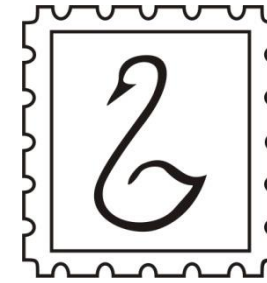


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MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- May 1st MONDAY PHILATELIC FORUM
Finlandia 2017 entries
- May 4th THURSDAY DAYTIME STAMP CLUB
MEETING PLACE: Scout Hall, Rokeby Road Subiaco
Meeting: 1.00-4.00pm
- May 6th CLUB/LIBRARY DAY
OPEN: 12.00 noon -4.00pm
- May 8th MONDAY POSTMARK CIRCLE
Netherlands Indies/Indonesia Brian Pope
- May 12th WAPC WORKSHOP
- May 16th GENERAL MEETING
Ross Edwards Privileged Mail
- May 21st STAMP MART 10AM-4PM
Dealers Tables & Displays
Youth Entries for Don O'Loughlin Trophy
Members Entries for Les King Trophy
AUCTION
Viewing 11.30-1.30PM
Auction starts 2PM
- May 29th THE AIRMAIL CIRCLE 2016
The Letter 'R'
- June 1st THURSDAY DAYTIME STAMP CLUB
MEETING PLACE: Scout Hall, Rokeby Road Subiaco
Meeting: 1.00-4.00pm
- June 3rd CLUB/LIBRARY DAY
OPEN: 12.00 noon -4.00pm
- June 5th MONDAY PHILATELIC FORUM
Postcards. Consequences of New Exhibit Rules.
Mike Rhodes & Mike Kouwen
- June 10th WAPC WORKSHOP

June 12th MONDAY POSTMARK CIRCLE
Living Together – 1988 Brian Austin

June 20th GENERAL MEETING
The letter 'J' Display by All Members
JUST AN AUCTION Lots Lists Due

Australian Stamp Booklets

by Stephen R. Irwin

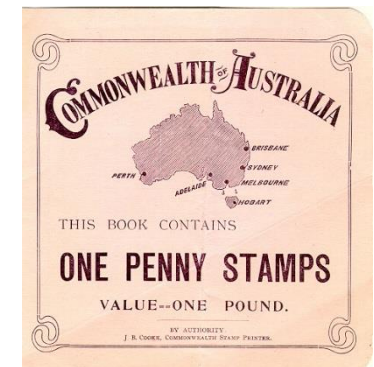
Original Published in Gibbons Stamps Monthly April 1995

Great Britain first recognised the concept of issuing stamp booklets in 1878, when it was proposed to the then Postmaster General and accepted by Parliament. Nothing was done with the idea however, until Luxembourg produced the first official booklet in 1895. A private stamp booklet was produced in Great Britain in 1886.

The Commonwealth of Australia first issued booklets in 1904. The idea for this was presented to the Postmaster General in 1903 by Mr Nixon of Rockhampton. The idea was taken up by the Post Office and the Postmasters of each State were asked to forward to the Government printer in Adelaide current stamps of 1d and 2d values to be made up into booklets. Each State was asked to provide sufficient quantities to make up 200 booklets of each denomination with a face value of £1 per booklet.

The completed booklets were sent back to each State to be issued to the public from 1st January 1904. On the front of each booklet cover were the words "Commonwealth of Australia". These therefore became the first Commonwealth issues for sale to the public.

Dates of issue to the public varied by State. In Queensland, Tasmania, South and Western Australia they were available on 1st January 1904; in Victoria from March 1904 and New South Wales from May 1904.



There were two £1 booklets issued: one containing 240 1d stamps; the other 120 2d stamps. Usually, in these booklets, a complete sheet of stamps was folded over into panes of thirty and stapled complete into the booklet cover.

Only a handful have Survived

Before Federation, New South Wales had experimented with a booklet containing twelve 1d stamps on sale at 1/0½d. This did not find a ready market. The early Commonwealth booklets also made a slow start. In some States sales were so few that Post Offices took the stamps out of the booklet covers and sold them normally. Most of the sales of complete booklets were to business houses who broke up the booklets in order to use the stamps. Hence only a handful have survived to the present day. Sales of the booklet containing 120 2d stamps were very poor and these were discontinued in 1909.

New 2/- booklets were issued in 1910 and 1911 again containing States stamps. The 1910 booklet contained eleven ½d stamps and eighteen 1d stamps and was sold for 2/-. The 1911 booklet was generally similar to the earlier one but with an additional ½d stamp. Some examples of the later booklet can be found with the ½d stamp stuck back into the pane prepared for the earlier booklet by means of small pieces of gummed paper attached to the back.

The first booklets containing Commonwealth stamps were issued in 1913. These contained ½d and 1d Kangaroo stamps. From 1914 booklets containing the King George V head stamps were issued. Up until 1927 most booklets were still issued in the £1 and 2/- denominations. When the postal rate within Australia was 1½d, booklets priced at 2/3d were also issued. Twenty different combinations of stamps were issued in booklets in the period from 1913 and 1927 with, in addition, changes in cover designs.



The 1½d Canberra stamp of 1927 commemorating the opening of the new Parliament House was also **issued in booklet form**. This is the only pre-decimal Australian commemorative stamp to be issued in booklets and was the last pre-decimal booklet to be made from normal sheet stamps.

Time Consuming and Wasteful

Preparation of booklets from sheets was both time consuming and wasteful and they were inconvenient to use. So, in 1928 a special booklet plate was produced. This plate was designed so that a sheet of 120 stamps could be broken up into small panes, each of which had selvedge at left for stapling. This enabled the stamps to be upright in single panes in the booklet. The stamps in the right hand half of the pane were printed inverted so half of these booklet stamps have inverted watermark. Each sheet from this type of plate contained twenty tête-bêche pairs. These were normally separated in the process of making the booklets. Only one such pair survives in private hands.

The 3d Airmail stamp of 1929 was issued in booklets in 1930. The stamps used for this booklet came from a specially prepared plate of 64 stamps arranged in horizontal pairs to allow margins for stapling. Guide dots were printed between each stamp in the horizontal rows. These dots can sometimes be used to identify single stamps coming from this plate when the guide dot has not been removed by the perforations.

A second commemorative stamp was planned to be issued in booklet form. This was the 3½d value of the Olympic Games set of 1956. Due to a last minute change in the postage rate to 4d the 3½d stamps were scrapped and the plans for a booklet were never fulfilled.

Variations of Design and Colour

Booklets made up of stamps from the first type of special booklet plates continued until 1942. Four different King George V stamps and two different King George VI stamps appeared in this type of booklet. There were several variations of cover designs or colours during this period.



A second type of booklet plate was used from 1949. The new booklet sheet comprised six horizontal panels of 48 stamps, each in three rows of sixteen with horizontal gutters between the panels. Each panel was cut vertically into panes of six stamps each of which has a binding margin at the top. In this type of booklet the stamps are bound horizontally in respect to the cover. This type of

plate was used until 1972.

In 1951 the 3d scarlet King George VI stamp was printed for use in booklets. However, postal rates were increased and the booklet was never prepared. **Sheets of 144** were placed on sale from post offices.

The sheets of stamps for the first four booklets prepared from the second type of booklet plate were fully perforated. Sheets of stamps, interleaves and covers were bound together and then guillotined into individual booklets. This led to untidy results due to the guillotine missing the perforations, so from 1957 booklet sheets were partly imperforate. Finished booklet panes from later booklets are imperforate on three sides.

Commercial advertising in Australian stamp booklets commenced in 1960 with changes in the advertising material being made every few months. An edition reference number was printed on the cover in order to differentiate between different advertising content. After edition 2 of 1961 different series of booklets were issued in different States and a series letters as well as edition numbers was introduced. Booklets issued in New South Wales have N, Victoria used V and general booklets for all other States carry G series letters. From 1966 a prefix of D was sometimes used with the series and edition reference.

Special Booklets fo Vietnam

Special booklets were made up from ordinary sheet stamps for use by the **Australian Defence Forces in Vietnam in 1967**. These contained the 5c Thornbill stamp. In 1968 the **5c Queen Elizabeth**

blue definitive from ordinary sheets was also used for this purpose.

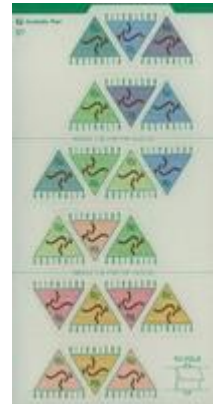


The Australian Post Office announced the cessation of stamp booklet production in 1973 and, as an alternative, provided a plastic stamp wallet to hold loose stamps. However this decision was not final and in **1979 tests of stamp folder vending machines** commenced. Further **tests followed in 1982** and sales of machine vended folders commenced later that year. From 1988 Australia Post re-introduced stamp booklets for sale over the Post Office counter. Booklets

and folders containing commemorative or definitive stamps **continue to be issued regularly**.

Recent innovations have included the issue of self-adhesive stamp booklets from 1992 and in 1994 a self-adhesive stamp folder was made available from **automatic teller machines (ATM's)** at banks and other financial institutions.

Part of the fascination of collecting Australian booklets and booklet stamps comes from the fact that different plates were used from those of the normal sheet stamps. Varieties appearing on the booklet sheets are therefore different from those appearing on the sheets and are often more prominent and more profuse. Modern booklets and folders are frequently the only source of a particular issue. No serious collection of Australian stamps and postal stationery can overlook this important aspect.



Stampmart is nearly upon us. 21st May Doors open at 10am Auction viewing from 11.30am-1.30pm and the Auction starts at 2.

Dealers tables and Cancer Council table.

Displays for the Les King Trophy and the Don O'loughlan Trophy.

Other Auctions and events for the remainder of the Year

CHRISTMAS IN JULY Sunday 30th July. Venue and Cost will be brought to you ASAP.

JUST AN AUCTION AUGUST 22nd get your Lots ready for Paul they need to be given to him by 20th June

Swan River Stamp Show

Loftus Recreation Centre, Corner of Loftus Street and Vincent Street Leederville
PSWA Auction on the Saturday 21st October. Lists needed by August 15th.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH Sunday 25th November. Again Venue and Cost closer to the Event.

Open Day and Auction in December 10th. Lists needed by October 17th.

Start thinking about your Auction Lots for the above 3 Auctions as TIME creeps up on you very fast.

Also for Tables at our OPEN DAY as this is very limited so on a first come basis.

All the Auctions are fund raisers for your Society so please support them.

CLUB/LIBRARY DAY

The first Saturday of every Month the Club is Open from 12 noon to 4pm.

Come along and use the society's facilities, the Library is open for anyone that wants to do any research, borrow a book.

Use the display boards to put up your display you are working on to see how it looks. (get feedback from other members that are attending).

Bring along stamps that you need to know more about, maybe someone may be able to help you or point you in the right direction.

Coffee and Tea are available, bring your Lunch others do.

Donations to the Library are always Welcome, if they are excess to our requirements we can always Auction them off. Then we can purchase other Books or Magazines for the Library.

PSWA GENERAL MEETINGS AUCTIONS

This is a way of getting rid of some of your excess stock, put it in our Auction at the General Meetings. Sheets are available to write up your lists for the Auctioneer.

Or you can Donate the lot to the PSWA.

Ken's Corner

Five months ago I sent out ninety four personalised letters and emails to members with a stamped, addressed return envelope, or by email asking for members to please advise me of their current address and phone details. In addition I asked members to fill in their full dates of birth. I wanted to get some idea of the age demographic of our club members so that the committee could devise a plan to grow Society membership for the future. I received replies from 58 members updating their address details, who supplied me with their birthdays.

Thank you to those members who did respond to my request, and from this sample of 58 members I can say with some certainty that the average age of members of the club is well over 70. The average age of the 58 members who responded is 76. I have taken it on myself to send those members a birthday card to celebrate their birthdays, and will continue to do so in the hope that I can get some of you who haven't attended any of our club functions recently to come and join in.

I realise that we are all in our twilight years and that for some members it is not possible to attend evening meetings. But we have the "Daytime Stamp Club" held on the first Thursday of each month at 1.00pm at the Scout Hall in Rokeby Rd, Subiaco. We also have the Library open on the first Saturday of the month from 12.00pm till 4.00pm, and in addition WAPC is now running a series of workshops to help anyone wanting to exhibit their stamps on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. Mike Rhodes is the coordinator.

In this edition I would like to highlight two club members who have had significant birthdays in the month of January.

They are:

1. Mr Joe Clark the Society's patron who has been a member of the Society for 46 years.
2. Mrs J. M. Hiller (OAM). Jo, as she likes to be called, is also a long standing member of the Society.

"What is so significant about their birthdays?" you ask. Simply that they were both born on the same day and month. They had never met before, and I thought that it was time that they did.

Rolling the clock back thirty five years, Joe Clark was President of the society and was assisted in all things philatelic by his very able wife Deanna. His committee then, are household names today. Arnold Creaser was (*Vice President*) who last year stepped down from being the club Patron. Brian Whittaker (*Treasurer*). Ross Wood was (*Exchange Secretary*) and Penny Wells (*Committee Member*). There was no New Members Officer until 1987. Applications for membership came in thick and fast back then.



Joe Clark

Deanna Clark

Joe and Deanna preparing the letters for posting to Perth via Tin Can mail from Rottneest.



Joe and Deanna at the celebratory birthday lunch

The lunch was at a popular South Perth Café Bookshop, on Sunday 25th February 2017. This was the earliest mutually convenient day that these two very busy and young at heart people could meet. Unbeknown to them they were going to celebrate their shared birthday.

Joe joined the PSWA in 1971. He is on the board of several companies, and enjoys holidaying on Lord Howe Island and Norfolk Island. Joe has a collection of Australian P.S.E.'s, and has exhibited his collection at the PSWA to the enjoyment of everyone who was there on the evening.



A Birthday Toast.

(Photo left to right) Jo Hiller and Melodie Moore

Jo stopped working in December 2016, after nineteen years in the Registrar's office at U.W.A. Jo lived for many years in Africa. She lived in Jinja in Uganda between 1951 and 1964 prior to the coup engineered by Idi Amin. She also lived for a number of years in Zanzibar with her husband Roy Hiller who was in the colonial service for their entire married life.

Mrs Joan M. Hiller was awarded the Order of Australia Medal on 12th June 2006 for her services to Australia.

- For her unstinting conservation service working with 'Men of the Trees' in Hazelmere.
- Jo was also a world Champion at orienteering

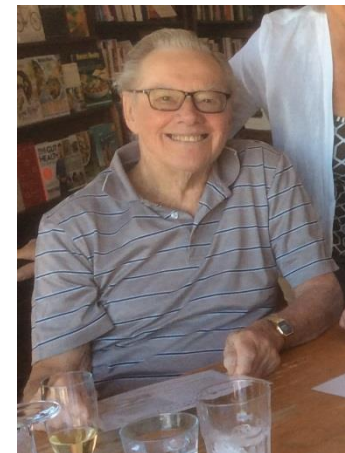
Jo also collects Australia from 1913 and she regularly attends the Daytime Stamp club in Subiaco. It has been my very great privilege to have lunch with these two long serving members of the Philatelic Society of Western Australia



Jo Hiller and Melodie Moore (*Standing*)
Deanna Clark, Joe Clark and Ken Moore (*Seated*)



Jo Hiller



Joe Clark