



*Bendigo*

# The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J

P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

Founded 1931

**June 2025**

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



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 June 2025

Can you believe it? Members have started putting together next year's Lois Whately and Roman Lemega treasure hunt stamps. What are members going to do for the rest of the year? Well done!

Maryborough Stamp Club Annual Auction was held on 13<sup>th</sup> May. It was a great evening and I spent loads too much!!! We only had 3 members in attendance. Lyn offered to take her car. Jim drove, Lyn navigated and I sat in the back.

The following Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May, Brian Bywater from Gippsland, plus friends Vlado Raus and Peter Matthews set up tables at Kangaroo Flat R.S.L. We had a nice day of fellowship and stamps. All thanks to Rae and Laurie Bryant for hosting Brian.

Latrobe Valley Philatelic Society Action is on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Postal bids must be in by the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

We have a Stamp Trivia Night on the 3 June meeting.

June is a big month for birthdays. My Tom will be 92 on the 1<sup>st</sup> June and John Armstrong is on the same day. Laurie Bryant and Helga Boniwell are on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, Michael Paterson is on the 10<sup>th</sup> and Angelo Verga is on the 25<sup>th</sup>. "Happy Birthday" to you all. We hope you have a lovely day, filled with lots of stamps.

We have two losses of great supporters of the Bendigo Philatelic Society. We lost Max Smart from Warrnambool and John Richardson from Trafalgar. Both gentlemen were great exchange sheet suppliers. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families 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:

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## Imitation is flattery—or is it?

It is sometimes said that imitation is a form of flattery but that is not always the case. In the academic world they sometimes call it plagiarism and the number of copyright lawsuits show that in the world of the arts, tolerance to copying is limited.

On postage stamps, copying a design seems to be fairly common, except where it involved forgery. In that case, there is an intention to deceive which is generally not tolerated by postal authorities, no matter how collectable they might be.

This has been a huge problem for Australia Post with the huge number of forged pre-paid parcel packs emanating from Asia and being readily available online for as little as one cent each rather than the fifteen dollars the originals command. Forgery has been a problem since the birth of postage stamps but has become worse since the advent of cheap colour printing. It is still a problem for collectors with many forgery sellers being called out on Stampboards. These are often valuable postmarks or overprints on otherwise cheap stamps.

Not all of the early forgers saw themselves as crooks. The Italian forger, Giovanni Desperati, who moved to France in 1909 and took the French version of his name under which he is better known, Jean de Sperati, argued that his stamps were reproductions, offered cheaply to collectors who could not afford the originals. The problem was that although he sold them for around 1% of their value, they were so good, most of the experts and certainly many collectors could not tell them from genuine.



*A Sperati forgery of a Saxony stamp. P.D. Wikipedia*



This article, however, is not about forgery but about the number of times stamps appear to be an “echo” of a previous issue. Thematic collectors will be well aware that many stamps in their collections have a similar feel to them. For instance, have a look at the number of stamps showing printing presses, some of them almost identical. The above postage due from the United States of America was obviously admired in Australia as its counterpart from New South Wales shows.

Another US issue whose design showed similarities to a later Australian was the 1942 Kentucky sesquicentennial stamp. While not identical, the Australian “Crossing the Blue Mountains” stamp certainly has a similar theme of a group of men looking out over a valley.





# *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.



1929

1930

1931

1934

1936

1940



1949

1955

1962

1970



1981

1992

2003

2016

## 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.






1941 Guernsey



1941 Jersey 1943-1944 Jersey

17. Vatican Stamps

Recognized as an independent and the world’s smallest State by Treaty with Italy in 1929, its first stamps were issued on 1<sup>st</sup> August, 1929. Naturally, all stamps have a ‘religious’ theme and are 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  |   |  |   |



# The Grey Zone: Australia & New Zealand:1958 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tasman Flight

## Joint Issue.

In commemoration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first flight between Australia and New Zealand a 'joint issue' stamp was prepared by James Edward Lyle

(16<sup>th</sup> June 1921 Brisbane – 29<sup>th</sup> August 1994 Brisbane) showing the famous Southern Cross aircraft and a portrait of Charles Kingsford Smith.

All stamps were recessed printed by the Commonwealth Note and Stamp Printer, Melbourne.

Date of Issue 27<sup>th</sup> August 1958. Perf 14 x 14.5

## The historic flight September & October 1928.

Charles Kingsford Smith was the pilot, Charles T.P.Ulm the co-pilot,

Harry Litchfield the navigator, and Tom Mc Williams, a New Zealander, the radio operator.

Having been delayed by bad weather for 10 days in Sydney the Fokker FVIIb-3m aircraft finally took off on 10<sup>th</sup> September 1928. The crew encountered continued appalling weather over the Tasman Sea so much so that an electrical storm knocked out three of their four propellers and the aircraft's windshield had so much ice that they literally flew 'blind' for several hours!

Circling over Wellington, they eventually landed at Wigram (just north of Christchurch) on 11<sup>th</sup> September 1928. It had taken 14 hours and 25 minutes.

They had flown 2,670 kms.

The four were feted at various civic receptions throughout New Zealand

and were **not** able to attempt the return flight to Sydney, due to the Southern Cross needing extensive repairs, until 13<sup>th</sup> October, landing

there on 14<sup>th</sup> October. The return flight took 22 hours and 51 minutes!

(The flight from Sydney to Christchurch today takes about 3 to 3 ½ hours).



New Zealand:  
Issue face value  
6d Blue  
Quantity 2,165,135



Australia:  
Issue face value  
8d Blue  
Quantity 2,827,434



The crew of four



30,000 people greeted them in Christchurch.

### Various covers from Australia & New Zealand





Die proof



You know you are old when it's your doctor that tells you to slow down and not the local police.

The older I get, the more I regret the people I've lost. Maybe becoming a bushwalking guide wasn't such a good idea.





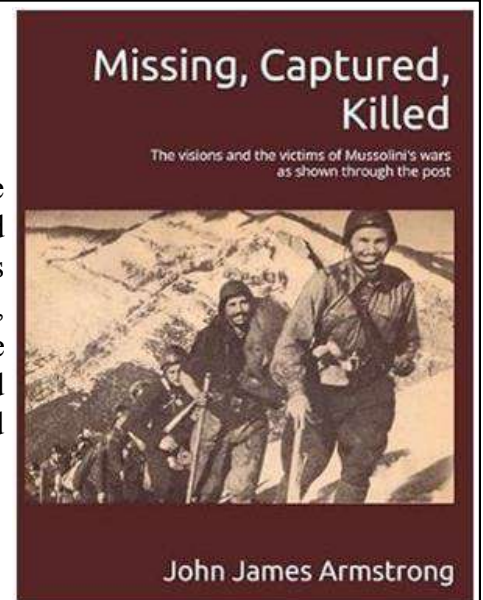
## Missing, Captured, Killed gets a US review



As newsletter editor, I'm always conscious of the danger of turning the newsletter into a personal blog so I do my best to keep it objective and non-personal. Today, I hope you will all forgive me if I break that rule as I received news, through Stampboards, that my book, "Missing, Captured, Killed" has been made available in the United States and that the purchaser left a very positive review with Amazon. Although published by Amazon Australia, it has now also been bought in the US, Britain and Italy.

I would like to share the review below.

John Armstrong



### Top reviews from the United States



Seref Bornovali

★★★★★ **A great history book without a textbook feel**

Reviewed in the United States on May 11, 2025

**Verified Purchase**

I purchased this book because the subject is very close to my collecting interests, but I discovered much more than I thought. The historical accuracy and selection of material are outstanding.

Moreover, the author adds a significant human dimension to this somber chapter of history.

Highly recommended for all readers. My sincere compliments to the author.

Helpful

Report

[See more reviews >](#)

**Theory is when you know everything but nothing works.**

**Practice is when everything works but nobody knows why.**

**I can combine theory and practice. For me, nothing seems to work but for the life of me, I never know why.**



## Why is this person on a stamp? No. 42: Rosa Parks

At a time when many people around the world are wondering where the United States of America are heading, it is comforting to know that they have been through many changes throughout their history, both political and economical, and have always survived. Usually these changes have eventually been positive, mainly due to the influence of people who refused to give up and continued to work towards a better future. Such a person was Rosa Parks.

Rosa has been called “the mother of the civil rights movement”. She is usually remembered for refusing to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama bus to a white passenger. Her subsequent arrest and trial sparked a boycott by coloured people of Alabama’s bus system. Her work for civil rights was far more than that single act.

To understand the context of her action on the bus, it is necessary to go back to the end of the American Civil War. In many, previously Confederate, states, the newly freed slaves were not welcomed into the dominant white society. Within several of these states, segregation laws, known colloquially as the Jim Crow laws, were enacted. These covered, amongst other things, the use of public transportation with buses separated into white areas to the front and seats for coloured people at the back. It went further with local laws in Montgomery stating that if all the white seats were taken, those towards the back had to give up their seats to any white passenger. Bus drivers could aggressively enforce this and were often armed and a refusal to give up a seat could lead to police being called and a subsequent arrest.



*Rosa Parks with  
Martin Luther King*

Rosa Parks was born in 1913 and at the age of thirty, joined the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), taking on the role of secretary of the local chapter. During the next years, she actively became involved in the cases of people who had been victimised by the local laws, at times organising campaigns to support them. At a personal level she decided to register to vote, not easy for coloured people at that time, and after three attempts, she eventually succeeded in 1945.

On the first of December 1955, when a tired Rosa Parks climbed on the bus home from work, she didn’t notice that the driver was James F Blake, someone with whom she had had a previous altercation and had subsequently avoided. Despite there being other vacant seats, Blake took the opportunity to target her, insisting that she give up her seat. As she said later, she immediately thought of Emmet Till, a fourteen year old black boy who had been lynched that year for whistling at a white woman. She decided that enough was enough. Blake called the police and she was arrested.

When in 1955, Rosa was arrested for refusing to give up her seat, she was not the first this had happened to and the NAACP had been planning for a while to test the law in court. Previous cases had been deemed unsuitable but in the softly spoken, polite woman, they saw a chance. Despite concerns about violence against her family, Rosa agreed to fight the case rather than simply pay a fine. It was then decided that on the day of her trial, coloured people in Montgomery would boycott the bus system, thus causing a substantial financial cost to the company. This was organised by The Women’s Political Council led by Jo Ann Robinson, who surreptitiously organised the printing of 35000 leaflets which were circulated to the coloured community.

Rosa was found guilty of violating state law and fined ten dollars but this was not the end. Coloured leaders met to discuss continuing the boycott and elected Martin Luther King to organise this. Meanwhile the whole issue was continued through the courts, eventually reaching the Supreme court, though Rosa’s name was left off that case as hers was concurrently being appealed at state level. The result was that the Supreme court ruled segregation to be unconstitutional and suddenly the world had changed. That day, the boycott ended having lasted for 381 days. This article has only considered one small issue of many Rosa took on in a long life of activism for coloured people. The article about her life on Wikipedia is recommended reading.







# *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*

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