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Editorial

This is Roger West here and with my colleague, James Minns, we have taken over as joint editors of the Newsletter. We must thank Michael Dodd for the superb job he has done over the past several years, particularly when you consider his main job has been General Secretary. Well done Michael.



This new role offers quite a challenge as Michael's past efforts will be a tough act to follow. However, we have a few new ideas and a slightly different layout which we hope you like. If you have any comments, complimentary or brutal, please let us know.

One of the big advantages we (the editors) have is that all our readers are on the Internet and communication is so much easier using this facility. With conventional magazines, it was an effort if you wanted to write to the editor, it required an envelope, and a stamp, and you had to remember to post it. Those things are part of the past now so if you have anything to say,

please email me at roger@avionstamps.com or James at jandrstamps@gmail.com.

One new feature is Letters to the Editors (for letters read emails) and I'm hoping this will

become an opportunity for members to air their views. We start this issue with a complimentary letter (well I think its complimentary) and maybe it will encourage more.

So we very much hope you enjoy this Newsletter and look forward to receiving your comments.

Roger West

IPDA member survey 2019

What do Members want from the IPDA ?

Survey Response Summary

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey. We collected 34 responses. This represents about a 25% response rate. This is quite good and as might be expected from a general member survey.

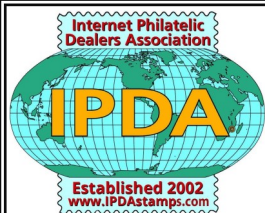
The numbers and the comments have been reviewed by the IPDA Directors and actions are being taken to address many of your comments.

Further information will be communicated over the coming months in the IPDA Newsletter and on the IPDA Website blog and Facebook page.

We will close off the survey now but that does not stop you providing feedback to any of the Directors, or perhaps you would like to volunteer to support IPDA activities in some way or other.

All the Directors and myself look forward to any follow up or feedback you may have.

Michael Dodd, IPDA General Secretary



Internet Philatelic Dealers Association NEWSLETTER – March 2019

IPDA information update

The IPDA Twitter feed Ok maybe you are not into Twitter but it is a social media channel we are now using to help promote the IPDA. You can search for us - ipdastamps - please follow us and yes we will use the channel to provide updates about the IPDA and promote the Association in the broader philatelic community. we are thinking through how you can use it as well. Perhaps you would like to post a feed about your business or a sale you are having as an IPDA Member? Just an idea and we welcome more as we try to promote the IPDA for the benefit of us all

We have members from 24 countries around the world – then look at the calendar. If the major city in your country is not listed then just click the **Time and Date** link and you can enter your own city and find the time of the meeting. Everything is set up for you to do it in a few mouse clicks. After the AGM the calendar will be updated with the meeting schedule for 2019.

IPDA Member Survey Just a final thank you to all who sent us a response. We have published the results to everyone. If you did not receive them please contact the General Secretary at ipdasecretary1@gmail.com



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The Annual General Meeting March 28th USA EST time This is booked for the 28th March USA Eastern Standard Time. An invite has been issued and you should have it. As for any AGM we need your participation either in person or by Proxy Vote. If we do not get a quorum we have to reschedule and that is inconvenient for everyone. The time difference for many members around the world may make it inconvenient to join us in the Members Chat Room (from the Members Only drop down menu after you log in) so we have a simple and quick online Proxy Form which we request you complete.. For this online Proxy please log in to the Members area then you will see the first menu choice says AGM Proxy.

The IPDA Calendar if you have ever wondered what is the schedule of IPDA meetings you can find out from the About Us menu on the IPDA website home page www.ipdaastamps.com The calendar is currently updated for the AGM. Want to know what the time is in your country?

An Introduction to the IPDA from the Member Survey this was suggested - a short power point presentation. Something that could be used at stamp club meetings for example, to help promote the IPDA name and the focus of the IPDA. It is now available for anyone to download and use. Just log into the Members area on the website and from the Download menu choice copy the presentation. Any questions just email the IPDA General Secretary who can also send you a copy.

IPDA logo on your eBay listings. This new promotional feature will be available to you soon. You should have seen a letter from the Membership Secretary about this. If not please write to him at ipdamembershipsec@gmail.com

Accurate auction descriptions

There's been a lot of discussion about describing your stamps accurately. How's this for a full accurate description? - its referring to the 1869 French 5f Empire stamp illustrated here.



5f lilac-grey faded, badly centred, torn, pulled
perf, creased, thinned, heavy smudgy cancel
with foxing and stains, otherwise fine.

Roger West

Introducing a little humour!

As we have now embarked on a new era with the Newsletter we thought it might be an idea to introduce a little humour into each issue. We are going to be including a series of Limericks which are all associated with a particular stamp (so as to remain on the philatelic theme).

James Minns

Firstly, for those of you unfamiliar with a Limerick, it is a type of humorous verse of five lines with an AABBA rhyme scheme: the poem's connection with the city in Ireland is obscure, but the name is generally taken to be a reference to Limerick city or County Limerick.

Let me start off by giving you an example....



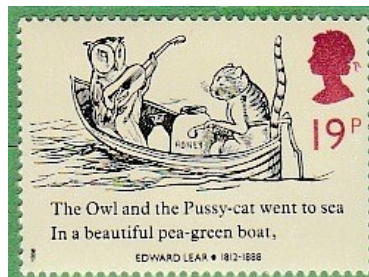
What is a limerick, Mother?

It's a form of verse, said brother

In which lines one and two

Rhyme with five when it's through

And three and four must
rhyme with each other



Edward Lear, the English artist, illustrator, author and poet, is today known mostly for his literary nonsense, especially his Limericks, which some say Lear

invented. Indeed, the earliest known use of the name 'Limerick' for this type poem is an 1880 reference in a newspaper, published eight years before Lear's death.

Modern Limericks are frequently bawdy or crude as suggested in this example from an unknown writer:



The limerick packs laughs anatomical

In space that is quite economical

But the good ones I've
seen

So seldom are clean

And the clean ones so
seldom are comical

But then Langford Reed came along and made the Limerick respectable



Langford Reed saved the limerick verse

From being taken away in a hearse

He made it so clean

Now it's fit for a queen

Re-established for better or worse

(by George Bernard Shaw)

Do you get the idea now? Well, at least one will appear in each issue and will also be used to fill up small spaces left on pages.

Roger West

GB covers corner

Leonardo da Vinci

500th Anniversary of his death

In this article I would like to show the Royal Mail (Great Britain) stamps and some covers that have been produced to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci. The subject of da Vinci is to me so interesting I have included some brief, but I hope interesting, details about the art of da Vinci that has been used on the stamp designs. Philately is more than just about the stamp image, it is to me educational in the context of the subject being presented.

The first four covers are produced by Buckingham Covers. The material used in this article is predominantly from the Royal Collection Trust website, the "Exhibition – Leonardo da Vinci: A Life in Drawing" at www.rct.uk

This first cover shows the 12 stamps issued by the Royal Mail.



The issue is also being used to recognise one of the largest collections of da Vinci's work which is owned by Her Majesty the Queen and which will be exhibited across the UK during 2019.

The art shown on the stamps forms part of the Royal Collection. Royal Mail have collaborated with the trustees of the Royal Collection Trust to choose the 12 stamps matching the 12 venues.

Buckingham Covers also have other covers presenting the da Vinci stamp issue. Two are very notable not just because each has a tenant strip of 6 stamps.



The two covers very cleverly use images from the famous painting The Virgin of the Rocks, sometimes called the Madonna of the Rocks.

The painting is in fact two paintings of the same subject, and of a composition which is identical except for several significant details. One is in the Louvre in Paris the other in the National Gallery in London. Buckingham have



used details from the National Gallery picture. The images used on the Covers are the infant John the Baptist on the first cover (above) and the Madonna in blue on the second

cover (below). This image of the Madonna is also used on the cover with the full set of 12 stamps.

This is a partial copy of the painting to explain further.



One other point of interest perhaps, the National Gallery painting, The Virgin of the Rocks, is also famous because when art restorers were working on the painting they

discovered a completely different design hidden underneath the paint. Leonardo had evidently started on one picture and then abandoned it for the one we see today.

The work of da Vinci is perhaps best known through his art, including the Mona Lisa, The Last Supper, Lady with an Ermine, and The Adoration of the Magi to name just a few. He is also famous for his pen and ink drawings including anatomical drawings, many of which are now in the Royal Collection.

To enjoy some of da Vinci's work, which we would not normally have access to, we can now do it through these stamps. The following very briefly describes each of the stamps as shown on the first cover above.

The Skull Sectioned



This drawing is reported to be from around 1510. Some commentators have said it was drawn in 1489 although it is widely considered that da Vinci started his anatomical drawings around 1499.



A Sprig of Guelder Rose

This was drawn between 1506 and 1512. It is in red chalk on pale red prepared paper. It is a study of a spray of guelder rose, with a cluster of berries. The leaves are shown curling and

sagging, for Leonardo was interested not merely in the shape of their outline, but also in their living form when subject to the natural forces of growth and gravity.

Studies of Cats This stamp shows three cats taken from a page titled Cats, Lions, and a Dragon which was drawn around 1517. The complete drawing comprises a sheet of more than twenty drawings of cats and lions in a wide variety of positions.



The Anatomy of the shoulder and foot

This is a partial drawing from "the muscles of the shoulder and arm" drawn around 1510. There are three studies, one on a larger scale, of a man's right arm and shoulder, showing muscles; three studies of a right arm; a diagram to illustrate pronation and supination of the hand.

Leonardo's greatest scientific researches were in the field of anatomy. He dissected around thirty corpses during his career and made many observations far in advance of his time. Here he studied the muscles of the shoulder and arm and the bones of the foot, commenting on the structures shown in his typical mirror-writing. Leonardo intended to write a treatise on anatomy, but this was never completed, and his astonishing drawings remained little known until modern times.



The head of Leda

This stamp shows the drawing of the head of a woman turned three quarters to the left, looking down. The hair is fastened in elaborate braids and arranged in coils over the ears. This is a study for the

head of Leda in the lost painting of Leda and the Swan. In classical mythology, Leda, queen of Sparta, was seduced by Jupiter in the form of a swan and bore two eggs, from each of which hatched twins. Leonardo worked on two versions of a composition of Leda and the swan, one in which Leda kneels, the other in which she stands, eventually executing a painting of the standing version (destroyed around 1700). Here Leonardo expended little effort on her demure downward glance, devoting his attention instead to the most complicated of hairstyles.



The head of a bearded man

The drawing is of the head of a man turned in profile to the right. He has heavy regular features, a slight beard and thick curly hair. Early in his career Leonardo fixed on two standard male types, who thereafter recur repeatedly in his drawings and paintings: a delicate adolescent, and a more robust older man. In the last decade of his life he produced a number of independent drawings of such heads,

exercises in form and draughtsmanship simply for his own satisfaction. Leonardo's young men were always images of beauty, but the older type was more varied. As Leonardo himself aged, so his older men were presented with greater sympathy and gravitas.



The Skeleton The complexities of this drawing includes two studies of the thorax, showing the spinal column and upper arm; the bones of a figure from the neck to the pelvis; the skeleton of the pelvis and the legs; the bones of a right leg; notes on the drawings. This is Leonardo's most complete representation of a skeleton, seen from front, side and back, in the manner of an architectural drawing. Leonardo's understanding of structure was unprecedented.

The head of St. Philip This drawing is dated around 1495 and is in black chalk. It is a drawing of the head of a youth, with long wavy hair, bending forward and inclined slightly away from the spectator. He is seen almost in profile to the left, with his lips parted and his eyes raised.



A woman in a landscape The most plausible explanation of this mysterious drawing is that it depicts Matelda, appearing to Dante in Purgatory, the second book of his Divine Comedy. The fluttering drapery here echoes that of Matelda in Botticelli's illustration of the same scene.



A design for an equestrian monument In the mid-1480s Ludovico Sforza, the ruler of Milan, commissioned Leonardo to make a huge equestrian monument in bronze to his father Francesco. Leonardo's initial designs showed the horse rearing, but Ludovico came to doubt that Leonardo would be able to execute such a challenging pose, and later studies show the horse walking. Between 1490 and 1492 Leonardo studied horses intensively. He made drawings in both casual poses and strict orthogonal views, in the manner of architectural elevations, and he measured individual horses minutely. He then constructed a full-size clay model for the horse, from which he took a mold to cast the monument.



Ludovico came to doubt that Leonardo would be able to execute such a challenging pose, and later studies show the horse walking. Between 1490 and 1492 Leonardo studied horses intensively. He made drawings in both casual poses and strict orthogonal views, in the manner of architectural elevations, and he measured individual horses minutely. He then constructed a full-size clay model for the horse, from which he took a mold to cast the monument. But in 1494, the 75 tons of bronze assembled for the casting was requisitioned to make cannons, and the project was suspended. Five years later French forces invaded Milan and deposed Ludovico. Leonardo's model for the horse was used for target practice by the French troops and destroyed before his eyes.



The fall of light on a face

This stamp shows part of a drawing of the head of a man, turned in profile to the left, intended to demonstrate how rays of light from a single point would fall upon his face. The drawing also includes a diagram and many notes on the action of light. Leonardo's own paintings are notable for their elaborate treatment of shadows and here he sets out the geometrical principles of light and shade. This page from a dismantled notebook explains that where the light falls perpendicularly on the object it will be most strongly illuminated; where it falls most obliquely, the object will be least strongly lit; and where no light is received it will be completely dark.

In addition to the issue of 12 stamps there is a Prestige Booklet containing three panes of four da Vinci stamps and a pane of definitives which will be of interest to Machin collectors I would expect, even more when we know the date code.



Internet Philatelic Dealers Association NEWSLETTER – March 2019

Two more covers to show you. One more from this Buckingham Cover issue. This is The Last Supper Prestige Booklet Pane cover. It has four 1st class stamps of Leonardo sketches on a cover design showing Leonardo's 'The Burlington House Cartoon' with a Windsor first day of issue postmark, 13th February, 2019.



The other uses the Last Supper painting as the design framework and is from British First Day Covers (BFDC), another highly respected and quality producer of First Day Covers. This cover and further details can be found at [this link](https://www.bfdc.co.uk/2019/leonardo-da-vinci/the-last-supper.html?stockcode=49566).

<https://www.bfdc.co.uk/2019/leonardo-da-vinci/the-last-supper.html?stockcode=49566> and will be available with a Windsor first day of issue postmark, 13th



February, 2019.

To close I would like to leave you with this reference, an interesting read if you wish to learn and understand more about the work of Leonardo. This is from The Telegraph dated 22 January 2019. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/art/leonardo-da-vinci/9200752/How-luck-ran-out-on-Leonardo-da-Vincis-science-studies.html>

Michael Dodd

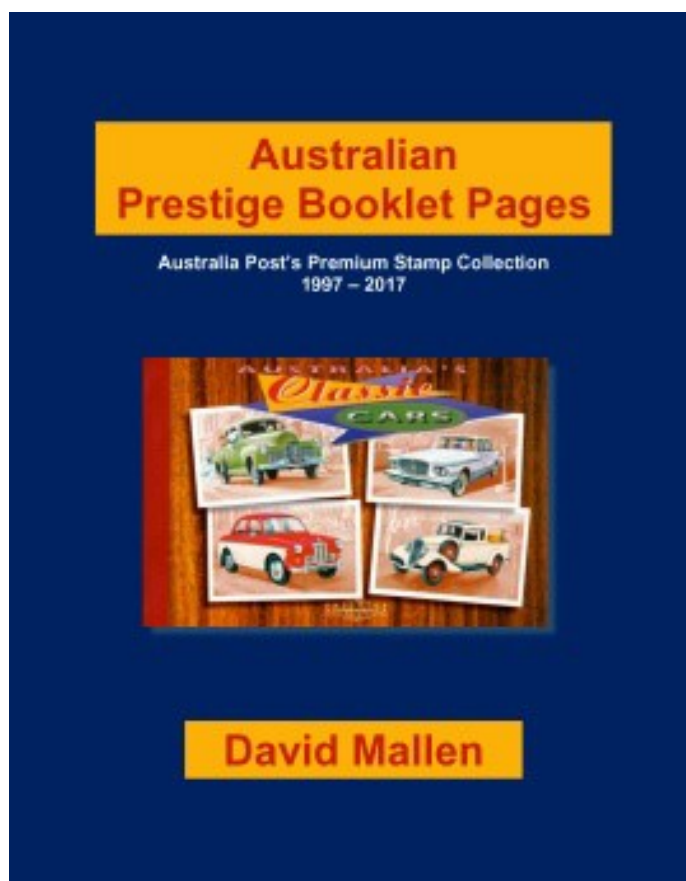
Australian prestige booklet pages

Australia Post's Premium Stamp Collection

1997 – 2017

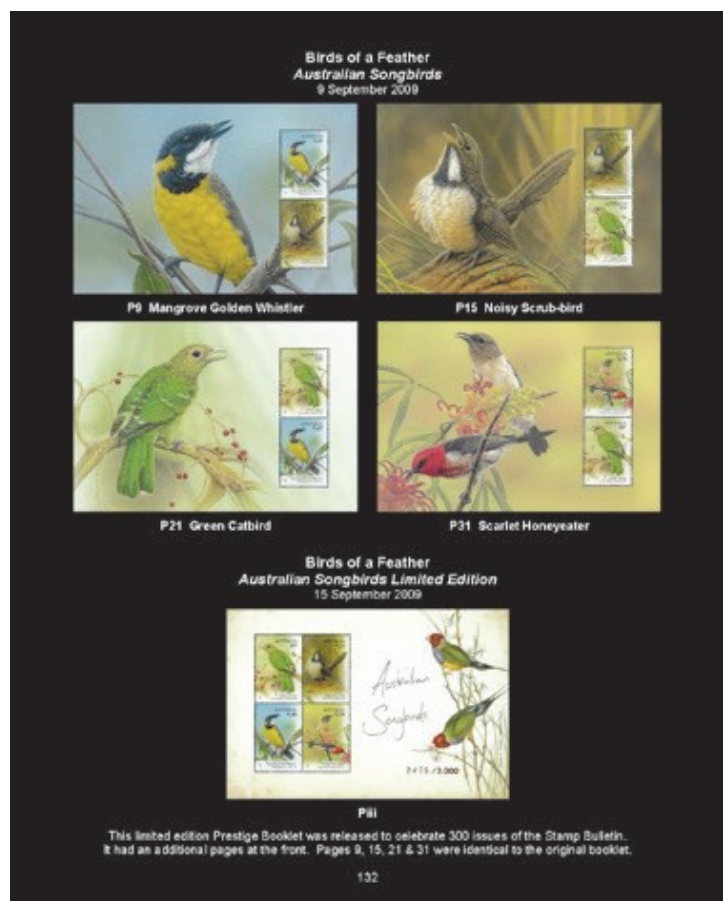
As an owner of *Australian Stamp Variations* two great catalogues of decimal stamp variations, I offered author, David Mallen, access to some of my Prestige Booklets so he could complete his new book. It was published in April and he sent me a copy. It has been meticulously prepared and exceeded my expectations.

It has images of every page (pane) that contains stamps from the 257 booklets authorised by Australia Post in the first 21 years. The original 'Classic Cars' Prestige Booklet issued in 1997 features on the cover. The black background makes the images stand out and is an artistic touch, for the same reason



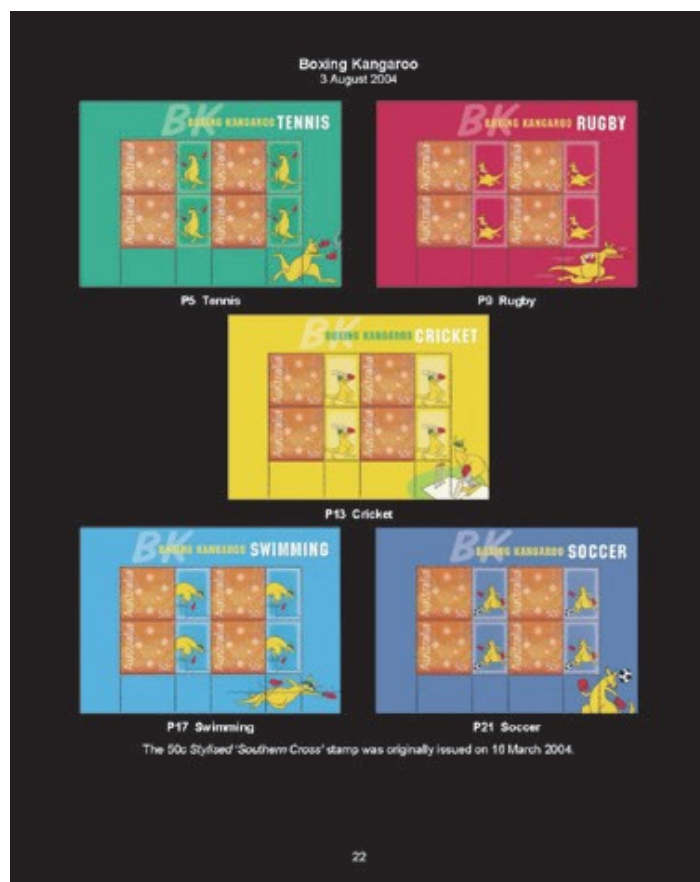
that many serious collectors use black page stock books for their collections. Special Prestige Booklets such as those released at Stamp Shows (usually

containing imperforate stamps), the AFL souvenir booklets and the Zodiac booklets are included. (The 2006 dual Snapshot! booklet on pages 61 & 62 was a surprise!). Only one example of each of the 4 sets of AFL booklets (2004 – 2007) is shown. I was disappointed that the Bombers, my football team, did not feature but I can understand why. The format of the pages for each team was identical, only the background, players and logos were different. If David had included all teams it would have added another 75 pages to the book. There are no NRL or other Australian sport Prestige Booklets as yet.



If there was a variation between the stamps on the Prestige Booklet pages and the original single stamps issued in sheets, the main details are shown at the bottom of each page. 'Variations' here include how a stamp was grouped. e.g. A multiple block of the same stamp that was not issued originally as such. The Statistics table and graph at the back of the book shows how many booklets were issued or released in

the 21 years. I had forgotten that a massive 43 Prestige Booklets were published in 2005, although I have most if not all of them.



The soft cover book (200 x 250mm) has 220 pages and is printed in Australia. A preview is available on-line at au.blurb.com/user/asvcat. If you are at all interested in Australian Prestige Booklets, you need this book, and the price, especially for the serious collector, is a steal! Collecting Prestige Booklets has been one of my favourite aspects of stamp collecting. I can see why David describes the contents of the book as his "favourite collection".

Professor Greg Jackson

Canberra

July 2018

Spotlight on member Dr John Horsey

John's interest in stamps began more years ago than he cares to remember, when he was given an album as a seventh birthday present. As with many youngsters at the time, it was a case of acquiring as many stamps as possible. The only questions ever asked were "Have you got a penny black?" and "How many stamps have you got?" With very limited means at the time, it was a while before the first question could be given a satisfactory answer. The second was easier, although became increasingly impractical to maintain a count. Mountains of kiloware were accumulated, thanks to Wallace Bros in Bournemouth, from whom a pound weight of predominantly George V kiloware was the princely sum of 14 shillings. The resulting hundreds of the same stamp led to studying shades and varieties.



Among the 'finds' in this kiloware was a Royal cypher ½d in a very yellow-green shade – was this SG355, the rare Cyprus green? Excitedly, it was shown to old man Wallace. Sadly it wasn't the rarity, but Wallace did arrange a visit to renowned philatelist, Commander Cecil Shaw of Swanage, who had one. A few days later there was an invite to tea. Along with a school friend, John was taken to the 'stamp room' and shown the real Cyprus fluoresce under a UV lamp.

While he dabbled in George V, Mr Shaw's real passion was Edward VII. He had 3 albums for the ½d, 4 for the 1d, then a volume each for most of the other values. There were proofs, varieties, shades and plating pieces galore. He apologised that the 2/6d-£1 only ran to one volume! Two 13-year old boys were totally gob smacked. However, John came away thinking that was the way Stamp Collecting should be done. The only problem was an acute lack of funds.



Years later this interest in detail led to writing the *Queensman* articles in *Stamp Collecting Weekly*, from 1963-70, which documented the cylinder varieties on the latest issues. Over the years, John has built a substantial Great Britain collection including a 5-frame display of QV £5 Orange for which he won a 'Large Gold' at Autumn Stampex 2013. After extensive original research, John wrote a 312 page book '*The £5 Orange*' as his philatelic legacy. He did toy with using '*50 Shades of Orange*' for the title! '*The £5 Orange*' was published by (and is available from) Stanley Gibbons. This was also awarded a Large Gold Medal - all thanks to the inspiration from Commander Shaw. The stamp illustrated is one of the four known Inland Revenue Official essays.

John read Physics at Imperial College, London for his BSc and remained there; gaining a doctorate in High Energy Nuclear Physics based on an experiment into the fundamentals of matter using the proton synchrotron at the Rutherford Laboratory in Oxfordshire (a forerunner of the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, Geneva). He then moved into the commercial world and worked for IBM in the UK for 23 years, specialising in computer security, before taking early retirement to pursue his lifelong love of stamps. He built up **County Philatelic Auctions**, based in Basingstoke, into the major postal auction it is today, see www.stampauctions.co.uk. He is married with two children and two grandchildren and still spends most of his time describing lots for County – or shuffling little bits of paper around – as his long-suffering wife puts it.

Limerick



There once was a Bolshie called Lenin
Who did one or two million men in
That's a lot to have done
But where he did one
That old Bolshie Stalin did ten in!

Roger West

Survey and eBay

The results of the Members' Survey have now been circulated and one comment particularly caught my eye. It was from a member who would like to see a series of articles "exposing the degree of manipulation on eBay that threatens the livelihood of sellers". The writer continues that eBay "penalizes sellers who (1) list using good-till-cancelled and do not revise unsold listings and (2) do not constantly list new items. I have determined that the only way to profitably sell on eBay is to completely rotate all inventory every month. It is crucial for any seller who is planning to run their business on eBay to be aware of this".

Does any other member have stories to tell in this respect? If so, please let us know.

Roger West

Ajman issues

In 1972, Ajman issued 1,773 stamps and 193 miniature sheets, most of which were available perf and imperf. Just to put that into context, Great Britain produced its 1,733rd stamp in 1993 - 153 years after the Penny Black first appeared. Many countries have yet to reach that magical number - St Helena for example issued its first stamp in 1856 and in 2006 after 150 years had only just passed the thousand mark.



1972 Paintings of Beethoven se-tenant block of 8 cancelled to order.

Roger West

Fakes and forgeries : Iran stamps

I see so many of these on eBay it drives me crazy. A fake is a fake! And eBay allows you to sell a fake, provided you have the word, 'fake', 'forgery' or 'reference item'. Heck I've even used a few of those to get rid of my junk stamps.

Let's look at Scott #52, #51 and #50

Iran Stamps

Page 34 of The Iran Classic Philatelic Reference



These are my three valid Iran stamps. Scott #52, #51, and #50. I placed them in reverse order because you see more of the 25c, Scott #52, than the others for sale quite often.

September 1881, Recessed Mitra Issue.
Reference page 34, ICPR book, M. Sadri.

Persiphila

Iran Classic Philatelic Reference

September 1881, Recessed Mitra Issue

شهریور ۱۲۶۰ خورشیدی، تمبرهای گراوه خورشیدی



After completion of the plates with a design similar to the lithographed earlier issue, the new stamps were recess printed in sheets of fifty (10 x 5) on white wove paper.

Although the dual currency was intended to facilitate the recognition of the stamps by the Europeans, it actually led to more confusion. The Europeans could not read the face values of the stamps in the upper circles and only could read the numerals 5, 10, and 25 without any indication of the denominations being in French Centimes. Therefore due to the confusion created, the postal authorities decided to use these stamps only on the domestic mail. However, at a later date, the 25 Centimes and the 50 Centimes stamps were retouched by replacing the numerals 25 and 50 with the proper Shahis equivalents of 5 and 10. The earliest known cover of this issue is a cover from Meched to Isfahan; franked with two copies of the Five Shahi or 25 Centimes stamps tied by MECHED 3/9 postmarks. Manuscript date on the cover reads 8 Shav'vaal 1298 (۸ شوال ۱۲۹۸ قمری), which translates, to September 9 of 1881.

Although most of the 25 Centime stamps were used for domestic mail, very few of the Five Centime and Ten Centime stamps were needed. However during the year 1887, facing a shortage of One Shahi and Two Shahi stamps, these stamps were again used for a short while.

Size: 22 mm x 26½mm		Mint	Unused	Used	On cover	On Doc.
49	1sh (5c) blue violet & violet				\$1,500.+	
49A	Perf. 12	\$40.	\$30.	\$65.		
49B	Perf. 13	\$40.	\$30.	\$65.		
49AB	Perf. 12 x 13					
49BA	Perf. 13 x 12	\$150.	\$120.	\$175.		
49P	Imperforate Proof on thick paper					
50	2sh (10c) deep pink & rose				\$1,500+	
50A	Perf. 12	\$40.	\$30.	\$65.		
50B	Perf. 13	\$40.	\$30.	\$65.		
50AB	Perf. 12 x 13					
50BA	Perf. 13 x 12					
50P	Imperforate Proof on thick paper					
50PB	Imperf Black Die Proof on card paper a. Bisected, Farsi "Yek Shahi" manuscript					
51	5sh (25c) deep green & green				\$375.+	\$1,000.+
51A	Perf. 12	\$750.	\$375.	\$20.		
51B	Perf. 13	\$750.	\$375.	\$20.		
51AB	Perf. 12 x 13	\$1,000.	\$500.	\$65.		
51BA	Perf. 13 x 12	\$1,000.	\$500.	\$65.		
51P	Imperforate Proof on thick paper					

Unused – Mint stamp without original gum. Forgeries are priced at \$1.00 each.

The number seen here are not the Scott numbers, they are the 'persi' catalogue numbers.

Ok so where's the Forgeries?



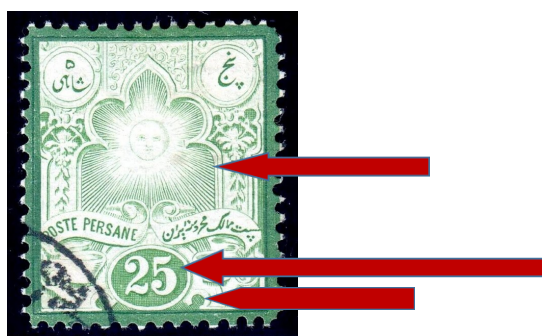
Both of theses are Fake Scott# 50, 5c.Ebay photos, for sale

Scott# 51, Ebay photo:



Notice the differences between these two stamps.

Color, design, etc.



Scott #52, Ebay photo fake for sale

Ok, so how do you tell?

between the original stamps and the forgeries.



Original

Forgery

In original stamps (left) the ground works of the numeral "5" and the scroll works underneath it are of different shades while in the forgeries (right), they are of the same shade and color.



Original

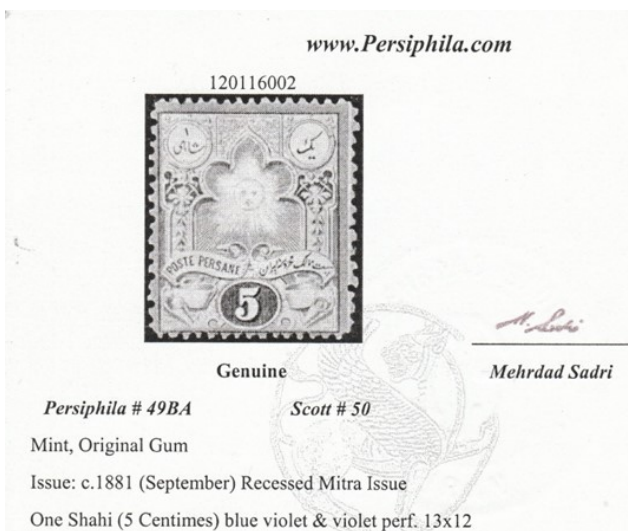
Forgery

In original stamps (left) there is no vertical line while in the forgeries (right) there is a thick line.

The colors below the main value have to be different. If the Right inner frame line is solid, as shown above, fake.

This works for the 5c, 10c and 25c stamp. Don't let the example make you wonder. 'But what about the red one and the green one'?... same...same....

So what, these aren't valuable stamps right? Let's look at the one I bought on a web site for \$18.00. Knowing it was real, and the perf was 13x12 I'm sitting on a \$150.00 stamp. See page 2 for Persi cat value.



By the way, I bought two from the same seller, \$300.00. I say I did pretty well.

Again Thanks to M. Sadri and his book, where all the knowledge comes from www.persi.com has the reference guide for sale if interested.

Happy collecting and don't run from Iran stamps, give them a shot, I have.

Lee Coen, IPDA member



IPDA working for you

Behind the scenes, the IPDA Directors are frequently coming up with ideas to improve our standing. Each idea is emailed to the other seven Directors who comment as they see fit. On February 8th, I received 55 such emails - all required reading and many required answers.

Roger West

Postal delays

We are frequently reminded that the postal service can be delayed for any number of reasons and I'm sure we all know the disappointment when an expected mail arrives a day or two late. But whatever your experiences are, they probably seem insignificant when compared with this one.

One of my favourite covers is a registered item from Dominica to Pitcairn Island via St Helena. If we study the dates, it left Dominica on 15 October 1947, received a transit mark at St Helena on 7 November 1950 and arrived at Pitcairn on 8 February 1951. The total journey



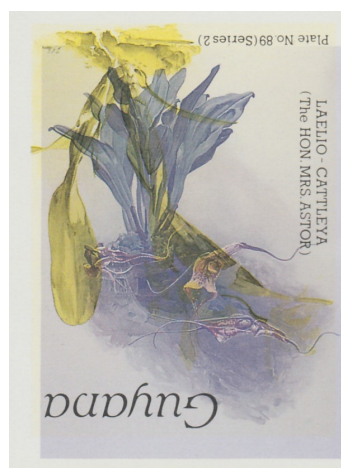
time was 1,211 days or 3 years 3.5 months. Maybe the British Post Office isn't so bad after all!

Roger West

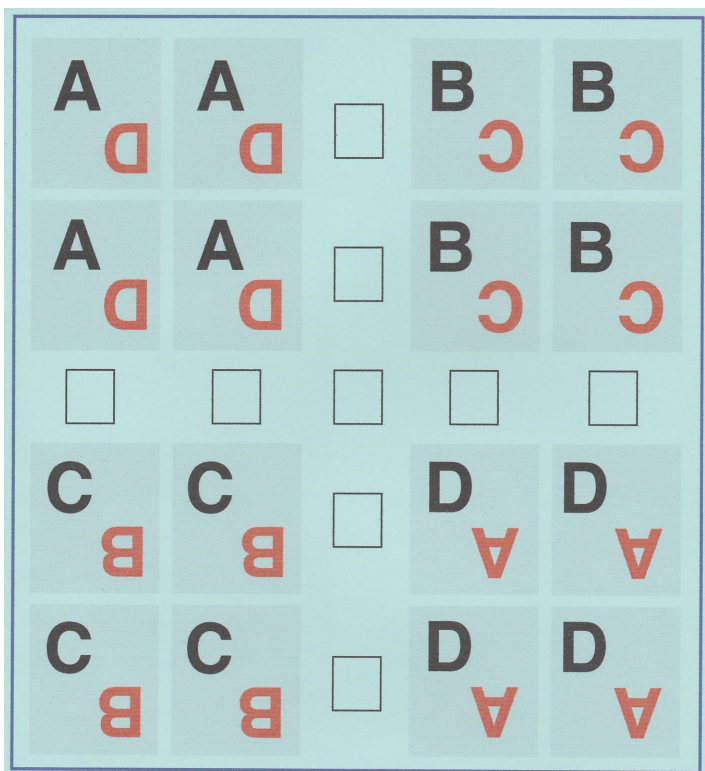
The Guyana orchid series

The Guyana Sanders' Reichenbachia Orchid series of 1985-87 is a fascinating issue for a number of reasons. The original artworks appeared in 2 series each with 96 plates. All 192 designs were featured on the stamps, most appearing with several different values and I believe they all appeared with overprints or surcharges making something like a thousand basic stamps.. There are also numerous proofs and varieties two of which are shown here.

The stamps were printed in a rather unusual sheet format of 25, four different designs appeared in blocks of 4 in each corner with an Arms stamp in the margins between. If you look carefully at the two illustrations, do you see one design or two? The answer technically is one and this is how it came



about. The sheet was printed in black and yellow and then inverted before printing the magenta and cyan (see diagram). The illustrations show stamps from the opposite corners. If we designate each block of 4 as A, B, C and D, we are looking at A in back and yellow superimposed with D (inverted) in magenta and cyan. The other stamp is from the opposite corner thus we have D in black and yellow superimposed with A (inverted)

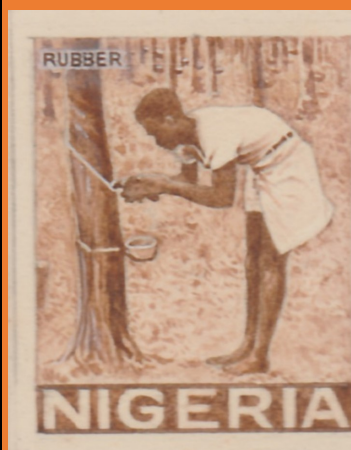


in magenta and cyan. So the designs are the same (albeit doubled) its just the colours are reversed.

Roger West

Nigeria

Original artwork for stamp designs sometimes turn up at auctions but I was particular drawn to this one. It is an essay for the 4d value of the proposed 1961 definitive series for Nigeria produced by Waterlows. Two things make this remarkable in my view 1) it was produced stamp size (18 mm x 22 mm) probably using a one-haired paint brush and 2) the artist is unknown.



Roger West

Internet Philatelic Dealers Association

NEWSLETTER – March 2019

Chairman's chatter

Hello and welcome again to another Newsletter. It is now March and time for another short hello from me. It has been a busy month as we prepare for the AGM this month. You will have received the invitation to the meeting which is booked for the 8th March US EST by now. When I see the world wide membership - we have members in 24 countries as I write this - I realise not everyone will be able to join because of the time difference, so please, do submit your proxy votes. It is so easy to do, just log into the Members area of the web site and you will see the first drop down menu is AGM Proxy, it will take a minute or two.

We need a quorum to complete the IPDA business and with close to 150 members that means we need about 50 attendees or Proxies, so please, if you cannot attend the Online Room meeting please send your proxy.

In the AGM agenda you will see my Chairman's report and I think it is worth repeating some of it here for you. Not everyone reads everything do they! I understand that, but I think it worth highlight these points because many of our members have joined over the past 6 months. In fact our Membership secretary tells me that our 100th new member has joined since the current Board got the IPDA back on its feet so to speak. Thank you to everyone for showing support and belief in the IPDA.

During 2018 the IPDA has made very good progress in becoming a more active and respected association in the philatelic community.

Yes it has been a busy year and with your support I think the rest of 2019 will be just as busy and rewarding for us all.

There is still a long way to go but in summary during 2018 your Board of Directors have:

- ◆ Increased membership from 57 to 150 as at February 22
- ◆ Appointed two new Board Members and seen the activity level of the Board increase significantly during the past year

- ◆ Delivered a new web site with much more content than previously available
- ◆ Delivered new services to members and with more services under development for delivery in second quarter 2018
- ◆ Initiated the marketing of the IPDA on various media channels including Twitter and Facebook to mention just two
- ◆ Placed IPDA promotional material on the internet and in hard copy philatelic journals
- ◆ Held Committee meetings regularly throughout the year and seen those meetings be well attended.
- ◆ Re-established the IPDA Newsletter and seen it published every month since March 2018 with the contents growing to cover 16 pages.
- ◆ Delivered the IPDA Newsletter archive on the IPDA Website.
- ◆ Appointed two Directors as the IPDA Newsletter co- Editors for 2019 therefore strengthening our commitment to deliver a quality and informative Newsletter to Members
- ◆ Conducted a Member Survey, the results of which will be published in the March Newsletter, and set in motion actions to follow up on Member suggestions
- ◆ 4 Directors attended the Autumn 2018 London Stampex, met with various IPDA members and promoted the IPDA to other dealers at the show.

Alan Devine

Well, that's it for now, see you next month and, please, don't forget to send in your comments and also **please submit any articles that you would like to be included in future Newsletters** to either roger@avionstamps.com or James at jandrstamps@gmail.com.

James Minns