

## COUNTRY CORNER

### BULLETIN 6 – February 2007

Well hello again. It seems hardly possible that so much time has flowed since I wrote to you all last. I note that the last Bulletin was dated August and here we are at the end of February almost six months later. What's happened in between? I stated in my last letter that I was rather busy and that turned out to be the understatement of the year.

My involvement with the Northern Beaches Stamp Expo as Competition Secretary takes up considerable time before the event as others who do this sort of thing will attest. When the expo is on I am part of the Judging team AND do all the recording of the results etc. Was it all worth it? I believe the answer is a resounding YES!

Of the 7 teams that entered the NBSE2006 competition, the Toronto team came out tops with **John Moore, Geoff Carter** and **Mark Field** putting in good scores but **John Pugsley's** Anglo-Boer War entry was so special it received the individual prize of the best in show as well. Well done fellas –see the Country CAN do it!

The Society of Polar Philately team came second with one of its entrants **Andrew Verdich** winning the Youth Prize for his Antarctic Penguins entry, then came Twin Towns Stamp Club where **Lily Gibson's** Sugar Cane entry caught the eye of the Judges for the Thematic Prize. **John Higgs'** entry for the Willoughby Stamp Club of First AIF Hospital Cachets was awarded the Postal History prize and **Michael Hirschhorn's** 19<sup>th</sup> century USA Postage Stamps received the Traditional Prize for the Castle Hill Stamp Club.

The Jury at its discretion also awarded some special prizes to **Mark Field** representing Wyong Stamp Club with his entry of Penny Reds used abroad, **Ted Lean** from Castle Hill with his first time ever entry of KGV Printing and Perforation flaws, **Phillip Green** of Smithfield Stamp Club for his exposition on Captain Cook miniature sheet varieties, and **Vivienne Scott** for her effort with Campbell Island on behalf of the Polar Club.

Of course the real winner out of all of this was Philately the hobby because once more every entrant showed the appreciative public that there is more to stamps than just ticking a box or sticking stamps down on a page. The real message is that it takes skill, effort and talent to mount a collection of coloured bits of paper so that they tell a story. But of course you know all that anyway don't you?

As soon as the Expo was over, the exhibits had been dispatched back to their owner, the APF Editor had been notified of the results, the Post Office formally thanked, the certificates and prizes sent off and the volunteers recognised with certificates, I could commit to my family duties and that meant off on an 8 week trip to China and Europe.

When I returned to the land of the chosen in early November, it took me quite some time to get back in the groove. That's my excuse I hope you will accept it.

#### **Now for the year 2007.**

**Twin Towns** on the NSW Queensland border are holding a stamp fair on March 25<sup>th</sup> at the Albert Waterways Hall, Sunshine Avenue, Mermaid Beach from 9 am till 3pm. there will be a one cent auction, a raffle with a \$100 voucher as main prize and at least 5 dealers are bringing their wares. **Sonia Davys** is the contact. Ph. 07 5536 7075.

The **Orange Coin and Stamp Club** has been sending me their most interesting monthly magazine for some time now. Having been an editor in the past I know what a chore it is to produce something novel every month. Well done **Derek Dolstra**, take a bow. The Club would also like to let all stamp collectors know that they will be holding their EXPO on the weekend of April 14-15 2007 in the Kenna Hall, Orange. There will be a number of dealers who will participate in this event from  
Canberra,  
Melbourne and Sydney as well as Howard Lyons from Orange itself. If you can do so make it a date for your calendar.

When he did not see another Country Corner Bulletin in November **Peter Simpfendorfer** the secretary of the **Wagga Stamp Club** got worried and sent me an email enquiring after my health. He also mentioned at the same time that they held a very successful two-day Stamp and Coin Fair on November 25-26 2006, and that the next major Fair will be on the weekend of May 19- 20. If you are near Wagga try to keep this date free.

The **Bathurst Stamp and Coin Club** are once more arranging for their popular Stamp, Coin, Lapidary and Collectables Exhibition set down for August 4-5 2007. **Alan Macrae** informs me that there will be 23 dealers at this event and that Orange C&S Club will be participating in the competitive sections.

Blowing my own trumpet **Manly Warringah P.S. and MW Leagues Club Stamp Club** will once more present the Northern Beaches Stamp Expo on September 8-9 2007 at the Federal Parade Car Park Hall at the M-W Leagues Club Brookvale.

It is proposed to be another One Frame team event with preferably five members making one team. Please check with your club and encourage them to enter a team. The prospectus will be available on request in the near future and will be similar to previous years. All classes are catered for. This is your opportunity to showcase your club and to provide the impetus for collectors to become serious philatelists!

### How's this for an idea?

1. There will be NATIONAL STAMP EXPO at the Royal Randwick Race Course over the weekend 16-17 June 2007. Why not come and have a look or volunteer to help with the organisation of this event? It may well be possible that we can arrange for billeting of individuals who want to help.

2. My local club was suffering from member support recently. The doors opened at 6 pm and the meeting was called to order at 8pm for the formal proceedings. The evening finished at 10pm. However the early period saw few turn up and it was thought that it interfered with mealtime. There was an opinion that maybe it wasn't the mealtime but lack of stamps or anything to do that kept members away.

The committee called for an experiment. Philas Auction was used to buy a bulk lot of stamps already in stock books. The treasurer allowed the representative to purchase a lot up to say \$90. These stock books were then placed on the tables at the early part of the club meeting for sale to all members at the nominal price of 10¢ per stamp irrespective of catalogue value. Each member was allowed to purchase a maximum of \$20 a night so all members could have a shot at the books on the table. Activity increased and members returned to the fold. Problem solved. The club got more than its money back!

**Introducing ..... John Batson** - Treasurer of the Philatelic Development Council. (This summary is included on the *About* page, under *Members Pen Pictures*. To access these Pen Pictures, [click here](#))

### Tail Piece.

Can we turn this bulletin into a Two-way document?

Let's have your thoughts and ideas in writing to me and I will publish it to the rest of the folk on the Country – Corner mailing list.

Currently all the known NSW Country clubs plus some of the smaller Sydney Clubs plus the Development Council members receive this edition so your voice will be heard.

Till next time  
Ed Wolf