



PHYSICAL: Pizza N Pinball co-owner Chris Slevin with the AC/DC machine. Picture: Jonathan Carroll

## Feel all the bumpers and play clean

IT may be the era of Playstation and Facebook, but that hasn't stopped pinball from making a comeback.

Pinball Fest will be held at Caves Beachside Hotel on the September 8 and 9 weekend, with more than 50 retro and modern machines worth about \$400,000 on display.

New machines including AC/DC and X-Men will be there, along with older models such as Empire Strikes Back, Playboy, Paragon and Mata Hari.

The newly formed Newcastle Pinball Association aims to hold the event annually.

"Before Xbox and Playstation, there was pinball," association member Robert Denton said.

"We want to let people know

### PINBALL FAVOURITES

- The Twilight Zone
- Star Trek: The Next Generation
- The Addams Family
- Guns N' Roses
- Kiss
- Haunted House
- Flash Gordon
- Rocky
- Star Wars
- Back to the Future

pinball is alive and kicking."

Mr Denton said people attending the festival could recall the "sights and sounds" of playing pinball at the corner shop and arcade. Money raised will go to the charity Hunter Region Sids and Kids.

Dominic Slevin, who owns Pizza N Pinball with his brother Chris at Broadmeadow, will send 14 of his machines to the festival.

Mr Slevin said pinball was a "great hobby and something for the kids to do".

He said there was a "fairly big community in Australia that collect pinball machines".

Mr Denton said the festival would allow people to learn "all they need to know about owning and maintaining a pinball machine".

He was attracted to the three-dimensional and physical nature of pinball.

"It's not on a screen and it's fun," he said.