

# THE CMLC NEWS

## The Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club Inc. Newsletter for October 2018



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**Website:** [www.cmlclub.org.nz](http://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: ..... 11 October, 8 November, 14 February.  
Committee Meeting: ..... 11 October, 8 November, (6.00 p.m.).  
Micro Mineral Meeting: ..... 4 October, 1 November, 7 February

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

**The October Meeting:** As Malcolm will be attending the National Show in Tauranga at the time, John Taylor will be chairing the meeting. Please bring along something to talk about; either about your personal collecting or an interesting specimen. So, we will have an interesting meeting of mini-talks.

**Supper Duty:** John Taylor, Lesley Burke, Kim Annan, Hayman Jer, and Angellica Sewell.

**Auction:** To date, there has not been an auction organised. If you want to auction off some material, contact John Taylor, Ph: 039420697

**New Members:** Please make these new people welcome: Ave Ah Chong Puleanga

**Field Trip:** This will be to the Ashburton Beaches. Meet at Robin Hall's, 139 Harrison St, Ashburton, at 9 a.m. on 13 October.

## September Monthly Competition Results

September		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Lapidary:	A rock polished on at least two faces or more.	J Taylor	R Lindsay	C McGregor	L Day	C Tait
Fossil	Any fossil from the Kaitiaki region	D MacDonald	R Hall	R Lindsay		
Mineral:	Natrolite NZ	D MacDonald	J Taylor	L Day		
Alphabet Cup:	GHI	C McGreggor	L Day	C Tait		
Recent Find:		J Taylor	C McGreggor	R Hall		

## October Monthly Competitions

**Lapidary:** NZ agate polished butt end

**Fossil:** Fossil leaves found in the South Island

**Mineral:** NZ copper

**Alphabet Cup:** A specimen from a country or state starting with j, k, or l

**Recent Find:** From the September Waipara field trip

**Brag:** Bring something to brag about.

**Workshop:** Many club members have now finished their first project in the workshop. There is now room for more people to attend. Tuesday evenings starting at 6.30 p.m. for a \$5 fee. Come along, make cabs, do flat lapping etc.

**Club Show:** Thank you to all club members who volunteered their time for our show. It was a great success, and gives us something to look forward towards hosting the National Show in 2020. Thank you to everyone who donated raffle prizes; they were hot sellers at the door, and to those who set up displays. Thank you also to those who donated material to the fossicking trailer. Once again it was very popular with the public and our club members.

### **Note from Pres.**

I would like to express my thanks to all those who worked so hard to make the Club Show a success. There were significant contributions by many of you and I want to acknowledge your generosity, whether it was time, expertise or just a willingness to be proactive in whatever way you thought was helpful.

I know 'success' can be measured in different ways and although it seemed as though most benefitted financially, just now I'm thinking less of financial success and more of the other aspects of what we might consider successful. Interaction with the public and in particular, the children, was a noticeable and valuable activity.

Many visitors were impressed and envious of our workshop facilities and next show it would be great if we could involve more people in 'demo mode'. One of the things I looked forward to in my younger years at shows, was seeing the saws in action, cabbing being done and polishing laps working their magic. Several people (non members) who came along, are involved in silversmithing and would like to form a liaison with us in terms of reciprocal crafting. We need to progress this if at all possible.

On a different note, many of you have now heard that the Club has been trying to negotiate a collecting permit for the Woolshed Creek and Barrosa areas with DOC. Our initial submission was made some years back but with little or no progress obvious. Vince Burke has been instrumental in 're-fanning the flames' of recent days and along with a couple of other members we have met with DOC to discuss and request a document that would both satisfy our wishes and comply with DOC's constraints. DOC

have offered us such a document called an Authority. The Authority in it's present offered form has been declined by your Committee and deemed as unacceptable to the Club due to the severe restrictions it places on specimen ownership, ground disturbance, liabilities, and access. A sub committee has been set up to investigate possible ways of negotiating a more acceptable Authority. We will keep you informed of developments.

*-Malcolm*

**Club Christmas Barbecue:** This will be held in the clubrooms in December (date to be confirmed). The Christmas grocery hamper raffle will be drawn at the barbecue. **Please bring along donations for this hamper at the October and November General Meetings.**

**BOOK REVIEW:** by Cécile Tait

**“COLLECTING NZ MINERALS” by Chris Fraser © 2017**

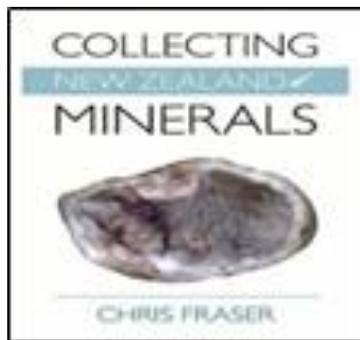
This is a new book located in the club's library. I am a beginner rockhound so, to me, this book was a comprehensive reference book rather than bedtime reading. It specialized in finding and identifying minerals, with a current list of locations combined with a scientific description for individual minerals.

Among other subjects covered were: geology, gold, micro-mounting, fluorescence, and preservation.

It was fascinating to me that there are 11 types of lustre, and that there are different ways to clean minerals, depending on what they are. The ‘Cutting and Polishing’ chapter was the most meaningful to me, as I am attending the Tuesday night club workshops. There are two pages on making cabochons for example.

Illustrations include sketches of geometric shapes, crystal systems to aid mineral identification, graphs, charts and 18 pages of photos at the end of chapter 4.

This book would be particularly appealing to the more experienced rockhound.



## **LIBRARY TIME!**

An ideal addition to the subject our September speaker was speaking on would be these following books

1. Rocked and Ruptured : Geological Faults in New Zealand Aitken, J. J. 1999

[Christchurch Public library] [Mapworld]

2. More Earthquakes Explained J J Aitken 1995

[CMLC Library] [Mapworld]

<https://christchurch.bibliocommons.com/item/show/259534037>

### **Canterbury's aptly named Terrible Gully turned to river of rock by ex-Cyclone Gita**

A river of shingle rock flowing down Terrible Gully has left eight farms cut off from town in Rakaia, near Canterbury's Mt Hutt.

Incredible video of the "rocky river" was captured by Donna Field of Cleardale Station as she surveyed the damage from former Cyclone Gita on Wednesday.

The flow of careering shingles closed Double Hill Run Rd which services the farms in the South Island region. It's an event that has become a regular occurrence for the farmers in the area.

"But it's never been this bad before," Field said. "For a long time it was quite stable, but the last 2.5 - 3 years it has become a lot more active." Field and her son Joe - who had to shout at each other due to the noise and strong winds - were in the right place at the right time to watch the incredible flow of cascading rock begin to form.

"It was really loud [and] sounded like when a gravel truck tips all its load, but if you were right underneath it."

Cleardale is a 1250ha station situated up the Rakaia



Gorge, where they run Merino, English Leicester, Halfbred and Quarterbred studs as well as an Angus stud.

On Cleardale's Facebook post it said the liquid flow of rocks travel like a river from the mountains and are deposited in a fan shape where the land flattens out.

Field said there were no injuries to people or livestock, but the eight farms isolated by the landslide would have to wait until the road was cleared.

"They'll wait it out, this isn't the first time its happened."



Professor of Geophysics at Victoria University Tim Stern saw the video and thought it was an impressive sight.

"You wouldn't want to be trapped by it - it's a scary example of how vulnerable our environment is to be destroyed by weather," he said.

New Zealand has one of the highest erosion rates in the world, alongside the eastern Himalayan syntaxis, he said.

"This exemplifies that and shows the effect heavy rainfall has on New Zealand's weak greywacke basement rocks, which are much weaker than other basement rocks, like in Australia."

Monsoon rains, in combination with rocks pushed up very quickly by tectonic uplift, means they are vulnerable to erosion.

"The rain is what weakens them and causes it to erode very quickly, it's why we have one of the highest erosion rates in the world."

## Some Show Photos



# HETTIE'S ROCK & CRYSTAL SHOP

**Birdwood Ave, Beckenham, Christchurch.**

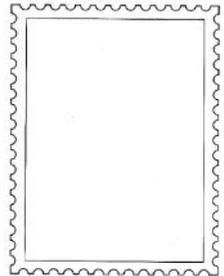
**Also: Akaroa and Queenstown**

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





Sender CMLC 14 Reynolds Ave Bishopdale, Christchurch 8053



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



