THE CMLC NEWS

The Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club Inc.
Newsletter for August 2023

President -- Malcolm Luxton Phone 033088874
Treasurer -- Lynda Alexander Phone 3476393
Secretary -- Tessa Mitchell-Anyon Phone 027 963 1235
Bulletin Editor--Craig McGregor Phone 0274209814
Club Mailing Address: 1 Arlington Street, Burnside, Christchurch 8053 **Email**: cmlclub@chch.planet.org.nz
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): August 10
Committee Meeting (7pm): August 17
Micro Mineral Meeting: Tuesday evenings (7 pm)
Workshops: Every Tuesday evenings, 6.30 p.m.
Geobusters: Sunday afternoons every second month.
www.geobusters.co.nz; Facebook.

The August Meeting: Our gust speaker will be Matthew Vanner who has just completed his doctorate in Palaeobiology at Otago University.
180 million years of the forest biome in New Zealand: New insights from fossilized wood

Forests have been the dominant vegetation type in New Zealand since Gondwanan times and their fossil remains (palynomorphs, leaves, fruits, seeds and wood) are found throughout New Zealand. The fossil wood flora of the South Island and the Chatham Islands is poorly known, with only four sites of Miocene and one of Cretaceous age reported in the literature. In order to further our understanding of these paleo-forests, fossil wood was collected from 25 new sites of Jurassic to Miocene age and identified using wood anatomical structures. Jurassic gymnosperm samples were collected from the Catlins area, Productus Creek, and Low Hills. Gymnosperm wood of Cretaceous age was identified from Amuri

Bluff, Conway River, and the Chatham Islands. Eocene sites included Boulder Hill, which yielded angiosperm legume wood, a first from New Zealand, and Hampden Beach, which yielded possible palm wood. Two Oligocene sites, Pomahaka and Cosy Dell, yielded both gymnosperm and angiosperm wood. Wood of Miocene age was collected from 14 sites. Gymnosperms included Araucarioxylon and Podocarpoxylon. Miocene angiosperms included Casuarinoxylon, Eucalyptoxylon, Araliaceae, Scrophulariaceae and Violaceae. These records provide new insights into the extensive fossil flora and forest ecosystems of Zealandia, though much remains to be investigated.

Do you have any petrified wood you would like identified? Bring it along to the meeting for Matthew to have a look at.

Kitchen Duty for the August Meeting: Wayne Eddy, Logan Flanagan, Peter Gibbs, Amanda Gray, Heather Hall, Lewis Hall, Robin Hall, Scott Hardwick, Thomas Healey.
Lay out the tea, milk, coffee and cups. Do dishes and tidy up the kitchen after the meeting.

August Meeting Auction: Some more material from the Brian Jones collection.

Field Trips: 12 August. Workshop visits:
9.30 am: John and Anna Baker: 171 Waimea Tce.
10.30 am: The Birdwood for morning Tea.
11.30 am: John Taylor: 14 Tinokore St.

New Members: Pleaser make these new members welcome. She Wan Cheng, Nick Stevenson, Ray Forbes, Mark McCallum, and Mark Billington.

Club Annual Show: **30 September/1 October. Only 2 more club meetings until the show.** Malcolm will be passing a board around at our next meeting to fill the jobs that need doing during the show. We need lots of volunteers, so please put your name forward.
Sales table space is now fully booked.
We will be operating a fossicking area, so please start storing all those unwanted rocks and offcuts. If you wish, we can store this material in our workshop.
Remember to bring your raffle donation to the August meeting Many

more are needed. Advertising the show has started. There is a colourful notice on the clubrooms fence, and Facebook posting has started. Please share this post. You can find it at the club Facebook site.

The New Zealand National Gem and Mineral Show
Have you entered the competitons yet? The schedule and entry form are available at www.nanzrmc.org.nz Final day for submitting your entry form is 31 August.

The July Monthly Competitions Results
Lapidary: Own polished lapidary work containing the colour pink
1st Craig Mc Gregor 2nd Colleen Hourston 3rd John Taylor
Fossil: NZ Fossil shell
1st E. Hitt 2nd David Macdonald 3rd M. Wium 4th J. Taylor 5th Colleen Hourston
Mineral: NZ mineral under 10cm in size.
1st John Dugmore 2nd John Taylor 3rd Colleen Hourston
Alphabet Cup: CVQ
1st Craig Mc Gregor 2nd John Taylor 3rd John Dugmore
Novice Section: Any rock you wish to enter
1st Colleen Houston
Bring and Brag
1st Craig Mc Gregor 2nd Tyler McBeth 3rd M. Wium 4th John Taylor

Monthy Competitions for August (Refer to the July newsletter for guidelines for the competitions)
Lapidary:..... Own Polished lapidary work containing the colour turquoise
Fossil..... Fossil crab (NZ)
Mineral: ..... Mineral rutile in quartz
Alphabet Cup:..... BMZ
Novice Section..... Any rock you wish to enter
Bring and Brag.....

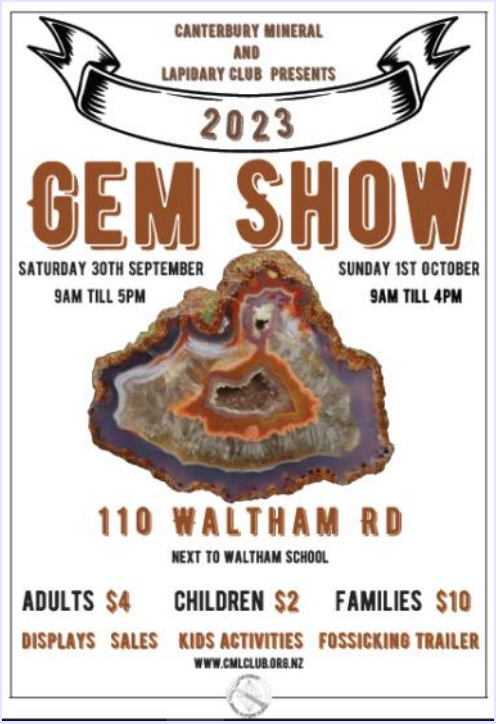
More on Field Trips: Please note that high vis vests are a requirement for our club field trips. You can purchase one from the club. See Robin Hall for this.
There is currently a health and safety issue at the Whitecliffs site. There is a large overhanging capstone that could collapse. This is currently being addressed, and will need to be sorted before any further trips into this area.

Workshops: These are currently in full swing under the guidance of John Baker and Owen Swann.
Some new machinery have been added to the workshop. A new cabbing machine, manufactured by John Baker and Tool Making Services. Many thanks to John for this.
A new Foredom flexi-drive.
2 new trim saws. Thanks to Christopher Thian and the guys at Hetties for getting this organised for us, and arranging the importing. It is much appreciated.

Dunboyne Jasper: This is a variegated jasper that can be found on a farm in North Otago. Technically it is palagonite.
From Wikipedia:
Palagonite is an alteration product from the interaction of water with volcanic glass of chemical composition similar to basalt. Palagonite can also result from the interaction between water and basalt melt. The water flashes to steam on contact with the hot lava and the small fragments of lava react with the steam to form the light-colored palagonite tuff cones common in areas of basaltic eruptions in contact with water. An example is found in the pyroclastic cones of the Galapagos Islands. Charles Darwin recognized the origin of these cones during his visit to the islands. Palagonite can also be formed by a slower weathering of lava into palagonite, resulting in a thin, yellow-orange rind on the surface of the rock. The process of conversion of lava to palagonite is called palagonitization.
Palagonite soil is a light yellow-orange dust, comprising a mixture of particles ranging down to sub-micrometer sizes, usually found mixed with larger fragments of lava. The color is indicative of the presence of iron in the +3 oxidation state, embedded in an amorphous matrix.

Palagonite tuff is a tuff composed of sideromelane fragments and coarser pieces of basaltic rock, embedded in a palagonite matrix. A composite of sideromelane aggregate in palagonite matrix is called hyaloclastite.

Many years ago, this material was found in North Otago by a rabbitter called Joe Abernathy. He named it after his house at Hampden Beach called Dunboyne. I did have the pleasure of visiting him several times: we are talking over 40 years ago. At the show in Oamaru im July, I was approached by 2 ladies who spoke to me about this jasper. In talking with them they turned out to be Joe's daughter, and his wife. His daughter has asked me to make a sphere of the material that she can gift to her mother to celebrate her 90th birthday. I am very privileged to be able to do this for them. *Ed. Craig.*



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

COMING EVENTS:

Canterbury Mineral and Lapidary Club Gem Show: 110 Waltham Rd, 30 September/1 October
National Show 2023 Marlborough Rock & Mineral Club: Marlborough Boys High School. 6 to 8 October.
Micro Minerals Symposium. 13 to 16 October at Teapot Valley near Brightwater.
You could make yourself a holiday trip in the Marlborough/Nelson area with these 2 events.
Taranaki Gem and Mineral Club Show: Labour Weekend.
National Show 2024: Mineral Club of Hutt Valley Wellington

Australia
Gemboree 2024: South Australia: Willunga.