



VIEWS FROM NOBBY'S
Newcastle Philatelic Society Newsletter
 Newcastle Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 34, Jesmond NSW 2299
 Website : www.newcastlephilatelicsociety.org.au
February 2020 Newsletter No. 191 EDITOR: Jim MacDougall

We meet at **7:30 pm** on the **SECOND THURSDAY** of each month at MAYFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS HALL, cnr Pacific Hwy & Hanbury St, MAYFIELD and each **THIRD WEDNESDAY** at **10:00 am** at STUDIO 48, 48 MACKIE AVE, NEW LAMBTON.
VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME

DATES	DETAILS
Thurs 13 Feb	Display by John Gibson – SOLOMON ISLANDS
Sun 16 Feb	WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , Pioneer Hall, Wallsend 10:00 – 3:00
Wed 19 Feb	Display by Russell Goddard – MODERN NEW ZEALAND
Thurs 20 Feb	STAMP AUCTION NIGHT (for details, phone Don Catterall 02 4943 5639)
Thurs 12 Mar	Display by Greg Laidler – SLOGAN CANCELLATIONS: COMMEMORATIVE TYPES USED ACROSS AUSTRALIA
13 – 15 Mar	Canberra Stampshow 2020 (see Page 7)
Sun 15 Mar	WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , Pioneer Hall, Wallsend 10:00 – 3:00
Wed 18 Mar	Display by Tony Walker – GERMAN OCCUPATION OF GUERNSEY
Thurs 9 Apr	Members' Popular Choice Competition – 6 pages, something philatelic starting with the letter 'B'
Sun 12 Apr	WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , Pioneer Hall, Wallsend 10:00 – 3:00
Wed 15 Apr	6 pages per member
Thurs 14 May	Display by Russell Goddard – ALL ABOUT GOLD
Sun 17 May	WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , Pioneer Hall, Wallsend 10:00 – 3:00
Wed 20 May	Display by Greg Korsman : AUSTRALIAN AIR MAIL RE-ENACTMENTS AND ANNIVERSARIES
Thurs 21 May	STAMP AUCTION NIGHT
Thurs 11 Jun	QUIZ NIGHT – Don Catterall

B B B B B B

Do you collect stamps from *Bechuanaland* or *Bahawalpur* or *Barbuda*? Or maybe stamps featuring *babies* or *butterflies* or *bridges*? If you can put together six pages on any topic or country starting with the letter 'B', then bring them along to our popular choice meeting on Thursday, April 9. Your choice of topic is limited only by your imagination. It's always a fun night.

MAITLAND VISIT

On Monday, Dec 9, we enjoyed our annual visit to the Maitland Stamp Club. Nine of our members attended. We were invited to bring six pages to show and after the Club held its short business meeting, we had a look at all the displays. Each displayer gave a brief description of what they had brought and, as always, there was an interesting variety. After the displays were finished, our hosts set out a spread of Christmas refreshments for us all to enjoy. Lots of philatelic chit-chat ensued, making for a very enjoyable evening. Our thanks to the Maitland club for their hospitality once again.

PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Another busy year is underway. I hope that the new year is safe and healthy for you, but also a great collecting year.

We are lucky to have such wonderful displays at our meetings. The daytime meetings now have the highest recorded attendances, and with good displays and wonderful food it is no wonder. The monthly meetings (held at night) also have large attendances, and we have seen some excellent displays. We thank all our displayers and encourage others to share their collections.

Planning for the exhibition is underway. The proper title will be the Newcastle 2020 Stamp and Coin Expo. This is the part that encourages collectors and interested people to visit the dealers and Australia Post. The exhibition includes the Newcastle 2020 Exhibition, a national standard exhibition, and also the Royal Challenge and Qantas Challenge. See the secretary John Moore for details on the exhibitions and displaying in them. See the ad on Page 7.

Our next auction will be held on 22 February. See Don Catterall for lotting stickers. Your help on the night of the auction would be appreciated.

Happy collecting,
Greg Laidler, President

FROM THE SECRETARY

Time is creeping up on me where I need to start putting together the 2020/2021 syllabus. As always, I ask for members to offer part of their collection/exhibit to display at one of our monthly meetings. As usual we will be holding our Annual General Meeting and Awards night at the August meeting and a popular choice night of six pages on a philatelic topic starting with the letter 'C' at the April 2021 meeting. That leaves 10 nights to fill!

John Moore, Secretary

Display: AFRICAN COUNTRIES FROM THE PAST – Ron Davis
Wed Nov 20, 2019



As the title suggests, this was a display about places that no longer issue stamps, thus the well-known countries of today were not represented. Still, Ron was spoiled for choice; he showed us stamps from more than 40 stamp-issuing entities (and there were more he could have shown us!) Ron's displays always challenge your knowledge of geography – where are *La Aguera*, *Ghadames* and *Mashonaland*? Some of these places were not countries in the usual sense, but just local regions, or in some cases just a city or military base. And some only issued stamps for a few years. His maps were a big help and the well-researched write-ups were informative.



The 1800s and early 1900s saw the peak of the push by European powers Britain, France, Spain, Italy and Germany to colonise Africa, and many areas changed hands between colonial owners several times. On the Horn of Africa, I counted at least 15 different stamp-issuers, and on the west coast we had almost as many, including *Western Sahara*, *Rio de Oro*, *Ifni* and *La Aguera*. West Africa was almost as bad, colonised by Britain, Germany and Portugal.

What about the stamps? In some cases, overprinted stamps from the colonising country or from some neighbouring colony were used. Britain and France in particular used key type designs common to many colonies. But there were a lot of attractive stamps issued independently. My favourites were the 10 beautiful

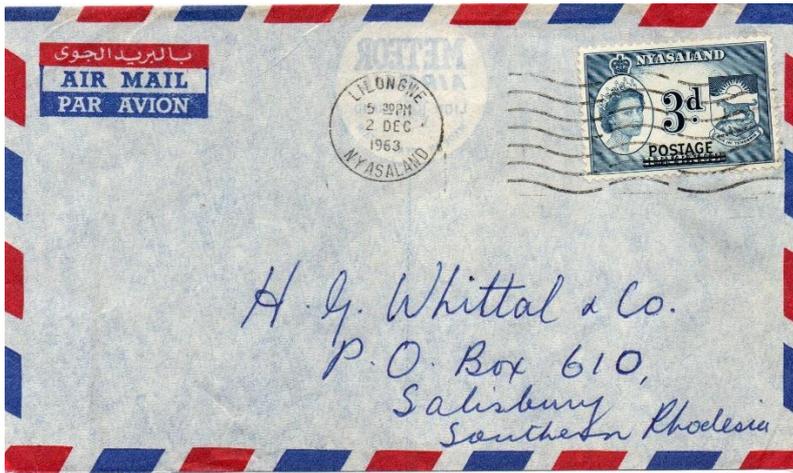


stamps (yes, that's all they issued!) from *Ghadames*, a French military outpost in southern Libya during WW2. Another very attractive set was from the *Nyassa Company* (part of Mozambique). Some of these pictured Vasco da Gama who discovered the area for Portugal in 1498. Ron also showed us the complete issue of 10 stamps of *Senegambia and Niger* – these stamps are scarce. Finally there were beautiful pictorials of similar design from the Spanish colonies of *Ifni*, *Western Sahara* and *Spanish Morocco*. Ron's display was attractive, interesting and educational.



Display: NYASALAND AIR MAIL TO THE WORLD – John Moore
Thurs Nov 14, 2019

The history of airmail in Nyasaland is so complicated with its frequently changing routes and rates, that it would scare most of us away! But John has grabbed the challenge with both hands and produced a display that makes sense of it all. The first airmail left Nyasaland (now Malawi) in 1931 and the history seems to fall logically into 5 periods: pre-WW2, WW2, 1945-1953, federation with Rhodesia, transition to Malawi.



In the early years there were no direct flights from Nyasaland. All mail went first by surface to another country – most went to Salisbury in Rhodesia; some to Tanganyika or Mozambique. From Salisbury, mail flew to Johannesburg or Cape Town or Cairo on its way to Europe, all via British Imperial Airways. Rates varied frequently until the Empire Air Scheme in 1937 unified the rate to 2d per ½ oz. to UK. The outbreak of WW2 meant the Scheme was short-lived, and routes to UK had to change to avoid hostile

countries. After WW2 most mail went surface to Nairobi on its way via SAA and BOAC to UK. Concessional rates were eventually established at 5½d per oz. John showed covers illustrating virtually all of these various routes and rates.

Further change came with the federation of Rhodesia with Nyasaland. Salisbury was the hub for SAA and rates varied depending on destination. For example 1/3 was the rate to Australia, 2/ the rate to USA. The display ends with the end of colonialism and the transition to the independent state of Malawi. Here we saw some beautiful revenue stamps overprinted for use on air mail. John is to be commended for searching out such a lot of hard-to-find material. As Greg Korsman said in his vote of thanks: “some of these items are as scarce as hen’s teeth”.

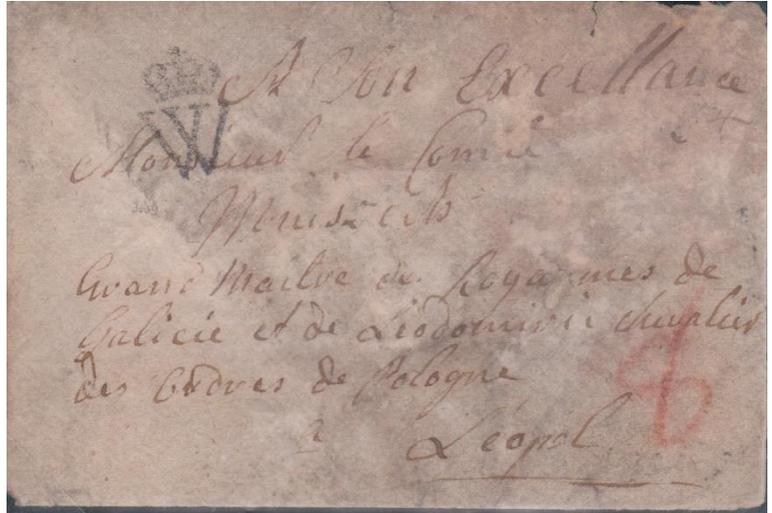


Congratulations to John Moore for his success at the Aeropex Adelaide Exhibition last December. John received a Gold medal for his display *Nyasaland Airmails*.

Display: HISTORY OF POLAND 1780-2018 – George Kuszelyk
Thurs Dec 12, 2019

Poland has a very complex history. Surrounded as it was by very powerful and greedy neighbours, its borders shifted frequently and it was occupied for long periods by Russia or Austria or Prussia, sometimes all three! It's no surprise then that the postal history of Poland is equally complex, and thus fertile ground for philatelists. George showed us a remarkable collection of stamps, covers (both stamped and stampless), and minisheets that chronicle Poland's history.

Poland lost its independence in 1795, being occupied by Prussia, Austria and Russia for over a century. Each managed its own postal service, including the use of different currencies. We saw some remarkable covers from the period before 1850, including one from as early as 1794 (shown here). The use of stamps started in 1850 and in 1860, the first stamps especially designed for use in Poland appeared. It was not until the end of WW2 in 1918 that the modern nation of Poland took shape, and its first stamps were issued.



These first issues were stamps from the occupying countries overprinted with "POCZTA POLSKA", and these were replaced in 1919 by the first truly Polish design, although two different currencies were still used. The one shown below is the first issue using the unified currency of 1924. Poland continued to suffer occupation – by Germany during WW2 and by the Soviet Union afterwards, and George showed us interesting items reflecting these times, including a cover from the Polish government-in-exile in London.

Modern Polish stamp issues have understandably featured the country's history and identity. One particularly nice set commemorated a visit to Poland by John Paul II, the Polish pope. Another of my favourites commemorated the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Grunwald. Poland has issued many beautiful mini-sheets and George had a large collection of these, including some very scarce ones issued only in small quantities. Poland's stamps clearly reflect its triumphant national spirit.



CHRISTMAS PARTY – Friday Nov 29, 2019

Our annual Christmas party was held on the last Friday evening in November at the Senior Citizens' Hall in Mayfield. There was a good turnout and we had a very enjoyable evening. As usual there was more good food than we could eat, and the tables were nicely decorated (special thanks to Tony and Wendy!) And there was lots of time for all the talking we wanted to do. Some people brought along items to show and to talk about. Don Catterall showed us the *Farewell to the Greys* album by the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, having seen them perform their inaugural concert at Edinburgh Castle in 1971! Tony showed us a souvenir from Red Square in Moscow which he and Wendy acquired on their trans-Siberian trip. Margaret Catterall brought several swimming and life-saving certificates that she earned when she was a girl. I had never seen a gold sovereign, but Ron Davis brought one to show us, along with a complete set of coins from the pre-decimal era. Ron and Carol's son had travelled in Croatia, Sweden and Norway, and Carol brought a collection of nice photos from his trip. Holiday souvenirs also from Ed – at the time of their 2018 visit to Zimbabwe, the country was experiencing hyper-inflation and he showed us banknotes with ridiculously large numbers - very pretty but almost worthless. Barry collects golf balls, and he brought a set of 5 balls

picturing Disney characters which he acquired at Disneyworld, as well as some NASA Apollo commemorative coins. The expansion of the art gallery in Lake Macquarie is now complete; it is renamed the *Museum of Art and Culture*, and Roger showed us the new logo, his name badge and the new format



newsletter. Margaret Ashford told us about her grandfather's memories of the life and the people in the Upper Hunter. She proudly showed us the volume of his writings that she has just finished editing for the Muswellbrook Shire Local and Family History Society. What was it like to travel all the way across North America by train in 1871? Jim talked about the diary his great-aunt kept when she did this as a 19 year old bride. John Hill amused us with the story of why Australia didn't have a half-crown coin in the pre-decimal years. Finally Anna showed us some gems from her coin collection – Russian *wire money* coins were made by flattening pieces of silver wire and then striking them, resulting in a variety of odd shapes.

Thanks to all who helped in the setting up and cleaning up, and who brought interesting and surprising things to show us.

Display: SIAM – Jeff Newman **Thurs Jan 8, 2020**

Jeff is an avid collector of the Southeast Asia region, and last year showed us a collection of *Federated Malay States*. This time he displayed *Siam* up to the early 1940s, which he said he has been collecting for probably 60 years! This country is now known as Thailand and is a constitutional monarchy. It is the only part of Southeast Asia that has not been colonised. Jeff's display covers the reign of four kings and appears virtually complete.

Siam's first stamp issue was in 1883 and pictured King Chulalongkorn (known as Rama V). Before this time Straits Settlement stamps overprinted **B** were used via the BPO Bangkok. Many of the early Siam issues are attractive and were printed by Giesecke and Devrient of Leipzig. With the exception of a few attractive pictorials, the stamps all picture the reigning king. Many stamps are adorned with a *garuda* – the bird of Hindu and Buddhist mythology.



We saw complete sets of most of the definitives and, pleasingly, in both mint and used condition. In many cases, the original definitive set was reissued with a surcharge (in Thai), sometimes more than once, perhaps with an overprint. I found the 1941 pictorials particularly pleasing, along with the 'Coronation Stone' issue of 1926. Jeff showed lots of attractive printed postcards, as well. The display finished with stamps from the WW2 period when Thailand occupied the northern Malay States; these were overprinted stamps from Kedah and Kelantan.



**Display: GREENLAND – Roger Eggleton
Wed Jan 15, 2020**

Eighteen members attended Roger's presentation, a record attendance for a Wednesday meeting of the NPS and they were treated to a fine display of stamps, covers and minisheets from Greenland. Roger's display was well researched and beautifully presented.

In the early 20th century, the Danish colony of Greenland was administered by the *Kongelige Grønlandske Handel* (Royal Greenland Trading Department). The KGH provided a parcel post service (Pakke-Porto in Danish) beginning in 1905 and issued stamps in a variety of denominations. These stamps feature the coat-of-arms of Greenland – a rampant polar bear. They continued in use until 1938, and Roger showed us an impressive variety of cancellations, usages and plate varieties of all these issues. A free letter mail service to Denmark was managed by the KGH.



A public postal service was established in 1938 and the first definitive issue (of 7 stamps) featured the king on the low values and a polar bear on the very attractive high values. For more recent stamps, Roger showed us a first day cover along with a cover showing normal postal usage. The FDCs often had striking pictorial cancellations and the other covers showed a wide variety of locations. One of these was mailed from one of the very few communities on the sparsely-populated east coast, surely a rarity! Not surprising given

Greenland's geography, many issues featured boats and shipping, sea birds, sea mammals or fish, or aspects of Inuit life. Since 1969, Greenland's stamps have been bilingual, including *KALAALLIT NUNWAAT*, the Inuit name for their land. Roger also showed us a stunning collection of mini-sheets produced in 1983-85 featuring the Pakke-Porto issues, and made from the original dies. These, along with revenue stamps, internal parcel cards and a savings stamp book written in Greenlandic made for a display that was interesting and informative.



The Society welcomes a new member: Barry Parker

Newcastle 2020 Stamp and Coin Expo

including
 The Newcastle 2020 Philatelic Exhibition
 The Royal Challenge
 The QANTAS Challenge

Friday 2 October 2020, 10am to 5pm
 Saturday 3 October 2020, 10am to 5pm
 Sunday 4 October 2020, 9am to 3pm

Free entry

Newcastle Showground Exhibition Centre

150 m from Broadmeadow Railway Station (take the Brown Street exit)



Toilets, cafeteria, all facilities are located inside the venue, no stairs, disabled access

Australia Post attending with special souvenir products and postmarks, and special product overprints produced by the Newcastle Philatelic Society.

Details on the website – www.newcastlephilatelicsociety.org.au
 John Moore Commissioner moore.john@optusnet.com.au
 Greg Laidler Secretary / Publicity glaidler@bigpond.com

Organised by the Newcastle Philatelic Society

The Illustrated London News for 1850

Post Office News

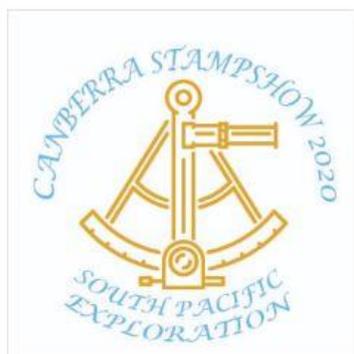


May 18th – Extraordinary Postage Stamps Contribution or ‘Philately will get you anywhere.’

Some time since, there appeared in the public journals a statement to the effect that a certain young lady, under age, was to be placed in a convent, by her father, if she did not procure, by the 30th of April last, one million postage stamps.

In a short time the lady began to receive packages by post and railway from every quarter, which poured in, in such numbers that, in ten days, during last April she has received parcels containing millions of stamps.

The walking postman who delivered a few letter daily at her home became so loaded with packages containing Queen’s heads, that it was necessary to employ a man to assist him. The accompanying Sketch gives some idea. (ET)



Canberra Stampshow 2020

Canberra Stampshow 2020, the twenty-first Biennial National Philatelic Convention staged by the Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc. will be held at the Hellenic Club Woden, Canberra on 13-15 March 2020.

The main theme of the exhibition will be a celebration of Pacific Exploration including the 250th anniversary of Captain James Cook voyage to the Pacific including his visit to New Zealand and the Eastern Coast of Australia.

For information, see the last Newsletter, or check out their website
<https://canberrastamps.org/canberra-2020/>

Philas Auction – 14th March 2020
 at Philas House, 17 Brisbane St, Surrey Hills
The auction commences promptly at 12.00 noon
 All lots are available for viewing for visitors from out of Sydney on Auction day from 8.30 am to 11.00 am
 For the auction catalogue and other details visit the Philas website: <https://www.philas.net.au/auction>



Empire Classics

Nova Scotia's first issue came out in 1851 and is truly a classic. The simple design shows the royal crown in the centre surrounded by the 'heraldic flowers' – the rose, thistle and shamrock as well as the Nova Scotian mayflower, but presented in a striking diamond format. Perkins, Bacon & Petch of London designed, engraved and printed the stamps in three denominations; 3d blue, 6d green and 1s purple which reflected the postal rate of 3d per ½ ounce within Nova Scotia and neighbouring colonies. Two years later a 1d stamp was added with the Chalon head of Victoria replacing the crown. In 1854, the postage rate to Britain was changed to 7½d and since there were no stamps available to cover this rate, 3d stamps were bisected. The same design was used by the printer to produce stamps for New Brunswick and Newfoundland. The adoption of decimal currency in 1860 required a new issue to replace the 'heraldic flowers'.



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Today's Website

EXPONET is a website on which collectors can display their exhibits. This site has more than 1000 exhibits available to enjoy online. They are mostly European, and some are not in English, but you can spend hours here looking at interesting material. The displays are mostly not in competition format, if that matters to you.
<http://www.exponet.info/index.php?lng=EN>

EUROPA Collector Stamp Society of Australasia



PostEurop, a part of the Universal Postal Union, coordinates the issue of stamps with common themes or common designs among its 52 member countries of Europe. The newly formed society ECSSA is interested in these 'Europa' stamps, and other united Europe postal themes. They have a nice website: ECCSA.org.au



Someone opposed to Brexit has suggested how Royal Mail might commemorate the event!

