



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

Founded 1893 – Re-established 1912

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**STAMP HINGES**

**OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE  
PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC.)**

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## MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Jan 15th AUCTION DISPLAY AND CIRCUIT SHEETS.  
Meeting begins at 7.45 pm sharp.  
DISPLAY 10 sheets of your choice.
- Feb 5th AUCTION AND CIRCUIT SHEETS  
Auction begins at 7.45 pm sharp.
- Feb 19th AUCTION DISPLAY AND CIRCUIT SHEETS.  
Meeting begins at 7.45 pm sharp.  
DISPLAY by Derek DEWHURST " the Two  
Pillars of Hercules" .  
SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING to held  
prior to the main meeting to vote  
on the motion "that the PSWA should  
proceed forthwith with a National  
exhibition in 1993".
- Mar 5th AUCTION AND CIRCUIT SHEETS  
Auction begins at 7.45 pm sharp.

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## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The fees for 1991 due from the 1st January, 1991  
will be as follows:-

Full Membership	\$10.00
Full Membership for additional persons living in the same household	\$5.00
Full Membership for persons living in excess of 50 kilometres of the GPO	\$5.00
Junior Membership (no change)	\$1.00
Nomination Fee (no change)	\$2.00

However provided that full membership is paid  
prior to the 31st March, 1991 the fee is only  
\$8.00. The yellow insert in the middle of this  
issue of Stamp Hinges therefore shows the correct

fees payable provided that payment is made to the Treasurer before the expiry date. All rights as a member cease on the 31st, March 1991 and the extra \$2.00 is for the extra cost of writing to all unfinancial members on this date, as most members pay when a personal letter is written to them about their outstanding fees, so the society feels that tardy payers should be penalised.

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In the October Stamp Hinges I asked "Where are we Philately?". Two members replied and below in full are their letters. Firstly the reply from Robin Linke.

The Editor of Stamp Hinges asks 'Where are we in Philately?' --a question often asked. The question should be: 'Where are we in Stamp Collecting?', as Philately for the time being is alive and healthy. And well it might be with some \$4 to \$6 million having been spent on Exhibition Philately since the formation of the Australian Philatelic Federation (APF) in 1984.

But what has been spent on promoting Stamp Collecting as a living and enriching hobby for the 10,000's of (dwindling) stamp collectors, from whom the funds for the APF, State Councils and Exhibitions have been raised?(through the sales of replica cards, specimen overprints exhibition (venir items and other 'philatelic' baubles and beads). Virtually nothing!! There are no pamphlets and brochures for public distribution, no videos, no public stamp displays, and even at the exhibitions the stamp collector is virtually ignored. This is tragedy in the making, as philately, clubs, magazines, dealers..... the hobby in all its aspects depends on NEW STAMP COLLECTORS coming into the hobby.

The responsibility for this (lack of) promotion and development lies with the State Councils and the APF, who are allowed to raise tax free funds

for this purpose, but who are for all practical purposes, not accountable for the way they spend their funds, even though constitutionally the clubs have the voting power to determine policies, especially at state level.

Parallel with this lack of promotion is the exploitation by Australia Post, which has done more than anything else to drive collectors from the hobby. Stamp collectors do not like to be exploited. There has not been the slightest censure of Australia Post by Organised Philately. As a result no new collectors are coming into the hobby, and significant numbers are leaving.

This affects clubs like PSWA. There is nothing basically wrong with the format of meetings etc but success depends on new collectors coming into the club, and the Editor is absolutely correct in this respect.

To get new members there must be long term promotion of the hobby. Here are few basic ideas most of which I have tried to put into effect via the State Council.(without success)

The State Council should ensure that all clubs are listed in the yellow pages(this is free), that all libraries are kept supplied with cheap, simple and informative pamphlets similar to those that dozens of other community groups have on display at their local library(what is there at Leederville, Floreat, Subiaco and Perth City Libraries that advertise the presence of PSWA?) In addition they should be occasionally special stamp displays for the public as well as free packets of stamps for the children. Again the library system is very willing and it is free!

Several million dollars ago the APF should have had produced a professional video for distribution to all libraries and selected video shops. Also when any new person comes to a stamps club the committee should be able to give them a 'kit' of information courtesy of the APF and State council to help get them on the right track from the start.

Unfortunately none of this has been done. Organised Philately since 1984 has had the choice of putting its resources into grass roots promotion for the many or into Exhibition Philately for the few.

Unfortunately, clubs, which have the majority vote at state level have not represented their members long term interests (except for the specialist philatelic societies which have of course benefited immensely), and as a result some of these clubs will fold or go into recess.

As a member of the State Council in the period 1976 to 1989 there is much more that I could say.

By comparison to stamp collectors, coin collectors have only one club, and are not backed by Federal and State Councils with five or six figure budgets. But they do have the most magnificent and professional displays of coins and bank notes which they show to the public at every opportunity.

Compare the displays by the State Philatelic Council and the Numismatic Society at the Antique Fair and you have your answer to 'Where are we in Stamp Collecting/Philately'.

The second letter was from Derek Pocock

I read your comment in Stamp Hinges with interest and a modicum of guilt since I perhaps have, by my own lack of involvement in PSWA recently, thus contributed certainly an element in its current decline.

There are reasons (syn. excuses) e.g. busy elsewhere etc., but in the end it is on ones own doorstep that the real action happens. So in a spirit of partial apology, but also in part accusation that I offer the following thoughts.

Number one must be that PSWA is currently in the slough of Despond or whatever its Philatelic equivalent is. Reasons may be offered in many areas, but essentially we who make the club from

President to newest member - if we have such a one - must all take the blame. But surely to cure is better than to grieve.

First let us not decry the philatelist for his/her participation in "higher activities" e.g. national exhibitions. the school sports participants do not bad mouth the Olympic Games nor the club cricketers berate the test matches as superior and "not for us". They may not be for us, but we can still admire those who aspire and achieve such heights in our activity. It means that there is enormous potential in the hobby - it is worth while. We should be extolling this and other achievements in our hobby whilst encouraging everyone to pursue their field to their own limits. There is no merit in mediocrity.

Okay, so if you berate your advanced collectors, they will go away and take their bat and ball with them. They will set up their own groups and you, the average club will find a serious loss of expertise resulting in a decline - just like we've got now.

So lets be positive. We want (1) new members (2) serious, knowledgeable members - who will encourage other members to new heights of achievement - to return to our meetings and activities. Right then - if you agree with this then lets encourage both using the money that members in the last 97 years have accumulated for the benefit of the hobby in Western Australia.

#### Suggestion 1

Give a prize of a 5 shilling Sydney Harbour Bridge (or Two Pound note!) to the member at 1991 AGM who has achieved the highest score by the following scale during the year from January 1st.

1. Achieves 1 point for each meeting attended, plus
2. Achieves 1 point for each new member enrolled and who in turn attends meetings during the year, plus

3. Achieves 5 points for giving a club display, plus
4. Achieves 5 points for each 100 circuit sheets made up with a minimum of \$5 each sheet, plus
5. Achieves 2 points for each one page contribution to Stamp Hinges, plus
6. Achieves 5 points for entering the Hooker Shield, plus
7. Achieves 5 points for participating in a PSNA quiz team at the WAPC quiz day, plus
8. Achieves 5 points when attending as an official visitor to another club with a display during the year.

## Suggestion 2

Keep this regular auction if you must, but charge a one dollar lotting fee per lot which is refunded if the lot is sold. This should eliminate the over priced and unsold lots that bore the pants off the audience and make work for the pencilers and auctioneer.

Finally, appoint a committee member as both monitor of the 1991 prize scores above who will need to collate the points achieved and give regular updates in Stamp Hinges. Additionally to be responsible for new faces who turn up, to introduce them to members and make them feel welcome.

I received another letter from Dick Samek who has been a member for large number of years, and has decided to resign from the society. It has been reprinted in full for your information.

After some considerable thought I have decided to hang up my stamp hinges and resign formally from the Society. I have never attended a meeting since 1935 but have enjoyed receiving the circuit books of which I contributed for several years back in the seventies. Occasionally, one finds a real gem and I remember the time when I joyfully obtained a New Zealand COUNTERPART for sixpence!

I wish you and the Society all the best and for myself I shall spend my declining years in trying to sort out the amazing mass of Machin heads.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT 30TH SEPTEMBER 1990

	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Investments 1.11.89	81,145.00	
Current Account	611.00	
Cash on Hand	180.00	
Wapex A/c 1.11.89	22,410.00	
Subscriptions 1989	1,483.00	
Catering		33.00
Stamp Hinges		644.00
Advertising		19.00
Rent to R.C.S.		1,716.00
Bank Charges		20.00
Secretary's Expenses		416.00
Competition Expenses		19.00
Name Badges		41.00
Library Expenses		145.00
Capitation to WAPC		103.00
Subscriptions		98.00
Printing Syllabus		191.00
Post Office Box		90.00
Registration		120.00
Trophies & Engraving		310.00
Deposit on Hall		50.00
Nomination Fees	18.00	
Wapex ,93 Fund	58.00	
Auction Commission	362.00	
Raffles	46.00	
History Book Sales	3.00	
Sub-Rent	100.00	
Sundries	17.00	
Stamp Mart 1989	2,545.00	2,779.00
Interest on - Current A/c	33.00	
General Invest.	18,005.00	
Wapex Funds	2,530.00	
Wapex Fund		24,940.00
Investments General		64,526.00
Investments Building		32,840.00
Current Account		266.00
Cash on Hand		180.00
	129,546.00	129,546.00



## SPECIAL MEETING REGARDING WAPEX '93

On February 19th 1990 a special general meeting has been called by the Committee of the PSNA with the motion to be put to the members as follows:

That the PSNA should proceed forthwith with a National exhibition in 1993.

Derek DEWHURST and Robin LINKE have prepared a case against holding a National Exhibition in 1993 as requested by the committee and this is included as a flyer with this issue of Stamp Hinges.

The committee of the society wish the National exhibition in 1993 to go ahead but they would first like to make certain before making any further commitments that the members will give their full support to the running and organisation of the exhibition.

In the April 1989 Stamp Hinges the Chairman of the Steering Sub Committee of WAPEX '93s report was published detailing the recommendations of that sub committee. The committee of the society then applied for permission from the APF through the WAPC for a National Exhibition to be run by the PSNA in their Centenary year in 1993. This was accepted by the APF and the National Exhibition would be jointly funded by the WAPC with the profits to be split after the completion of the Exhibition. (The official agreement regarding the funding etc. has not yet been signed by the WAPC and PSNA). On the recommendation of the Steering Committee the PSNA appointed an Executive Chairman, Dr Bruce HAYNES. The sub committee of the WAPEX '93 National Exhibition was then formed, under the Chairman Dr Bruce HAYNES, although at this stage not all positions have been finalised. A draft budget will also be submitted to the committee of PSNA prior to the February 12th committee meeting. That is the situation as it stands regarding the running of a National Exhibition in our Centenary Year 1993.

Why should PSWA want to hold a National Exhibition in its Centenary year?

When it was brought to the notice of the committee that 1993 was indeed the centenary of the founding of the PSWA suggestions were asked what would be a fitting way to celebrate this occasion. It was decided that as Cuppex '87 had been successful (a national exhibition) and as there would unlikely be another Cuppex, in 1987 a steering sub-committee was formed to of this to see if it would be possible to hold a National Exhibition and make recommendations how it should be run etc..

The PSWA has the registered trade name of WAPEX and this was used for all previous exhibitions held by the PSWA in 1954, 1972, 1979 and 1984. A state exhibition as the previous WAPEX's were was not considered as it was felt that this society should be strong enough to hold a National Exhibition considering that the WAPC successfully held Cuppex '87. WAPEX '84 (a state exhibition) was very successful and all profits from this exhibition were placed in a special account for the running of future WAPEX exhibitions. This account now has in it the sum of \$25,000.00 (twentyfive thousand dollars). The agreement the PSWA and WAPC has in it a funding of \$30,000.00 (thirty thousand dollars) each and the budget will be worked out on the funding of \$60,000.00 (sixty thousand dollars) which will mean that the PSWA may have to advance funds from there general account.

As the WAPC have offered their support where required, and as they are the stamp clubs and philatelic societies, and these other clubs have offered their support for the 1993 National Exhibition I cannot see why we should not go ahead and hold the exhibition.

I could try to give you many reasons why the PSWA should hold a National Exhibition in 1993, some I have already mentioned but the main one is in the objects of our constitution, which are:

The Objects for which the Society is established are:-

- (a) The bringing together of those interested in postage and revenue stamps, postal history and other recognised branches of Philately;
- (b) To promote and encourage interest in and knowledge of, all Philatelic matters for both specialist and general collectors;
- (c) To promote exhibitions, auctions, talks, discussion groups and enquiries into postal emissions and to promote and encourage the writing of Philatelic literature for the benefit of all collectors.

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### OTHER COMING EVENTS

A very cordial invitation comes your way to attend the Interclub Circuit Book Night of the Wanneroo Stamp Club on Monday 18th February at 7.30 pm at the Whitford Senior Citizens (cnr Whitford & Marnion Ave), Hillarys. Included in the programme will be a raffle & supper. See you there!

Perth's first STAMP FAIR for 1991 will be held on Sunday 17th March at the Park Recreation Centre Function Hall, located at corner Kent Street & Gloucester Street, EAST VICTORIA PARK from 10am to 5pm and admission is FREE. On offer will 10 or more Dealers' Stalls to service collectors' buying and selling requirements as well as a 400 lot auction. Catalogues for the auction are available by sending a SAE to Gilbert LeFevre, 103 Hardinge Road, ORANGE GROVE WA 6109. A door prize and auction prizes will be given to attendees.

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### STAMP MART 1991

Stampmart 1991 will again be held at the Venville Centre Maylands on Sunday 19th May 1991. Tables and stalls are now available from the Stampmart organiser Mr Trevor Lacy. Lots for the Auction should be in the hands of the Auction organiser Mr Ross WOOD by Tuesday 19th March. Minimum lot value is \$2.00 and a duplicate description of all lots must accompany the lots.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 1990/91

PATRON	Mrs M HOOKER	
VICE-PATRON	Mr Gordon DARGE Mr Lyn WILKINSON	
PRESIDENT	Mr Ross WOOD	275 4991
IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT	Mr Tom MCKENZIE	
VICE-PRESIDENT	Mr Brian WHITTAKER	
SECRETARY	Mr Robin LINKE	387 5327
TREASURER	Mr Wilfed WELLS	381 5128
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PUBLICITY OFFICER	Mr Bill FALCONER	381 1278
EDITOR	Mr Ross WOOD	275 4991
COMMITTEE	Mr George BOULES Mr Derek DEWHURST Mrs Penny WELLS Mr Bob RADLEY	

Please address all general correspondence to the Secretary, all subscriptions to the Treasurer, all matters dealing with the Exchange Branch to the Exchange Secretary, all Library matters to the Librarian and all matters dealing with Stamps Hinges to the Editor, The Philatelic Society of Western Australia Inc., PO Box 886 SUBIACO WA 6008.