



Welcome to our June 2023 edition of the Ballarat Philatelic Society Newsletter



The April 17th 2023 Club Meeting saw a good roll up with a new Member from Geelong Michael Connell who hopes to be involved with both Clubs when possible.

Keith Sanders and Peter Morey displayed Eureka entries which were appreciated by all present.

We firstly congratulate Warrnambool PS on their well promoted Auction night. Four of our members drove down to Warrnambool and were very happy with their purchases and the good stamping fellowship during the night. Thanks to Darryl Smith and the Warrnambool Club.

To Maryborough PS and particularly Secretary Grey Loyer who also conducted a very competent and well attended Auction recently. It does make a big difference to have a list of Auction lots well in advance. The supper was once again excellent. It was great to catch up with everybody and a lot of people went home with ‘treasures’.

Our first May meeting was conducted in a different room which was ok, if a bit small but very warm. We had to contend with a very happy/noisy group of people rehearsing for a Charity event in the next room. It was a lot of fun and we wish them well. The 5th Monday Meeting will be a Committee Meeting and circuit sheets

Once again our Stalwart Life Member Keith Sanders gave us an extraordinary Display and Presentation on early British New Guinea, Papua and New Guinea from early 1900’s. Keith lived in New Guinea and even designed one of the early First Day Covers featuring the tragic sinking of the Montevideo Maru in June 1942, one of the worst episodes of WWII. Keiths work is thoroughly researched and it was enjoyed by all present.

In recent times Members and their Families have been affected by illnesses. We were delighted that Norm Hamilton attended the Warrnambool and Maryborough auctions. To Sarah Waugh who is recovering from an operation and Brian Wallis’s wife Michelle who has been under the weather for some time and Glenn Carter too. We hope they all continue to get better.

We are now preparing for the next Eureka Stamps and Coins Fair on Sunday October 8th 2023 at the Eastwood Leisure Centre. We will also feature a display and our ongoing Ballarat Historical Covers and Australia Post overprinted mini sheets. This time the mini sheet will be the ‘Extinct Mammals’ and the single stamp will be the Tasmanian Tiger (Thylacine). We are very keen to hear from more Stamp Dealers who wish to participate. Contact Neil Petrass for information (m. 0448 346 499).

Our Inter Club Meeting on the third Monday the 16th of October 2023 will feature Guest Speaker Gary Watson from Abacus Auctions. Gary has a vast knowledge of all things Philatelic! An Auction will then be conducted by Gary. Club Members from all regional Clubs will be invited to offer up to 20 items.

After 7 years as President I will not be seeking re-election. Please give a lot of thought as to whom you would like to stand for all positions. Nomination forms will be available at the June meeting.

I have very much enjoyed my more recent period as President of such a famous and long standing Philatelic Society (since 1904).

Peter Morey President Ballarat Philatelic Society

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Ballarat Philatelic Society Inc A0012556J

BALLARAT EUREKA STAMPS & COINS FAIR

**Sunday 8th
October 2023**

**9.30 am -
3.30 pm**

**EASTWOOD
LEISURE CENTRE**

20 Eastwood Street
(see back for map)

FREE ENTRY & INTERCLUB DISPLAYS



*35 plus dealers
and club tables,
easy parking,
free dealer
valuations,
prizes and
giveaways*

Book a table: Neil Petrass—0448 346 499—npetrass@bigpond.com
More info: Peter Morey—0435 601 673—petermorey05@gmail.com

Next Fair: Ballarat Begonia Festival Stamps & Coins Fair
Monday March 11th 2024

**VISIT our website: Ballaratstampclub.com.au
New members most welcome!**

More Details to follow, check our webpage.

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New members most welcome!

Ballarat Stamp Club 2023 Syllabus

Below is the proposed program of events and activities for 2023. We will endeavour to adhere to this but will always be open to new experiences and opportunities that may come up.

- June 19:** Nominations due for Office Bearers and Committee Members for 2023
- July 17:** **Annual General Meeting**
Guest speaker and/or President's Display
(Club Newsletter items due for August Edition)
- August 21:** Other Collections and Hobbies nights.
- Sept. 18:** Club Member's Special Interest Display: Neil Petrass: *Topic to be advised* Annual Membership Due
- October 8:** **(Sunday) Eureka Stamps and Coins Fair** Eastwood Leisure Centre
- October 16:** Interclub Event (Time of day to be decided)
- October 30:** Committee Meeting and Circuit Sheets
- Nov 20:** Meeting, Guest Speaker and Circuit sheets
- Dec 18:** End of year Christmas Function 6 p.m. Eastwood Leisure Complex.

Newsletter Items

Please forward anything of philatelic interest to info@ballaratstampclub.com.au for inclusion in future newsletters. Stories preferred in a word processing format rather than PDF, pictures in jpeg or png format, although I can work around these restrictions if necessary. Please contribute to the next Newsletter due in late March, items will be accepted between now and then.

How do I know if my stamps are valuable?

A stamp's condition affects its value. Usually, a stamp that has never been used and is in "mint" condition is more valuable than the same stamp that has been used.

Keep your stamps in a condition as close to "mint" as possible.

The colour: The colour of the stamp should be bright.

Are there apps to scan stamps for value?

One App is **Stamp Identifier** uses advanced image recognition technology to find a stamp and provide you more details about it, courtesy of colnect.com, a social network for worldwide collectors which has the world's largest online stamp catalogue

If you have collections or know of people who have a collection they want advice on how to sell, store or display their material, the best time to have this done is at our fairs or at the fairs of other stamp clubs where there will be dealers or knowledgeable members to offer advice. Remember always get a couple of opinions.

Potato Stamps

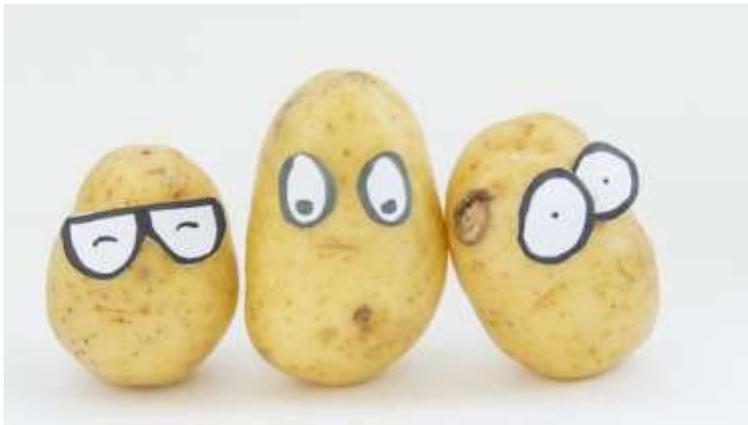
In 1946, Allen Crawford, a long-time supporter of Tristan da Cunha, had 40,000 of the 1D/4 Potatoes stamps produced for use from the Island. The Post Office in England refused permission for their use.

As there was little to no money on the Island, Crawford priced the stamps in the local currency, 'potatoes'. These then became known as the Potato Essays.

The sheet of all 9 designs depict various scenes from Tristan life, (Crawford lived on the Island for many years) and is a reprint to commemorate the Essays.

The block of 4 is signed by Allen Crawford and shows the 1D / 4 Potato stamp.

The cover is a complete forgery executed by Edgar Weston, a philatelic dealer from London. He has used a 1D / 4 Potato stamp and cancelled it with his own canceller, known as the Horseshoe Cachet.



This cover never saw Tristan and was one of many fakes and forgeries Weston employed, including setting up an alias for some of his mail. His fakes are now fetching large sums of money in auctions and e-Bay.



I was filtering through some web sites looking for interesting items or strings to follow for this newsletter when I came across the heading Stamps aren't Cool. I thought why not?

So I went exploring and found many links to blogs through "Punk Philatelist" including links to categories such as [Auction Watch](#), [Bollocks](#), [Collecting advice](#), [Cool story Punk](#), [Jackpot!](#), [Literature reviews Punk's stamp album](#), [The](#)

[Con Cow](#), [You screwed it!](#) To list a few.

There are many other links that come under heading including Blogs, You Tube Channels Podcasts, Chatboards, Stampboards, Stamp Art and Resources

Gambia - King George VI Issues

Article provided by Cliff Matthews

Normally, when you get to the final lower values, the collector interest level drops sharply. But that is not the case with the Gambia King George VI set because the most valuable stamp in the set is the 1-1/2d 1938 printing. So it helps if you know how to find it.

But first, let's take a look at the other values in this group.

- The 1/2d issue (SG 150) was printed five times, if you include the 1939 unrecorded printing. The colours of each printing are fairly similar, so use the paper and gum characteristics to identify the relative time periods.
- The 1d value (SG 151) was printed seven times, again including the 1939 printing. There is some variation in the colours and paper & gum to at least identify most of the various printings.
- The 1-1/2d denomination is the interesting one in this group, at least the first printings (SG 152-SG153b). There were three printings in 1938, 1939, and 1940-41. Each of these printings is listed in the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue, with the initial one being quite elusive. According to J. O. Andrew (one of my sources listed previously), the first printing variation from the other printings was not even noticed until ten years after it was released. There are three distinct shades that correspond to the three printings and make the likelihood of the 1939 unrecorded printing much more realistic.
- The 1938 printing (SG 152) is described as Lake and Bright Carmine, or Cherry-Red depending on the source. It has a bright white gum and differs significantly from the other printings. This is the scarce one that you want to look for if you have any of these stamps.
- The 1939 printing (SG 152a) is listed as Deep Lake and Carmine-Red. The colour pales in comparison to the original printing, but it might be incorrectly sold as the good one if you have never seen the original issue. Look for the Creamy gum which differs from the Bright White gum of the original version.
- The 1940-41 printing (SG 152b) is Dull Lake and Scarlet. It looks much different from the other printings, and is easily spotted in comparison due to the lighter frame colour.
- If you have a Specimen set for this value, it is probably the 1938 printing. I was told that by the person who authenticated the Specimen issues for Murray Payne - based on his set, but I am curious to hear if other printings were also allocated for this purpose.
- The colour of the 1-1/2d value changed to Blue and Grey-Black beginning with the 1944 printings (SG 152c). There were seven printings from 1944 until 1952. I am still looking for the 1952 version. These stamps have to be sorted by paper and gum first and then compared for the subtle colour variations.



Gambia - King George VI

How to identify the 1-1/2d values

www.kgvstamps.com
39,000 British Colony stamp listings for sale - Bring your wantlist.

Look for the cherry-red frame and the bright white paper to identify SG 152.



SG 152 - CW 3 - ST 134
1-1/2d Brown-Lake &
Bright Carmine



SG 152a - CW 3a - ST 134
1-1/2d Brown-Lake &
Scarlet



SG 152b - CW 3b - ST 134
1-1/2d Brown-Lake &
Vermillion



SG 152 - White Back



SG 152a - Creamy Back



SG 152b - Creamy Back

<p>CW SG ST 3 152 134 1-1/2d Lake & Bright Carmine Medium thick off-white paper Whitish gum 1938</p>		<p>CW SG ST 3a 152a 134 1-1/2d Deep Lake & Carmine-Red Medium thick cream paper Cream gum 1939?</p>	
<p>CW SG ST 3a 152b 134 1-1/2d Dull Lake & Scarlet Thinner off-white paper Creamy gum 1940-41</p>		<p>CW SG ST 4 152c 134A 1-1/2d Violet-Blue & Grey-Black Thinner white paper Transparent white gum 10/1944</p>	
<p>CW SG ST 4 152c 134A 1-1/2d Bright Blue & Grey-Black Thinner white paper Transparent white gum 1/1946</p>		<p>CW SG ST 4 152c 134A 1-1/2d Deep Bright Blue & Deep Grey-Black Thin opaque paper Opaque white gum 2/1948</p>	
<p>CW SG ST 4 152c 134A 1-1/2d Bright Blue & Grey-Black Thin opaque paper Opaque white gum 6/1948</p>		<p>CW SG ST 4 152c 134A 1-1/2d Deep Blue & Grey-Black Thin opaque paper Opaque white gum 1/1950</p>	
<p>CW SG ST 4 152c 134A 1-1/2d Duller Deep Blue & Grey-Black Thin opaque paper Opaque white gum 9/1950</p>		<p>CW SG ST 4 152c 134A 1-1/2d Deep Bright Blue & Deep Grey-Black Thin brittle white paper White gum 9/1952</p>	

Nonsuch sets sail for Hudson Bay

On today's date in 1668, French explorer and fur trader Médard des Groseilliers set sail on the ketch *Nonsuch* to trade in the Hudson Bay area.

The *Nonsuch* left England headed for Hudson Bay, where investors wanted to determine the feasibility of opening a fur trade route in the area. The following spring, the ketch returned to England with high-quality beaver pelts.

It was Sept. 29, 1668, when Captain Zachariah Gillam reached Rupert River on the ketch *Nonsuch* with des Groseilliers. Together, they build Charles Fort, make a treaty with the local chief and trade throughout the winter for survival.

In May 1670, King Charles II, of England, signed a charter establishing the "Governor and Company of Adventurers from England trading into Hudson's Bay." Prince Rupert was the company's first governor, and the charter gave the company control over a large portion of present-day Canada (then known as Rupert's Land).

1968 NONSUCH STAMP

On June 5, 1968, 300 years after the voyage of the *Nonsuch*, Canada's Post Office Department (now [Canada Post](#)) issued a multi-coloured five-cent stamp (Scott #482) designed by George Sarras Fanais and engraved by George Arthur Gundersen.

Printed by the British American Bank Note Company, the stamp was Canada's first comb-perforated commemorative.



Is this an omen for future stamp issues world wide?

By the end of May therefore, 35 out of 88 (39.8%) **Commonwealth countries and territories whose postal services are not known to have issued, or had issued on their behalf, any legitimate postage stamps so far in 2023**—*Anguilla, Belize, British Indian Ocean Territory, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Dominica, eSwatini, Gabon, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Lesotho, Malawi, Maldives, Montserrat, Nauru, Nevis, Nigeria, Niue, Penrhyn Cook Islands, Rwanda, St Helena, St Kitts, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Tokelau, Trinidad And Tobago, Turks And Caicos Islands, Uganda, United Republic Of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Zambia*

The Kingdom of eSwatini(Swaziland) for instance hasn't issued new stamps since 2018.



Japan stamp sells for world record price of 5.4 million Euros

On Saturday, June 3, David Feldman International Auctioneers had the great honour to offer one of most important Japanese stamp collections including **the most valuable stamp of Asia: the 500 mon Inverted Center**.



An Asian gentleman, bidding via phone, was delighted to become the buyer. The underbidder, an esteemed European collector, was very disappointed to be outbid. He said, "I had prepared my bid as high as 4 million Euros and even made a few more steps, but now I must congratulate the new owner!".

In 1871, the first series of Japanese stamps comprised stamps featuring a dragon framing the denomination in "mon" currency which was inserted in the center. One sheet of the highest value, the 500 mon, had the centre value inverted, and **only one stamp with this error has ever been discovered**, and that was over 100 years later in 1973 by an American collector. The stamp was immediately acknowledged as the most important one in Japanese philately, and from that moment onwards it rose in fame and value through private sales, from a mere \$75,000 at that time to millions over the last 50 years. **It** was the first time that this stamp was auctioned since it was first sold in 1973.

Cycling in Denmark



This Danish cover comes from the municipality of Gentofte, in the northern suburbs of Copenhagen. Three "Everyday Cycling" stamps. The set of five was issued on 2 January 2023 in a sheet of ten stamps.

There are more bicycles in Copenhagen than cars. Even more bicycles than people. It has been estimated that 9 out of 10 people in Denmark own a bicycle.

A colourful cover from a colourful country

Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Dinesh Gunawardena, accompanied by the High Commissioner of India and other dignitaries, issued a Special Commemorative Cover for the Seethai Amman Temple in Seetha Eliya, Nuwara Eliya

They also laid the foundation stone for a Meditation Centre at the Temple, which is believed to signify the place of Ashok Vatika in the epic Ramayana. Furthermore, the Meditation Centre will add to the facilities at the Temple and help attract more tourists from India and other places to Nuwara Eliya

The Seetha Amman Temple is a Hindu temple located approximately 1 kilometre (0.62 mi) from Hakgala Botanical Garden and 5 kilometres (3.1 mi) from Nuwara Eliya. The temple is located in the village of Seetha Eliya (also known as Sita Eliya). This place is believed to be the site where Sita was held captive by the rakshasa king Ravana, and where she prayed daily for her husband Rama to come and rescue her in the Hindu epic, the Ramayana. On the rock face across the stream are circular depressions that are regarded to be the footprints of Hanuman.



STORY OF THE POST



The First Atlantic Airmails

WHEN, on June 14, 1919, a twin-engined bi-plane hoisted itself laboriously into the fog and cloud above Newfoundland, a new era in trans-oceanic mails had begun.

The aeroplane, a Vickers Vimy piloted by John Alcock and navigated by Arthur Whitten Brown, flew through the night and 16 hours later touched down on a field - which proved to be a bog - in County Galway, Ireland. It was the first non-stop Atlantic flight and the first trans-Atlantic airmail.

The two men were given a hero's welcome and knighted, but their feat was to be overshadowed and largely forgotten when, in 1927, the American pilot Lindbergh flew the Atlantic solo. There are still many people who, if asked, would say that Lindbergh was the first to make the crossing.

Alcock and Brown's flight was one of several to attempt the non-stop crossing in order to win a prize of £10,000 offered by the *Daily News* in London. The prize was first offered in 1914 and again after World War 1.

The aircraft which gathered in Newfoundland during the early spring of 1919 were a Sopwith piloted by Harry Hawker, a Martinsyde, a Handley-Page with a crew of six, and the Vickers.

The Sopwith made its attempt two months before the Vickers aircraft but after some hours force-landed in the sea. The crew was rescued by a Danish tramp steamer and some days later the aircraft and its mailbags were salvaged by an American steamer.

Two attempts by the Martinsyde and its crew were both doomed to failure. The aircraft crashed on take-off each time. The first try came within hours of Hawker's departure in the Sopwith, the second after the Vickers had made the successful crossing. The Handley-Page attempt failed also when the aircraft was damaged in a crash landing.

An aircraft similar to that of Alcock and Brown's made the first England to Australia flight. Piloted by Captain Ross Smith, navigated by his younger brother, and with two mechanics, the Vimy left England in November 1919 and by stages reached Melbourne at the end of February.

Covers and stamps associated with these early flights are now among the treasures of aerophilately. Ironically, perhaps the rarest cover, from the abortive Martinsyde attempt, crossed the Atlantic by ship, and is now in the British Museum in London.

Our drawing was specially commissioned from John Prater.

June Quizz

Match the country's Current name with their previous name

Eswatini	Ceylon
Burkina Faso	Bechuanaland
Belize	Tanganyika and Zanzibar
Thailand	Trucial States
Tuvalu	Basutoland
Sri Lanka	Upper Volta
Tanzania	Swaziland
Botswana	British Honduras
United Arab Emirates	Siam
Botswana	Ellice Islands

Match the currency to the countries below

Albania	lilangeni
Angola	kwacha
Bangladesh	colón
Bhutan	ariary
China	won
Costa Rica	tögrög
Denmark	forint
Eswatini	dram
Guatemala	ngultrum
Hungary	shekel
Israel	tala
Korea	yuan
Madagascar	quetza
Mongolia	córdoba
Nicaragua	taka
Samoa	kwanza
Ukriane	krone
Zambia	hryvnia

Name the country belonging the flags below

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

