



Philatelic Society of Australia Commemorative Meetings 2011



Wednesday 18 May 2011 Women in Society by Linda Lee Report



The fifth meeting of the Society's centenary year, designated "Ladies Day", took place at Philas House on 18th May with 16 members & 4 visitors in attendance including 6 women. The guest presenter was Linda Lee who in 2010 had won 2 gold medals for her displays at FIP General World Exhibitions held in London and Portugal. For our Society, she showed part of her London prize-winning display.

The display presented by Linda featured postage stamps, covers, postal cards, special cancellations, and postal slogans, having the theme "Women in Society", and included items from the late 1800s to the present day. Linda introduced the display with a detailed account of women's worldwide fight for equality and recognition in male dominated societies. The display features material that demonstrated the changing role of women over the past 100 years. This included items that illustrated the early fights by women for "women's rights" covering the late 1800s through to the emancipation movement of the early 1900s. Items from these years showed that the style and type of dress worn by women demonstrated their role in society. From the 1920s the display carried the audience through the increasing roles of women in the professions, such as medicine, law, and the sciences, the arts and entertainment, and professional sport. Highlighted were those who had won a Nobel Prize or Gold Medals at the Olympic Games. Items of particular interest or rarity, included an advertising envelope with a half moon cut through the embossed postage stamp, a French airmail die proof signed by the engraver "Gandon", a two pence Mulready cover, and an illustrated South London telegram of the 1950s.

Jane Wallace in her vote of thanks stated that any audience viewing this display could not fail to appreciate the changing roles of women in society over the past 100 years. The display highlighted the multitude areas where women were now dominant in their chosen careers. In conclusion, Jane stated the display was of such importance that it should not be dismembered but retained for future generations.