



Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©

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NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2015

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EDITORS COLUMN

Welcome to the February edition.

As I write this I realise it is one week to the next IPDA Board meeting and two weeks to the deadline for nominations for new Directors or re-election of existing Directors.

We really do hope to see nominations from some members and of course for existing Directors. Please let our General Secretary know if you wish to stand for election, or re-election.

As I reported in the January Newsletter the following Board Members are required to stand down at the next Annual General Meeting - Larry Bailey, Allan Oliver and Roger West - although they may run for re-election for another 2 years. We sincerely hope they do as all three are very active contributing Directors.

It was also noted that the following offices are up for re-election:

- General Secretary, Treasurer and Honorary Auditor

Also, there are openings for additional Board Members; the suggestion was tabled that we seek Regional Directors for

- North America
- UK
- Europe
- Asia-Pacific

Stamp of the Month



Valentines Day in a few weeks.

I will be flying to Laoag that day, and, even in Business class it will probably cost me less than trying to keep up with the new issues from Royal Mail! 10 Alice, 8 Greetings, 6 Faststamps, 8 Inventive, and that just the basics, all by Feb 18th.

The above from the Greetings issue of 20th January

Do we have members who would like to get involved and work to help grow the IPDA? Please consider spending a few hours a month helping promote and contribute to the success of the IPDA activities.

Please contact Bill Lehr our General Secretary at secretary@ipdastamps.org to nominate yourself or another member. Don't be shy!!!!

I am wondering quietly to myself if you would like to see a new Newsletter Editor. I would not be offended at all if that were the case. I have been writing this Newsletter since about 2007 I think — in fact I have lost track — and there does come a time when fresh ideas and style is needed and welcomed.

If anyone has been thinking they could take on the Editors role I would be most supportive of a change. Email me directly if you have thought you would like to do this. Honestly, I will not be offended. I do realise that a change could be very good for the IPDA and for all of you reading this. If someone did come forward I would make a commitment to you to write one article a month for your consideration.

And, one reminder, again, as I wrote in the January issue - The Annual General Meeting for fiscal 2014 will be held in March 2015. We will publish the Agenda and dates after the next Board meeting. Please try to block your diary to attend.

Finally, New Issues. (see sidebar left) I cannot keep track, so many. From everywhere it seems. I read that Herrick's, a leading US based dealer and New Issue provider stocks new issues of over 100 countries. Wow!!!! that must be some stock investment every month. How do they do it? Who is buying all the new issues? And why? Members views? Go on, surprise me, write to me.

Best wishes.. Michael michaelatipda@gmail.com



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PHILIPPINE STAMPS 1898–1935

This is my second, as promised, article on the stamps of the Philippines. I originally intended it to cover the period of the American Administration but after reading so much about the period I am keeping it to the period 1898 to 1935, which is the period up to the inauguration of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. Perhaps I will do an additional piece from 1935 to 1945. If the piece is a bit jumbled I apologise, and I also apologise if I have errors of understanding of this period. Please don't feel shy in correcting me. It was quite difficult to get a consistent philatelic theme on its own so there is history as well, as I found that interesting. I hope you do. Editor.

I have read many sources and tried to remember them in the acknowledgements plus I added a few other links you might find interesting.

At the outbreak of the war with Spain, in 1898, the United States fleet at Hong Kong proceeded to Manila, where, on May 1st, the naval battle of Manila Bay resulted in the destruction of the entire Spanish fleet and the capture of the naval station at Cavite, about nine miles to the south west of Manila.

With the arrival of American troops at Cavite on July 16, 1898, an American post office was established temporarily on one of the ships in the Bay, and, on July 30, on shore at Cavite. From this date until the end of the following year, a philatelic chaos existed in the Philippines. Mails were received and forwarded as opportunity offered, by all of the numerous "governments" involved. Each of which used the stamps most available at the time.

United States stamps were used in 1898 on mail sent by the American troops in the Islands, and this custom was continued to a greater or less extent until October 1, 1903. After that date their use was prohibited by order of the Postmaster General of the United States. The same order prohibited the use in the United States of the stamps overprinted for the Philippines.

In 1899 some of the then current United States stamps (that was the 1894 Jefferson issue I believe) were overprinted diagonally with the word Philippines and issued for use in the Islands.

During the next two years these were supplemented by overprinting other values and were practically superseded by the overprinted stamps of the Presidents issue of 1902. Envelopes, wrappers, and postal cards of the United States were also similarly surcharged, as were the Special delivery and Postage due stamps.

In 1906, the first purpose-printed Philippine stamps were issued. Shown to the right is a 2-peso bister-brown and black Battle of Manila Bay stamp of 1935 (Scott 394, SG 470).



Between 1926 and 1933 there is a really interesting variety of Air Mail related stamps and covers, commencing in 1926 with the first flight stamps for the Madrid Manila routing and this 1933 cover with the 1906 stamps overprinted F Rein Madrid – Manila Flight 1933 (see image below – from Editors collection)

Acknowledgements:

[Bruce Macdonald Stamps](#)

[Google Books Stamps of the Philippines](#)

[Smithsonian National Postal Museum](#)

- Palmer 1912—Stamps of the Philippines

- [The AGUINALDO Issues](#)

Ref site: [a book of stamps of Philippines](#)



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READERS COMPETITION

Well this piece in the January edition was a big hit wasn't it. Not!!!!

Not one single email to me on the topic. Not one entry. Remember this; First email to me at michae-latipda@gmail.com, with mailing address, correctly naming the author of each of the quotes will receive this beautiful Hong Kong Miniature Sheet

Well no problem. But for your enjoyment, the authors are shown next to the quotes.



So, who said

1. All science is either Physics or stamp collecting **Ernest Rutherford physicist and Noble Laureate**
2. What should I do? I think the best thing is to order a stamp with my face on it. **Charles, Emperor of Austria 1882-1922 on learning of his accession to the throne.**
3. Stamp collecting dispels boredom, enlarges our vision, broadens our knowledge, makes us better citizens and in innumerable ways, enriches our lives **President Roosevelt**
4. It would be hard to conceive of any activity more useless than stamp collecting. **DAVE BARRY, Dave Barry's Bad Habits - Pulitzer Prize-winning American author and columnist**
5. But, remember, I wish to have the best collection, not just one of the best collections in England **King George V to JA Tilleard, Honorary Secretary, Philatelic Society, on appointing him as Philatelist to the King.**
6. For seventeen years he did nothing at all, but kill animals and stick in stamps **Sir Harold Nicholson (1886-1968) in Diaries and Letters about King George V.**
7. As you see gentleman I am but a postman. It is no exaggeration. In the old days it was my job to deliver the mails **JRD Tata. Quoted in a book on British Airways - commemorating the 50th anniversary of Tata's history making flight of 1912**
8. Next time ask my barber to approve them before you issue stamps with my portrait **King Christian X of Denmark. In 1924 he was shown commemoratives of 300th anniversary of Danish Posts. The stamps showed his portrait facing the left and the right and his hair parted once to the left and next to the right.**
9. Designs in connection with postage stamps and coinage may be described, I think, as the silent ambassadors on national taste **W. B. Yeats (1865-1939), Irish poet, playwright**
10. The postage stamp is a flimsy thing
No thicker than a beetle's wing
And yet it will roam the world for you
Exactly where you tell it to
EV Lucas (1868 – 1938) English humorist, essayist, playwright, biographer, publisher, poet, novelist, short story writer and editor.



A SHORT HISTORY OF THE STAMPS OF MALTA

The British set up an overseas post office in Malta in the mid-nineteenth century. British stamps were made available in Malta in August 1857, and prepayment of postage became compulsory on 1 February 1858. These British stamps were cancelled with "M" or later "A25" postmarks. The "A25" postmark (see image) was also used to cancel other countries' stamps on maritime mail, and it is known on French, Tunisian, Italian, Egyptian and Indian stamps.



On 1 December 1860, Malta issued its first stamp, which is known as the halfpenny yellow. It was re-printed 29 times in different watermarks, perforations and shades. This stamp was used for inland postage only, while British stamps continued to be used for overseas mail. Malta joined the Universal Postal Union in 1875, and it was the first British colony to do so.

On 1 January 1885 the Malta Post Office was separated from the British Post Office after this had been consented back in 1883. The first definitives were issued with the values up to 1/- with the colours reflecting Malta joining the UPU. The halfpenny was the same as the 1860 stamp except it was green. The stamps were designs of Queen Victoria like most British colonies, but also used the Maltese Cross as a heraldic device. British stamps were no longer valid from this date except for mail from British military zones, where British stamps were used until 1979. A large format 5-shilling value complemented the set in 1886 and this was used until 1911. Also in 1886, the GPO moved to Palazzo Parisio in Merchants Street, Valletta. Police stations in several villages began to sell stamps around 1891. *Bollo personale*, or postmen's personal handstamps, were used to indicate which postman delivered a particular letter. The earliest recorded use is 16 August 1888 while the latest is 29 September 1949.



An 1899 stamp showing a Gozo boat

In 1899 four more pictorial values were issued: 4½d Gozo boat (see image), 5d Maltese Galley, 2/6 Melita and 10/- Saint Paul's Shipwreck. Village postmarks were introduced in 1900. A new stamp with the value of one farthing was added to the pictorials in 1901 when newspaper post was introduced. This stamp showed a view of the Grand Harbour. The overseas empire rate dropped to 1 penny in 1902 and the 2½d stamps of 1885 were overprinted with the words "One Penny". Each sheet had one error stamp with the words "One Pnney" on them and as it was a sheet of 120 stamps, these values attract a premium. It is thought that this was a deliberate error.

In 1903, new low-value definitives to 1/- featuring Edward VII were issued. The design was still based on the 1860 halfpenny yellow, but with the portrait of the new monarch and a royal crown on top. Like the previous Queen Victoria issues, these still featured Maltese crosses. Meanwhile, the 1886 5/- and the 1899-1901 pictorials remained in use. A new watermark was introduced in October 1904, and all subsequent reprints of the 1899-1901 pictorials and 1903-1904 definitives were with this new watermark. From 1907 to 1911 there were some colour changes, and some bicoloured stamps were reissued in one colour. A 5/- value was issued in March 1911 replacing the 1886 Queen Victoria issue.

The first George V stamps were issued in 1914, and they consisted of eight values: ¼d, ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 6d, 1/- and a large format 2/- in the colonial keyplate design. A pictorial 4d black was added a year later, while a 3d and a large format 5/- were added in 1917. In 1919 pictorial 2/6 and 10/- values were issued. This 10/- value is Malta's most expensive postage stamp since only 1530 copies were printed and they sold out soon after issue.



From 1914 to 1920 various German prisoners of war were in camps in Malta, and various markings were introduced for mail sent from these POWs. In 1917-1918, War Tax stamps were issued for World War I.. The ½d was from the 1914 George V issue but the 3d was from the 1903 Edward VII issue. In late 1921 and early 1922, some of the 1914-1919 issues were reprinted with a new watermark. In April 1922, the 2d issue from earlier that year was surcharged one farthing. By the early 1920s, village postmarks were withdrawn.



A SHORT HISTORY OF THE STAMPS OF MALTACONT'D

In 1919 there were the Sette Giugno riots in Valletta, which led to Malta being given a new constitution in 1921 and being granted self-government. To commemorate this, various definitive stamps issued between 1899 and 1922 were overprinted "SELF-GOVERNMENT".

On 1 August 1922 a new set of stamps designed by Maltese artists Edward Caruana Dingli and Gianni Vella was issued. This featured an allegorical depiction of Melita on the Pound and pence values and a depiction of Melita leaning on Britannia on the shilling values. In 1926 it was decided that separate revenue stamps should be issued and the set was defaced with the word "POSTAGE" on all values up to 10/-.

Locally printed postage due stamps were issued on 16 April 1925 replacing hand-struck markings that had been in use for over a century. A new design of professionally printed stamps was issued on 21 July of that year showing a Maltese Cross and British and Maltese coats of arms.

To make it more complicated a new set of definitives appeared later in 1926, this time a very beautiful set showing George V and a shield on the values to 6d and a series of engraved scenes on the higher values to 10/-. But again the set was reissued with an overprint "Postage and Revenue" in 1928, when it was decided that revenue stamps were no longer needed. A 6d stamp was also overprinted "AIR MAIL" in 1928 (see image) and was Malta's first airmail value, being in addition to the sea postage rate. This beautiful set was once again reissued with "Postage and Revenue" in the legend. Therefore Malta had a total of 7 sets of definitives between 1920 and 1930.

In 1935, Malta issued the Silver Jubilee Crown Agents omnibus set, and this was followed by the 1937 Coronation omnibus set of 3. In 1938 a new set of pictorial definitives came out with a portrait of George VI inside a cartouche with local scenery around him. The farthing value was reissued like the 1901 version except with a modernised view of the harbour and the monogram GRI appearing on the stamp instead of a portrait. The set went up to 10/- and some of the top values reused scenes from the 1926 set, except larger and brighter. During World War II Malta was heavily bombed and the island was awarded the George Cross by the King, because it had resisted the Nazi and Italian bombardment. In 1943 postage rates increased and 6 low values from the 1938 were reissued in new colours to show rate changes. Malta also took part in the 1946 omnibus issue commemorating the Allied victory in the war.

Late 1948 saw the 1938-1943 pictorials reissued with a "SELF-GOVERNMENT 1947" overprint, (see image) after Malta was granted self-government for a second time (the 1921 constitution had been revoked back in 1933). A further reissue of these stamps occurred in 1953 when standard postage rose to 1½d and 6 values were again reissued in new colours, still overprinted.

Various omnibus issues were issued from 1949 to 1953 for the anniversaries of the Silver Wedding and the UPU, and the Coronation of Elizabeth II. Between January 1956 and 1957, a new definitive set was issued featuring the new Queen Elizabeth II. This set featured beautifully engraved designs up to £1. The set showed various local buildings, monuments and views, or important documents relating to Malta's role in the Second World War. From 1957 onwards various stamps designed by Emvin Cremona were issued, most notably those to commemorate the anniversaries of the award of the George Cross to Malta. He used an abstract post cubist style that would later dominate most stamps of the 1960s and 1970s including two definitive sets. Malta issued various other commemorative sets in the early 1960s, and the last set prior to independence was a set of three commemorating the European Congress of Catholic Doctors. This was issued on 5 September 1964, just two weeks before independence.



Above, The £1 value from the 1922 Melita issue





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SHATPS



Your editor has read about this site on numerous occasions and thought perhaps it might interest some members - if you do not already know about it.

The website at SHTPS is the official home page of the St. Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society.



A 1952 stamp of Saint Helena overprinted for use in Tristan da Cunha from 1952

The objectives of the Society include:

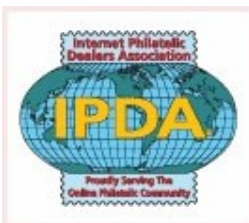
- ▶ to promote the study and research of philatelic materials relating to St. Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha;
- ▶ to promote and develop the collecting of such philatelic material;
- ▶ to disseminate news and knowledge concerning these islands;
- ▶ to foster friendship among such collectors;
- ▶ to foster philatelic aid and friendship with the residents of these islands;
- ▶ and to aid members of the Society to acquire and/or dispose of philatelic or philatelically related items.

Membership in the Society is open to all interested individuals worldwide. SHATPS is an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society (APS); however individual membership in the APS is not prerequisite to membership in the St. Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society.

The Society was formed in 1976 after Mrs. Vivian W. Finne placed a letter in *Linn Stamp News* asking if there was a philatelic society specializing in the study of St. Helena. There wasn't and Mrs. Finne and a handful of other collectors formed one. Very early on, the two St. Helena dependencies Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, were included in the Society's speciality area. Today, the Society is truly international with members literally all over the world.



If you are a collector, or as a dealer have customers interested in the philately and postal history of St. Helena, Ascension, and/or Tristan da Cunha then I would expect the Society will be of interest to you.



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UPCOMING EVENTS AND AUCTIONS

Events and auctions, maybe near you in the coming months. Attend for learning or fun, or a source of new stock.



California Here We Come!

AmeriStamp Expo Feb. 13-15, 2015
Riverside Convention Center

Highlights Include: 70+ Dealer Booths - Exhibits -
Stamps in your attic - Kids Zone - and MORE!

SPECIAL - first 1,800 APS Members to enter
receive Special Coupon Booklet!

[click for more details](#)

Gold and Rare Tangible Assets Conference at [The Dali Museum](#) in St. Petersburg, Florida,

Pre-Conference Event at The Dali Museum: Tuesday, March 10, 2015

[Stanley Gibbons Ltd](#) and [Asset Strategies International, Inc.](#) would like to invite you to their 2nd Precious Metals and Rare Tangible Assets Seminar at The Dali Museum from 10:00a.m. until 8:00p.m. The seminar will focus on Gold and Precious Metals, Rare U.S. Coins, Rare Stamps, English, European and Asian Coins, Limited Edition Prints, Asian Art, Modern First Editions Books and Antiques. The cost is \$99 per person, but call them at 800-926-6575 to find out how you may be able to get in for free. The fee includes a tour of the museum, a seminar on Gold and Rare Tangible Assets, lunch, an afternoon coffee and tea break and an evening cocktail reception on the museum grounds.



MATTHEW BENNETT INTERNATIONAL, LLC
HARVEY BENNETT - Philatelic Consultant
Serving the Philatelic Community Since 1948

[The Michael Bakwin Collection of Used United States 1847- 1947](#)

February 25th 2015



Left: Lot 231. No. 596 - one of only 13 recorded examples and one of the two finest of the five known with postal cancels



Right: Lot 93. No. 111 - one of the two finest of the four known.

And finally, your Editors favourite, [Universal Philatelic Auctions](#)

Universal Philatelic Auctions

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AUCTION HOUSE & DEALER OVERPRICING CRASH & WRECK COVERS

This from one of our directors, Ken Sanford. Thanks Ken. Editors Note. We all know how important it is to have some knowledge of the price of material we are either buying or selling. This is a useful example of why that is important and perhaps is useful information for you as dealers if you have any such material.

It really irks me when dealers and auction houses overprice relatively common wreck & crash covers. Some examples of these are from the four ships torpedoed in the Mediterranean in 1918.

The ships were "Airedale", Kingstonian", "Sunik" & "Warwickshire". In nearly every case, a wreck cover cannot be attributed to a specific ship, and there are plenty of covers about.

In my opinion, they are not worth more than US\$25.00, but dealers put prices on them of \$100 or more.

Other examples are covers from the two BOAC crashes in 1954, the first on 13 March 1954 at Singapore and the second on 25 December 1954 at Prestwick, Scotland.

There were so many covers recovered from these two crashes that they come on eBay at least once a week. And yet dealers and auction houses put ridiculous prices on them, sometimes as much as \$150.00 or even more, and some even describe them as "rare".

Covers from these two crashes are not worth more than \$15 - \$20, except when they are to an unusual destination, in which case they are worth maybe \$25 more.

Are these dealers simply naive, or do they think they might hook some "sucker", who will pay the high price they put on them? I wish these dealers and auction houses would do their homework and find out that such covers are common and not worth the crazy prices they put on them. I could give dozens of other examples.

Comments from members are welcome

YEAR OF THE SHEEP

Another New Year issue I thought you might enjoy seeing. This from China. It is from a presentation pack that a friend of mine at work was able to get for me. In my view a lovely sheetlet.

CLOSING REMARKS

Well that's it from me. I hope you found something interesting in this issue.

Lots happening on the philatelic scene over the coming months and year. Perhaps you will be able to find some time to share your philatelic experiences with other members through this Newsletter

I really do welcome ideas for articles, write ups from any of the exhibitions or philatelic events you attend, or, just ideas for articles. Apology for repeating myself with this request but as I said in my Editorial, new ideas are always welcomed.

Best wishes.. Michael michaelatipda@gmail.com

