



## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2012

### EDITORIAL WELCOME

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Hello everyone, and let me start with an apology for such a late issue of this March Newsletter. I won't bore you with all my excuses and anyway they are too many :-)

Let me start by saying how good it was to see so many of you, as well as non members, join the anniversary chat a few weeks ago. (review from Bob Bechtel on next page) The Association is obviously alive and well. Hopefully the publicity we got from the Open House Chat and the insertion of our 10 year Anniversary promotion material in various journals and magazines will give us more exposure in the selling and buying communities.

We need it, not only for the protection of buyers but also for the promotion of our individual business and selling activities. On the first point, if you read Stampboards.com site you will see the extent of some rather fraudulent seller activities. On the second point, as you all must know by now, I have an aversion to sellers who know little to nothing about stamps let alone their ability to advertise stamps for sale when there is no quality control whatsoever on their statements, descriptions of the material, or lack of as the case may be. I'll use an example from a recent correspondence.

I often look at First Flight Covers on eBay. One seller continues to frustrate me because he is selling material that never has a description. It is obviously collectable judging by his sales numbers but it is also what I think of as Cinderella material. If that is what the buyer collects then so be it, but I suspect buyers think they are buying the real thing, like a flown cover, or a cover produced for the event it is purporting to represent. I saw one cover that intrigued me because it was listed as a First Flight Cover and it appeared to have all the right stamps and postal franks. But I was on the flight and I know from talking to the crew no one else asked crew to sign covers. Well you would wouldn't you. It was a pretty special flight I can tell you. Anyway, I decided to write to the seller — I know of him from past experience and made it clear who I was and what my questions were. I did get a reply, but not a full reply and these were his words

#### Stamp of the Month



I guess you all know where this stamp can be found. Doubt many will be used though. In the MS this comes from there is also a Machin 1st with security printing "Diamond Jubilee" Anyone sending me a nice used copy will receive a free set of recent Hong Kong stamps — Anyone going to surprise me?  
Michael

"Hi Michael, I think the cover was flown with the 1st flight - but I have no proof - Its a cover"

Now you tell me — if you were selling something that you have your name on, as in your mailing address, wouldn't you know?

That is why we need buyers to realise they need to know they are buying from a seller who is accredited in some way, whether it be through the IPDA or some other Philatelic Association. Having said that I'll share with you another comment I received recently. From a stamp board member who challenged me on my view on the basis he just wanted to sell a few stamps. My response is simple. By all means sell but be honest and show something to demonstrate your credibility. It is a long debate of course so let me finish on my soap box with this. How many of you received this email. I know some of you did because I saw the distribution list. It came in a week or so ago.

"" Hello,

I have found your website through [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) Since I intend to sell some of my old unused mint stamps for 1800's (for Australia, US, Canada, Germany, Russia, France), I want to know the procedures and steps on how to deal with your company/store over selling stamps to your company/store. Please note that Scanned Images of stamps are available & Scott Numbers are Identified for your review in the case of business interest.

Thank you H.R.Zam ""

Cool eh!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Unused mint etc etc etc hahahah There are many clowns out there :-)

Help promote the IPDA and help us all in the process.

Best Wishes .Michael [michaelatipda@gmail.com](mailto:michaelatipda@gmail.com)



## DEALERS / NEW MEMBERS CORNER

Welcome to four new members, Bob Friedman from Texas, USA, Andrew Farberov from New York, USA, Stephen Burton from Staffordshire in the UK and Roger Young from Massachusetts in the USA. Andrew and Stephen sell on eBay and Roger on Delcampe, with Bob selling from <http://www.covercorner.com/>. Hope we hear from you. Write to me at [michaelatipda@gmail.com](mailto:michaelatipda@gmail.com) and I'll give some publicity to you and help introduce you to other members.

## ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE CHAT REPORT FROM BOB BECHTEL

Hello, First of all, I would like to thank everyone who helped with this marathon chat. Here is the list of moderators in order by the members list: Larry Matthews, Robert Bechtel, Alan Devine, Kendall Sanford, Michael Dodd, Bill Lehr, Larry Bailey, Vincent Sgro, James Cussans. Sebastien Delcampe emailed me his profound apology the day after the chat. He had checked the WiFi from Stampex that morning and everything worked fine. However, 10 minutes before his moderator time, he checked and the WiFi was down at Stampex and he couldn't connect.

We had many visitors from many parts of the world. Pleased to see, including: Leo Barnard U.S., Donald Ion N.Z., Helen Fowler U.S., DrG U.S., Cees Netherlands, dell4c2000 Canada, Linda Matthews Canada, decroty U.S., Len - Musicman Canada, Kloster Denmark, Gravyard U.S., Deborah U.S., d1stamper Canada, Brian K. Ireland, Laurie Canada, BillAZ U.S., privett1 U.S., Roy Simpson Spain, GB Stamps U.S., Roger Young Australia. There were more I am sure, so apology if your name is missed.

We had a dual purpose to this marathon chat. First by celebrating the IPDA Inc. 10th anniversary to make the IPDA Inc. better known to the philatelic community. I believe we accomplished this. At least we made a start. Now, if we can continue to keep the IPDA advertised, it will continue to grow.

The second part was to gain new members. I feel that we fell short on this. One contributing factor here is the world economy today. With sales down for nearly everyone, not many are investing in new programs. However, we believe we have gained a few new people in the chat room but, one thing on the plus side is we have more communication between members.

Once again, thank you all for helping to make the anniversary marathon chat a success.

## AUSTRALIANSTRAMPCATALOGUE.COM (TYPO IS DELIBERATE)

Now as some of you may know Director Larry Bailey is not only a wonderful guy but also a very hardworking guy. He has built, and is continuing to build, an online catalogue of Australian stamps. A Herculean effort in my view, a work of love and patience. He writes to inform me he has now published up to 2002 with scans of all stamps issued and issue details. Do have a look at <http://australianstrampcatalogue.com/index.php> and if you have clients who collect Australia and want access to this catalogue material it is there, free of charge. Have a look at the "Themes" section. Very useful I think. I have set myself a goal of acquiring a copy of each of the Aviation stamps. Great work Larry. Well Done

## IPDA ANNIVERSARY COVER—MEMBERS ONLY AUCTION

Everyone should have received their Anniversary cover by now (except new members joining after Feb 23rd) Hope you like the souvenir. Thanks to everyone who wrote to the Board or me to acknowledge it. We have a couple spare and to raise some revenue for future advertising we are auctioning two covers to members only. Just email me a price and top two bids will get the covers — Price is inclusive of postage and packing from Hong Kong. I donate the postage and packing. Closing date is 30 March - just email your highest bid to me at [michaelatipda@gmail.com](mailto:michaelatipda@gmail.com)

## CLOSING REMARKS

Sorry, boring and brief. I have scanned all my recent emails to see if there was material sent to me but cannot find anything — so I hope I have not missed something. If I have, please put it down to the fact I am working too many hours and flying a fair bit as well. I am off to London in a few weeks and maybe the next Newsletter will get written on the flights - of course you can help me by sending material. Please?

Just email me at [michaelatipda@gmail.com](mailto:michaelatipda@gmail.com) and add "article for newsletter" in the title please, so I can search more easily. I look forward to hearing from you :-)) ..... **Michael**