



Internet Philatelic Dealers Association Inc ©

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Volume 13 Issue 11

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2015

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EDITORS COLUMN

Welcome again to the Newsletter. I trust this finds everyone well. Sadly that was not to be for one of our members. I read on Facebook (FB) that Don Ion died a day ago as I write this. A loss to the his family for sure from the comments I read. And a loss to me as I really enjoyed the email exchanges we had and the ideas and materials he used to regularly send to me. RIP mate, God bless from all of us.

This issue has been difficult to assemble. I really do feel as we approach the end of the year, yes there is only the December issue left for 2015, that this Newsletter needs a refresh. New ideas, new points of view, new style. All ideas welcome but I think I know what response that will get.

There is little to report from the IPDA organisation perspective. We had a Board meeting during October. All matters dealt with efficiently, with our Vice Chairman running the agenda extremely competently (that was no surprise of course) - Hope our Chairman is better, he was poorly we heard. One matter of note: I was approved to spend a few dollars advertising / promoting the IPDA name and organisation on FB. I looked into what I thought I could do and it is very different from what I do for my own site. Have to look again. Anyone got any ideas?

Speaking of FB we have 93 members accepted to read the IPDA group. These are not all IPDA members I might add. So there is obviously some interest. What can we do to increase that interest and increase IPDA membership.

In this column last month, and the months before, I asked for thoughts on Stanley Gibbons Marketplace, I have not had one email. That really surprises me. Surely someone has a view? .

Anyway, does anyone have any idea why no one is commenting on this new venture from SG. It has been 5 months now since the Marketplace opened. I am expecting to met up with the SG team in Hong Kong later this month at the 31st Asian International Stamp Exhibition (more on that later) and will gladly talk to them on anything Members have to offer as a comment.

On the Back Page I have piece on another event in Hong Kong this coming month. The November Kelleher & Rogers auction of China, Hong Kong, Japan and Other Asian Stamps and Postal History. Will be interesting to see what the market is like, especially with all I read about it these days. I say that thinking of the material published by Stanley Gibbons in their September Issue of Investor. Have you read it I wonder? Always worth a quick look through I think, to keep up to date — albeit based on SG view I will admit — on various areas of the market. I have a few more comments on that on the Back Page.

And finally, this postal cancel will be used by Hong Kong Post in a few weeks. Thought I would show it and ask, does anyone still send Christmas cards? Send me one and make my day — Apt 39C, Tower 9, Caribbean Coast, Tung Chung, Lantau, NT, Hong Kong.

And finally, as I always say, and yes you must surely be bored hearing it , but please, all ideas for articles, all articles, all feedback, no matter whether good or bad, I prefer constructive bad please, are most welcome.

Have a great month. Please promote the IPDA whenever or wherever you can, It is for all our benefit. Best wishes, be safe, be well.

Michael michaelatipda@gmail.com



Stamp of the Month

Issued in 1984, November 9th to be exact. It was issued to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force. It will be the 91st anniversary in just over a week, so timely to show it I think.





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UP FOR DISCUSSION

The next issue is the December issue — of course it is — and I will be doing a piece on Christmas issues from around the world. Well I plan to at the moment. Any contributions? Please send me some images of the Christmas stamps you are seeing. I will do a “the good, the bad and the ugly” display perhaps. I always think the ugly ones win out so if you see some really ugly issues or some nice issues please send me a scan.

There is so much on various excellent sites and blogs on Machins but since I was in the UK a few weeks back and I managed to get a few stamps including some of the “Long To Reign Over Us” Machins I thought I would share the following with you. Usual references of course but just as a reminder, and with thanks to the authors who have all given permission to reprint their images and words.

[Machin Mania](#) of course, great blog, [Ian Norvic, brilliant material](#) as I expect you all know by now and, for this piece an image from Andrew Hill who writes 31p purple. You can read Andrew [here](#) You will enjoy his pages. Anyway this about his piece “the one they didn’t tell us about” The Long to Reign Over Us Machin from counter sheets with REI GN code. As opposed to booklet and others with REI GC, REI GS and REI GM codes. Here are 3 I was fortunate enough to get over the counter while in the UK.



This interesting piece, you can read the [full article here](#) — with thanks to Larry Bailey, one of our Directors in Australia — about Canada Post embracing e-commerce with modern pickup centres. Perhaps a different approach to Australia Post who I hear are planning on doubling the basic postage rate. Is that right?

Canada Post’s store of the future is a laboratory for the digital age.

The brightly lit store, which opened this month in an open-air mall in Richmond Hill, has self-serve kiosks for parcels and postage, a drive-through for package pickups – and even a change room for online shoppers to try on their e-commerce fashion purchase so they can return it if it doesn’t work. The test store, and two more to open next year in Edmonton and Vancouver, is designed to cater to young digital shoppers on whom Canada Post is betting heavily in an era of dwindling snail mail. “We’ve never done a post office like this before,” said John Reis, general manager of retail at Canada Post. “The entire place is focusing on e-commerce so we can solidify our position in e-commerce ... The e-commerce world is changing so fast.”

One last snippet. Brilliant work by UPA Auctions this month. I received a few lots I won and the stamps used on the letter were truly superb. Clean, nicely franked and collectable - hopefully by some of my customers. Well done UPA.



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THE DYSLEXIC FORGER BY BILL LEHR

Editor Note: many thanks again to Bill for sending us some of his very informative writings on early US philatelic material. This time on the high values of the 3rd Nesbitt Stamped envelopes. Thanks Bill.



The 3rd Nesbitt stamped envelope contract (1861-1863) included a 20¢ blue and red on amber, George Washington, Die 19, Scott U43/UPSS 99. The genuine Die 19 exhibits crisp, clean printing and embossing; color registration is fairly good; there is a small concavity on the top rear of Washington's head; both digits in the numerals of value are the same size; "C" of "CENTS" is small, somewhat circular and almost closed; "G" of "POSTAGE" has the impression of a crossbar without actually having a crossbar; branches have 7 leaves except the upper left branch which has 8 leaves; measures 28 X 25 ½ mm.

Leighton E. Wells lists the "CETNS" variety in his list of forgeries in the December 29, 1945 issue of *Stamps*. George B. Slawson mentions the "CETNS" variety of the Die 19 forgery in his July 16, 1949 column in *Stamps* and mentions a report by a Mr. Lewinson of a "CNETS" variety. Both misspellings suggest a dyslexic forger. Two varieties are reported and two varieties have been examined, but not the same two varieties leads to these listings of forgery varieties:



Die 19FGT1: Crude lettering; fat head; hint of a crossbar on the "G" of "POSTAGE"; color misregistration; elongated numerals. Examined printed in pale blue & red on horizontally laid white paper; measures 28 X 25 mm; known both unused and cancelled with a fancy carved cork cancel similar to the cancel seen on forgeries of other values in this series.



Die 19FGT2: "CENTS" misspelled "CETNS"; major color misregistration; wide, poorly done lettering; no hint of a crossbar on the "G" of "POSTAGE"; "2" of the left numeral "20" is high; observed with fake cancel; tip of the queue ends in a point; bust is poorly engraved and the top of the head is smoothly rounded; "C" of "CENTS" is tall, oval and very close to the "E"; branches have a varying number of leaves but none of the branches have the correct number of leaves; examined printed in robin's egg blue & red on buff, wove paper; measures 28 ½ X 25 mm. Known cancelled with a partial circular date stamp applied.



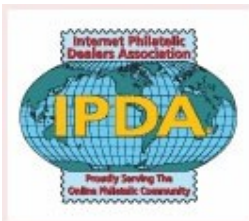
Die 20, the 24¢ bicolor envelope stamp was originally described as printed in green and red on straw or on salmon. Salmon paper was also listed as creamy buff. Today, we identify it as printed in green and red on amber, Scott U44/UPSS 100, and in dark green and lake on salmon buff, Scott U44a/UPSS 100a. Similar to Dies 17, 18, and 19 but with value and color changed; measures 28 X 25 ½ mm.



H.S. Dickinson, in his article on forgeries published in the May 1958 *S.P.A. Journal*, clearly mentions forgeries of Die 20 but no other report has been found in the literature and no forgeries have been observed on the market. Sloane mentions a "CNETS" style forgery of Die 20, also never seen. There should be forgeries of this die that are similar to the other higher values dies in this series.



The 40¢ bicolor Die 21 stamped envelope from the 3rd Nesbitt contract was the highest value envelope issued to that time. Similar to all of the other higher value issues from the series with the color and value changed. Printed in red and black on amber, Scott U45/UPSS 101, and is also known on salmon buff, UPSS 101a; measures 28 X 25 ½ mm.



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THE DYSLEXIC FORGER BY BILL LEHR ...CONT'D

A letter to the Editor of the *St. Louis Philatelist*, in June of 1877, reported this "CETNS" forgery as a "one of the most dangerous imitations." Sloane wrote in 1949 that Mr. Lewinson reported that the 40¢ was known with the "CNETS" misspelling. Fakes and forgeries of Die 21 are known cut square only.



Die 21FGT1: Forgery of Die 21 has the misspelling "CETNS" as well as a poorly executed bust and coarse lettering, similar to forgeries of Die 18 described above; crossbars of the "4"s (on 40c) are uniformly short on the forgery. Observed printed in pink & black on both white and buff wove paper and examined in red & black on buff wove paper; forgery measures 29 X 24 3/4 mm. Known with partial circular date stamp applied; not observed unused

Die 21FGT2: Reported as "CENTS" misspelled "CNETS". Reported, not observed.
NOTE: this may be a typo in the report or may be an unknown forgery variety.

Die 21FK: Fake misspelling of "CETNS" created by scraping away "FORTY CENTS" and drawing in a new inscription. Reported, not observed. This supposed fake has been donated to the APEX reference collection. Examination by the author shows that it is misidentified as a fake; it is actually a forgery. NOTE: This is the item shown above as the Die 21FGT1.

THE CASE OF A MISGUIDED STAMP INVESTMENT BY PAULINE CONELLY

Editor Note: This is an blog piece I came across recently and one I thought you might enjoy reading. Certainly one I am sure we can all relate to. I wrote to the author who very kindly gave her permission to reproduce it. You can find more interesting material from her [here](#) and especially about her books. Pauline is originally from Tasmania and now lives in the Blue Mountains, just outside Sydney Australia and in the UK some of the year. In 2013 she was accepted into the UK Society of Authors. Really interesting lady judging by her profile Thank you Pauline.

AN EARLY STAMP OF STUPIDITY

At the age of seven I decided to become a stamp collector. In a generous act of encouragement I was given a stamp album assembled over many years by an older cousin. I cut out the largest and most exotic of his stamps, trimmed off their ragged white edges, and pasted them into my own book.

This act of desecration left me burdened with guilt. In fact, stamps have continued to be a cause of worry to me ever since. The horror of a stamp investment folly in the early 1980s has never left me.

Investing in stamps was certainly not my idea. My husband Rob met some character claiming to have made a fortune buying sheets of new stamps and re-selling them a year or two later.

'He actually retired on stamps', Rob told me, as he scribbled down figures. 'I think we'll buy one hundred of every stamp issue, ten first day covers and ten souvenir packs.' He slipped an arm around me, and I began to feel uneasy:

'Now there's no post office near my office, so this will have to be your job. You can pop out in your lunch break. Besides, you were a stamp collector once weren't you?'

'Well, not really Rob...' But he wasn't listening, he was too busy working out our projected profits on his calculator. The lady at the Post Office soon realized what I was up to. She said that people like me were ruining the market for bonafide collectors and that I was wasting my time....it would take a hundred years for my stamps to rise above face value. I pretended not to take any notice, but I already had a nasty feeling she might be right.

By this time, Australia Post had realized they were onto a winner. There were new issues nearly every week, some in sets of half a dozen different denominations. My wages would vanish before I even got to the first day covers. I felt they were mocking me with their wretched packaging. FUN??? I don't think so!



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THE CASE OF A MISGUIDED STAMP INVESTMENT BY PAULINE CONELLY



Rob inspected everything with an eagle eye, and complained at the slightest tear or crease;

'Tell the lady at the post office that you need perfect sheets.' he would say.
'And ask her not to smudge the postmarks on the first day covers.'

Of course, if I did breathe a word of complaint the wretched woman would lose her temper completely and snap:

'This is not a designated philatelic sales centre'. Well why did they stock the bloody things then?

My worst moments were when Rob would shake his head and say:
'I'm sorry, these will all have to go back – the perforations have been damaged.'

It was a nightmare. Lunchtimes became the most stressful part of my day as I battled to fill Rob's orders. The stamp lady said it was selfish of me to come in the lunch hour because she had 'normal' customers to serve.

Storage of our investment became a problem in itself. Rob worried a lot about burglars and silverfish, but by far his biggest fear was mildew. Whenever I brought home a bottle of pills (an increasingly frequent occurrence), he stole the packet of silica gel for the stamp drawer – better a soft pill than a mouldy souvenir pack.

Sir Charles Kingsford Smith was my salvation. A first day cover was issued to mark the fiftieth anniversary of his air mail delivery from Australia to the United Kingdom. We sent off ten covers for hand stamping in London (well I did). This was to be Rob's most ambitious philatelic venture.

Unfortunately we were away when the envelopes came back, and they lay in our letter box throughout a wild storm. We found them in a sodden wad at the bottom of the box. All the hand stampings had run. Some of the envelopes disintegrated when Rob tried to separate them. He salvaged one that wasn't too bad.

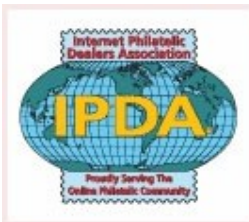


I wonder if this is worth anything? Rob was so upset that it tainted the whole stamp business for him. The next time I moaned about buying new issues he said: *'Don't worry about it anymore darling, I've decided we'll buy oil shares from now on.'*

My word it was a relief. As far as I know, the only set of our stamps that have increased in value are the caricatures of Aussie sporting personalities, issued in 1981. They are being advertised on eBay for the astonishing sum of \$3. Well that's nearly double in just thirty four years. I could flood the market with the amount we have.

NOTE: I fear that inflation has seriously eroded our philatelic asset. In 1980 an ordinary postage stamp cost 22 cents. It has since risen to 70 cents. Oh dear! If I try to use them, the envelopes will resemble the one shown. This letter was posted by Rob's father from Canada in the 1960's.





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THE HONG KONG PHILATELIC SCENE

Editors Note: I hope this isn't too boring for you. I am rather short of material this month and since I just read some of this material online myself I thought I would use it. It looks like it is going to be a busy month. I am certainly looking forward to the Keller Auction, and the 31st Asian International Stamp Exhibition later in the month. Read on for more about both. Oh yes, and if anyone is coming to Hong Kong for the exhibition please feel free to let me know and perhaps we can meet up if you would like that. I do know a few nice bars!!!!

"HONG KONG 2015 – 31st Asian International Stamp Exhibition" (HONG KONG 2015) will be held from 20 to 23 November 2015 at Hall 5G, the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. With "Shopping and Dining" as its theme, the four-day exhibition is hosted by the Hong Kong Philatelic Society under the patronage of the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately, with Hongkong Post as the sponsor.

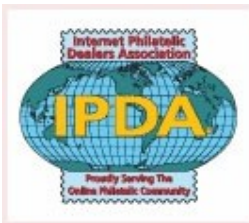
To commemorate this major international philatelic event, Hongkong Post has issued a series of three stamp sheetlets on the theme of "Shopping and Dining" to highlight the quintessential charm of Hong Kong as a shopping paradise and a culinary capital. Following the issue of Series No. 1 on 18 September 2014, Series No. 2 will be released on 20 November 2015, the opening day of HONG KONG 2015, while Series No. 3 will be released on 23 November 2015, the closing date of HONG KONG 2015.

In line with the design concept of Series No. 1, Series No. 2 similarly adopts a stamp mounting card as its central feature with the addition of perforations on four sides, giving the stamp sheetlet the appearance of an oversize stamp. Silhouettes of gourmet food and consumer goods are used to create the patterns of a domed food cover and a shopping cart respectively at the centre, echoing the "Shopping and Dining" theme of HONG KONG 2015.

Echoing the designs of the previous two releases, Series No. 3 again adopts a stamp mounting card as its central feature with the addition of perforations on four sides. At the centre of the sheetlet, silhouettes of consumer goods and gourmet food are pieced together in the style of Series Nos. 1 and 2 to create the patterns of a price tag and a chef's toque respectively. The three stamp sheetlets of the series form an organic whole featuring a similar design on the same theme.

To commemorate the event, Hongkong Post issues the "HONG KONG 2015 – 31st Asian International Stamp Exhibition" Stamp Booklet. (see below) The stamp booklet includes a complete series of the three stamp sheetlets printed in lithography to showcase the characteristic charm of Hong Kong as a shopping paradise and a culinary capital. A cohesive design concept is used in the Stamp Sheetlet Series Nos. 1 to 3. Using a stamp mounting card as the main feature with the addition of perforations on four sides, each stamp sheetlet looks like an oversized stamp in its unique design.





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GAIA COLLECTORS CLUB AT THE XXV PORTUGUESE NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

Editors Note: I am very pleased to present the following from our member [Jorge Oliveira](#) CEO & Co-founder of [Kollectbox](#) – Numismatic & Philatelic Marketplace. I think it is interesting to hear about philatelic events and activities in other parts of the world, and especially when it is an IPDA member making a contribution to philately like this. Many thanks and well done Jorge.

During the XXV Portuguese National Philatelic Exhibition, held September 2nd – 6th at the Almeida Garret high school in Vila Nova de Gaia city, I had the opportunity to get acquainted with some of the people involved with Gaia Collectors Club. The club was formed 7 years ago and now has 160 members, 70% are local members from Oporto with the others both national and international members. Despite the club's youth they organize interesting activities. I was able to talk with the club's president and founding member Fernando Peixoto Correia about the club's numerous activities. Philately is not the only field of expertise in the club, but we were at the XXV National Philatelic Exhibition so our conversation focused on philately.

I was extremely curious to see how the club brings philately into a high school. They had a win when two students from the Gaia Collectors Club won medals at the XXIV National Philatelic Exhibition, held in Viana do Castelo.

The president, Fernando Correia, praised Maria Laurinda Ferreira's work, the member of the club in charge with the philatelic classes. She says the way she teaches is simple but rigorous.

Students must choose a topic; they must develop thoroughly the topic; they must draw a plan of what they wish to speak and, at last they must make a presentation of their research. She believes this simple but rigorous method contributed to her students winning two awards at the XXIV National Philatelic Exhibition.

This program has no public funding and, therefore, the club is aided by its members and dealers that offer philatelic items so that the students can use them in classes. The Club also organizes a National Collectors Meeting once every year in May. The last event had 150 exhibitors and hundreds of visitors. The last Meeting edition was its 5th. Also, on every 5th Saturday of every month, at the Cedofeita Mall, the club organizes an exhibition about collecting where several exhibitors are invited.

I must congratulate Gaia Collectors Club for the enthusiasm and the excellent organization of the XXV National Philatelic Exhibition. It was an enormous challenge but they were up to it. Congratulations.



Above: School Philatelic Club –Below Club members



Above: exhibition frames ;

Left: Maria Laurinda Ferreira with her philately students.

All Photo courtesy of Gaia Collectors Club





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THE BACK PAGE

I mentioned that November will be a busy month here in Hong Kong. For those that are interested here are some details about the Kelleher & Rogers auction on 13-15 November with over 2000 lots of China, Hong Kong, Japan and Other Asian Stamps and Postal History. Chick [here](#) for more details. I will try to report in the December issue on the sales results with further commentary on how "hot" this region is.

Day one begins with a array of stamps and postal history from the Municipal Posts through the Imperial issues and continuing on through the Silver Yuan era. The Shanghai Large Dragons are a highlight, with a splendid array of Rarities, most notably two used examples of the elusive printing 37 variety, of which only 5 examples are believed to exist. Many condition rarities are featured as well throughout this fine section.

China proper includes well over 75 collection lots along with excellent sections of Large and Small Dragons, Red Revenues and Dowager issues etc. Taiwan follows, and includes many of the sought after sets in large multiples or sheets. Japan and Korea each are well represented, the Korea being from the legendary "Knight" collection, whose excellent offerings of China have previously been offered by the firm.

Catalog number 2 will be solely dedicated to the issues of The People's Republic of China, and will include over 1,100 lots. This catalog begins with nearly 200 lots of the PRC Liberated Areas, including many rarities and seldom offered items. The highlight of this exceptional section is a lovely mint example of the rare 8 fen Hunan-Jiangxi Chinese Soviet Red Post issue, Yang RP 14, one of only 6 known examples, two of which reside in the Chinese National Postage Stamp Museum. Nearly 1,000 lots of the popular unified issues of the PRC follow in every imaginable form including singles, multiples, and in the desirable imprint format.

If you want to bid, no problem, these auctions feature **live bidding during the auction**, via Stamp Auction Network. You will need to register in advance, if you have not already done so, in order to bid using this convenient method.

Stanley Gibbons Investor magazine is well worth a read, in my humble view. If only to see the breadth of their thinking and the perspective they have on the market. The September issue, which I received this past month has some insights to the China market.

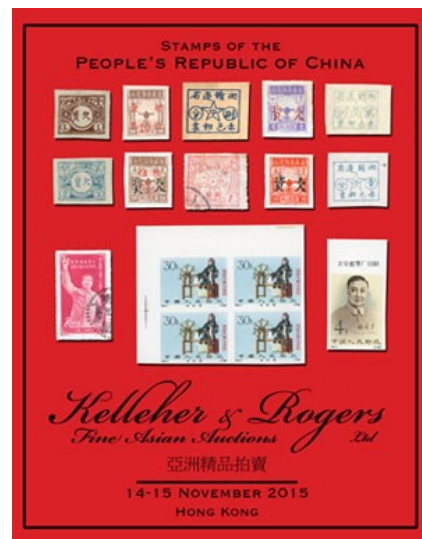
You will recall I commented how "hot" it was after I attend the InterAsia Auction a few months ago. SG view is that China is again "bucking the trend and doing rather well". Click the 150% size button and you will see the image very clearly. You might enjoy their magazine if you don't regularly see it. You should be able to read it from [here](#)

And this graph if you have not seen it.

I can only assume the source data is correctly represented. China is "hot". As I mentioned on the front page I will be attending the 31st Asian International Stamp Exhibition here in Hong Kong in November and will report back on that in the December issue.

CLOSING REMARKS

That's it from me. Have a great month. Write me. Give me ideas please. Tell me about your business and I will promote you if you would like that. Best wishes Michael michaelatipda@gmail.com



Performance of Stanley Gibbons GB250, GB30 Rarities Index and Rare Coin Index vs UK Stock Markets, London Property, UK Property and Gold

