



Bendigo

The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J

P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

Founded 1931

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Web page: www.bendigophilatelic.org



January 6	1 page Display - Letter "A" stamps
February 3	1 page Display - Letter "B" stamps
March 3	View Lois Whatley /Roman Lemega entries
April 7	Annual Dinner - TBA

President's Report January 2026

Today is the first day I have written 2026 and it is quite scary. Yes, another What happened to 2025? They never seemed to go so fast! Wishing you and yours a Happy, Healthy New Year and may all your dreams come true in 2026.

Our Christmas social was a great night, plenty of food, friendship and stamps who could ask for more. We had a good attendance and a lot of conversation which was wonderful.

Just to remind you all we have a new format to our meetings. Starting from the 6th of January our suggested itinerary will be the the letter "A". and through the year and next year we will work our way through the Alphabet. All we ask is you put together a 1-page fun competition it does not have to be written even a hagner page will do. It will not be judged philatelically but by the other members in the room and they will decide what appeals to them. The winner will then receive \$5.00 just a little incentive. So, January is the Letter "A" if you collect Apples, Actors, Australia or a combination. Please put together a page as we are trying to make our nights a bit more interesting and include more members participation.

We have four members having a birthday this month Tom Cherry on the 12th, Cam Cowled on the 20th, Richard Guy on the 24th and Deb Turner on the 29th. "Happy Birthday" do hope you all have a special day.

I believe Birthdays should be celebrated as they are your special day.

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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Denmark leads the way....to where?

Denmark's postal service has a history that goes back hundreds of years with the first Danish stamps being delivered in 1851. The Danish Post Office, Postnord Danmark, has announced this on their website.

"PostNord will deliver its final letter in Denmark at the end of 2025 and focus its business on one core service from 2026: Parcels. Our goal is to become the Danes' preferred parcel courier. We want to be the very best where Danes need us - and that's in parcels.

Danes have become more and more digital, and what was once sent by letter is now received digitally by the vast majority of people. This means that there are very few letters left in Denmark. In fact, letter volumes have decreased by over 90 percent since 2000, and the volume of letters continues to decrease rapidly.



On the other hand, Danes are shopping online like never before. This means, that there is a growing need for fast and good delivery of Danish parcels, and we at PostNord are well equipped to help. That's why we're now focusing on becoming even better where Danes need us most - on parcels.

We expect all mailboxes to be removed no later than 31 December 2025."

Reading the website at <https://www.postnord.dk/en/>, it would appear that this also means that there will be no more Danish stamps issued, a pity, as Denmark has had a fine history of quality stamp issues.



The site also says that they will continue to deliver letters in Sweden and there is no mention of Greenland so hopefully, they will also continue. They do not list who, if anyone, has been contracted to deliver the 100 million letters that Danes still post annually.

Here are a few of my favourite Danish stamps to mourn what has been lost.



New Zealand 1931 Airmail Issues

A brief history.

The ninth (9th) Postal Union Congress was opened in London on 10 May 1929 by HRH The Prince of Wales. Amongst the many matters discussed it was agreed that from 1st July 1930 mail posted in New Zealand would be accepted by air services in Australia, Canada, USA, and on the Karachi-London route which had started in August 1929.

The New Zealand postal authorities decided that *special Air Mail stamps* should be produced and a 3d, 4d and 7d values were issued on 10 November, 1931.

The stamps were designed by **Leonard Cornwall Mitchell (1901-1971) of Wellington.**

Left photo of Mr Mitchell in 1956

Right photo of Mr Mitchell in 1970



His design for all three stamps was the same differing only in face value and colours.

I have been unable to find any description of his design, but it seems to be an idolized scene showing mountains, a lake, tree ferns, trees, and an early monoplane of 1930 flying over the whole scene. An idyllic picture of the New Zealand landscape.

The dies and plates were produced by the Royal Mint in the UK only arriving in New Zealand on 4 November 1931 and were immediately printed at the Government Printing Office in Wellington so that stamps would be available for the 1931 Christmas flight from Australia to the UK, and associated internal flights of 12 November.

The paper was Cowan chalk-surfaced paper with NZ and star watermark and comb perforated 14 x 14½. Each sheet contained 120 stamps in 10 rows of 12.

No plate numbers were used on the sheets, but 'sheet numbers' appeared in the margins of each sheet, top right. Buffer bars were used in the margins as protection for the plate from wear.

The original 3 stamps issued 10 November 1931.

Chocolate

Blackish-Purple

Brown-Orange



New Zealand Postal authorities decided to conduct a series of internal flights in December 1931 to carry Christmas mail, and to advertise this the 3d Chocolate stamp was printed in Yellow-Green and overprinted in red **FIVE PENCE**. Date of Issue 18 December 1931.

These stamps remained on sale until 31 October 1935.

Postage was the standard 2d plus an additional 3d surcharge for internal flight mail.



Again in 1934 the 7d stamp was used being printed in 'sky blue and overprinted in dark blue: **TRANS-TASMAN AIR MAIL "FAITH IN AUSTRALIA"**. This stamp was issued on 17 January 1934 for the first official trans-Tasman airmail on 17 February 1934. Stamps sold numbered 83,078 being withdrawn very soon after 17 February with remaining stocks destroyed.



Lower stamp has broken N (Faith iN)



Charles Ulm bought one of the ANA air-line's Avro X aircraft for himself and named it *Faith in Australia*. In this aircraft in 1933, Ulm set the speed record from England to Australia at 6 days, 17 hours and 56 minutes, and made several trans-Tasman flights.

In 1934, flying in *Faith in Australia*, Charles Ulm carried the first official airmail from New Zealand to Australia.

Note: During World War II Ulm's 'Faith in Australia' met a sad end as well. It was kept at Townsville aerodrome in Queensland, but when the threat of Japanese air attack lessened later in 1942, the aircraft was bulldozed by the Americans into the swamp at the end of the runway.

One wonders how they could have done that! The Powerhouse Museum, Sydney has the propellor.

Later, on 3 December 1934, with a crew of two, Charles Ulm flew from Oakland for Hawaii. His aircraft the *Stella Australis* failed to arrive. Despite an extensive sea search, no trace of it, him or his crew was ever found. All presumed dead in December 1934.

Some early covers: There are many covers: Normally sell for \$50 upwards



Grey
Maryborough

Some Stamp Facts No. 6: Did you know?

24. CHALKY PAPER (Often mentioned in Stamp Catalogues).

Ever wondered what this is? First introduced for stamp use and printing in 1902. It is a ‘**highly surfaced, chalk-coated paper**’. Its main purpose was to deter any attempt at the fraudulent re-use of stamps by removing the cancelled postmark. Such attempts on this paper would also remove the stamp design! If this paper is touched with silver (a coin, etc) it leaves a dark pencil-like mark.





25. 1d Penny Blue of 1840! (Yes, it exists!).

Rowland Hill of the famed 1d Black (issued in 1840) wished to trial the colour BLUE so he had printed from Plate No. 8 of the 1d Black a number of sheets **in Blue** so he could decide on the 2d Blue. Of these printed stamps (released to the public) only one single stamp has ever been found and that was in 1857!!!! It is now in the Royal Collection.

(Not listed in any catalogue, and NO picture available from the Royal Collection).

26. Perforation Gauge & various Perfs

This is used to measure the ‘perforations of a stamp’ by counting the number of holes (perfs) or teeth to 20cms along the stamp. This is then the Perf Number. It maybe expounded as a whole number or with fractions e.g.: 12, 12.5, or 12½ and so on. Without a Perforation Gauge you cannot know the Perf Number. The higher the Perf Number the smaller the “teeth” and the “more the holes”. Perfs can range from 8 to 16. Often the perfs on a stamp are mixed: 10.5 x 11, 14 x 14.5, 13 x 13.5, 13.5 x 14, 15 x 14 and so on.

			
Experimental Coil	Perf. 8 (Coil stamp)	Perf. 8.5 x Imperf	Perf. 9
Two hole & smaller Perfs			





			
Perf. 9.5 (or 9½)	Perf.10 x Imperf	Perf. 10.5	Perf. 11

			
Perf. 11.5 (or 11½)	Perf. 11.75	Perf. 12	Perf. 12.5 (or 12½)

			
Perf. 13 x Imperf	Perf. 13.5 or (13½)	Perf. 14	Perf. 14.5 or (14½)

			
Perf. 15	Perf. 15 ⅞	Perfs 15.5 (15½) x14	Perf. 16

Perf oddities

			
Weakened Perfs	Rough Perfs	Syncopated Perfs	Broken corner Perfs

Misplaced Perfs, examples


			
			

Some USA Perf oddities (early 20th Century)


			
Hyphen-hole Perfs	Large Dot Perfs	Small Dot Perfs	Two Dot Perfs

Rouletted Perforations: Another attempt at stamp separation. Mostly very, very fine *slits*

between stamps, but never successful.

	<p>These are Finnish stamps from the 1860's.</p> <p>They actually had “tiny projections” on each tooth which kept the sheet from falling apart, but often when the stamps were separated they caused the larger teeth to also ‘break-apart’ or ‘pull-apart’.</p> <p>see other examples below.</p>
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	<p>This rouletted stamp from Wurttemberg (1868) was also typical as the corners became ‘rounded’ when separated from a sheet of stamps.</p>
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Other examples of Rouletted stamps. None have a ‘sharp clean-cut image’.



Grey

Maryborough

Why is this person on a stamp? No. 48: Irene Sendler

In July of 2018, Poland issued a stamp honouring Irene Sendler (Ireny Sendlerowej) while Israel honoured her as Righteous Among The Nations. In Poland, it was part of Irene Sendler Year.

Who was this woman and why was she so honoured despite the fact that many people may never have heard her name.

When the Nazis invaded Poland, Irene was a nurse, working in a government department as a social worker. The Nazis removed all Jewish workers from the department, forbidding the Polish social workers to offer any assistance to Jews. Four hundred thousand Polish Jews were herded into the Warsaw Ghetto.



Irene approached the German authorities and spun a tale of a suspected typhus outbreak in the ghetto that if not contained, could spread to the German troops. Amazingly, she convinced them to allow her to take medications into the ghetto to help stem the “outbreak”. Irene was under no misapprehensions about the Nazis plans for her Jewish neighbours. Once she had opened a pathway, she began organising a scheme to rescue as many children from the ghetto as she could. Children were given new names and were either fostered with Polish families who claimed them as their own or hidden in orphanages where they were protected by the nuns. As an extra precaution, they were taught how to recite Christian prayers which they could use if challenged by the invaders. Their true identities were recorded in the hope that they could be reunited with their families sometime in the future. Sadly, of course, for most of them, this would never happen. Each batch of records was put in a jar and apparently buried under an apple tree.



By 1943, twenty-five hundred children had been rescued in this way but the Germans were getting increasingly suspicious. In October that year, they raided her house. Luckily, an assistant there hid all the current paperwork in her clothing and, while Irene was arrested, the files remained undiscovered.

Despite being repeatedly tortured, Irene gave nothing away but the Germans decided that they would execute her anyway. Fortunately, corruption was rife in the German army in Poland and members of the Polish resistance were able to bribe the guards and spirit Irene away. Although that meant the end of the scheme, she remained with the resistance, working as a nurse in a field hospital for them while remaining in hiding. She survived the war and continued as a social worker and champion of social justice. She died in 2008, aged 98 and was honoured by both Poland and Yad Vashem as Righteous Among The Nations.

Unfortunately, most of the children never experienced the hoped-for reunions as in 1942, the Nazis emptied the ghetto, shipping the residents to Treblinka extermination camp where few survived.

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Most books take 7 to 10 days. Books can be left at your Exchange Superintendent Lyn, or delivered direct to me:

Grey Loyer, 47 Goldsmith Street, Maryborough, 3465.



BENDIGO Stamp Fair

29th. August 2026

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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