



# The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J

P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

Now in our 90<sup>th</sup> year

June 2021



Web page: [www.bendigophilatelicsociety.org](http://www.bendigophilatelicsociety.org) Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/zb2ma53>

## Diary of Future Events

Tuesday June 1 One other hobby or collection.  
 Tuesday July 6 Naidoc Day.  
 Tuesday August 3 Olympic Games.

## President's Message June 2021

Hello Fellow Members

Next meeting 1st of June both My Tom and John Armstrong celebrate their birthdays and our much loved member "Amy" celebrates a milestone 90 years young. Congratulations to you all. If you would like to let me know other members special events, eg. Birthdays, Anniversaries etc. I will include them in future president reports. If I don't know I cannot announce them.

I thought this month we would get away from the usual topics and tell you about a light hearted side to the pandemic and stamp collecting .

On the 23 of October 2020 - Austria Postal Service issued a corona stamp printed on toilet paper. This stamp was inspired by the panic buying of toilet paper.

Yes on toilet paper !!! (three-ply)

The 2.75 euro stamp comes in sheets 10cm wide, or a tenth of a metre distance that the Austrian government advises members of the public to keep apart, symbolised in official campaigns by a baby elephant.

Pictured on the next page is an image of the stamp.

Now back to normal club stuff. Next month's agenda is " My other Hobby" or collection. I ask you all to bring along one item and in turn talk about it for about 5 minutes. This activity helps us get to know each other and further our friendships.

Well enough from me, time to get back to my stamps..... 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**

*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.

### CLUB CONTACTS:

**President:** *Libby Luke* ph: 0448 120 066

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**Librarian:** *David Robinson*

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Austrian stamps printed on toilet paper. Used stamps are not sought after.

# Bendigo Philatelic Society Library

by David Robinson

## SCOTT'S STANDARD POSTAGE & STAMPS CATALOGUE

**VOL. 1 BPS 0004    VOL. 2 BPS 0005**

A pair of green hard cover books, that are silver embossed and published in 1957.

by Scott Publications Inc. New York USA.

### **Volume 1 - The Americas and the British Commonwealth of Nations**

This Catalogue lists adhesive postal stamps of the British Commonwealth of Nations, except for the United States where additional listings cover telegraph stamps, revenue stamps and postal stationery.



### **Volume 2 - European Countries and Colonies and the Independent Nations of Africa and Asia.**

Listing adhesive postage stamps including a list of Colonies, former Colonies, Offices and Territory controlled by Parent States. ie: The Republic of France, Kingdom of Belgium, Kingdom of Denmark, Kingdom of Netherlands, Early Provinces of Italy, Republic of Portugal, Russia, Spain, and the former German Colonies.

There is information in both volumes on the many terms and expressions often used in stamp collecting. The principle characteristics of a stamp are divided into well-defined headings: paper, watermarks, separation (perforations), impression (methods used in printing), design and gum.

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 me at **[ddusa@live.com.au](mailto:ddusa@live.com.au)**

## Have you been following the Holgate saga?

It seems that most stamp collectors take an interest in the goings on at their postal service that exceeds a mere interest in the stamps on offer. Recently, however, it seems that the whole country has been fascinated by the way Australia Post and the federal government, particularly Scott Morrison, have handled the now-departed CEO, Christine Holgate.

The whole thing started as the press trying to make a story out of ... well, nothing really. Four of the executives at AP had worked on securing a deal that was to bring a massive profit to the post office, possibly hundreds of millions of dollars.



Christine Holgate chose, rather than offering a cash bonus for such an effort, to make it a bit more personal by giving the four of them a Cartier watch, worth around four thousand dollars each. Any corporation would have given a bonus for such a result that would have far exceeded the cost of the watches but without the personal touch.

As said before, the press decided to try to make a big deal out of it and they did this so successfully that our political leaders thought they would jump on the bandwagon and soon calls for Holgate's removal were thundering in parliament. The board of AP agreed and the execution went ahead.

Later, of course, the full story came out and Christine Holgate was able to tell her side of it. Public sympathy began to fall her way and there was even talk of her being reinstated and rumbles of legal action.

This writer was working in a post office when Christine Holgate took over and after her predecessor, she was like a breath of fresh air. She took pains to understand how everything in the postal system worked, built up the profitable small parcels business and supported the small country LPOs.

All of this would make it more difficult for those sections of the government who wanted the post office to be sold off as now, the post office actually started making a profit for once. Now she is gone - but certainly not forgotten. In fact, she has now become Australia Post's worst nightmare.

A major competitor to Australia Post is Toll Holdings. They were bought some time ago by the Japanese Post but the Japanese Post has decided to focus on the international aspects of the company and has hived off and sold the small parcels division as a new company called Global Express. This company has snapped up Christine Holgate as their new CEO and they will now be competing directly with Australia Post in the small parcels area where her expertise will be invaluable.

When it comes to profitability, however, Global Express has one big advantage. By its charter, Australia Post must deliver to all parts of Australia, using the profit from city areas to service the loss-making remote places. Global Express is under no such restraints as when the government opened up the post to competition, they neglected to make it a requirement. This means they are free to cherry-pick the best, most profitable routes and ignore any where costs of delivery make them less attractive.

Oh, dear! I think we can all see which way this is all heading.

## Should stamp hinges carry a use-by date?



Like many collectors these days, I don't use many stamp hinges but prefer stock books or clear plastic mounts. About the only time I need hinges is when I'm making up exchange sheets and as I live "out in the sticks", I tend to order them online.

I recently bought two packs but the difference between the two was quite dramatic. While one pack was full of perfect hinges, the other was a disaster zone. Like some of the older stamps that some dealers are selling off for postage, this pack had lost its stickiness. They were also beginning to curl up which made separating them more fiddly.

This was actually the pack I opened first but before I had even completed a page, many of the stamps were falling off. The hinges were just too old and the glue had deteriorated with age.

These were from a dealer that I trust and looking at the packs, there is nothing to tell how old they were. I'm not blaming anyone for this but it does raise the question above. Should stamp hinges carry a use-by date?

## A rescue idea for Australia Post -advertising on stamps!

While visiting a friend on the weekend, I found out that he collects advertising and has a very impressive collection going back hundreds of years. What he didn't have was advertising on stamps and I've often wondered why Australia hasn't really tried this as a supplement to the postal service.

You might point out that booklet stamps once had a slogan tab instead of one of the stamps and yes, in a way, that was a form of advertising though it didn't add to the profits.

New Zealand tried advertising long ago and may have been the first to try it. They currently have a system where corporations (and anyone else) can have their own stamps printed. Australia is just now putting their toes into the water with their personalised stamps so perhaps, it won't be long before business latches on.

I've sorted out a few advertising stamps for my friend but I thought I would share them here before I post them off. So here they are.



Some Victorian era New Zealand stamps were printed with adverts on the back. This was not really a good idea as the advert was lost once the stamp was stuck on an envelope.



Later, the adverts were printed on a tab but these also could be discarded and lost but were still an improvement on the back-printed stamps.

These days, businesses in New Zealand can have stamps made to order as shown at right.



France also used tabs for advertising. All of these early examples have become very collectable but are now becoming expensive as a consequence. Italy produced nineteen different stamps in 1924 with the difference that the advert became part of the design rather than a tab. I have managed to find ten of these but the rest are now priced beyond my budget.



For the 1936 Johannesburg show, the South African post office produced a miniature sheet with current stamps overprinted. The exhibition was advertised down the sides but the tabs at top and bottom were sold to businesses for advertising.

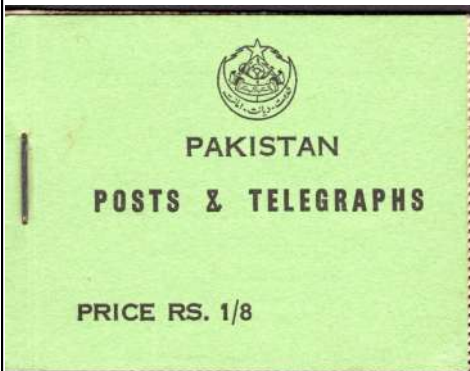
## Advertising on stamps (continued)



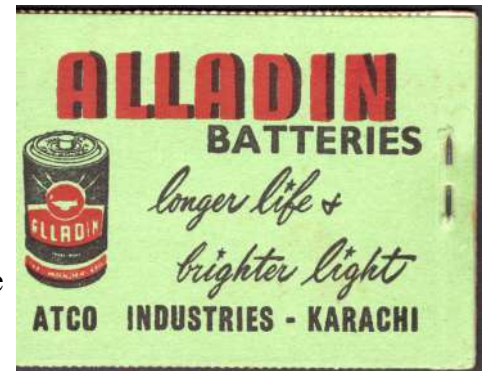
The Colonial Lottery was created in 1934 with the aim of raising funds for the sick of the Belgian Congo. On October 18, 1934 the first draw took place. Later other targets were found. The lottery has been called the National Lottery since 1962 (Wikipedia). The other stamps appear to be advertising a stamp album and a catalogue for Belgian Congo stamps.



My understanding is that only Austrian products and services can be advertised on the country's stamps. I don't know how many there are but here are the few that I have found so far.



Perhaps my favourite item is this 1954 booklet from Pakistan. It contains twenty-four of the beautifully engraved stamps of the era. The inside covers advertise the post office savings bank and suggest advertising in post office publications. The back cover helped to defray the cost of printing by selling the space for advertising, in this case, to Alladin Batteries.





# *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*

*Bendigo Philatelic Society Inc*

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

*[www.bendigophilatelicsociety.org](http://www.bendigophilatelicsociety.org)*

*Enquiries to Fair Coordinator: Bill Trew*

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