



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



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

President's Report February 2026

Our first meeting for the year was very successful with a great attendance. It was the first night of our new theme, the alphabet. January's Theme was the letter A. We had 11 entries which was a great start with a close competition. "And the winner was" our wonderful and appreciated Secretary Jo Raw.

Her entry was "A" is for Anatomy. She was given the \$5.00 prize. Who will be next for the letter "B" you have to be in it to win it!

After discussion, it was decided that alternative meetings, we would start a KGV interest group. It will commence in February. Meeting starting at 6pm. I'm sure after a couple of meetings we will fine tune our interests.

Only one of our members has a Birthday in February on the 17th and it is our well-loved, hardworking treasurer Margaret. All birthdays are special. Have a wonderful Day. "Happy Birthday"

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 lodgement at the March Meeting, via the grape vine I have heard quite a few members have all fifty. Fabulous!

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

Treasurer: Margaret Brown

email: mabrown@bigpond.net.au

Newsletter Editor, Webmaster: John Armstrong

email: jjarmstrong47@hotmail.com

Librarian: David Robinson

email: ddusa@live.com.au

More news about the Danish post.

Last month, we reported on the news that Denmark will no longer be producing stamps. David Cotton has shared some correspondence from Alex Stade, his friend in Denmark, about a new company that has taken over delivering letters in Denmark. Alex wrote:

“Danish stamps have come to an end now, there will be no more, and the post delivery will be made by a new, private company, called “DAO”, which can be translated to “Danish Magazine Distribution”. They will not use stamps, but “letter labels”, one for inland mail, and one for letters to abroad. And they have no special motives like stamps. See attached scan.”



Tragic as this is to philatelists, we must probably recognise that this is a sign of what is to come. As previously reported, privately owned Local Post Offices in Australia have to purchase stamps in advance, whereas if they use the labelling system provided by Australia Post, they pay the total at the end of the month. No wonder LPOs are moving away from stamps.

Do you have a fire plan for your collection?

Back in the 1980s, I used to spend most lunchtimes talking to Richard, who owned a stamp shop in Little Bourke Street, Melbourne. (Some of our members would drool at the idea that he had several tea chests full of KGV penny reds bundled in lots of 100.)

On one of my visits, he showed me a collection of mint stamps that had been rescued from a house that had burned in a fire. Richard said that they were now almost worthless. It was a good lesson. Talking to David Cotton about the recent fires, he suggested a discussion on fire plans for our collections.



This year, the Harcourt fire was ten kilometres from our place and moving fast. We were saved by the wind change that took it away, to devastate other properties. Our fire plan is to leave and during the summer months, my collection is transferred from the shelves into suitcases. In the past, if fire has threatened, I loaded up the cases and took them to a safer place.

This time, it was so hot in the car and my collection has become so big, I came up with a new, I guess compromising plan. We have a large shipping container at our place. It is in an area where a fire would be mostly grass and probably fast moving so the container offers a fair amount of safer storage. That is where it will stay until the fire season is over. It's a nuisance having to go up to the container, every time I need to access an album, but the alternative is worse.

History has shown that, during the worst fires in Australia, whole towns can be destroyed and a suburban address may not be as safe as it seems. We all need a plan that protects what for some of us has been a lifelong investment in our collections. I still own the first stamp I bought when I was nine years old. After close on seventy years, I would not want to have to start again, even if that was possible.




Nyassa stamps

This article is only concerned with the stamps inscribed 'Nyassa' which were issued by the Niassa (also Nyassa) Company of Portuguese East Africa. (Note: these stamps have NOTHING to do with Nyasaland which was a British Colony also of Central East Africa actually bordering the Niassa and Zambezia areas of the Portuguese).


A very brief historical background:

Portuguese East Africa is today known as Mozambique and had seen Portuguese "interest" in this area for centuries, but it was not until the late 1880's that Portugal took any major steps to develop its hold over this region, greatly helped by the British who feared German encroachment from German East Africa to the north.

So, in 1891 the Portuguese Government divided the region into areas and granted three private companies the rights for about 35 to 50 years to trade and develop in each region in return for a share of any profits. Unfortunately, the three companies were a disaster, all losing money and being wound up between 1920 & 1942. The majority of shares in the Niassa Company were bought by German interests in 1913 but these in turn were confiscated by Britain during World War I.

	<p style="text-align: center;"><u><i>Approximate areas of each Company.</i></u></p> <p>Green to the Nyassa Company 1891-1929</p> <p>Grey to the Zambezia Company 1892-1920</p> <p>Orange to the Mozambique Company 1891-1942</p>
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The Issued stamps of the Nyassa Company 1898 to 1924

	<p>1st Issue 1898:</p> <p>Portugal stamps of King Carlos overprinted NYASSA.</p>
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2nd Issue 1898:

Mozambique stamps of King Carlos
overprinted NYASSA.



1901 set *inscribed* NYASSA



1903 Postal rate increases overprinted
with new values **or** 'provisorio'
(other variations)



1903 vertical overprint



1911 REPUBLICA overprints in red

(following the overthrow of the
Monarchy in 1910 in Portugal)



1921 A beautiful set of stamps

(very collectable)



1924 A superb set of Triangular stamps

There are other odd stamps issued between the above issues. None of these stamps are overly expensive. The colourful Nyassa stamps are still collectable today.

Grey, Maryborough

Some Stamp Facts No. 7: Did you know?

27. The first person to have a portrait-profile on a British stamp with the ruling monarch was William Shakespeare in 1965.



28. The First Russian stamp was issued 22 December 1857 (Imperforate)

These stamps were designed and engraved by Franz Kepler on a recommendation from Alexey Charukovsky who had been sent abroad in 1851-2 to study the use of postage stamps in other European countries. It took until 1855-6 for the project to finally take shape.

The first stamp issued was a **10 Kopecks Brown-Blue** showing the Russian Coat-of-Arms.

3,000,000 were printed **imperforate**.

Examples of 1st & 2nd Issues.

1857 1 st Issue Mint \$12,500	1857 1 st Issue	1857 1 st Issue	1857 1 st Issue

2nd Issue 10 January 1858 x 3 stamps – all Perforated				
10 Kopecks perf. Mint \$70	20 Kopecks perf. Mint \$1,200	Used \$170	30 Kopecks perf. Mint \$900	Used \$350

29. World's First Postage stamp printed for an airmail flight was Italian!

This occurred on 27th May 1917 when the Italian Post Office overprinted a *special delivery* stamp for use on an air flight between Turin & Rome, and Rome & Turin.

	Mint value today \$30
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First Flight Covers

	
This cover value today \$150	This cover value today \$180

30. Switzerland UPU 25th Anniversary Issued 2nd July 1900. (Attractive stamps)

Designed by Eugene Grasset (1842-1917). Perfs 11.5 x 12. There are MANY variations of these 3 stamps with regard to colour and “errors”. Three plates were used.

Refer to a Specialist Catalogue. As many as 10 to 30 variations of each!

	Used set \$15
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Grey
Maryborough

Why are these people on stamps? No. 49: Ferdinand Magellan and Lapu Lapu



Most of us would have learned at school about Ferdinand Magellan. He was a Portuguese explorer who after sailing eastwards to the Malay peninsula, tried to convince the Portuguese government to finance an expedition to the the Spice Islands, now known as the Maluku Islands (or Moluccas) in eastern Indonesia, by travelling west. After being rejected, he went to Spain, where the Spanish king, Charles I, thought it was a good idea and sent him on his way. He sailed across the Atlantic, around South America, through what is now known as the Straits of Magellan, and into the Mar del Sur, which he renamed the Pacific Ocean.

He sailed across the Pacific, eventually arriving at the Philippines, where everything came unstuck. The locals, under their chief, Lapu Lapu, did not take kindly to his visit, particularly as he insisted that they should all convert to Christianity and pay tribute to the king of Spain. Magellan went back to his ship and returned with 49 heavily armed men to press the point.

Lapu Lapu met him on the beach with 1500 warriors armed with spears and poisoned arrows. Magellan copped one of these arrows in the neck after which Lapu Lapu hacked him to pieces, thus ending both the argument and the battle. Lapu Lapu is considered the first known Philippine hero for not backing down, despite later Spanish soldiers and missionaries undoing all his good work.

Although Magellan usually gets the credit for the first European circum-navigation of the globe, only one of his five ships made it back to Spain under the captaincy of Juan Sebastián Elcano, who had made it to the Spice Islands. Both the ship and remains of the crew were in poor shape, but they had made it home.

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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

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

www.bendigophilatelic.org

Enquiries: bendigophilateticsociety@gmail.com