

COUNTRY CORNER

BULLETIN 5 - August 2006

My apologies for the delay in issuing this bulletin. I have been caught up in stamp mania over the last two months. Firstly with the organisation of the Northern Beaches Stamp Expo which will go ahead in September and then with a number of "city" stamp fairs as well as being on the organising committee for the Sydney Stamp Expo 2007 a National event.

May I start the proceedings with reporting on the September Northern Beaches Expo?

You may recall that my accepting the new role of Country Philatelic Development Officer was all because in the previous year when trying to get the country clubs involved there was a NIL response. Well I can now report that at the close of the entries on July 25th we had SEVEN clubs who will be involved in this year's competition. They are:-

Toronto, Twin Towns, Wyong, Smithfield, Willoughby, Castle Hill and the **Society for Polar Philately**. I hope that each of the members of the club participating will greatly enjoy the experience and come back for a repeat dose in the future.

I believe that there was a lot of arm-twisting going on way up north near the border before the four members managed to get their entries in. Well done Ladies more power to your arms.

An email was received from **Alan McRae** of the Bathurst Stamp and Coin Club apologising for having to miss out. They were all prepared to enter when two of the members for personal reasons had to drop out. Back luck Bathurst hope to see you next year.

Peter Sempfendorfer of Wagga has indicated that he and his members will come and have a peek at how this thing called Expo works and then maybe yes maybe next year they will enter.

Some of you have written to me with questions and I thought it might be worthwhile if I repeated the questions and the answers to all of you at the same time. This may save further questions or may lead to an avalanche!

Email from **John Searle** Nambucca Philatelic Society.

1. We shall be holding a club stamp auction on Saturday 16th. September. Setting up from 10am and auction to commence at midday. Any items to be entered can be sent (with reserve indicated) to me at 1 / 7 Liston St. Nambucca Heads 2448. I shall make application to Philas for a " Club Pack " to help bolster our resources.

2. A number of members are interested in borrowing books from Philas library - Can you please advise the correct procedure to follow and the charges that our club would have to pay. One member would be interested in reading up about the various methods of stamp production; Another member is interested in the cancellations on Aust. state stamps - bar with a number on it; another member is interested in a thematic catalogue on Red Cross stamps. I, myself, am interested in two books: " The Story Behind The Stamp - Cocos, Christmas Island, AAT, Norfolk Island." by James Bentley, and Stanley Gibbons "Catalogue on Birds on Stamps".

3. We are currently serviced by a couple of circuit book providers - however their wares can tend somewhat repetitive. Thus we are on the lookout for new circuit book providers. Robert Cox (our Treasurer) says that Philas is looking at ways of linking country clubs up with the big metrop clubs and that there may be ways of sharing books between the clubs. I would be interested if you had any contacts with circuit book dealers or with clubs interested in swapping circuit books.

4. Hopefully, one or more of our members can attend the Open Day on Sat 14th. October.

Looking forward to your comments on these matters,

Thankyou, John Searle. (Phone 02 65694328)

Response on the library question from David Collyer

Hi Ed

Procedures re the Philas Library

- 1) *Club secretary to write a letter requesting the books or types of books if title or author is not known*
- 2) *Club or individual requesting a loan pays the postage in both directions (Express Post satchels may be a quick and easy way.*
- 3) *Loans are one calendar month but can be extended on request*

The Philas Library should be able to fill each of the requests

- 1) *Methods of stamp production: Easton - Postage stamps in the making;*

Williams - Fundamentals of Philately

- 2) *Numeral postmarks of Australia: There are books on the colonial postmarks on each of the Australian colonies. There is a Compendium of Australian numeral cancels which list the number on one axis and the locations for each of the colonies on another axis*

- 3) *Red Cross: The American Topical Association should have published something on this area. I expect that there are books on the subject in the Philas Library*

- 4) *The Story Behind the stamps: I think we have this but would need to check.*

David

Re the circuit books I am currently investigating the situation with two of the clubs that I belong to: - Manly Warringah and Northern Suburbs both have circuit books but they are actually held by one person in each case who takes them to fairs and to the local club meetings only. Whether they will move to sending them to country cousins is to be checked out.

Norman Binns has sent me a flyer on the happenings in Orange see attached.

How's this for an idea?

Many years ago I was asked to be the auctioneer at my local club in Parramatta. In those days to run an auction you needed a licence whereas to run a sale by tender there was no such requirement.

So we had "sale by tenders" and members supplied their surplus to requirements material for others to bid on. All lots had a number and a reserve price. When it came to the bit of putting them up for sale each lot was held up and knocked down to the highest bidder. Nothing unusual about that. My arm got rather tired holding up lots to find who would bid on them when in many instances there was no demand at all.

A lot of time was thus wasted and I hate waste. So.. the "ticking system" was invented. For every lot in which you were interested you were invited to place a tick in the space provided on each lot. If there was a tick already present then there was no need to do anything except to realise that there was someone else interested in the same lot as you were.

Now instead of putting ALL lots up for bidding only the ones with a tick were collected and offered for sale. It saved a lot of time and has been adopted, adapted and altered slightly by many clubs since.

Philatelic Development Council personality.

There is no member profile in this Bulletin because I am waiting on some "facts" before publishing same. Wouldn't want to be sued for misrepresentation!

How about you send in one of your favourite club member profile also so that we can slowly introduce our self to each other.

PHILAS Auction No. 94 –An analysis.

A report on the happenings at the last Philas auction is attached as a bonus issue. These are the inside details of what is going on and you are the first to find out. Talk about Country Corner being exclusive!

What's happening away from the big smoke?

Annie Hvam reports on the Shoalhaven P.S. Stamp Day.

Just a few words about our Stamp Day last Saturday. It all went well except for the Weather, we were a little down on the numbers of visitors, but all the dealer were satisfied. The Goodie Bags we gave out to the children were received very well and once again thank you very much.

Nambucca River's stamp auction will definitely occur as per front page on September 16 so there is your chance to sell off you excess stock. Talk to **John Searle** 65694328 or earlejm@bigpond.net.au

Another call for Richmond River P.S. Annual Stamp and Coin Fair at the Lismore Workers Club, Keen Street Lismore. **Andrew Thurgate** is your contact on 6628 3008 or apthurg@yahoo.com.

Wagga P.S. has its weekend of Stamps on November 25-26 at Sturt Public School. White Ave., Koorringal from 9am to 4 pm both days. **Peter Simpfendorfer** is contactable on 6922 3393 and has changed his email address since last mention to 7simpy13@dragnet.com.au

That's all for now folks

Ed Wolf