

# COUNTRY CORNER

## BULLETIN 11 - February 2008

### Change or is it?

Well, what a lot of water has flowed under the bridge since my last bulletin in November 2007. From the philatelic world viewpoint focusing on our own state we have had the PDC AGM followed by the Philas AGM but there has been little change in the membership of these organisations more a case of some moving of the chairs. Within the PDC as reported in the last bulletin the only real change has been my replacing **David Collyer** as Chair and at the Philas Council level my automatic elevation to Vice President because the Chairman of the PDC is by Constitution a Vice President of Philas. David Collyer has been appointed Vice President –Country the other Vice Presidents being **Bill Mair** in charge of Philas House Committee and **Geoff Kellow** Vice President Philas Library. **Lionel Savins** remains “King” as the President of Philas.

### PDC Developments.

Some of the deliberations of the PDC may have a bearing on your own club. The basic strategy adopted by the Council was outlined in some detail in the last bulletin. Briefly we see exhibiting as the most effective method to promote the hobby within the State. This does not mean that we want to concentrate all our efforts on establishing stamp shows but rather that stamp shows cause people to group together to achieve common aims. Both the administrators [for this read your hard working local secretary and treasurer and other committee people] and the exhibitors – the people who actually collect, research and display their collections- need a purpose and a deadline to achieve it. Exhibiting can be that purpose.

### Creation of Exhibition Standing Committee.

A further good step has been the retention of the working party that produced a very successful Sydney Stamp Expo 2007. This group has renamed itself as the NSW Exhibition Standing Committee and is prepared to aid, guide and work together with local clubs and societies that want to run an exhibition involving judging to APF standards.

### NBSE 2008 a “trial run”.

For 2008 this committee is going to be working with the Northern Beaches Stamp Expo to promote the September 13-14 One Frame Team Competition. The NBSE has always aimed at helping the recent new entrant and the clubs that have not previously entered the competition side of the hobby. **Geoff Lewis** has stepped in as Competition Secretary for this event and has introduced some clever innovations with the aim of enticing clubs to enter. Bonus points will be added to the team score of clubs that enter for the first time and for entrants that produce new exhibits. The aim is to provide some leveler so that the smaller clubs are not disadvantaged when entering the competition. There really is no excuse this year. I hope that all of you will seriously consider entering a team of 4 in this event. More details will be available via Philas News in the March edition about to hit the street. Watch for the closing date of the entries.

### Wodonga was a goer.

57 One Frame exhibits were placed on display at Wodonga at the December 2007 show. In addition to a small section of 6 brave souls (your correspondent included) who entered the State Competition. Attendance at the show was steady the dealers had smiles on their faces so must have done OK. Lighting was the only down side which needed to be better. Let's hope that the APF achieves its goal of restarting a local club on the Victorian /NSW border. Clearly both states have recognised that more needs to be done for the areas away from the main cities.

### OK that's enough from the big smoke what's happening inland?

First cab of the rank is the **Canberra Stamp Show**. This is a 3-day event this year starting on Friday March 14 and finishing on Sunday March 16. As usual the show will be held in the Hellenic

Club Matilda Street Woden. The theme will be 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Scouting and many souvenirs will be available over the weekend. This is a "Half National" show meaning not all the categories were available for entering. The other half of the National will be Sunstamp @008 held in Brisbane in August.

The following week on Easter Sunday March 23 the **Milton-Ulladulla Stamp & Coin Fair** will be on at the Civic Centre Ulladulla. The person to contact if you want more information is **John Mullin** the secretary of the local club. His phone number is 4472 7701 and he would be very willing to supply you with all the local "gen".

**Twin Towns** that Northern border town club with the active membership will hold their Annual show and open day on April 13. **Sonia Davys** their ever vigilant Treasurer tells me that the usual venue the Albert Waterways Hall on Sunshine Avenue Mermaid Beach will be open from 9am till 3 pm and will have dealers present as well as an open invitation to enter the 5 sheet competition. Anyone belonging to a stamp club can enter. Door prizes, children's give-a- ways, a 1-cent auction and all the usual hoopla will be on again. Call Sonia on 07 5536 7075 if you need more info.

**Orange Expo 2008** will be held the following weekend on April 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at the Kenna Hall 90 Hill Street Orange. The change of date came about because of clashes amongst the dealers attending the Adelaide show the previous week. In all 7 Interstate and NSW dealers will be offering their wares in stamps and coins. For more information phone **Derek Dolstra** on 63 614 872.

**Wagga Stamp Fair** has not yet formally been in touch but I do know that **Peter Simpfendorfer** and his merry men will be holding one of their twice yearly fairs on the weekend of May 17 and 18. This time there will be no election to interfere with their expected crowd. I never did find out whether there were more or less than normal at their November meeting in 2007.

Last for an early mention is the **Shoalhaven Stamp Day** at the Wesley Centre, Berry Street Nowra on July 19. **Annie Hvam** wields the stick in that neck of the woods and can be contacted on 4422 9114.

Have not yet heard how the engagement between the Bega Philatelic & Numismatic Society and the Imlay Stamp & Coin Collectors Society is progressing. Are wedding plans in the offing? Is a minister required or do you need a lawyer to sort things out?

Future meetings were to 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". How about someone dropping me a line to tell me how it's going?

Now I was able to tell you what the strategy was that the PDC was working towards but I have not heard a peep out of any of you to tell me they are either on the right track or up the creek without a paddle. Come guys tell me what 's on your mind so we can improve everyone's lot. Have you discussed the matter with your local club members? Just to remind you, have a reread of what was said in bulletin 10 and then provide positive feedback. Note that I have changed my PO Box closer to home- it is now at my local shopping Centre.

Because of the lack of noise the idea of trialling the process at NBSE was floated but we would have preferred to be trialling the scheme somewhere in the country area.

**"A laugh a day helps keep you sane."**

Some further words "stolen" from the "Lundy the Alternative Collection" catalogue.

*Perforation.*

*"Unless otherwise stated, all stamps are perforated 11, except those which aren't ,or ain't, as the case may be".*

*"Beware of pairs separated and offered as singles"*

*"Beware of high values with value chemically removed and a lower value inserted".*

Got that? Clear as mud.

### **Youth Development.**

One of our unsung heroes in this field must surely be **Liz Nakhla**. As the principal organiser of the youth section at Sydney Stamp Expo 2007 she and her team of volunteers had to judge more than 1400 entries in the Design a Stamp competition.

I have attached her report as a supplement because it says so much without making any noise about it. I really had to push hard for Liz to write this summary. I have also incorporated her list of schools that participated in that competition. Have a look through the list and mark of the schools in your area. Have you approached these schools before? Here is your opportunity to personally thank the schoolteachers for fostering stamp collecting. It is also your chance to put your foot in the door provided of course that you intend to promote the hobby.

### **Just a reminder.**

Have you updated your club's syllabus in Philas News so that visitors can find you?

Would you like to be in the next issue -CLOSING THIS SATURDAY? Send me the details by email and I will promise to give them to the Editorial team on Saturday this week. I know it's not much time but you do get the opportunity.

### **Tail Piece.**

I am still optimistically looking for your emails or letters to spread the word about your organisation. I can suck it out of my thumb but it is so much more authentic if it comes from YOU!!!!!!

Till next time

**Ed Wolf**