

## **COUNTRY CORNER**

### **BULLETIN 10 - November 2007**

The organising of the NBSE 2007 takes more out of me than I would credit. As a result the recovery period and the lack of other activity is quite long. That is my excuse for not presenting you with a Bulletin since the August issue.

Perhaps I might mention my involvement in other Philatelic events recently. Firstly there was the National Judging Forum in early September, then NBSE, then the APF AGM then my function in the Philas Auction process as the IT expert - read chief cook and data input clerk- as well as being on the committee of two local stamps clubs and attending a further three others, an entrant for Wodonga etc etc. I am sure you get the message.

#### **Northern Beaches Stamp Expo 2007 Results**

The best part of the Expo is always the thrill it provides for the entrants. This year we had 8 brand new entrants and out of the 45 individual 15 sheet frame entries no less than 31 were brand new entries. That augurs well for the future when individuals are prepared not just to pull something out of the cupboard but create a "fresh" entry for an event. What also often happens is that having started with a one framer the idea of what to do expands and before you know it actually develops into a three-frame entry ready for a state level full philatelic exhibition. And so it grows.

The full report sent to the APF is as follows: -

#### **Polar Society takes the cake!!**

*At the Northern Beaches 2007 Expo held over the weekend of September 8-9 2007 at Brookvale, NSW the Society for Polar Philatelists was adjudged the winner in a nine team Inter-Society One-Frame competition.*

*For the seventh successive year the combined membership of the Manly Warringah Philatelic Society and the Manly Warringah Leagues Club Stamp Club staged a one-frame competitive exhibition.*

*The guest Chairman of the Jury, **Dingle Smith**, declared that the Polar Group had outscored the teams of Newcastle Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Society of NSW by gaining 388 points against their best efforts of 381 each. What won the day was a good score by all the participating members of the team. Competition Secretary Ed Wolf presented the team prize, a framed set of the current Lifesavers stamps donated by Australia Post, to the President of the Polar Society **Graham Englefield**. Each member of the team also received a boxed set of 6 glasses and a bottle of vintage wine.*

*Dingle commented on the variation in standards that was experienced by the Jury over the 45 frames entered and the innovation of some of the first time entrants. There were two Diamond, twelve Ruby, twenty-two Emerald, four Sapphire and five Topaz awarded indicating the spread with the drift towards the upper end of the scale.*

*There were a total of 31 brand new entries out of 45 starters and in addition there were 8 team members who had entered one-framers for the first time. Those eight brave souls are to be congratulated on "breaking the ice". We hope to see them return with renewed ideas and energy in the near future. Clearly the concept of one-frame exhibitions - to draw fresh blood into the hobby - has been achieved in this Expo.*

*On the question of prizes it was the jury's decision to award only one prize to each entrant and so the available prizes spread further than might otherwise have been the case. The only exception to this rule was in relation to the People's Choice prize, which was left to stand no matter who actually, won.*

*The prize for the best individual entry was donated by the Philatelic Society of NSW and was awarded to **Warren Oliver** for his entry of NSW Sydney Views. The other three individual awards (Traditional, Open and Social) all received a boxed set of 6 champagne flutes together with a bottle of vintage wine, the Judges Choice winners received a 2006 year book courtesy of Australia Post*

and there was one Judges Choice prize – a one year subscription to NAPE donated by NAPE. The People's Choice was also a boxed set of champagne flutes and a bottle of vintage wine and this was won by **Laurent Villoing's** entry Garden Island Naval Base visiting ships which also received a felicitation from the Chairman of the Jury at the award ceremony on Saturday. **Rod Sell** the President of the MWLCSC donated all the wine.

I would like to place on record the dedication and democracy displayed by the Jury in reaching its deliberations and to thank them and all the other volunteers for a successful Expo 2007.

Ed Wolf      Competition Secretary.

### What's next?

**Orange Fair** has come and gone but we have not yet got any report from either **Derek Dolstra** or other organiser of this event. Will let you all know when we receive it.

**Wagga Stamp Fair** will be held over the Election Day weekend of November 24-25 and I hope that they receive plenty of attention as every one will be coming to town to vote on the Saturday.

**Wodonga One-Frame and State Exhibition.** The Victorian Philatelic Council –our equivalent body south of the border- is arranging this event and has provided got a “spit roast “ dinner on the Saturday night December 8<sup>th</sup>. Should be a good show

**Canberra Half National** will be held in March 2008 and entries for that have closed as at November 19<sup>th</sup> 2007.

**“A laugh a day helps keep you sane.”**

Some further words “stolen” from the “Lundy the Alternative Collection” catalogue.

A note attached to the illustration of the first set of stamps provides a wry smile.

*“Nos. 1 to 4 have been extensively forged; some with fake overprints, many with genuine overprints on forged stamps; genuine forgeries of Forged forgeries exist, but most genuine forgeries do not. Beware of reprints, forgeries of reprints and reprints of genuine forgeries with faked overprints removed and replaced with genuine overprints and vice versa.”*

Got that? Thank you Gerald King.

### What's been happening in the big smoke?

#### APF AGM

The Australian Philatelic Federation had its meeting in Sydney on September 15<sup>th</sup> with some changes in the executive with a few chairs actually having new occupants. **Gary Brown** (VIC) became the new President, the ex treasurer **David Figg** (SA) became the Vice President, the new Secretary is **Ian McMahon** (ACT), the treasurer is now **Glen Stafford** (WA). John Moore (NSW) remains as Public relations Officer, **Darryl Fuller** (ACT) retains his title as PDO as do the Youth Development Officer **Erica Genge** (TAS) and International Officer **Malcolm Groom** (TAS). Past President Ross Wood (WA) and past secretary **Charles Bromser** (VIC) have stood down needing a rest. Clearly all states are represented adequately.

The following day the “ Sunday Soviet” - a title coined by **David Collyer** some years ago, to refer to the delegates to the meeting who were present but not part of the APF executive - discussed issues of mutual interest. Recommendations have been put forward as a result of these discussions to the APF executive .

#### PDC Strategy

The success of the National Exhibition Sydney Stamp Expo 2007 held at Randwick in June has prompted the Philatelic Development Council (your body representing the state of NSW for the promotion of philately in all its aspects) to plan for the future of such major events.

It believes that the preparation of a 4 year cycle will help both in the recognition of the tasks and the development of the hobby.

Whilst it is still in the formative stage of development we want to ask your opinion of such an idea and welcome any input you or your members can provide.

### **Here is the Strategy in a nutshell.**

The council is looking at the idea of a slow but steady development of the talent and skill involved with running and promoting of stamp exhibitions. If we pay attention to this aspect we will actually be fostering the hobby in all its facets even though it looks to be a very narrow view.

Through a gradually increasing level of sophistication we aim to end up at the next National exhibition in the year 2011. If successful we would continue to roll the cycle through its next growing phase thereafter for another major show in 2015 etc.

The start of such an ambitious plan is to have all philatelic folk in NSW understand the process and hopefully get agreement that this plan is both feasible and workable.

This bulletin is the first effort to spread the word and is only one of the many ways we need to communicate.

1. The idea would commence with a **regional one-frame exhibition** for the year 2008. This would be held somewhere well away from Sydney in a country area that wants to participate in the scheme and has the membership or individuals willing to bend their backs. Clearly they would get a lot of support from the PDC but it does take a local focus to make it a success. Tying it to a local event such as the Annual Show or equivalent would promote the region and the hobby at the same time.
2. The following year another region, using the experience of the first year, would promote a **regional multiframe stamp exhibition** for their area. It would be possible to also have a one-frame event in the same year at another site so that we are actually promoting more than one area but this would be just a possible sideways extension of the main concept.
3. The third year we would be promoting a **regional state level multiframe exhibition** where we would invite other states to participate by sending some of their regional entries, though it is expected that the majority of the entries would come from NSW regional areas.
4. Finally all this built up activity would lead to the cyclical climax at a **National Exhibition** to be held in Sydney in 2011. The only reason for the specific site choice is that the international and interstate dealers would not be likely to participate if it were held other than in a capital city.

The council wants to stress that this is currently only an idea. To make it happen we all realise that it will take committed people who are prepared to coordinate and organise the events in their own region. All that the PDC can do is offer help and guidance. Please give this matter your earnest consideration, discuss it at your meetings, tell us your thoughts, improve on the idea and convince us that it is possible.

### **Late News**

#### **Merged club**

The two clubs on the south coast Bega Philatelic & Numismatic Society and the Imlay Stamp & Coin Collectors Society have decided to combine because they have both suffered a decline in membership. At a meeting held on September 22 a motion to merge was unanimously carried.

Future meetings will be held on "neutral" ground at the Pambula Court House [35 kms south of Bega and 20 km north of Eden] at 7pm on the second Thursday of each month with the chosen name for the new entity being "Sapphire Coast Stamp and Coin Club". We wish the new bairn well it comes from a good pedigree. The subcommittee to deal with all matters is made up of **B.Koellner, T.Ubrihien, B.Sinclair** and **J.Stannard**. Philas is acting as a god parent!

#### **New Council Chair.**

Your bulletin writer has been elevated to the Chair of the PDC but will retain the role of PDO - Country as well. **David Collyer** as past chair will now have some spare time.

## How's this for an idea?

### Planning ahead.

Have you prepared a syllabus for your club for the year 2008? Often what happens with such lists is that they have to go into effect from January but the event is not yet finalised. Why not follow the lead of the secretary of the Manly Warringah PS **Graeme Morriss**. He now makes up a 15 month syllabus from January of one year to March the following year and thereby gets the luxury of not having to worry at this time of the year what is going to happening in January next year. That problem was already dealt with last year!

And another thing .... Have you read Philas News lately? Have you observed that a large number of Clubs fails to take advantage of letting the stamp-collecting world know where they meet and what they are going to be talking about over the next three months? Consider someone thinking about coming to your meetings. Have you told them where, when and what? If not you are not helping the cause of promoting your own club. Have a look and act if necessary. Call **Barbara Hancock** @ Philas on Tuesday or Saturday 9264 8301 to change or add to your details ( and follow up in writing).

### Tail Piece.

There are now 26 individuals receiving this bulletin by email and a further 10 who receive it by conventional mail. In addition the bulletin is now also being distributed by the secretary of the PDC to all the other councils interstate. So we are slowly growing in the publishing world. Want to know the names and titles of all the other recipients? Send me a request and I will!

What's the Goss and what are the "Hot " topics you want resolved?????

Till next time

**Ed Wolf**