



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

NEWSLETTER 5/2013

GEMBOREE 2014 at KLEIN PELLA

The Gemboree organised by the Cape Town Club will be held at Klein Pella during the Easter Weekend (April 18 – 21, 2014). Two sites have been booked at Klein Pella and at the Oasis. Orange River Quartz, Green Quartz, Amethyst as well as some cutting material can be collected. For further information contact Malcolm Jackson at jacksonhome@telkomsa.net.

SOUTHERN AFRICAN GEMS AND MINERALS MAGAZINE VOL45/2

The Southern African Gems and Minerals vol 45/2 will be distributed soon. Sharon Waddington is to be congratulated on an outstanding magazine. She has worked very hard to make this magazine interesting. It shows her different approach to being an editor. The magazine is a compliment to her.

BRUCE CAIRNCROSS

Bruce was recently honoured by the Mineralogical Association (IMA). A new mineral *Cairncrossite* was named after him. It originates from the Wessels Mine in the Kalahari Manganese Fields (Hotazel, Northern Cape) and was discovered by Ludi von Bezing.



Cairncrossite, 7mm, from the Wessels mine, Kalahari manganese field, South Africa. Bruce Cairncross specimen and photo



Bruce Cairncross with some of his collection.

Bruce is an acknowledged expert on Southern African minerals. He has written and co-authored eight books and numerous other publications dealing with minerals and gemstones. An accomplished photographer, his photographs of mineral specimens have appeared in many books, articles, calendars and on websites. He serves on the editorial boards of two international mineral magazines and on one local related publication. He is currently Professor of Geology and head of the Geology Department at the University of Johannesburg.

A VISIT TO DR DAAN ROSSOUW

On a recent visit to the Northern Cape I paid a visit to dr Daan Rossouw. He is a former editor of the South African Lapidary Magazine (1996,1997 and 1998). He also wrote articles under the pseudonym 'Worm's Eye View'.

Since his retirement he and his wife have resided at Vanderkloofdam. He is still very active. The making of lamps from semi-precious stones and other stones keeps him busy all day. His house is filled with lamps he has made.

Daan used to tumble stones and keep them according to localities of origin in square boxes. Examples of these sites are Oranjemund (far away-in the box), other sites in Namibia and in Northern KwaZulu Natal (close to home and placed as such in the box).

Before building his second house at Vanderkloofdam his wife, Jackie, informed him that stones will be prohibited at this new house. He started building while Jackie stayed in Bloemfontein and she only visited the building site occasionally. She happily moved into the new house as there were no signs of any stones. Daan had decided to hide his stone collection in a special ditch next to the house. One day when he visited his collection,

guess who saw him- Jackie of course! As you can see the winner was the stones as he is still a collector and Jackie has become an accomplice!



Daan Rossouw on his veranda with the Vanderkloofdam in the background. Photographer Linda Stone.



Daan's lamps. Photographer Linda Stone.

Daan and his wife love travelling and enjoy travelling to Kaokoland .He has a very good collection of Agates, Mugglestone, Sodalite, Jasper, Nellite. Carnelians, Pietersite etc.He has spheres made of Ocean Jasper, Wesselite, Tiger's Eye, Malachite, Quartz , Obsidian etc. His special minerals are a Meteorite (found in 1947 in Zululand) and a Fulgurite which is 60cm long and has interesting patterns on it.

Daan recently took up photography and showed us some splendid pictures he took from his veranda.

It was nice seeing Daan and his wife again and also good to see that he is still so active.

FOSAGAMS wishes him and his wife well.

ROCKS AND MINERALS REVEALED - AN INTRODUCTORY COURSE IN GEOLOGY FEBR 5- JUN 25, 2014

The School of Geoscience at the University of the Witwatersrand is presenting another edition of its highly successful 20-week course in Introductory Geology.

The short course comprises of 20 fifty-minute lectures and 20 two-hour practicals, held on Wednesday evenings from 18:00- 21:15 on the East Campus. Excursions will be arranged, depending on interest.

For further information visit the School of Geosciences' webpage (<http://www.wits.ac.za/academic/science/geosciences/>) and follow the 'Short Course' link for more information.

Alternatively, please email grant.bybee@wits.ac.za or Judith.kinnaird@wits.ac.za for more information and an application form.

IMA2014

The 21st meeting of the International Mineralogical Association will be held at the Sandton Convention Centre from August 31 to Sept 5, 2014. As this is a major international mineral congress it will be a great opportunity for mineral/gem dealers who are interested to sell specimens during the congress week. Many overseas delegates will be attending this congress.

For further information visit their website at www.ima2014.co.za

Season's Greetings

FOSAGAMS wishes you and your loved ones peace, health, happiness and prosperity this coming Christmas season and in the coming New Year.

Regards

Linda Stone

President FOSAGAMS