

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2007

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EDITORIAL WELCOME

Welcome to the April issue. My first Newsletter for the IPDA and I hope you find it interesting. I am standing in for Alan who is in the UK having a wonderful time no doubt.

To stamps. Seems to me it is all about new issues these days. I read the various web sites, I subscribe to various magazines and I also get promotional material from various philatelic bureaus.

Too many new issues is my view. That is a bit of a generalization I know but what do you think? I have stopped collecting new issues to be honest. I simply cannot afford it – or rather, I would prefer to spend my money on a few older more sought after GB.

Another of my favourite topics.

If you didn't know, concerns the correctness of descriptions of stamps listed for sale, and particularly for sale at the various internet auction sites that seem to proliferate these days.

Anyone can sell a stamp on an internet auction site. I bought one from someone who specializes in dolls or some such product. A pair of mint unhinged GB George VI Wedding SG 484.

One stamp was perfect the other had minor gum bending. Nothing too serious but all the same it was not correctly described and while I am not dissatisfied with my purchase it does remind me that we should be promoting membership of the IPDA so that buyers can buy with more confidence.

How can we all do this? Your ideas please? Drop me an email, I look forward to hearing from you.

Yes, one of my favourite stamps.



Michael – as in cddstamps – and Publicity Director

AGM MAY 2007

The Annual General Meeting will take place on May 15th (US time). You should be receiving all the various materials in the coming weeks,

Please join your Board of Directors for this meeting. It is held online and is easy to participate, click the chat button on the IPDA home page. If you

have views about how we run the IPDA and how it could be run then please let us know. I realise we have asked this question before. We have tried to work some ideas and as I hope you will agree your Board has been active during the past year with membership increasing, awareness of the IPDA heightened and a lively

online chat presence becoming more well known. Your Board believes in the IPDA and what it stands for. I know there are many respected and accredited stamp associations around the world, but we want to see sellers of stamps on the internet recognised as accredited dealers; for the benefit of both dealers and buyers.

www.ipdaonline.org

SYDNEY STAMP EXPO 2007

Sydney Stamp Expo 2007 is a full National Philatelic Exhibition, the first to be held in Sydney Australia since 1995.

It includes all exhibition classes currently available within Australia, including the new Open Class.

The theme for the exhibition is the Sydney Harbour Bridge, which celebrates its 75th Anniversary shortly before the show, and hence the stylised bridge in the exhibition logo.

There will be over 600 frames

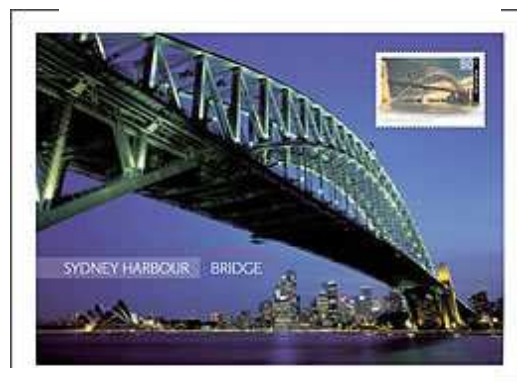
of quality material on display, plus Australia Post as well as 34 dealers from both Australia and overseas. .

The daily Admission charge will be \$5 per person. Children under 14 and all school children are free when accompanied by an adult. Children over 14 and claiming free admission as school children may be required to provide proof of status (concession travel card or student ID). There are no concessions nor

season tickets

The exhibition will be held from

For more information visit <http://www.sydney2007.stamparena>



NEW STAMP

Australia's first lenticular – that is to us without a dictionary to hand – a moving image stamp.. what did you think of this ... money making idea or what!!! At \$2.45, me thinks so.. so much for a another first from Australia post.. Shouldn't have bothered in my view

NEW WEBSITE

Found what I think is a good web site, even if some pages are a bit dated



– sadly the owner is not (yet) a member of the IPDA.

Still that won't stop me saying have a look at his site...

<http://www.robinlinke.com.au/news&information.html>

Robin Linke Stamp Dealer & Auctioneer.. I liked what I read I will write to him and see if I can get him to join. If anyone knows of him please drop me a line or write to him and help promote the IPDA.

UPDATING YOUR WEBSITE

How often do you update your website I wonder.

I occasionally browse through stamp sites - and it is amazing to see how many are so very dated that one wonders if something has happened to the collector or dealer so that they cannot update the site.

I try to update my home

page every month, to make it fresh for the reader and let them know I am still around.

And, since many of us are hoping for sales from our web site isn't it a good idea to keep the material fresh.

We all want people to keep coming back to our sites and eventually have them buy something from us,

Share your thoughts with me about your ways to keep you web site up-to-date and I'll pass on to other members in the next newsletter. Email me at

michaelatipda@gmail.com

And as a final thought— when did you last backup you hard disk? .

THEMATICS

So many theme of thematics to collect these days and more every day it seems—how about these...tongue in cheek maybe....

Celebrity Babies on stamps—with the issue of a GB Royal Mail stamps to show a picture of rock music legend Rod Stewart's 15 month old son Alistair. And how about Ice Creams on stamps - here is a good starter for your collection

from the Royal Mail to be issued in May.



If you are looking for a good list of thematic topics you will really enjoy looking at Avion Stamps web site.

John West is an IPDA member and he has one impressive thematic range. Have a look at <http://www.avionstamps.com>

And finally, this is from my own my thematic collection a rather nice imperf block of 4.



BRUNEI COLLECTOR

I'll be the first to admit that I don't know the first thing about stamps from Brunei, but I thought the story was fascinating anyway.

Brudirect.com carries the story of a man who has been collecting Brunei stamps for more than 50 years.

He believes that he has the only set of 1907 definitives showing the water village.

The stamps are quite

beautiful, being bi-color and very nicely engraved.

To me, they are reminiscent of many of the engraved British Commonwealth stamps that make that collecting area so popular.

To see the full set and read the article, click the following link:

<http://www.brudirect.com/DailyInfo/News/Archive/Mar07/030307/nite05.htm>



INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

My last piece is motivated by an email I received from one of our members. He sold some stamps on eBay—accurately described as far as I could tell yet the buyer wrote and said he was not satisfied and wasn't going to send the stamps back because of

the postage he would have to incur.

It would appear the buyer has done this before. Our member refunded the money and sent an additional gift to show goodwill.

My thought here is have any other members ex-

perienced this sport of behaviour? And if so how have they dealt with it?

The dilemma is that none of us want to get a negative feedback do we. Yet it is so easy to get one even if undeserved. Your thoughts?

I hope you have found something of interest in this, my first newsletter. All feedback welcome, especially if you can guide me in how to improve the content and how to make the content more relevant to what you want to read. I would be most pleased to hear from you. eMail me at michaelatipda@gmail.com m⁺ Best wishes.. Michael