

## Member Profile Neil Petrass

Neil has been a member of Ballarat Philatelic Society since 2003 and a member of the Brighton Philatelic Society since 2004. His interest in stamping came about due to medical circumstances leading to him having time on my hands. He attended a meeting of the Ballarat Philatelic Society to see what it was about. According to Neil, "I had hardly entered the room when a gentleman approached me, Jack Van Beveren closely followed by two other gentlemen, Norm \& Craig Hamilton who made me very welcome. They are still three of my closest Stampy's." It only took about 3 weeks before he was attending Brighton Auctions.

Neil is deeply into Germany, USA, Belgium, and Greece philatelic items as well as being over his head in collecting Cinderella's.

In the past he did a small amount of trading on eBay but now has expanded and established his own eBay store, Miners Rest Philatelics and is in the process of expanding into most things philatelic as his shop blurb states, "his range includes Stamps, Cinderella's, Coins, Covers, Post Cards, Cigarette Cards, Match Box Tops, Ephemera. Thanks in advance for your interest and support."

Please check into Miners Rest Philatelics every now and then and see what's on or email Neil (WallyPe35@hotmail.com) and see if he has what you're searching for. He may be able to help.

help.
Contributions from all our readers are most welcome for the October edition of our Newsletter.Got
Topics/ sections can include but are not limited to

- From my collection
- what I am doing with my collection at this time
- wish lists are welcome, ie something your are trying to locate, buy or swap.
- interesting bits of information you have discovered and would like to share.
- websites you have found useful, with a brief description.
- scanned one-page displays.
- tips, suggestion, ideas for displays.
- stamp quiz questions (maybe we could run a competition if we were to get maybe 20 questions

Please forward items to tacey55@gmail.com in Word or Pages format and scanned images as jpegs or pngs. If you don't have an image, I will endeavour to locate suitable images. items emailed to tacey55@gmail.com prior to Friday October 16th please.


## From My Collection

As a relative new comer to formal stamp collecting the vast range and diversity of what people collect and where collections and themes come from is truly astounding. Members of our club are very diverse and provide us with great learning experiences. The "anonymously" presented display of Monte Bello Island Stamps below is a prime example. We look forward to highlighting more examples from your collections in future editions. (Members and readers contributions welcome)

## Monte Bello Islands

In the 1951-52 period Great Britain carried out a series of atomic tests on the Monte Bello Islands off the Western Australian Coast.

This activity spawned a number of so called "Local Post" stamps but in reality, they are "Phantoms".
The three stamps were crudely printed inperf labels comprising a 1d Map of the Monte Bello Islands label, a 3d Sailing Ship label and a 6d Rock Art label.


1d Monte Bello Islands


3d Sailing Ship


6d Rock Art

In 1990 and 1993 a new series of phantoms hit the market from the Monte Bello Island Post Office Philatelic Bureau operating out a Brisbane, Qld GPO Box Number. One of these was later overprinted for the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games.


41c Red Map 1990


45 c Island Scene 1993

"Sydney Olympics 2000" Overprint in Black

In 1995 a \$1.00 Monte Bello stamp with an island scene and slogan. This was issued on the $25^{\text {th }}$ October, 1995 when the protests against the French Nuclear Testing at Mururoa Atoll were at their peak.


Footnote The Montebello Islands, also known as the Monte Bello Islands, are an archipelago of around 174 small islands (about 92 of which are named) lying 20 kilometres ( 12 mi ) north of Barrow Island and 130 kilometres ( 81 mi ) off the Pilbara coast of northwestern Australia. Montebello is Italian for "beautiful mountain". The islands form a conservation park administered by the Western Australian Department of Environment and Conservation.

## The Weird and Wonderful

## Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) Recycled Plastic Stamps

Category - Touch
Subcategory - Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) Recycled Plastic Stamps Liechtenstein 2020 PET Embroidered Stamps

Liechtenstein Post with Hammerle \& Vogel in Lustenau, Austria has issued an embroidered PET (Polyethylene Terephthalate) Stamp featuring a GLOBE made from the polyester yarn thread from 3100 recycled PET bottles with a volume of 600 ml .


The Embroidered Stamp of 6.30 Euros shows an Embroidered Globe in the centre and three green leaves symbolizing an Eco-friendly Environment.

## Interesting Stamp Facts and Trivia

- A British Guiana one-cent magenta stamp was sold at auction in New York in 2014 for a record $£ 5.6$ million. The previous owner of the stamp had died in jail in 2010 after being convicted of murdering an Olympic wrestling champion.

- In 1973, Bhutan issued a stamp that could play their national anthem if put on a record player.


In 2013, Belgium issued stamps that smelt and tasted of chocolate.

- Prior to this invention, in the late 19th century, Belgium trained about 37 cats to help deliver mails to villages only to discontinue the plan because it was totally impossible to successfully make the cats comply.
- During the 17th century, candling was used to determine the postal rates of mail. This was done by holding a candle in front of the letter. If it was transparent, the stamp was
 less expensive. If less transparent, the stamp became more expensive.

- The largest postage stamp in the world (as of 2017), measured at $1.36 \times 1.77$ meters and was released to commemorate Her Highness Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Al Ketbi, the widow of Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, founder and previous ruler of the U.A.E. Issued by the UAE and aptly named "The Mother of Emirates", the postage stamp features the "Mother of the Nation" logo.
- In the 1960s, the South Pacific island kingdom of Tonga broke the mould when it printed a series of self-adhesive stamps. Not only did they not require licking, they came in odd shapes-the most famous of which was this 1969 stamp shaped like a banana. These unusual stamps were a big hit and, for a time, became a significant source of revenue for the country. Collectors went crazy for them. Most countries followed Tonga's lead, and today, the die-cut, peel-and-stick stamps are the most
 common type of stamps.


## Huacho, Chilean Occupation of Peru (1884)

Region: South America
Group: Chilean Occupation of Peru
Classification: Military Occupations
Prior Regime: Repblic of Peru Key Dates

- 1879, Apr 5 - Chile declares war on Bolivia and Peru
- 1881, Jan 17 - Chilean troops enter Lima
$\checkmark$ 1883, Jul 10 - Peruvian resistance fighter were defeated at the Battle of Humachurco
- 1883, Oct 20 - Chile and Peru signed the Treaty of Ancón
- 1884, Aug - Chile removes the last occupying forces from Peru
- 1885, Dec 12 - Civil war ends with the defeat of Miguel Iglesias

Following Regime: Republic of Peru Scott Catalogue: (Peru, Occupation
Stamps, Huacho)
Pick Catalogue: none
Currency: Sol = 100 Centavos 1863-1901, Inca $=10$ Soles = 1.000 Reales, 18801882

required to make gunpowder) located in Bolivian territory around the Atacama Desert. Chilean enterprises, which largely exploited the area, saw their interests at stake when Peru nationalized all nitrate mines in Tarapaca, and Bolivia imposed a backdated 1874 tax increase on Chilean companies. When the Chilean/British owned Antofagasta Nitrate \& Railway Company refused to pay the tax, Bolivia threatened to confiscate the company's property. In response, Chilean armed forces attacked and occupied the port city of Antofagasta on 14 February 1879. Peru offered to mediate the situation, but Bolivia called on Peru to activate their mutual defence pact, while Chile demanded that Peru immediately declare its neutrality. Peru resisted the demand, and on 5 April 1879, Chile declared war on both Bolivia and Peru.

The first battles of the war were fought on the sea. At the Battle of Iquique (then in Peru, now in Chile), on 21 May, 1879, the Peruvians suffered the loss of one of their best warships, the Independencia; the Huáscar was then sunk on 8 October, and this eventual surrender of control of the sea permitted a Chilean army to land on the Peruvian coast.

On land, the Chilean army bested the badly equipped Bolivian and Peruvian armies, leading to Bolivia's complete defeat and withdrawal in the Battle of Tacna on 26 May, 1880, and the defeat of the Peruvian army after the Battle of Arica on 7 June, 1880. Chilean forces continued to advance, and on 17 January 1881, Chilean forces captured Lima, the capital city of Peru.

## Huacho, Chilean Occupation of Peru (1884) continued



Huacho Chilean
Occupation Stamp

With Chilean Occupational forces in control, the national government in Peru was in turmoil. The President of Peru, Nicolás de Pierola escaped Lima, and eventually fled to Europe. While a provisional president was appointed in Lima, Garcia Calderon, he was eventually removed and imprisoned in Santiago and Chile continued the campaign to subjugate Peru. Peruvian resistance arose across the country, encouraged by the U.S., under the leadership of General Andrés Cáceres (the Warlock of the Andes). Initially, the Peruvians were able to inflict damage on Chilean forces, however on 10 July 1883 at the Battle of Humachurco, Peruvian resistance forces were substantially defeated.

Even though Cáceres tried to regroup, a Peruvian government headed by Miguel Iglesias signed the Treaty of Ancón (October 10, 1883), recognizing defeat and bringing an end to the war. In the treaty, the Peruvian province of Tarapacá would be ceded to the Chile, the provinces of Tacna and Arica would be administered by Chile for 10 years, after which a plebiscite would be held to determine its future sovereignty.

After the war, Cáceres refused to recognize Iglesias as president so a civil war broke out between these two factions. Eventually, Cáceres attacked Lima on 28 November 1885 , forcing Iglesias to resign on December 12th. The country was ruled by a Council of Ministers headed by Antonio Arenas while new elections took place. Running for the Constitutional Party, Cáceres won the elections as sole candidate and assumed as president on 3 June 1886.


Article contributed by Cliff Matthews

## Member Wish lists.

## Lions Seals

Jack is currently researching Lions Club Seals. These were sheets of seals issued by Lions International, Australia as a Christmas fundraiser initially supporting the Endeavour Foundation for intellectually handicapped people and then the Lions drug Awareness Foundation. If you have any information about Lions Seals or spare sheets of seals you would like to trade or sell please email me and I will pass onto Jack.

## Missing from His Collection

Tony has basically stopped collecting new stamps and is checking up on what he may have missed in the past. He is looking for the 2009200 Years of Australia Post - set of 10 stamps at 55c each as well as 2010 Winter Olympic Games - 2 stamps at 55c each. He would appreciate getting these if someone has them to trade or sell. Email me and I will pass the information on to him.

## Private First Day Covers

As many members already know Cliff has been putting together, over the last few years, a listing of the Private First Day Cover producers. In the list besides Australia Post issues there are some of the individual producers. He would like to know if any of our members or readers have images of any covers not on his list. He has managed to source his information from various sellers from Ebay and overseas. Clliff believes this might be of interest to some of the members. Unfortunately he cannot include the images as they would take up to much space although an example from Stampboards is displayed.

He is putting together a catalogue of these producers. This might be available when we can get back together. Under the heading of UNKNOWN there a quite a few, as there is no information available.

Australian Cover Makers.
A.H. Segnit.

Alex Kufner
Australian Cover Makers. Junior Cachet
K. Covers

Helpful Reference

$\mathrm{f}=13 \& \mathrm{t}=2766$

## Hong Kong 1946 Victory Set - a most attractive design!

With the Second World War ending August 1945 and the Allies victorious, the British naturally re-took their Colony of Hong Kong. The Postmaster, Edward Irvine Wynne-Jones and his Chief Draughtsman of Public Works, William E. Jones had been interned by the Japanese in the Stanley Camp and there they had worked on a 'victory design stamp'.

In due course two Victory stamps were issued on $29^{\text {th }}$ August 1946 featuring a frontal portrait of King George VI flanked either side by a Phoenix with a third underneath the King's portrait. In Latin was '1941 RESURGO 1945' along with 'Phoenix Resurgence' in Chinese characters on either side of the design.

The 30 cent stamps were printed in Blue \& Red, whilst the $\$ 1$ stamp were Black \& Red. An error of an 'extra' stroke occurs in the left shield of the Chinese characters on some stamps. (These are valuable around $\$ 120$ to $\$ 200$ per stamp - used or mint).

The stamps were Recess printed, using Multi-Script Watermark paper, and having Perforation 13.


Contributed by Grey Loyer Hon. Secretary Maryborough Stamp Club (Vic). (Founded 14-7-1971).

## Philatelic Quiz

The quiz questions below will test your philatelic knowledge and/or your research skills I will email the answers one week from today. Email me your answers within the next week to see who is our champion.

1. Who was the first person in the world, other than a head of state, to be pictured on a stamp?
2. What country issued the world's longest pictorial set?
3. What design was on the first stamp issued by the Commonwealth of Australia (1913)?
4. Who was the first monarch featured on a postfederation Australian stamp?
5. Perforations are a major method of enabling stamps to be separated from each other. To a serious collector, perforation measurements can differentiate between different printings of the same stamp. What would a notation of 'perf 14' mean to a collector?
6. Of what etymological origin is the word philately?
7. Who has the final decision on what picture or face to put on the front of a United States stamp?
8. Which animal featured on the very first Canadian stamp, catalogue \#1, issued in 1851?
9. In 2015, the Royal Mail released two first class adhesive postage stamps to mark the 175th anniversary of the adhesive postage stamp. One reproduced the famous 'Penny Black', while the other was a replica of which stamp released very shortly afterwards?
10. In 1912, the US Post Office began issuing a series of stamps for a particular type of mail service. After the stamps were issued, it was decided they were unnecessary and never issued again. What type of stamps were they?
11. Some collectors like to collect the entire envelope that has gone through the mails. Philatelists have a name for these. What is it?
12. Since 1979, an Australian stamp has been issued each April to celebrate which occasion?
13. One of the rarest US stamps is the Inverted Jenny; what is printed on it, upside down?

- Acar
- A plane
- A printing press
- A sewing machine

14. What English social reformer and teacher invented the adhesive postage stamp?
15. To a stamp collector, what do the initials 'S.G.' mean

- strong glue
- soft gum
- Stanley Gibbons
- Stamp group

16. Which of these stamps have factually incorrect designs?

- all three
- the 1974 non-Olympic sports lawn-bowling stamp
- the 1947 Anniversary of the city of Newcastle
- the 1982 50th anniversary of the Australian Broadcasting Commission
- the 1982 50th anniversary of the Australian Broadcasting Commission

17. What is the face value of the highest denomination Australian stamp issued?

- \$10
- \$20
- \$25
- \$100

18. An image of the monarch always appears on the UK's stamps, but one special collection from 2016 featured six first class stamps showing actual photographs of Queen Elizabeth II rather than just a side-on image of her head. What event were these stamps marking?
19. In 1961, a famous opera singer was honoured on a commemorative stamp. Who was it?

- Dame Nellie Melba
- Dame Lanie Cantrell
- Dame Sarah Brightman

20. Which country issued its first stamp on September 9, 1991 under the name Republik Hrvatska?

- Croatia
- Slovakia
- Czech Republic
- F.Y.R.O.M. (Macedonia)


## The London GPO, 1829

THE image of formality and civilised efficiency created by the General Post Office's new headquarters in St Martin's le Grand when it was opened in 1829 was one which the world set out to emulate. The site of the new building, in the City of London, was one which had known less attractive scenes.

Like Westminster Abbey, St Martin's was affirmed by Edward III to be a place of sanctuary for those suspected of treason, felony and debt. One of the murderers of the princes in the Tower rotted away piecemeal' in St Martin's, for those seeking sanctuary were not fed. The district became a den of thieves, murderers and makers of spurious plate, jewellery and coins. The right of sanctuary was abolished in 1624 but St Martin's le Grand retained much of its unsavoury character until the building of the new General Post Office.

The new building was designed in Grecian Ionic style by Sir Robert Smirke RA, one of the luminaries of early 19th-century architecture. It was built of brick, faced with Portland
stone. Over 100 houses had to be demolished to make way for the building and nearly 1000 people had to seek accommodation elsewhere.

The new GPO was lit by 1000 gas burners and, like its predecessor in Lombard Street, served both as an ordinary post office (with windows on to the street through which letters were received or passed out) and as a centre of administration. The GPO records: 'This splendid building soon became one of the sights of London and every evening crowds gathered to see the departure of the mail coaches to all parts of the kingdom. Excitement was so intense that at the closing of the post office windows a police constable was in attendance to keep law and order'.
Visitors came from far and wide and the novelist Anthony Trollope recalled with pride the evening when, as a young clerk in the service of the post office, he had the task of escorting the Queen of Saxony around the building, showing and explaining to her the departure of the night mails.


