

# *FOSSICKIN' ROUND*

THE VICTORIAN SEEKERS CLUB BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 38 issue 6

November/December 2017

**Over 24oz  
in 3 Nuggets found by  
VSC Member**



**Inside This Issue**

**Homebush Camp Report**

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**Recent Gold Finds**



**100 oz (3.13 Kg) nugget found near McIntyre**



## The Victorian Seekers Club Inc. (A0001477T)

Is a family oriented organization, the objectives of which are to promote friendship, cooperation and exchange of ideas among people interested in prospecting and metal detecting. To realize these aims, we have meetings, lectures, discussions and practical demonstrations to help members acquire the skills required to make prospecting and metal detecting an enjoyable and rewarding pastime. We arrange outings to the goldfields and other prospecting sites, beaches, camps, ghost towns etc, to search for gold, coins, relics, gemstones and other natural and man made objects of value and / or of interest. In addition, we also have functions to foster social contacts among members. Our conduct is governed by a strict code of ethics including avoiding trespassing on private property or damaging the natural environment, hence our motto:

**"Seek, But Do Not Destroy"**

Membership is open to adult persons and their minor children without regard to race, creed or political persuasion, who are interested in these pursuits and prepared to abide by our Constitution and Rules of Conduct. VSC has general meetings on the first Wednesday of each month (except January) at the Mulgrave Senior Citizens and Community Centre, 355 Wellington Road Mulgrave, and at a field trip each month and, in addition, we also have some occasional day outing.

### Annual Membership Fees

**Family Membership: \$65.00**

**Single Membership: \$40.00**

**One-off joining fee: \$10.00 single, \$20.00 family.**

**Subscriptions are due and payable from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July each year.**

Members whose current subscription are in arrears on the first day of September shall automatically cease to be members and can only be re-admitted upon payment of both the annual subscription and a joining fee.

**Website: [www.victorianseekersclub.com.au](http://www.victorianseekersclub.com.au)**

**email: [eric.grummett@bigpond.com](mailto:eric.grummett@bigpond.com)**

**PO Box 15, Mt Waverley BC, VIC 3149**

### Committee of Management

**PRESIDENT:** Susan MOORE

Club management/ representation, Chairperson.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Eric GRUMMETT

President's deputy, arranging speakers. email;

**SECRETARY:** Tony PAPPAS

Correspondence, meetings, admin.

**TREASURER:** Warren IBBOTTSON

Budget, finance matters ( other than subscriptions)

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Ian SEMMENS

Compiling & setting out Newsletter, & distribution

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:** Robyn IBBOTTSON

Subscriptions, membership records,

**RESEARCH OFFICER:** Rob SHANNON

Information about outings, field activity.

**CATERING SUPERVISOR:** Alex ERAM

**SOCIAL SECRETARY:** Tina WHELAN

Sue HODGES

Organizing social functions, raffles, theatre bookings, etc.

**ALMONER:** Louise McGOUGH

Contact on matters of personal nature, weddings, bereavement, etc.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:**

Nola PAPPAS

**CLOTHING OFFICER:** Eric GRUMMETT

**LIBRARY:** Louise McGOUGH

**FIELD OFFICERS:** Bob LAKE, Ivan ALBRECHT, Brian McGOUGH,

Lindsay TRICKER, & Paul GRIFFIN

# Events Calendar

## November

**Wed. 1st:** General Meeting.

**Thurs. 2nd -Tues. 7th:** Camp Fryerstown

## December

**Wed. 6th:** General Meeting.

**Sun. 10th:** VSC Xmas Break up Party **Wicks Reserve**

**Tues. 26th Dec. -Wed. 3rd Jan :** Camp **Moonambel**

## January

No General Meeting.

**Thurs. 25th -Tues. 30th:** Camp **Amherst**

## February

**Wed. 7th:** General Meeting.

**Thurs. 8th -Tues. 13th:** Camp **TBA**

## March

**Wed. 7th:** General Meeting.

**Thurs. 8th -Tues. 13th:** Camp **TBA**

- **Battery Repair**  
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# President's Report

By Susan Moore

Hello to you all. As you are all probable know by now I am Susan Moore, your new President. I have never done this kind of thing before so if I slip up I hope you will excuse me. I am looking forward to the challenge. This being my first Newsletter I would like to welcome Tony Pappas as the new Secretary and thank Warren (Treasurer), Eric (Vice President) and of course all the committee members who make the club tick for remaining in their positions to help Tony and I through our initial time in our new positions. Lindsay has been very helpful, encouraging, and I feel sure he will be there for me if I need him.

I have been with the club for only three and a half years (3 ½) since early 2014, right from the start I have always been made to feel welcome by the club. I will not be attending all camps but will do my utmost to attend all meetings be it Committee and General Meetings. I am looking forward to my first Melbourne Cup camp which I believe is very busy so hope to meet some more of our members and introduce myself. For the first time the Club will be putting on a BBQ please bring a salad and/or dessert to share.

It is that time of year again and Christmas will be here before we know it. I am looking forward to the Christmas Picnic/BBQ on the 10th December (second Sunday of December) at Wicks Reserve in The Basin. Always good fun and hopefully we will have nice weather again this year. Don't forget to get your raffle tickets even if you can't make it to the picnic you will be notified if you win, I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all,



**A Merry Christmas and a very Prosperous and Happy New Year for 2018.**

## New Members

- Stephanos Charalambos
- Jill Faithfull

**Welcome and Good Luck!**

## Code Red Fire Days Notice

**In the event that a Code Red Day is declared for any camp days, the camp will be cancelled.**



*During Code Red days, no one is permitted to enter State Parks and Forests. Camp may also be cancelled during other periods of severe weather.*

## Almoner's Report

by Louise McGough

Pat's shoulder is getting better and Joan is feeling well again.

Please contact Louise on 0490 156 597 with any information regarding the health of members, and any other significant family event so we can keep other members informed.

## Newsletter Contributions

The next Newsletter deadline is the 8th January  
It will be then Published on the 10th January.

You can send articles (in Word or Publisher Files please) and photos to [ian@regentvideo.com.au](mailto:ian@regentvideo.com.au)  
A big thank you to all those who have contributed items to this Newsletter.

Your contributions is what make this a great Newsletter.

## Safe Detecting

Prospecting is an enjoyable activity however there are some inherent dangers on the goldfields.

- Take care around any open shaft and when walking through the bush.
- Carry a mobile phone and water and the usual emergency provisions such as GPS, compass, first aid kit, torch, matches, UHF radio, snack bar.
- Be aware of hazards such as snakes.
- It is not advisable to prospect alone. Team up with a mate.
- And be SunSmart. Slip on a shirt, Slop on some sun-screen, and Slap on a hat.



**Members are responsible for their own safety!**

# General Meetings

By Eric Grummett

The September general meeting combined with our AGM for the formalizing nominations of a new committee. After many years as secretary and the last three as president, Lindsay stepped down from the office bearer role to have more time to look after his wife Margaret. He has done a huge amount of work for the club in recent years helping to make us a more efficient and professional outfit. For many years he has been the first contact for prospective members through our website. He also co-produced our club handbook giving new members much needed information on prospecting and club rules. Lindsay is also a life member, which reflects on his past hard work for our club. Bruce has left the committee after a hectic 12 months as secretary, thanks Bruce.

Our new president is Susan Moore who has hit the ground running, good luck with your future on the committee. Tony Pappas has accepted the position of secretary, a job he is very capable of and will be a pleasure to work with. I am again the vice president, and will try to keep up all the responsibilities that entails.

After being presented a Life Membership to Warren and Robyn Ibbottson, Warren agreed to continue his great work as treasurer for another year. They have been outstanding in the work done computerizing all our finances and memberships, and now have a firm hold on running that part of our club. Due to the size of the VSC, Warren took on a huge job to modernize our finances, and deserves all the accolades we can give him.

Ian Semmens agreed to be newsletter editor again for the next year, which is a relief, as we all appreciate the high standard of publications that he produces.

Research and Facebook continues to be looked after by Robert Shannon. Keep up the great job with all the photos and DVD's Rob.

Other positions were;

Social Secretary- Tina Whelan and Sue Hodges. A huge job running two raffles a month and theatre nights.

IT officer- Nola Pappas keeps our website under control

Almoner / library- Louise McGough

Catering - Alex Eram

Field officers- Bob Lake, Brian McGough, Ivan Albrecht, Paul Griffin, and Lindsay Tricker.

The Find of the month went to Robert Shannon with his 40 gm of Tibooburra gold

The Find of Year was awarded to Alex Eram for his 40 gm nugget found in Western Australia last year.

After the meeting we all pigged out on cream cakes from the girls, and pastries supplied by Sam Shvemer. There were enough crumbs on the floor after to feed an army.

I was not at the October meeting but I believe all those present had a great laugh at the DVD Robert Shannon made during our last Tibooburra trip. He did a great job producing this piece of club memorabilia. The find of month went to Tony Pappas for his 8 gm nugget from Homebush.

## Special Event

### Fryerstown Camp Melbourne Cup W/E BBQ Dinner



**Free BBQ cook up.  
Saturday 29th Nov. Evening Dinner.  
Bring yourself, a salad  
and/or a desert.**

**Plus:**

- **Special Cup W/E Raffle**
- **Cup Sweepstakes**



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## Member's Recent Gold Finds

**VSC member's haul of big Nuggets**



12 oz nugget with some manganese and quartz



Above: 10 oz nugget with some manganese and quartz



2½ oz specimen

These nuggets were found recently by a VSC member in the Golden Triangle with a Minelab GPZ 7000. The two larger nuggets were found near each other about 21" deep and they gave a faint but obvious complex signal. The 2½ oz specimen was in a different area and was shallow. Many thanks to the finder for sharing these photos with the fellow members.

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Jewel	450gm	4mm	450mm

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- NEWS ARTICLES
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- AND MUCH MORE!



# September Camp Report

## Homebush

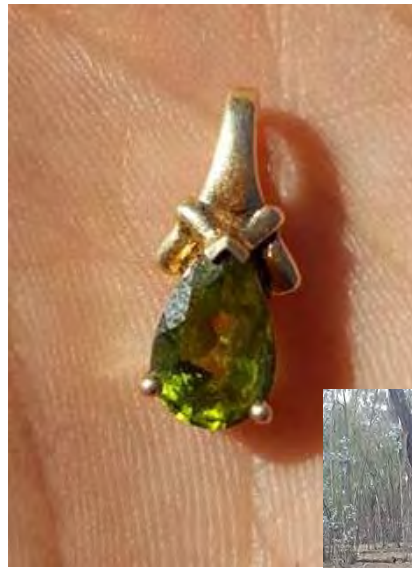
By Rob Shannon

It was a cosy camp at Homebush that provided both some drama and entertainment. Firstly Peter Maffey had car issues whilst on route to camp. He blew a turbo hose which reduced power on his vehicle dramatically. Nothing gaffer tape won't fix hey Peter! Secondly, poor Pat had a nasty fall when she was out detecting with James. She tripped over a stick and held out her arm to take the impact of the fall. So she was rushed to the nearby Maryborough hospital for scans but thankfully it was only a dislocated arm. Pat remained over night as a precaution.

Weather during the camp was good despite it raining down in Melbourne. We only had a few drops one night but it was mostly dry conditions with the sun out most days.

Gold finds during this camp was a stand out with some nice nuggets being found. Tony Pappas had a wonderful find with a nice chunky 8 gram nugget, Ken Whit found a well-deserved 4 gram nugget, Craig Webb also did well with a nice collection including a specie, Eric worked hard digging up 5 grams worth of smaller nuggets, Visitor Gino, who is friends with Matt, dug up a 5 gram nugget, and Robert Shannon, who found a patch, had a total of 24 grams including a 8 gram nugget. Also James found a nice pendant encased with 22 ct. gold with a green gemstone in the middle.

I would like to thank all the members who made the effort to attend the camp. It was well enjoyed with plenty of good memories and laughter as always. I also would like to remind everyone now is the time to attend a camp if you haven't for a while. Summer is around the corner and now is the time to get out for a swing while the weather isn't too hot. Take care everyone and hope to see you all soon!



James found this lovely pendant with a 17 ct gold hallmark. The gemstone is yet to be identified

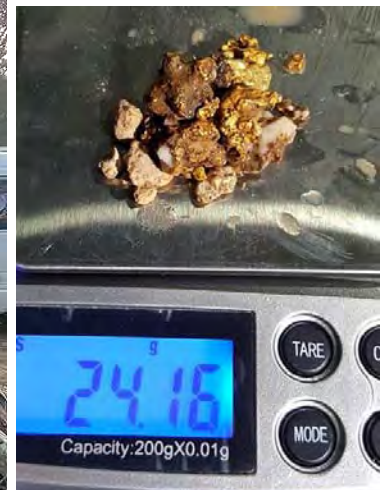
Jim out detecting



James & Pat detecting



'Round the Campfire Saturday evening.



Rob's nuggets for the weekend.



# October Camp Report

## Tarnagulla

By Eric Grummett

The campsite this year was a much improved venue this time, as those who went last year experienced very wet conditions, with many getting bogged to the axles and the clouds of mosquitoes that followed us relentlessly were not missed.

A good turnout saw 34 members enjoy perfect weather. The exception to this was the sudden storm on Sunday night that dumped heavy rain and hail on us which flooded the camp site and sent us diving for cover. It stopped after 15 minutes, and the next day you would not know it had rained.

The weekend was highlighted by the huge 'Laanecoorie Bash' event held at the Laanecoorie Caravan Park, which is the biggest annual prospecting expo event held in Victoria. Anything to do with prospecting was on display from dealers, tours, lectures, gold buyers and gold pours. Large raffles and auctions from donated goods and competitions raised a record \$32,600.00 for the Peter McCallum Cancer Research Foundation. A fantastic result from a hard working group of prospectors and the PMAV committee.

Gold was very elusive with only a few of us scoring mostly small pieces. The biggest nugget was Bob Lake's 4gm. It was smiles all around for Peter Gazan who finally cracked it with his first nugget in 3 years with a 1.3 grammer. I thought I was onto a winner with a good patch of targets in a deep wash, only to be rewarded with a pellet (see Roberts video on Facebook), and not to be beaten continued to dig the targets, but waved the white flag after 36 of the %!@\*#&'s. Peter Richards went home with a negative financial report after badly staking a tyre. He must learn, that is not the way we collect firewood.

It was with great excitement to all when a long standing member arrived to show us what a 2.5, 10, and 12 oz. nuggets look and feel like, which he had recently found in Victoria at about 21 inches deep. We shook our heads in disbelief that there is still gold like that still to be had. I had better get a wriggle on as my time clock is ticking.

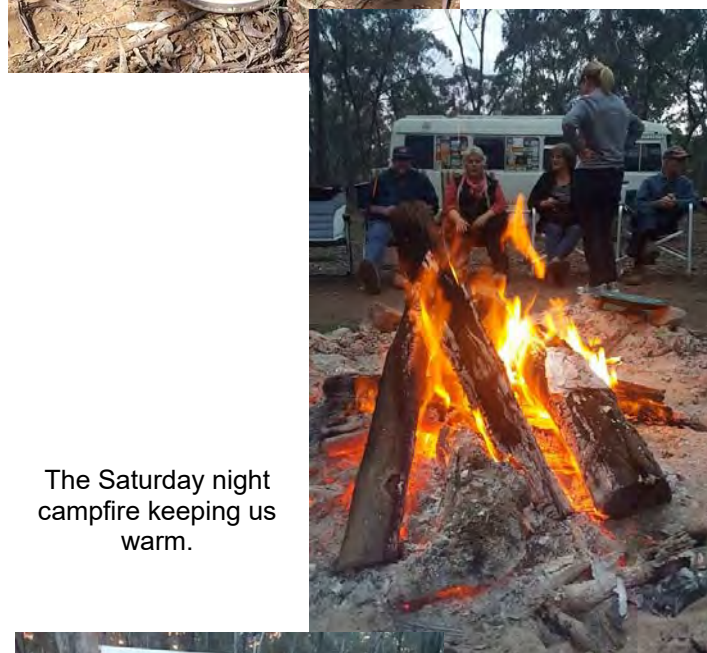


A great camp enjoyed by all, and don't forget the next one at our favorite Fryerstown for the special Melbourne Cup weekend.

Peter Gazan and his 1.3gram drought breaking nugget.



Kay looking for nuggets.



The Saturday night campfire keeping us warm.



New Member Jill F. with Pam G.



# More Tarnagulla Photos



Geoff helping Louise McGough



Peter G. with a big smile..



Robyn H. Detecting.



Laanecoorie Gold Bash on Sunday.



Shirley S. cooking up a pizza.



Campfire scene on Saturday evening.



## Doug Stone's Gold & Relic Maps go live with Avenza Maps.

<http://www.dougstonegoldmaps.com.au/>



It is now possible to download Doug's Maps to your smart phone or tablet. No more frustration deciding where you are on the map, the cursor shows your exact position. No connection to the Internet is required, the built in aerial in your mobile device does all the work and means all our goldfields are covered no matter how remote.

Once you are within the map area the cursor will track your every move whether in the car or out detecting. The program also allows you to record tracks, navigate and add photographs of your finds.

Avenza maps has enabled Doug Stone Gold Maps to go on a new journey. Simply download their free App. which activates our maps. It was so exciting when we submitted our first Geo-referenced map of the Maldon Goldfield to the Avenza team in Toronto, Canada for approval. For the system to work the mapping has to be extremely accurate (within 5 metres). After a few days the all clear came back and we downloaded our Geo Referenced Maldon Goldfield map into my iPad.

I couldn't wait, the next day I was off in the Land Cruiser to see the system work. The Maldon map sheet extends south from Newstead to the Nuggety Range north of Maldon Township. I pulled over near Muckleford, mounted the iPad on the dash, loaded Avenza Maps and highlighted our Maldon sheet. There it was as bright and clear with the cursor flashing in the margin of the map. I turned into the first minor track to the right, heading north and watched the cursor twist and turn right on top of the track. After a bit of experimentation I was able to activate the tracking function. A little thin line began to extend over our track network.

After a break at the Maldon bakery I was able to ring my wife Julie with the great news that our maps were accurate and working beautifully. I also emailed a trace of the map to our cartographer.

### [How Do I get Doug's Gold & Relic Maps?](#)

**Step one.** Google search AVENZA maps and download their FREE APP. (application)

**Step two.** The Avenza site has over 500 000 maps available covering most of the world. Australia map publishers

are well represented with HEMA, National Mapping, Vic Image and many others on the site. Once you login you simply move their cursor to the part of Australia you are interested in prospecting and any available maps will be highlighted.

**Step three.** Select your map which is downloaded to your device in seconds.

**Step four.** There is a cost, but that enables us to be in the field and produce more Doug Stone Gold Maps and Atlases. The maps sell for US\$8 which is just under the price of our paper versions.

The great thing if you are in the field and left your hard copy home simply Google up Avenza and download our map and you will be prospecting again in minutes. Avenza maps is a great site for all your members to become familiar with if they are interested in keeping up with what's available in new mapping. Parks Victoria has most of their Parks on the site.

### **Campers Please Remember:**

...to be considerate of others if you feel that you must use a generator.

Don't use it close to other campers, take measures to mitigate the sound such as put it in a ditch or use a sound baffle, don't run it all day, and observe the 9:00 pm cut off time

We encourage you to consider charging batteries with a solar panel instead of a generator.



## Doug Stone Gold Maps

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Doug's latest book has just been released - "Coin & Relic Detecting in Australia" which is the companion to Doug's popular "Metal Detecting for Gold in Australia".

[www.dougstonegoldmaps.com.au](http://www.dougstonegoldmaps.com.au)



### New PRO-FIND Pin pointer Series is Coming Soon



Minelab is pleased to announce the pending release of our next generation PRO-FIND Series Pinpointers.

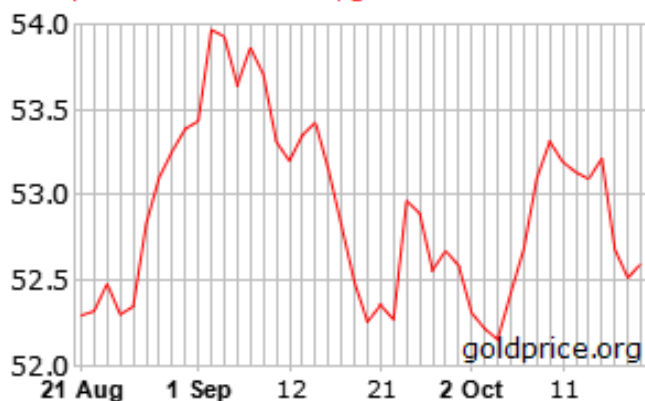
PRO-FIND Series Pinpointers assist in accurately locating targets at the point of extraction where a metal detector coil cannot fit. This results in smaller holes, less environmental disruption and faster target recovery time.

There will be two new PRO-FIND Pinpointers available, the PRO-FIND 15, and the PRO-FIND 35, both of which will obsolete the existing PRO-FIND 25 model.

The PRO-FIND 15 offers essential core pinpointer features and is designed for simplicity and ease of use. The PRO-FIND 35 provides premium level functionality in a fully waterproof design for the serious detectorist. Both models use VLF transmission and incorporate Minelab's unique Detector Interference Free (DIF) technology.

## Gold Price Report

### 60 Day Gold Price in AUD/g



Gold Price as at 20/10/2017



VSC Member Marie Barclay recently found this wonderful 18 gram nugget near Wedderburn. Well done, Marie.

## Club News

### Vic Seekers is now on YouTube!



20 videos were uploaded to our newly created [Youtube](#) channel in September.

Members are invited to submit further videos as this is a great way to share our tips, techniques and (sometimes) triumphs.

Check it out now: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaT2i94zvarPXrXn0\\_Szjpw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaT2i94zvarPXrXn0_Szjpw)

Thanks to Nola Pappas, our Information Technology Officer for setting this up.



## Recent Gold Finds



How's this for a nugget. A huge, almost 100 oz nugget (1.320 kg.) found recently near McIntyre, Victoria. Yet another big nugget comes out of the famous Golden Triangle of Victoria. Just shy of 100 ounces and reports from a good source it was only lying 6 inches deep, it went up for sale and reportedly sold for \$200,000.



Some of the gold that Gary & Alan found in Western Australia this year.



A 530gram nugget found near Dunolly around July 2015. Photo Courtesy of the Dunolly Caravan Park.

**Just in Time  
for Summer!**



Announcing the fantastic new polo shirts, available now by order for \$30.00 each. Eric G. will have a few sizes at our next meeting to try on. Orders can be also placed for the polar fleece jackets which will be the same as our previous design and will cost \$40.00 each. Caps \$15.00 Contact Eric for orders on 0488 972 922.



## Gold Finds



This beautiful nugget weighing 447 grams (approximately 14.4 oz) was found in Victoria on the slope of a hill about a foot and a half down, found with a Minelab GPX 4500 Metal Detector and a Minelab 18" Commander Mono Coil. It was just the second time he had used this coil and has only been detecting for about 12 months. A great find!!

Posted on: **Gold Detecting and Prospecting Forum**, May 2012.

*Photo courtesy of Miners Den Bendigo*

58 grams of gold found near Dunolly in July 2014.

*Photo courtesy of the Dunolly Caravan Park*



74.4 grams of gold found over two weeks near Dunolly in 2017. *Photo courtesy of the Dunolly Caravan Park*

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## The Paddy's Secret Patch



**Stunning crystalline gold and quartz**  
(Specimen approximately 7cm long, total weight 110gms)

**WHAT'S IN A NAME?:** Irish prospector Paddy Hannan gained fame and fortune for his part in the discovery of the Kalgoorlie gold field in 1893.

Another Paddy — a gold prospector named the location

Paddy's Secret on the edge of Lake Lefroy near Kam-balda — is generating some buzz for WA company Lefroy Exploration.

Check out some of these gold nuggets which were discovered at Paddy's Secret by prospectors using metal detectors in an area covering 400 metres by 200 metres, down to a depth of 1 metre.

Paddy's Secret is 4 kilometres to the north-west of the historical Hogan's Find gold workings. The prospect is currently the focus of an electromagnetic survey by Lefroy Exploration, which is attempting to locate the primary source of the nuggets.

The photograph was released as part of a statement to the stock exchange by Lefroy exploration, so it is fair to say the secret is out.



106 Grams of gold nuggets found near Dunolly  
3rd September 2017.

*Photo courtesy of the Dunolly Caravan Park*

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