



BATHURST STAMP, COIN, COLLECTABLES & LAPIDARY CLUB INC

NEWSLETTER

Issue 220

MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE FIRST MONDAY EACH MONTH - EXCEPT JANUARY.

AT THE CLUBHOUSE (OLD EGLINTON FIRE SHED), PARK STREET, EGLINTON.

Meetings commence at 7.30pm. Enquires 63315404 AH or write P.O. Box 9156, Bathurst 2795

Editor amcrae@lisp.com.au

www.philas.org.au/bathurst

NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2019 - UPCOMING PROGRAM

- 19th October **Saturday Fundraising BBQ at Bunnings.** Volunteers needed for roster, contact Paul Martensz.
- 27th October **Sunday - Opening of club rooms for lapardists** between 9.00 am to about 3.00 pm.
- 2nd November **Saturday – Club Open Day,** Displays and Demonstrations at the Clubhouse in Eglinton from 8am to 2pm. This is a combined project by the Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables and Lapidary Club and the Bead & Wirecraft Guild and will include stamps, coins, bottles, collectables and lapidary displays. There will be demonstrations of cabbing, faceting, beading, wire wrapping etc; sausage sizzle for sale, bring rocks, gems etc for identification etc. All members are welcome to have their completed works on display. Please bring to the Club on Wednesday, 30th October so we can put them into the display cases. If you wish to try to sell any items, please put a price on it (10% to club if sold) - you don't have to have items for sale. The more we have on display the better!! All is indoors and members will have items for sale. Put it on your Facebook and come along and help on the day.
- 4th November **Monday – Annual General Meeting & Monthly Meeting** - at the club Rooms at the special time of **7pm** before the ordinary meeting at 7.30pm. Nomination forms, Club positions and position descriptions documents have been sent out. Please have a look at them and nominate a person for a position if you wish. Completed Nomination Forms must be submitted by 28th October (bring to Club rooms on 27th October if you need signatures, or post or email). No nominations will be taken from the floor if Nomination Forms for a particular position have been submitted prior to the meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted for other positions. **Don't forget your exhibit for the Club Competition – 'A display to show the type of items you collect.'** Also remember your 'Latest Acquisition.'
- 6th November **Wednesday - Visit by Andrew Gee (Member for Calare) to Club rooms** at 9.30 am for a special morning tea. As many members who can come would be appreciated so please be there - the greater the number the better. Please bring something towards the morning tea.
- 9th - 10th November **Saturday and Sunday – Canberra Lapidary Club Inc's Spring Gemcraft and Mineral Show** is being held Mallee Pavilion, EPIC (Exhibition Park off the Federal Highway) in Canberra. Entry is \$6 for adults, \$10 per family, and \$3 Concession and Ages 12 to 16. (Under 12 free.) Opening hours are Saturday - 10am to 5pm and Sunday 10am to 4pm. Food is available. Lapidary dealers will be selling mineral specimens, designer jewellery containing gemstones, opal, crystals and polished semi-precious stones, rough and cut gemstones, fossils, tumbled stones, rocks, as well as lapidary equipment and supplies. There will also be displays of Members' collections, demonstrations of cabbing, faceting and jewellery making.
- 10th November **Sunday - Opening of club rooms for lapardists** between 9.00 am to about 3.00 pm.
- 16th & 17th November **Saturday and Sunday - Orange 2019 Spring Fair** will be held at the Orange High School Hall.
- 24th November **Sunday - Opening of club rooms for lapardists** between 9.00 am to about 3.00 pm.
- 2nd December **Monday - MEMBER'S FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY** – 6pm in the club house. Bring the family and your own meat to BBQ. Also bring salad and dessert to share. Pack some drinks for



Unfortunately we have lost a number of older members this year meaning we have all attended too many funerals. Our latest one was long standing life member Reg Kinghorn. Reg was a regular at our BATHEX Exhibitions, and was always willing to assist the club and its members in any way. For many years he opened up the workshop at Eglinton and helped keep it all in order. The photo – left – shows Brian Callan, Reg Kinghorn and Fred Howarth in front of the large Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables and Lapidary Club display at the Royal Bathurst Show on 27th – 29th April, 2012. Reg loved getting out in the bush to collect specimens and he had a good hand for lapidary. Reg's wife Shirley supported Reg with his hobby.

All plans are in place for our Saturday 2nd November Club Open Day which will have an array of displays and demonstrations in the Club House at Eglinton from 8am to 2pm. The day is ideal for the public to ask about the club and what they can learn. The Bead & Wirecraft Guild will be there showing people how to do bead work.



Photo left – Geoff West explaining the finer points of using one of the club's machines to Paul Martensz. Right – Judith Attard with her flexible handmade chain mail coif as part a medieval knight's armour.

Thanks to the members who will be doing the demonstrations of cabbing, faceting, beading, wire wrapping as well as undertaking the sausage sizzle. I encourage the public to bring along rocks, gems, specimens for identification, so please spread the word.



Our club's fossicking exploration trip was a great success – see the report with a few photos in this newsletter on page 8. The field trip travelled over 200 kilometers covering the areas around Oberon, Shooter's Hill, Sapphire Bend, Trunkey Creek and proved to be an interesting day out with plenty of specimens brought home.

Thanks to Ernst and Josh in particular, and anyone else for their input during the day.

We have our Annual General Meeting and Ordinary Meeting on Monday 4th November **starting at 7pm and then 7.30 pm** for the ordinary meeting. It will be held in our club rooms, Eglinton. Please consider volunteering or being nominated for a positions. Nomination forms, club positions and position descriptions documents have been emailed out. Completed Nomination Forms must be submitted by 28th October (bring to Club rooms on 17th October if you need signatures, post or email). See details in programme on page 1.

We will be having a special guest on Wednesday 6th November with Andrew Gee, Member for Calare, coming to our Club rooms at 9.30 am, for morning tea. Please come along to meet Andrew. Please bring something towards the morning tea.



We have been seeing some interesting 'Latest Acquisition' items which are shown at the end of our member's meetings all year. From books, old banknotes, crystal specimens, stamps, rocks and minerals, coins, World War Two 1945 RAAF diary, an elephant made of Makrana marble, a rock from each significant location from WWI sites in Belgium and France, an old bank book from Cowra in 1930, a wire bicycle made by street kids in India, a leather ammunition belt from the Western Front, they have all proved an interest. One of the mineral specimens can be seen left.

Hopefully I'll see many of you for the Club's Christmas dinner on Monday 2nd December at the Club House. There is a 6 pm start where the BBQ will be available so bring own meat, along with salad or sweet to share. It does not go late.

The Sofala Show date for next year has been moved forward six days to 23rd February 2020. It was pleasing to solve the riddle of the club's two glass display cases that went missing several years ago. They are safely stored elsewhere now. It was surprising where they turned up after a lucky find by a club member.

What a pleasing result we had from the Bunnings BBQ in August which raised well over \$1,000. As always quantities are difficult to estimate and customers just kept coming so there were several visits back to town to restock. There was certainly a good serving system going which saw customers receiving their orders in around 20 seconds. Thanks to all who helped out on the day and we look forward to our next event at Bunnings.

had the common belief also that tin seeds, when ripe, germinated in the soil.

Tin miners originally used rakes, hoes and wicker baskets to excavate the terrain for tin ore with the miners being constantly exposed to diseases such as smallpox, malaria and beri-beri.

Most mines were open-cast mines where the Chinese worked under the blazing tropical sun. Those who worked in underground mines were constantly faced with death as they worked down dangerous shafts that were hundreds of feet below ground level. With the poor working conditions, meager food and diseases the miners frequently used opium which was overpriced and sold on credit by the scheming mine owners. Miners were not to gamble or quarrel in the mines.



Hydraulic gravel pumps and suction dredges had been introduced in 1892, the machinery able to cut huge slices into the terrain. In 1913 the first bucket dredge was introduced negating the need for as many miners. Even after the successful introduction of the tin dredges the gravel pumping still persisted for small scale operations.

Tin was discovered during the Bronze Age around 3000 BC. The tin was used to make bronze, the mixture comprising about ninety percent copper and ten percent tin.

Left - This giant tin dredge was built for the Southern Malayan Tin Dredging Ltd., which was formed just before the depression. They had six constructed and they went on being used for nearly 45 years. At the

time the world's tin price was falling dramatically and tin deposits were being exhausted. Weighing over 4,500 tons it was three-stories high and could dig down to 100 feet. It had a pontoon length of around 205 feet. The Japanese Army put a 24 hour guard on the area they so relied on the Malayan tin.

Tin, which is found in igneous rocks, has been described as a "silvery metal that characteristically with a faint blueish hue". The name of this mineral comes from the Anglo-Saxon word for 'tin' and has the symbol 'Sn' from the Latin word for tin which is stannum. Tin occurs in grains in the native metal (right) with most of the major sources found in alluvial deposits. Tin ore strongly resists weathering.



The Phoenicians who were among the paramount traders of their era would have traded tin adding to their prosperity to trade. Cassiterite is one of the tin-containing minerals that was traded. Sydney geologists who travelled over to Malaya after the war stated that there were still tin deposits in the millions of tonnes.

The Chinese and Malays worked out that the 'tin' had to be extracted by roasting the mineral cassiterite with carbon in a furnace heated to approximately 2500 degrees Fahrenheit. The next stage involved leaching with acid or water solutions to remove any impurities. Later they used electrostatic or powerful magnetic separation to finally eradicate any unwanted heavy metal impurities.

Though not as widely used as of fifty years ago it is still used in tinsplating, weapons, tin foil, solder, cement, ceramics coloring agents, collapsible tin tubes, window glass production, fire retardants, electronics, frost-free windshields, panel lighting, specialized glass, alloyed for bronze and pewter manufacturing, plastics and bakeware.



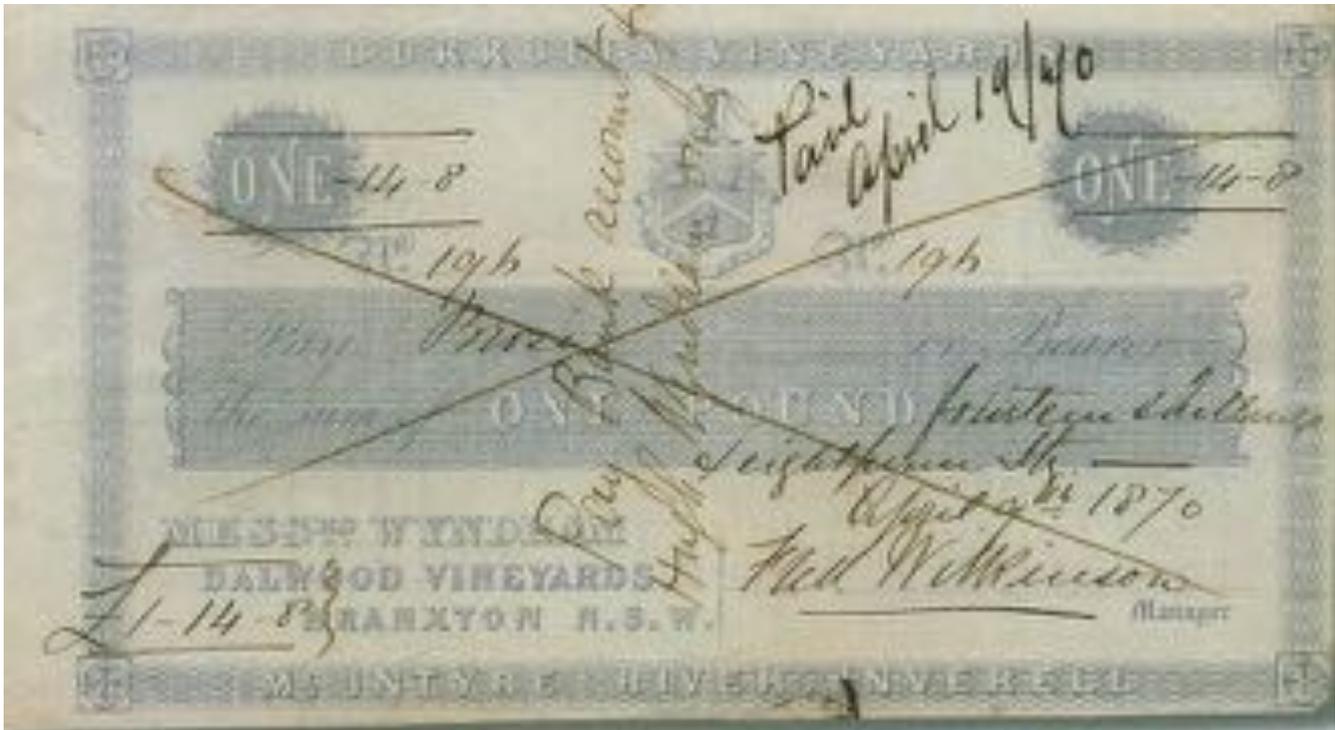
Working in the tin mines had other hazards also. Chinese doctors on the tin fields noted that miners could suffer from stomachaches, dizziness, anger, sleeping disorders, forgetfulness, urination problems, breathlessness, liver damage, skin irritations and headaches, to name a few. Unusually high numbers died whilst working on the tin mines.

Left – A Malaya tin Kelantan 1 pitis with its incuse legends was used until they were discontinued in 1909. Some Malayan States used their own tin to make a small range of coins. The keping was the currency of Kelantan in the state of Malaysia. Their early coins boasted a Jawi inscription on a plain edge round coin with a hole. They are no longer legal tender. This coin weighs 4.5 grams, is 18mm wide and 1.72 mm thick. It was subdivided into 10 pitis. Coins were struck in denominations of 1 pitis with a hole and 10 keping, slightly bigger without a hole. The Arabic legend on

the ten keping says – 'currency of the Government of Kelantan', with the numeral 10 below and the date. After 1909 their tin money was replaced by the Straits dollar.

notes. No numbering system was printed on as they were zeroed. Some presented notes have an Inverell back stamp.

Below – A Messrs. Wyndham blue Bukkulla Vineyards one pound currency note from series two. It is number 196 and has 'Pay Bank account of Hugh Wyndham only' hand written over the word 'Pay'. It was issued for £1 – 14 – 8d - one pound fourteen shillings and eight pence, on 9th April, 1870, and presented on 19th April, 1870. When these notes were in use Bukkulla was producing 11,000 gallons of appealing wine a year, though wool was Bukkulla's staple production.



My family's association with the note comes from my great grandparent on my maternal side. Ellen Cruttwell Lewin was born at Wickham Market, in Suffolk, England on 20th January, 1848, her parents being Francis and Ellen Lewin. Francis Lewin was my Great, Great Grandfather, a Master Flour Miller and Merchant.

In 1853 the Lewin family decided to sail for the southern Colony. In October Francis, Ellen and the Lewin family set off for London but before they sailed, Francis obtained Letters of Introduction to Sir Charles Fitzroy, Governor of the Colony of New South Wales. They sailed on 3rd November, 1853, from Liverpool on the 'Aerd van Nes', a Dutch vessel of 582 tons, under Captain Carjens. The Lewin family had secured passage as cabin passengers. The trip took 105 days and was fairly uneventful except for a broken mast during a very heavy storm between Rio de Janeiro and Cape Town. They sailed through Sydney Heads on 16th February, 1854, with the event being recorded by the Sydney Morning Herald on several occasions during the month. Francis with his engineering and milling knowledge soon secured a position as engineer for a flour mill in Balmain.

It was after leaving Balmain that Francis Lewin accepted the position as miller with Grosvenor Suttor, part of the William Henry Suttor family at "Brucedale", an early land grant given at Bathurst in 1822. Grosvenor had started his flour the mill at Peel, between Bathurst and Sofala. The village of Peel is situated on the Sofala Road from Bathurst and came about after the discovery of gold in the area. Grosvenor Suttor had started the flour mill and miller's house in the village itself, up the hill a bit from Clear Creek. The Lewin family travelled to Kelso then out to Peel, situated in Roxborough County.

Francis had to complete the building and order and install the machinery. They took over operations and stayed over four years. Being from a religious background Ellen saw that the family attended church regularly and the family travelled into Kelso to attend the Holy Trinity Church, often with William Suttor and their family.

After the gold started to run out Francis moved back to Sydney before moving up to Green Swamp, later Inverell, to build more flour mills. On the journey they met Hugh Wyndham who was managing Bukkulla and the vineyards who was also breeding hundreds of race horses. The Lewins were given Wyndham grape cuttings to trial on their land and they grew well. Unfortunately, by 1874 Hugh Wyndham had to relinquish all his claims to Bukkulla due to overspending and in 1875 the banks foreclosed on the property. Obviously Hugh Wyndham learnt a few business lessons and by 1888 he was able to buy back Bukkulla. Hugh Wyndham died in 1909. My grandfather Francis (Frank) Lewin Duncan had two of these blue Bukkulla notes in his coin and banknotes collection. I assume they had originally belonged to his parents Murdoch and Ellen Crutwell McRae, nee Lewin, as some sort of souvenir maybe.

