



**Philatelic Society  
of  
Western Australia(Inc.)**

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***STAMP HINGES***

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## MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- August 4<sup>th</sup> CLUB/LIBRARY DAY  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday monthly @ 12-4pm
- September 1<sup>st</sup> CLUB/LIBRARY DAY  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday monthly @ 12-4pm
- August 13<sup>th</sup> MONDAY POSTMARK CIRCLE – Jan Gane – Slogans L-K  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- September 10<sup>th</sup> MONDAY POSTMARK CIRCLE – Jan Gane – Slogans L-K  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- July 17<sup>th</sup> PSWA GENERAL MEETING – Trevor Lacey – Aspects of WA  
official mail  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday monthly @ 7.30
- August 21<sup>st</sup> PSWA GENERAL MEETING – Mike Kouwen – Selected WA  
Postcards  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday monthly @ 7.30
- September 18<sup>th</sup> PSWA GENERAL MEETING – Andrew Watson – Traditional WA  
Entries for Barnes Research Cup due  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday monthly @ 7.30
- July 30<sup>th</sup> AIRMAIL CIRCLE – Lighter than Air  
5<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month
- August 2<sup>nd</sup> THURSDAY DAYTIME STAMP CLUB  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday monthly @ 1-4pm
- September 6<sup>th</sup> THURSDAY DAYTIME STAMP CLUB  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday monthly @ 1-4pm
- August 6<sup>th</sup> MONDAY PHILATELIC FORUM – Macau & Malaysia  
2018 entries  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- September 3<sup>rd</sup> MONDAY PHILATELIC FORUM – SRSS 2018 Exhibits  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday monthly @ 7.30pm

## Editorial

It is with a heavy heart that we present this issue of Stamp Hinges. The stamp community is now aware of the passing of Ross Wood which has been a shock and a sad loss to our club.



He served for 38 years at the Philatelic Society of WA (PSWA) in the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee Member. During this time Ross had been the long-time editor of PSWA's Stamp Hinges journal for 30 years; a legacy that I am proud to continue although alas impossible for me to achieve anything close to this period of service.

Ross held many positions of note outside of his club commitments and these are well documented in the Vale presented by Glen Stafford and available on our website.

The PSWA are proud that Ross achieved the status and respect at club, National and International levels. It will be difficult to fill his shoes and his legacy shall remain for many years within philatelic circles.

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With the demographic in clubs becoming a wee bit on the older side it becomes more important to tap into the knowledge of club members enabling us to learn and develop our chosen collecting field.

In my opinion this is the best way to honour our members and continue the collective legacy involving many years of their expertise and contributions to the clubs, organisations, collectors and philatelists.

## *The Local Auction Scene*

Good crowds were achieved at the Southern River and Stamp Fair. Bidding was varied although as always quality does sell. Dealer tables were well presented with a good variety of material being offered.

The annual Ace Stamp & Coin show was a standout. Collectors welcomed the huge amount of new material on offer at the National and International Dealer tables. Crowds were strong and most dealers I spoke with were happy with the weekend and considered the show overall was a success. The “Flea Market” section was also well attended and had selections to suit all tastes and bargains were there to be had.

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Apart from solving the worlds problems, at a recent Library day the subject came up “How can we improve our auctions”. Among the points discussed advertising & exposure was deemed to be important. We have addressed this by collating the next auction catalogue early which has enabled it to be circulated to clubs and prospective buyers in a timely fashion. The catalogue also had a revamp in colour to make it more interesting and allow vendors the opportunity to display a few of their lots and help encourage bidding.

Another major catalyst is the diversity and the quantity of vendors contributing to the auction lots. Apart from the regular contributors it would be terrific to have more members assist by placing their spares or unwanted items up for auction. We like to maintain 500 lots per auction and I urge members to all have a go for the Swan river stamp show and our Open Day Auction. No amount of lots will be considered too small.

## *Upcoming Auctions*

**July 28-29** - ACE Auction No. 24. Cannington Exhibition Centre, Cnr Albany Hwy & Station St, Cannington.

**August 12** - Rockingham Stamp Show Gary Holland Centre, 19 Kent Street, City Centre, Rockingham

**August 26** - PSWA Just an Auction Philatelic House, Unit 19/40 Lord Street (Cnr Wellington St) East Perth

**September 9** - Southpex - Maddington Community Centre, Alcock Street, Maddington.

## Collectors Corner – item from Mel Peachey

This is a typed copy of the original item received from Mel. I researched the item and the parchment message was presented to every school child in Australia as part of the Official visit in 1920 by the Prince of Wales to Australia on board the HMS Renown, having left England the previous month. For further information copy the link : <http://museum.rba.gov.au/exhibitions/from-bank-to-battlefield/visit-of-the-prince-of-wales-to-australia-in-1920/index.html>

H.M.S. "REOWN" Sydney

16<sup>th</sup> August 1920

### *Girls and Boys*

*My wonderful first visit to Australia is nearly over and I want to tell you before I sail how sorry I am to be going and to give you all my best wishes. All of you whom I have seen have given me delightfully kind welcomes of your own, and I only wish that I could have gone everywhere and not missed seeing any of you.*

*I should like you all to remember my first visit, which I have enjoyed so much myself, and so I have asked that as a special favour to me and you may have an extra week's holiday sometime this year.*

*Australia is a magnificent country and I think you very fortunate to have it for your own. Make up your minds to serve Australia well, for the future of every country depends before all things on the spirit of its girls or boys.*

*You have a splendid example of patriotism before you in the men and women of Australia who fought and worked and won in the great war. Your sailors and soldiers thought first of Australia and this Empire, not of themselves; and many gave up everything, even their lives, in order that Australia and the Empire might be safe and free. Many of Australia's women too served gallantly over sea, and others did all they could to help at home.*

*If you follow in their footsteps, you will make Australia one of the greatest and happiest countries in the World.*

*I want to say one thing more. You have all been told how great the British Empire is. Our flag, the Union Jack, flies in all British territories throughout the World as a sign that all British peoples stand together in peace as in war. Think always of Australia as part of that free Empire, which has withstood great trials and never failed.*

*I am not going to say goodbye, because I belong to Australia as much as to all the other British nations and shall come back whenever I can. Please always think of me as one of your own kin who will try to serve Australia as truly all his life as you will yourselves.*

*Edward P*

## Club Library Day

**Theme – Shading Study 4d Orange** – Trevor Lacey – Trevor has kindly accepted our invitation to assist with shading and discuss some pitfalls and tips for furthering the pursuit of this exciting field. Bring along items and take this opportunity to tap into Trevor's knowledge in this area and receive his opinion but please note confirmation will be required by an Expediter (e.g. M. Drury) if you require certification. Each Library day we have set a theme. In addition to all areas of interest that you may wish to bring along for discussion dust off the collections and bring along interesting items within the theme and OK! Bring along some 1d reds as well.



The club library day continues to be a lot of fun, and so much so that we held 2 meetings in July and will probably open the library on a fortnightly basis- Watch this space for further details. The day has continued to be a great forum to share knowledge from a variety of collecting interests in a low key format.

Psst! don't tell anyone but the opportunity to trade, swap and buy unwanted material; as well as sharing your want lists is an opportunity not to be missed.

We all contribute towards a lunch, but it is amazing at times that it is well into the afternoon before we snack, as it is easy to become totally engrossed inspecting the many items of interest bought along.

Don't forget that the library is open and the information available to the members is amazing including new many new additions.

The next Library day is on **Saturday 4th August**, so come along and join in the fun and tap into the Library resource; use the photocopier, and don't forget to bring some of your items of interest. SEE YOU THERE!

## Specialist Notes

The stamps perforation can be critical to correctly identify the catalogue number and hence the correct value. Not trying to teach anyone how to suck eggs but I received a question the other day so considered the below information may be useful particularly in the correct identification of State Issues.

In philatelic terminology, perforation gauge has two meanings:

### As a term for classification.

The "perforation gauge" of a stamp specifies the number of perforation holes that appear in a two-centimeter span along its edge. The finest gauge ever used is 18 on stamps of the Malay States in the early 1950s, and the coarsest is 2, seen on the 1891 stamps of Bhopal. Modern stamp perforations tend to range from 11 to 14. Many stamps are produced with "**compound perforations**" *i.e.*, the vertical and horizontal perforations will be of different gauges. Many stamps have been perforated 10½ x 11.

As the name for a philatelic tool used to measure perforations.

Invented in 1866 by Jacques Legrand, the typical "perf gauge" (sometimes called an odontometer) is a metal or plastic tile on which perforations of gauges ranging from 7 and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  to 16 and  $16\frac{1}{2}$  are pictured (the pictures sometimes appear at the edges of the tile). The philatelist places each of these depictions beside a stamp until one is found that exactly matches the stamp's perforations. Such a gauge is an indispensable tool for identifying stamps that present identical images but have been issued with perforations of several different sizes. Copy the link below for further information.

<https://www.linns.com/insights/stamp-collecting-basics/2002/july/how-well-do-you-know-stamp-perforations-.html>

A perforated sheet of stamps. The spacing of the perforations, or gauge, can influence the scarcity and therefore value of a stamp



## Topics of Interest



Here is an interesting item sent in by Mark Leaman. The research indicated that these recordable fibre discs and the necessary recording equipment were produced during the War by Recordio (seems to have been a part of the Wilcox Gay Corp.), with the discs and recordings often being sponsored by major US firms like Pepsi

and Cola. Several companies made such fibre discs including Howard, Recordio/Wilcox Gay, Philco and RCA Victor. Recordio was active during WW2 setting up recording stations all over the world for service men and women. This item has addresses, great cover and a letter which may increase the value somewhat from the current selling prices of around \$50-\$100 but I'm not sure by how much. Very nice item Mark and thanks for sharing.



**Keep the articles coming fellow club members. It makes my life easy and I enjoy researching unusual and unidentified objects.**



# Club Meetings



Chris Sykes & Mike Adams  
were among the presenters



At our June meeting we had the letter “K” as the theme. This received great support and as per usual some great displays were presented. The postal history items were of a high standard and well presented.



Congratulations to Ross DiBiase on receiving his certificate and Pin for the inaugural FIP Jury Academy Training course held in Jerusalem, Israel and is now entitled to wear

the FIP Jury Fellow Pin. I believe he is the first to achieve this level in Australia. Smiles all round with Mal Brown and Andrew Watson



Penny all smiles

I had the pleasure to attend the Philatelic Forum Meeting in July. We had a presentation by Bruce Haynes on his Prague entry and Penny wells had a good display on New Zealand material. I found the

evening very informative and a great opportunity to glean from the experts in their field. Meetings can be fun so come

Mike Kouwen being the perfect gentleman and looks like Penny is lapping it up. ==>



The Forum Group are  
offering constructive  
critique

along to the various Satellite meetings and enjoy a great night.



## Upcoming Dates

### July Meeting

Trevor Lacey will be presenting Aspects of WA official mail and judging from Trevor's previous presentations this should not be missed.

### Anniversary Lunch

Don't forget the 125<sup>th</sup> PSWA anniversary lunch to be held at the Royal Fremantle Golf Club on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July. 12noon for 12:30pm.

This is sure to be a great day as this is a great venue and a very special moment within our club's history. There are still tickets available so get in quick to reserve your spot and enjoy a sumptuous lunch and a few light ales!

## Inflation and postal rates –

### Brian Austin

At a recent meeting someone raised the question of why German inflation issues of the early 1920's are more expensive used than mint? It was a good point and set me off looking in my catalogues and on the internet. In this hunt it became not just an issue of the said German stamps but of the joys of inflation and what it can mean to stamp collecting.

Inflation, aside from the pumping up of tyres and the expansion of the universe, also refers to postage stamps that is the money supply and the cost of items. While inflation rates are stable at under 2% now, there have been times they have been rather higher. For those who remember the inflation rates in Australia during the early 1980's were regularly hitting up to 11%.



In philatelic terms we can see this is the rise in postal rates from 1d in 1913 to 1 1/2d with war taxes in 1919 to 2d in 1930 and ongoing to rises of the last 10 years where it has escalated from 50c to \$1.

While we can moan about these rates, spare a thought then for those who have been through more drastic inflation such Germany in 1923, post-war Hungary or more recently Zimbabwe (before they gave up on their own currency).

In Germany in the early 1920s due to financial issues concerned with war reparations for World War I, the value of the mark started getting devalued. Things basically went from bad to worse and in the end the old mark was dumped and they started all over again with a new version of the currency.

We can follow this progression in the cost of posting a local letter from 1 April 1921 to 1 December 1923 – two years of turbulent times:

1 April 1921 – 60 pfennigs (0.6 mark) >> 1 Jan 22 – 2 marks >> 1 July 22 – 3 marks >> 1 Oct 22 – 6 marks >> 15 Nov 22 – 12 marks >> 15 Dec 22 – 25 marks >> 15 Jan 1923 – 50 marks >> 1 March 23 – 100 marks >> 1 July – 300 marks >> 1 Aug- 1,000 marks >> 24 Aug – 20,000 >> 1 Sept – 75,000 marks >> 20 Sep – 250,000 marks >> 1 Oct – 2 million marks >> 20 Oct – 10 million marks >> 1 Nov – 100 million marks >> 5 Nov – 1 billion marks >> 12 Nov – 10 billion marks >> 20 Nov – 20 billion marks >> 26 Nov – 80 billion marks >> 1 Dec – 100 billion marks and they gave up and made it equal to 10 new penning (0.1 new mark).



In looking at these numbers you can see for example that the 75,000 mark rate had a lifetime of a few weeks before the rate changed to 250,000 marks which in turn only lasted a week and a half before it was 2 million marks. From one stamp to 26 of the same face value in a matter of a few weeks. The printers could not keep up and huge stocks of worthless mint stamps were the result. At the same time, if you managed to get some onto a letter and get it into the post then the used versus the mint are in much more limited supply. With some of the higher rates at the end only having validity for a week or so, the end use was more restricted.

Now in looking at these we should also note that there were a lot of people living in Germany at the time and they did not have the internet so the post was fairly well used. This means that while the postal rate may not have lasted all that long, there was still a fair amount of mail so while the used are worth more than the mint, for the most part they are not hugely expensive. Most of the used are available for a dollar or two (SG prices around £2) although the most expensive is catalogued in the Simplified SG 2013 at 30p for the mint and £180 used. You can however put together a comprehensive

collection of the mint for a matter of only a few dollars as none of the mint are catalogued at more than 30p and can be obtained for 5c each or less.

If Germany is not your thing however you can go looking at other likelies – Hungary in the years post World War II saw a complete collapse of the pengo.



10 pengo                      500,000,000,000 pengo                      200 ezer adópengo  
= 400,000,000,000.000,000,000,000 pengos

This saw the postage rate jump from 10 pengos in May 1945 up to 1,200,000 pengos in January 1946 and a letter going to the Netherlands in July paid 800 quadrillion Pengos (that is 800,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 pengos). They then gave up and changed the currency.

Zimbabwe under the rule of Mugabe has similarly suffered and now no longer has a currency of its own. The population now mainly use the US dollar with a range of other stable currencies also in circulation. At the peak of the problems in 2008, the inflation rate hit 79,600,000,000% (and we complain if it goes over 5%). Philatelically you can get 2c stamps (like me) or you can go for the \$10,000,000 varieties



These are just a few examples of inflation doing silly things and what it can do for postal rates and stamps. Do you have any inflation tales showing amongst your stamps? If you want to set up a little side collection, it is one to consider – the inflation period issues of a given country. I have a few of the German inflation issues. Happy hunting.

For further information, check out these websites:

Germany – <http://www.lingens.com/articles/roy/germinfl.shtml>

Hungary - <http://heindorffhus.motivsamler.dk/shoebox/frame-HungaryInflationHistory.htm>

Zimbabwe - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hyperinflation\\_in\\_Zimbabwe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hyperinflation_in_Zimbabwe)

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