



NEWSLETTER APRIL 2012

EDITORIAL WELCOME

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

EDITORIAL WELCOME	1
IPDA AGM 2012	2
DELECAMPE AUCTIONS	2
EBAY CHANGES	2
ANNIVERSARY COVER AUCTION	2
CLOSING REMARKS	2

Hello everyone, welcome to another Newsletter. Where shall I start? Well how about the IPDA scene for a change.

Our recent Board meeting was held on 26th March and your Board covered off a few administrative matters, including our recent audit, membership drive ideas, record archival and the appointment of a new Director. Starting with the new Director, we are very pleased to welcome Roger West to the Board as Director for the UK. Roger has been a member for many years and has contributed frequently to the Newsletter. Roger runs Avion Thematics and no doubt he is very familiar to many of you. We are very pleased to have Roger working as part of the team to support the IPDA. Do have a look at his web site. It really is very good <http://www.avionstamps.com/about.php> Welcome Roger.

Other administrative matters were dealt with of course. We have, by the good work of our Treasurer, completed all audit and tax filings in the US, we are looking to complete the archival of the IPDA records, and we continue to think about how we can increase membership and the profile of the IPDA in the philatelic community. On this last topic we did see some success from recent adverts and our 10th Anniversary open house. We welcomed a few new members last month as I recall and this month we are pleased to welcome Jorge Galloway. Jorge runs the Stamps Store on eBay. Welcome Jorge.

One final topic, the Board also agreed that we should enter the IPDA Newsletter in the American Philatelic Society 2012 Literature competition. This is one class of the Annual APS STAMP-SHOW that will be held from August 16th —19th in Sacramento California. We will enter the 2011 issues. This Literature competition is considered to be the largest in the USA and, we believe, will provide a good forum for us to promote the IPDA to the public. For more on the APS you might enjoy this link http://aps.informz.net/aps/archives/archive_2259811.html

On a more personal front, I have been travelling a fair bit again. Flew, for the first time, EVA Air to Taipei. Not only did I enjoy my first flights with them I also go to fly on a 747 combi (half passenger half freighter). An interesting experience because the weight of the freight in the passenger deck had the plane flying at an incline, with the back tilted lower than the nose ok I am joking. I also flew British Airways this past week from Chennai to London — a Boeing 777, then London to Hong Kong — a 747. Haven't flown BA for many years now. The service was excellent, food and wines very nice. One downside, if you are thinking of flying BA in business class (Club World), be prepared for some pretty awful seating, as in head to feet configuration and pretty narrow seats as well. On the B777 they had 2 4 2 seating in Business. By comparison V Australia operate the same B777 with a 2 2 2 business class. Nothing to do with stamps, well I guess not, but I did weaken since I was in the UK and buy a set of the latest Royal Mail issue; World of Comics, issued to commemorate 75 years of the Dandy, this issue looks at the great British institution of comics. Not cheap with 10 stamps to the set, issued in two

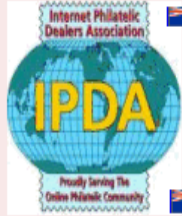
Stamps of the Month



se-tenant strips of 5. I mailed them to myself. Hope they get through the mail safely and franked reasonably unscathed. I do hope everyone has a wonderful Easter break this coming weekend.

All feedback and comments or articles, or ideas for articles, are, as always, welcomed.

Best Wishes **.Michael** michael@latipda@gmail.com



Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©

Established 23rd February 2002



Page 2
April 2012

Volume 10 Issue 4

IPDA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**It is that time of year again, well it will be in a few months.
The IPDA AGM will be held on 16th July (17th in southern hemisphere). Please make a
note in your diary. Plenty of time to schedule your time to attend.**

DELCAMPE AUCTIONS

I have read a number of email threads recently about various auction sites. I am prompted to write this piece for you because of changes to eBay policy - see below - and the views of sellers who are commenting how expensive it is becoming to sell on eBay. I am not passing judgement although while there are varying views about various auction sites it does seem to me that Delcampe offers a viable alternative. Sebastien Delcampe is an IPDA Member and he tells me if anyone has any questions about loading auction lots to the site to contact miranda@delcampe.com, who is there to help professional dealers to have a good start on the site.

If you want your site or action service promoted to other members please email me at michaelatipda@gmail.com

EBAY CHANGES

Over the past few years, eBay has taken steps to turn away sellers of collectibles, and focus solely on big brand retailers. With each new seller update, it's come to be expected that sellers of collectibles will see increased fees and new hurdles to overcome. Whether it be fee increases, being forced to accept PayPal, being charged final value fees on shipping costs, or new rules which make absolutely no sense when applied to collectibles, eBay continues to make it clear they don't want collectibles on their site anymore.

However, with their latest announcement, even we (sourced from Bidstart) were shocked by how far they've gone this time! If you're currently a seller on eBay of stamps, postcards and other collectibles, it's likely that you're a Top Rated Seller, as long as you maintain a relatively high feedback rating. Two of the main benefits that Top Rate Sellers on eBay enjoy is a boost in search results, and on average a 20% discount on final value fees. However, for collectible sellers that's all about to change!

By May, almost every Top Rated Seller on eBay in the collectible categories will lose their Top Rated Seller Status, and many will instantly see a fee increase of 20%! This is mainly due to the fact that all sellers on eBay will be required to upload tracking information for at least 90% of their shipments to remain a Top Rate Seller! This means that if you sell a stamp or postcard, and send it in a plain envelope without tracking information you'll lose your Top Rated Status! Obviously this new requirement doesn't make any sense for collectibles, but that's the point - to force out collectibles, and collectible buyers and sellers like you. Even if you do spend enormous amounts of time and money to add tracking information to your shipments, you'll likely still lose your discount, because you'll also need to ensure that all orders are shipped out within one business day! Even if you're only a buyer of collectibles, these large cost increases will need to be passed along to you by the seller, so it's truly a grim situation for collectibles on eBay. For more information on eBay's latest changes, see their 2012 Spring Seller Update page.

IPDA ANNIVERSARY COVER—MEMBERS ONLY AUCTION

Last month I wrote about the Anniversary covers the Board produced to Commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the IPDA and I offered to auction the few spares I had. I did not get any takers. So I'll mentioned it again. email me michaelatipda@gmail.com a price and highest two bids will get the covers — monies go to IPDA General Revenue — Price is inclusive of postage and packing from Hong Kong. I donate the postage and packing. Closing date is 30 April

CLOSING REMARKS

One member suggested using IPDA logo'ed return address stickers. Do you know how to make these yourself? I have done samples for a few Directors and they liked them. Email me for details. Cost is US \$3.50 for 120 including postage and \$2 goes to IPDA general revenue as a donation from you. Any feedback or articles just email me at 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**