



The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J

P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

Now in our 89th year
November 2019



Web page: www.bendigophilatelicsociety.org Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/zb2ma53>

Diary of Future Events

Tuesday November 5 Club Competitions
 Wednesday November 6 Daytime Meeting
 Tuesday December 3 Christmas Party and Special Auction
 Wednesday December 4 Daytime Meeting

Please Note: The daytime meeting is on the Wednesday after the main meeting. This is not always the first Wednesday of the month

President's Message November 2019

Well another Society Financial year has passed and all reports from Secretary, Treasurer and Exchange Superintendant showed our Society is in a healthy financial and social environment.

Election of Officers for the year to October 2020 resulted in all positions being filled and will be reported in another article in this Newsletter.

A big thank you to all Committee and members for your attendance and excellent contributions during 2019.

It is the season for Stamp Fairs and Auctions. Our members went by bus to attend and support Maryborough in their Annual Auction. Our Sister Club from Ballarat was also in attendance.

Members attended the Geelong Stamp Fair on the 12th November and then Ballarat on the 13th. Both fairs were well organized and we offer our congratulations to both Societies.

I will be attending the Warragul Stamp Club Auction on the 26th of October.

In 2020 we are looking forward to organizing a one page popular vote competition and naming it in memory of our former Secretary/Treasurer Roman Lemega. Please put on your thinking caps as to a suitable format that can encompass all members.

Exchange Sheets please we need to fill the hole left by the passing of 3 of our regular providers.

Take care...Libby.



The general monthly meetings of the BPS are held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm at

**Old Long Gully School (now CVGT)
Cnr Stanfield and Jackson Streets, Long Gully**

Extra Daytime Meeting at Golden Square on the Wednesday after the main Tuesday meeting.

Auctions will be held at all Tuesday meetings
EXCEPT NOVEMBER

10 items per member are allowed for auctions
Christmas bonanza auction in **December**.

Exchange sheets will be circulated at all meetings. More sheets are always needed so please "lick and stick" a few.

CLUB CONTACTS:

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Club News: AGM and our New Webmaster

October saw our Annual General Meeting which was a very civilised affair with all of the office-bearer's reports being accepted. There was only one change of committee members from last year due to the resignation of Tom Luke as webmaster. Dave Robinson was elected to this position unopposed. We welcome Dave to the committee and look forward to his input.

Members will receive minutes with full details by further email.

The committee has decided that we will phase out the use of disposable plastic cups. All members are urged to bring their own cup from now on.

Finally, there was a reminder that the \$30 membership fees are now due.

Important Auction Reminder

Members are reminded that details of all items for the club auctions must be finalised with the treasurer by the 25th of the preceding month. Items will not be accepted after that date. Please note that there is no auction in November due to club competitions

Some thoughts on our club competitions

Our club currently has three annual competitions for members to participate in. They are The Len Bennett memorial open competition, John Tresise thematic competition and Lois Whatley "Treasure Hunt".

Display and Judging of the Bennett and Tresise events takes place annually at November meetings.

SO.....BRING YOUR ENTRY TO OUR NEXT MEETING

Len Bennett and John Tresise were members of the club in the 1950/1980 period and very good philatelists. The Club set up competitions about 1980 to honour them (exact details need some historical research). Lois Whatley was club Secretary/Treasurer for over 20 years until she died suddenly in 2007. The club already had a non-competitive "Scavenger Hunt" type event on its programme and changed this to an annual "Treasure Hunt" because Lois was a "treasure".

The entries for this event are handed in each April and judged by last years winner. The Whatley trophy is less philatelic and more a general search for subjects on stamps. The club committee is currently ruminating over the future direction of these competitions.

How can we get more participation?

Do we need another competition aimed at attracting "novice" members?

Should judging of the Bennett and Tresise entries be by a vote from all members?

Do we need more education of members as to what an "open entry" and a "thematic entry" are?

Do we need club competitions at all?

The committee welcomes all ideas and comments in writing to President Libby (E Mail writing is OK !). by our February 2020 meeting. These can then be considered at the March committee meeting and put before the club members when the 2020 Lois Whatley competition result is announced at the May meeting.

Please...SHOW us your collection...What have you got hidden. What's the point of collecting if you don't show off?

David Cotton

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 meetings. Daytime meetings are not formal meetings.

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

Date and time: 10 am Every Wednesday following the Tuesday night meeting)

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 can be obtained from the club secretary.

Remembering the Boer War

From Grey Loyer, Maryborough.

Because it was overshadowed by two world wars, the Boer War is not as cemented in our national consciousness as those two, yet it was the first time Australia sent troops to war as part of a British Empire force. Covers from the war, though not necessarily rare, can be expensive so mounting a display of Boer War philately can require very deep pockets. This cover from the British occupation of Transvaal is currently available online for just under three hundred dollars.



Makefing was besieged by the Boers from 12th October 1899 to 17th May, 1900, and although 'cut-off from the outside world', the Post Office continued to operate with 'letters to be delivered' after the siege.



The remaining stocks of stamps from the Cape of Good Hope Colony, and from the Bechuanaland Protectorate were overprinted: "MAFEKING BESIEGED" in early 1900, and when these stocks were depleted the Post Office in Mafeking designed and issued two stamps, one showing Cadet Sergt Major Goodyear on a bicycle, and the other showing a portrait of General Baden Powell. (The Boy Scout movement grew out of the Mafeking siege.) Nearly all the above mentioned stamps are very valuable with prices ranging from \$100 to \$200,000!



Only the Colony of Victoria, and the Colony of New Zealand issued stamps in 1900 in support of the Boer War although there were some cinderellas from other countries issued to raise patriotic funds such as this one produced by the Manchester Philatelic Society.

A Mad Look At Stamps

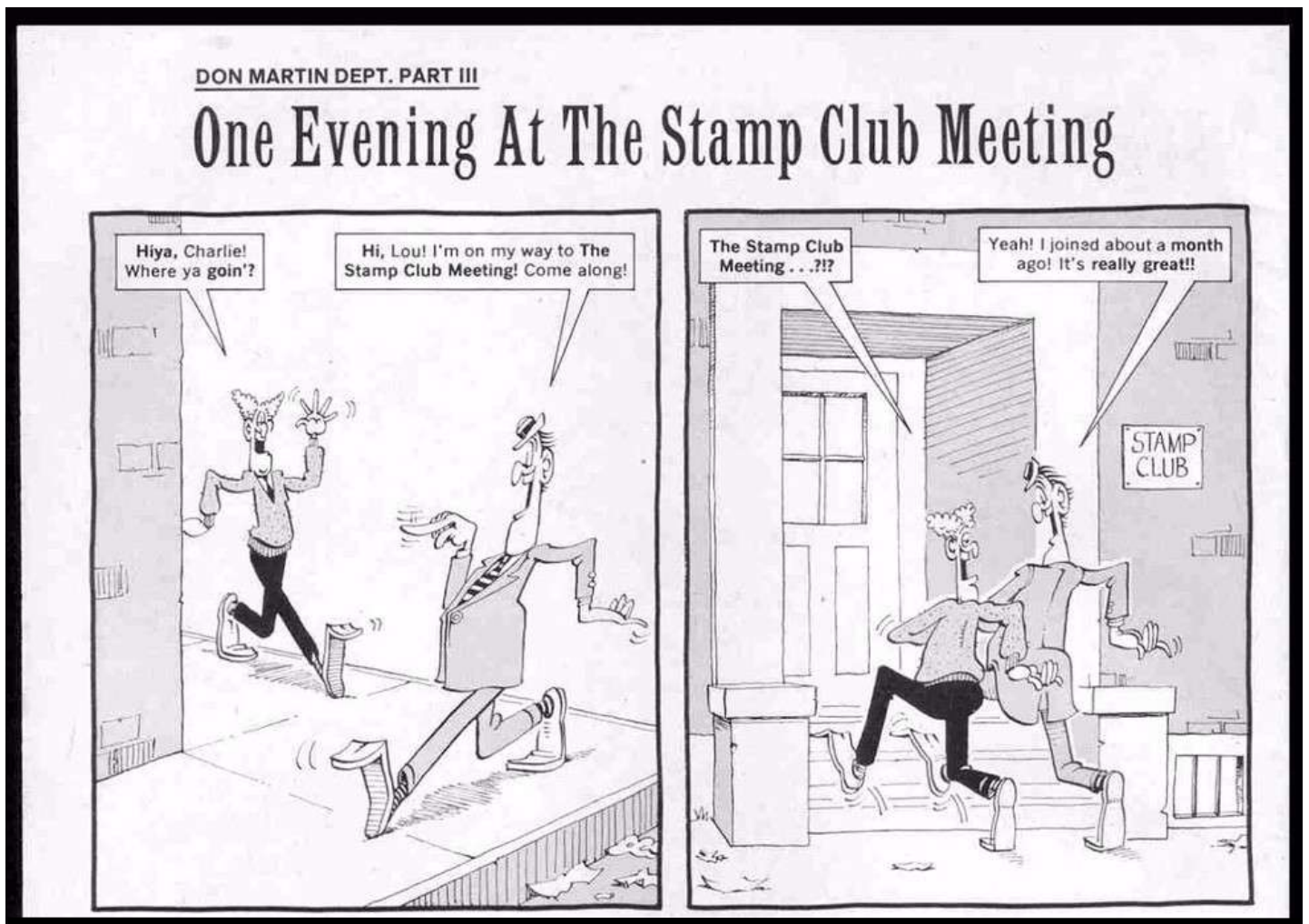
When this editor was a boy of thirteen living in England, he did a paper round. Once a month, all the clients in the second half of the run would complain that their paper was late. One of them would complain directly to me. He was my Geography teacher and, incidentally, the only Australian I had ever met. He would give me a stern look and say, "Armstrong! My Times was late this morning."

Eventually, my boss worked out what was happening. I was always late finishing on the day that the Mad Magazine came out as I had to deliver it to one of the customers and couldn't resist reading it. I could never have afforded my own copy in those days.

I thought I was going to get the sack but my boss was a more lateral thinker than that and generally, I did a good job. We agreed that I would not stop to read the magazine on my run but when I finished the afternoon run, I was free to stay back at the shop and read whatever I liked - in my own time, of course.

My love of Mad Magazine hasn't waned over the years. Their anarchic, irreverent humour matched what I saw as funny, and still do. Political correctness had not been invented back then. It might even have been some form of preparation for coming to Australia where I quickly learned that being called a Pommy B**** was simply a test and could even be a term of endearment.

My friend, Ed (who also collects comics) sent me a Mad cartoon from the December 1974 issue, drawn by the inimitable Don Martin. I thought I would share it.



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They asked him what was the secret of his living to be a hundred. "Well", he said, "I was only twenty when I got married and my wife and I agreed that if we ever argued, the loser would go for a long walk to calm down. I guess all that fresh air and exercise was good for me."

Fair Dinkum Aussie Alphabet Stamps

News from Paul Brownlie

We can now see what is depicted on the last of the Aussie Alphabet stamps. As in the past, there are more items whose names begin with the letter than initially meet the eye. As for the humour, well, the Ironman is hard to beat!



At the recent Maryborough Stamp Club auction, Paul bought a first day cover of the first peel and stick stamp issued in Australia. The stamp featured cycling and Paul was particularly taken by the postmark in the shape of a bicycle. In discussing this with other members over supper, it turned out that several members had covers where the postmark fitted the stamp. Apparently someone has a Denise Drysdale stamp on cover that has been post-marked at Drysdale. Paul suggests that members might like to show a scan of their item here and to get the ball rolling, here is his cover.



SELF-ADHESIVE STAMPS

The Postcard is 150 years old

The world's first postcard was sent on the first of October 1869 in Austria-Hungary. Since then, millions of postcards have been sent across the world as a quick message to loved ones. Sometimes they might have enticing pictures of exotic places with the note "Wish you were here", perhaps inducing the slightest twinge of jealousy from the recipient.

Postcards are still popular, despite the ability these days to send instant pictures of places we visit. When I travelled, I usually beat the cards home but that did not diminish the joy they carried.



Wish you were here (Loch Lomond)

There is a hobby that is closely allied to philately and it is called "post-crossing".

A few of our members are involved in this. You may not have heard of it but at this time, there are over seven hundred and eighty thousand members in over two hundred countries who regularly send postcards to other members, often chosen at random. Over fifty four million cards have been received, currently at a rate of over five hundred per hour.

If this sounds like something you would like to explore, you can read all about it at <https://www.postcrossing.com/>

Paul Brownlie and John Armstrong

DON MARTIN DEPT. PART III

One Evening At The Stamp Club Meeting



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BIOGRAPHY: Frank Davies Manley

My friend, Adrian Keppel, is a philatelic writer who lives in Scotland. As well as writing for Stamp Magazine he also maintains an online blog dedicated to the world's stamp engravers. He recently wrote an article about Australia's most prolific stamp engraver, Frank Manley and as it contained a lot of information I had not read before, I asked if we could repeat it for the interest of our members and he agreed. Thanks, Adrian.

Frank Davies Manley (1894-1976) is rightly regarded as one of Australia's eminent stamp engravers, and designers, but he was actually from England, having been born in Lambeth, London on 24 October 1894. It was his schoolmaster who noticed his evident talent to reproduce the essence of any image with just a few lines.

Frank had lost his father when he was only nine years old and this schoolmaster stepped into the breach, and arranged for a charity to pay for the fee needed to get Frank an apprenticeship at De La Rue.

Frank was only fifteen when he started a seven-year apprenticeship as an engraver. His teacher at De La Rue would be Thomas Duffell and their boss John Ash; men who would soon recognise Manley's talent and who would be pivotal in giving him his break later on in life.

During these years, Manley would receive additional education at London's Central School of Art & Crafts and the Bolt Court School of Engraving & Lithography. His education was cut short because of World War One, and Manley never finished it after the war had ended.

Manley worked in the publishing industry for about a decade and then got the opportunity of his lifetime when he was asked to start engraving for the Commonwealth Bank Note Printing Branch in Melbourne, Australia. Aforementioned John Ash was manager at the printers' and he had already lured Duffell to Australia. When business really took off, a second engraver was needed, and Duffell suggested Manley. Ash agreed immediately and that's how Manley was asked to come to Australia and join the team. Manley started working for them in March 1929; initially on a five-year-contract but he was offered permanent tenure at the end of that period.



Manley was immediately put in charge of his first stamp engraving: a single value marking the Centenary of Western Australia, which would be issued in September of 1929. This was soon followed by the engraving of the Capt. Charles Sturt stamps, of which only two values were eventually issued. The third, a 4½d value in the same design, was never issued but a few copies have survived.

By then, Manley's employers were convinced of his excellent talents and asked him to try his hand at designing his own stamps as well. Manley proved just as talented in this field, and soon, in 1931, his first designed and engraved stamp was issued: a set marking the Kingsford Smith's Flights.

This set did prove rather troublesome when a first die of the 6d value had the words Air Mail / Service running along the side panels in the same way the lower values had included the word Postage. That made the words Air and Mail seem like one word, which was objected to, so a new die had to be prepared which saw the letters placed differently along the sides.

It was the second time Manley had to start all over because his very first die, for the postage stamps, had to be abandoned after the Post Master General instructed to change the direction of the aeroplane depicted.



BIOGRAPHY: Frank Davies Manley

This stamp, by the way, was the first to honour a living Australian, even though he wasn't portrayed on the actual stamp. That honour inadvertently went to Frank Manley's own son Owen, who is the Boy Scout portrayed on the 1948 Pan-Pacific Scout Jamboree stamp!

From then on, the name F. D. Manley would dominate the stamp catalogues of Australia and its territories, with the man being responsible for almost every stamp designed and engraved in the 1930s and 1940s. As a result, Manley was responsible for many iconic Australian stamps.



One of those is the 1934 Hermes stamp. This was engraved by Manley during the period that the printers were moving from flat-bed presses to rotary presses. Manley's die started cracking when the rotary press printing plates were produced, so instead they printed the stamp from the old flat-bed presses. Later, when the technique for creating rotary press printing plates had been fine-tuned, a new print run took place on those and that version was issued in 1937.

In the meantime, Manley's 1934 engravings of the Centenary of Victoria set were the first to be printed on the rotary presses. This proved satisfactory, but the next issue, marking the death centenary of Capt. John Macarthur, yielded more problems. Rotary printings with the original die for the 2d were lacking in distinction. It was issued, but the die was reworked and a new print run took place, yielding a new type.

Australia made no use of the omnibus design for the 1935 Silver Jubilee issue but let Manley design and engrave his own stamps. King George V was so pleased with the result that he requested the original artwork to be included in the Royal Collection. The Australian post rather held on to their original artwork, and so they asked Manley to create an exact replica of his initial drawing and that was presented to the king.



Another of Manley's famous stamps is the 1948 Hereford Bull stamp. This stamp was the direct result of an anonymous design competition held in 1946 by the Postmaster General. Some 663 designs were submitted, of which a small total of eight were eventually deemed worthy of any further consideration. Of these final eight, only two made it into an actual stamp, and Manley's Hereford Bull was one of those.

Besides Manley's many stamp designs and engravings that we can enjoy, there is obviously a wealth of material which never made it into the stamp catalogues. In 2007,

when an exhibition was held to honour Australia's stamp engravers, Manley's work took pride of place and it turned out that his well-known Queen Elizabeth definitive of 1950 was actually based upon a previous design for the aborted Royal Visit of 1949. King George VI was too ill to travel at that time, but dies for the stamp issue had already been made. Rather than waste these, Manley simply exchanged the portrait of Princess Margaret with that of Queen Elizabeth and thus created yet another iconic Australian stamp.



BIOGRAPHY: Frank Davies Manley

Even in the 1950s, right up to his retirement in 1960, his would remain a household name, though more and more he would share the limelight with other fine engravers, mostly trained by Manley himself. Despite being so busy at the Note Printing Branch, Manley would also hold a teaching post at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology for some five years. There, he taught etching, engraving and die sinking.

Manley retired in 1960 from the Note Printing Branch, at a time when general opinion moved away from engraved stamps in general and engraver-designed stamps in particular. The general public, and the philatelic brotherhood as well, was fed up with monochrome stamps and clamoured for full colour photogravure-printed stamps. This was a somewhat bitter end to Manley's glorious career, but nevertheless Manley was subsequently asked to join the Stamp Advisory Committee, which he accepted and he served on the committee for five years.



Frank Davies Manley passed away in Melbourne, Australia, on 19 January 1976. He would have been pleased to have known that his stamp engravings and designs have stood the test of time, and can even be found on Australian wine labels. In 2009, a 'Favourite Australian stamps' issue of five values, with stamps chosen based on the results of a public poll, included three designs and/or engravings by Manley.

This biography was written with the kind assistance of Ms S Gay, who permitted me insight into the Manley Family Archive, from which most of the information was taken.

Adrian Keppel, Scotland. 06 Oct 2019

You can find Adrian's blog and database at <https://stampengravers.blogspot.com/>





BENDIGO Stamp Fair

Saturday

8th August 2020

9.30am - 3.30pm

**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

www.bendigophilatelicociety.org

Enquiries to Fair Coordinator: Bill Trew

Email: marj.trew@bigpond.com.au