



# Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©

## Established 23rd February 2002



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Volume 12 Issue 3

### NEWSLETTER MARCH 2014

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#### EDITORS COLUMN

Hello, and welcome to another Newsletter. Yes February was a short month and here I am again thinking about what to write. Hopefully my task will be made somewhat easier by the material sent to me by some members. One in particular is the excellent feature article from Dave Sheridan which is included and which I hope you all enjoy reading. I hope I have done justice to the images. Remember you can always enlarge the PDF to see more details by increasing the % size you are viewing.

One topic I want to give prominent coverage to is the IPDA Membership Drive we have launched. You may have seen this mentioned on the IPDA Website.

**We are holding this membership drive from March 1st through April 30th. It is open to all members.**

**The IPDA member who recruits the most new members will receive 2 years free membership in the IPDA. The member bringing in the second most new members will receive one year free membership in the IPDA.**

**To receive credit for each new member, ask them to place your name in "How did you hear about the IPDA?" on the application form.**

**All new member applications must, of course, be approved by the Board of Directors for you to receive credit.**

Let's all work together to see the IPDA grow in 2014

While researching for this issue - I have showcased a couple of new members sites on page 3 - I had a look at our website and noticed quite a few members do not have an About Me page listed.

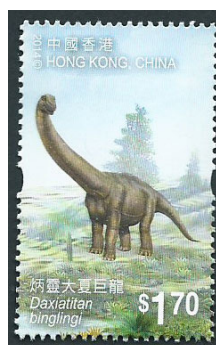
Always worth having that I think, as non members, people looking to buy material do visit our website. To create a page just login to the Members area from the home page and you will see the About Me buttons, just click edit and write a short paragraph or two or three. You can also access the IPDA logo from that page for use on your website, to promote that you are an IPDA Member.

One final topic from me. I have been asked in the past to write about the stamp market - broad topic. I know some are interested in the investment aspect and what the market is doing. I have tried to cover this with my auction visits and talks with the Directors who I meet. I was reminded of this again when I read another update to the Stampselector blog. I have mentioned this site before but do so again if you are not familiar with it or a regular reader. Click [here](#) and maybe bookmark it as a favourite. They have a rather interesting piece on Zululand and Queen Victoria overprints as the current topic.

Hope you like the stamp of the month. From the set of 6 Chinese Dinosaurs issue from Hong Kong Post on 20th February. A few weekends back I visited the Hong Kong Science Museum Chinese Dinosaurs Exhibition. Brilliant displays and extremely interesting.

Ok, enough from me. Michael [michaelatipda@gmail.com](mailto:michaelatipda@gmail.com)

#### Stamp of the Month



What is special about this issue? Anyone know? Printed with a luminous effect that makes the unique features of the Chinese dinosaurs glow in the dark.





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### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As I said last month, and I think worth repeating, the IPDA is starting 2014 with a positive outlook. You will have read Michael's editorial and seen that he mentioned the Membership Drive. I do hope you can make the time to participate and make contact with your colleague dealers. Invite them to read the IPDA website, invite them to join those of us who chat in the Chat room (access from the IPDA website of course) and perhaps send them our brochure. If you do not have a copy drop me an email at [robert@packetsplus.com](mailto:robert@packetsplus.com) and I will send a copy to you.

Once again welcome to our new members, and maybe you can also think of colleagues who you can promote us to.

And of course, keep the articles and information going to Michael for the Newsletter.

All the best, Bob Bechtel, Chairman IPDA Inc

### BILL GROSS - BILLIONAIRE STAMP COLLECTOR

I suppose none of us are in this league, ambition eh!!! but there is nothing to stop us enjoying the dream of finding a variety that maybe hidden somewhere in an estate lot we may purchase or a kiloware lot we come across in our travels. This article reproduced with acknowledgement to Don Schilling from the Stamp Collectors

The Orange County (CA) *Register* features billionaire stamp collector Bill Gross (shown above) in an article by reporter Elizabeth Held

.According to Elizabeth, "Gross said he can't imagine not having his collection nearby. Many stamp collectors keep their albums locked in a vault, but "there's no fun in that," he said.

"Why would you want to have a kid and keep them in a room that you can only visit once every three or four months?," Gross is quoted as saying

Elizabeth pens "Gross, the lead donor, gave \$10 million to the Smithsonian Institution to help establish the gallery. He also lent the institution three of his rarest stamps for display. He wants to inspire future generations of stamp collectors and remind people of the unique history the stamps represent."

She goes on to say, "Gross also offered organizers an idea they took up. He wanted gallery visitors to be able to start their own stamp collections on the spot. In the middle of the gallery, visitors find a table with baskets filled with stamps. They are invited to take home six stamps to start their stamp albums."

For more on this story along with some photos of items in his collection, [click here](#).



### BRITISH GUIANA—GRAND PRIX COLLECTION SALE

David Feldman S.A. has announced that they have been selected to offer the fabulous John E. du Pont Collection of British Guiana. Worth a look [click here](#)

This collection including over 200 individual items was the greatest achievement of the collector, enabling John E. du Pont to win 5 Grand Prix awards, making him third in the list of multiple Grand Prix winners.

This auction will follow the offer by Sotheby's on June 17 in New York of the famous One Cent stamp credited as the most valuable stamp in the world, which was part of this collection.







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### IPDA NOMINATIONS

#### IPDA Notice - nominations for Regional Directors and for Membership Secretary.

We have 4 regional directors whose term expires or require re-confirmation at the AGM. We have an opening for Regional Director, Canada. The position of Membership Secretary is also up for election as noted below. The following board members are required to step down at the AGM but may run for re-election:

Vonna Bechtel, as a regional director.  
Michael Dodd, as a regional director, Australia.  
Bill Lehr, as a regional director.  
Dave Sheridan, as a regional director, Australia.

The following office is due for re-election: Membership Secretary

The following additional director position is open: Regional Director, Canada

**Please advise nominations to the General Secretary at [jobi@collector.org](mailto:jobi@collector.org)**

Bill Lehr General Secretary, IPDA, Inc

### NEW MEMEBRS SITES

I thought it would be nice to showcase a few of the websites of some of our new members.

This first one is Roly Runciman's website - [click here](#)

Well worth a visit if you are interested in New Zealand. The site covers Penny Universal, Penny Dominion, New Zealand pre-1940, NZ Alternative Post, Modern New Zealand Flaws and Rarities. Editors Note: Roly, I was not trying to steal any images or information, just looking.



Detailed Study of the  
New Zealand Penny Universal

ENTER

*Welcome to the  
fascinating world of  
Plate reconstructing.  
This site is  
continually being  
edited so please check  
back here regularly to  
see what's new.*



Detailed Study of the  
New Zealand Penny Dominion

ENTER

The second site is Richard Monteiro's site [click here](#)

Zeboose is a one-stop online philatelic superstore with fine stamps, covers, artwork, postal history, and more.

From classic rarities to contemporary releases spanning Aden to Zimbabwe via Gold Coast and Great Britain, there's everything from the ubiquitous to the unique.

Zeeboose advertises an exceptional mix of outstanding material, including better singles, sets, proofs, plate blocks, unusual varieties, and spectacular errors.





## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2014

### TRANS-ATLANTIC MAIL IN THE AGE OF STEAM - THE SS BREMEN

The SS Bremen, a German ocean liner launched in August 1928, undertook her maiden voyage from Bremerhaven to New York on July 16 1929. She was of 51,656 tons and 286.1 metres in length, and carried over 2,100 passengers and 966 crew

She arrived in New York in 4 days, 17 hours, 42 minutes, taking the west-bound Blue Riband speed record from the "Mauretania". On her return voyage, she took the east-bound Blue Riband in 4 days, 14 hours, 13 minutes. She was the only ocean liner to achieve two speed records on her first two voyages. She completed 190 transatlantic voyages, and was the first ocean liner of her size to traverse the Panama Canal.



A variety of postmarks are known, but manuscript and stamped cachets were applied for mail posted outside Germany. A Catapult Mail service, using a Heinkel He 12 seaplane mounted between the funnels (the catapult is just visible in the photo above), was in use from 1929 to 1936, when the speed of the Zeppelin "Hindenburg" made the service redundant. Catapult covers don't form part of my collection, as they are quite gaudy and usually covered in an abundance of cachets (reminiscent of the Tonga "Tin Can" covers). An excellent site on the catapult process and catapult mail can be found [here](#)



My preference is for non-philatelic trans-Atlantic mail. The earliest cover I have is this registered cover, shown above, from the USA to Belgium, dated January 10 1930.

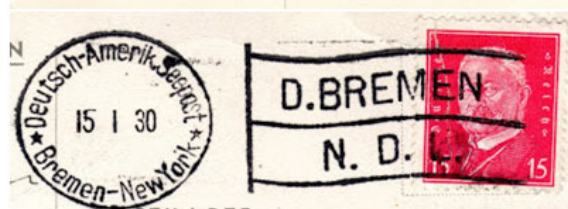
And, to the right, this postcard was posted from Bremen on January 15 1930, the return voyage of the USA-Belgium registered cover shown above.

The abbreviation "D. Bremen N.D.L." means "Dampfer (steamer) Bremen, Nord-Deutscher Lloyd".

The note is interesting. The writer says "will land Friday". The card is postmarked January 15 (see image to the right) which was a Wednesday, indicating that the card was posted half way through the journey, and accordingly would not arrive before the writer had landed in New York, as no catapult mail flight has been recorded for this voyage



Circular date stamps were also used, as shown in the image to the left, from a postcard dated May 3 1932

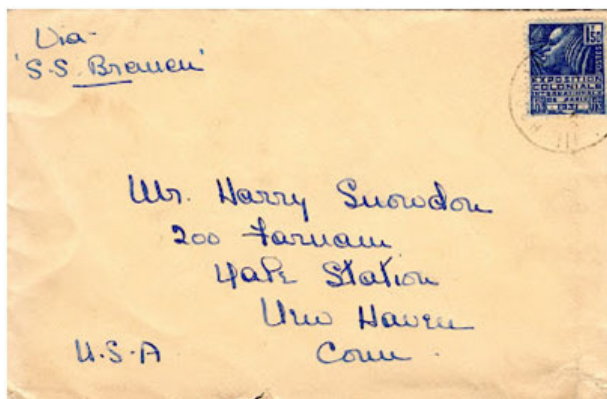


It has a CDS cancel which translates to "German-American Seapost, Bremen New York, Steamer Bremen"





TRANS-ATLANTIC MAIL IN THE AGE OF STEAM.....CONT'D

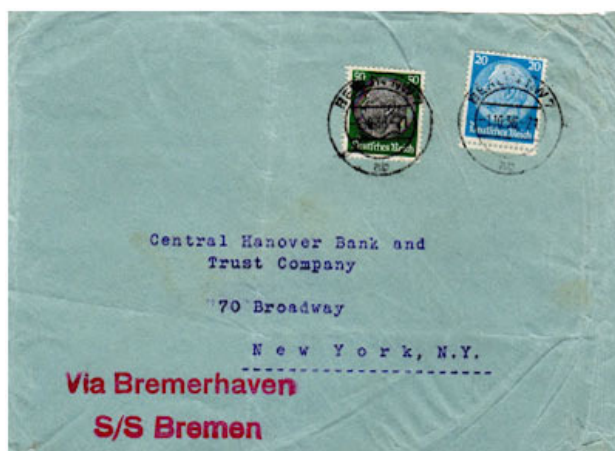


Above, a 1931 cover from France to Connecticut and a British cover from Bexhill-on-Sea to California, postmarked 2 May 1933, both show manuscript "via SS Bremen". Both of these covers would have been landed in New York and forwarded to their destinations. Unfortunately, neither have any other postal markings.

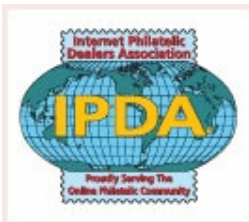
On 24 January 1936, someone at the Gladstone Hotel on East 52nd Street and Park Avenue, New York, really wanted this letter to make the ship. Franked with 5c postage, it has an additional 10c Special Delivery stamp, with the notation "By Special Delivery to SS Bremen, Pier 86, Foot 44th Street, NY", heavily underlined in red. The cover made the ship, as it was received in Berlin on 1 February.



This single-ring cachet is the only one I have seen. Postmarked at Wesermunde-Geestemunde, a district of Bremerhaven on 2 July 1936, and addressed to California



This double-line handstamp was applied in Berlin on 1 October 1936, "Via Bremerhaven S/S Bremen" and addressed to New York



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### TRANS-ATLANTIC MAIL IN THE AGE OF STEAM.....CONT'D



These Great Britain Coronation covers (above) of 1937 would have been in the same sacks of mail

The final cruise of the SS Bremen left New York on 22 August 1939, just days before the outbreak of World War II.

The latest cover I have is this one (shown to the right) from New York, postmarked May 7 1938, addressed to Berlin, appropriately franked with the 5c Naval Academy issue



Above, The SS Bremen was featured on one of the promotional cinderella labels for the 3rd London Stamp Exhibition, 21-28 January 1939



Above, in 2004, the 75th Anniversary of the SS Bremen winning the Blue Riband speed record, Germany issued a superb stamp showing the Bremen in front of the Manhattan skyline

What became of the SS Bremen? She was pressed into military service at the outbreak of World War II. After a short and somewhat inglorious wartime career as a barrack ship, the Bremen was destroyed by fire in 1941, broken up in 1946 and sold for scrap. A sad end to a long and successful career in the heyday of trans-Atlantic steam travel.

Editors Note: many thanks to Dave Sheridan for this material.





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### NEW ISSUES

Some of you are interested in aviation and aerophilately and since I rather like these I thought I would share with you.

This issue from the Isle of Man, released on February 19<sup>th</sup> was to celebrate the 50th display season of the Royal Air Force aerobatics team.

Each stamp features a photograph of the iconic Hawk aircraft in action. The stamps also incorporate the colours of the Red Arrows, as well as the RAF roundel.



This new issue is, as you can see, from Gibraltar.

The Definitive 2014 issue features the Queen Elizabeth II portrait from the 1953 Definitive as its main design feature. The stamps come in a variety of colours for people to be able to easily distinguish the values.

Editors Note: I quote the following from Gibraltar Post. Wallpaper, who would ever have thought that. There must be enormous need for these. ;-)

Since postal administrations know that many stamp collectors want to own every stamp of a definitive series, collectors' organizations have recommended that administrations only bring out new definitive issues no more often than every five years and most administrations of the world follow this policy.

An exception would be the death of a monarch, or other prominent leader, necessitating a new definitive series for the new ruler. Sometimes merely the portrait is changed, and the outer design (known as the frame) remains the same throughout several issues. Countries that ignore frequency of issue guidelines and issue volumes of stamps that have little to no practical usage produce what many collectors refer to as wallpaper

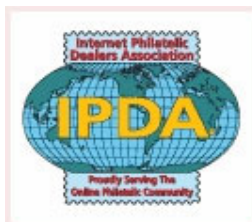


And talking about wallpaper, another country I stopped collecting many years ago because of the frequency of their issues. This set released 12 February. Nice for the Thematic collector of course.

For the past six years Alderney Post has produced stamps which depict some of the fascinating invertebrates to be found in the tiny yet diverse island of Alderney.



The ladybird is the latest subject in Alderney invertebrates series and, as with all the invertebrates issues, it has been beautifully illustrated against the landscape of Alderney by renowned artist Petula Stone. Probably the most familiar of all beetles, there are over 5,000 species occurring worldwide. In Alderney, the familiar 7-spot is the most common, followed by the 2-spot and the Orange species. Also found in the island but to a lesser degree is the Harlequin, which is a recent colonist originating from Asia.



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### STAMPORAMA UPDATE ON ACCURATELY DESCRIBING STAMPS



# StampoRama

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Approvals

A rather interesting update from Stamporama. Worth a read and while something I am sure we are all well aware of, it is nonetheless something we can use to promote ourselves— after-all we all follow these, not like many sellers I, and no doubt you, see listing at auction and elsewhere.

The Stamporama Volunteer Committee recently updated the participation rules for the Stamporama Member Auction and Approvals. The new rules ban the offering of stamps only identified with a representative image, and restrict the sale of bogus stamp issues, i.e., stamps that pretend to be officially issued by a governmental postal agency, but are privately produced to deceive collectors, to the Cinderella category. The new rules, effective immediately, are added as paragraphs e. to our existing auction rule #4, which is reproduced below in full text.

For the Volunteer Committee, David Teisler, Stamporama President

### Stamps Offered in Stamporama Auction and Approvals Must Be Accurately Described

4) a. All lots should include, at a minimum, descriptions of any defects or other characteristics outside the norm. This includes fakes, forgeries, and counterfeits, as well as reprints, repairs, and damages. Damages that need to be described include thins, creases, pulled perms, scuffs, tears, stains, etc. Please do not rely on scans to communicate problems; problems must ALSO be described in the lot description. Lots with multiple stamps need not have this detail, unless the high value of the lot is subject to one or more of these problems.

b. Please avoid all comparative and superlative language in your descriptions including "scarce", "rare" or similar wording. Avoid any references to future value.

c. Any references to a "value" of the lot must be supported by quoting the source of that value, e.g. "Scott catalog value", "Michel catalog value", "my own estimated realization". If a catalog is quoted, the catalog year should be given as well; for example "Scott 2013 cat. val. \$3.50."

d. Images used must be of the stamp(s) being offered; they cannot ! be representative.

e. Bogus stamp issues, i.e., stamps that pretend to be officially issued by a governmental postal agency, but are privately produced to deceive collectors, can only be offered in the Cinderella category.

### CLOSING REMARKS

I am flying again this coming month, two trips to Sydney. Both to attend friends 60th birthday parties, and, my work schedule is getting busier. I tell you this because I will be very stretched for time during March. So please, if anyone wants to contribute some material for the April (Easter) edition I will be very grateful.

Finally, please don't forget the Membership Drive. We have seen quite a few new members over the past two or three months. Lets keep that up and do all we can to get the IPDA name known to both sellers and buyers. You all know by now I really believe we need to get the buyers to recognize they should be buying from IPDA members, so the more members we have the more we can promote ourselves and the values we all hold, and hopefully get more sales.. Have a great month. Michael [michaelatipda@gmail.com](mailto:michaelatipda@gmail.com)