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Established 23rd February 2002



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NEWSLETTER APRIL 2015

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EDITORS COLUMN

Welcome to the April edition.

Well it is April in a few days time. Another month just shot past and I have to admit, apart from the IPDA activities, I have had so little time for philatelic activities. The only time I made for stamps was to sort and catalogue and list some of my New Zealand stock for sale in my bidStart Store. Sales were good straight away so that was rewarding.

Thanks to member Don Ion from New Zealand for plenty of advice and guidance from him. I have included a scan of NZ watermarks that he sent me, as well as a short piece from Mark Robb, again from NZ, on page 4 of this issue. I hope you find these as useful as I did.

Now I think about it, I also got a few nice lots on eBay. Something for my aerophilatelic collection. This lovely stamp from Japan for example.

Nothing special from a value point of view and just the one from the 1951 issue of 11 stamps but still nice to get. It shows a DC4. Little bit of trivia for you, 1245 were built between May 1942 and August 1947. Not a bad production rate.



As for the IPDA, well as many of you know we held the AGM this past month and with proxy votes we had a good turnout. The Minutes (to be approved) are shown on page 2. Thanks to all who attended or sent proxy votes. As you perhaps can tell from the minutes this was a very well run AGM thanks to the exceptional work of Bill Lehr our General Secretary.

Now for Stamps shows, as this comes to mind. Singapore World Stamp Exhibition 2015 is on in August. From 14th to 19th. Who is going to attend? I will be there on the Friday evening, the 14th, for the exhibition on the Saturday (unless something extraordinary happens in my life). I have not booked my airline tickets or hotel yet so if you are going please let me know and perhaps we can arrange to meet up. I just love Singapore so if this is a chance for you to visit, even if not the first time, let me know and perhaps we can enjoy it together as well as at the show. For more details about the Exhibition you might enjoy reading their web site [here](#).

And finally Auctions. I started writing this at 3am this morning (couldn't sleep again) and before I knew it I had filled 7 pages. I wanted to do a bigger piece on auctions but just a short paragraph now to mention the April 15th (I think) UPA Auction. Bids close 14th, I know that.

You can get an online catalogue [here](#). **Universal Philatelic Auctions** are run by our member, the CEO of UPA, Andrew McGavin. My experience with him and his team has been really excellent. The April auction has some 22,000 lots. The online catalogue is easy to read and research. In my view a great way to pick up some stock. Andrew also writes a very useful hints and tips page, and you can sign up for his words of experience and wisdom [here](#). Have a look, I think you will enjoy if you do not already receive his excellent material.

Oh! one last word, please don't bid on the lots I am looking at



Ok one more last word. I hope you find something enjoyable and / or interesting to read in this issue. And, perhaps tell a colleague, share with a colleague even. Get a colleague to apply to join the IPDA. Help grow the Association and add value to your membership.

Best wishes.. Michael michaelatipda@gmail.com

Stamp of the Month



From the recent Hong Kong Post "Astronomical Phenomena" issue. Only a week ago there was a total solar eclipse in the Faroe Islands and Norway and a partial solar eclipse in Europe, northern and eastern Asia and north western Africa, so it seems to be an appropriate stamp to show.



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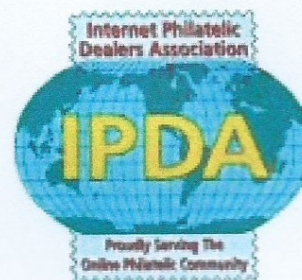
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IPDA AGM MINUTES - PENDING APPROVAL

Minutes of the IPDA 2015 AGM

Attending: L Bailey; M Dodd; A Oliver; K Sanford; B Lehr; A Greene
I Craven; R West.

Proxies from: P de Jong; B Clark; D O Neal; R Schneider; P Poppe
C Stewart; R Stead; K Drake; D Shohet; A Devine; D Wood
C Jones; S Delcampe; R Phillips; J New; R Vasquez; J Horsey
H Speller; G Belshaw; D Ion; A Farberov; S Hill (total of 22)



1. Secretary having verified a quorum being present, the meeting was convened at 5:54 PM.
2. Minutes of the 2014 AGM accepted: 30-0-0
3. Annual Report from the Chair Person accepted: 30-0-0
4. Annual Report of the Treasurer accepted: 30-0-0
5. Annual Audit accepted: 30-0-0
6. Elections to the Board of Directors:

- a) Larry Bailey, Australia, Asia-Pacific, elected: 30-0-0
- b) Alan Oliver, UK, UK, elected: 30-0-0
- c) Roger West, UK, UK, elected: 24-6-0
- d) Alex Green, Tasmania, Asia-Pacific region, elected: 30-0-0
- e) Ralph Philips, Israel, Europe, not elected: 10-10-6

NOTE: Discrepancy of four votes; those votes were assigned to the majority but could not be assigned as there was no majority.

and to Administrative positions,

- f) General Secretary: Bill Lehr, elected: 26-0-4
- g) Treasurer: Bill Lehr, elected, 30-0-0
- h) Honorary auditor: Michael Dodd, elected: 29-0-1

7. To adopt, amend and adopt or reject changes to the IPDA Constitution as proposed by the board of directors.

- | | | | |
|----|--------------|--|------------------|
| a. | Section 8.1 | organization of the board of directors | accepted: 30-0-0 |
| b. | Section 10.7 | holding of the AGM | accepted: 30-0-0 |
| c. | BL 009.03 | confidential list-procedure | accepted: 30-0-0 |
| d. | BL009.05 | listing and search procedures | accepted: 30-0-0 |

7. All business of the AGM having been concluded, the meeting was closed at 6:26 PM

Prepared by

Bill Lehr, General Secretary, IPDA, Inc.
19th March 2015

NOTE: Votes are reported as Yeah-Naye-Abstain



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NEW YORK WORLD STAMP SHOW 2016

I have written about this before but thought it worth another mention. A while away but forward planning and all that. Of course even I am not planning that far ahead, just yet. But it is in my diary. This, the latest from the organising Chairman.

World Stamp Show-NY 2016 is pleased to report the release of its seventh quarterly newsletter, this one with important information for exhibitors. It is available online at <http://www.ny2016.org>.

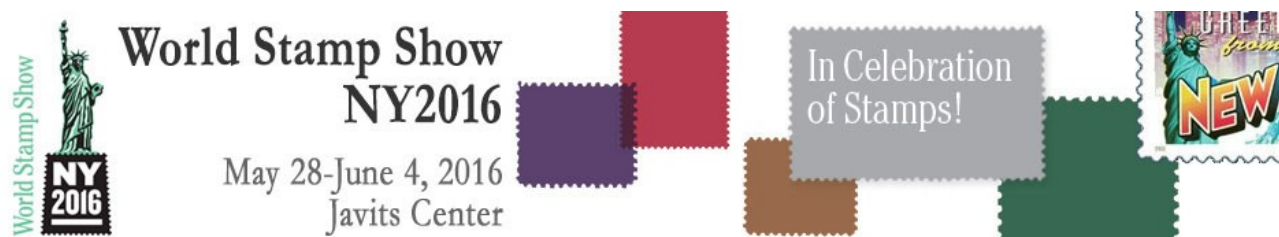
The five page issue provides a comprehensive summary of details every potential exhibitor should know about. Articles reference exhibiting basics and exhibit classifications, applications and acceptance, judges and judging, scoring and prizes. Most useful is a timeline of important dates covering the overall application process.

An application and a PDF copy of *The Bulletin* are downloadable from the WSS-NY 2016 web site. Hard copies may be requested directly from commissioners appointed by their respective FIP national philatelic organizations. Their contact information can be found at http://www.ny2016.org/SubMenu/The_Commissioners.aspx?id=519.

Forms must be returned to the appropriate national commissioner no later than August.

World Stamp Show-NY 2016 takes place May 28 through June 4, 2016 at the Javits Center in New York City.

Thomas M. Fortunato, Chairman, Marketing & Public Relations
28 Amberwood Place, Rochester, NY 14626-4166, thomas.fortunato@ny2016.org



INTER ASIA AUCTION (HONG KONG) JULY 2015

And closer to home, well for me at least, is the Inter Asia auction here in Hong Kong in July 2015. Visit their web site [here](#).

I am looking forward to attending. Just fun to be there on the scene having been to one of their auctions in the past. Their next auction of Chinese, Hong Kong and Asian stamps and postal history will take place on July 18-19.

The auction already includes Ching Dynasty, highlighted by the magnificent 1886 Large Dragons registered envelope, one of the most important items of mail matter of the postal history of this period, People's Republic of China rarities, and a fine offering of Hong Kong stamps.



The market for Chinese and Hong Kong stamps and postal history remains strong, with particularly keen interest in better material.



NEW ZEALAND WATERMARKS

I wrote about New Zealand watermarks last month. Two replies to that. Thanks One from my dear colleague Don in New Zealand who I feel I know yet I have never had the pleasure of meeting. Don sent me two great images to help me. Thanks Don. I show one below.

And also this, very useful thoughts I think, from Mark Robb, also from New Zealand.

Hi Michael

Another great issue.

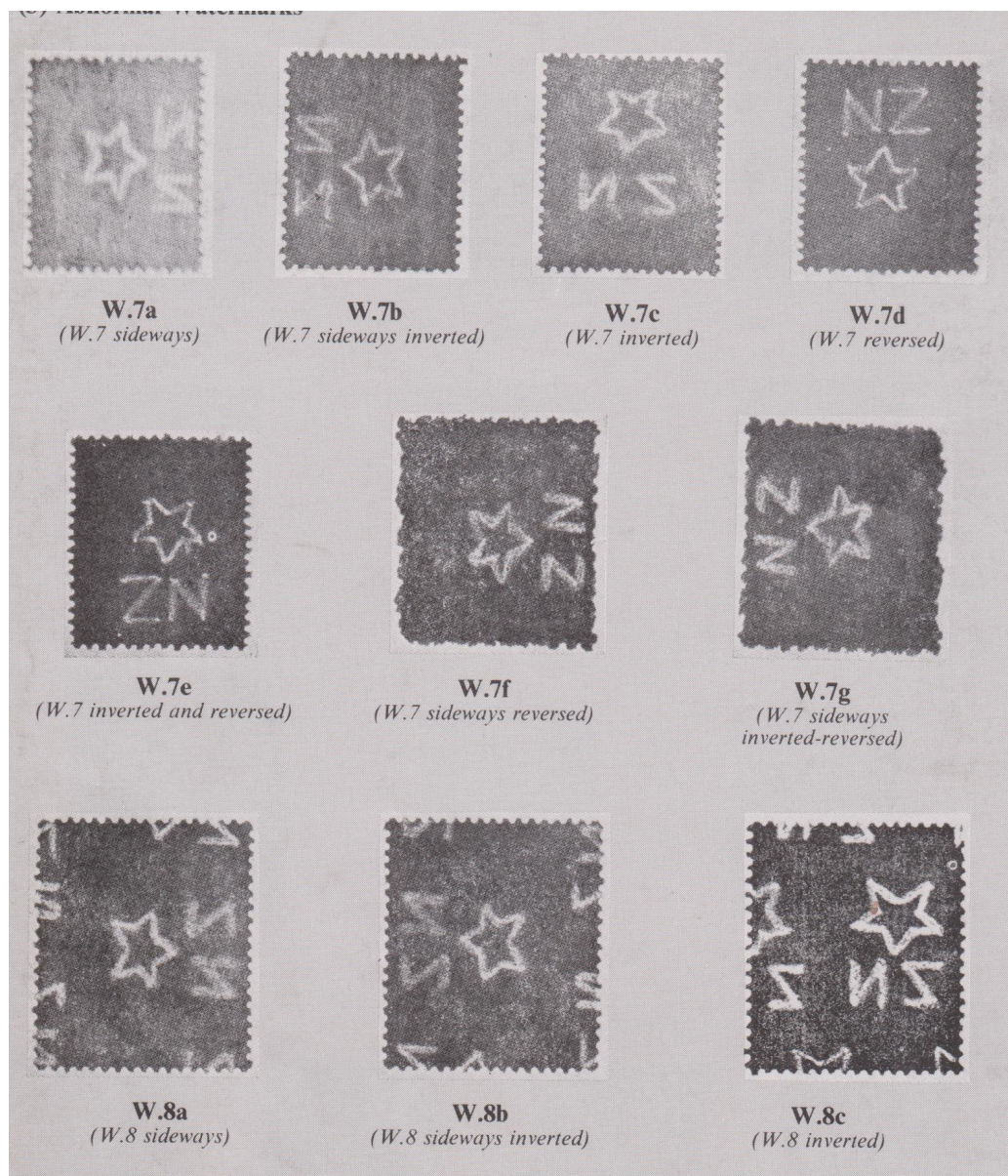
I would never claim to be an expert or guru however the watermarks of New Zealand are actually not too bad - I have more problem with some Australian ones or the almost impossible to find US ones - oh and don't start me on identifying grilles.

The best work on this is Campbell Paterson's extraordinary catalogue of New Zealand stamps for which updates are done each year.

The most important thing one should remember when it comes to NZ watermarks is that they are based on what they would look like from the front of the stamp viz. your example shown is actually "reversed" as when looked at from the back it would be a mirror image of that you have shown. Sideways watermarks are very common and most come from the "angle" of the paper when being printed.

Things can get a little trickier when "mesh" is involved, for the purist this is a variety which can be a right royal pain as this can lead to the others such as sideways inverted, sideways reversed etc. Inverted are usually also easy to pick up - the most common examples are from the George VI series and the "Arms-type" fiscals. The varieties of type depending on the paper used are where I can struggle - between Cowan or De La Rue or Wiggins Teape as the effects the shape of the watermark, a little like the Australian "A on Crown" series. Most obvious examples for NZ stamps are the George V Surface-printed stamps.

Thanks Mark, I found this very useful and I hope other readers will.





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FRANK DAVIES MANLEY STAMP ENGRAVER BY ADRIAN KEPPEL

Your editor has never had the pleasure to meet Adrian Keppel but over the years we have had some nice email exchanges, and I have enjoyed reading his writings. He has written for various philatelic magazines and regularly writes an excellent blog. This piece he originally had published in [Stamp and Coin Mart](#) in March 2013 and I reproduce it with his kind permission. You can read him at [My stamp engravers blog](#) I highly recommend having a look and perhaps if you have customers who are interested in stamp engravers you pass on the link.

Frank Davies Manley (1894-1976) is rightly regarded as one of Australia's eminent stamp engravers, and designers, but he was actually from England.



He was born in London in 1894. It was his schoolmaster who noticed his evident talent to reproduce the essence of any image with just a few lines. He encouraged the lad and played a major role in having Frank Manley accepted by De La Rue and Company at the tender age of fifteen, to start a seven year apprenticeship as an engraver. During these years, Manley would receive additional education at London's Central School of Art & Crafts and the Bolt Court School of Engraving & Lithography. His education was cut short because of World War One, and Manley never finished it after the war had ended.

Manley worked in the publishing industry for about a decade and then got the opportunity of his lifetime when he was asked to start engraving for the Commonwealth Bank Note Printing Branch in Melbourne, Australia. He started work there in 1928 and the next year his first engraved stamp was issued: a single value marking the Centenary of Western Australia.

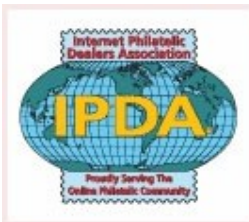


Manley's employers were soon convinced of his excellent engraving talents and asked him to try his hand at designing stamps as well. Manley proved just as talented in this field, and soon, in 1931, his first designed and engraved stamp was issued: a set marking the Kingsford Smith's Flights. This set did prove rather troublesome when a first die of the 6d value had the words Air Mail / Service running along the side panels in the same way the lower values had included the word Postage. That made the words Air and Mail seem like one word, which was objected to, so a new die had to be prepared which saw the letters placed differently along the sides. This stamp, by the way, was the first to honour a living Australian, even though he wasn't portrayed on the actual stamp

From then on, the name F. D. Manley would dominate the stamp catalogues of Australia and its territories, with the man being responsible for almost every stamp designed and engraved in the 1930s and 1940s. Even in the 1950s, right up to his retirement in 1960, his would remain a household name, though more and more he would have to share the limelight with other fine engravers.



As a result, Manley was responsible for many iconic Australian stamps, such as the 1948 Hereford Bull stamp. This stamp was the direct result of an anonymous design competition held in 1946 by the Postmaster General. Over 200 designs were submitted, of which a small total of eight were eventually deemed worthy of any further consideration. Of these final eight, only two made it into an actual stamp, and Manley's Hereford Bull was one of those.



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FRANK DAVIES MANLEY STAMP ENGRAVER CONT'D

Besides Manley's many stamp designs and engravings that we can enjoy, there is obviously a wealth of material which never made it into the stamp catalogues.

In 2007, when an exhibition was held to honour Australia's stamp engravers, Manley's work took pride of place and it turned out that his well-known Queen Elizabeth definitive of 1950 was actually based upon a previous design for the aborted Royal Visit of 1949.

King George VI was too ill to travel at that time, but dies for the stamp issue had already been made. Rather than waste these, Manley simply exchanged the portrait of Princess Margaret with that of Queen Elizabeth and thus created yet another iconic Australian stamp



Despite being so busy at the Note Printing Branch, Manley would hold a teaching post at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology for some five years. There, he taught etching, engraving and die sinking. After his retirement at the Note Printing Branch, Manley was asked to join the Stamp Advisory Committee, which he accepted and he served on the committee for five years.

You can find a full listing all F D Manley's Australian engraved stamps from 1936 through to 1962 at Adrian's blog [here](#) Love your work Adrian. Well done and thanks for permission to re-publish.

ITS NOT MUCH BUT.....



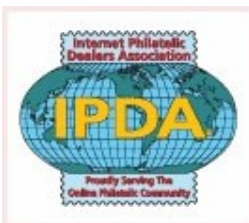
The IPDA entered a competition - the Christoph Gärtner International Philatelic Promotion - some time back and we received a reasonable marking for the Newsletter's entry in the Literature Class.

It was more a publicity effort rather than any expectation we might win a medal I might add.

Anyway, a few weeks ago I received this certificate in the mail.

Ok not much, but hopefully it gave us some exposure at the exhibition.

And, to show you I really did enter.



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NEW ISSUES

Some interesting new issues are being rumoured to be ready for issue in the coming days.

This lovely set from Kyrgyz Express Post is being issued as the second in a series of stamps to celebrate the "Fauna of Kyrgyzstan".

The issue, consisting of four stamps, depicts Kyrgyz animals: the Saker Falcon, the Yak, the Central Asian Ibex and the Snow Leopard. If anyone knows where Kyrgyzstan is, your geography is better than mine!



Meanwhile in the UK, Royal Mail is rumoured to be issuing a special tribute stamp to celebrate 175 years since the first Penny Black was issued. The Royal Mail website says "information coming soon" about this issue, planned for on 1st April, a date that would trump other postal administrations planning for a 6th May issue, surely. Supposedly respected philatelic journalists in the UK report the stamp will be issued in printings by Cartor, Walsall, Enschede, and Harrisons. along with INCM, the Portuguese Mint and Official Printing Office, plus, there is speculation there will be a Post and Go issue although since the Wincor-Nixdorf Post and Go machines have been withdrawn from all office across the UK there is doubt about this printing as I write. In case you are wondering why INCM, well they are reportedly included at the direction of the EU mandarins in Brussels to ensure EEC countries get a fair share in the profit taking. A Mr Cameron did object for 30 seconds but was not heard I am told. And, apparently, overheard in a pub, the Cock and Thistle, on Lothian Mews in the well known bar district of Edinburgh, a gentleman proclaiming to be an employee of the Royal Mail was celebrating an advance bonus pay due to the expected demand for the issue and the huge profit taking Royal Mail is expecting because the printing cost works out at around £0.0000023 per stamp with a sales price of £1.00, with sales volumes forecast to exceed the original 1d Black printing. And we all know what that was don't we! One very well connected reveller in the Cock and Thistle was also showing off what is a very poor quality leaked image of the stamp. My calculator cannot calculate the profit margin because there are not enough digits on the screen. GB new issue collectors will no doubt be queuing at their local post offices next Wednesday with their dole money, government handouts and various other social security benefits.



And, sources from Australia, no not my mate Larry, he was keeping very tight lipped on this one, say Australia Post are rumoured to be releasing a new printing of the very famous and stunning Western Australia swan stamps of 1854, SG1 and SG 2, using a restored Perkins Bacon machine and the original plate on unwatermarked paper. Typical Australia Post, why can't they have a sensible stamp issuing policy like the Royal Mail, no! they have to issue two stamps, the 1d Black swan would surely have been good enough. Anyway, animal rights activities, aboriginal elders and supposedly some members of the Blue Man troupe are protesting about this reissue on various ground of cruelty, to the swans over the years I assume, discrimination, why pick on Western Australia, and copyright breaches, the Blue Man group seem to think they have a copyright on the colour blue it seems. I guess we will have to wait to see if Australia Post can get this issue out. Be sad if they don't as speculation has it that local postage rates will have to increase to cover the costs already incurred for this issue. Larry did sort of whisper to me that he has not heard that 23 million copies have already been printed, (one for every man woman and child in Australia perhaps - have to love Mr Abbotts' influence on Mr Fahour) in addition to which he has not heard that 2.3 million presentation booklets are also rumoured to have been printed and shipped to the 4400 Australia Post post offices across the country.. Stamp collecting new issues is a real trend in Australia these days apparently.





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TRIVIA - DID YOU MISS THIS?

According to a Fengshui Master in HK

:
This February won't come in our lifetime again. Because this February had 4 Sundays, 4 Mondays, 4 Tuesdays, 4 Wednesdays, 4 Thursdays, 4 Fridays and 4 Saturdays. This only happens once every 823 years. This is called money bags. . Based on Chinese Feng Shui. What were your sales like in February?

You remember I wrote this piece last month? I had some replies to it. How nice to receive email from members



Here is what you said:

The "Money Bags Fengshui" special never again in your lifetime calendar is, I'm sorry to say a load of internet email rubbish. That exact same ""special days" will actually occur again in just 2026! Easy to confirm just google the calendar for 2026 and have a look. We only have 11 calendars in our repeating cycle. They repeat in a mixed but regular pattern based on leap years and the exact same month/days and dates occur quite regularly.

At least you didn't pass on the ""its bad luck not to forward this to all your friends"! Well done to Greg for spotting this.

And this from our Director Roy in the wonderful UK.

Hi Michael

I was a little puzzled by your Feng Shui trivia note about February having 4 each of all the days of the week. Now I'm only a humble stamp dealer but surely every February has 4 of each day except when its a leap year, in other words 3 out of every 4 years will give February 28 days or 4 of each day. The next time that will happen will be 2017, next year being a leap year. If the Feng Shui was suggesting the significance was that Sunday fell on the first of the month, well that will happen again in 2026. The only scarcity I can associate is when February has 28 Sundays and when that happens , I'll take everybody out for a hamburger.

Great to know some of you are on the ball, so to speak



This months Trivia: Is there any significance about the way a stamp is placed on an envelope? This is just one view:

Stamp crosswise in the left corner - My heart is another's
Stamp straight up and down in the left corner - Goodbye sweetheart
Stamp upside down in the right corner - Write no more!
Stamp in the middle at the top - Yes!
Stamp in the middle at the bottom - No!

Any readers have any other thoughts on this? I wonder what the Yes and No relate to hahahaha

CLOSING REMARKS

What more can I say? Easter just around the corner. Lots of Easter eggs coming your way perhaps? Or more new issues to celebrate Easter.

Two stamps to close, from the sublime to the ridiculous, acknowledging that beauty is in the eye of the beholder of course. The sublime from Poland. A lovely stamp. The ridiculous from Finland - issued to celebrate Easter I kid you not - promotional material reads, "a great tit signing its heart out" makes me wonder, what are David and Tony doing for Easter?

As always, I do welcome ideas for articles, or write ups from any of the exhibitions or philatelic events you attend, or even just an email saying hello!

Best wishes.. Michael michaelatipda@gmail.com

