Colorful Issues Complete 2016 Pacific Islands Programs

Under the leadership of Philatelic Collector, Inc., several South Pacific nations completed their 2016 Philatelic programs on a high note, with issues that were both beautiful and relevant, giving us a glimpse into life in these islands.

One such issue that exemplifies relevance is a "Oueen Mothissue-not one for the British Royal family but a souvenir sheet celebrating the 90th birthday of Tonga's Queen Mother, Oueen Halaevalu Mata'aho, whose contributions to women, children and education are long lasting and still being cele-

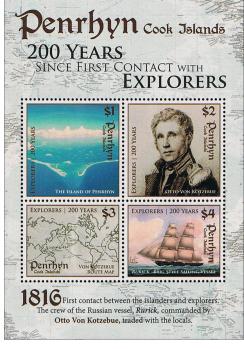


brated and cherished today.

Samoa welcomes visitors to the islands as well as through its postal issues. Demonstrating this is a coloful Samoa Tourism Definitive issue that reproduces photographs with exclusive rights from National Geographic Creative. Pictured below, these stamps depict the culture, entertainment, flora, fauna and land-scape of the beautiful island of Samoa.

A glimpse into the history of the region is depicted in a Penrhyn Explorers sheetlet that marked the 200th anniversary of Penrhyn's first encounter with foreign explorers.

In 1816, the crew of the Russian vessel, *Rurick*, commanded by Otto Von Kotzebue, traded with the Penrhyn locals. This issue portrays this history and tells the story of Von



Kotzebue, depicting a recent aerial photo of Penrhyn, a portrait of Von Kotzebue, his route map, and a ship much like the *Rurick*.

These issues and many others can be viewed with additional information at the South Pacific Islands website of Philatelic Collector Inc., https://pcistamps.com.

