



# The Rhodoniter

## NAMBOUR LAPIDARY CLUB INC.



Newsletter... Sept / Oct 2016

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

**Management Team elected March 2016**

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 am	9.00 to Noon	Lapidary
Thursday pm	6 to 9 pm	Lapidary

Other times by request

**NAMBOUR GEMFEST:**  
 an amazing success story and something for all club members to be proud of :  
 Full report and pics. on pages 8,9, & 10 .....



Entry Tent hosting the Raffle, Lucky door prizes, and Kids puzzle prizes

Free entry to Lucky 1000th Customer through the Gate



First Lucky door prize Winner



**24" COVINGTON SAW**  
 More on page 3..



A great addition to our collection of good quality Equipment

**TO COMPLEMENT THE GEMFEST SUCCESS !...**  
 THE FOOD OUTLET WAS A BIG WINNER

**RENOVATIONS and IMPROVEMENTS**



After 6 months of hard work, the club renovations and improvements are almost complete.  
 The club now boasts:  
 A new Silver workshop,  
 A new trim saw area  
 Stacks of new benches  
 New cupboards  
 New Kitchen and Laundry  
 New Flooring  
 Improved access and facilities

Details on pages 3,4,5 & 6.....



See pics on page 11....

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## Club Report

Sorry it has been so long since the last newsletter but there is a good excuse.. The renovations and improvements have taken priority for the last few months.

The Renovation changes to the club are fantastic. There has been a lot of hard work from all involved, but we are now nearing completion. See photos on pages 4,5,6 & 7

Really, all that needs to be done now is the painting. However we have noticed that the back wall behind the grinders always gets wet and dirty behind the machines. This appears to be an inherent fault with the cabinets which have a gap at the back allowing water to spray out when the wheels are spinning.

This is a job which needs to be addressed and fixed before we paint the walls.

### GARDEN EXPO:

Following on from the Agricultural show, the 3 x day Garden expo was also a marvelous weekend. The weather was great and attendance records were broken.

Our sales were fantastic and the fossicking Cart was a huge success again.

After expences, we achieved a \$2000 clear profit similar to the Ag. Show takings.

The 'Lead up' to the Gemfest was straightforward and we were determined to improve on last years performance. Everything went extremely well. And pretty much everyone had a part to play. We still don't have the final figures yet but we expect to clear \$5,000 profit.

The traders were over the moon with the attendance and the ATM turned over \$14,100.

The only comments we have had,

are "can we do it twice a year instead of one" and 'could we introduce a bigger diversion of stall holders to include more crafts'.

I guess we can look into it but at this stage I think we have enough on our plate. We are here to polish stones after all...

John Spencer  
President



## From a Newby..

Hi, Some of you might know me, my name is Toni and I've been in the club for around a month. I would like to say congratulations for having such a warm and welcoming club. From the very moment I came in the door to join I have been met by nothing less than friendly helpful people. Now you might think that's nothing special but it is. It isn't every club that makes you feel at home from the get go. Believe me I've been to some "ladies" clubs that make you feel like you've walked in with poo on your shoe. So give yourselves a pat on the shoulder.

Sorry if this sounds like a bit of a fan club letter but it kind of is. In the past month I have watched the changes that have happened in the

club from the benches to the sink and I am always amazed at how quick and seamless they are. Pull out a laundry tub and change it for a sink before the next session, Poof, its done. There a some really fast workers in your club. And speaking for myself and maybe all of you, I would like to thank them for their time.

It was so much fun to be involved with the gemfest, I was lucky to get to tell people how the club worked and show them some of the things we do. It was great. So many club members and their partners worked tirelessly to make it run well and I think it did. So another pat on the back for all of you too, (I didn't name names because I don't know all of them yet) but you know who you are. I hope to get to meet more of you

"shiny rock people" at the Christmas party.

Toni Bergemann  
Club Member



Renovations and improvements proudly sponsored by  
The Sunshine coast Councils Major Improvement  
Grant program

 Sunshine Coast  
COUNCIL

## The NEW 24" Covington Saw

With a bit of a struggle, The New Saw Crate was unloaded from the Trailer.

Peter Kerr had previously fetched the saw from Glen Innes, and kept it at his place until we were ready.

All hands on were on deck to install it in the workshop.

Trevor, Ian, Andrew and John. It is a fabulous machine, it looks well made and ready for work.

Since then, we have tried out the saw only to find the motor was quickly overheating. With a bit of negotiating with the supplier, we

had a new 2hp motor sent as a replacement for the 1.5hp motor. Since then it has been perfect and we look forward to cutting many more slabs from rocks we previously were not able to cut.



## The Renovations: Preparations



Kevin and Eckhart cleaning the slab saw area ready for the new 24" Covington saw. John Huelin installing fittings with Larry. All the rusty old supports under the grinders were removed and braces installed back to the wall. To make way for the new flooring, Cupboards made for the new 'Sales area' and Library. Gayle Sorting books onto the new shelves. Well done to all involved.

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## The Renovations: New Silver room, Saw room and Laundry area



New Silver Room, Workbenches, cupboards, new swivel roller stand, Soldering area, and much more..



New Saw room area., we now have '5' diamond saws for hand use, separate areas for Tumbling, Dopping, marking out and tin oxide polishing. Plus adults and kids apron areas. (plus storage for BBQ and Laps)



The old plastic Laundry tub was scrapped. A new bench (another unit made at John Huelins workshop) installed and a new (second hand) double drainer sink installed from Yandina disposals. Kev admiring the work..

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## The Renovations: Replacing the Kitchen



The old Kitchen was riddled with live Termites, The hot water cylinder frame was about to collapse



A new complete Kitchen for \$150 off Gumtree. Collected by Andrew and John from Kawana. A few modifications required and a new (second hand) sink from Yandina disposals. It has since had a tile splashback installed and a bench extension for the kettle, made by Laurie Jones. The hot water cylinder is now in the cupboard, and the termites done for...

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## The Renovations: Polishers re-located and flooring installed



The 2 large polishing Units were moved through 90deg. In line with the existing central bench unit. Drains were taken across the floor (rather than dig the floor up). Moving the machines has got rid of a 'bottleneck' and given a nice access to the Saw room. The existing central workbench has had a facelift, moving the laps, polishing wheels, and creating a new dremel area.



Over \$1000 was spent on new 4mm rubber flooring. The results are terrific, (apart from the rubbery smell when you first open the doors). Its nice to walk on, easy to clean and has already saved the lives of several dropped stones. New floor taps have been installed for filling buckets and hose connections.

## The GEMFEST

### GEMFEST..

Preparation for the Gemfest started in earnest on the prior Thursday, getting tables and chairs in place, marking our for Traders, electrics, tents, brochures, fliers, Raffle, door prizes, fossicking cart kitchen etc. We had some great volunteers for both days before the show. Traders started coming in on Friday morning and continued through the day with many staying overnight in their Caravans.

The main Gemfest day was a resounding success. Despite having quite a few traders pull out this year, the weather was perfect and we had record numbers through the gate.

The missing traders were mainly from the upper section of the main pavilion. Despite Lyn's efforts to secure more traders, we were left with a complete side not filled. Then at the 11th hour another trader in the same area had an accident and pulled out, The remaining trader in that area was then moved out to join the others to fill in a vacant spot in the lower section.

We had already decided to put the ATM and the fossicking cart in the top area to attract the customers, but the area was now bare and uninviting.

It was then that we decided to make a 'display area' for the club. using the left over tables.

Toni and Kath took control and with some help from a few other members we set up an amazing area showcasing the club activities, from maps and books, fossicking, rocks, sawing, tumbling, making jewellery, silver work and much more.

The finished job was amazing.

It was a great to see so many people and kids interested in what we do at the club. All this, along with the cart and the ATM, it made it a great attraction for the whole day.

Meanwhile the traders were having a ball, We just managed to crack the magic 1000 through the gate, which prompted joyous shouts, photographs and of course, free entry for the happy customer.

I reckon, along with the free entry's for the kids and others who sneaked in for free, there would have been around 1500 attended.

The Food outlet was terrific, much better organized than last year. Thanks to

Lyn for all her pre-planning and ordering food and equipment. Big thanks to Susan for Co-ordinating the running of the kitchen and getting things done and ready, Great job Susan.

This year we had a decent portable cold room, good BBQ's, good prep area and proper warmers.

There were some outstanding volunteers who worked hard to keep the food and drink flowing to the customers.

Bev and Dennis were first on the scene using their previous catering skills to make it look easy. Dennis was cracking eggs like a pro..

Peter and Frank were on the BBQ;s

The day was supposed to be split into 3 rosters, but even the best laid plans go astray and there were several changes.

We were once again, very fortunate to have non members: Mellissa (Trevor and Lyn's daughter) and Chrissie (Lauries daughter) to help during the busy periods.

Kitty, Trevor, Lyn, Chris, Deb, Bernadette, Ian, Kevin and Toni all filled vital roles to keep the customers served.

Other members shared their time on the 'Entry Gate, the main 'entry tent' (with the Raffle and door prizes), the 'fossicking Cart', and the Newly added 'Display' area'.

Thanks to : John H, Pep, Ian, Kevin, Deb, Kath, Toni, Chris, Freda, Carol, Vince, Laurie, Gary, Betty, Jarrod, Jenny, Ken, Andrew, Bernadette, Vince, Tina, Gillian, Yioda, Larry and Jenny. Everyone, and I mean everyone, did a great job.

Not to take anything away from the folks mentioned above, some however, do deserve a special mention for extraordinary input.

Lyn's work really made the whole show possible, and she was tireless in organizing the traders and making sure everyone paid their dues. In addition this year, she made up a 'goodie' bag for every trader, with a badge, pen, menus and next years application forms. .Fantastic.

Trevor, brought his Caravan as usual, and was up at 1.30am in the morning to receive the pies and cakes from the bakery, he was then up again at 4.30 am to start 'bumping in' the traders. It was a huge day for him.

Ian, despite his recent illness, worked 'above and beyond' almost to a point of exhaustion at midday, however after a brief 'sit down' he got a second wind and carried on for the rest of the day. Good on you mate.

Toni, is a fairly recent newcomer to the Club, but her help and assistance leading up to, and during, the big day was amazing. Her PR and sales skills were highlighted through the day as she talked to everyone about the club and its activities. She had lots of people interested in Joining. Her husband Erick also helped out and enjoyed the activities.

Freda hosted the Silver display area and got the names of 7 people who would like to attend the next silver course.

Chris is also a recent newcomer to the club and he gave his help freely wherever there was work going on. He has great all round abilities and worked hard on 'setting up', 'hosting the display area', 'working in the kitchen' and clearing up and much more. He has a knack for seeing what needs to be done and getting on with it. I am sure he will be another great asset to the club.

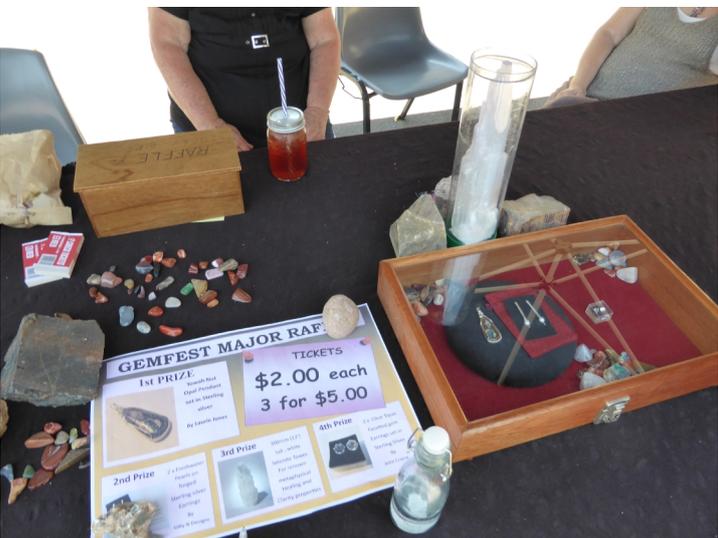
If there was an award. To be given, we should surely give it to Len Ball, affectionately known as Lennie. Len is a club life member. He doesn't attend the workshops any more, but I have never known him to miss a Gemfest. Len is one of those blokes who always appears when help is needed, almost like a second sense. Age is no Barrier to Lennie, he can work as hard as the next man. Always with a grin and never a groan. (not like some of us).

Unfortunately a few could not attend for health reasons. John Craine was disappointed to be confined to bed with his leg up, It was the first Gemfest he has ever missed.

Adam had an accident which put him in hospital. Ron and Susan, sent their apologies.

For any members not mentioned, lets hope all is well for you to attend next year.

## The GEMFEST



## The GEMFEST



## The GEMFEST Kitchen

