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STAMP HINGES

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MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- April 20th PSWA GENERAL MEETING:
Sue Morgan – 1929 Australian 3d Airmail
- May 1st CLUB/LIBRARY DAY –
1st Saturday monthly @ 12-4pm
- May 3rd MONDAY PHILATELIC FORUM
1st Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- May 6th THURSDAY DAYTIME STAMP CLUB
1st Thursday monthly @ 1-4pm
- May 10th MONDAY POSTMARK CIRCLE – in recess
2nd Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- May 18th PSWA GENERAL MEETING:
Chris Sykes – Franked Stamps
- June 3rd THURSDAY DAYTIME STAMP CLUB
1st Thursday monthly @ 1-4pm
- June 5th CLUB/LIBRARY DAY –
1st Saturday monthly @ 12-4pm
- June 7th MONDAY PHILATELIC FORUM
1st Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- June 14th MONDAY POSTMARK CIRCLE – in recess
2nd Monday monthly @ 7.30pm
- June 15th PSWA GENERAL MEETING:
Bruce Haynes-Cocos Islands
STAMP- IT lots list due
3rd Tuesday monthly @ 7.30
- July 1st THURSDAY DAYTIME STAMP CLUB
1st Thursday monthly @ 1-4pm
- July 3rd CLUB/LIBRARY DAY –
1st Saturday monthly @ 12-4pm

Editorial - Ramblings of a Stamp-A-Holic

Well, what a wonderful few month's in the philatelic world we have had so far in the year! It is almost if we are back to normal pre-covid. It does appear however that Covid may have produced one good thing: a resurgence in stamp collecting in general. There has been an increase in enquiries at most philatelic field days and events and auctions have had a positive resurgence based on clearance and prices achieved.

The club auction in February was extraordinarily strong and most vendors would be happy with the results. Of note, were the strong prices received in the recent Ace auctions state material offered. The highlight of which: was the hammer price received on a Balburrup cover around 4000% on reserve (Sue has hidden my wallet and credit card).

As I am sure everyone has noticed, stamp hinges have been a LITTLE, ok a LOT lacking on issues over the last twelve months or so. I have now got my handy assistant to help keep me on track (thanks Damelsa).

The format going forward, will be changed a little to involve more input from club members. This will enable content to be of a continue high standard covering a multitude of areas and more importantly to maintain a regular bi-monthly edition. This will be discussed at length at the next library day (committee meeting as they are all there anyway). The additions will now be planned for the end of February, April, June, August, October and finally in December.

My suggestions for submitted reports would be the following:

- **Club Meetings** – alternated between a President, Vic-President, and a Secretary Report
- **Day Time Club Days** – Penny Wells and Ross Duberal
- **Auction Report** – Paul Holman and Greg Morgan
- **Library Day** – Mark Leaman

All other items will be the responsibility of myself although as always, I will be looking for items of interest as per the regular contributor Brian Austin.

I'm looking forward to the next library day on the 1st of May, it is drawing close! Please talk about the above amongst yourselves and forward any suggestions for improvement or otherwise to my self or our club president.

Yours in stamping, Greg

Club Library Days

What a joy it is to attend library day. This is becoming more popular as the format remains very social with the only formality signing in and personal hygiene due to Covid restrictions. At the last event, I looked around and the noise was deafening with everybody in deep conversation and raucous laughing. I thought to myself, STAMP COLLECTING CAN BE FUN!

The cup of tea, cakes and biscuits and rolls are always well catered, and the members can be proud of their contribution. It is a wonderful day, and we would welcome many more to come along, have fun and enjoy the banter and the learning process of this wonderful hobby called Stamp Collecting.



Some photos from the recent Library Days down at PSWA.



Club Meetings

Meetings are well attended; the picture below is of the wonderful display by Roger Cumming on the 16th of February on Australian Greeting Covers. Club Meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday from 7.30pm at the club Rooms. There are some wonderful displays coming up. Remember new members are always welcome.

It has been pleasing to see this year that displays space at our club meeting have been well sort after. Remember, the more people that are prepared to put up their wonderful displays provides us a with a vast array of knowledge and diversity.

Do not forget to bring your gold coins for the raffle and have a bid or too on the auction lots on offer at each meeting.



Day Time Club Days

The Daytime club is also well attended in the Subiaco Scouts Hall. Afternoon team is followed by the mysterious stamp draw. This is held on the 1st Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm. Pop down and join us for a cuppa and a chat. Regular auction table lots are available along with a Members display.

Recent Auctions

The February auction held at South Perth was a great success. The extra room provided for vendor tables created an exceptionally good atmosphere and was well received by both vendors and patrons alike. This venue, in my opinion, should be the club venue of choice bar our open club/auction day.



Wanted

Please submit your wanted lists to me so we can put it out there – IT WORKS
Nothing off limit here guys – I can hear the rush of emails now!!!!!!!

For Sale -

Fellow club members send me your excess material to place in stamp hinges philatelic or not. It fills a space and creates interest.

For modern day decimal Australian material contact Greg Morgan to enable him to pass on contact details of a vendor with a extremely vast collection from 1966 to current day in all formats of production.

Upcoming Auctions and Format

NOTE: ALL AUCTIONS WILL NOW HAVE A MINIMUM RESERVE OF \$10

A NEW EVENT ON THE RADAR

STAMP MART 2021 MAY 16th

This is our Premier Event and is scheduled on the 16th of May (Sunday), back to the normal third Sunday of May.

Mel Peachey Has again Volunteered to Organise this for us. Once we work out the details Application forms for Tables will be sent out. If you are interested, please send Mel an Email.

The doors open at 10am and the auction to commence at 2pm.

Now is the time to commence sorting through your lots for the auction. This is the “Biggy” and will require all hands-on deck to ensure a successful day.

Don't forget the Youth entries for the “Don O'Loughlin Trophy” and the members entries for the “Les King Trophy” is open up to the date of the auction.

STAMP-IT (Formerly Just An Auction) August 8th

As from 2021 we have renamed our Just an Auctions and moved them to the South Perth Civic Centre. The new name Stamp-It (The brainchild of Paul Holman). We will have Dealers in Attendance as well.

SWAN RIVER STAMP SHOW 2021

Well, the Swan River Stamp Show is no more. The WAPC has moved the Exhibit side to combine with The Perth Stamp & Coin Show on October 29th-31st. With the name of SWANPEX. So, no Auction.

POSTMARK CIRCLE

Just a reminder that this is still in hibernation we will provide an update once this is due to recommence.

NON-CLUB RELATED INFORMATION

PERTH STAMP & COIN SHOWS

28th-31st October incorporating SWANPEX

ACE STAMP AUCTIONS

Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th June

AUSTRALIA & WORLD Box Lots, Collections, Single Lots, Aerophilately, Thematics, Literature & Accessories plus a Coin & Banknote section

Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th November

AUSTRALIA & WORLD Box Lots, Collections, Single Lots, Aerophilately, Thematics, Literature & Accessories plus a Coin & Banknote section

The joys of eBay and the problem of forgeries: Brian Austin

A recent email to me brought my attention to the joys of eBay and other online stamp auctions and the related problem of forgeries. eBay has done marvellous things for the philatelic community in that it has opened wondrous opportunities for acquiring those elusive items that are not readily available through the local philatelic scene or that do not show up easily in auctions. By the same token it has opened up a whole range of new scams and forgers to the market.

Forgeries of stamps and especially valuable stamps for collectors (as opposed to forgery to defraud the postal revenue) is certainly nothing new. It dates back to the early days of stamp collecting. Notable forgers such as Fournier are famous and strangely enough some of their forgeries are now worth as much as the genuine article. The Reverend Earee wrote a lovely set of books called *Album weeds* detailing forgeries (there is a copy in the PSWA library).

With modern printing technologies we are getting a new range of better grades of forgeries and with the online market place of eBay a new range of forgers out to make a quid. In a recent advice post from Zurich Asia, attention was drawn to a shady eBay vendor operating out of Taiwan selling classic Chinese stamps. All however were forgeries. Here are a couple of examples.

China 1913 Peking first print Hall of Classic \$10



MNH pair; VERY RARE.

Currently US\$157 + \$25 postage, 12 bidders

Very pretty and not a bad return for the seller

for what might worth a couple of dollars at most as a forgery

China imperial CIP colour proofs group of 8 on thick card papers; MLH; VERY RARE

Bidding finished at \$US725 + \$25 postage = \$750 = A\$987, from 17 bids. I hate to think what the “successful” bidder will do when he/she finds out that they are just cheap forgeries.



Glen Stephens in Stamp News Australasia is always railing on about the bargain hunters who are getting duped on eBay by cheap forgeries and things like these just support his arguments. Rare and expensive material should only be acquired from reputable sources, especially where it is a case of individual stamps.

This does not however that everything on eBay is a forgery. Lower and medium-priced items are usually not worthwhile to forgers. Items which are less often seen in the local scene can be more easily found. As an example, there were 639 lots of stamps of Azerbaijan there when I looked (and no, I do not collect Azerbaijan).

Bargains do exist if you know what you are looking for, especially down the roads less well travelled into the joys of specialized items.

As an example, I could quote the case of a cover that I bought some time back. I collect classic India and knowing something about the area enabled me to see something that others had missed. The item in question is an 1878 registered cover franked with the current 4 annas and 2 annas stamps of India in about average condition. It was nothing special and the price the vendor was asking was at the upper limit of what I would have normally paid for such a cover. However, there were a couple of features about it that lifted it out of the normal.



Hooked cross →

Bala Hissar →

The two features are: 1. The hooked cross marking next to the corner of the 4 annas stamp and 2. The posting office – Bala Hissar.

For those who have ventured far afield and visited Kabul in Afghanistan, then they would know that the city is overshadowed by a hill which has a palace sitting on top of it. That is the Bala Hissar. And for those who collect Afghan stamps and postal history they would know that the hooked cross is an Afghan manuscript postal cancellation.

What you have, in other words, is not just an average cover from India but India used abroad in Afghanistan during the Second Afghan War which ran from 1878-1880. As might be expected such items are not common and worth a premium. Needless to say, it now graces my collection. Admittedly it is a bit obscure for non-specialists in the area but looking for such items is part of the fun of collecting.

Items such as that however are fairly scarce to find but show that oddments can be found and are always worth looking out for. The difference between that and the classic Chinese forgeries is that many collectors think that they know what they are looking at when they see rare high value stamps going cheap and leap in where angels fear to tread. It is better to be sure when buying your blue chip and rely on recognized dealers rather than taking a punt on an eBay bargain. If buying on eBay temper your bidding to the lower value elusive items that are below the forger's interest or check on the seller and make sure that they are genuine. Happy hunting and watch out.

Whats in a Stamp?



I was the lucky bidder after what I must say was unexpected, heated bidding between myself and one other bidder.

Why may you ask was this an unexpected hot item????

The other bidder was keen on Post & Telegraph postal impressions of which this one in its entirety on cover is Rare.

I was keen on this cover due to its WA history and more importantly family history and background. The post card is

addressed to my aunt's grandmother which provides an important link. I missed out on one a couple of years ago and hence locked arm on this one.

The family owned much of the Balbarup lots for many years and the sale of the last block recently severed family ties however Postally and history wise I am maintaining our association with this district. Balbarup was originally gazzeted to be the main townsite in the area but the relocation on the railway to Jardee gave rise to relocation to what is now known as Manjimup.

SO !!!!! here we have it; a battle for the cover which eventually invoiced for over 400% of estimate.

Stamp Fun

For a bit of fun, we have created a word find with a list of philatelic words to look for. Happy hunting! Remember the words can go Up, Down, Backwards and Diagonal.

C	O	V	E	R	M	U	G	R	Z	D	U	O	I
A	E	R	O	P	H	I	L	A	T	E	L	Y	M
P	T	E	F	E	O	S	K	R	P	C	S	P	P
E	H	T	D	R	C	S	W	E	O	I	W	O	E
N	E	O	R	F	A	T	T	S	F	M	A	S	R
N	M	U	Y	I	C	N	P	M	L	A	N	T	F
Y	A	C	I	N	H	I	K	L	A	L	P	A	O
B	T	H	N	M	E	M	A	E	W	R	H	G	R
L	I	B	K	R	T	U	S	E	D	C	K	E	A
O	C	I	N	D	E	R	A	L	L	A	S	S	T
C	S	V	R	E	V	E	N	U	E	S	D	F	E
K	N	P	H	I	L	A	T	E	L	I	C	S	B
W	A	T	E	R	M	A	R	K	S	T	R	I	P
O	C	R	A	C	K	E	D	P	R	O	O	F	S

AEROPHILATELY

BLOCK

CACHET

CINDERALLAS

COVER

CRACKED

DECIMAL

DRY INK

FLAW

FRANKED

GUM

IMPERFORATE

MINT

OS

PENNY

PERFIN

PHILATELICS

POSTAGE

POSTMARKS

PROOFS

RARE

RETOUCH

REVENUES

STRIP

SWAN

THEMATICS

TPO

USED

WATERMARKS

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