



The Mineralogical Society of Victoria
Incorporated
A0001471E

Newsletter No. 206

August 2010



Aragonite, Fyansford, Vic
12mm field of view

Print Post Approved PP332785/0015

The Mineralogical Society of Victoria Inc.
P.O. Box 12162
A'Beckett Street
Melbourne Vic. 8006

Patron: Professor Ian Plimer FTSE, Hon FGS, FAIG, Hon SGA, BSc(Hons), PhD

Office Bearers:

President:	Alex Blount	General Programs:	Dermot Henry
Vice President:	TBA	Special Projects:	Dermot Henry
Secretary:	Lia Bronstijn	Resources (incl Library):	TBA
Treasurer:	John Bosworth	Publicity	TBA
Excursions:	John Haupt	Committee Persons:	Jo Price John Haupt Bill Birch

Newsletter: Editor & Layout: Michael Hirst
Assembly and Circulation: John Haupt

Contact Numbers: Excursions	Micro-mineral Group	Mineral Appreciation Group
TBA	Jo Price	Alex Blount
	(03) 54 284 762	0407 879 097

Membership Details:

Joining Fee	\$5.00		
City Adult Member	\$25.00	Country Adult member	\$20.00
City Family membership (2 adults & children under 18)	\$35.00	Country Family Membership (2 adults & children under 18)	\$30.00
Student Member (full time)	\$15.00	Newsletter only	\$15.00

(N.B. - Country membership - more than 50 km from Melbourne G.P.O.)

Applications for membership can be obtained by writing to:-

The Secretary, Ms. Lia Bronstijn,
P.O. Box 12162,
A'Beckett Street,
Melbourne, Vic, 8006.

General meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month (except January) commencing at 8.00 pm at the Royal Society of Victoria, 8 Latrobe St. Melbourne.

Visitors are most welcome.

Newsletter of the Mineralogical Society of Victoria
P.O Box 12162 A'Beckett Street
Melbourne Victoria 8006 Australia

e-mail: ablount@pb.com.au

Internet: <http://www.minsocvic.websyte.com.au>

ISSN 0811-1855

© Not to be reproduced in part or full without written permission

© All photographs are the copyright of the individuals who submitted them



The Mineralogical Society of Victoria

Incorporated
A0001471E

Newsletter Number 206

August 2010

FORWARD DIARY

PLEASE NOTE:- General Meetings of the Society are now held on the second Monday of each month, 8:00pm at the Royal Society Building.

- Aug 9 General Meeting: Speaker – Dr Bill Birch / John Bosworth Topic: EJ Dunn and Contributions to Museum Victoria Collections / Brian Shelton & the Waverley Gem Club Show
- Aug 15 Mineral Appreciation Group – At Nunawading Lapidary Club Rooms, Silver Grove, Nunawading. Topic: Amorphous Minerals & Specimens AND “Bring your best example of each crystal group/system”.
- Aug 29 Micro Group Meeting – At Muriel & George Lysiuk’s home.
Topic: Minerals of strontium or zirconium.
- Sep 13 General Meeting: Speaker – Dr Gary Gibson, RMIT / Seismology Research Centre Topic: To be confirmed
- Sep 19 Mineral Appreciation Group – At Nunawading Lapidary Club Rooms, Silver Grove, Nunawading. Topic: Epidote and Axinite Groups
- Sep 26 Micro Group Meeting – At Volker Hoppe’s home. Topic: To be announced.
- Oct 11 General Meeting: Speaker – To be confirmed Topic: To be confirmed
- Oct 17 Mineral Appreciation Group – No Meeting due to NDLC Exhibition

MINERAL RELATED EVENTS

- Sep 11-12 Bendigo Gem Club Exhibition. Kangaroo Flat Leisure Centre, Browning Street, Kangaroo Flat
- Oct 16-17 Nunawading & District Lapidary Club Exhibition. Blackburn High School. Cnr Springfield & Williams Road, Blackburn North.

NEXT ISSUE

PLEASE NOTE:- Material for the October Newsletter to be with Michael Hirst by **September 23rd**.

FROM THE COMMITTEE

August brings us to the start of another financial year and, following the Annual General Meeting, details of the Committee members and positions are shown on the inside cover of the Newsletter. September and October will provide the usual Bendigo and Nunawading shows and the Society's chance to present ourselves to the public.



And on the topic of presenting the Society, June 2011 will see the Joint Societies Annual Seminar return to Victoria. The planning groups will be putting together the logistics of running the event and further details will be announced in the future, but any suggestions for activities or events would be much appreciated.

Our Short Talk Roster is off and running now and is included again below. Please check to see if you are scheduled for a future meeting.

We welcome new member to the Society, Richard Levett and hope you will find much to interest and inform you in the world of minerals.

Alex Blount
President

Special thanks to Jon Mommers (www.earthstones.com.au) for providing the printing services and allowing us to present the Newsletter in colour.

SHORT TALKS

Below is the roster for member's Short Talks at the monthly General Meetings for the remainder of 2010. Remember that the talks only need to run for around 5 minutes or so (10 minutes maximum please) and can cover any topic of a 'mineralogical' nature. And if anyone would like assistance with putting together a 'Powerpoint' computer slideshow, please let a Committee member know.

DATE	SPEAKER
Mon 9 August	Joe Francese
Mon 13 September	Ed Richards
Mon 11 October	Pat Marley
Mon 8 November	Peter Hall
Mon 13 December	Jo Price

EXCURSIONS

Forward Diary

No excursions are planned for the immediate future, pending the identification of suitable locations. As previously mentioned in this Newsletter and at Society Meetings, we rely on our Members to suggest new places to visit and let us know of any old favourites that you are keen to return to.



The proposed trip to the New England area in NSW will not be going ahead for the immediate future. Whilst there was some interest from members, the logistics of travelling that distance currently mean that it was impractical to go until we have some other localities locked-in to visit on the way.

However, we have word that one of the 'northern' Societies is planning a trip to the area and that any Victorian Society members who are interested in tagging along would be welcome. The trip may be

arranged on short notice – but any members who wish to be notified, please register your details with John Haupt.

PRESIDENTS REPORT – JULY 2010

Firstly I would like to thank the outgoing Committee and everyone else who has contributed to the steady operation of the Society over the past year.

I will try to mention as many of you as possible in the following report but please feel free to point out any omissions.

General Meetings

Bill Birch and Dermot Henry again coordinated a program of speakers and presentations throughout the year. We recognise the difficulties in finding appropriate speakers, sometimes on short notice, and that in today's busy world, people's schedules are often full and can change when most inconvenient. Despite these challenges, we saw a fine program of material. In case your memory, like mine, struggles to reach back to last year I shall run through some of those we hosted:

Alex Blount – Toxic Minerals

John Bosworth – Mines & Minerals of Leadville, Colorado

Dr Rick Squire – The Environmental Catastrophe We Had to Have

John Haupt – Rare Earth Minerals

Stephen Gallagher – 80 Million Years of Climate Change in Victoria

Dr Kia Wallwork – Australian Synchrotron

Dr Ian Grey – Investigation of Crystal Structures of New Phosphate Minerals

Ryan Eagle – Pegmatites and Minerals of Mount Wills Area

Tucson Mineral Show Video – Courtesy of Jon Mommers

Short Talks were presented by John Bosworth, Lia Bronstijn, Ian Strachan, John Haupt, Fred Kapteina and Judy Rowe. Special thanks again go to Ed Richards, Lia Bronstijn and Margaret Day, without whose assistance our General Meetings would certainly be less professional and suppers would be less enjoyable.

To encourage Society Members to get involved in the Short Talks – and to take the load off the 'usual suspects' – we introduced the Short Talk Roster.

Field Trips

Searching for an official Field Trip officer and for suitable locations for trips proved equally difficult this year. We thank John Haupt for looking after this important role and in the future we envisage it to be more of a collaborative task with assistance from the whole committee.

Despite a general shortage of appropriate locations, a number of trips were organised including:

An unofficial visit to the Lake Boga Quarry was organised at the last minute to inspect reports of recent quarrying activities – however, little of interest was found.

December: Christmas BBQ Brimbank Park – fine warm weather meant a wonderful day for the BBQ. Some mis-communication about which weekend it was on, and the size of the venue meant that some members were unable to attend. But those who did find their way to the 'secret picnic space' had an enjoyable day.

March: Anakies quarries.

April: Flinders – although the specimen material remains plentiful, the long walk up the hill and familiarity of the locations seems to be diminishing interest year by year.

The Joint Societies Seminar was held in Adelaide, at the Royal Society Rooms in June, and was attended by a number of Society Members from Victoria.

Newsletter

In his role as editor, Michael Hirst has continued to deliver this, our key communication medium, as a valuable publication on-time every two months. This year continued the publication of high quality articles by John Haupt and commenced our move into a more digital age with full colour printing and automatic collating and stapling. We hope that the change has reduced or removed a significant burden from the shoulders of those who have ably assisted us in past years.

Our thanks go out to Michael as editor, Margaret and Bernie Day, John Haupt for collation and distribution, and to all those members who have contributed. And a special thanks to Jon Mommers who has been allowing us to use his colour printing system.

Membership

The Society's membership numbers remained around the 120 mark. During the past year we welcomed new members: Janine Hurley and Dr Ian Grey.

Publicity, Publications and Resources

We presented our usual information stands at the Bendigo and Nunawading shows as our main exposure in the community. Our internet site has not progressed far from the initial layout, but plans are still in place to grow this and include more detailed references for Society Members and the general public. Even with the limited information present, we receive in the order of 10 mineral-related enquiries from the community each year through the website and John Bosworth has been undertaking the task of updating the information such as the Forward Diary.

Our publications continue to sell and some, such as Zeolites of Victoria and Gem Minerals of Victoria, have sold out. An updated version of the Gem Minerals book is in production by Museum Victoria and it is a credit to the Society's original publication that there is still great interest from the community.

I thank Jo Price for continued management of the Library collection. This remains one of our most valuable assets and resources and which the Committee is committed to develop for the benefit of all Members. Our collections of mineralogical journals, special publications and DVDs is always growing with new material.

Micromineral Collections

The three existing Society collections also continue to grow with donations from members, and the new collection of minerals from Western Australia was added following the work of Jo Price and the Micromount Group.

Special Interest Groups

Photographic Group

The photographic group remained in a holding pattern pending new projects, whilst members continued with individual activities.

Micromount Group

The micro-group met almost every month during the year with a consistent core of attendees and a diverse range of topics.

Mineral Appreciation Group

The mineral appreciation group met during the majority of months, again with a dedicated group of attendees who never failed to provide interest.

The Micromount and Mineral Appreciation groups also met for combined sessions on a number of occasions and plan to continue this plan on a semi-regular basis.

All members are both welcome and encouraged to become involved in any of the interest groups. Contact details for each group are provided in the Newsletters.

Society Historian

Margaret Day has continued as the keeper of the Society's archives. The majority of our new administrative documents and records are retained in electronic format and in future this should continue to help reduce the bulk of paper archives and also to make information easier to access.

Financial Report

For many years now we have relied upon the diligent work of John Bosworth to keep the Society's accounts in order. The task of looking after the finances is critical to the on-going future of the Society and we should all appreciate that we are in good and capable hands.

Secretary

I wish to thank Lia Bronstijn for taking on the role of Secretary and the levels of commitment and quality that you have provided through the year. Even with a steady schedule of travels, Lia always managed to stay on top of this, the most demanding and time consuming role in the Committee.

In Closing..

Overall, the past year could be thought of as a 'stable' time for the Society. We dealt with the uncertainty over our meeting venue and remained financially strong and viable in spite of increasing costs and global financial issues. We have a stable membership with continued enthusiasm and dedication.

But some will see 'stable' as the same as having 'stopped' or 'not progressing'. Personally I am comfortable with 'stable' – so long as we are providing what the Members want and expect. Many organisations focus upon growth and development for its own sake, without asking "why are we doing this?" Some organisations growth comes from expanding into new areas, even when those new areas aren't related to the original purpose of the organisation and aren't relevant to existing Members.

The real question here is "are we providing what you want from the Society?"

In June 2011 the Society will host the Annual Joint Societies Seminar with an overall theme considering minerals and the future. In looking to the future I see several key issues or challenges facing our Society and possibly other similar organisations:

- Membership – decreasing numbers and aging membership, should we be growing or focussed upon servicing our existing people?
- Relevancy – is the Society relevant to young enthusiasts of today? Has the internet over-run the need to meet and study minerals in person? What value should we place on printed references when they can become out-dated before they are even printed?
- Activities – field collection is only going to become more difficult, costly and possibly less rewarding. Studying existing collections and specimens will always continue, but how do we provide new challenges to Members?

For the coming year (and years), the Committee will be looking at these issues in more detail, but there is little point in a Committee trying to define a future strategy unless the Society Members agree with where we are going. Simply by being members of a mineralogical society, I'd suggest that we have a pretty impressive collection of the best minds and attitudes from the community. So we would be foolish not to make use of all that talent.

So, for another year, I would again like to thank all the members of the committee and all Society members for their contributions and continued interest in our beloved mineralogica.

Alex Blount
Society President

MUSEUM FUND

As hopefully members will know by now, the Society is selling a selection of mineral specimens donated by Ian Strachan. The proceeds from the sale are being held in the Societies museum fund, which is made available to the assist Museum Victoria in the purchase of specimens for their collection.

A selection of the material for sale will be presented at each General Meeting, and localities that will be appearing in the next few months will include: Australia, United Kingdom, India and possibly Namibia..

PUBLICITY

Micro Group Report

The May meeting topic was Type Localities – from anywhere.



Australian minerals tabled included very good mawbyite, francisite showing distinct crystals, and new minerals plimerite, birchite and edwardsite. On comparison the last two appear somewhat similar although the edwardsite crystals are more bladed than the acicular birchite crystals. Others seen included ashburtonite, cloncurryite, decrespignyite, dundasite, gartrellite, lakebogaite, marshite, miersite, paratooite, pittongite, priderite, raspite, segnitite, selwynite, and several more.

Some overseas minerals which caused comment included sugilite, Wessels mine, South Africa; wendwilsonite, Bou Azzer, Morocco; metavauxite with vauxite, Bolivia; tsumcorite and ludlockite, Tsumeb; lironite, Wheal Gorland, U.K.; euclase, Minas Gerais, Brazil; jordanite, Lengenbach, Switzerland; arisite, Aris Quarry, Namibia; prismatine, Waldheim, Saxony, Germany; uvarovite, Russia; and bixbyite, Thomas Range, Utah, U.S.A.

The list barely does justice to the array of minerals which were tabled, and we all agreed that this was a very good topic indeed with the benefit of giving some surprises when people commented that they had never thought that such-and-such a mineral was first identified from *that* locality.

At the June meeting we studied minerals from the U.K.

From Scotland we saw several zeolites – brewsterite-sr from the type locality, Strontian; analcime, chabazite, epistilbite, heulandite, levyne, mesolite, and thomsonite, from the Isle of Skye. Other minerals included lanarkite crystal sprays, caledonite, elyite, and wroewulfeite from Wanlockhead; kainosite-(Y) from Skye; pumpellyite, Isle of Mull; and grossular with epidote and thomsonite, Loanhead Quarry, Beith. From Northern Ireland there were – azurite from Tynagh; natrolite, Brown's Bay; cowlesite, Dunseverick, and garronite from its type locality, Garron Plateau.

Welsh minerals were well represented, with anatase bi-pyramids from Cwmorthin Quarry, and tabular crystals from Goddfa Ganol Mine; azurite, harmotome, synchysite-(Ce), realgar, tyrolite, and paralstonite from Dolyhir Quarry; synchysite-(Ce) from Ffestiniog; edingtonite from Dysgwylfa; fluorapatite from Margan Open Cut; wroewulfeite from Eaglebrook Mine; millerite from Bridgend; and hemimorphite from Cwymystwyth.

Lots and lots of English minerals were tabled, including boracite and hilgardite, Boulby Mine; gold, Hope's Nose; linarite, Penberthy Croft; alstonite, Brownley Hill Mine (type locality); chalcocite, Geevor Mine; connellite, Perran St George Mine; lironite, Wheal Gorland; jeanbandyite, Hingston Downs Mine; dufrenite, Wheal Pheonix; zeunerite, St Just; dundasite, Cornwall; jamesonite, Tresunders Mine; anatase with brookite, Shap granite Quarry; leadhillite, Caldbeck Fells; ceruleite, Wheal Maid; mendipite with galena, Somerset; and woodwardite, Cornwall (type locality).

Previously we've looked at these minerals over two meetings, so we shouldn't have been surprised to find such a large number of specimens tabled. The topic certainly didn't lack for interest or variety and could be one to revisit another time.

The Group welcomes new members. Our meetings are informal and tea, coffee and cake are provided. It's only necessary to bring your lunch, microscope and any minerals you may have for the day's topic.

No minerals? No problem – come anyway as many minerals will be tabled for all to see, but if you haven't attended one of these meetings before, do let the host of the day know you are coming so that there will be enough seats for everyone.

Mineral Appreciation Group Report

The subject of the June meeting was "Red Minerals" and allowed the group to consider some general aspects to do with minerals and colours. It was noted that the human eye has the lowest sensitivity to red light – which is interesting considering that red is something of a universal warning colour, such as its use for "Stop" signs. It was reported that the MinDat database listed some 1500 mineral species that could produce a red colour, but we also acknowledged that truly red minerals were not as common as expected. Many specimens that were selected as being red, were, depending on the type of lighting, were found to be more pink, orange or even of purple shades.

Some of the 'red' minerals that were presented included cuprite and 'chalotrichite' from Queensland, Northern Territory and international locations; rhodonite and marshite from Broken Hill; realgar from Chinese localities; and spessartine garnets from Broken Hill.

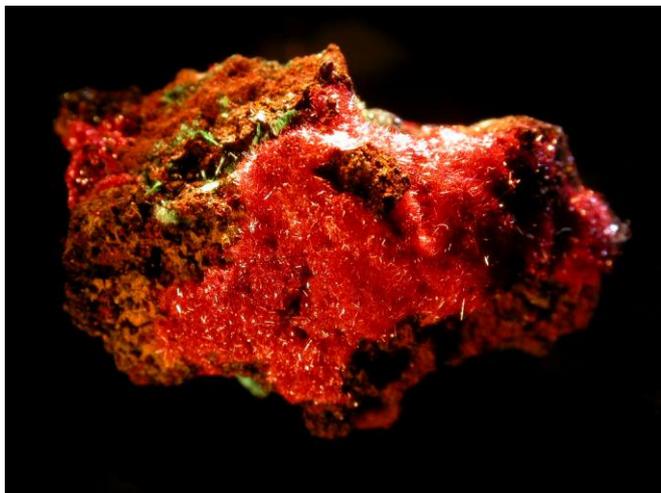


PHOTO: cuprite var chalcotrichite, Red Bank Mine, NT.

Some of the 'red-like' minerals that were presented, with some examples definitely appearing more red under different light conditions, included cinnabar from China and Kyrgyzstan; rutile from Harts Range; rhodochrosite from Peru, Africa and the USA; vanadinite in varying degrees of redness from Morocco; haematite in quartz from Tasmania; 'red' beryl, bustamite, crocoite, corundum (ruby), minium and wulfenite all in shades varying from purple, through pink to orange.

July saw the group again meeting with the Micromineral Group to study minerals of the amphibole and pyroxene groups. Mineralogically complex, these groups have come under a great deal of study and review over time and a number of different IMA papers and editions of 'Fleisher' were used to determine which minerals belonged in each grouping.

Mary Gani, having previously worked and researched with key minerals of these groups, provided us with a good background to the structural concepts. Both groups being composed of long chains of silicon/oxygen tetrahedra, the pyroxenes being single chains and the amphiboles being double chains with OH groups included. The structures being very strong and meaning that all but 1 of the asbestiform ('asbestos') minerals fall into the amphibole group. In the past these minerals were highly regarded for their strength and used in reinforcement of other materials such as asbestos cement sheeting.

Of the amphiboles we looked at examples of actinolite from Arkaroola; tremolite from St Lawrence, USA; pargasite from Vietnam; edenite / ferroedenite from near Lake Rotoroa in New Zealand; and kaersutite from Lake Bullen Merri.

PHOTO: actinolite, Finland. Photo courtesy Manfred Mader.



From a good selection of the pyroxene group minerals we saw examples of aegerine-augite from Dogs Head Tier in Tasmania and the Anakies Quarries in Victoria; augite from Portland, Victoria and ‘hornblende’ from Mary Kathleen in Queensland; enstatite (possibly) from the Anakies Quarries; ferrosillite needles in volcanic material from New Zealand; spodumene from Afghanistan; brown, sandstone-like kanoite from St Lawrence, USA; hedenbergite from Broken Hill, Norway and Sweden; diopside from various localities and chrome diopside in ‘olivine’ bombs.

Members attending this group enjoy looking through their collection for specimens to bring along and to learn more about their characteristics and mode of occurrence. The group highly encourages more Society members come along to these meetings to see an every-changing variety of different minerals on display.

The meetings are an open show and discussion format and all society members are welcome to attend. Meetings typically aim for people to arrive around 10:00am for a 10:30am start, allowing time for people to unpack specimens. If you wish to attend, have any questions or have suggestions for topics you would like to see covered then please catch up with Alex Blount.

RESOURCES, NEW PUBLICATIONS & REFERENCES OF INTEREST

If any Society members become aware of new publications relevant to mineralogy or existing items that they feel would be of benefit to members, please feel free to let a committee member know. Where appropriate, the Society can look to obtain copies for inclusion within the library.

New journals, publications and newsletters received include:

The Mineralogical Record – May-Jun 2010

“Madagascar”

Federico Pezzotta: Andradite from Antetetzambato, Madagascar

Tomasz Praszkiar & Asia Gajowniczek: Visiting Antetetzambato, North Madagascar

Tomasz Praszkiar: Calcite and zeolites from Sambava, Madagascar

Jeffrey A. Scovil: Tourmaline for breakfast: a trip to Madagascar

Tomasz Praszkiar: The Sahatany Valley pegmatites

Tomasz Praszkiar: The Ambatofinandrahana region

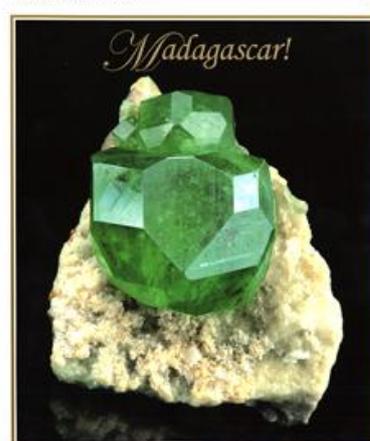
Alluvial Gold in Tasmania, Mineral Resources of Tasmania 11

Created from Chaos, a geological trail of 100 sites in Tasmania, by Peter S. Manchester.

Rocks & Minerals – May-Jun 2010

Renato Pagano, Federico Pezzotta, Giovanni Pratesi: Cristalli - The Adalberto Giazotto Collection

THE MINERALOGICAL RECORD
MAY/JUNE 2010 • VOLUME 41 • NUMBER 1



Arthur E. Smith: Illinois Mineral Locality Index
Marco Pasero, Anthony R. Kampf, Christiano Ferraris, Igor V. Pekov, John Rakovan, Timothy J. White: A New Apatite Nomenclature

The library is open for borrowing at every monthly meeting – so why not check it out next time.

The library shelves are now in approximate order. There are lots of fascinating books on mineralogy and related topics, just waiting for members to borrow and enjoy them – so, happy hunting and good reading!

SOCIETY MICRO-MINERAL COLLECTIONS

Broken Hill Collection – Alex Blount
Iron Monarch Collection – Alex Blount
Victorian Collection – Alex Blount
Western Australia – Alex Blount **NEW!**

The collections currently contain over 600 micro-mineral specimens from their respective regions. We are always looking for new donations of specimens (preferably mounted but not essential), especially from new or recent finds, but updates or multiples of existing species are also appreciated.

The collections are available to all members to borrow on a monthly basis and they provide an excellent way to compare your own material from field-trips with ‘already identified’ reference specimens. If anyone wishes to borrow the collections or peruse a copy of the catalogue, please catch up with the curators listed above.

WANTED

Mineralogical Record Back Issues Vol 2 No 2 & Vol 2 No 5 for the **MinSoc Library**.

Please contact any committee member if you can assist with these.

FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA

GEOLOGY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Meetings take place at 8pm at the FNCV Clubrooms at 1 Gardenia Street, Blackburn, 3130 (Melway 47 K10) Further information on the talks and excursions is available from Rob Hamson, 9557 5215 AH, robhamson1949@hotmail.com, Clem Earp 9885 1548 AH or Noel Schleiger 9435 8408 AH.



Details of field trips appear in the issue of the *Field Nat News* published the month before the date of the excursion. As a voluntary organisation funded entirely by our members’ subscriptions, we welcome visitors but there is a charge of \$2 per non-member for each meeting and \$5 per excursion attended to help cover our costs. Members of affiliated clubs pay \$2.50 for excursions.

Membership: Joint/Family \$85, Single \$65, Concession \$50, Student \$25. Further details from FNCV Office 9877 9860.

GEOLOGY CALENDAR

Contact Ruth Robertson 03 9386 5521 rutherob@hotmail.com

August

Wed 25th – Dinosaur Dreaming - The story continues – Speaker Dr David Pickering, Museum Victoria.

September

Wed 22nd - Supermountains and what triggered the ‘Big Bang’ in animal evolution – Speaker Dr Rick Squires, Monash University.

THE MINSOC TRADING POST

Society members can submit brief descriptions of specimens, equipment or other mineral related items that they wish to sell, swap or give away.

At General Meetings there are often some minerals for sale after the meeting.

This is open to all – feel free to bring your minerals along.

2010 ADELAIDE SEMINAR

The 33rd annual Joint Mineralogical Societies of Australasia Seminar was hosted by The Mineralogical Society of South Australia on 12 to 14 June. The venue was the Royal Society of South Australia rooms conveniently located behind the South Australian Museum in the arts precinct of North Terrace. This section of North Terrace contains several attractive sandstone structures which house, amongst other things, the State Library and the Art Gallery of South Australia

The rooms at the Royal Society are not particularly large and there is a capacity of 60 people in the lecture room. Registrations were at this level with nine Victorian delegates attending the Seminar. The Seminar ran smoothly and the organising team headed by David Cowen, Peter Kellar and Allan Pring are to be commended for their efficient efforts. The Seminar dinner was held on Saturday evening in a private room at the historic Earl of Leicester Hotel, Parkside which was built in 1859. It is a short drive from the city. David Cowen put his stentorian voice to good effect in conducting an auction during the course of the evening.

The theme of the Seminar was “Australian Collectors and Collecting 2010” with talks confined to 20 or 35 minutes. The list of speakers and topics were:

Saturday

Early Broken Hill Collectors – John Rankin

J H Dunstan and his collection – David Cowen

So you want to start a mineral museum – a short history of the Minerals Heritage Museum – Ron Young

Mawson’s Minerals – Don McColl

New minerals from old collections – Peter Williams

Early Literature on Australian Mineral collections – Allan Pring

Edward John Dunn; geologist and collector – Bill Birch

The Fletcher Collection at the Western Australian Museum: A 19th century gem – Peter Downes

Sunday

Mineral Collecting with the Canadian Museum of Nature – Joel Grice

A lifetime of collecting unusual minerals – George Stacey

The Simpson collection and other WA collectors – Alex Bevan

D A Porter a little known collector who concentrated on the New England district of NSW – Ross Pogson

Important mineral collections in the Tasmanian Museum – Ralph Bottrill

Brian Shelton and the Waverley Gem Club National Exhibition – John Bosworth

Mineral collections ... Why bother? – Dermot Henry

A swap and sell session was held on Sunday morning with plenty of interest shown by participants. Some of the recently found new species of kapundaite and IMA 2009-016 from South Australia were eagerly sought from Vince Peisley and Peter Elliott. A one day field trip to Mount Malvern was held on the Monday while an extended trip left on Tuesday to Paratoo and Mutooroo.

The 2011 Seminar will be hosted by The Mineralogical Society of Victoria with a probable title of “Mineralogy into the Future”. A small Committee will be formed shortly to commence working on a suitable venue and programme for the Seminar.

THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INCORPORATED

A0001471E

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010

INCOME

2008/09	Particulars	2009/10		
		General	Books	Total
20.00	Joining Fees	25.00		25.00
610.00	Subscriptions:			
	City	575.00		
515.00	City Family	480.00		
680.00	Country	590.00		
350.00	Country Family	360.00		
-	Student	15.00		
		2,020.00		2,020.00
509.70	Door Fees	810.40		810.40
2,777.89	Interest	2,091.41		2,091.41
74.00	Raffle	25.00		25.00
120.00	Zeolite Book Sales	-		
(52.10)	Less: Cost of Books - 3 @ \$10.42	-		-
252.03	Phosphate Book Sales - Soft Cover	281.00		
(216.00)	Less: Cost of Books - 8 @ \$12.00	(192.00)		89.00
-	Phosphate Book Sales - Hard Cover	-		
-	Less: Cost of Books - 1 @ \$20.00	(20.00)	(20.00)	(20.00)
1,463.36	Gem Mineral Book Sales - Soft Cover	1,164.65		
(996.20)	Less: Cost of Books - 15 @ \$14.65	(791.10)	373.55	373.55
-	Gem Mineral Book Sales - Hard Cover	50.00		
-	Less: Cost of Books - 1 @ \$25.00	(25.00)	25.00	25.00
80.00	Minerals of Broken Hill	-		
(42.35)	Less: Cost of Books - 3 @ \$42.35	-		-
83.95	Book/CD postage		75.25	75.25
28.00	Postcard/CD Sales	20.00		20.00
57.28	Surplus on Fleischer sales	-		-
\$6,314.56	TOTAL INCOME	\$4,991.81	\$542.80	\$5,534.61

EXPENDITURE

2008/09	Particulars	2009/10		
		General	Books	Total
313.89	Insurance: Public Liability	332.83		332.83
135.90	Stationery/Postage	127.40	79.90	207.30
63.40	Newsletter - Stationery	8.00		8.00
486.42	Newsletter - Postage	595.10		595.10
337.30	Newsletter - Printing	720.77		720.77
123.00	PO Box Rental	130.00		130.00
164.65	Meeting Expenses - Supper etc.	320.00		320.00
1,815.00	Royal Society of Victoria - Theatre Hire	2,415.00		2,415.00
536.97	Library Purchases/Binding	188.49		188.49
158.60	Audit/Incorporation Expenses	120.00		120.00
1,200.00	Write down Phosphate Books soft cover		-	-
58.30	Miscellaneous	25.00		25.00
749.30	Depreciation	383.00		383.00
\$6,142.73	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$5,365.59	\$79.90	\$5,445.49
\$171.83	NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(\$373.78)	\$462.90	\$89.12

THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INCORPORATED

A0001471E

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2010

	2010	2009
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank - ANZ Interest Bearing Cheque Account	709.00	1,336.26
- J B Were Cash Management Trust	6,503.71	4,842.86
Petty Cash	100.00	100.00
J B Were Deposit Notes 6.10% due 18 June 2010	12,769.91	11,715.52
ESANDA Finance - Debentures 3.75% due 1 July 2010	12,000.00	12,000.00
CommInvest Term Deposit 5.35% due 23 November 2010	10,000.00	10,000.00
Debtors	1,159.46	1,948.93
Prepayments - General	483.08	415.38
Inventories		
Phosphate Books - Hard Cover 28 @ \$20.00	560.00	580.00
Phosphate Books - Soft Cover 55 @ \$12.00	660.00	852.00
Gem Minerals - Hard Cover 2 @ \$25.00	50.00	75.00
Gem Minerals - Soft Cover	-	791.10
Minerals of Broken Hill 6 @ \$42.35	254.12	254.12
Total Current Assets	45,249.28	44,911.17
Fixed Assets		
Slide Projector/Cabinet/Showcase/Lib Cupboard	2,605.00	2,605.00
Less: Depreciation	(2,605.00)	(2,605.00)
Data Projector	1,098.90	1,098.90
Less: Depreciation	(1,098.90)	(1,098.90)
Laptop Computer	1,147.85	1,147.85
Less: Depreciation	(1,037.00)	(654.00)
Total Fixed Assets	110.85	493.85
TOTAL ASSETS	45,360.13	45,405.02
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Subscriptions Paid in Advance	1,130.00	895.00
Creditors	92.36	261.37
Museum Fund - General	220.24	420.24
Dookie Mineralogical Reserve Funds held in trust	257.05	257.05
Total Current Liabilities	1,699.65	1,833.66
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,699.65	1,833.66
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$43,660.48	\$43,571.36
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
Opening balance	43,571.36	43,399.53
Surplus /(Deficit) for year	89.12	171.83
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS	\$43,660.48	\$43,571.36

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010**

1. Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared on an historical basis with accruals and prepayments calculated where appropriate.

2. Depreciation

Depreciation calculations are made for all non-current assets using the straight line method after giving due regard for the remaining life and residual value of the individual asset. The resulting annual calculation has been shown as a charge in the Income and Expenditure Statement.

STATEMENT BY THE TREASURER

I, John Bosworth, being the person responsible for the preparation of the financial statements of The Mineralogical Society of Victoria Incorporated for the year ended 31 March 2010, consisting of the Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Statement and accompanying notes are drawn up so as to present fairly the financial position of the Society at 31 March 2010.

Dated at Wantirna South this 21st day of April 2010

Signed
John Bosworth

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

Scope

I have audited the financial report of The Mineralogical Society of Victoria Inc. for the year ended 31 March 2010. The financial report includes the Receipts and Payments Statement, Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet, Membership Register and accompanying notes of the Society.

The Society's Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and information contained therein. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of the Society.

The audit has been conducted to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether the financial report is presented fairly so as to present a view consistent with my understanding of the Society's financial position, and performance as presented by the results of their operations and their cash flows.

No physical check was made of the existence of the petty cash and non-current assets listed on the balance sheet.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report of The Mineralogical Society Inc. is properly drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the Society's financial position as at 31 March 2010 and of their performance for the year ended on that date.

Signed
Michael Caruana CPA
Date: 10 July 2010

SOME MINES AND MINERALS OF EASTERN VICTORIA

Part 2

by John Haupt

Accommodation Creek Copper Mine, Deddick

This mine is located approximately 2.5km south of the small settlement of Deddick. The deposit was discovered in the late 1800s and it was opened as a small prospect on a gossan outcrop with traces of malachite and azurite. Two adits were driven onto the ore seams in 1920 and a small amount of copper ore was produced. At that time it was known as the Mount Bowen Copper Mine. In 1959 small scale mining was commenced by the Victorian Refining and Smelting Company Pty Ltd (a grand name!), with the lease later transferred to Gippsland Minerals. The deposit was then known as the Black Snake Copper Mine. They conducted drilling of the deposit and operated the mine on a larger scale in 1969-70. The copper was a relatively low grade and the long distance for transporting the ore concentrates, coupled with a fall in the copper price, resulted in its closure in 1971.

The mine is at the northwestern end of a belt of Ordovician shales and sandstones which are intruded in the north and west by the Early Devonian Deddick Granodiorite. The granodiorite contact is 200 m west of the mine and tongues of granite were encountered in the mine. The sediments have been metamorphosed to quartzites and hornfels. The ore veins occur as irregular lenses along two shear zones of quartz and quartzite, and are between 2 and 14 m wide.

The mine was originally worked by an open cut on the gossan outcrop and several small adits. Later workings were accessed by a main adit at creek level with an internal shaft to a lower level of drives, 31m (100 ft) below the adit level. The ore mainly consisted of chalcopyrite in a gangue of quartz, barite and calcite. A dump of unprocessed ore from the mine was left near the main road and was used by the Park rangers on the tracks in the Snowy River campgrounds at McKillops Bridge. Most of the specimens photographed were collected from the ore dump. At that time it was also possible to pick up an occasional specimen from the tracks in the campground.

Minerals

The main mineral specimens collected were calcite and pyrite. Chalcopyrite is disseminated throughout the ore, but rarely seems to occur as crystals. Malachite and azurite were reported to have been common in the gossan, but only a few small specimens of malachite have been collected from the dumps, mostly occurring as a coating on calcite. Attractive clusters of calcite crystals occur in fractures and cavities in the shear zones. It is commonly associated with pyrite crystals, a combination of the two making attractive specimens. Unfortunately the decomposition of pyrite whilst on the dumps spoiled what would have been many fine specimens. Siderite occurs as small rhombs of pale cream or orange crystals. Pyrite appears to have crystallized freely with the calcite and occurs as cubes and octahedral crystals and a combination of both.

References

Cochrane, G.W., 1982: Copper, Lead, Zinc and Barium Deposits of Victoria. *Bulletin of the Geological Survey of Victoria*, 61, 154.

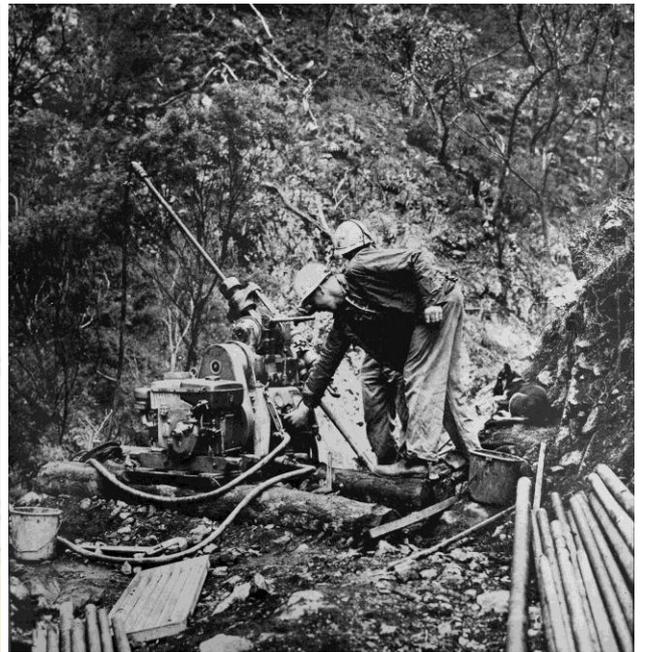
Dunn, E.J., 1909: Mount Deddick and Accommodation Creek, East Gippsland. *Records of the Geological Survey of Victoria*, 3 (1), 78-79.

Baragwanath, W., 1937: Copper Lode, Accommodation Creek, Jingallala. *Records of the Geological Survey of Victoria*, 5 (4), 453-455.

Bell, G., 1964: The Black Snake Copper Mine. *Geological Survey of Victoria, Unpublished Report 1964/62*. 4p.



Locality Map - Accommodation Creek Copper Mine.



Drilling at the Accommodation Creek Copper Mine c1969.



Prospecting party at Deddick, 1909.
Photo: Pictures Collection, State Library of Victoria.

The Accommodation Creek Copper Mine workings in 1984.

Below Left: Adit entrance.
Below: Opencut

Photos: J. Haupt.



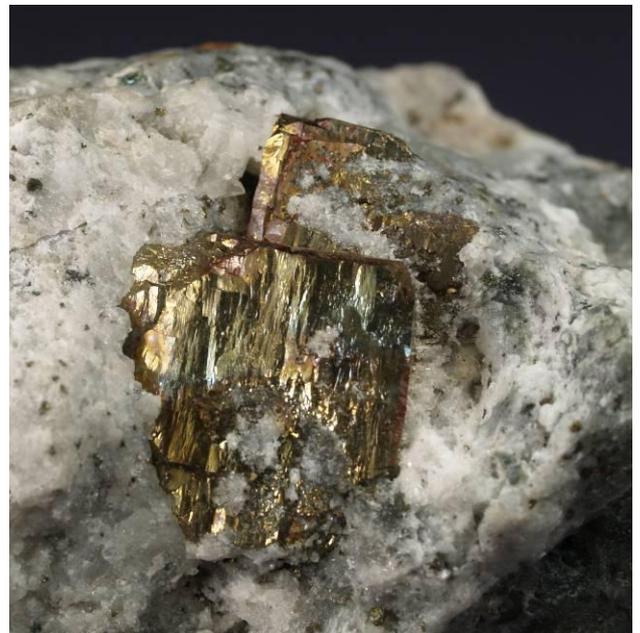


Remains of the processing plant at Deddick in 1984.

All Photos: J. Haupt.



Pyrite crystal intergrowth showing a combination of cubic and octahedral forms. The crystals are approx. 10 mm. Specimen: Museum Victoria M36705.



Striated pyrite cubes, 10 mm across.

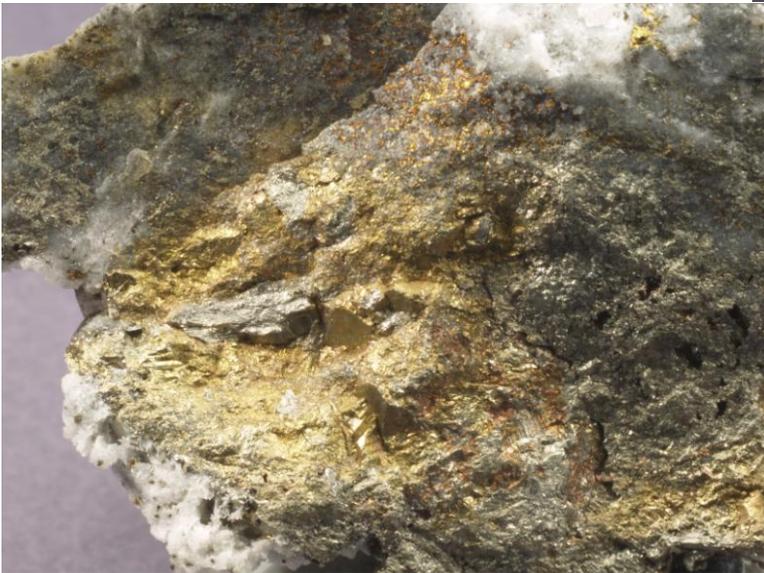
Right: Close-ups showing the cubic-octahedral crystal growth. FOV 5 mm & 2 mm.





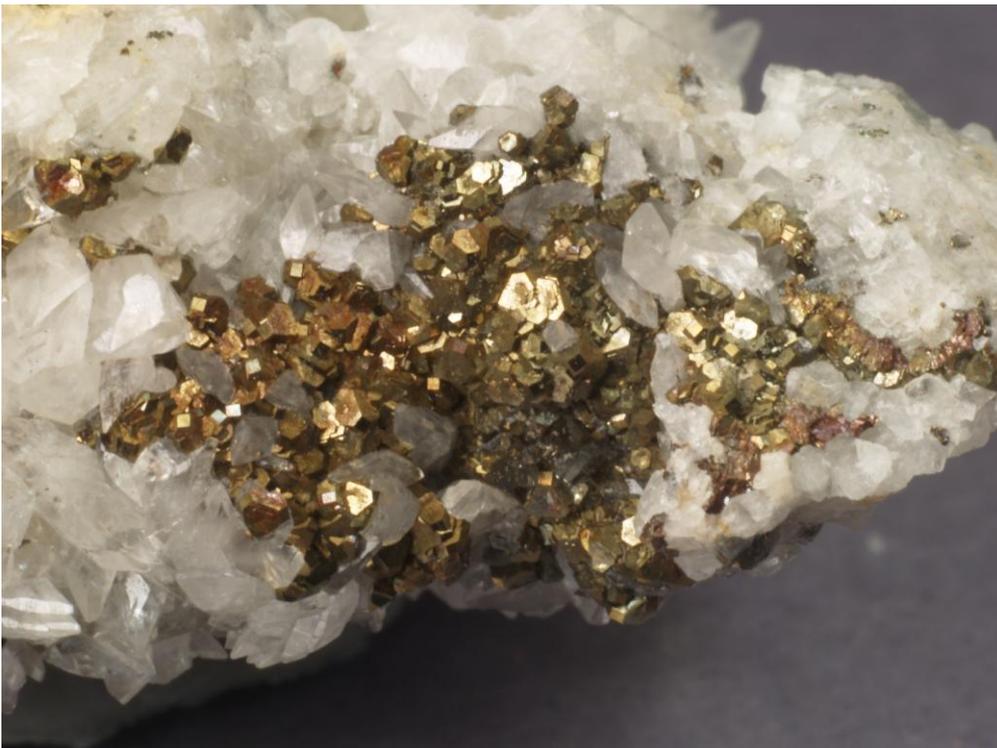
Above left: Pyrite crystal group, 6 cm across.

Above right: Calcite crystals lining a cavity in the ore vein. Specimen is 4 cm tall.



Left: Chalcopyrite ore vein, 4 cm across.

Below: Cubic and octahedral crystals of pyrite on calcite, 2 cm across.





Above: Pink calcite crystals in an ore vein. The specimen is 4 cm across.

Above right: Siderite rhombs on quartz, 8 mm FOV.

Left: Malachite crystals. 2mm FOV. Photo: F. Robinson.

Below: Cluster of calcite crystals. The largest crystal is 3 cm.

