

The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J
P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

Now in our 87th year

April 2017



Diary of Future Events

With luck, you will get this newsletter in time to remind you about *Melbourne 2017*

The Melbourne 2017 Stamp show will be an international stamp exhibition. The venue is the Caulfield Racecourse Function room from Thursday March 30 to Sunday April 2. Tickets \$10 for one day or \$25 for all four days. There will be 60 dealer tables and 1400 frames of exhibits. ~ www.melbourne2017.com.au

April 4 Tuesday Member Display by John Armstrong. Topic: "It's a secret!"

*** Don't forget The Lois Whatley treasure hunt entries are due in at our April meeting. This year we are going to collect the entries in APRIL. They will be judged and the winner announced in MAY when we can view all entries and compare what we entered with the entries of other members.

April 5 Wednesday First Daytime Meeting

May 2 Tuesday Results and Viewing of Lois Whatley Competition

May 3 Wednesday Daytime meeting

June 6 Tuesday Philatelic Quiz

June 7 Wednesday Daytime meeting

July 4 Tuesday President's Display

July 5 Wednesday Daytime meeting

August 1 Tuesday All members one sheet display on their favourite topic

August 2 Wednesday Daytime meeting

August 12 Saturday Bendigo Stamp Fair

Alas! None of us are getting any younger. As winter draws closer some of our members are finding it difficult to come out at night for our meetings. This month we begin to address this thanks to a new initiative from our club secretary, Bob Hayes. The morning after our evening meeting, there will be a daytime meeting, open to all. Further details are in this newsletter.

This month also saw the change of club president. That story can also be found here along with a report from another very enjoyable visit to our friends at the St Arnaud stamp club.

Happy reading!

The general monthly meetings of the Bendigo Philatelic Society are held 7.30pm at "Kalianna", 200 Nolan St., Bendigo.

Auctions will be held at all meetings
EXCEPT JULY, NOVEMBER and MAY
5 items per member are allowed for auctions
except in December when **10 items per member**
are allowed for the Christmas bonanza.

Exchange sheets will be circulated at all meetings.

CLUB CONTACTS:

President: *Libby Luke*

Secretary/Treasurer: *Bob Hayes*

Ph: 0407 421 940 **email:** bobh@netcon.net.au

Webmaster: tomluke@westnet.com.au

Web page: ww.bendigophilatelicsociety.org

Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/zb2ma53>

Newsletter Editor: *John Armstrong*
email: jjarmstrong47@hotmail.com

The Changing of the Guard

This month saw David Cotton step down after ten years as president and new president, Libby Luke take up the reins. We had a small ceremony to show our appreciation of the work David has done as president and to welcome Libby to her new role. Hopefully, we didn't embarrass David too much.

David Somerton, Ken Datson and Tom Luke all spoke of the way the club has grown under David's direction. Tom added that despite David's retirement, the "Cornish Bard" and the "Ten Pound Pom" would still meet for coffee on Thursdays.

Libby presented gifts on behalf of the club members including a framed certificate announcing that we had voted David a Life Member of the club.

David's response was to hand over to Libby the dreaded "Clacker" that he has used to gain members' attention at meetings, this being as close as we get to an official badge of office.

Needless to say, David had a final message, "Keep those exchange sheets coming!"

President's message



As this is my first Presidential report, I would like to begin with Three big Thank Yous.

Firstly to David Cotton for his wonderful service over the last 10 years.

Secondly to Bob Hayes my right hand man, who I look forward to working with.

Thirdly to our new Newsletter Editor John Armstrong whose efforts enable you to have this newsletter to read.

The month of March brought a couple of mile stones for two of our members, both 1937 babies. Viv Martin on 18th and David Cotton on the 30th. "Happy Birthday" Boys!

This brings me to a big event - The 2017 - International Stamp Exhibition, held over 4 Days (30th of March till the 2nd of April) at the Caulfield Race Ground. A must for all stamp collectors.

Now back to our club, April is the month for handing in our Lois Whateley entries, which I hope we have all completed, there is a couple of tricky ones this year.

Being well trained by the master David Cotton I will close with !!! every month we need lots of "Exchange Sheets" and in the appropriate months "Auction Lots" remember "One Woman's junk is another Woman's Treasure".

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Libby.

A message from our newest life member



I was quite taken aback by the very sincere thanks offered to me at our Presidential handover.

Receiving a Life Membership was a great honour, furthest from my mind and the added extra of a gift voucher for a visit to Balgownie Winery is gratefully acknowledged. I will have to be careful that my hinges do not have a "touch of red taste" attached to them.

The kind words of Tom, Ken and David are much appreciated and Libby's stampified wrapping paper added a thoughtful touch. Be careful with my exchange

sheets - I may try to perforate and sell some of the wrapping paper and see if anyone buys it. !

Receiving thanks for something that you enjoy doing is really a bonus and I certainly enjoy being part of our stamp club.

It is OUR stamp club and we need now to give Libby all our support and encouragement so that we continue to thrive.

Thank you.



Extra Meeting of the Bendigo Philatelic Society.

For a trial period beginning in April, BPS will be providing a DAYTIME meeting opportunity for members and others.

Members should note that that this not an alternative or substitute to our normal monthly meeting.

All Society business and activities will continue to be conducted primarily at our scheduled 1st Tuesday in the month meetings 7.30 at Kalianna.

The main function of daytime meetings is to provide an opportunity for members, potential members and others who are unable to attend our evening meetings to continue to pursue their collecting interests through the Society.

Members are welcome to attend both meeting times.

Daytime meetings will not be formal meetings.

It is anticipated that the basic programme for these daytime meetings will be

- a short update on Society activities, notices etc.
- a short presentation, workshop or display.
- Exchange sheets (the main activity).

Venue: Golden Square Hall 9 Old High St.
(Bendigo Field Naturalists Club rooms)
(Behind the Golden Square Fire Station)

Date: Wednesday April 5th. (1st meeting)
Then every 1st Wednesday of the month)

Time: 10.00am

Coffee, Tea, biscuits etc, available throughout the meeting.

The venue has lots of free parking, has ground floor and ramp access and is close to a bus stop in High



Newsletter Archive

In building the digital archive, there are quite a number of Newsletters required. At the present time these are the only issues scanned to disk:

1971 - Vol 1 No. 4 ~ July only	1980 - July only	2008-2016 Complete
1973 - Vol 1 No. 8 ~ July only	1981 - July only	
1974 - Vol 1 No. 9 ~ January only	2007 - November-December only	

If members have copies of any missing issues, Viv would greatly appreciate it if you would be willing to *loan* for scanning (and they then *will be returned* to you).

Please contact *Viv Martin*. Ph: 03 5439 3655 email: vivmartin37@gmail.com

BPS annual visit to the St Arnaud Stamp Club.

10 members travelled to St Arnaud on the evening of March 20th for our annual visit to the St Arnaud Stamp Club.

Following a welcome and introductions the 15 collectors present and Tom Luke, (still insisting that he is not a collector) settled into an interesting evening of activities.

St Arnaud members displayed a variety of albums and collections for viewing.

Libby Luke presented a carefully chosen selection of stamps with a Cornish connection and David Somerton presented an excellent display of the colour variations of George V definitives, together with an explanation of the use of ultra violet light as an examination tool.

A 12 question quiz with an emphasis on Australian stamps together with an associated reversal raffle was presented by Bob Hayes and the evening's activities concluded with an auction, 29 of the 60 lots offered were sold, realising \$82

A bountiful and sumptuous supper provided by the St Arnaud members rounded off an excellent visit.

Special thanks to our bus driver – David Somerton



*No, it's not the reunion of the class of 19**. Bendigo and St Arnaud members thought a formal photograph was a good idea. I agree!*

Why the post office is losing money

Our members don't miss much. Noel Earles sent me a picture, shown at right, that gives a clue as to why the post office can't seem to make a profit.

This was the design set pack that Australia Post released for Christmas 2013. It sold well until Australia Post suddenly withdrew it from sale.

Rumours flew around that the withdrawal was due to a missing colour on one of the stamps, possibly referring to the white gown Mary is wearing which some thought should have been a lighter blue than the sash.

Noel is of the opinion that there is a far simpler explanation.

If you add up the denominations you get a total of \$6.50. AP were selling this for \$5.95 which means they were giving away one of the 55c stamps free!



Aargh! I left my magnifier at home!

A lot of us as we get older find that technology is leaving us behind. We see the young people scrambling to get the latest electronic gadget and find ourselves wondering, "What's the point?" Personally, I like what technology can do for us though some of its uses, such as Twitter and Facebook leave me cold. My kids seem to spend all day sharing every minute detail of their lives with their "friends" and I sometimes think there should be more to life when you are young than that. The world is changing fast, that's for sure, but some of the changes can be useful, even to an old fogey like me. Like many of us, my mobile phone goes with me almost everywhere.

I just read that the new operating system for iPhones, which I believe is called iOS 10, has a setting to turn your phone into a magnifying glass. Apparently to access this you go to Settings - General - Accessibility and then click on magnifier and turn it on. Brightness and colour can also be controlled by pressing the home button three times.

It all sounded a bit complicated so I rang my son as unfortunately, although I taught him how to build his first computer, he now knows more than his "old man". He wasn't particularly impressed. He suggested that all modern phones have that ability. iPhone have simply made it seem more accessible. It is quite simple if you have a camera on your phone to use that any time you need a magnifier. He has an iPhone and a Samsung and both give similar results. I have a Sony so the pictures here are done with that.

So next time you need to look closely at a stamp to check a flaw or detail and haven't got a magnifier handy, all you do is turn on the camera in your mobile phone as if you were going to take a photo and point it at the stamp. The screen will look like figure 1.

Next holding your index and middle finger together, touch them on the screen and separate them, making sure they both rub across the screen away from each other. This moves the camera into close-up. Next you just need to move the phone backwards or forwards until you get a good focus as in figure 2. You can, of course, press the camera button and photograph what you are seeing so that you can study it at leisure.



Figure 1



Figure 2



BENDIGO Stamp Fair Saturday

12th August 2017

10am - 4pm

Local & Melbourne
Stamp and Coin Dealers

St Andrews

Uniting Church Hall

24 Myers Street Bendigo

Free Entry

Food and Drinks Available

Bendigo Philatelic Society Inc

P.O. Box 962 Bendigo Central, Vic. 3552