









**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.**  
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**October  
Edition  
2018**

## "Rockzette" Tea Tree Gully Gem & Mineral Club News

President's Report	General Interest	Club Activities / Fees						
<p>Hi All, The new saw is up and running, so if anyone has a big rock they need cutting, bring it to the club rooms on a Tuesday or Thursday to get it cut. Cheers, Ian.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p style="background-color: yellow;"><b>TTGGMC 2018 Melbourne Cup Luncheon</b>  Bring a plate of food and join fellow members at the TTGGMC clubrooms @ 12MD, Tuesday November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018. See you there.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p>	<p><b>Pages 2 to 4:</b> Augie's October 2018 Agate and Mineral Selections...</p>  <p><b>Pages 5 &amp; 6:</b> Ian's 2018 Agate Creek finds – Part 1...</p>  <p><b>Page 7:</b> 'The Whitney Flame Topaz'...</p>  <p><b>Page 8:</b> DIY – Recycled Coffee Pod Jewellery ...</p>  <p><b>Page 9:</b> Gerry and Ellen's Bendleby Ranges 4 x 4 Safari...</p>  <p><b>Page 10 &amp; 11:</b> 'Newcastle and Rail – The Never-ending Story'</p>  <p><b>Pages 12 to 18:</b> General Interest... 'Egyptian Discovery', 'The History of Two Presidents', and lots of humour.</p> <p><b>Page 19:</b> Member's Notice Board, show details and Greg's advert.</p> <p style="background-color: yellow; text-align: center;">See Gold finds – in VIC on page 7, and in WA on page 13.</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 pm. General meetings - arrive at 7.30 pm for 8 pm start.</p> <p><b>Library</b> <i>Librarian - Augie Gray</i> There is a 2-month limit on borrowed items. When borrowing from the lending library, fill out the card at the back of the item, then place the card in the box on the shelf. When returning items, fill in the return date on the card, then place the card at the back of the item.</p> <p><b>Tuesday Faceting/Cabbing</b> Tuesdays - 10 am to 2 pm. All are welcome. Supervised by Doug Walker (7120 2221).</p> <p><b>Wednesday Silversmithing</b> Wednesdays - 7 pm to 9 pm. All are welcome. Supervised by Augie Gray (8265 4815 / 0433 571 887).</p> <p><b>Thursday Cabbing</b> Thursdays - 10 am to 2 pm. All are welcome. Supervised by Augie Gray (8265 4815 / 0433 571 887).</p> <p><b>Friday Silversmithing</b> Fridays - 9 am to 12 noon. All are welcome. Supervised by John Hill (8251 1118).</p> <p><b>Faceting/Cabbing/Silversmithing Fees:</b> A standard fee of \$3.00 per session applies – to be paid to the session supervisor.</p> <p>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>.</p> <p>It is necessary that <i>Health and Safety</i> regulations are adhered to always.</p> <p>Everyone using the workshop must ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <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 or dried.</li> </ul> <p><i>NOTE: 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.</i></p> <p><b>Club Subscriptions:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">\$25.00 Family</td> <td style="width: 50%;">\$20.00 Family Pensioner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$15.00 Single</td> <td>\$12.50 Single Pensioner</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">\$10.00 Joining Fee</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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\$10.00 Joining Fee								
<b>Diary Dates / Notices</b>								
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Happy Birthday</b></p> <p>Members celebrating October birthdays:</p> <p>5<sup>th</sup> – June Mabbitt.  11<sup>th</sup> – Ruth Say.  24<sup>th</sup> – Campbell Morrison.  24<sup>th</sup> – Peter McCarthy.  30<sup>th</sup> – Terry Deegan.  30<sup>th</sup> – Liz Lane.  31<sup>st</sup> – Mike Mabbitt.  31<sup>st</sup> – Cheryl Rudd.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p style="background-color: yellow; text-align: center;"><b>NB. TTGGMC 2019 Biennial Exhibition</b>  Saturday July 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Broken Hill Mineral Club Rock-On Gem and Mineral Show 2018.</b></p> <p>Long weekend in September/October - Friday 28th, Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th of September, with field trips on Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd of October. To be held at the Broken Hill Showgrounds / Memorial Oval. Application forms and information about the show will be available soon.</p> <p><a href="http://brokenhillmineralclub.wikispaces.com/">http://brokenhillmineralclub.wikispaces.com/</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p style="background-color: yellow; text-align: center;"><b>Are Your Subs Overdue?</b>  <b>Membership subscription renewals are due to be paid before September 30th, 2018.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p style="background-color: yellow; text-align: center;"><b>See the last page for more club show details and member notices, etc.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p>								
<p>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 activity, including, but not limited to, meetings, field trips, all crafts and club shows.  An indemnity is to be signed by all participants before each and every field trip activity they attend.</p>								
<p>Tea Tree Gully Gem and Mineral Club Incorporated, Old Tea Tree Gully School, Dowding Terrace, Tea Tree Gully, South Australia, 5091.</p>								

### Augie's October 2018 Agate Selections – Laguna 1.

Laguna agate is one of the most highly sought and prized of all banded agates. These agates are mined in Northern Mexico and are known for their deep vivid colours as well as great fortification. Parallax (otherwise known as shadow) can be found in fine Laguna specimens.



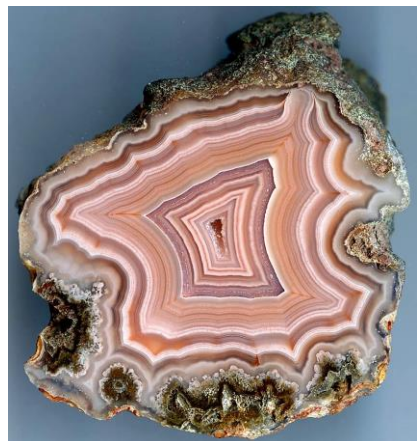
Laguna, North Mexico – 1-01



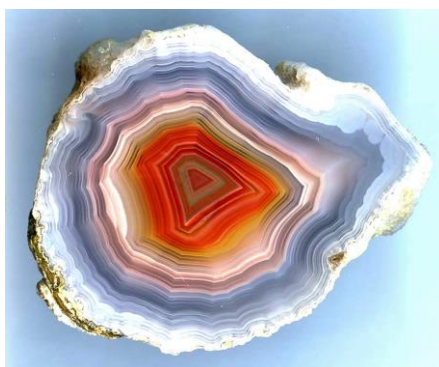
Laguna, North Mexico – 1-02



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-03



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-04



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-05



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-06



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-07



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-08



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-09



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-10



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-11



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-12



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-13



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-14

**Augie's October 2018 Agate Selections.**

*Continued...*



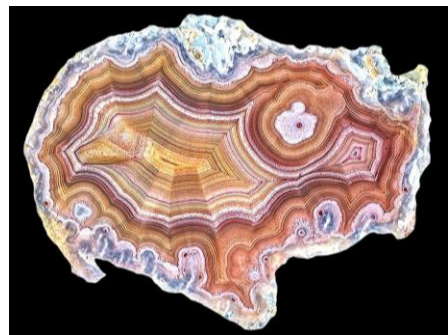
Laguna, North Mexico – 1-15



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-20



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-16



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-17



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-18



Laguna, North Mexico – 1-19

**Augie's October 2018 Mineral Selections.**



Aragonite - Cuetu l'Aspa, Berbes Mining area, Ribadesella, Asturias, Spain.



Cavansite stalactite with Stilbite - Wagholi Quarry, Poona, Maharashtra Province, India.



Chalcopyrite, Quartz and Dolomite - Greystones Quarry, Lezant, Cornwall, England.



Chrysocolla covered in Quartz - Inca de Oro, Chañaral Province, Atacama Region, Chile.



Citrine Geodes – Brazil.



Emerald - Santa Terezinha de Goiás District, Goiás, Brazil.



Fluorite - Cave-in-Rock, Illinois-Kentucky Fluorspar District, Hardin County, Illinois.



Fluorite with Smoky Quartz - Zinggenstock, Grimsel, Haslital, Berner Oberland, Switzerland.

**Augie's October 2018 Mineral Selections.**  
Continued...



Halite Stalactite - Lubin Mine, Lubin District, Lower Silesia, Poland.



Legrandite - Ojuela Mine, Mapimí, Mun. de Mapimí, Durango, Mexico.



Marcasite on Limestone - Cap Blanc-Nez, Pas-de-Calais, France.



Praying Mantis in Amber (Hymenaea protera, Oligocene) - Dominican Republic.



Scolecite & Calcite - Chalisgaon, Jalgaon, Maharashtra, India.



Selenite with Atacamite, Paratacamite & Herbertsmithite - Lubin Mine, Lubin District, Lower Silesia, Poland.



Smithsonite - Tsumeb Mine, Otavi Highlands, Namibia.



Tourmaline - Sapo Mine, Doce valley, Minas Gerais, Brazil.

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**Mel's October 2018 Facebook Sourced Mineral Selections**



Rosette Rhodochrosite, Boldut Mine, Cavnic, Maramures Co., Romania. Source: Geology Wonders. Photo: Leontin Ciuturas.



Elbait (Green Tourmaline) from Brazil. Source: Geology Wonders. Photo: Charlotte Noorjamal Anderson.



Quartz var. Amethyst from Bolivia. Source: Geology Wonders. Photo: goldenhourminerals.

Contributed by Ian Everard...

Ian's 2018 Agate Creek Finds – Part 1.



Pink agate from back of the saddle, Agate Creek, Qld.



Pink agate from back of the saddle, Agate Creek, Qld.



Pink agate from back of the saddle, Agate Creek, Qld.



Pink agate from back of the saddle, Agate Creek, Qld.



Agate from Crystal Hill, Agate Creek.



Agate from Crystal Hill, Agate Creek.



Agate from Crystal Hill, Agate Creek.



Agate from Crystal Hill, Agate Creek.



Agate from back of the saddle, Agate Creek.



Agate from Crystal Hill, Agate Creek, Qld.



Agate from Crystal Hill, Agate Creek, Qld.



Pink agate from back of the saddle, Agate Creek, Qld.



Quartz var Citrine, Agate Creek, Qld.



Quartz, Crystal Hill, Agate Creek, Qld.



Quartz, Crystal Hill, Agate Creek, Qld.



Quartz, Crystal Hill, Agate Creek, Qld.



Quartz, Crystal Hill, Agate Creek, Qld.



Quartz var Smoky, from back of the saddle, Agate Creek, Qld.



Quartz, Crystal Hill, Agate Creek, Qld.



Quartz, Crystal Hill, Agate Creek, Qld.



Quartz, Crystal Hill, Agate Creek, Qld.



Quartz, Crystal Hill, Agate Creek, Qld.



Quartz, Crystal Hill, Agate Creek, Qld.

Contributed by Augie Gray...

Access on internet: [Click/tap on this hyperlink...](#)

## The Whitney Flame Topaz Smolders in Vibrant Red

A new gemstone at the Natural History Museum is already igniting wonder in viewers



What makes the Whitney Flame topaz such an astonishing acquisition is its homogeneous fiery-red. "We recognized right away that this is something different than we'd ever seen," says Smithsonian gems curator Jeff Post. (Donny Bajohr).

By [Ryan P. Smith](#)

SMITHSONIAN.COM

September 20, 2018 11:00AM

A visit to the local jeweler's and a request for topaz is likely to turn up an assortment of blue stones, ranging from near clear to cerulean. Mined transparent and subjected to color alteration via radiation in laboratories, these gems are inexpensive and ubiquitous—as Smithsonian minerals curator Jeffrey Post observes, you're liable to spend more on the gold of the band in which the topaz is set than the stone itself.

But the gem that just this morning went on display at the Smithsonian's Natural History museum, dubbed the "Whitney Flame" in honor of its donor, Coralyn Whitney, is a topaz of another color. As its name suggests, this topaz is shot through with rich, fiery red. Cut in the shape of an elegant teardrop, the Flame is a particularly pristine specimen culled from the mines of topaz mecca Ouro Preto, Brazil, and its debut at the Smithsonian promises to drum up renewed interest in topaz worldwide.

The reddish hue discernible in a few Ouro Preto topazes is the result of atoms of the metal chromium making their way into the mineral's crystalline structure. "In addition to the basic components—aluminum, silicon, oxygen, fluorine—that make a topaz a topaz," says Post, "you have a trace amount of chromium that happens to get incorporated." Unlike the blue of mass-market topazes, the red of red topaz cannot be fabricated in a laboratory. If geological conditions at the source aren't right, a topaz crystal will never be red.

The mining municipality of Ouro Preto has long been a source of topaz crystals, with relatively many bearing at least a hint of the prized rubicund glow. Yet even in this tropical topaz Golconda, seeking out marketable minerals is akin to playing the lottery. "Of all the topaz found in that locality," says Post, "only about a percent or two is gem quality. And of those one to two percent, maybe one percent of those have a deep enough red color that they could be marketed as red topaz."

Even the Ouro Preto stones that make the final cut and are sold off as red topaz are almost always

imperfect in the red-to-amber colour gradient, resembling the head and tail of a flame more than its fiery heart.

What makes the Whitney Flame topaz such an astonishing acquisition is its homogeneous red color. "We recognized right away that this is something different than we'd ever seen," Post says.



Unlike the blue of mass-market topazes (above, a collection of topaz from the Smithsonian's National Gem Collection), the red of red topaz cannot be fabricated in a laboratory. If geological conditions at the source aren't right, a topaz crystal will never be red. (Donny Bajohr).

Post, in the company of Smithsonian gem collection manager Russell Feather and longtime Smithsonian benefactor Coralyn Whitney, had first encountered the stone at Arizona's annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, a massive showcase of priceless stones that never fails to draw buyers and enthusiasts from all corners of the globe. "It's quite an extravaganza," Post says. "You never know what you're going to find."

At the 2018 show, Whitney revealed to Post and Russell that it was her intention to acquire a new gemstone to donate to the Smithsonian's collections. Thrilled at the prospect of a unique addition to the Natural History Museum's sizable inventory, the two Smithsonian gem experts explored the expo alongside Whitney, a formidable gem hunter in her own right. When a dealer presented them with the smoldering stone that would soon be christened the Whitney Flame, they knew instantly they had a winner on their hands.

"When we saw it," says Post, "we all collectively started weeping a little bit." The uniform red of the stone and the gentle glint of light off its facets instantly captivated the Smithsonian scouting party. They had never seen a gem of its kind.

"We all recognized that this is an important stone," says Post, "and it will always be an important stone. They're not going to suddenly find a hundred of these." He notes that the mine in Ouro Preto that excavated this stone has been operational for 300 years, and the Whitney Flame is far and away the most exquisite topaz it has produced to his knowledge.

Not much is known about the stone's previous owners. This stone was unearthed some 50 years ago, and likely made its way into the custody of a wealthy family in a time when stunning jewelry was part and parcel of highbrow social life. "Back in the '50s and '60s," Post says, "you see pictures of these glamorous ladies, and they're pretty much all wearing major jewelry pieces." The red topazes of Ouro Preto, Brazil were possessed of an especially regal allure, having long been favorites of the Russian noble classes.

As the decades wore on, however, this marvelous topaz, like so many other standouts of gemology, likely made its way to a nondescript vault or safety deposit box, a failsafe insurance policy if the family business went bust. What most excites Post

about this unlikely acquisition is the opportunity to share the beauty of the stone with an international audience that otherwise would never have had the chance to lay eyes on it.



The reddish hue discernible in several Ouro Preto topazes is the result of atoms of the metal chromium making their way into the minerals' crystalline structures. (Donny Bajohr).

The stone made its debut this morning at the Natural History Museum in Washington, D.C., where it currently occupies a display case all its own in the gallery housing the ever-popular Hope Diamond. Visitors to the museum were treated to a surprise unveiling of the topaz at 11:00 a.m., which featured museum director Kirk Johnson as well as Coralyn Whitney, whose family was also on hand.

"The thing about the Smithsonian's collection is that once it's here, anyone in the world can come and see it free of charge anytime," says Post, echoing a sentiment Coralyn Whitney had expressed to him. "It forever moves the stone out of this private-collection, safety-deposit-box world and into the public domain. Once it's here, it's here forever."

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## Gold nugget weighing more than 4kg found in Central Victoria

To View online, Click/tap on the hyperlink... [Gold nugget weighing more than 4kg found in Central Victoria](#)



The gold nugget could be worth up to \$250,000. Minelab

According to metal detecting manufacturer Minelab, the discovery was made in a worked-over area on the southern edge of central Victoria's Golden Triangle. It said the 145-ounce nugget, named Friday's Joy, could be worth up to \$250,000.

The lucky prospector, who has chosen to remain anonymous, said he found the nugget 12 inches below the ground.

"I thought it was rubbish at first, maybe an old horseshoe," he said. "As I began to scrape away the clay and dig deeper, I really couldn't believe my eyes - this wasn't an old piece of steel in front of me. "I was in total disbelief as I didn't think nuggets of this size were still around."



A prospector says he initially thought the gold nugget was a piece of rubbish.

Contributed by Janet and Mel...

### Recycled Coffee Pod Jewellery



DIY Coffee Pod Jewellery

#### How to make an oval decaf pendant...

This video shows you how to make an oval decaf pendant with used coffee pods...

[Click/tap here to watch the video](#)

Required materials: 2 Nespresso capsules (Decaffeinated Ristretto), a bail, scissors, and a jewellers' tool.

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DIY Coffee Pod Jewellery

#### How to make a sunshine jewellery set...

This video shows you how to make a sunshine jewellery set with used Nespresso coffee pods...

[Click/tap here to watch video](#)

However, to fold...first watch the following video: [Click/tap here to watch the video](#)

Required materials: 1 Nespresso coffee pod...we used the blue one (Vivalto lungo), inner bike tube, a circle punch...we used the brand EFCO - creative emotions, 1.5 inch or 3.8 cm in diameter), a circle punch...we used the brand EFCO - creative emotions, 2 inch or 5 cm in diameter), ear-ring hooks, a bail, a belt perforator, silver coloured square rivet, scissors, jewellers tools - flat nosed pliers, round nosed pliers, and cutting pliers.

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DIY Coffee Pod Jewellery

#### How to make a blossoming flower jewellery set...

This video shows you how to make a blossoming flower jewellery set with used Nespresso coffee pods...

[Click/tap here to watch the video](#)

Required materials: 4 capsules (Linizio Lungo Nespresso - orange), 2 headpins, 2 earring hooks, 2 big rings, a bail, jewellers' tool, scissors, 2 flower beads, and 4 LEGO squares.

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DIY Coffee Pod Jewellery

Continued next column...

#### DIY Coffee Pod Jewellery How to make a waved jewellery set...

This video shows you how to make a waved jewellery set with used Nespresso coffee pods...

[Click/tap here to watch the video](#)

Required materials: - 10 Fortissio Lungo Nespresso capsules (green), 3 clous bouclés, 3 eyepins, 3 rings, a necklace, and Jewellers' tools.

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DIY Coffee Pod Jewellery

#### How to make a triangle pendant set...

This video shows you how to make a triangle pendant with used Nespresso coffee pods...

[Click/tap here to watch the video](#)

Required materials: 5 coffee capsules (Vivalto Lungo), flat nose pliers (www.beadaholique.com), punch from Martha Stewart Crafts (Hydrangea), scissors, mini brads, 2 pendant bails, and pendant of choice.

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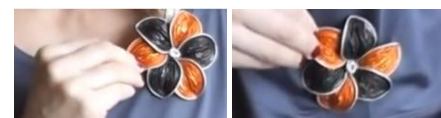
DIY Coffee Pod Jewellery

#### How to make something beautiful...

This video shows you how to make a brooch, belt clasp, Alice band, or hat accessory with used Nespresso coffee pods...

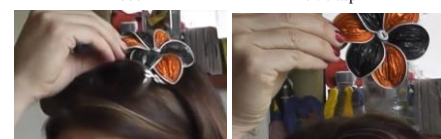
[Click/tap here to watch the video](#)

Required materials: listed at the start of the video.



Brooch

Belt clasp



Alice band

Hat accessory

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Contributed by Gerry and Ellen Dillon...

### Gerry and Ellen's Bendleby Ranges 4 x 4 Safari

After a lovely week at the Bendleby Ranges, two properties of 15,000 ha in the Flinders Ranges, we are safely home again.

We took our caravan up there, 48 km of it was dirt road but in fairly-good condition

Another 7 members from our 4x4 club joined us for some of the days.

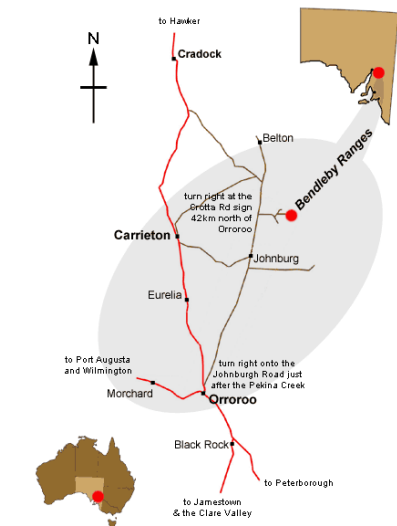
Over the weekend we managed to go on some hair-raising 4WD tracks which most of our friends enjoyed to the full. Some of the tracks were very badly maintained and on one day, instead of being back within a couple of hours, it took us 4 1/2 hours to get back in the dark. Still, we all enjoyed a good time, with camp fires every night, lots of good food, drinks and great company.

The whole area of the Flinders Ranges is very dry, and they are praying for rain. Saw lots of road kill on the roads, and kangaroos jumping about in the middle of the day. Very unusual but they are desperate for food. Also, emus and wild goats are plenty about.

Coming back towards Adelaide, we could see the difference with lush green country side.

Looking forward to some more fun trips sometime in the future.

Gerry and Ellen  
The happy wanderers



To the rescue.



Sheep herding.



On the way home.

Watch a 'Bendleby Ranges' YouTube Video  
Click/Tap on the following link...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ej1d2MvXsyA>

Visit the 'Bendleby Ranges' website  
Click/Tap on the following link...

<https://www.bendlebyranges.com.au/>

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### Club Rooms Activity

Via Email...

Hi Mel,

Thought you might like this for the next newsletter.

Cheryl, Betty and Jean busy finishing off gemstone trees for next year's show. And, a special thank you to Ian for donating the half-finished trees and materials for the gem trees.

Cheers, Wendy.



Cheryl, Betty and Jean busy finishing off gemstone trees for next year's Biennial Exhibition.



Yes, I concur...a special thankyou to Ian for the many donations he has made, including lots of his finds at Agate Creek. Below is a picture of Ian that I took a bit earlier at the same workshop. He is seen here preparing labels for the Agate Creek quartz specimens that he has donated for sale at the 2019 Biennial Exhibition. Mel.



Contributed by Mel Jones...

## ‘Newcastle and Rail – The Never-ending Story’ by Garry Reynolds Part 2 of 14+...

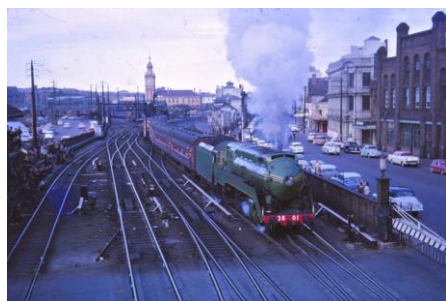


The Newcastle City waterfront today where Aborigines once fished from canoes, convicts hewed coal and a railway system developed and disappeared over a period of 160 years. Source: *Familypedia*.

Newcastle has a fascinating and often ‘unruly history’ as Australia’s second-oldest city, now developing a post-industrial identity.

While once carrying a ‘testosterone town’ male-dominated image, women have increasingly taken on a prominent role in its refinement.

From the early days, when Australia’s first railway was constructed at what was initially known as ‘Coal River’ and tenuous ‘Kings Town’, trains and the coal by Newcastle’s Harbour have been a key part of forming the City’s identity.



3801 powering out of Newcastle Station on the way to Sydney on a speed record attempt in 1964. Source: *David Patterson*.

In fact, convict coal mining at Newcastle was the first step in the genesis of industrialisation in Australia and the growth of the steamship trade. It was also essential to the rise of the railway and the supply of high-quality coal for not only NSW steam locomotives but those in Victoria and South Australia for many decades.

The best locomotives, like the C38 class steam speedsters, 12 of which were built at Newcastle’s Cardiff Railway Workshops, were designed to run on the best coal and that coal was from the Newcastle area.



BHP’s Newcastle Steelworks on Kooragang Island in 1935 with its own extensive private railway system. Source: *Coal River*.

In the not too distant past, visitors to Newcastle knew they were entering an industrial city from the smell of coal dust and smoke from steam trains coupled with steelmaking along its foreshores.

Today, the condition of the atmosphere and waterways is a vast improvement in what is still part of the industrial heartland of the Australian economy.

In times past, the attitude to the environment was quite the opposite. This was expressed by a visiting reporter from the Sydney Gazette in 1831:

*“The banks of the Hunter, it must be remembered, are as yet nearly in a state of nature, not more than eight or nine years having elapsed since they were first inhabited by civilized man. They will therefore be continually improving. Many a vista will yet be opened, many a fair landscape rescued from oblivion, by the axe of the husbandman; the snug cottage, the neat villa, the lordly mansion, with their attendant meadows and gardens, and orchards, their bleating flocks and lowing herds, will ere long be substituted for monotonous woods and forests.”*



Coal loading in the early 1900s at Kings Wharf adjacent to the extensive Newcastle East End railway marshalling yard which is now replaced mainly by roads and parkland. Source: *Newcastle Herald*.

### First contact leaves its legacy

There is solid archaeological evidence that human beings inhabited the landscape we now call ‘Newcastle’ for at least 6,500 years.

In 2009, an Aboriginal heath and factory were uncovered at the site of Newcastle’s former Palais Royale Theatre. Over 5,534 Aboriginal artefacts were recovered, representing three Aboriginal occupation periods dating from 6,716 - 6,502 years BP (before present) and identified as a site of ‘high to exceptional cultural and scientific significance’.



Once the Palais Royale Theatre was demolished after nearly 80 years of entertainment in 2008, the Hunter Street West site saw the erection of KFC’s largest fast-food outlet in Australia. Perhaps in thousands of years’ time that will be a site of cultural significance! Source: *Newcastle Herald*.

Over the millennia, these Aboriginal artefacts manufactured on what came to be known as Cottage Creek, were traded across the Region and

into clan territories further afield.

The Reverend Lancelot Threlkeld, a missionary stationed at Newcastle and Lake Macquarie during the 1820s onwards, recorded that the Aboriginal people of the Newcastle Tribe were called Mulubinbakal (men) and Mulubinbakalleen (female).

The Lower Hunter Region had been originally inhabited by the Awabakal, Worimi, Wonnarua, Geawegal, Birrpai and Darkinjung Aboriginal tribes until the first European settlement in 1797. Indigenous people called the area Mulubinba, after a fern called the Mulubin. Since 1892, the Indigenous people of Newcastle have come to be known as the Awabakal.

Over thousands of years, the Aboriginal people maintained the natural landscape and balance in the environment that Captain Cook observed as he made his way north from Botany Bay in 1770. While he noted Nobby’s Island, it would be several decades before Europeans would arrive, settle, mine, build railways and change the environment forever along the Hunter River.

Yet Newcastle still retains sites of spectacular coastal beauty mixed with the fingerprints of over 200 years of settlement leaving a story around almost every corner of the City. Its soils cover layers of past eras shaped by convicts, coal and steam.

### Before European contact

Today, the Awabakal and Worimi peoples are acknowledged by the Newcastle City Council as the traditional custodians of the land and waters of Newcastle (Muloobinda) and the Hunter River (Coquon).

In this coastal region, bush tucker, and aquatic life in particular, were in relative abundance compared to areas further inland. This saw ceremonies and feasting frequently associated with sharing of resources and trading of implements with remote clans.



Fishing in the Hunter River – Coquon – by torchlight while feasting, ceremonies and trading takes place onshore. The painting was completed by Joseph Lycett. Source: *ABC*.

Today, Aboriginal shell middens at Honeysuckle (Meekarlba) and a tool-making site at Glenrock Lagoon (Pillapay Kullaitaran) are remnants of those communal gatherings. Nevertheless, there

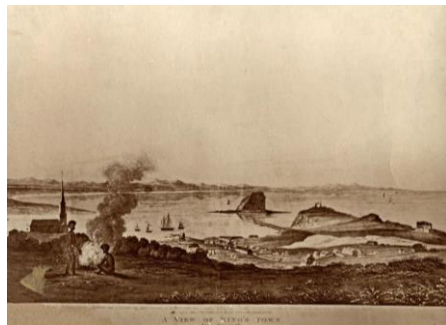
**'Newcastle and Rail – The Never-ending Story'**  
Part 2 of 14+ – *Continued...*

has been a substantial impact on the Aboriginal shell middens in the Newcastle Region. Some were burnt in the early convict period for lime, while others were destroyed by settlement, including the railway and wharf development process along the banks of the Hunter River.



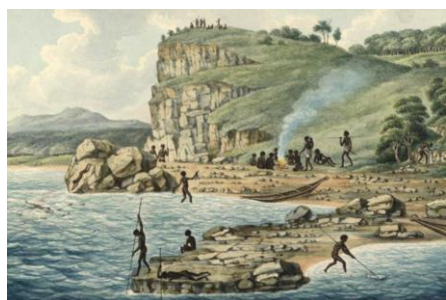
By 1906, when this photo was taken at Kings Wharf, railway and port development had changed the natural landscape significantly with wetlands and mangroves removed and foreshores reclaimed. Source: *Newcastle Herald*.

For the local clans, Koin was a sky-hero revered in Dreamtime stories who announced the coming of Kooris from the distant areas for rites, corroborees and trading on the coast. There were sacred sites for the special activities which included the Newcastle Harbour entrance landmark, Nobbys – Whibay Gamba. In the light of Newcastle's tumultuous earthquake in 1989, it is interesting to discover that a locally-held Dreamtime Story relates to a kangaroo which remains hidden in Whibay Gamba's bowels, occasionally thumping its tail and making the land tremble.



A view of Kings Town (Newcastle) circa early 1800s. Source: *University of Newcastle*.

In recent decades, as part of the increased rate of re-development activities occurring at inner Newcastle West and Newcastle East, and with the discovery of an important ancient Aboriginal cultural heritage site (Palais Royale), between the major CBD road artery and the former Great Northern Railway, extreme care will need to be taken along the now removed railway alignment.



Artist, Joseph Lycett captures the Aboriginal people of Newcastle going about their food gathering activities. Source: ABC.

**An Artistic Aside**

As an intriguing aside, the artist, Joseph Lycett, was a very interesting character. His life not only reveals insights into the Aboriginal inhabitants of what became Newcastle, especially the area around the former railway precinct, but the life of a convict.

You see, Joseph made several early mistakes in life in applying his artistic skills to making a living. First, he forged bank notes. Second, he got caught doing it in 1811 in the back of his rented digs in England's West Midlands. Consequently, in 1814, he was transported to the Colony of NSW in the company of another artful forger, Francis Greenway.

Like Greenway, his eye for detail was soon noticed by his gaolers and he was put to work for the Colony in the 'marketing department'. His job was to paint idyllic pictures of the early colony in the hope of enticing voluntary migration of free settlers, especially those with some capital and skills in the agricultural field. With this new job for Joe, what could go wrong?

Well, all was going well until our man succumbed to his old ways and was caught in possession of a copper plate press designed to produce his beloved forgeries in old Sydney town.

In that time, there was only one place for recalcitrant chaps like him – that of secondary punishment at the 'hellhole' at the Coal River convict penitentiary – the inauspicious beginnings of Newcastle.

Fortuitously, Joseph's arrival synchronised with the arrival of the newly appointed Commandant of the penal settlement, Captain James Wallis. He was keen to have a capable PR man on board to record the wonderful work the good Captain was doing in this 'remote' location. Wallis wanted persuasive visual records of a progressive settlement built on convicts and coal – and it might not do his career much harm either.



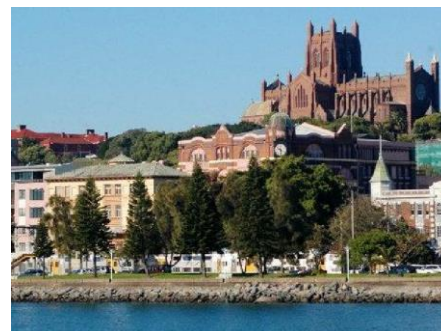
In 1804, Joseph Lycett captures an idyllic image of Aboriginal people in the landscape overlooked by the Sugarloaf Mountain at Newcastle. Source: *University of Newcastle*.

Under Captain Wallis, the convicts' conditions improved during his tenure of 1815-1818 and a building boom began. Wallis laid out the streets of the town, built the first church on the site of the present Anglican Cathedral high on the hill overlooking Newcastle Station, erected a gaol on the seashore, and began work on the breakwater which now joins Nobbys to the mainland.

For these works, and for his humane rule in the convict colony, Capt. Wallis earned the personal commendation of Governor Macquarie. However, in Governor Macquarie's opinion, Newcastle's prison was too close to Sydney and in any case the agricultural exploitation of the land was not practicable with prison labour.

In the interim, perhaps riskily, in the light of his

previous form, Lycett was given ample freedom by Captain Wallis. So not only did Joseph capture the visions of the developing township and buildings on canvas but also spent a good amount of his time observing and drawing the local Awabakal people.



Christ Church Cathedral on the site where Captain Wallis established the penal settlement's first church overlooking interurban carriages at Newcastle Railway Station in the foreground. Source: *Bing Images*.

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In an ABC Radio program in 2015, Roz Bluett noted that:

*"Lycett was the first European artist to record many Indigenous ceremonies, including intimate initiation scenes during corroborees. He couldn't have captured what he did without having a close connection to Aboriginal people."*

So happy ending for our Joe? Not quite.

A bit over this painting stuff in far off NSW and further off Newcastle, Joseph was desperate to get back to England. Good fortune shined on him again when Governor Macquarie, who was always up for convicts who came good, bestowed a pardon on Joseph Lycett in 1824. Along the way, Joe somehow conned money for not only his passage home but his two daughters' as well.

The emancipated convict had convinced all and sundry that he was committed to going straight for the rest of his life and intended to live comfortably on the fortune that would roll in from the sale of his published artworks from abroad. He would be a model of the wonders a good colonial education in the southern school of convict life could achieve. Halleluiah - great publicity for New South Wales and Newcastle surely?

Perhaps not. Unfortunately, the art sales in England didn't go as well as hoped. In desperation, Joe returned to the copper plate forging press stored in the back garret of his rented premises.

In 1827, Joseph Lycett was again detained by the English authorities for forgery. However, during the arrest he is believed to have deliberately cut his throat. Transport back to NSW and perhaps Newcastle couldn't have seemed that bad but that is what he feared. Four months later, Joseph died in the Birmingham Infirmary, presumably from septicaemia. His paintings live on in the National Library of Australia. **More in next month's newsletter...**

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Contributed by Doug Walker...

## Egyptian Discovery

Click/tap on the following hyperlinks for additional pictures/information...

[Egyptian-city-found-1200-years](#)

[Heracleion-Egyptian city sunken-sea](#)

[Sunken-civilizations](#)

[Lost-city-of-heracleion-Egypt](#)

Off the coast of Egypt divers have discovered something that was thought to be lost a long time ago. It was said that the ancient city of Heracleion was lost under the sea for good. Well, 1200 years later, off the bay of Aboukir, this ancient city has finally been discovered. The city dates to the 6th century B.C. and holds some of the most beautiful artifacts you could imagine. Things like grand statues of gods and goddesses standing well over 15 feet tall and carved out of red granite, treasures of gold and rare stones, elaborate temples and enormous tablets. This find is enormous in the historical preservation community and has been commissioned by museums around the world. Look at this incredible city found underwater.



This is diver Franck Goddio examining the enormous hand carved statue of a pharaoh. This statue stands roughly 16 feet tall and was found near a large temple under the sea.



Here is the head of a statue carved out of red granite depicting the god Hapi. Hapi is known as the god of the flooding of the Nile. Hapi is a symbol of abundance and fertility and has never been discovered at such a large-scale before.



The divers and their team of researchers carefully lift the statue to the surface to preserve and protect this piece of history. It will reside safely in a museum.



Here the pharaoh, the queen and the god Hapi are laid on the barge next to a temple stele. The stele dates back to the 2nd century B.C. It was found broken into 17 pieces however all were found and placed back together.



This gold plaque was found in the southern sector of the city. The text is written in Greek and acts as a signature for foundation deposits in the name of the king responsible for building this area. King Ptolemy III (246-222 B.C.).



In the reflection of this diver's mask we see a bronze statue of the god Osiris. The crown is the typical insignia of power and this statue has eyes adorned with gold sheets.



Every single detail of this site in Aboukir Bay has been meticulously documented. Here a diver measures a red granite statues foot below the surface of the ocean.



A bronze oil lamp in excellent condition. This dates back to the 2nd century B.C.



Diver Franck Goddio showing off the size of this inscribed stele. This was ordered to be built by Nectanebo I sometime between 378 and 362 B.C.



The divers carefully lift the enormous stele out of the water where it has been for well over 1200 years.



Here the divers carefully inspect a stone full of gold fragments that date back to the 6th century B.C. I'm amazed that these are still intact.



This is a shallow gold saucer that was used for drinking and serving.

Continued next page...

**Egyptian Discovery – Continued...**



This is a stunning statue found under the bay of a Ptolemaic queen. Most likely Cleopatra II or Cleopatra III dressed as the goddess Isis.



This red granite statue was also found near the big temple of Heracleion and weighs a massive 4 tons.



This is the head of a pharaoh statue being raised to the surface. The statue measures over 5 meters and was carved out of red granite.



Here is a beautiful artifact, a Graeco-Egyptian statue of a queen carved out of dark stone.



A bronze small figure of the pharaoh of the 26th dynasty found at a smaller temple in the underwater city of Heracleion.

This is an epic underwater find that has researchers scrambling to this part of the globe to learn about this incredibly beautiful Egyptian city. The fact that this city found underwater has been left untouched for so many years is an amazing factor on its own let alone being a find as big. These statues and artifacts are massive and nearly perfectly preserved. The attention to detail in these pieces is truly beautiful and I'm happy to see it being preserved with great care.

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**Big gold nugget found near Kalgoorlie**

To view online Click/Tap on the hyperlink...['Duck's Foot' gold nugget](#)



The large gold nugget contains about 2.1 kilograms of gold. Supplied: AAP

**'Duck's Foot' gold nugget worth \$110,000 found by elderly prospector in WA Goldfields**

The retired man, who does not wish to be named to protect his identity, said he had been combing the same patch in the northern Goldfields with a metal detector for years, but struck it lucky with better technology. "When I had finished digging it out, I just thought 'Oh my God'," he said of the find, a 3.23kg specimen containing 68 troy ounces or 2.11kg of gold. "It was pretty deep at about 800mm in clay soil, so it took more than two hours of careful digging to get it out."

Rob Anderson, who owns the Prospectors Pick in Bunbury, has known the prospector for a long time

and said he was a specialist at finding deep nuggets. "He's been very successful over the years," Mr Anderson said. "I think this find proves there's still a lot of gold still out there, even in areas you might think have been picked clean." The nugget has been dubbed "Duck's Foot" because of its shape.

Earlier this month, Canadian gold mining company RNC Minerals announced it had found a whopping 9,250 ounces of gold worth \$C15 million (\$AU15.9 million) at its Beta Hunt gold mine, also in the Goldfields near Kambalda, in just one week.

That included two huge specimens weighing 95kg and 63kg with a combined estimated gold content of more than 4,000 ounces, which president Mark Selby said could rank among the biggest ever discovered.

On Thursday, the company provided an updated estimate from the discovery, dubbed the 'Father's Day Vein', saying it had produced more than 24,000 ounces worth more than \$40.3 million.

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**Lucky strike in outback WA could spark 'mini gold rush' for prospectors and miners**

[ABC Goldfields](#) By [Jarrod Lucas](#). Posted 12 Sep 2018, 4:55pm Wed 12 Sep 2018, 4:55pm [Click/tap to view 'mini gold rush' for prospectors and miners](#)



Geologists Lachlan Kenna and Zaf Thanos with the gold that made headlines around the world.

**Prospectors and exploration companies seeking to strike it rich have been re-energised by the discovery of rare gold specimens at a mine in outback Western Australia.**

Some are saying it could spark a "mini gold rush" for a town down on its luck.

In the days since the spectacular find at Kambalda, 630 kilometres east of Perth, a wave of excitement has washed over the nickel mining town which has been on its knees in recent times.



The wall of gold underground at the Beta Hunt mine near Kambalda. Supplied: RNC Minerals

One exploration company holding ground adjacent to the Beta Hunt mine, [where \\$15 million worth of gold-encrusted rocks were found 500 metres below the surface](#), has already been inundated with calls.

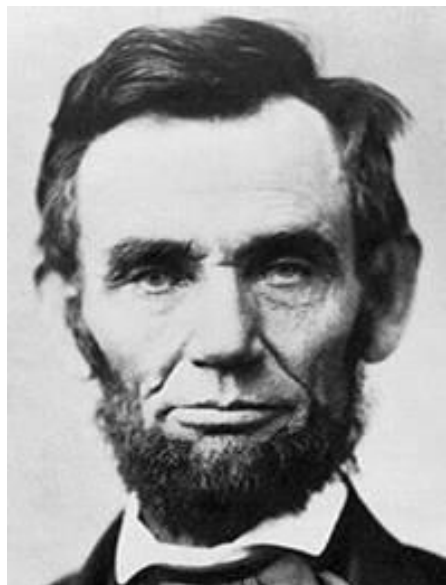
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Contributed by Doug Walker...

### A History Lesson 'The History of Two Presidents'



Have a history teacher explain this...if they can.



Abraham Lincoln was elected to Congress in 1846.



John F. Kennedy was elected to Congress in 1946.

Abraham Lincoln was elected President in 1860.  
John F. Kennedy was elected President in 1960.

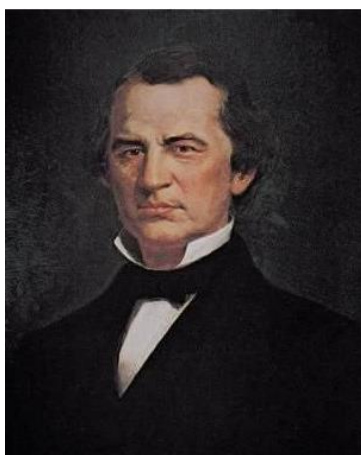
Lincoln's secretary was named Kennedy.  
Kennedy's Secretary was named Lincoln.

Both Presidents were particularly concerned with civil rights.  
Both wives lost children while living in the White House.

Both Presidents were shot on a Friday.  
Both Presidents were shot in the head.  
Both were assassinated by Southerners.

*Now it gets weird.*

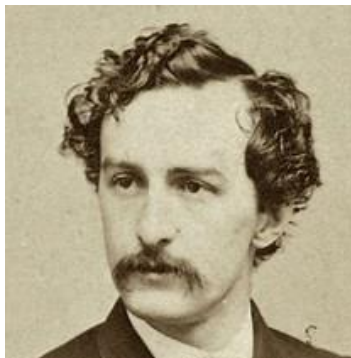
Both were succeeded by Southerners named Johnson.



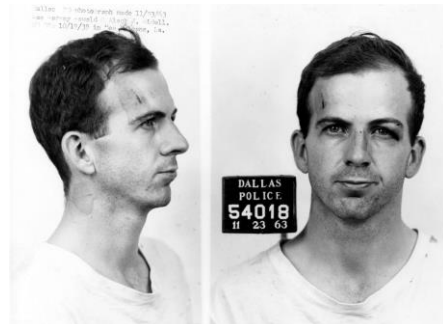
Andrew Johnson, who succeeded Lincoln, was born in 1808.



Lyndon Johnson, who succeeded Kennedy, was born in 1908.



John Wilkes Booth, who assassinated Lincoln, was born in 1839.



Lee Harvey Oswald, who assassinated Kennedy, was born in 1939.

Both assassins were known by their three names.  
Both names are composed of fifteen letters.

*Now hang on to your seat.*

Lincoln was shot at the theatre named 'Ford'.  
Kennedy was shot in a car called 'Lincoln' made by 'Ford'.

Lincoln was shot in a theatre and his assassin ran and hid in a warehouse.  
Kennedy was shot from a warehouse and his assassin ran and hid in a theatre.

Both, Booth and Oswald were assassinated before their trials.

*And, here's the kicker...*

A week before Lincoln was shot, he was in Monroe, Maryland.

A week before Kennedy was shot, he was in...?



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Contributed by Mike Mabbitt...

### Butch the Rooster

Sarah was in the fertilized egg business. She had several hundred young pullets and ten roosters to fertilize the eggs. She kept records and any rooster not performing went into the soup pot and was replaced. This took a lot of time, so she bought some tiny bells and attached them to her roosters. Each bell had a different tone, so she could tell from a distance which rooster was performing. Now, she could sit on the porch and fill out an efficiency report just by listening to the bells.

Sarah's favourite rooster, old Butch, was a fine specimen but, this morning, she noticed old Butch's bell hadn't rung at all! When she went to investigate, she saw the other roosters were busy chasing pullets, bells-a-ringing, but the pullets hearing the roosters coming, would run for cover. To Sarah's amazement, old Butch had his bell in his beak, so it couldn't ring. He'd sneak up on a pullet, do his job, and walk on to the next one. Sarah was so proud of old Butch, she entered him in a show and he became an overnight sensation among the judges. The result was the judges not only awarded old Butch the "No Bell Piece Prize", they also awarded him the "Pulletsurprise" as well.

Clearly old Butch was a politician in the making. Who else but a politician could figure out how to win two of the most coveted awards on the planet by being the best at sneaking up on the unsuspecting populace and screwing them when they weren't paying attention?

Vote carefully in the next election: You can't always hear the bells.

(If you don't send this on, you are a chicken.....no yolk!)

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Contributed by Augie Gray...

### The Telephone Call

*"Hello, Señor? This is Ernesto, the caretaker at your country house."*

"Ah yes, Ernesto. What can I do for you? Is there a problem?"

*"Um, I am just calling to advise you, Señor, that your parrot, he is dead".*

"My parrot? Dead? The one that won the International competition?"

*"Si, Señor, that's the one."*

"Damn! That's a pity! I spent a small fortune on that bird. What did he die from?"

*"From eating the rotten meat, Señor."*

"Rotten meat? Who the hell fed him rotten meat?"

*"Nobody, Señor. He eat the meat of the dead horse."*

"Dead horse? What dead horse?"

*"The thoroughbred, Señor."*

"My prize thoroughbred is dead?"

*"Si, Señor, he die from all that work pulling the water cart."*

"Are you insane? What water cart?"

*"The one we used to put out the fire, Señor."*

"Good Lord! What fire are you talking about, man?"

*"The one at your house, Señor! A candle fell, and the curtains caught on fire."*

"What the hell? Are you saying that my mansion is destroyed because of a candle?!"

*"Si, Señor."*

"But there's electricity at the house! What was the candle for?"

*"For the funeral, Señor."*

"WHAT BLOODY FUNERAL??!"

*"Your wife's, Señor. She showed up very late one night and I thought she was a thief, so I hit her with your new Ping G30 204g titanium head golf club with the TFC 149D graphite shaft."*

SILENCE.....LONG SILENCE.....VERY LONG SILENCE.....

"Ernesto, if you broke that driver, you're in deep shit."

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Contributed by Augie Gray...

### Best Golfer Jokes

# 10 -- Golfer: "Think I'm going to drown myself in the lake."

*Caddy: "Think you can keep your head down that long?"*

# 9 -- Golfer: "I'd move heaven and earth to break 100 on this course."

*Caddy: "Try heaven, you've already moved most of the earth."*

# 8 -- Golfer: "Do you think my game is improving?"

*Caddy: "Yes sir, you miss the ball much closer now."*

# 7 -- Golfer: "Do you think I can get there with a 5 iron?"

*Caddy: "Eventually."*

# 6 -- Golfer: "You've got to be the worst caddy in the world."

*Caddy: "I don't think so sir. That would be too much of a coincidence."*

# 5 -- Golfer: "Please stop checking your watch all the time. It's too much of a distraction."

*Caddy: "It's not a watch - it's a compass."*

# 4 -- Golfer: "How do you like my game?"

*Caddy: "Very good sir, but personally, I prefer golf."*

# 3 -- Golfer: "Do you think it's a sin to play on Sunday?"

*Caddy: "The way you play, sir, it's a sin on any day."*

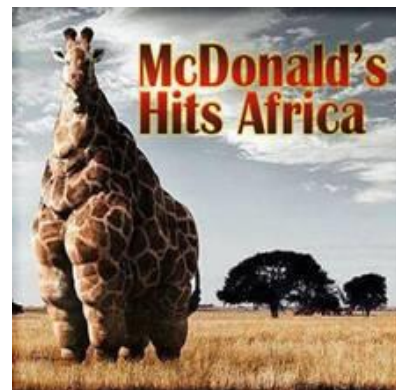
# 2 -- Golfer: "This is the worst course I've ever played on."

*Caddy: "This isn't the golf course. We left that an hour ago."*

# 1 -- Best Caddy Comment .... Golfer: "That can't be my ball, it's too old."

*Caddy: "It's been a long time since we teed off, sir."*

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Contributed by Doug Hughes...

### Ghost Story

This story happened a while ago in Dublin, and even though it sounds like an Alfred Hitchcock tale, it's true.

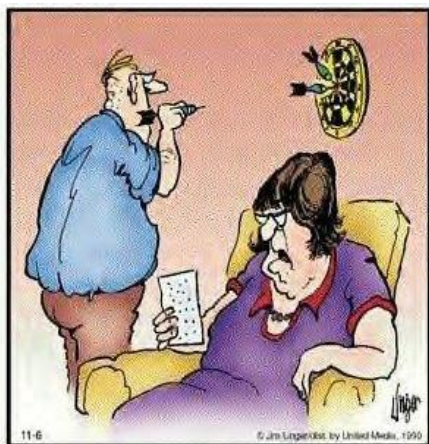
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John Bradford, a Dublin University student, was on the side of the road hitch-hiking on a very dark night and during a big storm.

The night was rolling on and no car went by. The storm was so strong he could hardly see a few feet ahead of him. Suddenly, he saw a car slowly coming towards him and stopped. John, desperate for shelter and without thinking about it, got into the car and closed the door, only to realise there was nobody behind the wheel and the engine wasn't running. The car started moving slowly. John looked at the road ahead and saw a curve approaching. Scared, he started to pray, begging for his life. Then, just before the car hit the curve, a hand appeared out of nowhere through the window, and turned the wheel. John, paralysed with terror, watched as the hand came through the window, but never touched or harmed him. Shortly thereafter, John saw the lights of a pub appear down the road, so, gathering strength, he jumped out of the car and ran to it. Wet and out of breath, he rushed inside and started telling everybody about the horrible experience he had just had.

A silence enveloped the pub when everybody realised he was crying and wasn't drunk. Suddenly, the door opened, and two other people walked in from the dark and stormy night. They, like John, were also soaked and out of breath. Looking around, and seeing John Bradford sobbing at the bar, one said to the other, 'Look Paddy, there's that fooking idiot that got in the car while we were pushing it!'

\*\*\*



"How come my photo's got all these little holes in it?"

\*\*\*

Contributed by Doug Walker...

### Joke du Jour

**NIGERIAN MAN DIES AND AUTHORITIES FIND \$27 BILLION IN HIS APARTMENT.**



**HE HAD BEEN TRYING TO GIVE IT AWAY FOR 15 YEARS BUT NO ONE WOULD RETURN HIS EMAILS.**

Today i went to toilet without my phone



There are 124 tiles in the bathroom



**Remember, It could always be worse.**



Hi! My name is StopThat...

**But sometimes they call me GetBackHere!**

Contributed by Doug Walker...

### Testing a Husband's Loyalty



A woman, cranky because her husband was late coming home once more, decided to leave a note saying, "I've had enough and I'm leaving you. Don't bother coming after me!" Then, she hid under the bed and waited to see his reaction.

After a short while, her husband came home, and she could hear him fiddling in the kitchen before he entered the bedroom. From under the bed, she watched him as he wandered around. Then he spotted the note on the dresser. He walked smartly to the dresser, picked up the note, read it, paused for a moment, then wrote a few words below her's.

He looked around the room, picked up the phone, dialed it, and said, "She's finally gone...yeah I know, about bloody time! I'm coming to pick you up, put on your sexy French-shit, I love you!" He then hung-up the phone, grabbed his keys and left.

The woman heard the car drive off as she crawled out from under the bed; seething with rage. With tears in her eyes, she grabbed the note to see what he had written.

He wrote, "I can see your feet. Stop being retarded! We're outta bread, throw the kettle on, and I'll be back in 5 minutes."

\*\*\*



"I told her, the day I do the dishes is the day the sky falls in."

\*\*\*



Contributed by Doug Walker...

**Nearly an Ex...**

One evening, after the honeymoon, George was working on his Harley motorcycle in the garage. His new wife was standing there by the bench watching him.



After a long period of silence, she finally said, "Honey, I've just been thinking, now that we're married, maybe it's time you quit spending so much of your time out here in your garage. You probably should consider selling your Harley and all that welding equipment; they take up so much of your time. And, that gun collection and fishing gear, they just take up so much space. And, you know the boat is such an ongoing expense; and you hardly use it. I also think you should lose all those stupid model airplanes and your home brewing equipment and what's the use of that vintage hot rod sports car?"

George got a horrified look on his face.

She noticed and said, "Darling, what's wrong?"

He replied, "You were starting to sound like my ex-wife."

"Ex-wife!?" she shouted, "YOU NEVER TOLD ME YOU WERE MARRIED BEFORE!"

George replied, "I wasn't..."

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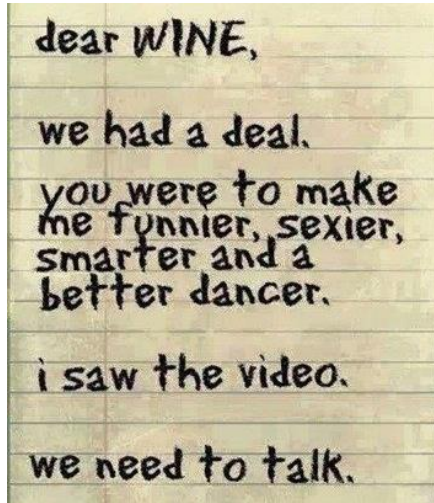
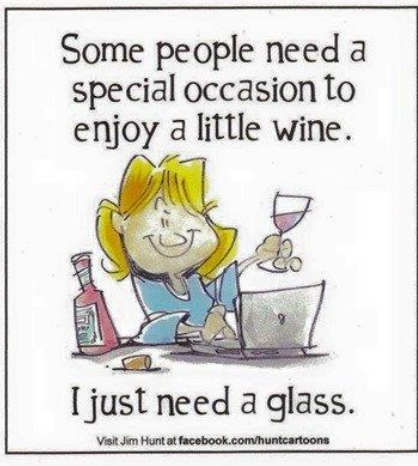


"You're looking a lot better today, Ralph."

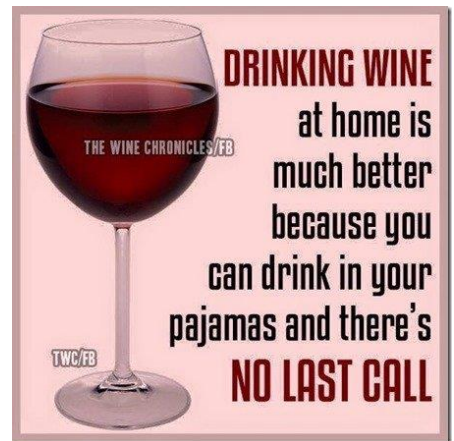
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Contributed by Doug Walker...

**Ode to Wine**



**Don't forget... alcohol always helps remove stress...  
...and bras...and panties.**



Contributed by Doug Walker...

**A Loving Husband**



Thinking back a few years ago, when my wife and I were on holiday in Florida, I remember Hurricane Matthew. I was ready for it, but my wife was not. When the wind reached a screaming pitch with the trees snapping and thrashing, the horizontal streaming rain, flying roofing iron and destroyed fences as well as the unnerving sound-levels, my wife was rooted to the spot. She stared and stared through the glass of the window. Immovable, with her nose pressed to the windowpane, the stark fear in her eyes will stay with me forever. Fortunately, as the eye of the storm arrived, and the winds temporarily lessened, I felt personally safe enough to open the door and let her in.

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Contributed by Doug Walker...

**Questions You Just Can't Answer**

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard when he lives in the jungle without a razor?

Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are flat?

Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they know there is not enough?



Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?

Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word 'lisp'?

What is the speed of darkness?

Why is it that people say they 'slept like a baby' when babies wake up every two hours?



If the temperature is zero outside today and it's going to be twice as cold tomorrow, how cold will it be?

Do married people live longer than single ones or does it only seem longer?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?



Who was the first person to look at a cow and say, 'I think I'll squeeze those pink dangly things here, and drink whatever comes out'?

Why do toasters always have a setting so high that could burn the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

Why is there a light in the fridge and not in the freezer?



Who was the first person to say, 'See that chicken there, I'm gonna eat the next thing that comes out of its bum!'

Why do people point to their wrist when asking for the time, but don't point to their bum when they ask where the bathroom is?

Why does your gynaecologist leave the room when you get undressed if they are going to look intimately anyway?

Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!

If quizzes are quizzical, what are tests?



If olive oil is made from olives, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, then what is baby oil made from?

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

Why do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?

Stop singing and read on...



Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet Soup?

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him on a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

Does pushing the elevator button more than once make it arrive faster?

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Contributed by Doug Walker

**From the Back Pew**

A pastor's wife was expecting a baby, so he stood before the congregation and asked for a raise. After much discussion, they passed a rule that whenever the pastor's family expanded; so, would his pay check.

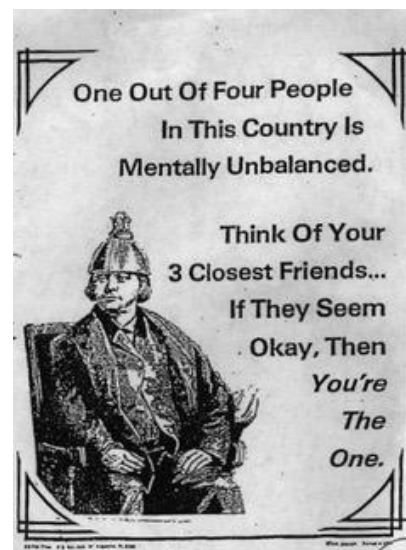
After 6 children, this started to get expensive and the congregation decided to hold another meeting to discuss the pastor's expanding salary. A great deal of yelling and inner bickering ensued, as to how much the pastor's additional children were costing the church, and how much more it could potentially cost.

After listening to them for about an hour, the pastor rose from his chair and spoke, "Children are a gift from God, and we will take as many gifts as He gives us." Silence fell over the congregation.

In the back pew, a little old lady struggled to stand, and finally said in her frail voice, "Rain is also a gift from God, but when we get too much of it, we wear rubbers!"

The entire congregation said, "Amen."

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## Members' Noticeboard

### Sat 6<sup>th</sup> - Sun 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018 Adelaide Gem and Mineral Club Annual Gem and Mineral Show

10:00am to 5:00pm (Sat) 10:00am to 4:00pm  
(Sun)

Payneham Library Complex, Corner of OG Road & Turner Street, Felixstowe, SA.

Features: Exhibits of gems, minerals, fossils, jewellery, lapidary machinery and more...most being for sale. Canteen open for light meals, snacks, and drinks.

Adults - \$4.00, Pensioner/Concession - \$3.00  
Children FREE under 12 with an adult.

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### Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sun 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018 Southern Rockhounds Gem Fair

10:00am to 5:00pm (Sat) 10:00am to 4:00pm  
(Sun)

17 Gerald Court, Christie Downs, SA.

Features: Exhibits of gems, minerals, fossils, jewellery, and more...most being for sale. Canteen open for light meals, snacks, and drinks.

<http://www.southern-rockhounds.websvte.com.au/site.cfm?southern-rockhounds/4/>

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### Sat 30<sup>th</sup> - Sun 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 Canberra Rock Swap – ACT

8:30am to 5pm (Sat) 8:30am to 4:00pm (Sun)  
Wagtail Way, EPIC - Exhibition Park in Canberra, ACT.

Features: Fossickers & dealers. Crystals, minerals, rough & cut gemstones, opals, fossils, lapidary supplies, jewellery. Sieve for sapphires. Food available - No entry cost

For further information in the first instance on any of these events please contact the Club's Show Convenor, **Norm Menadue** on (02) 6258 6631

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### Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sun 5<sup>th</sup>, May 2019 Murraylands Gem and Mineral Club Rockarama "Crystal and Craft Fair"

Collier Park, Palmer, SA.

Features: Exhibits of gems, minerals, fossils, jewellery, lapidary machinery and more...most being for sale. Meals, snacks, and drinks available. Public Entry to all the weekend events is FREE.

The Rockarama also includes the 2019 South Australian Metal Detecting Championships which will be held at Collier Park, Palmer, South Australia, on Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (Session 1 - Morning competition 10.30am - 11.30am, Session 2 - Afternoon competition 1.00pm - 2.00pm, and the competition prize presentation is at 2.45pm.).

MGMC Website...

<https://www.murraylandsgemandmineralclub.com/>

MGMC President (Kym): 0427 054 336

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#### Mineral Boxes and Flats Price List

(Prices may be subject to increase, due to the price of cardboard)

|      |                       |              |         |
|------|-----------------------|--------------|---------|
| AA   | 3.5 x 3.3cm.....      | per 100      | \$12.00 |
|      |                       | Per 10       | \$1.50  |
| A    | 4cm x 4cm.....        | per 100      | \$13.00 |
|      |                       | Per 10       | \$1.50  |
| B    | 5cm x 5.2cm.....      | per 100      | \$15.00 |
|      |                       | Per 10       | \$2.00  |
| C    | 6.2cm x 7.5cm.....    | per 100      | \$18.00 |
|      |                       | Per 10       | \$2.50  |
| D    | 7cm x 7cm.....        | per 100      | \$19.00 |
|      |                       | Per 10       | \$2.50  |
| E    | 7cm x 9.5cm.....      | per 100      | \$20.00 |
|      |                       | Per 10       | \$2.50  |
| F    | 8.5cm x 9.5cm.....    | per 100      | \$22.00 |
|      |                       | Per 10       | \$3.00  |
| G    | 9.5cm x 9.5cm.....    | per 100      | \$23.00 |
|      |                       | Per 10       | \$3.50  |
| H    | 13cm x 9.5cm.....     | per 100      | \$25.00 |
|      |                       | Per 10       | \$4.00  |
| I    | 13cm x 12.5cm.....    | per 100      | \$30.00 |
|      |                       | Per 10       | \$4.50  |
| Flat | 395 x 265 x 50mm..... | (lid & base) | \$2.50  |
| Flat | 398 x 290 x 98mm..... | (lid & base) | \$4.00  |

(All boxes and flats fold together, no staples required)

**Greg Vort-Ronald 0413796279**  
Email [luv2paint@iprimus.com.au](mailto:luv2paint@iprimus.com.au)

## Useful Internet Links

- 2018 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: [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...](#)
- 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...](#)
- NQ Explorers: [Click here...](#)
- Prospecting Australia: [Click here...](#)
- Shell-lap Lapidary Supplies: [Click here...](#)
- Southern Rockhounds: [Click here...](#)
- Tea Tree Gully Gem and Mineral Club: [Click here...](#)
- The Australian Mineral Collector: [Click here...](#)