

CAMPBELLTOWN PHILATELIC NEWS

AUGUST, 2011

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NEXT MEETING 14TH SEPTEMBER AGM & "BLACK & WHITE DISPLAY"

What's on

- 13 August St George Philatelic Open Day
Cnr Bond & Dora Sts, Hurstville
- 13 August Shoalhaven Annual Open Day
Wesley Centre, Berry St, Nowra
- 21 August Newcastle Stamp & Coin Fair
Community Centre, Cooper &
Murin Sts, Wallsend
- 27 August Punchbowl Stamp & Coin Fair
Community Centre, 44 Rossmore
Ave, Punchbowl
- 28 August Epping Stamp & Coin Fair
Community Hall, 9 Oxford St
Epping
- 28 August Post Card Collector's Fair
Petersham Town Hall
107 Crystal St, Petersham
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Hopefully this will not be the scene next month for our annual general meeting. You are encouraged to approach members to accept nomination for the 2012 committee.

Also bring your donation of stamps for the church mission to Peru. The donation box will be on the table when you come in.

The Evolution of Mail and Postage Stamps *(Continued from previous edition)*

WHAT IS PHILATELY ABOUT ?

Stamp collecting has a language all its own, as do other hobbies.

The term "philately" was coined by the French in the early days of postage stamp collecting. It is a combination of two Greek words, *philo* (lover, or fond of) and *ateleia* (free of payment or tax). Philatelists are people who like not having to pay taxes! Remember that for a very long time it was the receiver, not the sender of the letter who got stuck paying for its transportation.

It is interesting to note that Great Britain is the only country allowed to issue stamps without a country name in deference to Rowland Hill's great idea.

Stamps can easiest be separated into four major categories:

Commemoratives - stamps printed in limited quantities and available for a short period of time in honor of important people, places, events or subjects. They are often larger and more colorful than other types of stamps.

Definitives - stamps often reprinted to meet continual use by the public paying a standard rate or value to make up a specific need. Many times these are smaller in size than commemoratives and have a common look, design and/or theme among many denominations.

Special purpose or service stamps- like definitives, but issued for a particular need and oftentimes an exclusive use. These include: airmail stamps, postage due stamps (non-payment of fees), semi-postal stamps (surtaxed stamps for a charitable cause), special delivery stamps, and alike.

Revenue stamps- non-postage receipts representing a tax paid for a variety of needs.

Same Design, Different Stamps

There are many ways to differentiate stamps that have the same design. Knowing these basics allow collectors to tell whether they have a stamp worth a few cents or several thousand dollars.

Check for straight edges. Stamps can be released in different formats: sheets, coils (strips for use in vending machines and by bulk-mailers), and booklets

Next, check its perforation. The first "Penny Black" stamps from Great Britain and a number of issues afterwards needed to be cut from the sheet. This proved inconvenient for postal employees and patrons, so a machine was devised to punch pin holes between stamp designs to make them easy to separate. Pin sizes and the gaps between pins used to punch the holes varied among the various stamp printers. Early collectors invented the perforation gage, a special ruler, to measure the number of holes (or alternately, the teeth next to them) in a standard 20 millimeter length.

The higher the number, the more holes. A stamp is simply placed over the printed patterns until it exactly matches, resulting in its perf size. The horizontal measurement is denoted first, followed by the vertical. They are not always the same in both directions.

Also check its watermark. A watermark is a security impression stamped at regular intervals when the stamp paper is made. The result is a thinning in the paper at the spot where the impression is struck. Designs or lettering are typically used, which may be found partially or fully on every stamp. The Penny Black used a crown.

This is the conclusion of The Evolution of Mail & Postage Stamps.



Laurie Ferguson, federal member for Werriwa, contacted our club to donate his 20 plus years collection of First Day Covers of Australia & of Island, plus some booklets.

We thank Laurie for this generous gesture.

Our club was approached by the **Macarthur Advertiser** newspaper to do a story on one of our members. It was arranged that they would interview our Publicity Officer, Gordon Howard, to obtain details, & for their photographer to add a picture to that story. It appeared in their edition of Tuesday 19th July, 2011.

Exploring the world of stamps.



Far from the bad rap it often gets as a boring, dusty hobby, collecting stamps opens up a new world for Howard Gordon. **VERA BERTOLA** reports.

The article went on to discuss Gordon's special stamp collecting interests as well as the activities

of our club. As you can see, above, they reversed his name in the article & also incorrectly nominated our meeting night as Tuesday.

Hopefully Vera will permit Gordon another item in a month or two about our preparations for Fisher's Ghost Stamp Fair.

Japan earthquake & tsunami

Japan Post has issued stamps and postcards in June to raise donations for reconstruction after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

It is the first time for the sale of disaster-related fundraising postcards.

Japan Post Service plans to issue a total of 70 million stamps and 28 million postcards and raise 540 million yen. The postcards were released on June 1 and the stamps on June 21.

eBay Australia

eBay Australia has revealed plans to more than double its fees on some auction listings, effectively penalising non-professional sellers.

The days of eBay as largely an online garage sale are finished as the company pushes sellers away from second-hand auctions towards listing new items in the fixed price format and on eBay Stores. But as consumers and mum and dad sellers typically run one-off auctions as opposed to opening their own stores or setting a fixed price, they appear to be left worse off by the upcoming changes.

From September 22, eBay Australia will scrap insertion fees for the first 30 items listed for auction in a month. Insertion fees currently range from \$0.30 to \$3.50 for most items.

However, final value fees will increase from 5.25 per cent to 7.9 per cent, capped at \$49.95 for each of the first 30 listings per month. This is now the same as the final value fee paid by professional sellers with eBay Stores.

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THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, india — Armed commandoes cordoned off a medieval Hindu temple in south India on Monday after gold coins and precious stones worth billions of dollars were found in its vaults.

The treasure will be kept in the temple itself and Kerala police are taking over its security from temple staff," said Chandy, who valued the discovery at 500 billion rupees (\$11.2 billion) on Saturday.

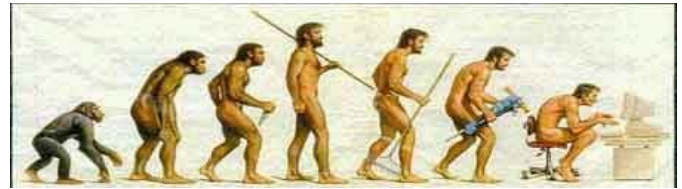
Five vaults of the Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple in the Keralan capital Thiruvananthapuram were opened last week, yielding enormous quantities of gold and silver jewellery, coins and precious stones.

A sixth is still set to be explored. The Times of India said one tonne of gold coins — some dating back to the era of French military leader Napoleon Bonaparte — as well as sacks full of diamonds and golden statues were among the artefacts discovered in the temple.

The shrine was built hundreds of years ago by the king of Travancore and donations by devotees have been kept in the temple's seven vaults since then.

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Thought for today

"A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well".



EVOLUTION



Final Olympics stamps 27/07/2011

The final set of London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games stamps have been issued today, exactly one year before the London 2012 Olympics opening ceremony. This is the third set of ten London 2012 stamps issued by Royal Mail in the lead-up to the Games; previous sets of ten stamps were issued in 2009 and 2010.



Final set of London 2012 stamps

The London 2012 stamps are Royal Mail's largest stamp commission since the Millennium series, which saw more than 100 stamps issued during 1999-2001. 30 UK artists and image makers have designed stamps for the London 2012 sets, many of whom were first time stamp designers. Paralympic Sailing, Athletics, Volleyball, Wheelchair Rugby, Wrestling, Wheelchair Tennis, Fencing, Gymnastics, Triathlon and Handball feature on this final set of 10 stamps, which is subtitled 'Get Ready for 2012'.

PAQUEBOT MAIL

At the Vienna conference in 1891, the Universal Postal Union established special handling regulations for mail posted on the high seas aboard ocean-going vessels. The rules were further clarified at the Washington, D.C. conference of the UPU in 1896. Such mail might originate with passengers or crew, or it might be picked up at a port of call lacking postal facilities for onward transportation to the next port having postal facilities.

Mail posted at sea is generally held by the ship's purser or postal officer, if it has one, until the next port with postal facilities is reached. When the ship reaches the next port, the purser or postal officer delivers all mail received during the voyage to the post office serving the port. The mail is then marked "Paquebot" or the equivalent and is postmarked by the post office and entered into the mailstream for delivery.

The cover could have received a handstamp aboard ship, but that handstamp is not a postal marking.

Covers and cards mailed at sea are generally referred to as "paquebot" covers. "Paquebot" is French for "packet boat," and postal administrations use paquebot handstamps to mark mail received from a seagoing vessel that has no on-board post office.

Originally packet boats were small vessels employed by a government to carry dispatches, mail, passengers and cargo on relatively short voyages on fixed sailing days. Over time, however, paquebot mail came to mean any mail received at sea.

FEWER BUT DEARER

Sri Lankan Postal Services Minister said plans are under way to reduce the new issues of stamps from next year but to increase the value of stamps, Sri Lankan Postal Services Minister said.

The Minister said that plans are in place to issue only 35 stamps on various subjects next year. Last year 51 were released.

LOCAL HISTORY

The largest internment camp in Australia during World War I was at Holsworthy, near Liverpool on the outskirts of Sydney. Sources may refer to it as either 'Liverpool camp' or 'Holsworthy camp'. The camp held 6890 internees, most having German or

Austrian parentage. While most of the 4500 internees from within Australia had been resident in New South Wales, some were brought from camps in other Australian states that were closed early in the war. Many from Western Australia, who had been employed in gold fields around Kalgoorlie, had originally come from states within the Austro-Hungarian Empire such as Serbia, Croatia and Dalmatia. About 700 of those interned were naturalised British subjects, and 70 were Australian born. Many internees were deported after the war.



An email was received offering the club 40kg of used Australian stamps on paper. Having collected them, we found a significant number had been cut or torn. Undamaged stamps are currently being separated, disposing of the rest. Due to the quantity this will take time. All the stamps appear to be common, letter rate stamps, so they will be placed in the stamp mission box over the coming months.

Dear Grim Reaper,

You have taken my favourite dancer - Michael Jackson. You have taken my favourite actor - Patrick Swayze. You have taken my favourite singer - John Lennon. You have taken my favourite actress - Farrah Fawcett.

Thought I should tell you my favourite politician is Kevin Rudd.

signed
Julia Gillard