



**Newcastle Philatelic Society Newsletter
VIEWS FROM NOBBY'S**

Newcastle Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 239C, NEWCASTLE NSW 2300
NOVEMBER, 2008 : Newsletter No. 147 : EDITOR: Ron Davis

WHAT'S ON IN YOUR SOCIETY

THE NEWCASTLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY MEETS 7.30pm SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH,
MAYFIELD EX-SERVICES CLUB, 2nd FLOOR MEETING ROOM, HANBURY STREET, MAYFIELD.

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME.

DATES	DETAILS
Thurs 13 Nov. 2008	"ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE " – Display by Ed Wolf, Sydney.
Sun. 16 Nov. 2008	Junior Stamp Activities Meeting, at WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , 11 a.m.
Wed. 19 November 08	Newcastle Daytime Meeting : 10.00 a.m., 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton East, Display by Anna Hill - "MORE DESIGN ERRORS ON STAMPS"
Monday 8 December	Visit to Maitland Stamp Club , East Maitland (<i>details Bernard Doherty 4967 5478</i>)
Thurs 11 December 08	"N.S.W. PERFINs" – Display by Mark Saxby
Sunday 21 December	Junior Stamp Activities Meeting, at WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , 11 a.m.
December 2008	NO Newcastle Daytime Meeting.
Thurs. 8 January 2009	OTHER HOBBIES NIGHT , and the "A Year of Australian Stamps" Challenge.
Sun. 18 January 2009	Junior Stamp Activities Meeting, at WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , 11 a.m.
Wed. 21 January 2009	Newcastle Daytime Meeting : 10.00 a.m., 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton East, Display by Don Catterall - "UNUSUAL POSTCARDS"
Thurs 12 February '09	"NEW ZEALAND FULL FACES" – Display by Denbeigh Garrard, Sydney
Sun 15 February 2009	Junior Stamp Activities Meeting, at WALLSEND STAMP FAIR , 11 a.m.
Wed 18 February 2009	Newcastle Daytime Meeting : 10.00 a.m., 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton East, Display by Tony Walker – "THE NORTHERN POLAR REGION"
Thurs 19 February 09	STAMP AUCTION NIGHT (<i>details, phone Don Catterall 02 - 4943 5639</i>)
Thurs. 9 March 2009	"REMARKABLE PLACES AROUND THE WORLD" – Display by Ron Davis

A PIECE FROM THE PRESIDENT

So we're coming up to the end of another year, and I believe I can say that it has been an interesting time for our Society.

There have been some quality displays at our monthly meetings recently from non-members, and there are more to come during the up-coming year. It was good to see how some experts put together their exhibits. I hope it will encourage our members to show off what they can do in future club activities.

We still achieve very well in competition against other clubs though, as evidenced by our latest result, a creditable second at the recent Northern Beaches Expo. Representing us, Warren Oliver was awarded the top individual spot at the Expo. Well done Warren. The other three exhibitors also did well. Their four exhibits were entered into our Annual Competition, and as one of the judges of that competition I was very pleased (*relieved*) to see that the marks we had given were extremely close to those awarded at Northern Beaches. So congratulations to my fellow judges too on that result!

I think it is about time that we had a review of the Society activities. As such the Committee will be preparing a Questionnaire that will ask you to tell us what you like/dislike about the Society, and to suggest possible additional activities that we haven't yet considered. Hopefully the Questionnaire will have been made available to you before the next Newsletter.

In the meantime, enjoy your stamping, and don't forget our Christmas get-together at Don Catterall's home. It will be good to meet you even more informally than at our normal monthly meetings.

- John Pugsley, President -

THE SECRETARY'S SNIPPETS

As our Secretary John Moore says, time certainly is flying by. John now has his Seniors Card and is already making use of it. Travelling to the Philatelic Development Council meetings in Sydney on public transport.

I am not sure if New Zealand recognises Seniors, but John is trying his card out there, with a visit to the TARAPEX Exhibition, where the 2008 Australasian Challenge was held. And congratulations to the New South Wales team who came first, with some very good exhibits. He is also including some sightseeing, and I am sure that on this occasion he will be seeking more items associated with 'barbed wire' around the various stamp traders.

One for members to put into their diaries is the annual visit to Maitland on Monday, December 8, at East Maitland Bowling Club (bring along SIX album pages with something philatelically interesting on them.)

There have been some requests for a session or two on using your computer to prepare album pages as well as specialised displays. I had a look through some CDs I had and found one on Australian stamp album pages up to about 1990, as well as another featuring worldwide pages. No illustrations, only boxes with a brief description. I have also put together a basic album page for stamps using Microsoft Office Word. I have added outline boxes which can be dragged to whatever size you require, or alternatively right click on the box, select Borders and Shading, then Size, and dial in the size for your stamp. Remember there are two versions of Word, the other being Microsoft Works Word. If you receive an attachment from someone, which you are unable to open, the cause may be that you are each using a different version of Word. The problem can be resolved by sending your files in Rich Text Format (.rtf). I am not sure if sending Excel files as Excel 5.0/95 Workbook files would get around that problem. I mention the latter as some members have trouble opening the Society minutes, which is prepared as an Excel spreadsheet.

Also if the lines of text seem to jump lines, try reducing the margin width to the narrowest possible for your printer, say to 1.27cm.

John and I are not computer experts, but if you need help with pages, email your question and we will try to help you.

- The Alternate Secretary, Bernard Doherty -

THE ONE YEAR AUSTRALIAN USED-STAMP-CHALLENGE

8th JANUARY 2009

The challenge is to collect **ALL** the issues from a single year, **USED**. They may be just single stamps, or multiples, or on piece, or maximum cards, or on cover, or whatever. Some of the years have been excluded, because of the excessive number of stamps issued that year. The list below are the 18 who have taken up the challenge. Contact Bernard Doherty if you want to take up one of the missing years (phone 4967 5478). It's on Thurs 8th January next year (2009), together with the Other Hobbies Night...

<u>1980</u> Trevor Dumbrill	<u>1989</u> Don Catterall	<u>2000</u> John Moore
<u>1981</u> Stephen Morris	<u>1990</u> John Hill	<u>2002</u> Geoff Carter
<u>1983</u> John Bassford	<u>1991</u> Kevin Simkus	<u>2003</u> Roger Eggleton
<u>1984</u> Bernard Doherty	<u>1994</u> Tony Walker	<u>2005</u> Don Rutherford
<u>1986</u> Gladys Tyack	<u>1995</u> Ron Davis	<u>2006</u> Heinz Schultz
<u>1987</u> Keith Kestel	<u>1999</u> Anna Hill	<u>2007</u> Mark Saxby

Because of the numbers, participants will each be allocated space on the tables equivalent to 6 album pages. Where there are more than six sheets, pages could be in a folder to allow viewers to peruse them all.

An old man approached an attractive young woman at a shopping centre. "Excuse me, miss. I can't seem to find my wife. Would you talk to me for a couple of minutes?"

The woman, feeling a bit of compassion for the old fellow, said: "Of course, sir. Do you know where your wife might be?"

"I have no idea, but every time I talk to a woman with a figure like yours, she suddenly seems to appear out of nowhere!"

THE 2008 ANNUAL COMPETITION - 14TH AUGUST 2008

Nine entries were received in the 2008 Annual Competition, all being in the experienced section.

Warren Oliver - *New South Wales* - "The Sydney Views" - Ruby Award, and the winner of this competition.

John Moore - *Lord Howe Island Postal Cancels 1900-2000* - Ruby Award

Kevin Dwyer - *F.D.C.'s of the Australian Antarctic Territory 1954-73* - Ruby Award

Kim Dwyer - *Battle of HMAS Sydney v SMS Emden, 9th November 1914, Cocos Island, Indian Ocean* - Emerald Award

Gordon Gibbons - *Chile - The Wartime Censor* - Emerald Award

Don Rutherford - *King Gustaf V Profile to the Left* - Sapphire Award

Ron Davis - *Censored Letters from the Forces WWI & II* - Sapphire Award

Carol Davis - *Ancient Egypt* - Sapphire Award

Russell Goddard - *Cricket in Australia - The Sir Donald Bradman Collection* - Topaz Award



Because of the lack of Beginners and Intermediate entries in the past few Annual Competitions, the Committee has decided to introduce an "up-to-6-page non-competitive" section, which won't be judged. The idea is that some of our less-experienced members may not feel that their material is "good enough" for a competition, but may want to display it anyway, for the enjoyment of other Society members. Or they may have an unusual theme, which won't stretch to 6 pages ("Light bulbs on stamps?" or "Surgical Instruments on stamps"?). Sandra Baker has had non-competitive "Art using stamps" entries in a couple of competitions in recent years.

THE NEWCASTLE DAYTIME MEETINGS,
at Studio 48, 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton East, at 10 a.m.
on the **THIRD** Wednesday of each month (except December).



"SOME HARDLY - EVER - HEARD - OF - COUNTRIES"

- the display by **RON DAVIS**, 20th AUGUST 2008

"I was a bit stunned when I had extracted "sufficient" sheets from my collection, and found that I had 165 - far too many. So I decided to concentrate on the "weirder" HEHO countries - and now there's only 78 pages. There are only a few Overseas Post Offices - Batum, Scutari, Valona and Smyrna. And a few Occupation issues - Korytza, Castelrosso, and Odessa. But I've taken out all the "enclaves", which are perhaps the obscurest and weirdest of all," Ron said as he introduced his display of his Hardly-Ever-Heard-Of Countries. "They are from all around the World."

There was some discussion on the reasons for the various issues from Ponta Delgada, Horta, Angra - all of them groups of tiny Portuguese islands in the Azores, in the North Atlantic Ocean, about 1200 kilometres west of Portugal. Each one was a separate Administrative District within the Azores, and each issued their own stamps from 1892 to 1905. At the time, Horta, for instance, only had a population of about 7,000.

And we had banknotes from Jason Island (a privately owned island in Antarctica), banknotes from Chatham Island (east of New Zealand), a postcard from Truk in the Caroline Islands, stamps issued by the Guam Guard Mail in the Marianas, stamps from Campione d'Italia (a tiny snippet of Italy in Switzerland)

"We need a really good lesson in Geography!" Sandra said, at the end of it all.



SIERRA LEONE - QUEEN ELIZABETH II, 1953 - 1964**- THE DISPLAY BY GEOFF KELLOW (SYDNEY), 9th OCTOBER 2008**

Those of us who thought that we were only going to see stamps and covers of SIERRA LEONE were in for a surprise - Geoff's display included lots of the rare and unique artwork used in the production of that country's stamps! "Where on earth would he have got THESE from?!!" were several of the exclamations that were heard.

Although SIERRA LEONE issued its first stamps in 1859, Geoff chose to show us only the Queen Elizabeth II issues from her accession to the British throne in 1953 (Sierra Leone was, of course, a British Crown Colony, and later, part of the British Commonwealth), to just after the country's independence on 27th April 1961. He stopped his display at 1964 when there was a change in producer and a new stamp-issuing agency, and the first of many curiously-shaped die-cut self-adhesive stamps began to be issued - maps, cola nuts, coat of arms, coin shapes, globes, anvils, scrolls, palm kernels, jewellery boxes and diamonds. Later, when the Republic was established in 1971, a policy change brought about a more conventional stamp-issuing programme, using normal shapes and adhesives.



AFRICA

Geoff's display took us from the omnibus Coronation issue through the attractive engraved 1956 pictorials and the 1961 Independence issues, the 1961 Queen's Visit, Malaria Eradication, Freedom from Hunger, and Red Cross Centenary issues. But it was the photogravure 1963 Flowers in Natural Colours issue, with the original drafts and final artworks, which impressed the most. Also very impressive was a used pair on cover of a rare overprint. There were only 540 of this stamp overprinted - and he had TWO of them!

- R.D. -

ELECTORAL COMMISSION MAIL**THE DISPLAY BY HANS KARMAN (CANBERRA), 11th SEPTEMBER 2008**

It didn't sound like a very promising subject, but in the end it proved surprisingly enlightening!

Hans split his display into several "strands" - some fascinating historical items connected with the Federation of Australia in 1901, items connected with the Electoral Commission itself and its various rules and regulations, and World War II rationing, identity cards and ration cards....

On 17th September 1900, Queen Victoria proclaimed that "the Commonwealth of Australia will come into existence on 1st January 1901." Previously in 1884, Fiji and New Zealand were considering joining the Australian Federation. By 1890, New Zealand had pulled out - "The proposed Federal parliament cares nothing and knows nothing about native administration", they said. So it would seem - aborigines weren't on the electoral roll - they weren't considered "Australians", and so didn't qualify for the dole. Stock and station agents supplied them with rations (mainly flour, tea and sugar), and negotiated "identity cards" for them - and this "White Australia" policy continued until the Referendum in 1967. "The Commonwealth Immigration Restriction Act" (infamous) dictation test under this policy was abolished in 1958 - it was used to keep "undesirables" out of Australia.

"Some material is unsaleable," Hans said, "no-one wants it." He showed us paperwork connected with the Electoral Roll, dealing with objections, imposing fines on people who aren't on the roll or are on the roll (twice?), and "stuff" connected with running elections - booking places for elections to take place, ballots, ordering ballot boxes, sending material back to a central point, postal votes, identity cards (the electoral roll is the closest that comes to this), military identity cards, changes of address, people getting married, people who died - lots of stuff which most people never see.

Then there were the WW 2 Ration cards, issued from each State capital - Brisbane for Queensland, Sydney for N.S.W., etc., EXCEPT for applications for food parcels to relatives in German Prisoner of War camps - these ration cards were sent from Melbourne all around Australia, and are quite rare. Rationing of petrol started mid-1940, of clothing from May 1942, of tea from July 1942, sugar from August 1942, butter in June 1943, and meat from January 1944, and there were many rules and regulations. But the "piece de resistance" was a "Registration Records Destroyed" letter of 5th May 1947, advising that all records had been delivered for pulping, excepting for some official files. Hans' exhibit shows that this destruction was not rigorous!

- R.D. -

... ON THEMATIC AND TOPICAL COLLECTING ...

One of our "long-time" Society members, Malcolm McKenzie, wrote of his collecting interests a number of years ago :

'After years of collecting "by the book", through the 1980's and 1990's I turned my attention to thematic collecting. Whilst I wasn't "into it" at the time, I still have vivid memories of thematic displays when I could attend Society activities. Dorothy's "trees", Val's "space", Hal's "Jubilee", even "locomotives on bridges" (although I've forgotten whose). Of course, many other ideas have come from other exhibitions I've attended, too.'

'This has all culminated in making a start to go through those shoe boxes of untouched, unsorted material accumulated over the years. The possibilities are limitless! I've even found a shoebox of 4c Queens on piece with circular date stamp from 14th February, 1966 (the decimal change-over date). Forgotten I'd had it.'

"Locomotives on Bridges ...??" Let's widen the scope a little to :

RAILWAYS ON STAMPS ...

Since that day in April 1871, when the world's FIRST COMMEMORATIVE stamp was issued, which depicted a locomotive and a coat of arms in its design, millions of collectors have eagerly pursued the thousands of colourful commemorative stamps issuing from the world's postal authorities.

The "father" of today's flood of stamps is a small scarlet 5 centavos stamp of PERU (S.G.21a). It was issued to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the first railway in South America, built to link the capital city of Lima with its seaport., Callao, and a fancy seaside resort, Chorrillos.



Locomotive and Arms

Many stamps have been issued merely to illustrate various engines, and quite a few of them have been identified either on the stamps themselves or by expert railwaymen who are collectors. Despite the advent of the jet age and the conquest of space, the locomotive remains a world-wide favourite as a stamp design. Recent modernistic sets of locomotive stamps from the various African countries, which are now entering the era of railways, have been eagerly purchased by thematic collectors. Most European nations, particularly those of Eastern Europe, regularly issue stamp sets showing engines and even the United States, which hardly "pushes" its railways these days, issued a Christmas stamp in 1970 showing a toy locomotive (S.G.1411).

The first UNITED STATES railway stamp was issued in 1869, depicting a 4-4-0 Steam Engine. Since then, at least a dozen locomotives have appeared on its stamps, most of them identified either by type or by name or number.

AUSTRALIA's railway issues include the memorable May 1979 four stamp issue of Australian Steam Locomotives (A.S.C.732-735); the February 1970 5c Standard Gauge Rail Link completion (ASC 489), showing a diesel locomotive; an ore wagon on the 75th Anniversary of Broken Hill stamp, September 1958 (ASC 338); the 3½d September 1954 Centenary of the Australian Railway system (ASC 309), showing an old and a modern locomotive; and some coal wagons on the 5½d 150th Anniversary of the City of Newcastle stamp issued in September 1947 (ASC 240)not much, considering the importance of the railways system in the development of Australia !!!

Other railway subjects could be Canal railways (USA Canal Zone, and Panama), Monorails (Romania, Russia, USA), accidents and wrecks (Cuba, Mexico and Russia - a prolific issuer of all kinds of railway stamps), wagons, bridges, cranes on rails

Or you could collect "Cinderellas" - QUEENSLAND RAILWAY STAMPS ...

According to THE RAILWAY [and other parcel] STAMPS of MAINLAND AUSTRALIA, Ingles, Presgrave, Craig, the First Issue of the Third Series, depicting a railway engine, was issued in 1894. HOWEVER, when looking through Vindin's Philatelic Monthly, Vol. V, March 21, 1892, I found a report of this First Issue. This predates the issue by some two years. The following is the somewhat derogatory report, not uncommon in those days.

"A correspondent has forwarded us some labels which some collectors who collect anything and everything, might possible include amongst adhesives. These stamps are slightly larger than the 5s English, and are inscribed Queensland Government Railways, in a rectangular frame, enclosing in an elongated oval, a railway engine and surrounding which again is a small label in which the words Newspapers and parcels are inscribed, with the value in words in bottom label of rectangular frame, the whole wretchedly drawn and printed on common wove paper and perforated. Four obliterated values have been forwarded and at the same time our correspondent states it is difficult to get clean specimens, as they are so completely smothered with the obliteration. A pity they didn't smother the designer." (!!!)

The four values of the issue are 1d. rose, 3d. brown., 6d. green, and 1s. violet

This shows that the whole of this First Issue was in use in early 1892, if not earlier. Interesting !

-Ken Scudder -

OTHER STAMP CLUB MEETINGS IN OUR AREA :

It is now some years since we printed a list of stamp clubs surrounding Newcastle – there are a couple of new ones which you might like to visit sometime.

- **THE NEWCASTLE & LAKE MACQUARIE YOUTH STAMP CLUB**

The meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each school holidays at Hamilton Primary School hall, Dixon St., Hamilton. The meetings begin at 10.00 a.m. and finalise at 3 p.m. All members are asked to arrive at 9.30 a.m..

It's a FREE DAY. LUNCH IS PROVIDED. At these meetings you will learn more about the fun side of the hobby of stamp collecting and about the interesting enjoyment of meeting others who also are interested in the hobby.

All meetings are fully supervised. If you are aged between 8 and 15 years and you have an interest in stamps, please phone and register your name to: **Peter Madden** on (02) 4959 4078.

- **GOSFORD PHILATELIC CLUB** holds two meetings per month in the Arts & Crafts Centre, Henry Kendall Village, Wyoming. An afternoon meeting is held on the 1st Monday at 1.30pm, and the evening meeting is held on the 2nd Thursday at 7.30pm. Enquiries to PO Box 4216, East Gosford NSW 2250.
- **LAKE MACQUARIE STAMP CLUB** is a new club, which meets on the 2nd Saturday each month from 10am to 1pm at the Swansea Combined Pensioners Community Centre, 30 Josephson St, Swansea NSW 2264. Come to buy, sell or swap stamps. Enquiries phone Kevin Smith (02) 4392 5211, or write Secretary, 13 Glider Road, Wadalba NSW 2259.
- **MAITLAND STAMP CLUB** meets at East Maitland Bowling Club, Bank St, East Maitland at 7.30pm on the 2nd Monday each month (except January). Enquiries to PO Box 2078, Green Hills NSW 2323.
- **MORISSET UNITING CHURCH STAMP CLUB** meets at the Morisset Uniting Church, corner of Stockton, Kahibah & Awaba Streets, Morisset, 10.00am to 2.30pm on the 4th Saturday each month (except December). The club has displays, sales by tender and produces a newsletter. Enquiries to PO Box 299, Morisset NSW 2264.
- **TORONTO STAMP CLUB** now meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Fennell Bay Community Hall, Main Road, Fennell Bay. Juniors meet on the 3rd Saturday each month at 21 Bolton Close, Bolton Point, 2pm to 4pm. Enquiries to The Secretary, 20 Bellbird Close, Cooranbong NSW 2265.
- **WYONG & DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY** meets on the 3rd Tuesday at 7.30pm at the Wallarah Bay Recreation Club, Wallarah Road, Gorokan. Enquiries to 105 Gorokan Drive, Lake Haven NSW 2263.
- **QUARTERLY STAMP MARKETS** are held 10am to 4pm on the 3rd Saturday in March, June, August & November in the Carpark Building opposite the Leagues Club, corner of Pittwater Road and Federal Parade, Brookvale.
- **THE STAMP ROOM AT PILGRIM HOUSE**
The Uniting Church in Australia raises funds by selling stamps at The Stamp Room at Pilgrim House, 2nd Floor, 262 Pitt Street, Sydney (near Park Street) on Tuesdays (8.30am – 1.00pm) and Fridays (9.00am to 12 noon). They sell common stamps in bulk and also cater for individual collectors with stock books containing a range of reasonably priced stamps from many countries.

AUCTION REPORT, 23rd OCTOBER 2008

T'was a Dark and Stormy Night! Indeed it was, and this probably kept some of our people away. Pouring rain and lashing winds were something we didn't need.

Due to a misunderstanding three batches of material didn't turn up, so we were left with only 263 lots in this sale, our smallest auction for a long time. Still and all, we had 33 bidders and between them they took 134 lots home which is just over half sold, and a great result in that respect.

Total realisations however amounted to only \$738, which is a much lower figure than any of our recent nights. Perhaps the economic downturn has tightened our members' purse strings somewhat.

Highest price of the night was \$45 paid for an album of decimal Post Office Packs which were priced to sell at about 70% of face value. Such are the times. At the end of the night, late sales performed well and I actually sold a further \$140 worth from the several batches of lots that I was looking after. Thanks once again to all who contributed to another enjoyable night. Looking forward to our next auction in February 2009. Hope to see you there.

- Don Catterall, Auction Convenor -

According to a research team from the University of Newcastle, missing just one night's sleep can make you more susceptible to illness, even those which you've been immunized against.

THE NEWCASTLE DAYTIME MEETINGS,

at Studio 48, 48 Mackie Avenue, New Lambton East, at 10 a.m.
on the **THIRD** Wednesday of each month (except December).

"POSTAL INNOVATIONS 1459-1914" – the display by JOHN HILL, 15th OCTOBER 2008

Postal systems, like other dynamic elements of social life, have come to us through a process of evolution. Some procedures of the past haven't survived the passage of time, while other innovations, originally thought of many years ago, are still with us today. John's collection illustrated stages and developments in the history of the posts arranged in chronological order, so we could trace the evolution of the postal service through a period of 450 years. Actually, he pointed out that he was displaying a Sumerian clay tablet with incised writing and figures on it from around 2027 B.C., so his display should have been titled "3940 Years of Postal Innovations" !

The innovations, philatelic firsts, changing postal procedures and technological developments he illustrated showed the path of evolution along which mail systems developed from the fifteenth to the early twentieth century. John grouped the major developments in this period as follows :

1459-1660 Manuscript markings	1820-1870 World-wide expansion of postal services
1661 The first Datestamp	including local Posts
1690-1790's More detail in handstamps	1870 Mail flown at the Siege of Paris
1818-1838 Official Letter Sheets	1876 Commemoratives
1830's Movement for Postal Reform	1890's The impact of pictorial designs
1840 Adhesive Postage Stamps	1889-1912 Slogan Postmarks
1840-1853 Experiments with postal markings and perforations	1914 Photogravure stamps



We were all reminded that this was a "Gold-Medal" display when we looked at the "special interest" items :

- * 1459 Guild Mark. * 1569 Thurn and Taxis Imperial Cover signed by Emperor Maximillian II !!
- * 1570, 1587 & 1636 Corsini letters. * 1617 Venetian AQ Form, the first Letter-Sheet.
- * 1645 Parchment document from Francesco Erizzo, the Doge of Venice !!
- * 1667 Dutch Stuurpostmark, the first handstruck rate mark. * 1685 Stockholm B in circle mark.
- * 1819 & 1820 Printed and Embossed Cavallini Letter-Sheets. * 1838 N.S.W. Pre-Stamped Letter-Sheet.
- * 1830's Archival and postal history material relating to Rowland Hill's Postal Reforms including the original Meeting Notice and Handbill from 1839. * 1850 Archer Experimental perforation.
- * 1857 Pearson Hill machine mark. * 1870 Siege of Paris - 4 covers. * 1895 World's first booklet, Luxemburg.
- * 1911 Allahabad world's first mail-plane flight. * The signatures of the Duke of Wellington and NSW Governor Lachlan Macquarie, indicating free postage, on the front of official correspondence !!

Fascinating stuff !!

- J.H. -

"ROYALTY, AND SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL"

- the display by RUSSELL GODDARD on WEDNESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER, 2008

These two daytime meeting displays consisted of a small selection of stamps and postcards depicting members of the British royal family, and stamps and miniature sheets featuring Sir Winston Churchill.

The Royal display featured stories and information of the Kings & Queens of England and their respective Royal Family members. The opening page contained information on Queen Anne (1665-1714) and the Battle of Blenheim. King William IV (1765-1837) was featured on an Air Mail stamp issued by Umm Al Qiwayn.

Queen Victoria was also part of the Air Mail issue from Umm Al Qiwayn. She was born in 1819 and died in 1901. She was 18 years old when she became Queen of England in 1837, and remained Queen for the rest of the century, some 63 years. Her second son, Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, was the first Royal Member to visit Australia in 1867. In 1868 he was shot in the back in an attempted assassination in Sydney, but after months of medical attention he recovered and returned to England. The first adhesive Postage stamps printed and issued in 1840 featured Queen Victoria and the 1d. Stamp is known as the "Penny Black". Many engravings of Queen Victoria appeared on stamps and embossed envelopes issued during her reign.

King Edward VII (1901-1910) appeared on two high value State stamps issued by Victoria in 1901 and were the only two stamps depicting King Edward VII issued by Australia. The Royal display also looked at other Kings and Queens of England as well as other Royal Family members and their involvement in Royal affairs.

Sir Winston Churchill was Prime Minister of Great Britain during World War II, and became known as the "Greatest Living Englishman" His inspired leadership and brilliant oratory rallied Britain in the darkest days of the war against Adolf Hitler and the Nazis, and played a large part in the ultimate victory. Sir Winston was also a capable artist and painter, and found contentment in his painting pastimes. His works number over 500 paintings and have received the most positive criticism in the English press. The display included a range of stamps and miniature sheets depicting the great leader as well as a small selection of British Private Local issues.

- Russell Goddard -

** *If a firefighter fights fire and a crime fighter fights crime, what does a freedom fighter fight?*

THE TALE OF No. 33 SMITH STREET, MEREWETHER – AND A PRE-STAMPED ENVELOPE

This story is about a house and a golf club with a rather tenuous connection with philately - its writing was prompted by the demolition of our neighbouring house.

We bought our house in 1950. It had been built by the original owner of the house across our shared drive, a house he had given to his daughter as a wedding present. Now that house, he used to tell me, was brought down by bullock dray from Moree in 1898. He told me that, lacking surveyors, he had looked around, and put the house down on what appeared to be the block that he had acquired. There were no streets or houses between Union Street and Adamstown, so a fair bit of guesswork was involved.

I was also told of their sleeping in the middle of Smith Street one night, 12 years later, when it was discovered that the house was on the wrong side of the road. 4 telegraph poles, a few strong men with crowbars, and it was in the right place. It wasn't turned around, and had a most beautiful back door, when on its new site.

Later, at a time when I collected Australia Post pre-stamped envelopes (1990), Australia Post produced a pre-stamped envelope based on Newcastle and celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the formation of the Royal Australian Survey Corps. The stamp area was a map of Mayfield (Terminus), taken from the 1910 survey of The City of Newcastle, carried out by Lc. Cpl A. Barrett, of the Royal Engineers.

On offer with the envelope, at extra expense of course, was a reproduction of the survey map. I had no specific need for it, but decided that it may be interesting. Sure enough, there was one house shown in what would have been Smith Street, and it was on the wrong side of the road. This was the survey that caused the second shifting of the house.

The house ownership changed several times, and each time, eventually, the map came out and the house history was related to the new owners. The owners were generally only mildly interested.

The last showing, however, was markedly different. The map was shown to builder, Bruce Bosworth, a keen golfer. Bruce was about to have the house demolished, in order to replace it with a more modern structure. He took one look at the map, and immediately wanted to borrow it. It was returned a couple of days later.

A few days later, I was visited by John Robson. John is Newcastle Golf Club's historian and had recently completed writing and publishing the history of the Newcastle Golf Club. In his research of the Club's history, he had searched Newcastle for a map or anything indicating the location of the club in its early days. And here, out of the blue, a fellow member had suddenly produced a map with the information he was seeking, too late for publication.

A copy of the map is now framed and hanging in the entrance to the Club.

I contacted Newcastle Library to ask if they had a copy of the map, but nothing was known of it. They are now obtaining a copy from the Survey Corps for their own records.

- Gordon Shearer, 2008 -



** Not one postage stamp issued in GREAT BRITAIN since the first in 1840 has ever borne the name of the country of origin !!

** Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read. (Groucho Marx).

** The worst thing about history is that every time it repeats itself, the price goes up.

FREE ADVERTISEMENTS !!

November, 2008

Our member's advertisements are included in the Newsletter for FREE. Perhaps YOU might, in looking through your "stuff" for an item advertised here, rediscover marvellous things stashed away and forgotten!!

Phone RON DAVIS on 4951 7878 if you have something you want to buy, or swap, or sell.

WANTED:

REX HILL, phone 4957 0176 – pre-printed pages for albums, Great Britain from 1840, British Commonwealth, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, early Norfolk Island, early Cocos Island.

JEANETTE SAUL, phone 4980 1567 – WANTED : postcards of HOT AIR BALLOONS.

STEPHEN BURTON – Quality pre-1950 Australian Mint or Used. Will pay cash for better items, or trade. Also buying quality singles and collections world-wide. Phone 4954 4002, or 0432 540 760.

SANDRA BAKER – phone 4956 4515 – Indonesian and other issues showing "Pre-history" – early man, fossils, cave paintings, Gondwanaland, etc.

BERNARD DOHERTY - phone 4967 5478 : WANTED : Articles and items to do with PARCEL POST – Parcel wrappings with PMG or Australia Post service labels (Usually with PP in the ID Number, although later version may have PM prefix or eight digit number), services such as Customs outward and inward, insurance labels (pink with V), use for Blind, infectious material. Preferred with stamps to be able to work out rates. Happy to reimburse for used stamp value. Address labels from the major department stores with postage stamps (David Jones, Anthony Horderns or whatever). In other words, anything to do with PARCEL POST

Contact Bernard Doherty, PO Box 18 Waratah, 2298, phone 02 4967 5478, or email bjdoh@bigpond.net.au

GLADYS TYACK - phone 4987 5996 : Stamps Want List –

AUSTRALIA – 1972, 35c Christmas issue "Light of the World", Used.

NEW ZEALAND – 1998 40c Brown Kiwi Peel-&Stick (Mint or used); 1998 80c Falcon (ordinary), M or U;

PAPUA NEW GUINEA - 1992 - Flowering Trees - 90t Acacia;

2000 - Sea Shells - 65t Cassis Cornuya; 2004 - Sea Shells - 70t Conus; 2.70 Lambis; 4.60 Conus;

2005 - Coastal Birds - 5t Little Egret; 75t White-faced Heron; 75t Nankeen Night Heron.

JOHN MOORE, P.O.Box 528, Cardiff, 2285 or telephone 02-49568931 wants :

N.S.W. Railway Parcel stamps from Ward's River, Craven, Stratford and Gloucester;

A commercially used cover from Easter Island (Chile);

Australian Debit Docket that was issued to claim fees on underpaid registered mail (HARD TO GET!).

JOHN BASSFORD - phone 4952 5716 : TCHONGKING, Baghdad 1917 (British Occupation of Iraq), MONGTSEU, GALAPAGOS Islands, KIONGA 1916, Epirus 1914-15, MOSUL 1918-23, Icaria 1912-13, and THRACE 1913 : more or less anything from "unusual countries".

CHRIS ASHHURST-SMITH - phone 4957 0622 : George V & George VI Australian, N.S.W. POSTMARKS, with Circular Date Stamps;

DON CATTERALL - phone 4943 5639 : AUSTRALIA Revenue and Railway Parcel stamps, and old postcards.

KEVIN SIMKUS - phone 4951 1597 : WANTED - more members to put their names down on the circuit lists to BUY stamps - less than half of our members are participating !

FOR SALE :

KEVIN SIMKUS - phone 4951 1597 : Stamp hinges \$5 a large packet (1000). Hard to get anywhere else !! Ideal for mounting stamps for sale on circuit book pages. Proceeds to Philatelic Society funds.

STEPHEN BURTON – Australia and World from 1840 to date. Will sell or trade. Visit me at Wallsend Stamp/Coin Fair 3rd Sunday every month. Free valuations. Phone 4954 4002, or 0432 540 760.

WHERE ELSE BUT IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA??

A fit body means a healthy mind, say U.S. psychologists Alan Hartley and Louise Clarkson-Smith. After studying the exercise habits of 300 people aged between 55 and 91, the psychologists found that reasoning, memory, and reaction time were all improved by regular exercise.

SIGN at the Drive-in Theatre at Coober Pedy : "PATRONS – PLEASE DO NOT BRING EXPLOSIVES INTO THE DRIVE-IN."
(They keep their mining gear in the back of their utes). –D.R.–

*** SUCCESS covers a multitude of blunders.



OUR SOCIETY'S 2008 CHRISTMAS PARTY

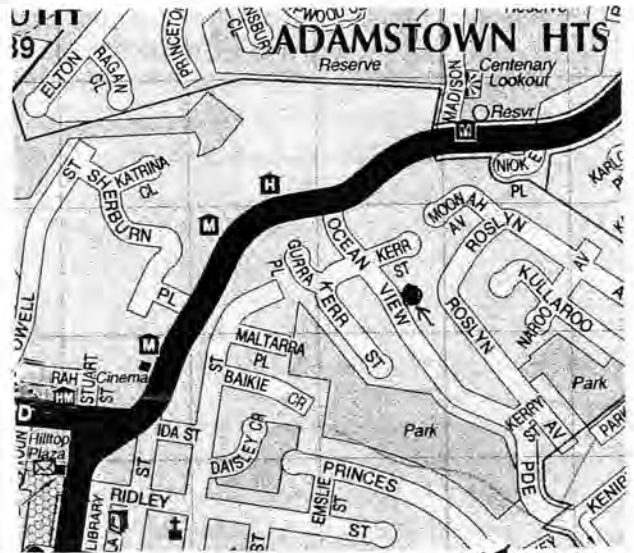
This year, our Christmas Party will be held at **DON AND MARGARET CATTERALL's** place, **13 OCEANVIEW PARADE, CHARLESTOWN**, on **SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER**, starting about 6 p.m. Don is providing the meat for a barbeque (cost will be "a gold coin"), and is organising salads and sweets with selected members.

So all that you have to bring along, apart from yourself and your partner (and your gold coin), is "something of interest which you can talk about or about which you can tell a story". No presents.

It's easy to find - if you're travelling north from Charlestown shops, it's the first place on the highway where you can turn right. Travelling south on the highway, Oceanview Parade is past the Madison Drive traffic lights, on the left. Their place is on the high side of the street.

Phone **DON** if there are any problems - on **4943 5639**. If you're planning on coming, he would like to know numbers. Should be lots of fun.

Gregory's Map 335, G3; or UBD Map 154, B3.



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 2008-2009 festive season!!

Un-addressed Mail Service (UMS) - Junk Mail : Over a week, the letter boxes of most suburban dwellings, houses or flats, receive some advertising which is commonly referred as Junk Mail. Lesser known is that Australia Post has been offering a version of Junk Mail which it calls 'Unaddressed Mail Service' (UMS). 'Dollar Savers' uses Australia Post to deliver 3.5 million brochures in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne every two months. Prices start at 12.8c for small letters and the average item price is 20c. Australia Post is seen as a 'more thorough service' by companies like 'Dollar Savers'. In 2008, the Australian catalogue association expects 8 million catalogues to be delivered. Postal delivery staff were obliged to respect 'No junk mail' signs. By delivering UMS items some "posties" increase their take home pay because they work overtime.
(From ACCC BULLETIN, June 2008, David Collyer)

... BITS AND PIECES ...

*** There is no pleasure in having nothing to do - the fun is in having lots to do and not doing it....!

*** Why is it that when you transport something by car, it's called a shipment, but when you transport something by ship, it's called cargo?

*** From the U.S.A. : "Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia!"

THOMAS A. EDISON (1847-1931) "Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration," remarked Thomas Alva Edison, the inventor of the light bulb, the phonograph, and the motion picture machine. Edison's life was the American dream made reality. His formal education lasted three months. At the age of twelve he became a railroad newsboy, then a telegraph operator, experimenting and studying in his spare time. In 1868, at the age of twenty-one, he took out his first patent.

In 1877 Edison became interested in the possibility of an incandescent light bulb. 1,200 experiments later, on October 21, 1879, he produced a bulb which burned steadily for two days. For the next twenty years he worked on methods for the practical use of his invention and eventually developed a bulb with a life of 600 hours. Edison, the "electrical genius", was an immensely popular hero in his lifetime. His laboratories at Menlo Park, New Jersey, and later at Orange, New Jersey, were flooded with visitors each year. In 1927, he was admitted to the prestigious National Academy of Sciences. A tremendously prolific inventor, Edison was the holder of 1,033 patents.



Edison
Issue



Edison's Original
Lamp

** Why is the fear of long words called *hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia* ?

** How old would you be if you didn't know how old you were? (Satchel Page).