



FOSAGAMS

Federation of Southern African Gem and Mineralogical Societies
Federasie van Suider - Afrikaanse Siersteen - en Mineralogiese Verenigings
FOSAGAMS NEWSLETTER 2 2019

www.fosagams.co.za



GEMBOREE 2019



Robin Groove and Jennifer Steward
(Pietermaritzburg Club) at
Goboboseb



Stephen and Leslie Aveline at
the fluorite site



Some of the small miners
All photos: Linda Stone

The Cape Town Gem and Mineral Club is to be congratulated on a very successful Gemboree skillfully organised. The outings were truly fun and entertaining, enjoyed by all.

A sincere appreciation to Malcolm and Margaret Jackson who went all the way to Windhoek to register permits.

It was such a pleasure to meet Basil Calitz (owner of the Brandberg Rest Camp), Laurie Bosman (the legendary local entertainer), Gisela Hinder (geologist and owner of the museum at Rosh Pinah), Mike and Sonja Thygesen ('Desert Gems', Swakopmund); all of them always willing to support us on the FOSAGAMS Namibia tours.

FOSAGAMS wishes the Cape Town Gem and Mineral Club continued success in their club activities.

A full report on the Gemboree will appear in the SAGM.

GEMBOREE 2020 CLARENS



Next year's Gemboree will be hosted by the Pietermaritzburg Gem and Mineral Club at Clarens, called the jewel, gem and lucky charm of the Eastern Free State.

Numerous interesting sites will be visited. The registration forms will be sent out shortly as Clarens is a popular spot for holiday-makers.

Be on the lookout for their communiques. This will be a first for a Gemboree to be held at Clarens!

Photo: Amor Scheepers



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RICHTERSVELD GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

The Richtersveld Gem and Mineral Club (RGMC) have recently presented their constitution at the 2019 Gemboree where it was accepted with much enthusiasm and anticipation.

The founders, who are also now also respectively the Chairman and the Secretary, are very excited to announce that they are looking forward to be based in McDougalls Bay in the Northern Cape from where they will open a workshop and actively market the club to new members.

The founders of this club recognise the potential in the area for the creation and operation of a successful club due to the large amount of collectable material in and around the area. The youth of Port Nolloth as well as the currently committee members are excited for the club's doors to open. It is known that there is not much to do in the area other than to surfing around the major boulders blocking the beach or playing around in the freezing surf.



Photo: Sonja Smit

Herewith the club's information and contact details:

Chairman: Werner Smit 0742886019 wersonsrus@gmail.com

Secretary: Sonja Smit 0742886019 FOSAGAMSsecretary@gmail.com

Treasurer: Sonet Mooiman richtersveldgemandmineralclub@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Beatrix Fourie btrixfourie@gmail.com

Club's e-mail address: richtersveldgemandmineralclub@gmail.com

Newsletter Publication: At the end of each month. Eleven times a year.

Club Workshop Address: Duine Street, McDougalls Bay, Northern Cape.

SOUTHERN NAMIBIA- NORTHERN CAPE TOUR IN 2020

Another adventure is on the way! FOSAGAMS will be conducting a tour under the inspiring and capable leadership of Malcolm Jackson to the southern parts of Namibia and the northern parts of the Northern Cape. More information regarding this tour will be published in the FOSAGAMS newsletters. Watch this space to avoid disappointment!

FACEBOOK

Our new FOSAGAMS Facebook is administered by Marietjie van Zyl and already has a hundred and seventy six rockhound fans who joined the page! Be sure not to miss out and join us!



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MUSEUMS

For more fun and interesting places to visit, I present you with another (third) edition of geological and mineralogical museums:

Kitching Fossil Exploration Centre; Nieu Bethesda; Off Martin Street, Nieu Bethesda; 049 849 1733

bpipal@geoscience.wits.ac.za

Klerksdorp Museum; Klerksdorp; Cnr Margaretha Prinsloo & Lombard Streets, Klerksdorp; 018 487 8900

HvanHeerden@klerksdorp.org

Life Sciences Museum & Biodiversity Centre; Johannesburg; Oppenheimer Life Sciences Bldg, East Campus, Wits; 011 717 6464

McGregor Museum; Kimberley; 5 AtlasRoad, Belgravia, Kimberley; 053 839 2735; sunet@museumsnc.co.za

Museum Africa; Johannesburg; 121 Bree Street, Newtown, Johannesburg; 011 833 5624;

museumafrika@joburg.org.za

National Museum; Bloemfontein; 36 Aliwal Street, Bloemfontein; 051 447 9609; direk@nasmus.co.za

North West Diggers Museum; Christiana; N12 between Bloemhof & Warrenton

Origins Museum @ Wits; Johannesburg; 1 Yale Road, Braamfontein, Johannesburg; 011 717 4700;

bookings.origins@wits.ac.za

Pilgrims Rest Museums; Pilgrims Rest; Main Street; 013 768 1471; SimelaneN@mpg.gov.za

Port Elizabeth Museum, Bayworld; 23 Beach Road, Humewood, Port Elizabeth; 041 584 0650; pr@bayworld.co.za

kykNET KWÊLA PRODUCTION

The kwêla team from kykNET is currently filming a documentary on the small diggers from Namibia mining for topazes. Mike Thygesen from Swakopmund plays an instrumental role in assisting these small diggers for a couple of years now.

Be sure not to miss out on this programme that will air on kykNET soon.

HOBBY-X



Miané Stoltz (3) holding a sphere. She is with her father, Colin



Peter Beresford faceting



Erika Kruger explaining the art of polishing

All photos: Linda Stone

The Pretoria Gem and Mineral Club recently participated in the Hobby- X exhibition at the Ticketpro Dome, Northgate in Johannesburg. The aim of Hobby- X is to promote hobbies and crafts with the emphasis on creativity. The Pretoria Club's exhibit comprised mainly of members actively working on the various stations such as grinding, polishing, faceting and silver smithing. Something that especially attracted a lot of interest was a homemade sphere making machine. The organisers of Hobby- X envisage exhibiting at Cape Town and Durban.

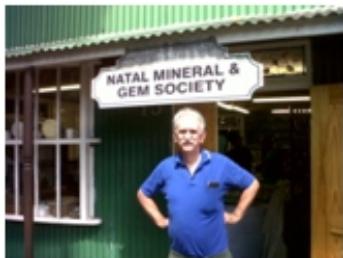


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FRANK FARQUHARSON, FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE NATAL MINERAL AND GEM SOCIETY RECENTLY PASSED AWAY.

SHEILA SHAW, THE CLUB'S TREASURER, WROTE THE FOLLOWING OBITUARY:



Our dear Frank, joined the Natal Mineral and Gem Society 04/04/2012 and was chairman from 2015 to 2017.

He was caring, innovative and an interesting person who gave much of his time to the members. Nothing was too much trouble, he helped the young and the old. One example, he found a supplier of buffering pads for the diamond laps and each member received one free of charge.

Photo: FOSAGAMS Newsletter 5 2016

We had a silversmithing workshop at the club and Frank made an amethyst ring in silver which he took to Australia for his daughter.

If a member needed to work late, Frank obliged and stayed until the member was ready to go. Many a story was told of his life, thoughts and his trips into the bush at these late sessions.

He was a mind of information on any subject and a fine example of strength, courage and well thought of by all the members.

Rest in Peace, Frank.

THE PASSING OF PROFESSOR MARIAN TREDOUX

We recently heard of the passing of Professor Marian Tredoux. Professor Tredoux was a devoted geoscientist. The geological community bestowed the highest honour of naming a mineral after her. Read all about this in the FOSAGAMS newsletter 1 2018. Our condolences to Professor Tredoux's family.

Kind regards and look after yourselves
Linda Stone
President FOSAGAMS

**President - Linda Stone
Vice – President - Jannie Swart
Secretary – Sonja Smit
Treasurer - Marietjie van Zyl
email: president@fosagams.co.za**