.

There are several other accommodation venues in adjacent towns or 20 mins down the freeway there are many motels on the Glen Osmond road, the entry to Adelaide.



SEPT. 30TH – OCT. 6TH 2017
ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA

40TH JOINT MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES OF AUSTRALASIA SEMINAR

Copper Minerals - Copper State

The 2017 seminar will take place over 2 days, the 4th & 5th of October with various activities including field trips scheduled from Oct. 1st through to the 6th. This will also coincide with the Adelaide Gem & Mineral Club show on Oct. 7th & 8th. Additional field trips are also planned for the 9th – 14th Oct. to the north of the state and to locations and collections in and around Broken Hill.



The Mineralogical Society of
South Australia Inc.
GPO Box 1089, Adelaide, 5001.
<http://www.sa-minsoc.wabeyte.com.au>



The Seminar will be based in the historic German settled village of Hahndorf, only 30 mins drive by car from Adelaide City. A range of accommodation options are available including at the seminar venue. The theme is "Copper Minerals - Copper State" given South Australia's early copper mining history. A list of lectures & guest speakers will be provided in due course. A number of field trips to copper, uranium and phosphate deposits are currently being planned. You could also choose to visit one of the dozens of wineries in the region and there's much more to do and see !!

**Noted speakers on
a range of topics**

**Adelaide Gem &
Mineral Show**

Field Trips

**View Mineral
Collections**

Mineral Buy & Sell

**+ loads of other
great places and
activities to check
out nearby !**

**FURTHER DETAILS WILL
BE MADE AVAILABLE ON
THE AUSTRALIAN
MINERAL COLLECTOR
WEBSITE**
www.mineral.org.au

OR

**Contact : Harold Gallasch
(08) 8388 7218
gallasch@bukartilla.com.au**

www.bukartilla.com.au



General Meetings

The General Meetings of the Mineralogical Society of Western Australia Incorporated are now held at 7.30pm on the **second** Wednesday of every odd month at the WA Lapidary and Rockhunting Club rooms located at 31 Gladstone Road, Rivervale, Perth (at the corner of Newey Street).

NEXT MEETING DATE

THIS Wednesday, 11th January 2017 at 7:30pm

GORGEOUS GARNETS by Francine Payette

Francine is a geologist and gemmologist who started her career as a research assistant at the Department of Geology, University of Montreal (Quebec, Canada). For the past 30 years she dedicated her time to the study of gem minerals and had been a lecturer of gemmology in Canada, Madagascar and Australia. She has been a WA MinSoc member for some years and we are grateful to her for her willingness to share with us her extensive knowledge on matters mineralogical.

Future Activity Days

No information available this early in the new year. Activities for the year are still in the planning phase. Please pay attention to the website <http://www.minsocwa.org.au/activities.html> , your emails and social media <https://www.facebook.com/MINSOCWA/> for further updates leading up to the events.

Contacts

The committee members for FY17 are:

President	Stewart Cole	0414 904 169
Vice President	Vernon Stocklmayer	08 9291 9043
Secretary	Sue Koepke	0417 990 688
Treasurer	John Mill	
Field Trip Leader	vacant	
Committee Members	Ida Newton Angela Riganti Lee Hassan	

