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Hello, What can I write about that will be of interest? Always a challenge and one I enjoy.

This issue has many hyperlinks and I know they are not active. I did find a way to get them active — thank you to a member for guiding me — but it required a copy of Adobe Professional. I downloaded a trial version — 30 day use only. I made some progress but have not purchased it yet. Am hoping to get student edition which is cheaper :-). The version I found on the internet was some \$800 I think it was. So my apology if you have to copy the links to view them.

To get material for this month's issue I have spent more time than usual researching and reading various philatelic internet sites. It really is amazing what is out there. Of course Google makes it so easy, although I have also used Bing and found that very good as well.

I have tried to include material in this issue to address the very good feedback and ideas for topics that you the members sent me in my recent survey. Please don't be shy, write to me with more ideas or comments on what you want to see more of. I will do my best to get more for you. While doing the research for some of the pieces in this issue I came across so much material that I think many of you will find of interest. You will need the spare time to read it of course and perhaps like me spare time is something you don't have a lot of.

There are many sources of Philatelic news and one of the prime sources is what I will call the high end professional Association magazines. Not in any particular order but I have enjoyed reading these, although I should say they are USA centric.

Philately's World, presented by the Midwest Stamp Dealers Association at <http://www.msdestamp.com/world.htm>. On the home page there is a very useful table of philatelic links followed by a somewhat eclectic listing of interesting links. I looked at this one as it sounded interesting *"CatalogSite Most stamp collectors are catalog shoppers. We love to buy things through the mail. Well, now you can go to a site and order — **mostly free of charge** — the latest editions of practically every catalog imaginable. We ordered one from Surplus Direct, the largest cut-rate computer soft/hardware sales outlet on the Web"*. To save you wasting time I can tell you it links to Shop.com.co.uk but if you search on stamp catalogues you will get a reasonable listing of catalogues for sale. One book I would enjoy seeing, just for the fun of it, is this one. I didn't see this there but I did see it another site <http://www.virtualstampclub.com/bookstore.html>.



The Federation of New York Philatelic Societies Inc site is at <http://www.nystampclubs.org/> and their magazine is well worth a read in my view. A lot of advertisements but they can be useful if there is something special you are looking for. If that is the case use Adobe search as this is an 80 page document.

And if it is Auctions you want, then have a look at the very comprehensive http://www.business.com/directory/retail_and_consumer_services/home_and_garden/antiques_and_collectibles/stamp_collection_auctions/

One topic that was mentioned in my survey response was philatelic organizations. I found this, which might be of interest <http://www.stampshows.com/clubs.html>. To say it is comprehensive would be an understatement. It is a listing by alphabetical selection of Philatelic Associations, Philatelic Federations, Philatelic Societies, Philatelic Study Circles, Stamp Clubs, Stamp Collecting Clubs, Stamp Collectors Clubs, Stamp Specialist Societies, Stamp Societies, Stamp Study Circles, Stamp Study Groups and Stamp Study Units. Once you link to this I think you will find hours of reading. If it is raining this is as good as any fun way to spend a few hours! And finally, if the above is not enough, or you cannot find what you are looking for try Joe Luft's world wide stamp resources at <http://luftfamily.com/cgi-bin/newadditions.cgi>. There are 4214 links. Use the search field to find a very good — well from my few tries — compilation of philatelic organizations and resources by whatever country or topic you wish to know about.

I hope this has been of interest and the links will be of use to you at some point in time. I've enjoyed the research and I hope you enjoy looking for more material on whatever interests you.

Best wishes, I look forward to hearing from you. Enjoy your stamps and stamp colleagues

Michael (michaelatipda@gmail.com)



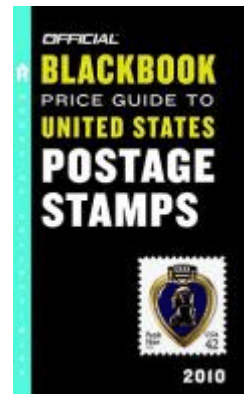
Hungary issue for 100th Anniversary of Blériot's historic flight across the English Channel — see also page 2

BOOKS ON STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING.

This web link might be of some interest. Many pages of books about stamps. Catalogues as well as fiction.

http://www.booktopia.com.au/antiques-collectables/stamps/cWCG-p1.html?ezppc=google&ezcamp=collectingstamps&gclid=CKDrp9vlgZsCFsgYagodl3_Cw If there is something you have been looking for and didn't know how to source it this might be useful.

And yes, the 2010 "Blackbook" is now available and one section I would be interested in reading is the updated market review that traces current trends in collecting.



DEALER SUPPLIES

Another topic listed in the survey responses. I cannot do this justice from a global perspective but here are a few names and locally I am sure you will find an outlet in your respective countries and through your local stamp dealers.

Rennicks <http://www.rennicks.com/home.aspx> is one of the major recognized suppliers of accessories and publications, as is Prinz <http://www.prinz.co.uk/> and of course Stanley Gibbons. I would look at your local stamp newspapers / magazines as well. For example Linns has many adverts — even the online edition — for philatelic accessories and supplies, as do the UK and Australian stamp magazines that I see. One final idea. Try to find a copy of the Philatelic Exporter. This international trade magazine is packed with trade advertisements and both UK and world wide news that will be useful to you as a stamp dealer.

UK SCIENCE MUSEUM CELEBRATES MOON LANDING 40TH ANNIV.

July 20th 2009 is the 40th anniversary of the historic Moon Landing by the Apollo 11 crew and Buckingham Covers have worked officially with the National Science Museum to mark the occasion.

They have created a special Stamp Sheet Presentation Pack, depicting the iconic image of the Stars and Stripes planted next to the landing craft.

The sheet features images and labels from the Science & Society Picture Library and are numbered out of a limited edition of 1969. A small number have been signed by Dr Edgar Mitchell who was the 6th man to walk on the moon.

"We're absolutely delighted to be able to offer our sheets signed by an actual Moon-walker and we're very grateful to Dr Mitchell for helping us mark this special occasion", says Tony Buckingham.

Unsigned sheets are £26.95, signed by Dr Edgar Mitchell are £44.95 and both are available now. For an additional £5.00 either sheet can be mounted ready for framing. The mount is conservation grade cream card, which fits into a standard 11" x 14" frame.

If you would like more details call 01303 278 137, go online at www.buckinghamcovers.com or write to Buckingham Covers, Warren House, Shearway Road, FOLKESTONE, Kent, CT19 4BF.

Also for those of you, or your customers, interested in Aviation related covers I recommend a browse of the web site for the covers being made to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Louis Blériot's historic flight across the English Channel — which is being celebrated in the weekend of 25th / 26th July — with a new sheet of Royal Mail Stamps and a set of Commemorative Covers – The Blériot Collection.



MEMBERS PROFILES

You may recall a few months back I did a survey and many of you responded. One of the areas of feedback was that people wanted information on Members. So here is a start for you. Three members, all with a different focus and business model.

The first member I have chosen to write a few words about is E De Kovachich from Canada who you can see more about at <http://www.stamps4yourpleasure.auctiva.commerce.com/>. The web site was opened in February 2009, is easy to read and in the process of adding material for purchase. Material is described as Worldwide and Topicals. Emeric is also new to the IPDA. Welcome, and we hope you see your business prosper.

This next site is the eBay Store of "Mikes Stamps" and can be seen at http://stores.shop.ebay.com/Mikes-Stamps_WOQQ_armrsZ1. There are 20 pages of stamps with a very strong focus on Errors Freaks and Oddities from the USA, all nicely presented with very clear images and good clear description. Mike (aka Michael Stern) is also an APS member (since 1987) and a member of the EFOCC (Errors Freaks and Oddities Collectors Club — refer to <http://www.efocc.org/>) I would think if you have a customer who is looking for that elusive error Mike might be a good person to contact.

My third, and again relatively new member is Simon Slim of Slim Stamps Ltd <http://www.slimstamps.co.uk/>. Simon has been a collector for over 30 years and following in his father footsteps has operated Slim Stamps Ltd for the past 2 years. The business is based in Caterham, Surrey UK and specializes in modern GB commemorative, definitive, Presentation Packs, First Day Covers, Booklets, Smilers Sheets and Errors and Varieties as well as dealing in stamps from France and Lebanon. The website is very easy to browse, the descriptions of the material for sale is very good in my view and the current listing of some GB GV Booklets had me hoping I win the lottery.

THE BUSINESS OF STAMP DEALING — PART II

I wrote a few words on this last month. I found the following and thought you might find this and the references useful. I acknowledge the author as "Nikki Davis" from a web search but with no other contact or reference details I could use. The text is unedited by me except for some formatting

"From collecting stamps to selling stamp collections, money is to be made from those committed to dealing with the stamp collection process. Whether it's from a US stamp collection or it is an international stamp, to a stamp collector, what you hold may be just what he or she is looking for.

Stamp collection value is a recommended price scheme, but what accompanies that is the perceived value that the consumer places on the item. Rarer stamps are held to a higher value than common ones, and finding prized pieces takes time, research, and often a cash investment to secure the piece either for yourself or your highest bidder or best customer.

If your intention is to start your own stamp collection business, then the tricks are to:

1. Build your inventory and increase your product knowledge.
2. Create a web presence. If your budget is tight, consider consulting with a college student on the design and implementation of your site. If you can afford it, consider hiring a professional.
3. Develop a marketing plan based on your budget. Consider trade magazine ads or purchasing search engine priority for your stamp collection business.

Action Steps : The best contacts and resources to help you get it done

1 Familiarize yourself with the stamp collecting hobby

Be informed about the stamp collecting industry before you get your feet wet as a business person. You want to have a grasp on the collector's expectation of a dealer and also to be as knowledgeable as possible about your inventory and other stamp collection news.

I recommend: Learn your information from the source. See what the [United States Postal Service](#) has to say about United States stamp collection. Find out about stamp grading from [Glassine Surfer](#). Check out background information on philately at [National Postal Museum](#).

2 Be knowledgeable about stamp collection values

As a business person, you will be dealing with stamp collectors on both ends of the spectrum. You will be both buying and selling from them, and you want to make sure that you are not overpaying your provider or undercharging your client.

I recommend: [Find Your Stamps Value](#) will let you try out their site as a guest. Purchase Scott Standardized Catalogue of Stamps from [Amos Press Incorporated](#).

3 Consider stamp collection appraisal

Find out your stamp collection value through a stamp collection appraisal.

I recommend: Find a recommended appraiser through the [American Philatelic Society](#). Check out the appraisal information from [The American Philatelic Foundation](#).

Tips & Tactics : Helpful advice for making the most of this Guide

Find out about your target consumer by attending stamp collection seminars, workshops and conventions. You'll also have the opportunity to network with other dealers as well as pick up potential source contacts. Consider selling stamp collection ancillary items through your business as well. Collectors need someplace to safely store their collections, and you should be the one to provide them that".

MEMBERS CHOICE

Jack Hesketh, one of the founding members of the IPDA, sent me a lovely piece recently showing a collection of Canadian Stamps. It is 8 pages so I have selected this stamp, and the Block of 4 miniature sheet to share with you.



Jack has provided the following details about this issue.
Stamps copyright Canada post 2009



No	Description, perforation	Paper	Tagging	Format	Printer	Issued	Cat. No.
\$8 Grizzly Bear							
1.	Perforated 12.5 x 13.1	C	None	P4	CBN	1997-10-15	1702

Notes:

Issued in miniature sheets of four. This is the largest Canadian stamp ever printed, along with the \$5 Moose issued in 2003. The number 8 has been incorporated into the bear's rear right limb, the green grass and blue sky have been printed using tiny bear images, and the two lines below CANADA actually consist of the words "MAILPOSTE" engraved repetitively. A special souvenir folder with the Grizzly stamp was produced by Canada Post, but not regularly made available to collectors.

PARAPHILATELY

Paraphilately was a topic asked about in the survey I have mentioned a few times now. This is not an area I am in anyway knowledgeable on — to be honest I had to look up what it actually meant. I found this definition "post office announcements of a new stamp, first day of issue ceremony programs, souvenir pages, etc". Not sure that is what everyone might understand it to mean though. I found a small piece in the March / April 2009 issue of the Stamp Insider magazine published by the Federation of New York Philatelic Societies Inc. <http://www.nystampclubs.org/0903.pdf> see page 34 of the issue. The author presents his interpretation as paraphilately is akin to the collection of Cinderellas. The same author is published in the Nov / Dec 2006 issue of the ASDA (The American Stamp Dealer Association) Magazine <http://www.ephemerassociety.org/articles/grotenPDFs/ASDA1112-06.pdf> and writes a very interesting piece titled the Paraphilately Page, the theme of which is his interest of German Private Post Stamps. One more link to the Paraphilately Page that might interest you is from the April 2007 issue of the ASDA Magazine, <http://www.ephemerassociety.org/articles/grotenPDFs/ASDA4-07.pdf> I would be pleased to receive an article from any member on this topic. Current views on paraphilately maybe, your area of interest perhaps, to share with us all. I hope to hear from you. Michael

CLOSING REMARKS

I know the hyperlinks are not live and I again apologise. I found out how to do it but I need to buy a rather expensive version of Adobe. I will give some attention to this over the coming weeks and see what I can come up with. Anyone want to send me a copy of Adobe Professional :-). It is ok to make a back up copy on another computer :-).

Not a stamp this month but a FFC — A first flight cover. This flown on the inaugural commercial flight by Singapore Airlines on the Singapore Paris route in June and signed by the Captain Robert Ting, who also has signed other covers for me. Hope you enjoy seeing this. As always, I look forward to your comments and feedback, articles or ideas for articles.

Best wishes, Have a great July

Michael

