



## 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

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

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

**Nov.  
Edition  
2015**

# "Rockzette"

## Tea Tree Gully Gem & Mineral Club News

In this edition...	President's Report	Meetings, Courses & Fees.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diary Dates</li> <li>• Stop Press</li> <li>• President's Report.</li> <li>• Club Activities.</li> <li>• Meetings, Courses &amp; Fees.</li> <li>• Australian Mineral Matters</li> <li>• Members Out and About.</li> <li>• General Interest.</li> <li>• Members Notice Board.</li> <li>• Useful Internet Links.</li> </ul>	<p>Hi All, As you all know, this month's meeting is the AGM. I would like to see a good turnout of members. The Christmas Party has been organized (see details in <i>Diary Dates</i>). So all we need to know is who will be there? Cheers, Ian.</p>	<p><b>Meetings</b> Club meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month except January: Committee meetings start at 7.00 pm. General meetings - arrive at 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm start.</p> <p><b>Faceting</b> (times to be advised) <i>Course 10 weeks x 2 hours Cost \$20.00.</i> <i>Use of equipment \$1.00 per hour.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Diary Dates</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Club Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Lapidary</b> (Tuesday mornings) <i>Course 5 weeks x 2 hours Cost \$10.00.</i> <i>Use of equipment \$1.00 per hour.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2015</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7th November - 8th November, 2015. 10am - 4pm. Southern Rockhounds, Mineral and Craft Fair 2015, 17 Gerald Court, Christie Downs, SA.</li> <li>• 23<sup>rd</sup> November (Monday) Mineral Society Auction - 7.30pm for an 8.00pm start. Minerals, fossils, books, cut stones – up to 100 lots. All welcome. Royal Society Rooms, behind the State Library / Museum. Parking on Kintore Avenue.</li> <li>• 6<sup>th</sup> December (Sunday) TTGGMC Christmas Lunch at the clubrooms; arrive around 12.30pm for a 1.00pm start. Club Bar-B-Cue. Members, please bring a salad and a sweet to share. BYO drink if you wish. There will be a Christmas Raffle – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes will be a basket, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize will be a bottle of wine. Tickets \$2.00 each.</li> <li>• 23<sup>rd</sup> January to 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 (Australia Day Long Weekend) Saturday: 9.00am - 4.00pm and Sunday: 9.00am - 3.00pm. Riverland Gem and Mineral Club - Show and Sales, Berri Town hall, Berri, SA.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Competitions</b> Competitions have been suspended indefinitely and are currently replaced with members showcasing an interesting part of their collection.</p> <p><b>Field Trips</b> No fieldtrips planned during Summer months.</p> <p><b>Library</b> <b>Librarian - Augie Gray</b> 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><b>Silver Craft</b> Friday mornings - 9 am to 12 noon. Cost \$20 for new short course attendees. All are welcome.</p> <p><b>Tuesday Craft</b> Tuesday mornings - 11 am to 2.30 pm Faceting, etc. All are welcome. Contact Doug (08 7120 2221) if you would like to learn faceting.</p>	<p><b>Silver Craft</b> (Friday mornings) <i>Course 5 weeks x 2 hours Cost \$20.00.</i> <i>Use of equipment \$1.00 per hour.</i></p> <p>While some consumable materials are supplied by the club, trainees must supply any additional requirements.</p> <p>Trainees who use the club equipment (for example, magnifying head pieces, faceting equipment, tools, etc.) must return them to the workshop after usage. Trainees are also encouraged to purchase and use their own equipment.</p> <p>In the interest of providing a safe working environment, it is necessary to ensure individuals using the workshops follow the rules set out in <i>Policy No. 1 - 20/11/2006</i>.</p> <p>It is necessary that <i>Health and Safety</i> regulations <u>are</u> adhered to at all times.</p> <p>Trainees must ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>that all work stations are left in a clean and tidy state;</li> <li>that all rubbish is removed and placed in the appropriate bin;</li> <li>and where applicable, machines are cleaned and oiled.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stop Press</b></p>	<p><b>Wanted</b> - The faceting group occasionally has members wishing to buy a 2<sup>nd</sup> hand faceting machine &amp; accessories. Could anyone with one not being used please contact: Doug Walker 0871202221 or Russell Fischer 0417083227</p>	<p><b>The Tea Tree Gully Gem &amp; Mineral Club Inc. will not be held responsible or liable for any person injured while using the club machinery or equipment.</b></p>
<p>Reminder... TTGGMC invites you to their clubrooms on Tuesday 3rd November 2015, at 12 midday, to share a communal lunch and get together to watch the running of the Melbourne Cup. A sweep will be arranged on the day. Please bring a plate of food to share and BYO drink if you wish. Hope you can make it.</p>	<p><b>Club Subscriptions</b> \$25.00 Family. \$20.00 Family/Pensioner. \$15.00 Single. \$12.50 Single/Pensioner. \$10.00 Joining Fee.</p>	<p><b>The Tea Tree Gully Gem &amp; Mineral Club Inc. will not be held responsible or liable for any person injured while using the club machinery or equipment.</b></p>
<p><b>The Tea Tree Gully Gem &amp; Mineral Club Inc. is not and cannot be held responsible or liable for any personal injuries, loss or damage to property at any club activities, including, but not limited to, meetings, field trips, all crafts and annual shows. An indemnity is to be signed by all participants before each and every field trip activity they attend.</b></p>		

*This Broken Hill Mining extract is a continuation from last month's newsletter...*

Extract taken from: [Broken Hill, New South Wales - Tracing History.](#)

### British BHP Mine

The British BHP Co. LTD was formed in 1887 to control Block 15 and 16 of the original BHP leases. A smelter was built in 1891 to treat oxidised ore which was previously concentrated in a large mill. The mill closed 1901 due to the sulphide problem. By 1910, the company had removed most of the accessible ore and, in 1923, sold the leases to North Broken Hill LTD after producing 2.8 million tons of ore. The latter company reworked the mine until 1958 from Thompson and Blackwood Shafts. The area was reworked by open cutting in the 1980s.

### Junction Mine

This mine, located at the northern end of the outcropping lode, was first pegged in 1884. The Broken Hill Junction Silver Mining Co. was formed in 1886 and three shafts were sunk. A smelter was erected at Port Adelaide in 1890 and the company prospered until low lead prices and treatment problems forced closure in 1901.

This mine reopened in 1906 using Browne Shaft as the main access. The company struggled until 1923 when the mine was sold to the Sulphide Corporation. It was purchased by North Broken Hill LTD in 1929, after producing ore to the value of 1.2 million pounds, and reworked from 1946 until 1962 when acquired by South Broken Hill LTD; operations continued until 1972.



Junction Mine Shaft

### North Mine

This mine was first pegged in 1883 and the Broken Hill North Silver Mining Co. was formed in 1885. A concentration mill was erected in 1888 to treat oxidised ores, but these were depleted by 1894. Production of sulphide ore commenced in 1897 and the first dividend was paid in 1899.

When the company became North Broken Hill Ltd in 1912, its mine had become one of the largest at Broken Hill. The neighbouring British, Junction, Junction North, and Block 14 Mines were acquired between 1923 and 1942. A new main shaft (No 1), begun in 1905, was used for all ore haulage until No 2 shaft commenced operation in 1933.



North Mine

A new concentration mill was erected in 1939 near No. 2 shaft. No 3 Shaft, at the northern end of the ore body, commenced in 1948 and was commissioned in 1962. This steel and concrete lined shaft, elliptical in shape, reached below the 1600 metre level, making it the deepest in Australia. Open – Cut operations commenced at No 1 Shaft area in 1985. Production from the North Mine up to closure in 1993 was about 34 million tonnes of ore.

### Central Mine

The Central Mine was pegged in 1884 as Block 9 on an irregular shaped lease not covered by the original leases of 1883. A company was formed and operated until rich silver ore was exhausted in 1892. The mine was acquired by the Sulphide Corporation in 1895 and operated until exhaustion of ore reserves in 1940. The leases were transferred to South Broken Hill Ltd, which reworked the mine between 1945 and 1961. The mine produced 6 million tons of ore and paid 4 million in dividends.

### South Mine

The Broken Hill South Silver Mining Co. Ltd was formed in 1885 to work Blocks 7 and 8. Mining commenced in 1888 and smelter was built in 1891. The South Mine encountered the sulphide problem early in its history and, as a result, did not pay a dividend until 1897. Broken Hill South Ltd was formed in 1918 and quickly became one of the most progressive companies at Broken Hill. Between 1928 and 1934, it erected Broken Hill's first steel headframe and modern crushing and concentrating plant in steel and concrete. In 1940, Broken Hill South Ltd acquired the Central Mine and, in 1943, the BHP Mine; the British, Junction and Block 14 Mines were acquired in 1962. The South Mine closed in 1972 and all leases were purchased by Minerals, Mining and Metallurgy (MMM). The mine produced about 20 million tons of ore valued at 300 million pounds and paid 65 million in dividends.

### Zinc Mine

Zinc Corporation was formed in 1905 to treat zinc – rich tailings accumulated at various mines. A concentration mill was erected on the British Mine lease and, when the supply of tailings was nearly exhausted, the South Blocks Mine was acquired in 1911. This marked the transition from ore treatment to mining. In 1936, operations at the Zinc Mine were completely restructured with the sinking of a new shaft and plant and concentration mill. Zinc Corporation became the Consolidated

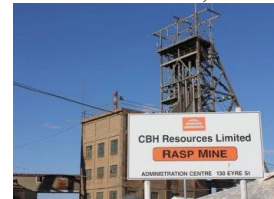
Zinc Corporation in 1949 and merged with Rio Tinto to become Conzinc Rio Tinto of Australia (CRA) in 1962. New Broken Hill Consolidated (NBHC) joined the consortium in 1971 to form the Australian Mining and Smelting Co LTD, which merged with North Broken Hill LTD to form Pasmenco LTD in 1988. The concentration mill and Main Shaft ceased operation in 1988 and subsequent activity was focused at the NBHC Mine. The Zinc Mine produced 41 million tonnes of ore during the period 1911 – 89.

### NBHC Mine

New Broken Hill Consolidated was formed by Zinc Corporation in 1936 to explore leases to the south of the Zinc Mine. Ore production commenced in 1944. The first all – concrete headframes in Australia were erected at Haulage and Service Shafts in 1946, and a large mill commenced in 1952. The concentration mill and Haulage Shaft were refurbished in 1988 to take ore from both Zinc and NBHC Mines. The mine produced about 52 million tonnes of ore up to 1996 and present annual ore production is about 2.5 million tonnes. Based on current ore reserves, mining will continue to the year 2006 when Pasmenco will close leaving Broken Hill, without a mine.

### *Broken Hill mine operator to 'sit tight' amid falling zinc prices*

*Declan Gooch and Andrew Schmidt  
Posted Mon 12 Oct 2015, 9:12am*



[Photo: CBH Resources says it'll keep running the Rasp Mine as normal despite falling metal prices.](#)  
[\(John Casey\) Map: Broken Hill 2880](#)

*The operator of Broken Hill's Rasp Mine says it will continue to run as normal, despite falling metal prices which have forced mine closures elsewhere in the country.*

*Mining company Glencore cut more than 530 jobs from its north-west Queensland and Mount Isa zinc operations last week, and has reduced its global zinc production by more than a third. Glencore said its move was to preserve the value of zinc reserves in the ground with prices so low. The chief operating officer at CBH which operates the Rasp Mine in Broken Hill, Visko Sulicich, said the much-smaller Broken Hill operation won't be following suit and will try and ride out the market slump.*

*"[Glencore is] in a position where they can manipulate the market. We obviously can't," Mr Sulicich said. "So we're going to sit tight and see it through, and hopefully this is a floor in the price." Mr Sulicich said the company believes the Rasp Mine can survive the current price slump.*

*"Look, we have to, it's marking time. That's the reason we got into the zinc lodes originally, so it'd give us a chance, but the prices have dropped a lot more than we thought.*

*"We've just got to tough it out now for the next six months."*

*Zinc prices dropped to a low of less than USD1600 a tonne at the end of September, but since Glencore's announcement has risen to around 1800.*



Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



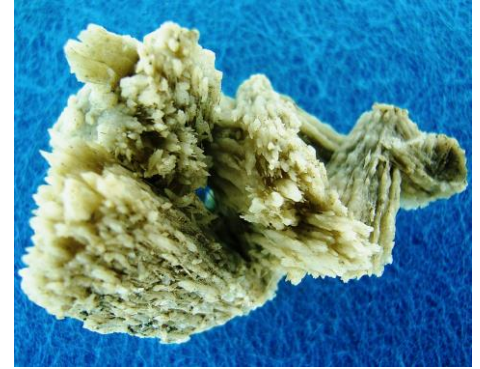
Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



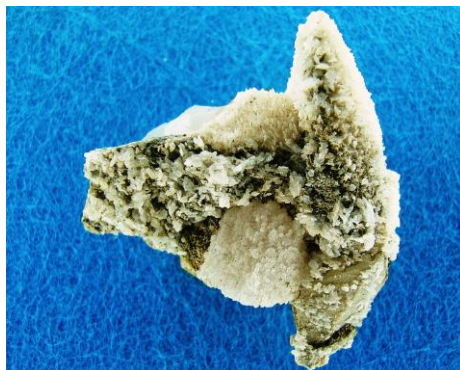
Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



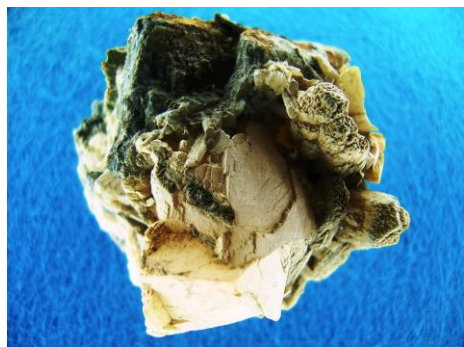
Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



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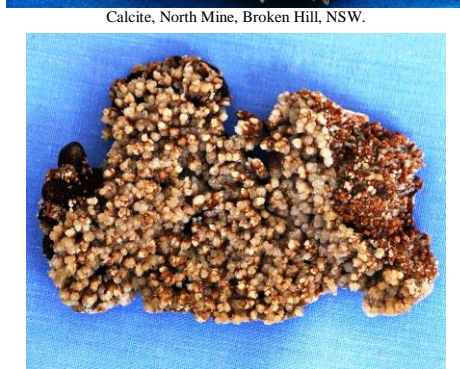
Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Calcite and Galena, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Fluorapophyllite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Pyrite on Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Pyrite on Calcite and Rhodocrosite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



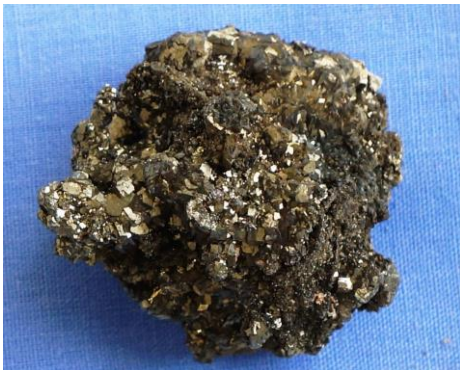
Gypsum, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Pyrite on Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Quartz and Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Pyrite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Pyrite on Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Rhodocrosite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



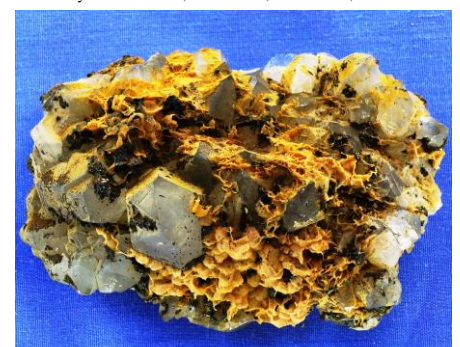
Pyrite and Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



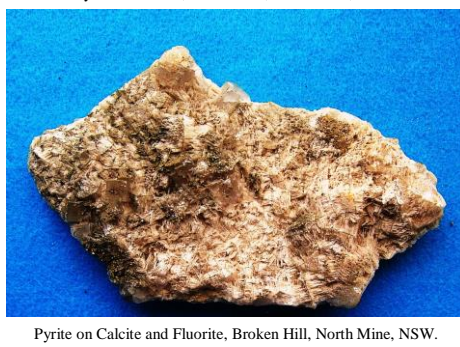
Pyrite on Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Rhodocrosite and Quartz, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Pyrite and Rhodocrosite on Quartz, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW



Pyrite on Calcite and Fluorite, Broken Hill, North Mine, NSW.



Rhodocrosite on Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Rhodocrosite on Calcite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Rhodocrosite on Quartz, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Spessartine, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Sphallerite, North Mine, Broken Hill, NSW.



Calcite, Mine???, Broken Hill, NSW

*Many thanks to Ian for making these mineral specimens available to be photographed.*

### TTGGMC Club Rooms Restoration.

External restoration of the club rooms now complete. Shots taken from various angles to highlight the significant work done.



I have included the past photos from the August 2015 edition of the TTGGMC newsletter for comparison.



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### Windows Computer - Quick Tips

Some quick tips to help you become a better computer user and internet surfer. Everyone (especially seniors) should know this handy tip.

While holding down the **Ctrl** button on your keyboard -- rotate the scroll wheel in the middle of your mouse.

#### Go ahead and give it a try, right now.

On most computers this will magnify / shrink the size of websites. Rolling the mouse wheel up will make everything bigger, while rolling the mouse wheel down will have the opposite effect.

So, next time you are having trouble reading small text on a website, simply hold down control and use the scroll wheel. Very handy -- pass this on to your friends. It's the best thing since... **Ctrl+c**.

Alternative method: hold down **Ctrl** and tap on the + and - buttons on the keyboard for the same effect.

#### Search text within any Web page

Ever end up on a site from a search engine, but can't find the exact words you are looking for? The answer is: **Ctrl + f** (that's 'f' for 'find' by the way).

Go ahead and hold down the **Ctrl** button on your keyboard and press "f" -- you should see a search box pop-up somewhere on your screen. (Usually near the bottom or top of the window). Now you can type any word into that search box and your internet browser will find and highlight each instance of that word as it appears on the page. You can also click the "next" button or arrow to allow the page to auto-scroll to the next instance of the word.

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**MGMC – Gordon Reward Fieldtrip  
October 24<sup>th</sup> 2015. Field Officer  
Report contributed by and written by  
Kym Loechel.**

Excellent weather saw an excellent turnout to our October fieldtrip to the Gordon Reward Goldfield near Williamstown.

This old mine is just really a group of alluvial diggings in an ancient tertiary capping which contained not only gold but various gemstones.

It was great to see 24 members turn out for the day. We left Forest HQ spot on time and made our way into the forest to the diggings. It is a lovely spot just to visit and fossicking just happens to be a bonus.



It only took a few minutes and the detectors were out and the drums set up for panning.



Kym outlines where to detect.



Ian in detecting mode.



Don assists with setting up the panning drums.

Gravel wasn't hard to find but "gold bearing" gravel proved a little more elusive. A few gemstones appeared and even a sapphire was found. This spot has yielded garnets, topaz, andalusite, amethyst, smoky quartz, citrine, and corundum just to name a few. Sadly, most are very small as the group found out.



Rubein and Theresa in panning mode.

John and Doug found a few specks, and I mean specks, but Rubein trumped them with a lovely small nugget. It wasn't huge but it was big enough to set off a detector (after it was panned of course). And, when placed in a bottle a quick shake freed several smaller specks from the clay on the nuggets back. A nice find!



Don takes it easy as Rubein finds a small gold nugget in his pan.

Lunch came around pretty quickly and I heard several times that the miners here were the cleanest bunch of miners ever! The detector operators could find very little indeed which is quite unusual for an old goldfield; a few chisels, a part of a pick, a head gasket off a car and a few nails were it.



Mel finds some 22 bullet shells and an iron chisel, but no gold.

Lunch over, I decided to try my luck with the detector and came across a few 22 shells around a pine tree. I nearly didn't bother with the third shell but was soooooo glad I did when it turned out to be a VERY nice specimen piece of gold in quartz.. A certain uncle was looking over my shoulder as I shakily rubbed the dirt off!



Kym very pleased with his detected prize.



A close-up view of Kym's gold find.

Back with the mob it was wash it up time followed by a photo shoot and then everyone had to try their detectors over it. Sadly very few drew a signal but the AT gold was the clearest. Even our Minelab had trouble at times. Don't really care as I did manage to snag it in the first place. My first good gold! YAY!



Checking gold signal on different detectors.

Suddenly everyone was out with their detectors but no one was able to get lucky. A quick committee meeting was held while the others tried in vain to match my find and what a top spot for a meeting. Maybe they should all be held in this kind of setting. Pack up time came around all too quickly and the trailer was loaded and it was off home exhausted as usual. It was a top day, well for me anyway, but I'm sure everyone else felt the same...beautiful surroundings with a great mob of people makes it all worthwhile. Soooooo where to next month?

**Kym Loechel.**

*Photos by Gerri, Janet, and Mel. Continued next page with a general picture gallery of activities and participants...*

Gordon Reward Fieldtrip 24<sup>th</sup> Oct 2015  
Continued...



Janet and Leonie capture the moment.



What is Leonie pointing at?



Bethany and Holly like sieving and water play especially.



Alan with enthusiastic helpers.



June, Michael, and Pat take a break.



Alan and Gerri; enthusiastic sievers.



June's bush potato!



The scene.



Terry tries his luck.



Alan sieving for coloured stones while Gerri and Ian watch on.



Panning in earnest.



Michael (foreground) Chloe and Kym (background).



Doug and John looking for those elusive grains of gold.



Pat colouring-in art work.

Contributed by Don Lynn...

### New Zealand Memories

Written by Nancy Lynn 1983

We left Adelaide Airport in January '83,  
For a GEMCASA Trip New Zealand to see.  
Our luggage is stored, we all take a seat,  
First stop is Melbourne just for a treat  
We landed in Auckland in the afternoon  
Our plane flight is over, all too soon.

Our driver is Ian, tour leader is Gwen,  
and cooks Glenys and Chris, they are great.  
To satisfy forty South Aussies,  
It's a big job "ain't it mate?"

Now Auckland is an old, old city,  
We loved her gardens and flowers,  
The yachts on the harbour were sailing quite pretty,  
and the weather was windy with showers.

Not to be missed were the Waitomo Caves,  
How brightly the glow worms were shining,  
To glide in the boat on that underground stream,  
To see them again I am pining.

At Wellington we drove up to the top,  
The harbour we wanted to see,  
With the houses perched crazily on the hills,  
Amongst the ferns and stately pine tree.

We crossed the Straits from the north to the south,  
The voyage was calm as could be,  
We then drove through Picton and Blenheim then on,  
To Christchurch, in time for our tea.

Our sister city of Christchurch  
Was laid out by our Colonel Light  
We climbed 200 steps to the Bell Tower  
It was worth it when we saw the sight.

At the snow clad Mount Cook,  
What a glorious sight,  
The lupins were blooming,  
In pinks, mauve and white.

We took a flight out over the snow,  
What beauty there was to relate,  
With the snow gently moving down the mountains so steep,  
To the far below Glacial Lake.

At gracious Old Olverston House,  
In lovely Dunedin town,  
We saw the treasures of yesteryear,  
So glorious, my heart did pound.

At Invercargill we had a great night,  
With a tea and rock swap with the locals,  
Next morning we went to the very cold Bluff,  
To find polishing rocks, we were hopefuls.

At Milford Sound a lovely boat ride,  
The fiords we wanted to view,  
With the waterfalls tumbling from the mountains so high,  
When a fog came in thickly right out of the blue.

A gondola ride to the top of Bob's Peak,  
Was a highlight of lovely Queenstown,  
The view from the top was really unique,  
And we dined before we came down.

A helicopter ride to Fox Glacier,  
An experience I'll never forget,

We walked, played and fell in the slippery ice,  
And ended up thoroughly wet.

We all tried gold panning at old shanty town  
And were delighted with the treasures we found,  
Then off to the blow hole and strange Pancake Rocks,  
Where the water was doing a pound.

A great surprise at Palmerston North,  
A motel for our accommodation,  
Own shower and toilet and T.V. too,  
It was really posh and beyond expectation.

At Rotorua so many strange sights,  
The mud pools like porridge were plopping,  
The smell of the sulfur from the geyser so high,  
And the friendly brown Maori, oh I wish I was stopping!

Now Thames on the Coromandel Peninsula,  
Is a place to which I'll return,  
With its beautiful bays and mountains so high,  
Covered with Toi Toi grass and lovely tree fern.

We took a trip to Cape Reinga,  
With its light house built high on the rocks,  
Then back along the 90 mile beach, where,  
We gathered some shell fish and sure got lots.

Now Ian has a video camera,  
Our antics he likes to relate,  
When we're splashing in the pool and the sauna  
Film stars of us all he will make.

A cruise on the Bay of Islands  
Cape Brett we wanted to see,  
With the hole in the rock and very steep cliffs  
Pushed up from the deep blue sea.

A fossick today at Curnow Road,  
With our friends from the Whangarei Club,  
Finding carnelian, agates, chalcedony and chert,  
By the time we stopped digging, my how our backs hurt.

Now our holidays will soon be over,  
Our parcels are on their way,  
We've gathered rocks and shells and made many friends,  
But there is one thing left to say...

Yes, New Zealand we all love you,  
From your snow clad mountainous track,  
To your mud pools and roaring geysers,  
And I'm sure that we'll be back.

So it's thanks to our driver, our cooks and tour leader,  
We have had such a wonderful time,  
We have seen lots of places, made lots of new friends,  
Now this is the end of my rhyme.

*Nancy Lynn.*





Contributed by Don Lynn...

### Alice Springs.

Written by Nancy Lynn 1983

Our trip up to Alice in May 83,  
Was led by Jack Miller from Cobdogla you see  
The Morgan Plains were dry barren red,  
But over the range the sheep were much better fed.

The folk on the bus, I'll name them for you,  
They all came along just for the view.  
There were two Colins and Margot, Mary and John,  
Two Jacks and a Dorrie, a Ron and a Don,  
Doug and Betty and Helen and Ray,  
And Nancy, all set off on a bright sunny day.

We had our first bush camp in the Mallee you see,  
We made a big camp fire to cook our first tea.  
Ham steaks and pineapple, apricots and rice,  
The mob all agreed; "By gee that was nice!"

The good road ran out near the Glendambo Pub,  
Where it gave way to corrugations of sand.  
The dust from the truckies and the near dead grey saltbush,  
Was all we could see in this sad outback land.

Jack is the driver of the Mazda so neat,  
While Don takes his place in the Land Cruisers' seat.  
We limped at last into Coober Pedy town,  
Where we slept in a dugout beneath the earth so brown.

We drove at last to Mintabie, it had been a long hot day,  
We came to search for opals in that dirty whitish clay.  
We found our little treasures in blues, reds, yellows and green,  
The sweetest little opals that you have ever seen.

We flew across the great Ayers Rock,  
Then out to the Olgas too.  
We gazed in awe at the sunset so red,  
And wondered "Can it be true?"

We wandered all day at Kings Canyon,  
What beauty there was to relate.  
We found the lost city up there in the hills  
And the Garden of Eden, with its deep lake.

The men helped us girls up the mountain,  
We jumped chasms and climbed down through caves.  
The sheer cliffs, the palms and the ghost gums,  
The best in Australia is what my pen raves.

We went out to dine in the Alice,  
Then the casino is where we all went.  
Instead of making our fortunes,  
We soon found our money all spent.

At Standley Chasm the rocks all turned red,  
When the sun hit the chasm at noon.  
Then out to Glen Helen and the Ormiston Gorge,  
This sight-seeing day was over too soon.

We gathered gemstones out Harts Range way,  
There was Apatite and Martite and Mica.  
Zircons and Garnets, Oh what a day!  
The bigger they were, the better we like; yea!

We stopped at the Cameliers Ranch,  
And laughed as we rode those camels.  
Then at Malone Creek we gathered some fossils,  
of shells and fish and maybe mammals.

The corrugated roads were very bad for riding,  
Until we came to the sign-board,  
at the Railway Chandlers Siding,  
We read the many place names, to us they did not matter,  
For we've got two-forty k's to go to Oodna-bloody-datta!

We travelled the barren country,  
With its bull-dust and deep red sand.  
We drank our fill at an outback pub,  
In that Oodnadatta land.

We headed next for Maree,  
Then off to the new Leigh Creek.  
Then down the track to the Flinders,  
Where we spent a night near a creek.

Sunrise in the Flinders,  
It really is a grand sight.  
From the gums in the rocky creek beds,  
To the mountains, so grand in their height.

Now our journey is nearly over,  
We've had some jolly good fun.  
So it's thanks to our drivers and all our new friends,  
That we've had such a really great run.

### Nancy Lynn



∞ ∞ ∞

Contributed by Douglas Walker...

### And the sign says....

Gynecologist's Office: "Dr. Jones, at your cervix."  
In a Podiatrist's office: "Time wounds all heels."  
On a Septic Tank Truck: Yesterday's Meals on Wheels  
At an Optometrist's Office: "If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."  
On a Plumber's truck: "We repair what your husband fixed."  
On another Plumber's truck: "Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber."  
At a Tire Shop in Milwaukee : "Invite us to your next blowout."  
On an Electrician's truck: "Let us remove your shorts."  
In a Non-smoking Area: "If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action."  
On a Maternity Room door: "Push. Push. Push."  
At a Car Dealership: "The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment."  
Outside a Muffler Shop: "No appointment necessary. We hear you coming."  
In a Veterinarian's waiting room: "Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"  
At the Electric Company: "We would be delighted if you send in your payment. However, if you don't, you will be."  
In a Restaurant window: "Don't stand there and be hungry; come on in and get fed up."  
In the front yard of a Funeral Home: "Drive carefully. We'll wait."  
At a Propane Filling Station: "Thank heaven for little grills."  
And don't forget the sign at a Chicago radiator shop: "Best place in town to take a leak."  
And the best one for last.....  
Sign on the back of another Septic Tank Truck: "Caution - This Truck is full of Political Promises."

## General Interest.



### "Good luck Mr. Gorsky!"

On July 20, 1969, as Commander of the Apollo 11 Lunar Module, Neil Armstrong was the first person to set foot on the moon. His first words after stepping on the moon, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind!" were televised to earth and heard by millions. But just before he re-entered the 'Lander', he made the enigmatic remark, "Good luck Mr. Gorsky!".

Many people at NASA thought it was a casual remark concerning some rival Soviet Cosmonaut. However, upon checking, there was no Mr. Gorsky in either the Russian or the American space programs.

Over the years, many people questioned Armstrong as to what the, 'Good luck, Mr. Gorsky!' statement meant, but Armstrong always just smiled.

On July 5, 1995, in Tampa Bay, Florida, while answering questions following a speech, a reporter brought up the 26-year-old question about Mr. Gorsky to Armstrong. This time he finally responded because Mr. Gorsky had died, so Neil Armstrong felt he could now answer the question.

Here is the answer to, "Who was Mr. Gorsky?"

In 1938, when he was a kid in a small mid-western town, he was playing baseball with a friend in the backyard. His friend hit the ball, which landed in his neighbor's yard by their bedroom window. His neighbors were Mr. and Mrs. Gorsky. As he leaned down to pick up the ball, young Armstrong heard Mrs. Gorsky shouting at Mr. Gorsky, "Sex! You want sex! You'll get sex when the kid next door walks on the moon!"

It broke the place up.

Neil Armstrong's family confirmed this is a true story.

Try the hyperlink...

[Good luck Mr. Gorsky](#)



### Did You Know?

**Did you know** Tennessee is bordered by 8 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina and Virginia - more than any other in the US.

**Did you know** a stewardess is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand.

**Did you know** there is no such thing as a naturally blue food.

**Did you know** honey is the only natural food which never goes off.

**Did you know** M&M's chocolate stands for the initials for its inventors Mars and Murrie.

**Did you know** that you burn more calories eating celery than it contains (the more you eat the thinner you become).

**Did you know** the only continent with no active volcanoes is Australia.

**Did you know** the longest street in the world is Yonge street in Toronto Canada measuring 1,896 km (1,178 miles).

**Did you know** about 90% of the world's population kisses.

**Did you know** Coca-Cola originally contained cocaine.

**Did you know** in every episode of Seinfeld there is a reference to Superman.

**Did you know** the Internet was originally called ARPANet (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network) designed by the US department of defense.

**Did you know** sound travels almost 5 times faster underwater than in air.

**Did you know** toilets use 35% of indoor water use.

**Did you know** the fortune cookie was invented in San Francisco.

**Did you know** Koalas sleep around 18 hours a day.

**Did you know** the average speed of a skydiver is 200kph (124mph).

**Did you know** the first Burger King was opened in Florida Miami in 1954.

**Did you know** all insects have 6 legs.

**Did you know** that 90% of an iceberg sits under water.

### A Nerd and His New Bike

A nerd was walking down the sidewalk one day when his friend, another nerd, rode up on an incredible shiny new bicycle.

The first nerd was stunned by his friend's sweet ride and asked, "WOW! Where did you get such a nice bike?"

The second nerd replied, "Well, yesterday I was walking home, minding my own business, when a beautiful woman rode up to me on this bike. She threw the bike to the ground, took off all her clothes and said, "Take what you want!"

The second nerd nodded approvingly, "Good choice. The clothes probably wouldn't have fit."

*Contributed by Doug Walker...*

### Zen Teachings...

Do not walk behind me, for I may not lead. Do not walk ahead of me, for I may not follow. Do not walk beside me for the path is narrow. In fact, just piss off and leave me alone.

Sex is like air. It's not that important unless you aren't getting any.

No one is listening until you fart.

Always remember you're unique. Just like everyone else.

Never test the depth of the water with both feet.

If you think nobody cares whether you're alive or dead, try missing a couple of mortgage payments.

Before you criticise someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticise them, you're a mile away and you have their shoes.

If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.

Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably well worth it.

If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

Some days you are the dog, some days you are the tree.

Don't worry; it only seems kinky the first time.

Good judgment comes from bad experience; and most of that comes from bad judgment.

A closed mouth gathers no foot.

There are two excellent theories for arguing with women. Neither one works.

Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving.

Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

We are born naked, wet and hungry, and get slapped on our arse - then things just keep getting worse.

Never, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.

### The Pedestrian and the Cyclist

A pedestrian stepped off the curb and into the road without looking one day and promptly gets knocked flat by a passing cyclist.

"You were really lucky there," said the cyclist.

"What on earth are you talking about? That really hurt!" said the pedestrian, still on the pavement, rubbing his head.

"Well, usually I drive a bus!" the cyclist replied.

## Members Notice Board

### Meeting Reminders/Updates

Subs are due (September).

Annual General Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

### Wanted

#### **Mineral photo opportunities.**

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

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

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

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

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

Mel Jones

08 8395 1792

[mel.jones@bigpond.com](mailto:mel.jones@bigpond.com)

### **Newsletter Content & Contributions**

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

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

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

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

Mel Jones

08 8395 1792

[mel.jones@bigpond.com](mailto:mel.jones@bigpond.com)

## Useful Internet Links

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

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

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

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

Adelaide Gem and Mineral Club: [http://sacommunity.org/org/197578-Adelaide\\_Gem\\_%2526\\_Mineral\\_Club#.Uta7ufRDt8E](http://sacommunity.org/org/197578-Adelaide_Gem_%2526_Mineral_Club#.Uta7ufRDt8E) <http://www.adelaidegmc.websyte.com.au/>

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

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

Flinders Gem, Geology and Mineral Club Inc:  
[http://www.lapidaryworld.com/flinders\\_geology\\_gem\\_and\\_mineral\\_club.html](http://www.lapidaryworld.com/flinders_geology_gem_and_mineral_club.html)

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

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

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

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