

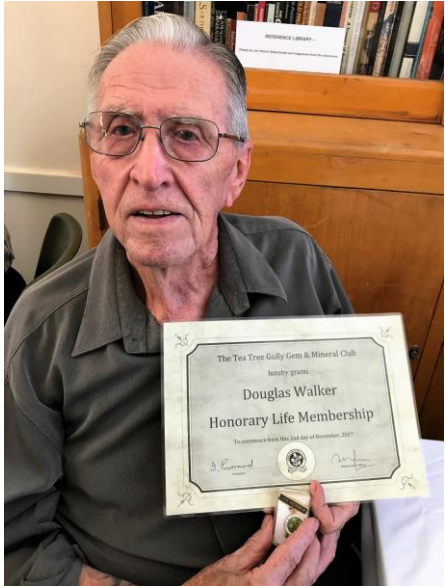


Tea Tree Gully Gem & Mineral Club Inc. (TTGGMC)
Clubrooms: Old Tea Tree Gully School, Dowding Terrace, Tea Tree Gully, SA 5091.
Postal Address: Po Box 40, St Agnes, SA 5097.
President: Ian Everard. 0417 859 443 Email: ieverard@bigpond.net.au
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Membership Officer: Augie Gray: 0433 571 887 Email: teatreegullygmc@gmail.com
Newsletter/Web Site: Mel Jones. 0428 395 179 Email: teatreegullygmc@gmail.com
Web Address: <https://teatreegullygemandmineralclub.com>

**January
Edition
2018**

"Rockzette"

Tea Tree Gully Gem & Mineral Club News

President's Report	Diary Dates / Notices	Club Activities / Fees						
<p>Hi All, Happy New Year to all our members and their families. No club updates to pass on. Club meetings will resume on Thursday 1st February 2018. See you all then. Also, see the activity resumption details in the next column >>>. Cheers, Ian.</p>	<p>Happy Birthday Members celebrating January birthdays 5th – Deane Smith and Alan Cook 11th – Janet Harris 13th – Janet Jones 18th – Yvonne Deegan ***</p> <p>Club craft activities will resume on the following dates: Tuesday Faceting – 9th January 2018. Wednesday Silver – 10th January 2018. Thursday Lapidary – 11th January 2018. Friday Silver – 9th February 2018. ***</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>Library Librarian - Augie Gray 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. Supervised by Doug Walker (7120 2221).</p> <p>Wednesday Silversmithing Wednesdays - 7 pm to 9 pm. All are welcome. Supervised by Augie Gray (8265 4815 / 0433 571 887).</p> <p>Thursday Cabbing Thursdays - 10 am to 2 pm. All are welcome. Supervised by Augie Gray (8265 4815 / 0433 571 887).</p> <p>Friday Silversmithing Fridays - 9 am to 12 noon. All are welcome. Supervised by John Hill (8251 1118).</p> <p>Faceting/Cabbing/Silversmithing Fees: A standard fee of \$3.00 per session applies – to be paid to the session supervisor. In the interest of providing a safe working environment, it is necessary to ensure everyone 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 always. Everyone using the workshop must ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that all club equipment (e.g. magnifying head pieces, faceting equipment, tools, etc.) used during the session, is cleaned, and returned to the workshop after usage. • 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 or dried. 						
<p>Diary Dates / Notices</p> <p>***</p> <p>2018 Club Shows</p> <p>Sat 27th – Sun 28th January 2018 Riverland Gem and Mineral Club Show and Sales. Loxton Lutheran School, Luther Road, Loxton, SA. Open Sat: 9am – 4pm & Sun: 9am – 3pm. Email: Riverland Gem & Mineral Club Find on Facebook.</p> <p>***</p> <p>See 'Wendy's YouTube Selections' on page 10. Also, see the solution to the 'December 2017 – Word Shape and Number Puzzle' on page 13.</p> <p>***</p> <p>2018</p> <p>Happy New Year</p> <p>***</p>	 <p>Presented to Doug at the TTGGM 2017 Christmas Lunch, which happened to be on his birthday as well.</p> <p>***</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Club Subscriptions:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>\$25.00 Family</td> <td>\$20.00 Family Pensioner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$15.00 Single</td> <td>\$12.50 Single Pensioner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$10.00 Joining Fee</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	\$25.00 Family	\$20.00 Family Pensioner	\$15.00 Single	\$12.50 Single Pensioner	\$10.00 Joining Fee	
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<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>								

**Augie's January 2018
Agate Selection.**

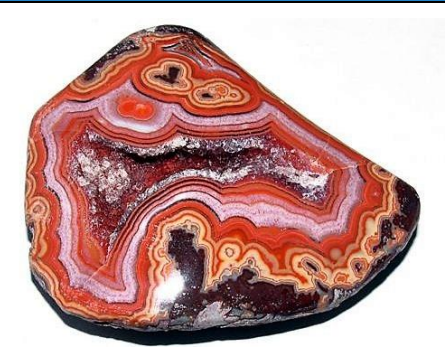
Agate of the Month – Dryhead

Dryhead is a North American Agate found in southern Montana between the Big Horn and Pryor mountain ranges and just west of the Big Horn River. This Agate is immediately recognisable for its unique colouration of red, orange and pink, with occasional gold, white and yellow.

The agates come in form of dark coloured concretion nodules found in the shale (mudstone) bed, and because of overlaying hard limestone bed, it takes some hard digging.

It's typical for the Dryhead agates to contain interlaying of quartz and agate which apparently supports a concept that the agates may have been formed by successive layering in respect to the wet and dry seasons. The Dryhead agates have an interesting form of fluorescence. The quartz bands of the orange Dryhead agates (without pink/white cores) strongly fluoresce green, hence the glowing neon green "contour lines" against dark non-fluorescing bands under ultraviolet light.

The deposit was originally explored in the 1950s, as access to the area began to improve. Float material was traced back to the original source, which led to initiation of mining activity. Mining was available to the public for a few years as a fee area, but that option was closed in the early 1980s. Mining continued under several groups until the late 1990s, when the agreement with the landowner ended.



Augie's January 2018 Agate Selection
Continued...



Augie's January 2018 Mineral Selection.



Aquamarine with Muscovite blades on Albite - Chumar Bakhoor, PAKISTAN.



Calcite in Amethyst - Artigas, URUGUAY.



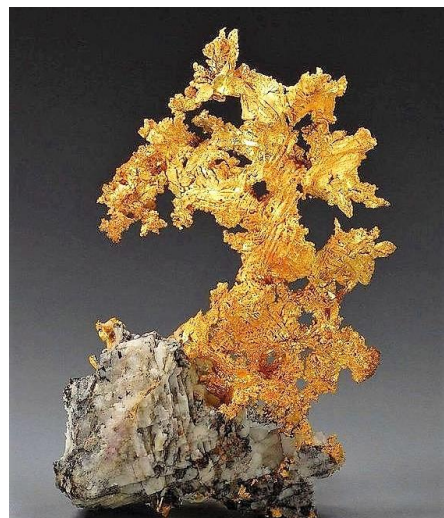
Cuprite on Copper - Tsumeb Mine, NAMIBIA.



Fluorite - Cave in Rock, ILLINOIS.



Fluorite & Amethyst.



Gold - Eagle's Nest Mine, Placer County, CALIFORNIA.



Gypsum.



Smoky Quartz - Val Giuv, Graubünden, SWITZERLAND.

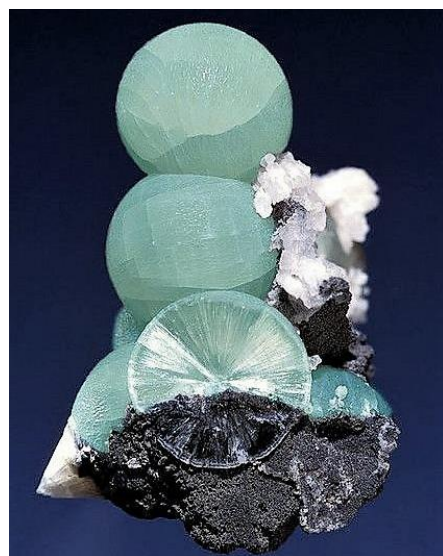
Augie's January 2018 Mineral Selection
Continued...



Native Silver - Himmelsfürst Mine, Freiberg, Erzgebirge, Saxony, GERMANY.



Quartz Herkimer Diamond cluster - Herkimer Co., New York, USA.



Wavelite - Laharran Quarry, Cork Co., IRELAND.

Mel's Facebook Sourced Mineral Selections for January 2018.



Quartz - Bor Pit, Dal'negorsk, Kavalerovo Mining District, Primorskiy Kray, RUSSIA.



Rhodochrosite, Tetrahedrite & Quartz - Sweet Home Mine, Colorado, USA.



Calcite stalactite partially covered by dufite from Tsumeb, Otjikoto Region, NAMIBIA. Source: Amazing Geologist. Credit: Anton Watzl.



Quartz - Brandberg, Erongo Region, NAMIBIA.



Tourmaline - Darra-i-Pech Pegmatite Field, Nangarhar Province, AFGHANISTAN.



Calcite Flowers. Location not indicated. Source: Amazing Geologist. Credit: Ray Tan.



Gemmy emerald green Beryl. Location: Mun. de Muzo, Vasquez-Yacopi, COLUMBIA. Source: Amazing Geologist. Credit: Crystal Classics.

Ian Everard's Recent Quartz Purchases at the Rob Sielecki Show, Melbourne, VIC.



Apophyllite, Quartz and Stilbite, Jalgaon District, Maharashtra, INDIA.



Sceptre Quartz and Fluorite, Huanggangliang Mine, Chifeng City, Inner Mongolia, CHINA.



Sceptre Quartz and Fluorite, Huanggangliang Mine, Chifeng City, Inner Mongolia, CHINA.



Quartz Gwindel, Loe Shilman Carbonatite, Khyber Agency, Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), PAKISTAN.

Third Instalment of Ian Everard's Agate and Quartz Geode finds while on his 2017 North Queensland Quartz Fossicking Safari to Agate Creek.

These specimens have only been sawn open to reveal their form and colour, not crafted (ground or polished). However, some geodes have been acid etched to remove calcite.



Continued next page...

**Ian Everard's Agate and Quartz
Geode finds** *Continued...*



**Ian Everard's Agate and Quartz
Geode finds** *Continued...*



TTGGMC Christmas Lunch
Sunday 10th December 2017



**Happy New Year
2018**

52 Breathtaking Caves from Around the World - Two More in More Detail

No. 25:

Caverns of Sonora, TEXAS, USA.

[YouTube Video of 'Caverns of Sonora'](#)

“Its Beauty Can Not be Exaggerated, Even by Texans.” - Bill Stephenson

Where the Texas Hill Country meets the Chihuahuan Dessert sits thousands of acres of limestone rich ranch country. Found below the boots and hooves of those who inhabit and work the land is one of Earth’s most revered underground treasures, The Caverns of Sonora. The Caverns of Sonora is internationally recognized as one of the most beautiful show caves on the planet. Located 15 miles southwest of Sonora, Texas on I-10, the Caverns of Sonora marks the halfway point between San Antonio, TX and Big Bend National Park. Visitors come close and personal with this highly decorated cave system on intimate guided tours. The ranch inspired grounds and gift shop offer a place to relax in nature, pan for gemstones, hike, or even indulge in homemade fudge. We invite you to bring your tent or RV and rest atop our crystal kingdom.



No. 26:

Majlis al Jinn, OMAN.

Watch video of sky divers entering cave.

[View video of skydivers entering the cave...CLICK HERE](#)

Majlis al Jinn, also *Majlis al-Jinn* (Arabic: مجلس الجن, meeting/gathering place of the Jinn, local name: *Khoshilat Maqandeli*) is the second-largest known cave chamber in the world, as measured by the surface area of the floor. It ranks lower when measured by volume. The cave is in a remote area of the Selma Plateau at 1,380 metres above sea level in the Sultanate of Oman, 100 km south-east from Muscat.



Note the person diving into the cave (black speck) high up in the in the light beam, and another person (white speck) to the left of the beam hitting the cave floor.

No. 27:

Ellison’s Cave, Georgia, USA.

Ellison's Cave is a pit cave located in...

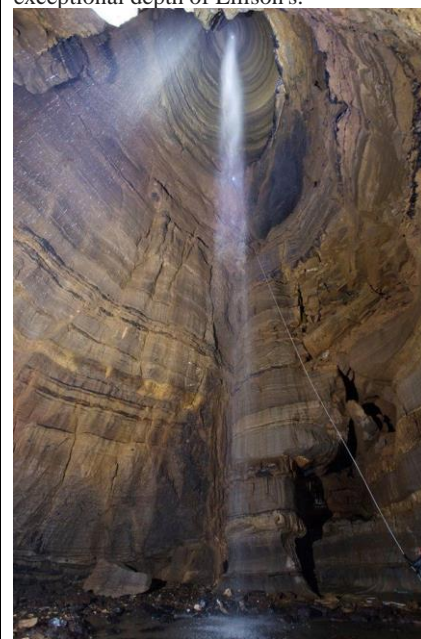
Walker County, on Pigeon Mountain in the Appalachian Plateaus of Northwest Georgia. It is the 12th deepest cave in the United States and features the deepest, unobstructed underground pit in the continental US named Fantastic Pit. The cave is over 12 miles long and extends 1063 feet vertically.

Pits

Ellison's features a number of underground vertical pitches including the two deepest pits in the continental United States: Fantastic (586 feet) and Incredible (440 feet). These two pits lie on opposite sides of the cave. Nearby and parallel to Fantastic are Smokey I (500 feet), Smokey II (262 feet), and other extremely deep pitches. There are over 7 routes to reach the bottom level of the cave from the Fantastic side. Fantastic and Smokey I both extend to TAG Hall, a passage at the bottom of the cave. To reach Fantastic, or the large pits on the Fantastic side, cavers must also descend the Warm Up pit (125 feet).

Geology

Ellison's is a solution cave in the Ridge and Valley geologic region of northwest Georgia and lies within a bedrock fault in Pigeon Mountain. During the Ordovician Period, tectonic subduction responsible for forming the Appalachians left a number of seismically active fault lines stretching from northern Alabama to eastern Tennessee. Continued orogeny created a large fault zone in the bedrock throughout the southern Appalachians and northern Georgia. This fracturing along with the proliferation of gypsum and limestone contributes to the exceptional depth of Ellison's.



Contributed by Mel Jones...

Tales from a former SAR Train Driver.

‘Belle Takes a Holiday’.

written by Norm Hann 1980s/90s.

Belle had taken a holiday. She and baby Mary-Anne had travelled home to her parents for a few weeks. It would be lovely she had mused; to be with her mum and dad, to meet her sisters, and to show-off her baby.

Mudrock had been there to farewell her with a sense of impending loneliness. He had planted a soft kiss on her lips...”Bye sweetheart, I’ll miss you both, so be good.

The bus departed along the road towards the airport and not until it disappeared did Mud lower his arm. He had never felt so alone ‘til this moment as he waved his precious family goodbye. Had it been possible he would have extended his arm, plucked them from the bus, and placed them right back beside him.



Layout of the Port Lincoln Airport early 1960s.



Port Lincoln Airport early 1960s.

So, for the next few weeks Mud was ‘chief cook and bottle washer’; the can opener had never seen so much work before. Thankfully, he was now working the last train before Belinda’s and babe’s return on the morrow. He was happy even if the weather was foul.

When returning homewards toward Port Lincoln, the weather deteriorated. The night was black as pitch, gale force winds were bending the trees almost flat, lashing at the leaves and branches. The tenuous grip of the trees’ roots in the limestone terrain, and the shear strength of the trunks prevented them from being torn loose and swept away by the furious, buffeting winds.

Heavy rains lashed sideways by the wind,

was slanted across the headlight’s beam. The locomotive was working heavy, the exhaust steam and smoke whipped flat to one side as it left the funnel.

Mudrock placed another fire in the boiler, returned his shovel to the coal tender shovel-plate, and sought shelter behind the drawn side curtains. His overalls, cap and hair were soaking wet from the driving rain. Len, the driver, pushed himself further into the corner of the cab, he was cold, wet, and miserable. This was no place for a dog, he thought. If the rain didn’t ease up they could be in for a wash-away. Thank goodness, there were no rivers or creeks through this area. Lennie’s thoughts ran on as he watched the stormy elements through the cab window, despite his view being quite distorted by relentless rain pounding the glass.

Leaning around the cab window frame, he extended his head and shoulders, and placed his hand on the armrest. At least in this position his head and shoulders were protected from the inclement weather and he could see clearly, although his legs were soaking wet from the wind driven rain.

As the engine rounded a wide curve, it charged directly into the wind, the cab then offered better protection from the wintry conditions. Both boys were grateful for the brief respite given by the curvature of the track. But, not for long. Soon, the smoke and exhaust steam again whipped back around them, creating the elusion that the two boys were alone; isolated in a small working world of their own making.



An example of the T Class steam locomotives used by SAR on the Eyre Peninsula lines.

Nevertheless, they relentlessly moved forward, placing the miles behind them. The track seemed to stretch forever; the night never ending. Just our luck thought Len, to get a full load on a night like this. And, he envied the guard in the brake van, as he mentally pictured him seated snug and warm before his pot-bellied stove in his small compartment, unperturbed, as they wound their way homeward.

Belle’s parents had driven her and her baby back to Parafield airport after being delayed by a punctured tyre. The old ‘Dragon’ plane waiting on the tarmac had its props already spinning ready for take-off when Belle, carrying her suitcase, ran towards the craft waving her free hand, gesturing to the pilot

to wait. Belle’s mother, with baby Mary-Anne in her arms, followed in her wake and shouted, “Run faster Belle or you will miss it!”. Belle needed no second bidding and left her mother far behind. Finally, Belle was seated, strapped in, and waiting for take-off. She was then approached by the young air hostess who said, “Mrs Mudrock, haven’t you forgotten something? Like, here’s your baby.”



An example of the ‘Dragon’ plane that Belle flew in from Parafield Airport to Port Lincoln Airport. Picture Credit: Plane photographed at Mount Gambier SA in March 1984 wearing a temporary advertising paint scheme. Photo by Nigel Daw.

Several of the other passengers were amused by the incident and laughed, much to Belle’s embarrassment. Soon, it was all forgotten as they chatted while the plane winged its way through fluffy white clouds high above the brilliant blue sea below.

Back in Port Lincoln, Mudrock was chatting with Wally, “Thank goodness she’s coming home. The bloody place is too bloody quiet without her. And, I’m going to scare the living hell out of her when she does get here.” He added to his bragging by saying, “She’ll never leave me on my own again!” Wally queried, “What are you on about?” So, Mud explained how he had previously written to Belle telling her that his hair had turned grey almost overnight the same as his fathers had before him. But, she wasn’t to worry for the neighbours reckoned that grey hair looked good on him; made him look more dignified and mature. Wally glanced at Mud and noted there wasn’t a single grey hair on his head. Mudrock, compelled to explain himself, continued, “So, before I go down to meet the bus I’m going to put some powder in my hair just for a gag.”

Wally chuckled and asked, “What time’s the bus arriving? But, Mud was too busy with his makeover to answer. He first rubbed hair oil into his hair which made it look darker, but then he applied baby powder in abundance. He was amazed at the instant alteration of his appearance reflected by the mirror. It was indeed most effective.

With a wide grin on his face, he sat in the seat of the taxi as they moved off toward the town centre. The driver repeatedly glanced at Mudrock. Finally, he broke the silence by querying, “How long have you been grey, Mud?”

Continued next page...

Tales from a former SAR Train Driver.

‘Belle Takes a Holiday’.

written by Norm Hann 1980s/90s.

Continued from previous page...

Mudrock grinned as he told the cabby about the ‘snow job’ he was putting over Belle. They both laughed in unison.

The passengers were already alighting from the bus as they arrived. The taxi was parked almost opposite Belle, luggage at her feet, and babe in her arms. The driver watched Belle as she glanced directly at Mud. Her eyes widened to extreme, then she quickly averted her gaze toward the pavement.

Mud moved from the taxi, kissed his wife, took the baby from her arms, and assisted her into the taxi. The driver had not taken his eyes off Belle. He had observed her one direct glance at Mudrock and her subsequent embarrassment as she avoided looking directly at her husband’s face. The taxi driver grinned to himself as he packed the luggage into the boot of his car. Fair dinkum, this Mudrock was a bloody ringer. The driver thought it was a great pity that he would not be there at the finish when Belle tumbled to Mud’s gag.

A short drive later, the luggage unloaded at Mud’s home and the fare paid, the driver said quietly to Mud, “Let’s know how you get on mate.” He was still chuckling as he drove away.

Belle led the way into their house where she placed the baby into her cot. She then moved into Mud’s arms murmuring words of endearment. For the first time, she gazed directly into his face, especially at his grey hair. “I do rather like it you know,” she said, “but when I first saw it, I thought, Oh! My God! They’ll think I married him for his money.”

Finally, she put her hand to his grey locks and when the white powder came off on her finger tips, she stepped back. Initially, her face showed a look of bemusement, but it quickly changed to a look of annoyance, then finally a look of anger. She grabbed her handbag from the adjacent chair, swung it swiftly back over her shoulder, and then raised it forward to wack Mudrock across the side of his head and shoulder, and at the same time berated him, “You lousy rotten so and so. I should damn well kill you, I should!”

Contributed by Wendy Purdie...

Wendy’s YouTube Selections

- 1) Wendy has forwarded this YouTube link about the Melbourne Cup (Click/tap on the following hyperlink): [Melbourne Cup - The Making of...](#)
- 2) Another two interesting YouTube links from Wendy (Click/tap on the following hyperlinks):

a) [Monosital by USA GEMS](#)

b) [Nanosital by RusGems](#)



MONOSITAL

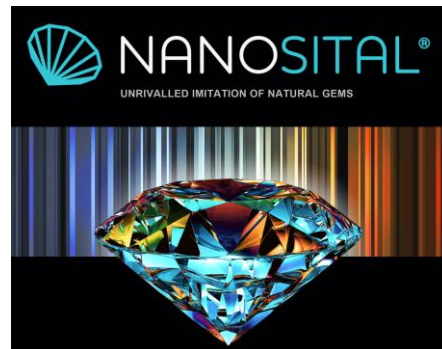
MONOSITAL - artificial polycrystalline material obtained by crystallizing glass having higher compared with the glass physicochemical properties. Glass ceramics obtained from the melt, solidifying in a glassy form and capable of reheating allocate certain crystalline phases. Such technology allows to obtain materials based spinel crystals and other gahnite crystal phases having different physical and chemical properties. All these minerals occur in nature and thus can rightly be called nano-sized crystals or gems abbreviated - nanocrystals.

Hardness - 7-7.5 Mohs
 Refractive index - 1.65 - 1.7 (depending on the color)
 Density - 3.2 - 3.4 (g / cc.).
 Dispersion - 0,010
 Melting point - 1700 (holding hot tack in all colors)

Great properties and wide range of colors lead to the fact that Siamite and Monosital can mimic virtually all the colored natural stones of topaz and garnet to sapphires.

<http://usdgems.com/>

[Monosital by USA GEMS LLC](#)



NANOSITAL is an optically transparent polycrystalline material that is formed by the crystallization of glass with corresponding chemical composition and has higher physical and chemical properties than the original glass.

Nanosital is one of glass-ceramic materials, which are known for more than 50 years and have a wide range of compositions and applications.

RusGems has adapted existing technology to create a material specifically optimized for jewellery.

As a result, a multi-component high temperature composition on the base of two main oxides – SiO₂ and Al₂O₃ – was obtained. It is well-known that the above-mentioned oxides are key components of most natural gemstones.

The rest of nanosital's components are picked to approximate the maximum required optical characteristics as well as density and hardness.

Our technology allows us to vary components of composition quite widely.

As a result, Nanosital that is identical to its natural counterpart can be produced each time.

<https://nanosital.com/>

Publication: [Bangkok Gems & Jewellery](#)

[Nanosital by RusGems](#)

[Nanosital Colour Change](#)



Contributed by Doug Walker...

Great Pictures



An apple orchard in Ireland after Hurricane Ophelia



A frozen waterfall



The snow fell in a very thin line in Ohio.



"I came to work, and the door was covered with snow."



Yes, this is snow.



This is what a rainbow can look like.



When your insurance plan doesn't cover a flood:



Now you know what a firefly looks like.



Just a little rain in Ireland



The rain turned this yard into a van Gogh painting.



Unfortunately, trees can't read.

Continued next page...

Great Pictures

Continued...



A rainbow dome in the sky in Australia



Somebody "whipped" the clouds in Kamchatka.



Hurricane Matthew decided to change the landscape design a little.



"Don't worry! It's just a shower."



Someone is flushing the toilet in heaven.



Is Apple opening new markets?



A deluge falls from the core of a thunderstorm near Glasgow, Montana in July 2010.



Waterspouts can emerge the way traditional tornadoes do, but not always.



Supercells are rotating updrafts within severe thunderstorms.



This cave is one of many along the shores of Lake Superior and Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore.



Contributed by Doug Walker...

Groaners

How does Moses make tea? Hebrews it.

Venison for dinner again? Oh deer

A cartoonist was found dead in his home. Details are sketchy.

I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.

Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

I tried to catch some fog, but I mist.

They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a Typo.

I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

When chemists die, they barium.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

Why were the Indians here first? They had reservations.

I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?

When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.

Broken pencils are pointless.

What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.

I dropped out of communism class because of lousy Marx.

All the toilets in New York's police stations have been stolen. The police have nothing to go on.

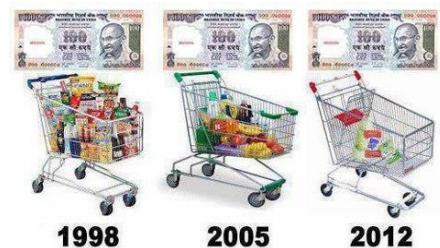
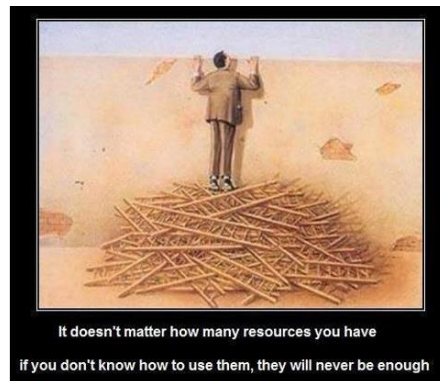
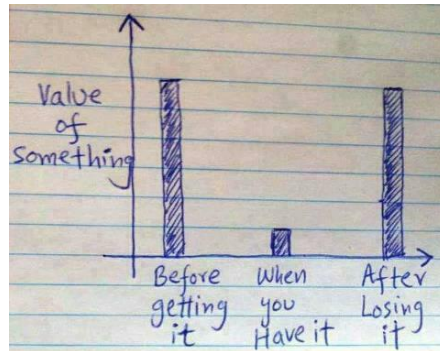
I got a job at a bakery because I kneaded dough.

Velcro - what a rip off!

Don't worry about old age; it doesn't last.

Contributed by Doug Walker...

Cartoons with Amazing Thoughts....



A LOT OF PROBLEMS IN THE WORLD WOULD DISAPPEAR IF WE TALK TO EACH OTHER INSTEAD OF ABOUT EACH OTHER



If you are depressed you are living in the past. ☹️

If you are anxious you are living in the future. 😰

If you are at peace you are living in the present. 😊 (Lao Tzu)

WWW.LIVELIFEHAPPY.COM

The most beautiful line is "But, i love you"

The most painful line is "I love you, but"

True Quotes

Contributed by Doug Walker...

An excellent question to consider carefully.

A lady failed the written driving test 4 times. At the fifth attempt, she was determined to pass.

But the test had the same question, "You are driving at 100 kmh. On your right is a wall, on your left is a cliff. On the road you see an old man and a young man. What will you hit?"

The woman walked up to the examiner and said, "I've answered this question all four ways; wall, cliff, old man and young man. Yet, I failed all four times. How is this possible? What am I supposed to hit?"

The examiner replied, "The brakes!"

Contributed by Doug Walker...

No School Today...Please!

As autumn approaches and summer vacation is over, a mother wakes up her son and says it's the first day of school, so get up and get ready.

He says, "Mom, I don't want to go back. Please don't make me. I hate school!"

She says, "Don't be silly. It can't be that bad. I bet you can't even think of two reasons not to go."

He says, "Really, I mean it! All the kids hate me. And the teachers all think I'm stupid."

She says, "Well, those aren't really good reasons. Maybe you can try harder."

He says, "No, I don't want to go. Give me two good reasons I should."

She replies, "Well, first-of-all, you're almost 60 years old. And second, you're the principal."

Contributed by Michael Mabbitt...

The Aussie Dunny Poem

Only those who have used a bush toilet would fully appreciate this.



The service station trade was slow
The owner sat around,
With sharpened knife and hardwood stick
Piled shavings on the ground.
No "all mod cons" did they have there.
A log across the rill

Led to a shack, marked "His and Hers",
That leant against the hill.

"Where is the ladies' rest room, sir?"
The owner, leaning back,
Said not a word but whittled on,
And nodded at the shack.

With quickened step she entered there,
But only stayed a minute
Before she screamed, as though a snake
Or spider might be in it.

With startled look and beet-red face
She bounded through the door,
And headed quickly for the car
As others had done before.

She missed the foot bridge, jumped the
stream.
Their owner gave a shout,
As her silk stockings, down at her knees
Caught on an acacia sprout.

She tripped and fell, got up, and then,
In obvious disgust,
Ran to the car, stepped on the gas,
And faded in the dust.

Of course we all desired to know
What made the girls all do
The things they did, and then we found
The whittling owner knew.

A speaking system he'd devised.
To make the thing complete,
He'd tied a speaker on the wall
Beneath the toilet seat.



He'd wait until the girls got set
And then the devilish tike,
Would stop his whittling long enough,
To speak into the mike.

And as she sat, a voice below
Struck terror, fright and fear,
"Would you please use the other hole,
We're painting under here!"



Contributed by Doug Walker...

Hells Bells!

The following is an actual question given on a University of Washington chemistry mid-term. The answer by one student was so "profound" that the professor shared it with colleagues, via the Internet, which is, of course, why we now have the pleasure of enjoying it as well.

Bonus Question: *'Is Hell exothermic (gives off heat) or endothermic (absorbs heat)?'*

Most of the students wrote proofs of their beliefs using Boyle's Law (gas cools when it expands and heats when it is compressed) or some variant.

One student, however, wrote the following:

First, we need to know how the mass of Hell is changing in time. So, we need to know the rate at which souls are moving into Hell and the rate at which they are leaving. I think that we can safely assume that once a soul gets to Hell, it will not leave. Therefore, no souls are leaving. As for how many souls are entering Hell, let's look at the different religions that exist in the world today. Most of these religions state that if you are not a member of their religion, you will go to Hell. Since there is more than one of these religions, and since people do not belong to more than one religion, we can project that all souls go to Hell. With birth and death rates as they are, we can expect the number of souls in Hell to increase exponentially. Now, we look at the rate of change of the volume in Hell because Boyle's Law states that in order for the temperature and pressure in Hell to stay the same, the volume of Hell has to expand proportionately as souls are added.

This gives two possibilities:

1. If Hell is expanding at a slower rate than the rate at which souls enter Hell, then the temperature and pressure in Hell will increase until all Hell breaks loose.
2. If Hell is expanding at a rate faster than the increase of souls in Hell, then the temperature and pressure will drop until Hell freezes over.

So, which is it?

If we accept the postulate given to me by Teresa during my Freshman year that, "It will be a cold day in Hell before I sleep with you," and consider the fact that I slept with her last night, then number two must be true, and thus I am sure that Hell is exothermic and has already frozen over. The corollary of this theory is that since Hell has frozen over, it follows that it is not accepting any more souls and is therefore, extinct.....leaving only Heaven, thereby proving the existence of a divine being; which explains why, last night, Teresa kept shouting "Oh my God."

This student received the only "A".

Members' Noticeboard

No Additional Notices for January 2018.

Contributed by Doug Walker...

Stuff you didn't know you didn't know!

Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the U.S. Treasury.

Men can read smaller print than women can; women can hear better.

Coca Cola was originally green.

It is impossible to lick your elbow.

The State with the highest percentage of people who walk to work: Alaska.

The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28% (now get this...) The percentage of North America that is wilderness: 38%

The cost of raising a medium-size dog to the age of eleven: \$ 16,400

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

The first novel ever written on a typewriter, Tom Sawyer.

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history: Spades - King David, Hearts - Charlemagne, Clubs - Alexander, the Great, and Diamonds - Julius Caesar.



The Cynical Philosopher

I read that 4,153,237-people got married last year. Not to cause any trouble, but shouldn't that be an even number?

I find it ironic that the colours red, white, and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.

When wearing a bikini, women reveal 90% of their body. Men are so polite they only look at the covered parts.

Relationships are a lot like algebra. Have you ever looked at your X and wondered Y?

America is a country which produces citizens who will cross the ocean to fight for democracy, but won't cross the street to vote.

You know that tingly little feeling you get when you love someone? That's your common sense leaving your body.

My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that.

I think my neighbour is stalking me as she's been Googling my name on her computer. I saw it through my telescope last night.

Money talks, but all mine ever says is good-bye.

You're not fat, you're just easier to see.

Useful Internet Links

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

Adelaide Gem and Mineral Club: [Click here...](#)

AFLACA-GMCASA: [Click here...](#)

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

Australian Lapidary Club Directory: [Click here...](#)

Australian Lapidary Forum: [Click here...](#)

Broken Hill Mineral Club: Website no longer accessible.

Enfield Gem and Mineral Club Inc: [Click here...](#)

Flinders Gem, Geology, and Mineral Club Inc: [Click here...](#)

Gem and Mineral Clubs Association of South Australia: [Click here...](#)

Lapidary World: [Click here...](#)

Metal Detectors - Garrett Australia: [Click here...](#)

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

Metal Detectors - Adelaide Agent for Garrett Australia: [Click here...](#)

Mineralogical Society of SA Inc: [Click here...](#)

Murraylands Gem and Mineral Club Inc: [Click here...](#)

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