

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COIN & STAMP CLUB FOR 25th JUNE 2024

#262

Our 59th Year



Too many cooks? The back of Geoff Henry, while Ron Mills, Eileen Davidson, Dave Field and Derek Dolstra look after the front table at our 2024 Orange Coin & Stamp Expo, 8th March 2024

Our brand new web-site is <https://orangecoinsandstamps.org/>

THE NEXT ORANGE COIN & STAMP MONTHLY MEETING IS ON THIS TUESDAY 25TH JUNE 2024 at 7.30.

Our current monthly meeting is at the Orange Cultural Centre at 7.30 on this **Tuesday 25th June 2024**.

The meeting after that is on Tuesday night, 7.30pm 30th July 2024

Our next monthly coin & stamp mini-fair is in the Orange Cultural Centre is not until next Saturday 1st June 2024 from 9 to 'middayish'.



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.

MEMBERSHIP OF PHILAS & THE COST OF CLUB ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

We have just paid for our membership of the Philatelic Association of N.S.W. at \$1 per adult member for 39 members

We have also just paid for public liability insurance at \$3.50 per member. Last year it was \$3. We need to have at least \$10million public liability insurance to use any of Orange Council's premises.

Our treasurer points out that that the **cost of annual membership (September to September) will need to be increased.** At the moment it's \$5 if you pay before 31st December, then \$10 after that.

The cost of annual membership is a decision we need to make at our annual general meeting in September.

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 2024 & 2025

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

Petersham Stamp, Coin & Banknote Fair,
Petersham Town Hall, Sunday 30th June 2024,
9.30-4, 107 Crystal Street, Petersham.

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

Campbelltown Stamp Club monthly
meeting 10th July at 7pm at St Thomas Moore
Church Hall, 43 Acacia Avenue, Ruse

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

Orange Coin & Stamp Club mini-fair, 9-
12ish on Saturday 3rd August 2024 at the
Orange Cultural Centre

Campbelltown Stamp Club monthly
meeting 14th August at 7pm at St Thomas
Moore Church Hall. *A Day in the Life of a
Stamp* (Joe White).

Orange Coin & Stamp Club July 2024
monthly meeting. 7.30pm 21st August 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.

Orange Coin & Stamp Club mini-fair, 9-
12ish on Saturday 7th September 2024 at the
Orange Cultural Centre

**Our yearly Club auction will start
about midday following our mini-fair.**
Last year there were 430 lots on offer.
Watch for more details.

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.

**Campbelltown Stamp Club's Fishers
Ghost Stamp Fair**, Sunday 3rd November at
the Campbelltown Civic Centre, 9am.

Queensland State Exhibition, 9th and 10th
November 2024 as part of Brisbane Stamp
and Coin Show. Venue still to be determined.

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

Sydney Stamp Expo 2025. 20-23rd March
2025 at Wentworth Park Sporting Complex,
Glebe, NSW. President of the organising
committee is Geoffery Lewis. Email:
glewis@custom-made.com.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, Derek
Dolstra, 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

PHILAS CLUB NEWSLETTER #6 *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, its 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 Australianiana.

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 Chadderton



PHILAS NEWSLETTER #7

Of 20th June 2024

PHILAS is making steady progress despite ongoing challenges. We're still awaiting a response from the Parramatta Council on our Egerton Street premises' development application (DA), originally due around May 9. Due to a backlog, the decision has been delayed by 2-3 weeks with no set date provided.

The transition from an incorporation to a company has proven more complex than expected. We've engaged Governology to assist, and completion is now likely by the end of June. Until then, PHILAS remains under the leadership of the committee elected in December 2023, with the new board from the April 6 SGM meeting for the first time post-transition.

Auction 143's catalogue is complete and is available on the PHILAS website today. Printed copies have been mailed out. The auction offers a diverse range of material, and diligent viewing of the box lots is sure to reward.

Our current building has had issues with waterproofing, causing concern during rain squalls due to the auction material inside. We have secured enough tables to keep everything off the floor, and leaks tend to occur along the walls rather than the roof. Repairs are a priority.

Special thanks to Mike Nibbs and his team for their significant efforts in organising Auction 143. We welcome more volunteers at Silverwater to assist with this and future auctions. If you've been involved before and wish to help, please contact PHILAS. PHILAS continues to receive numerous inquiries from regular vendors, retiring collectors, and estate handlers seeking to sell collections. This ensures we can provide quality service to both sellers and buyers. The Parramatta Club's Open Day was well-supported by local dealers. PHILAS provided additional tables, ensuring adequate space for both dealers and auction lots. There was a varied range of material available, and I found several items to add to my collection. I recently spoke with members of the Piallaway and Tamworth clubs. They were

engaged and understood the need for increased involvement despite the distance. It was encouraging to see Tamworth President Mick Evans at PHILAS the following Saturday, assisting with auction preparations.

PS compliments on the quality of your supper and on the proactive way the clubs supported one of their members dealing with breaking up a deceased estate.

Finally, for those considering exhibiting, remember it's not just for the wealthy. You can't buy a Gold medal. Several opportunities are coming up this year. Established exhibitors can participate in the Canberra Stamp Show in September, with details on the PHILAS and Canberra Stamp Show websites.

For those new to higher-level exhibiting, the Toowoomba 2024 National One-Frame Stamp Exhibition on October 12-13 is an ideal venue. If you need assistance with your exhibit, contact PHILAS (office@philas.org.au) to connect with experienced exhibitors willing to help.

Stay safe and keep on collecting.

Bruce Chadderton

SOUTH SUDAN'S STAMPS

Your editor has always thought it strange that given the large number of South Sudanese in the community he never came across any of that country's stamps. There was once several hundred South Sudanese settled here, but now many have drifted off to western Sydney. Maybe Orange was too cold.

He sees in the last *Stamps* from the U.K. that 4 days after their declaration of independence on 13th July 2011 they issued their 1st stamps illustrating their flag & their new president.



There were several stamp issues after this first issue.

The trouble arose when the country devolved into civil war as different factions fought for control. International mail stopped in 2012.

It is still possible to send letters from South Sudan abroad, but only through the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, or by the field posts of countries involved in peace-keeping.



Sending a letter to South Sudan is not possible. Technically one can be forwarded from a neighbouring country. There is a post office in the capital Juba, but there is no national mail distribution system.





M.R. Roberts' Wynyard Coin Centre at our 2024 Coin & Stamp Expo

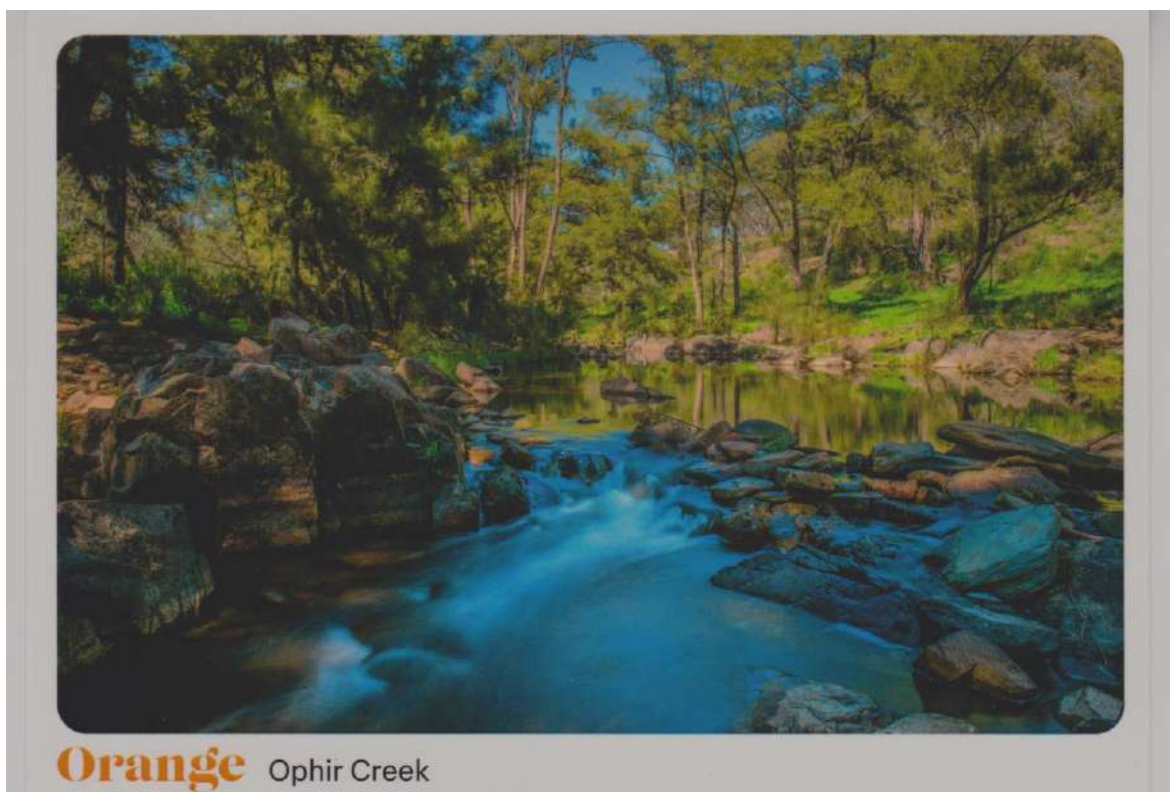


3 Barrack St Sydney 2000

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

ANOTHER AUSTRALIA POST ORANGE NSW POSTAGE PRE-PAID POSTCARD

Your editor noticed a new Postage Pre-Paid postcard (# 9 349766 012737) at the Orange Post Office last week. It showed a scene on Ophir Creek a little downstream from the Maitland Bar Crossing where all the excitement was on 9th May 1851.



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



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

STAMP & COIN FAIR

& crystals, gems & fused glass

***East Kurrajong School of Arts
1090 East Kurrajong Road, East Kurrajong***

13th & 14th JULY 2024

Saturday 9-4 & Sunday 9-2

*Stamps, covers, coins, cinderellas, commercial mail,
ephemera, postmarks, thematics & accessories*

Fused glassware, crystals, hand-made jewellery.

Free admission, refreshments available, off-street parking

*Contact: Ann 02 4576 5031, or
Helen 02 4578 8911*

*Hosted by the Richmond Stamp Club
www.eastkurrajonghall.com..*

R.I.P. KEN FRAME

Members may have seen the funeral notice for Ken "Chuck" Frame (1970-2024) in Saturday's CWD (21/6). Ken was a former member of the Club, but has since been actively involved in Orange Mens' Shed.

ENNGONIA – A TOWN SEEMINGLY ALWAYS ON THE “EDGE”

Enngonia is located 859 km north-west from Sydney; 97 km north of Bourke and 40 km south of the Queensland border. In 2016, there were 148 people in Enngonia, with 30 families, and 61 private dwellings. 50% of the population are Koori.



Today Enngonia is little more than a few buildings, a police station and a popular watering hole, the Oasis Hotel/Motel, on the Mitchell Highway.



By the late-1850's a stock route developed along the Warrego River between Charleville & Cunnamulla in the north and Bourke in the south. Although only flowing intermittently the Warrego had a number of permanent waterholes. It soon became the main stock route between western Queensland and New South Wales.

Settlements developed soon developed along this stock route, including Barrington and Enngonia.

The origin of Enngonia's name was something of a puzzle. Some suggest the first white settler was named Erin. His house was known as *Erin's Gunyah*. In correspondence with the N.S.W. Postmaster-General's department in 1870, Robert Kerrigan wrote from "Eringunyah". The Post Office trying to grapple with the names *Eringunla*, *Eringonia* & *Eringunyah* finally ruled that it would be called Enngonia.



The dry Warrego River-bed at Enngonia. In times of flood paddle-steamers could reach Enngonia from the Darling

Both Enngonia and Barrington both became centres of activity in the late-Nineteenth and early-Twentieth Centuries. Then the properties in the area were labour intensive. Enngonia had a population of about 500 in the 1870's and 1880's. There were three hotels.

Transportation was by horse, coach and bullock wagon. Cobb & Co. ran a twice-weekly coach and mail service between Bourke, the New South Wales railhead on the Darling River, and Cunnamulla in Queensland.

In the 1860's Enngonia had become renowned for its lawlessness. Early in 1868, the **Sydney Morning Herald** had identified the problem, writing: - "*Great complaints are made by squatters in the back country with reference to the*

'mobs of lazy, idle, loafing scoundrels' which infest these districts, and whose whole end and object appear to be to live without working."

It was an isolated area and it had become the *habitué* of bushrangers and stock thieves. These, about 1865, included the bushranger Captain Thunderbolt (1833-1870) and Johnny Dunn (the last of Ben Hall's gang, 1846-1866) who spent time horse-breaking so as not to attract the attention of the law.

On 6th October 1868 the Biree police officer, Senior Constable McCabe was shot in the shoulder by the bushranger Charles Rutherford (or Redford) and possibly Frank Ward. A month later McCabe, together with two Queensland police troopers entered Shearer's Inn in Enngonia to have breakfast. Rutherford and Frank Pearson, known as Captain Starlight, entered the inn and shouted "Bail up!" while waving a revolver. Pearson fired and missed. Rutherford's shot hit McCabe's chest. A return shot struck Pearson's right arm. The bushrangers then rode to Belalie in the north, then to Yantabulla, being pursued by the others. McCabe died of wounds in Bourke on 1st November 1868.

The bushranger Captain Midnight, the nickname of Thomas Law (also using the aliases of A'lick Law, Thomas Smith, George Gibson & Harry Wilson) was shot and captured near Enngonia on Sunday 6th October 1878 and died a few days later. He had killed a police officer near Dubbo on 20th September 1878. He was the model for the fictional, not the real, Captain Starlight in the 1888 novel *Robbery under Arms*.



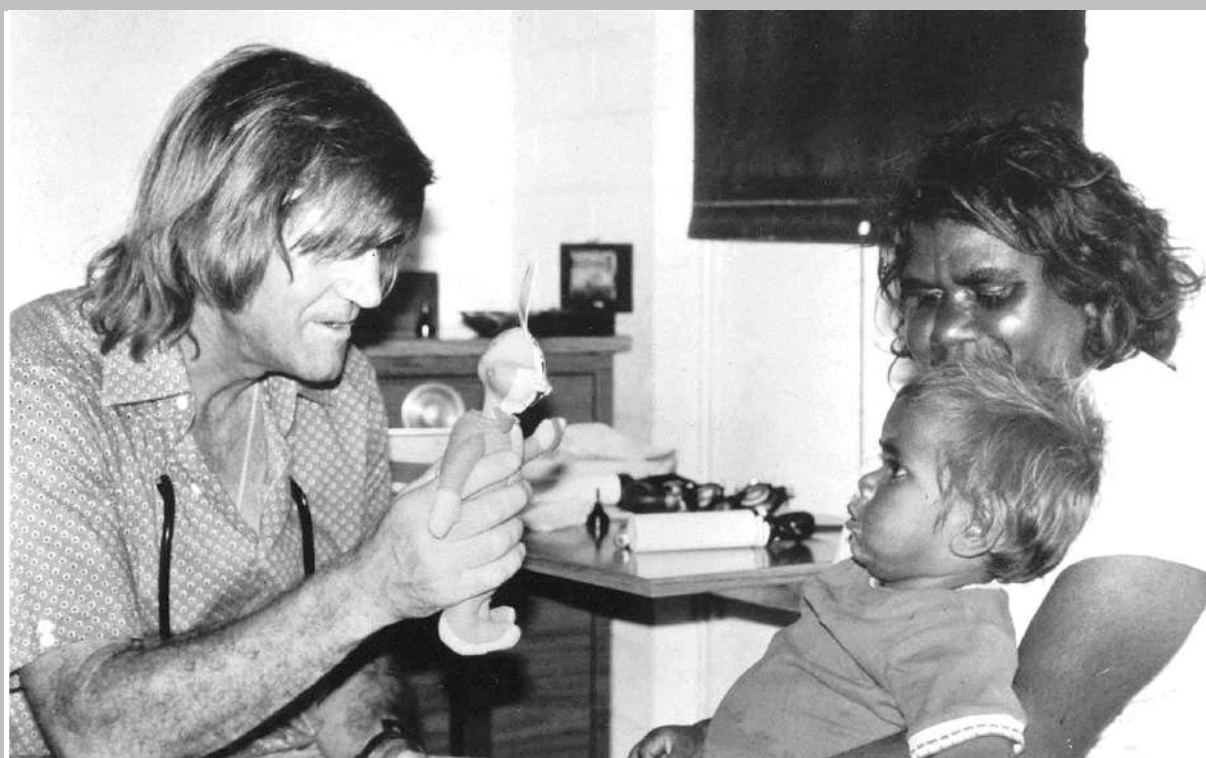
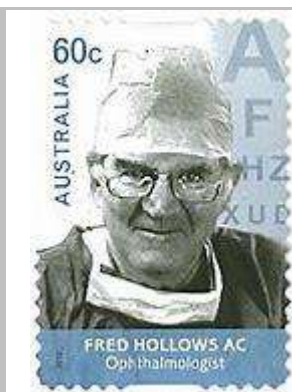
Captain Midnight's grave just outside of Enngonia

Enngonia was particularly hard-hit by the "Federation Drought" of 1896-1902. The waterholes in the Warrego River channel had all dried up and most of the districts grazing properties were abandoned. When that drought broke, the arrival of motorised transport and labour efficient farming ensured the demise for the town.

In modern times an important visitor was the distinguished ophthalmologist Fred Hollows. He established a trachoma clinic in Enngonia in the 1970's, restoring the

sight of residents. Hollows' medical team stayed at the only hotel, the Oasis. An experience he had in November 1973 and follow-up correspondence he had with the Attorney-General, Lionel Murphy (1922-1986) contributed to the Commonwealth's Discrimination Act 1975, which outlawed discrimination based on race.

"... according to previously made arrangements I breakfasted at the Oasis having arrived from Bourke. We arranged for accommodation for all members of the party at the Motel. The new licensee, Mr. Short, then informed me that the aboriginal members of our party would not be served in the only bar and lounge of the Motel and if they required refreshments they were to walk around the back of the Motel and be served through a hatchway. ... Such discrimination makes my work both as an ophthalmologist to the total community and as a person especially interested in improving Aboriginal health very difficult..."





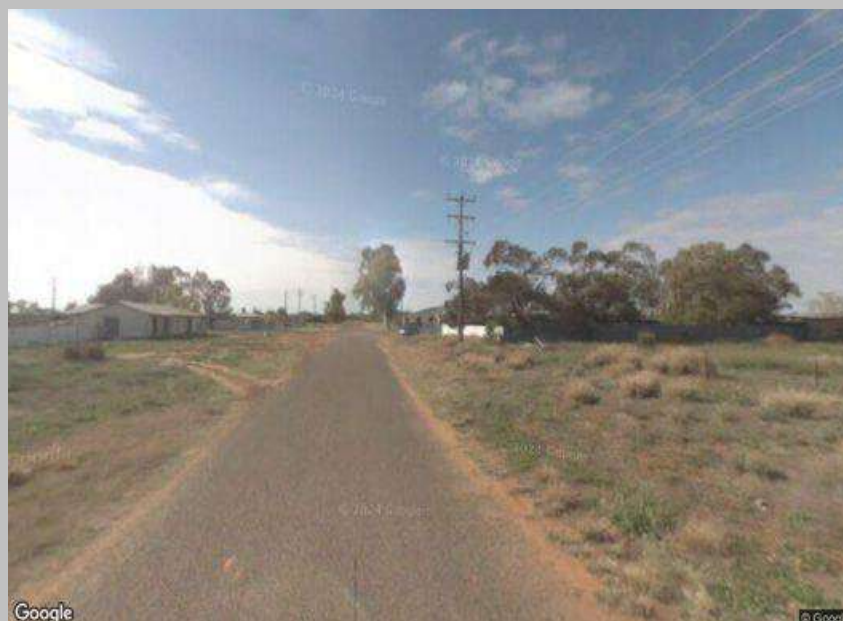
The first public hotel was Thomas Shearer's eponymously-named Shearer's Inn. Shearer later became the first postmaster. A. Kerrigan was also the local mailman, while E. D. Johnson, his partner, had the horse and sulky mail contract to the eastern properties.

The Enngonia Post Office opened on 1st March 1871. A Telegraph Office opened on 28th March 1884, and was combined into Post & Telegraph Office, which opened on 1st May 1884. Money Order & Government Savings Bank facilities commenced on 1st October 1886, with 61 letters posted a week. This increased to 148 letters a week by 1888, and banking transactions also undertaken. The Post Office building was at the corner of Belalie and McCabe Streets. It opened on 8th February 1896.

Enngonia was upgraded to a Semi-Official Post Office on 10th February 1908. A manual Telephone exchange was installed on 3rd December 1912. Enngonia was further up-graded to an Official Post Office on 11th November 1913. By 1917, there were seven telephone subscribers in the area. Mail was despatched and received twice weekly. Enngonia was downgraded to a Non-Official Post & Telegraph Office from 31st January 1918. The wooden Post Office building was destroyed by fire on 12th February 1941, before being reconstructed. In between time, business was conducted from the police station, including handling the 14 telephone subscribers, and a public telephone. The telephone exchange was replaced by an automatic one on 9th July 1989.

Enngonia Post Office closed on 3rd January 1992. No-one offered to run a Licenced Post Office. The annual licence fee was over \$10,000. The cost was the reason that many rural operators of Non-Official Post Offices refused to make the transition.

Nothing happened until about 2009 when the community agitated for, and were granted, a Community Postal Agency. The Enngonia Community Postal Agency in 2024 operates from a house at Lot 6 McCabe Street. It's the house on the right in the image on the next page. It opens from 11am to 8.30pm Mondays to Saturdays.



The Enngonia Community Postal Agency is community run from the house on the right-hand side of the street.



Dudley Shillingsworth, a Budjiti elder, an acquaintance of your editor, and sometime resident of Orange (and Enngonia) says he is worried about health services in the tiny community of Enngonia. It's home, he said, "to a handful of families from Budjiti, Murruwarrie and Kunja groups who live in run-down, often crowded homes across the red-dirt blocks".



Western Herald (Bourke, NSW : 1887 - 1970), Friday 20 November 1970, page 10

HISTORICAL

The Enngonia Post Office

The establishment of the Post Office, later to be known as Enngonia, was made difficult by the isolated location and prevailing drought conditions in the far north-western border districts.

Following the acceptance of a tender for a mail service between Bourke and the Warrego River in May 1886, the N.S.W. Postal Dept. decided to establish a Post Office at "Rutherford's" (Belalie). However, postal officials were uncertain as to whether Belalie Station was actually occupied by John Rutherford.

The Belalie Post Office was established on June 16, 1908, with A. Powell as Postmaster. There is some doubt as to whether Powell actually took up duties. James Wallis was appointed Postmaster on 18th October, 1886. However, he wrote from Belalie on 12th of the following month that the station would be deserted within 3 weeks and said "William Shearer at the Warrego Inn will be glad to take the Post Office."

Mr. Henry St. John took charge of the Post Office at Cuttaburra on 1st February, 1876. The Post Office at Belalie was discontinued.

Mr. St. John resigned on 20th August, 1888. In consequence of the Stations changing hands it was decided to re-open Belalie. Mr. C. Guinness was appointed Postmaster in November, 1888.

P. Malone was appointed postmaster at "Shearer's" on 1st November, 1863. A letter from Brisbane in Nov-

ember, 1863, advised that Mr. Malone had left the district.

Mr. Robert Kerrigan wrote from "Eringunyah" on 29th April, 1870, advising there was no Post Office between Bourke and Cunnamulla. He offered to take

charge of the Post Office. He became Postmaster on 1st March, 1871, with a salary of £12 per annum. Owing to the various spellings, viz., Eringunis, Eringunyah, and Eringonia and Enngonia, The G.P.O. ruled that the name should be "Enngonia."

A petition was presented in April 1875, asking for the mail run to be extended to "Millens" Hotel, Boundary Lagoon. This extension was approved and commenced as from 1st September 1875.

Mr. Millen was in charge of the Boundary Lagoon Post Office, which was then known as Barrington. This township was thriving in 1894.

Mrs. Sarah E. Morecom succeeded Kerrigan in charge at Enngonia on 1st April, 1878. However, in June she resigned owing to leaving the district. She nominated E. Warmoll, who was appointed on 7th July 1878. He was a Publican. Robert Kerrigan again became Postmaster on 15th March, 1877, when Warmoll resigned.

Sarah Morecom resumed in charge of the office on 7th May, 1878. Thomas E. Longford succeeded her on 18th June, 1879. Following Longford's death in January, 1880, Hugh Nawn became Postmaster. He was announ-

1880, Hugh Nawn became Postmaster. He was appointed on February 25, 1880.

In March, 1884, it was reported that the telegraph line to Enngonia had been completed.

Mr. B. J. Martin took charge of the amalgamated postal and telegraph office on 1st May, 1884. 61 letters a week were being posted.

In 1888 about 148 letters were being posted weekly, also money order transactions and Savings Bank transactions.

Succeeding Postmasters were: John Johnston, 1st October 1885; William Dowling, 7th May 1889; Montgomery J. Sheppard, 20th October 1887; Sidney Witney, 3rd September, 1889; Thomas Davoren, 6th March, 1891; H. Hyman, 1st September, 1891; J. Marshall, 30th July 1899.

A Post Office building, at corner of Belalie and McCabe Streets, was completed on 8th February, 1896.

John Louis Keelty took charge of the semi-official post office on 10th February, 1908. He was succeeded by Robert Louis Luscombe on 2nd August, 1910. One record advised the Enngonia Telephone Exchange was established on 2nd December, 1912.

Reginald S. Flood was appointed Postmaster on 14th July, 1913. Postal business at the centre was increasing. It was declared an official Post Office in November, 1913. In 1917 there were 7 telephone subscribers services connected, mails were despatched and received from Bourke twice weekly. Following Flood's transfer in October 1917, it was decided to reduce the office to non-official status.

Those being considered for appointment as non-official Postmaster included: Mr. T. J. Egan, of Enngonia; Mrs. Barbara Stuart, of Bourke; Miss H. Williamson; and Mrs. M. Major, of Fords

and Mrs. M. Major, of Fords Bridge. A break occurred in the records at this time.

A report for 1939 showed Mrs. K. Egan was non-official Postmistress.

On 12th February, 1941, at 9 p.m. fire destroyed the Post Office premises. There were then 14 subscribers to the office; 2 trunk lines and a public telephone. All facilities were destroyed in the fire. Pending other arrangements the Post Office was conducted at the Police Station.

This article was taken from information received by Mrs. Toni Ridge from the Director, Posts and Telegraphs, G.P.O. Sydney. The history since 1941 was not supplied.

Note: On information received at our office the following persons have acted as Postmaster since 1941:- Frank Wado, Joe Giffet, Vin Egan, Alf Hodge, Noel McLennan, Tom Donahoe, Ken Hitchcock.

From Australian National Library's Trove site

ENNGONIA POSTMARKS

1907 TATTERSALLS COVER FROM ENNGONIA TO HOBART





The 1907 Tattersalls cover to "The Manager Commercial /Banking Coy / Hobart / Tasmania", above, shows a 2d ultramarine *Queen Victoria Jubilee* (Crown over 'A' watermark, perf 12 x 11½) stamp of 1907, cancelled by a poor impression of the Type 4b, "602" barred numeral obliterator of Enngonia. To the left of it is an impression of the Type 1D(i) "ENNGONIA / JY 11 / 07 / N.S.W" date-stamp. The back shows the same date-stamp, a Type 1D(i) "BOURKE / JY 12 / N.S.W" transit date-stamp, a Melbourne Krag machine cancel:- "MELBOURNE / JUL 15 / 12 30 AM /1907" WITH "VICTORIA" in a wavy-bar slogan, and finally a very poor "HOBART / JL 16 / 1907 / TASMANIA" arrival cancel.

Freeman (2012) gave the "602" obliterator an "S" rarity rating. Hopson and Tobin (1995) have recorded use for the Enngonia Type 1D(i) date-stamp from 1899 to 1936.

The cover would have travelled on Cobb & Co.'s twice-weekly coach that ran the 256km from Cunnamulla to Bourke. At Bourke it would have joined the Western Mail train for the 18-hour trip to Sydney, and then travel by overnight train to Melbourne, and then ship to Tasmania.

ENNGONIA TYPE 3(ii) DATE-STAMP

Hopson & Tobin (1995 & 1999) have recorded the use of a Type 3(ii) date-stamp at Enngonia from 1941 to 1985.



The 36c *Restored Buildings: Collingwood Town Hall, Melbourne*, unaddressed, pre-stamped, C-6-sized, envelope, above, of 8th September 1986 and the 1c *Lace Monitor* stamp of 2nd February 1983, above, was purchased and cancelled *per favour* at the Enngonia Non-Official Post Office on a trip to Queensland on 18th August 1987. The letter-rate postage had increased to 37c in January 1987.

It shows two impressions of the Type 3(ii), 30mm-diameter (arcs 4mm, 4mm), "ENNGONIA / 18 AU87 / N.S.W.-AUST" [SDL] date-stamp, only one of which cancels the stamps. This would be a last-recorded date for this postmarker.

ENNGONIA TYPE 3(ii) DATE-STAMP

Hopson & Tobin (1995 & 1999) have recorded the use of a Type 3(ii) date-stamp at Enngonia from 1941 to 1985.



Above, an impression of the Type 3(ii), 30mm-diameter (arcs 4mm, 4mm), " ENNGONIA /19 JE85 / N.S.W-AUST" [SDL] date-stamp cancels a 5d greenish-blue *Christmas 1963* stamp of 25th October 1963, on piece. The piece is from a letter from the Enngonia Public School.



Above, an impression of the Type 3(ii), 30mm-diameter (arcs 4mm, 4mm), " ENNGONIA /15 FE86 / N.S.W-AUST" [SDL] date-stamp cancels a 33c blue and white *AUSSAT* stamp of 24th January 1986, on piece.

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THE GOLD MOHUR AS AN INDIAN COIN & AS A PROCLAMATION COIN OF 1800

Tony Read explained to the May Club meeting that one of the Proclamation Coins authorised for use in early New South Wales was the Indian gold Mohur.

The term 'proclamation coin' is used to refer to the eleven coins listed by Governor King's decree of 19 November 1800, and to those coins alone. Their new value in the colony of New South Wales was ordered to be : - a Guinea at £1/2/0d, a Rupee at 2/6d, a Half-Johanna at £2, a Dutch Guilder at 2/0d, a **Gold Mohur at £1/17/6d**, an English Shilling at 1/1d, a Spanish Dollar at 5/0d, a copper coin of 1 oz. 0/2d, a Johanna at £4, a Ducat at 9/6d and a Pagoda 8/0d.

Although it was neither the first nor the last pronouncement between 1788 and 1825 regarding currency issued, Governor King's edict of 1800 was the most comprehensive. The reason Governor King had laid out the values for which eleven specific coins were to be accepted in trade was to enable colonial merchants to feel secure in accepting them; their value had been set by gubernatorial proclamation.

The gold Mohur was first introduced about 1540 by the Moghul Emperor, *Sher Shah Suri*, during his 5 year rule in northern India. It was a gold coin weighing 10.95 grams. Sher Shah Suri also introduced the Indian Rupee. His silver rupee had the same weight as the gold mohur.



Gold Mohur coin of Akbaa (1556-1605) from the Patna Mint dated AH "983" = 1575 AD. It is similar to the AH "981" coin that Tony Read showed. The name of a caliph on the edge and the Arabic legend "The Kalima Sahada" within the square.

As well as showing the Akbaa gold Mohur, Tony Read showed a gold Mohur of *Shah Jahan*, circa 1657 AD: -



The East India Company, in the interests of trade, then decided to make their own mohurs. The coin, below, was from the Bombay Presidency. It was minted in the name of *Shah Alam II* circa 1810. The year was "frozen" as 1810 in subsequent years' issues.

Most of the gold mohur coins used for trading in New South Wales as Proclamation Coins were from Bengal. The British administration fixed the date for 20 years.

Tony Read next showed a Mohur from the Bengal Presidency showing year "19" with a Persian inscription nominating *Shah Alam II Badshah*.



Tony also showed half gold Mohur as well as quarter gold Mohur coin from the Bengal Presidency: -



Quarter gold Mohur from the Bengal Presidency with fixed year "19" and from Murshidabad Mint

Then Tony Read showed a gold Mohur from the Madras Presidency of the East India Company. This coin was dated circa-1819. It was machine-struck at the Madras Mint and showed the Company's coat of arms. A whole range of Indian coinages, including the gold Pagoda, were replaced by this coin. The use of the same designs on silver and gold coins had led to the silver coins being gilded and passed off as gold.



Madras Presidency gold Mohur

In 1835 the East India Company produced new gold Mohurs showing an image of King *William IV*. At this point Britain was starting to have control over most of India.



Another gold Moghul was minted for the accession of *Queen Victoria* to the throne in 1841: -



The Mohur was a useful gold coin that ended up being minted by a variety of Indian governments. These included British India, some of the princely states, the Mughal Empire, the Maratha Empire, the kingdom of Nepal and Persia.

The gold Mohur was usually equivalent to 15 silver Rupees. It was last minted in British India in 1918. Some princely states continued to use it until 1947 when they were absorbed by the Republic of India.

Going back to New South Wales, the development of trade in the infant colony, from the time of Governor Philip, was limited by the monopoly the East India Company Charter had given them on any trade “west of Africa”. Using Indian money, especially gold coinage, was found very useful in for paying for imports from Bengal.

In the period around 1815 a lot of Spanish silver Dollars came into New South Wales from India.

THE “ALMORAH” FIASCO

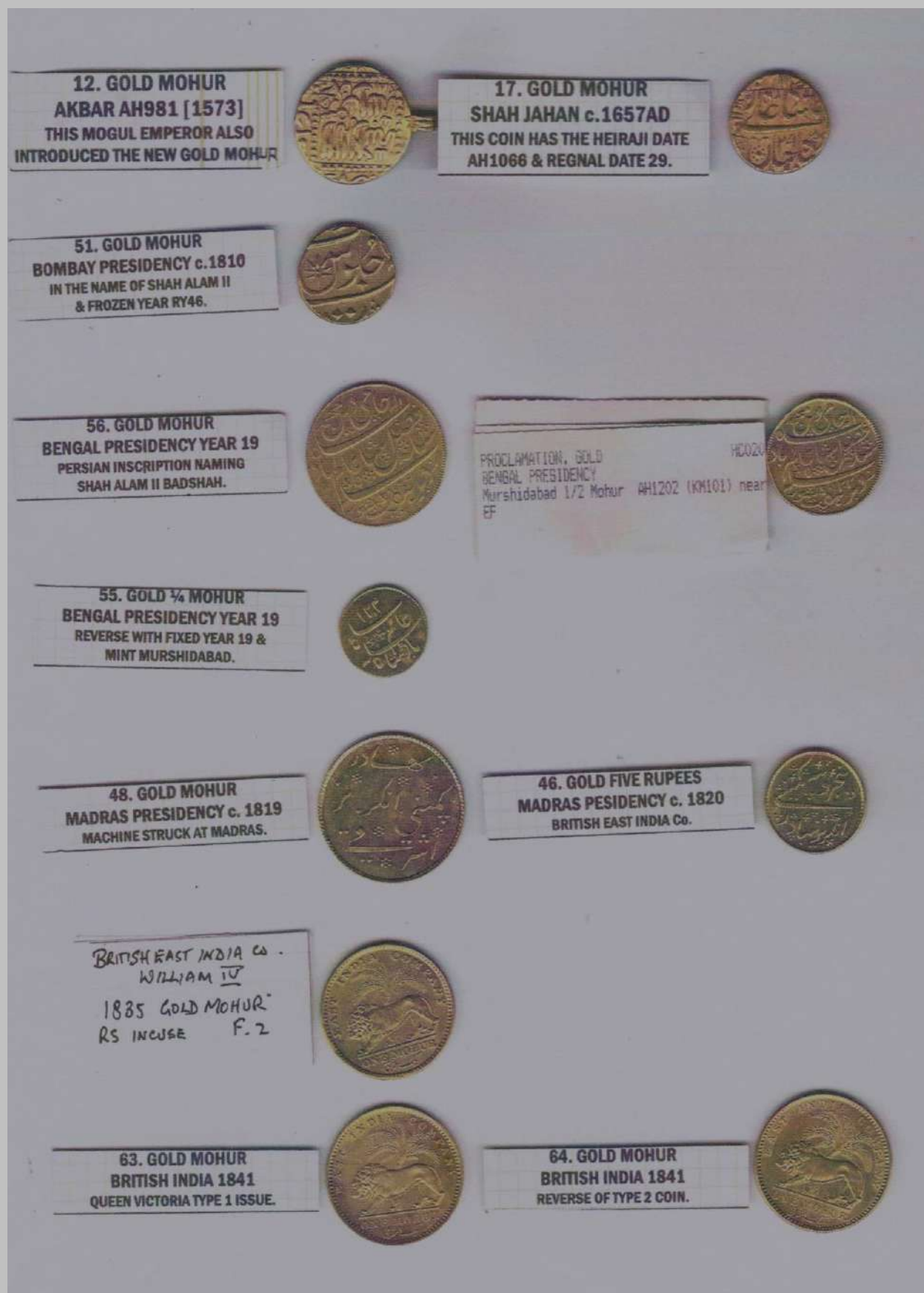
Major-General Sir Thomas Brisbane, the Governor of New South Wales from 1821 to 1825, chartered the convict carrier *Almorah* to sail to Batavia in the Netherlands Indies and bring back supplies as the Colony’s food supply, especially grain, was running low. On 17th February 1825 the *Almorah* returned to Sydney.

Captain Mitchell on HMS *Slaney*, the guard-ship for Port Jackson, seized the *Almorah* for having 300 chests of tea on board. He was urged on by Sydney merchants who did not like government imports. Interestingly, Mitchell would have been entitled to the value of a quarter of the vessel and her cargo if a court upheld the seizure. There was no Court of Admiralty in Sydney, so over Governor Brisbane’s objections, Mitchell put a crew aboard the *Almorah* that sailed for Calcutta on 2nd March 1825 for adjudication. There HMS *Tamar* seized the *Almorah* and her cargo. The charge was that she had violated the East India Company’s monopoly on the private trade in tea.

The litigation lasted 5 years without a result. One problem was that Governor Brisbane had not specifically nominated tea in his instructions. Had he done so, there would have been no issue as the East India Company’s monopoly did not include government purchases. Eventually the British Government persuaded all concerned to give up the litigation. It also eventually paid the *Almorah*’s owners £5,000 for their freight and losses.

The *Almorah* was a wooden ship of 415 tons. She was built at Selby in England in 1817. She did 2 voyages with convicts to Sydney, and had done ‘runs’ for the East India Company. She ended up working in the North Atlantic and was lost with all hands in a storm on a run from Quebec to Hull in December 1832.

The East India Company’s monopoly on tea was abolished in 1833.



The coins shown to the May Club 2024 meeting

RICHARD BLACK & BYRD'S 3RD ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION (1939-41) ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

At the May 2024 Club meeting Tony Read showed a cover posted from Richard Black to his wife in California. It was posted in Antarctica aboard the U.S.S. *North Star*. It entered the postal system in Punta Arenas in Chile on 2nd April 1940.



Richard Black became a lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserves in 1938 and had gone to the Operative Training School of the Office of Naval Intelligence. A year later he was assigned as commander of the United States Antarctic Service's East Base.



This was for the United States Antarctic Services Expedition (1939-1941). It's often described as Admiral Byrd's 3rd Antarctic Expedition. It was jointly sponsored by the United States Navy, The United States State Department. The Department of the Interior and the United States Treasury. Additional money and goods came from private citizens and institutions.

The U.M.S. *North Star* departed Boston, Massachussets on 15th November 1939. It was a wooden ice ship built originally for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. In the northern winter it carried mail and supplies to settlements in Alaska. A sister ship, the U.S.S. *Bear* left Boston on 22nd November 1939. It was a conventional ice ship.

Franklin D Roosevelt wanted two Antarctic bases to be established. East Base was to be in the vicinity of Charcot Island or Alexander I Land. West base was to be in the vicinity of King Edward VII Land or near Little America.



Unloading the U.S.M.S. North Star at East Base

The U.S.M.S. *North Star* sailed into the Bay of Whales to establish West Base on 12th January 1940. The U.S.S. *Bear* arrived there soon after on 14th January 1940. The U.S.M.S. *North Star* then left for Valparaiso on 25th January to pick up more supplies. Meanwhile the *Bear* worked eastwards to establish the East Base on Stonington Island - on the other side of the Ross Ice Shelf.

The U.S.M.S. *North Star* returned from Chile on 20th March and quickly unloaded. The following morning the two ships sailed for the United States. Both ships pulled in to Puntas Arenas in the far south of Chile. From Puntas Arenas they separated. The U.S.S. *Bear* returned to Boston and the U.S.M.S. *North Star* sailed for Seattle to resume her regular winter mail runs to Alaska. After the ships had left Antarctica construction of the East and West base camps continued at a furious pace.



The visionary, but ill-fated *Antarctic Snow Cruiser*, was trialled by the expeditioners. It failed to operate as hoped for under the difficult Antarctic conditions. It just couldn't get traction on the ice. It was eventually abandoned in Antarctica, to be rediscovered in

1958. It has since been presumed to have been lost due to the breaking off and eventual melting of the ice floe it was on.

The expedition also took a M2A2 light military tank and a T3E4 carrier. Both performed okay, but they were too heavy for the ice and snow and were abandoned.

The 1941, War in Europe was well underway and War threatened with Japan. A direction from Washington ordered that the two bases should be evacuated. Because it was expected that they would be soon re-occupied much of the equipment and supplies were left behind. The two ships sailed back to the United States with all of the expeditioners. They sailed from West Base on 1st February 1941 and from East Base on 22nd March 1941.

The U.S.M.S *North Star* arrived in Boston on 5th May 1941 and the U.S.S. Bear arrived on 18th May 1941.



From a philatelic point of view, only the U.S.S. *Bear* had an official post office. All mail sent from East Base, West Base (Little America) and the U.S.M.S. *North Star* were cancelled on the U.S.S. *Bear*. Despite that, most of the mail show one of the above three circular cachets.



USA Antarctic Service Expedition 1939-41: USS "North Star", circular dated cachet "U.S.S. NORTH STAR/LITTLE AMERICA/JAN 24 1941/U.S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR" on envelope to Dunedin with typed endorsement "Byrd Antarctic Expedition III /posted on the U.S. Bear on/leaving Antarctica Feby. 1941" franked 1c. (2), 3c. & cancelled by USS Bear Jan. 26 duplex.



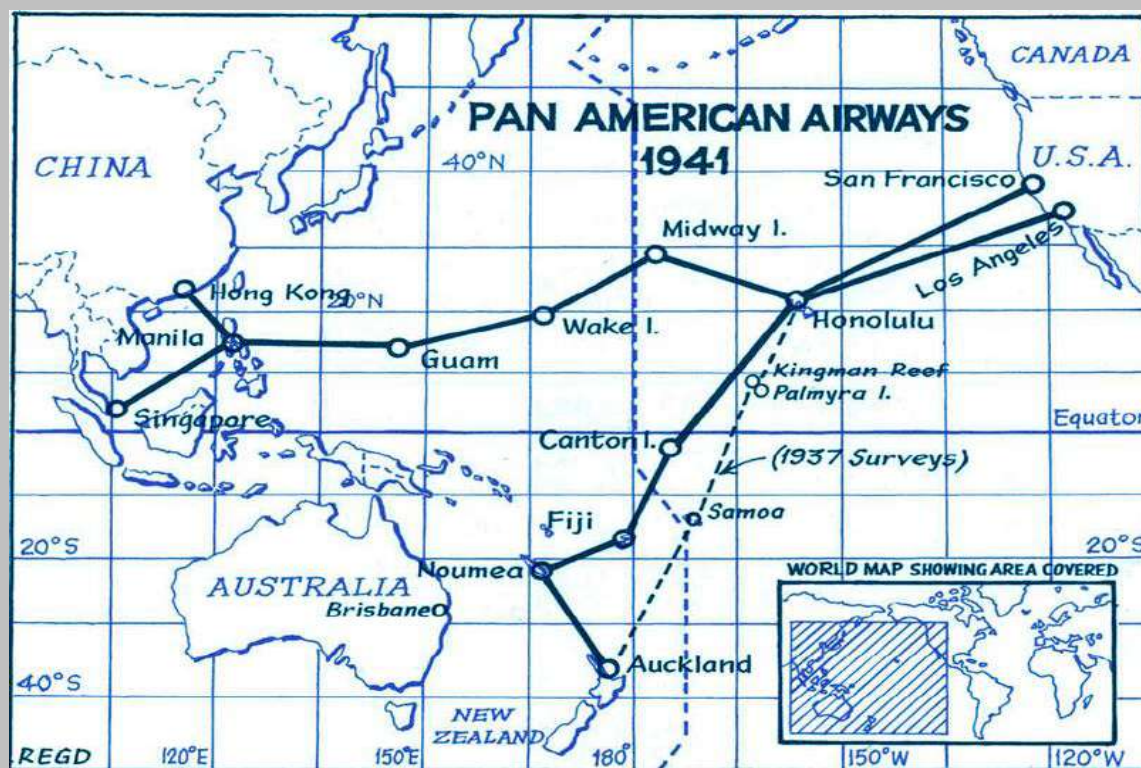
The U.S.S. *Bear* served in two World Wars and was involved in Arctic rescues and Antarctic base supply. It was the first US Navy ship to have an African American captain. It sank while under tow of the U.S. east coast in 1963.

Richard Black, the sender of the cover at the top of this article, lead an interesting life:- He attained his civil engineering degree from the University of North Dakota in 1929. He subsequently worked as an engineer in Canadian gold mines and on a 29-mile long tunnel to supply San Francisco with water from northern California. From 1933 to 1935 he was a civilian member of Admiral Byrd's 2nd Antarctic expedition.

When he returned from Antarctica he became a field representative for the U.S. Division of Territories and Island Possessions of the Department of the Interior. He was the Administrator of the Pacific islands of Jarvis, Baker & Howland. He worked with indigenous Hawaiians to develop agriculture and fisheries as well as constructing meteorological stations for the embryonic trans-Pacific aviation sector.

On Howland Island he constructed an airstrip for Amelia Earhart's scheduled refuelling stop. When he was in the radio room of the USCG Itasca he listened to Earhart's last known radio transmission – saying that she was low on fuel and was searching for Howland Island.

In 1938 Black received orders from Washington to take possession of the Pacific islands of Canton and Enderby in the isolated Phoenix Group. Accompanied by U.S. Marines & civilian workers, Black landed on the beach on Canton. He informed the British officials that he was taking possession of the island for the United States and ordered the Marines to hoist the U.S. flag. This uncomfortable dual control continued for decades. Canton Island became an important re-fuelling stop in the 1950's. It had a U.S. Post Office adjacent to British one.



Pan American Airways finally arrived on Canton Island on 18th May 1939 to build facilities for their proposed New Zealand flying boat service. It commenced on 12th July 1940. The island was much-used by U.S. aircraft in WWII.

When he returned from Antarctica in May 1941, after a break, he was appointed a lieutenant commander and was in Honolulu when it was attacked in December 1941. He served as beach-master during the American landings on Tarawa, Kwajalein, Tinian and Okinawa. After the War he worked on reconstruction in the Melanesian Islands.

Black was recalled to the Navy in 1954 to work in the Naval Operations Antarctic Planning Office. He was Base Operations Officer of the first Deep Freeze expedition. He returned to Antarctica for the 5th Deep Freeze expedition.

He died in 1992 at the age of 90.

At the Club meeting on 28th May 2024, Tony Read also showed a cover carried on the commemorative **Admiral Richard E Byrd Polar Centre's Polar Byrd 1 Flight** in late-1968 and postmarked at the McMurdo Antarctic Base in Antarctica.

Admiral Richard E Byrd (1888-1957) claimed to be the first to reach the North and South Poles by air. Byrd claimed to be the first to reach both the North and South Poles by air.



Frederick Dustin, the furl engineer on Byrd's 2nd Antarctic Expedition (1933-35) organised the Polar Byrd 1 flight. It was a 25-day adventure that visited every Continent. It cost \$10,000 which was a lot of money in 1968.

The Tour used a Convair 990 4-engined jet that was a competitor for the Boeing 707 and Douglas DC-8 aircraft. Passenger capacity was reduced from 122-137 passengers to only 60 to 75.

It overflew the North Pole on 9th November 1968 and the South Pole on the 22nd November 1968. It landed at McMurdo Sound in Antarctica. A ceremony was held there to commemorate Admiral Byrd who died on 11th March 1957.



The Convair 900 aircraft on the McMurdo Sound ice runway