Mineralogical Society of Western Australia Inc.

To encourage mineralogical study by amateur and professional alike and, in so doing, discover, document and preserve the Earth's, and in particular Western Australia's, natural history.

Biotite – Olga Blay

NEWSLETTER 111
June 2025

Biotite – Olga Blay

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 111th newsletter for the second quarter of 2025. This edition contains some beautiful crystal images from the Mukinbudin field trip. A great selection of large biotite "slabs" were collected.

Another Mineral Market was well attended and successful.

The inaugural *Introduction to Mineralogy Course* has now completed and we are receiving feedback from participants. A summary of events has been included in the last few newsletters.

Another interesting story about the mineralisation found in pegmatite from Susan for your perusal.

Don't forget to book your attendance at the 47th Mineralogical Societies of Australasia Joint Seminar in October.

Some interesting courses are available from the Gemmological Society in WA for those seeking an opportunity.

Most importantly if you haven't already, remember to pay your member fees by Tuesday 1 July 2025 to access the $5 off.

Wendy H
Newsletter Editor

MAY 2025 TALKS

Minerals of the Fukushima Prefecture, Japan

and

Discovery of Quartz Crystals & "Turgite"at the Tallering Peak Mine 2007, Mount Gibson, Western Australia

Compiled by Grant Boxer

Figure 1. Location of the Fukushima Prefecture, Japan

We had two speakers at the May 2025 meeting. Stephen (Steve) Turner spoke on the interesting minerals of the Fukushima Prefecture in Japan, and Craig Bosel talked about his time at the Tallering Peak iron ore mine and the discovery of some beautiful quartz crystals.

Minerals of the Fukushima Prefecture, Japan

Steve discussed the minerals from pegmatites and metamorphic rocks from the Fukushima area of Japan. The beginning of his talk was a review of the nuclear disaster at the Fukushima nuclear power plant caused by a tsunami triggered by a magnitude 9 earthquake. This earthquake lasted for six minutes!

The area hosts pegmatites and uranium-bearing minerals but none of these have been mined commercially for REE or uranium.

The **Ishikawa District** (now disolved) hosts numerous granite pegmatites and some of these have been mined for feldspar for the ceramics industry.

U-bearing minerals include:

autunite	$Ca(UO_2)_2(PO_4)_2 \cdot 10\text{-}12H_2O$
euxenite-(Y)	$(Y,Ca,Ce,U,Th)\ (Nb,Ta,Ti)_2O_6$
ishikawaite *(type locality)*	$U^{4+}Fe^{2+}Nb_2O_8$
thorite *var. thorogummite*	$(Th,U)\ (SiO_4)_{1-x}(OH)_{4x}$
torbernite	$Cu(UO_2)_2(PO_4)_2 \cdot 12H_2$
uraninite	UO_2
uranophane	$Ca(UO_2)_2(SiO_3OH)_2 \cdot 5H_2O$

euxenite-(Y) *FOV = 2.5 cm*

from R. Tanaka (mindat.org)

Rare Earth Element-bearing minerals include:

allanite-(Ce)	$(CaCe)(AlAlFe^{2+})O[Si_2O_7][SiO_4](OH)$
brockite	$(Ca,Th,Ce)PO_4 \cdot H_2O$
columbite-(Fe)	$Fe^{2+}Nb_2O_6$
euxenite-(Y)	$(Y,Ca,Ce,U,Th)(Nb,Ta,Ti)_2O_6$
fergusonite-(Y)	$YNbO_4$
ishikawaite *(type locality)*	$U^{4+}Fe^{2+}Nb_2O_8$
monazite-(Ce)	$Ce(PO_4)$
samarskite-(Y)	$YFe^{3+}Nb_2O_8$
thalénite-(Y)	$Y_3Si_3O_{10}F$
uedaite-(Ce)	$(Mn^{2+}Ce)(AlAlFe^{2+})O[Si_2O_7][SiO_4](OH)$
xenotime-(Y)	$Y(PO_4)$

Ishikawaite FOV = 4 mm

Photo: Armin Schöler

Pegmatites of the area around **Iizaka Village** (Data District) also host a wide range of minerals including uranium and rare earth minerals:

Uranium-bearing Minerals include:

autunite	$Ca(UO_2)_2(PO_4)_2 \cdot 10\text{-}12H_2O$
gummite var. yttrogummite	*mixture*
thorite *var. thorogummite*	$(Th,U)(SiO_4)_{1-x}(OH)_{4x}$
torbernite	$Cu(UO_2)_2(PO_4)_2 \cdot 12H_2$
uraninite	UO_2
uranophane	$Ca(UO_2)_2(SiO_3OH)_2 \cdot 5H_2O$
yttrotantalite-(Y)	$(Y,U,Fe^{2+})(Ta,Nb)(O,OH)_4$
zeunerite	$Cu(UO_2)_2(AsO_4)_2 \cdot 12H_2O$

Rare Earth Element-bearing Minerals include:

allanite-(Ce)	$(CaCe)(AlAlFe^{2+})O[Si_2O_7][SiO_4](OH)$
britholite-(Y) *(type locality)*	$(Y,Ca)_5(SiO_4)_3OH$
caysichite-(Y)	$(Ca,Yb,Er)_4Y_4(Si_8O_{20})(CO_3)_6(OH) \cdot 7H_2O$
fergusonite-(Y)	$YNbO_4$
fluorite var. yttrofluorite	$(Ca_{1-x}Y_x)F_{2+x}$ where $0.05 < x < 0.3$
hingganite-(Y)	$(Y,REE,Ca)_2(\square,Fe^{2+})Be_2[SiO_4]_2(OH)_2$
iwashiroite-(Y) *(type locality)*	$Y(Ta,Nb)O_4$
iimoriite-(Y)	$Y_2[SiO_4][CO_3]$
lokkaite-(Y)	$Ca(Y,Gd,Nd,Dy)_4(CO_3)_7 \cdot 9H_2O$
miyawakiite-(Y) *(type locality)*	$Y_4Fe_2(Si_8O_{20})(CO_3)_4(H_2O)_3$
synchysite-(Y)	$CaY(CO_3)_2F$
tengerite-(Y)	$Y_2(CO_3)_3 \cdot 2\text{-}3H_2O$
thalénite-(Y)	$Y_3Si_3O_{10}F$
uedaite-(Ce)	$(Mn^{2+}Ce)(AlAlFe^{2+})O[Si_2O_7][SiO_4](OH)$
xenotime-(Y)	$Y(PO_4)$
yttrialite-(Y)	$(Y,Th)_2Si_2O_7$

Gozaiisho Mine, Iwaki City

Bedded manganese deposits are hosted in siliceous schists of the Abukuma Metamorphic Rocks of epidote-amphibolite facies. The Gozaisho mine has recorded 53 different minerals according to mindat.org. Rhodonite was the main ore mineral with lesser braunite and tephroite. The deposit is locally As-rich with various As-bearing minerals:

arseniopleite	$(NaCaMnMn_2(AsO_4)_3)$
geigerite	$(Mn^{2+}{}_5(AsO_4)_2(HAsO_4)_2 \cdot 10H_2O)$
manganberzelianite	$((NaCa_2)Mn^{2+}{}_2(AsO_4)_3)$
parabrandtite	$(Ca_2Mn^{2+}(AsO_4)_2 \cdot 2H_2O)$ and
sarkinite	$(Mn^{2+}{}_2(AsO_4)(OH))$

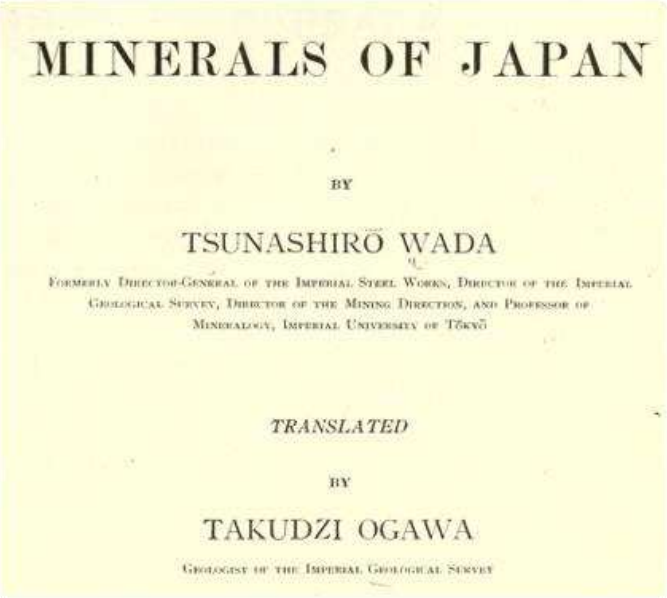
The Gozaisho mine also hosts some rarer minerals:

långbanite	$(Mn^{2+}{}_4Mn^{3+}{}_9Sb^{5+}O_{16}(SiO_4)_2)$
ferri-ghoseite	$([Mn^{2+}Na][Mg_4Fe^{3+}]Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2)$
magnesio-arvedsonite	$(\{Na\}\{Na_2\}\{Mg_4Fe^{3+}\}(Si_8O_{22})(OH)_2)$

Långbanite in rhodonite (arrowed). Sample length 3.3 cm

A skarn mineral from the region is named after Tsunashiro Wada, the son of a samurai, and the first Director General of the Geological Survey of Japan. He helped establish the modern study of mineralogy in Japan and assembled a large collection of fine Japanese minerals.

Wadalite *(type locality) – length 9 mm*
Tadano, Koriyama City
$(Ca,Mg)_6(Al,Fe^{3+})_4((Si,Al)O_4)_3O_4Cl_3$



MINERALS OF JAPAN

BY

TSUNASHIRŌ WADA

FORMERLY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE IMPERIAL STEEL WORKS, DIRECTOR OF THE IMPERIAL GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DIRECTOR OF THE MINING DIRECTION, AND PROFESSOR OF MINERALOGY, IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY OF TŌKYŌ

TRANSLATED

BY

TAKUDZI OGAWA

GEOLOGIST OF THE IMPERIAL GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The second talk of the evening was given by Craig Bosel, a geologist who worked at the Tallering Peak iron ore mine in 2007. Craig's colleague spotted a rich deposit of very fine quartz crystals in the open pit and they went back to collect several specimens.

Tallering Peak mine, Geraldton

The Tallering Peak mine is located northeast of Geraldton in WA's Mid West region. Mount Gibson Mining operated the mine between 2003 and 2014, mining iron mineralisation comprising hematite, magnetite and canga (ferricrete) style orebodies. Over 23.5 million tonnes of direct shipping ore was mined and sent to China.

This cross section shows the distribution of mineralisation through one section of the deposit with the magnetite—hematite mineralisation in red and pink and the "eroded" canga mineralisation in the weathered zone near surface.

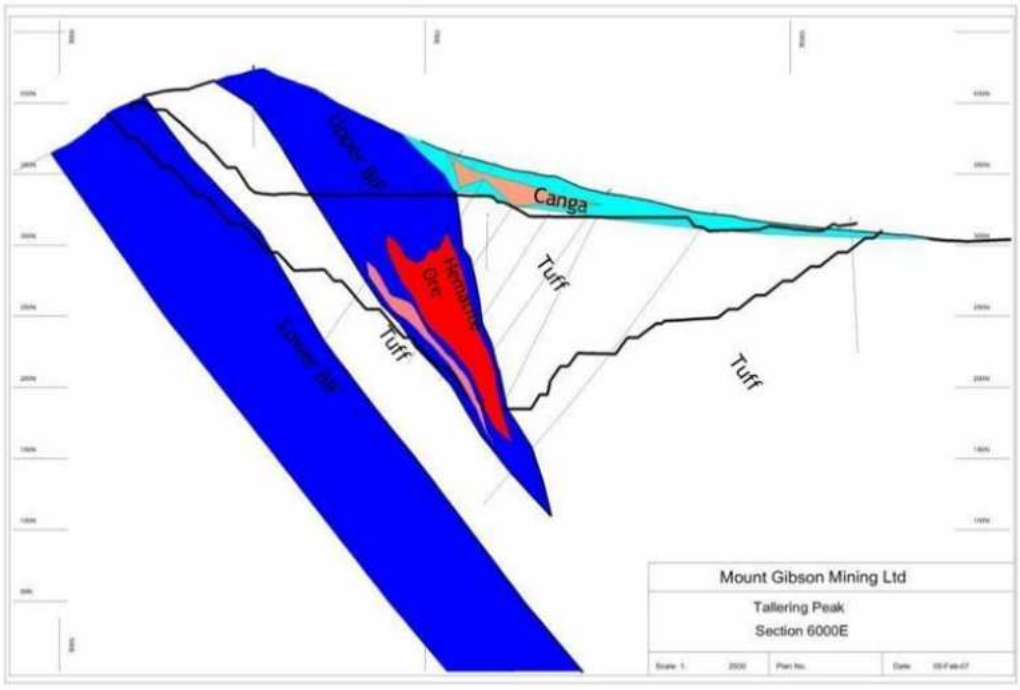


Image of the Tallering Peak pit and the location marked in yellow where thousands of quartz crystals occurred in a 3 m-wide 'sand-filled' section of BIF. The crystals were exposed below a temporary ramp for about eight weeks from August to October 2007

Quartz crystals in a sandy matrix

Examples of some of the recovered quartz crystals

Tallering Peak doubly terminated quartz crystal sold to Nigel Richardson in QLD for AU$85 in October 2017

Craig also discussed the iridescent surface coating that occur on samples from the area. Originally termed “Turgite”, but now described as an “Iridescent Coating” on a specimen.

Craig described three types of coating. Type 1 or “Super Iridescent”, comprising what Craig called “Tropical Butterfly Wing” effect.

Type 2 or “Solid colour” with the appearance of the coating as an oil painting.

The third type or “Metallic Colour Smear” looks like an oil spill on water where iridescent colours are displayed.

A collection of Craig’s samples illustrating various types of “Iridescent Coatings”

APRIL 2025 ACTIVITY

Mineral Market — Saturday 12 April 2025

A mineral market was held in the Main Hall of Forster Community Centre in Cloverdale in April. It was a great opportunity to buy and sell, or just swap anything related to minerals, mineralogy, geology or mining!

James S with interesting pieces for sale

Some lovely samples of Malacite


Fossiles des Phosphates Marocains


HELLO
Olive's
ock Art"
$5

FIELDTRIP MAY 2025

Mukinbudin —2 to 4 May 2025

Compiled by Peter Pring and photos unless noted otherwise

A group of eight MinSocWA members assembled in Mukinbudin (250 km east-northeast from Perth) to enjoy the cool weather before the winter rains while visiting sites in the Mukinbudin pegmatite field. Most field trip participants opted to stay at the Mukinbudin caravan park, as for the November 2024 trip it was quiet, but everybody chose a cabin, with nobody camping. The Mukinbudin pub provided sustenance and liquid refreshments the first night, Tom kindly put on a great spread of nibbles to accompany drinks the second night. There was much activity in Mukinbudin on Saturday night after the local footy team had a win over Bencubbin that day, the losing team were drowning their sorrows at the pub that evening.

The field trip leader was able to complete a scouting visit to the Potts Rd (Beacon) quarry (Australian Silica Quartz) on the Friday morning (2nd), where the quarry manager (Garry Ovens) provided a quick tour and opportunity to grab some material. Given the work rosters of the quarry, it was not possible for other MinSocWA members to get to Beacon early enough to participate in the visit; however, the manager indicated a willingness to accommodate future visits if they fit with the roster. Given the quarry is an active site there is a lot of dust and rubble on every surface, it was difficult to see much of the wall rocks on the quick visit. There was an interesting occurrence of a green-yellow talc (soapstone) in one pit wall, and the manager provided a heavy mineral specimen which is likely to be xenotime judging by the yttrium content returned from a handheld XRF scan.

Attempts to organise a visit to the Karlonning quarry had been unsuccessful but, while driving past the Whitstone Quarry Operations, the field trip leader dropped in to see if anyone was on site and was able to speak with the owner/operator (John Chisolm). An impromptu visit was organised for most of the MinSocWA members for Friday afternoon, we didn't explore the actual pits but did have a good rummage through the waste dump piles where there was a good assortment of specimens to be found. Some large slabs of biotite up to 25 cm across and possible fergusonite were brought back to Perth.

Saturday morning (3rd) was spent at the Mukinbudin quarry, the focus for some was looking for quartz crystals while others went looking for rare earth element minerals. With considerable effort some good clusters of smoky quartz were extracted from a pocket in the pit. Some of the white to pale pink microcline showed good cleavage, twinning and perthitic textures at the hand specimen and outcrop scale.

A highlight of the weekend was a side trip to Elachbutting Rock on Saturday afternoon. Some intriguing weathering features around the base of this granite monolith included a significant overhang and a cave formed by a large slab fall. Well worth a visit for anyone who might be venturing through that part of the world. Berringbooding Rock showed the lengths that the pioneers in that part of the world went to in order to collect water.

Sunday morning (4th) the group went to Calcaling quarry, the field trip leader was on a mission to get some better photos of the quartz clusters in the cave at the base of the pit there. Maryam was pleased with the clear and smoky quartz that occurred in the pit and was scattered across the waste dumps.

The field visit was only possible with the permission of the landowners and the companies who hold the exploration licences over the respective quarries. The Karloning quarry is owned and operated by Whitestone Quarry Operations and is surrounded by an exploration licence held by Codrus Minerals.

Mukinbudin quarry is on land owned by Gary Shadbolt, the exploration licence is currently held by Industrial Minerals Ltd. Calcaling quarry is on land owned by John Nicoletti and the exploration licence is currently held by MTM Critical Minerals.

The 2016 UWA Honours thesis by Thomas Pilote *Mineralogy and Geochemistry of Rare-Element Bearing Minerals in the Mukinbudin NYF Pegmatite Field, Western Australia* provides a much more detailed discussion of the minerals present in both quarries and the regional context of the Mukinbudin pegmatite field. You can also read about some finds from a 2002 MinSocWA trip here, the November 2024 trip is reported in the MinSoc December newsletter here.

If there is sufficient interest it should be possible to organise further visits to the Mukinbudin pegmatite field. The Karlonning, Cosh's North and Potts Rd quarries could be included in future itineraries now that positive contact has been made with the operators; any visit would need to fit in with work rosters of the quarries.

Mukinbudin Drive In (picture by Mark Richards)

Blast pattern ready for charging (soapstone in brown on lower pit wall) - Potts Rd Quarry

Soapstone – Potts Rd Quarry

Field trip participants on the Mukinbudin trip (pictures by Olga Blay)

Smoky quartz pocket – Mukinbudin quarry

An enthusiastic mineral hunter (Tom) – Mukinbudin quarry

On the waste dump, looking southwest (L-R Allan, Mark and James) – Mukinbudin Quarry

Evening debrief (L-R Maryam, Olga, Tom, James and Mark) – Mukinbudin (Picture by Allan Hart)

Microcline outcrop displaying twinning and cleavage (Allan and Olga) – Mukinbudin quarry

The cave (Tom) – Elachbutting Rock

(Picture by Olga Blay)

The other wave rock – Elachbutting Rock
(Picture by Mark Richards)

The Overhang – Elachbutting Rock

Kangaroo Pool – Berringbooding Rock

Ilmenorutile in albite – Calcaling Quarry

Smoky quartz crystals in microcline groundmass in the cave – Calcaling Quarry

Olga in the cave – Calcaling quarry

Maryam, Allan, Peter, James, Tom and Mark) – Mukinbudin Caravan Park

and some more biotite below
(Pictures right and below by Olga Blay)

2024-2025 INTRODUCTION TO MINERALOGY COURSE

July 2024 – June 2025

Session One – 13 July

We talked about definitions of mineralogy, minerals and rocks, and the physical properties of minerals with some examples of their utilisation.

Session Two – 10 August at WAM Boola Bardip

We talked about the periodical system of elements, chemical composition of minerals and their classification, and touched on crystallography. Thanks to Susan Stöcklmayer (MinSocWA) and Erin Gray (GSWA) for their help with these difficult topics. Also, we visited the WAM Origins exhibition and saw beautiful minerals and rocks of WA. The display of mineral fluorescence attracted the most attention.

Session Three – 14 September a field trip to Toodyay

The group had a splendid day looking at granites in the Perth Hills. Thanks to Tim Ivanic (GSWA) for help explaining the geology of Archean rocks and their mineralogy.

Session Four – 12 October – A browse and study of specimens and gems worth collecting at the PGMS

Session Five – 9 November – A visit to the Perth Core yard

DEMIRS / GSWA staff showing and discussing drillcore, mineral and fossil collections with some analyses using GSWA portable instruments.

Session Six – 14 December – A field trip to beach and Canning River outcrop

Review mineral assemblages in sedimentary rocks while collecting beach sand - for the next session.

Session Seven – 8 February – A seminar at the Gemmological Association of WA

Introduction to gemstones and gemmology. Viewing the GAA-WA gemstone collection, microscope and portable instruments along with some analyses of the previously collected sand grains using microscope, UV and specific gravity (SG).

Session Eight – 8 March – A seminar at the Lapidary Club

Some revision and mineral quiz fun. Metallurgy and a special mineral research project.

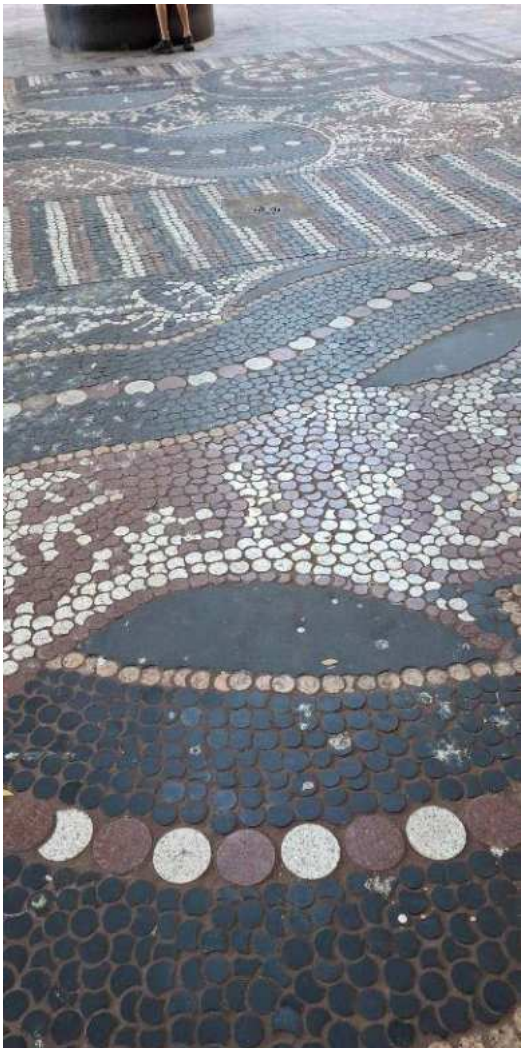
Session Nine – 12 April – A visit to Curtin University laboratory for some mineral research. Photo of the group to the right.

Participants to Curtin University

Session Ten – 10 May – A walk around Perth CBD with Angela Riganti from GSWA. See article below.

Session Eleven – 14 June – Mark Creasy's collections

This last session was a treat to feast our eyes on this magnificent collection of mineral specimens, centuries-old books related to mineralogy and mining, and mining paraphernalia. Learning many titbits such as not wearing cotton gloves when handling old books! Thanks to Lars Kremers for the very informative explanations during the visit.



An interesting rendition of Aboriginal patterns using discs of different rocks cut from drillcore

Stepping Stones, 17 May 2025

Compiled by Angela Riganti
(GSWA geologist and Stepping Stones tour leader)

A few MinSocWA members 'braved' the perfect autumn day in Perth to conduct a leisurely interactive walk through the city's CBD, as part of the penultimate session of the *Introduction to Mineralogy* course. Although the shadow of skyscrapers at times prevented the sunshine reaching us, these were in fact the perfect lighting conditions to examine a variety of rock types and the minerals that make them up.

The walk loosely followed Trail 2 of the *Stepping stones - two self-guided geology trails in the city*, published by the Geological Survey of Western Australia and available here (Note the trail can also be followed via the Everythere app, but the sites are only 'visible' when in close proximity).

The group met at the spot of the Ritter's Pole (now sadly removed for security reasons), a structure erected to celebrate the first million inhabitants of Western Australia, and the riches coming from the resources industry. From there it wound its way along part of St Georges Terrace to reach Forrest Place, along the way examining dimension stones (i.e. rocks cut to size) from a variety of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks ranging greatly in colour, textures and grain size. For the finer grained rocks, a hand lens was used — which generated some puzzled looks from passers-by!

A detour to the Perth Town Hall allowed sighting of some lovely garnets … and what is probably the smallest statue in the city, celebrating the companions of early Perth's inhabitants!

The photos illustrate some of the stops during the tour, which concluded with a nice coffee stop and chat in Forrest Place.

A variety of igneous rock types in the foyer of St Martins Tower

Boogardie Orbicular Granite - this sphere shows orbicules made up of feldspar and amphibole, surrounded by a felsic matrix and crosscuts by different generations of pegmatite veins.

Perth's inhabitants' early companions

Exfoliated Garnet Ice floor tiles (top left) used in the foyer of the Perth Town Hall. Reproduced from Fetherston (2010).

Useful reading

Fetherston, JM, 2007, Dimension stone in Western Australia: Volume 1 — Industry review and dimension stones of the Southwest Region: Geological Survey of Western Australia, Mineral Resources Bulletin 23, 181p. Dimension stone in Western Australia: Volume 1 - Industry review and dimension stones of the Southwest Region

Fetherston, JM 2010, Dimension stone in Western Australia — Volume 2 — Dimension stones of the southern, central western, and northern regions: Geological Survey of Western Australia, Mineral Resources Bulletin 24, 218p. Dimension stone in Western Australia: Volume 2 - Dimension stones of the Southern, Central Western, and Northern Regions

MICROSCOPE CORNER

Looking into some white, pink and colourless pegmatite minerals

Submitted by Susan Stöcklmayer

Pegmatites often contain a range of interesting minerals, some of which are white, pink or colourless and commonly show no obvious crystal form. Amongst such a group are quartz, pollucite, beryl and eucryptite. Pollucite is an uncommon mineral in Western Australia but is an important discovery at the Sinclair pegmatite, approximately 100 km south of Coolgardie. It is not a simple matter to recognise these four minerals by appearance only; all of them may occur in a massive form and have only slight differences in lustre.

Using a petrological microscope and oil immersion methods to determine refractive indices, identification of these minerals using grain crushes can be achieved by noting their optical properties based on the different crystal systems to which each mineral belongs and UV responses.

The test results of the four minerals are shown in the table below: all have differing refractive indices (RI) within a small range. The RI results for quartz and eucryptite do not overlap but the optic signs (+) are the same. However, eucryptite fluoresces with a strong pink response to SW UV whilst quartz remains inert. Beryl has a different optic sign (-) and pollucite has the lowest RI and is optically isotropic under crossed polarized light, producing significant differences from the other minerals of the group.

Eucryptite has been identified from the Sinclair pegmatite, but the specimen shown in Figure 1 comes from the Londonderry quarry and was collected by Sue Koepke. My thanks to Murray Thompson (Figure 2 specimen) and Glenn Archer (Figure 3 specimen) for the samples used in these tests.

Mineral	RI range	Crystal system	Interference figure	UV testing
Eucryptite	*1.570 to 1.583 anisotropic*	*Trigonal*	*Uniaxial positive*	*Pink fluorescence SWUV*
Beryl	*1.564 to 1.568 anisotropic*	*Hexagonal*	*Uniaxial negative*	*Inert*
Quartz	*1.544 to 1.553 anisotropic*	*Trigonal*	*Uniaxial positive*	*Inert*
Pollucite	*1.508 to1.528 isotropic*	*Isometric*	*Isotropic*	*Inert generally* *May show yellow fluorescence SW UV*

Figure 1. Eucryptite from Londonderry quarry, Coolgardie.

Sue Koepke specimen. Cm scale shown

Figure 2. Pollucite and quartz in a hand specimen from the Sinclair mine WA. LHS shows "glassy" quartz,
RHS shows white pollucite with a narrow vein of purple "lepidolite" mica between the two white minerals.

Murray Thompson specimen

Figure 3. Massive beryl from the Sinclair mine. Columnar striations indicate some directional structural form.

Measures 10 cm in the longest dimension. Glenn Archer specimen

MinSocWA – 25 YEARS OLD in 2025

This year is our 25th anniversary, planned for September. Niels Dahl (currently travelling) has taken on the task of compiling an historical record of the past quarter century; a preliminary summary of the various events was prepared and summarised by Vernon Stöcklmayer.

If you hold early records, photographs or ephemera, please make it known and available to Niels or anyone on the committee via Newsletter@minsocwa.org.au so that it can be included in our history.

NEW MEMBERS – Membership Due by 1 July 2025

The Mineralogical Society of WA has over 100 members. We have welcomed the following new members since March 2025:

Malcolm and son Jack Mason
Anton Kepic
Caorline and Barri Lythe

A reminder that your membership is due in a few days. Be quick to catch the $5 off your subscriptions. See website for bank transfer details.

All members are asked to ensure that their contact details are up to date with the Membership Secretary/Secretary. If you change your email address or phone number, please let us know so that you continue to receive all MinSocWA communications – membership@minsocwa.org.au

FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN

Our Librarian, John Mill, has conducted an audit of the library. Have you borrowed these items? Please return them as soon as possible so we can complete our stocktake:

1. **Australian Journal of Mineralogy**

   Volume 23, Number 2

2. **The Mineralogical Reco**rd

   About Mineral Collecting Reprinted from the Mineralogical Record 2008-2009

   Volume 52, Number 2 – not received?

   Volume 52, Number 3 – not received?

   Volume 53, Number 6 - LaoHuan! November – December 2022

   Volume 54, Number 1 - Michigan Copper! January – February 2023

3. **Rocks and Minerals**

   Volume 96, Number 1 - January – February 2021

   Volume 99, Number 6 - November – December 2024

Ready to Borrow by Members

The MinSocWA Library has just received two exciting new journals from **The Mineralogical Record, Volume 56, Number 2**. 'Ichinokawa', highlights this very famous Japanese stibnite mine.

'Addicted to Beauty, The Legacy of Jack Halpern', is a **supplement to the Mineralogical Record March – April 2025** and showcases the wonderful collection that this centurion has amassed over his lifetime of collecting.

Ichinokawa!

The main article in this volume concerns the now abandoned **Ichinokawa stibnite mine**, located on the Japanese island of Shikoku of the coast of southern Japan. This mine produced what is arguably the finest stibnite specimens ever produced (until some recent finds in China).

Addicted to Beauty – The Legacy of Jack Halpern by Jack Halpern et al. showcases the incredible collection of this 104-year-old iconic collector.

Jack began collecting in the early 1960s and with the help of dealers such as Walt Lidstrom and Peter Bancroft accumulated a formidable collection. His collection was almost destroyed by an earthquake in 1989 but ultimately survived almost intact. His collection now totals 3200 meticulously documented specimens.

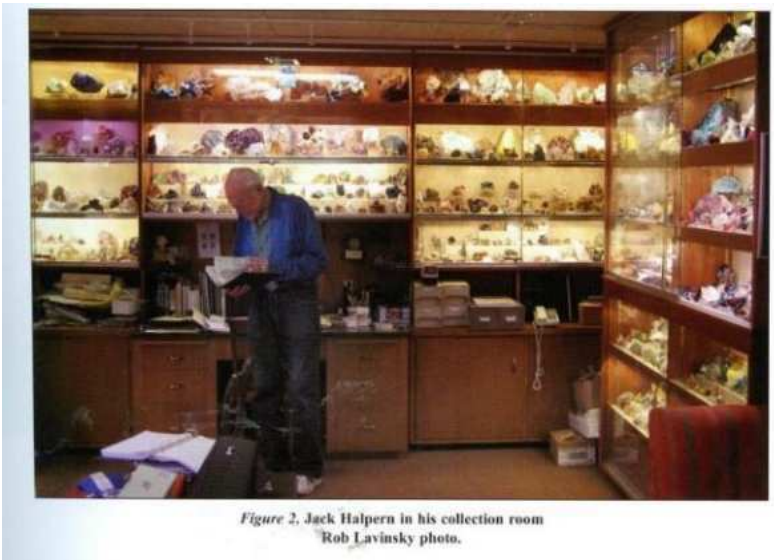
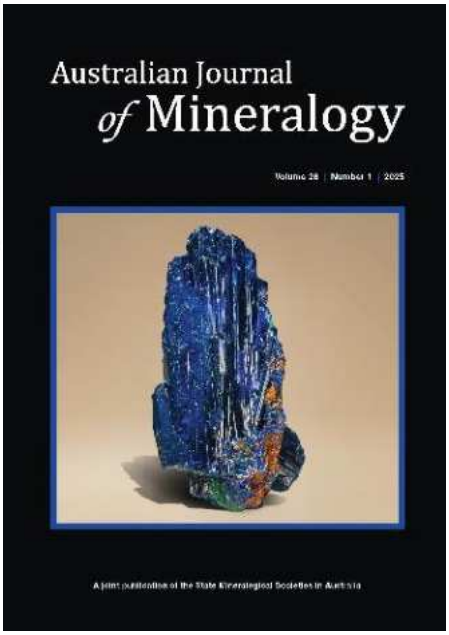


Figure 2. Jack Halpern in his collection room
Rob Lavinsky photo.

And lastly, the latest issue of the *Australian Journal of Mineralogy, Vol 26 Number 1 2025* is being printed and will be coming to subscribers soon.



UPCOMING EVENTS

July Mini-talks – Wednesday, 9 July 2025
Lapidary Club Hall
7.30pm (venue open from 6.30pm for socialising)

Olga Blay	Dianite – a relatively new gem-quality rock
Wendy Hampton	GSWA resources online - Overview of the new government website
Susan Stöcklmayer	An interesting spotted ornamental rock

September AGM Talk – Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Grant Boxer A talk about diamonds in WA. Title TBC.

The Perth Gem and Mineral Show (PGMS)

7 – 9 November 2025
www.perthgemmineralshow.com

The Perth Gem and Mineral Show (PGMS) sub-committee is pleased to report that planning of the inaugural show is going ahead smoothly. The event will showcase many of the wonders that the mineral, gem, fossil and geoscience communities have to offer, with a special focus on Western Australia's mineral heritage.

UPCOMING EVENTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS

47th Mineralogical Societies of Australasia Joint Seminar

4-19 October – Mineralogical Societies of Australiasia, organized by MinSocSA

Note MinSocSA has set up a Facebook page, where updates on the seminar will be published.

Or visit https://minsocsa.org.au/upcoming-events/

Anytime online – **Opal Course with GAA**
Invitation from Terry Coldham, chairman of the Opal Committee, to attend a new course

📣 A Proud Aussie First – New Online Opal Course from the GAA!

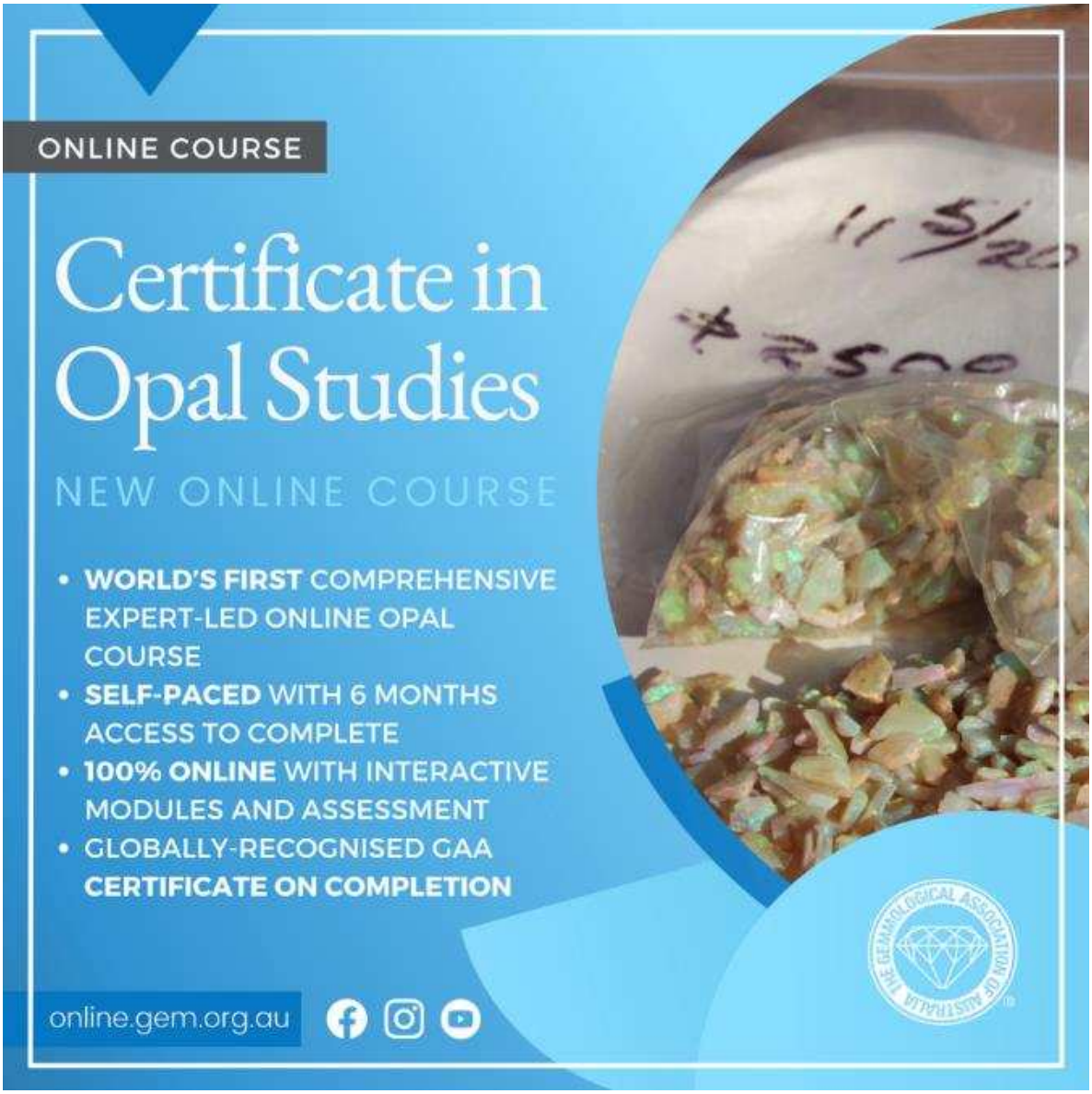
Great news for members! The Gemmological Association of Australia has launched a global first – a fully online, in-depth Certificate in Opal Studies.

Whether you're into fossicking, collecting, jewellery-making or simply love Aussie opal, this 11-module course is packed with expert knowledge and engaging content.

Learn at your own pace, from anywhere in the world.

📎 Full details and enrolment: online.gem.org.au

💡 Knowledge turns guesses into confident choices – enrol now!



COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2024/2025

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Patron - *Mark Creasy*

Meetings

Meetings of the Mineralogical Society of Western Australia Incorporated are usually held at **7.30 pm on the second Wednesday of every odd month** at (with the *exception of January* when a date is published after the Christmas closure of the Lapidary Club):

WA Lapidary & Rockhunting Club rooms 31 Gladstone Road,
Rivervale (corner of Newey Street)

The venue will be open from 6.30 pm for refreshments and socialising.

MinSoc WA LINKS

Web	http://www.minsocwa.org.au
Facebook Group	https://www.facebook.com/groups/minsocwa
Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/MINSOCWA
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