

Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc © Established 23rd February 2002



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EDITORS COLUMN

Welcome to the September edition of the Newsletter. I hope you enjoy this issue, which I admit is dedicated to the PhilaKorea 2014 exhibition I visited on 8th August in Seoul.

In some part as an IPDA representative, in as much I chatted up a few dealers and tried to promote the IPDA to those who would listen, and in some ways as just a collector / dealer enjoying meeting people and picking up a few odds and ends for my aerophilatelic collection, like the Stamp of the month below left, actually on a lovely cover with the Booklet included.

I also include a piece from the from the Rare Stamps Exhibition Hall and two images from the competition frame galleries. Very interesting displays. I wish I could share more with you and hope my selection is interesting for you.

That has me thinking, I wish I could share the Philatelic Magazine I picked up at the exhibition. (image right) A beautifully



Stamp of the Month



Keeping with he theme of this issue, from the 1996 Definitive Booklet issue, a Korean Air 747, present 60 page document. A collectors piece in its own right. The South Koreans certainly know how to present a show. Ok, so I am biased because I lived there and I just love the South Koreans and Seoul.

If you think the write up and the number of pages I have used is self indulgent please forgive me. I do not have other material and this month has been rather busy for me at work and with travel to Seoul and Sydney.

On the IPDA front we have some more news from our Director Ken Sanford about his persistent follow up on the subject of selling stamps from "US sanctioned countries" Great work Ken, just a pity eBay this time seem to be keeping their head in the sand. See Letters to the Editor on page 8.

Back to stamp shows, I wonder if I can get to this next big one. The World Stamp Show-NY 2016.

Organizers of the next U.S. international exhibition, World Stamp Show-NY 2016, have marked the show's progress with the release of Newsletter 4. A direct link to the newsletter in PDF format is <u>here</u>: The event takes place May 28-June 4, 2016 at the Javits

Center in New York City. Let me have a look at my diary!!! Oh dear that seems to a week or two before we cutover our new financial system. Probably wont be able to make it!

That seems to be my space filled :-) Have a great September and don't forget to write to me with ideas and articles. Best wishes.. Michael <u>michaelatipda@gmail.com</u>



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As you may recall from previous Newsletters I was planning to attend the PhilaKorea 2014 Exhibition in Seoul.

Well I did. Bit of a tricky start because I missed my flight. Believe it or not I somehow thought I was in the 14:00 departure from Hong Kong but was in fact was booked on the 12:00. Oh well, I arrived at the airport, very humble and looking embarrassed and the wonderful Korean Air ticket desk agent smiled and rebooked me on the 14:00 flight. Not that this is philatelic, but a great flight, both ways in fact, and on the return flight my boarding pass rejected at the gate. Hmmm, now what was going to happen? Well I got upgraded to business. I really enjoy flying Korean Air.

Ok to philatelic matters, well eventually, I will get to the show in a few paragraphs.

On arrival at the hotel - the hotel recommended for the show – I found my way to the wrong floor and was confronted by the exodus of show judges, exhibitors and various organisers who were just finishing the welcome dinner and reception. No one I knew but a few pleasant conversations.

I saw a desk with gift bags and as I approached the desk was immediately offered one of the bags.

Nice I thought, just shows how good it is to be in the right crowd, even if I was gate crashing! On return to my room I had a look at my plunder. A rather nice souvenir of the show (picture to right) with stamp and exhibition postal cancel and a very nice looking gift box. Thinking something philatelic of course I eagerly opened the box to find, yes, I am not kidding you, a tooth brush and a tube of toothpaste. Well it was a nice thought.

I woke early on the Friday, planning a quick hotel breakfast on the level the hotel people had told me about, and found myself at a nice buffet breakfast for the show judges, exhibitors and various organisers, once again. Same crowd. Oh well, a free breakfast is never to be refused.

And finally, I followed the crowd onto the courtesy bus that took us on the 5 minute ride to the COEX Exhibition Halls.

Rather an early start but mingling in with the, yes you guessed it, the judges, exhibitors and various organisers I strolled into the exhibition hall, some 90 minutes before the show opened.

That certainly gave me plenty of time to look around.

I even had my own private and uninterrupted viewing of the competition frame exhibits. (more later)







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.....CONTINUED

PHILAKOREA 2014

A bit more philatelic

I received an email from a collector in the UK a week or two before the show, asking me if I could get him a set of the Royal Mail Post & Go stamps.

Being early I thought I would be first in line for the machines, and of course I was. In fact I was so early I was able to strike up a conversation with the guy looking after the stand.

He was not from Royal Mail, but from a company that looked after the machines. Just as well that we got on so well because as Murphy's law would have it there was a technical problem, namely, the payment gateway was not working.

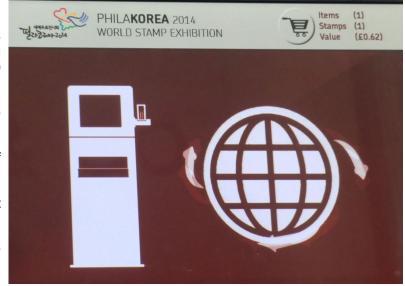
It was one of those, it will be fixed in 10 minute situations. Of course, like all IT network related problems things seldom ever get fixed in 10 minutes.

Once the exhibition actually opened and the dealers had all their material on display I would walk around, even chat to a few dealers, buy a few items that caught my eye and return to see if the Post & Go machines were working.

By 12:30 the payment gateway was still not working.

Now the value of a good relationship with anyone is that they can do you a favour in times of need. And the technician certainly did.





He asked me if I had cash and if he "bought" the stamps by overriding the payment gateway could I pay him and he would settle the payment later.

As I am sure you all know these machines only accept credit cards. Sure enough he over-rode the payment gateway and printed a set for me. Actually two sets, one from each machine. For the record. A003 and A004.

So I now have one very happy customer in the UK, a customer who has what are probably quite rare Post & Go stamps since they are likely to one of only a few that were printed on that date. If not the only ones if the payment gateway did not get fixed. I will never know I guess!



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As for the exhibition, it was extremely well organised. There was plenty of room to move around, the dealer stalls were spacious and well presented and the quality of the material and staff in attendance was very high.

There were excellent facilities, exhibits and activities for children. This was particularly nice to see and even the attendance of parents and children was high. And, the competition frames on display were of a very high quality, and very interesting, in my humble view.

I met quite a few dealers, including those who were from Seoul. The local dealers were very kind and interesting even though at times I needed a translator.

One item I did see was this supposedly First Flight piece of card. (these sell on eBay for about 9 Euros). (middle right picture)

What idiots buy them I have no idea – they should print them off on their own printers in my view and save their money. The cards have no write up, no description and no provenance. I flew this inaugural and I am 99.999999% confident this was not on the flight.

I also noticed the Narita Airport Post Office cancel is very similar to the cancel I personally got on my covers, close but not exactly the same, and I do know the only Post Office there very well and I do hand cancel my covers with the Post Office "chop" courtesy of the excellent Japan Post Office staff. Buyer beware eh!

The seller is not an IPDA member and never will be while I have something to say. I found a group of about 15 of these at one local dealer. Even with a translator I was unable to discover how he had come to acquire them. But he gave me 4 as a gift!!!

At another stand I met Tristan Brittain from Oxford stamps of Northampton in the UK. Confused me hey, what is in a name! Seems we have Roger West as a common connection although Tristan told me he has not seen you Roger for many years but sends his regards. He now has all the details about the IPDA and I hope he will actually apply to join. I will do a follow up anyway.











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PHILAKOREA 2014 YOUR EDITORS TRIP REPORT CONTINUED YET AGAIN

Of course not everyone is a potential IPDA member, no matter how much it might seem to be a good idea.

Three dealers from London sharing a stand were, in my view, very "up themselves" when I got talking to them about the IPDA.

Yes they had heard of us but no they were not interested. "not interested in doing anything for any association" was basically their stance. In it for what they could get for themselves was my impression of their comments to me. And, their material was very over priced, in my humble view. I often see this, dealers think that coming to Asia they can increase prices because they assume collectors have money and will pay without thinking. Not a smart idea in my view.

In contrast, a few comments on the Stanley Gibbons stand. Staffed by very warm and engaging people. We have contacts in common it turned out. The material on display was very well presented. A professional set up and one where they catered to all. Well done SG.

And finally just two more pictures, and on the following two pages images from two of the competition frames.



PHILAKOREA 2014- FROM THE RARE STAMP HALL DISPLAY

The 5 Candarins Yellow was the highest value of China's First Issue of stamps in 1878. Printed from several different settings of 20 to 25 clichés, there were only a few sheets issued from a setting which showed a wide spacing between designs, so the 5 Candarins wide spacing quickly became the rarest, most valuable and most sought-after first issue stamp of China.

This famous cover, addressed to "Countess Caroline" Tattenbach in Germany, bears the highest number of these stamps ever used together, in the form of a large block placed at the back of the cover. These (and the French franking on the other side) paid for a five-fold letter rate.





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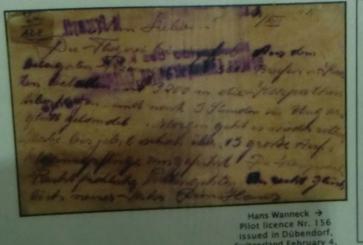
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PHILAKOREA EXHIBITION - COMPETITION FAMES PAGES



Fieldpostcard written by Hans Wanneck, K.u.K. Feldpilot Fliegerkompagnie No. 11, on arrival in Kaschau, Hungary (present Košiče, Slovakia) after completing the Carpathian Flight on December 9, 1914. Addressed to his former instructor H.W. Eckinger in Dübendorf, Switzerland. On the reverse Wanneck writes:

My Friend, Flying continues, I carried from besieged Przemysl some 5000 letters and cards flying over the Carpathians at 3200 meters for 5 hours to land easily in Hungary. In the morning we go back again. I believe that up to now I have made something like 15 major sorties. I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a really lucky New Year. Yours, Hans"







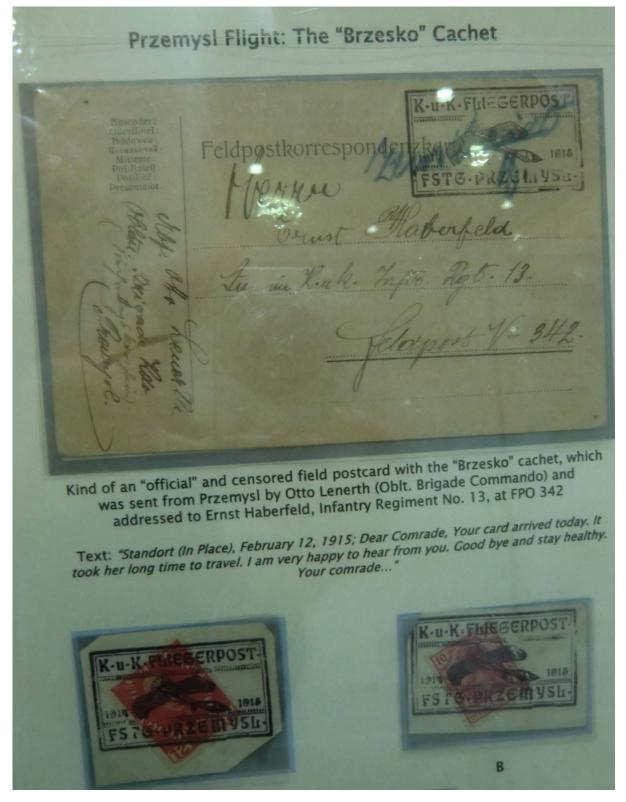
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Sorry this is not a better picture but I hope some of you enjoy seeing this page. It is from an exhibit about mail from the Siege of Prezemysl, 1914 - 1915, the first time in history that mail laden airplanes landed and took off from within a completely surrounded fortress. Michael





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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Over past issues we have updated you about our attempts, and in particular your Director Ken Sanfords' correspondence with the USA OFAC, on selling stamps from "sanctioned countries" Ken has received a reply from eBay. As shown below. Small step perhaps. Lets hope common sense prevails.

Dear Mr. Sanford:

Thanks for contacting us regarding eBay listings for stamps from sanctioned countries. We appreciate the information you provided, including the letter from the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) related to the Sudanese Sanctions Regulations. As you know, eBay currently prohibits listings for stamps from Sudan. However, based on the information provided in the OFAC letter, we will review our policy with respect to these items. While we cannot rely on the letter addressed to you, we will seek similar guidance, and, if appropriate, make any necessary updates to our Embargoed Goods Policy.

Should you have any further inquiries, please feel free to reach out to Mike Carson in our Global Regulatory Legal team: <u>mcarson@paypal.com</u>.

Kind regards,

Kira Brooks Policy Operations Manager, Global Prohibited Items

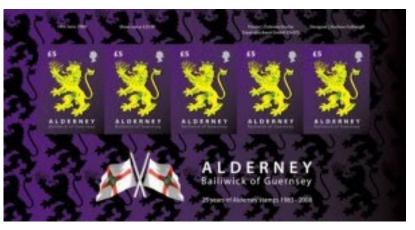


ALDERNEY CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF ISSUING STAMPS

It doesn't seem that long ago does it? I stopped collecting them many years ago given my modest budget back then but now with a few nice values in the collection.

This year a set of commemoratives based on the first definitives was issued, with the designer revisiting the sites chosen by the original artist, but capturing the images on camera.

In addition to these, a £5 definitive and £5 silver stamp replica, a wafer-thin piece of solid silver– a first for Guernsey Post and the British Isles were produced. Bold and clear-cut, the



design of both the paper stamp and the silver stamp replica features nothing but the lion rampant from the island's flag along with the standard features: value, Queen's head and the island's name.

CLOSING REMARKS

Thank you to everyone who wrote to me with kind words about the August issue. I hope I have not over indulged with the PhilaKorea 2014 material in this issue. Ok I have but to be honest I have not had the time to do more thinking and research for other material. Apology, Will try to rectify for the October issue. Of course all ideas and materials are welcomed. Have a great month in September.