



BATHURST STAMP, COIN, COLLECTABLES & LAPIDARY CLUB INC

NEWSLETTER

MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE FIRST MONDAY EACH MONTH - EXCEPT JANUARY.

AT THE CLUBHOUSE (OLD EGLINTON FIRE SHED), PARK STREET, EGLINTON.

Meetings commence at 7.30pm. Enquires 63315404 AH or write P.O. Box 9156, Bathurst 2795

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www.philas.org.au/bathurst

MAY – JUNE 2016 Issue

UPCOMING PROGRAM

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| 27th April | Wednesday – Silver workshop in the Clubrooms – 9am to 12 noon. |
| 2nd May | Monthly Meeting - 7.30pm – Guest Speakers – Club Competition – ‘A display of your favourite hobby. Remember your ‘Latest Acquisition’. |
| 6th June | Monthly Meeting - 7.30pm – Guest Speakers – Club Competition – ‘Informative display on any aspect of collecting.’ Remember your ‘Latest Acquisition’. |
| 4 July | Monthly Meeting - 7.30pm – Guest Speakers – Club Competition - ‘An item or collection relating to Bathurst and district’. Remember your ‘Latest Acquisition’. |
| 21st July | (Thursday) Talk by Paul Storm – “The Hennings and Bathurst.” 7.30pm start at Uniting Church Hall in William Street. Rachel Henning wrote a series of letters that described Bathurst as “an ugly place enough, all brick and dust.” She even said her sister’s house “is not beautiful”. Rachel was born in April 1826, arrived in Australia in 1854, returned to England in 1856, and settled permanently in Australia in 1861. She died in 1914. Her sister Amelia (“Amy”) was born in March 1832 and arrived in Australia with Rachel in October 1854. In September 1855 she married Thomas Sloman, a banker in Bathurst, N.S.W. and travelled to Bathurst which became her home. |
| 1st August | Monthly Meeting - 7.30pm – Guest Speakers – Club Competition - ‘Six Favourite Items’. Remember your ‘Latest Acquisition’. |
| 5th September | Monthly Meeting - 7.30pm – Guest Speakers – Club Competition – ‘General Collection’. Remember your ‘Latest Acquisition’. |
| 10th October | Monthly Meeting - 7.30pm – Guest Speakers – Club Competition – ‘Informative display on some aspect of your family e.g. photographs, items they may have owned, family heirlooms etc. Remember your ‘Latest Acquisition’. |
| 29th October | Saturday - Open Day, Displays and Demonstrations & Garage Sale at the Clubhouse 8am to 2pm. This is a combined project by the Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables and Lapidary Club and the Bead & Wirecraft Guild and will include stamps, coins, collectables and lapidary displays, demonstrations of lapidary and jewellery making inside. Outside will have items for sale with members and others selling their unwanted goods. |
- 14th - 17th April 2017 Easter Friday to Monday GEMBOREE 2017** - the 53rd National Gem & Mineral Show, at the Tony Luchetti Showground at Lithgow.

Since my last report there has been some activity at the club with a talk by me on fluorescent minerals. It was a shame that all of you were not there to witness this mesmerising phenomenon on how fluorescence was originally discovered and how it actually works. Plus we had “The green egg” which was passed around. This is a phosphor luminescent rock which glows after being charged with white light for up to a week later. My wife had to run the Geiger counter over it because she insisted it was radioactive and because I had one for my grandson she was taking no chances.

There is a show being run by Rob Scott at Bathurst in September this year and he has offered a stall for our club to exhibit our members many skills incorporated at the Eglinton club rooms. We are looking forward to the time we can obtain an electroplating system for our club, which I am sure will broaden the scope of activities and attract more people to jewellery making.

Chris Oliver - President

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The 39th Annual Sofala Show held on Sunday 28th February where various members of the BSCC&L Club took part in their Collectables Competition. As usual the Sofala Show enjoyed good patronage with many sections of the show receiving record entries. Sue Callen, Elaine Holland, Ernst Holland and Alan McRae all received Champion and other ribbons in the various sections. Sue had various philatelic displays as well as collectables which created



A man with glasses and a striped polo shirt stands next to a large wooden model of a derrick or crane. The model is made of light-colored wood and has a pulley system at the top. A rope is attached to the pulley and runs down to a small wooden cart on wheels. The background is a corrugated metal wall.

Elaine sent along her superb display of Shelley Jenolan caves souvenir ware consisting of vases, jugs and plates. Alan took

Left – Elaine Holland’s display featuring Jenolan Caves. The cave’s system are the largest, magnificently spectacular and most famous caves in Australia. In fact they are the world’s oldest cave systems. Elaine has been collecting Shelley Souvenirware since she worked at the caves for many years. Staffordshire potters Shelley were known as Wileman until the early 1900s. They commenced manufacturing beautiful china items from the mid 1800s, when the Wileman family owned the Foley Pottery Works, where they initially produced fine bone china items such

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The Army and Navy Co-Operative Society Limited was founded in September 1871 by a group of British army and navy officers. Approved gentlemen could purchase a shareholding in the company for which they received an Army & Navy Co-operative Society shareholder's ticket. Others could become annual subscribers and given a 'ticket' which had to be presented to staff when making their purchases.

From 1876 they were offering a banking department to its members. By 1878 they had introduced their first refreshments rooms. More customers became members and in this same year they branched out overseas to Paris and Leipzig. From 1890 the organisation commenced opening stores in India, at Mumbai, and in Karachi the following year, and others later. New locations were also being added around Great Britain over a number of years. During the First World War the company supplied goods on a contract basis to the British War Office.

Many of the mature generation would have seen the old, often ornate, ceramic potlids that once covered products such as toothpaste, cold cream, soap, hair cream, shaving cream, glycerine cream, plate polish, corn cure ointment and eye ointments. Toothpastes and toothpaste powders were sold in the late 1800's in small ceramic pots with some quite beautiful lids advertising the virtues of the product.

To have pots and lids made with one's name on it was obviously quite prestigious and expensive, few obviously failing to see the advertising value that was used by men such as those managing the Army and Navy Co-Operative Society, especially on their almond shaving cream ceramic pot (trademark left). They

There were great advancements in lathered shaving creams by the late 1890s and 1900s though it was the beginning of the end when the first practical electric shaver was invented by Jacob Schick in 1923.

QUARTZ ON FLUORITE FROM MOROCCAN MINE

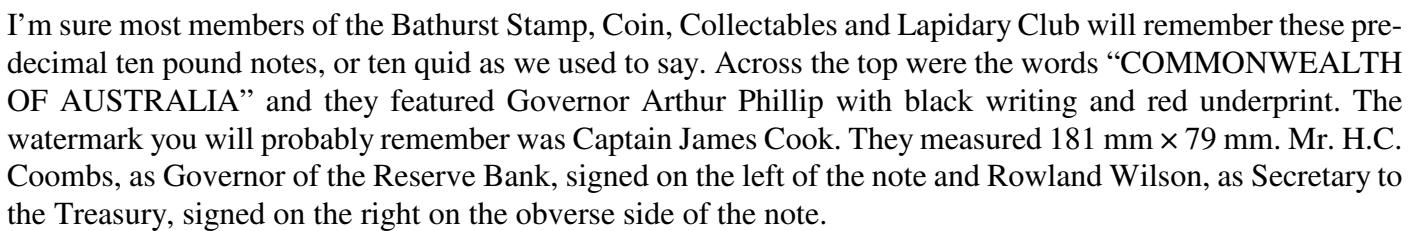


One such specimen is the quartz on fluorite (above) from the El Hammom Mine, Djebel Meknes, in Morocco which has given up some beautiful specimens and is composed of calcium fluoride. The fluorite mine is located some 40 kilometers southwest of Meknes where the mine was named after the mountain where it is situated - Djebel el Hammam.

The Greeks, like the Romans, used fluorite for ornamental carvings which were worn on special occasions, along with special drinking cups, even though the fluorite was a bit soft, as fluorite has a hardness of four on Mohs Hardness Scale. Both civilisations used fluorite as a talisman to maintain their health, children and to bring wealth. In the 1500s fluorite was used as a flux in metal making. Ironically excellent quality fluorite was sought after to use in manufacturing high grade optical lenses for equipment such as microscopes, telescopes and cameras.

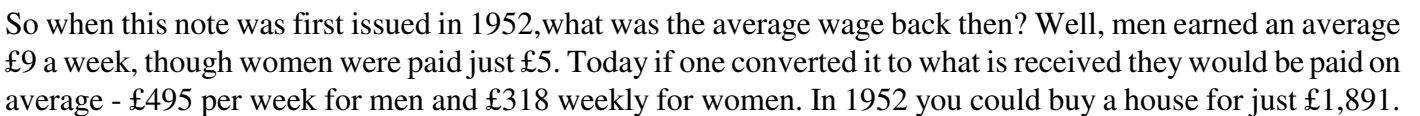
Fluorite can be found in various locations around the world such as Canada, Africa, Switzerland, Greece, Britain, United States of America, Germany, Mexico and where else but China. Fluorite is often found associated with metallic ores such as silver, lead, zinc. As collectors would know fluorite can crystallise in massive forms as well as statuesque isometric cubes, clusters and nodules. The mineral has a transparent to translucent look with a vitreous lustre and make great display items.

LAST TEN POUND BANKNOTE DESIGN



Mr. H.C. Coombs was probably better known as Herbert “Nugget” Coombs and he held the position from 1949 until 1968 and had the responsibility for the changeover from our pounds, shillings & pence to decimal currency on 14th February, 1966. In fact “Nugget” Coombs has the honor of being Australia’s longest serving signatory on notes as Reserve Bank governor. He was the last signatory for the 1939 - 1952 King George VI issues before the two signatures series were introduced for our current queen, Queen Elizabeth, from 1954 until decimalisation.

Roland Wilson took over his job from April 1951 to October 1966 serving as our nation's Secretary to the Treasury and then went on to the new decimal notes. Up until 1960 the Commonwealth Bank was actually responsible for printing our nation's notes after which the Reserve Bank took over this responsibility.



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A black and white engraving of a coastal scene. In the foreground, a small hut and a flagpole stand on a grassy shore. A group of people is gathered near the water's edge. In the middle ground, a small boat is being pulled towards the shore by a rope. In the background, a large sailing ship is visible on the water. The sky is cloudy.

Telegraph cables had been laid under the ocean in 1857 to the island but the cables broke so the project had to be abandoned. Then on Saturday 1st May, 1869, the final connection was made to the new submarine cable that was to link the island of Tasmania over to Victoria and the rest of the world, via Low Head and Cape Schank. The first message was sent on the same day with the cable being operated by the Victorian and Tasmanian Submarine Cable Co.

Although the Commonwealth's Postmaster-General's Department did not become effective until 1st March, 1901, it was 1913 before the first Commonwealth uniform postage stamps were issued. Before this, authorities had to negotiate uniform postal rates. Finally on 1st May, 1911, rates became uniform between the various States with one penny becoming the uniform domestic postage rate.

In 1911 the Postmaster-General's Department decided to hold a Stamp Design Competition to obtain a design for their uniform series of Commonwealth postage stamps. Postal officials wanted a design that contained "features characteristic of Australia". Over one thousand entries rolled in, far more than were expected but there were no winning designs, though some prizemoney was paid out. One entrant, artist Blamire Young, was commissioned to organise some alternative designs so



from these the Kangaroo and Map series of stamps came into being. The final design was quite a simple drawing featuring a kangaroo illustrated against a map of Australia, but it was the first British Commonwealth stamp designs not to depict a member of the British monarchy, it was unpatriotic some felt!

Thus, even before it was issued it was stirring up controversy. One layout had omitted Tasmania from the design altogether. Some people claimed that there were rabbits in the grass around the kangaroo's legs. Finally on 2nd January, 1913, the first issue of the red one penny Kangaroo and Map stamps (left) were issued.



This first definitive issue had fifteen stamps ranged in value from the green 1/2d (halfpenny below) to £2 (two pounds). The Kangaroo and Map design was ordered by the Fisher Labor Government, which had in its ranks a number of pro-republicans who strenuously opposed the incorporation of the monarch's profile on Australian stamps.

To allow for various Government departments to get free postal services for official use postal authorities issued three types of 'OS' (Official Service) issues – the perforated large OS, the perforated small OS and the overprinted OS for use on official government mail (right). The roo series gave collectors a massive amount of material with

various colours, shades, flaws, engraving faults, paper, watermarks, etc.



One of the first acts of the Cook Liberal Government, sworn in on 14th June, 1913, was to order a series of postage stamps with the profile of George V (left). On 8th December, 1913, the first of these, an engraved 1d carmine-red, appeared in Post Offices. Soon after, typographed values of the design ranging from 1/2d (halfpenny) to 1/4d (one shilling and four pence) appeared.



As it happened the Postmaster-General's Department actually used both designs, selling both throughout Australia in the various Post Offices with the Kangaroo and Map design staying on sale for 38 years, some even after World War Two, whilst the George V series were used for 23 years.