



The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J

P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

Now in our 90th year

April 2021



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

Diary of Future Events

Tuesday	April	6	Easter Bunnies and Eggs.
Tuesday	May	4	Mothers Day.
Tuesday	June	1	One other hobby or collection.
Tuesday	July	6	Naidoc Day.

President's Message April 2021

Greetings One and All.

Is there light at the end of the tunnel and can our club get back to what we do best ? Sell, Buy, Stamps . Socialise and generally enjoy the hobby of Stamp Collecting (Philately). I say his with great hope that we have turned the corner and that all is heading in the right direction.

Having said this we have some better news re conditions at our monthly meetings.

IE : 1. We now can have 45 people attend so this will enable us to invite our friends and other club members.

2. Tea, Coffee, Sugar and Milk will be supplied. You must supply your own drinking vessel and bring your own biscuit to enjoy.

Last month we finalised our 2020 Lois Whatley Treasure Hunt which was won by David Cotton with Secretary Joy a close second. Congratulations to you both. David is now in the process of organising our 2022 Treasure Hunt so as soon as they are available grab a copy and give it a go.

After last meeting's vote and a follow up letter to all Committee members we have decided to commence cautiously with arrangements for our 2021 Fair. We will keep you informed of progress or otherwise.

It would be very remiss of me if I did not mention our March meeting and the brilliant display and presentation by our member Richard Guy. The biggest thanks from us all, Richard.

Happy Stamping One and All, Libby.



CLUB CONTACTS:

President: *Libby Luke* ph: 0448 120 066

Vice-president: *David Somerton*

Secretary: *Joy Watters*
ph: 0439 473 645 email: joysgold2@gmail.com

Treasurer: *Margaret Brown*
email: mabrown@bigpond.net.au

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

Librarian: *David Robinson*
email: ddusa@live.com.au

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**

Auctions will be held at all Tuesday meetings.

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

Exchange sheets will no longer be circulated at meetings. Please see Lyn to access sheets at home.
More sheets are always needed so please "lick and stick" a few.



We will be back!

Following some varied opinions about the advisability of organising our stamp fair this year when there was always going to be a possibility that a lockdown could cause it to be cancelled, the decision was opened to a vote by members present at the March meeting. The vote was conclusively that we should go ahead. Although a lockdown would mean a financial loss, it was determined that the club could withstand this if it happened.

Over the next few days, committee members held an email discussion about the difficulties that could occur due to Covid-19 restrictions on gatherings and it appears that we should be able to handle the extra tasks that this might incur. This may mean a smaller fair than in past years, depending on table spacing requirements and restrictions on distancing. We may also not be able to supply refreshments.

Of course, some dealers and members may feel that the risk of attendance is still too high with people attending from around the state but as one committee member pointed out, this is already happening as the tourism industry comes back to life and people are being encouraged to support the local industry by travelling within Australia.

Someone has to be courageous enough to take the lead in trying to get back to some sort of normality. Who would have thought it would be a bunch of (mostly elderly) stamp collectors.

For some of us, August 7th 2021 can't get here fast enough!

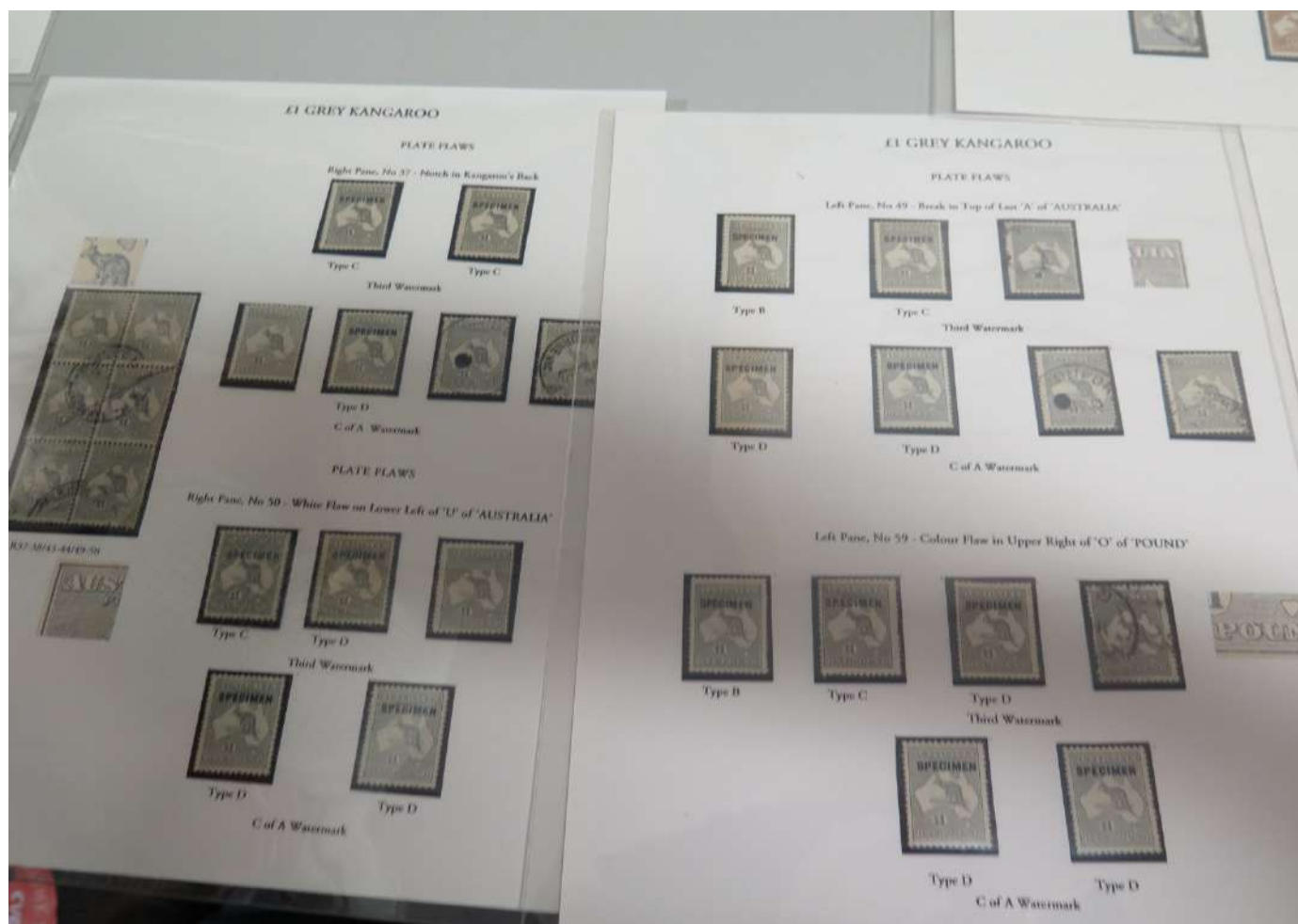


March also saw the announcement of the winner of the Lois Whatley Memorial Treasure Hunt. David Cotton won by a whisker over Joy Watters so David got the trophy but Joy was given a small consolation prize. Pictured after the presentation L - R are Libby Luke (club president), Joy and David.

Richard Guy's Kangaroos



The March meeting offered a rare treat to members when Richard Guy displayed and talked about his amazing collection of Kangaroo stamps. This ranged from one of the early essays that was entered in the competition to design the first Australian stamps by someone who went under the name of “Bendigo” (reproduced on the cover of this newsletter) through to colour proofs and monograms, some of which were unique, and, of course, a whole range of stamps with their many varieties and flaws.



Australia had a labour government when these were issued and the push to break away from England was strong. That is why our first stamps did not feature a monarch. It was not until there was a change of government that King George V finally appeared on our stamps, in parallel with the kangaroos, thus giving people a choice.

We would like to thank Richard for the wonderful display and talk which even those of us who do not collect kangaroos found fascinating and very informative.

Richard Guy's Kangaroos

Richard has supplied scans of a few of the items for this newsletter which allows us to trial a new feature. As these scans really can be seen at their best at full size, they will be linked to larger images on our website. These can be accessed by holding down the control tab and clicking on the image.

KANGAROO ESSAYS AND PROOFS

The development of the Kangaroo design went through several stages.

TYPE 2 ESSAY



Two value tablets at top left and top right.
The absence of Tasmania and the word 'POSTAGE' were errors which needed to be corrected.
Five examples of Type 2 essays are recorded, each with a different denomination. The 1d is the only one which is imperforate, ex Morgan and 'Chartwell'.

TYPE 3 ESSAY



Ex 'Chartwell'

Single value tablet at top left.
Tasmania is included, but the 'rabbit ears' present in the Type 2 essay are still apparent.
Type 3 low values essays were produced for the ½d, 1d, 2d and 3d, both imperforate and line perf. 12½.

THE ISSUED DESIGN



Ex 'Chartwell'

Value tablet moved to below map
The word 'POSTAGE' added below 'AUSTRALIA', and the 'rabbit ears' have been removed.

Proofs in this final adopted design were printed from the first 1d plate which was manufactured in the proposed colour scheme for all the values.

This page shows the development of the kangaroo and map design. Type 2 shows no Tasmania, no "postage", the value circles at the top and the "rabbit ears".

Type 3 shows Tasmania included, the map moved up, just one value circle and no "postage".

Next is the completed design, with "rabbit ears" removed. The penny value was printed in many different colours so the Post Office could allocate the colour to the value.

A one penny green is very scarce.

½d KANGAROO - FIRST WATERMARK

Issued 14 January 1913

The ½d was printed from two plates - Plate 1 (Upper) and Plate 2 (Lower). The first supplies were sent to post offices in uncut sheets of 240. This size was considered inconvenient, and subsequent supplies were sent in single sheets of 120. Only the ½d, 1d, 2d and 6d were issued in the 240-on format. Complete sheets of the ½d, 1d and 2d are in the Royal Philatelic Collection, and of the ½d and 1d in the Australia Post Archival Collection.

INTERPANE BLOCK FROM THE 240-on FORMAT

This shows the two sheets of the half-penny joined together as one sheet. This was done for the 1d, 2d and 6d values, and the employees at the PO asked that the sheet of 240 stamps be cut in half to make them more manageable. Copies of the uncut 1d, 2d and 6d are in the Royal collection, I believe. All are very scarce.



KANGAROO ESSAYS AND PROOFS

TYPE 3 ESSAY

Type 3 essays were also produced in sheetlets of four comprising 5/-, 10/- and 20/- bicoloured designs plus a single kangaroo. Eight sheetlets are recorded, each in a different colour combination.



Ex Kilfoyle and McNess



Ex 'Besancon'

This page shows the higher value roos with colour option. We all know that the final adopted colour for the roo was black.

These cards with colour options are scarce.

Richard

Well, what year is it anyway?



Paul Brownlie led a somewhat animated discussion about which year this actually is for the club. While browsing through the back issues of this newsletter now that they are on the website, Paul noticed that we seem to have been in our 89th year for an awfully long time. Discussion about what year we were in had come up a few times recently with no decision. Paul's argument won the day. When you are born, you enter your first year which lasts until your first birthday, after which you enter your second year. By the same logic, as our ninetieth birthday will occur in August, we are now definitely in our 90th year. Thanks, Paul for clearing that up. Online copies have been amended.

Bendigo Philatelic Society Library

by: David Robinson

The Australian Air Mail Catalogue

BPS Library No.0116

A limited signed edition No 685 by Nelson Eustis

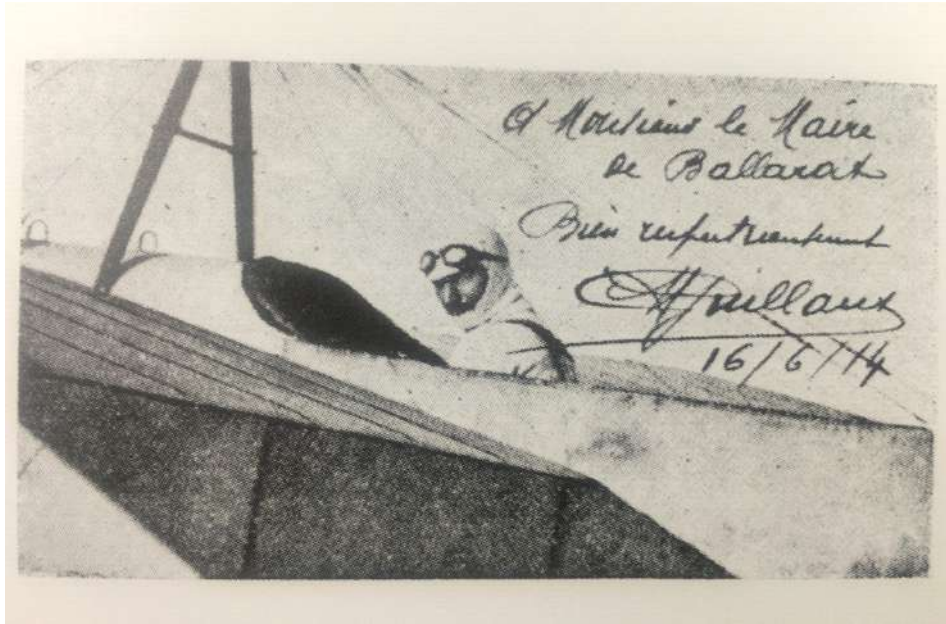
This hard covered, well illustrated listing of first and special air mail covers. Printed in South Australia, the 230 page book is a gold blocked hard back, with an attractive blue, black dust jacket. First published in 1937 the catalogue has been accepted as a world guide to Australian aerophilately.

Where possible airline identity, names of pilots, types of aircraft and registration lettering have been included. There are special sections devoted to postage carried by other air transportation such as rockets, hovercraft, balloons and pigeons.

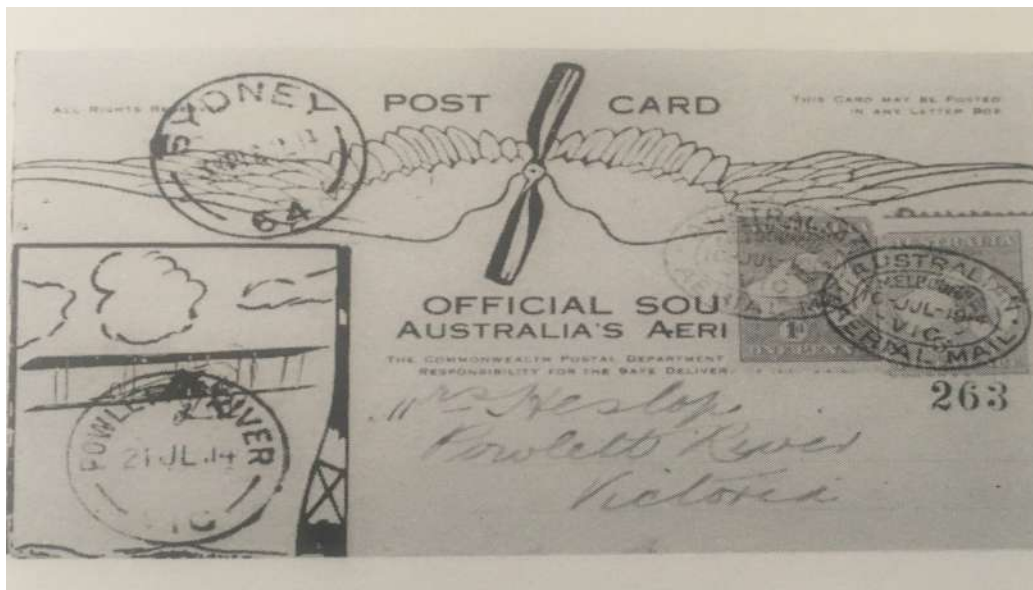


The Australian Air Mail Catalogue

Nelson Eustis died in 2002 and his collection was sold by his family in March 2008, Leski Auctions sold the collection in Melbourne for \$360,000 with interest shown from around the world. One of the many highlights of the Nelson Eustis auction was the 1914 postcard from the Melbourne- Bendigo- Ballarat flight by the French aviator Maurice Guillaux signed with a personal greeting (in French) to the Mayor of Ballarat.



16-18 July 1914 Australia's first official air mail flew from Melbourne to Sydney.



Souvenir cards as pictured above were sold for 1/- each. They were cancelled in Melbourne and back stamped on arrival in Sydney. The flight's itinerary list's departure time 9.12am Melbourne first stop was Seymour arriving 9.54am distance total 61 Miles. There were a further seven stops to finally arrive in Sydney the next day at 2.50pm.

Our library stocks an extensive range of books, leaflets & magazines, which are available to members. Please contact me David Robinson on 0428 821 221 or email ddusa@live.com.au

The 'NON-Existent' scene on Tasmania's 1899 Pictorial Series

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



The beautiful single-coloured issued Pictorial Set of 1899-1900.

The official Government Photographer in the 1890s, John Watt Beattie, put forward the idea of a pictorial set of stamps to publicise Tasmania, and the Braddon Government took this up in 1899 to promote the Colony's beautiful landscapes, based upon similar issues by USA in 1893, North Borneo in 1894, and New Zealand in 1898.

Through Tasmania's Agent-General in London, Sir Philip Fysh (1835-1919), twelve designs were submitted to London's stamp printers. Finally, the firm, De La Rue, was successful and eight views were selected and printed having been engraved by L. Phillips. They were printed using the line-engraving process, on watermark paper inscribed *TAS*, and perforated 14. There have been many, many books, papers and articles written about this series – please refer to these for more information.

The scenes were splendidly engraved, although at first criticized due to their large size and the fact that seven scenes were of South Tasmania, and only one, *Dilston Falls* from the north of the island.

There were also numerous printings of these stamps from 1902 to 1912, all printings made at the Victorian Government Printing Office, Melbourne using the lithographic process. *Please refer to a Stanley Gibbons Catalogue for the various watermarks, perforations, specimens, dates and 'errors'*. A complete collection of every variety would tally to some 145 stamps (!) with some stamps worth as much as \$1,500 each (!). If you had every stamp, mint and used, the complete collection would be worth around \$40,000 to \$50,000. A simple set, as above, used is worth around \$30, and mint \$100. It would be a daunting challenge for a collector to assemble all varieties of these stamps. There are also 'OS' stamps of some of these sets, but these are **not** provided in the SG Catalogue. They are also quite valuable.

The 1st Series of stamps issued:

<i>Face Value and Colour</i>	<i>On sale</i>	<i>Description</i>
½d. Deep Green	31.3.1900	Lake Marion
1d Bright Lake	13.12.1899	Mount Wellington
2d Deep Violet	15.2.1899	View of Hobart
2 ½d. Indigo	1900	Tasman's Arch
3d Sepia	1900	View of Spring River, Port Davey
4d Deep Orange-Buff	1900	Russell Falls
5d Bright Blue	31.3.1900	Mount Gould & Lake St Clair
6d Lake	31.3.1900	Dilston Falls

NOW, for the perplexing 6d 'Dilston Falls' stamp.



The rather impressive 'Dilston Falls'.
From trickery to established fact!

After the stamps had been issued tourists began to visit the various sights but no one could find Dilston Falls. Even the locals around the Dilston area knew nothing about any Falls on the Dilston Creek as had been printed on the issued stamp. This became a great mystery and would take almost a century to solve.

It seems in early 1899 a local photographer from Launceston, Steve Spurling, was on assignment to photograph a ship docking at the port. As time passed he began 'experimenting' with his camera, and he found that by positioning his camera at a certain angle he could in fact make a small amount of water tumbling over a silt bank *appear* as a sizeable waterfall. He duly sent some developed photographs to the Hobart Newspapers which in turn printed them. He was eventually to register the photograph with the copyright office in England as..... "on Dilston Rivulet tributary of the East Tamar River".....



The original photograph which fooled everyone for decades.

Thus this 'trickery' of photography was accepted as an authentic fact, and was duly dubbed "Dilston Falls". It looked impressive, and thus became the feature on the highest stamp value of 6d.



Superimposed figures on 'Dilston Falls'.

Looks real, but all is fake.



A shortage of 1d postage stamps in 1912 saw Hobart scenes 2d stamps overprinted in red 'ONE PENNY'.



BENDIGO Stamp Fair



We will be back!

7th. August 2021

*Local & Melbourne
Stamp and Coin Dealers*

St Andrews

Uniting Church Hall

24 Myers Street Bendigo

Free Entry

Food and Drinks Available

(Subject to Covid Restrictions)

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