

NEWSLETTER JULY/ AUGUST

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EDITORIAL WELCOME

Hello everyone. Been a busy few months. I really don't know where the time goes. I started writing to publish a July News letter and now I am writing a July / August one.

I guess the hundred emails I had asking where the July issue was has motivated me :-)

My time has been spent on a few business trips to India - am showing one of the beautiful MS I picked up while there - which unfortunately made it impossible for me to get back to Sydney in time for the last day of the Sydney Stamp Expo in June. I landed as the exhibition closed. Very disappointing because I would have liked to have got some pictures to show you, and give you some thoughts as to the exhibition itself and the dealers and material being shown there.

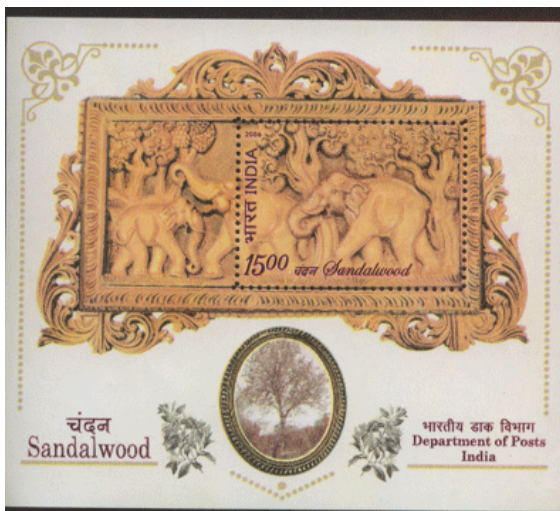
As for exhibitions I thought it worth reminding everyone that on the [IPDA](#) website you can see a quite comprehensive listing of exhibitions and events.

If you will be attending any and you want to write a review of the event so other members can read about it please send to me and I will

include in future issues of this newsletter. If you are attending why not let us all know so maybe members can meet up. There is also the [IPDA blog](#) on which I can publish such information. Just send me an email to michaelatipda@gmail.com and I'll post your event details including stand number etc. You might get extra visitors

from non member stamp collectors who have find the blog and occasionally read it.

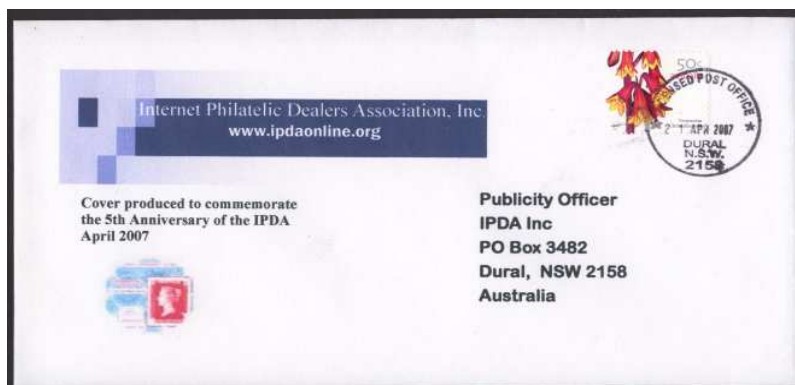
Michael - as in cddstamps, Publicity Director



IPDA ANNIVERSARY COVER

If you have not received a 5th Anniversary cover please send me an email - michaelatipda@gmail.com - with your mailing address.

And don't forget if you can get someone to apply to become a member and they get accepted they too will get a cover.



AGM ... THE OUTCOME

AGM – Held 29th May (EST) and 30th May here in Sydney, Australia.

This to report that we did have a meeting although I believe we didn't have a quorum but we proceeded with those in attendance and with proxy votes. Thanks to those who joined although I have to say with less than we would have liked.

I am pleased to say we can welcome two new Board Members with Dave Arthur voted in to take up the UK Regional Director role, and Tony Kassells taking up a US based Regional role. Both bring considerable philatelic experience and wisdom to the Association.

There is really not much else to report.

Well one other item, that might be of interest to you. I was asked if I would continue to be editor of the Newsletter.

As many of you know I have very little to do with my spare time (big smile here) so I accepted.

I really enjoy writing these newsletters and doing the research and coming up with the ideas for articles. But having said that I do think that sometimes you would like to read more than just my ramblings. So here is the big question. Please can you send me articles, or ideas for articles, or scans of stamps to show and write about?

This is your Newsletter and my objective in writing it is to make it interesting and relevant.

I am sure you have some brilliant ideas and can write some very informative and interesting pieces yourself. So please, share them with us all. Your experiences, your advice to other dealers,

Anything would be welcome.

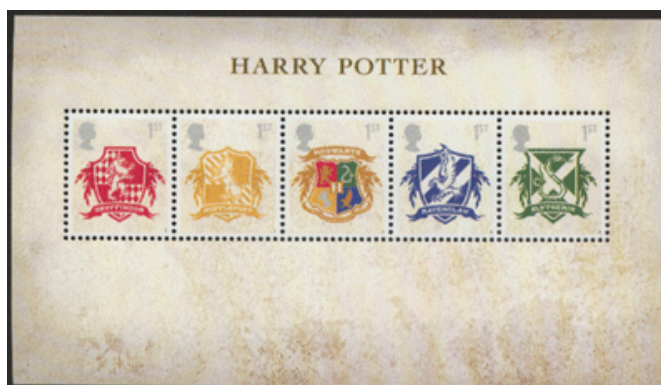
Finally just a note of thanks to Alan Devine for all his hard work on the newsletter over the years.

HARRY POTTER— NEW ISSUE FOR ROYAL MAIL

You may recall I wrote about the Harry Potter commemorative issue in the June issue. Well now that the hype is over, the stamps have been issued and are no doubt adorning many a schoolboy and schoolgirls collection, be it album or stuck on the bedroom wall :-)

and the book has sold 11 million copies in the first 24 hours of issue.. awesome....I thought I would close the subject by showing the new Machin replacements... :-)

For more details on the stamps have a look at Ian's website at <http://www.norvic-philatelics.co.uk/2007/07aa-harry-potter.htm> There has been discussion on various Boards about these. I will say no more :-)



THEMATICS

I am on the train as I write. I wrote about thematics a few issues ago and since no one told me not to I thought I'd use that topic again. This time with trains on stamps. Probably a pretty common thematic subject I am guessing. I see a fair number of trains on stamps and Australia for one has had quite a few issues over the years. Some in-

... over the years, One MS I rather like is this one.. And notice th



ROYAL MAIL PETITION

Do you believe the Royal Mail (Great Britain) is issuing too many new stamps and formats of stamps including miniature sheets, smilers sheets, booklets including prestige booklets etc..... the list goes on.

Have a look at a petition that has had some following....

Tony Buckingham of Buckingham Covers and colleagues are campaigning to stop Royal Mail issuing so

many stamps each year. Why? You might think, from a cover producer's point of view, they must love all these extra stamp issues. Doesn't it make more money for them? The answer is "no"!

Long term - Tony believes, too many stamps is killing the hobby.

Many cover collectors have given up all together because they just can't

afford (or find storage space!) for all the extra covers each year.

You can read the Petition at

www.buckinghamcovers.com

or click this link to the [Petition](#)

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LAUNCH OF ACTS

Announcement – Australian Collectible traders Society ACTS launched. This society will establish an Australian based Bulletin Board for stamp dealers and other traders of collectibles. Joining the Board is entirely free. No fees of any kind! There will be no pop ups, no advertisements and no nonsense. Members will be able to discuss any aspect of stamps and numismatics. You will be able to load stamp photos for free for show or to ask questions of

the experts, seek valuations, do exchanges, and read about stamp news and gossip. Stamp clubs and societies will be able to publicise themselves. All this with a global membership. The ACTS's website is www.stampboards.com

NEW MACHIN FORUM

Something that might appeal to our your Machin collectors a new forum.. Have a look at

[The Machin Forum](#)

You can discuss and ask questions about Machins from all countries. This Board which seems quite active already is not just for the GB Machincollector. Looks like a very useful site

New Machin Forum —



MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

Alan Devine our treasurer is back from his worldly travels and is keen to get members to pay their annual dues. I have to admit I failed miserably while he was away and did not follow up to remind people to pay their annual renewal.

It is only US \$20 but I

hope you will support us by making your payment promptly if you get a reminder.

Also, while on the topic of the IPDA itself, we are looking for ideas for how to further promote the Association. Any ideas? Please send any thoughts you have to me at michaelatipda@gmail.com or to any of the Board members.

What are people finding a challenge at the moment—sales and competition from auction sites—or deciding what events to attend? Or just too many news issues?

I look forward to hearing from you. Michael



GOLDEN OLDIES

Looking through a shoe box the other day I came across some old envelopes—old as defined by pre-1950. Occasionally one reads of people finding something quite rare on old envelopes and post-cards.

The challenge facing me, as I am sure many less experienced and let's call us casual collectors, is that I don't know how to

determine if something is valuable or just of social or academic interest because it is old. Are there catalogues for such items. Perhaps I should know but I don't. Here are two envelopes.

Not exactly

very clean or tidy even, but maybe interesting? Your thoughts on these and how do we determine the value, either financial, historical or just academic of such material. Any thoughts to share?.



GOSSIP AND GOINGS ON

You may have read these snippets elsewhere, but then again maybe not.

Stamp Fraud going on in Australian market where someone is forging postmarks, "OS" Punctures BCOF overprints and various Commonwealth overprints to order. Anyone know more?

Bidferret is a new online auction site which might be worth a look. Good press so far that I have read, especially the more simple fee structure. This is a wholly owned

subsidiary of Stamp news Pty Ltd, Australia which is owned by Kevin Morgan Stamps & Coins. **Bidferret** claims it will save sellers about 45% on fees of another popular auction sites and buyers will only pay a maximum of 5% sale fee.

An **internet scam** recently notice — where a person appears on an internet forum offering quality and collectable items. No price is set but the person asks for offers, If you offer and get asked to go higher and say no and then get offered the stamps as ok it

Requests to see the stamps before sending money are likely to be stalled in some way.

There is so much more to this of course but really only one message I want to give. Promote membership of the IPDA when you are on chat forums.

Buyers will have confidence if they know they are buying from an IPDA member and authentication is so easy for the buyer

STANLEY GIBBONS AUSTRALIA / MOWBRAY'S

An announcement by the Stanley Gibbons Board of Directors in London that it will relinquish the Stanley Gibbons license overseas and as a result Stanley Gibbons will cease operations in Australia at the end of 2007. This means that Stanley Gibbons in Australia will be taken over by Mowbray Collectibles of New Zealand and the new auction house will be known as "Mowbray Australia".

Mowbray's first auction in Australia will be on the 1st. and 2nd of February 2008 in Melbourne. Consignments for this auction will close on October 19, 2007. Contact Tony Corbisiero at their Melbourne Office, GPO Box 863, Melbourne, VIC 3001. Australia or phone (+613) 9670 0086, Tax (+613) 9600 0501 and Email: sgamelb@oxemail.com.au

READERS EMAIL

Actually I have had none. I guess you are all as busy as me. So to finish just an apology again for late issue of this. I am starting work on the September issue in the coming days so if you read this and think you want to see something on .. Whatever topic

Write to me please.

Best wishes... Michael