



## 49<sup>th</sup> Joint Mineralogical Societies of Australasia Seminar Call for Abstracts

The Mineralogical Society of Western Australia is pleased to announce that the **49th Joint Seminar** will take place in **Perth, Western Australia**, on **16–17 September 2027**.

We are now inviting speakers to submit abstracts that align with our 2027 theme:

### **Mineralogy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

The discovery of X-rays by Wilhelm Röntgen in 1895, and the subsequent discovery of the laws of X-ray diffraction by William and Lawrence Bragg in 1913 (for which they earned the 1915 Nobel Prize in Physics) firmly established the field of crystallography within the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The century that followed saw a rapid expansion in the number of new mineral descriptions, from about 1000 mineral names in 1920 to more than 6000 mineral species today.

With the first quarter of the 21<sup>st</sup> century passed, and as we move into a world of increasing technological leaps, the field of mineralogy, and the hobby of collecting, is evolving. We are looking for presentations at any level of technical detail, from classic collecting to the future of the hobby; from historical analytical techniques to modern analysis; and from historical photography to z-stacking of digital images.

**We welcome talks on topics such as:**

- **Old vs Modern Techniques:** The use of new technologies in the analysis and identification of minerals (e.g. EPMA, Raman, LA-ICP-MS, SWIR,  $\mu$ XRF-EDS...etc) and older technologies that are perhaps (unjustly?) falling out of use (e.g. physical and optical properties, blowpipe analysis...etc).
- **New Discoveries:** Recent finds and localities (especially Australia/New Zealand, but international localities welcome), new mineral descriptions.
- **The Future of Collecting:** Impact of modern legislation and insurance liability on access to collecting sites, cost and supply of new material, suitability of new minerals for collecting (access to analytical confirmation, micron-scale crystal sizes, solid solution series and nomenclature of complex mineral groups), etc.
- **The Future of Curation:** How collections are managed, digitized, and shared in the modern era, by both public institutions and private collectors — what do we need to record to ensure value from future and historic collections?
- **Historical Perspectives:** Reflecting on how 20<sup>th</sup>-century practices inform current mineralogy.

## Presentation Format

We are offering flexible time slots (NB *including question time*) to suit different types of presentations.

- **10 Minutes**
  - Less-than-five slide summary/presentation
  - Suitable for:
    - raising a question for the audience – e.g. found something you are struggling to identify?
    - early career geoscientists – found a pocket of something interesting on-site? Want to share an experience?
    - students/researchers – found a neat texture in a thin section, and looking for opinions? A weird mineral assemblage? Want to present a ‘poster’?
- **20 Minutes**
  - Standard format
  - Perfect for specific locality reports or single-topic updates, finds from a recent society field trip, description of a new photography setup, descriptions of historical collections, etc.
- **40 Minutes:** In-depth reviews or keynote talks – limited slots, mostly by invitation.

## How to Submit

Please email the following to send to [seminar@minsocwa.org.au](mailto:seminar@minsocwa.org.au) by **30 April 2027**.

- a title
- a short summary/abstract of your proposed talk
- your preferred time slot for your presentation
- your phone number

Acceptance of talks and the final allocation of time slots will be at the discretion of the organisation committee. Accepted speakers will be required to submit a short biography and two photos (one of themselves, portrait style, and one related to their talk).

Abstracts will be compiled digitally and circulated shortly before the seminar to those who have registered.

## Seminar Schedule Highlights

- **Seminar Days** Thu 16 & Fri 17 September 2027
- **Field Trip** A post-seminar, week-long excursion to the **Kalgoorlie/Coolgardie** region (Sept 20–25), featuring visits to active mining sites and iconic localities.

We look forward to receiving your ideas and welcoming you to Perth in 2027!

Warm regards,

*The Organising Committee*

49th Joint Seminar of MinSocs in Australasia | [www.minsocwa.org.au/seminar](http://www.minsocwa.org.au/seminar)