



The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J

P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

Founded 1931

January 2023

Web page: www.bendigophilatelic.org



Diary of Future Events

Tues. 3rd Jan 7.30pm On-line Resources for Collectors

Tues. 7th Feb 7.30pm Heart Matters

President's Message January 2023

2023 is on our door step, but we still have Christmas and the New Year ahead of us. So may I wish you and yours the very best for the Festive season and a happy and healthy New Year.

We all celebrated together with a shared plate Festive Christmas Dinner, followed by a simplified formal meeting and then of course our well loved auction. I hope everyone got a bargain or something they have been searching for some time. I purchased a New Zealand Miniature sheet that I had been looking for, for years, thank you Lindsay. It was lovely to have our friend Amy celebrating with us. We have to apologize to Ken as the main hall door was locked due to the auction lots being displayed in the main hall, while we were eating and talking upstairs. Poor Ken Scott was locked out and could not make us hear. Sorry Ken on behalf of us all.

We have two December Birthdays. Ken on the 17th and me on the 19th. I have always hated my birthday so close to Christmas. I think next year I might celebrated my half Birthday in June! "Happy Birthday" to us.

At our January the 3rd meeting we are going to be treated to our first presentation using the clubs projector. Our computer Wiz Kid, John Armstrong is going to tell us about all the great philatelic information on the internet. Really looking forward to this and I'm sure you all will be to.

Let me finish with my little phrase to all members of our philatelic family.

TAKE CARE WE CARE and you are all important Libby.



Thank you Maree Edwards and staff for the printed copies of this newsletter.

The general monthly meetings of the BPS are held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm at

**Kangaroo Flat R.S.L.
Station St. Kangaroo Flat**

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



This is a PSE first day cover marking the centenary of the first special postmarker. For those of us who collect postmarks & PSE, it might be a good idea to have two - one for each collection.

These envelopes are still gettable at a good price on eBay so good hunting everyone!

That style of postmarker would have been used to produce this nice postmark from Murchison 1936 July 27th.



Finally, here is a quick look at the wonderful spread that members shared at our Christmas party.

Yours in philately,

Paul

Are modern stamps worth collecting?

Back in the 1970s and early eighties there was a huge boom in stamp collecting. Apart from drawing many new collectors to the hobby, this had several effects, among them, an increase in speculation. Another was that postal authorities increased their outputs to fairly insane levels which were far above what was needed for postage. Like every “bubble” in history, right up to the recent digital currency debacle, this one was bound to eventually burst causing many people to leave the hobby, particularly those who had joined in order to make their fortune.

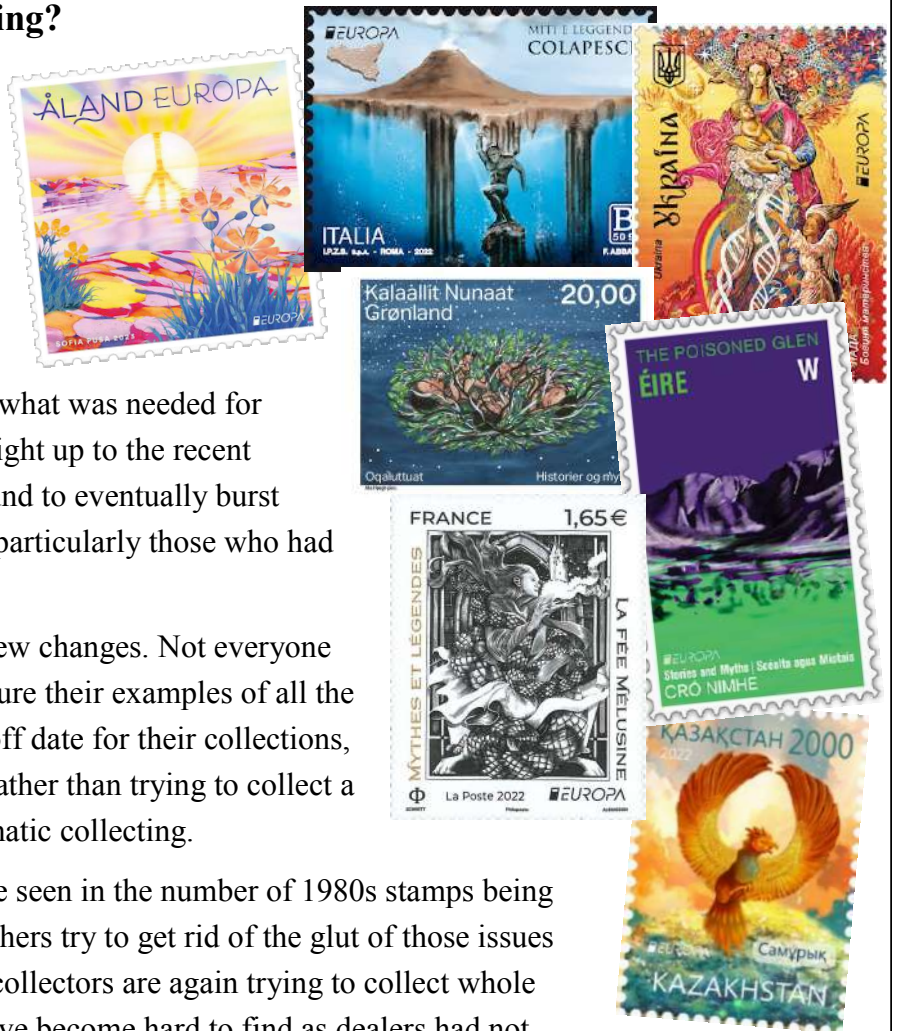
Eventually it all settled down but with a few changes. Not everyone now rushed to the philatelic bureau to secure their examples of all the new issues. Many collectors chose a cut-off date for their collections, with 1970 being a popular choice. Also, rather than trying to collect a complete country, there was a rise in thematic collecting.

The after effects of those times can still be seen in the number of 1980s stamps being offered as cheap postage as dealers and others try to get rid of the glut of those issues that remain unsold. Conversely, as some collectors are again trying to collect whole countries, stamps from the early 2000s have become hard to find as dealers had not bought as many as before.

Australia produces far more stamps these days that are needed for the ever dwindling snail mail, in fact many post office workers never get to see all of the issues. As less and less mail gets postmarked or worse, ruined with the gouge of a biro, even the concept of postal history has vanished. So the questions arise, Are these merely sticky labels rather than true postage stamps and are they worth collecting?

For most of us, the answer would be a qualified yes. There are still many modern stamps that are worth collecting, even if only for their artistic value. Some countries still limit their issues, both in number and by sticking to topics that are relevant to their countries. Others, unfortunately, have given over their stamp issues to agencies with few scruples when it comes to philatelic integrity. Mongolia comes to mind with hundreds of issues annually, mostly with American themes.

So if I were to look back over 2022 and challenge myself to find a country or theme that I really like, what would it be? Among the plethora of Australian issues there have been a few gems but I think the Europa - Stories and Myths issues have shown me how a few square centimetres of print can still be works of art so that would be my choice.



In 2023 Europa stamps will have a common design on the theme, “PEACE – the highest value of humanity”

The winning motif was submitted by Luxembourg : “The New Peace Symbol”.



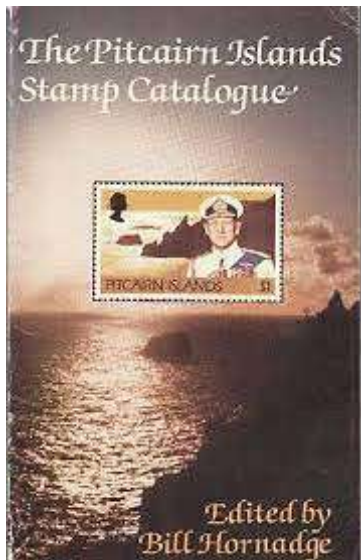
Winner of the 2022

Bendigo Philatelic Society Library

Book Review by: David Robinson

The Pitcairn Island's Stamp Catalogue

Edited by: Bill Hornadge BPS 0043



Jennifer Toombs

The cover for this book was designed by Jennifer Toombs. Jennifer was an English Design Artist and visited Pitcairn Island during 1966, Jennifer drew many sketches that were later used on stamp designs for the Island's postal service. Many of Jennifer's scenes focused on the islands people, its history, local scenery, the flora and fauna and sea life.

The Pitcairn Island's Stamp Catalogue lists all the postage stamps issued for Pitcairn Islands up until January 1981. There are many illustrations that give the reader a comprehensive picture of the Island's postal history, stationary and postal markings and covers the history, its people, and their descendants.



The Pitcairn Islands are located in the Southern Pacific Ocean and located 2,150km southeast of Tahiti, French Polynesia.

SOME PITCAIRN HISTORY

- Pitcairn Island was first discovered in July 1767, by a young Scottish midshipman Robert Pitcairn, aboard the British ship the *Swallow*.
- *On the 28th of April 1789, near Tofua in the Tonga Islands. Fletcher Christian and other mutineers forced Captain Bligh and eighteen others into the Bounty's launch boat.* Two years later in 1790, nine Bounty mutineers together with some six Polynesian men and twelve women settled on Pitcairn, they remained undetected for eighteen years.
- In 1808, Captain Mayhew Follger found the last surviving mutineer John Adams, Polynesian women, and mixed-race children. From time-to-time various ships stopped near the island and as time passed, the Bounty Mutineer's story and events slowly unfolded.
- In 1831 Sir John Barlow a British Admiralty Officer, published *The Eventful History of the Mutiny and the Piratical Seizure of H.M.S. Bounty*. Many books, TV programs & Movies have been published since then, spurred on by the public's interest and imagination in the South Sea's Islands, The Bounty, The Mutineers, and their Descendants.
- The Pitcairn people turned to the Holy Bible for inspiration and initially followed the Church of England faith. In 1887 following a visit from the Reverend J.I.Tay the population converted to the Seventh Day Adventist Church.



At present The Pitcairn Islands are an overseas territory of the United Kingdom. King Charles III is the current head of state of the Pitcairn Islands.



The Bounty mutineers sending Captain Bligh and some of the Officers and crew adrift.

POSTAL HISTORY

Until 1926 letters posted in Pitcairn were sent without charge, as no stamps were available. From 1920's - 40's they purchased stamps from New Zealand in their own Post Office to frank mail.

Many philatelists have seen the definitive set for the Pitcairn Island October 15, 1940, featuring eight colourful stamps, including some controversial ones showing portraits of mutineers with that of King George VI. Two more definitive stamps were added in 1951.

Eleven new definitive stamps were issued during 1957, they featured Queen Elizabeth II along-side scenes showing some of the aspects of life on the Island.

Many new designs have been issued over the following years, including designs featuring members of the Royal Family, some of the original Mutineers, British Prime Minister's and a stamp featuring George Washington was issued in 1976.

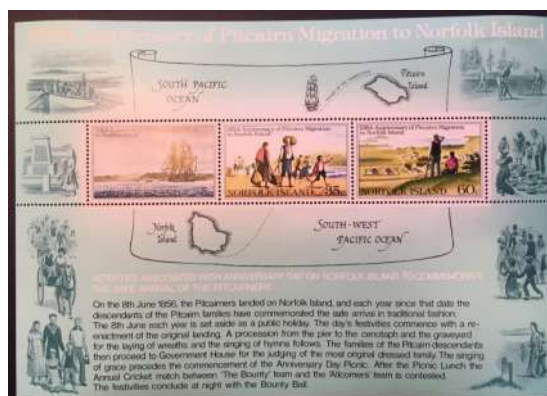


The current postcode for directing mail to Pitcairn Island is PCRN 1ZZ.

A Gallery of Pitcairn Island Stamps



If this sounds like an area that appeals to you, stamps from Pitcairn Island are not hard to find. I saw these two miniature sheets on our exchange sheets this week.

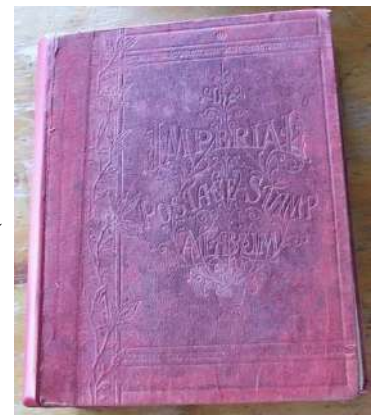


[Our library holds an extensive range of books, leaflets & magazines, which are available to members.](#)
 Please phone [David on 0428821221](tel:0428821221) or email: ddusa@live.com.au



Who did all the work on old albums and catalogues?

Occasionally, at our auctions, we see an old album being presented for sale. Usually, these are “kiddie collection” albums like most of us owned when we started collecting, many years ago. Occasionally, we come across a real gem, like the 1894 Stanley Gibbons Imperial shown here. This massive volume held a place for every stamp known at the time but better than that, on the left hand pages, it contained images and descriptions of the stamps that were to be placed opposite.



The amount of work to produce this combination album and catalogue would have been enormous but I admit that I had given this little thought when I first acquired it. It was only during a discussion with other philatelists that the topic was raised and I noted that the person who had taken on this massive task was a Major E. B. Evans.

Fortunately, the internet is a wealth of information, available to us that could only be dreamed about by previous generations. One site contains a free download of an old book detailing the lives of famous philatelists.



<http://globalphilatelibrary.org/birch/BiographiesOfPhilatelistsDealers.pdf>

Here is what it has to say about Major Evans.

EVANS, Maj. Edward Benjamin 1846-1922 Born 3rd November 1846. Died 21st March 1922. He began collecting stamps whilst at school at the age of 15. His first article on stamp collecting was published in November 1864 under the pseudonym Cheth. He also used the pseudonym Cheth when, as a Lieutenant at Norwich, he wrote letters to *The Philatelist* and *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* in the 1860s and 1870s. (Identified by Adelaide Lucy Fenton on the inside fly-leaf of her copy of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, 1873, Volume 11.)

On receiving his commission in 1867 in the Royal Artillery, he was sent to Malta where he met Lt. Speranza, a founder member of the Philatelic Society, London (now the Royal Philatelic Society London). Whilst stationed at Plymouth in the mid-1870s, he made the acquaintance of both E. Stanley Gibbons and Edward L. Pemberton. In 1876 he arranged to be transferred to a battery ordered to Mauritius in order to research the philately of that place. He retired from the Army in 1890.

He also used the pseudonym Philatelist when writing an article concerning the Chalmers/Hill controversy in the *Whitehall Review* in the 1880s. By 1884 he had completed a most comprehensive catalogue, the *Philatelic Handbook*, which served as a model for later catalogues. He authored many books, thousands of articles and compiled a number of important catalogues. After editing a few odd numbers of *The Philatelic Record*, he became editor of *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* from its third issue in 1890 to 1914, a total of 259 numbers, and also edited the last five volumes of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*. Once the [Royal] Philatelic Society, London had decided on its own journal, it was he who suggested the name *The London Philatelist*.

In 1914, Evans, together with the other two English members of the Royal Philatelic Society London who were recipients of the Lindenberg Medal, returned their medals to the Berlin Philatelisten Klub in protest against the conduct of the War. His library was sold to Victor Marsh.



Why is this person on a stamp No 13: Leonor Rivera

Although not stated on the stamp, a small amount of research will show that this is Leonor Rivera and the stamp image is taken from the photograph below it, with a few changes. The statuette has been removed from the column and whatever she is holding in her hands in the photograph has been replaced by a letter - a letter from Rizal.

The Rizal concerned was José Rizal, one of the Philippines' greatest heroes and martyrs. Born in 1861, he came from a prosperous family and was educated in Manila and at the University of Madrid where he proved to be a brilliant student, studying law but changing to medicine when his mother went blind. He was also a writer and poet, a musician, an artist and sculptor and was fluent in more than twenty languages.



Crayon sketch of Leonor by Rizal

While a student, he met Leonor and the two of them fell in love. When he left to pursue ophthalmology studies in Europe, he was 21 and she either 15 or 16, he promised to marry her on his return. At a party that she organized for his going away, he wrote a song for her. Titled Leonor, it became very popular and children were said to sing it to her whenever they saw her in the street.

Alas, they never met again. While in Madrid, Rizal wrote two books which showed the Spanish domination of the Philippines and particularly the behavior of the Spanish friars who had great power and wealth, in a very poor light and he was labeled a revolutionary by the authorities. This was despite his writing insisting that non-violent means were the only right way forward. When he returned to the Philippines, he was prevented from having any further contact with Leonor by her family. Eventually, they both married other people.



This stamp caused a controversy as the image of Rizal is reversed which shows him parting his hair on the right rather than the left. Some people became very upset about this but nobody really explained what happened.



When revolution broke out in the Philippines, Rizal was not involved, in fact, he was travelling to Cuba, via Spain, to volunteer as a doctor during an outbreak of yellow fever. He was arrested in Spain and returned to the Philippines where he was tried by a military court for inciting the revolution by his writings. He was found guilty and sentenced to be executed by firing squad. The soldiers chosen for the squad were Filipinos and knowing that there was much sympathy for him in the ranks, a second rank of Spanish soldiers stood behind them with orders to shoot the Filipinos if they refused to fire.



*The song Leonor, written at their parting contains the line, :
"Recuerdo triste tan solo mi anhelo ay! Leonor (Always remember my sad longing for you, Leonor)."*



BENDIGO

Stamp and Coin Fair

*In conjunction with
Bendigo Coin and Collectables Club Inc*

5th. August 2023

9.30 - 3.30

*Local & Melbourne
Stamp and Coin Dealers*

*Please Note New Venue
Prince of Wales*

Showgrounds

Holmes Rd, North Bendigo

Entry by gold coin donation appreciated

Bendigo Philatelic Society Inc

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

www.bendigophilatelic.org

Enquiries to Fair Coordinator: Paul Brownlie

Email: newmarketeer@hotmail.com