

The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J

P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

Now in our 87th year

June 2017



Diary of Future Events

June 6	Tuesday	Philatelic Quiz. "How well do you know your Australian stamps?" Most questions relate to Australian stamp issues. Bring a pen/pencil. Great prizes!
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

Maryborough Stamp Fair

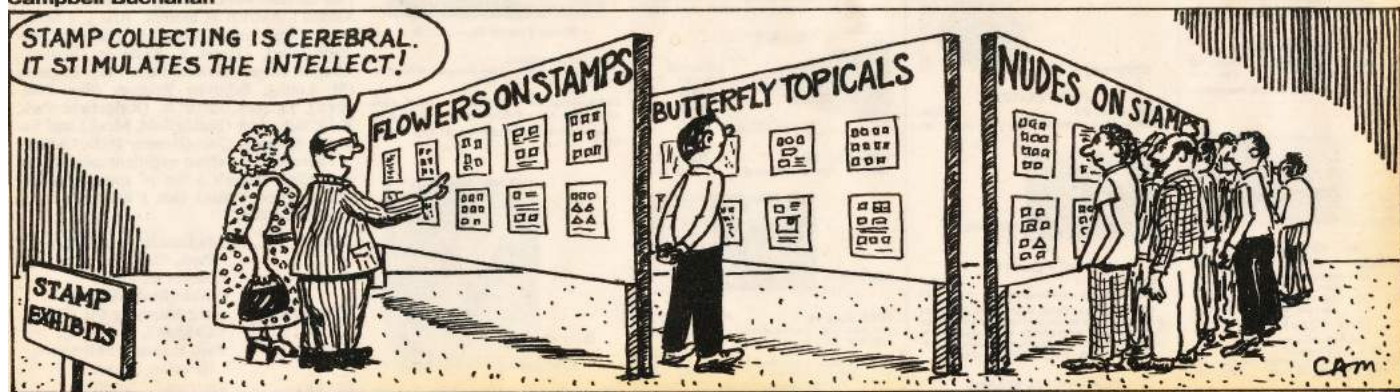
On the twenty-ninth of April quite a few Bendigo members travelled to Maryborough for their club stamp fair and judging by the comments of those who went, the trip was well worth-while. Maryborough is a smaller club than Bendigo which means less people, each doing more work.

Those at Bendigo who have been involved in our own fairs will tell you that such things do not just happen. The planning, booking venues and dealers, arranging catering and the myriad other tasks start well before the day and continue after the fair is ended.

Our club members all left with depleted wallets but new treasures to add to their collections. Their smiles said it all. The sellers all seemed to be fairly busy all day as well so we can only hope their day was profitable.

Congratulations, Maryborough. It was a sterling effort once again.

Campbell Buchanan



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

Extra Daytime Meeting 1st Wed at Golden Square.

Auctions will be held at all meetings

EXCEPT MAY, JULY and NOVEMBER

5 items per member are allowed for auctions *except in December* when *10 items per member* are allowed for the Christmas bonanza auction.

Exchange sheets will be circulated at all meetings.

CLUB CONTACTS:

President: *Libby Luke*

Secretary/Treasurer: *Bob Hayes*

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President's message June 2017



How the months fly by nearly half way through the year !!!
Another successful meeting in May with a fantastic multi-media display on Engravers of Stamps by our John Armstrong.
Thanks John you held us all enthralled and a lot wiser.

Wow what a response to our Daytime Meeting !!!
This was only our second meeting and we had 14 attendees.
Thank you to those who came and we hope you all had a productive morning with many bargains purchased
Our next Daytime meeting will be Wednesday 7th June at 10AM.
Come along, bring your friends, have a cuppa and biscuit and enjoy the friendship whilst purchasing your treasures.

Should you know anyone who would like their collection assessed we would love to see them.

Your President was interviewed on Phoenix Radio with a view to promoting Stamp Collecting and our Annual Stamp Fair on 12th August.

Remember our next Meetings on Evening of Tuesday 6th June or Morning of 7th June we look forward to seeing you all.

Happy Stamping ...Libby.

Giant Gold Coin Stolen!

Although we are a stamp club, it is obvious from the club auctions that quite a few members also collect coins so this seems relevant.

In 2007, Canada produced a million dollar solid gold coin. It was made to order and only five were struck, one of which went to the Bode Museum in Berlin. The coin weighs 100kg so by today's prices they are worth around AUD five million, just as bullion.

This month, thieves broke into the museum and stole the coin from its case. It seems that they used a ladder to access a rear window that backed onto the railway tracks. How they then got a 100kg lump out has not been disclosed but it must have taken more than one person to handle that sort of weight. Unfortunately, the coin would have had to be melted down to dispose of it.

Meanwhile it is suggested that the coin collectors amongst our members prepare their alibis for the last month, just in case.

Million dollar coins are a test of a mint's ability. In Australia, the Perth Mint made it into the Guinness Book of Records by minting a *one tonne* pure gold coin, again with a nominal value of a million dollars but containing twelve million dollars worth of gold. It is apparently on display in the mint's Gold Exhibition and is a major tourist attraction.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-39409754>

<http://www.perthmint.com.au/1-tonne-gold-coin.aspx>



The stolen coin seen above hasn't shown up on eBay yet.



The Australian coin

The First of June: Happy Birthday to Tom, John, John and Norma

“I must go down to the sea again, to the lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by,
And the wheel’s kick and the wind’s song and the white sails shaking,
And a grey mist on the sea’s face and a grey dawn breaking.”

On the First of June, both your newsletter editor (that’s me) and our webmaster, Tom Luke, share our birthdays with John Masefield, who wrote that poem. I’ll be turning seventy and I’m not sure if Tom’s telling but it’s at least that many.

Sharing your birthday with someone shouldn’t really be surprising as if you do the maths, you share your birthday with roughly sixteen and a half million people alive today. But apart from John Masefield, who not everyone has heard of, or should I say, “of whom not everyone has heard”, well, he was the Poet Laureate, after all, we also share our birthday with another better known person, Norma Jeane Mortenson.

Though she used the Mortenson surname, her mother had already divorced Martin Mortenson and moved on before she became pregnant with Norma and she never knew who was her real father. Often when she was young, she used her mother’s maiden name of Baker. She was passionate about acting.

Her life changed completely when she changed her name to Marilyn Monroe and that, of course, is the name by which most of us knew her. This First of June will be her ninety-first birthday so I suppose that, even if she had survived till now, she would probably be looking at different acting roles. Centre-fold photos would be right out!



The studios liked to cast her as a dumb blonde, but she was actually neither. She was a natural brunette and very intelligent, using her intelligence to take on the studio bosses to break the typecasting and have a say in the films she made. Not all her films were great but the best of them were classics. She was a perfectionist who sometimes drove the studios mad by insisting on retakes if she thought they were not good enough.

In 1955, the popular Mocambo Club, in Hollywood, refused to book Ella Fitzgerald because she was black. Marilyn was a great admirer of Ella but rather than making a big fuss in public, she went to see the club manager. Marilyn promised that every night Ella played there, she would book a front table and bring her friends. One week later, Ella performed there, a huge step forward in the fight against segregation.



I must have been about seven or eight when I found out that she had “my” birthday and from then on, I was irrevocably in love with her. I’d just turned fifteen when she died and to my surprise, on hearing the news, found I was not too old to cry.



Fifty five years after her death, it seems we still can't get enough of Marilyn Monroe.

What's in a name?



Czech engraver, Jindra Schmidt and the artist/designer Max Svabinsky were close friends who worked together on many stamps. When WW2 ended, Jindra began signing his stamps Jindra S. after he overheard someone commenting on his German surname. Svabinsky thought this was silly and they argued, good-naturedly about it over the years. Jindra was devastated when Max died but later got to design and engrave a set of stamps for Svabinsky's birth centenary engraving miniatures of some of Svabinsky's better known art pieces.

In honour of his friend, he signed this set Jindra Schmidt.

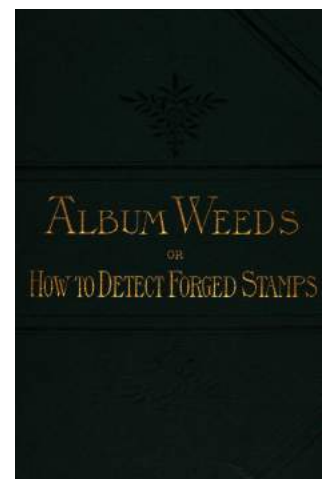
A Classic Forgery Reference

It is an unfortunate byproduct of our hobby that as stamps became more valuable, there were always those willing to dupe collectors by forgery. Strangely enough, some of the more famous forgeries are now worth more than the stamps that they imitated but we should be used to the idiosyncrasies of our hobby by now. After all, stamp and coin collectors are the only ones who are willing to pay more for something that is faulty. In almost every other field a flaw or fault commands a discount.

There have been a few discussions on forgeries around the club lately and unfortunately the changes in the way we buy our stamps has seen many of these come to light. Where once most of us would buy from a favourite stamp shop run by a dealer with years of experience, these are mostly gone now, unable to compete with the online market where sellers have no rent to pay and do not need to have extensive stock to open a store.

Many of the sellers online have no in-depth knowledge and it is very common to see old forgeries being offered as genuine. For the older forgeries, there is one reference that stands out and can help you from getting caught. It was published in 1882 by the Rev. Robert Brisco Earée and is called Album weeds.

Though original copies are hard to find, the entire book has been scanned to pdf and is available as a free download from several sites. Try typing "Album Weeds pdf" into Google. It really is a valuable resource for checking the earliest issues from your country of choice.



Extra Daytime Meeting of the Bendigo Philatelic Society.

If you are unable to get to our regular evening meeting, or want more time to pursue your collecting interests, we now have a daytime meeting on the morning after our main meeting.

Members are welcome to attend both meeting times. Daytime meetings will not be formal meetings.

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

Date and time: Wednesday June 7th. at 10.00am
(Then every 1st Wednesday of the month)

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 street. Further details if required from Bob Hayes 0407 421940 or bobh@netcon.net.au

Terry Clohesy at City Central Newsagency 5 Queen St. Bendigo will give BPS members a minimum 5% discount on Albums, Stock Books, Album pages, etc. and also on a range of Numismatic albums etc.

Members must show your current membership tag.

For Sale

One of our members is offering the following items for sale.

AUSTRALIAN COLLECTIONS x 3

1. Decimal collection, MUH complete 1966 to 2017 neatly compiled on Hagner sheets plus almost complete parallel FU collection plus MUH AAT collection complete 1981 to 2017 plus substantial pre decimal collection.

Offered as a package.

2. Decimal collection similar to above, without the pre decimal collection.

3. Decimal collection similar to collection 2, without the AAT collection.

Collections offered individually or as a whole.

Further details from the BPS Secretary.

Newsletter Archive

In building the digital archive, there are quite a number of Newsletters required. Many thanks to Tom Glazebrook and particularly to Ken Datson taking us back to October 2004. At the present time these are the only issues scanned to disk:

1971 ~ Vol 1 No.4 ~ JULY only

1973 ~ Vol 1 No.8 ~ JULY only

1974 ~ Vol 1 No.9 ~ JANUARY only

1980 ~ JULY only

1981 ~ JULY only

October 2004 to present - complete (or will be when scanning is finished!)

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



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