



The Golden City Philatelist

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

Now in our 91st year

November 2021



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

Diary of Future Events



Tuesday November 2 Night Meetings are back!
Club competitions.



President's Message November 2021

Greetings Fellow Members,

At last I have some good news. Yes we can resume our monthly meetings.

Masks will still have to worn and it seems that you will need to be vaccinated.

We will keep a record of your vaccinations. This means we can get together and share our love of stamp collecting.

At this stage CVGT is not letting out, their Meeting room. So I have spoken to the Kangaroo Flat RSL and have hired their premise for our November the 2nd Meeting. If we decide that this is to be our new home I have negotiated a price that is better than what we pay at CVGT and Inside Toilets.

Tom and I are both Kangaroo Flat RSL members and I'm sure this has helped, in life it has always been who you know, not what you know !!!!!

For those who don't know we have held our Annual General Meeting, by phone and email. Deciding we would leave the status quo, office bearers, honorariums and fees will be the same as last year, after all it has been another mad year. I thank Joy's organizing and making this all happen.

Our Mr reliable Ken Datson has decided to stand down from the committee, we all thank him for his loyal service. Thank You Ken, your smiling face will be missed.

If you have not paid your fees Margaret has a new receipt book ready.

Tom Harris has been working hard on judging our 2021 Lois Whatley Treasure Hunt. We had four entries and will be making the big announcement at our November meeting.

Our November meeting is our club competitions - Bennetts and Tresise if you have prepared an entry please bring it along.

It will be so nice to see you all again.

Let me finish with my little phrase by saying TAKE CARE WE CARE.

And you are all important.....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:

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News from Paul Brownlie

The Independent State of Rainbow Creek

I guess most of us have heard about the Hutt River Province, which due to its reliance on tourism was effectively killed off by covid-19 after all these years. Far fewer of us will know about the Independent State of Rainbow Creek which followed Prince Leonard's example and seceded from Victoria back in the 1970s.



The state was in the Cowwarr district in the Victorian Alps and stemmed from a long-running dispute over alleged incompetence by the Victorian government and the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. The government had built a bridge across the Thomson River that was too low to accommodate the annual flooding of the river so that debris effectively turned it into a dam and caused the river to bypass the bridge, carving out a new course across the nearby farms.

The locals named this new watercourse "Rainbow Creek" and it grew to be fifty metres wide and eight metres deep. Farmers were forced to build their own bridges where the creek divided their properties. Claims for compensation for the loss of their land fell on deaf ears but the final insult came when the government decided to charge them a water levy to use water from the new creek.

Frustrated by the government's intransigence, a group of farmers, led by Thomas Barnes, who owned one of the worst affected properties, seceded from the state of Victoria as a way of getting public awareness of their grievances.

As you can see, they issued their own stamps which were most attractive and professionally produced. They also needed to use Australian stamps for mail that went outside of their state.



In 1983, they issued a cover to assist farmers after the devastating “Ash Wednesday” bush fires.

ASH WEDNESDAY
VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA
16th FEBRUARY, 1983.

DESTROYED BY BUSHFIRES

LIVES.	46
HOMES.	1719
COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS.	284
PASTURE DESTROYED.	76,167 Ha
HAY BALES.	1,000,000
CATTLE.	7130
SHEEP.	17,753
POULTRY.	4030
HORSES.	212
FENCING.	6249 Km
WILDLIFE.	UNTOLD THOUSANDS

Proceeds from the sale of this pre-stamped envelope will be handled by Berwick Lions and Heyfield Apex for the Bushfire Appeal.

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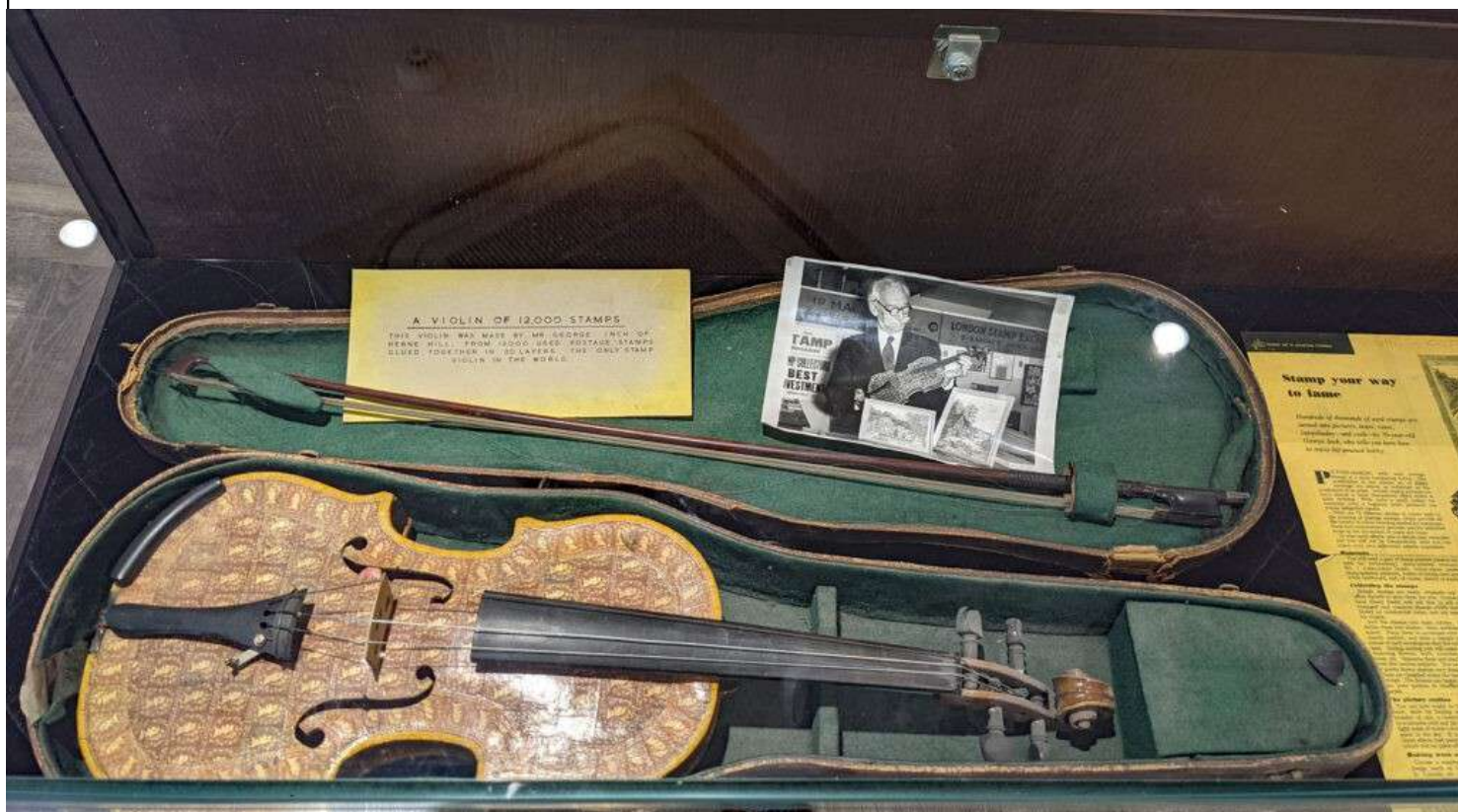
For more of the story, Wikipedia has a fascinating article on the history of the area:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independent_State_of_Rainbow_Creek

Yours in philately,

Paul

A violin made of postage stamps!



Tom Luke circulated this picture and the story about it which is told on a “what’s on in London” website.

https://www.ianvisits.co.uk/blog/2021/09/30/see-a-violin-made-from-12000-postage-stamps/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=weeklyemailblog

The violin is part of a little known but free-to-visit exhibition at the Strand shop of stamp dealers, Stanley Gibbons. The maker, George Inch, used 12,000 stamps to produce a papier-mâché violin, amongst other items which when played by the violinist, Max Jaffa, surprisingly sounded very good.

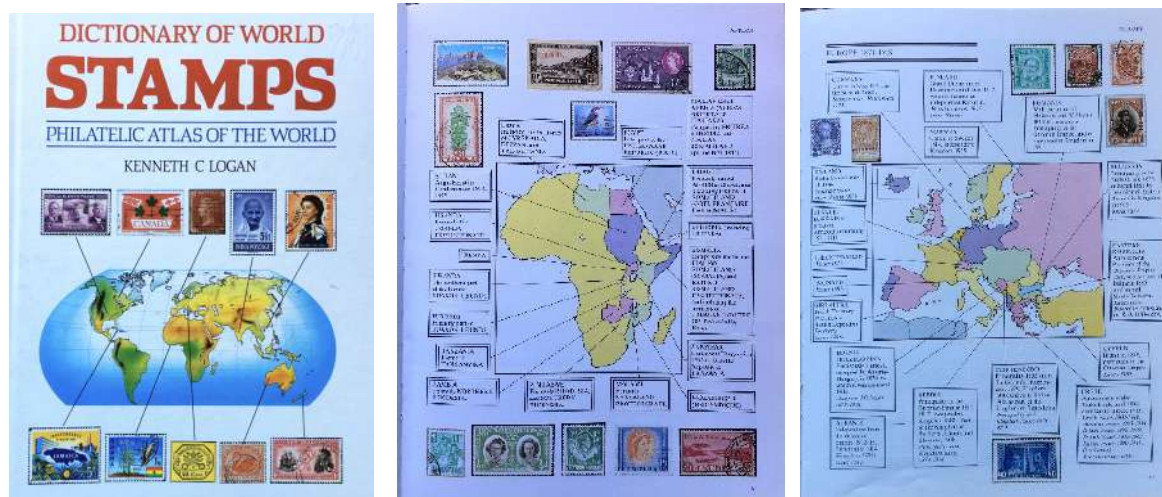
Bendigo Philatelic Society Library

Dictionary of World Stamps

A Philatelic Atlas of the World by Kenneth C Logan BPS 0014

Our library holds two copies of this interesting comprehensive reference book. The author Kenneth Logan was born in Switzerland and moved to England in 1936 to commence an apprenticeship in cartography with the London Geographical Institute. During the Second World War, Kenneth served in Italy and Austria, later travelling Western Europe. It was during this period he became interested in Postage stamps and became a keen philatelist and began work on this book. With a rapidly changing world his book has taken many years to complete, Kenneth retired in 1982 and now lives in Selsey, Sussex.

The *Dictionary of World Stamps* helps the reader understand the connection between philately and geography and will enhance the readers understanding of the connection between the issue of postage stamps and historical world events.



The Dictionary of World Stamps is divided into two sections.

The first section divides the world into areas, with full colour maps showing how boundaries and countries have continued to change over the years. A summary of events that shaped the area and how this may have affected postage stamp design.

The second section lists in alphabetical order the stamp-issuing authorities of countries and islands which issue stamps. Also included in the inscriptions are the provenances of stamps and the period of their currency.

Both sections are cross-referenced and fully illustrated with stamps.

I believe this book would assist the stamp collectors both new and experienced and prove an invaluable aid to organizing and presenting their collections.

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

Maryborough Club Auction - Unfortunately changed again!

To all our members and friends

After much discussion, it was decided that the Annual Club Auction be moved to Tuesday, 8th March, 2022 – pending Covid restrictions, etc.

Grey Loyer: gloyer@live.com.au or phone 5460 5008.



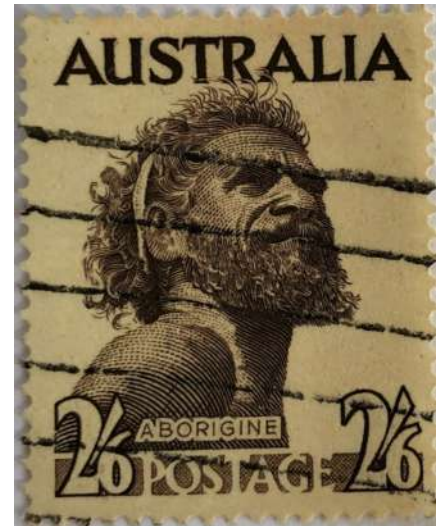
“One Pound Jimmy” could now be “Thousand Dollar Jimmy”! That’s inflation, I guess.

Most of us would have had dozens of the stamp on the right pass through our hands over the years. The stamp, colloquially called the “One Pound Jimmy” can be found at any time on our exchange sheets for a few cents.

Those not in the know may be surprised to find that the copy shown is being offered on eBay with a “buy it now” price of \$1050. They may think that the seller is dreaming but the reality is that some examples have sold for much more than this.

What makes this stamp special is the watermark. This issue had a sideways watermark but somewhere along the way, at least one of the sheets was reversed. This led to that sheet having a sideways *reversed* watermark.

Ten years ago, only a very few used examples of this had been found and Gibbons had it catalogued at £4000. A few more have come to light since and even a mint copy has been found. Even so there are probably less than a dozen of these known, despite 100 million of the stamps being sold over a ten year period. If only one sheet was reversed, then it was sold in Marrickville, N.S.W. Copies with readable postmarks exist from there. Given the sheer number printed, it seems likely that there were more so instead of Tattslotto, try looking for these. This is what to look for.



Looking from the front of the stamp, the crown will be pointing to the right, conversely, from the back, the crown will point left. If this is what you need for your collection, the example shown can be found here:

<https://www.ebay.com.au/itm/283849285219>

Would you go to war over a stamp?

That probably seems a silly question yet in 1937, Nicaragua and Honduras almost did just that.

It all started when Nicaragua brought out a new series of stamps showing the map of their own and adjoining countries. The area claimed to be Nicaragua was shown with wavy horizontal lines while the other countries were shown with a brick wall pattern.

Part of what was shown as Nicaragua was labelled "Territorio en litigio" meaning disputed territory and it referred to a dispute that went back many years.



Alfonso XIII

Both countries claimed this area but in 1906, after years of acrimony between the two countries, King Alfonso XIII of Spain had declared the area to belong to Honduras. Nicaragua refused to accept this and there was an escalation of anger between the two nations that came to a head in 1937 when Nicaragua issued the stamp set.

In Honduras the radio stations and newspapers across the country stirred up the populace to fever pitch. The Honduran government thundered that the offending stamps must be withdrawn and destroyed but Nicaragua refused, pointing out that the territory was listed as in dispute on the stamps and that was enough.

This brought mass demonstrations in Honduras with calls for a war with the offending neighbours while in Nicaragua, troops were mustered to be sent to protect the border and people donated to a fund to build up the Nicaraguan air force in readiness for a war that seemed inevitable.

Eventually, sanity returned after Costa Rica, Venezuela and the United States stepped in to mediate and both countries backed off, removing their troops from the disputed area. It was agreed that the stamps would be withdrawn but those that were already in circulation were seemingly used up as it was still some years before they were all gone and enough were used for them to be common enough and still reasonably cheap today.

As for the disputed area, it is now part of Honduras but the area is mainly given over to the World Heritage listed, Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve. Located on the watershed of the Río Plátano, the reserve is one of the few remains of a tropical rainforest in Central America and has abundant and varied plants and wildlife. In its mountainous landscape sloping down to the Caribbean coast, over 2,000 indigenous people have preserved their traditional way of life.

