



# The Rhodoniter

## NAMBOUR LAPIDARY CLUB INC.



Newsletter... Jan. & Feb. 2016

Email [nambourlapidary@hotmail.com](mailto:nambourlapidary@hotmail.com)

Management Team elected March 2015		
President	Mark Rea	resigned.
Vice President:	Trevor Renshaw	0419 781 105
Secretary:	John Spencer	0434 785 880
Treasurer:	Bernadette Anderson	0419 737 587
Sen. Supervisor:	Ian Rose	0405 216 444
Silver Supervisor	Freda Wengert	0400 717 589
Silver Supervisor	John Huelin	0499 554 673

Workshop Session Times		
Monday pm:	6 to 9 pm	Silverwork
Tuesday am:	8.30 to noon	Lapidary
Tuesday pm:	6 to 9 pm	Lapidary
Thursday am:	8.30 to Noon	Lapidary (50+)
Thursday pm	6 to 9 pm	Lapidary

### January Birthstones

*Garnets*

**GARNET:**  
The birthstone for January, signifies eternal friendship and trust and is the perfect gift for a friend. *Garnet*, derived from the word *granatum*, means seed, and is called so because of the gemstone's resemblance to a pomegranate seed. References to the gemstone dates back to 3100 B.C., when the Egyptians used garnets as inlays jewelry. *Garnet* is the name of a group of minerals that comes in a rainbow of colors, from the deep red of the pyrope garnet to the vibrant green of tsavorite. Today, the most important sources for garnet are Africa, Sri Lanka, and India.

**January Birthday wishes to :**

**Bettina Begega  
Luke Swanson  
Yioda Wilson**

### February Birthstone

*Amethyst*

**AMETHYST:**  
Amethyst, the gemstone believed by ancient Greeks and Romans to ward off the intoxicating powers of Bacchus, also is said to keep the wearer clear-headed and quick witted. Throughout history, the gemstone has been associated with many myths, legends, religions, and numerous cultures. English regalia were even decorated with amethysts during the Middle Ages to symbolize royalty. Amethyst is purple quartz, a beautiful blend of violet and red that can found in every corner of the earth. Historically, the finest amethyst were found in Russia and were featured in much royal European jewelry. Today, while Brazil is the primary source of this gemstone, fine material can be found elsewhere, especially in Zambia.

**February Birthday wishes to :**

**Brett Penfold  
Ian Rose**

### Club Notes:

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS:**  
All 2015 club memberships expired on the 29th Feb.  
Renewals fees must be paid before attending any further workshops, to ensure the insurance cover is valid

**SILVER WORKSHOPS:**  
For existing members and newcomers wishing to join the Silver workshops, an 'Information sheet' is now available.  
As explained in the leaflet, It is necessary to have some basic skills before joining the group.  
The Silver supervisors have been busy organising a 4 x session 'basics' course for beginners, which has now been finalised.  
It is now just a matter of organising a date to run the course.  
After much discussion and debate, Wednesday morning was voted the best time to run it. 9.00 to 12.00 am  
Unfortunately the time may not suit everybody, so the next course may well be at a different time.  
The course will be \$100 plus the 4 x daily workshop fees at \$6.00 making a total of \$124. which includes use of all the tools and materials necessary to make the jewellery.  
The Tutors, Freda and John Huelin are volunteering their time for free.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**  
Just a reminder, (again), the AGM is on the 9th of March and all members are encouraged to attend. A general meeting will follow immediately afterwards.  
A new management team will voted in to run the club for the next year.

## From the Presidents Desk

Welcome to another year at the club, I hope everyone had a fun happy and safe xmas and holidays, and are enjoying our clubs facility's once again.

A few points to mention, Please be careful with larger stones on grinding wheels not to push too hard let the machine do the work not you, as have noticed some chipping of edges.

Also as you all should know by now the annual general meeting is on its way so voting will be required to elect the committee positions, all positions will be up for voting as the club and its members deserve the right to choose who they believe is best for elect positions, voting from dates established soon and the committee will let every member know when and how this will be done.

Also I have handed into council a

letter to the advisory committee, explaining our intentions for our clubs extensions that we are proposing to do, this has to be agreed to by the other clubs within the show grounds complex, requested by Leigh show-grounds management, Leigh and Ian have helped out our club in many ways and I on behalf of our club would like to say a very big appreciative thank you.

The silver team have been working on changes to silver classes and structuring the final details on great things to come with i.e., group classes, and the will be more notification on that subject in the near future. Also thank you to those involved in the clubs new saw as it works a treat,

Alice donated one much the same so when the club gets done up there will be five trim saws to use plus Alice's precision four inch saw which would be great for opals.

Last year with the shows and auctions and Gemfest raised a nice profit so this year with proposed Bunning's sausage sizzle and tram fest stalls should be better and It does take you the club members to pitch in and help and last year was very much appreciated thank you.

I wish to thank everyone for a very successful year, and with many changes and hard work I believe our club is moving forward in a positive way, and I hope this continues into the future, with lots of organised field trips and events/ shows and many happy club members. I thank you all for an excellent last year, may the club have many more.

Sincerely Mark J Rea  
President

## From the Secretaries Chair

As you will all be aware by now, Mark resigned as President on the 16th Feb. due to his work commitments.

His report, above, was written earlier in the month but it is still relevant.

A letter of appreciation has been sent to Mark and there is a copy on the next page.

Mark has done a great job for the club with his enthusiasm and ideas.

Hopefully the club can continue in the same vein by completing the proposed modifications and making the club a more organised and better equipped place to work.

The council 'advisory committee' approved the changes at the meeting last week and they will now present their recommendation to the main Council meeting for formal approval.

In addition to this, it would be good to improve on some of the basic stuff also, like a new kitchen cabinet and

Laundry tub. Both which have seen better days.

A lot of the lapidary equipment also needs a good service, with new drive belts and bearings needed.

Generally a really good 'clean up' is needed in the club, including re-ferbishing and re-stocking the existing shelves and cupboards.

Hopefully we can organise a few 'working bees'.

There is a lot of 'Silver equipment' in the cupboards which really needs to be sorted out to make better use of it.

It also needs to be either colour coded or engraved to avoid mixing up the members tools with the club tools.

I found my lost saw in the cupboard last week but luckily I had my initials JDS engraved on it. Maybe that's something the members could do on their own stuff also. There is engraving equipment at the club to do this.

Ants have been a problem during the wet weather, but the spray seems to have fixed them in the short term. It might be a good idea to get the perimeter of the building sprayed. We must

put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

Talking about the perimeter of the building.. A couple of members have reported that there is a leak at the rear of the building. The plumbers have already had several attempts at fixing it but it continues to leak. It is actually a 'non return valve' which is a legal requirement to have. The valve is quite expensive so they are obviously reluctant to buy a new one unless really necessary.

It would be good to get it fixed properly as the wall and ground are always wet and that can't be good for the foundations.

The new 10inch saw has proved to be very popular. It is the missing link between the 'trim' saws and the 'slab' saws. Most members like to cut small rocks at some stage and doing them on the 6" and 8" trim saws was simply destroying the blades. So let's look after it and keep it in good condition. Great stuff..

Regards  
John Spencer. Secretary

# The Rhodoniter

## Letter of Appreciation to Mark Rea

Postal Address:  
Nambour Lapidary Club Inc  
PO Box 52  
Nambour Post Office  
Lowe Street,  
Nambour, QLD 4560



Club Building Address:  
NAMBOUR LAPIDARY CLUB  
Gem lane  
Nambour Showgrounds  
Nambour, QLD 4560

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016

Mark, on behalf of the club we wish to express our gratitude for your efforts during your time as the NLC President. Your unexpected resignation has made it difficult to wish you well in person and we hope that, notwithstanding your increased work commitments, you will still have time to participate and enjoy the social aspects of club activities. During your tenure as our President the club has seen a significant increase in membership together with the associated workshop times. It is often mentioned how often you are available to assist with workshop activities especially devoting time to introduce new members to our club regime. Your rapport with the junior members who now attend club sessions as well as your ideas for rejuvenating "The Mine" at the Gem Fest, as well as a ready willingness to discuss and support new ideas will be missed.

Your efforts to see better utilisation of the club through a building plan modification will I am sure come to fruition. Your extensive liaison with the local authorities is appreciated and I am sure this will stand us in good stead for the next phase of the negotiation.

The club has moved forward financially and socially over the past year with increased cohesion between the two main elements of the membership, the lapidary and the silver working groups. Increased membership, greater attendance at workshops and a very successful "Gem Fest" have given the wherewithal to better fund new equipment purchases as well as our planned building renovations. You have played a significant part during your time as President.

Many members have indicated that it will be unfortunate that you will not be nominating for re-election at the forthcoming AGM and so we thank you for your energy and enthusiasm during your tenure as NLC President, wish you well and look forward to any of your future active involvement with the club.

For and on behalf of the Nambour Lapidary Club Management and Members

John Spencer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Spencer", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Secretary

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## Members fossicking at Vee Road, Yandina

Pictures courtesy of Kath McKee



Thank you Kath, for the pictures which highlight the fun of the Day.  
Plenty of fossicking in the shallow waters and nice shade under the trees.  
Everyone had a good time. Thanks to Mark and Andrew for organising it.  
A visit to Wappa falls followed and although most of the good stones remained hidden, it was a great to learn some techniques and what would be the best equipment to bring for future trips.

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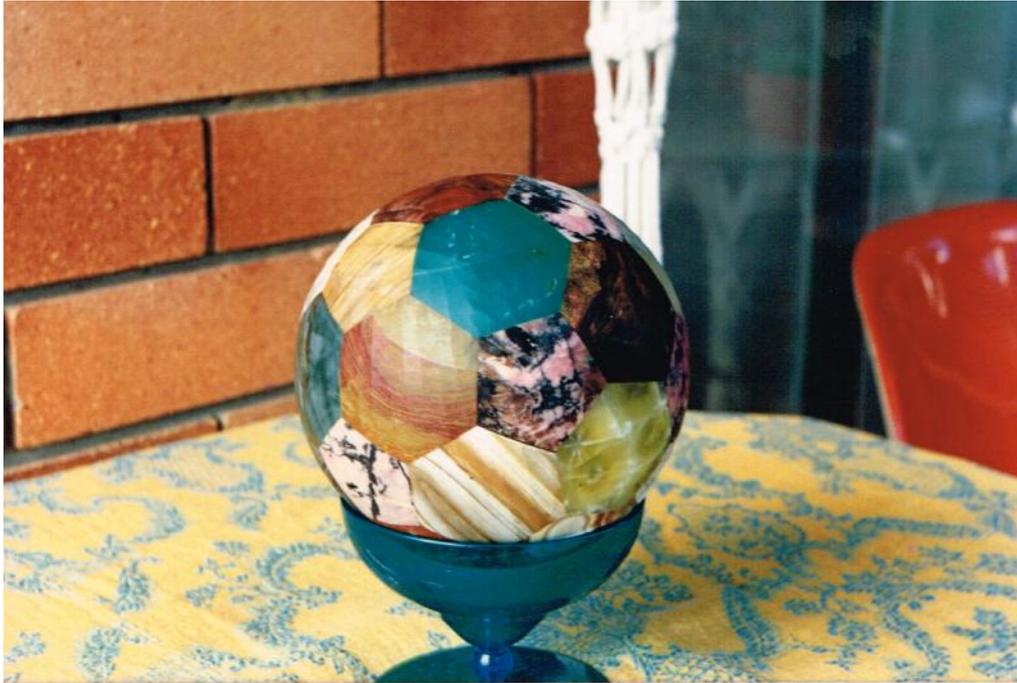
A couple of interesting pictures brought in by a member.  
a 'Mineral Ball'

Imagine the work and intricacy involved in getting the pieces to fit precisely  
And then polishing them into a perfect polished round ball.

With different hardness's and textures

Just amazing..

There is even a piece of the Club's Rhodonite in there.



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This is short notice to organize a trip:  
but it would be well worth the effort to go.

## further must see attractions:

- Visit our rural villages of Deepwater, Ben Lomond, Glencoe and Emmaville with the Emmaville Mining Museum reflecting the once bustling mining area.
- See the Australian Standing Stones unique in the southern hemisphere, national monument to Australia's celtic pioneers and venue for the popular annual Australian Celtic Festival 28th April - 2nd May, 2016 celebrating the Isle of Man
- Experience our distinctive seasons dazzling springs, naturally air-conditioned summers, golden autumns and log fire winters.
- Conveniently located at the intersection of the New England and Gwydir Highways - four hours from Brisbane, seven from Sydney.
- World Heritage Washpool & Gibraltar Range National Parks and wide range of other parks/nature reserves within easy drive of Glen Innes.
- Land of the Beardies History House Museum - showcasing the district's history with invaluable archives. Open Mon - Fri 10am to 12noon - 1pm to 4pm & Weekends 1pm to 4pm
- Great fishing for Murray Cod, trout and other species.
- Heritage walk and tourist drives - there are more than 30 Heritage listed buildings in the CBD alone.
- Eateries and accommodation to suit all budgets. Sample award-winning local wines.

Minerama 2017 will be March 10, 11, 12

For more information on Celtic Country visit our friendly staff at:

The Glen Innes Visitor Information Centre  
Tel: (02) 6730 2400  
Email: [tourism@gisc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tourism@gisc.nsw.gov.au)  
[www.GlenInnesTourism.com](http://www.GlenInnesTourism.com)



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## minerama

minerama committee  
P.O. Box 309, Glen Innes NSW 2370  
Email: [enquiries@minerama.com.au](mailto:enquiries@minerama.com.au)  
[www.minerama.com.au](http://www.minerama.com.au)



free entry



## minerama

GLEN INNES \* NSW

welcomes you to the largest annual fossicking gem & jewellery show in NSW

11 • 12 • 13  
march 2016

at Glen Innes & District Services Club  
120 Grey Street & flowing through the car park onto King George Oval



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

## gem & jewellery show

- **times:** Friday March 11 and Saturday March 12, 10am - 6pm and Sunday March 13, 10am - 3pm.
- **daily faceting demonstrations** and expert gemmologists to answer your queries.
- **free entry** with over 70 dealers trading in gemstones, fine jewellery, facet rough, lapidary supplies, crystals, beads, fossils, mineral specimens and much more.
- **bistro meals, Club raffles, FREE evening entertainment** and friendly locals.
- **on site crystal fossicking** provided by the Glen Innes Gem and Mineral Club.
- **lucky door prize** free to enter.
- **view your gems and minerals under a microscope:** the Mineralogical Society of Queensland will have microscopes set up in the Boardroom on Saturday. Come in and bring your specimens. Children with parents are especially welcome.

"The lure of the deep rich, royal blue sapphire - we're part of the state's most prolific sapphire region & the world's richest mineral diversity belt"...

## fossicking field trips 2016

- thursday **march 10**  
Field Trip 1: Matheson  
Field Trip 2: "Red Farm" Glencoe  
Field Trip 3: To be advised
- friday **march 11**  
Field Trip 4: To be advised  
Field Trip 5: Glen Elgin  
Field Trip 6: "Glenora" Yarrow Creek
- saturday **march 12**  
Field Trip 7: "Crossmaglen"  
Field Trip 8: "Fernbrook"  
Field Trip 9: 7 Oaks/ Frasers Creek

be careful though.....  
treasure hunting  
is HIGHLY ADDICTIVE

## the minerama dinner

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKERS  
On Saturday 12 March, 2016  
At the Crystal Room Restaurant,  
Glen Innes & District Services Club at 7.00pm  
Limited tickets, cost \$20pp includes 2 course dinner  
**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL** Call Julie (02) 6732 1355

all welcome

## visit emmaville mining museum

- **just 30 minutes drive** from Glen Innes to view the huge collection of gems and minerals plus mining memorabilia from days of old including Chinese tin mining history.
- **open 10am - 4pm**, closed Thursdays. \$2 entry.
- view the nationally renowned curmow mineral collection plus the Jillet, Gilbey and Maskey Collections.
- **see over 300 photographs of mines and miners**, Emmaville & local community.

"Increasingly, fossickers are flocking to Celtic Country's gemfields. You don't need a licence, it's simple, cheap & fun for the whole family with the opportunity to strike it rich".

