



Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©

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Page 1
July 2015
Volume 13 Issue 7

NEWSLETTER JULY 2015

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

EDITORS COLUMN	1
UP FOR DISCUSSION	2
NATIONAL TROPICAL STAMP SHOW	3
FEATURED MEMBER—IAN BOLTON ACE AUCTIONS	4
INTERASIA AUCTIONS	6
UPA (AUCTIONS)	7
STAMPT THEFT	8
CLOSING REMARKS	8

EDITORS COLUMN

Welcome to the July edition of the IPDA Newsletter. It really does seem only a few days ago I was writing the June edition. Is time flying by as fast for you as it is for me?

I hope there is something of interest in this issue. A theme here will be auctions as there a few coming up I wanted to tell you about, just for interest and the philatelic scene even if you are not going to be bidding.

Last month I wrote about the Stanley Gibbons Marketplace. I had no one respond to that. That surprised me. Does that mean no one had any experiences? I have certainly seen better sales and by that I mean higher valued items selling compared to my usual bidStart sales. I would really appreciate readers thoughts. As I mentioned, I have struck up a dialogue with SG people and this is something Leila Gillespie, Head of Seller Account Management wrote to me for this Newsletter

"Earlier in June Michael wrote about his initial success selling stamps through the [Stanley Gibbons Marketplace](#). This prompted us to strike up a conversation and to get his feedback on how he felt we could improve our Marketplace. He has also been kind enough to ask us to contribute to his newsletter which we are delighted to do.

I am resisting the urge to be too 'salesy' so I will try to stick to the facts. I apologise in advance if I step over the line!

Our aim is to make the Stanley Gibbons Marketplace the place where knowledgeable collectors can connect with one another, share their passion and grow their hobby. As a company who has been involved with the hobby for over 175 years, creating catalogues for 150 years and producing our stamp collecting magazine for 125 years we think we should be able to create a great destination for buyers and sellers alike.

The Marketplace as it stands is just the start, but there are plenty of great features for buyers and seller. For example, we have used Stanley Gibbons Catalogue data to make searching faster and easier, and we also offer a buyer guarantee to protect customers in those few situations where a customer receives the wrong item, it is damaged, not received or not as described.

We hope you take a visit to our site. If it inspires you to open a store then you can [sign up](#) here."

With a but of luck I will also meet up with Leila but definitely others from SG in Singapore in August.

Finally, being somewhat loyal (I do hold a Canadian passport after all) a new issue from Canada Post. A large, 9 by 14 centimetre stamp of the Maple Leaf flag to mark its 50th anniversary earlier this year. Made from rayon, the stamp features a three-dimensional image of the Canadian flag Thanks Larry for sending the details.

So that is a page written. I hope you have a great month. I hope you have time to write to me, especially about SG Marketplace or anything that could be useful to share with other members.

Best wishes.. Michael michaelatipda@gmail.com



Stamp of the Month



See also page 2 - I am really looking forward to seeing this and the others in the issue.

I will be trying to buy from Royal Mail website. Nothing there yet.

If any member wants to send me some copies on mail just let me know.

Can I reciprocate with something from Hong Kong?

STANLEY GIBBONS
THE COLLECTIBLES MARKETPLACE

Premium Collectibles.

Collect. Sell. Connect.

SHOP NOW





Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©

Established 23rd February 2002



Page 2
July 2015
Volume 13 Issue 7

NEWSLETTER JULY 2015

UP FOR DISCUSSION

As I said last month and have to repeat again this month there is not a lot from the offices of the IPDA to report. Sorry about that. We had the June Board meeting and all administrative matters were dealt with. We all agree we need to do more to support members and promote the IPDA –the web site still details the benefits of the IPDA as an Association but of course the real value comes from each of us promoting the IPDA in our respective philatelic circles.

Hopefully I will be able to do some more of that in Singapore in August. In the meantime I am striking up a useful dialogue with Stanley Gibbons Marketplace people and am hoping we can get some publicity from their circle. They have all the usual guarantees one has come to expect from them but if we can somehow get the buying community to also recognize that many of the sellers are IPDA Members perhaps that will promote us and you more. If you have ideas for this please write to me.

This past month we also welcome a new member. Welcome to Greg Beveridge who sells as “Open All Hours Stamps” on eBay where he has done since September 2009 and with a 100% buyer feedback. Some nice Australian material I note. Welcome Greg. Do write to me and perhaps tell me more about yourself. Maybe you and Ian are colleagues given you are in Western Australia as well?

Any Machin collectors amongst us I wonder.? I think I might get a reply that we don't collect anymore. Maybe some do. I still have a few collecting interests as you know by now. Anyway, recently Ian Billings from Norvic Philatelics – another great guy I met some years ago at a London show – has loaded a new version of his own Machin catalogue. Quite frankly a brilliant body of work. You can read more about Ian [here](#) and make contact with him for permission to download the catalogue .

Version 1.2.1 has all new stamps found so far (plus the Machins which were in the Great War Centenary prestige stamp book issued on 14 May.

A major addition to the catalogue, starting on page 22, is a conversion table in Stanley Gibbons Concise Catalogue number order. This is something which should have been in the first edition because that Catalogue is what most collectors have used - and continue to use - for their GB Collections. This will make it easier to find stamps in our lists if you are stating from SGs !

Aerophilately. The 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain will see Royal Mail issue a commemorative set and Miniature Sheet on July 16th.

So far your editor has found no way to pre-order or find any special commemorative covers.

Anyone have any more up to date information or sources? Royal Mail web site, as I write this, has no issuing details. The stamps look to be very interesting designs.





Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©

Established 23rd February 2002



Page 3
July 2015
Volume 13 Issue 7

NEWSLETTER JULY 2015

NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP SHOW

June 24, 2015

A Joint Announcement from WSS-NY 2016 and the ATA
For Immediate Release

WSS-NY 2016 Named NTSS Presenting Show Sponsor

In a move to expand the promotion of the next once-a-decade philatelic international exhibition to a wider and very active stamp community, World Stamp Show-NY 2016 has been selected as the "Presenting Sponsor" of the American Topical Association's 66th annual National Topical Stamp Show taking place July 21-August 2 in Portland, Oregon.

As WSS-NY 2016 President Wade Saadi explained, "The ATA is America's second largest stamp organization and the world's largest group devoted to topical philately. They were an early supporter of our event, and we thought it fitting to reciprocate when this unique branding opportunity was offered to us."

ATA President Jack Andre Denys looks forward to WSS-NY 2015. "The ATA is looking forward to NY 2016 and greeting topical collectors from around the world. Personally, I remember my awe as a teenager attending FIPEX in New York in 1956. And I'm eagerly awaiting another International in that great city."

NTSS will be providing a number of perks for the sponsorship. Besides a prominent ad in the show's program, WSS-NY 2016 will be mentioned and its logo seen in show promotions of all sorts, including banners, signage, brochures and at the special booth reserved for show-goer to learn more about the international event. NTSS details can be found online [here](#)

World Stamp Show-NY 2016 takes place May 28-June 4 at the Javits Center in New York City. The 8 days will feature 200 dealers and philatelic bureaus from across the globe, meetings and seminars from over 75 specialty societies, auctions, first day ceremonies, youth and beginner activities, and much, much more. Find out more [here](#)

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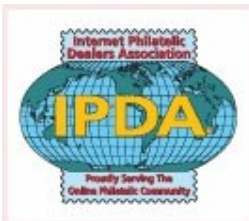
AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION



American Topical Association
Thematic Stamp Collecting Since 1949

The American Topical Association (ATA) was founded in 1949 and is now the largest philatelic society devoted specifically to topical stamp collecting. Serving almost 3,000 members worldwide, we pride ourselves in being the best source of information, fellowship and authority in this field.





Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©

Established 23rd February 2002



Page 4
July 2015
Volume 13 Issue 7

NEWSLETTER JULY 2015

FEATURED MEMBER — IAN BOLTON — ACE STAMP AUCTIONS

Editors note: This is about our member Ian Bolton, who I had the pleasure of meeting in Melbourne a few years back and who I am looking forward to meeting again in Singapore in August. He runs a great auction – I can testify as a very satisfied buyer. I will certainly be following the next auction as Ian has some very interesting aviation covers as you will see below.

[Ace Stamp Auctions](#) will be conducting its first Airmail only auction on Saturday 29th August.

Sale number 18 will include over 500 Australian & World Airmail covers including 3 Ross Smith covers including one signed by Keith Smith along with a mint vignette. There is also a cover from the famous “Coffee Royal” flight by Charles Kingsford Smith along with numerous other flights by him and Ulm with the majority signed and some totaling less than 20.

Airmails carried by Bertram, Wizard, Cobham, Watson and Chichester are also present with some useful duplication. While Australia is well represented, there are also sections on Indian Airmails, Zeppelins, Concorde, crash mail, Rocket Post and Pidgeon Post.

The bulk of the material comes from a collection that has remained untouched for nearly 40 years hence many “new” discoveries. There are also some amazing photos, clippings and correspondence included.

We will have the better items on display on our stand at the Singapore International show which I know Michael is attending so look forward to showing him these along with any other members attending that may be interested.

In what appears to be a first, we are holding the auction literally under the wings and the bomb bays of an Avro Lancaster at the West Australian RAAF Museum in Bullcreek. They are making the day entertaining for all auction attendees with a run of a Merlin Spitfire engine and a raffle for a 2 hour personal guided tour inside the Lancaster. So if in Perth, put it in the diary for an “ASviation” themed day.

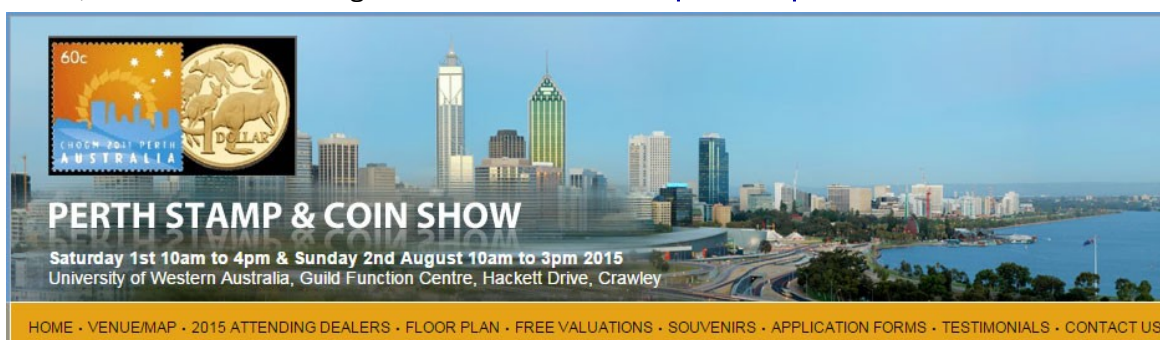
Please email Ian Boulton at ian@acestampauctions.com if you would like a complimentary catalogue which will be out in late July.

The Perth Stamp & Coin Show is in its fourth year now with 27 International, national and local dealers in attendance as well as 30 tables upstairs with local coin and stamp collectors selling their “spares” and unwanted material.

With the attendance increasing each year this is becoming the premier annual Perth show. All dealers who attended last year re-signed for this year’s event with Richard Johnson of South Africa, the latest addition. In addition \$1000+ of prizes are given away over the weekend with both Australia Post and the Perth Mint being very generous. Entry is free and there are free valuations for coins, stamps, banknotes and postcards all weekend and casual drinks on Saturday evening for trade to which any attending IPDA members are more than welcome.

Pat Palmer, also an IPDA member has a large stand at the entrance.

There is a waiting list now of dealers for 2016 but to join this, just email Ian at ian@acestampauctions.com Further details as to the show, its attendees and background can be seen at www.perthstampandcoinshow.com





Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©
Established 23rd February 2002



Page 5
July 2015
Volume 13 Issue 7

NEWSLETTER JULY 2015

FEATURED MEMBER — IAN BOLTON ACE STAMP AUCTIONS

AUSTRALIAN & WORLD AIRMAIL AUCTION

ACE STAMP AUCTIONS SALE No. 18

SATURDAY 29th AUGUST 2015



This auction will feature primarily Australian flights including 1919 Ross Smith covers plus a mint vignette, numerous flights by Basil Watson, "Wizard" Stone, Harry Butler plus vignettes, Charles Kingsford Smith, Charles Ulm, Hans Bertram, Alan Cobham and Francis Chichester with some cover quantities of less than 20. Many items are pilot signed including the later Concorde flights. There are also sections for Rocket Mail, Pigeon Post, Balloon Mail & Crash Mail plus various photos, Airmail stamp essays & proofs plus related ephemera including an authenticated piece of "Southern Cross" fabric. Several vendors have contributed to this auction to make it a well rounded, all encompassing range of lots including the largest vendor whose material has not been on the market for 40 years.

Catalogues will be sent by request only, contact: Ace Stamp Auctions, ianboulton@cestampauctions.com



Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©

Established 23rd February 2002



Page 6

July 2015

Volume 13 Issue 7

NEWSLETTER JULY 2015

INTERASIA AUCTIONS HONG KONG

This is one auction well worth a visit. I certainly plan to go along. I have been once before and I must say it is an extremely well run auction. Lots of exciting bidding, postal, room bidders, internet and phone bidding all happening. Some of you may recall a previous article I wrote on this when I last attended and met the Director, Jeffrey Schneider.

I have tried to get a good image of one Catalogue - it really is a joy to read. This is one of two beautifully put together books actually. Very high quality printing on glossy paper. With excellent colour and descriptions about the lots.

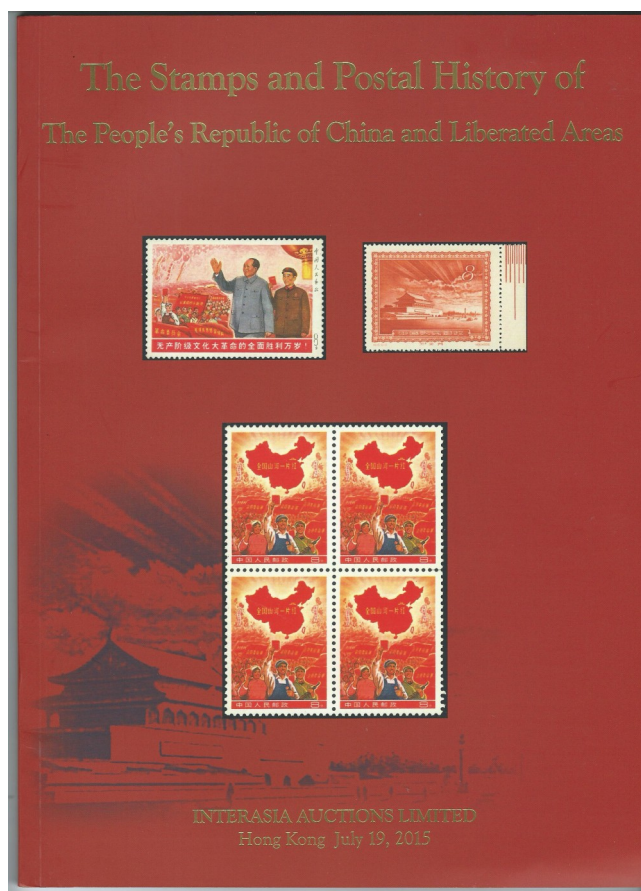
The block of four shown opposite is considered rare, and known as "Whole Country is Red" It shows Workers, Peasants, Soldier's and map of China multicoloured. It is unmounted mint and described as "with pristine white original gum, immaculately fresh with vivid colours on bright white paper, block folded along horizontal row of perforations with a few separated perfs at right. An exquisite and very rare block of this iconic stamp....."

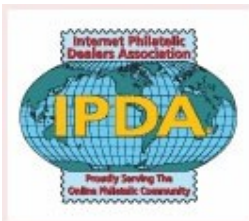
The reason it is rare. Within the first half day of its issue in 1968 in Beijing, the editor of the China Atlas Press discovered that there were geographical inaccuracies in the map (the Archipelagos of Xisha and Nanshi were omitted) The stamp was withdrawn almost immediately however some post offices had already sold the stamps before the official date of issue. It has also been surmised that another reason that the stamp was withdrawn was that notwithstanding its name, Taiwan is coloured white, rather than red (see single stamp below). The stamp block comes with an Expertisation certificate and is expected to fetch between HK\$3 Million and 4 million. I may just pass on this one.

If that is too much for you as well (\$4M HK is about US \$500,000) then how about a used copy with partial cds cancel at somewhere over HK\$ 250,000 (about US \$30,000).

The second catalogue is about an inch thick and is also stunning. Far too much content for me to even begin describing. The instruction page describes the auction which will be held over three days, Saturday 18th to Monday 20th July. I'll be going on the Sunday to watch the auctioning of that block of 4. Will report back and perhaps be able to give a view of how hot the philatelic scene here is for China material.

Pity I cannot go to the Monday session because there is some nice aerophilatelic material including interesting Crash Covers (Ken you might enjoy seeing some of the material). Of note, one from an Air India Boeing 707 "Kanchenjunga" which crashed into Mont Blanc in the Alps on its descent into Geneva in 1966 with the loss of all on board. Among the deceased was Dr Horni Bhabha, the father of India's nuclear program. Another of historical interest perhaps is a 1929 cover from a Paris to Saigon flight. Three airmen, Lasalle, Reybard and Faltot were attempting a flight in a Nieuport monoplane. After successful landings in Marseille, Algiers and Tunis the plane crashed on December 14th 1929 near Syret Tripolitania on the leg from Tunis to Benghazi with the loss of all lives. One more, from a 1954 Philippine Airlines crash. A Douglas DC6 enroute between Manila and London flying the leg from Beirut to Rome which sadly crashed while attempting to land in heavy turbulence killing all 16 on board.





Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©

Established 23rd February 2002



Page 7
July 2015
Volume 13 Issue 7

NEWSLETTER JULY 2015

UPA UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS—58TH POSTAL BID SALE

And my final auction, having travelled from Australia, up to Hong Kong and now on to the UK, (in fact my flying schedule for September and first week of October) is from another IPDA member Andrew McGavin. One day when I get some spare time in the UK, a dream maybe, I would like to visit and meet him, as from his writing and our email exchanges I just know he will be a great person to chat with. In the mean time let me introduce you to him through the Editorial he writes in his latest auction Catalogue; an interesting insight to the auction scene. Please, just don't bid on some of the stock there I am looking at :-)

Dear Colleague, When my wife and I started the UPA part of our long established business 15 years ago, little did we know, how thanks to Y O U 'Universal' would grow to become such a MASSIVE Philatelic Auction.

This is our largest most valuable auction yet with an amazing 24,509 different lots. Our 'No Buyer's Premium' is written in stone, whilst others introduce such premiums and then decide that after all perhaps it was not such a good idea ... and others losing market share take the other tack ... and increase their premiums in the face of lower sales volume? Is that a way to encourage more lots for sale?

Buyers Hate Buyer's Premiums and calculate them into their bids. Sure, they may forget to do so 1st time bidding – but when their invoice received is up to 30% more than expected – it's not a mistake that they will be repeating ...

I read an interesting 'defence' of the Buyer's Premium recently but it is hard to defend the indefensible and the basic fact that spending £1,000 at UPA – your invoice is £1,000 (+ a few £'s postage and free insurance) ... whereas at other auctions including extras such as credit card charges you could pay as much as £1,250 to £1,300 !!

Furthermore how safe are you bidding with these auctions? There are few out there offering you a No Quibble Guarantee even if you make a mistake! When I sat down with my calculator all those years ago – determined that UPA would resolve the stamp industry problem of unsold lots ... I thought that if my ideas worked – it would only be a matter of time before the competition caught up – I could never in my wildest dreams have thought that 15 years later, with approaching a total 1,000,000 lots offered – that none of our competition would have copied our system – a system that turns the negative of an unsold lot to the advantage of the collector or dealer by reducing estimate till market / sale price is reached ... of course, part of the explanation for this is that nobody else is 'mad' enough to create 24,509 lot postal auctions, with guarantees, reducing estimate systems PLUS No Buyer's Premium ... and I can partly see why as I type this at 11p.m on a Sunday evening!

So what happened in UPA #57? - Y O U created our highest grossing auction yet thank you.

An agonisingly 4 bidders / colleagues short of 2,000 participated in our auction. That's right – just 4 bidders more and we would have breached our UPA UK record of more than 2,000 different bidders/ colleagues in a stamp auction for the second time. A tremendous result only matched by that of our trusted describers – with a combined philatelic experience of 303 years between us. That is an incredible amount of philatelic experience / knowledge – yet still we learn – each philatelic day brings new horizons.

And what of the market? Study the UPA US (Unsold) lots on the end of the descriptions – you don't even need to check the 'Prices Realised' (although I would recommend it) – of course some auctions don't even produce prices realised lists in the first place – but this is the way to see where the market is headed.



Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©

Established 23rd February 2002



Page 8
July 2015
Volume 13 Issue 7

NEWSLETTER JULY 2015

UPA UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS—58TH POSTAL BID SALE ...CONT'D

Take my word for it ... the market is increasingly pointed to KGVI period and earlier. If you define KGVI as pre 1950 ... this would be a good indicator for virtually all countries worldwide with honourable exceptions such as China ... where pre mid 1980's is good.

Perversely, as many of you know, the last 15 years post 2000 are still 'good'.

Many of you threw in the philatelic towel in 2000 – especially hating the multitude of new issues created for the event. New Issue sales must have dropped off a cliff. Combine that with virtually every Dealer that I know stopping stocking New Issues ... and there's now demand for shorter supply printings created post 2000 presumably from new collectors entering the hobby?

Supply is matching demand but there is good interest. I challenge anybody so minded – to pick some post 2000 set and try and buy 1,000 sets at sensible prices ... it would be interesting to see how many were acquired – especially if a good thematic British set were chosen guaranteeing demand from other collectors than 'country' alone.

And now we turn to UPA #58. Never, in all my 43 years full-time in Philately have I seen so much super desirable collector-sized material accumulated for sale in one place and in one market-tracking reducing estimate system.

I know how difficult it is to source some of this material which gives me especial pleasure in being able to commend it to you. There is nothing I can especially point out to you except perhaps the magnificent intact mint KGVI collection, a tiny part illustrated on the outside back cover. It's a cracker with realistic estimate (and reserve) PLUS you can view 1,451 images on-line. This is the only lot in this auction which may be physically viewed by prior appointment.

Just to advise you – due to space limitations, in order to keep this catalogue below the 1kg threshold (and save £10,000 in distribution cost) – you will find the images of covers/larger items on-line at the UPA website. There are literally 100's of them with the additional benefit of being in full colour 600 DPI enlargeable images, together with the 3,902 images in this catalogue – or ask us for free scans or photocopies!

The Team, my wife and I, hope you will enjoy participating in this auction as much as we have enjoyed creating it. Happy Hunting to a brighter philatelic future.

STAMP THEFT

A burglarly occurred near Johnstown, Pennsylvania (USA) Monday evening, June 22. Philatelic material stolen included:

- A three inch white binder of several hundred U.S. Liberty Bell cacheted covers from 1920-1975.
- A two inch black binder of Rattlesnake Island Local Post stamps and covers. Also included in this binder was a reference book by John Wells
- A Comic Book Super Heroes collection including stamps, covers and cancels (US and foreign) in a black binder
- A small movie monsters album with stamps, covers and postcards.

Many other items were stolen but these are thought to be the most unique.

If you are offered material that fits these descriptions please contact Chief Moss of the Adams Township Police at [814-487-4712](tel:814-487-4712) Ken Martin, Executive Director, American Philatelic Society

CLOSING REMARKS

Thanks to those who contributed. I hope you enjoyed the different auction perspectives and information that I have used to try to give, albeit, a simplistic perspective of the stamp scene in Australia, Hong Kong and the UK. All feedback, good or bad, always welcomed and of course material or ideas for articles for the next issue even more so.

Best wishes,... Michael michaelatipda@gmail.com