



# The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J

P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

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

July 2021



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

## Diary of Future Events

- Tuesday July 6 Naidoc Day plus My Other Hobby
- Tuesday August 3 Olympic Games.
- Saturday August 7 Stamp Fair

## President's Message July 2021

Hello Fellow Members

Its seems every month our Stamp Club faces a new challenge. This Month's challenge was to find a venue for our 6th of July meeting as CVGT is being restumped. They assure me it will only be this meeting and HOPEFULLY August Meeting will be back to normal. Who knows in this uncertain world we live in. The address for this meeting is the Kangaroo Flat RSL which is in Station Street, opposite the IGA supermarket. There is parking out the front and if not you can park in the supermarket car park. It is a red brick building and has been newly renovated.

Following the popularity of last month's unique stamp. I'm following up with another unusual stamp. This time from Thailand.

In 2010 Thailand issued the world's First Silk Stamps. They issued 4 stamps for the Asian International Stamp Exhibition. 15,000 sets of stamps were hand made from about 6,000 (5,486 meters) of Silk.

The 4 stamps symbolizing four different qualities of silk.

Golden Peacock - Royal Thai Silk

Silver Peacock - Classic Thai Silk

Blue Peacock - Thai Silk

Green Peacock - Thai Silk Blend

Now back to normal club business. Last month's agenda was " My other Hobby" or collection. We have decided to move this topic to our July meeting. I ask you all to bring along something away from stamps to talk about. This activity helps us get to know each other and further our friendships.

Time to get back to a box of exchange sheets..... 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

**Vice-president:** *David Somerton*

**Secretary:** *Joy Watters*

ph: 0439 473 645 email: [joysgold2@gmail.com](mailto:joysgold2@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** *Margaret Brown*

email: [mabrown@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mabrown@bigpond.net.au)

**Newsletter Editor, Webmaster:** *John Armstrong*

email: [jjarmstrong47@hotmail.com](mailto:jjarmstrong47@hotmail.com)

**Librarian:** *David Robinson*

email: [ddusa@live.com.au](mailto:ddusa@live.com.au)



*Silk stamps from Thailand*

**If masks are going to be with us for a while yet...**

They ought to be fun! Glen Stephens had some novelty masks made available to Stampboards members. Designed by Stampboards member Allanswood, they show the Penny Black with Queen Victoria wearing a blue mask on every second stamp.

These are a five layer mask tested to be 95% effective which is far better than the horrible blue ones that keep appearing on the footpaths. It's sad! Also these can be worn two ways, round the ears or if, like me you wear hearing aids and it's getting a bit congested back there, behind the head.



The other sad thing is that since I've been wearing mine, I've been amazed at how many people, even post office workers, don't know what the stamp is or ask, "Is that the Queen?" Sometimes, I wish screaming in public was acceptable for people my age.

Anyway, to cut this ramble short, I bought an extra one, which will be raffled at the next club meeting, hopefully in July, as a club fund-raiser so make sure you buy a ticket and if you win, you will be able to proudly promote our hobby to the world.



## News from Paul Brownlie

Australia Post can issue some beautiful stamps when they want to. The new Doves and Pigeons issue is a good example though once again the number of ways in which you can buy it is over the top, as usual.



You have to wonder though what they were thinking when they produced this latest set which are coming soon for Stamp Collecting Month. Others have suggested that they are simply ugly and I'm inclined to agree. My opinion is that they are hoping they will appeal to young people, and perhaps they will.



If you think Australia Post goes over the top with the number of variations they try to sell you on every new issue, be thankful that you are not in the UK, collecting their stamps. They recently decided to honour Paul McCartney. Most of us grew up with the Beatles playing the soundtrack to our lives so few of us would begrudge Sir Paul his stamp. What is on offer, however, are twelve "special" stamps, offered in thirty-three possible forms. If you were to try to collect them all, and I suppose some avid fans might do that, it will cost you the total of £780.33 or AU\$1440.35. Now that is what I call *really* over the top.

Yours in philately

Paul





# Bendigo Philatelic Society Library

by: David Robinson

## 175 and BEYOND

**A Bicentennial Decade Salute to Australia's Postal Service 1809-1984**

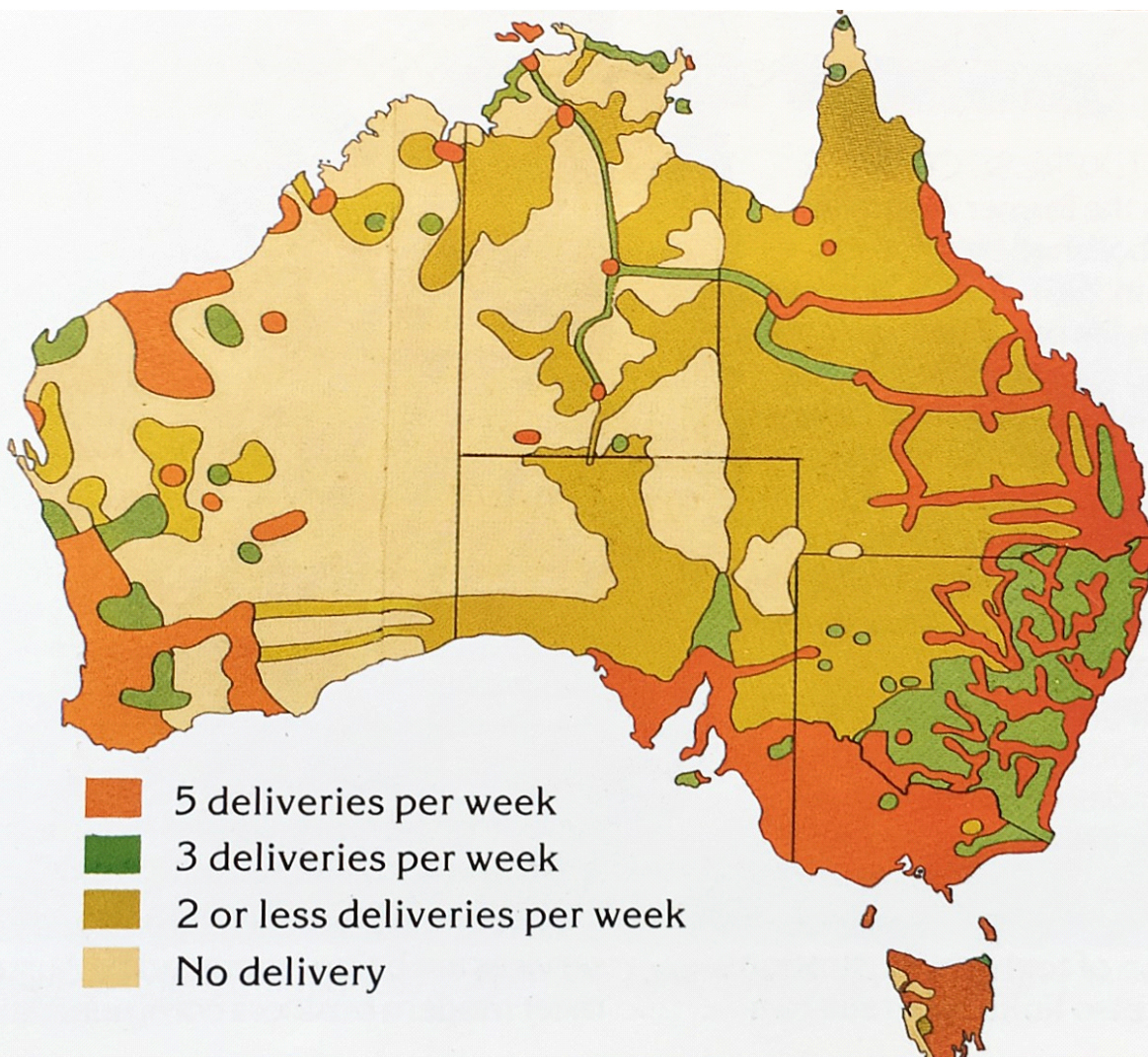
BPS 0006

This is a booklet publication which tells us some of the history of our Australian Postal Service.

It describes the environment in which Australian Postal Commission (Trading as Australia Post) operated in the early 1980's. Including a look at people behind the postal services such as Postal Officers, Women in the workforce, Staff in training Centres, Mail and Parcel operators.

There is also some interesting reading on Postal history & Stamps.

**Below:** The map show's official prices charging zones for parcels in Australia and reflects a complicated distribution picture. (1984)





**There's also a Postal Quiz from this booklet. (Let's see how you go)**

Q1. Which is Australia's most valuable & rare postage stamp?

Q2. Where in April 1984 was our new 4.5 million dollar GPO opened?

Q3. What is a gutter pair?

Q4. In which country was the first official Postmaster in pre-Federation Australia born and what was his name?

Q5. What is meant by a "standard postal item" ?

Q6. When did the Aust. Postal Commission (Trading as Australia Post) begin and what is its basic role?

Q7. Can you name the first recorded franked slogan used by the Australian Post Office?

Q8. When was the first multi-coloured pre stamped envelopes released by Australia Post?

Q9. What overseas territories of Australia issued their own postage stamps and which has its stamps issued by Australia Post?

Q10. In 1888 which Australian State became the first postal service to portray a living person, other than royalty, on a Commonwealth Stamp?

**NOW A WHO KNOW'S OR WHO CARES QUESTION**

Q11. How far did the Australia Post's motorised vehicle fleet travel in the 1983/84 year

**Answers will be in found on next page.**



*1. Thomas Cambridge Sen., Colonial era letter carrier (postman) at Windsor, NSW. He is believed to have carried mail unofficially in the district before being placed on salary in 1861.*



**Thomas Cambridge Sen.(Colonial Letter Carrier)**

**A postcard showing an early settler's family excited to welcome a visit from there smartly attired "Letter Carrier" as postmen were known back in the day.**

Q1. The stamp in question was printed in the then Colony of Western Australia in 1854. It's the famous inverted swan stamp with a 4d value. Only 15 copies of the stamp were made.

Q2. Canberra, ACT

Q3. These are two stamps joined by a central strip between the two, as issued by the Post Office.

Q4. His name was Isaac Nichols and he was born in Wiltshire England. Isaac was transported to Australia in 1791 as a convict. Isaac assumed the role of Postmaster in Sydney during 1809 and was officially designated as such in 1810.

Q5. This term refers to an envelope or card within certain dimensions.

Q6. The Australian Postal Commission started operations on 1st July 1975. Previously, it was part of the Postmaster- General's Department.

Q7. The slogan read "HELP TO WIN THE WAR. BUY WARSAVINGS CERTIFICATES. ELIGIBLES ENLIST" 14th Dec. 1917.

Q8. A series of seven bird designs on multi-coloured pre-stamped envelopes was released by Australia Post on 11 September 1978

Q9. Christmas Island, Norfolk Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands all issued their own stamps.

Australia Post issued the stamps of the Australian Antarctic Territory.

Q10. In 1888 NSW became the first postal service to portray a living person, other than royalty, on a Commonwealth stamp. The 20 shilling value stamp depicted Lord Carrington, Governor of NSW.

Q11. Australia Post's motorised fleet of trucks, vans, cars, motorcycles travelled nearly 84 million kilometres.

Our library stock's 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)

## **Recess printed but not engraved.**

When you read the Stanley Gibbons catalogue, line engraved stamps bear the heading "recess" which is actually only the printing method, sometimes known as "intaglio". Scott's catalogue is more reliable in this instance as they list them as "Engr." meaning that they are engraved, albeit increasingly by computer rather than by hand engraving.

In June this year, the US postal department muddied the waters even further by printing a stamp by a combination of offset lithography for one colour and intaglio for a second with the expressed intention of producing a stamp that "looked like it was engraved".

The stamp, which many say is long overdue, was released on June 3 and honours the thousands of Japanese-Americans who fought in the US forces in World War Two.

As Linn's Stamp News explained, "Once the most common method of stamp production, intaglio printing was almost entirely supplanted by photogravure printing in the 1970s, followed soon thereafter by less costly multicolor offset lithography in the 1980s.

Lithography still reigns today as the method most used to print U.S. stamps."

Very few hand engraved stamps are produced these days. French ex-president Nicolas Sarkozy may have a tarnished reputation in French eyes but he was an avid philatelist. He had a requirement passed into law for France to issue a certain number of line-engraved stamps each year. Some of us lovers of these stamps, who may think (and basically accept) that "corruption" is a synonym for "politician" anyway, could probably forgive his faults when we remember that part of his legacy.

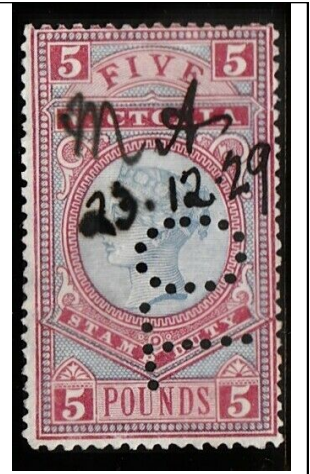




## Perfins, anyone? Collecting little bits of nothing at all.

Paul Brownlie sent me a picture of an interesting revenue stamp that he had found. This five pound Victoria duty stamp had been perforated TO. Now, I don't collect perfins, as they are called, but over the years, I have had quite a few pass through my hands to then be passed on to a fellow collector overseas who is passionate about these. This meant that I knew of places to look for the information on this stamp and a visit to Dave Elsmore's quite amazing website at [www.perfins.com.au](http://www.perfins.com.au) told me that this perfin was issued by the Victorian Titles Office.

This website also details the history of perfins, the brainchild of Joseph Sloper in England, who had earlier produced a machine for punching train tickets to show they were used. He followed this with the idea of perforating stamps to prevent fraudulent use both by government and private company employes. In the days when a workman might only earn a pound or two a week, a ten shilling stamp was a fortune.



The fun thing about collecting perfins is to try to work out who issued them. We are all familiar with the OS stamps that were produced for use by government departments in Australia and the state variations such as VG. Some can be quite fancy, such as this British Board of Trade stamp with a crown. I have seen perfins in the shape of flowers, flags and even an elephant that Wolfgang in Bavaria uses as his avatar on Stampboards.



Shown below are some of those which I once had but are now in more appreciative hands. Mostly, I don't know who had them perforated but if this seems like an interesting direction for your collecting to go, then here is your first challenge.







# *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.bendigophilatelicociety.org](http://www.bendigophilatelicociety.org)*

*Enquiries to Fair Coordinator: Bill Trew*

*Email: [marj.trew@bigpond.com.au](mailto:marj.trew@bigpond.com.au)*