

GOLD NUGGET TIMES



VOLUME 7, ISSUE 4 – MARCH 2016

2016 Australian Gold Panning Championships



Winners of the Novice Goldpanning Section L-R, Daniel Gallagher(3rd), Michael Harper (1st) and Andrew Bales (2nd).

A fantastic day greeted all the participants and spectators at this years Australian Gold Panning Championships. We had approximately 75 panners participate in the various categories with a lot of new faces which is always good. Numerous spectators also attended to view how the competition operated and prepare themselves for next year.

For the first time, we opted to run a final for the U12, U16 and Novice categories as opposed to the panners winning based on their heat times. In the U12 category, it was an all Binks affair with Patrick, Ethan and Elouise Binks taking out First, Second and Third respectively. In the Youth (U16), Sebastian Binks secured first place, with Sam Cox second and Jeremy Gilligan claiming third place.

There were plenty of participants in the Novice category. The top 5 Novice

panners competed in the final with Michael Harper winner the category with PMAV identity and Geologist Andrew Bales getting second and Daniel Gallagher finishing in third place.

Staci Lind was this years winner of the Womens Skilled Category. Staci won last years New Zealand Championships and with that was awarded a trip to attend the 2016 Australian championships. She was clearly in good form posting excellent times throughout the day and in the final. Fellow Kiwi compatriot Megan Ide picked up second place with Australian Ebony Dempster finishing in third place.

In the mens skilled Dylan Calvert posted a blistering time of 1 min and 6 seconds to take out first place with James Keays and previous Australian Champion Matt Kelava obtaining second and third place respectively.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

As can be seen from the graph below the GOLD PRICE rose from \$1685.00 to a high of \$1755.00 before zigging and zagging to finish the month off at \$1720.00. The Australian dollar has dropped to \$.71489.

30 Day Gold Price in AUD/oz



Goldfields Central Prospecting Branch

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th March at the Maryborough Highland Society, 35 High St, Maryborough at 6.00pm for a meal and 7.00pm for the meeting.

All Welcome



2016 Australian Gold Panning Championships cont.



Winners of the Mens Skilled. L-R, Matt Keleva (3rd) , Dylan Calvert (1st) and James Keays (2nd)

In the teams event, “The Calverts” were the team to beat having won it the past two years in a row. This year though, the honours went to “Cox-Carey” team made up of Peter and Sam Cox and Anthony Carey.

Their victory meant that the Trans Tasman trophy also remains in Australia. Our computer based system proved successful once again making it easy to work out finalist lists despite us introducing finals for the Novice, Youth and Juniors.

This year, the overall winner and Australian title went to James Keays. James finished second in the Skilled Mens and third in the Eureka event and subsequently had the best aggregate time. Congratulations James and we look forward to seeing you next year to defend the title.

We had excellent support from sponsors which enabled some great prizes to be awarded to the category winners. In line with last year, we gave all panners in the Skilled and Eureka categories, the opportunity to win a major prize.

Victorian Caravan, Camping & Touring Supershow

The Victorian Caravan, Camping & Touring Supershow was held 24th-29th February 2016 at the Melbourne Showgrounds.

The annual caravan and camping shows are a fantastic opportunity to research and plan your next adventure. Each show has displays of hundreds of the latest and best caravans, camper trailers, motorhomes, tents, camping equipment and more.

This year Josh Goodman was the “Lucky Panner”. Josh’s luck however didn’t stop there, he also won the “Stake Your Claim” event for which he won a \$300 gold nugget.

Photos from the day can be found on the “Victorian Goldpanning Association” facebook page. The facebook page will be used to advertisement future championships and to allow panners to seek or provide any feedback on the event.

A huge thanks to the VGA organising committee, all the volunteers, and the Ballarat Brass Band who stood in for the Scouts after they made an 11th hr cancellation. Thanks also to all the spectators and panners for making the day a successful one. Last but not least, we would like to acknowledge the following sponsors for their contribution to the event and look forward to their support for the 2017:- Gold & Relics, Newmarket Gold, Como Engineers, Coiltek Gold Centre, Bendigo Goldworld, Turbopan, Onsite Laboratory Services and Haycarb. Contributed by Marcus Binks.



Darren checking out some vans.

The caravan and camping shows are ideal for those who are hungry for information and entertainment, as there are always plenty of seminars where you can pick up tips and tricks from the experts in the industry.

Many tourism, destination and attraction organisations also attend the event each year, making it a great place to research and be inspired for your next adventure. Each show is family friendly, so kids are always welcome to come along for a day of fun and educational entertainment.

ADELAIDE CARAVAN & CAMPING LIFESTYLE SHOW



Taleesha & Darren with some interested show goers.

Gold & Relics was still on the Expo trail last month and set up a stall at the Adelaide Caravan & Lifestyle Show last month. It was great to catch up with our South Australian buddies. It is amazing how many people you know when interstate at these events.

A new look Camping Kids World opened up featuring Splodge (children’s entertainment), a toddler zone, free rides, and a ‘Camping Kids Trail’ that took the kids on a whirlwind adventure around the show.

This was a big show with a full complement of caravans, camper trailers, fifth wheelers, tents and camping gear. There was a camping kids world, a ferris wheel, workshops, a Jayco Expanda Caravan and a trailer filled with camping goodies to win.

60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Max & Marian Morrow (Leanne’s parents) on their recent 60th wedding anniversary.

A celebration was held in Colac at the beginning of February with about 70 guests including children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Guests flew in from interstate for the event.

BALLARAT SWAP MEET



Ballarat Swap Meet in full swing

The annual Ballarat Swap Meet was once again a huge success. It is Australia’s largest swap meet. There were 2,600 sites within the 60 kilometres of lines marked out.

Around 15,000 people were expected to attend the Ballarat Swap Meet with over \$1.3 million injected into the local economy.

Acting City of Ballarat chief executive Frank Dixon said the event provided a marvellous boost to local retail and hospitality venues as well as those who will be on site.

“The fact that Rotary have managed to raise over \$100,000 over the past five years they have run the event puts an incredible amount back into the local community,” Mr Dixon said.

The money raised from the event is split between the various Rotary clubs from around Ballarat who put the event together.

The clubs then use the money to assist local charities and organisations working throughout the region.

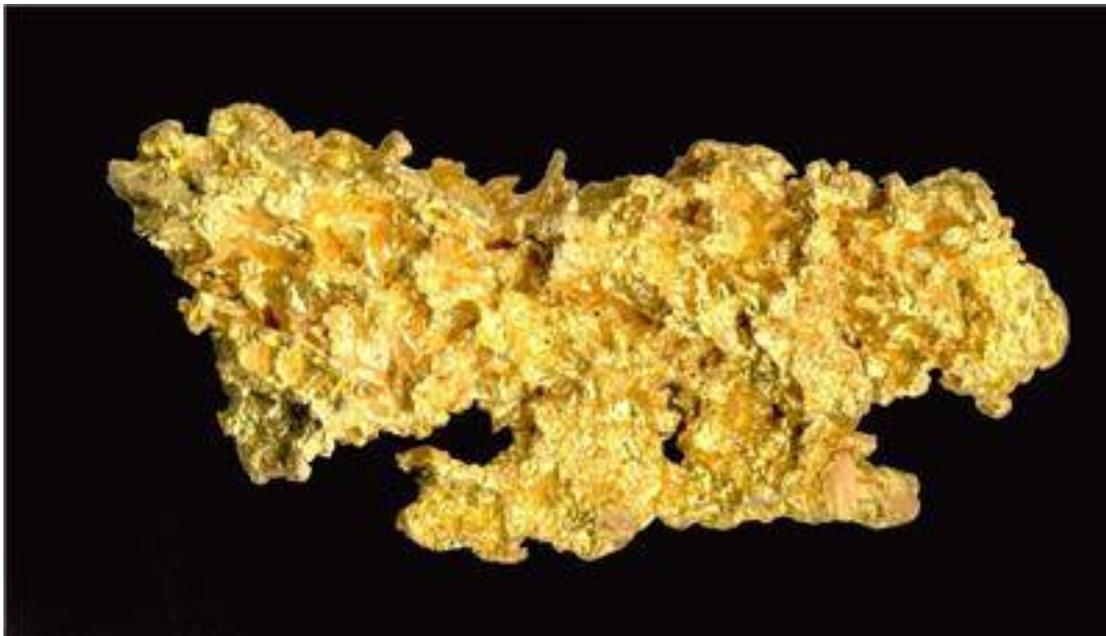
PMVA CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS BRANCH

A well attended first meeting back for the year was held on Wednesday 17th February at the Maryborough Highland Society. The venue was fantastic and food was good. The aim of the meeting was to move the branch from a Coordinator run branch to a Committee run branch. The result of the meeting was President: Bill Schulz, Vice President: Phil Whiddon, Secretary/Treasurer: Peter Crooks, Activities Officer: Bill Schulz, Committee: Bryan Robilliard, Ken Smith. More committee members are sought so if you are interested please contact Bill Schulz. We are happy to forward a message to Bill on your behalf.



The Maryborough Highland Society

MONTHLY INSPIRATION



A 101.3 gram gold nugget found a couple of years back in Western Australia.

Social Media = Daily Inspiration

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram as we spend more time on the internet than ever before. Instead of a once per month update via newsletter you can now keep up with the latest on an almost daily basis by following us on facebook or instagram.



Facebook: goldandrelics



Instagram: #goldandrelics

Over the past month we have posted the following:-

- Ballarat Swap Meet
- Central Goldfields Branch meeting results
- Lifestyle & Camping Show, Adelaide
- Old relics. What were they?
- Groups taken out on Gold Prospecting Adventures
- Forest Creek Tourist Mine at Castlemaine
- Bendigo Art Gallery's Marilyn Monroe exhibition.
- Lamington taste testing
- Beach detecting at Barwon Heads

THE GOLD NUGGET TIMES...*the newsletter that keeps you up to date on the Australian goldfields.*

If you or a friend would like a copy of our free monthly newsletter emailed to you each month please email info@goldandrelics.com.au with "Newsletter" in the subject line.

THE IRISH CHRISTENING

Paddy's pregnant sister was in a terrible car accident and went into a deep coma. After being in a coma for nearly six months, she woke up and saw that she was no longer pregnant.

Frantically she asked the doctor about her baby.

The doctor replied, "You had twins, a boy and a girl. The babies are fine. However they were poorly at birth and had to be christened immediately, so your brother Paddy came in and named them."

The woman thought to herself, 'Oh suffering Jesus no; not me brother. He's a clueless idiot!

Expecting the worst, she asked the doctor, "Well, what's my daughter's name?"

"Denise." said the doctor.

The new mother was somewhat relieved and thought to herself, 'Wow, that's a really beautiful name. I guess I was wrong about my brother. I really like Denise.'

Then she asked, "What's the boy's name?"

The doctor replied: "Denephew."

EVER WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO DENNIS THE MENACE WHEN HE GOT OLDER?



Mark Your Calendars

March 2016

March 4—6—Ballarat Great Outdoor Show

March 14—Begonia Festival Parade

March 19-21—3 Day Bootcamp

March 25—28—Easter

If you don't wish to receive this newsletter please email info@goldandrelics.com.au with

GR
GOLD & RELICS
 Gold Prospecting Adventures

Po Box 339
 Ballarat Vic 3353
 Phone: 1300 882 199
 Email: info@goldandrelics.com.au



2016 Tours

10 day Western Australian Tagalong

Gold Prospecting Adventure

Usually \$1495.00

March Special*

\$1395.00

Tour 1: May 24th—June 3rd Kalgoorlie - **Sold Out**

Tour 2: June 10th—June 20th Laverton - **Sold Out**

Tour 3: July 14th—July 24th Leonora
Only 2 places left

Tour 4: Aug 1st—Aug 11th Laverton
Only 3 places left

We invite you to join us for a fun filled adventure of gold prospecting, campfires, wide open spaces, camaraderie, friendly banter, relaxing entertainment and best of all, gold!

2016 10 Day All Inclusive Western Australian Tours

Usually \$4695.00

March Special*

\$4395.00

Only 2 places left

Tour 1A: June 27th—July 7th 2016

Pick up from Kalgoorlie

Enjoy an all inclusive gold prospecting adventure with accommodation and meals provided. Also provided is transport from Kalgoorlie and return, full training and tuition. The perfect option for international travellers or for those on a tight time schedule.

BOOK NOW

Tel: 1300 882 199

***March specials finish 31/3/16 or until places are filled.**

New!

NSW Gold

Prospecting Adventure

7 day NSW Tagalong Gold

Prospecting Adventure

Only \$995.00

Apr 9th—Apr 16th 2016 **Sold Out**

Oct 15th—Oct 22nd 2016

We had a very successful trip last time to the Central West Goldfields of NSW. This time we will be delving deeper into some very interesting gold producing areas.

3 day Victorian

Boot Camp

Tag-a-long \$467.00

• **19th-21st March 2016 Dunolly**
Sold Out

• **1st-3rd October 2016 Ballarat**

Special Guest: John Tully, famous Australian author & gold map publisher.

Learn how to:

Research areas, read the ground, choose a coil, improve your technique and, most importantly, find more gold.

3 ways you can book:

Online: www.goldandrelics.com.au

Email: info@goldandrelics.com.au

Tel: 1300 882 199

