

THE CMLC NEWS

The Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club Inc. Newsletter for September 2018



President -- Malcolm Luxton Phone 033088874
Treasurer -- Lynda Alexander Phone 3476393
Secretary -- David Macdonald Phone 3520304
Bulletin Editor--Craig McGregor Phone 0274209814
Club Mailing Address: 14 Reynolds Ave Bishopdale,
Christchurch 8053
Email: cmlclub@chch.planet.co.nz
Website: www.cmlclub.org.nz
Meeting Venue & Clubrooms: 110 Waltham Road,
Waltham, Christchurch 7:30 pm on the second Thursday
of the month [Feb. to Nov.]

General Meeting: 13 September, 11 October, 8 November
Committee Meeting: 13 September, 8 November(6.00 p.m.).
Micro Mineral Meeting:6 September, 4 October, 1 November

Please remember to sign into the meeting attendance book at the door and pay the \$2 door entry.

The September Meeting: The guest speaker is Glen Valinder. He has been a speaker at our club before, and is always interesting. He will speak on New Zealand Seismology.

Supper Duty: Glen and Val McLennan, Vince Burke, Don Stanley, Ray Begg, David King.

Auction: We have some material from an estate that needs to be auctioned.

New Members: Please make these new people welcome: Kevin Farrell and Miranda Bryant (Welcome back after 30 years away).

Field Trip: 15 September to the Waipara River for jasper, fossils and petrified wood. Leave from the Belfast Hotel at 8.30 a.m.

Canterbury Mineral and Lapidary Club



Gem Show 2018

September 29 and 30

Gemstones, fossils, minerals

Displays, sales, fossicking trailer

110 Waltham Rd (Next to

Waltham School)

Saturday 29 Sept. - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday 30 Sept - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Adults: \$2; School Children: \$1



Queensland Pentoxylon
(Petrified Wood)

Club Show: 29, 30 September. Preparations are well advanced for this. By now all members will have been emailed with details of the organisation. If you are not on the email list, details will be available at the September General meeting.

There is still some room for anyone wishing to have a sales table. Contact Scott Harwick: scott.harwick@agresearch.co.nz if you would like to sell at the show.

Also there is room for more club members to set up displays. We need these to really interest the public. Even a simple display will help. Contact John Taylor: johnataylor70@gmail.com if you could set up a display in one of our show cases.

Remember to get those show fliers out to all community notice boards at supermarkets, cafes, etc. More fliers will be available at the September meeting.

Bring along all your unwanted rocks to put into the fossicking trailer.

Thank you to all club members who have volunteered their time for our show.

August Monthly Competition Results

August		1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	5TH	6TH
Lapidary:	Polished Australian Agate	R. Knowles	D. Macdonald	J. Taylor	R. Lindsay	Equal C. McGregor or R. Hall	
Fossil	Fossil from Glenafrie	J Taylor	D. Macdonald	C. McGregor	R. Hall	R. Lindsay	E. Hitt
Mineral:	Quartz NZ	R. Hall	C. McGregor	J Taylor	D. Macdonald	C. Tait	
Alphabet Cup:	DEF	C McGregor	C Tait				
Recent Find:		C Tait	L Alexander				
Bring and Brag		R. Knowles	R Dennis	R Lindsay	C. McGregor		

September Monthly Competitions

Lapidary: A rock polished on at least two faces or more.

Fossil Any fossil from the Kaikoura region

Mineral: Natrolite NZ

Alphabet Cup: GHI A state or country

Recent Find: Not from the Museum field trip, but recent.

Bring and Brag To skite or talk about.

Workshop: Many thanks to Owen Swann and John Baker, the workshop is now up and running on Tuesday evenings, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cost per workshop session is \$5. A good number of members have been coming in on Tuesdays and learning the skills of lapidary work. Hopefully some of these people could put on demonstrations at the club show.

MUSEUM FIELDTRIP: by Cécile Tait

On Saturday 11th August, a group of 12-15 club members and others, met in the Canterbury Museum foyer, and were escorted into the dungeon by Paul Scofield, PhD, the Senior Curator of Natural History.

This extremely knowledgeable man provided detailed answers to all questions, and entranced us with fossils and a multitude of rock and mineral specimens to view, mostly displayed in huge, sliding drawers within an ingenious filing system.

Some of the highlights for me included:

- Touching a real meteorite
- Seeing a 70 million year old giant reptile skeleton, a dinosaur egg from Mongolia, and mammoth teeth Learning:
- There is a Trilobite Hut in Takaha, where 12 species can be found

- Fossil penguins and crabs have been found at Motanau
 - How to discern if amber is real or fake
 - Only 3 dinosaur bones have ever been found in New Zealand
 - There are tiny dolphin fossils at Glen Afric
- We survived looking at two drawers of radioactive rocks

Afterwards, the group regained a sense of normality with lunch at the Museum Café. The field trip was a memorable and informative experience.



**Birdlings Flat: A haven for fossickers and those seeking escape—
Stuff, Jack Fletcher 14:21, Aug 16 2018.**

OPINION: Birdlings Flat did not quite live up to its reputation for mammoth seas and wild waves when we turned up on a bluebird day, on the hunt for precious gems and picturesque photo opportunities.

We parked on compacted stones, skeptical of the smaller cars further along the loose rock "car park", dwarfed to the left by eroded cliffs, to the right by an endless beach, reaching beyond the edge of the horizon. The small settlement is a 45 minute drive south of Christchurch city, on the road to Akaroa. Originally called Te Mata Hapuku, the area became colloquially known as Birdlings Flat after William Birdling and his family settled the land in the mid 1800s, the first Europeans on the land. It lies on the southern edge of Te Waihora, or Lake Ellesmere.

Until 2017, the village lacked any sort of community facility. Te Whare Tapere o Te Mata Hapuku opened a little over a year ago, sitting at the heart of the area, the playground no doubt a source of much jubilation for the Flat's younger residents, the hall an asset for meetings and zumba.

We made out for the sloping beach, avoiding the notorious waters as they battered the shore, despite the clear skies and still air. The roar of tumbling rocks as the waves crashed home was equally deafening and calming. Nothing lies between Birdlings Flat and Antarctica.

Our mid-morning fossick among the stones lasted a long while, searching for agates and unique stones to adorn our dressing tables and terrariums at home. We'd read the stones that give the area its rocky reputation drifted north on ocean currents from southern rivers, stopping at the southern coast of Banks Peninsula.

Satisfied with our bag of "maybe" gems, we drove down Hillview Rd, past the community noticeboard, to the Gemstone and Fossil Museum. The museum is stacked to the gunnels with shiny stones and fossils, many foraged from the beach metres away. The art of lapidary is on full show in Vince and Colleen Burke's home museum, testament that if you look hard enough, there be treasure in them there stones.

The beach and constant crashing of waves created a serene landscape ideal for an afternoon of mindfulness and exploration, but I'm not rushing to live in Birdlings Flat. The isolation sought by day-trippers could become depressing if made to be your day-to-day existence. For a few hundred people however, the area is a paradise.



HETTIE'S ROCK & CRYSTAL SHOP

Birdwood Ave, Beckenham, Christchurch.

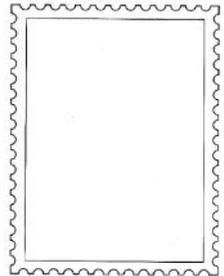
Also: Akaroa and Queenstown

Open 7 days 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.





Sender CMLC 14 Reynolds Ave Bishopdale, Christchurch 8053



«Field1»
«Field2»
«Field3»
«Field4»
«Field5»