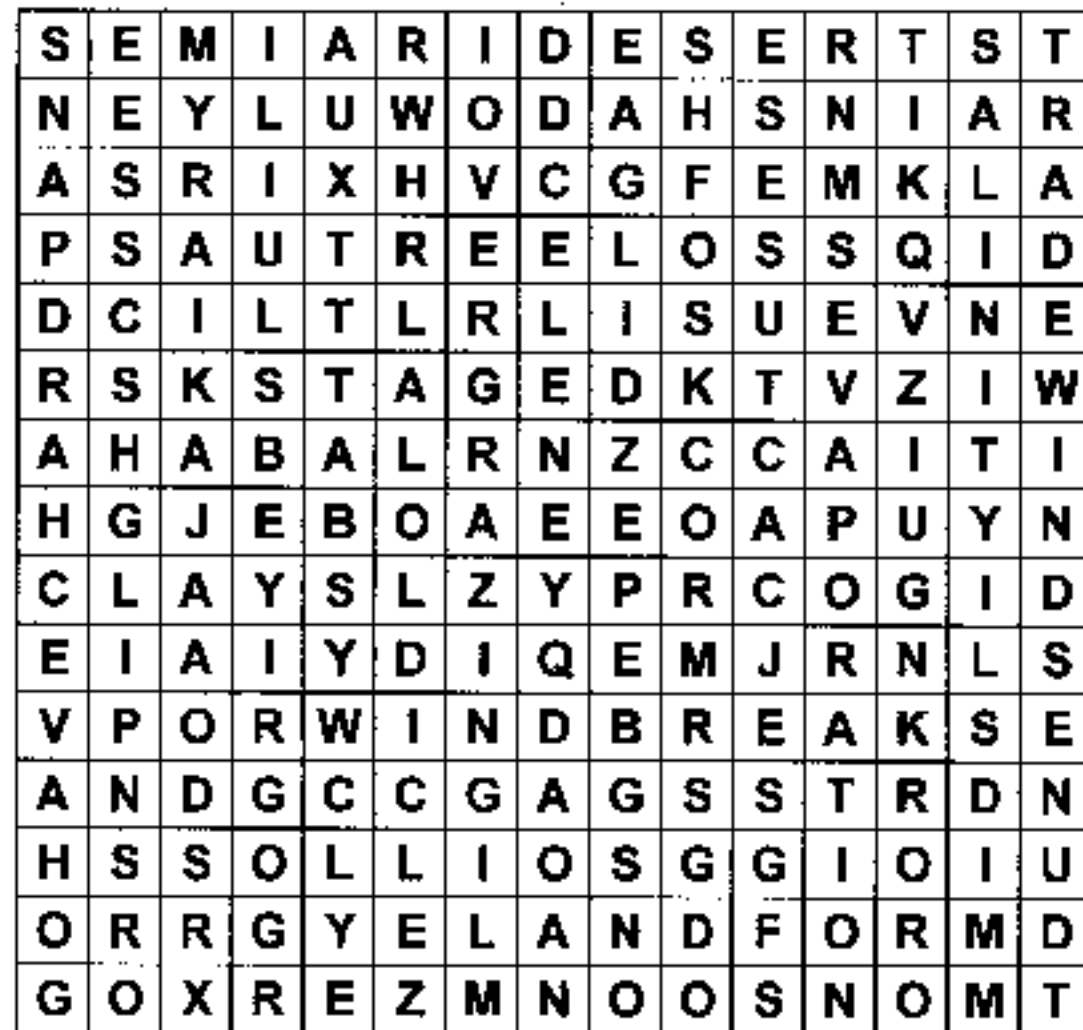


Word Search

Prepared by Barbara Bartsch

DESERTS



ARID
CACTUS
CLAYS
DESERT
DRYLANDS
DUNES
EROSION
EVAPORATION

HARDPANS
LANDFORM
MONSOON
OASIS
OVER GRAZING
RAINSHADOW
ROCKS
SALINITY

SALT LAYERS
SAND SEAS
SEMI ARID
SOIL LOSS
TEMPERATURES
TRADEWINDS
TREE LOSS
WIND BREAKS

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The Young Collector

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June 2006

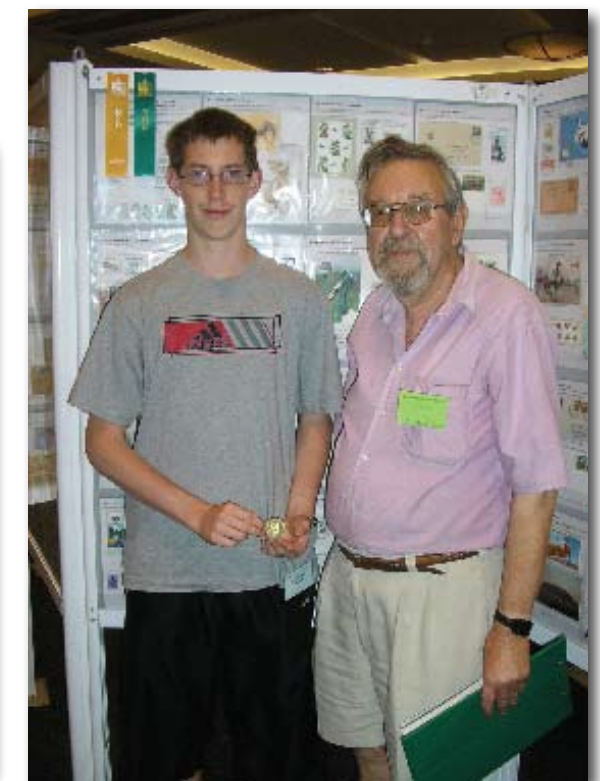
Issue No 28



Ross Wood and Andrew Verdich



The Canberra Stamp Show with Jenny Creagh and John Vassalo



Dingle Smith and his grandson, Chris Malam

Desertification

Perforations on Australia Stamps

YOUTH PHILATELY NEWS

from the Australian Philatelic Federation

Four of our top young exhibitors were invited to attend a seminar at Canberra Stamp Show 2006; Anita Orr (Qld), Andrea Craigie (Tas), Andrew Verdich (NSW), and Chris Malam (ACT).

We got under way on Saturday, with talks on differences in exhibiting at FIP World, FIAP/Regional and APF/National exhibitions. We worked through a prospectus and entry form highlighting the due dates of entry, page sizes and sheet numbers per frame, and completing the entry form accurately.

A question and answer sheet was completed in front of the exhibits followed by discussion on what they had seen. The modern or thematic or open exhibiting classes were the most popular!

Saturday evening saw their attendance at the Palmares (Awards Dinner), and receiving the awards for their exhibits.

EXHIBITION RESULTS Canberra Stamp Show 2006

Chris Malam (ACT): Birds and their Habitats: Australia and Territories; 85 *Gold*.

Andrea Craigie (Tas): Introduction and Development of Self Adhesive Stamps in Australia; 82 *Large Vermeil*.

Andrew Verdich (NSW): Moving Mail 82 *Large Vermeil*.

Anita Orr (Qld): Lawn Tennis; 74 *Large Silver*.

Yarek Andruszko (SA): Lunar New Year; 69 *Silver*.

Ric Trinidad (WA): PSE's of Western Australia; 69 *Silver*.

Sinead Manning (Vic): Dimensional Disney; 58 *Bronze*.

On Sunday morning Linda Lee talked with the young people in front of their exhibits. I think that they all gained from exchanging ideas with a youth judge.

It was good to see the young people get involved and work together, swapping ideas and exchanging addresses at the end of the weekend.

Canberra Stamp Show provided the ideal opportunity for a seminar of this type, with lots of exhibits from adults, novices and youth. I express my thanks to the APF and all involved, and hope that the seminar be continued in the future.

It is with deep sadness that we advise you of the passing of our friend Betty van Tenac on May 19th 2006. Betty's regular "Themes" column has been a popular feature of *The Young Collector* since the beginning of the magazine. Betty also wrote many of the centre page stories illustrated with stamps and other philatelic material. The "Down on the Farm" story in last October's issue was the last one she wrote for us, and we will miss her greatly.

Bye for now and enjoy your stamps!

Erica Genge,
APF Youth Development Officer

The Young Collector is published by the Australian Philatelic Federation.

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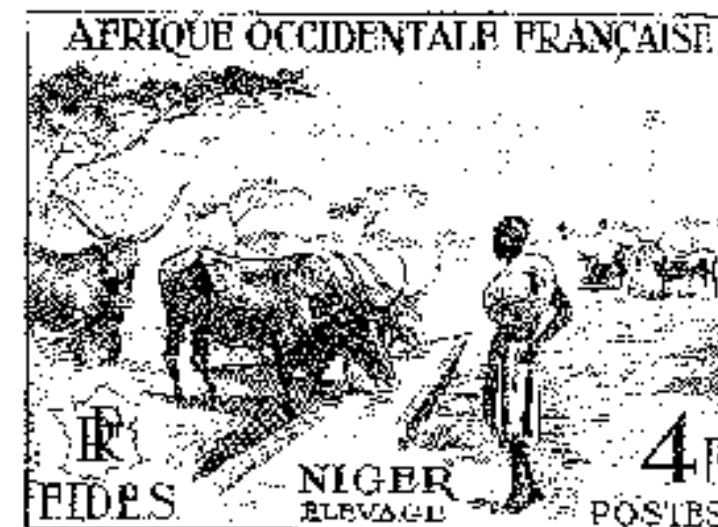
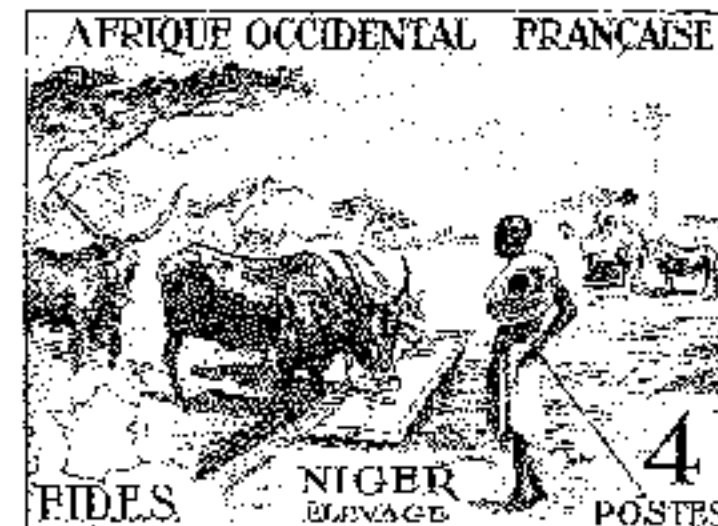
Visit the APF Webpage

<http://www.apf.org.au>

THE JUNIOR PAGE

NIGER

Because of extended droughts Niger, a country south of the Sahara Desert, is in great danger from Desertification. Can you find 10 differences in the two pictures.



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• For information about junior stamp clubs in your State, please contact your State youth leader.
• Copies of the APF's junior stamp magazine "The Young Collector" can also be obtained from these people.

PERFORATIONS ON AUSTRALIAN STAMPS

In 1840 the first sheets of stamps ever made, had to be torn, or cut apart, until the later development of perforations between the stamps made separation easier.

Perforations (perfs) are quite important. When perforations are damaged, the stamp loses value. This was very common with earlier stamps as the stamp paper was soft and tore easily.

Here a valuable 1/6 stamp is made worthless because of the badly damaged perfs.



If the stamps have been made by two different printers, then a different perforation size on one of the stamps could mean the stamp is worth more money. This is why you should learn to use a 'Perforation Gauge'. If there are no perfs the stamp is 'imperforate'. Booklet and coil stamps may be imperforate on one side or on two sides.

Both the 39c and the 43c are booklet stamps -- The 43c stamps may be found with two different perfs.



The 1986 booklet stamps are imperforate top and bottom and are Rouletted, not perforated, between the stamps



Adhesive 'Peel and Stick' stamps are not made in sheets, and they have simulated, (imitation) perforations. Please check your recent definitive stamps because they may be found as both sheet and adhesive stamps.

Can you see the difference between the two 45c Possum stamps? Make sure you have both the sheet and the adhesive type of stamps in your collection.



In 2004 Australia Post introduced a simulated 'special' elongated perf for the Stamp Month 'Dogs and Cats' adhesive issue. So far this new type is only found on the commemorative "Peel & Stick" stamp issues

Can you see the 'special' new long perfs at the top and bottom of the stamp?



STAMP DETECTIVES

By Barbara Bartsch

Study an Australian Stamp Catalogue to answer these questions.

Two-thirds of Australia is classed as 'Arid' or 'Semi-Arid'

1. What large bird lives on desert shrubs. – See 5½d stamp in the 1942 set.
2. This plant grows in desert after rain – See 1968 20c stamp.
3. When overstocked, these animals degrade the soil – See 25c stamp in 1969 set?
4. What value is the 'Desert' stamp in the 1988 set?
5. What vehicle is shown on 'Pioneers' in 1989 Pastoral Set?



In 1992 a set of "Land Care" stamps was issued. The next 5 questions relate to this set.

6. "Salt Action". What sort of trees can you see?
7. "Farm Planning". How many birds in the dam?
8. "Erosion Control". What is written in the sky?
9. "Tree Planting". What is the message in the sky?
10. "Dune Care". How many vehicles can you see?



Everyone will receive a small gift if they send the answers with their name, age and address to:

MICK MEYLES
GPO BOX 9800
HOBART TAS 7001

FIND THE THEME

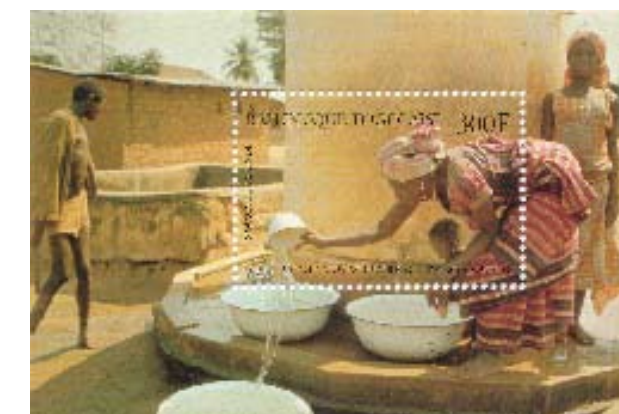
Togo

Togo, officially the Togolese Republic, is a sub Sahara country in West Africa bordering Ghana in the west, Benin in the east and Burkina Faso in the north. In the south, it has a short Gulf of Guinea coast, on which the capital Lomé is located. Formerly a German Colony until 1919 when it was divided between Great Britain and France. The French portion first became a republic in the French Union, known as Togoland and then in 1960 it became an independent nation called Togo.

Although Togo is self sufficient in times of ample rainfall it is prone to drought and suffers from deforestation and water pollution because of many years of 'slash-and-burn' agriculture and the use of wood for fuel.

Shown below is a 300F single stamp, mini sheet, from Togo where water is very precious. What is the woman doing?

I have found 10 themes in the mini sheet below can you find more?



1. Man
2. Woman
3. Child
4. Water
5. Well
6. Bowls
7. Washing
8. Necklace
9. Turban
10. Bare feet

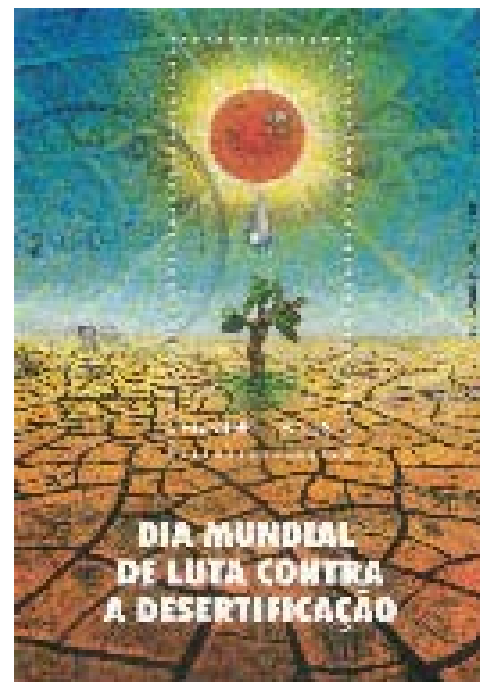
DESERTIFICATION

by Dingle Smith

In the early 1970s the United Nations recognised 'desertification' as a major environmental problem affecting many parts of the world. It describes the spread of deserts and semi-arid landscapes to surrounding regions. More recent estimates report that it threatens the survival of an estimated 250 million people worldwide and directly impacts on a further 750 million.



Affected areas are peripheral to all the major desert areas with the areas around the Sahara Desert as the best known example. In this region the economies and health of over 20 of the poorest nations in the world have suffered from the effects of desertification.



Desertification is caused by the interaction between human activity and climatic variations especially those of prolonged drought. In North Africa nomadic tribes graze their livestock, on which their lives depend, on the arid and semi-arid areas.



Historically in times of sparse rainfall they migrated to better-watered areas but progressively these areas support settled populations that depend on crops fed by rainfall or by irrigation.

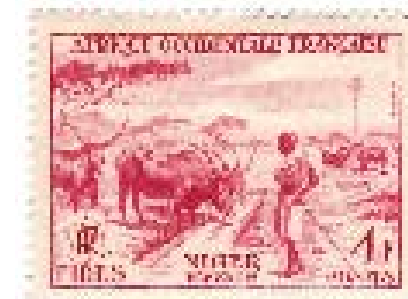
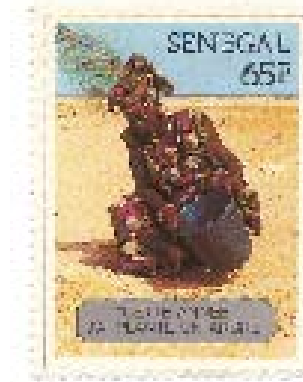
So the nomadic tribes are forced to remain in the drought-affected areas and their livestock, often cattle and camels, over-graze the pasture.



This disturbs the natural balance of the ecosystem. The pasture plants are no longer able to recover when the rains return and they cease to bind the soil surface.



This leads to soil erosion and in sandy areas to dust storms and the advance of sand dunes.



There is also a lack of drinking water for stock and human survival. Streams and springs dry up and there is increased demand on groundwater sources which become progressively depleted as the water that has been naturally stored underground for thousands of years is 'mined'.



In Australia desertification results from the grazing of livestock. Before the introduction of rangeland farming by Europeans there was an essentially natural ecosystem with none of the native animals having the hard-hooves of sheep and cattle. This coupled with over-grazing at times of drought causes soil erosion often linked to

salinisation of the soils which prohibits the growth of most plant species.

What can be done to stop the spread of desertification?

The key is to avoid overgrazing at times of drought and reduce livestock numbers to preserve the cover of vegetation and soil. This may be possible in Australia and South Africa but for the poorer countries around the Sahara the growth of population makes the task much more difficult. In 1989 Australia introduced the community-based Landcare program to improve land-use practices. In South Africa the government has actively pursued for many years policies that discourage overgrazing and promotes the re-growth of pasture lands; known there as 'preserving the Veldt'.



Finally, it is possible that greenhouse climate change with increased temperatures and, for some areas, likely declining rainfall, will make it even more difficult to stop the advance of the deserts.

