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SUSSEX MINERAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY

www.smls.org.uk

" The Society was founded in August 1972 with the object of increasing the knowledge and experience of its members in rock, mineral, gemstone and fossil collecting and their cutting, polishing and preparation for jewellery and display"

SOCIETY OFFICERS

Chairman and treasurer:	Trevor Devon
Vice-chairman	Nick Hawes
Secretary	Colin Brough

OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

John Burgess	Helena Carter	Terry Denney
Peter Hay	Caroline May	Jo & Ivan Tingley

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

Field trip Co-ordinator:	John Burgess
Journal Editor	John Pearce
Show Organisers	Mark Oddy, Trevor Devon and Colin Brough
Librarian	Terry Denney
Technical Adviser (Minerals)	John Hall
Technical Adviser (Lapidary)	Derek Underdown
Circulation of Journals	Pam Pearce
Equipment Loans Co-ordinator	
Web Master	Gary Atkinson

SOCIETY SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are: £13.00 for first member in a family (£10 for "online members")
 £11.00 for second member of the same family (£8 for "online")
 £11.00 for associate members (£8 for online")
 £6.50 for student members (£4 for "online")
(no family need pay more than £24.00) - and become payable on 1st August each year.
Persons up to 17 years of age and persons taking full-time study up to 21 years of age may opt for student membership.
Persons living over 60 miles from Haywards Heath may opt for associate membership.
Anyone joining the Society after January 31st pays half the appropriate annual subscription.

MEETINGS

Meetings are normally held on the first Friday of each month at the Age Concern Hall, attached to Clair Hall, Haywards Heath from 7.30 - 10.30

Chairman & treasurer:	F/Trip Coordinator:	Secretary:
Trevor Devon	John Burgess	Colin Brough
Battle Barn Farm	The Old School	1 William Allen Lane
Sedlescombe	168 North Cray Road	Lindfield
Battle	Sidcup	Haywards Heath
EAST SUSSEX	KENT	WEST SUSSEX
TN33 ORL	DA14 5EL	RH16 2SA
01424 870402	02083 090367	01444 483041

BMS SUSSEX BRANCH
Study evening on Friday 26th October 2012

This was our second meeting in 2012. At our first meeting in March we agreed that members of the group would bring a number of their favourite micros to the next meeting. This would allow us to share some of our special micros with other members of the group. It would also free-up John Hall who was due to give a talk at our November SMLS general meeting on **MICROMOUNTS**.

The only problem we encountered was that we had far too many specimens to look at, so we quickly decided to hold back half of the micros for our next meeting in March 2013.

Participants brought in a wide variety of micros, which included:

- Some one-off individual mineral specimens;
- Minerals collected on SMLS field trips in the UK and overseas;
- Zeolites with interesting shapes and twins. Very interesting but not easy to analyse even with explanatory notes;
- Micros which had been winners of the Micromineral class in the SMLS annual Competition;
- Hard rock fragments from the Hannebacher Ley quarry in the Eifel, the type locality for hannebachite, (some of us had visited this site on a field trip to the Eifel earlier in the year). This mineral is shaped like a church steeple, a little like alstonite. It is a water soluble sulphite. We were invited to try and find some of this mineral in the fragments.

A very successful and interesting evening which produced even more discussion than usual between participants.

John Pearce

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SMLS MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

There will be no new paper SMLS directory published. The directory is on the members' section of the SMLS website. This has considerable advantages as it is continuously updated as new information is obtained. Please remember when accessing the members' section on the SMLS website:

USER NAME JohnSmith (no spaces and capital "J" capital "S")
PASSWORD bestbeer (lower case no spaces)

Please also note that the SMLS Competition classes and rules are included in the Members' Section of the SMLS website, as well as a table of all Competition winners since the beginning.

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PETROLOGICAL MICROSCOPE FOR SALE, including a set of Open University rock thin sections. £125.00

Apply to John Pearce

THE SUSSEX MINERAL SHOW 2012

Whether it was down to the recession or the clash with the GA Reunion in London, numbers were a bit down this year with some 80 SMLS members and 520 visitors attending the show on Saturday November 10th. Nevertheless a very good “buzz” about the place was noted by several people and the returned visitors’ questionnaires were uniformly very positive about this year’s Show. We missed a few of our regular dealers, GAC Fossils, Greenside Minerals, Rohinton Mazda and Harlequin Minerals, although David Whipp reappeared with Steve and Christine Rust representing Ian Bruce’s Crystal Classics. As a result we welcomed new dealers Phil Chen and Steve Warren, while Peter Moore returned to do a “one year stand” disposing of some of his surplus specimens. Roger Le Voir joined us to man a Rockwatch stand this year in the important role of encouraging youngsters to share in our passion for minerals. Our usual show events were again fielded: two mineral displays, the UV mineral displays, three illustrated talks by notable speakers, the Junior workshop and the mineral competition, all making the SMLS an unique annual event in the country. These events are recorded more fully below by our roving reporters.

Demonstrations and Displays

The Junior Workshops were very busy this year with Jo and Ivan Tingley hosting the popular gold panning, and Terry Denney providing a “rock hunt” with mineral specimens won from drawing a playing card. We also included a UV self-exploration cabinet in the same room which caused some congestion at times, until we opened up another door into the room so that the children could get to the serious fun of gold panning! James Langdon kindly returned again to demonstrate the art and skill of lapidary. This year we managed to concentrate the UV displays into two cabinets in just the one room – providing more space for the visitors: thanks again to the Richard Belson team of Martin Stolworthy, Gavin Malcolm, Chris Marsh and Michael Doel for providing the equipment and mineral specimens for these stunning displays.

The display of Faroes’ minerals (Fig. 10) and extracts from the UKJMM article on the SMLS trip in 2011 created a lot of interest and several visitors commented on the quality of the specimens that had been collected.

A selection of 24 minerals from the Williams Caerhays Collection formed the main display on the stage during the 2012 Mineral Show (see figures 1 to 6).

This mineral collection was assembled in Cornwall by several generations of the Williams family who owned and managed many of the mines and thus had access to many of the best and rarest mineral specimens ever found in Cornwall. The collection was started in the late 1700s and continued into the 1800s by which time it was among the 2 or 3 finest collections in Cornwall. Originally housed in the Williams’ family homes at Scorrier and Burncoose the collection was finally moved to Caerhays Castle in the 1860s where it was put on display in the museum. In 1893 a decision was made to dispose of most of the collection to institutions such as the British Museum and the Camborne School of Mines. After this disposal the remaining part of the collection was then secreted in various parts of Caerhays Castle to remain virtually unseen and forgotten until a decision was taken in 2008 by the current owner Mr. Charles Williams to catalogue and reinstate those minerals that could hopefully be found. Mr Courtenay Smale was invited by Mr. Williams to undertake this work and the resulting re-discoveries were first put on display in Caerhays in 2011.

A small party from SMLS together with members of the Russell Society were invited by Mr Williams to view the collection in May 2011. On arriving at the Castle we were greeted by Mr Williams and after a welcome cup of coffee we were introduced to Courtenay Smale who then gave a talk describing the detective work he had undertaken to find and then catalogue the minerals. Following this revelatory talk Mr Williams hosted a superb lunch before Courtenay took us on a tour of the mineral display cases. The quality of the minerals took our breath away, particularly the arsenate minerals from the Gwennap mines, but also foreign minerals purchased by the Williams family in their collecting heyday.

We learnt while we were at Caerhays that Courtenay had recently returned from the Tucson Mineral Show where he had exhibited a selection of the Williams minerals to great acclaim. This gave us the inspiration to enquire whether such a display could be mounted at the Sussex Show. The answer from Caerhays was in the affirmative and thus in the ensuing 18 months plans were concluded with Courtenay for him to bring a representative selection to Haywards Heath in 2012, also to give a talk about his resurrection of the collection.

It was thus on the opening morning of the Show that visitors to the stage were able to view 24 of the finest Caerhays specimens mounted in SMLS glass cabinets. Courtenay was on hand to answer questions and SMLS stewards kept a close watch on the priceless and irreplaceable specimens. There were 15 specimens from Cornwall including cassiterite x2, chalcocite x2, chalcophyllite, chalcopyrite, clinoclase, cornwallite, cuprite, fluorite, gold, lironite, olivenite, pharmacosiderite and scorodite. The 9 specimens from foreign countries included a huge example of azurite from Chessy les Mines in France, 2 malachites from the same location, an aquamarine and topaz from Siberia, a pyrargyrite from Mexico, a silver from the famous Kongsberg mine in Norway, a fiery opal from Queensland and an epidote from Austria.

The specimens on display obviously form only a very small part of the collection at Caerhays and a visit to Caerhays is highly recommended, otherwise Courtenay has written a very good book (paperback) on the Williams Collection available on Amazon. SMLS is very proud that we were able to mount this display – only the third exhibition outside Cornwall in the world - after Tucson and Munich – a huge feather in the cap for our Society.

Courtenay said to us after the Show:

“The show now completes the 'Troika' of Tucson for the American enthusiasts, Munich for the Europeans, and Haywards Heath for the British”.

Mark Oddy.

The Show Talks

70 visitors came to each of the three talks this year, which must be some sort of record. John Cooper, Keeper of Natural Sciences at the Booth Museum of Natural History in Brighton gave an excellent Junior Corner talk on ***Sussex Dinosaurs***. He interacted with our young visitors sitting in the front two rows, while the back rows, filled by many young-at-heart enthusiasts, listened intently. It is quite amazing how much 8-year olds know about dinosaurs and the way they lived.

John Pearce recalled some of the events leading up to the ***SMLS Expedition to the Faroe Islands in 2011*** and showed some of the high quality zeolites and their associates that had been collected. It is surprising how few people know where the Faroes are and one person commented that “his aunt had visited Egypt last year”. Some of these superb minerals and the write-up in the UK Journal of Mines and Minerals were on display on the stage in the Main Hall.

Courtenay Smale gave the keynote lecture on the ***Williams Collection at Caerhays Castle***. He explained how the Williams family had accumulated this amazing collection over hundreds of years and how Courtenay over the last few years, had been involved in the discovery and restoration of this collection of amazing minerals which had been found scattered all around



Fig.1 The Williams Collection, Caerhays Castle



Fig. 2 Courtenay Smale with the Williams Collection display



Fig.3 Blue fluorite (100mm) Wheal Gorland, Gwennap, Cornwall

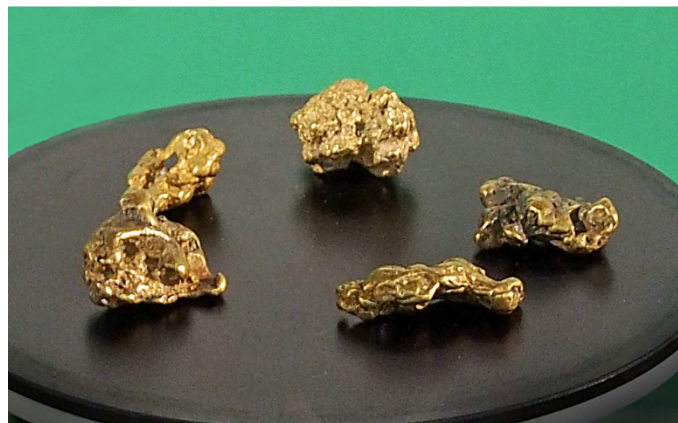


Fig. 4 Gold nuggets (15mm) Carnon Valley Near Helford, Cornwall

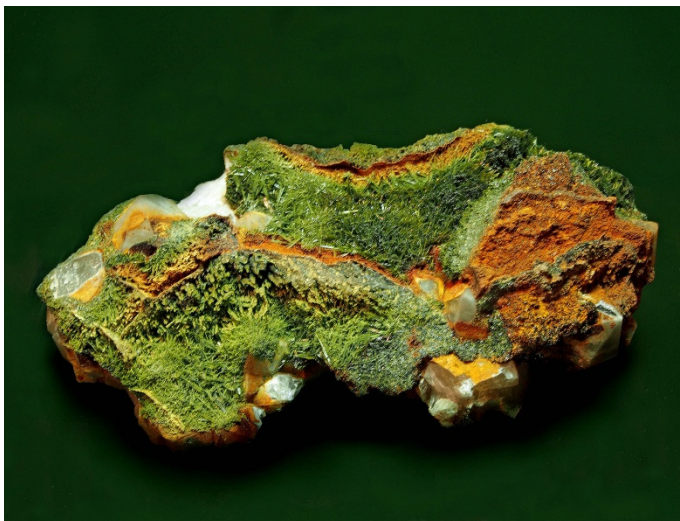


Fig. 5 Olivenite(12cm) Wheal Gorland, St Agnes Cornwall



Fig. 6 Cassiterite pseudomorphs after orthoclase (35mm) Wheal Coates, St Agnes.Cornwall

Caerhays Castle. Courtenay had also mounted a excellent display of these minerals in the Main Hall and these are described in more detail above. Not only did they include exquisite and irreplaceable Cornish minerals but there was a Chessy azurite from France, which could well be the finest in the world.

John Pearce

The Dealers

So, the anticipation for the Sussex show was over, Saturday had finally dawned! An early start was planned so that the dealers staying at my house could get to the show and I could get at the bacon butty cooking duties which seem to have become my particular contribution in past years (I won't mention the alarm clock failure and the rather undignified scramble to exit the house!).

So we all arrived safely on what was a very wet and unpleasant day and the purposeful marching of dealers and competitors started and built to the usual dignified crescendo of the setting up activity. The kitchen hummed with the usual chopping, slicing, buttering – a well oiled and well practiced machine with everyone fitting back into their historic roles. There is a strange comfort to be had in this timeless ritual marking the passing of another year. The 10am start gun was fired; the Peter Hay's welcome speech was given in his usual distinguished manner and the starting queue of customers began to file in. The show had started for another year.

Sadly in these days of austerity and fiscal cliffs, I had my own fiscal cliff hanging over me – debts to a dealer incurred from the Bakewell Show a few weeks earlier, that meant that my purchasing power was severely dented going into the show. However, as they say, no harm in looking!

I caught up first with Richard Hawkes of Stone Treasures – yes a fossil dealer, marking my recent rekindling of an ancient interest in fossils. Richard had a lovely large *Asteroceras ammonite*, one foot across nicely prepared and balancing on matrix. Unusual to see one as large as this. He also had a fabulous 2ft round slab of petrified wood from the western USA, beautifully preserved in multi-coloured silica, with lots of the desirable reds and yellows. Tempting, Tempting!

Then on to see Nicholas Schaffer. He had recently sold me at Bakewell a lovely big spinel twin galena from the Krushchev Dol Mine in Bulgaria, and today had an unusual ludwigite from the Simms prospect, Spring Canyon, Idaho. He also had a very attractive baryte and malachite specimen with 2.5cm sprays of baryte on the green malachite giving a pleasing contrast.

Phil and Deborah Chen had some old Cavnic quartz and dolomite specimens. Beautiful cathedrals of smoky quartz, nicely accented on one side by white dolomite. Despite my impecunious position, I had to have one of these; adding to my Romanian collection that I am starting to build.

I was drawn like a moth to a candle by the usual dazzling display from Crystal Classics, as unusually was my wife who, as many will know, does not have any great interest in minerals. However she was mesmerised by a lovely pinkish tourmaline var. liddicoatite from Luc Yen, Yen Bai Province, Vietnam, with complex, typical compound crystals to 5cm. Crystal Classics were trailing their upcoming Open Day with a display of a few of the specimens that will be on offer. To be fair to everyone, they had not priced the specimens and refused to sell any of these ones on the day of the Sussex show – so if you liked one of them, you will have to go down to the Open Day. My eye was caught by a fabulous classic – a galena pseudomorph after pyromorphite from Wheal Hope, Perranzabuloe (don't you think that is just one of the best place names in the UK?) in Cornwall. The specimen was sparkling grey, showing clear crystal structures of the once pyromorphite, now galena. Very tasty! The last specimen to catch my eye was a lovely large vivianite from the Morococala mine in Oruro Department, Bolivia; a nice 5cm crystal of green coloured mineral.

I stopped by the stand of French dealer, Christian Montabone. He had some very interesting specimens on his stand, including a really nice water clear fluorite specimen from Dalnegorsk, Russia with totally transparent cubes of fluorite to 2cm. Continuing with the fluorite theme, he also had a very nice blue specimen from Xihuaguan mine, Dayu County, Jiangxi Province, China, with cubes to 1.5cm. Lastly of note were some pretty spectacular autunite specimens from Les Houdots, glowing a lovely yellowy green colour. These big specimens, being of a uranium mineral, were probably a bit too hot to handle for me, but were very pretty. I just wonder what UK customs had made of them!

I stopped to chat with Robert and John Lawson. Their stand had a good selection of North of England and Ireland minerals including some really good Irish gold specimens from Croagh Patrick. They had also bought down a couple of the larger specimens that they know I like; a big 18 inch plate of quartz, sphalerite and fluorite from Boundary Flat, Rampgill Mine and a large green Rogerley fluorite with 2.5cm interpenetrating fluorite twins. Lastly I tried to persuade Allan Mortimer to buy a really nice baryte they had from Damrigg level, Arkengarthdale, Yorkshire from a find Robbie and John had made in 2004 when they had broken through the back of another vug to find this little beauty. Sparkling crystals of white baryte to 2cm. Really nice.

Mike Brooke had a really nice classic wulfenite from Los Lamentos, Chihuahua, Mexico, a 15cm specimen with nice butterscotch cubes of wulfenite to 1cm. He also had a lovely plate of vivianite from the Morococala mine, Bolivia and a really unusual apophyllite included with celadonite. This rendered this large and spectacular specimen a rather muddy brown, but the crystal structure of the apophyllite was nothing short of superb, with one end of the specimen being taken up with a big "flower" of crystals, some 8cm across.

Ralph Sutcliffe had a big display of his usual North of England minerals. Some lovely pieces including a truly huge piece of kidney ore hematite from Crowgarth Leconfield Mine, Cleator, Frizzington in Cumbria. The specimen was shiny and black and a couple of feet across. Would look very nice in my museum. Maybe one day! Ralph said that the specimen was an old time piece that had been in the mine manager's collection, with the mine operating between 1750 and 1948.

Keith Corrie had some very aesthetic minerals including some of the new find of augelite from Tamboras, Mundo Nuevo, in Peru and nice and rare pinkish crystalline olmite from the N'Chwanning II Mine in South Africa.

Dave and Elizabeth Hacker got my award for the most colourful stand, with many lovely specimens of Chinese fluorite and pyromorphite among others.

Steve Warren had some nice material from the North of England including some nice clear to bluish fluorites from Trollers Gill, near Applewick, North Yorkshire. Lastly Taranis Minerals had some lovely small cabinet specimens including a lovely apple green smithsonite from the Tsumeb Mine in Namibia and a really interesting specimen of aquamarine and schorl from Erongo, with really distinct small phantoms in the aquamarine crystals – most unusual.

Thus, all too soon, ended another fine show. My debts were paid, contacts and friendships renewed and good food eaten. And so the waiting for next year's show starts again.....

Nick Hawes

The Show Competition

The theme for the Competition in 2012 was the same as 2011 – Self Collected British Minerals – as requested by a number of entrants who were unable to participate in 2011 due to a high level of entries. The 6 entrants were Ian Dossett, Tony Lee, Roy Starkey, Steve Warren, Ivor Thurgood and Richard Bell. A description of each entry now follows:

1. **Ian Dossett.** Ian is a prolific collector who has led many Russell Society field trips in recent years and his cabinet of specimens reflected a wide geographical and mineralogical spread. Ian had provided a description of each of his 27 specimens on a listing attached to the back wall of his cabinet. Outstanding specimens included a blue-green boracite (magnesium borate) crystal cluster and a pink hilgardite group, both recently collected underground from the Boulby potash mine in North Yorkshire. From the cliffs at Budleigh Salterton in Devon Ian displayed two metal rich reduction nodules from the Permo-Trias boundary, one of which exhibited yellow pascoeite. There was an example of the as-yet unnamed blue rare earth mineral found in the zoned oxidation deposits underground in the Tynebottom mine in Cumbria and further north in Scotland there was a good example of slender acicular crystals of rutile from the shore of Lochan na Lairige in Tayside and the rare niobium rich wolframite from Gairnshiel in Grampian.
2. **Tony Lee.** Tony, a long term member of the Sussex Society who 'emigrated' to Cornwall a few years ago returned to the fold for this competition with a cabinet of 47 well curated specimens. Tony has collected extensively from the Isle of Skye in Scotland and he displayed 7 specimens sourced from the Tertiary basalts including stilbite, analcime, chabazite and apophyllite. He has also been a frequent visitor to Taffs Well quarry in South Wales and his cabinet contained specimens illustrating 5 different forms and habits of calcite. Other notable minerals included a fine example of deep blue needle shaped crystals of vivianite found in concretions in London Clay in the landfill site at Southleigh in Hampshire, a large piece of granite from Hingston Down quarry in Cornwall covered in apple green arthurite and scorodite and a rare yellow smithsonite from the Hilton lead mine in Cumbria.
3. **Roy Starkey.** Roy, who is currently President of the Russell Society, is no stranger to this competition having previously exhibited a cabinet of zeolite minerals 3 years ago. Roy has collected extensively from Scotland and examples from the Cairngorm mountains included a beautiful singular crystal of clear dark quartz from near Loch Avon, a massive black crystal of quartz from the summit plateau on Beinn a Bhuird and two green beryl crystals from the same location. There were 2 examples of anglesite collected from the Mona mine on the Parys Mountain in Anglesey which is the type locality for this mineral and also from North Wales Roy exhibited a rare dark grey smithsonite from the Rhosesmor (Halkyn East mine) near Mold. Staying in North Wales the Craig Rhiwarth lead mine at Llangynog was the source of a large specimen covered in scattered blue aurichalcite crystals.
4. **Steve Warren.** Steve, who travelled down from Otley in Yorkshire, concentrated his cabinet display on minerals he has locally collected in the 3 well known Yorkshire dales of Wharfedale, Wensleydale and Swaledale/Arkengarthdale. These valleys are not the source of the most spectacular British minerals and Steve is nevertheless to be congratulated on assembling a fine but necessarily restricted collection of minerals from this ancient lead mining area. Steve provided a brief introductory note to the area on the back wall of his cabinet. From the Wet Grooves mine in Wensleydale Steve exhibited 11 specimens including barite, calcite, fluorite, hemimorphite and smithsonite. More colour

was provided by specimens from Swaledale, particularly azurite from Great Sleddale, pyromorphite from Old Rake Vein and aurichalcite/baryte from Whitaside mine. The Middlesmoor vein complex in Wharfedale provided a number of fine smithsonites while the Gillheads mine between Grassington and Pateley Bridge was the source of some delicately coloured purple edged fluorite crystals. From slightly further north in Wharfedale the old lead mine at Buckden Gavel had provided Steve with another group of smithsonites and hemimorphites.

5. **Ivor Thurgood.** This was a role reversal for Ivor as he was the judge in 2011 and interestingly one of the cabinets he judged last year was entered by this year's judge – David Green. Neither entry turned out to be the winner! Ivor has been collecting minerals for longer than most other collectors. Evidence for this was provided in his cabinet by an early 20th C. unbroken Keswick brewery beer bottle, still with its stopper, that he'd found on the Dry Gill dumps in 1978. From the same mine 2 examples of the barrel shape crystals of mimetite (variety campylite), for which Dry Gill is renowned, were also displayed. The Smallcleugh mine in Nenthead, Cumbria, was clearly a favourite site for Ivor as he displayed no less than 7 specimens from this location including 5 galenas with ankerite and 2 sparkling sphalerite crystal clusters. More sparkle was exhibited by an example of lustrous light brown childrenite found at the George and Charlotte mine in Devon and also by small fluorite crystals coating plates on a crinoid stem found in the Milltown quarry, Ashover, Derbyshire.
6. **Richard Bell.** No stranger to this competition, Richard was a very welcome visitor who had travelled down from Formby near Liverpool. The 41 specimens in Richard's cabinet were collected over the length and breadth of the UK starting with a pale green prehnite specimen found – after a long trek - in the Tertiary basalts in the cliffs at Sgurr nan Cearcall in Skye. Also found on Skye was a lovely tufty white mesolite, a member of the zeolite group found in Dunvegan quarry. From Wales the Bwlch Glas mine at Talybont has produced some bright green pyromorphite material and a fine example was on display here. Moving further south, the Bristol area has always been renowned for the production of the strontium sulphate mineral celestine used in the manufacture of fireworks, and Richard displayed 2 fine examples of the mineral from the Bristol Chemical Co. site at Yate. Amongst other fine specimens was a fibrous steel grey mass of the complex antimony mineral jamesonite found at the type locality of St. Endellion, Wheal Boys mine, Cornwall. Two other Cornish specimens included a large piece of matrix covered in dark green bayldonite from Penberthy Croft and 2 examples of greeny blue botallackite collected from the Engine Shaft at the famous Levant mine.



Fig.7 Display mounted by Helena Carter in Haywards Heath Library



Fig. 8 Members preparing food in the kitchen



Fig. 9 Selling refreshments



Fig.10 SMLS Visit to Faroes 2011 display



Fig. 11 David Green (left) presenting the trophy to the winner Tony Lee



Fig.12 Tony Lee's winning entry of self-collected British minerals

As mentioned above the judge for this year's event was David Green, one of this country's most distinguished mineralogists and editor of the UK Journal of Mines and Minerals. David, himself a very active collector with an immense knowledge of minerals and sites, both new and old, was able to bring a very discerning eye to the task of judging the best entry. In comments at the prize giving David praised the high quality of all 6 cabinets, and commented that the overall quality of the specimens revealed that collecting in the UK was very much alive and productive. After his initial appraisal of the cabinets David narrowed his choice down to a final three, but after further deliberation he still had great difficulty in selecting the best. Ultimately he selected the winner on the basis of which cabinet of minerals he would like to have taken home with him and on that basis he chose the cabinet entered by Tony Lee (Figs 11 and 12).

As the organiser of this Competition I would like, on behalf of the Sussex Society, to thank all 6 entrants for taking much time to plan and assemble their entries and finally to travel long distances to mount their displays early on the Saturday morning.

I must also thank the judge David Green for taking time out from his busy schedule and adding much gravitas to the occasion.

This competition is now an established part of the Sussex Mineral Show and from comments heard at the Show, it is obviously much appreciated by our visitors.

Mark Oddy.

From the above reports it will be clear that we had yet another busy show with lots to see, people to meet, specimens to buy; the refreshments area was also very busy this year catering for several hundred lunch snacks briskly prepared and served by a wonderful team of volunteers in the kitchen and catering area. Reports back from the dealers indicated a brisk trade and we had 57 visitor questionnaires completed. Analysis of these confirmed a wide-ranging enjoyment of all the features of the Show, but especially the displays and talks; the "friendliness" of the Show features strongly in the comments. The winner of the prize draw this year was Mike Allen from Derby, who specially came to the Show this year to see and hear about the minerals from the Faroes; we have therefore sent Mike a specimen from one of our members collected on that field trip.

As usual there were many complimentary comments about the refreshments prepared and served by SMLS members (Figs 8 and 9) and several visitors commented on the excellent display (mounted by Helena Carter) in the Haywards Heath library (Fig. 7).

Finally, thanks from the Show organizing committee, Mark Oddy, Colin Brough and me to the very many members and friends who gave up time to help us prepare and run the Show this year.

Trevor Devon

Many thanks to John Hall for photos 1,2,3,4,5,6. 10,11 and 12 and Helena Carter for photos 7 and 8 and 9.

S.M.L.S. COMPETITION: Friday 5th April 2013

Now is the time to start getting your entries ready and we hope that members will be encouraged to enter as many Classes as possible.

The mineral theme for Class 11 this year will be **Quartz, including flint, agates, chalcedony...**
Our judges will be Peter Moore (minerals) and James Langdon (lapidary).

S.M.& L.S Competition Classes and Rules

CLASSES

Class 1	7 tumbled stones or up to 3 polished slabs or cabochons.
Class 2	1 mineral or rock specimen - British.
Class 2A	1 mineral or rock specimen - Foreign.
Class 3	A display of mineral or rock specimens - British.
Class 3A	A display of mineral or rock specimens - Foreign.
Class 4	Up to 3 faceted stones.
Class 5	A single fossil or display of fossils.
Class 6	A creation using any number of cut or uncut stones, minerals or fossils.
Class 7	1 micromineral - British.
Class 7A	1 micromineral - Foreign.
Class 8	A presentation of one or more minerals, fossils or lapidary items, supported by text and, if desired, graphics.
Class 9	A photograph where the main subject is geological or a specimen of a mineral/s, fossil/s or lapidary item/s.
Class 9A	A photograph where the main subject is an activity related to our hobby.

The scrutiniser will decide whether class 9 or 9A is most appropriate if there is any doubt.

Class 10	One Day's Collecting. A minimum of 2 and maximum of 6 minerals.
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Class 11	Annually Themed Display: Theme for 2013 Quartz, including flint, agates, chalcedony...
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N.B.	The judges appointed by the Committee will judge Classes 1 to 7, 10 and 11, while the votes of the members attending the competition evening will determine the awards in Classes 8, 9 and 9A.
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General Rules

- Although awards of 1st. and 2nd. prize are made in the Open Category in each Class, there will be only one award for entries in Categories (ii) “Best first time entrant” and (iii) “Best under 16 years”. All entries in Categories (ii) and (iii) will qualify for consideration in the Open Category as well as in their own Category.

1. Specimens in classes 2A, 3A, 5,7 and 7A must have been collected by the competitor within a maximum period of 2 years prior to the date of the competition; three years for classes 2 and 3, but 1 year for class 10. Classes 10 and 11 can include minerals from UK or overseas.
2. Specimens in classes 2, 2A, 3, 3A , 5, 7, 7A, 8, 10 and 11 may be prepared for display by the removal of foreign matter, cutting and polishing etc, to expose their natural features.
3. Entries in Classes 1, 2, 2A, 4, 7, 7A, 9, 9A and 10 must comply with the number of items stipulated.
4. All entries in Classes 2 and 3 must comprise specimens collected within the British Isles, defined for these purposes as England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands, but excluding the Republic of Ireland,.

5. All entries in Class 2A must comprise specimens from anywhere in the World, excluding the British Isles, as defined above.
6. Entries in Class 3A may exceptionally include a limited number of British specimens, up to a maximum of 20% of the total number of specimens in the entry.
7. For entries in Classes 3, 3A, 5, 10 and 11, the maximum flat dimensions of the display must not exceed 12" x 18".
8. Entries in Classes 1,4 and 6 must be the competitor's own work and may be made with rough from any source.
9. Class 6 – in the case of jewellery, any final cutting, polishing or tumbling of stones and all findings, except chains and minor fittings, must be the work of the competitor.
10. Classes 7 and 7A - a micromineral is defined as a mineral specimen, part or all of which requires illumination and magnification for proper observation. If there is any doubt, the section of the specimen which requires magnification should be clearly marked. All entries will be judged with the same microscope of 30X maximum magnification. (There is no size restriction for this class, but it must be possible to view the specimen with the Society's microscope).
11. Class 8 – the maximum size of the presentation is not to exceed a width of 24" and a depth of 12".
12. Classes 9 and 9A – entries in the photographic section may include prints or copies from negatives, slide film or digital media in black and white or colour. The original photograph must have been taken by the competitor. The subject matter must be related to Geology, Mineralogy, Palaeontology or Lapidary. This may include specimens, geological features, landscapes or people undertaking an activity related to these topics. All entries must be unframed, clearly labelled identifying the subject matter and with a minimum size of 6" x 4" or a maximum of A4 size excluding the label. Details of camera used, lighting, camera settings or automatic as appropriate should be given wherever possible.

N.B. All entries will be reviewed by the scrutinisers for compliance with the above rules. Competitors will be notified of entries which are not within the rules and will be given the opportunity, time permitting, to make any necessary alterations to correct any breaches. Any breaches which can not be rectified will result in the entry being disqualified. Any instances where the entrant does not accept the scrutiniser's judgement are to be referred to the co-ordinator for adjudication. The co-ordinator's decision will be final. The scrutinisers will notify both the entrant and the judges of any disqualified entry.

Please do read carefully the above rules. Hopefully they are clear enough to avoid any misunderstandings and any consequent disqualifications. Please do enter the competition and give members as wide a view of the society's activities as possible.

IT'S NOT TO HAVE WON BUT TO HAVE TAKEN PART THAT COUNTS

ROCK n GEM MAGAZINE

Initially Tony Rance and his partner ran the Rock n Gem Shows and published the Rock n Gem Magazine. However after Tony's untimely death the Rock n Gem Shows were taken on by a couple who live in France, while Steve and Hannah became the publishers of the Rock n Gem magazine. While the Rock n Gem Shows seem to have moved increasingly towards jewellery, gems and beads, the magazine has given a comprehensive coverage to rocks, fossils and minerals as well as gems. This can be seen, for example, by the titles of some of the articles in the last two issues:

- Imperial jade
- Meteorites in ancient times,
- Iron rich quartz inclusions
- Palladium minerals
- A report from the Munich Show

The magazine is also very useful in including adverts which are of considerable interest to SMLS members, for example:

- Stone Corner in Hastings
- Maurer Rocks and Minerals
- Don Edwards, Tideswell Dale Rock Shop
- Lapid-Art and many, many more

SMLS are very grateful to Steve and Hannah for providing a complimentary advertisement for our Show each year and in issue 58 Steve recalls his first visit to the Sussex Mineral Show in November 2012.



rock
n gem

Issue 58
Winter 2012
£2.50
ISSN1369-1147

rock
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Issue 57
Autumn 2011
£2.50
ISSN1369-1147

rock
n gem

Issue 55
Spring 2011
£2.50
ISSN1369-1147

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SALE OF THE LEONARD BURRELL COLLECTION

Leonard Burrell and his wife lived in Wallington near Croydon and were members of the North Surrey Mineral and Lapidary Society (now defunct). They were both keen lapidarists (dabbled in silver smithing) and had built up a large workshop in their garage with equipment all along one side. Leonard's wife died in 1990 and now Leonard's health is failing. His son Ray, who has no interest or knowledge of lapidary or minerals, had the job of disposing of all his father's equipment and lapidary materials. He contacted SMLS through Colin Brough and at the end of October Terry Denney and I drove to Wallington to see what might be of interest.

As is often the case in this situation, anything we did not take would almost certainly have found its way to the skip. So we took everything, which required two journeys and filled my estate car each time.

Terry was in his element with all things lapidary, he was the only one who knew what various objects were or what they did. The books and some of the materials were of greater interest to me and we discovered that Leonard and his wife had visited Canada, bringing back some lavender and hematitic amethyst from Thunder Bay and an interesting cut and polished silver specimen from Cobalt, Ontario. Their visit had coincided with the 75th anniversary of mining at Cobalt (1903-1978).

We agreed that we would sell the equipment and materials to our members and share the proceeds equally between SMLS and Leonard Burrell. Before we had seriously considered how best to sell the equipment, various members had made contact and we sold 90% of the machines.

When I drafted this article I still had 2 machines and 10 tomato trays of accessories and materials in my garage. However much to my surprise and pleasure every last piece has been sold and the garage is mine again.

Sales overall were £636.00 of which 50% will go to Leonard Burrell and 50% to SMLS. Terry and I were keen to find good homes for everything at reasonable prices and to share the sales money between Leonard Burrell and SMLS. I think we have achieved this.

John Pearce

.....

THE DRAGON'S DEN HUFF AND PUFF FOR BRIAN CRAIK-SMITH

Brian Craik Smith was very brave to face the Dragons. On Sunday evening, November 18th on BB2 Brian was seen getting the dragons to blow up their individual popettes, a creative form of origami that Brian has created and hopes to develop and market. The dragons had a lot of fun, Brian looked remarkably cool but the dragons were not ready to part with their money.

Well done Brian a good advertisement if nothing else

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SMLS FIELD TRIP TO MOROCCO April 19th – 27th 2013

Plans are progressing well. Peter Moore has taken over as the overall coordinator and we have 12 members signed up.

USEFUL DEFINITIONS FOR MINERALOGISTS AND LAPIDARIES

ZEOLITE	Keen type to be seen at all meetings and field trips
PYRITES	Ancient mariner of illegal disposition
SPHENE	Part of a film or play
ACTINITE	One who performs in a sphene
JASPER	Leader of the pyrites
TOURMALINE	Guided coach party to the French coast
BERYL	Sparkling variety of comedienne
QUARTZ	Units of measurement that don't fit into pint pots
MAL-A-CHITE	Air sickness
CHALK	Conversation
PYROXENE	Female pyrites
MICA	Loud hailing system
GARNET	Slang for cockney
GARNET-MICA-SCHIST	Very slang, spoken in a loud voice
Turquoise	Middle Eastern

LINDFIELD LIFE: LOCAL COLLECTORS SHOW TREASURES



By Claire Cooper

Every November a unique event comes to Clair Hall in Haywards Heath –an event where some of the earth's treasures can be seen, admired and even purchased. The Sussex Mineral Show, on Saturday 10th November, brings together some of the country's leading mineral dealers, collectors and experts to share their collections and their stories with amateur collectors and visitors. If you have never been before,

prepare to be dazzled by the stunning range of crystals on show from all around the world.

Among the local collectors will be Colin Brough (pictured) from Lindfield, the secretary of the Sussex Mineral and Lapidary Society for the past 15 years. The Society is a group of people interested in collecting minerals, fossils, meteorites and

gems and discovering more about these fascinating materials.

Colin explained how he became an avid collector. "as a scientist, I have always been interested in man-made crystals for industrial use", he said. When my son was eleven he started collecting natural minerals, so we decided to join the Sussex Group together. That was 20 years ago and we are still members".

Colin sees the event as a chance to promote the society locally and encourage people to start their own collections and join the group. "We have around 150 members from all over the UK but the core of the society is made up of its local members. Collecting minerals is a fascinating hobby for people of all ages and you can start a collection with only a few pounds" Colin explained. "The Society celebrates its 40th birthday this year and we enjoy attracting new members so that we will keep going for the next 40".

Colin has travelled all over the world collecting minerals. The Society is well known for organising local trips across the UK, and international trips including visits to USA, Canada, Ireland, India, Namibia, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Hungary, France, Spain and even Russia. Next year members will be visiting Morocco.

"Travelling to other countries and self-collecting is extremely rewarding," said Colin. "We get to visit famous mines and quarries, and chip away at the rock face ourselves if the manager allows it. It's wonderful to bring back minerals from the country of origin and to have all the memories of collecting them".

He added that getting licences to bring the minerals back can be tricky, particularly in Russia, "but that makes the specimens even more special".

There are around 4,500 unique minerals and each one can form in many different colours and shapes. "Minerals can grow fairly quickly when man-made but in nature it can take around 100 to 10,000 years as the rocks slowly cool down", said Colin. "And when you consider that the minerals have been locked up in the rocks for tens or even hundreds of million years, then you can appreciate just how special minerals are and how exciting it is to break the rocks open and find them yourself."

At the November Mineral Show some of the best mineral collectors in the UK will be hoping for success in the annual competition. This year's theme is "Self-collected minerals from the British Isles" and visitors will be able to decide for themselves if they agree with the judge. There will be illustrated talks on the society's recent field trip to the Faroe Islands, Sussex Dinosaurs (for juniors) and the William's Collection from Caerhays Castle, Cornwall.

Minerals from this fabulous and world renowned collection will be on display in the Main Hall. Another display will include mineral specimens collected by members during the trip to the Faroes. Children will enjoy visiting the Rock Hunt and Gold Panning workshops, and don't miss the amazing display of ultra-violet fluorescing minerals in the dark room.

The Show runs from 10 am to 4.30 pm on 10th November. Admission is £2.50 adults and 50p for children.

Extract from **Lindfield Life**: Local village talk by the village, November 2012 and reproduced with their permission.
Submitted by Helena Carter and Colin Brough to advertise our Society and Show.

SMLS SENIORITY TABLE

Recognition of Don Ford being the only founder member, who is still a member of SMLS made me wonder who else joined SMLS in the early days. Fortunately Pam holds the first SMLS secretary's (Ken Fitch) record book and I extracted the following list which goes as far as 1991:

Member number	Member's name	Date of joining
4	Don Ford	1972
130	John Hall	1974
159	Pam Pearce	1975
175	Donald Barratt	1976
181	John Pearce	1976
188/9	Bryan and Betty Treherne	1977
216	Julie Pearce (now D'Ablaing)	1977
279	Pam Fielding	1980
289	Joan Smithers	1980
292/3	Jeff and Sheila Jeffery	1980
299/300	Brian and Betty Prowse	1980
301	Kath Hassall	1980
314	Tony Lee	1981
323	Terry Denney	1981
336	Derek Underdown	1982
340	John White	1982
349	John Cooper	1983
354	Janet Wade	1983
381	Richard Symonds	1984
382	Clive Deacon	1984
384	Brian Craik-Smith	1984
394	Joan Ratcliffe	1985
432	Mark Curtis	1990
437	Steven Silverstein	1990
436	Mike Brooke	1990
446/7	Colin and Andrew Brough	1990
474	Peter Moore	1991

If you joined SMLS before 1991 and have not been included on this list, please let me know.

John Pearce

SUSSEX MINERAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY

(<http://www.smls.org.uk>)

2013 Programme

Friday January 4th	General Meeting: Devon Minerals David Aubrey Jones : Sponsor Colin Brough	Wavellite
Friday February 1st	General Meeting: Geochemistry for Amateur Mineralogists By Karen Hudson-Edwards: Sponsor John Pearce	Silver
<i>Saturday February 16th</i>	<i>Essex Mineral & Gem show. 10.00 am-4.00 pm North Romford Community Centre, Colliers Row, Romford</i>	
Friday March 1st	General Meeting: Minerals of Morocco By Jolyon Ralph: Sponsor Colin Brough	Vanadinite
Sunday March 3rd	Field Trip to Plumpton Plain Co-ordinator: Colin Brough	
<i>Sunday March 3rd</i>	Oxford Mineral and Fossil Show 10.30am – 4.00pm Exeter Hall, Oxford Rd, Kidlington, North Oxford	
<i>Sat – Sun March 9th-10th</i>	Rock 'N' Gem Show 10.00am-5.00pm Kempton Park Racecourse, Staines Rd. East	
Friday March 15th	Sussex BMS Branch Micromount Study Evening Coordinator: John Hall	
Saturday March 23rd	Field Trip to Sheppey Co-ordinator: John Pearce	
<i>Sat – Sun March 23rd -24th</i>	Rock 'N' Gem Show 10.00am – 5.00pm Brighton Racecourse, Freshfield Rd, Brighton	
Friday April 5th	General Meeting: Competition and Social Evening Coordinator: John Pearce	James Langdon and Peter Moore
April 19th – 27th	Field Trip to Morocco Co-ordinator : Peter Moore	
Friday May 3rd	General Meeting: Recent Anglesite discoveries at Parys Mountain By Tom Cotterell: Sponsor Trevor Devon	Anglesite
May/June	Long Weekend Field Trip to Cornwall or Devon TBC	
<i>Sunday May 12th</i>	Oxford Mineral and Fossil Show 10.30am – 4.00pm Exeter Hall, Oxford Rd, Kidlington, North Oxford	
Friday June 7th	General Meeting: Field Trip to the Eifel By Trevor Devon: Sponsor Colin Brough	Agate
<i>Sat – Sun June 8th – 9th</i>	Rock 'N' Gem Show 10.00am-5.00pm Kempton Park Racecourse, Staines Rd. East	
June	Field Trip to Wales TBC	

<i>Sunday July 7th</i>	<i>Oxford Mineral and Fossil Show 10.30am – 4.00pm Exeter Hall, Oxford Rd, Kidlington, North Oxford</i>	
Friday July 5th	AGM and Members' Evening Nick Hawes Isle of Wight Field Trip	Ammonites
Saturday August 10th	SMLS Barbecue & Social Afternoon Nick and Louise Hawes	
<i>Sat – Sun August 3rd – 4th</i>	<i>Rock 'N' Gem Show 10.00am-5.00pm Kempton Park Racecourse, Staines Rd. East</i>	
Friday September 6th	General Meeting: Mendips By Mike Rumsey (NHM): Sponsor Austin Woodbridge	Mendipite
<i>Saturday September 7th</i>	<i>Hampshire Mineral & Fossil show 10.00 am - 4.30 pm Lyndhurst Community Centre, Lyndhurst</i>	
<i>Sunday September 8th</i>	<i>Oxford Mineral and Fossil Show 10.30am – 4.00pm Exeter Hall, Oxford Rd, Kidlington, North Oxford</i>	
Sept	Field Trip to North of England TBC	
Saturday Sept	SMLS at Home	TBC
Friday October 4th	General Meeting: Herodsfoot Mine By Roy Starkey : Sponsor John Pearce	Galena
<i>Sat/Sun October 12th/13th</i>	<i>Bakewell Rock Exchange 10.00am – 5.00pm Lady Manners School, Bakewell, Derbyshire</i>	
Friday October 18th	Sussex BMS Branch Micromount Study Evening Coordinator: John Hall	
<i>Sat – Sun October 26th -27th</i>	<i>Rock 'N' Gem Show 10.00 am-5.00 pm Kempton Park Racecourse, Staines Rd. East</i>	
Friday November 1st	General Meeting: REE carbonates from Saga Prefecture, Japan By Brian Craik-Smith: Sponsor Colin Brough	Stibnite
<i>Saturday 2nd November</i>	<i>Festival of Geology University College London</i>	
Saturday November 16th	SUSSEX MINERAL SHOW 10.00am - 4.30pm Clair Hall, Haywards Heath	
<i>Sat – Sun Nov. 16th – 17th</i>	<i>Rock 'N' Gem Show 10.00am – 5.00pm Brighton Racecourse, Freshfield Rd, Brighton</i>	
<i>Sunday December 1st</i>	<i>Oxford Mineral and Fossil Show 10.30am – 4.00pm Exeter Hall, Oxford Rd, Kidlington, North Oxford</i>	
Friday December 6th	General Meeting: Dinosaurs of Sussex By Sue Maidment: Sponsor Nick Hawes	Sussex Fossils

All meetings held in Redwood Centre, (next to Clair Hall) Perry Mount Rd, Haywards Heath.
7.30pm to 10.30pm. *Items in italics are for members' information only.*