

President's Message



Dear PSWA Members,

As this busy year progresses, I am pleased to report that our program of events is being very well supported by our members. For example, the June "Stamp Shed" demonstrated that our new initiatives have strong support with 35 people attending. A record. And, a very pleasing result.

There is more to come in the second half of the year with our Mini Stamp Fair in July and Stamp-It in August. A full program of our activities is listed on page 2, and the more general listing of all WA philatelic events on page 12. I look forward to catching up with you at all those events.

On a sad note, I report that we have lost two of our members recently, in Barry Wilkinson and Wilf Wells. Both made significant contributions to the PSWA, and philately more generally. They will be missed. Our condolences go out to their families.

In concluding, let me thank all those members who tirelessly help out with our activities. Little jobs help create big events. If you would like to help our dedicated volunteers, please give me a call.

Barbara Daniels.

President, PSWA.

2025 Stamp Mart Thrives

Another successful Stamp Mart was held at the South Perth Community Centre on Sunday 18 May 2025 with strong auction action and 12 dealers meeting the needs of collectors.



Some 573 lots were presented for sale in the auction which was expertly handled by Terry Finlayson in his characteristically efficient way.

The clearance rate was good at 51% with 26% of sales going at more than 60% above their reserve. Some 59% were sold at their reserve price.

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PSWA 2025

Office Bearers – 2025

Patron:	Mr Mel Peachey
President:	Mrs Barbara Daniels
Vice President:	Mr George Morris
Secretary:	Mr Gavin Woodward
Treasurer:	Mr Nigel Rainford
Committee Member:	Mr Roger Cumming
Committee Member:	Mr Paul Holman
Committee Member:	Mr Mark Leaman
Immediate Past President:	Mr Mel Peachey

Appointed positions:

Exchange Secretary:	Mr George Morris
Librarian:	Mr Mark Leaman
New Member Officer:	Mr Gavin Woodward
Auction Catalogue:	Mr Paul Holman
Auctioneer:	Mr Terry Finlayson
Webmaster:	Mrs Johanna Stafford
Auditor:	Mr Brian Austin
Stamp Hinges Editor:	Mr David Mazitelli

PSWA Events –Third Quarter 2025

Event	Date	Venue
Daytime Club	3 July	Subiaco
Library Day	5 July	Philatelic House
Philatelic Forum	7 July	Philatelic House
Mini Stamp Fair	13 July	Cannington
General Meeting	15 July	Philatelic House
Stamp Shed	18 July	Cannington
Library Day	2 August	Philatelic House
Philatelic Forum	4 August	Philatelic House
Daytime Club	7 August	Subiaco
Post Mark Circle	11 August	Philatelic House
Stamp Shed	15 August	Cannington
Stamp-It	17 August	South Perth
General Meeting	19 August	Philatelic House
Dollar Day	22 August	Cannington
Philatelic Forum	1 September	Philatelic House
Daytime Club	4 September	Subiaco
Library Day	6 September	Philatelic House
General Meeting	16 September	Philatelic House
Stamp Shed	19 September	Cannington

See page 12 for the **major philatelic events** in Western Australia for the balance of 2025 (as known at date of publication).

2025 Syllabus

1. PSWA General Meetings: held at 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm start on the third Tuesday of each month, at Philatelic House, 40 Lord Street, Perth.

Circuit books are available from 6.30 pm. A sale-by-tender is held at each meeting.

2. The Philatelic Forum: held at 7.30 pm on the first Monday of each month, except January, at Philatelic House, 40 Lord Street.

The Forum promotes philatelic exhibiting. Each meeting includes a “Displaying Tips” segment.

3. The Daytime Stamp Club: held at 1.00 pm on the first Thursday of each month, except January, at the Scout Hall, 399 Rokeby Rd, Subiaco.

Display, quiz, talk and a sale-by-tender are part of the program of each meeting.

4. Club Library Day: held from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on the first Saturday of the month at Philatelic House, 40 Lord Street, Perth.

5. Postmark Circle: meets on the second Monday of each quarter at 7.30pm at Philatelic House, 40 Lord Street, Perth.

Further information:

<https://www.pswa.asn.au/>

PSWA Stamp Sheds

Held monthly

9.30 am to 3.30 pm

18 July 2025

15 August 2025

19 September 2025

Cannington Exhibition Centre

Corner of Albany Highway and Station Street

Cannington, WA

“There’s always somebody available to ask”

PSWA General Meeting

April 2025

Bruce Haynes presented his collection of Japanese Occupation of the Netherlands East Indies (NEI) material which few had previously seen.



Following the Japanese invasion of NEI, Java was controlled by the 16th Army (HQ Jakarta), Sumatra by the 25th Army (HQ Singapore and from 1943 Bukittinggi), Borneo and the eastern islands by the Navy 2nd South Fleet (HQ Makassar). Each of these administrations followed different policies including postal administration.



The 16th Army did not overprint the current NEI stamps nor did it use those carrying the image of Queen Wilhelmina. Japanese stamps

current at the time were also valid for usage.

Sumatra was administered by the 25th Army from HQ Singapore until 1 April 1943 when it was divided into 10 provinces based on the previous Dutch administrative regions. Each province had its own Army commander and postal administration. During the period of the Singapore based administration Malayan stamps with Japanese overprints were used in Sumatra.

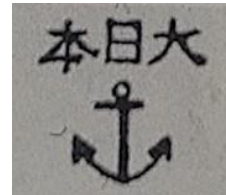


In the Naval Control Area postal arrangements, similar to Sumatra, were controlled locally with a

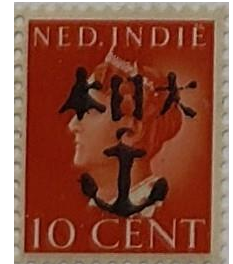
distinctive Anchor overprint being applied in various towns. Identification of the Naval Control hand-struck overprints is difficult, given the quality of the strikes.



Borneo strike




Lesser Sunda islands strike



The display concluded with a group of Japanese occupation stamps variously overprinted by the Republic of Indonesia following the Japanese defeat.

The reference document that deals with some of this complexity is: Bleeker, Tom, R. Japanese Occupation Issues of the Dutch East Indies (1942 - 1945).

Cockrill Series Booklets No 27.



— Serving collectors for over 50 years —



18th Edition
The World's Leading Guide for Australian Stamps 1850-2024

Personally endorsed, signed copies of Stamps of Australia - 18 are now available

Numerous new entries, some of which are intriguing if not enlightening, have been introduced to the 18th Edition's Pre- and Decimal general listings along with the overall content having been further streamlined, providing an enhanced, user-friendly experience.

For collectors of modern used, there is a nifty guide to removing those frustrating self adhesives that have micro-cuts within and, for the convenience of traders when buying, the new Annual Collections and Stamp Packs sections also include respective face-values in their content.

The market values throughout have been comprehensively revised, mostly downwards, presenting favourable opportunities for collectors. This is particularly the case for the Decimals including issues of the scarce, post-GFC period, onwards.

As the 18th Edition is effectively our price list, we invite collectors to take advantage and hopefully favour us with their custom (see our special offers in the catalogue) - please come visit or we can mail-order. Thank-you and enjoy, Mike.

Mickel Smits Philatelist

London Court Arcade, Suite 12A, Stairwell B

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P.O. Box 5652, St Georges Terrace PO, Perth 6831

Monday - Friday: 11.00am to 5.00pm, Saturday: 10.30am to 3pm

<https://www.smitsstampsandcoins.com.au/>

Daytime Stamp Club – 1 May 2025

Those attending the Daytime Stamp Club's May meeting were privileged to see an extensive and carefully written up display titled: 'Man and Whales'; all the work of the late Mike Adams; presented by John McPhee.

The display, of 76 pages, forms part of an even more extensive collection on the subject – but with space being limited, the additional material had to be held back.



The write up: 'Catalpa' 1879. cutting in. Another method was to cut in on floating pairs as shown below.

**Cutting in on
– Romania**



**floating pairs
4000 Lei**

The display also included a number of entires, including one posted from New York to Norwich (Connecticut) on 1 October 1845 seeking a list of stockholders in the Whaling Bank residing in the town of Norwich;



Relevant blocks and other philatelic material were included in the extensive collection:



Marshall Islands Whaleships block showing 'James Arnold', 'General Scott', 'Charles Morgan' and 'Lucretia'

As an aside, the display included a couple of postcards of the whaling vessel 'Catalpa' which sailed out of New Bedford, USA. The 'Catalpa' has an historical connection to Western Australia through the purchase of the vessel in 1876 by John Boyle O'Reilly, to undertake a raid on the penal colony of Western Australia and transport six escaped Fenians to freedom in the USA. Interestingly, John Boyle O'Reilly had escaped from a convict gang near Bunbury in 1869 and fled to the USA.

The success of the 'Catalpa' raid is memorialised in a sculpture, unveiled in September 2005, on the foreshore at Rockingham – the place where the six Fenians (the six wild geese) boarded the 'Catalpa'. Worth a stroll to take a look when you attend **SWANPEX** at the Rockingham Stamp Show on 3 August of this year.



The escape of the six wild geese – Rockingham

Postmark Circle

The second meeting of the rejuvenated Postmark Circle was held on Monday 12 May at Philatelic House. The topic for the evening was air mail postmarks.

Members brought along for display and comment a wide range of postmarks, on and off cover.

Of particular note were two very early airmail covers presented as part of Brian Austin's very extensive display. These were a Ballon Monte cover from the 1870 siege of Paris and a Henri Pequet cover from the 1911 United Provinces Exhibition in Allahabad.

The Ballon Monte

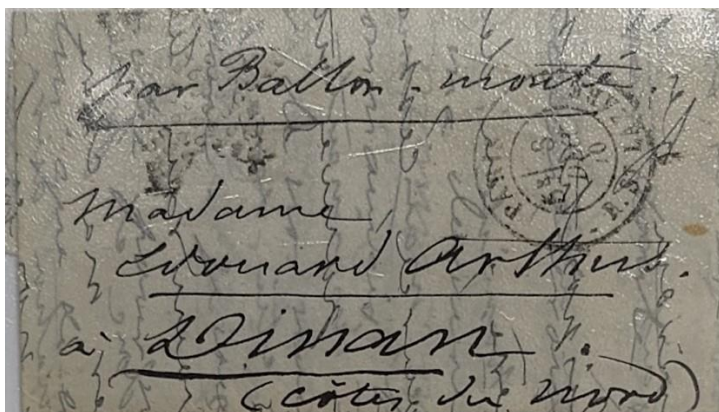
On July 16, 1870, France declared war on the North German Confederation led by the Kingdom of Prussia.

The ensuing Franco-Prussian War saw French troops invading German territory. However, German troops repelled the advance and subsequently invaded France.

By 19 September 1870, the Germans had laid siege to Paris.

With transportation cut an alternative mode of communication was established by using balloons. On 23 September 1870, the first balloon, *Le Neptune* lifted off from Paris with about 280 pounds of mail. In total some 66 balloons lifted off from Paris during the siege.

The cover below was one of those carried amongst the 66 flights.

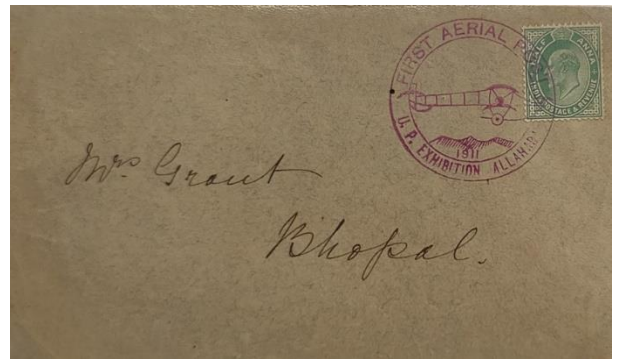


Ballon monte Paris to Dinant, France, 8 December 1870

The Allahabad Cover

The United Provinces Exhibition was an airshow held at Allahabad India in 1911. A highlight of the Exhibition was the world first official airmail carried by an aeroplane. French aviator Henri Pequet gave an exhibition of flying and on 18 February 1911, carried

about 6,500 letters and postcards from the Exhibition grounds in Allahabad across the Jumna River to Naini Junction, about 6 miles away, where he deposited the mails.



Henri Pequet, Allahabad to Jumna, India, 18 February 1911

Australia – PNG First Airmails

A number of covers stimulated a discussion on airmail rates to various locations in PNG without arriving at a firm resolution. Two of these are shown below:



Perth, WA to Port Moresby, PNG; 30 May 1938



Perth, WA to Rabaul, PNG; 30 May 1938

Sign up a New PSWA Member

Membership Application Forms
are available at the PSWA website:

<https://www.pswa.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/PSWA-Membership-Application-Form-2024.pdf>

Thrills and Spills of Writing Up an Exhibit

- Bruce Haynes

This piece is instead of the one that was to have created the excitement leading to all the international philatelic press citing Stamp Hinges as the source of news of the discovery of a new stamp.

Instead, it records the elation and depression of writing up an exhibit. Not the usual elation of finding something long forgotten you had and the depression of realising just how much is missing to complete your exhibit. Rather, the elation of finding a new stamp and the depression that it was not new.

I was looking for a cover to go on the bottom of the last page of my exhibit "*Maldiv Islands Postal Markings: First 100 Years*".

I saw a PPC I had used elsewhere to show posting from an outer atoll, carried privately to Male and posted to Italy. As I was writing it up, I noticed the stamp for the first time – it was surcharged 10 Ruffiah on 50 Ruffiah! Unlike many countries, Maldives does not surcharge stamps. In the early days the currency was stable so no need.

More recently, Maldives 'issues' a flood of commemorative stamps, so no need to surcharge existing stamps with a new value.

I looked up my Stanley Gibbons 2018 *Stamps of the World* and saw they list 4,276 stamps issued up to 2016 by Maldives, but no surcharges. The 50 Ruffiah stamp was issued in 1998 and the PPC was posted in February 2001. Elation, I had discovered a new stamp. I emailed a knowledgeable local philatelist (the Editor) to ask to confirm my find. Depression, he located a listing on:

https://colnect.com/en/stamps/list/overprint_variant/1004458.

I now think that Maldives made a rate change in late 2000 (I do not have access to a comprehensive list of historic Maldives postal charges) that produced an increased demand for 10 Ruffiah stamps.

The Philatelic Agency that produces Maldives' stamps had, amongst all their commemorative issues for 2000, issued 44 10 Ruffiah commemoratives. In all probability those commemoratives did not reach the outlying atoll postal agencies, just like most of Australia Post 'product' does not reach country post offices.

So, if there were a shortage of 10 Ruffiah stamps, the Maldives Government could have arranged a surcharge on the 50 Ruffiah stamp and issued it to cover demand until a 10 Ruffiah flower definitive was issued (I have that stamp used on a PPC sent to WA, posted 12 July 2001).

Because the Philatelic Agency did not produce the stamp, it did not notify the philatelic press or catalogues, so Stanley Gibbons did not include it in their catalogue.

Whoever said stamp collecting is boring?

I have still included the PPC in my exhibit.

To see it, visit SWANPEX at Rockingham Community Centre on 3 August 2025.

Australian Virtual Philatelic Exhibition Initiative

The Australian Philatelic Federation (APF) has established an Online initiative which will provide a virtual platform for competitive exhibiting. This innovation will utilize the Internet for the benefit of exhibitors, in Australia and world-wide.

Established as the Australian Virtual Philatelic Exhibition (AUSVIPEX 2025) it shows how traditional hobbies can flourish in a technology-driven era.

AUSVIPEX will unite stamp enthusiasts, collectors, and exhibitors from Australia and around the globe by leveraging the power of the Internet.

The first event is scheduled to take place from 27 November 2025, to 28 February 2026.

Entries close on Sunday 28 September 2025.

Title Pages are to be with the Judges by Monday 5 October 2025.

Scans are to be submitted by Monday 20 October 2025.

As a national virtual exhibition, it offers collectors the opportunity to exhibit their philatelic collections online, eliminating the need for physical attendance. This format not only broadens accessibility, but also allows for a diverse range of exhibits to be displayed to a global audience.

Exhibits must be of 2-8 frames based on 16 sheets (approximately 28-29 cm x 23 cm each) per frame.

There is no One Frame class available.

More detail at: <https://ausvipex2025.com/>