

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2008

EDITORIAL WELCOME

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

EDITORIAL WELCOME 1

A380 COVERS-ERS...AGAIN 2

A MEMBERS SITE 2

GIBRALTER SEABIRDS 2

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING 3

APS 3

AFFILIATION 3

GB STAMP SCENE 4

READERS EMAIL 4

Hello, and welcome to the March issue. It is coming up on one year since I started writing this newsletter and I have to say I have enjoyed every moment of it. Never short of things to write about myself, I do hope you enjoy and continue to enjoy my ponderings. I don't get much feedback so will keep on thinking you are all happy with the style and content.

This coming year is going to pose some challenges for me, as I have taken a new job and will be working out of Seoul most of this coming year. I'll be pretty busy with the work but will be commuting to Sydney on a pretty regular basis. That offers me many hours at airports and on planes. Hours which I will be using to write this newsletter. My schedule for the next three months is very busy including flying to Seoul twice, London (on the first A380 operated by Singapore Airlines from Singapore to London) to San Francisco and ultimately back to Seoul. If I don't run out of ideas I should be able to get the newsletter out on time. All idea for articles, and any texts that you want to contribute will be very gratefully received.

As I start this editorial I am on a plane to Perth. My first visit there and although I have 4 full days of meetings I do hope to see something of the city, if only from the hotel room.

As for being in Seoul, I am looking forward to the opportunity to spend some weekend time reading about and learning about Korean philately. I hope to even find some local stamp shops. If anyone knows of any please don't hesitate to write to me at michaelatipda@gmail.com.

In three days time we have our next Board meeting and a full agenda. Nothing earth shattering or troublesome to deal with other than the fact we will be looking for some people to fill vacant Director positions. I wrote about these in the February issue. I know a few of our members have been spoken to and while happy to support us at the Board level are not able to commit the time because of other volunteer positions they contribute to. I know it is not easy to find the time but I can honestly say it is not a lot of time required to participate and I think it is one way of giving something back to the hobby. Also it is one way of contributing to an Association that really is serious about having an influence on the internet philatelic scene. Yes in a small way, but I think we all see the potential and want to make our small contribution. I know it might sound gratuitous but I personally feel it is worth the effort.

So if you have thought about getting involved and shyness has held you back, please drop me or any one of the Board members an email and introduce yourself.

Finally, I finish this after 5 days in Seoul. Actually an hour or so out of the city centre. Work has been busy and good but left me no time for stamps or writings so this evenings project is to write this newsletter. No Post Office nearby and I have yet to find a stamp dealer. I have a heavy travel schedule over next 4 weeks so until I get settled, likely by end of March I think Korean stamps, let alone any other stamps will be something I just dream about. As I said, if you know of any dealers or contacts in Seoul please do drop me a line. .

I hope you enjoy the rest of this issue, what ever it is I may write :-) Michael

A380 COVERS, AGAIN.....

I am flying Singapore—London in just over two weeks and looking forward to another inaugural flight. Especially as it is with Singapore Airlines.

I am carrying 60 of my own cddstamps first flight covers. (one shown to the right)

Three different designs and all with Singapore Post Office A380 Mystamps, postmarked day of travel, from Singapore.

I will also be carrying covers for Tony Buckingham who I will be meeting in London on my arrival. Something I am looking forward to as I will also be visiting his business. I think I will get my fill of stamps that day.

If you have customers who collect first flight covers please do share this with them. Thanks...



A MEMBERS SITE

I had a look at eStampShop — Chris Jone’s site today while browsing. <http://www.estampshop.biz/html/esshome.html>

I rather liked it. Easy to navigate, very nicely presented pictures of the material for sale and with a large inventory across many countries. The site was last updated a few days ago as I write, that was late February, so is current.

Chris clearly and prominently says he is an IPDA member and I think that is worth all his visitors knowing.

One thing I noticed and I was going to write about this later so will do it now for the benefit of all Members. If you have not done so please update the IPDA logo. I forgot myself until I was reminded by one of my Board colleagues, so I am passing that along. The new logo has IPDA Member 2008 on it. I showed it last month I seem to recall.

Nice site Chris, and I did like the Tristan da Cunha material you had in stock. Some nice sets there.

GIBRALTER SEABIRDS ISSUE

I get mailings from various stamp issuing authorities — well until I don’t buy from them for a while — one being Gibraltar.

Many of you will no doubt be familiar with this issue but I rather like it so thought I’d show four stamps from the set.

Issued 15th January, these are the new definitive issue for 2008.



My only design criticism - but what do I know - is the part oval into which Gibraltar is written. I think the stamps would have looked much better without the part oval. What do you think?

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

I thought I would share with you the highlights from the February Board meeting. Any thoughts, observations or questions please don't hesitate to write to me or any of the Board Members.

The major decisions made were:

1. All changes to the constitution were passed and will now be submitted to the AGM for adoption.
2. The APS – after a division a majority voted in favour of affiliation. Tony Kassel will be our delegate/representative to the APS and will organise things for us.
3. Jack Hesketh is the new treasurer. He takes over after the final accounts have been completed and audited. He has stood down as Vice Chairman.
4. The Directors will make a determined effort to find a new secretary by the AGM.
5. The AGM will be held on May 13th. 2008.
6. The Marathon Chat will be on either the Saturday or Sunday of Easter. Bob will organise it.
7. We now ONLY have two Logos.

The first one, the General Logo will be the image of the 1d. red stamp but with one word "IPDA, Inc." across the top. This logo will be available for general use by members, and on the IPDA web site (which means exchanging existing logo images for the new one) and on all IPDA letterhead etc. All other logos will be withdrawn and destroyed.

The second, the Membership Log will be the same as the first logo but with the additional words "Member" and "year", for example, 2008 printed on it. This Logo will be used ONLY on the membership Receipt, and nowhere else.

8. Dave Arthur will carry on as Membership Secretary for 2008/09.
9. Tony Kassel will be the IPDA's Hon. Auditor through to 2009.
10. The next Marathon Char will be held on either Saturday and/or Sunday over Easter. Bob Bechtel will be organising the Meeting timetable etc.
11. Michael Dodd will carry on as Newsletter Editor and Publicity Officer for 2008/09.

APS—IPDA AFFILIATION

You will have read above that the Board has passed a motion to affiliate with the APS. (American Philatelic Society).

Your Board had exhaustive discussion on whether to do this. We believe it is a win win situation with no down side. We will not lose any autonomy or control of our organization.

We see benefit to this affiliation by having a URL link to our IPDA homepage. APS members can find our members websites and hopefully we can help them find some great stamps for their collections. Also, we can get a free booth at APS stamp shows to promote our organization, although not to sell stamps. The Board view this as offering free advertising for all our business at no cost to us. Some of you may be (in fact are) members but if you are not I should point out this affiliation does not entitle you to APS benefits, such as use of library, circuit sales or the StampStore.

I am guessing you are all familiar with the APS but if not, their site is at <http://www.stamps.org/> and for a prize I'll find something nice when I get back to my stamps in Sydney, Where is this a picture of?. I'll randomly select a winner. Email me the answer to michaelatipda@gmail.com



GB STAMP SCENE

I wrote on this topic in my blog, but thought I'd repeat it here for your entertainment – I hope.

You may be aware there will be a new GB Commemorative issue, the Royalty and Heritage issue.

So you thought the Great Britain stamps were special.. maybe.. but have a look at the Barbuda stamp, issued for the English Monarchs series in 1970 -71 I believe. Interesting similarity for the image of Henry IV . A little bit of artistic touch up and colouring, shall we say, to the Royal Mail issue.

Actually, not surprising as the image comes from a picture in Cassell's "History of Enland. (see below)



Arrgghh .. is nothing original anymore. 😊

Even Royal Mail have "copied"

I also show the Henry V Barbuda issue , and if you look at the full set of these stamps I think you will see what will be on the Royal Mail issues over the next few years.

RM have announced a 6 part series, if my memory serves me right.



There are a few countries with these stamps I believe, including British Virgin Islands, Falklands, St Helena, Cayman Islands. Do you know more?

Please e mail me with scans of the stamps if you can.

I tried to buy a set of the Barbuda issue on eBay and got outbid. I only wanted them for the novelty. Anyone got a set spare?



READERS EMAILS

Hello, SURPRISE !!! None this past month. Am I upset? No of course not. But it would be nice to hear from you. If you want me to promote you and your website to other IPDA Members, please let me know. Finally, I am in Seoul as I said at the beginning. A stamp colleague sent me a scan of these USA stamps, rather nice stamps. Well it was snowing here a few days ago and he thought of me.

Snow theme on stamps. Now there is a thematic. Has anyone ever had a collector of such a thematic topic? I'd be surprised. Go on surprise me. oh, the non stamp picture is a view from my hotel. Pretty eh!! Michael

