



*Bendigo*

# The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J

P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

Founded 1931

May 2025

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



Tues. 6th May Mining, Ores and Crystals on stamps  
Tues. 3rd June Stamp Trivia Night  
Tues. 1st July Glaciers on stamps  
Tues. 5th Aug Members Selling Night  
Sat. 30th Aug BPS Stamp Fair

## President's Report May 2025

Let me start off by thanking Jo, Geoff and Margaret for holding the fort for me at the March meeting. Life just got a bit hard, but hopefully I am back on track. Your understanding, love and patience is wonderful.

Last meeting was our annual dinner at the National Hotel. We had a good attendance of members and partners which was great. All that attended enjoyed themselves. The winner of the Lois Whatley Competition was Margaret Brown and the Roman Lemega Competition was won by Geoff Crawford. Congratulations to you both, well done! Ken Datson has put together next year's search list for the competition and I know of a few people who have started already. Putting an entry together is a lot of fun.

We have a couple of events in May to put in our calendars.

Maryborough Stamp Club Annual Club Auction: Tuesday 13th May 2025.

Bryan Bywater and Friends at Kangaroo Flat R.S.L.: Saturday 17th May 2025.

Latrobe Valley Philatelic Society Auction: Saturday 24th May 2025.

Our theme for the May meeting is mining, Ores and Crystals on stamps.

May is a big month for milestone birthdays. Tom Glazebrook will be 99 on the 7th, Amy Benjamin will be 94 on the 28th and Ian Kimpton turns the big 90 on the 25th. Other birthdays are Pauline Robinson on the 13th and Warren Richmond on the 18th. Congratulations and we hope you all have a wonderful time on your special day. "Happy Birthday!"

Now to some very sad news. On the 16th of April, Myrtle's husband, Alan Darby, passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with Myrtle and family at this very sad time.

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: Geoff Crawford**

**Secretary: Jo Raw**

email: [bendigophilatelicociety@gmail.com](mailto:bendigophilatelicociety@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)



## Roman Lemega and Lois Whatley awards

Winners of the annual Lois Whatley and Roman Lemega competitions were announced at our annual dinner in April.



Margaret Brown won award for the Lois Whatley treasure hunt competition while Geoff Crawford took out the Roman Lemega prize.

Meanwhile, space fillers as seen on Facebook recently...



**A teacher who cruelly ordered his student to write a complete essay without using full stops has been handed a lengthy sentence.**

**Be good to your nieces and nephews, you'll need them to smuggle alcohol into your nursing home one day.**



## Greece 1927 Issue error

The Centenary Issue by Greece for the naval Battle of Navarino (1827-1927), which secured Greek independence in 1830 from the Ottoman Empire after 400 years of occupation in which the naval squadrons of 22 ships from Britain, France and Russia decisively defeated 78 ships of the fleets of the Ottomans and the Egyptians, was supposed to be a set of five stamps, but six stamps now comprise the set.

The issued stamps were fittingly first released in the Greek city of Pylos at the south tip of the Peloponnesian (also known as Navarino) on the south-western tip of Greece, but it was soon discovered that the printed 8,000,000 5 drachma stamp of the overall Commander of the Allied Fleet had been incorrectly spelt only as 'Sir Codrington'. The postal authorities in Greece, not wanting to create a scarcity of the stamp if they tried to withdraw it, decided to print another 8,000,000 stamps of the corrected version 'Sir Edward Codrington'.



Grey, Maryborough



## Colonialism and philately

It seems that the lessons from the colonial era have been all but forgotten as once again, we see powerful nations threatening to annex their neighbours and take us back to the age of empires. Of course, it is only the colonizers who have forgotten. Those who endured colonization will remember the trauma of being subservient to a foreign power and the atrocities that were sometimes used to maintain that power.

I doubt whether India will forget how Britain put down the Sepoy uprising when, after the Sepoys were defeated, the British forces, under the sadistic Sir Hugh Rose, lined up the captured Sepoy fighters in front of their cannons and fired. The day's carnage only stopped when the guns became too hot for the soldiers to use but by that time, they had murdered hundreds.

I was thinking these cheerful thoughts when I was transforming my engraved stamps from the Belgian Congo into a new album recently. Belgium, too, was not above the odd atrocity, as any encyclopedia will attest, particularly in the "Free State" days before reports from missionaries forced the king to take action. What struck me though, was that colonialism was very good for philately. Compare, for instance, the fairly mundane stamps from Britain, during those years, with the explosion of beautiful stamps they produced to show off their empire to the world. The other empires did something similar, creating a sort of one-upmanship with their colonial stamps



One of my favourite sets of engraved stamps was produced for the Belgian Congo from 1930 to 1932. These were engraved at the Institut de Gravure in Paris and only printed at Malines (Mechelen) in Belgium. This is very frustrating to me as the Institut was where engravers were trained and finding out who did what there is very difficult. For those who may not be familiar with these, here are some from the set.



**The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have started asking humans to prove that they are not robots. 😊**





This is one of the few stamps where the engraver has been identified. Gaston Gandon was a teacher at the Institut de Gravure. His son, Pierre Gandon became one of France's most famous engravers.



These two stamps were engraved by Pierre Munier.





# *Some Stamp Facts No. 3: Did you know?*

## 15. New Zealand Health Stamps

These issues ran **annually** from 1929 until 2016 either as a single, double or triple set. The basic idea was to raise money for NZ Children Health Camps which had been operating since 1919. All stamps had an additional **small surcharge (on the stamp)** which went to the Health Camp beside the postage rate of the stamp. Sadly, NZ Post ceased to produce stamps after 2016 due to falling sales so ending an 87 year tradition! Still very collectable today.



## 16. Channel Island stamps during WW2.

A small cluster of islands off the French coast, they have remained English since 1066. Used British stamps until 1941 when they were the only part of Britain occupied by the Germans in WW2. They 'ran out of stamps' so printed their own stamps until 1946 when British stamps were once again used. From 1969 they again produce their own stamps.





## 17. Vatican Stamps

Recognized as an independent and the world's smallest State by Treaty with Italy in 1929, it's first stamps were issued on 1<sup>st</sup> August, 1929. Naturally, all stamps have a 'religious' theme and collectable due to the good designs and colours. Some examples.



1929 set

1936 set

1947 set



1958 set

1972 set

2005 set

## 18. Confederate Stamps of America (1861-1865)

A very specialized area of collecting as these stamps are scarce and **quite expensive**. The Confederacy only lasted from April 1861 until its fall in May 1865. Its Post Office ran from February 1861 until the very end of the war, and was very efficient. Anything postal from stamps to covers to letters to any documentation is worth a fortune. There are 'cheaper' stamps available but of poorer quality (range from \$30 to \$80 each). Some examples of better stamps with date and current prices are listed below.



1861

1862

1862

1863

1864

1862-3

\$150

\$180

\$100

\$150

\$100

\$250



1862/3

1863

1862

\$1,150

\$300

\$350

Grey, Maryborough



## Why is this person on a stamp? No. 41: George Enescu

Many of us remember Yehudi Menuhin, the great violinist, but how many know of his teacher and mentor, George Enescu. George was, like Yehudi, a child prodigy, both as a composer and also as a virtuoso on the violin and piano. Pablo Casals described Enescu as "the greatest musical phenomenon since Mozart".

George Enescu is still celebrated in Romania as their greatest musician and they have released several stamps and banknotes in his honour plus Liveni, the village in Romania where George was born, has since been renamed George Enescu.



George was the eighth child of Costache and Maria Enescu. He was the only one to survive infancy. George showed his prodigious talent very early, composing from the age of five. Having just turned seven years old, he became the youngest person ever to be admitted to the Vienna Conservatory, only the second admitted beneath the regulation age of fourteen, the first being Fritz Kreisler, also a violin prodigy and slightly older but still just seven. Three years later George performed a private concert for the Emperor Franz Joseph and went on to graduate at twelve.

His studies then took him to Paris, where he met his hero, Brahms, and where what is considered his first "mature" work was performed by the Colonne Orchestra, at the time one of the most prestigious orchestras in the world. He was still just sixteen.

His compositions were distinctly, perhaps patriotically, Romanian, often drawing from Romanian folk music. One of his most famous compositions, Romanian Rhapsodies, is an example of this.

As his reputation as a composer and violinist grew, so too did his stature as a conductor and it is this that took him to the United States of America where he first conducted the Philharmonia Orchestra at Carnegie Hall in 1923.

Back in Paris, he was also much sought after as a teacher, taking on a young Yehudi Menuhin. They had a long association, even recording together, sometimes with Yehudi's sister, Hephzibah, accompanying them on piano.

George readily promoted and encouraged other Romanian composers and musicians. Yehudi Menuhin called Enescu "the most extraordinary human being, the greatest musician and the most formative influence" he had ever experienced.

George Enescu died in 1955 and is buried in Paris.

Source: Wikipedia.







# *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*

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

*Enquiries: [bendigophilatelicociety@gmail.com](mailto:bendigophilatelicociety@gmail.com)*