



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 1830 M: 0417 859 443 Email: ieverard@bigpond.net.au
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 Treasurer: Russell Fischer. Email: rfischer@bigpond.net.au

**January
Edition
2017**

"Rockzette"

Tea Tree Gully Gem & Mineral Club News

President's Report	Club Activities	Courses & Fees.
<p>Hi All, Happy New Year 2017...how quickly they come! Hope to see you all in February. Will email an update on the kitchen once the refit has been completed. Cheers, Ian.</p>	<p>Meetings Club meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month except January. Committee meetings start at 7 pm. General meetings - arrive at 7.30 pm for 8 pm start.</p>	<p>Faceting/Cabbing <i>Course 10 weeks x 2 hours Cost \$20.00. Use of equipment \$1.00 per hour.</i></p> <p>Silversmithing <i>Course 5 weeks x 2 hours Cost \$20.00. 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 style="text-align: center;">Diary Dates/Notices</p>	<p>Library Librarian - Augie Gray</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 style="text-align: center;">2017</p> <p>Sat 11th – Sun 12th March 2017 GEMKHANA – Victoria – Gem and Mineral Show. Time: 9.30am to 4.30pm. Venue: Quest Shepparton Racing Complex, Goulburn Valley Highway, Kialla, VIC. (7km south of Shepparton, VIC.)</p> <p>Sat 18th – Sun 19th March 2017 Canberra Lapidary Club Rock Swap. Time: 8.30am to 5.00pm. Venue: Exhibition Park in Canberra – Wagtail Way (Camping Ground) – outdoor event Cost: Free Details: Fossickers & dealers. crystals, minerals, rough & cut gemstones, opals, fossils, jewellery. Food available. Sieve for sapphires http://www.canberralapidary.org.au/</p> <p>Fri 14th – Mon 17th April 2017 GEMBOREE 2017. The 53rd National Gem & Mineral Show, GEMBOREE 2017 will be held in Lithgow, NSW For Newsletters and full details visit http://aflaca.org.au/gemboree/</p> <p>Sat 17th – Sun 18th June 2017 Tea Tree Gully Gem and Mineral Club Show.</p>	<p>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>Tuesday Faceting/Cabbing Tuesdays - 10 am to 2 pm. All are welcome. Contact Doug Walker (08 7120 2221) if you would like to learn faceting.</p> <p>Wednesday Silversmithing Wednesdays - 7 pm to 9 pm. All are welcome. Contact Augie Gray (08 8265 4815 / 0433 571 887) if you would like to learn silversmithing.</p> <p>Thursday Cabbing Thursdays - 10 am to 2 pm. All are welcome. Contact Augie Gray (08 8265 4815 / 0433 571 887) if you would like to learn cabbing.</p> <p>Friday Silversmithing Fridays - 9 am to 12 md. All are welcome. Contact John Hill if you would like to learn silversmithing on a Friday.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</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>. It is necessary that <i>Health and Safety</i> regulations are 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><i>NOTE: 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.</i></p> <p>Club Subscriptions</p> <p>\$25.00 Family. \$20.00 Family/Pensioner. \$15.00 Single. \$12.50 Single/Pensioner. \$10.00 Joining Fee.</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 activity, including, but not limited to, meetings, field trips, all crafts and club shows. An indemnity is to be signed by all participants before each and every field trip activity they attend.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">In This Edition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President's Report. • Diary Dates/Notices. • Club Activities. • Courses & Fees. • Club and Members' Bits and Pieces. • Gem/Mineral fakes, forgeries, misrepresentations and scams. • Members Out and About - 'All Steamed Up at Mannum, SA.' • General Interest. • Member's Noticeboard.
<p style="text-align: center;">Tea Tree Gully Gem and Mineral Club Incorporated, Old Tea Tree Gully School, Dowding Terrace, Tea Tree Gully, South Australia, 5091.</p>		

Progress with the Clubroom Kitchen Renovations – 11/12/2016.



Wow! What a different look! All furnishings have been removed temporarily (i.e. they will be returned to the kitchen at the right time.). Ian viewed the original floor when the linoleum had been removed...part of the floor was paved with mortared bricks supporting the entrance to the doorway on the right of the picture. The kitchen was an add on and the right wall in the picture is an outer wall of the original school room/building.



The floor of the toilet walkway has been renovated as well.

Augie's January Mineral Selection



Tourmaline and quartz, Minas Gerais, Brazil.



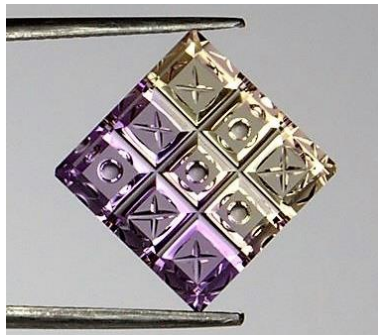
Star-shaped Quartz cluster with brilliant Augelite crystals distributed between the Quartz. From Mundo Nuevo Mine, Sanchez Carrion, La Libertad, Peru.

Augie's January Gem Selection

These are all stones cut on the American "Ultra Tec" faceting machine, with & without their "Fantasy" attachment.

They are cuts a lot of people won't have seen because they're not something you can do on a "normal" faceting machine.

Most of the world's #1 facetors now use an Ultra Tec. Top of the range \$\$\$-wise, but can produce some mind-blowing results. Here's a small sample...



Ametrine.



Citrine.



Morganite.



Quartz.

[December 2016 MESA Journal - click here to open.](#)



Latest advances in South Australian geoscience and resource sector news

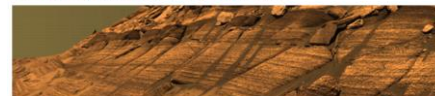
Features

Using organic petrology and geochemistry to map uranium reductants



Organic facies of the Frome Embayment and Callabonna Sub-basin: what and where are the uranium reductants?

Moon Plain: Martian testing ground?



Moon Plain South Australia: a testing ground for Martian resource extraction?

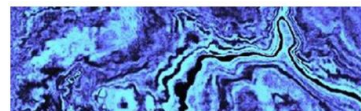
News



PACE Copper: accelerating exploration and discovery



Discovery Day paints bright exploration vision



Composite 3D seismic time slice images of the Cooper Basin



SA Drill Core Reference Library proves a winner



Securing Upper Spencer Gulf region's resources



Foundation set for growth

Gem and Mineral Fakes, Forgeries, Misrepresentations, and Scams

The contents of this page excluding most pictures appear originally at www.the-vug.com and is mirrored here to help the lapidary novice avoid common collecting pitfalls and scams and to help promote all the honest members of the lapidary community.

This article is a list of scams, fakes, forgeries and misrepresentations that appear in the mineral collecting market. Some are old and some are new. Many of these fakes are quite pretty and are collectable because of their aesthetics. In general, however, they are of low value and usually should not be included as part of a "serious" mineral collection. To learn more about specific minerals, including their colours, crystal habits, etc., explore [Mindat](#) and [WebMineral](#). To find reliable dealers and late breaking news visit www.the-vug.com or their [Fake Minerals Blog](#).



Arkansas Diamond.

Arkansas Diamond: Arkansas is known for something unique. The ONLY public access diamond mine in the entire world. For a small fee, anyone can go to the Crater of Diamonds State Park in Murfreesboro Arkansas and search for diamonds in the giant open dirt field. Diamonds from Arkansas are also special because of a very important fact. They are worth some SERIOUS dollars! A man figured out he could make some money by purchasing diamonds from India then take them into the park and "find" them.



Aluminium and Magnesium.

Aluminium and Magnesium:

Some dealers are selling specimens they claim to be natural aluminium or natural magnesium, taken from a mine. Not true.

Beware! Aluminium and magnesium are too reactive to survive in their native, metallic state for more than a few years. These "specimens" are probably just raw aluminium or magnesium from a refining plant.



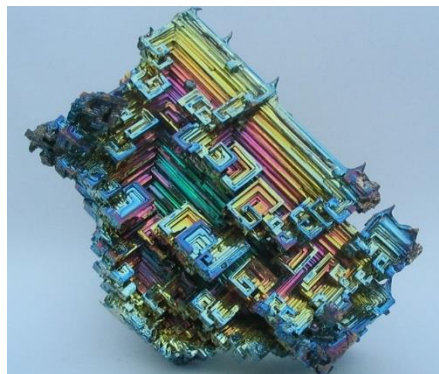
Aqua Aura.

Aqua Aura: Mineral specimens of various types but most commonly quartz crystals, can be treated in a laboratory so they become bluish or iridescent on their surfaces. This is done by vapor deposition of a very thin layer of metal, usually gold. (Some claim to use titanium or indium.) The resultant material is most frequently called "aqua aura."



Azeztulite.

Azeztulite: This is one of the simplest scams out there. Azeztulite is just plain old, ordinary, common quartz. Scraps of quartz, often milky, dull, and broken, are proclaimed (often by the metaphysical crowd) to have some special properties.



Bismuth.

Bismuth: Iridescent bismuth crystals have become quite popular because of their fascinating hopped crystal structure. The locality for these bismuth "specimens" is frequently listed as Belgium or Germany. These crystals are made in a laboratory, by allowing super cooled liquid bismuth to crystallize. Bismuth does occur in nature, but

usually as dull grey amorphous ("without crystal structure") lumps and often accompanied by yellow or green oxidation products.



Carborundum.

Carborundum: This spiky, iridescent material is not natural. Most specimens are man-made silicon carbide, manufactured for use as an abrasive, or when gemmy, as a diamond stimulant. It occurs naturally in meteorites, where it is called moissanite. The localities for these "specimens" may be Mexico, Schenectady (New York) or others.



Cermikite.

Cermikite: This is not a natural mineral, but instead is probably laboratory-grown chrome alum (aluminium chromium sulphate) or regular, colourless alum which has been crystallized in the presence of a dye. Other laboratory grown specimens of different colours have also been called cermikite. Usually ascribed to Poland or Romania. Not a common fake.



Chalcantite (natural form). Continued next page...

Gem and Mineral Fakes, Forgeries, Misrepresentations, and Scams. Continued...



Chalcanthite (lab grown form).

Chalcanthite: Striking, deep blue crystals of "chalcanthite" (copper sulphate) have been a popular scam on eBay in the past year or two. While chalcanthite does occur in nature, it is usually as a blue massive or crusty material. Well-formed crystals of more than a few millimetres are exceptionally rare. On the other hand, it is quite easy to grow these "chalcanthite" specimens in a lab (picture at right). and are ascribed to localities in Brazil, China or Poland. Avoid dealers who cannot or will not provide more details.



Baked Citrine.

Baked Citrine: It is common to see these clusters and geodes available for sale in gift shops and online the world over. But, be aware, these are not true Citrine crystals. True Citrine is mostly a lemon colour, very light in appearance. Even the most richly coloured Citrine crystals are not anywhere near the colour of these baked Amethyst clusters. Our advice...stay away from any dealers that A) Don't know this and B) Don't option to share this information with you. There is so much Amethyst in Brazil that they needed to come up with additional marketing tools to help sell the B grade material. One day someone figured out that if you take an Amethyst cluster and stick it in a kiln to bake, it will turn a reddish/orange colour.



Natural Citrine.



Fluorite Octahedron.

Fluorite Octahedron: Natural, octahedral (eight-sided) crystals of fluorite occur widely in nature, but rarely without some point of contact with a host or matrix rock. With a bit of practice, one can cleave or break fluorite (usually massive or poorly crystallized material) along the octahedral cleavage planes to produce a sharp, flawless octahedron. These can be easily recognized because they lack any evidence of previous attachment to matrix, as well as exceptionally sharp edges where crystal faces meet.



Galena Geodes from Morocco.

Galena Geodes from Morocco: Galena crystals and cleavages stuck inside a hollow geode. (commonly being resold by Metaphysical dealers). Also, are common fakes from Morocco where the geode is a pottery with pieces of wood inside the geode that are then covered in galena crystals.



Hollow Galena Crystals.

Hollow Galena Crystals: From Bulgaria, they appeared first at the Denver Mineral show in 2009. Suspicions about the specimens being created by micro-abrasion ended up proving true when observed under a scanning electron microscope showed...

microscope showed remnants of the abrasive material on surface. Not all hollow Galena are fake, but this proves some are.



Green Quartz.

Green Quartz: Green quartz can be produced in the lab by a modification of the process used to manufacture large, high-quality quartz crystals for electronics applications. The process involves heating the quartz with water under high pressure. This causes the quartz to recrystallize. If other substances are present these might be included into the new crystals. For example, inclusion of chromium can result in deep green quartz. So, existing quartz clusters (often with damaged crystals tips because these clusters are essentially worthless) are heated with water under high pressure, producing clusters with new deep green tips. These tips have a characteristic etched or stepped growth pattern. The material is lab-grown and not produced in any mine, despite what some dealers might want you to believe.



Heliodor from Tajikistan.

Heliodor "from Tajikistan": Heliodor is the gemmy yellow variety of beryl. The pleasing yellow colour can occur naturally, but it can also be produced by heat treatment of blue beryl (aquamarine). To mask the origin of heliodor produced by heat treatment, some suppliers have created confusion concerning the origin of this mineral. (The confusion may also exist to hide the mine from would-be thieves, or to cover the activities of the thieves themselves.) Much of the suspect beryl is labelled as coming from Tajikistan, although this locality is suspect. However, what would be the point of turning a beautiful blue aquamarine from Pakistan into a yellow beryl? *Continued next page...*

Gem and Mineral Fakes, Forgeries, Misrepresentations, and Scams. Continued...



Hemimorphite (Dyed aragonite).

Hemimorphite (Dyed Aragonite):

Hemimorphite has been around the mineral world for ages, occurring in a range of colours from colourless, white, green, blue and grey. Sometimes it has inclusions that give it more colours, like the limonite included ones from Mexico that have brownish/red lines running across the blades. China has a few mines have been producing some very nice hemimorphite that is suitable for cutting, cabbing or just adding to your collection. Massive slabs of colourless or grey aragonite are common from China and when dyed blue it can look somewhat like hemimorphite. The dyed aragonite has a smoother look to it than natural blue hemimorphite. It can be identified by placing a drop of common pool acid (muriatic or hydrochloric acid) on the questioned material. If it starts bubbling like crazy, then you have a great chunk of dyed aragonite!



Malachite Pseudomorph after Glauberite.

Malachite Pseudomorph after Glauberite:

Camp Verde produces a ton of glauberite crystals replaced by calcite. If you go to the location, you can leave with a bucket full of these crystals. If you place these crystals into a bucket of copper sulphate solution in water (the same stuff used to make fake chalcantinite) you get these cool looking green glauberite crystals that look like malachite pseudomorphs after glauberite!



Nickel Crystals.

Nickel Crystals: Electrodeposition of nickel (electroplating) is a common enhancement for jewellery and other items. Correct electrodeposition gives a smooth metallic finish with no discernible crystals. However, nickel crystals can form on the wires used in the electrodeposition process. (The pictures show an example) The wires are called electrodes, and they are usually copper. In some cases, these nickel-covered copper wires have been sold as "natural nickel crystals." These fakes are easy to spot. Natural nickel crystals are exceptionally rare (usually found only in meteorites), and when they do occur, they are very small (a 1 mm natural nickel crystal is considered large).



Red Obsidian.

Brightly coloured Obsidian:

Obsidian has always been one of the mainstays of the mineral community, with countless Obsidian arrowheads, "apache tears" and other Obsidian items finding their way into the hands of kids around North America each summer. Obsidian comes in black, brown, grey and several combinations such as white and black "Snowflake" obsidian and brown and black "Mahogany" obsidian. What it DOES NOT come in is brightly coloured Reds, Blues, Greens and the like sold by metaphysical dealers and scam artists. Most coloured obsidians are slag glass.



Cavansite.

Pentagonite vs. Cavansite: Cavansite is a popular mineral due to its striking blue colour, usually on a white heulandite or stilbite matrix. Pentagonite (pictured next column) is a significantly rarer polymorph of Cavansite. They are very similar in both colour and crystal shape but Pentagonite crystals are generally more needle-like than Cavansite crystals. Pentagonite gets its name from its common habit of forming twinned

crystals consisting of five needles radiating from the same spot. Because Cavansite and Pentagonite may not be easily distinguished, the "Pentagonite" specimens sold by some dealers are just Cavansite.



Pentagonite.



Radiated Smoky Quartz.

Radiated Smoky Quartz: Quartz can come in all sorts of colours and forms, all caused by conditions present during the growth of the pocket. Quartz is often found as dark "Smoky" coloured crystals, due to radiation from the radioactive materials present in the area. However, you can also take a clear Quartz crystal and turn it into a black crystal by submitting it to a dose of radioactivity. It is common for large amounts of Arkansas Quartz and Chinese material treated in this way each year. While it does look quite pretty, more and more locations of Smoky Quartz have been discovered and the supply of natural Smoky Quartz is enough to drive interest away from this type of material. We suggest buying natural Quartz and staying away from these specimens. In addition, please be aware that all those "Cavic" Romania Quartz crystals are also all radiated. The colour will disappear after exposure to sunlight for a prolonged time.



Saffron Okenite: This began appearing early in 2005. Some dealers claim it's from India and others from China, but all refuse to name a specific locality.

Continued next page...

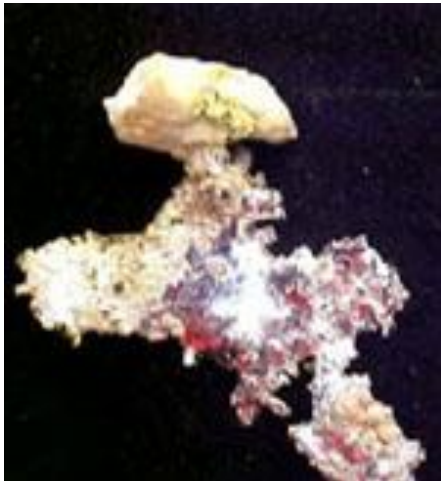
Gem and Mineral Fakes, Forgeries, Misrepresentations, and Scams.

Saffron Okenite: Continued...



Saffron Okenite.

The tufts of saffron yellow okenite needles against a white matrix were selling at thousands of dollars each. These are fakes of the first order, made in a laboratory by applying a yellow dye to common Indian okenite specimens. With very rare exception, natural okenite is usually very white. Don't be fooled by this obvious scam!



Silver Nugget.



Native Silver.

Silver: At least one online auction dealer site is selling silver "nuggets" that come "from deep within the mine" and are ".999 pure silver." When asked for specifics about the mine we are told only it's in Nevada. Natural silver is an alloy containing traces (or more) of other metals such as platinum, gold and copper. It also, usually, has a minor...

to deep grey or black tarnish. Naturally bright, shiny silver should be suspect as having been cleaned or being a fake. Also, natural silver of 0.999 ("three nines") purity is unbelievable. These "silver nuggets" appear to be little more than melted silver (with air bubbles visible in some cases, and sometimes cast over bits of quartz to add their "authenticity") or just soldering metal. Pretty for what they are, perhaps, but worthless as mineral specimens.



Fake Turquoise nugget.



Polished Turquoise.

Turquoise: At least one dealer is selling large, 2-6 pounds or more, of fake turquoise nuggets. They appear to be constructed by placing a mixture of high-quality powdered turquoise and epoxy glue around what may be a rock or lead core. Check the density or specific gravity of suspect turquoise nuggets to be sure, especially if the price seems too good. These fakes have appeared on some online auction sites with some Chinese dealers, and may also be occurring elsewhere. The locality in some cases is claimed to be Labashan Mine, Zhushan, Hubei Province, China.



Irradiated Tourmalines.

Irradiated Tourmalines: You can take crystals that have little to no colour, very pale crystals and irradiate them which produces bright pink crystals. The colour fades over time and very quickly when exposed to sunlight. Be wary of rich hued crystals for...

sale from little or unknown dealers; they might have had some sort of treatment. If the associated quartz is pitch black, this is a clear indication that the crystals have been irradiated.



The more intensely coloured stones are more valuable. Often, pale pink tourmalines are heat-treated or irradiated to intensify colour.



White Moldavite or Elestial Angel Calcite.

White Moldavite or Elestial Angel Calcite: Metaphysical sellers on eBay come up with some funny listings and names for minerals. This so-called "white moldavite" or "Elestial Angel Calcite" in some cases is just calcite. It is in fact a calcite cleavage that has been soaked in a dilute hydrochloric acid to bring out a soft shine to the lump of otherwise worthless calcite. In one case, it was labelled as a 'Penetration Twin'.



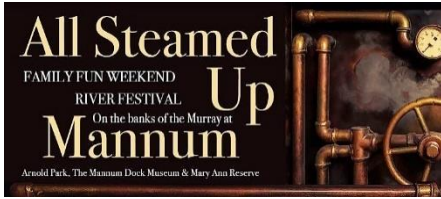
Fake Red Zincite.

Zincite: Natural zincite usually occurs a reddish, massive material. However, in recent years, sharply-crystallized, very gemmy, glassy zincite in a variety of shades of green (at right), yellow, brown, orange and red (at left) has been offered, often as gem rough. This material is produced as a by-product of zinc smelting operations, principally in Poland. Pretty for what it is, but not natural!



Fake Green Zincite.

Contributed by Janet and Mel...



MV Mirambeena.



PB Amphibious.



Reo 1928 - hard top and white walls.



Steam powered truck... first time I have seen one working.



Every boy's dream.



Steam truck in motion.



PB Amphibious.



The naked past framed (Try Ctrl + roll mouse wheel forward).



PS James Maiden.



PB Hebe built 1888.



MV Proud Mary.



FX Holden 1951.



Chevrolet Six. Early 1930s.



Fargo 1938.



Overland Whippet Tourer 1926.



MV Lotus.



Blacksmith demonstration.



Shearer Steam Carriage (Very poorly displayed).

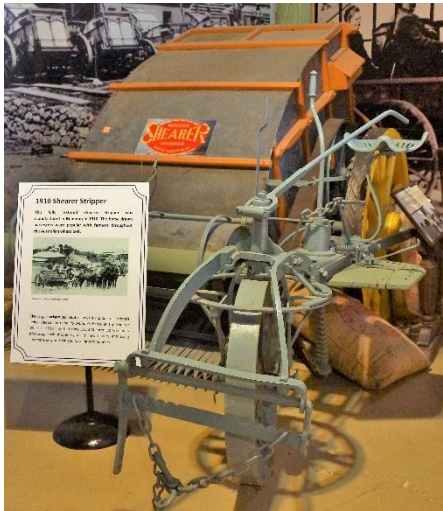


Restored steam engine 'Eva'.

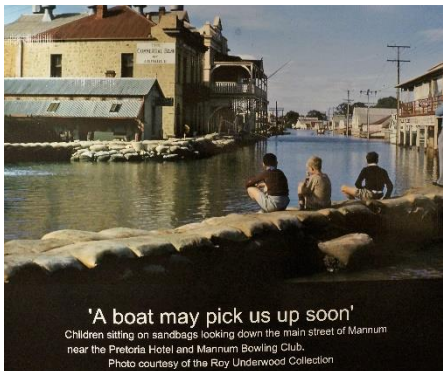
All Steamed Up at Mannum. Continued...



John Fowler & Co. Ltd., Steam Traction Engine.



1918 Shearer Stripper – Mannum Dock Museum.



'A boat may pick us up soon'
Children sitting on sandbags looking down the main street of Mannum near the Pretoria Hotel and Mannum Bowling Club.
Photo courtesy of the Roy Underwood Collection

1956 River Murray flood, main street Mannum, SA. – Mannum Dock Museum.



Smoke rings generator at 'stray dog boat works' display.



Compact, but has all the basics.



Another great combination with all the basics.



But look, there is more...a lady's boudoir.



A lady's boudoir...a closer look.

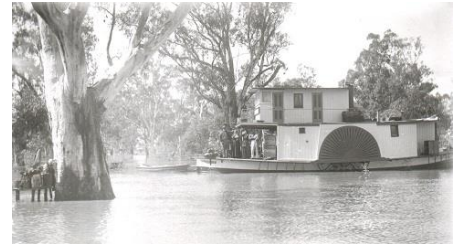
PW Mayflower – Re-commissioned



PW Mayflower.

Adapted from an online article by Mannum Visitor Information Centre, 6 Randell St., Mannum, South Australia 5238
1300 626 686 (1300 MANNUM)

<http://mannum.org.au/news/all-steamed-up-event-to-launch-mayflowers-new-cruising-era--219.html>



Generous gift: A donation made by Barossa couple Pam O'Donnell and Robert O'Callaghan made it possible for the Mannum Dock Museum to purchase and begin restoring the 130-year-old PW Mayflower. Picture and caption - The Murray Valley Standard.

History was made at the biennial 'All Steamed Up' event in Mannum, with the re-commissioning of the historic vessel Mayflower built in 1884.

Returning to her 1913 fishing boat era then owned by the Creager family in Renmark, the Mayflower has undergone a two-year restoration programme by the volunteers at the Mannum Dock Museum.

The Mayflower's beginnings were quite checkered with original owner 'Black Alexander', a six-foot negro operating the boat as a 'Bottle O' was literally chased up the river by the banks, the vessel then passed through many owners, including 'Pirate Billie Wilson' and in the mid 50's onto a showboat revival with the late Captain Alby Pointon in Mildura.

Volunteers have worked tirelessly every week to bring the Mayflower back to life said Rob Bowring OAM, Chairman of the Mannum Dock Museum.

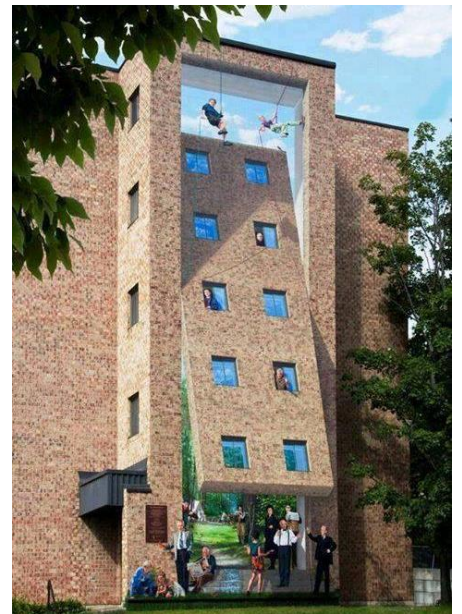
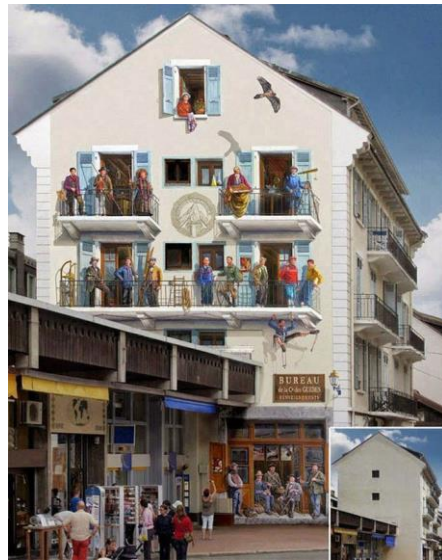
"The 1913 era was one of change for the vessel as she became two storeys to accommodate the expanding Creager family".

"We are extremely grateful to Pam O'Donnell and Robert O'Callaghan for their ongoing support of this restoration programme and initial purchase of the Mayflower".

"A new cruising era will commence for the Mayflower after the re-commissioning as we will be offering weekly short cruises from the Mannum Dock Museum".

"The Mayflower is one of the oldest paddle boats in South Australia however her steam power was replaced with a diesel plant in the showboat era and although it would have been wonderful to return to steam, we have retained the existing engine to make it quick to fire up with the turn of a key".

Contributed by Doug Walker...
Awesome 3D Art.



Contributed by Doug Walker...

Amazing things we will probably never see up close.



A room in an underwater hotel, Dubai.



The glass trail of terror (height: 1,430 metres), China.



The cleanest water in the world, Melissani Lake, Greece.



The road through Death Valley, USA.



A sculpture made entirely from plastic bottles on a beach of Rio de Janeiro.



The white cliffs of Iturup island, Russia.



The shadow of an air liner penetrates a layer of fog, Logan Airport, Boston.



The astoundingly reflective water of Salar de Uyuni, Bolivia.



One of the most unusual breeds of dogs the Tibetan Mastiff.



The path of death (height: 2,130 metres), China.



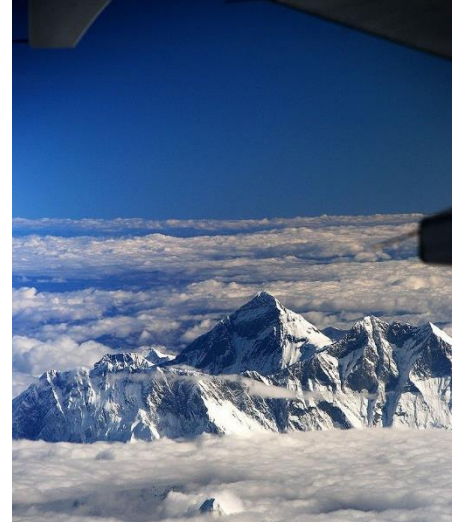
An incredibly beautiful drawing made using only coloured pencils.



Moon light reflected off some mountains.



A bridge over a frozen river.



A view of Mount Everest from a plane.



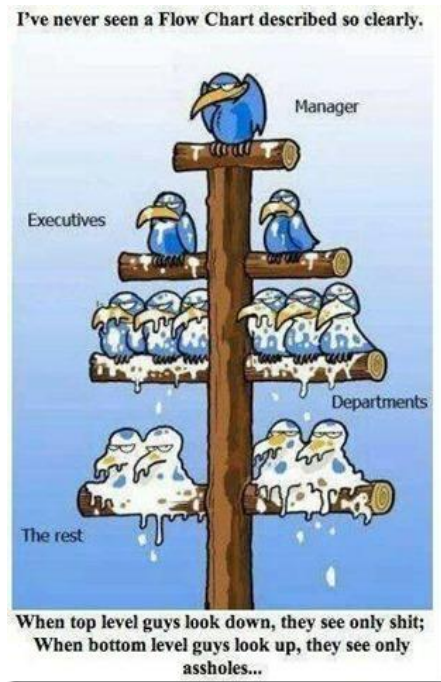
The bay in the resort of Novyi Svet, Crimea.



Factory chimneys.

Funnies contributed by Doug Hughes...

A blonde goes to the post office to buy stamps for her Christmas cards. She says to the clerk, "May I have 50 Christmas stamps?" The clerk says, "What denomination?" The blonde says, "God help us. Has it come to this? Give me 22 Catholic, 12 Presbyterian, and 6 Baptists."



It's funny how 8 glasses of water a day seems impossible,



but 8 glasses of wine can be done in one meal.



I'm off to Specsavers for my appointment. By the way you haven't shaved very well and your tie is crooked!

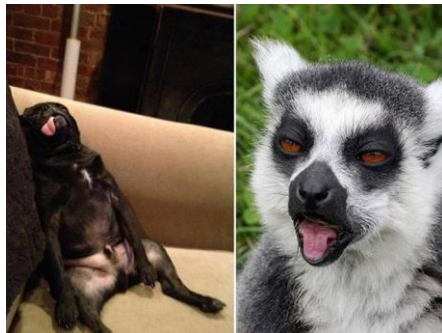


FIRST PICTURE OF WATER ON MARS...



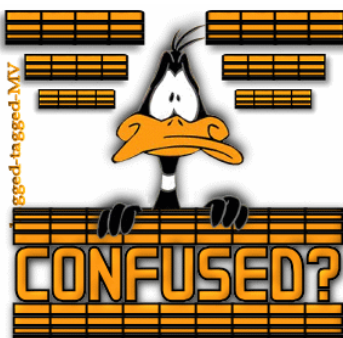
Contributed by Doug Walker...

The Morning After the Zoo's Christmas Party.



Contributed by Doug Walker...

Oxymorons



1. Is it good if a vacuum really sucks?
2. Why is the third hand on the watch called the second hand?
3. If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?
4. If Webster wrote the first dictionary, where did he find the words?
5. Why do we say something is out-of-whack? What is a whack?
6. Why does "slow down" and "slow-up" mean the same thing?
7. Why does "fat chance" and "slim chance" mean the same thing?
8. Why do "tug" boats push their barges?
9. Why do we sing "Take me out to the ball game" when we are already there?
10. Why are they called "stands" when they are made for sitting?
11. Why is it called "after dark" when it really is "after light"?
12. Doesn't "expecting the unexpected" make the unexpected expected?
13. Why are a "wise man" and a "wise guy" opposites?
14. Why do "overlook" and "oversee" mean opposite things?
15. Why is "phonics" not spelled the way it sounds?
16. If work is so terrific, why do they have to pay you to do it?
17. If all the world is a stage, where is the audience sitting?
18. If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?
19. If you are cross-eyed and have dyslexia, can you read all right?
20. Why is bra singular and panties plural?

A little light humour contributed by Augie...



To the thug who has everything - Quartz knuckle duster?

Contributed by Don Lynn...

Our North American Trip 1993.



We left Adelaide Air Port in August 93
The United States of America we wanted to see.
We stopped off in Auckland, New Zealand, along the way
Such a very smooth flight on our very first day.



We flew the big Pacific in the middle of the night
And when we hit Los Angeles it was a lovely sight.
Brian was there to meet us with his "Hullo" so cheery and bright
We had a feeling there and then our trip would be just right.



We are a happy group of travelers from Australia we got the call
We wanted to see America and our cheerful drivers are Brian and Paul
Now there's Herb and Lorraine, Warner and Ria, and Beryl, don't you see
Val and John, Essie and Vern, Doreen, Don, little John, and Nancy that's me.



Off to see Knott's Berry Farm was the order of this day
So much to see so much to do all along the way.
We went roaring down the rapids, took a train in the old gold mine,
The merry-go-round and the dolphin show ended the day just fine.



A great day spent at Disneyland
So much to do and the sights were grand
From the dolls of the world so cute and small
To Mr. Mole and the spooky Toad Hall.



The laser lights were a sight to see
Dancing and prancing in the sky with glee
The electric light parade was a sheer delight
And the fireworks sparkled the night sky with light.



Universal Studios took a day to see
Then we travelled co to Bakersfield and got there in time for tea.
Then through miles of irrigated crops of vines and oranges too
Walnuts, plums, peaches and corn just to name a few.

On into Sequoia National Park where the sequoia trees grow high
Up 7,000 feet to the top of the range, Sherman and Grant reach up to the sky.
Then we saw a chipmunk cute and rather small
Our cameras all went click, click, click and he was seen no more.



Into Yosemite National Park we go
With the mountains so high and the valleys so low
Where coyotes, squirrels, and blue jays we see
And the wind breathes a sigh in the Douglas pine tree.



Two nights in Reno at the Circus Casino. Oh, what sheer delight
To see all those neon lights shine sparkling and brightly all night
Soon the gamblers find their money all spent
And it left, them wondering where in the world it all went.



Virginia City has a tale to tell of its miners and gamblers of old
The minerals they found were silver and lead least that is 'what we
are told.
Then across the Nevada Desert we go
With the mountains around us and no trees on show.



Shoshone Falls and the Snake River so deep and dark
Then the 'Craters of the Moon' so rugged and stark,
What monstrous forces created this barren land?
Black twisted splatter cones lying on every hand.



Fast flowing waterfalls, ravines so deep and dark
And old faithful geysers of Yellowstone Park.
Steam rising from the crevasses and boiling we see
While the big old bison and placid deer, graze by the tall pine tree.



Into Grand Teton National Park with snow on the mountains high,
While Jenny Lake reflects the waterfalls, and the view of the range
way up in the sky.
Then into Jackson where in the park
Stands 'Arches of Deer Antlers', a famous landmark.



Viewed Buffalo Bills Museum early on this day
Then Thermopolis Natural Hot Springs we viewed along the way.
The Wind River Canyon soon came into view
With the railway line, rapids, and winding road, and tunnels quite a
few.



Passed the salt creek oil wells at Edgerton, pumping oil there every day

Then out to see the devils tower, and the prairie dogs at play.
Next day to see the Bad Lands where eroded hills we find
And fossils of ancient mammals, which roamed before mankind.



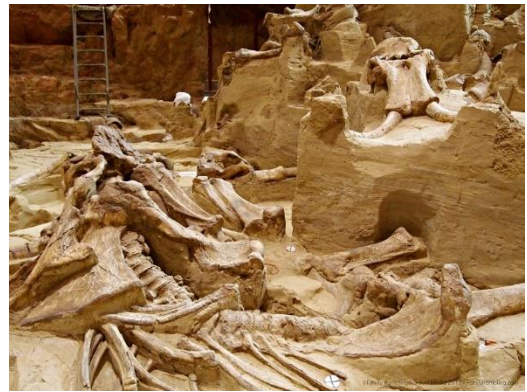
Into wall, where Bryan took us for a treat
A hamburger for our dinner made of buffalo meat.
Now in Rapid City with many things to do
The air base and the quaint Norwegian church just to name a few.



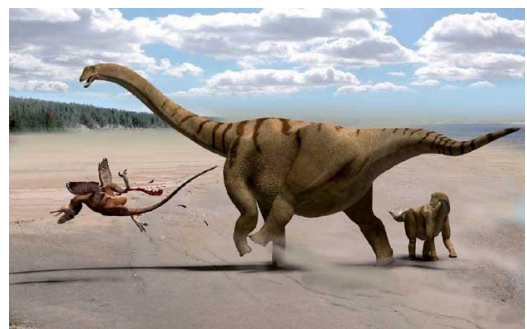
We drove around Custer National Park and across the Pigtail Bridge
Saw lots of deer then donkeys as we passed around the ridge,
Then out to see Mt. Rushmore and what a glorious sight
When the faces of four presidents are bathed by bright spotlight.



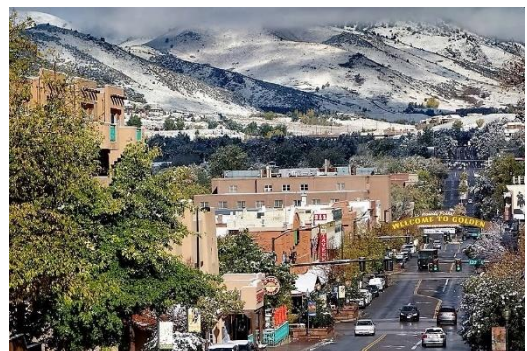
A visit to a wild life park was the highlight of this day
Saw black and brown grizzly bears as we drove slowly on our way.
Deer, mountain lions, and big horned mountain sheep
Then in to see the badger, porcupine, goats, and skunk, just for a little peep.



Into Evan’s Plunge, the biggest hot springs to be found
Then the Mammoth Site, where skeletons of animals are found
hidden in the ground.
At Edgemont Park, we stopped, for a quiet dinner snack
When 3 long trains came rolling, down the old railway track.



Our first day in Denver and oh, what sheer delight
It’s snowing, oh it’s snowing, and everything is bathed in white.
Visited the Denver museum, where we see a story unfold
Of animals, birds and dinosaurs, of Indians and gold.



At the Airforce Academy, we viewed the church so high
With its seventeen graceful spires reaching for the sky.
Then off tour a brewery, where Coors Beer is brewed,
And the mining town of Golden (Colorado), which happily we viewed.



Denver Gem and Mineral Show

Next three days we wandered, Denver Mineral Show
To see such lovely minerals, many names we did not know.
Brilliant red Rhodochrosites, to Beryls of palest blue,
We viewed, then bought our treasures, and brought home quite few.



Now travelling the Rocky Mountains with a view around every bend,
And the mile-long Eisenhower Tunnel, will it never end.
Pine trees grow, on the snow-clad mountains high
Brick red cliffs, then Gypsum hills, side by side nearby.



Into Arches Park the delicate arch to find.
We walked so far, we soon had thoughts we must be out of mind.
Such sculptured shapes in sandstone we passed along the way
Then the delicate arch came into view, and for a short time we did stay.



At Dead Horse Point, what wonder met our eyes
The Colorado River wandering off to distant skies.
The panorama view stretched from left and to the right
The colours and the sculptures made such a wondrous sight.



Into Mesa Verde and Cliff Palace hiding there,
We wondered about those Indians we climbed up and down the stair,
Those buildings hidden under cliff, so old yet neat and clean
Where an Indian and his family once lived, and worked and had a dream.



We spent long hours travelling, through national parks tills day
Such stark and rugged landscapes we passed along the way,
Then Lake Powell, and what surprise, so much water there to see
Then suddenly the scene did change, we see pines and the Golden
Aspin tree.



Into Bryce Canyon we wandered next to view
Those grand eroded canyons in red, orange, and yellow too.
We looked in awe and wondered at this fairy land so grand
Was it water alone, that created this great land.



Into the mighty Grand Canyon, the sun set there to see,
After viewing all lookouts, we sat in the dark and ate our tea.
Through Zion National Park we journeyed on this day
The towering walls and the switch back road we viewed along the way.



We are now in Las Vegas what a sight to greet the mind
So much neon lighting and brilliant colors we find.
Casinos called Excalibur, Caesars, Mirage, and many more
And little wedding chapels, we find here by the score.



Back Las Angeles where we drove the sights to see
Hollywood, Beverley Hills, Le Brea Tar Pits, and Malibu by the sea
Then the John Paul Getty Museum, set high upon a hill
The paintings and Roman antiquities, my mind it boggles still.



That night we flew to Hawaii, those islands of the sun,
We wandered through the markets and found bargains for everyone.
The visitors all flock to the beaches for the sea, the sand, and the sun
But just settled for a dip in the pool, it was cold and wet,
nevertheless, we still had our fun.



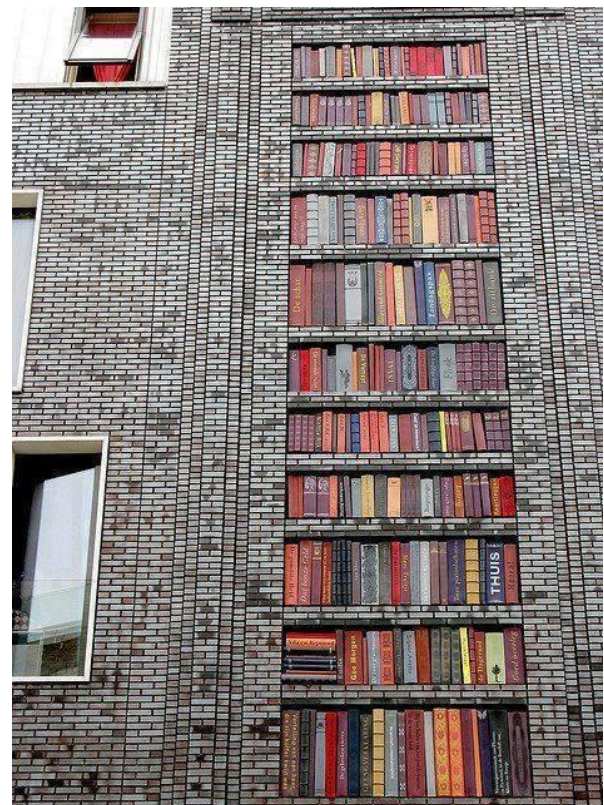
We drove around the island on this our very last day
Called in to see Pearl Harbor and for a while there we did stay.
Saw pineapples, bananas, and coconuts as along the way we roam
Then the changing of the guards, before we sadly head home.



Now our holiday is nearly over, ‘Thank you Brian for a great time’,
For the friendships we’ve made on this journey, such memories will
always be mine.
And America, we have all loved you, from your mountains and
canyons so deep
To your rivers and snow lands and cities, these are the memories
we’ll keep.

Nancy Lynn.

Awesome 3D Art Continued...



Members' Noticeboard

For Sale

GEMMASTA GS.10

10 Inch Power Feed Saw

Complete with - Board, Motor and Hood

Excellent Condition

Price New - \$3,100

For Sale - \$1,400

**Contact Tony Bailey at
0400293057**

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2016 Australian Gem & Mineral Calendar: [Gem & Mineral Calendar](#)

Adelaide Gem and Mineral Club: [AGMC](#)

AFLACA-GMCASA: [AFLACA-GMCASA](#)

Australian Federation of Lapidary and Allied Crafts Association (AFLACA): [AFLACA](#)

Australian Lapidary Forum: [Australian Lapidary Forum](#)

Broken Hill Mineral Club: [BHMC](#)

Enfield Gem and Mineral Club Inc: [EGMC](#)

Flinders Gem, Geology and Mineral Club Inc: [FGGMC](#)

Gem and Mineral Clubs Association of South Australia: [GMCASA](#)

Metal Detectors - Garrett Australia: [Garrett Australia](#)

Metal Detectors - Miners Den Adelaide: [Miners Den Adelaide](#)

Metal Detectors - Adelaide Agent for Garrett Australia: [Shell Lap Lapidary Supplies Pty Ltd](#)

Mineralogical Society of SA Inc: [MinSoc](#)

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

NQ Explorers: [NQ Explorers](#)

Prospecting Australia: [Prospecting Australia](#)

Shell-lap Lapidary Supplies: [Shelley's Lapidary Supplies Pty Ltd](#)

Southern Rockhounds: [Southern Rockhounds](#)

The Australian Mineral Collector: [The Australian Mineral Collector](#)