



Tea Tree Gully Gem & Mineral Club Inc. (TTGGMC)

Clubrooms: Old Tea Tree Gully School, Dowding Terrace, Tea Tree Gully, SA 5091.

Postal Address: Po Box 40, St Agnes, SA 5097.

President: Ian Everard. H: 8251 1380 M: 0417 859 443 Email: ieverard@bigpond.net.au

Secretary: Claudia Gill. Email: cjjrgill@adam.com.au

Treasurer: Russell Fischer. Email: rfischer@bigpond.net.au

**Feb
Edition
2015**

"Rockzette"

Tea Tree Gully Gem & Mineral Club News

In this edition...	President's Report	Meetings, Courses & Fees.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diary Dates • Stop Press • President's Report. • Club Activities. • Meetings, Courses & Fees. • General Interest - Members • Mineral Matters - Quartz (Part 2). • General Interest Continued • Members Notice Board. • Useful Internet Links. 	<p>Hi All, I would like to wish you all a happy new year; 2015. It is now time to start thinking about this year's exhibition; only five months away. Not long! How can you help? Please let me or one of the committee members know as soon as possible. Thanks. Regards, Ian.</p>	<p>Meetings Club meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month except January: Committee meetings start at 7.00 pm. General meetings - arrive at 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm start.</p> <p>Faceting (times to be advised) <i>Course 10 weeks x 2 hours Cost \$20.00.</i> <i>Use of equipment \$1.00 per hour.</i></p> <p>Lapidary (Tuesday mornings) <i>Course 5 weeks x 2 hours Cost \$10.00.</i> <i>Use of equipment \$1.00 per hour.</i></p>
<p>Diary Dates</p> <p>2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 21st & 22nd, 2015 Canberra Lapidary Club, Canberra Rock Swap, Exhibition Park, ACT. • April 3rd to 6th, 2015 National GemBoree, Horsham, VIC. • May 1st to 3rd, 2015 Murraylands Gem and Mineral Club Rockarama 'Crystal and Craft Fair' incorporating SA Metal Detecting Championships. • June 20th to 21st, 2015 Tea Tree Gully Gem and Mineral Club Exhibition (Biennial). 	<p>Competitions Competitions have been suspended indefinitely and are currently replaced with members showcasing an interesting part of their collection.</p> <p>Field Trips No fieldtrips planned during Summer months.</p> <p>Library <i>Librarian - Augie Gray</i> There is a 2 month limit on borrowed items. When borrowing from the lending library, fill out the card at the back of the item, then place the card in the box on the shelf. When returning items, fill in the return date on the card, then place the card at the back of the item.</p> <p>Silver Craft Friday mornings - 9 am to 12 noon. Cost \$20 for new short course attendees. All are welcome.</p>	<p>Silver Craft (Friday mornings) <i>Course 5 weeks x 2 hours Cost \$20.00.</i> <i>Use of equipment \$1.00 per hour.</i></p> <p>While some consumable materials are supplied by the club, trainees must supply any additional requirements.</p> <p>Trainees who use the club equipment (for example, magnifying head pieces, faceting equipment, tools, etc.) must return them to the workshop after usage. Trainees are also encouraged to purchase and use their own equipment.</p> <p>In the interest of providing a safe working environment, it is necessary to ensure individuals using the workshops follow the rules set out in <i>Policy No. 1 - 20/11/2006</i>.</p> <p>It is necessary that <i>Health and Safety</i> regulations <u>are</u> adhered to at all times.</p> <p>Trainees must ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that all work stations are left in a clean and tidy state; that all rubbish is removed and placed in the appropriate bin; and where applicable, machines are cleaned and oiled.
<p>Stop Press</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was Anne Hills 82nd birthday on Monday 26th January, 2015. • Pat and Mike's 50th Wedding Anniversary – see page 02. • Box (small, tissue, shoe, etc.) and 'Grab Bag' Appeal - required for this year's Exhibition. • See 'Members Notice Board' for additional 'Meeting Reminders/Updates' (Last Page). 	<p>Friday mornings - 9 am to 12 noon. Cost \$20 for new short course attendees. All are welcome.</p> <p>Tuesday Craft Tuesday mornings - 11 am to 2.30 pm Faceting, etc. All are welcome. Contact Doug (08 7120 2221) if you would like to learn faceting.</p> <p>Wanted - The faceting group occasionally has members wishing to buy a 2nd hand faceting machine & accessories. Could anyone with one not being used please contact: Doug Walker 0871202221 or Russell Fischer 0417083227</p>	<p>It is necessary that <i>Health and Safety</i> regulations <u>are</u> adhered to at all times.</p> <p>Trainees must ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that all work stations are left in a clean and tidy state; that all rubbish is removed and placed in the appropriate bin; and where applicable, machines are cleaned and oiled. <p>The Tea Tree Gully Gem & Mineral Club Inc. will not be held responsible or liable for any person injured while using the club machinery or equipment.</p>
<p>The Tea Tree Gully Gem & Mineral Club Inc. is not and cannot be held responsible or liable for any personal injuries, loss or damage to property at any club activities, including, but not limited to, meetings, field trips, all crafts and annual shows. An indemnity is to be signed by all participants before each and every field trip activity they attend.</p>		<p>Club Subscriptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$25.00 Family. \$20.00 Family/Pensioner. \$15.00 Single. \$12.50 Single/Pensioner. \$10.00 Joining Fee.

Silver Craft
Friday 12th Dec 2014.



John and Vaughan.



Vaughan and Cameron.



John.



Rob.



John.



Examples of silver craft by Gwen.



50th Wedding Anniversary
Congratulations to Pat and Mike



"Hi Mel, Here are a couple of photos of Pat and Mike; the recent one I took at our house when we got home from a nice meal at the River Side Hotel in Tailem Bend. The four of us celebrated a meal together for their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Pat and Mike were married on December the 5th I think 1964? They were married in the church which is on the, yes I think, it is North Tce. And, I also think it is called Holy Trinity Church. By the way, one of Pat's brides maids was Mike and Terry's cousin, Carol. The other girl was a girl friend of Pat's. You were very lucky that I found that photo - we have stacks of photos and it took me a few hours, but Terry and I enjoyed looking at them - brings back some good old memories."

Kind regards, June and Terry.

Fossicking at Agate Creek, Qld.

In 1978, Janet and I (Mel) went on an outback holiday to Agate Creek via the Birdsville Track in our old tray-top Toyota Land Cruiser. The journey north was fairly uneventful apart from the track being impassable for a while due to floods, and a fuel filter issue that slowed us down to a maximum speed of 50 mph for a few days until the problem was rectified at Boulia.

Eventually, we arrived at Forsayth; the last petrol stop before Agate Creek. After staying overnight at Forsayth and getting petrol and some local information from John Smith, the local publican, we headed for Darcy Lamont's camp at the far end of the Agate Creek fossicking reserve. It was our intention to stay there just for the weekend; bag our fill of agates, and be on our way as we still had many miles of touring ahead of us.

However, this did not happen in the way we had planned. The road (bush track!) into Agate Creek was one of the roughest we had encountered on our trip so far. And, when we were within close proximity to Darcy's camp things got really bad; the cruiser's water pump failed! We cautiously drove to a point within walking distance of Athol Smith's camp, setup our camp, and then proceeded on foot to Athol's to discuss our options.

There were a number of long stay fossickers in the reserve, but most left the area during the wet. One person, Colin Abbott, was an exception. It was Colin, when visiting Athol's camp that evening, who heard our story and offered to help. Once a fortnight, he made the rough-road, round journey from his camp near Black Rock Waterhole to Forsayth and then to Georgetown and return to Agate Creek. We were offered a ride.

The next day we were required to walk to Colin's camp. On arrival we found Colin filling his Toyota Land Cruiser utility with petrol straight from a plastic bucket (no funnel) and with a lit, self rolled, cigarette hanging from his lips. He was amused when we backed off a short distance for our safety's sake. His notion was that the fumes in the open were not concentrated enough to ignite. Well, luck was in his and our favour!

The trip with Colin was an adventure in itself. He had two, untethered, empty, forty four gallon drums in the back of his land cruiser utility. Also, the one and half sized passenger seat in the cabin, which straddled over the vehicle's petrol tank, was not bolted down to the cabin's floor.

Well! Colin drove like a mad-hatter; like there was no tomorrow! The route was like a roller coaster - down and up one creek crossing after another, and around one bend after another. Our cramped, unbolted seat was in constant motion and the drums in the back slammed back and forward between the back of the cab and the tail gate. This story indicates that we survived!

First stop was Forsayth, where Colin was assisted by his "Secretary" (a lady friend who

managed his bookwork) to dispatch a consignment of agates (Sardonics) via the local train terminal; to be freighted to Cairns (and eventually to Germany where the sardonics were processed to make carved cameos).

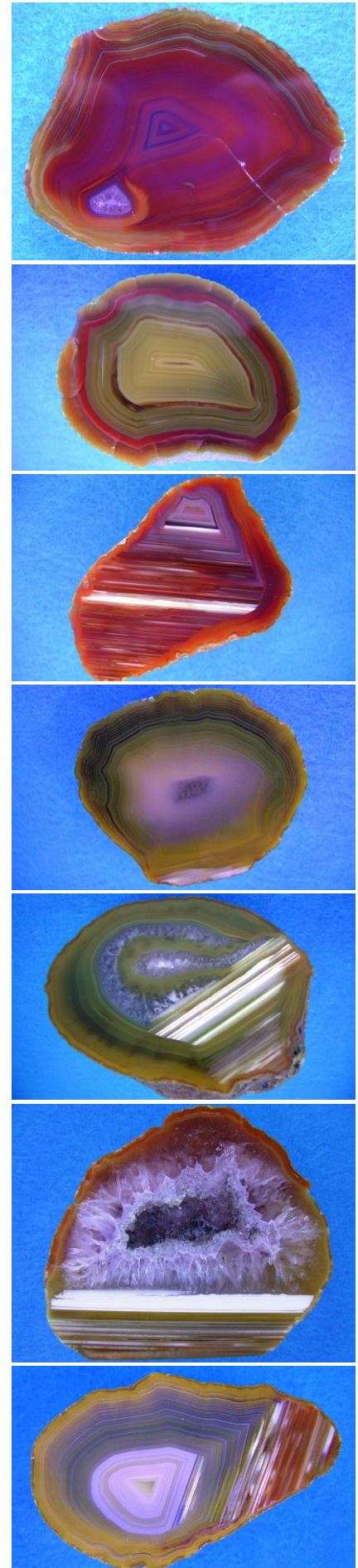
After morning tea, we proceeded to Georgetown to stock-up on provisions and petrol. It was at Georgetown where we arranged, with a local garage owner, for a water pump to be ordered from Cairns, air-freighted to Georgetown, and given to a receptive fossicking tourist bound for Agate Creek to deliver to us at Darcy's Camp area. To pay for the pump, the air-freight and the service, we had to ask the manager of the 'closed-for-lunch', local Bank of New South Wales to open his bank so that we could withdraw cash from our Bank of Adelaide account using a bankcard which we had never used before. No electronic support services then. Nevertheless, it was a good service provided in outback Queensland.

Our weekend venture was now to be extended by two weeks. Each day we went out to the fossicking field with Colin and watched and learnt; and eventually setup our own digging site. Colin also took us around to other locations and allowed us time to explore and dig for a short while. On one of these excursions we met up with a Victorian couple who were well sponsored; with product advertising strategically placed over their four wheel drive. Helmut and Gemma Kummer were on a working, fossicking holiday as journalists. Their article in the September, 1979 edition of the 'Australian Outdoor' magazine appears later in this newsletter. Both Janet and I are mentioned as 'Jan' and 'Mal' in a number of places in the article. It was a pity that Colin wasn't mentioned as he had extended his pilot service around the reserve to Helmut and Gemma as well.

Each day, back at camp, when a vehicle approached we would walk out to greet its passengers and checked whether they had come via Georgetown; in the hope that they had brought our 'water pump'. But each time they had come via Forsayth and had bypassed Georgetown. Eventually, on the fourteenth day, a chap and his wife had come via Georgetown, and no they did not know anything about a 'water pump'! And, after a lengthy complaint about how rough the 'bloody so called road' was, the chap reached down under his seat. And, from under the seat he pulled out a small parcel and handed it to me. He exclaimed, "Think yourself bloody lucky! I was about to turnaround and drive back out, on several occasions, because of the rough track. Except, I gave an undertaking in Georgetown to deliver your bloody water pump!"

We thanked him and offered him money and agates for his good will, but he refused. He said that he hoped that somebody would do the same for him, if stuck in a similar situation.

The following photo gallery is an indication of how well we did fossicking for agates and the pictures on the next page show some of the activities at Agate Creek. Helmut and Gemma's article (following on) is a good read too.





Janet taking a tea-break alongside our stranded vehicle in the vicinity of Darcy's Camp, Agate Creek Fossicking Reserve, Qld.



And, I'm doing likewise, prior to us both walking a kilometre to Athol Smith's camp for the evening fossickers' get together.



After borrowing several 2.5lb picks from Colin Abbott, I got stuck into digging for agates.



Janet had a go and got involved too!



Janet still going at it!



Janet on her way to China!



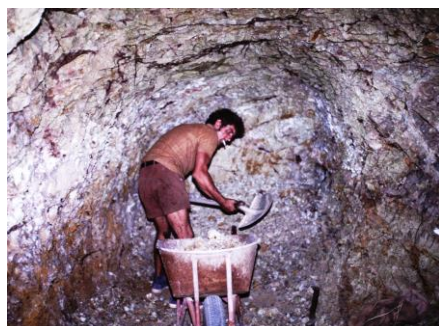
Athol Smith prepared agates for sawing throughout each evening for customers curious to know whether their finds were good.



Athol filled in 'sawing wait time' by spinning many stories. - Janet is sat on the far left.



Colin Abbott seen here preparing Athol's saw and no he wasn't the one responsible for the wing nut having its wing sawn off!



Each morning, Colin would work his dimly lit shaft - flat chat and with sparks clearly visible when his pick struck agate.



Dig a long shaft - and you end up with a long journey to the mullock heap. Discharge was made easy because Colin was working on ground that sloped down and away from his entrance.



Gemma is very pleased with her find - nice colour and pattern.



Colin primes up the 'Ampol' forge.



Colin demonstrates the art of forge-sharpening his picks while Janet and Mel look and learn.



Colin splashed a collection of his agates, thunder eggs, and quartz crystal specimens to enhance their colour for a few camera shots. To give you an idea just how big some of these specimens are I have inserted a black finger pointing at a shot gun cartridge laying in the dirt to the left rear of the collection. The specimen serving as a prop for the other stones is quite big. Also, see the identical water splashed scene (albeit closely cropped) in the Sept 1979 'Australian Outdoors' magazine article by Helmut and Gemma Kummer (in the following pages).



Colin stoking up the heat again to forge-sharpen our borrowed picks. Janet is patiently waiting for it all to finish.

September, 1979 \$1.50*

Australian **Outdoors**

SNOWFIELDS:
Bushwalkers'
new playground

GUN BUYERS:
Why you
should act NOW

TROUT:
Where to catch
them this season

ECOLOGY:
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are the threat

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comparison

We didn't make a fortune digging thunder eggs at Agate Creek

They were sane when they first arrived at this gemhunter's Mecca, but the agates, thunder eggs, people and atmosphere of the diggings soon reinfected HELMUT and GEMMA KUMMER with rock fever.

THE SWEAT was running in rivers down our backs; even the dogs were panting madly. And we had been driving for only a few hours. Eighty nine kilometres from Forsyth to Agate Creek and rough going all the way. The road had just been graded but the Toyota was down in the gears and up on the revs a hundred times. We were glad we had taken the Forsyth publican's advice to leave our caravan behind.

We dipped into, and spun out of Agate Creek six times before reaching the colorful collection of tents and caravans known as Darcey's Camp — the end of the road. What a welcome sight! And public showers! We made full use of them, laughing and splashing and letting the soft caresses of the water soothe life back into our battered, hot bodies. There's a small fee to use the showers, but the money helps run the generator to drive the shower pump, so who's to complain?

The focal point of the camp, set under a canopy of tall, shady gums, in Five Gullies, is Athol Smith's caravan home and its adjoining workshop and large vegetable garden. It's here that tourists and keen rockhounds gather religiously at sunset, the rockhounds clutching small bundles of rocks to be cut on Athol's big cutting machine. For them it is the culmination of a day's hard work, the moment they find whether they have brought a good stone to light. There are excited sighs and laughs as an ugly lump of rock reveals a beautiful suspended tear-drop agate set in soft reds and greens, or an odd, round, chalky hunk of thunder egg displays brilliant reds convoluted into shapes to twist the mind. And inevitably the fossicker's brows occasionally knit in disappointment as a stone is cut — and reveals the flat nothingness of a dead heart.

You never hear a complaint at these early evening sessions. In this fantastic atmosphere the pains and irritations of the day's hard work are soon forgotten — especially when someone has claimed a super gem from the hard dry earth. The cutting machine grinds away into the background

of the evening, and the toil of the day slips the memory under the spell of Athol's exciting yarns. Enough to stir the spirits of even the most unfeeling spectator. He enjoys his life out here, surrounded by interesting and friendly people, and unveiling the hidden beauties of many wonderful stones. He charges only about 10 cents for each 500 sq mm of stone cut — just enough to cover the cost of running the generator and the equipment he uses.



The colors of the agates from the five hills are quite distinct. This sample shows blues and reds.

The ideal time to work the fields at Agate Creek is between April and September when the weather is generally pleasantly cool. The essential tools include a geological pick, a one-kilogram universal miner's pick, and a shovel — I found a Number 2 size was best. In case you decide to follow a run deep, a crow bar and safety helmet will be needed, and at all times you should wear a wide-brimmed hat and carry an insulated

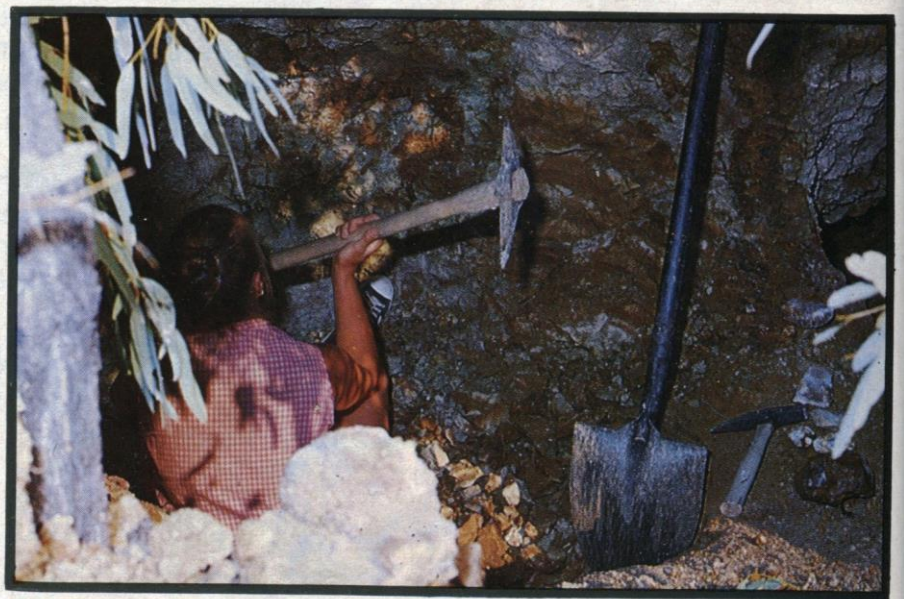
water container — you can't count on finding your agate run in the shade of a tree. Out in the sunny days it is all too easy to forget that the evening temperatures in winter can drop to bitter levels, so a good jumper and heavy woollen blanket will be needed.

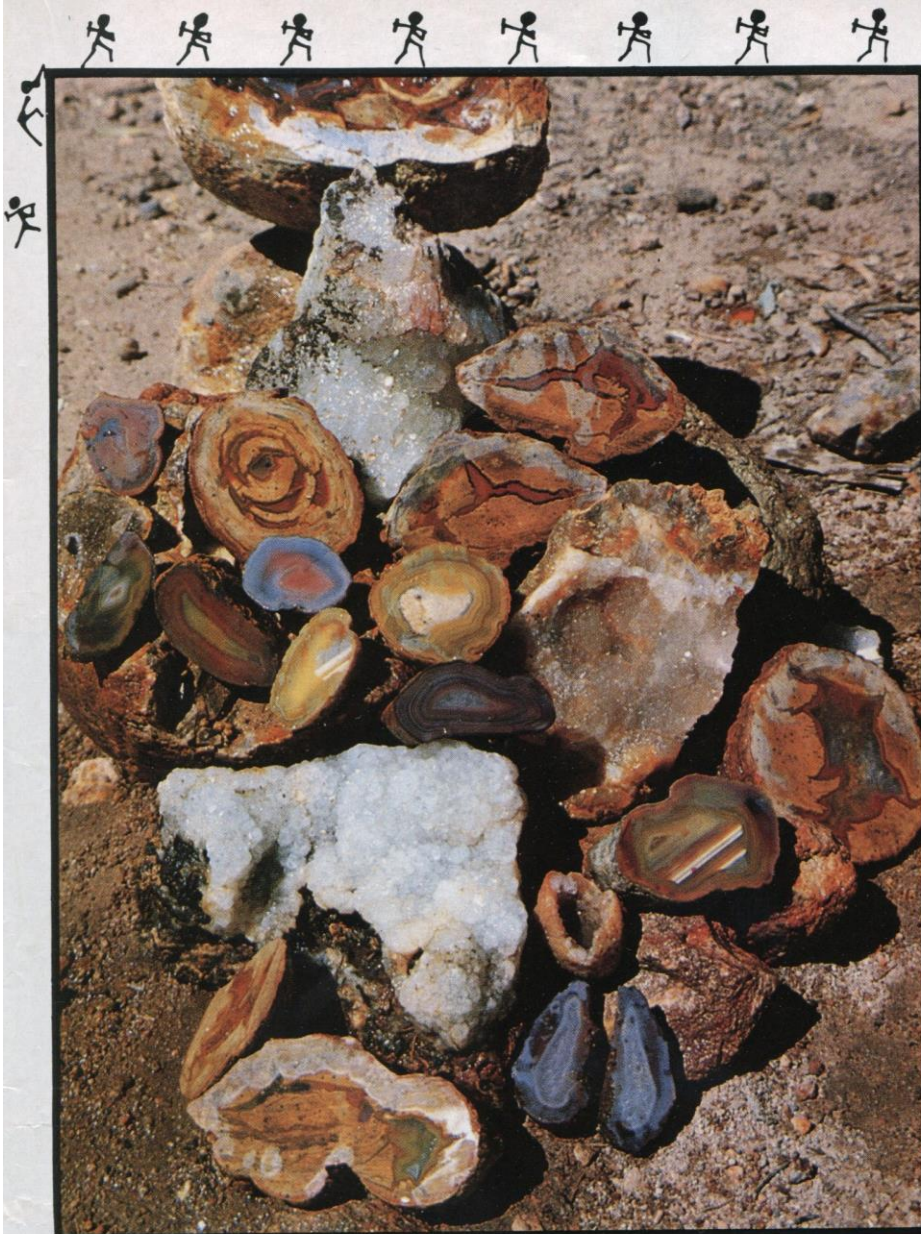
The Agate Creek area offers a great deal to the wildlife-loving family, and as dogs are permitted nobody needs be left at home. Rock wallabies are common, and wild brumbies roam freely. Wild orchids perched high in the trees display masses of perfect blooms in rich deep purples.

Those happy to wander about on foot will find interesting areas aplenty, such as the unusual and aptly named Mushroom Rock formation and the ancient, little-known Aboriginal rock paintings at Spring Creek.

Many of the tourists stopping at Darcey's Camp are content just to roam over the hills that give the area its name of Five Gullies, leaving the more strenuous work to the keen rockhounds. Each of the five hills bears agate of a particular color, and although the area has been thoroughly worked some large samples are still found.

Gemma and I had read many books and magazine articles about Agate Creek and the stones for which it is famous, but it wasn't until we arrived and began to investigate the area that we found how much they failed to describe. We teamed up with Mal and Jan, a couple we had met on the way, and they showed us a similarly misleading recent article. Like us they believed that finding agate was no more difficult than walking along the creek and picking up prize specimens. A large labourer's pick they had brought to help them out would do





but

the job splendidly — if you wanted to take up body building as well. We had been digging for sapphire at Rubyvale on a previous trip and so had some idea of the equipment needed for agate and thunder egg digging.

The books we had read also failed to tell us where to start our fossicking, so we were pleased indeed to have stopped at Forsayth Hotel before tackling that long rough road to Agate Creek. John Smith, the publican, has an excellent display of cut polished agate and is well-informed about Five Gulies, the surrounding areas, and the state of the road. Petrol and some supplies can be bought from John (there is no store at Agate Creek) and it is worth noting that Forsayth sells beer and petrol at lower prices than Georgetown. While you must take a good supply of water for the trip to Agate Creek, there is such a plentiful supply when you arrive that you have a year-round choice of good water from seven natural springs.

- According to the permanent residents it is useless to work the bed of Agate Creek, which has been thoroughly dug many a time. However, those prepared to visit the area in the wet season may be able to pick up decent agate, loosened by the running water, while walking in the creek.

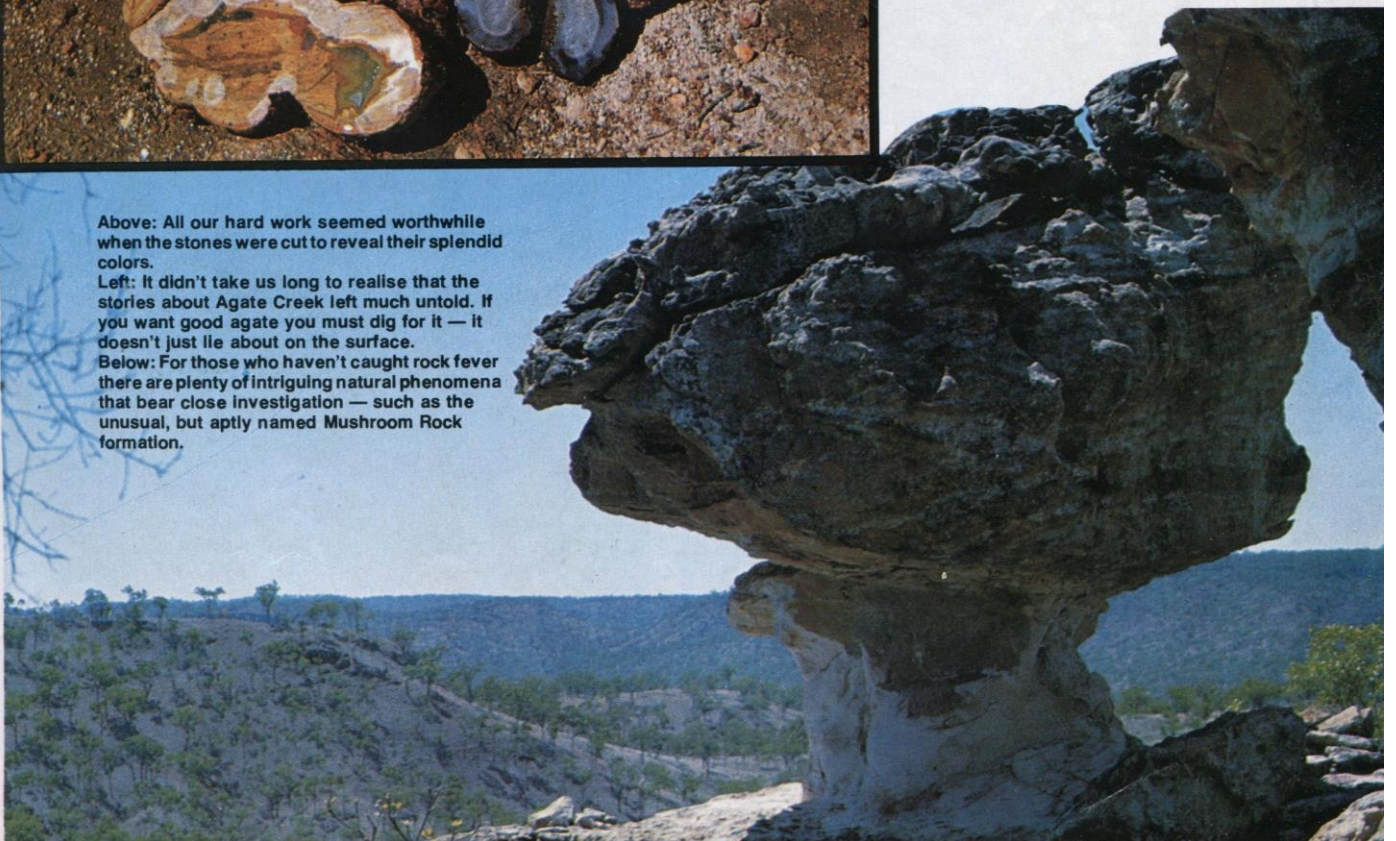
Agate seekers prepared to work hard and find a new area must travel as we did. The

Continued on page 82

Above: All our hard work seemed worthwhile when the stones were cut to reveal their splendid colors.

Left: It didn't take us long to realise that the stories about Agate Creek left much untold. If you want good agate you must dig for it — it doesn't just lie about on the surface.

Below: For those who haven't caught rock fever there are plenty of intriguing natural phenomena that bear close investigation — such as the unusual, but aptly named Mushroom Rock formation.



Thunder eggs at Agate Creek

Continued from page 23



It is a shame that Agate Creek is one of the least accessible of all the fields, and that many travellers don't dare face the bad roads.

four of us trekked up to an area called Black Soil and there, amongst pegged and claimed areas, began searching for nodules — roundish or oblong stones. Our first find was 600 mm below ground. We followed the gravel bed down, collecting a bucketful of what appeared to be good cutting agate. As we chopped away in our digging we listened for the characteristic sound that would indicate our picks had hit a solid stone. We toiled from sunrise until lunchtime.

Gemma sat back in the shade and carefully studied the nodules we had found to ensure that they were indeed agate, not basalt stones. It is always a good idea to take the doubtful stones back to camp where some local expert, like Athol, can give you a hand with your sorting.

After a week of solid digging I believed my hole was exhausted of agate, but in that time I had scored a decent sackful of various shaped stones. Athol cut 14 of them for me and found that only four were crystallised and full of rubbish. Jan and Mal had scored just as well.

The different colored agates from the five hills are quite distinctive. The bottom end of Black Soil bears greens and blues, while the top end shows greens and reds, and the best quality thunder eggs. The Saddle bears agate of fine greens and reds with white lines (sardonyx) and the Big and Little Simpson, along with Blue Hills, bear reds

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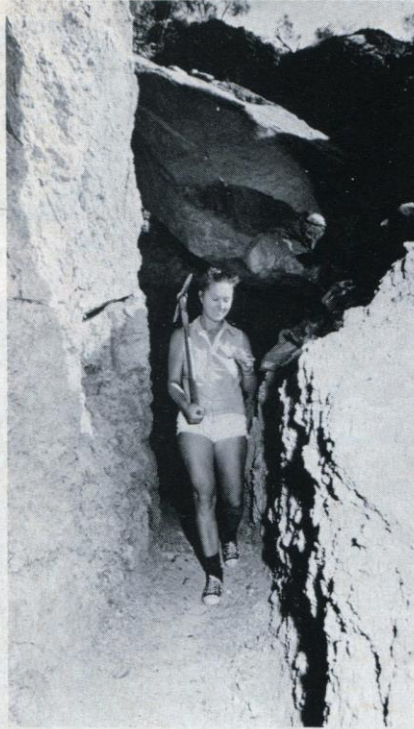
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and blues. The best agate found in the area is on Flanagans, which bears reds and greens. Lacking time to dig about all these hills we stopped around the top and bottom ends of Black Soil.

Thunder eggs at the top end were plentiful, closer to the surface than I had realised, and easy to dig for. Chats with the permanent residents had guided us to the good spots, saving our fruitless sweating for days in a useless spot we had considered good. They certainly had helped us, and I had to exercise considerable control on the number of thunder eggs I claimed — travelling back to Melbourne with too many of these lumps is no joke.

Large trenches, some two to three metres deep, had already been started, and broken sections of thunder eggs lay over the surface. Both Mal and I dug out four decent specimens, and we each had one cut that evening. Mal's was rich in browns and reds and displayed a Chinese dragon, while mine was a star in sardonyx reds and greens — both beautiful stones.

Agate Creek, long considered the Mecca of gemhunters, has been set aside for tourists and rockhounds, and no heavy machinery is allowed to work there. Unfortunately (or perhaps fortunately) it is the least accessible of all the fields, and many travellers don't dare face the bad roads. Some 50 square kilometres have been set aside there for rockhounds, who require




Many large trenches had already been started in the best areas, and broken sections of thunder eggs littered the surface.

only a Miner's Right (costing \$3.) which gives right of access to all Crown land other than mining leases, and leasehold land, but not to freehold land. Depending on your interests and budget, the equipment can be simple or complicated. For agate and thunder eggs the basics are usually sufficient.

If you don't have rock fever before you arrive, you soon will when you start digging. It's an infectious disease transmitted by the wonderful people — a breed of their own — who are always found around the diggings. We spent many a pleasant night chatting, exchanging ideas, and just enjoying the company, and we made friends from all parts of Australia, and other parts of the world.

When Jan and Mal required another pick to make their work lighter, someone was there to help them out. When we arrived back at Darcey's Camp with the rewards of a day's sweat in our hands everybody took an interest and accepted us into the happy family. We never ventured to the evening gatherings without a mug, as somebody always had the billy on for a brew of tea and no one was ever left out — even if they had to share a mug. People from all walks of life were there, every one of them infected by the fever.

If you venture to Agate Creek for fun and enjoyment you'll not be disappointed. But be warned — you'll be more than likely to catch rock fever. 



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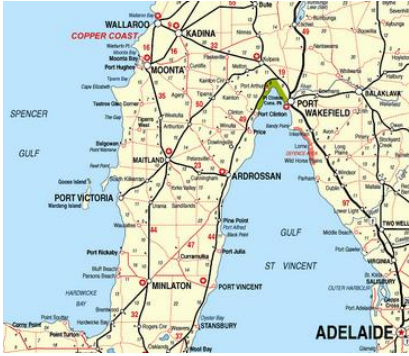
“ . . . as long as there are people with the spark of adventure in their eyes, the lure of open water will be irresistible . . . ”

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Picture Gallery Created By Ian While On A Short Holiday at Port Hughes, SA.

From Saturday 27th December 2014 to Friday 2nd January, 2015, Ian took a short holiday staying at Port Hughes, SA. His plan was to relax and enjoy a spot of fishing; however, the weather proved a challenge resulting in poor fishing prospects. Instead, with his camera in hand, Ian decided to tour the 'Copper Triangle' which includes Moonta, Wallaroo, and Kadina, South Australia. The following photo gallery provided by Ian is a reminder of the significant mining history of the area.



Copper Coast, York Peninsula, S.A.



Smelter Chimney, Wallaroo, SA.



Pump House, Wallaroo Mines, Kadina, SA.



Hughes Pump House, Moonta, SA.



Hughes Pump House, Moonta, SA.



Richmans Enginehouse, Moonta, SA.



Hughes Pump House, Moonta, SA.



Richmans Enginehouse, Moonta, SA.



Richmans Enginehouse, Moonta, SA.



Chimney at Hughes Pump House, Moonta, SA.



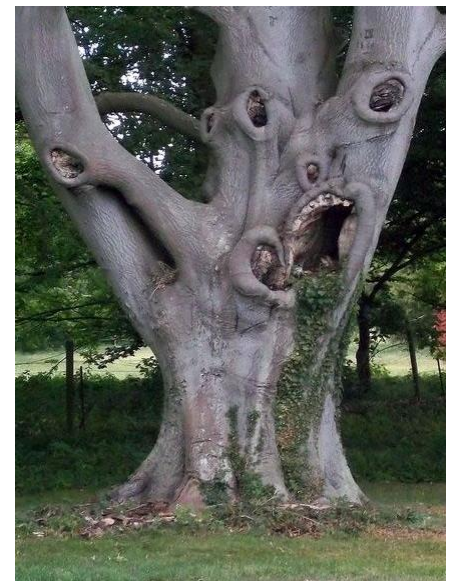
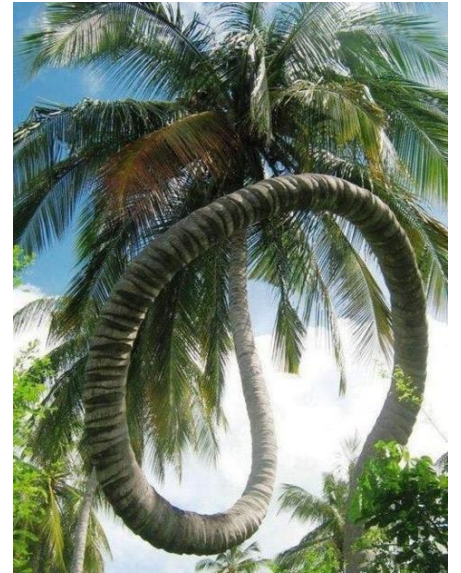
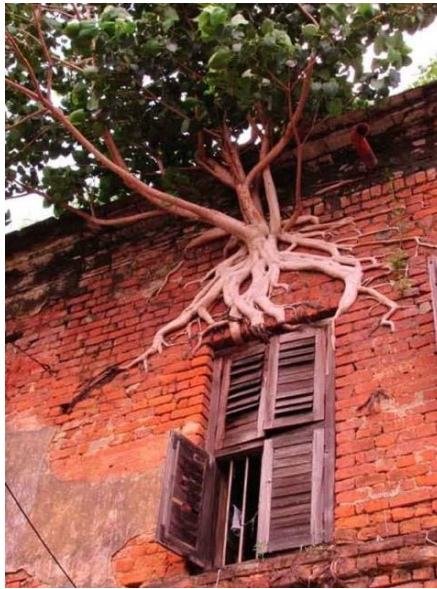
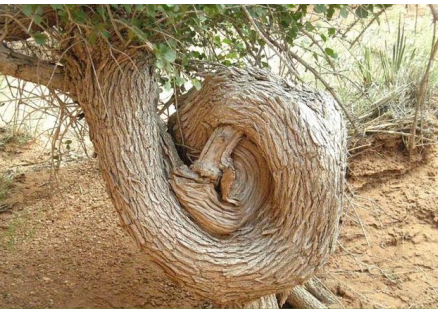
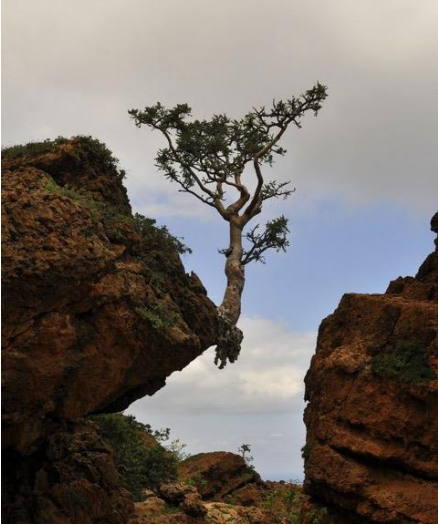
Pump House, Wallaroo Mines, Kadina, SA.



Pump House, Wallaroo Mines, Kadina, SA. (Viewed with the shaft in the foreground.)

Contributed by Augie. (Last photo by Mel)...

Trees with character



This one snapped by Mel...



I have waited since September, 2006, for the opportunity to flash this tree photo...despite being overwhelmed and feeling grossly outsized, I snapped it at the Dunedin Botanical Gardens, South Island, New Zealand.

General Interest.



Contributed by Doug Hughes (MGMC & Southern Rockhounds)...

Fifty of the Best

1. It's hard to explain puns to kleptomaniacs because they always take things literally.
2. I used to think the brain was the most important organ. Then I thought, look what's telling me that.
3. The midget fortune teller who kills his customers is a small medium at large.
4. A farmer in the field with his cows counted 196 of them, but when he rounded them up he had 200.
5. What does a nosey pepper do? Get jalapeño business.
6. What is Bruce Lee's favorite drink?
Wataaaaah!
7. The dyslexic devil worshipper sold his soul to Santa.
8. You kill vegetarian vampires with a steak to the heart.
9. There was a prison break and I saw a midget climb up the fence. As he jumped down he sneered at me and I thought, well that's a little condescending.
10. If you want to catch a squirrel just climb a tree and act like a nut.
11. So this guy with a premature ejaculation problem comes out of nowhere.
12. A magician was walking down the street and turned into a grocery store.
13. A blind man walks into a bar. And a table. And a chair.
14. Why don't you ever see hippopotamus hiding in trees? Because they're really good at it.
15. Did you hear about the Mexican train killer? He had locomotives.
16. How does NASA organize their company parties? They planet.
17. Why can't you hear a pterodactyl go to the bathroom? Because the "P" is silent.
18. What kind of shoes do ninjas wear? Sneakers.
19. Why does Snoop Dogg carry an umbrella? Fo' drizzle.
20. Did you hear about the new corduroy pillows? They're making headlines everywhere!
21. Why was six afraid of seven? Because seven was a well known six offender.
22. What time is it when you have to go to the dentist? Tooth-hurtie.



Fifty of the Best *Continued...*

23. My friend recently got crushed by a pile of books, but he's only got his shelf to blame.
24. What did Jay-Z call his girlfriend before they got married? Feyoncé.
25. Time flies like an arrow, fruit flies like banana.
26. How many kids with ADHD does it take to change a light bulb? Let's go play on our bikes.
27. What do you call dangerous precipitation? A rain of terror.
28. What's the best part about living in Switzerland? Not sure, but the flag is a big plus.
29. Two fish are in a tank. One turns to the other and asks "How do you drive this thing?"
30. Why can't a bike stand on its own? It's two tired.
31. Why didn't the lifeguard save the hippie? Because he was too far out man!
32. Last night I almost had a threesome, I only needed two more people!
33. What do you call a big pile of kittens? A meowntain.
34. I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.
35. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
36. Just went to an emotional wedding. Even the cake was in tiers.
37. When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.
38. I wrote a song about a tortilla. Well actually, it's more of a wrap.
39. What do you call a dinosaur with a extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.
40. How did the hipster burn his tongue? He drank his coffee before it was cool.
41. PMS should just be called ovary-acting.
42. Marketing companies should use chromosomes in advertisements because sex cells.
43. Pampered cows produce spoiled milk.
44. Learn sign language, it's very handy.
45. I started a band called 999 Megabytes — we haven't gotten a gig yet.
46. You want to hear a pizza joke? Never mind, it's pretty cheesy.
47. What is the difference between ignorance and apathy? I don't know, and I don't care.
48. Dry erase boards are remarkable.
49. Dwarfs and midgets have very little in common.
50. How do you make Holy water? Boil the hell out of it.



Contributed by Doug Hughes (MGMC & Southern Rockhounds)...

Paraprosdokians (Winston Churchill loved them) are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected; frequently humorous.

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you, but it's still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up; we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right, only who is left.
7. Knowledge knows a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
8. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
9. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
10. In filling out an application, where it says, 'In case of emergency, Notify:' I put **'Doctor'**.
11. Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.
12. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.
13. I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.
14. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
15. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
16. You're never too old to learn something stupid.
17. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.



Contributed by Doug W...

Quotes and Misquotes

Sinking of the Titanic

"They'll say the Jews were responsible".
"No, Ikey, after all the Rosenbergs, Goldbergs, and Falkenbergs were on board". "Yes, but an Iceberg sank it".

Garage Jargon

"Your car battery is flat, Madam..."
"Well! What shape should it be?"





Contributed by June...



How to wash a cat; without using an onion bag!

This is simply too much of a time saver not to share it with you.

1. Put both lids of the toilet up and add 1/8 cup of pet shampoo to the water in the bowl.
2. Pick up the cat and soothe him while you carry him towards the bathroom.
3. In one smooth movement put the cat in the toilet and close the lid. You may need to stand on the lid.
4. At this point, the cat will self agitate and make ample suds. Never mind the noises that come from the toilet, the cat is actually enjoying this!
5. Flush the toilet three or four times. This provides a 'Power-Wash' and 'Rinse'.
6. Have someone open the front door of your home. Be sure that there are no people between the bathroom and the front door.
7. Stand well back, behind the toilet as far as you can, and quickly lift the lid.
8. The cat will rocket out of the toilet, streak through the bathroom, and run outside where he will dry himself off.
9. Both the toilet and the cat will be sparkling clean.



Yours sincerely,
The Dog.



Contributed by Doug...

Home Schooled.

Most of our generation was **home schooled**, but did not know it at the time.

1. My mother taught me **to appreciate a job well done**. "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I've just finished cleaning."
2. My mother taught me **religion**. "You better pray that will come out of the carpet."
3. My father taught me about **time travel**. "If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
4. My father taught me **logic**. "Because I said so, that's why."
5. My mother taught me **more logic**. "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."
6. My mother taught me **foresight**. "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."
7. My father taught me **irony**. "Keep crying and I'll give you something to cry about."
8. My mother taught me about the science of **osmosis**. "Shut your mouth and eat your supper."
9. My mother taught me about **contortionism**. "Just you look at that dirt on the back of your neck?"
10. My mother taught me about **stamina**. "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."
11. My mother taught me about **weather**. "This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."
12. My mother taught me about **hypocrisy**. "If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"
13. My father taught me the **circle of life**. "I brought you into this world, and I can take you out..."
14. My mother taught me about **behaviour modification**. "Stop acting like your father!"
15. My mother taught me about **envy**. "There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do."
16. My mother taught me about **anticipation**. "Just wait until we get home."
17. My mother taught me about **receiving**. "You are going to get it from your father when you get home!"
18. My mother taught me **medical science**. "If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way."



Home schooled *continued...*

19. My mother taught me **ESP**. "Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"
20. My father taught me **humour**. "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."
21. My mother taught me **how to become an adult**. "If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."
22. My mother taught me **genetics**. "You're just like your father."
23. My mother taught me about my **roots**. "Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"
24. My mother taught me **wisdom**. "When you get to be my age, you'll understand."
25. My father taught me about **justice**. "One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you!"



Catching up with 'Granite Man'

Last year (Sunday 14th September 2014) while on a MGMC Field Trip to Mannum Waterfalls, I spotted and photographed 'Granite Man'. The following photo and caption appeared in the MGMC 2014 Summer Newsletter.



"Hello, my name is 'Granite Man'. I'm the live-in giant, guardian of the 'Mannum Waterfalls'. I hereby give permission to MGMC to visit my home and highlight its features in the following picture gallery. Please visit me again sometime soon. Bye for now."

2014 >>> 2015



Well! In January 2015, you wouldn't believe it, but I caught up with 'Granite Man' on holiday at Port Elliot. Here he can be seen resting his head on his elbow and contemplating his....navel! I think? You know, I felt like a 'Peking Tong'!

Contributed by Doug Hughes...

Why we must never let print newspapers die...

Miracle cure kills fifth patient

By The Associated Press

A fifth volunteer died Tuesday from an experimental drug treated as a miracle cure for hepatitis B, but scientists unlearned the mystery of what caused the death of a woman who was dying of the disease.

Aggravatingly, the first drug was in place within a year ago, but members of the National Institutes of Health, which have known about how the drug worked to recognize what it meant, the study's lead scientist says.

Something terrible happened and we missed it," Dr. Jay Hoebigle said in an emotional interview describing the horror of watching the drug was killing people months after they stopped taking it.

"The dreadful thing I'd be waiting to see what will happen," he said, his voice breaking, before learning of the most recent death. "I just hope we're over the worst."

The drug, Fialuridine, or FIAU, had shown great promise for fighting the hepatitis B virus, which can cause deadly cirrhosis and liver cancer. When drug tested healthy liver volunteers, the Food and Drug Administration approved FIAU for human trials.

Two late, scientists would discover that in humans, FIAU actually attacks the very building blocks of cells in livers, kidneys and nerves.

Five people treated with FIAU have died of liver and kidney failure, despite liver transplants for three of them. On Tuesday, a 37-year-old woman announced after two months in critical condition and two liver transplants at the University of Virginia Medical Center. One volunteer remains in serious condition there, and another is recovering from an Aug. 4 liver transplant at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta.

Girls' schools still offering 'something special' — head

interview describing the horror of watching the drug was killing people months after they stopped taking it.

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Tiger Woods plays with own balls, Nike says

By DAVID KRETT

NIKE SAYS Tiger Woods is playing with his own balls, not Nike's. The company says it has no balls in the bag.

Woods, who has won 11 major championships, has been using Nike balls since 1997. But Nike says it has no balls in the bag.

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Marijuana issue sent to a joint committee

The Toronto Star 06/14/96

Exclusive To All Newspapers

DIANA WAS STILL ALIVE HOURS BEFORE SHE DIED

A SERIES of previously unseen CCTV images have revealed that Diana was alive and well before she was tragically killed in Paris, ten years ago.

INSIDE • Do you think Diana is dead? Or have you seen her in...
 MARRIAGE? Call now, 0900 000 0000. If not, call: 0900 000 0000. Calls cost about 2p per min.

Lady Jacks off to hot start in conference

By Mike Krupoff

The women's basketball team took an early lead in the first half of the game against the Lady Jacks.

The women's basketball team took an early lead in the first half of the game against the Lady Jacks.

Bugs flying around with wings are flying bugs

By Wayne Hansen
 Redwood Co. Extension Educator

"I've got these bugs that look like ants with wings flying around my house. What are they and how do I get rid of them?"

bugs.
Anthracnose continues to develop on many green ash, oak & maple trees. Small spots or blotches are the typical symptom and are often accompanied by defoliation. NOTE: Do not co...

Bridges help people cross rivers

By MICHELLE CHAMBERLAIN

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to build a bridge across the Rock River? How would we get them built? What would it be like to be an engineer, but at a very practical one?

Bridges have helped mankind traverse waterways, connect cities and the like for hundreds and even thousands of years. And, throughout that time, bridges have evolved from a simple beam bridge across a narrow creek to highly complex modern spans spanning miles of turbulent waterways, such as the 24-mile-long Lake Pontchartrain Causeway near New Orleans, La.

To Do:

The next time your family visits Discovery Center Museum, try to find the best different arch bridges and one suspension bridge in Rock River Discovery Park. If you want to learn how engineers build bridges and buildings, you might want to participate in our upcoming Engineering Architecture Camp, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, July 28, through Friday, July 31. Open to children ages 8 to 12, the camp will explore engineering and architecture with bridges, and structures with beams.

Hospitals resort to hiring doctors

PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE PROMPTING MOVE, ADMINISTRATORS SAY

ON TEENAGERS, ADULTS:

Statistics show that teen pregnancy drops off significantly after age 25.

Mary Anne Tobin, Republican state senator from Colorado Springs (contributed by Harry F. Ponce)

MONDAY DECEMBER 1999

Federal Agents Raid Gun Shop, Find Weapons

Store Owner Arrested Previously

By Brian Barber
 World Staff Writer

Federal agents on Monday searched a south Tulsa gun store owned by the man who is charged with the murder of a federal judge. The search uncovered a large cache of weapons, including handguns, rifles, shotguns, and other firearms.

SOUTH HAVEN

City unsure why the sewer smells

By KRISTIN HAY
 H-F Correspondent

Stickland said he will discuss the strategy of putting a non-toxic smoke into the sewer to detect the path of the offensive gas emanating from the sewer.

The Winchester Star

Study Shows Frequent Sex Enhances Pregnancy Chances

By The Associated Press

BOSTON — A study that researchers say gives the best estimate ever of nature's window of opportunity for sex.

Researchers say there are six days in every menstrual month when a woman can get pregnant.

Starvation can lead to health hazards

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My weight is totally over the top. I am 5 feet 7 inches tall and weigh close to 300 pounds. I was average weight in high school.

Get to a dietitian for diet advice that provides for essential nutrients while paring down calorie intake sensibly. Your local hospital should be able to put you on the track of one. Combine

REGION

Homicide victims rarely talk to police

CHARLESTON (AP) — The state Division of Highways granted contracts to a...

Worker suffers leg pain after crane drops 800-pound ball on his head

CHARLESTON (AP) — The state Division of Highways granted contracts to a...

The bra celebrates a pair of historic milestones this year

After 100 years of innovation, the device still holds up.

By SHARON FINK
 A Washington Post

Total lunar eclipse will be broadcast live on Northwoods Public Radio

If you're a stargazer, join KAXE 91.7 FM for a special skywatch on Sunday evening, Nov. 28. A spectacular view of the total lunar eclipse is predicted for northern Minnesota. KAXE and Itasca Community College physics professor Aaron Wenger will...

Puerto Rican teen named mistress of the universe

By Associated Press

Los Angeles — An 18-year-old Puerto Rican teen named Victoria Ortiz as the 2001 Miss Teen USA.

SPORTS

Rangers get whiff of Colon

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — The New York Yankees have signed free agent pitcher Pedro Martinez to a five-year, \$32.5 million contract.

Members Notice Board

Meeting Reminders/Updates

- The Tea Tree Gully Gem and Mineral Club Exhibition will be a biennial affair, held on the opposite year to the Enfield show, that is, the next TTGGMC Exhibition will be held on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st of June, 2015.

Wanted

Mineral photo opportunities.

I'm looking for opportunities to photograph mineral specimens (South Australian in particular) for future newsletter "Mineral Matters" articles.

Do you have mineral specimens that you can make available to be photographed?

I'm prepared to take these photos at your nominated location or at the club rooms, whichever suits you.

Specimens do not have to be first prize winners - what matters, is that they are clearly identifiable, and present as a reasonable example from a known location.

Hope you can help me out on behalf of the club.

Mel Jones

08 8395 1792

mel.jones@bigpond.com

Newsletter Content & Contributions

Contributions for the newsletter need to be passed on to me no later than one week before each club meeting.

As the current caretaker for the club newsletter, I will be emailing members a link to the copy on the Monday prior to the meeting.

Please consider contributing some of your photos and stories for all to enjoy. These do not have to be mineral related.

I look forward to your ongoing assistance and also seek your timely, frank feedback so that the newsletter continues to meet the club members' interest.

Mel Jones

08 8395 1792

mel.jones@bigpond.com

Useful Internet Links

2014 Australian (& some NZ!) Gem & Mineral Calendar: <http://www.mineral.org.au/shows/shows.html>

Australian Federation of Lapidary and Allied Crafts Association (AFLACA): <http://aflaca.org.au/>

AFLACA-GMCASA: <http://aflaca.org.au/members/gem-and-mineral-clubs-association-of-south-australia-gmcasa/>

Gem and Mineral Clubs Association of South Australia (GMCASA): <http://www.gmcasa.org.au/>

Adelaide Gem and Mineral Club: http://sacommunity.org/org/197578-Adelaide_Gem_%2526_Mineral_Club#.Uta7ufRDt8E <http://www.adelaidegmc.websyte.com.au/>

Broken Hill Mineral Club, The: <http://brokenhillmineralclub.wikispaces.com/>

Enfield Gem and Mineral Club Inc: www.egmc.infopage.com.au
<http://southaustralia.localitylist.com.au/yellowresult.php/goal/Detail/ckey/26988>

Flinders Gem, Geology and Mineral Club Inc:
http://www.lapidaryworld.com/flinders_geology_gem_and_mineral_club.html

Mineralogical Society of SA Inc: <http://www.sa-minsoc.websyte.com.au/>

Murraylands Gem and Mineral Club Inc: <http://www.murraylandsgmc.org.au/>

Southern Rockhounds: Website - <http://www.southernrockhounds.com.au/home>
Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/SouthernRockhounds>

Yorke Peninsula Gem and Mineral Club Inc: <http://www.coppercoast.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?u=754&c=16913>