

Report on Minerology Workshop led by Linda Garrett at Leominster Community Centre

7th November 2018

Photograph by Will Pridie

Text by Angela Dyer

Sixteen members of the group met for a Minerology Workshop. We were all equipped with at least two specimens from Linda's collection sourced from around the world. The aim of the session was for us to understand the properties of minerals to allow us to identify minerals in the field, although further investigations might be needed using a microscope.

We were introduced to properties such as lustre and colour, cleavage and streak and form and crystal systems. Moh's scale of hardness is also important and can be found in geology reference materials as can mineral identification flowcharts. A magnet can be used to determine magnetism, the weight in the hand can suggest the density of the specimen and certain minerals are identified by smell or taste .



This was Linda's last meeting with the group as she is moving away so we expressed our gratitude for the considerable support she has given us over the last two years.