



Newcastle Philatelic Society Newsletter
VIEWS FROM NOBBYS
 Newcastle Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 34, JESMOND NSW 2299
 Website : www.newcastlephilatelicsociety.org.au
NOVEMBER, 2016 : Newsletter No. 179 : 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 10 Nov 2016	Display by Greg Laidler "AUSTRALIAN PAINTING SERIES PART I"
Wed 16 Nov 2016	Newcastle Daytime Meeting : 10 am, 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton, Display by John Hill – "WORLD HISTORY ON COVERS FROM WWII TO PRESENT"
Sun 20 Nov 2016	Junior Stamp Activities Meeting, at WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , 11 a.m
Thur 8 Dec 2016	Display by Keith Laverick "SPECIES OF BIRDS"
Mon 12 Dec 2016	Visit to Maitland Stamp Club (Take along some pages)
Sun 18 Dec 2016	Junior Stamp Activities Meeting, at WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , 11 a.m
December 2016	NO Newcastle Daytime Meeting
Thurs 12 Jan 2017	Display by John Moore "AUSTRALIA LIVING TOGETHER"
Sun 15 Jan 2017	Junior Stamp Activities Meeting, at WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , 11 a.m
Wed 18 Jan 2017	Newcastle Daytime Meeting : 10 am, 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton, Display by Tony Walker– "SOVIET ARCTIC IN WW II"
Thurs 9 Feb 2017	Display by Bernard Doherty "AMERICANA DEFINITIVES"
Wed 15 Feb 2017	Newcastle Daytime Meeting : 10 am, 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton Display by George Kuszelyk – " POLISH AIRGRAPHS OF WWII"
Sun 19 Feb 2017	Junior Stamp Activities Meeting, at WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , 11 a.m
Thurs 23 Feb 2017	STAMP AUCTION NIGHT (details, phone Don Catterall 02 - 4943 5639)
Thur 9 Mar 2017	Display by Ron Davis "THE MIDDLE EAST"
Sun 19 Mar 2017	Junior Stamp Activities Meeting, at WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , 11 a.m
Wed 15 Feb 2017	Newcastle Daytime Meeting : 10 am, 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton, Display "Members bring up to 6 pages or items"

Operations of the Sydney G.P.O. in 1905

In recent issues of *Philately from Australia* (Sept 2015–Mar 2016), Richard Breckon has shared a lengthy 1905 journalist's report on the inner workings of the G.P.O. in Sydney. The work of the parcels department in "the George-street basement" was intensive, increasing, and performed in an extremely cramped environment. In 1904 a total of 65,051 parcels were dealt with for customs purposes.

In a journalistic style characteristic of the times, the following details were included:
Much perishable matter is entrusted to the authorities, and rat-proof receptacles have been provided to protect these goods. Nor are these places the only form of protection provided. An army of cats, it is stated, patrol the building, so that any adventurous rodent unwise enough to seek to enlighten itself concerning the contents of any of the bags or packages will almost certainly become a martyr to curiosity. [PfA, Mar 2016, p.26]

— R.B.E.

*** A man is in the bathroom and his wife shouts : "Did you find the shampoo?"
 He answers : "Yes, but I'm not sure what to do it's for dry hair, and I've just wet mine."

*** A man spies a letter lying on his doormat. It says on the envelope : DO NOT BEND.
 He spends the next two hours trying to figure out how to pick it up.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, Annual General Meeting, 11th August 2016

Good evening to you all, and thank you for making the effort to come to the meeting tonight. Hopefully the weather is kind. My apologies for not being able to attend the meeting tonight. As you know, I had agreed to carry out a fill-in voyage for the North West Shelf LNG project; however, looks like I am now "shanghai'd" as the old maritime term goes. It has been a busy year for collectors and their displays. We have seen some wonderful displays this year, and I thank one-and-all for their efforts. After all, looking at stamps is what this is all about. A big thank you to all the "usual suspects" who in fact put in some much of their time to keep this Society buoyant and ship shape. You all know who you are, and I am very grateful to you and indeed Greg Laidler (who I will name) who has filled in during my frequent absences from this Society. A special thank you must also go to Keith Laverick, who so kindly donated his wonderful collection of Great Britain machins. I'm sorry I missed it when it was displayed in July. I wish I could say that I will be present for all the remaining meetings in my tenure - however, it looks like this will not be the case for a variety of reasons. My apologies in advance for this. Thank you again for attending tonight, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavours, be they stamp collecting or anything else for that matter. Best wishes,

- Tony Walker, President -

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT, 11th August 2016

I am pleased to have had the opportunity to sit in for Tony, and to work with the Committee of the Society. I have been impressed by the level of commitment and teamwork of the Committee. I would like to thank them all for their professionalism and friendship. With such a strong Committee the Society is in good hands.

On a personal level, I decided when I was elected as Vice President that I should get involved in the Society at a deeper level. So I entered two exhibits in Norpex, and now have a different exhibits in Adelaide and Hobart. I would not have done this without your confidence in me.

The next twelve months will be the 99th year of the Society. Plans are in motion to recognise the Centenary in 2018, including a National Exhibition, commemorative P stamps, and a history of the Society. There will certainly be other events as well.

Tony will be back on deck (to use a sailor's phrase) very soon. If he gets the same support as me, then the Society is in for another strong year.

- Greg Laidler, Vice-President -

AUCTION REPORT, 22nd SEPTEMBER 2016

What a busy night was had this time. We broke our previous records both for Total Sales Figures and for Number of Lots Sold, indicating that philately still holds plenty of interest despite the many changes in modern society that have affected our hobby.

The Sales for the night amounted to \$2,251 and the lots sold came to 224 so there were plenty of smiles on the faces of both the buyers and of the twenty two vendors.

The usual fifty or so came along and forty one took bidding cards and spent a good hour searching through the lots on display of which there were 447.

With so much activity it was 9.30pm before our auctioneer called the final lot, and after late sales it didn't take long to pack all the tables and chairs away, thanks as always to the many willing helpers.

Highest price of the night was \$170 paid for a stunning fine used five shillings Sydney Harbour Bridge stamp, forever to remain an Australian Philatelic Icon.

Next best price of \$65 was paid for a very nice Canadian collection, followed by a shoebox of mainly Australian international stamps which sold for \$44 whilst another shoebox full sold for \$36. \$42 was paid for a stock card of Australian Colonial issues with a thick album of World stamps going next for \$40.

A 2000 Olympics medal winners set went very cheap at \$35 and a box of early Queensland brought \$32. A German Collection sold for \$30 as did a binder with 67 mainly used Hagner sheets, yet another great buy.

Finally a number of bags of Australian used on paper all sold for good prices, the best of these reaching a surprising \$28. As we like to say, "There is Something for Everyone"

Thanks to all who helped to make this night so very successful.

Our next Auction will be next year on the 22nd of February 2017, so have a Lovely Christmas and we will hope to see you then for another great Auction Night.

- Don Catterall, Auction Convenor, 4943 5639.

SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT, 11TH AUGUST 2016

Currently the Society has 84 members. Attendance at the monthly meetings has been variable with a low of 16 and a high of 24 for an average attendance of 21. Commencing on 1 January 2016, due to the Mayfield ex-Services Club undergoing renovations, we changed our meeting venue to the Mayfield Senior Citizens Centre. Whilst this new venue is spacious and suits our needs [including access to the kitchen at an additional cost], charges are on an hourly rate which will need to be managed, otherwise it will be considerably more expensive than the ex-Services Club.

Without a doubt, the highlight of the year was the holding of NORPEX 2015, an Australian One Frame National exhibition. Held in the Wallsend Pioneer Hall on Saturday 31 October/1 November 2015, the exhibition attracted 86 competitive exhibits which were judged by a nationally qualified jury approved by the Australian Philatelic Federation. The exhibition was strongly supported by NPS members, be it as exhibitors or as volunteers. Planning for an Australian half-national exhibition to be held late 2018 is in its embryonic stage, 2018 also being our Centenary year.

The regular Auction nights and the annual Swap and Sale night continue to attract very good attendances, with some nights having over 50 in attendance. Thanks go to convener DON CATTERALL for his tremendous efforts in promoting both of these activities.

RON DAVIS has continued to convene the Daytime meetings, attracting a regular group of attendees. Thanks are extended to Sandra Baker for hosting these meetings as well as our Committee meetings at her art studio.

The 2015 Christmas party was held in November at MARGARET AND DON CATTERALL's residence with a good turnout of members present who had a most enjoyable night.

The Newsletter, which continues to be edited by RON DAVIS with help from BERNARD DOHERTY, allows members who wish to receive an electronic copy in full colour in preference to the printed black and white copy. I would like to ask members that are still receiving a print copy to consider changing over to an electronic copy. Not only will it be in colour, you will receive it earlier and will save the Editor time in mailing out copies as well as the print and postage costs, which over the year increased from 70 cents to \$1 per issue to mail out.

BERNARD DOHERTY continues to maintain our website [www.newcastlephilatelicsociety.org.au], updating information as it comes to hand.

STEPHEN MORRIS continues his efforts in attracting youth to stamp collecting with varied participation.

MARK SAXBY as Publicity Officer continues to promote the Society in the printed and electronic media, as well as exploring other avenues to maximize the Society's activities to the larger community.

During the year a number of members displayed their collections to members of other clubs as well as participating in various exhibitions in Australia and overseas.

The DORON TROPHY was again keenly contested with 5 society members being eligible - the winner being ROGER EGGLETON's Great Britain Parcel Labels Pt. II.

The Annual Popular Choice Competition held at the April 2016 meeting was Something Philatelic Starting With the Letter 'Y'. There were 12 entries, with TONY WALKER's 'A Tale of Two "X's"' being voted the winner.

In the 2015 Annual Competition, there were 6 entries in the Experienced section. These were judged by ED BURNARD, RON DAVIS and DAVE ROBERTS, the winner being JOHN MOORE - "Lord Howe Island Postal Markings, 1900-2000".

I would like to place on record my thanks to the Society of conferring Life Membership on me during the year. To have received this is a great honor.

In closing I wish to make special thanks to DON RUTHERFORD for the written financial reports he tables at the Committee meetings, and to GREG LAIDLER and BERNARD DOHERTY for filling in for me on a number of occasions, especially tonight when I am in Thailand.

- John Moore, Secretary, 11th August 2016 -

CHURCH BULLETIN BLOOPERS

- Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa will be speaking tonight at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine. Come tonight and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang, "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus".

NEWCASTLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT, 11th AUGUST 2016

General Account

Newcastle Permanent Building Society Charlestown - Cheque Account No 969449901

Opening Balance 6-7-2015 \$5209.36

INCOME

Subscriptions & New Members 1023-00
 Interest 1279-94
 Sundries 13190-30
 Commissions & Sales 123-90
Subtotal 15617-14

Outstanding Cheque 404.80

Opening Balance 5209.36**TOTAL** \$21231-30

Closing balance 30-6-2016 \$4042-74

EXPENDITURE

Room Rent 1470-00
 Insurance 263-50
 Transfer 3000-00
 Affiliation Fees 252-00
 Expenses 11535-06
 Australian Tax Office 506-00

Bank Fees 27-00

Refund 35-00

Donations 100-00**Total** \$17188-56**NPS A/C - Newcastle Permanent Building Society Charlestown, a/c No 869184803**

Balance 13-06-2016 \$26,000-00

Interest paid monthly into Cheque a/c No 969449901

NPS Exhibition A/c - Newcastle Permanent Building Society Charlestown a/c No 844466003

Transferred 22-11-2015 \$3,000.00 From Cheque A/C 969449901

Invested 22-11-2014 \$16,082-25

Closing balance 30-6-2016 \$19,082-25

Annual Interest from this account Paid into Cheque a/c 969449901

- Don Rutherford, TREASURER -

DID YOU KNOW that a President of the United States SLEPT throughout his ENTIRE term of office??

No? It was **David Rice Atchison**, of course! You've never heard of him?? You probably haven't - very few people have! But Senator Atchison did serve as President of the U.S.A. and did sleep through his term of office. Here's how it happened

James K. Polk's term as the 11th President of the United States expired on Saturday 3rd March 1849. The President-Elect, **Zachary Taylor**, did not want to be inaugurated on a Sunday; he preferred the ceremonies to be held on Monday 5th March. Now, the United States could not be without a leader, even for 24 hours, so the next person in line for the job was the President-Pro-tem of the Senate, Senator David Rice Atchison, who took over the office for that Sunday.

Atchison later explained his "sleeping term of office" by saying that his work in Congress on the last day of Polk's term was filled with so many details that he went to bed exhausted very late on Saturday night, and slept soundly, even snoring, all through the day that he was President - 4th March, 1849 !!

** Damaged during the Arab-Israeli War in 1967, the Suez Canal was blocked at both ends for several years. Three large Australian ships carrying over half a million cases of apples, pears and grapes on their way to Europe were stranded in the Canal. All was OK for a year or so, but the desert sand got into the refrigeration machinery and stopped it, and it wasn't possible to keep the fruit cool and in good condition. It all started to rot and ferment. Each day, hundreds of litres of rotten apple, pear and grape juice had to be pumped out of the hold into the Canal. As this was happening, several of the locals would leap into the water, swim the thirty or forty metres to the ship, and suck up as much of this smelly purple-grey mixture as they could. Then they'd swim back to the Canal shore, and flake out under a palm tree for the rest of the day. When they tried to stand up, they'd fall over. It must have been "good stuff", because they'd do it all again the following day....

- "Macka on Sunday Morning, ABC Radio, 13-10-1996.

*** *If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.*

ANNUAL COMPETITION, 11th AUGUST 2016

This evening's activity was the Annual Competition and Awards Night. There were six entries in the Experienced section. These were judged prior to the meeting by a panel of three judges (Ed Burnard, David Roberts, and Ron Davis), with the results announced on the night along with the presentation of certificates. The entries in this section were -

JOHN MOORE - Lord Howe Island Postal Markings, 1900 - 2000. John showed all of the island's postmarks, from the LHI cancels to the modern ones. His entry used very interesting and well researched material, and gained a Large Vermeil Award, and by a very narrow margin, took first place in the Competition (83 points).



GREG LAIDLER - Private Perfins of Tattersall's Mail. Greg's entry also gained a Large Vermeil Award (82.3 points), and contained some rare and possibly unique material. Although it was a great exhibit, the major drawback was that he didn't include a PLAN of his exhibit, which is important, and made it difficult to assess his material relative to his theme.

ROGER EGGLETON - Australian Poster Stamps. A colourful Cinderellas exhibit with excellent material, and good postal usage with items being on cover. However, Roger, too, didn't include a theme or plan on the first page of his exhibit, and from a judging point of view, suffered accordingly. His entry was awarded a Vermeil (75 points).



GORDON GIBBONS - CHILE - Airmails - War and Censorship 1939 - 1945. Some unique items were included in Gordon's exhibit. BUT, he too didn't include a plan or theme, and so it was difficult to assess the development of his theme. His entry gained a Large Silver Award (71.3 points).

DON CATTERALL - End of an Empire - SMY Hohenzollern and the Lost Colonies. This Cinderella exhibit was unique in that it showed ALL of the "mourning" German Colonial Yacht series, with all of the individual islands and African colonies – very hard to get. Don had assembled his entry hurriedly, and the presentation suffered. He was awarded a Silver (67 points).

CAROL DAVIS – Raptors. Also awarded a Silver (65 points) was Carol's exhibit of Eagles, Vultures, Condors, Owls, Kestrels and Hawks – a colourful, interesting and informative display. However, from a judging point of view it was very crowded. It was noted that the country which issued the stamps was prominently given, but was not, in many cases, the country of habitat.



There were NO Intermediate or Beginners entries in the Competition.

Austrian Post breaks the glass ceiling ...

Austrian Post has produced a world first with a new unique stamp issue. To date, no stamp valid for franking has ever previously been made out of glass anywhere in the world. The new issue glass stamp shows one of the famous "Sandlbilder": a reverse glass painted Pietá from the Upper Austrian municipality of Sandl.

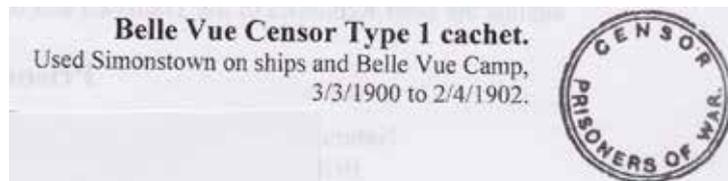
In reverse glass painting, the design is painted on the back of the glass, enabling the front to be cleaned easily, which was a big advantage in the smoke-filled farmhouse parlours of yesteryear. There is a long tradition of reverse glass painting in Sandl. This is because there were many glass works in the nearby Bohemian forests, from which sheets of glass could be acquired easily and cheaply.

Glass painting provided peasant families with an additional source of income; during the winter the whole family worked together to produce the mostly religious designs step by step, each member of the family having his or her own particular task.

The Viennese porcelain manufacturer Augarten is responsible for the painstaking production of the glass stamp. Every glass blank has been hand-crafted, with the design applied by hand using non-fading pigments and a special silkscreen printing process. The colours are then heat-treated, ensuring that the design is firmly bonded and giving the glass a high tensile strength. One still wonders about that hand-canceller!

BOER WAR PRISONER MAIL

- display by **JOHN PUGSLEY**,
Thursday 8th September 2016



From the postal history viewpoint, the (second) Boer War (11 October 1899 to 31 May 1902) is one of the most interesting wars prior to World War I with large amounts of mail sent to and from many parts of the world. In South Africa the British and Colonial troop numbers rose from 25,000 to approximately 450,000, whilst 50,000 Boers with their volunteer allies participated.

Naturally as the war progressed, prisoners were taken by both sides. British prisoners were all held in camps within South Africa. Boer prisoners were initially held in South Africa, including ships in South African harbours, then gradually moved overseas. The first overseas Prisoner of War (POW) camps were set up in **St. Helena**, followed by those in **Ceylon**, **India** and finally in **Bermuda**.

Towards the end of 1900, the Boers once again invaded the Cape, so as a safeguard, prisoners held at Belle Vue Camp and Green Point in the Cape area were again transferred to ships.

At the war's end, Boer POWs overseas and Internees who signed an 'Oath of Allegiance to King Edward VII' were repatriated to South Africa. Intransigents had to stay where they were, or emigrate elsewhere. The non-Boer volunteers were helped to return to their home countries, but some stayed where they were. Most Boers were repatriated by end of 1902. A few were detained longer.

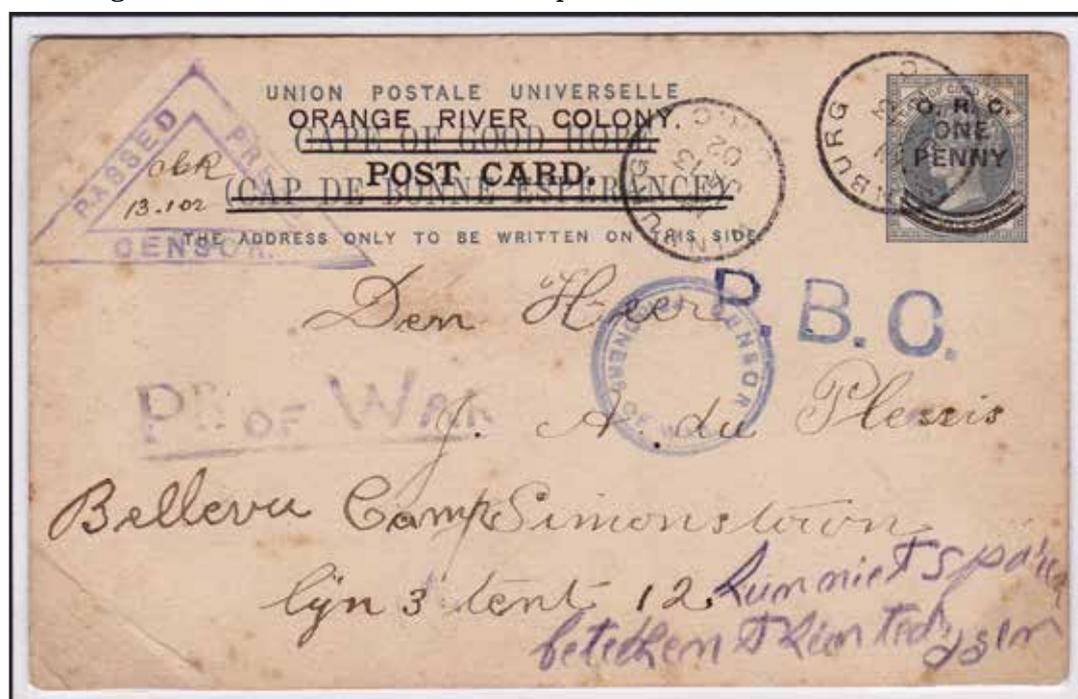
John's display included representative mail to and from the POWs, some mail to and from Camp Guards, Censors and non-POW hospital staff. Emphasis was on Camp and Censorship Cachets, and also included are Censorship Labels, other special cachets, cover annotations, and destination addresses. The items ranged from late 1899 to early 1903.

The first **overseas** camps were set up on **St. Helena** in the South Atlantic. The first prisoners to arrive were from General Cronje's force, which surrendered at the Battle of **Paardeberg**. 514 prisoners arrived on the 'Milwaukee' on 11/4/1900. Later arrivals on a further 13 ships swelled the prison population to over 5700. The majority of prisoners were repatriated to South Africa, or to Europe if non-Boer volunteer fighters, on 12 ships, by 21/10/02. All but 5 'Irreconcilables' had left the island by January 1903. One P.O.W., a Charles Smith, liked the island so much he decided to remain there.

The first batch of prisoners arrived in **Ceylon** on 8/8/00 on board the 'Mohawk'. Others followed until some 5000 in all had been transported from South Africa. The first POWs were housed at 'Diyatalawa', a healthy highland location, east of Colombo. Many Censorship Cachets originated in Diyatalawa, even if not always used there.

Thirteen POW camps in India were set up under the control of four Commands, Bombay, Madras, Punjab, and Bengal. The first 512 prisoners of war in India were interned at Ahmednagar on 23/4/1901. The Camp accommodated 1170 POWs.

Planning for the establishment of POW camps on the islands in **Bermuda's** Great Sound began on 30/3/1901, and



the Head Office on Port's Island was operational by 26/6/1901. The first transport from South Africa arrived with 963 POWs on 28/6/01. These were distributed on Darrell's and Burt's Islands. The sixth and final transport arriving 17/1/02 brought total POW population up to 4619.

Boer P.O.W.s were imprisoned on seven small islands, not far from the port and capital of Bermuda, Hamilton, which were split into 4 zones marked off with buoys.

NEW ZEALAND QUEEN VICTORIA 2nd SIDE-FACE DEFINITIVE

-display by David Roberts, Thursday 13th October 2016

The first New Zealand stamps were issued in 1855. During the early part of the 19th Century, most mails had been carried to isolated settlements by a system of Maori foot runners. It wasn't long after the first New Zealand stamps appeared that the first New Zealand stamp collector appeared !

Following a Side-face Postage (only) issue in 1873, the Second Side-face issue of 1882 was inscribed for Postage and Revenue, and these combined Postage and Revenue issues continued up to 1954. The highest Revenue value in the 1882 issue was 1/-.

For these issues, the surface printing was carried out at the Government Printing Office.

The 2½d value was to have been printed in red, but as this colour was found to be unsuitable it was decided to use blue.

The New Zealand Government, in 1893, let a contract to the Wellington advertising firm of True-bridge, Miller & Reich for the right to utilise the backs of stamps for advertising purposes for a payment of £800 per year. The contract, which was for four years, could be terminated by the contractors at the end of 12 months, and as the venture did not prove satisfactory the contract was so terminated. Because of the desire to get the advertisements on the market as quickly as possible, the early printings were done on the top of the gum, thus accounting for the public prejudice against the scheme.

Distinct from the first Side-face issue, different profiles of Queen Victoria were used on each stamp for this Second Side-face issue. Colours were a problem – varnish was used to thin the inks, hence a range of shades is found. Inks supplied by De la Rue were frequently mixed with other inks, producing marked variations in colour. In 1893, the 1d. colour was changed to crimson instead of carmine. Between 1895 and 1900, the ½d. stamp varied in colour from grey-black to black, pale grey-black, and black to intense black.

The 2½d. stamp varied from blue to bright blue, pale blue, deep blue and dull blue. The profile used in this vignette was taken from Poynter's head used for the Jubilee coins of 1887.

There were three dies used on the 2d. stamp, which varied in colour from Lilac, purple, deep lilac, pale to deep blue, aniline purple and pale purple.

As well as plate varieties, the colours for the 1d. stamps varied too, from rose, carmine rose, crimson rose, deep red rose, and brownish rose.

There are four distinct papers – as well as the "Life Insurance", fine vertical mesh and horizontal mesh papers, there were white opaque, smooth white, thin Life Insurance, and thick coarse papers.

Perforation anomalies dogged this issue, and there were various postmarkers used during the 1882 to 1900 life of this Second Side-face issue.



DID YOU KNOW??? ABOUT WATER :

We need salt to live, but only in very small amounts, and seawater contains way more - about seventy times more - salt than we can safely metabolize. A typical litre of seawater will contain only about 2.5 teaspoons of common salt - the kind we sprinkle on food - but much larger amounts of other elements, compounds, and other dissolved solids, which are collectively known as salts. The proportion of these salts and minerals in our tissues is uncannily similar to seawater - we sweat and cry seawater - but curiously we cannot tolerate them as an input. Take a lot of salt into your body and your metabolism very quickly goes into crisis. From every cell, water molecules rush off like so many volunteer firemen to try to dilute and carry off the sudden intake of salt. This leaves the cells dangerously short of the water they need to carry out their normal functions. They become, in a word, dehydrated. In extreme situations, dehydration will lead to seizures, unconsciousness, and brain damage. Meanwhile, the overworked blood cells carry the salt to the kidneys, which eventually become overwhelmed and shut down. Without functioning kidneys you die. That is why we don't drink seawater.

There are 320 million cubic miles of water on Earth and that is all we're ever going to get. The system is closed : practically speaking, nothing can be added or subtracted. The water you drink has been around doing its job since the Earth was young. By 3.8 billion years ago, the oceans had (at least more or less) achieved their present volumes.

*** *There are over 1200 species of bat in the world, and not one of them is blind.*

EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF THE NEWCASTLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC 97th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, held on Thursday 11th August 2016, in the Meeting Room, Mayfield Senior Citizens Hall, 81 Hanbury St, Mayfield, commencing at 7.35 pm.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The following were elected

PRESIDENT	Tony Walker
VICE PRESIDENT	Greg Laidler
SECRETARY	John Moore
TREASURER	Don Rutherford
COMMITTEE	- Sandra Baker, Don Catterall and Ron Davis
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	- Ed Burnard
SUBCOMMITTEE VICE PRESIDENT	- Roger Eggleton

PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE

PUBLICITY OFFICER	Mark Saxby
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Ron Davis
JUNIOR PROMOTION	Stephen Morris
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Dave Roberts, Kevin Simkus

ACTIVITIES SUB-COMMITTEE

OPERATIONS CONVENOR	Don Catterall
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	- Carol Davis, Keith Kestel, Jim McDougall
HONORARY AUDITOR	- Dr. John Hill FRPSL
HONORARY SOLICITOR	- David Noonan
PUBLIC OFFICER	- Bernard Doherty

B Doherty then declared the above members duly elected for the year 2016/17.

Carol Davis moved a motion that Sandra Baker be thanked for allowing the Committee and the Day Time Group to meet at her art studio over the preceding 12 months, this was carried unanimously.

MERCHANT NAVY COMMEMORATION - by Tony Walker :

This year, October 23rd will see the Annual Merchant Navy Memorial Service held at the Kings Park Merchant Navy Memorial in Canberra. In the UK, September 3rd is Merchant Navy Day. This is when we spare a thought for the sacrifices made by Merchant Seafarers around the world in all conflicts, especially during the last two world wars. A couple of covers follow; the first showing the use of an illustrated economy label provide by the "Merchant Navy Comforts Service" to enable re-use of the envelope, and the second, censored in the UK and Canada, showing adhesives with the perfin "BSS" for the "British Sailors' Society". Both organisations performed valuable service and support for merchant seafarers and their families.



Saving Paper Saves Ships for a more vital job of War-Work !
 Using this "paper-saver" therefore helps the Merchant Navy in two ways It saves cargo space, and also helps to provide Comforts, Books, Games and Emergency Rescue Kits for the Merchant Navy.
 A packet of 250 costs 5/- Send your money, name and address to :-
MERCHANT NAVY COMFORTS SERVICE, 62 Heath Street, London, N.W.3.



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).

NORTH BORNEO, PART 2 — Tony Walker, Wednesday 17 August 2016

The Japanese Occupation of North Borneo was from 1942 to 1945. North Borneo Armed Constabulary had 650 men, and could provide hardly any resistance. Japanese South Borneo was a naval control area. The Japanese overprinted Borneo and North Borneo stamps, these stamps being valid in Brunei, Labuan, North Borneo, and Sarawak. Local towns were renamed – for instance Jesselton became Api. The Japanese retained mail to P.O.W's as a tool for depressing morale – with often 11 months and 14 months to delivery to addressees. After the fall of Singapore, approx. 2000 Australian P.O.W's from the 8th Division were shipped from Singapore to Sandakan in July 1942, and a further 800 in March 1943.



Tony's display included several pages from the stamp album of Tokuhara, a Japanese postal official at Sandakan in late 1943, and Tawau in late 1944.

Borneo was liberated by the Australian 9th Division in May-June 1945, the area then being under British Military Administration until 15 July 1946.

A TASTE OF KOREA – Bruce Chadderton, Wednesday 21st September 2016

The Korean Peninsula is mountainous, embroidered with rivers, and has most of its arable lands in the West and South. The Amnok River (known as Yalu by the Chinese) and the Tumen River form the northern border with China. Human occupation dates back to at least B.C.100,000, according to 2002 fossil records. There were three Kingdoms from BC 37 – Goguryeo (to AD 668), Baekje (to AD 660), and Silla (to AD 935). The early postal service was used almost exclusively by the wealthy and privileged of Korea, evolving from the Mongolian Pony-Express system. Early COREA Post issues are frequently found as forgeries, as they were seldom used. Overseas use on cover is extremely rare. In 1910, the Japanese formally annexed Korea. Korea became the Chosen Protectorate. While Korean rice production was increased through adoption of Japanese intensive farming methods, the bulk of its rice crops was taken back to Japan, leading to widespread starvation. Korea was denuded of its forests, and its iron ore and coal resources plundered. Japanese stamps replaced COREA Post stamps in 1910, and continued to be used until late 1945.



The Chinese-Japanese War (1937-1945) signalled the start of an attempt to exterminate Korea as a nation. Late in 1945, it was proposed that Korea be split along the 38th Parallel. On 15th August 1948, the Republic of Korea was formed, as was the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea (North Korea). It wasn't until the mid-1960s that, following reparations from the Japanese, the ROK Government had the means to transition its economy away from its subsistence rural focus to the wealthy manufacturing country it has become. The Korean national dress, the HANBOK, traces its ancestry back to the first millennia AD. This 1973 stamp shows a Korean princess in her hanbok. Even



in the early 1900s, large carved and painted posts were used to denote major points along Korea's main roads. They are now sometimes seen on rural properties as a decorative item. Football (Soccer) is a national obsession !

A POSTAL HISTORY OF TATTERSALLS — Greg Laidler, Wednesday 19 October 2016

George Adams was born in England in the 1830's, and arrived in Australia in 1859 with his parents and brothers. He became a publican in Kiama, and later bought Tattersalls Inn in Sydney – a base for sportsmen and gamblers on horse races, in 1878. In N.S.W., lotteries were outlawed in 1844, but sweepstakes were not a lottery, and from 1881 became big business. People posted requests for tickets to his hotel. However, in 1890 banks closed in a big recession, and in 1891, the NSW Government banned all gambling, including sweepstakes, and in 1895, Queensland Post banned delivery of all mail to Tattersalls. So in 1896, George moved operations to Tasmania, where in 1897, the Government gave him exclusive rights to sweeps, but mail order only, no shop front, no advertising, and 90% of money to be returned as prizes. Then in 1902, the Commonwealth Govt. banned mail addressed to Tattersalls, so George signed up forwarding agents in each town and area, he sent announcements to all subscribers to post applications to the Stock Exchange, the Bank, and friends, he set up a parcel delivery service within the railways, and a parcel delivery service in each state capital, and New Zealand and Fiji. From 1907 to 1911 his income reduced, and there was spasmodic enforcement until World War I. In the 1890's, Tattersalls sold 2 million tickets each year, often from remote locations such as Perricoota NSW (near Moama), and Pitfield Plains Vic. (now non-existent, near Ballarat).



** ALLENSTEIN - a Philatelic Geography lesson This was a district centred on a town named Allenstein in German East Prussia prior to World War II. Since the end of WWII it has been the Polish province of Olsztyn. After World War I, Allenstein was administered by the Allies, after which a local plebiscite resulted in the area's return to Germany, following which over-printed stamps of that country were used (April-August 1920).



OUR SOCIETY'S 2016 CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER

This year, our Christmas Party will be held at **the SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTRE, 81 Hanbury Street, in MAYFIELD** (next to the Library), on **FRIDAY 25th NOVEMBER**, starting about 6 pm for 6.30pm. Tony Walker is providing the meat for a barbeque (costs will be "a pink note"), and is organising salads and sweets with selected members.

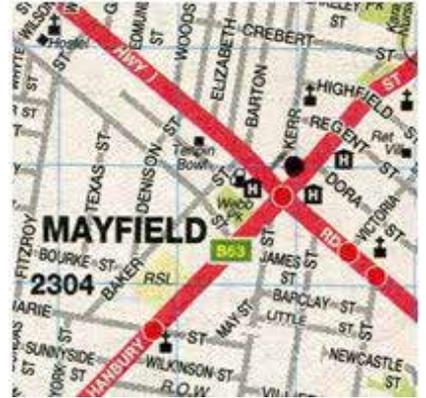
So all you have to bring along, apart from yourself and your partner (and your pink note), is "something of interest which you can talk about or about which you can tell a story".

No presents.

It's easy to find - it's the place where our Society meetings and auctions are held (THE BLACK SPOT ON THE MAP).

Phone TONY if there are any problems - on **4969 2593** or **0427 480 770**. Gregory's Map 296, K7/8, or UBD Map 22, P/Q 7/8. Should be lots of fun.

But, if you can't get to the Party, then your Committee wishes you and your family joy, happiness, and all the very best of wishes for the 2016-2017 festive season !!



THE BOER WAR - In his vote of thanks for John Pugsley's Boer War Prisoner-of-War Display, John Hill made some comments about the Boer War which may be of some interest. He suggested that the Boer War 1899-1902 may be seen as a template for many of the wars of the 20th century which followed.

For example, the extent of Prisoner-of-War camps had not been seen before - the Display contained examples of mail from South African camps for the British and camps for the Boers in such diverse locations as Saint Helena, Ceylon, India and Burma. Also the degree of censorship of civilian mail was unprecedented.

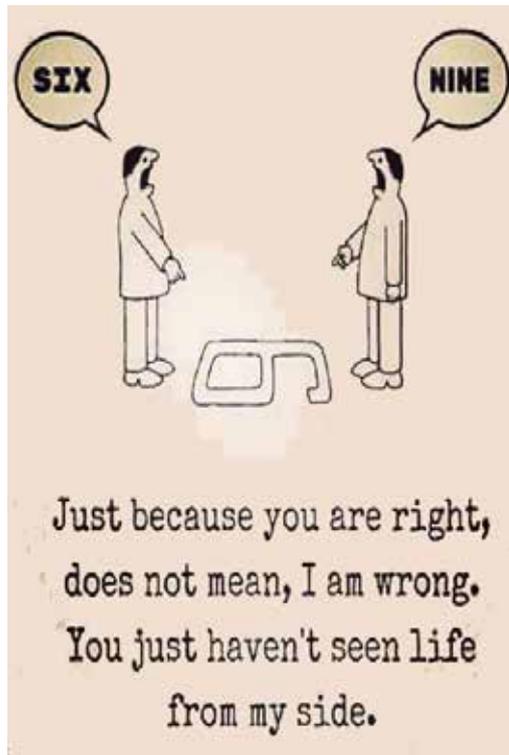
The name "*Concentration Camp*" comes from the Boer War when the British concentrated groups of Boer families in such camps which have given their name to such a scourge of the 20th century.

In no war before it, has the civilian population been so well informed about hostilities with world-wide telegraph communication coming into their own. Both Banjo Patterson and Winston Churchill were war correspondents during the Boer War.

While the civilian populations of Great Britain and Australia were supportive of the war, this was not the case in Europe where there was widespread opposition to it. This was particularly the case in Holland, where the populace bitterly resented the British attacks on people descended from Dutch settlers. (There was a cover in the display from a German doctor who had joined the Boer cause.) In a coach house behind the home of Paul Kruger, the President of the Transvaal, visitors can see many rolled up petitions which arrived from the Netherlands supporting his cause.

Winston Churchill, as a correspondent, was captured by the Boers but escaped. He was greeted as a hero in the British colonies. A report of his address to a crowd in Johannesburg was submitted to him for correction. It stated that his address was greeted with applause. He inserted the words, "*loud and continuous*". Winston had his eye on appealing to British voters in his first political campaign which would follow shortly!

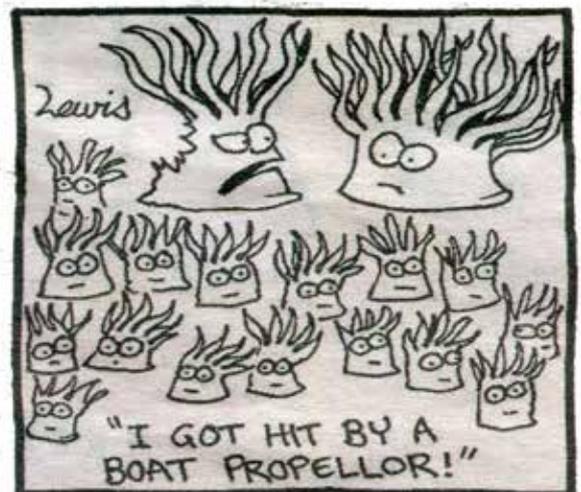
-John Hill -



**** Every human being starts out life as an arsehole :
it's the first part of the body to form in the womb.**

Air crash facts :

- Forty per cent of people are anxious about flying.
- Statistically, you'd need to fly every day for 19,000 years to be involved in a fatal crash.
- Every year 3.3 billion people take to the air.
- About half of all accidents occur when the aircraft comes in to land.
- The world's deadliest plane crash actually happened on the ground. In 1977, two Boeing 747 passenger aircraft collided on the runway at Los Rodeos Airport in Tenerife, killing 583 people



Sea anemones can reproduce from broken fragments of themselves.