

THE CMLC NEWS

The Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club Inc.
Newsletter for July 2022



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Website: www.cmlclub.org.nz
Facebook: Canterbury Mineral and Lapidary Club
Meeting Venue & Clubrooms: 110 Waltham Road, Waltham, Christchurch 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of the month [Feb. to Nov.]

General Meeting (7.30pm): July 14, August 11.
Committee Meeting (7.30 pm): July 21, August 18
Show Committee Meeting (6.30 pm): July 21, August 18
Micro Mineral Meeting: Tuesday evenings (7 pm)
Workshops: Every Tuesday evenings, 6.30 p.m.

The July Meeting: Our speaker will be club member, Val Lear. She will talk about cataloguing specimens. The micro-eye will also be operating; bring something to view with this fantastic microscope.

Kitchen Duty for the July Meeting: Val Lear, Glen McLennan, Charlie Thomas, Peter Vallance, JoanneWalton, Jacqueline Wharepapa, Zena Wilson and Morne Wium.

Auction at the July Meeting: .

Field Trip: July 9, 10 at the Scottish Hall, Oamaru. This is for the annual Gem and Craft Fair. It is well worth the 3 hours drive south. Even stay overnight and attend the following day.

From The AGM: The club committee has remained the same with the addition of Chris Thian. Many thanks to all Committee members who agreed to stand again.

The July Monthly Competitions

Lapidary: Polished lapidary work containing the colour green

Fossil: NZ Fossil shell

Mineral: NZ mineral under 5cm in size.

Alphabet Cup: AZO

Novice Section: Any rock you wish to enter (Anyone who has been in the club less than 2 years)

Bring and Brag: Be prepared to talk about it.

The National Show and Competitions (14-16 October at Riccarton Park):

Wanted: Quality donated raffle prizes for the show. Please bring these along to the June meeting and give to Val. Many thanks to those who have already donated.

Wanted: Show case displays. Thanks to those who have already agreed to do displays. We can still do with some more.

Wanted: Competition entries. You now have a competitions summary sheet, or can obtain one from our website: www.cmlclub.org.nz. Please give your entry form to David Macdonald at the July meeting. It would even help if you were to verbally tell him what you intend to enter.

Wanted: Lots of help from all our club members, especially for the setup, daily running and breakdown of the show. Val is organising the timetable for this, and will gladly take your name at the June meeting.

The Show Dinner: This will be held at Riccarton Park on the Saturday evening of the show. A booking sheet for this is available on our website. The cost of the dinner is \$60 and will be an excellent buffet.

Show Newsletter No.2: Everyone should have received this by now. If you have lost it, please go to our club website where it can be downloaded.

As you can see, there is still a lot to do, and only 3 more club meetings to go before the show.

About field Trips: Please make sure you have the correct gear for all field trips. Be prepared for all sorts of weather changes. Trip leaders will not allow people on field trips who are ill prepared for the weather and terrain.

Our club, thanks to Julian has done a lot of negotiating to access land administered by Matariki Forestry. This includes registration of vehicles used, planning agreements, and having a large public liability insurance. The club and Matariki will not allow individuals to access the High Peak area outside organised field trips. It has come to our notice, through our excellent communications with the company that some individuals have

attempted this.

New Club Members: Please make these new club members welcome:
Heather Hall and Stephanie Lee

Clubroom Additions: Currently the committee are working on extending the present glass display case to the wall on the other side of the main door and around the corner. This should be happening reasonably soon. Also to be done soon is another tin shed to be built at the back of the rooms. This will be to house the large show cases that are currently under the veranda at the front of the rooms.



Spheroidal Granite Boulder

GRANITE

Orbicular and Spheroidal

by ANNE NIETHE and J. LINEHAM

Earlier this year, John and Anna Baker found a rare spheroidal granite boulder on the Motueka River. I made 2 very lovely spheres from this material. I found the following article in The New Zealand Lapidary Journal, June 1968. (-Ed)

IN an earlier edition of this Journal (Rockholiday in Westland, Vol. 1, No. 2, page 6). It was stated that orbicular granite was to be found in the Opara River, a few miles north of Karamea. The infor-

mation was obtained from the Cawthron Institute, Nelson. Mr. J. Lineham has stated however, that it has never been found in that river. Nearly all the orbicular and spheroidal granite displayed in the Dominion Museum, Wellington; Cawthron Institute, Nelson; Canterbury Geology Museum; Sydney Mineral Museum and the Auckland War Memorial Museum, have been supplied by Messrs. Lineham.

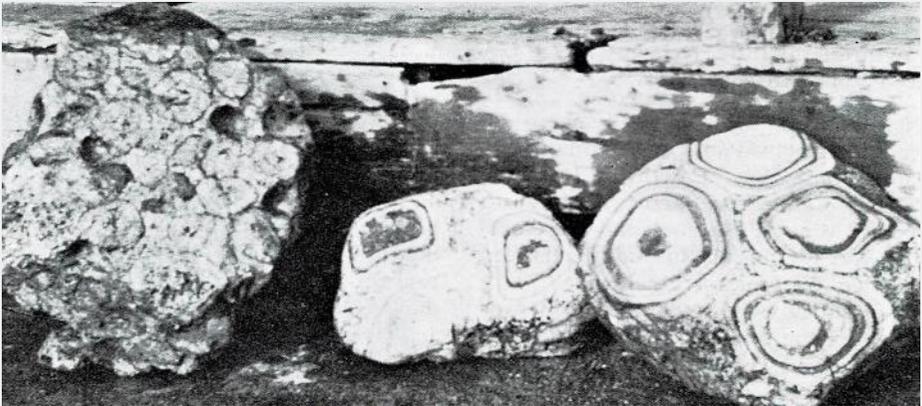
A quantity weighing about 8 cwt. was found by the late Mr. S. Allen but was not removed from the site. This was the first discovery of the type specimen. This was eventually covered by debris brought down in the earthquake of 1929. Later small pieces of from fifty pounds to 2 cwt. were found by Jack Lineham and sent to the Dominion Museum by his father. Jack Lineham found another boulder weighing approximately two tons in 1930 and this was brought out and shipped to the Dominion Museum. In 1934, Mr. K. McBean also found a piece, measuring about two by three feet in diameter. This was also given to the Museum just before the 1939-45 war. In 1944 another of Jack Lineham's nephews, Mr. L. O. Johnson, found a large boulder weighing five tons. This was sold to Dr. P. Marshall.

The latest piece was found about two years ago by Master David Lineham and weighed about ten pounds. Mr. Lineham refers to this granite as "spheroidal" when the rings are from four to eight inches in diameter and "orbicular" when they are up to three inches in diameter.

The orbicular granite is shown to the left of the photo and the orbs would be no bigger than three inches. It was first found in 1928 by Jack Lineham and sent to the Museum in 1931 with some of the spheroidal granite. A boulder weighing about two tons found in 1933 has only recently been brought out, but in small pieces. Another small piece of twenty pounds or so was lately brought out too.

Orbicular is not found in the same creek as its spheroidal counterpart but the localities are divided by a large spur.

Spheroidal Granite



Spheroidal granite is of limited occurrence and rare, being found as isolated boulders lying on a surface of ordinary granite (Karamea Granite). Dr. P. Marshall stated that the striking, large areas, roughly arcuate in outline, consist of clearly defined alternating rings of black mica (biotite) and white felspar (oligoclase). The photos show cross sections through spheroids consisting of concentric layers of the two minerals. Such perfection of structure is found in only one other locality in the world, at Kangasala, Finland. According to the British Museum these spheroids (Karamea) are the finest of all and it would be difficult to imagine a finer sample of this unique structure.

Dr. P. Marshall, former Professor of Geology at Otago University, explains the formation as due to variations in the amount of saturation of molten granitic magma by volatile substances. These varia-

Orbicular Granite on the left and two boulders of Spheroidal Granite

tions occurred at different stages in the cooling history of the magma and caused the crystallisation of successive shells of the different minerals. At first glance it seems that these spheroids are foreign bodies which by some freak of chance have become embedded in the granite. This, however, is not the case. In any one boulder the spheroids show a general similarity. There is in general the same number of rings in each spheroid and these facts indicate that without doubt each spheroid was derived from the molten magma from which the rest of the granite itself was formed. Apparently there was another outburst of igneous activity in the very late stages of cooling. This was indicated in some specimens by a grain of granite which when molten, penetrated and deformed the spheroids.

KARAMEA GRANITE

Even though spheroidal and orbicular masses are quoted as being rare, the possibility of finding other deposits should not be regarded as being remote.

Karamea granites occupy a large area about 800 square miles—of the Western portion of Nelson Province. The Tasman Mountains pass through this zone which has an ocean frontage of 28 miles.

In hand specimen the rock is quite coarse grained with pink and white felspar, quartz and a few specks of biotite. It is easily cut and presents a pleasant appearance when lapped. A high degree of polish is not easily obtained however.

Access from the North (Golden Bay) is best made up the Aore river. Surprisingly, no roads penetrate this beautiful country though there are a few tracks, but you may be content to pick some granite out of the river. In its upper reaches the river is brilliant white in the sun as the bed is full of white boulders.

If you do have the opportunity to go inland keep an eye open for orbs, pegmatites and "rapakivi texture." Rapakivi texture has been described from the Finnish granites. "In typical specimens large flesh-coloured potassic felspars form rounded crystals a few centimetres in diameter, and are mantled with white sodic plagioclase, in some cases rhythmically zoned with orthoclase."



New Zealand National Gem Show 2022

**GEMS, CRYSTALS,
FOSSILS AND MINERALS**

WHEN: 14,15,16TH OCTOBER 2022

**WHERE: RICCARTON PARK
RACECOURSE ROAD**

**ADMISSION: ADULTS \$5
CHILDREN \$2
UNDER 5'S FREE**



**PROUDLY HOSTED BY
CANTERBURY MINERAL AND LAPIDARY CLUB
WWW.CMLCLUB.ORG.NZ**

From Wikipedia:

Orbicular granite (also known as orbicular rock or orbiculite) is an uncommon plutonic rock type which is usually granitic in composition. These rocks have a unique appearance due to orbicules -

concentrically layered, spheroidal structures, probably formed through nucleation around a grain in a cooling magma chamber due to rapid physical changes. Almost one third of known orbicular rock occurrences are from Finland. The occurrences are usually very small.

Localities: Powell River Area, British Columbia, Canada

Cape Geology in Granite Harbour, McMurdo Sound, Antarctica

Concordia, South Africa

Karamea, New Zealand

Split Apple Rock, Kaiteriteri, New Zealand

Kuru, Finland

Matobo National Park, Zimbabwe

Mount Magnet, Western Australia

Savitaipale, Finland

Slättemossa, south of Järnforsen, Hultsfred, Sweden

Taylor Valley in Antarctica

Mullaghderg, County Donegal, Ireland

Peneda-Gerês National Park, Portugal

Sandia Mountains, New Mexico, USA

Pichor, Bundelkhand Massif, India

HETTIE'S ROCK & CRYSTAL SHOP

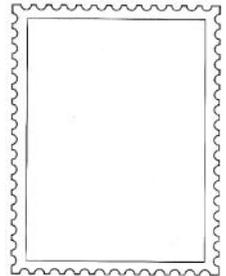
Birdwood Ave, Beckenham, Christchurch.

Also: Akaroa and Queenstown





Sender CMLC, 1 Arlington Street, Burnside, Christchurch 8053.



«Field1»
«Field2»
«Field3»
«Field4»
«Field5»

Monthly CMLC Competition 2022 to 2023

July

Lapidary: Polished lapidary work containing the colour green
Fossil: NZ Fossil shell
Mineral: NZ mineral under 5cm in size.
Alphabet Cup: AZO
Novice Section Any rock you wish to enter
Bring and Brag

August

Lapidary: Polished lapidary work containing the colour purple
Fossil Fossil crab (NZ)
Mineral: Mineral from Southland.
Alphabet Cup: B Y P
Novice Section Any rock you wish to enter
Bring and Brag

September

Lapidary: Polished lapidary work containing the colour blue
Fossil Fossil wood (NZ)
Mineral: Mineral from Nelson region.
Alphabet Cup: C X M
Novice Section Any rock you wish to enter
Bring and Brag

October

Lapidary: Polished lapidary work containing the colour red
Fossil Fossil Leaves (NZ)
Mineral: Mineral from Canterbury
Alphabet Cup: D W N
Novice Section Any rock you wish to enter
Bring and Brag

November

Lapidary: Polished lapidary work containing the colour brown
Fossil Fossil coral
Mineral: Mineral from Australia
Alphabet Cup: E V L
Novice Section Any rock you wish to enter
Bring and Brag

February

Lapidary: Polished lapidary work containing the colour orange
Fossil Canterbury Fossil

Mineral: Mineral from the North Island
Alphabet Cup: GQU
Novice Section Any rock you wish to enter
Bring and Brag

March

Lapidary: Polished lapidary work containing the colour white
Fossil North Island Fossil
Mineral: Mineral white in colour
Alphabet Cup: FKT
Novice Section Any rock you wish to enter
Bring and Brag

April

Lapidary: Polished lapidary work containing the colour black
Fossil Fossil fern
Mineral: Mineral black in colour
Alphabet Cup: HRJ
Novice Section Any rock you wish to enter
Bring and Brag

May

Lapidary: Polished lapidary work containing the colour yellow
Fossil A fossil from over seas
Mineral: Mineral yellow in colour
Alphabet Cup: I S
Novice Section Any rock you wish to enter
Bring and Brag