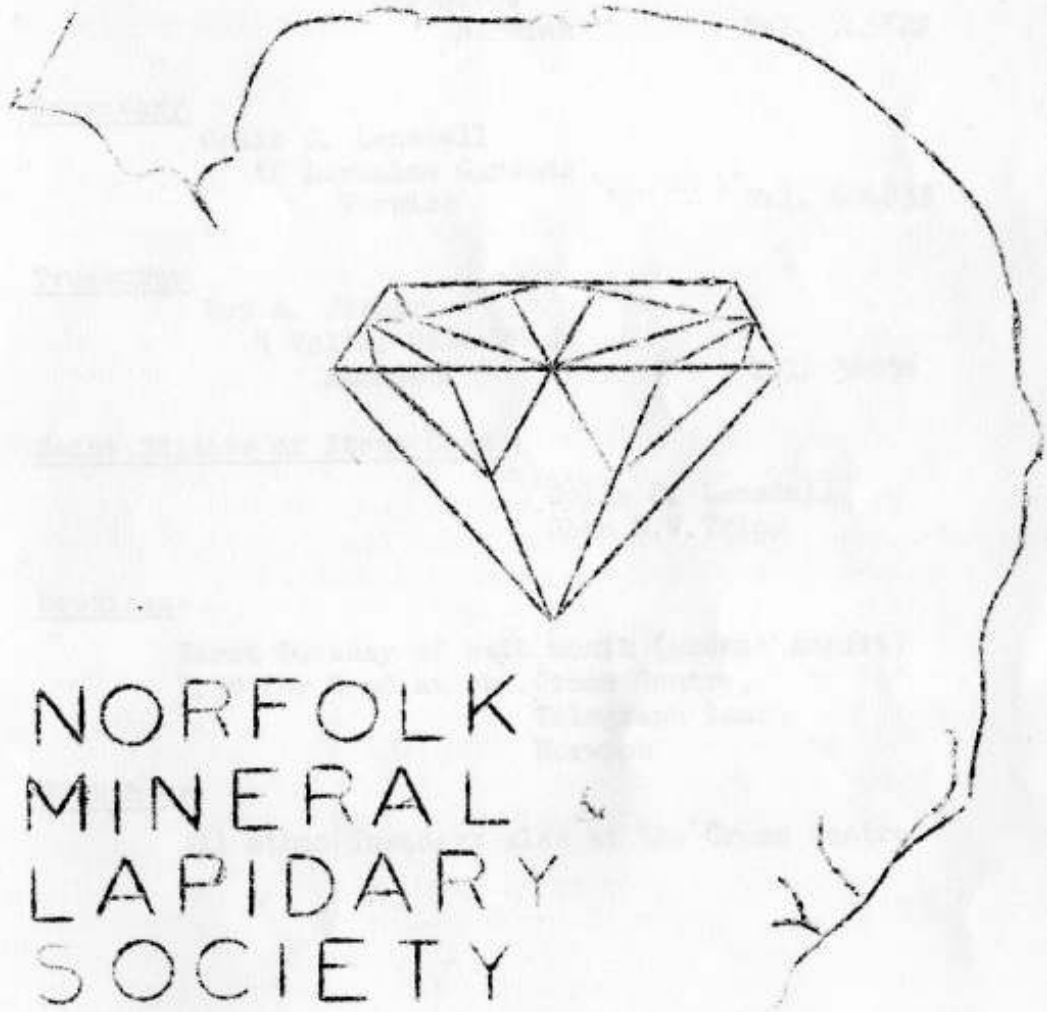


STONE
CHAT



NORFOLK
MINERAL
LAPIDARY
SOCIETY

NORFOLK MINERAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY
formed March 1973

Chairman

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Bowthorpe
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Joint Editors of Stone Chat

Colin C. Lansdell
John N.W. Tripp

Meetings

First Tuesday of each month (except August)
7.30 for 8 pm at the Crome Centre,
Telegraph Lane
Norwich

Workshops

All other Tuesdays also at the Crome Centre.

Well here I am folks, the first edition of your new quarterly magazine. The Editors have scurped enough copy together for the first copy but to keep me going I need regular feeding with a variety of tasty morsels. So, bird lovers, please help John & Colin to keep me alive and well by providing me with regular tit bits of news, helpfull hints, items you wish to sell or buy and even complaints anything to fill my pages. See you soon.

.....

The N.M.L.S.

Our Society was formed in 1973 and in those days met at the Assembly House in Norwich. It was formed by people interested in the new cutting and polishing techniques that were appearing from the U.S.A. together with semi-precious stones found in this country and sent here from abroad.

A minor interest was the possible bulk purchase of materials while the major one was of the exchange of ideas in respect to lapidary techniques and design. The constitution was based on an educational approach to the hobby. Members were encouraged to seek markets for products outside the Society.

Most members owned and operated a tumble polisher, while few had more sophisticated machinery and so as soon as funds permitted we moved to the Crome Centre and opened our very own workshop. Over the years since we have put together a comprehensive set of equipment and now have saws, grinders, laps. and polishers all available for members use on Tuesday evenings.

The Society with a steady membership arround 40 since formation has centred on lapidary but from early days an interest in minerals has also existed. We have a collection of these donated by past and present members and many of us now have respectable collections of our own gleaned from mining areas arround the country.

CONT. OVER

The N.M.L.S. Cont.

On the jewellery side we have experienced and talented members working in silver and with gemstones.

Other interests include fossils, treasure hunting, pewter work, enamelling and various craftwork.

The Society holds regular courses in pewter work on Saturdays at the Crown Centre with expert tuition and materials available.

The recent reorganisation of our workshops being nearly complete, we shall shortly be offering courses in gem cutting and polishing to members of the general public. We have always been happy to pass on what skills we have to new members.

A few field trips are undertaken but these are dependant on an enthusiastic approach for success.

We have the reputation of being a friendly society (with a small "f") and enjoy many social events together.

New members welcome at all monthly meetings and workshop nights.

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FOR MEMBERS ONLY

Joyce Fisher has a large and varied stock of stones, both finished and rough, and findings available to members only. Please ring her on Norwich 36856 to arrange a convenient time to call

NEWS.....NEWS.....NEWS.....NEWS.....NEWS.....NEWS

Our Gems Fair, at the Worstead Festival this year, got off to a slow start on the Friday but by the Sunday the village and the workshops where our stands were was choc-a-bloc. The temperature in the workshops on the Sunday afternoon left me for one feeling like a limp rag at the end of the day. The members manning the stands were few, but nevertheless more members of the public saw us in action than ever before. If this results in a few new members it will all have been worthwhile.....

..... Has anyone a spare 1/4 or 1/3 H.P. continuous rated motor to spare? The type found in single tub washing machines is ideal. This is needed for one of the Society's trim saws.....

..... The auction at our October meeting was a great success with many bargains changing hands and the Society showing a profit of £26. This was followed on the Saturday by a jumble sale giving us a further £50 !!!

..... We have heard from the Crome Management Committee that the hire fee for our monthly meetings will be £2.70 per night and workshop nights £2.20. The Committee have arranged an interesting and varied list of speakers and events for our monthly meetings - please come as often as you can to justify the trouble and expense we have gone to

..... The workshop evening fee is now 50p per evening which gives up to two hours cutting and polishing which can't be bad - just compare that with evening classes run by the local authority.....

..... Talking of evening classes, geologists please note, starting 30.4.81 at Sprowston Adult Educ. Centre a four week course in preparation for a Field Study Visit to the Malvern Hills during Spring Bank Holiday Week. Those interested ring Mrs. V. Bowyer at Sprowston High School 46379.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

- November 1980 Mr. Zelle (from Ames the jewellers) on the subject of "Diamonds & Gold"
- December 1980 Holiday finds and slides with social evening
- January 1981 To be announced LOCAL HISTORY.
- February 1981 Cawston Winery - Winemaking (we hope with plenty of samples as last time)
- March 1981 A.G.M. with, we hope, cheese and wine.

COMPETITION.....

The most original item of jewellery made from standard jewellery findings will receive a mystery prize (a mystery because we haven't chosen it yet). Entries to be presented in person at our December meeting. On top of that you get the jewellery back!!!

Now is your chance to show us what you can do to amaze us all with your ingenuity.

The judges will be three committee members chosen on the night.

Remember - presented in person at the December meeting.

.....
A POINT TO PONDER..

To appreciate your job, for a moment just imagine yourself without it.....

ANAGRAMS - for amusement only

Lapidary

SALT DIAMOND

PAL

FREE CAP

A ROUND CRUMB

OUR MIXED ICE

Minerals

I'M LOOTED

TRIF YE

MAIL THE A/C

THE ROOD CHOIRS

CAMERA SIT

Geology

I'D PROOF WE DIRT

BEAM

STINK TCHY

RAIN LARVE

TONS BOOBY

TILT A RULER

RANDY SOX

SAME GOATS

Fossils

NIMBLE TEE

HIDE COIN

AM ON TIME

Compiled by John Tripp (with apologies).

More in our next issue. Have you any you can contribute?
Send to John Tripp at 7 Borrowdale Drive, Norwich.