

THE CMLC NEWS

The Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club Inc. Newsletter for May 2019



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Club Mailing Address: 14 Reynolds Ave Bishopdale,
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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:9 May, 13 June, 11 July (at 7.30 p.m.)
Committee Meeting: 16 May, 20 June, 18 July (at 7 p.m.)
Micro Mineral Meeting:2 May, 6 June, 4 July

Please remember the \$2 entry fee for our General Meetings.

The May Meeting: I will be speaking about the 2800 km trip a group of us have just finished around the Queensland Cental Highlands.

Supper Duty: David Macdonald, Kim Annan, Ken and Lynne Sitarz, Julian Twiss.

A special thank you to Cécile Tait for the lovely homemade fudge she provided at the April Meeting. Yumm.

Field Trip: We are trying to organise a trip to Whitecliffs. Further details at the club meeting.

Workshops: The plan is to have the workshop classes up and running from Tuesday 7 May. This may change depending upon how well machinery repairs etc can be done.

Annual Subscriptions: These are now due. You will find a file attached to your emailed newsletter. Those receiving by mail have already re-

ceived your subscription notice. Remember there is a discount for early payment before 31 May.

May Monthly Competition

Lapidary: Polished rhodinite
 Fossil NZ fossil shark tooth
 Mineral: Selenite
 Alphabet Cup: XYZ
 Recent Find: From the White
 Rock Quarry Trip
 Bring and Brag

April Monthly Competition Results

		1st	2nd	3rd
Lapidary:	Any polished jasper from High Peak Forest	Lindsay	J Taylor	R.Hall
Fossil	Any fossil from Southland	J Taylor	R.Hall	D. Macdonald
Mineral:	Pyrite	C.Tait	D Macdonald	R.Hall
Alphabet Cup:	UVW	R.Hall	R. Lindsay	
Recent Find:		No Entries		
Bring and Brag		S Baldwin		

The results for the February Monthly Competition were published incorrectly in the newsletter. My apologies for that. Here are the correct results.

February 2019		1st	2nd	3rd
Lapidary:	Polished fossil eg shells / wood	J.Taylor	R. Hall	
Fossil	Any NZ West Coast fossil.	D. Macdonald		
Mineral:	Orbicular Granite	C.Tait	D. Macdonald	
Alphabet Cup:	PQR	C.McGregor	R.Hall	
Recent Find:		R.Knowles	R.Hall	
Bring and Brag		D. Macdonald	D. Stanley	M.Luxton

A message from our President:

Greetings all,

Some comments made during question time following our April Meeting, prompted one of our members (via a written enquiry to committee) to enquire about any Club rules pertaining to respectful discussion during club meetings. Their main area of concern was that certain expressed views were disrespectful about restricted access of certain mineral material now regarded as taonga.

Although the Club's Constitution does not specifically cover this subject, it does warn of conduct that might be considered prejudicial to the Club and which may exact a penalty. Although we value freedom of speech, this is a friendly reminder that maintaining a respectful stance towards taonga is also important, especially in public meetings.

So our word for the day is 'circumspect' - to think carefully before doing or saying anything'.

Thank you.

Malcolm

"The Day The Dinosaurs Died, a young paleontologist may have discovered a record of the most significant event in the history of life on Earth".

The Day the Dinosaurs Died is an essay by Douglas Preston, published in the New Yorker Magazine, 29 March 2019

It is a fascinating article about the events around the meteor that struck the earth 66 million years ago. The meteor is estimated to have been 9.6 kms wide and struck the earth in the Gulf of Mexico. The description of what happened uses computer modelling that is derived from the geological evidence. This moment, which is an amazingly brief moment when we consider the huge amounts of time we're measuring when it comes to geological and paleontological time, marks the end of the Cretaceous and start of the Paleogene periods (formerly the Tertiary). The moment is so definitive that there is a black layer of debris, ash and soot called the K-T boundary marking the moment and located in different locations in the geological record all over the planet. The article uses the term K-T boundary, although it is also known as the K-Pg boundary. K for the German word Kreide (chalk) that is traditionally used to abbreviate Cretaceous. Paleogene has replaced Tertiary, or early Tertiary.

The article also talks about "the three meter problem" paleontologists use to describe the 3 m layer beneath the KT boundary where no dinosaur fossils have ever been found.

After presenting the background of what we know from recent work on the K-T boundary, and the theory that a meteor strike caused the end of the Dinosaurs, Douglas Preston describes his meeting with a young PhD candidate, Robert DePalma who wrote to him to say. "I have made an incredible and unprecedented discovery, It is extremely confidential and only three others know of it at the moment, all of them close colleagues. It is far more unique and far rarer than any simple dinosaur discovery. I would prefer not outlining the details via e-mail, if possible." The essay goes on to describe what DePalma had found and its significance for understanding what happened when the meteor struck. What DePalma had found was unprecedented fossil records of the effects of the impact, moments after the meteor struck, and not only one site but a second site years later in a different part of the USA. "We can trace our origins back to that event," DePalma said. "To actually be there at this site, to see it, to be connected to that day, is a special thing. This is the last day of the Cretaceous. When you go one layer up—the very next day—that's the Paleocene, that's the age of mammals, that's our age."

I can heartily recommend this essay to you. You can find it online (and as an hour long audio file) at <https://www.newyorker.com/>

magazine/2019/04/08/the-day-the-dinosaurs-died

If you don't have access to the internet, then any library which carries the New Yorker Magazine will have a copy of the April 2019 edition.

Susan Baldwin
club member

Thank you Susan for this contribution. I am always looking for contributions from our members; especially articles and photos of club activities. These can be emailed to me at c.mcgregor1@outlook.com.

As I will be speaking at the May meeting, the following photos are a taster of what I will talk about.



On the sapphire fields



Mt Hay Thunderogga



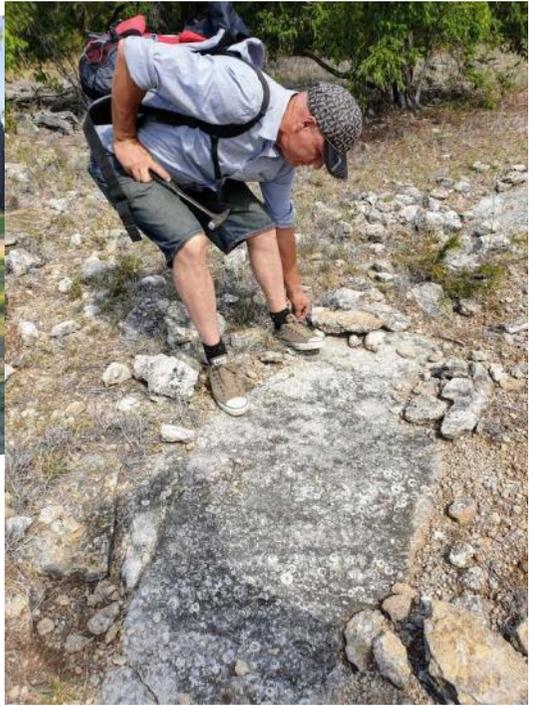
Agates at Windera



Gemboree traders hall



Camping at Emerald



Crinoid stems and plates at Cracow

HETTIE'S ROCK & CRYSTAL SHOP

Birdwood Ave, Beckenham, Christchurch.

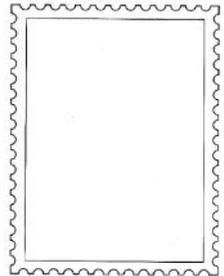
Also: Akaroa and Queenstown

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





Sender CMLC 14 Reynolds Ave Bishopdale, Christchurch 8053



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