

Internet Philatelic Dealers Association, Inc.

www.ipdaonline.org

NEWSLETTER MAY 2007

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

EDITORIAL WELCOME	1
ROUND ROBIN	1
BOOK REVIEW	2
NEW STAMP	2
IPDA ANNIVERSARY COVER	2
MACHIN 40TH ANNIVERSARY-ISSUE	3
THEMATICS	3
NEARLY A FDC	3
PHISHING	4
LOSING BUSINESS MAYBE	4
BAD AUCTION DESCRIPTION	4

EDITORIAL WELCOME

How fast time goes. Seems only yesterday I was writing my first Newsletter and here I am again. Welcome to the May issue. I also hope to hear from you and hopefully be one of the Board members to welcome you at the AGM in a few weeks time. Hopefully you have a minute in your busy schedules to read the material that has been sent to you and that you will join us online on the 15th (16th here in Australia).

I have been ranting on in my blog recently about some poorly described material on various online auction sites. Membership of the IPDA won't guarantee there is never a poorly described

stamp but I hope people taking out membership are serious about selling and the responsibilities that go with that. Please help us promote the IPDA in any way you can. On page two you will see one idea for a membership drive, and something for you if you are a member.

There is more to stamps than just the stamps themselves of course. The people and the experiences along the way make it something bigger than just the stamps, don't you think?

I recently met up with a guy I worked with — had not seen him for ages. It turned out he collects GB GV,

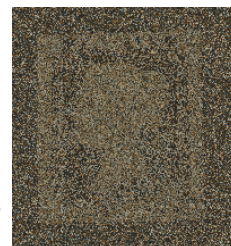
which, as some of you may know, is a particular interest of mine. Especially the Downey Heads. Wonderful evening chatting to him. That is what I mean about the people as well as the stamps.

I closed my opening remarks in my first

issue with a stamp. Here is an-

other of my favourites from my collection. Can you see why??

Michael — as in cddstamps — and Publicity Director



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- IPDA 5th Anniversary April 2007
- IPDA AGM May 15
- Sydney StampExpo June 15th

ROUND ROBIN

Many months ago—in fact even more than that—I wrote to members and suggested a Round Robin. Some of you sent me some material and I still have it safely stored in a box. I have to apologise for being very tardy in actioning this RR — Lots of excuses but none are any good. As I write this I am arranging to

send some material out to a few of you who sent me stamps and covers. Some of the material I received I decided would better be consolidated into an auction lot and sold to raise some funds for the IPDA. Anyway, this to let you know another idea which had

little response but which I have not forgotten. As I make more progress on this I will keep you advised.

To those who sent me some stamps my thanks and apology for not following up faster. .. Michael

BOOK REVIEW—O.A.T AND A.V.2 MARKINGS—THIRD EDITION

Reviewed by Ken Sanford

O.A.T AND A.V.2 MARKINGS
– Third Edition, by Murray
Heifetz. Published by the
American Air Mail Society,
2007, 167 pages, softcover, 8
½ x 11 format

This edition provides comprehensive coverage of the O.A.T. and A.V.2 markings. Markings related exclusively to airmail items and are known recorded between 1938 and 1974. The book provides a summary of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) procedures for the use of the O.A.T. and A.V.2 markings and shows the forms and tags/labels which were used by postal authorities. Since the

second edition, a number of new markings are recorded and some previous assumptions have been modified. The database of markings has almost doubled, resulting in changes to the order of rarity. Many additions are section on forgeries and facing tags and labels and modifications to place of marking origins. I marking types there is one new OAT and 10 new AV2s. The book is copiously illustrated.

The cost is US\$15 plus \$4 domestic postage, from Greg Schmidt, 1978 Fox Burrow Court, Neenah, WI – USA 54956

If ordering for shipment to a country outside the USA, contact Greg first in order to determine shipping charges. Greg's e-mail address is gschmidt7@new.rr.com. Greg accepts PayPal payment from purchasers located outside the USA, provided the PayPal fee of 5% is added.

O.A.T and A.V. 2 MARKINGS

Third Edition



Murray Heifetz



American Air Mail Society

NEW STAMP

When the Twin Towers of the old Wembley Stadium (in London England) were demolished, it was the end of an era. Now the twin towers have been replaced by the Wembley Arch, visible from 13 miles away.

Royal Mail commemorates the re-opening of Wembley Stadium with a miniature sheet. Problems delayed the stadium

completion and therefore the issue of this sheet from 2006.

This is the miniature sheet commemorating the opening of the new stadium, Royal Mail is also issuing a Smilers Sheet using the 1st class (football) Lion & Shield stamp, with the labels depicting and describing some of the memorable occasions in the history of the old stadium,

For more details and pictures have look at Ian Norvics site at <http://www.norphil.co.uk/>

Thanks and all credit to Ian for this material.



IPDA 5TH ANNIVERSARY COVER

Did you know the IPDA celebrated—quietly I might add — its 5th anniversary in April.

Your Directors had wanted to meet for the April Board meeting in Honolulu and celebrate but someone said this was not a good use of members fees, so we didn't meet there. Shame, as I like Hawaii !!.

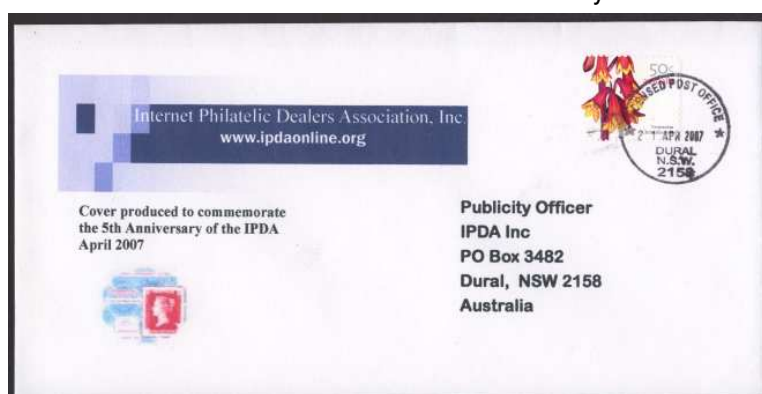
We did agree to fund a less expensive celebratory cover.

Hope you like it. Produced in limited addition of 100 it will be sent

free to all who are paid up members as at the end of May 2007. Membership is about 60 as

I write and we will be offering the remaining 40 covers to encourage new members over the coming month.

Please tell other dealers and sellers you know and help us increase membership. Thanks.



GREAT BRITAIN MACHIN—40TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE.

Are there many of us who have been collecting Machins for 40 years? Ok so you don't want to admit it, is that right!!!

I started collecting Machins only because I collected new issues from Great Britain and for some reason never stopped. I only have the basic issues I must admit, with one notable exception - the 2005 £2 error. My Machin collection is not well catalogued and much of the later years is still unpacked. I have told myself it will be a retirement project. Time will tell. Of course one wonders how many more

new Machins there will be. Another 20 years? Well anything is possible I guess.

The 40th anniversary of the first issue will be well commemorated with the issue of new values, colours, a Smilers sheet, a miniature sheet and anniversary covers and postmarks. One of our member, Ian Norvic has what I think is a brilliant page on his web site—well worth reading even if you

don't collect Machins. Have a look at <http://www.norphil.co.uk/>

And don't forget our own Machin Man, Roy Simpson at <http://machinmania.blogspot.com/>



THEMATICS

I wrote about thematics in the April edition and in this issue I thought I'd share with you another thematic topic, namely butterflies on stamps; in fact butterflies from Sierra Leone. Why this you may well ask?

Well one because I hope it may be of interest to some of you, and because I found this web site which specialises in these stamps and I think is worth a read.

If you have customers who collect butterflies on stamps how good will you look if you refer them to have a browse of this site. I am sure it will interest any collector who specializes in this topic.

The web site is <http://www.fortunecity.co.uk/picnic/park/eternity/147/stampssl.htm>



I hope you enjoy it.

Look at the tabulation of varieties, for only 25 stamps there are a rather amazing

number of varieties.

The stamp shown is a copy of one of the stamps from the first issue in 1987.

Still on thematics and this time aircraft, which you may remember is my topic of interest. I rather like this stamp.



Plain yet to the point. What I think makes this interesting is the fact it was designed using a computer-generated image of the X-15 plane from NASA studies. The stamp shows the X-15 rotated upward to reveal the most surface area. The design includes a ghosted "X" on the left side of the stamp and text under the image reading, "Computer-generated aerodynamic study of an X-Plane."

NEARLY A FDC

Recently seen on eBay. A GV 1/2d 1929 PUC issue on an envelope. Advertised as nearly a FDC and rare.

This stamp was issued on the 10th May 1929

Cancelled with the machine cancellation of Walthamstow

26th June 1929

A very near First Day Cover cancelled in the same Year of Issue



Got any "nearlys" in your collection. Best email to me at

michaelatipda@gmail.com

will win a nearly crash flight cover!!!!.

PHISHING

Do you get emails supposedly from reputable organizations like Banks, Paypal and eBay.

Do you get asked to join this or check that by clicking the link in the email.

I don't know how many times we can remind ourselves never to go to an account from clicking a link in an email but I think too many times is not enough. If you hover your cursor over the link you should see the real address that the link will open in the bottom left hand corner of your screen. Don't click the link

though. This type of mail is often referred to as a Phish. As in phishing.

The intent of a "phish" email is to get you to click on the link and go to a con artist's web site. Sometimes just arriving on the site alone is enough to strip important personal information from the your computer. Sometimes, you are asked to volunteer personal data into a form on the Web site. And sometimes the site puts spyware and other viruses on your computer.

All organizations as far as I know address you in person if they write

to you. If you get an email address to "Valued member", you can be sure it is a phishing email.

Don't feel threatened when you read your account will be deactivated. If you have a problem your best way to read about it is to read the Messages that eBay and others send to you within your account.

I get these emails quite regularly and can tell from the subject they are phishing emails. I delete without opening. If I am unsure I go into eBay or whatever account it is and look for my messages.

LOSING BUSINESS MAYBE...

So you think business is down, or not growing as much as you would like???. You are not selling as much at stamp fairs as you might like to. Why? Well one reason could be because buyers are using auction sites and getting some pretty cheap stamps which are wrongly described, in fact getting some damaged stamps. And spending what

little cash they have on these stamps, rather than better quality stamps from you.

I mention below the correspondence I had with one seller. Since I wrote that piece I have noted that seller has listed 20 plus stamps on an auction site and every stamp is described as used fine— is this to mislead the buyers

into thinking the stamps are fine used.. I don't know of course, but it does not seem right to me and every time that seller sells a stamp, that is a few dollars less for the buyer to spend on your material. Yes this is my hobby horse you may be saying, but it might be your livelihood - not mine I might add. So encourage your buyers to look for the seller to be an IPDA member.

BAD AUCTION DESCRIPTION

My last piece is again motivated by an email . I think I will make this a theme for my last piece—using your emails to me for a topic. This time it regards a stamp I saw on an auction site. I wrote to the seller because it was not correctly described. I could see an inexperi-

enced buyer paying for it and one day being very disappointed when they learned it was damaged. The seller wrote back to me and said they agreed with my comment and would change the description. I don't know if my action will cause the seller to

be more careful—dare I say honest—in the future but maybe it is a small step in the right direction. As for a damaged stamp I did find one stamp accurately described on eBay. Look at lot 170096758316 - A copy of Scott 241..yes and it sold for US\$60. Amazing world out there.

I hope you found something of interest in this issue. I welcome your contributions as well as feedback. As I write this I am thinking of a theme for the June issue. I will be in India in May so perhaps I'll find something of interest for you all.

I would be most pleased to hear from you of course. . Email me; Michaelatipda@gmail.com

Best wishes,

Michael