



The Golden City Philatelist

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

Now in our 90th year
January 2021



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



GET READY TO GET TOGETHER AGAIN!



Meetings restart January 5th 2021



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.

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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President's Message January 2021

Happy New Year One and All.
Hurrah, Hurrah, Hurrah we are going home.

Our first meeting for 2021 will be on Tuesday the 5th January back at CVGT at 7:30PM. We will be holding an Auction but at this time no Exchange Books. Also, unfortunately, there will be no daytime meeting in January.

Masks will be worn from the door on and a Book to signify all who attend must be signed at the door before entrance. Unfortunately, with the present set of conditions, we cannot have visitors so it is members only.

Lyn as organizer of Exchange sheets has helped us maintain our hobby during this lock down period and for this we send to Lyn the greatest "THANK YOU"

Let us all approach this year with great enthusiasm this being our 90th Birthday.

Our Picnic in the White Hills Botanical Gardens was a success despite beginning with a Thunderstorm. We must do it again.

Should there be any more changes we will advise you ASAP.
Looking forward to seeing you all...Libby.



According to the Chinese Zodiac, 2020 was the Year of the Rat



So we've been spending the entire year holed up, only briefly leaving to get food, running at the sight of other humans, and transmitting infection.

(Quoted from Bazza on Stampboards)

Christmas Get Together at White Hills

With the easing of restrictions, members got the chance to meet for a picnic lunch at the botanic gardens at White Hills. Although this was a far reduced occasion than previous years and somewhat unpredictable weather, those who went enjoyed the opportunity to get together at last.



New Australian error in 2020 annual

The latest Australian annual collection contains an error that was not on the original stamp back in June. The stamp is missing the word "Australia" and the micro-printed date. This means that collectors of modern Australian stamps will need to buy the album for completeness. I have heard the suggestion that the error was deliberately included to encourage sales but I doubt that is true as the albums always sell out and are never reprinted. On their website Australia Post offer to exchange the error for a normal stamp if anyone wishes.

The error only appears in the Executive and De-luxe editions.



Here in Bendigo, we are quite used to some of our members slipping away to warmer climes in the winter. This year, due to Covid-19, this didn't occur but we were still robbed of their company. Here is a reminiscence from Libby about a winter they spent "Up North".

Stamp Collecting in Southern Queensland by Libby Luke

Having spent 4 weeks on Queensland's Sunshine Coast I would now like to give a précis of our time with the Philatelic community here.

Our introduction was on the night of our arrival with a visit to the Nambour Stamp Club. We enjoyed a most friendly and interesting evening with a very informative lecture and display on Stamps from Norfolk Island. The presenter was from Brisbane and the point he made was: If you are starting out in Philately places like Norfolk Island are a great country to collect, reasonably inexpensive with a great chance of completing or nearly so of this collection.



Libby, Tom and David with friends enjoying the Queensland weather

Caboolture's Stamp Fair was held this year in the Community Centre at Beerwah. This delightful building (about the size of St. Andrews Hall) is situated by the Local Library surrounded by lovely wetlands and a lot of local wildlife. Add to this a beautiful park and you have idyllic conditions. Catering was homemade treats and was first class.

Five dealers were in attendance but the major sales were from the Southern Queensland Societies who all had wonderful stands with stock well displayed and reasonably priced. Numbers of Philatelists in attendance was excellent.

We arrived at 8:30AM to find the car park nearly filled. However by 2:30PM most were leaving.

We were most impressed by the Boxed Auction which we should discuss for our future Stamp Fairs.

Caloundra Stamp Club thrives on its Exchange sheets which were fantastic, designated by country, indexed and in copious quantities.

A collectors delight.

We were made so welcome by members of all Societies and were impressed that all had new members to welcome.

Nambour Club asked both Tom and I to say a few words about the Bendigo Philatelic Society.

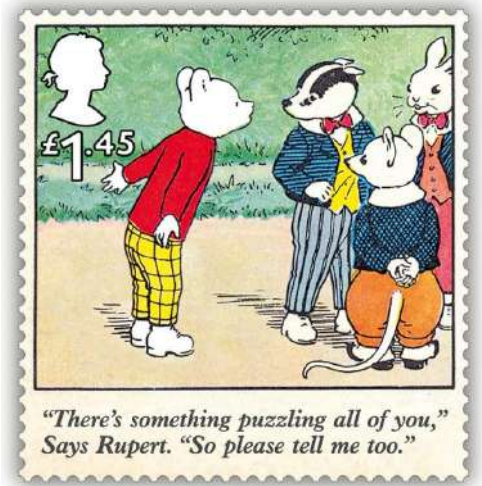
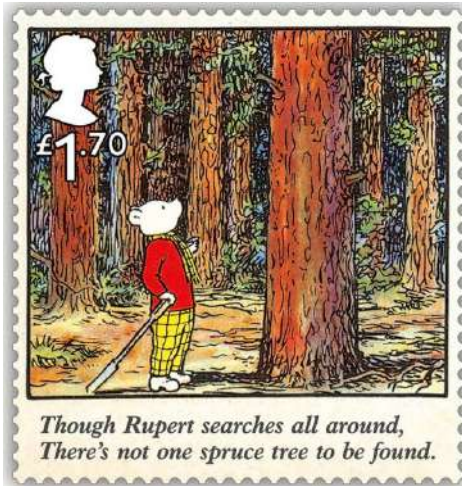
I leave here having had a lot of fun, met many lovely people, a little poorer in pocket but with many gaps in my collection now filled.

Libby Luke.

Rupert is a hundred years old!

No, not Murdoch, he only looks that way. I'm talking about Rupert Bear. For those without an English childhood, Rupert was a bear who lived in a house with a pig, a badger and a range of other animal friends who were all fairly well dressed but rarely changed their clothes. They had a long series of mildly amusing adventures, books of which were generally inflicted on young children by well-meaning aunts at birthdays or Christmas.

Rupert was originally a brown bear but was later changed to a white, presumably polar bear to save on printing costs.



He was the brainchild of Mary Tourtel, the wife of an assistant editor of the Daily Express. In 1920, the Express needed a comic strip to compete with those being produced by the opposition papers at the time and Mary was given the job of creating one.

Thus, Rupert was born in 1920.

When Mary retired in 1935, the job of illustrating Rupert was given to Alfred Bestall and it is his depiction of Rupert that most people would remember. Each year, a Rupert Annual was produced which expanded the storylines and this was what most children were given.

To celebrate the centenary, the UK has issued a stamp set along with all the usual variations that seem to be necessary these days to create the maximum number of varieties for collectors.



Rupert's birthday has also inspired stamps from other places such as Guernsey and even as far away as Chad.



The UK has also issued a set of five 50p coins for the occasion.

Thanks to Ian Kimpton for suggesting this article.

2nd Article on Philatelic Forgers

by Grey Loyer, Hon. Secretary, Maryborough Stamp Club, Vic. (Founded 14.7.1971)

An Australian – Japanese Forger:

Jonoski Takuma (1868 to?) (Full name: Jonosuke Geonosukay Jonoski Takuma)

He was born in 1868 in Kagoshima, Japan and seems to have arrived in Australia in the late 1880's settling in Sydney. He married Elizabeth Jane Causton on 3rd April, 1890 in Sydney (she was born on 1st October, 1871 in Chiltern, Victoria). They had three children but only two survived infancy. Dulcibel Aiko Takuma (born Nov. 1892, died Sept. 1991), and Edward Causton Takuma (born 1895, died on Bondi Beach from sunstroke 10 Dec, 1926).

Jonoski had a shop in the Imperial Arcade, Sydney. He seems to have forged only one stamp, the NSW 2d Emu blue. From what I can find only some twenty-five copies were produced. His wife tried to sell four copies for £50 to a number of Stamp Dealers in Sydney and Melbourne in early 1898. The dealer Frederick Hagen refused to buy them at £50, and went to the police. Experts eventually determined that the stamps were forgeries. (see a full explanation in the Sydney Evening News newspaper of Wednesday, 27th July, 1898 p.4).

Part Extract from the Sydney Evening Newspaper: Wednesday, 27th July, 1898.

ALLEGED FORGERY OF POSTAGE STAMPS. ACCUSED BEFORE THE COURT.

At the Water Police Court yesterday Jonoski Takuma, 31, engraver, a native of Japan, and Elizabeth Takuma, 26, a native of Victoria, his wife, were charged with, in company, forging seven New South Wales postage stamps and uttering same to Frederick Hagen, with intent to defraud. Detective Roche detailed particulars of an interview which he had with Takuma regarding a woman who had sold some valuable postage stamps. Takuma said that the woman had been in his place three or four times. She lived at West Maitland, but reference to her name made Takuma become reticent. Asked what her description was like, he said she was tall and ladylike. As she wore a veil, he could not describe her complexion. She brought four stamps, for which she asked £50. For one of them with the watermark "6" she wanted £25. He offered the stamps for sale, and, failing to sell them, returned them to her. She said she had obtained the stamps from — Takuma wanted to know from Roche what was the matter with the stamps, and on being told they were clever forgeries, he expressed relief at not having sold them. Four days later Roche again saw Takuma in his shop, to make inquiries about the woman, and he was advised to write to West Maitland Post Office. Takuma said he would write, only he did not care to be mixed up in it. On the 19th Roche, Donovan, Top of Form

and Brown went to a house in the Glebe, and saw Elizabeth Takuma. She first denied selling the stamps, but afterwards admitted that she had, and mentioned the names of Collins, Hagen, and Ackland, in Melbourne, to whom she sold stamps. She stated her husband gave them to her to sell, and that she was ignorant of the place they came from. The woman was then arrested, and, in company with Detective Brown, Roche visited Takuma's shop, in the Imperial Arcade, and in reply to a question he denied giving any old stamps to his wife, or his wife's sister, to sell. and so on.....

For a complete transcript of this article refer to Trove Library.

An Australian – Japanese Forger (Cont.)

Jonoski was charged, and eventually confessed to forging. He was sent to trial and given a suspended prison sentence of one year.

His forgery was so good that somehow from 1916 to 1963 it was listed in some catalogues as a genuine *variety* even though he had been made known back in 1898.



Genuine.
Leaf below W of New



Takuma's forgery.
No leaf below W (of NE **W**)
(25 copies known).



Takuma forgery on right. Also currently on Ebay for sale at \$454.00.
(Genuine on left).

Posties struggling with increased parcel load due to Covid-19

With people staying home and shopping online, spare a thought for the poor posties who have to deliver the increased number of parcels. This has led to unprecedented loads needing to be carried which have had unforeseen consequences as can be seen in the accompanying photograph.



News from Paul Brownlie



Australia Post are getting in early with promoting the 2022 International Stamp Exhibition in Melbourne with the release of this limited and numbered sheetlet. So far, so good! One has to wonder, however, whether this is really worth the \$75.00 price tag but I suppose if the proceeds of the sale are going towards the running of the exhibition, it is a fairly good way to donate.



Aussie Post snuck in just another new stamp unannounced.

FYI you can order online at Auspost

Yours in Philately

Paul

Covid-19. It hasn't all been bad. At least we can still have a laugh!

Yes, I know we are all sick to the back teeth with Covid-this and Covid-that! I've given up entirely on watching the news. Let's be thankful for the political nonsense emanating from America that has at least kept us entertained for the last few months.

When people look back on the year, there will be those, of course, for whom it has been a tragic time. Many lost loved ones while others saw businesses that may have taken years to build, washed away by the lockdowns. It will be difficult for them to see anything positive in the year we have just endured.

But not everything has been bad. My vegetable patch is looking the best it has in years from the extra time I have had to devote to it. Philately, like gardening, has seen a resurgence in Australia on a grand scale as people were forced to find things to occupy them while they stayed at home. Many dealers report that they have never been so busy and with the government throwing money around to try to stimulate the economy, it seems that much of that has been spent on stamps.

The down side of this, of course, is that due to the laws of supply and demand, prices have soared for the better items. This has been partly driven by high quality stamps being seen as a strong, long-term investment at a time when the stock market has fluctuated wildly at times.



"Sounds pretty serious. Is it contagious, Doc? Doc?"

A man named Bob suffered from severe paranoia.

It only got worse ever since the city he lived in got its first Covid-19 case.

Bob spent hours each day sanitising his clothes and scrubbing himself to protect him from the virus.

One day Bob got a call from a very close friend of his. He wanted to invite Bob over for dinner on Sunday.

Bob wasn't sure about going, on one hand, the virus was still a threat to him but he had not met anyone in over five months.

Eventually, Bob decided to accept the invitation.

It was 7:00 pm Sunday, Bob knocked on his friend's door.

"Bob it's great to see you, come on in"

"I must say whatever it is you're cooking smells wonderful" replied Bob

"Oh does it? I haven't been able to smell anything for the past three days"

(Reprinted from Stampboards)

I was outbid on a French stamp on eBay recently. My bid would have seemed generous last year but by the end of this year, it was not enough. The stamp was quite a nice example, mint hinged and was one I had been keeping an eye out for lately. With the Aussie dollar being so low, I have bought very little outside Australia recently but I thought I would check out this particular stamp. It seems that with the raging pandemic in the United States coupled with the lack of lockdowns there, the stamp boom we have noticed in Australia has not happened.



I was able to find a mint unhinged, well centred copy of the stamp I wanted and after the exchange and postage, it was still three dollars cheaper than the one I missed out on in Australia. Amazingly, it arrived from California in nine days at a time when mail from Melbourne can take three weeks!

One thing that has been very noticeable in this dark time is how humour has really helped to bring us through. You have to admire the way some people can look at the direst circumstances and find something to laugh about. To me, that will be one of the strongest memories of this horrible year.



BENDIGO Stamp Fair 2021



We'll be back!

*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.bendigophilatelicssociety.org

Enquiries to Fair Coordinator: Bill Trew

Email: marj.trew@bigpond.com.au