



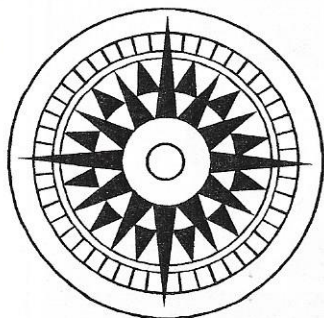
SOS Signal

January 2000

Whole Number 10

Notices / Reminders

- ◆ You are invited to vote on changing our organization's name. Please see page 7 for details.
- ◆ Check out the new issues on page 6.
- ▶ Don't forget to order your copy of the revised and updated SOS Master Checklist 2000. Please see page 7 for information.



Inside this issue:

<i>Navigators of Australia</i>	2
<i>Taking Stock</i>	3
<i>The Lady McLeod</i>	4
<i>Mauritania Type B</i>	5
<i>New Issues</i>	6
<i>SOSCU News/Classifieds</i>	7
<i>More New Issues</i>	8
<i>Auction #3 is enclosed</i>	

Taking Stock for the Millennium

By Martin Hirschbühl

First of all, let me say hello to everybody out there. I'm a new SOSCC member and this is my first contribution to the *SOS Signal*. I suppose most of you are experienced SOS collectors. Do you still recall those 'young and innocent days' when you began to search for the hidden SOS's without having a hand-book?

For me it was around 1972 when I caught a glimpse of Germany Scott # 1008 with its appealing Bavarian coat of arms. That's how I got started, although I was no philatelist then. At the beginning, I collected everything except for the SY type called symbolic or UFO's. Well, I'm ashamed to tell you that I also took oddities like vignettes or the Sheiks of Araby. And FDC's too, but this peripheral collecting didn't continue for too long.



Germany Sc #1008
"Still attractive"

In those rosy days each discovery was welcomed. Most African countries only had a few SOS, some Asian none (like North Korea), but times have changed since then.

In the meantime, many a wave (like Rowland Hill or London '90) overwhelmed my albums. My biggest mistake was a standing order for the 1990 issues. All those Blackpennies came in and I had to say (sorry, Vicki) "We are not amused" (Ascension Sc #487). I felt more and more uncomfortable with the growing mass of SOS; where would this finally lead? My collection is for me to enjoy, not only to enrich my dealer. I was

looking for a way out, but how?

There was too much water in my wine and I had to send out an "SOS" because there were too many SOS for me. How could I get rid of these unwanted items? I didn't want to stop it completely, only partially.

My first step was to eliminate the imperforate parallel issues, such as Hungary and others, and to ignore reproductions of old stamps



Ascension Sc #487, 5/3/90
"Nice - but no thanks"

appearing on margins or tabs (see page 3). From those 'set and sheet' issues where one pays twice for the same design I kept only half, because I don't like sheets anyway. Then I omitted additional overprints on SOS, disregarding the fact that I already had those very rare Guyana overprints which I had self-imported from the country.

The second step was to accept only SOS with stamp reproductions of the country itself. That meant no "Basle-Dove" shown on North Korea and no "USA" on Hadhramaut (unlisted, below).

"The world is upside down"



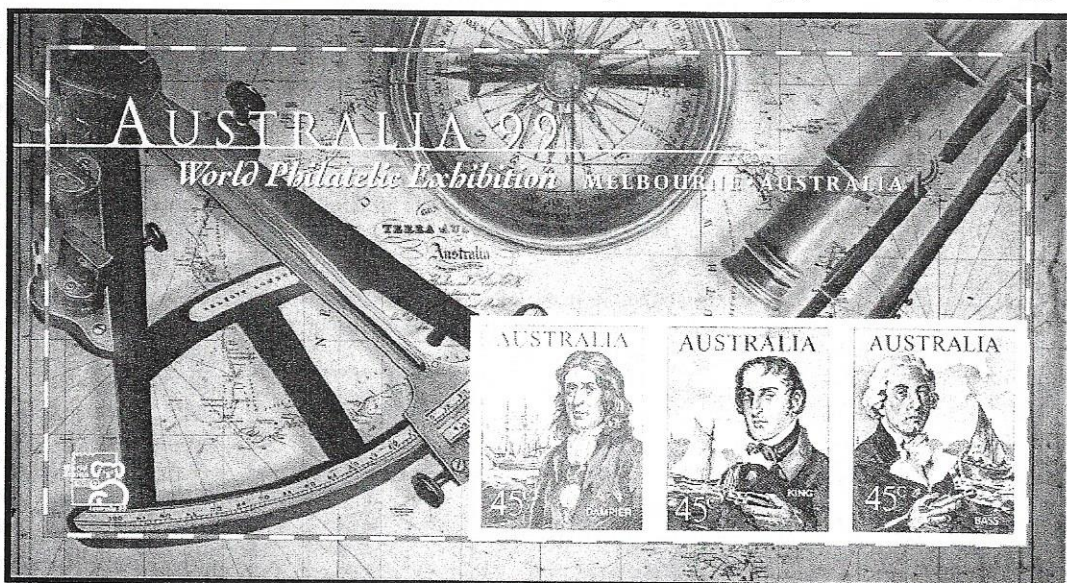
(Continued on page 3)

Early Navigators of Australia

By John Wynns

The exploration and mapping of coastal Australia was the work of many great navigators over two centuries. Their achievements were first commemorated in the 1963-64 Early Navigators in Australian Waters issue. The stamps were re-issued with new denominations in 1966 for the introduction of decimal currency. Now in minisheet format, the Early Navigators stamps were issued on March 19, 1999 to coincide with Melbourne World Stamp Expo, Australia 99. With a theme celebrating Australia's maritime heritage, the international stamp exhibition was held at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre from 19-24 March 1999.

In 1642 Dutch mariner Abel Tasman (c. 1603-59), sighted and named Van Dieman's Land (now Tasmania). Two years later, he confirmed that New Guinea and New Holland were separate land masses, and that Carpentaria (located in present-day Queensland) and De Witt's Land (part of Western Australia) were joined. Tasman also charted the northern and north-western coast from the Gulf of Carpentaria to present-day North West Cape.



William Dampier, Philip Parker King and George Bass
The Souvenir Sheets were issued both perforate and imperforate, in a much smaller quantity for the latter. The designs reproduced were issued in 1963-65, Scott #374-9.



Abel Tasman, James Cook and Matthew Flinders

English mariner and writer, William Dampier (1651 - 1715), was a member of the crew on board the *Cygnets*, the first British vessel known to have landed successfully on the Australian continent. Eleven years later, in 1699, he commanded the *Roe-buck* and explored the western coast of New Holland.

In 1770 English navigator, cartographer and naval officer, James Cook (1728 -79), in command of the *Endeavour*, sailed along the eastern coast of New Holland. He claimed British possession of the whole eastern coast of the continent.

One of the most notable voyages of famed explorers, naval officer Matthew Flinders (1772-1814) and naval surgeon George Bass (1771 -c.1803), took place in 1798-99. Sailing south from Port Jackson in the *Norfolk* they proved that a strait separated Van Diemen's Land from the mainland by circumnavigating the former. Philip Parker King (1791-1856) was one

of the most thorough early marine surveyors. In 1824 - 25, after completing a series of exploratory voyages in the *Mermaid* and the *Bathurst*, King published a set of eight charts which, when combined with charts made previously by Flinders, showed the entire Australian coastline for the first time.

John Wynns attended the Australia '99 World Philatelic Exhibition in Melbourne and very kindly supplied the editor with the material in this article. John is a Nevada resident and can be reached at P.O. Box 1955, Dayton, NV 89403.

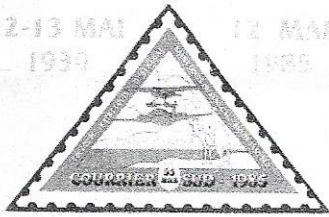
Mauritania Type B Revealed

By Frank Puls

Mauritania and Senegal are neighbors on the Northwest coast of Africa. They both have colonial French backgrounds and became independent in 1960. A tete-beche pair of stamps separated by a label was issued by Mauritania on May 19, 1986 for the "55th Anniversary of the First Transatlantic Commercial Airmail Flight", Sc. #C243-4.

The label shows a reproduced triangular "Courier Sud" private stamp of 1930, but with inscriptions changed. Of the two stamps at right the 10um shows a map of Northwest Africa and a seaplane; exactly the same design as Senegal Sc. #C149. The designer has incorporated pen-sketch representations of the central design of the 1930 private stamp (showing camels and airplanes) into one corner of

the design of both Mauritanian stamps. These two issues seem to have been joint issues between the two countries. Both are designed by G. Leylavergne and printed by Edila. Senegal issued its stamp on May 12, 1985 and Mauritania followed in the next year on May 19, 1986. Both stamp issues are inscribed "1985".



This is a mystery to me and does not seem to make much sense until some more information becomes available. Can anyone shed more light on the circumstances surrounding these stamp issues?

Taking Stock for the Millennium

By Martin Hirschbühl

(Continued from page 1)

With these efforts I jettisoned more than 50% of the weight. My balloon was rising! But it wasn't enough. When I checked my halved collection, I found out right away that 'Mali-Railways' or 'Congo Olympics' did not thrill me at all. I soon decided to concentrate on the items I always loved; the reproduction of classics worldwide, such as Ceres, Triquérat, Cotton Reels, Ep-aulettes and all sort of 'Heads and Eyes of the Oxes' (Belgium, page 5).

Should I continue only with SOS of 'classics'? But, how to determine them? Where to draw the line... only the real old imperforate ones...or only before 1900...or this...or that? Well, I thought about it a

lot, but I didn't find an instant solution.

One night that little SOS gnome whispered in my ear: "You should only collect reproductions of stamps issued before *November 18, 1952*". What an idea! To me, it really defines the border between the classics issued before and the boring new ones issued after. November 18, 1952 was a somehow magical and very personal date (you can surely guess why). Once more I said goodbye to another part of my former collection, this time with some regrets because of a few nice items eliminated; but I don't miss them that much (see Cyprus Sc #478 on page 5).



Mongolia Sc #C108 3/25/78 "Margin isn't the right place"

(Continued on page 5)

Philatelic Echoes of Empire: The Lady McLeod

By Richard Howard

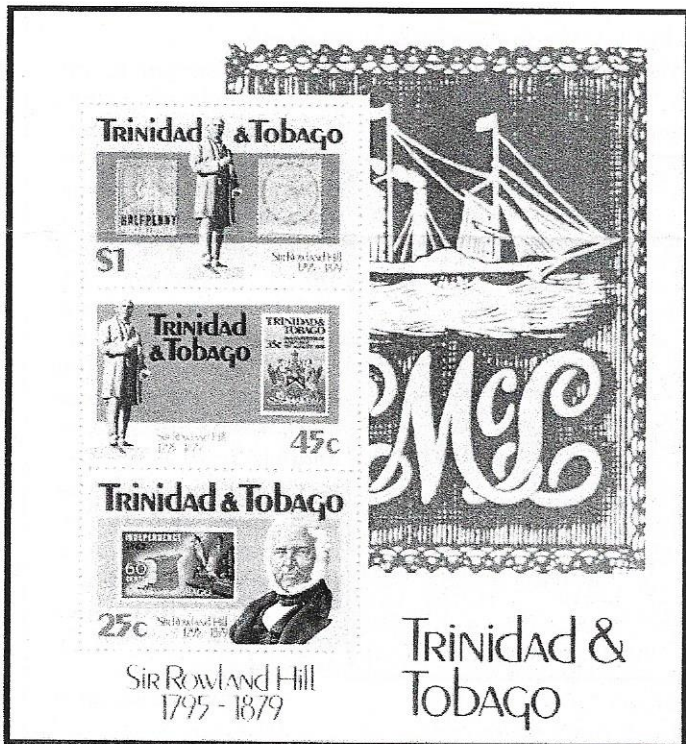
Although only a local and unofficial stamp, the Lady McLeod, now a rare philatelic classic, was second only to Brazil in the stamps of the Americas, even preceding the Post Office Mauritius by six months as the first British colonial stamp.

Its origin stemmed from the need to regulate the mail services between the Trinidad capital of Port of Spain and the city of San Fernando across the bay, which had been served for many years by a decrepit old steamship, which in 1847 was replaced by a new and fast vessel ordered from the Scottish shipyards of the River Clyde.

The earlier mail service having been somewhat irregular and financially chaotic, it was arranged to simplify payments by the issue of a single label for prepayment of all mail carried by the new vessel. This was the Lady McLeod, though little is known of its origins, like many other early issues it was probably produced by the local newspaper office. The design was simple but striking; a single stamp, lithographed in deep blue on yellow paper showing a ship at sea, with the monogram 'LMcL' beneath, the vessel having been named in honor of the wife of the then British governor of Trinidad, Sir Henry McLeod.

The actual date of issue is not recorded, but is

thought to have been in April, 1847, which would give it a possible life span of four years between then and



the eventual replacement in 1851 by the first British colonial stamps of Trinidad.

No postmarks are known on the Lady McLeod. Instead the usual canceling was an ink cross, though few if any of the surviving covers show it 'tied'. Alternatively the stamps were mutilated by a corner being lifted from the cover and removed by forefinger and thumb, a method used later with the early stamps of Afghanistan to indicate they had been used.

When the Lady McLeod first came to light in philatelic circles it was thought to have been a bogus issue, until in 1891 £14 was paid for a copy in auction, but
(Continued on page 5)

Philatelic Echoes of Empire: The Lady McLeod

By Richard Howard

(Continued from page 4)

throughout the 20th century its value has continued to rise where today a good specimen would bring \$1,000.

In 1947 the Colonial office was approached in regard to a centenary stamp issue, but this was declined because of the unofficial status of the stamp, though the local philatelic society in Port of Spain did issue a nice little souvenir sheetlet.

Subsequently the by now independent Trinidad & Tobago Post Office issued a commemorative set of three and a souvenir sheet in 1972 to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Lady McLeod. Later, in 1979 for the Rowland Hill centenary a further com-

memorative set of three was issued featuring stamps on stamps, together with the three stamps in a striking souvenir sheet showing them vertically against a huge reproduction of the Lady McLeod partially obscured by the three commemoratives.

Author Richard Howard is a seasoned collector of SOS issues and covers and also has a particular affinity for small islands and remote places. He is a resident of Southport, U.K. This is the third article in his "Philatelic Echoes of Empire" series. Stay tuned for the next one coming in April 2000.

Taking Stock for the Millennium

By Martin Hirschbühl

(Continued from page 3)

This cure brought back the initial fun to me along with lots of duplicates. Nowadays, I'm a very lucky SOS collector. When I check the reported new issues, I just have to smile (see Trinidad & Tobago below right). I only have to add a few selected new ones into my svelte collection, but I hope you will agree that I can still call myself an SOS guy.

It looks like I am well positioned for the next millennium. And how about you? Its up to you to decide what to include in your collection. Nobody has to accept each little piece just because its listed in a catalog or handbook. The main reason for a collection is the satisfaction of its owner. Believe me, that's exactly what mine does now.

I hope to keep the spirit of the wise man (our editor) who said "they may be old, but when it comes to stamps, they spring to life." I wish the same to you and many enjoyable SOS to come.

Author Martin Hirschbühl is a resident of Switzerland and an energetic and communicative collector. He has many SOS duplicates to exchange as a result of his purging and a want list of items. Please write



"Leo the 1st still looks great"



"A fantastic SOS, but after my magical date"



Trinidad & Tobago Sc #588 6/7/96, showing #52A

to him first at Gerlisbrunnenstr. 31, CH-8121 Benglen, Switzerland if you wish to exchange material.

New Issues

edited by Lou Guadagno and Judy Hornaday (new on list = *)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Values</u>	<u>Stamp Reproduced</u>	<u>Reason for Issue</u>	<u>Scott #</u>
99 04 24	Belgium	2 x 17 fr	Belgium #1, 2	150th Anniversary, Belgian Stamps (Pair)	1736-7a
98 00 00	Marshall Islands	* 4 x 33 M/S	21 Marshall Island Stamps	15th Anniversary, Postal Service	707
98 00 00	Belarus	* 5500 m	Belarus #92	???	To come
98 10 23	Vatican City	* 800l	SY – Pseudo Stamp	Italia '98	1085
99 03 10	New Zealand	* 40c-\$1.80	New Zealand #B44-5, 302	Nostalgia	1583
99 03 22	Australia	* \$1.20	Australia #289	Olympic Games	1733
99 00 00	Zimbabwe	* \$1.20-9.90	SY – Stamp on Envelope	125th Anniversary, UPU	812-5
99 00 00	Palestine Auth.	* 20 –400 fils	SY – Pseudo Stamps	Philexfrance '99	To come
99 04 15	Bulgaria	* 3 x 600	Bavaria #1	IBRA '99 S/S	4074
99 05 05	Monaco	* 2.70 fr	France #3	Philexfrance '99	2123
99 06 24	Antigua	* \$1 - 6	Car. Islands #4, 10, 16, 19	IBRA '99 (4 Stamps and S/S)	2255-9
99 00 00	Antigua & Barb.	* \$1 – 1.90	Car. Islands #4,8,10,16,19, #1-6	IBRA '99 (4 Stamps)	To come
99 05 24	Grenada	* .75 – \$6	Prussia #2, Saxony #1, Others	IBRA '99 (4 Stamps and S/S)	2862-6
99 05 24	Grenada Gren.	* .35 – \$6	Thurn & Taxis #1, Others	IBRA '99 (4 Stamps and S/S)	2110-4
99 00 00	Dominica	* .65 – \$6	Cameroon #6,9,11,18,19,56,58	IBRA '99 (4 Stamps and S/S)	2143-7
99 00 00	Gambia	* 4 –25d	Samoa #64-9, 55, 104	IBRA '99 (4 Stamps and S/S)	2108-12
99 00 00	Nevis	* .30 – \$1	Baden #1, Bremen #1, Others	IBRA '99 (4 Stamps and S/S)	1157-61
99 03 00	Syria	* £50	Syria #C496, C506, 1265d	Re-election of President Assad (S/S)	1428
99 05 09	Monaco	* 30.00F	Monaco #256, 337, 464, Others	Jubilee Prince Rainier III (S/S)	2131
99 00 00	Monaco	* 7.00F	France #3, 36, 92, Monaco #3	Philexfrance '99	To come
99 07 02	France	* 6.70f	France #3	Philexfrance '99 Hologram	2732
99 07 02	New Caledonia	* 70, 700f	New Caledonia #1	Philexfrance '99 (Stamp and S/S)	830-1
99 05 19	Netherlands Ant	* 175, 500c	N.A. #204, 870, 871	500th Anniversary, Settlement of Curacao	872, 874
99 07 02	St. Pierre & Miq	* 4 x 3.00f	SP&M#9,79,C21,C36,145,Others	Philexfrance '99 (S/S)	682
99 04 27	North Korea	* 1n	Seven No. Korean stamps	IBRA '99	To come
99 07 02	North Korea	* 2.50	France #1, No. Korea Mi #1	Philexfrance '99 (S/S)	To come
99 07 02	St. Helena	* £1.50	St. Helena #261	Philexfrance '99 (S/S)	To come
99 07 02	Fr. So. & Ant	* 4 x 5.20RF	Madagascar #280, 82,C42, Others	Philexfrance '99 (S/S)	258
99 07 07	Madagascar	* ??	In Margin: Madagascar #???	First European Space Courier	To come
99 00 00	Monaco	* 3.00F	Monaco #1793A Undenominated	???	To come
99 00 00	Czech Republic	* 4.60kc	Czechoslovakia #164	Czech Stamp Production (Booklet of 8)	3077/a
99 06 00	Ghana	* 500-5000ce	German States #1, Germany #66	IBRA '99(4 stamps and S/S)	2117-21
99 05 26	Philippines	* 15p	SY—Stamp Collecting	UPU, 125th Anniversary	2618
99 05 24	Grenada	* 2 x \$6	SY—Pseudo Stamp/Emblem	Philexfrance '99 (S/S)	2871-2
✓ 99 07 06	Gambia	* 2 x 25d	SY—Pseudo Stamp/Emblem	Philexfrance '99 (S/S)	2116-7
✓ 98 00 00	Guatemala	* 1q	1875 Postal Card	50th Anniv., Int'l. Soc. of Guatemala Collectors	C873
✓ 99 00 00	Papua N. G.	* 2 x 1k	German New Guinea #1, 2, 17	IBRA '99 (Pair)	965a-b
✓ 99 07 02	Wallis & Futuna	* 200f	SY—Pseudo Stamp/Emblem	Philexfrance '99	519

Classifieds featuring dealer-members

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SOSCC News

Dues are now payable for the coming calendar year; \$8 in North America and \$11 elsewhere. Please send US currency or a check drawn on a US bank payable to "SOSCU". If you are overseas, please consider sending two years' dues at a time, as this cuts handling costs for both members and the Secretary-Treasurer.

Members are also requested to vote on changing the name of the organization to Stamps on Stamps Collectors Club. Feedback received from President Wes Shellen's letter in the July, 1999 *SOS Signal* specifying the reasons for the name change has been favorable by a 15-1 margin. Therefore, if you do not cast a vote, we will assume that you are in favor of the name change.

Bill Schindler, proprietor of Longwood Topical Stamps, has decided to again engage in full time work as a construction executive. Consequently, his ad has been discontinued from our classified section. We wish him the best in his new job in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

SOS Master Checklist 2000 is available. The most popular package has turned out to be the combination

printed and electronic version at \$30; this is undoubtedly because it is such a bargain. See page 7 of the October 1999 *SOS Signal* for the versions offered and prices.

Lou Guadagno has accepted my invitation to co-edit with Judy Hornaday the new issue feature. Lou was editor of the *Signal* in the early '80's and has a keen and discerning eye for the material in our topic.

Auction #2 closed on July 22, 1999 and was successful. Gross proceeds of \$344.00 included \$48.70 from donated lots sold. The club's commission on member lots sold was \$29.53; in total, the auction increased the treasury by \$78.23.

Auction #3 is enclosed with this issue. Please make an effort to bid on lots as well as donate lots or offer material for sale. Putting the auctions together and conducting them is a lot of work, which is done very well by Joyce Storms, our Vice President. Many thanks, Joyce, for making the auctions a success.

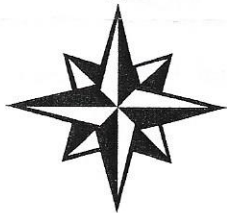


STAMPS ON STAMPS COLLECTORS CLUB

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 Email: willcrit@aol.com

We're on the web



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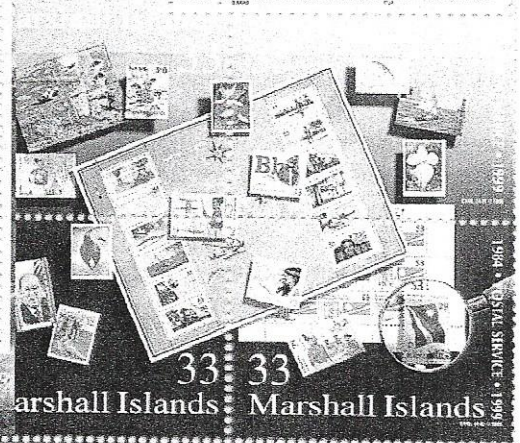
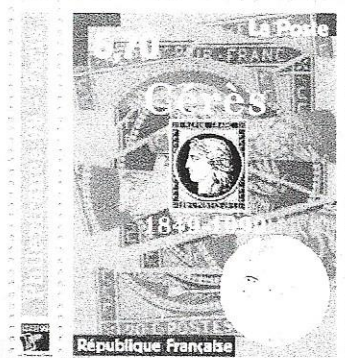
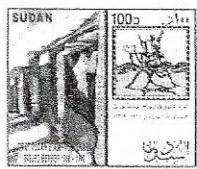
The SOSCC was founded in 1954. It is a non-profit philatelic organization serving a worldwide membership and is open to persons interested in stamp on stamp designs, stamp anniversaries and related topics. Dues are \$8 per year for members residing in North America and \$11 elsewhere. Officers serve without compensation and are reimbursed only for expenses incurred on behalf of the unit. You are cordially invited to associate with us. Please write to the Secretary-Treasurer for more information or to become a member.

Officers

President	Wesley Shellen	1360 Sunflower Drive Missoula, MT 59802
Vice President	Joyce Storms	25 Prospect Street Branchville, NJ 07826
Secretary-Treasurer	Bill Critzer	Menlo Park, CA
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	Judy Hornaday	22446 Estallens Mission Viejo, CA 92692

More New Issues

By Lou Guadagno and Judy Hornaday



Grozet - Kerguelen - Saint-Paul et Amsterdam - Terre Adélie
Terres Australes et Antarctiques Françaises Marshall Islands Marshall Islands

Sudan #507 Mauritius #877
 French So. & Ant. # 258

Australia #1733
 Czech Republic #3077

France #2732 Hologram
 Marshall Islands #707