



# The Rhodoniter

## NAMBOUR LAPIDARY CLUB INC.



Newsletter.... April /May 2016

Email nambourlapidary@hotmail.com

**Management Team elected March 2015**

|                   |                     |              |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| President         | John Spencer        | 0434 785 880 |
| Vice President:   | Trevor Renshaw      | 0419 781 105 |
| Treasurer:        | Bernadette Anderson | 0419 737 587 |
| Lap. 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   |
| Thursday pm | 6 to 9 pm    | Lapidary   |



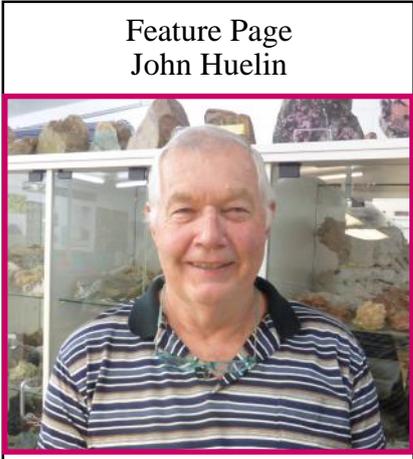
Bob Ellis has generously donated some great equipment to the Club..... More on page 4

Gemfields Lapidary and Craft Club



The President, Pat Marsh, will give you a warm welcome and is happy to show you around the venue.... More on page 7

Feature Page  
John Huelin



In a previous life, John was a Lieutenant Commander in the Australian Navy...More on page 3

**April Birthstone**  
*Diamond*



Diamonds are the rich cousins of graphite. Both are crystalline forms of pure carbon. There are many kinds of diamonds: transparent, translucent, or opaque; ranging from colorless to sooty black, with many colors in between. Diamonds' cold, sparkling fire has held us spell-bound for centuries, inspiring rich, passionate myths of romance, intrigue, power, greed, and magic. Ancient Hindus, finding diamonds washed out of the ground after thunderstorms, believed they were created by bolts of lightning. In our place and time, the diamond is a symbol of enduring love, and often graces engagement rings.

**Birthday wishes to :**  
**Susan Contini and Laurie Jones**

**May Birthstone**  
*Emerald*



The emerald belongs to the beryl family of minerals. There are many myths associated with the emerald. The stone was once believed to prevent epilepsy, stop bleeding, cure dysentery and fever, and protect the wearer from panic. Its magnificent green color was said to rest and relieve the eye. To the ancient Romans, emeralds were dedicated to the goddess Venus because the green emerald symbolized the reproductive forces of nature. Early Christians saw it as a symbol of the resurrection of Christ. In the Middle Ages, emeralds were believed to hold the power to foretell the future.

**Birthday wishes to :**  
**Gunter Patzholz  
Neils Ashby  
Deanna Dunham  
Jarrod Haines**

**Silver Smith, 'Basic Skills' Course.**

The talk of running a Silver Course has been on the Agenda for years, literally!!....More on Page 6

*Elsa, refining her Skills*



## From the Presidents Desk

There is plenty to Report over the last couple of months, at the club.

We had a great working Bee last month, cleaning out the Council Storeroom, installing extra shelves and making everything accessible.

We figured it would be best to get this sorted out before we attempted any work in the Clubhouse itself.

There is now more space available to move a lot of Surplus materials and equipment from the clubhouse. This has already been started.

We had a great donation from an Ex member, Bob Ellis, who unfortunately is in a Nursing home and not very well. His daughter Yvette called and offered the equipment to the club which we gladly accepted.

We also purchased some equipment from Patrick English who was a previous president.

Patrick has also donated his rock collection which is close to half a ton of fine looking rocks.

More about these later in the newsletter.

The Silver Course has been a resounding success Thanks to John Huelin and Freda. They extended the course period from 4 to 6 weeks to give everyone chance to complete their projects. We have all learned a lot from this, and look forward to organising another course down the track

Unfortunately we didn't get the grant for the Slab saw from the RSL. However this was not unexpected as we had a grant last year from them, and there is a huge amount of applications. Next year we will try again.

THE GOOD NEWS IS.... We got the Grant from the Council for our improvements. \$7,500, Everyone is 'stoked' and it is a great relief to

know that we can make our improvements without dipping into our Savings.

It has been deemed that we do not need any 'building regulation approvals' for our works, but because we are now leasing the building from the Council, we need 'Lessors approval' for the minor works. This has already been applied for, and it should be just a formality.

We have already measured up for the new benches and tables and John Huelin has had the steel for the framework delivered to his workshop/home at Eumundi. Pep lives nearby and is giving John some help to make them.

In the interim we are slowly clearing out the Saw room in readiness for the new benches.

This is just the start and we are looking forward to getting stuck into the rest.

The saw room will be a bit disorganised for a while with stuff sitting on the floor, until we get the new benches made. We will endeavour to keep the saws operational in the meantime.

Laurie Jones has kindly offered to take the Large Vibrating lap home to polish slabs.

This is a great machine, and works very well. Unfortunately we can't use it at the Club house as it need constant attention and needs to run all day. So it only gets used when we get volunteers. John Craine and I have had it previously.

We do have another smaller machine, but it is very noisy and doesn't work as well as the big one.

Trevor has been cutting some new slabs for members and for sale.

We could really do with a new Slab saw, preferably about a 23" but we need to save up for that one at around \$10,000.

The Agricultural Show is almost upon us and we have been busy making the usual preparations.

We did a huge order for Polished stones from WHW gems (around \$1,800) and put them in new 750ml boxes with some nice new labels which should last a lot longer than the old ones. Thanks to Bernadette, John H, Gail and Gary F,

We now have a superb collection for Sale which hopefully will last us through the year (or not)

Hopefully everyone will be available to be included on the roster for the 3 day show.

We did a 2 week Caravan trip at the start of May. Visiting Emerald, The Gem fiels, Longreach, Charleville and back through Roma etc.

A fossicking trip was organised for a day trip to Glenalva, about 20 k west of Sapphire. Didn't get much but it was good to learn how to do it properly.

Lyn has reported that the sites for the Gemfest are filling up fast, so we are expecting a really good show turnout.

As part of the improvements for the club, we have moved the 2 display Cabinets to give us a more open entry.

Matt Houston, who is Geologist, has done a fantastic job, taking all the specimens and rocks out of the cabinets and reorganising them into a proper categories. At the same time creating a spread sheet of names so we can make proper labels.

Susan Contini had originally put her hand up to do the job, but unfortunately she has not been well recently.

The big Blue...white Elephant', Rock lathe', which has been sitting on the bench, unused, for years. Has finally been sold. Thanks to 'Gumtree' A chap from Dalby thought he would have a use for it.

Enjoy the rest of the newsletter, until next time.

John Spencer

# The Rhodoniter

John Huelin. *Club Member, Silver Supervisor,*



Beautiful Jade Earrings in Gold settings



John joined the club almost 3 years ago. He regularly attends the lapidary workshops, but his real passion is the Silver Jewellery making. The Lapidary work simply serves to provide him with stones for setting. This Solid Sterling Silver Bracelet is a testimony to his skills, with beautifully shaped and moulded patterns inlaid with 5 Polished Turquoise stones.



In a previous life, John was a Lieutenant Commander in the Australian Navy. Obviously this is a role which does not come easily and explains his significant Engineering, Scientific and mathematical abilities, John is now our Head Maintenance officer and Silver Supervisor. He is also a key instigator of the Silver Course, along with Freda.

As a Naval Officer he was also involved in teaching which is apparent in the way he looks after the silver smith pupils. Everyone appreciates his knowledge and attention to detail.

John is already greatly involved in the Club improvements project, starting with making steel frames for the benches and tables etc.

All this, in-between running his Farm at Eumundi and always managing to find the time to help his family and friends

Cheers John. Great to have you at the Club.



Boulder Opal set in Sterling silver bezel

# The Rhodoniter



10" Diamond saw with hand feed vice



'Robilt' faceting machine with all the dops and Laps included

Large Tumbler Rollers



240v Motor



Thanks Bob..  
This is a wonderful Donation.  
On behalf of all the club members  
we wish you well.

Digital Safe



Fossicking Sieves and Pans



In Gratitude for the Donation,  
Bob's Family was presented with  
6 Complimentary passes to the  
Gemfest and some jewellery and  
polished stones from the Club.



# The Rhodoniter

**Machinery Purchased from Patrick English.  
Patrick Also donated a huge collection of Gemstones to the Club**

‘Robilt’ Faceting machine complete with motor and speed controller



Faceting Grinding and polishing Discs, Dops and accessories



Vibrating Tumbler with Grits and Polishing Media



# The Rhodoniter

## Silver Smith, 'Basic Skills' Course.

The talk of running a Silver Course has been on the Agenda for years, literally!! Finally with the help of a dedicated few, it has finally happened. It has been months in preparation but, what a success it has been. Seven new Pupils, very happy, and confident they can progress and develop their skills in the Workshop.

Pupils: Elsa, Derek, Laurie, Tina, Deanna, Gunter and Kath. Tutors: John Huelin and Freda Wenghert



# The Rhodoniter

## Situated in the 'Roy Day Park, Sapphire' is the 'Gemfields Lapidary and Craft Club'

The President, Pat Marsh, will give you a warm welcome and is happy to show you around the venue. The club is in a large shed and very well patronised. Unlike our club, the work is centered around fashioning sapphires and zircons which are the mainstay of the Gemfield area.

The shed is divided into Lapidary, Faceting, Silver and wire wrapping, Dremel shaping and polishing and other Craft work. The club has over 20 Faceting machines available and probably a dozen Dremels set up around a table. The Lapidary section has 2 diamond saws and 2 x 6wheel combination units for grinding and polishing. All in all it is a great club, and well worth a visit when visiting the Emerald, Sapphire, Rubyvale area.



## Up and Coming Australian Gemshows: courtesy of Australian Gem and Mineral <http://www.mineral.org.au/>

### June

- Sat 4th - Sun 5th June 2016 Gynyah Lapidary Club Annual Display Mt Cootha Gardens Auditorium - Brisbane SE Qld Ph 07 3266 5060
- Sat 11th - Sun 12th June 2016 Grafton Gem & Craft Show Grafton Showgrounds, northern NSW
- Sat 18th - Sun 19th June 2016 Windor Gem and Mineral Fair, Sydney outskirts NSW The Fair is a bi-annual fair and is held at The Windsor Function Centre on the corner of George Street and Dight Street Windsor. The fair is hosted by The Hawkesbury Valley Lapidary Club and Crystal Habit. We will have a number of traders from around Australia displaying their wares as well as displays and demonstrations by the Hawkesbury Valley Lapidary Club. A great day out for the whole family. Adults \$7, kids with parent/s are free! Opening hours are 9:30 till 5:00 on Saturday and 9:30 till 4:00 on Sunday. For more information please contact Peter at [raregems@optusnet.com.au](mailto:raregems@optusnet.com.au) or 0412 333 150
- Sat 25th June 2016 Gold Coast Gem and Craft Show - Gold Coast Queensland 80 Pacific Avenue Miami (Pizzey Park next to Olympic Pool) Ph Alan 07 5571 6436

### July

- Sat 9th - Sun 10th July 2016 Hervey Bay Festival of Gems - Hervey Bay SE Qld To be held at Star of the Sea Catholic School, 39 Hughes Road.
- Sat 16th July 2016 Caboolture Gemfest - SE Qld To be held at Caboolture Historical Village Beerburum Rd. Caboolture, SE Queensland. Contact Paul Futcher 07 5432 3219
- Sat 23rd - Sun 24th July 2016 Townsville Gem and Mineral Gem Show Mineral displays, lapidary and silversmithing demonstrations, rough and cut gems, refreshments and lucky door prizes. At the clubrooms 96 Mooney Street Gulliver, Townsville North Queensland Contact Elethia Brady on 0411 800 944 for more information.
- Sat 30th - Sun 31st July 2016 Cairns Mineral and Lapidary Gem Show Club rooms, 129 Mulgrave Road, Cairns, far north Queensland

### August

- Fri 5th - Sun 7th Aug 2016 Kybong Rock & Mineral Fest and Campout at Cooloola Rocks and Minerals, Kybong, SE Queensland 1 Lobwein Rd, KYBONG, Qld 4570 Phone/Fax (07) 5483 5252 (Just a few kms south of Gympie on the Bruce Hwy and only about 2 hours drive north of Brisbane) Email John & Cecile Steenbergen: [Cooloola Rocks and Minerals](http://www.cooloolarocksandminerals.com.au)
- Sat 6th - Sun 7th August 2016, Marrickville, Inner Sydney NSW 9.00am – 5.00pm Fraser Park Pavilion, 100 Marrickville Road, Marrickville (Close to the Sydenham Train Station) Less than 10km from the CBD! [rockncrystals@gmail.com](mailto:rockncrystals@gmail.com) or phone (02) 9559 6737 <http://www.sydneycrystalshow.com>
- Sat 6th Aug 2016 Ipswich and District Lapidary Club Show, Ipswich, SE Queensland Showgrounds, Warwick Road, Ipswich

## Australian Gem Shows Cont....

- Sat 6th Aug 2016 Innisfail Gem Show, Nth Queensland Club House, River Avenue
- Sun 7th Aug 2016 Atherton Gem Show, Nth Queensland Club House, Racecourse Rd, Toga
- Fri 12th - Sun 14th Aug 2016 GemFest - Festival of Gems Anakie - Central Queensland Allen King Memorial Park Australia's largest gemstone and jewellery exhibition held annually. Celebrating and showcasing sapphires, crystals, fossils, minerals, precious and semi-precious gemstones, lapidary and jewellery. Four days of exhibitions, workshops, entertainment, prizes and demonstrations to keep you busy. For more information contact the Event Coordinator on 07 49854 375 Email: [info@gemfest.com.au](mailto:info@gemfest.com.au) [www.gemfest.com.au](http://www.gemfest.com.au)
- Sat 27th - Sun 28th August 2016 Carlingford Gem & Mineral Fair, Sydney outskirts NSW This fair is held at The Roselea Community Centre which is located at 645 Pennant Hills Road. We will have lots of traders from around Australia as well as displays and demonstrations from the 2 local lapidary clubs, Parramatta Holroyd Club as well as Northern Districts Lapidary Club, as well as the NSW Mineralogical Society. A great day out for the whole family. Adults \$7, kids with parent/s are free! Opening hours are 9:30 till 5:00 on Saturday and 9:30 till 4:00 on Sunday. For more information please contact Peter at [raregems@optusnet.com.au](mailto:raregems@optusnet.com.au) or 0412 333 150
- Sat 27th August 2016 Waterloo Bay Gem Show, Hemmant, Brisbane, SE Queensland Hemmant Community Hall, Corner of Ramsay and Brandt Streets, Hemmant, Qld

### September

- Sat 3rd - Sun 4th Sept 2016 Mildura and District Gem and Mineral Club Annual Show, Mildura NW Victoria This year will be our 24th annual event. It is to be held at the Sunraysia Masonic Centre Irymple Calder Highway, 15th Street, Irymple 6 km from the Mildura CBD. Any information required please phone [Hellyn Parker](mailto:Hellyn.Parker) on (03) 50245 451 or 0408 502 340
- Sat 10th - Sun 11th Sept 2016 Bribie Island Gem Show, Bribie Island, SE Queensland Arts Centre 191 Sunderland Drive, Banksia Beach, Bribie Is Gem Festival Co-ordinator: Kel Barlett Email: [kel@bribieisland.lapidaryclub.com.au](mailto:kel@bribieisland.lapidaryclub.com.au) Web site: [www.bribieisland.lapidaryclub.com.au](http://www.bribieisland.lapidaryclub.com.au)
- Sat 17th - Sun 18th Sept 2016 Waverley Gem Club Exhibition, Melbourne, Victoria Brandon Park Community Centre, 645 Ferntree Gully Road Glen Waverley The annual Waverley Gem Club Exhibition is open from 10am to 5pm both days and includes jewellery, gemstones, crystals, rocks, mineral and fossil sales, gemstone identification, fossicking, faceting and silversmith demonstrations, showcases and more. Devonshire Teas and a canteen are on site. Contact Gwen on 0407 512 883 for further information.
- Sat 24th Sept 2016 Caloundra Gem Show, Caloundra Queen Street and George Street, Caloundra Website: <http://www.caloundralapidaryclub.org.au>

### October

- Sat 1st - Mon 3rd October 2016 Joint Mineralogical Societies of Australasia 39th Annual Seminar Brisbane, Queensland
- Seminar and field trips run by the Mineralogical Society of Queensland. Seminar will be held in the Theatre of the Old Museum and a dinner will be held on Saturday night. A mineral sale will be held on the Sunday morning before the first session. [Information soon to come!](#)
- Sat 1st - Mon 3rd October 2016 NSW GEMKHANA Hawkesbury Showground The competition between lapidaries from across the State, and often other States, too, will inspire new and older members to try a new aspect of this great hobby. As a special treat the Museum of Comparative Zoology has agreed to attend again this year, and will have a model of the fierce Albertasaurus, along with many other pre-historic models. Traders have lots of wonderful things to tempt us; a great chance to buy gifts for those hard to please people, and tailgaters who may well have that special something you've been hunting for. Demonstrations by experienced club members always attract a lot of attention, and the free activities for children will keep their interest for some time. Camping is available. Wheelchair access is easy. Parking plentiful. Refreshments top notch. So come and join us. Contact: Marilyn Behrens : 02 9635 8218 [mbehrens@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mbehrens@optusnet.com.au)
- Sat 1 Oct 2016 Beenleigh Lapidary Club Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, Beenleigh, SE Queensland. Beenleigh Showgrounds, Beenleigh, Qld 8am - 4pm
- Nambour GEMFEST, held at the Nambour Showgrounds, QLD . Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016. From 8 am to 4 PM This year is bigger and better than ever before with well over 120 stalls, all undercover in the Main Pavilion and 2 large Outdoor pavilions. This is one of the most popular shows of the year, with traders and dealers showcasing fantastic Crystals, Jewellery, gemstones, opals, minerals, crafts and much more. Lots of lucky door prizes, Great Raffle, kids fossicking, Prizes for kids puzzle corner. All day food and drinks, and more. Entry is still only \$4.00, kids under 12 free