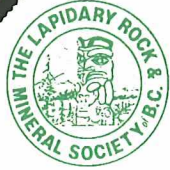




# LAPHOUND NEWS



**VICTORIA LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 5114, Station B

Victoria, B.C. V8R 6N3



**VOLUME 58-5 June 2015**

**Website: [www.vlms.ca](http://www.vlms.ca)**

## **BOARD**

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President      | Cameron Speedie |
| Vice President | David Hosking   |
| Past President | Vacant          |
| Secretary      | Alanna Shilito  |
| Treasurer      | Greg Shea       |
| Members        | Brian McMillan  |
| At             | Yvan Gagnon     |
| Large          | Karen Rowe      |
|                | David Mullett   |

## **NEXT MEETING:**

**When:** Monday, June 1, 2015

**Place:** Burnside Lawnbowling  
Clubhouse

274 Hampton Rd.

**Time:** 7:30 pm (doors open at 7 pm)

## **PROGRAM: Strawberry Social!**

**Come out for strawberries,  
shortcake and cream courtesy of  
the club ☺**

## **COMMITTEES**

|            |                                     |
|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Programs   | Vacant                              |
| Librarian  | Sylvan Burnside<br>Christine Patton |
| Show Chair | Allana Shillito<br>David Mullett    |
| Membership | Margaret<br>Braithewaite            |

## **EXECUTIVE MEETING:**

**When:** Last Monday of every month  
(**no** meeting July, August & December)

**Place:** Club Workshop, 286 Hampton

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

|                 |                                  |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Field Trips     | Gilles Lebrun<br>250-382- 6119   |
| Sunshine Corner | Lorena Taylor &<br>250-384- 0755 |
| Refreshments    | Barb MacKenzie                   |
| Workshop        | Brian McMillan<br>Karen Rowe     |
| Editor          | Jennifer Good                    |

## **FIELD TRIP:**

**When:** June 14, 2015

**Where:** Chemainus River

**Time:** 9 am till...whenever

**Meeting place:** Colwood Senior  
Centre parking lot

**Please call Gilles Lebrun if you plan  
to attend**

For further details see page 3

778-350- 4568  
[editorvlmsnews@gmail.ca](mailto:editorvlmsnews@gmail.ca)

**WORKSHOP:**

**When:** Thursday evenings

**Where:** 286 Hampton Rd.

**Time:** 7:00 – 9:00 pm

**When:** Saturdays

**Time:** 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

**NOTE:** When classes are being run, the Saturday hours will be from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Check with Brian or Karen.

**You must have taken the lapidary course before you can use the machines.** If you are interested in taking a course, contact Brian or Karen at [vlmsworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:vlmsworkshop@gmail.com)

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Unavailable

**EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

I love June in Victoria! I love biking around this beautiful city and taking in the fresh air made fragrant by the ocean, and the many flowering trees and plants. If you find Josh and I celebrating summer singing songs at Dallas Road feel free to come say "Hi" and join us in a tune.

I am about to embark on an adventure to the interior this week. I hope to have new treasures for my collection; I plan to end my trip coming back up Highway 99, through Lillooet, where I will stop to have a beer with my favourite small town bartender "Tab", then up the road to soak my blissed out muscles in the Skookumchuck hot springs in Pemby. ☺ Happy Rockhounding! Happy Summer Frolicking!

This will be the last newsletter until the end of August when I will send out the September issue. Feel free to email me or call if you have an announcement or event you think our members may be interested in,  
Jennifer Good

**FIELD TRIPS**

**June Field Trip:** June 14, 2015. Chemainus River, Gilles will be leading the group to search for flower stones in the river bed. Meet at 9 am at Colwood Senior Centre parking lot. Please call Gilles ahead of time to let him know you are coming.

**May field trip:** Loss Creek searching for garnets and gold!

May 24, 2015 meet at Colwood Senior Centre Parking Lot at 9 am. Bring Gold panning tools. Call Gilles to let him know if you are coming.

**Please note there are no field trips planned for July or August but if you have an idea for a field trip that you would like to do during the summer please call Gilles and he will organize it.**

**SUNSHINE CORNER**

**Lorena Taylor**

With sadness the club honours the memory of lifetime member Molly Beddington who passed away early this month. Molly has been a very keen and involved member well into her 90's.

Molly Lucy Beddington (November 12, 1918-May 6, 2015) was pre-deceased by her loving husband, Laurie Beddington and is survived by her

daughter Barbara; sons John (Solidad), Joe, daughters Dianna and Marlene, 17 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. She was an honorary life member of the Victoria Curling Club, life member of both the Burnside lawnbowling Club and the Victoria Lapidary and Mineral Society, as well as a proud recipient of the Queen's Silver Medal, a celebration of her life to be announced at a later date. Condolences may be offered at [www.mccallbros.com](http://www.mccallbros.com).

Or to her daughter Barbara McKenzie-  
at 570 Whiteside St. Victoria BC,  
V8Z 1Y6

**Library Report**  
**S Burnside/ C Paton**

**Library report**

Missing Library books are still coming in. I recieved two last meeting. I am looking at doing inventory, starting in June. I am looking for about 3 volunteers that can meet me on Monday mornings starting June 8, 2015 9:00 am until 12:00pm, I figure 3 Mondays or less should do it. If your looking for VLMS Crests, Pins or Stickers they are available at the Library. Crests are \$3.00 each Pins are \$6.00 each and Stickers are \$2.00 each. If there is any other VLMS items that you feel we should have such as T-Shirts, Hats, Jackets, Mugs ect. please let me know so we can talk it over with Council in September. The library will not be open due to the Auction on May 4th and No Library open due to Strawberry Social on June 1. Please contact me at 250-360-0418 or email me at [burnsidesylvan@yahoo.ca](mailto:burnsidesylvan@yahoo.ca)  
Keep on Rocking Sylvan  
**May Auction**

The May Auction was a great success, thank you to members for showing up early and for your great participation.

Thank you to members of the executive and Gilles who kept us organized. The Auction was swift and smooth, many happy members went home with new/old treasures.

**MEMBERSHIP COMITTEE**  
**Margaret Braithwaite**

Rockhounder magazine's spring issue is out and we will have some available for \$7.25 at the meeting. We also have many undelivered membership cards both from our club and BCLS. Please pick yours up at the meeting if you have not already done so.

**SHOWS AND EVENTS**

**KOKANEE & SELKIRK ROCK CLUBS**

June 6 & 7, 2015  
Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm  
Sunday 10:00am - 4:00pm  
Castlegar & District Community  
Complex  
2101 6th Avenue, Castlegar, BC  
Contact: Linda Barber, 250-352-0428  
or E mail

**RIPPLE ROCK GEM & MINERAL  
CLUB**

June 13 & 14, 2015  
Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm  
Sunday 10:00am - 4:00pm  
Timberline School Gymnasium  
1681 S. Dogwood Street, Campbell  
River, BC  
Contact: Molly Milroy, 250-203-2447  
or E mail  
For more information visit: Ripple  
Rock Gem & Mineral Club

**SHUSWAP ROCK CLUB**

*12th Annual Open House Show & Sale*

July 11, 2015

Saturday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Toad Hall

1248 Trans Canada Highway,

Sorrento, BC

Displays, Demonstrations, Games

Rock & Mineral Sales, Jewelry & Other  
Items

Free Admission

**SURREY ROCKHOUND CLUB****Tailgate Sale**

July 12, 2015

Sunday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Sullivan Hall

6306 152 Street, Surrey, BC

Space rental is \$10.00/parking stall  
(vendors must be a member of a Club  
affiliated with the BC Lapidary  
Society)

For more information contact: Rita  
Brooks E mail

**THE 1120 CLUB & VERNON  
LAPIDARY & MINERAL CLUB****All Things Agate**

*9th Annual Okanagan Gem Show*

July 18 & 19, 2015

Saturday 9:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday 10:00am - 4:00pm

Winfield Memorial Hall

3270 Berry Road, Winfield, BC

Dealers Demonstrators, Displays,  
Silversmiths

Adults \$4

Children \$2

Under 6 FREE (Accompanied by an  
adult)

Call 250-558-5550 for more  
information.

**THE ZONE TAILGATE SALE**

August 22, 2015

Swan Lake Fruit Stand

7920 Highway 97, Vernon BC

**VERNON LAPIDARY & MINERAL  
CLUB****Mall Show**

September 4 & 5, 2015

Both days - all day

Village Green Centre

4900 27 Street, Vernon BC

**FRASER VALLEY ROCK & GEM CLUB**

September 19 & 20, 2015

*Annual Rock & Gem Show*

Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday 10:00am - 4:00pm

Old Age Pensioners Hall

3015 273 Street, Aldergrove, BC

Demonstrations, Displays, Dealers  
Admission by donation

Contact: Rozalia Brown, 604-794-  
7296 or E mail

**SURREY ROCKHOUND CLUB**

October 17 & 18, 2015

*Annual Rock & Gem Show*

Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday 10:00am - 5:00pm

Sullivan Hall

6306 152 Street, Surrey, BC

Demonstrations, Displays, Dealers

**VERNON LAPIDARY & MINERAL  
CLUB****Mall Show**

October 23 & 24, 2015

Both days - all day

Village Green Centre

4900 27 Street, Vernon BC

**PORT MOODY ROCK & GEM CLUB**

October 24 & 25, 2015

*Annual Rock & Gem Show*

Kyle Centre

125 Kyle Street, Port Moody, BC  
Contact: [Andrew Danneffel](mailto:Andrew.Danneffel@portmoodyrockandgemclub.com)  
For more information visit: [Port  
Moody Rock & Gem Club](http://portmoodyrockandgemclub.com)

**DELTA ROCKHOUND GEM &  
MINERAL CLUB**

November 7 & 8, 2015  
*Annual Rock & Gem Show*  
Saturday 10:00am – 5:00pm  
Sunday 10:00am – 5:00pm  
South Delta Recreation Centre  
1720 - 56 Street, Delta (Tsawwassen),  
BC  
Contact: Mary Cool [E mail](mailto:marycool@delta.ca)

**VLMS CLUB BURSARY**

Our club is proud to offer a bursary meant for students of gemology or earth sciences programs, the bursary is worth \$1000 towards classes of this nature. Applications are being reviewed and the winner will be announced after June 15, 2015.

**For Sale**

Rocks & Lapidary equipment for sale. Large and small rough and slabs, also some books. Phone Barbara at [778-351-4881](tel:778-351-4881).

**BCLS Photo Contest**

The BC Lapidary Society is having an Amateur Photo Contest. Enter to win one of 13 featured spots in their 2016 Calendar. See the information included in this edition or as an attachment to this email if you are receiving the LN electronically. Submissions must be received by June 30, 2015 to the BCLS.

**B L U E J O H N.**

Blue John is calcium fluorite which has distinctive blue- purple with yellow banding. It is coloured by oil deposited on the crystals millions of years ago. In Britain it is found in Derbyshire near the town of Castleton at a hill known as Treak Hill, or locally as the Devils Arse.

There are four large caverns within the hill. The largest of these has been used for different venues including a rope works, concerts and fireworks displays. These caves have been tourist attractions since the 1100s, when King Henry 11 included it on a grand tour. Rope making is still demonstrated here beside the subterranean village built into the walls of the cave where workers lived. One of the caverns shows a unique selection of machinery and tools used by the miners.

The cave temperature stays at a constant 45'. During heavy rains the caves can flood at a rate of 5" per minute. Boat trips have sometimes been arranged when the caves are flooded.

This area is the only known source of Blue John in the world. Earlier caverns were discovered around 1745. These became the first Blue John Mines. By 1870 this material was going out of fashion but after the first World War there was a demand

for fluorspar for flux, for use in blast furnaces in Sheffield.

In 1926 an amazing discovery was made when blasting in the area opened up a magnificent cave full of multicoloured stalagmites and stalagmites. This is one of Britain's most spectacular caverns. It was opened to the public in 1935 .

Blue John is still mined in the caverns in winter and beautiful jewelry and small ornaments are made for the shops in Castleton to sell to tourists.

A recent find was made in China of fluorite very similar to Blue John.

Two of our long time members John & Irene Phillips visited Castleton and the mines here a few years ago and had a very enjoyable trip.

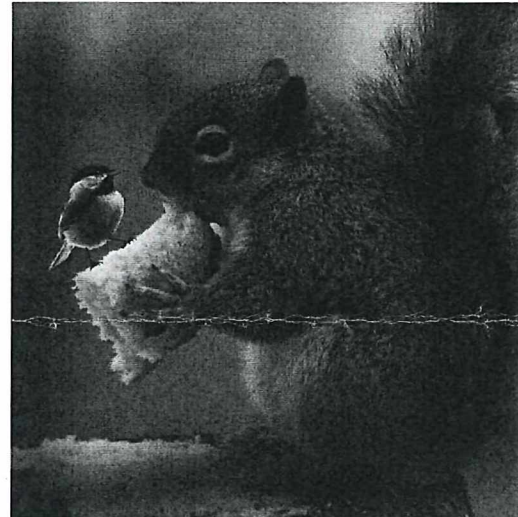
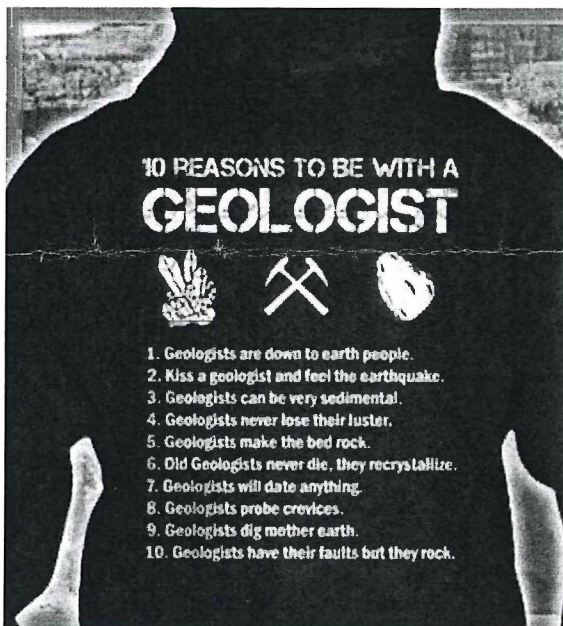
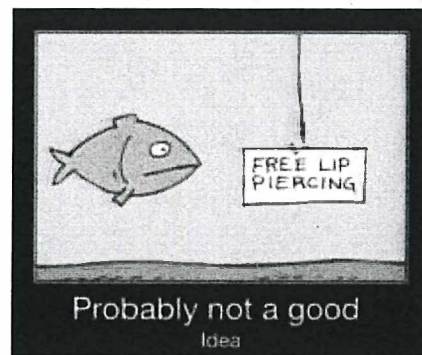
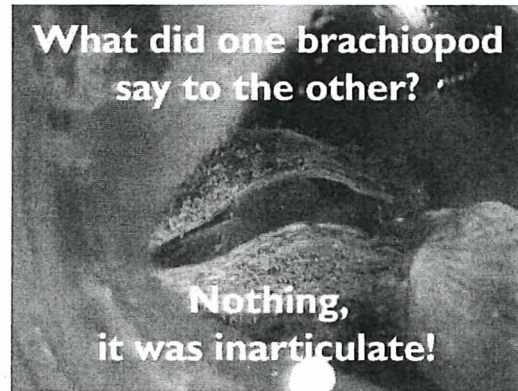
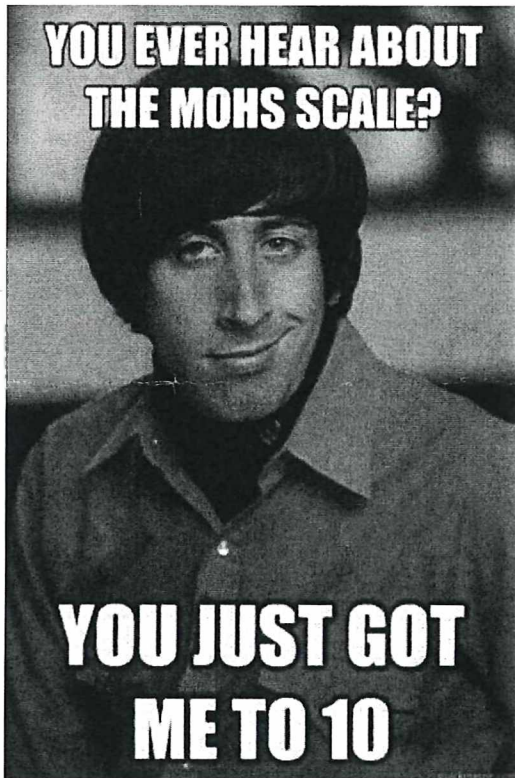
Ref. Best of British Magazine.

Article by Barbara Smith

**Remember Father's Day June 21, 2015!**



JOKE CORNER



"I licked that".

I really dig this sweatshirt....

