



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

Founded 1893 – Re-established 1912

*Volume 55 No 1 JUNE 2019*

***STAMP HINGES***

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

Subscription \$25 per annum

ISBN 0729 6517

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# MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- July 1<sup>st</sup> MONDAY PHILATELIC FORUM – Bunbury 2019 One Frame  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- July 4<sup>th</sup> THURSDAY DAYTIME STAMP CLUB  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday monthly @ 1-4pm
- July 6<sup>th</sup> CLUB/LIBRARY DAY - States  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday monthly @ 12-4pm
- July 8<sup>th</sup> MONDAY POSTMARK CIRCLE – Slogans; post office directions  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- July 16<sup>th</sup> PSWA GENERAL MEETING – Trevor Lacy; States other  
than WA  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday monthly @ 7.30
- August 1<sup>st</sup> THURSDAY DAYTIME STAMP CLUB  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday monthly @ 1-4pm
- August 3<sup>rd</sup> CLUB/LIBRARY DAY  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday monthly @ 12-4pm
- August 5<sup>th</sup> MONDAY PHILATELIC FORUM – SRSS 2019 Entries  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- August 12<sup>th</sup> MONDAY POSTMARK CIRCLE – Medical Related  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- August 20<sup>th</sup> PSWA GENERAL MEETING – Brian Austin – Mystery  
Swan River Stamp Show Lots Due  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday monthly @ 7.30
- September 2<sup>nd</sup> MONDAY PHILATELIC FORUM – SRSS 2019 Invited Reviews  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- September 5<sup>th</sup> THURSDAY DAYTIME STAMP CLUB  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday monthly @ 1-4pm
- September 7<sup>th</sup> CLUB/LIBRARY DAY  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday monthly @ 12-4pm

# *Editorial - Ramblings of a Stamp-A-Holic*

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Messrs David Lee and Ray Kelly and condolences to the family. These members were worthy contributors to the world of stamp collecting and will be greatly missed.

Once again it was a timely reminder that our demographic is probably on the wrong side of the ledger and how important it is to learn from us all and enjoy the moments that stamp collecting brings to us all.

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Welcome to the first edition of Stamp Hinges for 2019. A lot late I am afraid and apologies to those eagerly awaiting the little tit bits from the PSWA club; my story is writers block and thank you to the understanding of fellow club members for their support over recent months

Please check out the article by Brian Austin (regular contributor) on the subject of "Iconic Stamps" as it discusses perspective within the eyes of the beholder.

Some of us within the club are what could be termed a "little Tubby". This is particularly the case of your Editor who some may say pushes the boundaries of a "little tubby" and the ensuring health issues that are associated with the classic couch potato. I have accepted a challenge from Mr Bob Neville to reduce my waistline and in so doing benefit the Diabetes Association with a little side wager. Thanks to Penny Wells for the public weigh in (NOT). I urge all fellow stamp collectors to get on board and improve our overall health.

What has the above to do with stamp collecting you may ask! Would it not be beneficial to ourselves and our fellow stamp collectors to have as many years as possible to continue our love of this fantastic hobby?

It has crossed my mind on more than one occasion lately what will happen to the many collections of life-long memories in stamp collecting when the inevitable time comes that we can no longer collect. Probably not a subject that we like to embrace though I am sure we take solace in ensuring that this passion is directed to someone that will share that same passion well into the future. It is a great pity that many youngsters will not have that opportunity due to modern technology enabling greater communication without the need for postage stamps.

Please keep those notes and articles coming. I have some interesting items for the next issue but the more the better. Do you have a wants list???? If so, we can include in the Stamp Hinges. Any items that you may wish to dispose of can also be noted.

We received a fantastic donation of material which has slowly being disposed of and it would be remiss not to mention the great contribution Mark has made in collating and disposal.

## *The Local Auction Scene*

The year to date has seen reasonable sales for the club auctions which was aided by sales of donated items. Paul has set his deadlines for delivery and cut-off and henceforth the catalogues have been distributed in a timely manner. More club members have been submitting lots which has helped with variety. Reports from all other local auctions indicate steady clearance and ACE Auctions; WA's premier auction house had some quality items and as always was well attended.



Other Australian Auction Houses, and in particular "Premier Auctions" had extremely strong sales in State material. I can remember Trevor Lacy indicating some time ago that the time was right to collect state material and judging by current sales the boat has probably sailed.

## *Upcoming Auctions & Events*

**July 7<sup>th</sup> - Stamp Fair** - Corner Albany Hwy & Station St, Cannington, Cannington Exhibition Centre. 10am to 5pm. Auction at 2pm, viewing from 11:30am to 1:30 pm. Free Entry. 12 Dealers: Selling, Buying, Free Valuations. For further information contact Mike Kouwen ph.: 9384 4981

**July 13<sup>th</sup> - Xmas in July** – Mel has organised something different this year with a new venue. The venue is the Watermark Restaurant located at 1 Epsom Avenue, Ascot 6-6.30 PM for a buffet style dinner.



**July 20 & 21 -Bunbury 2019 National One Frame Astro Challenge.**

South West Italian Club, 20 White Street, EAST BUNBURY WA 6230

Saturday 20th July: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday 21st July: 9:00 am to 4:00pm.

**August 4<sup>th</sup> - Rockingham Show.** Gary Holland Community Centre, Kent Street Rockingham 10.00am to 4.00pm Free Entry 9 Dealers: Selling, Buying, Free Valuations, Special door prize 500 Lot Auction at 2.00pm, viewing from 11:30am to 1:30pm For further information please contact Denis Penfold ph.: 9528 7576

## Club Library Days



The Library Days have now become an institution and continues to have steady numbers ensuring a great day to discuss all



matters in stamps. We always have a lunch



which we take turns in supplying. We recently had a cake celebrating Mel's birthday.

We urge all members to set the date and come along to enjoy and participate.

## Daytime Stamp Club



I had the pleasure to attend Junes Daytime Stamp Club and Ross still runs a great meeting. It is a nice easy format and to be recommended to all stamp collectors. Just a quick reminder though; this is part of the PSWA format and does require all attendees to be current financial members of the PSWA; after three visits of course.

Sue Morgan displayed her Kangaroo "in progress" collection. It was a broad ensemble of denominations, postmarks and variations and drew many questions during the day.

## Did You Know - Ross Duberald

- Philately, the highbrow name of our hobby, is derived from two Greek words. It's a suitable name, according to a friend who doesn't collect, for when he was taken to a stamp club meeting recently, he afterwards told us that everything he heard was Greek to him.
- To help pay for WW2, every unused British and Colonial postage stamp, purchased and retained by stamp collectors, was a direct contribution to the revenue of the country in reduction of the cost of the war. It was a government security, upon which no interest was payable and which the government would not be called upon to redeem.
- News of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour reached the White House, when President Roosevelt was working on his stamp collection. A moment snatched from the Daily round of state affairs.

# Club Meetings

Once again, we have enjoyed some interesting club meetings. The diversity of the display's presented have been very informative and of excellent quality.



It is amazing the vast areas of collecting range and quality of items within our members collecting areas. I encourage all members that have not had the opportunity to display at club level to have a go. We would love to share your passion.

Don't forget the next meeting on July 16th Trevor Lacy will be presenting a display on "States other than WA". This will be an interesting subject and is bound to be informative.

## Collectors Corner



1. Mark Leaman recently came across this postmark on piece. It is unlisted in the PMI and any assistance from collectors as to its use would be more than appreciated. Nice one Mark and we hope somebody in philatelic land can shed some light on this apparently rare postmark and the usage. The way the Eastern States Auctions are on State material this could be quite valuable!!!

## Wanted

Greg Morgan - Kangaroo Issues with Postmarks WA only. The stamps don't have to



be perfect and if the postmarks can clearly be attributed to the town, particularly in the more difficult to obtain issues, this is acceptable. As noted in the scans some are unclear but can be attributed. Any kangaroo denomination accepted.

Covers, Postcards etc with WA postmarks also required. Guaranteed top prices paid for

the right material; to be used for display purposes.

Sue Morgan – 1d red Kangaroos for plating purposes. Requiring blocks or strips as this enables plated stamps to be clearly attributed.

## For Sale

Penny Wells – Penny has a beautiful Grandfather clock for sale. For details contact Penny

# “What to do with that collection”

## A few random notes for consideration

People who know that they will probably inherit a stamp collection one day. For example, your father or grandfather has said, “You’ll be getting my collection when I’m gone.”

People who collect stamps currently and wish to sell all or part of their collection.

People who collect stamps and plan to leave their collection to someone in the future. Yes, I know you don’t want to think about that! However, there are many things you can do which will make your collection much more enjoyable to the people who will inherit it and continue collecting; or, to realize the highest possible value should they decide to sell the collection.



First, let me tell you a little about stamp collecting and stamp collectors. Stamp collecting is one of the most popular hobbies in the world. Stamps involve geography, history, culture, politics, special events, art and more. Each stamp has a story to tell. Stamp collectors love stamp collecting, and they love stamps. They enjoy stories about stamps. They learn from the stamps, and they spend countless hours mounting their stamps in the little squares in their albums. It’s a never-

ending challenge. As soon as they collect ten new stamps, twenty more are printed. A stamp collector can never collect one of every stamp. Nobody has that much time nor that much money! But that’s part of the fun! Always trying to get another stamp and knowing that there will still be another one to get later. And if you already have a stamp, knowing that there’s probably a stamp in better condition that you might be able to get to upgrade your collection.

You have inherited somebody’s hobby and someone’s love. They left it to you because they cared for you. In most cases, you will be a child or a grandchild of this person. In a way, you have just acquired 10,000 or 100,000 more brothers and sisters!

If you are a stamp collector yourself, you know all about these feelings. You will probably just continue collecting, and that’s great. Now you have a lot of material to play with.



But, some of you may not know the first thing about stamps. You may want to learn and become a stamp collector yourself. Or you may not! If you have other interests, that's fine, too. Many stamp collectors know that their collection will eventually go to someone who is not interested in stamps perhaps. They probably wished you were interested in collecting, but if you're not, they knew it. Most likely, you will sell the collection. Even though the collector would not like the concept of his/her collection being sold, he or she would want you to take whatever money you receive and make your own life or your children's lives a little better.

If you are thinking of selling the collection you inherited, please keep a couple of things in mind:

It may be worth a fortune, or it may be worth nothing much at all. This is going to depend on several million factors. If it's worth a fortune, great. If it's not, don't worry about it. I'll tell you now that, statistically, the collection is not going to be tremendously valuable. But statistics sometimes lie. You'll need to keep reading to find out exactly what you've got.

Selling a stamp collection may be easy, or it can involve a lot of hard work. Only you can decide how much time and effort you can devote to the project or whether you may wish to utilize the services of a professional. Oh, it would have been so much easier had you just inherited a few bricks of gold! Easy to price, and easy to sell. Stamps aren't really that easy to sell. But once again, keep in mind that you are selling someone's hobby. Had their hobby been going to movies seven days a week, you wouldn't have inherited a thing.

Besides becoming a stamp collector, yourself or selling the collection, you also have several other alternatives.

Finally, don't throw any stamps or stamp-related material away. Even if you find that a particular stamp has no actual value, there is always someone who would love to adopt it. In some ways, you should think of yourself as an adoption agency for a bunch of little rectangular children!

The PSWA can advise on collections and assist with advising the best methods of disposal. Please contact our secretary and he will pass on your information to the best member that can best advise on your situation.

Remember the number one advice is to keep collecting and keep the interest within the family.

# Iconic Stamps - Brian Austin

Iconic stamps – what does that mean to you? Stamps that are icons, exemplars of all things philatelic, the great, the beautiful, the valuable, the famous- it can mean all sorts of things.

For many collectors the iconic stamp might be the Penny Black. This humble stamp is the grand daddy (or to keep things even, the grandma) of them all. Issued on 6 May 1840 in Great Britain, it was the first of its kind – a little black label that could be put onto the outside of a letter that could indicate that the postage had been paid for. As such it is an icon to many as it is number one/numero uno/ the start of it all.



GB – 1840 1d black



Western Australia 1854 1d black



Uruguay 1856 60c blue

Others may look to the first issue of somewhere closer to home or to their philatelic interest. Again, these are the number ones, the first of their kind. All of the rest of their collection can stem from these beginnings, whether one collects Western Australia or Uruguay or whatever.

The lure of the elusive – the rare and valuable is another area that some look to when thinking of iconic stamps. This is the realm of the scarce and prices vary from that which is just out of reach to sky high. Just out of reach for many are items such as 5/- Sydney Harbour Bridge to the more rarefied high value roos of Australia such as the first watermark 2 pound to the truly classic – the Hawaiian missionaries of 1851 or the big daddy of them all the 1856 British Guiana 1c black on magenta (sold a couple of years ago for over A\$10 million).



Australia 1932  
5/- Harbour Bridge



Australia 1913  
2 pound roo 1<sup>st</sup> wmk



Hawaii 1851  
2c



British Guiana 1856  
1c black on magenta

Those stamps described above all meet the general sorts of descriptions of iconic but there is another class of iconic that rests more with you the individual collector. These are the stamps that you hold a bit more closely to your heart, that mean that little bit more to you, are something special. They may not be the first, they may not be all that classic, they may not even be in your main area of collecting, they may not be anything except that they mean something to you. Like Proust's famous madeleine cake that he bit into and which then reminded him of all sorts of things from his past and which then prompted him to write, *A la recherche de temps perdu* (translated as Remembrance of things past), some stamps are iconic in that they can bring up images, memories and other things into your mind.

Recently I bought a copy of a Gibbons Stamp Monthly and on the cover was an illustration of North Borneo stamp featuring an orang-utan. Looking at it reminded me of a time when as child my mother took me into Boans in Perth one day before Christmas. I was around 8 or 9 at the time, so I cannot actually tell when it was but put it in the early 1960's. She gave me some money to buy her a present for Christmas, so I had duly bought some talcum powder for her and had the receipt docket from the sale. As a docket it noted a figure like 5 shillings or some similar amount and naively, I thought that this indicated that it was worth that amount of money. I then sauntered along to the stamp counter (yes, they actually had things like that in shops in those days) and set my eyes on this brightly coloured red and black stamp featuring an ape. I then proceeded to try to buy it with the docket and could not understand the young shop assistant who tried to explain that what I had was just a docket. At some stage my mother came along and aided the assistant in ushering me away and the stamp remained on display and I went away stampless. The memory however has stayed with me. I have since acquired one and though I don't really collect North Borneo (although I do admit to having a few in my bower bird like accumulations) it remains iconic to me.



North Borneo  
1897 4c orangutan



Belgian Congo  
1959 40c giraffe



China  
1960 4 fen goldfish



Costa Rica  
1938 1c orchid

In thinking on this I then thought of some of my other iconic stamps and while I do not really collect any of the countries involved, I do have copies of these stamps and whenever I look at them they take me back to some of the little joys of stamp collecting. The Belgian Congo stamp that was pictured on the cover on an album and which I would see every time I picked up the album, the Chinese stamp featuring a goldfish with funny eyes that I had acquired from a packet given out at an Ampol service station as part of their stamp giveaway promotion and the pretty orchid stamp of Costa Rica that shone like a little jewel in the collection that an uncle of mine had that my cousins showed me. They are neither firsts nor rare or valuable and they are not of my main collecting interest which is the stamps of India. If I had to say anything, they are just cheap common stamps that you could find in almost any collection of the period. I daresay that many of the readers of this from the same baby boomer generation will have had them pass through their hands with no further thought but to me they are iconic.

Note that I have not included any of my later acquisitions of icons of my main collecting field. Don't get me wrong I certainly have some icons amongst those, but these ones are different. Maybe I'll write something about my latter day icons on another occasion. We all have our dreams and we keep reaching for them. One day at a time (and a division one win in the lotto could help).

Now let's think of a little test, what are your iconic stamps? I sure that you have some sneaking about somewhere – maybe it is that classic that you have been searching for years to obtain and now have, or it could be a memory like these. Think about it and if you have one, tell me about it or even better put a few words on paper or on the electric string and send to Greg to include here.

Stamp collecting and philately is not just about the stamps we collect but is also about us as collectors and sometimes those stories can tell us a bit more about both. Happy collecting and look for those icons.

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