



Newcastle Philatelic Society Newsletter VIEWS FROM NOBBYS

Newcastle Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 34, JESMOND NSW 2299
Website : www.newcastlephilatelicsociety.org.au

AUGUST, 2018 : Newsletter No. 185 : EDITOR: Ron Davis

WHAT'S ON IN YOUR SOCIETY

THE NEWCASTLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY MEETS 7.30pm SECOND THURSDAY of EACH MONTH
MAYFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS HALL, cnr, PACIFIC HWY & HANBURY STREET , MAYFIELD AND
EACH THIRD WEDNESDAY AT 10.00 a.m. AT STUDIO 48, 48 MACKIE AVENUE, NEW LAMBTON.

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME

DATES	DETAILS
Thurs 9 Aug 2018	Annual General Meeting and Awards Night
Wed. 15 Aug 2018	Newcastle Daytime Meeting : 10 am, 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton, Display by Paul Storm – “PHILATELIC CONGRESSES in GREAT BRITAIN”
Sun. 19 Aug 2018	WALLSEND STAMP FAIR
Thurs 13 Sept 2018	Display by Ron Davis - “MISCELLANEOUS EUROPE”
Sun 16 Sept 2018	WALLSEND STAMP FAIR
Wed. 19 Sept 2018	Newcastle Daytime Meeting : 10 am, 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton, Display by Roger Eggleton “A SELECTION OF UNFAMILIAR POSTER STAMPS’
<i>Thurs. 20 Sept 2018</i>	<i>AUCTION NIGNT From from 6.30pm, (details, phone Don Catterall 02 - 4943 5639)</i>
Thurs 11 Oct 2018	Display Tony Walker - “JAMAICA”
Wed 17 Oct 2018	Display John Edwards - “KGV AUSTRALIA”
Sun 21 Oct 2018	WALLSEND STAMP FAIR
Thurs 8 Nov 2018	Display Don Rutherford & Tony Walker - “ANTARCTICA & the FALKLAND ISLANDS”
Sun. 18 Nov 2018	WALLSEND STAMP FAIR
Wed 21 Nov 2018	Newcastle Daytime Meeting : 10 am, 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton, Display by Don Rutherford – “POT POURRI”
Thurs 13 Dec 2018	Display by Greg Laidler - “THE CENTENARY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA -the 1929 Red Swan”
Sun 16 Dec 2018	WALLSEND STAMP FAIR
Dec 2018	NO DAYTIME MEETING

THE PRESIDENT'S PIECE, AUGUST 2018

Our centenary celebrations have now been and gone. It is all over for another ninety nine years. I would personally like to thank every person who helped in some way. We had a successful Expo, combining a national exhibition, attended by 27 dealers. We did a few different things at our monthly meetings, and we have a photographic record for the Society members who repeat the celebrations next century. Looking to the future, we have our Annual Competition in August. I encourage everyone to participate in some way.

At our monthly meetings there is often a display of something philatelic. There is also a display at the day time meetings. If you have something that you could display, please inform secretary John or myself. It doesn't have to be something expensive or extensive, just interesting. You could even share the display time with another member.

Happy collecting, and good luck in looking for those elusive items, - Greg Laidler, President -

EUROPE WILL GET HOTTER - HEATWAVES 40 degrees C will become normal in southern Europe by the 2050s, scientists say. Heatwaves like the one which fanned orest fires and damaged crops in Europe in July-August, are four times more common than a century ago. "In the early 1900s, a summer like the one we just experienced would have been extremely rare," researcher Geert Jan van Oldenborgh said. World temperatures hit a record high in 2016 (and are close again in 2018).

Newcastle Herald, 28 Sept 2017

THE SECRETARY'S SNIPPETS, AUGUST 2018

Since my last Snippets, our Society has hosted a very successful 100th Anniversary part-National Exhibition. It was pleasing to see so many people visit the Exhibition, with visitors from all Australian states in attendance, as well as dealers from all states except Tasmania having trading stands. Before the dust had even settled I was being asked when the next Exhibition will be!

Without the support of the many volunteers, exhibitors, dealers, Australia Post, Jurors, those that purchased souvenir products and the general public, it would not have been impossible to stage an Exhibition on such a scale. To all, a great big thank-you !

By the time you get this Newsletter, we will have held our 2018 Annual General Meeting, which comes with a programme for 2018/19. At this stage I have a few gaps to fill in from January, as well as the Daytime meeting programme.

- John Moore, Secretary -

SWAP AND SALE FAIR, 19th JULY 2018

A very good crowd came along for this event and I counted over 35 in the room at one stage. Eleven of our members had tables full of offerings, with plenty of philatelic fellowship on offer as well as a wide range of material. All part of the fun !

Some regulars were absent and they missed out on some great bargains. The action continued till well after nine o'clock when everything was packed up and we all said what a good night it had been. My thanks to the guys who helped dispose of the tables etc. - saves my back!

Our next event will be an Auction Night on the 20th of September. Try not to miss it.

- Don Catterall, Events Coordinator.

UNSTICKING AUSTRALIAN PEEL & STICK STAMPS

Australian Peel and stick stamps have two layers of adhesive. One is the tack that bonds the stamps to the envelope. The other is a water-soluble adhesive that lies between the self-adhesive tack and the stamp paper. The water-soluble layer is there so that collectors can obtain good used copies.

When peel and stick stamps first appeared there were problems with the water-soluble layer being too thin and not releasing properly. This was quickly solved, and reports indicate that there have been no further problems with Jac-PS paper. Jac-PS paper currently is used for all roll peel and stick stamps.

Booklets and sheetlets are printed on CPI paper. Unlike Jac-PS, CPI paper does not have a luminescent constituent. To enable the stamps to work in mail centre automatic sorting machines, the luminescent substance has to be mixed into a varnish and printed over the stamps. It is here that the most recent problems have arisen.

What happens is that the self-adhesive tack is practically impervious to water on one side of the stamp and the varnish creates a waterproof seal on the other. When soaking by conventional methods, water cannot reach the water soluble layer effectively.

Recently, white spirit (\$13 a bottle at Bunnings) was recommended.

Although several other substances have been touted as means of overcoming the problem, we do not favour the use of anything other than clean water. To give the water a chance to activate the soluble layer, it needs to be almost to boiling point and the stamps need to be immersed for up to half an hour. The stamps should then be gently eased off the paper and, when dry, any remaining tack removed carefully with an art gum eraser.

We suggest that you try this method, using worthless damaged stamps before attempting to soak collectable copies.

The reprint of the Threatened Species booklet uses a different technique to print the luminescent area. Hopefully this will overcome the problem from now on. 2017 saw Australia Post introduce "micro-cuts" within the stamp design for self-adhesive booklet stamps.

**** Psychologists say people with hobbies are not likely to go crazy – but this doesn't apply to the people they live with.**

AN OVERPRINT on a stamp can change the COUNTRY OF ISSUE! MCo CiM overprinted on an Italian stamp is NOT the European version of Coca-Cola, but indicates stamps for use by Italian forces occupying SLOVENIA in 1941. For years, I had thought ΕΑΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΙΟΙΚΗΤΙΚΗ on some Greek stamps was some charity overprint, but when I got around to looking into it, I found the translation to be "GREEK ADMINISTRATION" and the stamps were for use by Greek occupying forces in Southern ALBANIA during World War II (1940-41)! Just a large "5M" overprinted on some early French Colonies stamps denotes MADAGASCAR, and a "G" overprint on a Cape of Good Hope stamp suddenly changes it to GRIQUALAND WEST, a major battle zone during the Boer War. The word PARA with numbers each side of it on stamps of several European countries suddenly transfers it across 1000 or more kilometres to TURKEY - and indicates one of the many foreign Post Offices in the LEVANT! So next time you see a humble overprint on a stamp, don't assume it's a Red Cross or Charity or War Tax, look it up in your catalogue; you don't know where that stamp might have

been!!! -RD -

THE CENTENARY MEETING OF N.P.S., Thursday 10th May 2018

The President, **Greg Laidler**, welcomed everyone to the Newcastle Philatelic Society Centenary meeting, the first meeting of the second century of the NPS. A special welcome was extended to those members we don't see too often, and to visitors. 21 people were in attendance.

In his 2018 Newcastle Stamp and Coin Expo Report, the President updated progress on the Expo, and urged everyone to attend and help out where they could. The Expo is the major event of the Centenary celebrations.

The arrangements were : Thursday 24 May - bump in (preparation day) for Expo

Friday 25 May - Expo at Exhibition Centre

Saturday 26 May - Expo, Awards Dinner and Centenary Dinner, 6.30 for 7.00 pm

Sunday 27 May - Expo, final day, pack-up in the afternoon

President Greg Laidler then asked Bernard Doherty, to cut the Centenary cake. Photographs were then taken of Greg also cutting the cake (with Bernard watching). Don Catterall read out a poem written for the 75th Anniversary of the Society, which had been extended for the Centenary. The President then asked everyone to drink a toast to the Society, its past, present and future.

The evening displayer was **Bernard Doherty**, who displayed his exhibit : "The History of the Newcastle Post Office", being shown electronically. Following that, Bernard showed a short history of the Society, focusing on photos of past and present members. Following acclamation, in the vote of thanks, President Greg Laidler thanked Bernard, and noted the quality and thoroughness of the presentation.

To close the meeting, President Greg Laidler noted that the NPS starts its second Century from tonight. He thanked everyone for their attendance, invited them to stay for supper and refreshments, and urged everyone to come and enjoy the Stamp and Coin Expo.

*** The oldest event in World history that can be dated exactly was the peace treaty signed between the ancient armies of Media and Lydia in Asia Minor. The two armies were preparing for battle when a solar eclipse occurred. Shocked by the event as a sign from god that the impending war would be disastrous for both sides, the two signed their peace treaty. Astronomers have been able to fix the day as 28th May, 585 BC.

*** According to the Oxford English Dictionary, the longest non-name word in the English language is **pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosises**. It is the plural of the disease "caused by the inhalation of very fine silica dust". "Sneeze" is a shorter word.

*** The largest land animal in all of Antarctica is the wingless fly ! Presumably if it had wings, it would fly to a more hospitable climate.

SIX PAGES OR ITEMS CONNECTED WITH NEWCASTLE THURSDAY 14th JUNE 2018

Because 2018 was the year that the Newcastle Philatelic Society was celebrating its 100th Anniversary, members were asked to be involved in the Centenary. The evening display was 6 pages or items from members relating to Newcastle, and there was a big variety of "stuff" !.

John Pugsley - Silver medallion from the first time he exhibited [in NORPEX 2003], and Boer War covers to Newcastle;

Gordon Gibbons - Chile to Newcastle mail;

Don Catterall - Registration Labels and Railway Parcel stamps of local interest, and various historic postcards of the Newcastle environs;

Howard Bridgman - 'Life' in Newcastle, as depicted in Howard's philately;

Dianna Bridgman - Newcastle postmarks and cancels;

Don Catterall - Historic Survey map (showing Newcastle's mines) and 'Winn's' catalogue

Don Rutherford - Map book – there was great interest in these maps showing the location of Newcastle's mines;

Ron Davis - private artwork for various exhibition Cinderella's for past Newcastle Philatelic Society Expositions;

Anna Hill - Pasha Bulka photos;

John Hill - commemorative "Pasha Bulka" bottle of port;

Greg Laidler - various Cinderella's and coupons;

Roger Eggleton - "Educating Newcastle" - letters from Primary schools in Newcastle to inspectors.

Are you a Collector or a Hoarder?

The following is an extract from an article of the same title by Patrick Stokes, published in the *NewPhilosopher*, issue 18 (Nov 2017–Jan 2018), p.48. (*NewPhilosopher* is an excellent periodical, published in Hobart.) The whole article is full of insights, which I happily commend to anyone wishing to seek it out. — Roger Eggleton

The hoarder merely amasses stuff, whereas the collector curates. A collection, just for being collected, is more than the sum of its parts. Each item has been chosen, even sought, not simply accumulated. Having been selected in this way, the collection physically embodies the taste and discernment of the collector. And a collection, once established, has a certain integrity that its individual items lack on their own. Take one away, and the collection becomes not merely smaller, but incomplete.

A hoard, by contrast, just has sheer mass. It swells, but it does not acquire integrity, only volume. A collection is not a stack, and vice versa. Hoards do not even have utility; they're not truly stockpiles, or reserves, except in imagination.

Side notes:

'collector' — from Old French, the language of the nobility.

'hoard' — from Old English; for instance, when a character in Beowulf speaks, it is said that the wordhoard onleac ('unlocked his word-hoard').

Words of wisdom

There were four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

An important job needed doing and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it but Nobody did. Somebody got angry because it was Everybody's job.

Everybody thought that Anybody would do it. Nobody realized that Anybody would not do it. So Everybody blamed Somebody and Nobody did the job that Anybody could have done!

**** The shortest distance between two points depends on who is giving the directions.**

Did you know that ice-cream was more than 50% air ?? This air is forced into the freezer machine and into the icecream mix during beating to cause 'over-run' which turns the liquid mix into the partially frozen aerated delicacy known as icecream. The 'over-run' is the manufacturer's profit, less, of course, the cost of turning the mix into the frozen product.

PHILATELIC QUIZ, by DON CATTERALL

Thursday 12th July 2018

There were easy questions and hard ones, and a diligent study of the Philatelic Bulletin would have answered a lot of the questions, but not all of them.

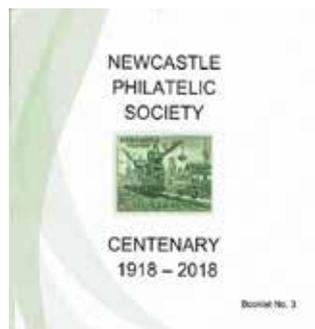
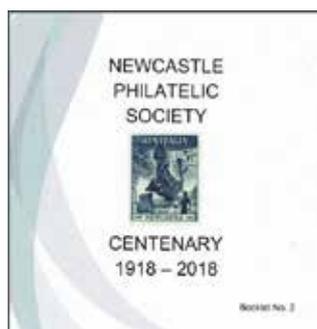
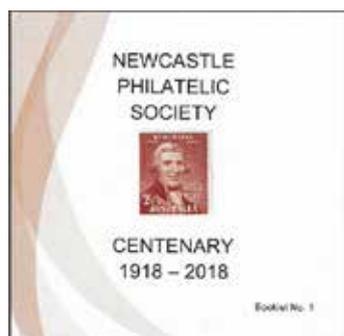
For instance, **Question No.1A** was : Name the person depicted on this stamp ? Okay, obviously Matthew Flinders (ASC 389 and 439). Righto, **Question 1B** : Name the ship. Well, Flinders sailed in many ships, including the whaleboat "Tom Thumb", with George Bass. Try the "Resolution". Correct. **Question 1C**: How long did his trip home from Australia to London take? Normally 6 to 6½ months. No? Seven years was the answer – Flinders put in at Mauritius in 1803, and, because the French were at war with England, was detained there and was unable to proceed until 1810 ! The relevant parts of each stamp were blacked out. Seventy questions in all, on 30 different subjects.

The questions covered all sorts of people and things – Winston Churchill, Robinson Crusoe, Molly Meldrum, Colleen MacCulloch, the astrolabe, Junior Farmers, a Labrador dog, a farthing (¼d) - and extended information on them. What was Dame Nelly Melba's maiden name? What does Hermes carry? What event was the London Eye built for? What was the use of the farthing stamp?

Very challenging indeed, with JOHN HILL being the eventual winner – for the third time in a row ! Thanks to Don Catterall for the amount of work and research he put into the Quiz.

SOUVENIRS

The Society still has a few Newcastle Philatelic Society Centenary souvenir products for sale. Contact the Secretary, John Moore, on moore.john@optusnet.com.au.



These booklets come with the special Show cachet, or with the personalised stamp

Sets of three of the Souvenir booklets - \$25 per set.

Unissued Aerogramme card \$10

Gold overprinted Australia Post imperforate mini-sheet - \$25



MAGAZINES FOR CIRCULATION

The Society receives several magazines which are available for circulation amongst our members. If you want to be on the circulation list, contact the Secretary, John Moore, on the email address or phone number shown above. Those members on the circulation list personally pass copies to the next person on the list, usually at meetings. It is not possible to post copies to members who live out of town.

The publications on circulation are :

Australian Stamp Professional

Stamp News

Philately from Australia

Cinderella Australasia

Capital Philately

Australia Philatelic Federation News

Armidale Circle Bulletin

Sydney Views

London Philatelist

Gibbons Stamp Monthly

Australian Commonwealth Collectors Club Bulletin

THE NEWCASTLE DAYTIME MEETINGS,**at Studio 48, 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton,****at 10 a.m. on the THIRD Wednesday of each month (except December).****POSTCARDS – a Display by DON CATTERALL, Wednesday 20th June 2018**

Don admitted that his display didn't comply with the latest Rules, in that details of the printing of the postcards – lithograph or offset, the name of the printer, etc. – were not shown. A page might often show only one card – something worth talking about.

His display covered seven topics :



Charles Dickens

Great Warriors of the Past – ancient and modern – including Leonidas, El Cid, Hector, Achilles, Nelson, Kim Yu-Shin, Garibaldi, Robert E. Lee, Montgomery and Eisenhower.

Comic Cards – such as “Tea Revives You”- a Sergeant bringing a cuppa to a sleeping sentry.

British Passenger Liners – including the Titanic, Lucitania, Queen Mary, Orion, Ulysses, Gothic, and Strathnaver,

Writers and Authors – Emily Bronte, Goethe, Charles Dickens, Hans Christian Anderson.

Haworth Village in Yorkshire – the home of Emily Bronte and her two sisters, with the Pennines Hills in the background.

Cigarette Cards – showing Charles Dickens characters from his various books.

Newcastle Shipping cards – scenes along the foreshore showing docks and “windjammers”, and of wrecked ships such as the Adolphe.

Don has thousands of cards in his collection, and what he displayed here is a mere fraction.

POT POURRI - SELECTED SHEETS FROM PAST COMPETITIONS**Display by RON DAVIS, Wed. 18th July 2018**

As the programmed speaker was unable to give the display, Ron Davis volunteered to show some of his entries in past Society competitions – some of them from 16 years ago. They were :

An Alphabet of Unusual Countries, ranging from Abkhazia through Biafra, Ciskei, Dominica, Funchal, Galapagos Islands, Horta, Kampuchea, Long Island, Oil Rivers Protectorate, Spanish Sahara, Tete and Wuhu to Zululand. Most of these pages were also included in the invited displays at the recent 2018 Newcastle Centenary Expo.

The Western Isles of Scotland, which included the Outer and Inner Hebrides, and local stamps of St. Kilda, Lewis, Staffa, Sanda, Islay, Canna, Summer Isles, Skye, Carn Iar, Rhum and Eigg – used for transporting mail to the nearest main Post Office.

The Local Stamps of Lundy Island, which first issued local-post stamps in 1929, and continues to do so. It is located on the south-western shore of England. Previously privately owned, it is now owned by the British National Trust.

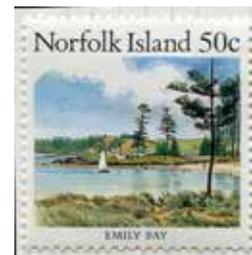
Features of the Sahara Desert, which most people think is all sand dunes – but in fact, only a quarter of the desert is sand, and the rest is stone gibbers, pebbles, and rocky crags and pillars and mountains.

Norfolk Island – Its History and Scenery, by special request, as two of our members are to travel there soon. It included various pre-stamped envelopes and stamps showing aircraft which have used the airstrip.

Art Stamps of Yemen, from Something Philatelic Beginning with the Letter “Y”. Yemen has produced many (possibly unnecessary) series of Art on Stamps.

*** *The fancy Fairmont Express hotel in Canada has lifted its ban on a customer who caused about 40 seagulls to fly into a hotel room 17 years ago. The seagulls had been attracted to a suitcase full of pepperoni, which had been intended as a gift to friends. The cured meat was a delicacy from the man's home city of Halifax.*

*** Three o'clock is always too late or too early for anything you want to do.



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at 10 a.m. on the THIRD Wednesday of each month (except December).

THE RHODESIAN FEDERATION - Display by JOHN HILL, Wed. 16th May 2018



John Hill, Bob Young, Ron Davis, and Sandra Baker enjoying the display

John had prepared the following to accompany his display :

THE FEDERATION OF RHODESIA AND NYASALAND – ITS FORMATION AND DISSOLUTION

An objective of the long-time Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia, Sir Godfrey Huggins (later Lord Malvern) was a large British dominion in Central Africa rationalising services common to Southern Rhodesia and its nearest British colonies to the north, namely Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland to create a large enough entity with the resources - the copper of the north for example, to justify a new dominion. The British did not wish to allow Southern Rhodesian control over the Africans in the area, so settled for a Federation of the three territories which allowed the two northern territories to continue under rule from London. This was the fatal flaw of the subsequent Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland 1953-1964. Independent of the interest of the Federation, Britain was able to move the two northern provinces rapidly towards independence once Harold MacMillan decided to abandon the Empire in 1958-59.

Yet Southern Rhodesia saw itself as the senior partner because it had been self-governing since 1923, and unlike Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, it possessed a sophisticated economy based on agriculture, mining and

industries through local enterprise. Southern Rhodesia had a stock exchange, merchant banks and other aspects of a developed society. If such assets were criteria of independence, the Southern Rhodesians felt that their territory should be independent first

At the break-up of the Federation, the British Government wanted to take control of the electoral process to give more scope for black participation. The Southern Rhodesian government saw this as unwarranted interference in internal affairs. Ultimately, this led to the Unilateral Declaration of Independence in 1965 for the country later to be called simply Rhodesia. For many years Ian Smith's Rhodesian government was able to weather world-wide criticisms and trade sanctions imposed by Britain and her allies. But a prolonged and vicious civil war combined with the loss of support from Mozambique and South Africa (thus land-locking Rhodesia), accompanied by an increase in white emigration, meant that some radical new steps were necessary. A Government led by Able Muzorewa included both black and white ministers, but met with the disapproval of other black politicians. The Muzorewa government resigned, Britain took control and organised the election of 1980 based on the principal of one man one vote which was won by Robert Mugabe. The Mugabe regime lasted till 2017 and saw the destruction of the once wealthy Zimbabwean economy just as Ian Smith had predicted.

References:

Gibbons, S., Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue - Southern and Central Africa

Isaacson, W., Kissinger

Moorcraft, P., McLaughlin, P., The Rhodesian War - A Military History

Shawcross, W., Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother: The official Biography

Smith, L. The Great Betrayal

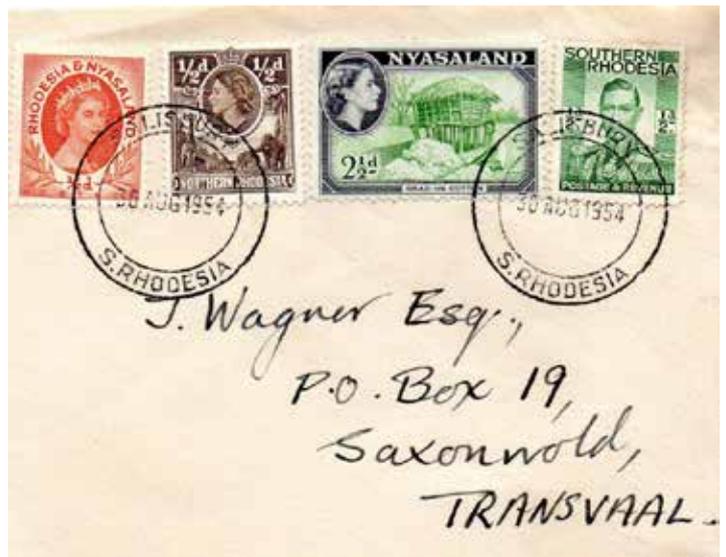
Wood, J., So Far and No Further

Sierra Leone issued 500 stamps in a year :

According to figures newly released by US-based catalogue publisher Scott, one country issued 504 stamps in 2016.

Sierra Leone's esoteric and eccentric output included commemorations of Lionel Messi, Claude Monet, Donald Trump, space tourism, the Toyota Corolla and cricket. Many of these were part of extended series of four-stamp miniature sheets. Of those countries whose issues have been fully catalogued, the next most prolific were Djibouti with 248, Solomon Islands with 246, France with 228 and Australia with 185. Great Britain scored 115.

***** Learn from the mistakes of others – you can never live long enough to make them all yourself.**



ALL ABOUT THAT BRASS MONKEY

It was *necessary* to keep a good supply of *cannon* balls near the *cannon* on old war ships. But how to prevent them from rolling about the deck was the problem. The best storage method devised was to stack them as a square based pyramid, with one ball on top, resting on four, resting on nine, which rested on sixteen.

Thus, a supply of 30 *cannon* balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem — how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding/rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate with 16 round indentations, called, for reasons unknown, a Monkey. But if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make them of *brass* - hence, *Brass Monkeys*.

Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannon balls would come right off the monkey.

Thus, it was quite literally "*cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey*". And all this time, you thought that was just a vulgar expression, didn't you?

APOLOGY – The last Newsletter – May 2018 – contained an article “Milestones in the History of Aviation – The Montgolfer Brothers”. This was extracted from the Armidale Circle’s Bulletin of April 2017 and was written by Albert Wynter, their editor, a prominent aero-philatelist, and also a member of Newcastle Philatelic Society. This was not acknowledged with the article.

Irish stamp designs full of mixed emojis

Ireland has issued a set of two stamps celebrating the emoji, the yellow smiley (or not so smiley) face used in electronic messaging to allude to the writer’s mood and meaning.

The designs show dozens of different emojis, interspersed with the phrases ‘Don’t Worry’ and ‘Be Happy’ bilingually in Irish and English. They are non-value indicators, inscribed ‘N’ for domestic rate postage.

The emoji originated in Japanese mobile phones in the 1990s, and is now used internationally thanks to Apple’s iPhone and other devices. The name derives from the Japanese words for ‘picture’ and ‘character’.



*** The alternative to getting old is depressing.

Should I tell him...



Or just see what happens.

Reality can be so complex that equally valid observations from differing perspectives can appear to be contradictory.

