



*Bendigo*

# The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J

P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

Founded 1931

**February 2025**

Web page: [www.bendigophilatelic.org](http://www.bendigophilatelic.org)



Tues. 4th Feb. Modes of Transport on Stamps

Tues. 4th Mar. View Lois Whatley/Roman Lemega entries

## President's Report February 2025

What an end to 2024 and start to 2025, I have had Tom in hospital from the 16<sup>th</sup> of December to the 14<sup>th</sup> of January. Whenever I get in the car my phone tells me how long to the Hospital. Hopefully we are now getting back to some normality now.

Our first meeting was very successful with a great attendance. Our theme for the night was stamps issued or postmarked in 1925. Australia did not issue any stamps that year.

David Somerton gave us a demonstration on sites of interest on the internet. How many of us went home and tried them. If you did, I'm sure you would have had great fun.

Our February birthday person is our wonderful treasurer, Margaret, on the 17<sup>th</sup> and it is a special one. All birthdays are special but the one with a 0 in them we seem to celebrate. Have a wonderful Day. "Happy Birthday" and thank you for keeping an eye on me.

For those on the committee we have a meeting prior to our normal meeting starting at 5.30pm. We have quite a lot to get through so don't be late. The topic for the February meeting is "Modes of Transport" that means bicycles, cars, boats, planes, balloons etc. I'm sure we all have some of these in our collection so please bring them along for viewing. We will also have our much-loved auction.

The time is moving forward for the completion of the Lois Whatley and the Roman Lemega treasure hunts. So, get a wriggle on. Entries must be submitted for viewing and lodgment at the March Meeting.

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 to Jacinta Allan MP 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 7.00pm 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:

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

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

**Secretary:** *Jo Raw*

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## **A little Bendigo Philatelic Society history discovered by Grey Loyer.**

In April, 1952 three new members joined the Club which brought the total membership to **100** (as advertised in the Australian Stamp Monthly magazine).

### **Oh, for the Value of Money, then and now!**

From the Australian Stamp Monthly magazine Sept – Oct 1937.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Air Mail Exhibition was held in Melbourne Oct 5-7, 1937

Donations were requested to support the cost of the Exhibition.

2 Guineas was received from the Philatelic Society of Victoria. (£2/2/- today \$4.20!)

2 Guineas was received from the Philatelic Society of WA (£2/2/-).

14/- from a Mr Wakefield (\$1.40)

5/- from a Mr S. Zelenko (.50 cents)

5/- from the Bendigo Philatelic Society (.50 cents)

2/6 from a Mr R. Spalding (.25 cents).

Admission was adults 1/1d (.11 cents), Children 6d (.05 cents.)

The Bendigo Philatelic Society's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting showed the funds at a healthy £5/11/6 (\$11.15!).

Exchange Sheets purchases totalled £8/16/- (\$17.60)!

After the Meeting members adjourned to the 'Holly Café' for refreshments.

(Does this Café still exist in Bendigo?).



## It's tennis time again.

In England, you might be told that tennis was invented in Edgbaston, Warwickshire but that is more nationalistic pride than truth. What Major Harry Gem and Augurio Perera did at Edgbaston was combine aspects of two existing games, one of which was the game of “racquets”, now known as real tennis or royal tennis.

They played their game on a croquet pitch and gave it the name of “field tennis” which was later renamed lawn tennis. They also came up with a standardised set of rules, based on those of the earlier game and it was this development of the game that grew into the modern game. Despite this, the earlier “real” tennis is still played though you could be forgiven if you didn't know that.



Real tennis seems to date back to a game played in the monastic cloisters of Northern France in the 1100s. In those days, it was played without a racquet and was called “jeu de paume”, literally “game of the palm”.

Even the word “tennis” came from France and was a corruption of the French word “tenez” meaning “hold” which the serving players would call to alert their opponents that the ball was coming.

It was five hundred years before racquets were introduced into the game and it began to resemble something we might recognise as tennis.



*Rod Laver, one of the greatest tennis players Australia has known*



The game has a long association with royalty. In England, when he was not busy dispatching wives, Henry VIII liked nothing better than to dispatch a ball or two at a tennis opponent. He was playing tennis while Anne Boleyn was being executed. In Scotland, Mary Queen of Scots was an enthusiast and so was her son, James I of England. He was James VI in Scotland. The Scottish James I died on his tennis court when he was chased by assassins. He attempted to escape down a drain but failed as a grill had been fixed over it to stop tennis balls being lost down it.

Another curious fact is that the final version of the rules were prepared by the Marylebone Cricket Club in 1875. Two years later, the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club used those rules for the first English championship, held at Wimbledon. Until 1968, all the major events were strictly for amateurs. This naturally led to various loopholes being exploited and with the rise of television coverage and huge sums of money being offered, the “open” tennis era began, allowing the best players to tour the world and make a good living from the sport. The rest, as they say, is history.



**The Grey Zone:**

**Australia: 1946 Peace Stamps**

The Australian Postal Authorities wanted to  
...commemorate the victorious end of World War II ... with a special victory series.

Three stamps were designed and engraved by Frank D. Manley.

G. Lissenden helped on the design of the 3½d.

All three stamps had the word PEACE.

Stamps were recess printed Perf 14.5

Description of each follows with quantities printed.

2½d Rose Scarlet showing star and olive wreath 93,585,500

3½d Dull Blue showing Aust. Flag with white Dove superimposed 5,448,000

5½d Bright Blue-Green showing Angel, Southern Cross and peace rays 7,840,500



**There are two separate errors both on the 3½d Dull Blue**  
**Fraction bar at right extends into the '3'**  
**'H flaw' whereby on the right 4 vertical bars, the two left are joined**  
**(unable to find any copies)**

Note these stamps were re-issued in 1995 in decimal currency



There is truly an **enormous** range of Peace First Day Covers.  
Here are some shown below. Most covers range between \$30 to \$90 each.







Grey  
Maryborough

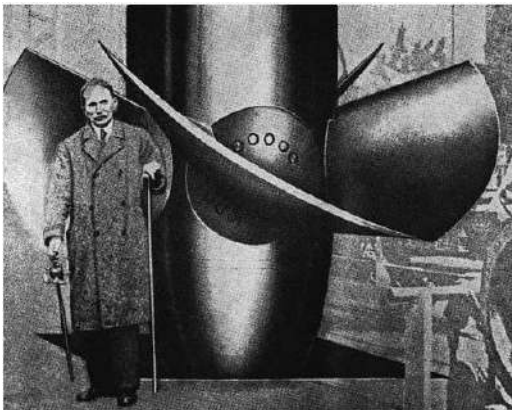
## Why is this person on a stamp? No. 38: Viktor Kaplan

If I didn't collect stamps, I may never have heard of Viktor Kaplan. Fortunately, as a philatelist, I now realise that every time we turn on a switch, we have him to thank for the efficiency of much of our power generation. Viktor Kaplan was not the first person to invent a turbine for generating hydroelectricity, but his design was so far in advance of anything that was around at the time, it revolutionised the generation of electricity and has been adopted around the world. Kaplan turbines can exceed 90% efficiency.

Viktor Kaplan was born in 1876 in Styria, Austria, then part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. He was the son of a railroad worker. He attended school and university in Vienna studying mechanical engineering with an emphasis on motors, particularly diesel engines. He then moved to the German Technical University in Brno. Brno is now part of the Czech Republic which is why his invention is also shown on a stamp from Czechoslovakia. He stayed there for thirty years, becoming a professor.



Kaplan first patented his turbine in 1912 but it was six years before the first commercial application, mainly due to a glitch that needed to be overcome, that of bubbles causing vibrations that could damage the machinery. The 1918 turbine generated 26kW of power and remained in operation until 1955. It is now on display at the Vienna Technical Museum (left).



What made the Kaplan turbine so efficient was that the blades could be swivelled to match the flow and depth of the water. This meant that they can be used where there is a low head of water but are also excellent in high flow conditions. Sizes range from small units that homesteaders can set up in a stream to massive units that can power a town. They are still one of the world's most widely used turbines. Viktor Kaplan died from a stroke in 1934.



*Kaplan was honoured on the 1000 Austrian schilling banknote in 1961.*



# *BENDIGO Stamp Fair*

*30th. August 2025*

*9.30 - 2.30*

*Local & Melbourne  
Stamp and Coin  
Dealers*

*St. Andrews  
Uniting Church Hall  
24 Myers St. Bendigo*

*Free Entry  
Bendigo Philatelic Society  
Inc*

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

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