

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 Secretary: Claudia Gill. 0419 841 473 Email: cjjrgill@adam.com.au

Treasurer/Membership Officer: Augie Gray: 0433 571 887 Email: bluedog50@optusnet.com.au

Newsletter/Website: Mel Jones. 0428 395 179 Email: teatreegullygmc@gmail.com

Web Address: https://teatreegullygemandmineralclub.com

# "Rockzette"

# Tea Tree Gully Gem & Mineral Club News

# President's Report

#### Greetings All,

Trusting everyone had a safe and enjoyable Christmas and hoping that 2021 will be a vast improvement on last year!

I am hopeful that the Club will be able to hold its Show in July – the Committee will be working towards that goal when we reconvene next month. All things being equal, I am hopeful that we will be able to have both Committee and General (monthly) meetings next month. Stay tuned!

Cheers, Ian

# Diary Dates / Notices

# **Happy Birthday**

Members celebrating January birthdays: 05th - Alan Cook. 11<sup>th</sup> – Janet Harris. 05th - Deane Smith. 13th – Janet Jones.



# General Interest

Page 2 to 4: Augie's Articles: Morrisonite Jasper and Lapis Lazuli ...





# Pages 5 to 7:

Ian's January 2021 Agate Collection Selections...

General Interest



Page 8:

Chris's Cabbing - Petrified Wood /Fern Stems..



Page 9: Doug Walker's 90th Birthday Lunch...



Pages 10 to 16: General Interest, humour, etc.



Page 17:

Members' Noticeboard and Links...

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.

# Club Activities / Fees

**January** 

**Edition** 

2021

#### Meetings

General monthly meetings have not resumed yet due to SA Covid-19 Pandemic physical distancing requirements.

#### 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.

#### Tuesday Faceting/Cabbing

Tuesdays - 10 am to 2 pm. All are welcome. Supervised by Doug Walker  $(7120\ 2221).$ 

# Wednesday Silversmithing

Wednesdays - 7 pm to 9 pm. All are welcome. Supervised by Jean Hickman (0419 837 886).

#### **Thursday Cabbing**

Thursdays - 10 am to 2 pm. All are welcome. Supervised by Augie Gray (8265 4815 / 0433 571 887).

#### Friday Silversmithing

Fridays - 9 am to 12 noon. All are welcome. Supervised by John Hill (8251 1118).

### 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 Policy No. 1 - 20/11/2006.

It is necessary that Health and Safety regulations are adhered to always.

Everyone using the workshop must ensure:

- 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 workstations are left in a clean and tidy
- that all rubbish is removed and placed in the appropriate bin.
- and where applicable, machines are cleaned and oiled or dried.

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.

# **Club Subscriptions:**

\$20.00 Family Pensioner \$25.00 Family \$15.00 Single \$12.50 Single Pensioner

\$10.00 Joining Fee

Contributed by Augie Gray...

# Morrisonite

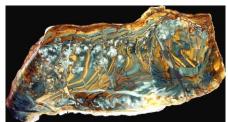
Morrisonite is known in America as "the King of Jaspers". It is an exquisite, fine-grained Porcelain Jasper with a myriad of colours, patterns, and orbs.

Morrisonite is named after a reclusive gentleman named James Morison, who lived in a one-roomed hut by the Owhyee River in south-eastern Oregon. (The Owyhee Desert, which straddles the border between Idaho and Oregon, is well known for many fine varieties of Jasper).

Morison, and the owner of a Boise, Idaho rock shop discovered Morrisonite in 1947. Back then it was selling at \$3 a lb. Recent prices at the Tucson gem & mineral show have exceeded \$400 a lb.!



01 Morrisonite



02 Morrisonite



03 Morrisonite



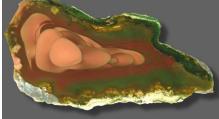
05 Morrisonite



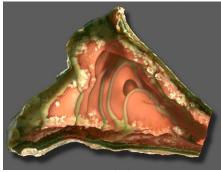
06 Morrisonite



07 Morrisonite



08 Morrisonite



09 Morrisonite



10 Morrisonite



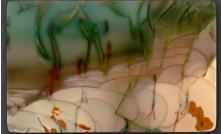
11 Morrisonito



12 Morrisoni



13 Morrisonite



14 Morrisonite



15 Morrisonite



16 Morrisonite

# January 2021 Jasper Selections – Page 2 of 2.

# Morrisonite Jasper - Continued...

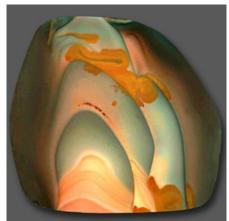


17 Morrisonite





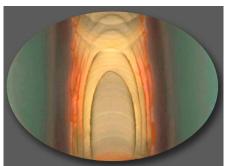
Contributed by Augie Gray...



18 Morrisonite



Sodalite, Brazil. No accreditation - just found on the internet.





20 Morrisonite



"Agate mouse with sapphire eyes and gold whiskers. 5.4 cm high. Carved by Alfred Zimmerman. Ann Frazier collection."

#### Lapis Lazuli Article - Page 1 of 1..

Contributed by Augie Gray...

#### Lapis Lazuli

Lapis Lazuli (usually abbreviated to "Lapis") is a rock composed primarily of the mineral Lazurite, but also containing Hauyne, Sodalite & Nosean. It is a relatively soft material, with a hardness of 5-6, and a specific gravity of 2.2 – 2.9. The chemical composition is (Na, Ca)<sub>8</sub>(Al, Si)<sub>12</sub>O<sub>24</sub>(S, SO<sub>4</sub>).

Lapis is one of the earliest gem materials to be used in jewellery – examples found in Egypt dating back over 7,000 years.

There are two main world sources of Lapis Lazuli – Afghanistan and Chile.

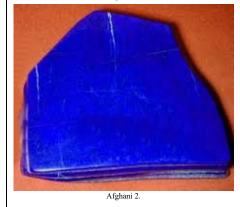
The Afghani material is generally considered the better grade. Lapis from Afghanistan is a royal blue (the richer the colour, the better the grade) with sprinklings of gold Pyrite ("Fools Gold") and little or no white/grey Calcite.

Chilean material is a paler blue, usually with inclusions of Calcite and little or no Pyrite. Until recently, the low-grade Chilean material used to be discarded, but today nothing is thrown away. Low grade Chilean Lapis is today either marketed as "Denim" Lapis or dyed a darker blue and marketed as "Indigo" Lapis. The blue of dyed "Indigo" Lapis is markedly different when seen next to the beautiful royal blue of the Afghani material.

Over 90% of all Lapis Lazuli on sites like eBay today is dyed or reconstituted Chilean material, reconstituted meaning the porous, lowest grade material which has been crushed, had glues, hardeners and dyes added, then pressed into blocks from which beads etc. are made.



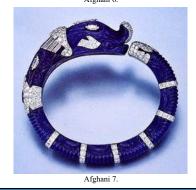
Afghani 1.



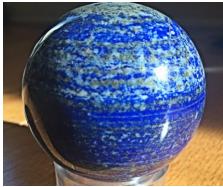
Algiants.





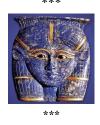












# Ian's Agate Finds – Page 1 of 3. Contributed by Ian Everard... 07 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA 01 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 13 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 08 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 02 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 14 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA 03 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 09 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA 04 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 10 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.



# Ian's Agate Finds – Page 2 of 3.



18 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.



19 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.



20 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.





22 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.



23 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.



24 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.









28 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.



29 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.



30 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.



31 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA



32 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.



Tea Tree Gully Gem and Mineral Club Incorporated, Old Tea Tree Gully School, Dowding Terrace, Tea Tree Gully, South Australia, 5091

# Ian's Agate Finds – Page 3 of 3.



Tea Tree Gully Gem and Mineral Club Incorporated, Old Tea Tree Gully School, Dowding Terrace, Tea Tree Gully, South Australia, 5091.

43 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.

38 Agate, Agate Creek, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.

# Chris Browne's Petrified Wood Selections – Page 1 of 1. Contributed by Chris Browne... **Petrified Wood & Fern Stems Examples of Stems and Branches** 06 Isisford, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 01 Emerald, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 11 Opalised, Springsure, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 12 Isisford, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 02 Opalised, Springsure, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 07 Emerald, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 13 Fern Stem, Wandoan, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 08 Milparinka, New South Wales, AUSTRALIA. 03 Milparinka, New South Wales, AUSTRALIA. 09 Innamincka, South Australia, AUSTRALIA. 04 Milparinka, New South Wales, AUSTRALIA. 14 Fern Stem, Wandoan, Queensland, AUSTRALIA. 05 Milparinka, New South Wales, AUSTRALIA. 10 Opalised, Springsure, Queensland, AUSTRALIA.

# Celebrating Doug Walker's 90th Birthday

To us, you sparkle like a brilliant gem. And the years have not diminished your special glow — they've only made you more luminous. Happy 90th birthday!































\*\*\*

Tea Tree Gully Gem and Mineral Club Incorporated, Old Tea Tree Gully School, Dowding Terrace, Tea Tree Gully, South Australia, 5091.

Contributed by Doug Walker...

### Cyclists and economics.

Once the game is over, the King and the pawn go back in the same box....



The CEO at Euro Exim Bank Ltd. got economists thinking when he said:

"A cyclist is a disaster for a country's economy. He does not buy a car and does not take a car loan. Does not buy car insurance. Does not buy fuel. Does not send his car for servicing and repairs. Does not use paid parking. Does not become obese.

Yes - and he stays well, damn it!!

Healthy people are not needed for an economy. They do not buy drugs. They do not go to hospitals and doctors. They add nothing to a country's GDP.

On the contrary, every new McDonalds outlet creates at least 30 jobs: 10 cardiologists, 10 dentists, 10 weight-loss experts apart from people working in McDonalds outlets.



Walking is even worse. Those people do not even buy a bicycle.

\*\*\*

Contributed by Tony Holloway...

# Two Jokes

- What do you call a fake gemstone? Answer: A shamrock.
- 2. Where do you get the best headlines from? Answer: A corduroy pillow.

\*\*\*

Time zones are very confusing. Like it is December 2 in Australia, December 1 in Europe, and 1954 in America.

\*\*\*

Two Aussies are drinking together. One says, "When I die, will you promise to pour a beer on my grave?" The other replies, "No worries mate, but I'll have to pass it through my kidneys first."

\*\*\*

Contributed by Augie Gray...



This is what happens when the Louvre is closed for months on end.

"I think sometimes we need to take a step back and just remember we have no greater right to be here than any other animal." - David Attenborough





A stunning example of Turkish Amygdaloidal Agate. Credit - Faysal Birlik.

\*\*\*

What do you call a fish without eyes? Fsh.

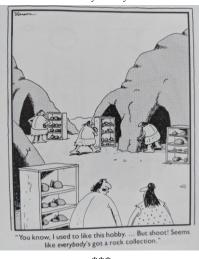
\*\*\*

Contributed by Doug Walker...

There is Discipline in a Soldier You can see it when he walks. There is Honor in a Soldier You hear it when he talks. There is Courage in a Soldier You can see it in his eyes. There is Loyalty in a Soldier that he will not compromise. There is something in a Soldier that makes him stand apart. There is Strength in a Soldier that beats in his heart. A Soldier isn't a title any man Can be hired to do. A Soldier is the soul of that man, Buried deep inside of you. A Soldier's job isn't finished after an 8-hour day or 40 hour week. A Soldier is always a Soldier even while he sleeps. A Soldier serves his country first and his life is left behind, A Soldier has to Sacrifice what comes first in a civilians mind. If you are a Soldier-I am saying this to you, Thank God for every Soldier Thank GOD for what YOU do!!



Contributed by Wendy Purdie...



\*\*\*

Contributed by Allan Rudd...

**Blonde Jokes Have Been Replaced!** They do walk amongst us.



"I'm against studying civics in school unless we also study other cars. I mean, why should we show favoritism towards Honda?"







NOTHING IS BUILT IN AMERICA HESE DAYS. I JUST BOUGHT A T.V. "BUILT IN ANTENNA".



I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE THE HELL THAT IS !

OMG I love veterans!! They take such good care of our pets!







Three blondes walk into a building. You would think at least one of them would have seen it. How do you keep a blonde in the shower all day? Hand her a bottle of shampoo that says "lather, rinse, repeat."

Contributed by Augie Gray ...





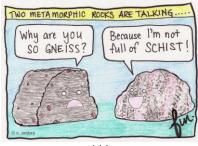
An extremely rare complete 6-rayed Rutilated Quartz star



An interesting specimen of Zebra Agate from Kununurra, Australia.



Azurite nodule from Bisbee, Arizona, USA.



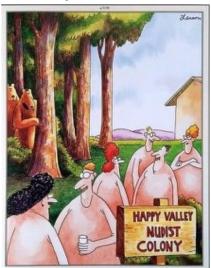
\*\*\*

Contributed by Doug Walker...

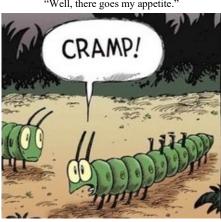




And just like that, we were banned from all neighbourhood cookouts.



"Well, there goes my appetite."

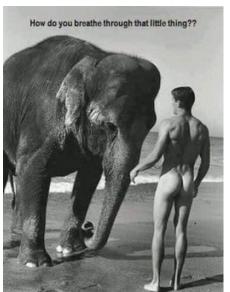




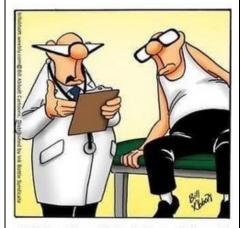












"High sodium, high cholesterol, lots of toxins - your blood test is remarkably similar to a potato chip."

\*\*\*

The best thing about the past is that it is over. The best thing about the future is it yet to come. The best thing about the present is that it is here now.

Tea Tree Gully Gem and Mineral Club Incorporated, Old Tea Tree Gully School, Dowding Terrace, Tea Tree Gully, South Australia, 5091.

Contributed by Doug Walker...

# Ten more of 81 Crazy Things You Probably Did Not Know About Australia...



72. Eucalyptus oil is highly flammable, meaning gum trees may explode if ignited, or in bushfires.



73. In 1975, Australia had a government shutdown, which ended with the Queen firing everyone and the government starting again. The then Governor General Sir John Kerr, acting on behalf of the Queen, fired Labour's Gough Whitlam and installed Malcolm Fraser a Liberal. In a famous speech, Whitlam said, "God may well save the Queen, but nobody will save the Governor General. From now on, Malcolm Fraser will be known as Kerr's cur."

- **74.** A bearded Australian was removed from a darts match in the UK, after the audience started chanting 'Jesus!' at him, distracting the players.
- 75. There have been instances of wallabies getting high after breaking into marijuana crops, then running around and making what look like crop circles.



**76**. An Australian man once tried to sell New Zealand on eBay.



77. In 1940, two aircraft collided in mid-air, in NSW. Instead of crashing, the two planes became stuck together and made a safe <u>landing</u>.



78. The male <u>lyrebird</u>, which is native to Australia, can mimic the calls of over 20 other birds. If that is not impressive enough, he can also perfectly imitate the sound of a camera, chainsaw, and car alarm.

**79.** Some shopping centres and restaurants play classical music in their car parks to deter teenagers from loitering at night.



**80**. Despite sharing the same verbal language, Australian, British and American <u>sign language</u> are all completely different.



**81**. In 1979, debris from NASA's space station 'Skylab' crashed in Esperance, West Australia.

Contributed by Augie Gray..



This year's variation of "Elf on A Shelf"...

Caption this....



Mel: "What the...FFF!!! (Fantastic Fossil Find!!!)."

\*\*\*

Contributed by Doug Walker...



**Impacts of Covid CUTE** 

Went for a walk with my new girlfriend and we saw dogs mating. She said: "How does the male know when the female is ready for sex?" I replied: "He can smell she is ready. That's how nature works."

We then walked past a sheep field and the ram was mating the ewe. Again, my girlfriend asked: "How does the ram know when the ewe is ready for sex?" I replied: "It's nature. He can smell she is ready."

We then went past a cow-field and the bull was mating with the cow. My girlfriend said: "This is odd. They are really going at it. Surely the bull can't smell when she is ready?" I said: "Oh, yes; it's nature. All animals can smell when the female is ready for sex."

Anyway, after the walk, I dropped her home and kissed her goodbye. She said: "Take care and get yourself checked out for Covid-19." Surprised, "Why do you say that?" I asked her. She replied: "You seem to have lost your sense of smell."



Christmas Dinner 2020.

\*\*\*

#### JOKE OF THE DAY

Kim Jong Un decided to send Donald Trump a letter in his own handwriting to let him know he was still in the game.

Trump opened the letter which appeared to contain a single-line coded message :

# 370 HSSV-07734

Trump was baffled, so he e-mailed it to the his aides, who had no clue either, so they sent it to the FBI.

No one could solve it at FBI, so it went to the CIA. With no clue as to its meaning, FBI finally asked MSS (Ministry of State Security in China) for help.

Within a few seconds MSS cabled back with this reply :

"Tell The President he's holding the message \*upside down\*."

\*\*\*







Me, "How much is the rent for this gorgeous apartment?"
Answered, "Sir! This is a liquor store!"







How did we survive?
Our mothers wiped our faces with spit on a hankey not an antibacterial wipe.

Facebook.brining humor to your day with love





The official sports drink when I was a kid...

Apparently we can't visit our relatives homes but estate agents can buy and sell houses. So i've put my house on the market and mum and dad are coming for a viewing at 3.30

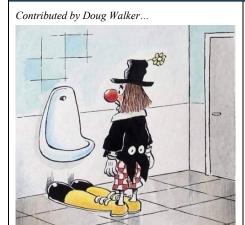
I asked my Doctor today how long he thinks this COVID thing will last. He responded with: "How should I know? I'm a doctor, not a politician".

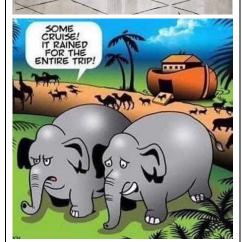














Always make sure your loved ones are buckled up.















It is a five-minute walk from my house to the pub. It is a 35-minute walk from the pub to my house. The difference is staggering.



I have noticed that even people who claim everything is predestined, and we can do nothing to change it, still look before they cross the road - *Stephen Hawking*.

\*\*\*

Contributed by Doug Walker...

Every few days it would be smart to put your jeans on to make sure they still fit

Pajamas and sweats will have you believe all is well

Are you drinking more alcohol than usual during quarantine?

Yes

No 🗌







Bizwaremagic's Funny Quotes

Never miss a good chance to shut up.

~ Will Rogers

Xxxxxxxxxxx

A person with a sharp tongue will eventually cut themselves.

~ J. Robson Koenig



Want to know what God thinks of money? Look at the people he gave it to.

~ Dorothy Parker

They say marriages are made in Heaven. But so is thunder and lightning.

~ Clint Eastwood

He was so narrowminded, he could see through a keyhole with both eyes.

~ Molly Ivins

He can compress the most words into the smallest idea of any man I know.

~ Abraham Lincoln



Life in Lubbock, Texas, taught me that sex is the most awful, filthy thing on earth, and you should save it for someone you love.

~ Butch Hancock

I think the worst time to have a heart attack is during a game of charades.

~ Demetri Martin

It isn't the ups and downs that make life difficult; it's the jerks.

~ Charlie Chaplin

When I was a boy I was told that anybody could become President. I'm beginning to believe it.

~ Clarence Darrow

# Members' Noticeboard

# Mineral boxes and flats for sale

#### Mineral box sizes

Sold in bundles of (10 )or 100

 3.5 x 3.3cm
 .(\$1.50) \$12.00

 4 x 4cm
 .(\$1.50) \$13.00

 5 x 5.2cm
 .(\$2.00) \$15.00

 6.2 x 7.5cm
 .(\$2.50) \$18.00

 7 x 7cm
 .(\$2.50) \$19.00

7 x 9.5cm.....(\$2.50) \$20.00 8.5 x 9.5cm....(\$3.00) \$22.00 9.5 x 9.5cm....(\$3.50) \$23.00 13 x 9.5cm....(\$4.00) \$25.00

13 x 12.5cm.....(\$4.50) \$30-00 Flats sizes

395 x 265 x 50mm.... \$2.50 400 x 270 x 75mm.... \$3.50 **NEW SIZE** 398 x 290 x 98mm ....\$4.00

#### Greg Vort-Ronald

0413796279 or luv2paint@iprimus.com.au all boxes and flats are folded together, no staples required (Prices subject to change)

\*\*\*



\*\*\*

2021 Australian Gem & Mineral Calendar: Click here...

Adelaide Gem and Mineral Club - Facebook: Click here...

Adelaide Gem and Mineral Club - Website: Click here...

Australian Faceters Guild: Click here...

Australian Federation of Lapidary and Allied Crafts Association (AFLACA) - Facebook: Click here...

Australian Federation of Lapidary and Allied Crafts Association (AFLACA) - Website: Click here...

Australian Gem Club Directory: Click here...

Australian Lapidary Forum: Click here...

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...

Gemcuts: Click here...

Lapidary World: Click here...

Metal Detectors - Garrett Australia: Click here...

Metal Detectors - Miners Den Adelaide: Click here...

Mineralogical Society of SA Inc – Facebook: Click here...

Mineralogical Society of SA Inc - Website: Click here...

Murraylands Gem and Mineral Club Inc: Click here...

NQ Explorers: Click here...

Prospecting Australia: <u>Click here...</u>
Southern Rockhounds: <u>Click here...</u>

Tea Tree Gully Gem and Mineral Club: Click here...

The Australian Mineral Collector: Click here...