

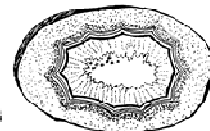
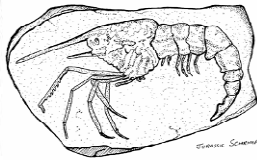


Bathurst Lapidary & Collectors Club Inc

NEWSLETTER

Issue 251 – January – February 2025

MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH AT
12 NOON - EXCEPT JANUARY AT THE CLUBHOUSE (OLD EGLINTON



FIRE SHED), PARK STREET, EGLINTON.
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JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2025 - UPCOMING PROGRAM

- 8th January** **Wednesday - Clubhouse reopens** - 9.00 am to 3.00 pm. Also Electroforming is the Allied Craft happening from 11.00 am onwards.
- 12th January** **Sunday Clubhouse open** - 9.00 am to 3.00 pm.
- 18th January** **Saturday - Club involvement at an event in Oberon:** we will have a table to advertise the Club or sell items there. (Brian Boydell - Coordinator. Mob.: 0427 372 347 for more details. The link for the event is www.visitoberon.com/events/oberon-fossicking-frenzy/
- 20th and 21st January** **Monday and Tuesday – School Holiday Workshop** - for students who have NOT done a Holiday Workshop previously. Cost is \$65. If you know of any kids who would be interested, please ask them to contact Paul to register. Paul's mobile: 0427 896 945
- 26th January** **Sunday Clubhouse open** - 9.00 am to 3.00 pm.
- 5th February** **Wednesday - Monthly Meeting** – 12 noon – Remember your 'Latest Acquisition'.
- 22nd February** **Eglinton Community/School Fair** - 8.00 am to 12 noon. at Eglinton Public School. Our Club will have a gazebo with displays of Club related activities. Neil Adams - Coordinator. Mob.: 0427 127 663
- 4th March** **Seniors Festival** - 10.00 am to 12 noon at the Club Rooms. Volunteers to be sought to demonstrate different lapidary and Allied Craft skills. (Jan Manners - Coordinator)
- 5th March** **Wednesday - Monthly Meeting** – 12 noon – Remember your 'Latest Acquisition'. Note meeting date due to public holiday.
- 8th and 9th March** **2025 Bathurst Arms Fair - Saturday 9am to 4pm and Sunday 9am to 3.30pm at Bathurst Showground.** New and used, modern and antique firearms – buying and selling. Collectable handguns, supplies, interesting militaria, medals, badges, bayonets, swords, uniforms, helmets, belts, memorabilia, reference books, camping and outdoor equipment. Colonial and militaria displays. More info info@bahurstarmsfair.com.au – M 0490 345 681
- 20th March** **Thursday – A talk by Ronald Cardwell author of the “The Handsome and Extravagant George Bonnor.”** The talk takes place in the Uniting Church Hall in William Street commencing at 7.30pm. Come along to learn about George Bonner a great cricketer from Bathurst. See more in newsletter.
- 2nd April** **Wednesday - Monthly Meeting** – 12 noon – Remember your 'Latest Acquisition'. Note meeting date due to public holiday.
- 12th and 13th April** **Saturday and Sunday - Heritage Trades Trail at Bathurst Showground.** Open 10am – 4pm each day. The Bathurst Lapidary and Collectors Club will mount a large display of promotional material along with lapidary and jewellery demonstrations as well as numerous displays. We will need to call on members to help mind and keep an eye on the displays. As part of the Heritage Trades Trail the Bathurst District Historical Society will have on display

7th May

Wednesday - Monthly Meeting – 12 noon – Remember your 'Latest Acquisition'. Note meeting date due to public holiday.

2nd to 4th May

Bathurst Show - further details to follow.



CLUB REPORT

Best wishes for the new season and may the New Year bless you with health, wealth, and happiness from the Club's Executive.

This is the first newsletter for 2025 and already there are plenty of activities to take part in as you can see by the program above.

Remember the Heritage
Trades Trail activities

which will take place on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th April from 10am – 4pm each day at the Bathurst Showgrounds. Paul will be overseeing the project and will be calling on members to come along and assist with the various aspects. Our stand last year certainly attracted the youngsters who wanted to try their hand at polishing a piece of rock. The 2024 Heritage Trade Fair was a great success, and we want to continue it along.

As part of the Heritage Trades Trail the Bathurst District Historical Society will have on display photographs from the late 1800's to early 1900's and an exhibition of period costumes from the same era. The costumes will be part of the Lapidary club's site.



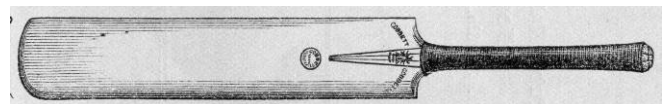
A lecture which the Lapidary & Collectors Club members may find interesting is a talk on Thursday 20th March with **Ronald Cardwell** author of the **“The Handsome and Extravagant George Bonnor.”** Ron will give an intriguing and fascinating talk on George Bonnor, a local Bathurst cricketer. It will take place in the Uniting Church Activities Hall (between the church and the 1837 Hall) in William Street, opposite Machattie Park. The talk is open to the public with a 7.30pm start.

George Bonnor, left, played cricket at a time when the game was really evolving. Bowlers delivered the ball in an unconventional overarm way. Batsmen were audacious in the way they played their shots. Players were controlling the game and they were most entrepreneurial. Tours to England were regular, with Bonnor being a member of the 1880, 1882, 1884, 1886 and 1888 teams. Bonnor was born in Bathurst and spent his life here until he was 22. He impressed as a batsman at an early age and his statistics were impressive.

Bonnor got up to mischief in his early years, his father a local Bathurst businessman going

bankrupt, which put strains on the large family.

He was handsome and extravagant and his story in Bathurst and Orange along with the deeds of his family is one that will be of interest. Bonnor was the first of three cricketers from Bathurst to play for Australia. The others were Tom L extensively by Ronald Cardwell. The author of Bonnor's story and or published over 70 books since 1979.



Unfortunately, this issue of the newsletter is late due to computer issues and some images couldn't be downloaded and used. A new computer is on its way. There is still a comprehensive photographic report from the greatly successful Weekend Field Trip to Windeyer in November. Many thanks to Sue Porter, Brian and Vicki Boydell for supplying images, in some cases twice.

Remember to visit our club's webpage www.tinyurl.com/blandcc Have a look.

FIELD TRIP TO WINDEYER NEAR MUDGEES

On 2nd and 3rd November 2024 the club undertook a Weekend Field Trip to Windeyer in New South Wales, some 43 kms south of Mudgee. Windeyer is an old gold mining township. It was the third field trip of the year though it was a social event more than a fossicking one.

The Hill End Road, the Pyramul Road and the Mudgee Road to Windeyer were all tested out, with varying results. The road via Hill End road was fully sealed, but Neil reported that the diesel price there was the dearest he'd seen on his travels (yes, Neil had forgotten to fill up before he left Bathurst), otherwise no-one in their right mind would travel via Hill End, and the Pyramul Road had the largest potholes seen for some years according to others! The Mudgee route was the longest, but was fully sealed so maybe it was the most favoured.

Friday found the keenest members setting up camp in the caravan park, some in vans, while some stayed in the cabins. The shady park had good facilities, a rustic camp kitchen, and a great kiosk/office with basic supplies and the best coffee in town (actually it's the only coffee in town).

We all enjoyed a BBQ on Friday evening, and Piper's contribution of a potato salad to share was much appreciated. Later that evening some of our crew decided to investigate the hotel on the pretext of judging the quality of the hospitality before our planned dinner there on Saturday night.

On Saturday morning Piper and Robert had a bit of an attempt at gold panning in the nearby creek, but the only thing Piper found were some leeches (or should I say they found her!)

There isn't much to explore in the village of Windeyer, although the two cemeteries have some early interesting headstones, and the little stone-built Church of England dates to the early gold rush days. It was predominantly a tent town in its heyday, and when the prospectors moved on they took their tents with them. Initially, the Oriental Bank, the police station and lock up dating from the 1860's still stands but is now a private home. The township once boasted the longest main street in NSW, when the rush was at its peak in the 1860's.



Left - On Saturday a few more adventurers joined us, and Jan became the first member to find gold.

Please note photos are in no particular order. Editor.

On Saturday afternoon we had an excursion to the Eagle Hawk gold mine site with Ray Wynn. The mine was worked from 1863 until 1990. Originally discovered by Charles Leffley, the claim was worked by a number of companies until Arthur Wynn took up the lease in 1935. It was later worked by son Ken Wynn, and later Ken was joined by his son Ray. Originally mining in tunnels through the gully, the Wynns changed to open cut mining,



building a big ore crushing machine and gold extraction plant. Some machinery remains, including the head frame to the Gully Claim. Water ingress was an ongoing problem, and finally the shaft was abandoned.

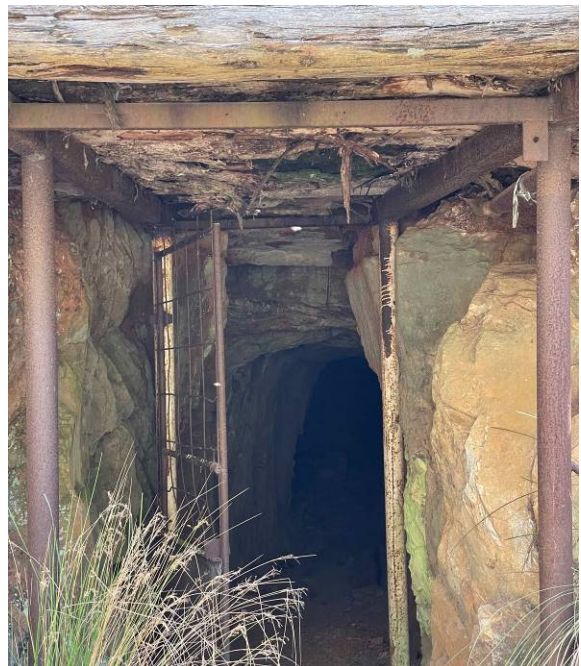
Club members were able to enter some of the tunnels and walked up the gully toward the dam constructed to control flooding. The open cut mine area has been rehabilitated.

We would like to thank Ray Wynn and his wife Gaye for giving us a guided tour of the site, about which Ray is so passionate and knowledgeable.

On Saturday evening we adjourned to the Gold and Fleece Hotel, only a stone's throw from the caravan park. Four rounds of trivia were very closely contested, the eventual winners were Jodie and Piper. Everyone enjoyed their chosen meals. We were given the dining room to ourselves and despite the pub being very busy, service was very friendly and competent.

Some of us later gathered at Brian and Vickie's place for a nightcap. The fire pit was loaded up with heritage lumps of

wood (thanks Jodie and NSWGR) and Jodie pulled out the ukulele and played a few numbers, along with a few yarns and tall tales completing the evening.





Everyone slept very well, except Helen, who had the misfortune to be in a cabin beneath the resident peacock's sleeping quarters, and he kept reminding Helen he was there for most of the night.

On Sunday morning we headed out to Campbell's Creek a few kilometres from town, to look for rumoured garnets in the gravels there.

The garnets remain a rumour, but we did see a couple of beautiful skinks on the rocks, basking in the sun. Luckily at this spot there were no leeches waiting for Piper, as she and Jodie figured they were on a winning streak after last night and waded right in to the creek to get to the good stuff.

After lunch on Sunday, most of us headed for home. All agreed we had enjoyed a fun weekend, we had perfect weather and got to know each other a little better. Windeyer is a top village to visit and we hope to return.

Sue Porter

Thanks to Sue Porter, Brian and Vicki Boydell for the interesting photos.



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SALT CURRENCY WAS DEFINITELY UNUSUAL

Unquestionably one of the more unusual forms of 'money' was salt, which has been utilised as a type of currency in numerous cultures right throughout the centuries. Salt is made of sodium and chloride ions with salt being consumed and traded by man for many thousands of years, mainly to preserve food. Evidence shows that the collecting and use of salt goes back to at least 6,000 BC. The Roman Republic even constructed roads to make the transportation of salt

supplies easier to reach the trading cities, especially to Rome.

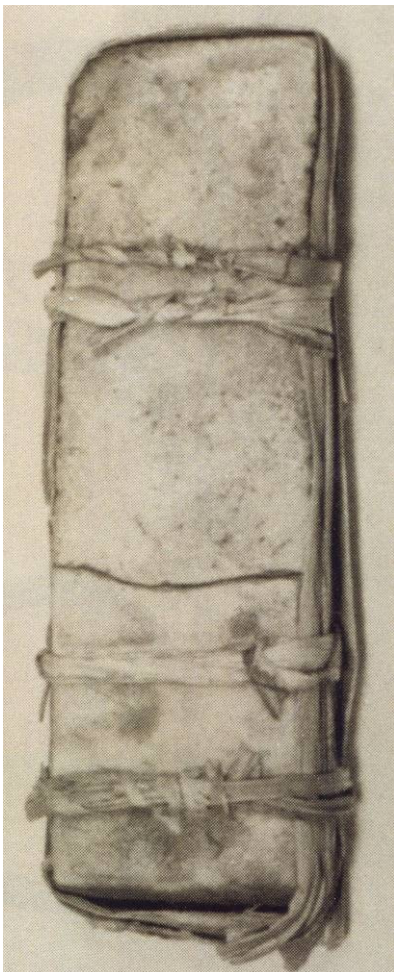
The Roman legionnaires were often paid in salt as it was considered so valuable. The soldiers were paid in an allowance of salt instead of money. This monthly stipend was called a “salarium”, the word ‘sal’ being the word for salt in Latin. In the English wording it means ‘salary.’

By the time of the late Roman Empire, and on through the Middle Ages salt became a more valued item of trade so ‘salt roads’ were constructed which radiated from the Mediterranean Sea into the enormous heartland of the many European tribes. All sorts of transportation were used such as camel caravans with thousands of animals criss-crossing the hundreds of miles in the Sahara carrying salt to markets inland from the sea. There were even fights to control the salt carrying caravans.

One of the oldest written references of salt money goes back to the Greek traveller Cosmas, a man who visited the Empire of Axum, which was where today's Ethiopia is located, around the year 525 BC.

At times salt was even used in the slave markets to purchase slaves. Often slaves would be obtained with payments being made in gold and later, packets of salt. The Ethiopians exploited salt as a currency and so did the Abyssinians who named their trading salt ‘salt currency.’ Even today this fine salt is often used as money amongst the nomadic tribes on Ethiopia's Danakil Plains.

The Ethiopian salt mines are still located in Lake Afar, this forming part of a gigantic depression that expands about 60,000 square kilometres and in places reached down to 300 feet below sea level. This sun-baked region hosts the local salt trade which has flourished. The trade has been passed down from generation to generation, an occupation carried on for centuries. In some areas it's called ‘white gold.’



In Abyssinia, on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, salt mining goes on. The Abyssinia wealth came from the slabs of rock salt which were known as ‘amoles’, the later became official coins of the realm. Each cake measured around ten inches in length and about two inches thick. The various blocks of salt would be carefully broken into three pieces by the salt gatherers before wrapping in a specially woven cloth and then tied together using a number of pieces of stripped leaves. They would be used in markets all over the countryside as it was so important to the country's economy.

The crude ‘amoles’ were also used to make taxation payments and tributes in Ethiopia since ancient times. Where the markets were operated by merchants the only coin allowed for official use was the Austrian silver Maria Theresa Thaler, right, obverse. Some of the earliest explorers had to source the silver Thalers before arriving in the country as the native carriers would not accept anything else.

Salt as a currency in Ethiopia has been important since the Aksumite Period up to the 19th century and later in places.

Right - The reverse of the Austrian silver Maria Theresa Thaler, dated 1780.

In ancient China, any form of salt was considered a valuable commodity and thus well controlled by the Chinese

Government. The Government would use the salt to pay their workers and issue it to soldiers as a form of money.

It seems that the salt used for currency turns up all over the world. Over the page is some of the salt money from the Irian Jaya Enga Tribe which is one of the provinces in Papua New Guinea. Enga is geographically situated in the northern region of Papua New Guinea.





The Bundi tribe trades with the Chimbu Highland tribe and the Usino Lowland tribe. With Usino they trade sweet potato, pigs, numbers of shell body ornaments, palm leaf mats and bows to use with their arrows made from palm wood. In return they receive dried birds of paradise plumes, Victorian pigeon feathers and hornbill feathers for body decorations, bush dried fish, lime, coconuts, areca nuts, cassowary chicks, sago and taro, tobacco, blank and worked stone axes, wooden bowls and of course salt cakes.

IRON ORE HEMATITE ON QUARTZ

Hematite occurs in many forms which includes micaceous, massive, crystalline, botryoidal, fibrous, oolitic and other types. It is an iron ore containing up to 70% iron.

Hematite is mined in some of the largest mines in the world, however in a small underground mine near He Ping Village in Guangdong Province, a coastal province in South China on the north shore of the South China Sea, some very interesting specimens came to light, all mined by hand.

Hematite has derived its name from the Greek word for 'blood' in reference to its reddish colour. Hematite is a heavy, relatively hard oxide mineral with the ferric oxide chemical composition of Fe_2O_3 which constitutes the most important type of iron ore due to its high iron content, sometimes up to near 70%.

Hematite is the most important of all iron ores due to its high amount of pure iron. Hematite is one of the most abundant minerals on the earth's surface and found in its shallow crust. It is a common rock forming mineral found in sedimentary, metamorphic, and igneous rocks at locations throughout the world. Its lustre can range from earthy to submetallic to metallic. Its colour ranges include red to brown and black to grey to silver.



Left – a specimen of hematite with quartz. It shows fan-like growths of very flattened, sharp, lenticular hematite crystals with good lustre on a matrix of well-formed quartz crystals. Despite being made of iron, hematite is not magnetic.

Some specimens of hematite quartz were found early in the Chinese mine's history. They were produced when clear quartz crystals formed with inclusions of hematite inside them. Hematite is more commonly known as a gleaming silver mineral, however when it has inclusions, they take on a dusky red colour.

formed which were hundreds to several thousand feet thick with some deposits measuring from hundreds to thousands of square miles. Most of the ore is now mined with the use of massive machinery.

ANCHOVY PASTE - A SALTY TREAT

Who remembers eating Peck's Anchovette paste sandwiches as a kid?, well the elderly of our Club can. Anchovy paste basically includes mashed anchovies, vinegar, spices and water and was an ancient condiment made during Roman times to be eaten with beef and lamb. It became commercially made during the middle of the nineteenth century and named "anchovy paste". Manufacturers made a smooth paste without any bones and they sold their product in neat ceramic pots, much to bottle collectors enjoyment.

I'm told that Pecks Anchovy paste is being discontinued. I recall the product well and we usually had it on toast for breakfast of a morning. It was a reddish-brown colour with quite a strong fishy flavour and it was quite salty, but nice. The Pecks Anchovette paste was originally made in the United Kingdom, however its manufacture dates back to before 1891. The Peck's pastes are no longer manufactured within Australia but in France.

Right - John Burgess and Son of London was just one of the anchovy paste makers selling his paste in pots that had advertising transferred pot lids. His finely ground anchovy paste proved very popular and was to be eaten in sandwiches, have on toast, or eaten out of the pot. John's famous fish paste warehouse was located at 107, The Strand, on the corner of The Savoy Steps in London. John Burgess's business was established around 1827.

Numerous anchovy paste ceramic pots and bottles made their way to Australia and Bathurst during the Victorian and Edwardian era allowing ship's passengers to carry the containers of fish and bloaters pastes without them spoiling. He used the English Coat of Arms, which featured the crowned English Lion and a Scottish unicorn which could be seen all chained up as the animal was believed to be dangerous. He also included the motto of the English monarchs, 'Dieu et Mon droit' (God and my right) and the Order of the Garter motto – 'Honi soit qui mal y pense (shamed be he who thinks ill of it).



In Britain during 1828 the mass produced 'Gentleman's Relish' was being sold. Advertised as a spicy anchovy paste it soon became very popular, especially in Scotland.



Left – A Crosse & Blackwell anchovy paste ceramic bottle which held their well known anchovy paste and was made in their manufactory at 21 Soho Square in the city of London. The two men claimed that it was marketed as 'By Appointment', and were 'Purveyors to Her Majesty', thus the British Coat of Arms. The business was established in 1706 during the reign of King George 1. The bottle was sealed with a wax layer or a wax paper tied with string.

The Anchovies are an oily fish which were caught around Britain and especially around Cornwall by local fisherman. Anchovies are still fished from waters around Cornwall. Some Cornwell fishermen would use torch flares to illuminate the water and attract the anchovies. They were easy to see as the light reflected off their silvery skin. The anchovies grow to 5 to 6 inches, however larger ones can be found up to about 10 inches maximum.

They were, and are, a small, common forage fish belonging to the family Engraulidae. Mostly these species are located in salt water. The Cornwell fishermen later used ring nets to catch these small silver fish which are located in large shoals primarily feeding on small fry and plankton.

Anchovies are the prime ingredient in the popular barbeque Worcestershire Sauce that we still eat today.

Anchovy fossil relatives have been dug up in Pakistan and Belgium from the early and middle Eocene periods. They are larger than present day anchovies. The Romans were known to enjoy their fresh anchovies as well as what was known as garum, a Roman staple which was a fermented and salted ungutted fish sauce that was left for a day in the sun and it was eaten on meat especially. This fish sauce proved popular for eating on long-distance trips over land or sea voyages. The garum was made in special factories in enormous quantities.

Being a King named Charles was never an omen for good luck and Charles II led an often troubled life. However, King Charles II had some interesting coins struck and issued during his reign. He was born in 1630, the son of King Charles I and Henrietta Maria, though their new son wasn't crowned King straight away.

It took eleven years before young Charles was finally crowned taking the title King Charles II where he was known as 'the Merry Monarch.' He had spent a number of years in exile in Holland and on the Continent before his coronation took place as ruler of Britain and Ireland. It wasn't long before he had disputes with his Parliament, as did his father. He had conflicted religious beliefs unable to decide whether he was Catholic or Protestant, though later he favoured his Catholic beliefs. On his deathbed he converted to Catholicism when he died in 1685, without leaving any children.

A portrait of Louis XIV in 1661. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a large, dark, curly wig. He has a mustache and a slight smile. He is dressed in a white ruffled shirt and a red robe with gold embroidery. The background is dark and indistinct.

The milled coinage was faster than previous methods of coining, but it also helped prevent the unlawful practice of clipping and the counterfeiting of the nation's coinage. The clipping of silver and gold coins was, at one time, a common practice. This involved clipping the edges of a coin with a pair of sharp metal shears. The clippings were saved until a worthwhile hoard was collected after which they were melted down so they could sell the small unidentifiable lump. Authorities classed the practice as a serious crime, with some clippers having their hands chopped off as punishment.

Around the edge of the coin there are raised letters – DECVS ET TUTAMEN (meaning ‘An ornament and safeguard’) which was followed by ANNO REGNI (meaning ‘year of reign’) and then the Kings’ year.

The King was so pleased with John Roettier's engraving of the coins that he was promoted to the job of Chief Engraver at the Tower Mint in May 1662. The Roettiers were local Dutch artists of some repute who later sailed for London.

The first screw press which was used for striking coins was first modified by an Italian man named Donato Bramante

Not adding any luck to King Charles II's reign, he was unfortunate that the Great Plague of London took place in 1665, with the massive London fire the following year.

Sweden was one country which had and used large amounts of copper to produce enormous and impressive coinage, and I mean large coins, which commenced in the 1640s. One piece was the size of an A4 page and bigger.

These large square or rectangular coins would have been difficult to transport, especially the 10 Daler which measured around 33 x 61 centimetres. The mint had to roll out and hammer the sheets of copper which were then cut to size with large shears. Moneyers would then counterstamp the monarch's monogram and the date in each corner and the centre. One series of these large copper pieces of plate money was issued during Charles XII's reign during which time Sweden was at war with Russia. Sweden was almost bankrupted so Baron Georg Heinrich von Goertz, the minister responsible for money, issued copper tokens. He later lost his head due to the financial mess he made to fund Sweden's war with Russia.

COOLGARDIE CYCLE EXPRESS COMPANY STAMP SET



Beginning from 1892 until 1894 the WA Government had telegraph lines installed to Coolgardie and some other goldfields in Western Australia's newly found goldfields. Whilst all fields looked promising, the Government didn't know which field should be serviced first and railway lines also needed to be laid down. The Coolgardie find was promising with all its scattered rich deposits.

By the middle of the 1890s the sport of cycling was becoming popular. Clubs were being formed for social pastimes. It was at this time in 1893 that James A. Healy formed his company on using cyclists, some of whom were included such as H. Yeates and J.H.C. Bamlett, the latter a past member of the Geelong Cycle Club. Mr Healy later removed his establishment to opposite the Post Office from Bayley Street to Hunt Street in the No 19 Bayley Chambers where he introduced his commission agencies. The Company's charges, depending on how far it needed to be carried was from sixpence to one shilling for both letters and telegrams.

In late 1896 the Postmaster General declared his stamps and postal run illegal forcing Mr Healy into retirement. It was later found out that the Western Government often utilised the services of the Cycle Express in order to deliver the letters and parcels from around Australia to the goldfields in Western Australia. The bicycle and camel stamps were no more.

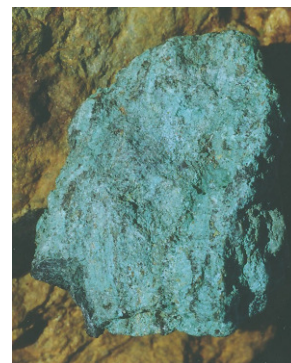
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W. BOWEN, PRINTER, ADELPHI, N. Y.

One of the earliest, if not the earliest, mention of copper ore at Bathurst was by Surgeon Cunningham about the period 1825 - 1826. A stonemason named Rex, who was working soapstone (one of the first indications of copper) on Gilmandyke Creek, made the original copper find at Summerhill on John F. Clement's property. The Bathurst Mining Company was formed in December 1848 with

A provisional committee was set up with W.H. Suttor, M.C., Francis Lord, John Ford, James Arthur, Henry Rotton, John Tait, Richard Machattie, Edward Austin, Thomas D. Sayer, J.N. McIntosh, George Furguson and John Dargin. The treasurer was Mr James Arthur, the Solicitor was Mr H.F. Stephen of Kelso, with the secretary Kennett Price.

John Whitford was the Captain at the mine and later Captain Clymo took over. The 'samples of the green carbonate' averaged 28% to 41% copper and a small reverberatory



Copper mining was a hard job with poor conditions for the miners and their animals. It required a great amount of water in copper mining as well as concentrating the copper ore. Mine owners would expect to use around 30,000 gallons per ton of copper just to reduce the basic copper concentrate to refined copper.

Basically it was the declining of results and the discovery of gold in New South Wales and Victoria which saw the mine close down, copper mines simply couldn't retain any miners.

DID YOU KNOW?

+ Tutankhamen's Mask is largely made up of lapis, cornelian, obsidian and quartz which were inlaid in gold along with numerous pieces of coloured glass.

+ In Byzantine times, around 1,000 AD, many of their daily and religious artefacts were decorated in gold and precious stones.

+ In the 18th and 19th century jewellery, especially brooches, were made using what the trade called “brown topaz”. Craftsmen worked out that by heating yellow topaz they could produce a pink variety which was said to be ‘rare’ and thus commanded a higher price for their jewellery.

+ That a miner's pick consists of three parts - the universal head, pick tool and handle. The tool and head were both made from cast-iron while the handle is wooden. The universal head fits onto the end of the handle like a metal sleeve allowing the pick tool to fit over it. The pick tool is symmetrical in shape with the working part of the pick shaped like a metal spike.

+ Jade can be found in the translucent emerald green variety known as “Imperial Jade”, or in white, brown, orange and the rarer lilac colouring.

+ In May 1885 the second half yearly meeting of the directors of the Sunny Corner Silver Mining Co., Limited, was held on Thursday in the bank chambers, Jamieson Street, Sydney. Mr. J. Newton occupied the chair. The directors' report, as follows, was adopted. A dividend of 5 shillings per share will be payable during the month of June next. The contract with Messrs. La Monte and Rosener for a 90 days' run of the Probert smelter has terminated, and the plant, which is running very satisfactorily, has been purchased by your directors for the sum specified in the contract (£5460). Four new 30-ton Pacific furnaces had been purchased and are now in the course of erection. This additional plant will increase the daily quantity of ore treated by, say 100 tons, or nearly double the quantity (55 tons) daily treated by the present appliances. The balance sheet showed that the advances on gold and silver bullion shipped to London amounted to £40,998, and the estimated value of gold and silver on hand (40,218oz., at 5 shillings per oz.) was £10,054. The advances on ore shipped to Europe amounted to £3,100, making a total of £54,152. After the payment of a debit balance of £7,637 and providing for all mining and other expenses, a credit balance of £12,587 remained. The following auditors were elected: - Messrs. W. Greenwood and Robert Sands, in the room of Messrs. R. Sands and C.J. Buckland. The meeting was adjourned until June 20, to enable a dividend to be formally declared.