



President's Message

The To the Ballarat Members and friends of Ballarat Philatelic Society

Once again we find ourselves in LOCKDOWN, we never, in a million years thought could happen to us did we?

Sadly, we now need to confirm that the October 11th Eureka Stamps and Coins Fair has been cancelled. We do hope that March 2021 Begonia Festival Fair is still a possibility. Club Meetings of course are now postponed until a Covid 19 clearance is in place.

On a VERY POSITIVE note nearly all our usual overprinted Mini Sheet and Historic Covers customers have stuck with us, many doubling their orders and asking that the Special Fair Cancellation Cachet be applied. We hope these become collector's items for them in future. Images of both items showing the cachets and ordering information is found on page 2 of this newsletter.

We continue to offer Free Stamps for Kids – Just send a DL return stamped addressed envelope to Ballarat Stamp Club PO Box 337, Wendouree 3355.

Thanks to all the members for moving the Bendigo Circuit sheets on quickly and with great Covid 19 awareness.

We all do miss the personal contacts between our members, and I ask if anybody is aware of another member who is perhaps battling for any reason please let Keith Sanders or myself know.

Anybody who watches television and is aware of the "Bet 365" advertisements may have noticed our good philatelic friend Felix Attard from Yallourn starring in them. He 'disqualifies' the 'Russian' competitor in the Supermarket Competition ad. Well done Felix!

I mentioned in the last Newsletter that in my opinion some of the larger Auction houses proscribe/ describe their material much better than others. Many of us have been frustrated when receiving an auction lot which is not the quality you expected. I recommend that if this happens to you that you make that auction house well aware of your concerns! (see also the Buyer Beware article later in this newsletter)

Please continue to enjoy your collections and upgrade them when you can and stay safe and well!

Peter Morey President Ballarat PS



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Coming Events

Friday September 18 Items for September Newsletter Due—please consider contributing

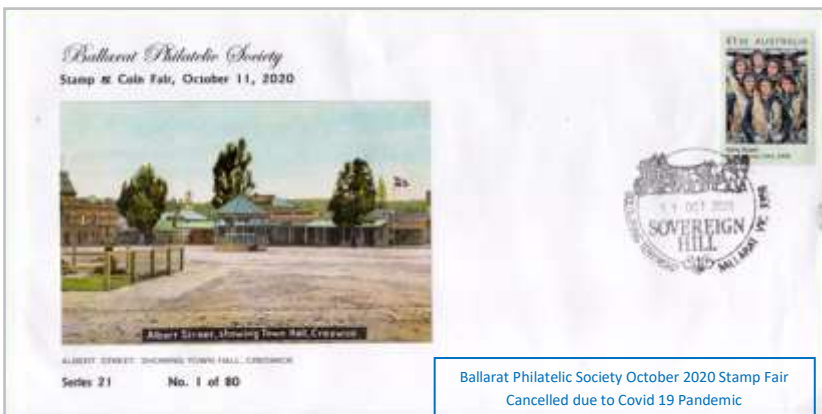
Sunday October 11 Stamp Fair **CANCELLED** (see next page to order Series 2 of the Historic Ballarat Envelopes with a Covid-19 Cancellation Cachet)

Mini Sheet and Historic Covers Series 21

Still Available

To mark this historic period the Ballarat Philatelic Society has decided to issue for sale a limited number of the Ballarat Historical Envelopes, Series 21, and a miniature sheet with the notation that the fair was cancelled due to Covid-19 printed on both the envelop and miniature sheet. You can choose to purchase the cover and miniature sheet with or with the notation included.

The cover carries a 100-year-old image of the main street of the nearby historic goldmining town of Creswick, and the miniature sheet features the 2020 Australia Post issued Anzac Day miniature sheet overprinted for the fair but now with the cancelled notation added. Purchasers can choose to purchase the cover and miniature sheet with or without the Covid 19 notation included, please indicate your preference when ordering.



Historic Envelope \$3 plus P & P

Miniature Sheet \$15 plus P & P

To Order

Contact– Peter Morey

email: petermorey05@gmail.com

mob: 0435 601 673

Orders processed in order of receipt with payment

Allow \$2 postage or \$4.50 registered

Overseas clients allow for 15% for PayPal

Cheques payable to

Ballarat Philatelic Society

PO Box 337, Wendouree, Vic. 3355

Bank Deposit to

Bank of Melbourne

BSB313140

Acct 21301875

Ref: Name of customer



Member Profile Pat Tacey

I am a newcomer to the Ballarat Philatelic Society, although I have been collecting stamps and other things for around 60 years. I first became aware of stamp collecting as hobby when given a couple of packs after my father purchased a few shillings of petrol at an AMPOL petrol station in the 60's. Stamps along with the little toys from cereal boxes and cards from other petrol stations and tea packets initiated my interest in collecting things.

During my teachers' college days I worked for a number of vacation periods in the Ballarat Post Office mail room before heading out into the big bad world as a primary school teacher/head teacher/principal, a profession I pursued for almost 40 years taking up postings in most corners of the state, many places didn't have post offices, so my stamp collecting was intermittent and basically consisted of the varieties that came on the school's mail.

Moving back to the Ballarat district in the late 80's I began attending the Ballarat Stamp Fairs and taking in what other people were pursuing in the philatelic world. I was reacquainted with Jack van Beveren who was one of our footy club trainers during my teenage years and at each stamp fair he'd say "come and join the stamp club" something that I didn't do until I retired.



I am once again engrossed in this interesting and somewhat consuming hobby and growing my knowledge and collection all the time. I don't have specialty area, however I do aim to have at least on stamp from every currently listed country, so far, the "stans" (former Russian States have eluded me). I am also building a collection of train stamps and working on making display sheets using MS Word.

Putting together the Ballarat Philatelic Society newsletter has also become one of my interests and with our current restrictions I had not organised a member profile, hence you have my offering.

Contributions from all our readers are most welcome.

Got something that is attracting your interest at present, share it with other likeminded readers.

Topics/ sections can include but are not limited to

- what I am doing with my collection at this time
- wish lists are welcome, ie something your are trying to locate, buy or swap.
- interesting bits of information you have discovered and would like to share.
- websites you have found useful, with a brief description.
- scanned one-page displays.
- tips, suggestion, ideas for displays.
- stamp quiz questions (maybe we could run a competition if we were to get maybe 20 questions suggested).

Please forward items to tacey55@gmail.com in Word or Pages format and scanned images as jpegs or pngs. If you don't have an image, I will endeavour to locate suitable images.



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OBOCK

Region: East Africa
Group: French Colony
Classification: Colonies
Prior Regime: Sultanate of Obock
Key Dates:

- 1862 – French purchased port of Obock from the Sultan of Obock
- 1881 – French establish a Coal refill station for steam ships
- 1884 – French establish Colony of Obock
- 1888 – French establish Colony of Cote Francaise des Somalis (French Somaliland)
- 1896 – French moves capital of French Somaliland to Djibouti

Following Regime: Djibouti

Scott Catalogue: (Obock) 1-64, J1-J18

Pick Catalogue: none

History



HOUSE OF HENRY DE MONFREID AT OBOCK – 1896

When the construction of the Suez Canal began in 1859, the narrow opening between the Red Sea leading into the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean became a very strategic location. In 1862, anticipating the need for presence in the region, the French purchased the Port of Obock from the local sultan. Located on the Gulf of Tadjoura, on the African side of the Arabian Sea, Obock was initially purchased to establish a strategic port in the region to rival the British, as well as to create a port to trade with tribes along the African coast.

The French did little to develop the port until 1881 when Pierre Arnoux, a French trader, established an important station to acquire coal from African suppliers and provide it to French steamships in the region. Prior to this, French ships had to buy coal from the British Port of Aden, which put France in a difficult position, especially as their relationship with the British was extremely tenuous.

As the French continued to expand their influence in the region, additional traders arrived and set up business. Obock quickly became an important port in the region, and in 1884 it officially became the capital of the Territory of Obock and the Protectorate of Tadjoura.

As the French continued to expand their interests on the Horn of Africa, they realized that Obock was not the most strategic location. Located on the more exposed northern part of the Gulf of Tadjoura, and being far from important trading routes in the region, the French made the strategic decision in 1888 to develop the port of Djibouti on the opposite side of the Gulf.

In 1892, the administrative capital of the colony was moved from Obock to Djibouti, and on May 20, 1896, Djibouti officially became the capital of the Colony of Cote Francaise des Somalis (French Somaliland), consolidating the Obock territory and the surrounding protectorates. From this point, the port of Obock dwindled in importance and population.



Stamps

Although such a small colony for a short period of time, Obock has an interesting philatelic history, as well as some very beautiful stamps to collect. Initially, stamps of the French Colonies were used for postage in Obock, however beginning in 1892, Obock began hand stamping “OBOCK” on the French colony stamps as provisional issues until proper stamps arrived from Paris. There were two types of hand stamped overprints on the provisional stamps, one where “OBOCK” was printed in an arc, and the other in a straight line. All of these issues have been extensively forged. These overprints were applied to 20 regular issue stamps, 11 surcharged stamps and 18 postage due stamps.

In Nov 1892, France issued the Navigation and Commerce series for all French colonial territories. The common design stamp was printed in a key stamp process, where the colony name was printed in a rectangular cartouche at the bottom of a common design for all colonies. Stamps of Obock arrived in December, 1892.



In 1893 – 1894, Obock began to issue some of the most beautiful stamps of the era. In 1893, the colony issued 2 imperforate triangle stamps in higher denominations (2fr and 5fr). The stamps were printed on quadrille paper and featured an image of a camel and rider. In 1894, Obock issued a set of 13 rectangular stamps, also on quadrille paper, picturing a group of Somali Warriors. An additional five higher denomination stamps (2fr – 50fr) were issued as triangle stamps, also featuring Somali Warriors, but on camels.

In 1884 the main post office was moved to Djibouti, although Obock maintained a branch office. Stamps of Obock were superseded by those issued for the French Somali Coast in 1902.

Article contributed by Cliff Matthews

British Central Africa (BCA) – a brief summation of these collectable stamps!

Stamps in the above name(s) were only in use for 17 years from 20th July, 1891 to 21st July, 1908 when in 1907 the colony's name was altered to the 'Protectorate of Nyasaland' which issued stamps so inscribed from 1908 until 1953 when it became part of the 'Federation of Rhodesia & Nyasaland' and used stamps so styled. This Federation was dissolved on 31st December, 1963. Nyasaland 'broke way' becoming the Republic of Malawi on 6th July, 1964.

From 1891 to 1895 stamps from the **British South Africa Company** were in use and overprinted 'BCA'.



Top value: 10 Pounds Brown worth \$12,000

In 1895 & 1896 two new sets were issued inscribed **British Central Africa** depicting the Arms of the Protectorate, as had been proclaimed on 22nd February, 1893



In 1898 the supply of 1d stamps ran out. Initially, the 3/- (SG49) was overprinted 1d.



I can read and will translate into English old German postcards from the 1st World War, if anyone has these or alike. The old German script called Suetterlin script is for most people illegible today (even for Germans).

Anyone can either email or post a copy of the postcard/letters to : gloyer@live.com.au or post to Grey Loyer, 47 Goldsmith Street, Maryborough, 3465.

'A most unusual Issue'.

On 11th March, 1898 the government began using embossed 1d Revenue stamps overprinted 'Internal Postage' in blue.



A further article on these stamps to follow

Two further issues inscribed British Central Africa followed both showed a portrait of King Edward VII.

1903 (Crown CA Wmk)



Top value 10 Pounds Grey worth \$15,000

1907 Multi-Crown Wmk from 1903



Grey Loyer
Hon. Secretary
Maryborough Stamp Club (Vic).
(Founded 14-7-1971)

British Central Africa: the 1898 Provisional token cheque stamp.

As the replacement of 1d stamps (ordered from England) had gone astray on route (somewhere in "darkest Africa"! but eventually turning up in early 1899), the Acting Postmaster of the Protectorate, Mr. J. T. Gosling, decided to issue in March, 1898 a 1d provisional token stamp ONLY for use on all Internal letters. These stamps could NOT be purchased by the general public, but at all Post Offices an official would attach a *provisional token stamp* when a penny had been paid (in cash). As the Protectorate had produced their own embossed duty stamps of 3/-, the embossing was altered to One Penny, and a simple 'printers frame' drawn around the orange-red cartouche, and the words Internal Postage in blue added above and below the cartouche. Two horizontal rows of 15 stamps were individually embossed roughly within the 'printers frame'. The first 30 sheets (840) stamps were imperforate, and each stamp was initialled or signed on the back by the Acting Postmaster himself. Each stamp had furthermore **on the reverse** an embossed **SECRET letter & number** (great skill is needed to find and read this code) as Mr. Gosling had become obsessed with fraud. In all 23,901 stamps were used and issued at 14 Post Offices in the Protectorate).

The reverse of a full sheet showing the 'secret numbers and letters'.

1 F	23	3 X	4 M	5 F	6 P	7 H	8 S	9 C	10 Z	11 XA	12 WX	13 D	14	15 K
16 FY	17 E	18 Q	19 Z	20 T	21 WP	22 S	23 N	24 A	25 J	26 Z	27 B	28 FA	29 XQ	30 S



Some examples of the 1898 Provisional 1d (token-cheque) stamp. These stamps were only in use from March until November, 1898

By Greg Loyer

Buyer Beware something for collectors to think about when buying online.

The buyer bought the stamp on the right because it was advertised the stamp on the left. He did this because he wanted to prove to himself that he was correct in his thinking, that the seller had "whitened" the stamp to make it more attractive. Sadly he was correct.

One might argue he was wrong because it is just the result of the seller's scanner. I don't think so. The scan is exactly as the stamp appears to the naked eye. To get the whiteness you have to have your scanner set to brighten or as I call it whiten the image, or you deliberately have to use color brightness adjust.

Rule of thumb - If a stamp looks too bright, that is, too white then the chances are it has been image colour adjusted, or simply put it has been whitened. Very easy to do on a scanner after all and you only get to see it when you receive the stamp and by that time you probably do not look back twice at the original listing.

For new collectors or less experienced collectors please take care. Look carefully. Here is another where the seller didn't even bother to hide the "whitening" and by the way these are not one offs, they are all over the philatelic portals being sold by the less than professional sellers. A final tip is to save the digital image you basing your purchase on so that you have it as evidence of misrepresentation.

Image as presented for sale Image of actual stamp received.



as

Germany 2011, Remembering Loriot for Wum the talking dog and yodelling diplomas

This stamp issue is dangerous. The issue appeared shortly before cartoonist Loriot died in 2011. In 2012, his daughter sued those on the internet displaying images of the German stamps. She won and got a large settlement from the German language Wikipedia. I think I am okay with my wife having taken a picture of a stamp in my personal collection. If not Ms. von Bulow, let me know and I will pull the article down. If the estate didn't want there to be a series of stamps honouring your late father however, surely the time to act was before they came out.



Today's stamp is issue SP475, a 45 Euro cents +20 cent semi postal stamp issued by Germany on January 3rd, 2011. It was a four-stamp issue in various denominations. Those dignified readers out there will be happy to know that I do not have the one with the cartoon depiction of two naked men in a bathtub. According to the Scott Catalogue, the stamp is worth \$1.90 whether used or unused.

Vicco von Bulow was born into an aristocratic Prussian family in 1923. After wartime service and university training in graphic design, no not yodelling but really not that far off, he began work as a cartoonist in 1950. His work was released under the name Loriot. This is based on the French word for the oriole bird as it appears on von Bulow's family crest.

His greatest success came in the 1970s when he created the character of Wum, a talking dog who becomes the mascot of a German protest organization. Wum was voiced by Loriot himself when he got a radio show. Wum/Loriot had a

German pop hit in 1972 with the dog singing "I wish I had a little kitty cat" in a half sung/half spoken style called Spechgesang. In 1976 the characters got a German television show that went back and forth between skits acted by Loriot and cartoons drawn by him. among the more famous skits were the protest organization demanding equal treatment of man and women. even if means suckling babies temporarily lose weight. Cue the Cartoon a baby trying to suckle a man. Another features a bored housewife goes back to an iffly credentialled college to get a diploma in yodelling, convinced that such a waste of time credential will change her lot in life.

You can probably gather this type of thing is not my cup of tea. To each his own. These people who pretend to mock the comfortable when they are really on the inside just protecting them from the notion that it is their charge is to maintain standards in order to prevent the sinking into depravity.

Useful Websites

<http://www.philatelicweb.com/pmks>

This is a post mark data base with over 22880 places and 19886 images. Click on the camera icon in the results list to see a larger scan - these all expand on the page. Multiple images can be opened at the same time to compare types

<http://www.davidaedwards.com/ausfdclist>

This site provides an Illustrated guide to Australian First Day Covers and can be searched by date or title. It also provides access to articles about first day covers.

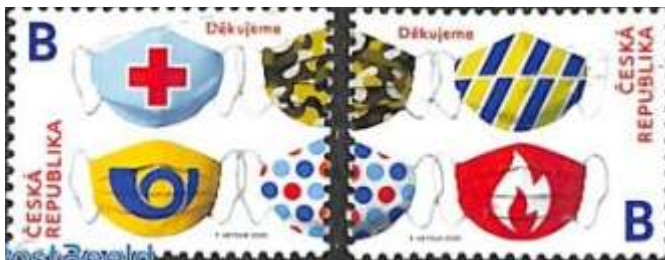
<http://stampdata.com/>

StampData is an experimental project to build an advanced stamp catalog and collection organizer.

StampData is different from other online catalogs in its deeper knowledge of philately. It automatically sorts stamps by date and face values, it has links from overprints to the types overprinted, and it has links from the stamps to the people and things they depict. It also links stamps to Wikipedia and other websites.

COVID-19 Stamp Issues

A number of countries have issued stamps highlighting the dangers of COVID-19 and illustrating the controls or precautions needed. The United Nations stamps present six key public health messages they, along with WHO, that hopefully will help stop the spread of COVID-19, namely Personal Hygiene; Myth-Busting; Physical Distance; Spread Kindness; Know the Symptoms; and Solidarity. Here are some examples of stamps and covers issued by Morocco, China, Czech Republic, India Monaco, India, Oman, Taiwan and Brazil all conveying a similar message to the United Nations. Could this be a new, somewhat macabre, theme for collectors?



Philatelic Quiz

The quiz questions below that will test your philatelic knowledge and/or your research skills was put together by Cliff Matthews. I will email the answers one week from today. Email me your answers within the next week to see who is our champion.

QUESTION 1

Who or what is a Zemstvo?

- A. A former President of Turkey depicted on their 1956 Definitives.
- B. A specialised study of Rocket Mails.
- C. Russian local post stamp.
- D. An early Austrian bicycle type shown in 1964.
- E. A new stamp issuing entity near Albania.
- F. An early Postmarking style from Bulgaria.

QUESTION 2

The present day Turks and Caicos Islands issued their first stamp in 1867.

Who or what was depicted on that stamp, and with what wording was the country inscribed?

QUESTION 3

The 'Ice House' cover, is a famous and very valuable USA original 1873 cover which was recently recovered, after having been stolen in 1967. Its name derives from its destination address. What was that destination city on the cover?

- A. Stockholm
- B. Chicago
- C. Calcutta
- D. Dublin
- E. Buenos Aires
- F. Glasgow
- G. Oslo
- H. Faroe Islands

QUESTION 4

From 1971-1975 postage stamps from the country now known as Cambodia carried another inscription. How were they inscribed?

- A. The Khmer Republic
- B. Republique Khmere
- C. Kampuchea
- D. Cambodian Republic
- E. Royaume du Cambodge
- F. Etat du Cambodge

QUESTION 5

In what year did Prince Albert first appear on Canadian postage stamps?

QUESTION 6

In 2008 Australia Post announced its desire to increase the price of Australian domestic standard stamps to 55c. Who was given the task of reviewing this price increase with a view to approving it - or not?

- A. Australian Securities Commission
- B. Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
- C. Prices Surveillance Authority
- D. Australian Senate sub-Committee
- E. Australia Post
- F. Attorney General's Department
- G. Prime Minister Kevin Rudd
- H. Australian Philatelic Traders Association
- I. MLC Rev Fred Nile and Committee
- J. None Of The Above

QUESTION 7

Following on, by way of comparison, what was the standard price of posting a standard size letter anywhere in Malaysia in 2008?

- A. 15 sen approximately 5c (\$A)
- B. 30 sen approximately 10c (\$A)
- C. 60 sen approximately 20c (\$A)
- D. 1 ringgit approximately 33c (\$A)
- E. 2 ringgit approximately 67c (\$A)

QUESTION 8

By way of further comparison, the cost of mailing a light 10 gram regular air-letter to Australia or USA etc from Zimbabwe (as at 12th Feb 2008) is in Zimbabwe dollars:

- A. \$6,500
- B. \$84,000
- C. \$560,000
- D. \$775,000
- E. \$1,060,000
- F. \$2,500,000
- G. \$4,600,000
- H. \$10,250,000

QUESTION 9

The Australia Post Replica card for the large Canberra Stamp Show in March 2008 depicts who or what?

QUESTION 10

In what year were postage stamps first issued with the word 'Azerbaijan' inscribed on them?

- A. 1891
- B. 1898
- C. 1914
- D. 1919
- E. 1922
- F. 1936
- G. 1954
- H. 1968

QUESTION 11

The term 'album weed' is historically accepted to have what specific meaning in philately?

- A. A purge of unwanted material from a collection
- B. A forged stamp
- C. A low value common stamp
- D. A famous 1976 Jamaican stamp depicting reggae star Bob Marley smoking a cigarette
- E. A stamp with a missing corner, crease or tear
- F. A Revenue stamp

QUESTION 12

In what decade did the USA first issue embossed postal stationary envelopes?

- A. 1840s
- B. 1850s
- C. 1860s
- D. 1870s
- E. 1880s
- F. None Of The Above

QUESTION 13

Which three of the following are NOT current postage stamp-issuing entities? (Correct answer will have all THREE correct)

- A. Abkhazia
- B. St. Helena
- C. Tuvalu
- D. Pahang
- E. Gilbert and Ellice Islands
- F. Piscopi
- G. Guam
- H. Tonga
- I. St Pierre & Miquelon
- J. Guinea-Bissau

QUESTION 14

According to the Scott catalogue, which of the following paper types/substances were NOT known to have been used for printing stamps upon?

- A. Goldbeater's skin
- B. Ribbed
- C. Pelure
- D. India
- E. Manila
- F. Vellum
- G. Silk
- H. Granite

QUESTION 15

What are the SPIRO BOTHERS famous for in philately, and which city were they based? (Correct answer needs to have BOTH correct.)

QUESTION 16

Australia issued its first GOLD postage stamp on 4th March 2008.

What specific EVENT does this stamp commemorate?

QUESTION 17

Stamps from Morocco are currently denominated in what currency unit ?

QUESTION 18

During World War 2, the US smuggled propaganda mail into the regular German postal system by bombing mail trains and dropping sacks of mail containing Anti-Nazi propaganda addressed to real Germans and franked with a fake Hitler stamp. During the confusion of cleaning up the wreck, the false mail sacks were mixed with the damaged German mail and delivered normally. They contained pamphlets urging recipient war was lost and invoiced the famous fake Hitler Death Skull "Futsches Reich" lampoon stamps.

What was the name of this mail-based propaganda operation?

QUESTION 19

What well known stamp-issuing entity has the following national motto

" Nulli expugnabilis hosti "

QUESTION 20

Which member of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) is the only country not required to name itself on its postage stamps?

- a) United Kingdom
- b) Australia
- c) Saudi Arabia
- d) Solomon Islands

Any reader who would like to submit a question or questions for a quiz in the future email Pat at tacey55@gmail.com

