



Bendigo

The Golden City Philatelist

BENDIGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC. A0016241J

P.O. BOX 962 BENDIGO, VIC. 3552

Founded 1931

August 2024

Web page: www.bendigophilatelic.org



Tues. 6th August Preparing a Display / Exhibit

Sat. 31st August Stamp Fair

Tues. 3rd Sept. Camelids on Stamps

Tues. 1st Oct. AGM

President's Report 6th August 2024

Last meeting we had a great attendance, on a super cold night.

We were privileged to be addressed by Ross Newton Liaison Officer for the VPC. He was also impressed by the attendance; it seems some stamp club are going ahead leaps and bounds and others are struggling. He was a very interesting speaker, with quite a few ideas to improve our club. He left me with a box of goodies to be sold for the club, and these will be included in the next auction.

Don't forget the **31st of August** is our Annual Fair back at St. Andrews. Bill Trew has all the arrangements undertow, and we are all looking forward to having a great time and filling a few gaps in our collections. He will need a few volunteers on the Friday night at about 8.30pm to set up the hall and to man the door on the 31st. Unfortunately, we will not have inhouse catering. So, bring your own lunch or go to one of the eating places down town.

Birthdays for this month are – Noel on the 5th, Myrtle on the 19th, Geoff on the 21st and Ken Scott on the 31st. "Happy Birthday" to you all.

For ones that don't know Ken Scott has had an operation to remove his problem foot, he is coming along well and hopes to be back to meetings very soon. We all wish him the very best in his recovery.

Next meeting we have on the syllabus "Preparing for a Display or Exhibit". I thought we might make this a question-and-answer night open to the floor. I'm sure we all have questions, and we have a vast knowledge amongst our members.

One thing we must remember is only to bid for auction lots that we can pay for on the night. No money no stamps. Unfortunately we have to remind people about these things.

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:

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1998 Australian Olympic Legends

Despite the problems with his vision, David Cotton, our former president, remains philatelically active, corresponding with other collectors worldwide and attempting to assist them in sourcing Australian stamps.

He currently has a request to try to find a full set of the 1998 Australia Olympic legends....Sheetlets and self adhesive...

If any member can assist David with this please contact him. Member contact details should have been sent to all members.



200 Years of Free Press in Australia

In July Australia Post issued a stamp at the new \$1.50 rate which claims to celebrate 200 years of press freedom. This rationale for this is as follows.

“In 1824, the first two uncensored newspapers were published in the colonies. The first was edition no. 422 of the Hobart Town Gazette and Van Diemen's Land Advertiser, printed on 4 June by Government Printer Andrew Bent.”

For many years, Australia had a vigorous free press but many would argue that this is no longer the case as more and more small newspapers either close or are swallowed up by the ever growing conglomerates. Due to this distillation of ownership of the press, they would argue, the news presented in today's newspapers is increasingly slanted to reflect the views and politics of the small number of owners.

So, in 1824, the government stopped telling the editors what to print while in 2024, it is possibly reversed with the newspaper owners telling the politicians how to govern.

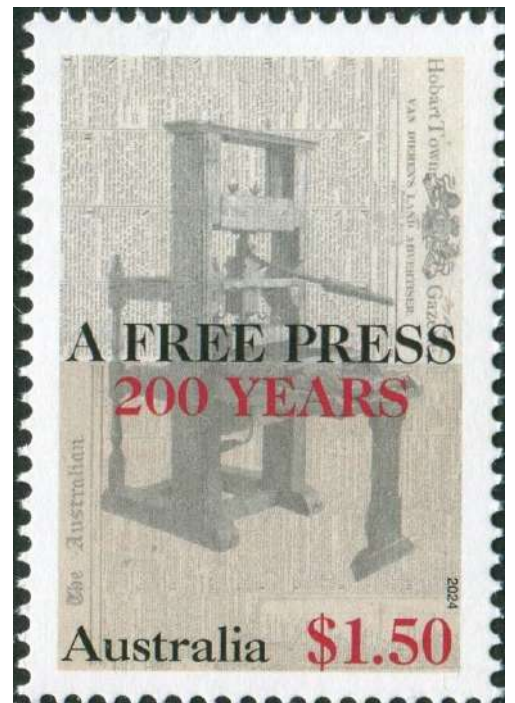
Whether you agree with that or not, there is no escaping the sad fact that many newspapers, some that you may remember, are now gone.

Wikipedia contains a list of hundreds of now-defunct newspapers.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_defunct_newspapers_of_Australia

Newspapers rely on advertising to remain solvent and even this puts a limit on their “freedom” as no editor would willingly allow criticism of a major advertiser. Advertising is also at the heart of the demise of the humble newspaper as revenues shrink due to more and more people getting their news online and that's where the advertisers are now. Two of my children are aged around thirty and like most of their friends, they have rarely picked up a newspaper in all of their thirty years.

Getting back to the stamp, collectors of Austrian stamps can be excused if they think the design looks familiar.



Bendigo Philatelic Society Library

Book information: David Robinson. Library code: BPS-0134



AUSTRALIAN DECIMAL STAMPS

1966-1978

THE STORY BEHIND THE STAMP

Published and distributed by: ROBERT BROWN AND ASSOCIATES

Designed by the Author: JAMES BENTLEY

This book shows all Australian stamps issued between 1966-1978 all stamps are displayed in the actual size that they were issued by Australia Post. In accordance with Australia Post regulations, displayed stamps have been marked with a circular black cancellation. The author acknowledges that the text is based on material supplied by Australia Post and is reproduced with permission. The back page features a map of Australia showing the location of most of the places mentioned in this book.

Australia Post first issued decimal stamps on the 14th February 1966 and this Definitive issue featured a left half face portrait of Queen Elizabeth II. Also for this issue three coil stamps were issued featuring a modified colour plan and no perforations on the two vertical sides.



[Our library holds an extensive range of books, leaflets & magazines.](#)

[available to members. Please contact David on email: \[ddusa@live.com.au\]\(mailto:ddusa@live.com.au\)](#)

The evolution of stamp engraving, and a few tales thereof.

When plans were being made for the production of the world's first postage stamp, the Penny Black, the bean counters in the British government wanted it to be printed by typography or lithography, the two cheapest methods available at the time. It was argued, however, that nothing but the finest method of printing was suitable for the Queen's portrait and for once, artistry took precedence over economics and the stamp portrait was hand-engraved by Charles Heath and his son, Frederick. The background behind the head was not hand-engraved but was produced by a machine.

The stamps were then recess printed which gave them a texture which could be easily felt and acted as a protection against forgery. It was cancelled with a red or black ink but as these were easily washed off, there was a perception that many people were re-using the stamps so after just one year, the colour was changed to red and a more durable black ink was used for the cancellation.



The problem of re-use still remained as people learned to join unmarked parts of different stamps to produce a new usable stamp. According to the Bank of England, one penny in 1840 had the same purchasing power of 36p in 2023. It seems like a lot of effort to save such a small amount but as they say, "A penny saved is a penny earned". To combat this, a new version of the penny red stamp was issued with the check letters repeated in reverse at the top. They also added the printing plate number at the sides, although this was probably more to attract the pennies from the growing numbers of stamp collectors than for security reasons. In 1870, halfpenny and penny halfpenny stamps were also engraved but after that, the accountants got their way and the cheaper printing method of surface printing or typography was used for all the remaining Victorian stamps of Great Britain. To this day, beginning with the "Seahorse" high values of 1913, only occasional British stamps are engraved.

Meanwhile, across the Atlantic, the United States, like many other countries, saw their postage stamps as tiny ambassadors, promoting them to the world. With this in mind, they produced ever more intricate, high quality issues with fancy borders that tested both the engravers and the printers to the limit.



Favourites among these for many philatelists are the set produced for the Trans-Mississippi Exposition in Omaha in 1898. The one dollar stamp supposedly depicting Western Cattle in a Storm has often been called the most beautiful US stamp ever created. The joke here is that the image was copied from a US cattle company's calendar without realising that the calendar used the image, without permission, of a painting by John McWhirter and the cattle shown are in Scotland.



Never slow to seize an opportunity, the major stamp producers set their sights on South America where many countries had only in recent times gained independence. Stamps were a way to show the world who they were. The American Bank Note Company produced stamps for many of these, including a 1910 War of Independence set for Chile. They also spread their net further afield to places like the Belgian Congo.



The evolution of stamp engraving, and a few tales thereof.



Not to be outdone, the major British countries, De La Rue, Bradbury Wilkinson and Perkins Bacon joined the party, at times producing higher quality stamps for overseas customers (some would argue) than were being produced for their home country.

The detail on the 1901 National Theatre issue produced by Waterlow for Costa Rica is astounding. You can even see one of the people has a walking stick!



A dozen years later, Waterlow go to engrave a new stamp for Great Britain, the “Seahorses” high values. Meanwhile, many of the stamps produced by Britain for countries within the British Empire, and later Commonwealth, were engraved.

Although many of the Australian states had produced engraved issues, when they combined to form a Commonwealth, they didn’t produce a stamp until 1913. The first stamps were issued under a Labour government who refused to put the King on the stamps and used a map and kangaroo instead.



With the change of government an engraved stamp with the portrait of King George V was issued. It only lasted a year before being replaced by Typo printed stamps but it was making a statement. This stamp was unusual in that the shading lines on the King's head are vertical rather than horizontal as was normal. This stamp was engraved by Thomas Harrison. Later, when Frank Davies Manley was recruited to come to Australia, our engraved stamps really became world class and remained that way until the 1960s when photogravure took over as the preferred method of production.



By the end of the 1960s, most countries had changed to photogravure to print their stamps. Apart from cost, this method offered many more opportunities to use full colour and printing methods had improved enormously over the years. This was also true for the countries that continued to engrave their stamps. Presses could now print multiple colours in a single sweep. The former French President, Nicolas Sarkozy, is a keen philatelist and while in power, enacted a law that states that a percentage of French stamps will always be engraved. No other country has done this. France was one of the early adopters of the technology to produce multiple colours in their engraved stamps.

The great improvement is printing in the second half of the twentieth century allowed the best engravers to really show their prowess. Notable among these was Czeslaw Slania, the Polish

engraver who moved to Sweden in 1956 and is considered by many to be the finest ever. (Personally, I think that is like trying to compare Mozart to Beethoven. When they are that good, who cares!) Sweden continued to engrave their stamps until 2017 utilising the skills of many superb artists such as Sjooblom and Morck. The philatelic world has been poorer since 2017.





Sometimes you need to enlarge a stamp to appreciate the detail. This was engraved at the same size as the stamp *in reverse* yet the intricate detail in the background is astounding. Frank Manley was a genius. You can read the story behind this stamp here: <https://www.engravedstamps.net/more.php?ID=2>

The evolution of stamp engraving, and a few tales thereof.

Fashions in art, as in most things, change with time and this has been particularly true of stamps. The engraved stamps from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were complex, often having intricate borders and lettering. This could entail utilising the skills of several engravers to produce one stamp. An engraver might begin his career with engraving the lettering then when considered proficient enough, he might be allowed to engrave a border. It could be many years before he joined the elite company of those allowed to engrave a vignette or portrait. Modern stamps tend to have simpler lines almost approaching the simplicity of a cartoon. They can still be quite beautiful as the Marianne by Elsa Catelin shows.



The biggest changes have come in the last thirty years. In 1994, the United States produced its last hand engraved stamp but still produced recess printed stamps. Engraving with a burin, the tiny chisel used to produce the original die, was replaced by etching with acid. Only a philatelist would notice the difference and then, only under magnification. Compare these two beautiful women on stamps.

This stamp was based on a 1932 photograph by Clarence Sinclair Bull who said she was the most inspiring person he had ever photographed. It was originally going to be engraved by the great Czeslaw Slania but he became too ill to complete the task. The US decided to use photogravure instead for the stamp while in Sweden, the engraving was passed to Piotr Naszarkowski, with Slania remaining in an advisory role, though he did not live to see the stamp completed. Somehow, the story got out and created a backlash that caught the US postal administration unawares. Being beaurocrats, there was much grumbling about how much more expensive it was to produce an engraved stamp, but the argument for an engraved stamp was won and both countries used that method.



The Gibson Girl was the personification of the feminine ideal of physical attractiveness as portrayed by the pen-and-ink illustrations of artist Charles Dana Gibson during a 20-year period that spanned the late 19th and early 20th centuries in the United States. The artist saw his creation as representing the composite of "thousands of American girls". (Wikipedia) This stamp, issued in

1998 was etched then printed by recess or intaglio printing. Only under magnification does the inferiority of the etching method show.

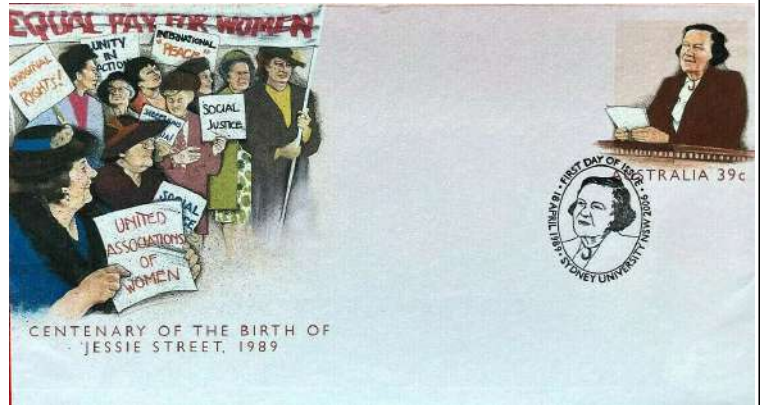


These days, a lot of countries use "computer assisted" engraving with just the final adjustments done with a burin if needed. Again, it takes a lot of skill but the skills are different to the more traditional method. Early efforts of computer engraving tended to be fairly coarse but as with most things in electronics, the advancement has been rapid and exponential. Few these days would be able to tell a computer assisted from a hand engraved stamp without very careful study. Jorge Peral, who excels in both methods, engraved the whale issue for Canada. When you think that the background of the Penny Black was done by a machine, is this so different?



Why is this person on a stamp? No. 32: Jessie Street

Few Australians have a better claim to being on a stamp than Jessie Street but she has only been honoured on a pre-stamped envelope. It's not surprising as we all know that there were no women in the history of Australia. To my shame, as a student of Australian history and folklore, I had never heard about Jessie Street until Judy Small wrote a song about her. This month, instead of a potted biography, why don't we let Judy tell the story of Jessie Street.



A HEROINE OF MINE

Words and music by Judy Small. Used with permission.

She was a high-born lady from the gentry of the land
She never had known poverty but she seemed to understand
That her privilege depended on the labour of the poor
And she spent her life in working just to even up the score.

She married a young lawyer and Chief Justice he became
She could have spent her whole life in the shelter of his name
But not for her the glory of reflections in the glass
She saw the vast injustice and she couldn't let it pass.

She was an inspiration to the women of her time
And Jessie Street will always be a heroine of mine.

She never had to work but still she fought for equal pay
And she fought for Aborigines to the Silvertails' dismay
She was a woman for the people her commitment clear and strong
And she used her wealth and influence to help the cause along.

She saw the waste of human life in wars that make men rich
Her work for peace was endless and they put her on the list
They branded her a traitor, called her communist and more
But Jessie's voice was never stilled against the crime of war.

She was an inspiration to the women of her time
And Jessie Street will always be a heroine of mine.

And Jessie, your example helps us all along the way
Foundations that were laid back then we're building on today
The struggle isn't over; there are mountains still to climb
But the legacy you and your sisters left is our lifeline.

You were an inspiration to the women of your time
And Jessie Street, you'll always be a heroine of mine.

From the album "One Voice In The Crowd"

You can hear Judy sing the song here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mws7vWzOh2g>



JESSIE STREET 1929
Reginald Jerrold-Nathan
oil on canvas

National Portrait Gallery

Jessie Street (née Lillingston, 1889–1970), feminist and activist, had a 50-year career encompassing achievements on landmark issues such as family planning, equal pay and equal employment. Becoming interested in women's issues in her twenties, in the interwar years she intervened in unemployment relief, the plight of Jewish refugees and Indigenous rights. She stood unsuccessfully as a Labor Party candidate in the federal elections of 1939 and 1946; in between, in 1945, she was the sole Australian woman delegate to the founding of the United Nations, where she pressed for women's rights. Street first visited Russia in 1938, and was president of the Australian Russian Society from 1946; as the Cold War developed, she was (falsely) accused of communist sympathies. In 1949, expelled from the Labor party, she stood unsuccessfully as an independent candidate. Street's husband, Sir Kenneth Street, was Chief Justice of NSW from 1950, and for much of the 1950s she worked for the World Peace Council in London. Her son, Laurence, became Chief Justice of New South Wales in 1974.

<https://www.portrait.gov.au/portraits/2010.64/jessie-street>

Members please note: This is before the next meeting



GEELONG PHILATELIC SOCIETY Inc.

REG. No. A0022165A

**PO Box 342
BELMONT VIC 3216**

SALE CATALOGUE – SALE NOW OPEN

This is an on-site auction; bids can also be made in person. Viewing is available from **6.15pm** on Saturday, 3rd of August 2024, the auction will commence at about 7.15pm at Virginia Todd Hall, 9-15 Clarence St Geelong West. Non-members are welcome to attend. Phone or email bids must be received by **1pm on Saturday, 3rd of August 2024**.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

All lots are offered as described in the catalogue. If you would like more details, please contact Stuart.

Lots will be sold to the highest bidder. Successful bidders will be notified after conclusion of the sale, by email or phone.

Payment of lots can be by –

- Person (Cash) if a pre-arrangement is made to pick them up or
- by bank transfer using the following details
Account name – Geelong Philatelic Society Inc
BSB no. – 733226 (Westpac)
Account no. - 070229
- Or by personal cheque. (Allow time for clearance).

Lots will be mailed out or can be picked up from an agreed location. Mail costs will be paid for by the purchaser keeping in mind some of the lots are quite bulky.

Bids can be submitted by email or phone to

Stuart Pearmain: Email - wendyandstuart@yahoo.com.au

Phone - 0425 770 084

Julie Turner: Email - toomigirl@bigpond.com

Phone – 0438 270 549

FDC	First Day Cover
MUH	Mint un-hinged
PO	Post Office
FV	Face Value
Opt	Overprint
m/s	Miniature Sheet
()	Indicates number of stamps

THE BALLARAT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

INTERCLUB AND AUCTION DAY.

SATURDAY AUGUST 17TH 12.30 P.M viewing.

1.30 P.M start.

**YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO THE BALLARAT INTERCLUB,
SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER GARY WATSON AND AUCTION
AFTERNOON.**

VENUE: INVERMAY HALL

6-8 MUSCATEL ST.

INVERMAY VIC 3352

TIME: VIEWING 12.30 P.M

AUCTION START 1.30 P.M.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: GARY WATSON.

**GARY IS AN AUCTIONEER AND SENIOR SPECIALIST – STAMPS,
POSTAL HISTORY AND PICTURE POSTCARDS.**

**AUCTION: ANYONE CAN SUBMIT UP TO 10 ITEMS FOR THE
AUCTION.**

**PLEASE REGISTER WITH JACK VANBEVEREN
annejack3@bigpond.com PRIOR TO AUCTION WITH NUMBER OF
ITEMS.**

AFTERNOON TEA: WILL BE PROVIDED.



BENDIGO Stamp Fair

31st. August 2024

10.00 - 3.00

*Local & Melbourne
Stamp 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: bendigophilatelicociety@gmail.com

It's not too early to put this in your diary...



Maryborough Stamp Fair

Sat. 26th October, 2024
Mill House, Maryborough.