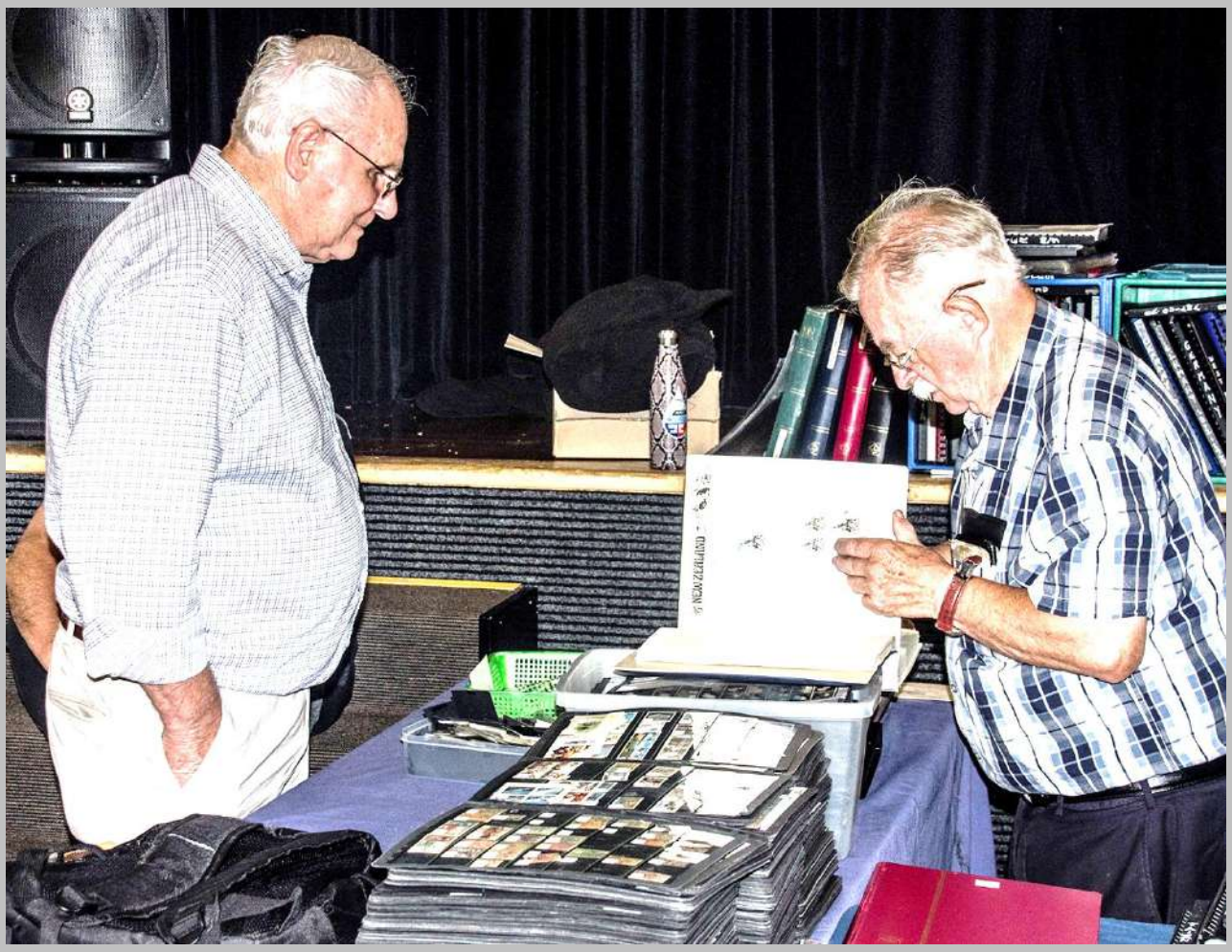
NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COIN & STAMP CLUB FOR 30th APRIL 2024

#260

Our 59th Year



Phil. Morehouse at our 2024 Expo on 23 March, valuing an out-of-town collector's album

THE NEXT ORANGE COIN & STAMP MONTHLY MEETING IS ON THIS TUESDAY 30th APRIL 2024 at 7.30.

Our current monthly meeting is at the Orange Cultural Centre at 7.30 on this Tuesday 30th April 2024.

The meeting after that is on Tuesday 28th May 2024

Our next monthly coin & stamp mini-fair is in the Orange Cultural Centre is not until **Saturday 4th May 2024** from 9 to about 12.30pm.

Our meetings and the monthly fair are held in the Orange Cultural Centre building Sale St, Orange. It's the building that used to be a school. It's on the right hand side as you enter the Woolworths Car Park. The building is sort of opposite Harris Farm Market, but entrance is from the mini-park on the Sale St frontage.

ORANGE STAMPS & COINS AUCTION IS ON SATURDAY 25th MAY 2024 AT THE ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL HALL

Howard Lyons has advised that his Orange Stamps & Coins Auction is scheduled for Saturday 25th May 2024 at the Orange High School Hall in Woodward St in Orange.

For a catalogue contact Howard Lyons on (02) **6362 2368**

Viewing of lots is in the morning and the auction, as usual, will be after lunch.

It's a Club-approved event.

OUR ORANGE 2024 EXPO DEALERS - PLEASE KEEP SUPPORTING THEM AT OUR 2024 EXPO

- **Wynyard Coin Centre (M.R. Roberts**), 3 Barrack St, Sydney, 2000 Ph (02) 9299 2047. Fax (02)9290 3710 www.wynyardcoins.com.au
- **A. Byrne Coins** (Tony Byrne from Canberra) – PO Box 53, MITCHELL, A.C.T. 2911, ph. (02) 6255 4044) Buying and Selling
- **Orange Stamps & Coins** (Howard Lyons), PO Box 9288, Orange, 2800; Mobile 0427 107 554 Phone/fax (02) 6362 2368, E-mail: howard.lyons@bigpond.com Buying and Selling – Stamps, Coins, Banknotes, Accessories, etc.
- **Phil & Win Morehouse**, Bankstown. NSW 2200 Ph: (02)9707 4087, Email – wmorehouse@netspace.net.au. World-wide stamps bought and sold

DATES FOR 2023 & 2024

Orange Coin & Stamp Club April 2024 monthly meeting. 7.30pm 30th April 2024 at the Orange Cultural Centre

Orange Coin & Stamp Club mini-fair, 9-12ish on Saturday **4th May 2024** at the Orange Cultural Centre

Junction Park Stamp Club Stamp Fair, Saturday 4th May 2024 at the Runcorn Tavern, 124 Gowan Road, Sunnybank, Qld.

Campbelltown Club meeting, 8th May 2024. Ed Wolf: Qantas International competitors during Hudson Fysh's chairmanship. The Society meets at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 43 Acacia Avenue, Ruse 2560. 7-10pm

Wagga Club's 2-day Stamp & Coin Show, 18th & 19th May 2024, Sturt Public School. White Avenue, Kooringal

Orange Stamps & Coins auction is on Saturday **25th May 2024** at the Orange High School Hall, Woodward St, Orange**.** Orange Stamps & Coins is a business operated by Howard Lyons, but members of the Orange Coin & Stamp Club are participating. Contact Howard Lyons on Mobile 0427 107 554

Orange Coin & Stamp Club May 2024 monthly meeting. 7.30pm 28th May 2024 at the Orange Cultural Centre

Orange Coin & Stamp Club mini-fair, 9-12ish on Saturday **1st June 2024** at the Orange Cultural Centre

Rockhampton Stamp Club's Stamp Fair 2024. Saturday **8th June 2024**, 10-4, at the Fred Fox Hall, Gladstone Road (corner of William St) Rockhampton, Qld.

PHILAS Auction #139 is now on 22nd June 2024 (see following pages)

Sunshine Coast 4-Club Mini-Fair, on Sunday morning **23rd June 2024** at CWA Hall, Short St, Nambour, Qld (see below)

Orange Coin & Stamp Club June 2024 monthly meeting. 7.30pm 25th June 2024 at the Orange Cultural Centre

Orange Coin & Stamp Club mini-fair, 9-12ish on Saturday **6th July 2024** at the Orange Cultural Centre

Bendigo Philatelic Society's Stamp Fair, 31st August 2024, 10-3 at St Andrews Uniting Church Hall, 24 Myers Street, Bendigo, Vic.

Canberra Stampshow (NATSTAMP 2024) Half-National. 12-15 September 2024. Full National including
Australasian Postcard Challenge;
Universal Postal Union (UPU) 150th Anniversary Challenge

Toowoomba National 1-frame Stampshow is planned for 11-13 October 2024.

Maryborough (Victoria) Stamp Fair, Sat. 26th October 2024, at Mill House, Maryborough, Vic.

Wagga Club's 2-day Stamp & Coin Show, 23rd & 24th November 2024, Sturt Public School. White Avenue, Kooringal

Sydney Stamp Show planned for April/May 2025

SUNSHINE COAST MINI-FAIR ON 23rd JUNE 2024

Okay…the Sunshine Coast of Qld is not close to Orange, but they send tidings, and many of us travel that way on holiday. Also this newsletter is distributed to a number of Queensland clubs. Our own monthly mini-fairs are an important interface with the community (and it has attracted ne members!).

"Greetings from the Sunshine Coast Stamp Club. We hope your club is enjoying lots of activities

and fellowship.'

'I would like to advise you that Sunshine Coast is trialling the idea of a Mini-Fair this year.

On Sunday morning, June 23rd 2024, four local clubs will come together in Nambour for a half-day gathering. The Clubs are Gympie, Caloundra, Caboolture and Sunshine Coast.

For the event, which will start at 9am, we will have club exchange books from the 4 clubs, a bargain table, a raffle, a silent auction, and a competition. There will be three dealers in attendance. These activities will be limited to the 4 local clubs.
The event will be widely publicised locally, with a view to encouraging the public to look in, and perhaps gain some new members.
It is planned that the Mini-fair will conclude at about 1pm, with the results of the silent auction.

Will you please make your members aware of the event, so that if they are in the area they could perhaps pay us a visit? They could avail themselves of the exchange books on display, and also the bargain table, dealers, raffle and silent auction.

The Mini-Fair will be held at the CWA Hall, in Short St Nambour. Any of your members would be very welcome.

Mike Lean
Club Historian
Sunshine Coast Stamp Club

Mike is at:
27 Kepplegrove Drive
Sippy Downs
Queensland 4556

Philatelic Association of NSW Inc. - Philas 30 March 2024 Newsletter

Auction Update Report
Auction #143 now on Saturday 22nd June 2024
Preparations for this auction of bulk material continue. More than 800 lots have been prepared, with total estimates in excess of $150,000. The auction catalogue has been a work in progress for 18 months, updated as material has been received. In appreciation of the patience of our vendors and club members over that time, the vendor commission and buyer premium have been reduced to 10% for this auction, and the administration fee per lot has been waived.

The auction is to be conducted in a community hall nearby, and lots acquired are to be provided to successful bidders from Egerton Street. We have ceased to accept new consignments for listing in this auction, and we continue to break down and describe the remaining material on hand. It is expected that this phase will be completed by 13th April, from which time the catalogue can be completed and lots numbered.

Data entry related to the production of the catalogue and preparation for the auction, then is to commence, and will continue until auction day, and the catalogue will be printed and mailed. We need people to assist with data entry and preparation for the mail-out, and then with the recording of absentee bids.

On Saturday 18th May and from Wednesday 22nd May to Friday 24th May, help is needed to supervise viewing. Evening viewing is to be available on Thursday.

On auction day we need a minimum of 24 people to assist with the recording of room bids, draft of invoices and payments at the auction venue, and the delivery of lots to purchasers at Egerton Street.

A few of our regular staff from Brisbane Street have backed up at Silverwater, assisted by a couple of newcomers, and three members of the Wyong club have made the round trip on six occasions. If enough people do not step up during the next seven weeks, completion of necessary tasks will be delayed, and the auction inevitably will be postponed. If you have material for sale in this auction, or if you are a regular bidder and look forward to bidding with us again, I suggest you have a vested interest in the continuation of our auction program, and you more than most others should consider stepping up to assist to ensure the program goes ahead. We offer the opportunity to learn more about stamps and collecting, the acquisition of new skills especially in data entry tasks, and opportunities for convivial chat over morning tea and lunch, which are provided.

After the auction, assistance will be needed to pack and mail lots to successful purchasers. If enough people do not offer to help, this phase may take six months. Obviously, such a lengthy delay in despatch is not desirable. Pending a decision about the future accommodation needs of PHILAS, unfortunately the Silverwater location, as difficult as it is to reach, and as makeshift a workplace as it is, remains our only option.

Auction #144 in November

Preparations for a resumption of our 'business as usual' auction program in November continue.

It is expected that our new database and online platform will be functional by then, so we will be able to offer 'live' online bidding to complement room bidding.

Further consignments of high quality scarcer material are sought.

We can continue to assess collections in the homes of prospective vendors, but difficulties with transit insurance prevent us from accepting consignments off site. Vendors will have to arrange to transport of material to our office. Choice material from the Australian Commonwealth Kangaroo and KGV definitive series and British Commonwealth are included. This is augmented by the balance of the Ron Flower Commonwealth collection unsold at Auction #141. A large selection of second grade material is to be available for absentee bidding only, and the usual bulk material also is to be offered.

Michael Nibbs
Auction Manager

Encouraging Women in Philately

With the aim of encouraging more female philatelists, Philas has donated a prize for the Canberra Stamp Show to be held 12-15 September 2024
A few years ago, I was standing in a long line of elderly gentlemen waiting to enter the Newcastle Stamp Show. My neighbour in the queue bemoaned that there were not many people attending. I commented that a Ladies Prize would be a good idea. He looked at me completely blankly and just said WHY?

I thought I would not bother pointing out to him that more than 50% of the population are female, and it would be a good idea to encourage some of them! Girls, let's show them what we can do in Canberra!

Sarah Harvey
Philatelic Development Council (PDC)

Sydney Stamp & Coin Expo 2025

I am delighted to announce that we have selected a venue and date for the next national philatelic exhibition to be held in Sydney.

The exhibition will be held at the Wentworth Park Sporting Complex from Thursday 20 March 2025 to Sunday 23 March. This is a location very close to the Sydney CBD with many public transport options plus good parking.

Some club members may be familiar with the venue as it holds an Antique & Collectors Fair on a Sunday every two months. Our exhibition will be on Level 1, which can be securely locked, whereas the Antique Fair is held on the Ground Level.

The theme of the exhibition will be the 175th anniversary of the Sydney Views stamps, the first stamps issued in Australia.

This will be a great opportunity for collectors to gather in a great friendly environment. You will be able to inspect dealers' stock. It will be a chance to exhibit your collection. We will of course need volunteers.

Geoffrey Lewis
President of the Organising Committee

PHILAS Club Newsletter #6

24th April 2024

President Report to the Clubs

Hi all,

I hope this finds you in good health and enjoying the changing seasons.

At this time of year, I enjoy the increase in the number of hours best suited to philatelic pursuits … and the fact that my partner struggles to find many compelling reasons for me to be doing something else as its usually too cold or too dark. This doesn't mean I actually tidy my stamp room, normally the major bone of contention, but it does get rearranged and explored more over the late autumn and winter months.

There are a number of initiatives progressing at Philas, and whilst we don't necessarily have outcomes for many of them it is important to let you know what is going on.

Philatelic Association of NSW Limited

Thank you to all who supported the initiatives to move Philas from an incorporated society to a company operating under limited guarantee. These initiatives allow Philas to update our management structures and processes and to better support the Library, which Philas is the sole member of this separate entity. The path to progressing these forward are applications with ASIC and Fair Trading NSW which are underway.

The obvious question coming out of this is *"What does this mean to our club? Do we have to do something to our structure?"* The answer is that only a minor administrative change will be required. Once Philas Limited is registered with ASIC and Fair Trading NSW, each club will need to adjust its constitution to change any references from Philas Inc to Philas Limited, but apart from that no other changes in club structures are required as part of the Philas change (the latter has been confirmed by Fair Trading NSW).

One other question that did come up during the discussions around this proposal was the fact that the Philas Exec had proposed no bylaws to support the proposed new constitution. There is no compelling reason for the change in governance structure to drive the development of a screed of bylaws, and discussions with three long serving former Philas executive members has confirmed that Philas has never really had any, outside of a couple that relate to Philas awards processes. The Exec concedes that the need for specific bylaws may become obvious once we start operating as Philas Limited, but in the interim, outside of adopting the awards bylaws that are already in place, we don't propose to develop any new ones in the short term.

PHILAS House – 20 Egerton Street, Silverwater

I am sure you will all want to know what is happening with our Egerton Street premises. Philas have lodged a Development Application with Paramatta Council to develop the site as per the plans that supported its purchase in 2023. Public consultation on the DA closed in late March, it's currently *Under Review* and we have been advised we should hear back by 9 May.

The outcome of this application will tell us whether or not Council will allow us to provide the range of services we provided at Brisbane Street and will have a part to play in the review of Egerton Street's suitability as a home for Philas' future.

Communications Security

We are moving to ensure that all emails from Philas come from *@philas.org.au* email addresses, to get away from each executive member sending out updates etc. from their personal addresses. Supporting this we have developed two mailing databases, one for notifications to clubs and

one for broader auction and event notifications to individual philatelists who have indicated that they want this sort of news. This is intended to ensure that we only address Philas information to the person a club has designated as their contact point and don't bombard others with emails they may not want to receive. We all get more emails than we want so a few less from Philas is probably helpful for most people.

Auction #143

There are lots of questions about the next auction and an update will be out very soon if it doesn't accompany this message. I have no intention of doubling up on this but would like to acknowledge that Philas have been overwhelmed by vendor support and can promise a good range of material with the normal focus on Australiana.

President's Club Visits

Finally, I am looking forward to meeting the members of the Piallaway and Tamworth clubs in mid-May when I visit them at Tamworth. Whilst there I will be providing a display and answering whatever questions members care to raise about Philas. If your club wishes to avail themselves of the same opportunity please send a request via office@philas.org.au or president@philas.org.au.

Best wishes for a healthy winter

Bruce

Philas Auction Report

Thank you to all those who have been coming to PHILAS to help - you know who you are.
We still need volunteers to help with:
Preparation for the auction numbering 2,500 boxes comprising 900-plus auction lots, printing and mailing the catalogue, collating absentee bids.

- Viewing days & auction day:
- Supervising viewing register bidders, record bids, draft invoices.
- At PHILAS HQ on auction day
- Hand over material to successful bidders.

The venue for Philas Auction #143 on Saturday 22nd June 2024 has been booked. For all enquiries, please contact:

Michael Nibbs
Auction Manager
Mobile: 0466 228 182
Email: auction@philas.org.au

ITEMS FOR THIS NEWSLETTER AND CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CLUB

Items for this newsletter are always required. You do not have to be a member of the Orange Club. They need to be posted to the Editor, who is also the secretary at the Club's postal address: -PO Box 9113, ORANGE 2800 or better still e-mailed in Word format (pictures as jpg files) to: - ddolstra@bigpond.net.au

Phone 02 63 614 872

TURN YOUR STAMPS INTO CASH! GET SOME PAGES READY FOR THE CLUB'S EXCHANGE BOOK

Colin needs coin and stamp pages for the next stamp circuit book and the next coin/note circuit books

Colin can be contacted direct at Email: ptilinopus1@bigpond.com Ph: 63690634

Howard Lyons' Orange Stamps & Coins Auction
Saturday 25th May 2024
At the Orange High School Hall, Woodward St ORANGE

NOT TO BE MISSED

Lot veiwing in the morning & the auction about 1.30pm
For your catalogue please contact Howard on **(02) 6362 2358**

Steve Kay and Gerry Jeffermans at the M.R. Robert's Wynyard Coin Centre's tables at our 2024 Orange Expi on 23 March 2024

M.R.Roberts
WYNYARD COIN CENTRE

3 Barrack St Sydney 2000

Ph (02) 9299 2047 & Fax (02) 9290 3710 remains the same. Their e-mail address is sales@wynyardcoins.com.au

Thanks also to community radio 2MCE 92.3 Bathurst and 94.7 Orange for their EXPO 2025 publicity

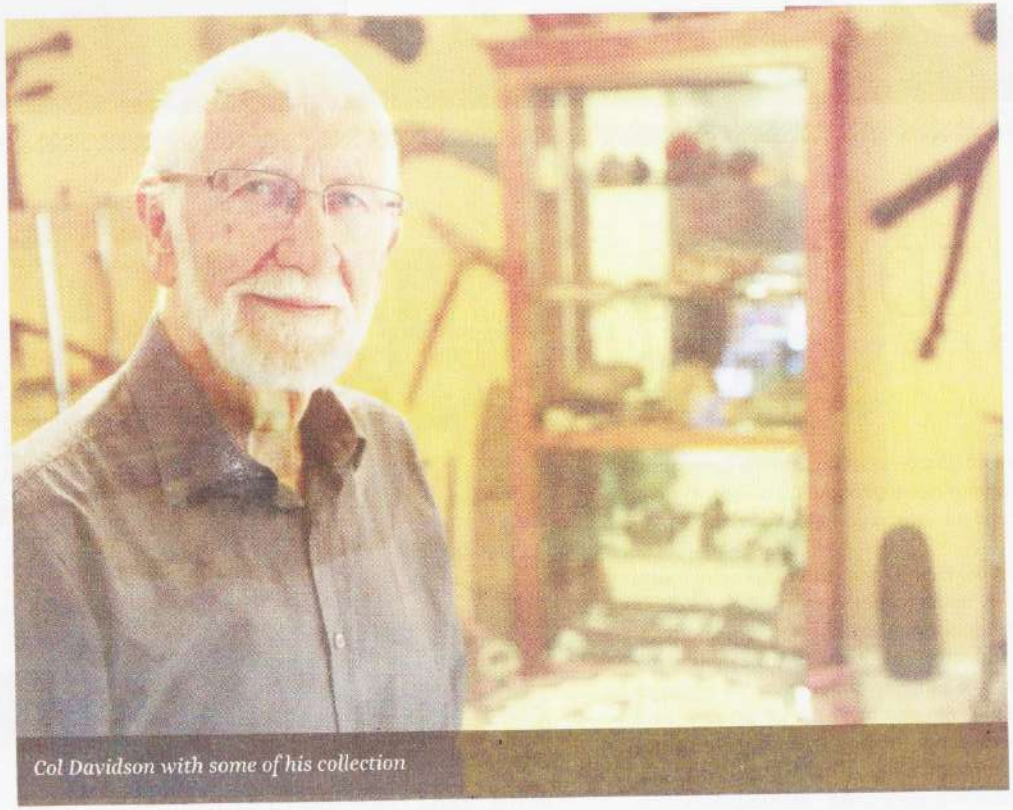
And to Orange Community Radio 175.5 FM

Visitors to our Expo 2024 looking at our member's competitive displays

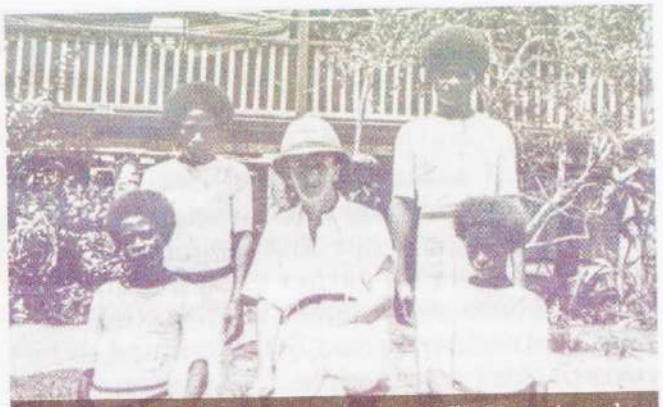
Potential buyers around Phil & Win Morehouse's tables at our 2024 Expo on 23rd March 2024. Colin Richardson, our circuit book manager, is seated (with his back to the camera)

Community LiFE

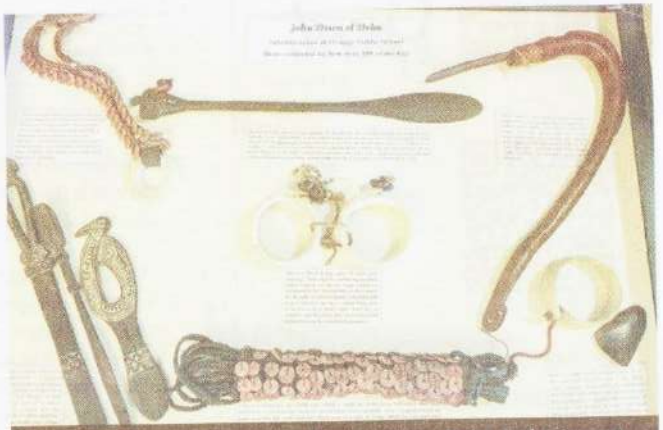
ORANGE CITY LIFE | MARCH 21– 27, 2024



Col Davidson with some of his collection



Former Orange Public School teacher John Willis Dixon pictured on Dobu Island in 1924.



A few of the items collected by John Dixon on Dobu and now part of the collection of Col Davidson.

The colourful stories behind COL'S COLLECTION

"I found a coin, an Israeli 5 Mils — I've still got it! — but that was the start," says Col Davidson, as to how he first began the rather unusual collection that now fills the front lounge room of his Orange home.

Looking around at the rather eclectic selection of assorted knives, tools, and trinkets made of shells, beads and bones filling display cabinets, one would not immediately make the connection that this is a "coin collection" of sorts.

Col, who's now 81, began collecting coins when he was just six years old, a passion he has pursued ever since. But it was a gift from his wife, says Col, that set him pursuing his particularly niche interest in the currency collecting world.

"In the 1960s, coins from the mint were getting a bit expensive and my wife bought me a little brass ingot from Vietnam, called 'boat money'. It was very interesting and was over 100 years old and used as money over there... so that's how I started collecting 'primitive' monies or money substitutes," he explains.

"Today, I'd say I've got about two thousand items. They range from an eight-foot-long spear, a drum that weighs 19 kilos, down to little beads that you almost need a magnifying glass to see... lots of different funny things."

Col jokes that the little ingot from his wife was probably the most expensive gift he ever received because it has cost him a fortune since buying pieces to add to his collection.

But in truth, he says, the collection has mostly paid for itself as over the years he has managed to buy, sell and trade to get the items he's been after — even if it took him writing hundreds of letters to all corners of the globe.

> *...These 'primitive' monies... many of them have marvellous stories; you know, they'll have been made by a god or you had to have them for marriage...*

"I started corresponding with a number of locals from the various islands and I'd send them money and they'd send me artefacts," he explains.

"These 'primitive' monies... many of them have marvellous stories; you know, they'll have been made by a god or you had to have them for marriage... In Indonesian New Guinea, traders came in and started buying up a certain type of bead and it ended up so the young men weren't able to marry because they weren't able to get enough of these beads for the bride price and it actually interfered with the tribe's prosperity. There are lots of stories like that."

Strangely enough, there are a number of prized pieces in Col's collection that actually have an Orange connection.

"In 1981, I met the elderly widow of a

chap who was a school teacher in Orange and, in 1923, he went to a little island of Papua New Guinea called Dobu, teaching the kids there at the mission school," says Col, who had no idea of the link to Orange at the time.

"There was an advert that she was trying to sell these artefacts and I was one of the very few people who were interested, and went along and I bought a reasonable lot of them and got the story.

"Her son actually wrote a little self-published book on the topic as well... I was asking for information from him, I wrote to him and he sent me out this little book on him."

The teacher in question, says Col, was named John Willis Dixon. In 1923, then a 24-year-old teacher at Orange Public School, Dixon was successful in his application to the Board of Mission of the Methodist Church to work as a teacher in an overseas posting. In October 1923, he sailed from Sydney bound for Dobu where he spent the next two years and acquired the items now in Col's collection.

John Dixon is said to have had a particular gift for language, Col says, and was given the name "E da Kena Dobu" by the locals, which means "He speaks Dobuan like a Dobuan".

While teaching in Dobu, John Dixon felt the call to the ministry and returned to Sydney for training. But in 1929 he headed back to Papua New Guinea, to Salamo on Fergusson Island as a Methodist minister. While there he met a young school teacher named Olive Fielding who he married in 1931. Salamo remained home for the couple for the next decade before the education needs of their children called them back to Australia.

In 1946, John Dixon was elected the State Secretary for the Overseas Mission of the Methodist Church and carried on this work in Australia until he died in 1958.

"It's a story that caught my interest, especially because it relates to the items in the collection," says Col, who likes to collect as many details and stories as he can about the pieces in his collection

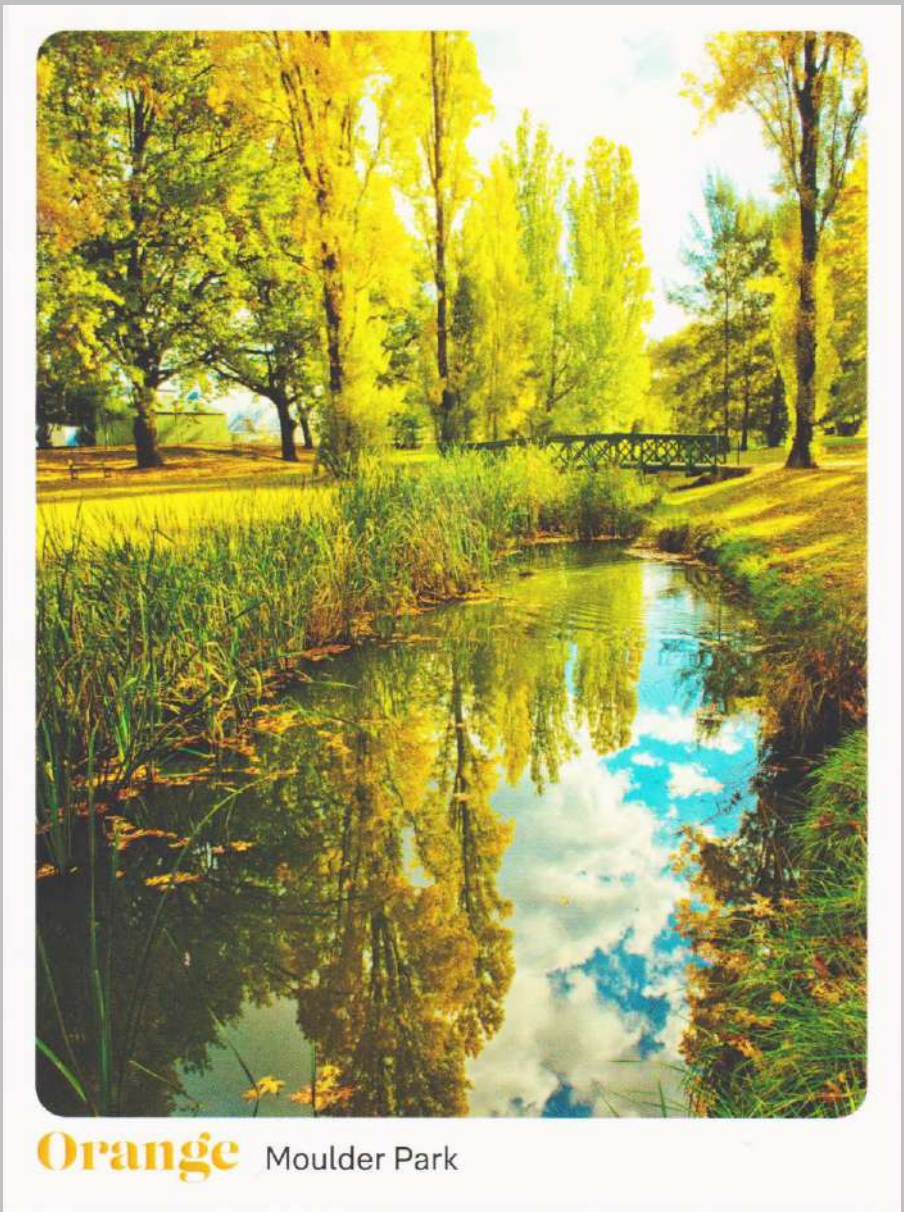
"Yes, I've got some very good stories! I've got some that were collected by a sailor on one of the ships of Burn Philp before 1900; he was going through islands in the South Seas and picking up nice items.

"Got another from a sea captain that was over on Russell Island, and I've got another one from a missionary priest, he got me some lovely items from an island in the Louisiades and more from a lovely German lady in a trading post in Kundiawa!"

This weekend Col will have items from his collection, including those collected by John Dixon, on display at the Orange Coin and Stamp Club Expo. The Expo is being held at the Orange High School Hall, from 9am to 4pm on Saturday and Sunday, March 23–24.

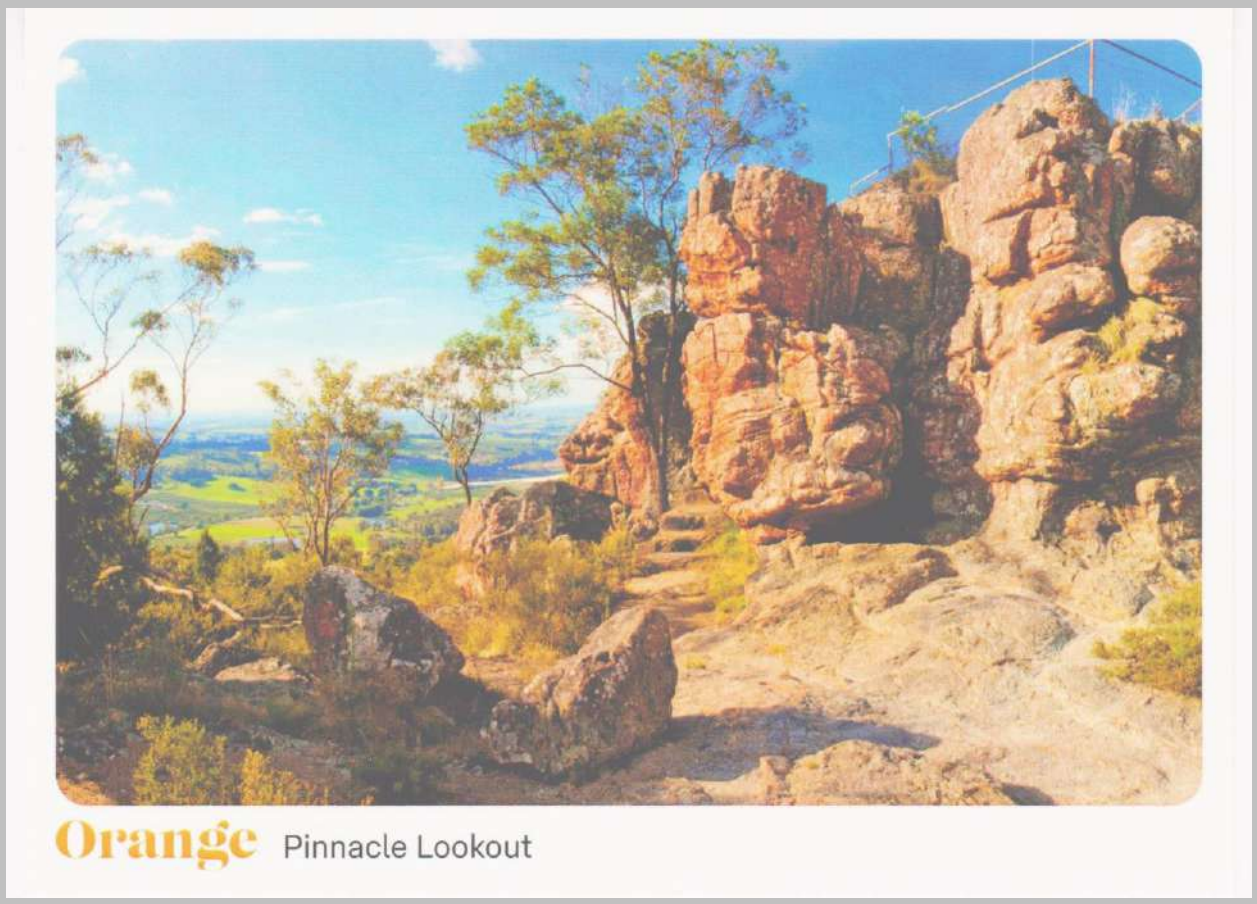
MORE AUSTRALIA POST ORANGE INTERNATIONAL PRE-PAID POSTCARDS

On your editors visit to the Orange Postal Hub on 2nd April he noted 3 more Orange-themed postcards that he hadn't seen previously:-

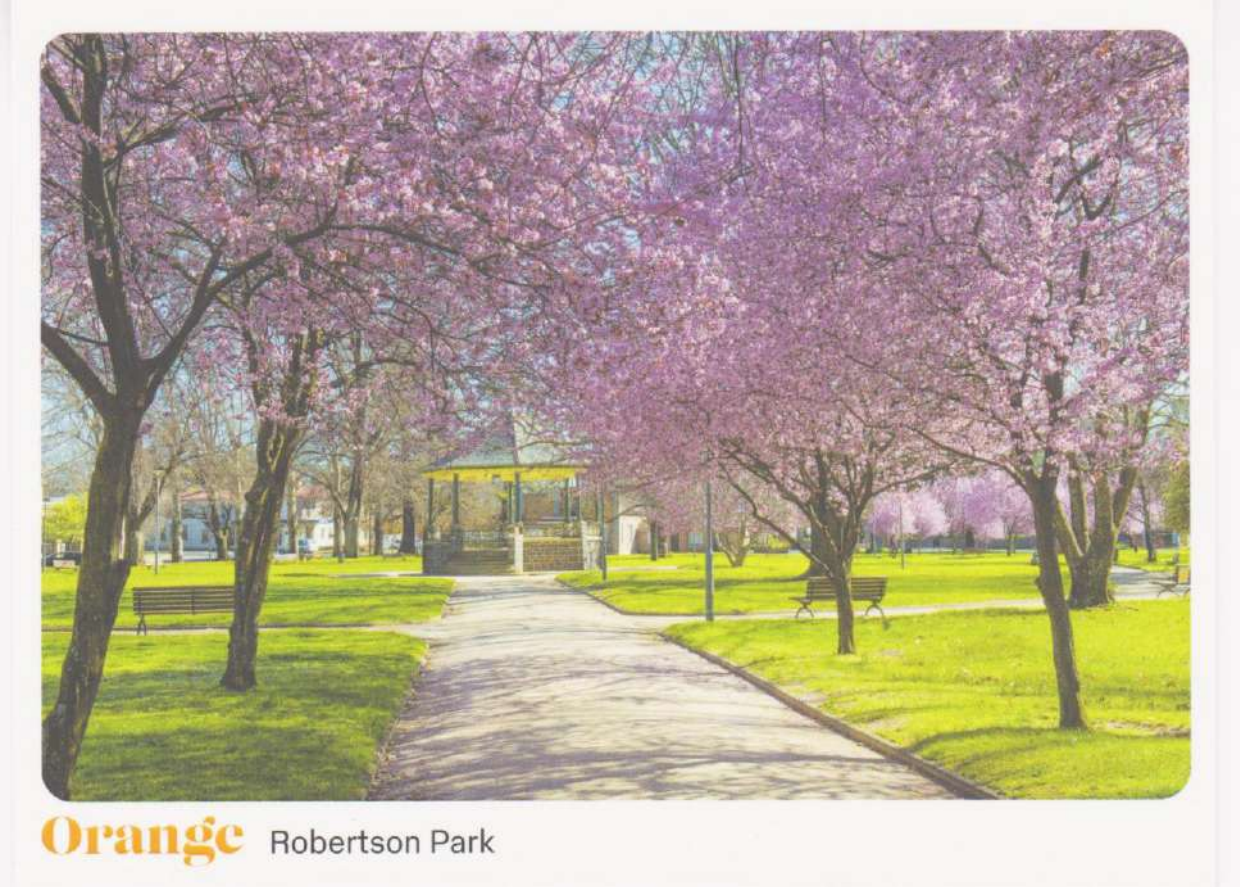


#93497 66 012652 showed Moulder Park, only 400m southwest of the post office.

This is the generic address side of the Moulder Park PPC



#9 349766 012751 shows the Pinnacle Lookout about 10km southwest of Orange.



#9 349766 012768 shows Robertson Park with jacarandas in bloom. It's within sight of the post office on Summer Street

Canberra Stamp Show 2024
12-15 September 2024

Canberra Stampshow is held every two years where the Canberra Philatelic Society holds a public event for the Philatelic and general community.

It's Australia's only National Stamp show in 2024, held in Canberra, September 2024. Held over 4 days visitors can immerse yourself in exhibits, purchase items, connect with other collectors, & visit trade dealers' stands.

Collectors & Enthusiasts

Its Australia's only National Stamp Show in 2024 – Held at Thoroughbred Park 12-15 September 2024

Canberra Stampshow 2024 will have over 30 National & International dealers all bringing their best items for your choice.

TOOWOOMBA NATIONAL 1-FRAME STAMP EXHIBITION 2024 INFORMATION

Toowoomba 2024 is fast approaching, and things are progressing very well. The website is up and running, so click on and have a look through. https://toowoomba2024.com/

There will be no further bulletins released. Any relevant information and updates will be notified on the website, so check in regularly. We are looking forward to seeing many of our old friends and meeting many new ones.

Dates & Times Friday 11th of October, 2024 Set Up and Judging. (No public access.) **Saturday 12th of October, 2024 Dealer Day and One-Frame Viewing 9:00am - 5:00pm Sunday 13th of October, 2024 Club Day and One-Frame Viewing 9:00am to 3:30pm**

There is a wide variety of accommodation in Toowoomba, with many motels in Margaret and Ruthven Streets. There are 3 quality hotels within walking distance (100m) of the exhibition venue (Toowoomba Indoor Bowls Association Hall, 10 Annand St, Toowoomba, 4350). Burke & Wills Hotel, Oaks Hotel & Central Plaza Apartment Hotel The Palmares Dinner will be at the Burke & Wills Hotel, and they are offering exhibition visitors a special deal, only available with direct website bookings, not through booking apps, i.e. wotif, booking.com Trivago, etc. and mention Toowoomba Stamp Club Toowoomba 2024

For enquiries and additional information Contact the Secretary, Toowoomba 2024 Email: secretary@toowoomba2024.com Mob: 0468390299 Or the website

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A big thanks to Orange's Odeon 5 Cinema for donating tickets to the winners of our 2024 Expo Kid's colouring competition.

BLAST FROM THE PAST NO 29 *WITH "Simpy"*

The following items have been sourced from various Australian Post Office Stamp Bulletins.

No 198 January-March 1989: Sir Henry Parkes was the subject of the 39c Australia Day stamp issued on 25 January.

New definitive stamps to issue on 13 February, Sports Series 1.

Page 9 was headed "1989 – COULD THIS BE OUR BEST YEAR YET? This year promises to be a wonderful year for stamp issues in Australia. The number of issues is diminished, but the interest is enhanced." It went on to list 13 separate issues for the year with March and December the only months with no issues.

Frama machine locations in NSW and installation dates were listed on page 13.

No 201 August-September 1989: New Frama paper featuring Australia's Frill-necked lizard was introduced on 1 September.

Post Australia Shop – "Australia Post will branch out into a new area of retailing and merchandising when the Post Australia Shop opens in Brisbane on 2 October 1989. The Post Australia Shop will be provided as a separate retail outlet as a "shop within a shop" at the Brisbane GPO."

Australia Post reprinted an article by Glen Stephens titled FAKES that had first appeared in the June issue of Stamp News Australia.

No 202 October-December 1989: Lovely historic black and white photo of Flinders Street Railway Station, Melbourne on the front cover.

The first commemorative stamp booklet featuring a Melbourne Cable Tram was issued on 11 October 1989 to coincide with Stampshow '89.

Page 14 advised "Australia Post is about to release a superb new Stationery Set, aimed at making letter-writing a pleasure." The set sold for $11.95.

Page 19 "The Australian Stamp Bulletin is proud to have received a Silver-Bronze Award at the Thirteenth Annual Philatelic Literature Fair held in April by the prestigious Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum, USA.

An award of this standard is a rare honour for a magazine that is primarily aimed at presenting advice of new stamp issues and current philatelic events pertaining to a single postal administration."

No 205 June-July 1990: *Boom-time* (1870/1890) was marked by the release on 12 July of 5 x 41c stamps is a se-tenant strip. The five booms were: Land, Building, Investment, Retail and Factory.

The first pressure-sensitive (self-adhesive) stamp was announced depicting cycling and a first day of issue postmark of **Gumly Gumly** (a suburb of Wagga Wagga). The issue date was 16 May 1990.

No 207 October-December 1990: The 1990 Annual Collection contained stamps with $45.13 face value $45.13 and included the $20 Garden painting stamp. The Deluxe Edition cost $53.95 and the Executive Edition $84.95 with each attracting a $5 discount if purchased before 21 December 1990.

A Frama machine was in operation at the late September Brisbane Stamp & Coin Show using cliché B17.

The new Darwin GPO was scheduled to open in mid-November 1990.

No 209 March-April 1991: Scheduled new issues were: In Memory of Those Who Served, Queen's Birthday, Australian Insects and the 150th Anniversary of Australian Photography. ▪

OUR CLUB'S MONTHLY MINI-FAIRS

The Club's last monthly mini-fair on Saturday morning 6th April 2024. These are held on the 1st Sunday of each month from 9 to 12 in the Orange Cultural Centre. Sometimes it's quite busy and other times it's not. It attracts mainly non-members, enquirers and persons wanting to know the value of things. Club members buy accessories as well as coins banknotes & stamps. It's an opportunity for Club members, too, to sell off surplus collectables.
Most new members have made their first contact with the Club at these mini-fairs.

Orange Club have been holding these monthly mini-fairs since 2010. This image shows one of these embryonic fairs, on 4th February 2012, held under the staircase at the now long-demolished Quinn's Arcade. From the right is the late Wendy Stoker, then Ray Norman sitting, then Howard Lyons also seated, then Tony Read talking to an unidentified person.

184 Years of Pre-Paid Postage
The Penny Black: Daddy of Them All

This is an article written by Richard Albert Hardie back in 1935. It re-appeared in the Enoggera Stamp Club's April 2024 Newsletter, *The Stamp Times.*

The image of Queen Victoria on the Penny Black, the world's first adhesive postage stamp, was based on a sketch by artist Henry Corbould (1787-1844)

"Aside from this being the Silver Jubilee year of the reign of *King George V* and *Queen Mary* of England, which in itself is directly responsible for scores of new stamp issues, 1935 also marks two other notable events in "*stampdom*". Namely, the ninety-fifth birthday of the first governmental postal adhesive in the world, the famous Penny Black of England, and also the 900th anniversary of the first record of posts.'

'It is a known fact that postal history dates back as far as 1035 BC for the Holy Scriptures authenticate this where in Samuel 2, xi .14 is recorded in the following "and it came to pass in the morning that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah," thus firmly establishing the earliest record of letters. However, prior to 1840 all postal history records are somewhat scanty, and what there is, has been found quite complicated.'

'Therefore everyone has come to regard 1840 as the all-important year in postal *realms, and rightly so, for that year will be remembered until the end of time as such.* Exactly ninety-five years ago this week, May 6th to be specific [it's 184 years now!], there came into being a small bit of printed paper which was destined to be not only the beginning of one of the greatest enterprises the world has ever known but also the source of a hobby that is today pursued by millions.'

'The story of how the postage stamp idea developed is one of amusing interest. Before 1840 all correspondence was franked with a rubber or wooden stamp (a marking that would be today classed as a "cancellation") and postal charges depended on the distance that a letter had to travel before reaching its destination.'

'Postal carrying fees in those days were most usually left to the receiver to pay, as this was optional with the sender. Rowland Hill, connected with the Royal Postal System of England was a very aggressive and far-sighted man, and he wasn't in the least satisfied with the set up with the mail service of Great Britain. For years he had been studying on different methods and in 1837 wrote a pamphlet expounding a reform system. Time passed, and with it so did England's postal system get worse. Its cause remained a mystery….that is to the officials.'

‘It was quite by chance that Post-master Hill while making his way to work one morning in early 1839 stumbled on the cause which was a common enough occurrence, but which in this particular case became one of the turning points in history. What Hill saw was a servant-girl standing on a stoop with a tear in her eye dejectedly handing back to a carrier an envelope that he had just delivered, refusing to accept and pay for it on the plea that she lacked the necessary shilling with which to claim the sealed letter sheet.’

‘The scene touched the kindly Rowland Hill, sensing the maid’s keen disappointment over the loss of a likely love-letter, he at once stepped forward, paid the required fee to the postman, and with a bow extended the letter to the girl. Instead of this chivalrous act being met with gracious thanks, Hill was promptly set back on his heels with a reprimand from the lass who said that she didn’t want to have the letter, anyway.’

‘Announcing his authority, Hill insisted that the letter be opened in his presence. He found no writing whatever on the enclosed paper, and quite naturally “smelled a rat.” Upon demanding an explanation the girl, very much frightened at Postmaster Hill’s authority, broke down and confessed. She explained that her sweetheart had sent his message in coded writing secretly worked in the address on the outer envelope and that she had already read that before passing the missive back to the postman. “*Well, by Jove*,” thought the good Postmaster, “*in this lies the answer to the continual loss of postal revenue*.” Jubilantly Hill exclaimed, “*Now we’ll make them pay first!”*

‘Coupling his discovery with his other postal reform measures Postmaster Hill diligently pressed his cause and on August 17th, 1839, was appointed to carry out his system. At the same time the first Penny Postage Act was passed, the principal features of which provided that postal rates in the future were to be calculated by weight and not distance. Also all mail would henceforth have to be fully prepared by the sender, or, if not, double fees were to be charged the recipient.’

‘Postmaster Hill’s first act was to give specifications of the new (and first) postage stamp to be issued as, “A bit of paper just large enough to bear a stamp and covered at the back with a glutinous wash.” Thus the Penny Black was in the making. The border design of the stamp was first produced in watercolour by Hill himself, and retouched by Henry Corbould. A portrait of *Queen Victoria*, but then a girl of twenty and only three years on the throne, was used.’

The image of Queen Victoria was taken from the 1837 William Wyon Medal showing the youthful portrait of Queen Victoria wearing a diadem on the medal to commemorate her visit to the City of London in November 1837, but issued the following year. The portrait was indeed youthful, being based on a sketch from 1834 when she was only 15.

'This likeness for the Penny Black was taken from a portrait of the Queen's head on the City Medal, issued in 1837 to commemorate the first official visit she made to the municipality of the City of London. This same design, which was the work of William Wyon, has also been widely used on Great Britain issues of later date. The engraving work was done by two Americans, Charles Heath and his son, Frederick, of Philadelphia, who, some records claim, were the actual inventors of the postage stamp idea, having given it over to Postmaster Hill after the United States Government had rejected it.'

'The stamps were printed in sheets of 240 by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Petch. Because it was thought that if only two of the stamps were arranged in a certain combination in the sheet, each with two Maltese Crosses in each upper corner, but having the lower corners filled with different letters of the alphabet in order that any such fraud could be detected. The Penny Black along with its sister stamp, the Two Penny Blue, the famous Mulready Envelope were all ready and issued on May 1st but for some unaccountable reason not placed on sale until six days later, May 6th, 1840, marking a new era in the advancement of civilization. These stamps remained current until January 1st, 1841."

'This is the story behind the stamp that brought about the thousands of other postal adhesives and rightly called: "*The Daddy of Them All."*

Some other things are worth mentioning about the 1d Penny Black stamp of 1840:-

- Penny Black is not a rare stamp, there were over 68 million printed and it is estimated that approximately 5% still survive. Nevertheless, they can be very valuable with the rarest pieces changing hands well in excess of A200, 000.
- The introduction of the Uniform Penny Post increased postal traffic from 75 million to 410 million in under ten years

The Mulready Envelope was also placed on sale on 6th May 1840, but didn't sell well.

- The scarcest Penny Blacks are from printing plate 11, originally produced for the Penny Red, plate 11 was drafted in for an emergency printing in black of only 700 sheets

- The Penny Black, although considered an icon of classic philately, was actually a failure. Fraud was a major concern for the Post Office, the original red postmark was removable so the stamp could be reused, and the replacement black postmark couldn't be readily seen on a black stamp. The Penny Red was developed to overcome these problems and was issued in various guises for the next 40 years.

A Penny Black, with a red cancellation that was hard to see and easily removed

As Great Britain was the first country to issue a postage stamp, it is not required to include the country name in the design to this day.

Australian Colonial Gold-field Brooches are an important part of our history

They are on the boundaries of numismatics, but as their real value is their bullion value, so they deserve inclusion.

Gold miners' brooches were a popular form of 19th Century jewellery worn by women, especially those whose husbands and partners were miners.

The brooches were made from gold procured directly by miners (rather than from purchased bullion bars) working on the Victorian, New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australian gold-fields. Some gold brooches have also come from South Africa. They were very popular from the 1850's to the early 1900's.

Very often they show the text of the gold-field where the gold was mined. Your editor has seen some showing "LUCKNOW" and "WYALONG". Many show in auction catalogues as coming from "BALLARAT" and "CASTLEMAINE" in Victoria, and "KALGOORLIE" "COOLGARDIE" and "LEONORA" in Western Australia. The ones from Western Australia date from the mid-1890's when gold was first discovered thee.

The discovery of gold in New South Wales and Victoria in 1851 had a momentous impact on Australian society. Melbourne soon became one of the wealthiest cities in the World on the back of the gold rush.

Jane Smith, opening an exhibition of miners gold brooches at the Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka in Ballarat in 2016, said that Melbourne had become a centre for luxury goods: - “You had a lot of European jewellers who came and set up, and were making extraordinary gold jewellery.”

A topic for local research could be to find the names of early jewellers who made these brooches in the Central West of New South Wales.

The customers were the gold diggers who had unearthed fortunes and were eager to show off their wealth with ostentatious gold jewellery.

“This was the situation where working-class men and women actually got to wear gold” she added. “That mirrored what has happening politically on the gold-fields. You had a whole range of people who wanted to change the old order fighting against British colonial administration.”

Digger brooches celebrated the gold rush colonies and the “democratic lottery” of alluvial gold mining. “In their extravagant salute to striking it rich, they challenged the conventions of the time about jewellery of good taste” Young, another historian noted. “It was based on a very Victorian notion that people should present themselves according to their class, essentially determined by money.”

Other jewellery was more traditional but decorated with Australiana according to the 2016 exhibitions curator Cash Brown. "There's a whole section on jewellers using Australian materials and design themes like kauri shells, malachite, citrine and amethyst in more continental-style jewellery she noted. "You get these lovely vine borders that have kangaroos and emus on them."

Late-Victorian miners' brooch, circa 1880's sold for $4,950

Cash Brown noted that the material culture of the era reveals as much about its history as the written word: - "Every piece has a story to tell. We forget that in the Victorian era they had different lives and sensibilities."

This brooch, from the early 1850's is one of the earliest known Australian gold miner's brooches, featuring a range of gold-field tools.

VICTORIA THEATRE,
BALLARAT.
On SATURDAY, Feb. 16,
MR. JAMES CROSBY,
LOLA MONTES
Best Company ever assembled on Ballarat!
MR. F. FOLLAND,
ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1856,
MORNING CALL!
Mrs. Chillington - Mdme. LOLA MONTES.
THE SPITALFIELDS WEAVER!
ANTONY CLEOPATRA!
Cleopatra - - Mdme. LOLA MONTES.
Prices of Admission--Boxes, 10s.; Pit, 5s.

Lola Montez scandalised prim Melbourne society in 1855 when she performed her famous spider dance, reportedly revealing a lack of undergarments when she lifted her skirts.

The Argus newspaper described the show as "utterly subversive to all ideas of public morality," Yet Montez was "rapturously encored", according to historian Bruce Seymour, when she performed the erotic dance in front of 400 gold-miners the following year in Castlemaine. In the heady days of the Victorian gold rush, women were in short supply and miners, eager to show off their riches, lavished Montez with gold.

"The story is that more than a million dollars in current-day terms of nuggets were thrown at Montez by the miners in appreciation of her dance" related Jane Smith, the director of the Australian Museum of Democracy at Eureka in Ballarat. Montez, who in her early life had been the mistress of the king of

Bavaria, was also given at least eight digger brooches that she took back to California.

Jane Brown sourced the gold jewellery on show for the 2016 exhibition largely from private collectors around Australia, including the West Australian dealer Trevor Hancock.

Trevor Hancock noted at the time that the jewellery made of Australian gold was as important as the artist S.T. Gill's depiction of life on the central Victorian gold-fields.

Many pieces had been repatriated from overseas where Hancock noted that Many pieces were also repatriated from overseas where said "most were destined for the melting pot because of the high price of gold."

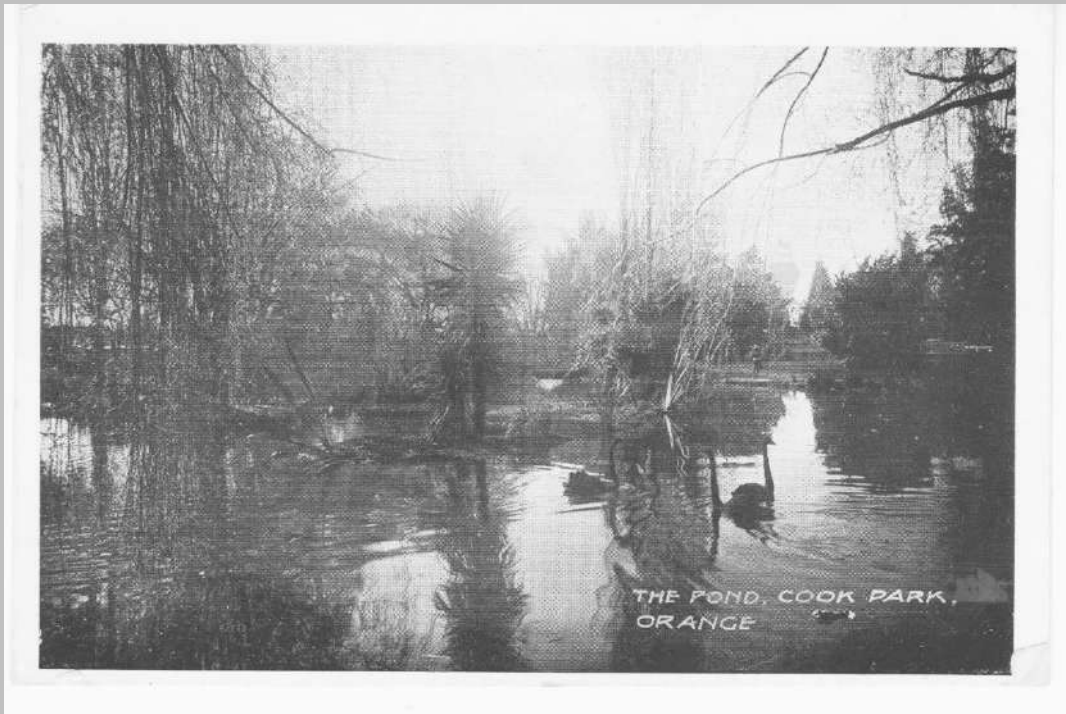
"I call them the little Aussie battlers in the art world" he added. I call them the little Aussie battlers in the art world," he says. He also defended the gold diggers' taste in gaudy jewellery. "You might say the brooches were ostentatious but there are an awful lot of miners today whose form of ostentation is driving a Porsche of Ferrari…..Nothing has changed".

Hancock added: - "These pieces are Australia's crown jewels. There is no doubt about it. This is our history.

THE POND IN ORANGE'S COOK PARK

The most popular subject of pre-World War I postcards of Orange seems to be Cook Park. It's just up Summer Street from the main shops. Its origins go back to 1854 when 4½ha was withdrawn from public auction and retained as open space and called Cook Park (in honour of Captain James Cook). It was officially proclaimed as a park in 1878.

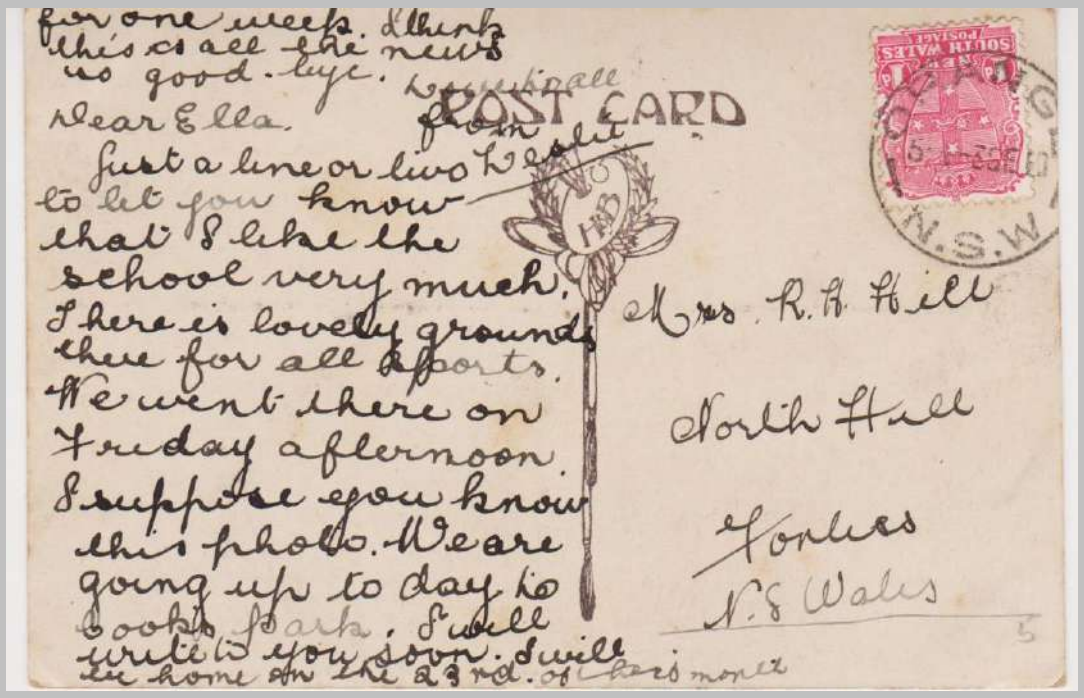
To make a virtue of the water supply for the Park, which was built on a swamp, a small lake was created with an island in the middle. This ornamental swan lake on the park's south-western edge was excavated about 1880. Today it is a duck pond and provides a site for picnics. Many ducks live on its islands and goldfish and tortoises live in the pond.



The typographed picture postcard, above, shows *The Pond, Cook Park, Orange*. No details of the printer are shown. The black swans can be seen swimming in what looks like a leafless trees' winter photo image.

The postcard was posted from Orange to Mrs R.A. Hill at what was once called North Hill in Forbes on 3rd September 1910.

The address side shows an impression of the Type 2A(T), 29mm-diameter (arcs 4½, 5mm) "ORANGE / 5--P--3SE 10 / N.S.W" date-stamp cancelling a 1d rose-carmine *New South Wales Coat of Arms* (Die II, Crown over A watermark, perf 12 x 11½, chalk-surfaced paper) stamp of July 1907.



Hopson & Tobin (1998) recorded the use of this date-stamp only from 1909 to 1912. Another Type 2A(T) date-stamps were used from 1916 to 1920 (time on the right) and from 1929-1935 (30mm-diameter).

The sender, Leslie [?Hill], "likes his school very much". It "has a lovely sports ground", and he says "He will be home on the 23rd of the month." He was almost certainly a boarder at the Presbyterian Church's Kinross School in Orange. Like this postcard that's a night trip on the Forbes Mail train.

The pond is still in Cook Park, but there are no black swans anymore, only ducks and waterhen

AN ECHIDNA-FREE 5c COIN?

To date, only two releases of the Australian 5c coin have been minted without the echidna on the reverse.

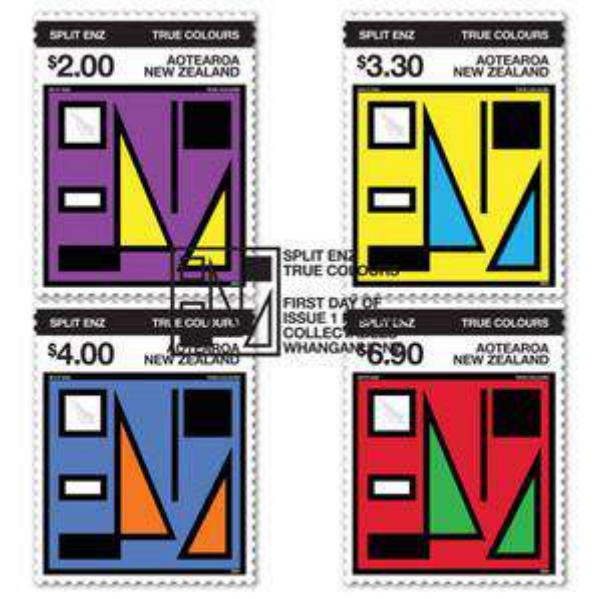
The first, in 2017, was for the 25th anniversary of the popular children's show *Bananas in Pyjamas*. The character on the coin is "*Rat in a Hat*" This is the first 5c to be coloured, and the first not to have the echidna on the reverse.

There were two versions of this coin. The first (at top) is the "normal" coin, of which 7,500 were struck for PNC's; and the second (below) is "frosted", raised portions of the coin has been darkened and the coloured aspects softened, with 750 being struck for the 2017 Melbourne ANDA Money Expo. There were no postage stamps printed for the anniversary. However, as a licensed product, stamp packs were issued using the $1.00 Balloons "Personalised" stamps with *Bananas in Pyjamas* characters on the tabs.

The second coin without the echidna is the 2019 50th anniversary of the *Moon Landing.* It was released in year sets, both proof and uncirculated, and PNC's. Total mintage is unknown. The image on the reverse depicts a Luna landscape of the area where the Eagle landed and where Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin had their historical walk.

If you look closely, you will be able to see a footprint. Note: on the 5c of the "Baby Coin Sets" the echidna had a stuffed toy appearance, but still an echidna.

From the Wagga Stamp Club's May 2024 Newsletter….with thanks



NZ Post's *Split Endz: True Colours stamp* issue of 1st May 2024

Many collectors realise that Split Endz was New Zealand's first internationally recognised band. Musically influential to this day, they were 'originals' who created their own sound and style of performance from the time they formed as Split Ends in 1972.

In 1975, Split Endz recorded their debut album *Mental Notes*, now seen by some as an early masterpiece. But it was with 1980's *True Colours* that the band truly arrived on the world stage. So NZ Post are releasing these 4 *True Colours* stamps in the hope that they appeal to a wider audience.

A local letter in New Zealand costs $2 – 1st class local letter in the U.K. cost £1.35 (+ A$2.60) - and we complain about $1.50.