

# Introducing the Australian Philatelic Federation . . . Part 10

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*The February magazine detailed the wide range of support services available from the APF that are available to individual collectors, stamp clubs or state councils. This support is supplemented by similar types of services from the various State and Territory Councils.*

My original aim was to continue to expand upon the information contained in the February article, but since that time, the thrust of the articles have slightly varied, now including current happenings within the Australian Philatelic Federation (APF) as well as reports on National level exhibitions.

The change to the APF website was reported last month, and change is happening progressively. To alter such a large website is both a major and time-consuming operation. There are still many blank slots but these are being steadily filled. The drop-down menus on the Home page will certainly give any visitor a very good idea of where we are going.

Whilst the website is our main communication medium, there could be some matters which will not be included. If we are missing any area(s) of interest, please write to the Public Relations Officer at PO Box 528 Cardiff NSW 2285 and we will endeavor to include same. Similarly, if you find any information contained in our website that is incorrect or incomplete, please advise the webmaster, Jeff Trinidad either directly through the Contact Us page of the website, by email to jeff@jystamps2000.com, or by writing to Jeff at PO Box 10777, Kalgoorlie, WA 6430.

*Some technical production problems have resulted in the frame sponsorship plaques not being available for Mandurah. However, all donations received to date will be acknowledged publicly in one of the frames at the exhibition.*

## **New Modern Experimental Traditional Class**

An FIP International World Stamp Exhibition, Australia 2013, to commemorate the Centenary of the Kangaroo stamp issued as the first Commonwealth postage stamp, is scheduled to be held in Melbourne in May 2013. This exhibition will include an experimental traditional philately class in an endeavor to encourage more exhibits of modern material.

The class will follow the existing traditional philately rules except that exhibits will be restricted to stamp issues of the 50 years before 2013. For example if one or two values were issued in 1962 and the other 14 values issued from 1963 onwards it would be acceptable. However it would not be acceptable to show a British colony issue of 1954, when the 1964 watermark changes only amounted to say 1 of 5 frames.

The points breakup has also been slightly modified to exclude the criterion Importance. The 10 points previously allocated to this criterion have been equally redistributed to Presentation and Treatment. The revised points for the class are -

Presentation	10
Treatment	25
Philatelic & Related Knowledge, Personal Study & Research	35
Condition	10
Rarity and Difficulty of Acquisition	20
Total	100

There will be no transfers in or out of the Experimental Class. The exhibitor decides the class when he enters.

As the 2013 exhibition is International, aspiring entrants need to qualify beforehand at National level exhibitions, with at least a vermeil medal.

The FIP will only allow 5 frames in an experimental class. Therefore Australia 2013 can only offer 5 frames. For those exhibitors seeking to qualify for Australia 2013, their exhibits should be limited to 5 frames.

However, there may be exhibitors who wish to try out the new class without necessarily moving upwards to the international sphere, in which case entries could be from 3 to 8 frames.

The Sydney Stamp Expo 2011 will be the first exhibition to include this new experimental class, and whilst the class is not shown on the issued Prospectus for that exhibition, entries for the new class will be accepted. When completing the Sydney Entry Form show the *Entry Class* as "17".

## **Transporting Overseas Entries into and Out of Australia**

Have you ever wondered what is involved in getting entries from Australia to the many overseas exhibitions and back again? Generally overseas exhibitions are at International level, but there are also regular National level exhibitions in New Zealand and the many other countries with which Australia has reciprocal arrangements. These arrangements are termed "Accords" and I will describe these in more detail in a future article about Philatelic Judges.

All of these exhibitions receive strong support from Australian exhibitors.

Briefly, the steps involved are

- The APF will appoint a commissioner. This commissioner may also be an International level or National level judge.
- The commissioner will canvass for entries, and submit these to the Organising Committee of the exhibition, and will advise all applicants of their acceptance or otherwise.
- Where the value of the exhibit exceeds \$A 150,000, the exhibit may be considered to be part of Australia's Portable Cultural Heritage and a permit required for the exhibit to leave Australia. Where necessary the commissioner will arrange for the issue of this permit, liaising with the exhibitor. This is an interesting little known area, and a future article will explain in more detail the workings of the *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986*.
- The commissioner will arrange for Customs' clearance for the material to leave Australia, and also for its return.
- Upon receipt of the exhibits the Commissioner will ensure that they are all present as described, and pack them into secure metal cases for transportation. The only time that the exhibits leave these containers is from the time that they are received by the Bin Room at the exhibition and returned to the commissioner by the Bin Room at the closure of the show.

There are costs involved with this service, mainly the commissioner's airfare and accommodation, possibly excess baggage costs on the plane either or both ways, and the customs clearances. In many cases the accommodation is reimbursed in full or in part by the overseas exhibition.

The net cost of all of these services is predetermined and the APF calculates a table of charges based upon a combination of the weight of the exhibit and the ultimate destination. These charges are intended to break even each year.

At most National level exhibitions within Australia there are entries from outside of Australia. The APF assists with arranging the customs' clearance for these exhibits to enter Australia and to return to their owners after the exhibition is finished.

## **Next Month**

Next month's article will feature a report on the Mandurah 2010 Fair, a National One Frame Philatelic, Numismatic and Postcard Exhibition, Incorporating the Australasian Philatelic Challenge and the Australasian Numismatic Challenge. Mandurah is in Western Australia, approximately 70

km south of Perth. The exhibition was held at the Performing Arts Centre from 19 to 21 November, hosted by the Mandurah Philatelic Society Incorporated in conjunction with the Peel Region Numismatic Group.