



NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2011

EDITORIAL WELCOME

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Hello everyone, bit of an aviation - on - stamps theme this month. Sort of reflects my past month really. So many aviation events, China Southern A380 inaugural, ANA 787 inaugural, and Cathay Pacific took delivery of it's first 747-8 Freighter, and I had first flight covers flown on all three flights. Including the fact that I flew on the China Southern inaugural from Beijing to Gangzhou. Tough life but someone has to do it !!!

Ok enough of me, I don't want to bore you but to be honest I have no idea what to write about today and I am a bit behind publish deadline. Sorry folks. I really do need your help with articles and ideas for articles.

IPDA matters. Well we held the Halloween Chat. Now I know some of you think that boring but from all accounts it was a fun and friendly time for all who joined in. Always good to catch up with people, whether it be over drinks after work, or lunch or just online to say hello and share stories. A report from one of our directors. The IPDA Inc. 2011 Halloween marathon chat is now history but still hearing some happy comments about it. It's nice to take a break from work (and reality) once in awhile just to have fun.

I would like to thank the moderators for bringing this all together. They were: Larry Bailey (Australia), Alan Devine (Australia), Laurie Greenhow (Canada), Ken Sanford (USA), Bob Bechtel (USA), Larry Matthews (Canada) and Bill Lehr (USA). Although we had a smaller turn out this year (22 chatters), what we lacked in quantity we certainly made up for in quality.

One final piece if you are interested in multi-channel selling try looking at SixBit software with bidStart, visit <http://www.sixbitssoftware.com/bidStart.html>. Monthly subscription plans to SixBit for use with bidStart, start at \$9.99 for the Home & Hobby version, and a 30 day free trial is available. Best wishes **Michael** michaelatipda@gmail.com

SLEEPING TIGER

This from Stanley Gibbons ; Your views? The growth of the Tiger economies in Asia is well documented. What's interesting though, is that the market for rare stamps in the region (apart from in China) has, to date, largely lagged behind the economic boom.

Stamp of the Month

SG experts believe that may be about to change, however.

That means that by investing sagely, you could build yourself a small treasure trove of rare Asian Commonwealth stamps for the future. With stock markets even in Asia wobbling, having part of your portfolio or savings diversified into the burgeoning rare stamps of the region could be a wise move.

And if you have a few bucks to spare, how about this, nice stamp, Malaya - Straits 1921 (Unused) SG240da at £65,000.



STAMP ADVICE TO YOUR CUSTOMERS

Do we give advice to our customers I wonder. I came across this piece the other day. Might be useful to share with people. I know we all know this but worth a read and perhaps passing on? Just a thought <http://www.stampselector.blogspot.com/2010/02/practical-advice-common-mistakes-to.html>



'SPITFIRE 75TH ANNIVERSARY' ISSUE BY GIBRALTAR POST

"Spitfire 75th Anniversary' issue. Gibraltar Post recently issued a set of stamps celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Supermarine Spitfire.

The Supermarine Spitfire is a British single-seat fighter aircraft used by the Royal Air Force and many other Allied countries throughout the Second World War. The Spitfire continued to be used into the 1950s both as a front line fighter and in secondary roles. It was produced in greater numbers than any other British aircraft and was the only Allied fighter in production throughout the war.

The Spitfire was designed as a short-range high-performance interceptor aircraft by R. J. Mitchell, chief designer at Supermarine Aviation Works (since 1928 a subsidiary of Vickers-Armstrong). Mitchell continued to refine the design until his death from cancer in 1937, whereupon his colleague Joseph Smith became chief designer. The Spitfire's elliptical wing had a thin cross-section, allowing a higher top speed than several contemporary fighters, including the Hawker Hurricane. Speed was seen as essential to carry out the mission of home defence against enemy bombers.



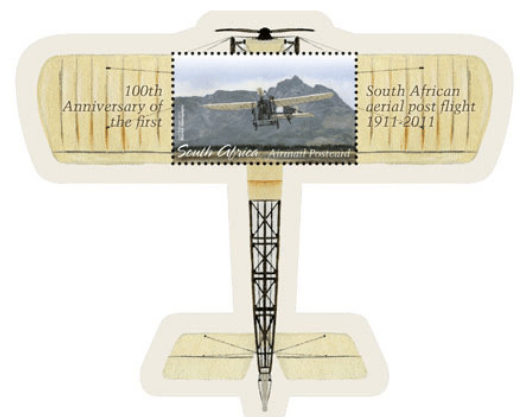
During the Battle of Britain there was a public perception that the Spitfire was the RAF fighter of the battle whereas in fact the more numerous Hurricane actually shouldered a greater proportion of the burden against the Luftwaffe: the Spitfire units did, however, have a lower attrition rate and a higher victory to loss ratio than those flying Hurricanes.

After the Battle of Britain, the Spitfire became the backbone of RAF Fighter Command and saw action in the European, Mediterranean, Pacific and the South-East Asian theatres. Much loved by its pilots, the Spitfire served in several roles, including interceptor, photo-reconnaissance, fighter-bomber, carrier-based fighter, and trainer. It was built in many different variants, using several wing configurations. Although the original airframe was designed to be powered by a Rolls-Royce Merlin engine producing 1,030hp (768 kW), it was adaptable enough to use increasingly more powerful Merlin and the later Rolls-Royce Griffon engines; the latter was eventually able to produce 2,035 hp (1,520 kW).

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST SOUTH AFRICAN AIRMAIL FLIGHT

The South African Post Office has issued a miniature sheet to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first South African airmail flight as part of World Post month.

The sheet depicts the monoplane in flight when, in 1911, the South African Minister of Posts and Telegraphs consented to the first conveyance of airmail between Kenilworth and Muizenberg. This made Muizenberg post office the first in South Africa to receive airmail.



CLOSING REMARKS

The next three months will go faster than ever and I am thinking ahead here. Christmas Newsletter. Lets do something special. Any ideas? Then New Year, then Chinese New Year. Something special being here in Hong Kong for that. Any ideas, topics to write about, philatelic themes for these? look forward to hearing from you. Easy to write to me..... michaelatipda@gmail.com **Michael**