

Apart from her adventures, Jenny also had a reunion with former AFP member Peter Cooper, who was her instructor during the Constable's Course in 1977 in Canberra. They ran into each other at the Woomera Rocket Range where Peter is working as Officer in Charge of the local operations of Australian Protective Services.

Coober Pedy was also on the itinerary and during their stay in an underground motel there, they visited the underground Anglican Church and the Coober Pedy pottery. This is a most unusual enterprise in that the owners, (who live in a 40 square

underground home) are obliged to import their clay all the way from . . . Melbourne.

Being a policewoman, Jenny was also fascinated by the way the local policeman was forced to patrol the area around Coober Pedy following road-cutting heavy rains — by clambering into an ultra-light aircraft and scanning the area from his elevated perch to ensure no one was in trouble trying to get through.

At the conclusion of a four week holiday, the Lloyd's trusty set of wheels groaned and strained under the weight of various pieces of pottery and

an assortment of rocks.
Rocks!?

Well, Jenny's father, who has collected gemstones and rocks for years, asked Jenny if she could "pick up a few" during their journey and she obliged. And guess who thought they were so pretty she has also developed a keen interest in rocks?

Now back behind her desk in Legal Branch Jenny reflects warmly on her holiday but concedes the sudden climate change from the Red Centre to the cooler conditions of Melbourne may have had much to do with an unwanted cold.



COLLECTORS' CORNER

THERE is a common thread among collectors — they all have long-suffering and extremely understanding spouses.

Another factor common among all collectors is their desire to have the biggest and best collection of whatever it is they settled upon to accumulate.

Along the way they develop a profound knowledge of each item they add to their assortment of whatever it is they collect.

Sergeant Phil Curry (Personnel and Services-Southern Region) started his collection of police shoulder flashes (patches or badges) after being presented with about a dozen or so by a retiring AFP senior sergeant about seven years ago.

He now boasts a collection of more than 700 shoulder flashes, most of which have come from the United States or Canada although there are of course, others from around Australia and from parts of Germany, Thailand and South Africa.

Most notable are the superbly woven badges from Pennsylvania in the shape of a key. The design is related to that American state's distant past, when it was the "key" to the opening of the West.

Also unusual among the collection are the flashes created especially for the series of "Police Academy" movies and the popular television show "Hill Street Blues".

So far Phil has filled five, one-



Sergeant Phil Curry with a small part of his collection.

metre-square boards to mount about half his collection. His wife complains their bedroom resembles a police museum and that her husband is eyeing off her kitchen walls as a possible display area for the other half of the collection.

As a result of his writing to overseas police departments he has established

friendships with a number of American officers, some of whom have taken advantage of his offer to stop for a night or two if they happen to visit Melbourne.

Phil is always keen to hear from people with a similar hobby and is happy to swap with others.



Platypus 24, December 1988