

# THE CMLC NEWS

## The Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club Inc. Newsletter for March 2024



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**Website:** [www.cmlclub.org.nz](http://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 ): March 14. April 11  
Committee Meeting (7pm): March 21. April 18  
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](http://www.geobusters.co.nz); Facebook.

**The March Meeting:** There will be a talk with photos by Christopher Thian about his trip to the international gem shows in Quartzsite and Tucson.

**Kitchen Duty for the March Meeting:** Amanda Gray, Theo Greening Heather Hall, Lewis Hall, Robin Hall, Alastair Hay, Thomas Healey, Errol Hitt, Nick & Mel Horswell, Colleen Hourston  
Lay out the tea, milk, coffee and cups. Do dishes and tidy up the kitchen after the meeting.

**March Meeting Auction:** Some more material from Lewis Hall.

**Field Trip: To be announced at the meeting.** The committee is looking for a volunteer to organise longer/ weekend away trips to other parts of the South Island. Please contact one of the committee if you could do this.

**Auction: 23 March at the clubrooms:** This will be a large collection of material from Errol Hitt. Viewing starts at 9.30 am, and the auction will get under way at 10 am. An efpas machine will be available. Please come along for a good social time.

### **The February Monthly Competitions Results**

Lapidary: Polished lapidary work containing the colour blue

1st C.McGregor 2nd J.Taylor 3rd L.Day

Fossil Canterbury Fossil

1st L.Day

Mineral: Mineral from the North Island

1st J.Taylor 2nd L. Day

Alphabet Cup: XLS

1st L.Day 2nd C. McGregor

Novice Section Any rock you wish to enter

1st Gavin Pateman

Bring and Brag

1st Equal Tyler Mc Beth , Craig Mc Gregor

### **Monthly Competitions for March (Please refer to the Competition guide in the February newsletter)**

Lapidary:..... Own Polished lapidary work containing the colour brown

Fossil.....North Island Fossil

Mineral: .....Mineral gold in colour

Alphabet Cup: .....RKN

Novice Section ..... Any rock you wish to enter

Bring and Brag ..... Be prepared to talk about it.

**The Clubrooms:** A thank you to John Tailor and Owen Swann who have trimmed up the hedge at the front of the rooms. The grounds have also been sprayed for weeds.

Some bench seats have been acquired from Marshland School. These are now under the verandah and will be most useful for outside functions and barbecues. These have now been coated in polyurethane as weather protection. A big thank you to Kevin at WOOSH who helped me transport them from the school.

WOOSH received a grant to replae their old fridge in our kitchen. The new fridge is now in place in the kitchen.

(WOOSH is the before and after school and holiday programme that uses our room every day).

We are very grateful to everyone who clears up after our club meetings; especially putting the chairs and tables away. Please carry the chairs rather than drag them across the carpet.

**The Workshop:** Workshop classes have now begun for the year. The committee has reviewed the charges for use of the workshop. From 1 April, Tuesdays from 6.30 pm to 9 pm will be \$7, and from 8 pm to 9 pm will be \$6.

Bill Johnson and myself have become expert repairers of the cleaning



gun. It was not working, but after having spent quite some time pulling it apart, it is now working. I have used one of these for many years in my lapidary work and find it invaluable for cleaning up tin oxide and grit from material I am working on. If you are interested, you can find plenty if you Google search “textile cleaning gun. Caution: do not get fingers or hands in front of the water jet that comes out—it is a painful experience. If you order one online, make sure it is at least 220v.

A sub-committee have been working on health and safety guidelines and documentation for the workshop. A big thank you to those member of the sub-committee for getting this done.

I have been teaching the art of faceting at the Tuesday night workshops. So far several of our club members have learnt to cut stones. It is a one on one teaching process, and cutting a stone can take up to 4 weeks of workshop evenings.

A big thank you to John Baker and Owen Swann who continue to volunteer as workshop tutors/supervisors every Tuesday evening. We are very grateful for your continued work.

**Wanted: Written articles by our club members for this newsletter:  
Club field trips, areas of interest and/or expertise etc.**

**Being Caught Out:** An article by your editor, Craig McGregor  
Nearly 13 years ago, Catherine and I were visiting Edinburgh, Scotland.  
We were strolling along the street called the Royal Mile. You will notice



in this photo that there are some pop-up stalls on the street. When we were there, one of those stalls was selling a very nice silver jewellery with inlaid stones of a pretty green and white marble. I said to the stall lady that I did not want any jewellery but, did she have any rough material for slae that I could use for sphere

making. She said that she only had the stal owners display piece, and he was away in the Isle of Iona collecting more material. I made the comment that he would not miss it. So, she sold it to me for 10 pound. Several years later, I received a phone call from Jeff Bennett who used to own a butchers shop in Birdwood Ave (Now the Hetties workshop) saying his nephew who lived in Perthshire was visiting and he was keen on



rocks and minerals, and would like to visit and see my collection. His nephew, Richard, came and visited me and brought some jewellery he had made. I said to him that I knew that material and showed him the stone I had. He looked and said “You got that off my stall on the Royal Mile!” Now what do you think of that for a coincidence. Richard has just recently been back in the country and visited me again. He had been doing some collecting in Southland, and Nelson. I have been doing some cutting for him, and made a sphere for him from a very nice chunk of grossular garnet he found in the Roding River, near Nelson.

Pieces from my collection

Two Skies Design™  
"Collected with conscience, crafted with love®"

## SCOTTISH GREEN MARBLE

'SEAD UAINÉ'

**ORIGIN:** The highlands and islands of the west coast of Scotland, Isle of Iona, Tiree, and Ullapool.

**BRIEF HISTORY:** Over 800 million years ago limestone was formed under the oceans of Scotland. As plant life of the time died and settled on the sea bed the life-sustaining chlorophyll from these plants, coupled with the metamorphosis of the limestone resulted in what we now know as Scottish marble.

**THE ADVENTURE:** Scrambling over peat bogs, through clouds of midges to find the secret marble beaches and ancient mines.

**DANGER RATING:** ☹☹ Farmers and Midges, Distilleries and Midges, Hairy Highland Coo's and more Midges.

**WHAT THE FARMER SAYS:** Get off my land or I'll let the Coo's loose on ye.

**WHAT THE HEALERS SAY:** Scottish marble has been prized by fishermen for centuries. On the Isle of Iona they would not leave port without their lucky green gem. It has been used by healers to help the body return to a time unhindered by the stresses and pollution of modern times.

**WHAT ADAM SAYS:** To own a piece of Scottish Marble is to own a piece of Scotland itself.

**CHECK OUT:** [www.twoskiesdesign.com](http://www.twoskiesdesign.com)







Scottish Green Stone is a form of Marble with layers of green Serpentine. It formed about 800 million years ago in what is now the north west coast and Highlands of Scotland. It is also known as Highland Marble and Jewel of the Fae. It has been known of for centuries and prized both for its beauty in jewellery and decorative items and has long been considered to have sacred, mystical and healing powers.

Scottish Green Stone in Crystal Healing.

Scottish Green Stone has a deep connection to both



Mother Earth and to the world of the Fae and is an ideal stone to connect to the Faerie world.

It has long been carried and worn as a protective amulet.

It is a stone that increases confidence and improves feelings of self worth. Scottish Green Stone aids with dream recall and exploration, helping in remembering and interpreting messages passed to you during sleep.

For those who feel their mind has a 'mind of its own' it helps to gain mastery of your thoughts.

# THE 2024 NATIONAL ROCK & MINERAL SHOW

Discover the exciting and colourful world of Gems, Crystals, Minerals, Rocks and Fossils



- Bring your Rocks and Fossils for expert identification
- Dramatic displays
- Fun and interest for all the family
- Sales tables, Jewellery, Rock art, Exotic Specimens

**Expressions Whirinaki Arts and Entertainment Centre**

836 Fergusson Drive

Upper Hutt City

Friday 4 Oct. - Sunday 6 Oct. 2024

9am - 5pm Friday and Saturday 9am

- 4pm Sunday



Proudly hosted by the Mineral Club of Hutt Valley & Wellington Inc

## HETTIE'S ROCK & CRYSTAL SHOP

**Birdwood Ave, Beckenham, Christchurch.**

**Also: Akaroa and Queenstown**

Also: Akaroa and Queenstown





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

**COMING EVENTS:**

National Show 2024: Mineral Club of Hutt Valley Wellington

**Australia**

Gemboree 2024: South Australia: Willunga.