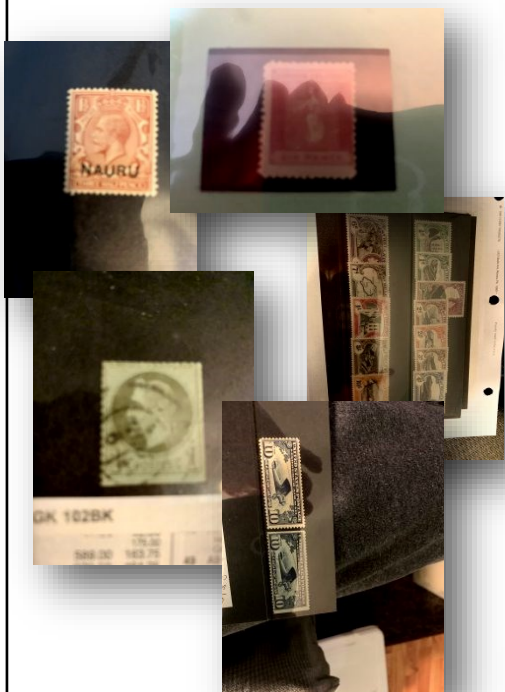


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A Plague of Ordinairiness

Here's another seller on HipStamp who should never apply for membership in the IPDA. I'd like to say that these images are the exception, but most of his listings are like this.



He appears to have some decent items, but why would you buy them? If this seller is happy with these images, good on them. As a potential buyer, I'm not.

In Memoriam

John New 1936-2020

Member #159



It is with great sadness that I report the passing of long-time member, John New, on 29 December 2020, aged 84.

John, British by birth but Canadian by choice, traded as [Phil StJean Stamps](#). John joined the IPDA in 2009.

After a career in the military, John turned to teaching. He taught many classes over the years including special education, French, physical education, music, maths, drama, art, English, and sex education!

He was also a proud member of the Canadian Legion.

His story is a must-read [here](#).

The Committee offer the sincere condolences of the members of the IPDA to John's wife Carla and his extended family.

His family can be proud of a life well lived, and the contribution that John made.

Dave Sheridan
ipdaeditor@gmail.com





Membership

We now have 149 members from 30 countries, with **four** new members this month.

Abu Dhabi	1
Algeria	1
Argentina	2
Australia	19
Belgium	2
Brazil	1
Canada	9
Croatia	2
France	3
Germany	4
Gibraltar	2
Hong Kong	1
Hungary	1
India	1
Indonesia	1
Israel	1
Italy	5
Latvia	1
Malta	2
Mexico	1
Netherlands	7
New Zealand	1
Pakistan	2
Philippines	2
Serbia	1
South Africa	4
Spain	4
Sweden	1
UK	26
USA	41
Total Paid Membership	149



New Members

Date: 12/4 /20

Name: **Gregorio Zuskis**

Member Number: 402

Date became a member: 12/4/20

Email: info@ercolegloria.it

Location: Milano, Italy

Business Name: Ercole Gloria

Business Website: <https://www.ercolegloria.com/en-gb/home>

Specializes in: We have in the stamp market for over 80 years! We have one of the most varied stocks in the world, dealing with prephilately up to last issues, from ultra-rare items to common stamps

Referred By: Virtual STAMPEX

Member Discounts: 10%

Date: 12/4 /20

Name: **Colin & Louise Oswin**

Member Number: 403

Date became a member: 12/4/20

Email: collouoswin@gmail.com

Location: Natal, South Africa

Business Name: Wizozy Stamps

Business Website: <https://www.bidorbuy.co.za/seller/1617715/wizozzy>

Specializes in: We sell South Africa (early and later issue), Southern Africa, Mixed World and thematics.

Referred By: Online "BidorBuy"

Member Discounts: Up to 15% depending on individual circumstances

Date: 12/24/20

Name: **Joaquim Grino**

Member Number: 404

Date became a member: 12/24/20

Email: info@princestamps.net

Location: Barcelona, Spain

Business Name: Princestamps

Business Website: <https://www.princestamps.net>

Specializes in: Worldwide topical stamps

Referred By: Michael Dodd

Member Discounts: 10%



New Members.....cont'd

Date: 12/31/20
 Name: **Andrew Morris**
 Member Number: 405
 Date became a member: 12/31/20
 Email: welovestamps66@outlook.com
 Location: Stafford, UK
 Business Name: WELOVESTAMPS LTD
 Business Website: <https://www.ebay.co.uk/usr/welovestamps>
 Specializes in: Stamps and postcards
 Referred By: Stampboard
 Member Discounts: Yes



2021 is here and as I write I am sure we are all hoping this new year will be better than 2020. The impact of corona virus was far reaching, like something I expect none of us have experienced before.

We have to continue doing what we do in the face of adversity. We all know that. And one thing we have to do as stamp sellers is do the best for our customers; stamp collectors around the world.

In this unregulated world of the internet this is more and more relevant today than ever, as more people, it would appear, are getting back into the hobby. And, more and more people are selling stamps on philatelic portals like eBay, Delcampe and Hipstamp and many others.

With this brings people selling stamps who do not have the standards and values and ethics and integrity that members of the IPDA do. Like it or not, that is a fact that can be proven over and over and over again in minutes, no, in seconds if you have a fast internet speed!!!

Support the IPDA, promote the IPDA, make the IPDA name known so that stamp collectors who could be your customers are not getting "cheated", lets just call it what it really is, by the less than scrupulous sellers.

No one else is doing anything about this aspect of the hobby. I personally have challenged two extremely well-known Philatelic bodies on this and been ignored.

I hope the IPDA and our members will not ignore this topic and in doing so become just another "stand on the side-lines and watch while blowing our own trumpet just to make a noise Association" yes, just like the people in the streets did last night to welcome 2021"



Brexit and VAT Implications

VAT and overseas goods sold directly to customers in the UK. How sellers deal with VAT for goods from overseas that they sell direct to customers in the UK

This topic was mentioned in a thread in the IPDA Facebook chatroom. As General Secretary it probably falls to me to do some research for members.

In summary, my reading of the legislation is that there will be no impact on members.

However one reads the Government guidance, stamps and stamp related items - based on the fact that they could only be classified under "antiques" as there are no other possible categories that could apply - are exempt or 0% (zero) rated.

The Government guidance was last updated on 31st December 2020 and can be found at [this link](#).

I offer the following quotes/copied text from the UK Government website located at [this link](#). If anyone has further factual commentary, please share and we will ensure all members are made aware.

Goods that are outside the UK at the point of sale

The seller must work out the consignment value of the goods by deciding their 'intrinsic value', this is the price the goods were sold for, not including:

- any transport or insurance costs, unless they are included in the price and not separately shown on the invoice
- any other identifiable taxes and charges

Unless sent individually, the seller must add the individual values of all items in a consignment together to get the total value of the consignment.

If a seller makes changes to the value of the consignment so that its total value goes above £135 they may be liable for import VAT and Customs Duty, and have to [adjust the VAT already accounted for at the point of sale](#).

Low value consignment relief (LVCR), which is an import VAT exemption for goods valued at £15 or less, has been removed in:

- Great Britain for goods imported from outside the UK
- Northern Ireland for goods ordered remotely that are imported from outside the UK and EU

To charge and account for VAT the seller will need to:

- know the precise nature of the goods to [find out the correct rate of VAT to charge](#)

This is the relevant statement "the correct rate of VAT to charge".



Brexit and VAT Implications.....cont'd

Guidance

VAT rates on different goods and services

A list of goods and services showing which rates of VAT apply and which items are exempt or outside the scope of VAT.

The Government Guidance is based around the following 12 categories:

Contents

1. [Introduction](#)
2. [VAT rate conditions](#)
3. [Food and drink, animals, animal feed, plants and seeds](#)
4. [Sport, leisure, culture and antiques](#)
5. [Health, education, welfare and charities](#)
6. [Power, utilities, energy and energy saving, heating](#)
7. [Power](#)
8. [Building and construction, land and property](#)
9. [Transport, freight, travel and vehicles](#)
10. [Printing, postage, publications – books, magazines and newspapers](#)
11. [Clothing and footwear, protective and safety equipment](#)
12. [Financial services and investments, insurance](#)

Where does “postage stamps” fit in? By a process of elimination I deduce Item 4:

[Sport, leisure, culture and antiques](#)

This is the only category that I see that could possibly apply; namely stamps broadly defined as “antiques”

Goods or services	VAT rate	More information
Antiques, works of art or similar (as assets of historic houses) sold by private treaty to public collections	Exempt	VAT Notice 701/12



Brexit and VAT Implications.....cont'd

For the avoidance of doubt I reviewed item 10

-[Printing, postage, publications – books, magazines and newspapers](#) just to check this category - here we find:

Publications

Goods or services	VAT rate	More information
Books	0%	VAT Notice 701/10
Children's painting and picture books	0%	VAT Notice 701/10
Maps and charts	0%	VAT Notice 701/10
Magazines	0%	VAT Notice 701/10
Newspapers	0%	VAT Notice 701/10
Printed or copied music	0%	VAT Notice 701/10
Publications	0%	Some items are standard-rated such as exercise books, letterheads,

I am aware that several other commentators have analysed the data differently, however I consider that the above information is correct.

If any member has additional information or further analysis, please advise the Editor and we will circulate.

Michael Dodd

IPDA General Secretary



*** PTS Red Call ***

This is a Red Call request from PTS Member, Alan MacGregor, regarding loss of items: LOSS OF BECHUANALAND and BRITISH LEVANT stamps and postal history shipped from UK to Germany.

Please see details below. If you have any information relating to these items, please contact the member direct (details below.)

We thank you for your attention on this matter.

Best wishes,
The PTS Team

On the 2nd December, we sent an order from Cheltenham, UK to Germany via Royal Mail 'International Tracked and Signed'.

According to Royal Mail, the package apparently left the UK on the 3rd December and was handed over to the 'Delivery Partner' GLS. However, their website states 'Consignment not found'.

The contents composed 12 items of Bechuanaland and British Levant stamps and postal history. The total value is over £1200 of which the most valuable item is a Bechuanaland 1912 registered postal stationery envelope bearing a multi-reign franking. Scan attached. Scans of the other items are available.

If any member is offered this item, please contact me or the PTS office.

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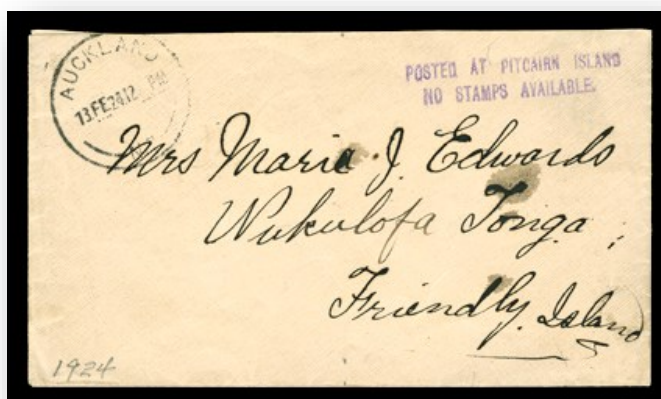
Philately Around the World - P is for Pitcairn Islands

The mutineers from HMS Bounty cast Lieutenant Bligh adrift off Tonga in April 1789, and nine of them landed on Pitcairn Island in 1790. With their Tahitian friends, wives and a baby, a total of 27 persons including the mutineers, they became the first inhabitants of the tiny speck in the Pacific Ocean.

The islanders were evacuated to Norfolk Island in 1856, returning gradually from 1859. The census data shows that the population of Pitcairn has never gone beyond 200, with the population in 2018 showing just 50 inhabitants.



A regular mail service wasn't established until 1920, however no stamps were available. Free postage was allowed providing a cachet was applied to the envelope. These cachets varied, along the lines of "Posted in Pitcairn, no stamps available". These are very rare. This cover with an example of SGC5 sold for US\$1,900 in 2010.



From 1927 to 1940, New Zealand operated a postal agency on Pitcairn, with New Zealand stamps being cancelled with a large CDS. Due to the size of the cancel, catalogue prices reflect full cancels on piece. (Fig 1)



Fig 1—NZ SG468 used in Pitcairn SGZ15

In 1940, Pitcairn issued its first definitive series. A very attractive set of 8 values was issued, most of which highlighted the HMS Bounty connection (Fig 2). Two further stamps were added to the set in 1951.



Fig 2 1940-51 1st definitives Selection

Philately Around the World - P is for Pitcairn Islands.....cont'd

Apart from Commonwealth Omnibus issues, no further stamps were issued until the QEII definitives in 1957.

The QEII definitives were issued in 1957, with the set being partly historical and partly modern (Fig 3). There are a number of scarce shade variations in this set that are well worth looking for.



Fig 3 1957
definitives Selection

In 1964, a very attractive set was issued, which was overprinted in 1967 when decimal currency was introduced. This set has some constant but as yet unlisted varieties that are quite scarce, see Fig 4 and Fig 5.

It's not inaccurate to state that, since the 1960's, stamp issues have been quite excessive and surplus to requirements. The sale of stamps is the primary source of income for the islands, and mainly consists of topical issues.



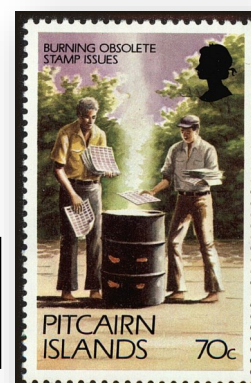
Fig 4, 1964 SG36 1/2d pair.
The top stamp with
"spot on forehead", the
bottom with "straight
diadem"



Fig 6, I doubt that the burning of excess stamps,
as illustrated on SG182b issued in 1977
still occurs!

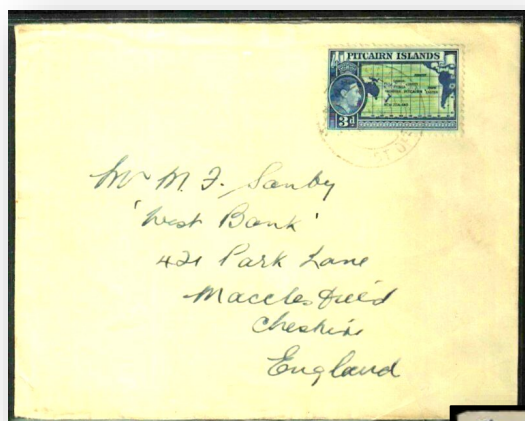


Fig 5, 1964 SG46 2/6d, showing
"spots on Queen's forehead"



Philately Around the World - P is for Pitcairn Islands.....cont'd

Due to the very small population on Pitcairn, genuine commercial mail, as opposed to FDC's and tourist mail, is hard to find. Only a handful of surnames are in use on Pitcairn, and much of the existing commercial mail relates to the Seventh Day Adventist church, so keep an eye out!



Currently on Ebay at US\$65

Estimated at A\$2,000 in 2017, unsold



One of a group of 5 covers sold for A\$290 in 2014

Interestingly, and despite the island only being 47 square kilometres (18 square miles), it is still possible to emigrate to Pitcairn.

When (subject to eligibility) settlement is granted, an application can be made for land which is free, on leasehold. If you can cope with a supply ship every three months, no airfield, self-sufficiency, one TV channel and expensive internet, why not apply!

By Dave Sheridan



News Flash!

MEMBERS ONLY ▾

AGM Proxy	For member information and maybe contribution.
Book Reviews	We start the year with a new feature for members under the Members Only Section of the IPDA website.
Change Request	Can you spot it?
Confidential List	Yes Exhibits.
Community Forum	We have added a new feature which we hope you find interesting and will, over time. contribute to.
Downloads	Send any material you have - exhibition frames, presentations or material you think will be informative and interesting for others to read to IPDA General Secretary. Or send him questions if you have any, at ipdasecretary1@gmail.com
Directors Chatroom	
Exhibits	As we get new material we will add it and keep members updated of new material through this Newsletter.
Identify This Stamp	We look forward to receiving material.
Library	
Members Chatroom	
Members List	
Newsletters	

But It's a \$250 Stamp!

I recently sent a stamp in for certification. I 'knew' it was real. Heck. I consider myself an expert in Persian stamps. The color was good and the stamp looked 'good' to me. Off it went to cert and today I received it back; FAKE! What the heck? The stamp in question is a Scott#420, Persia 1906, used.



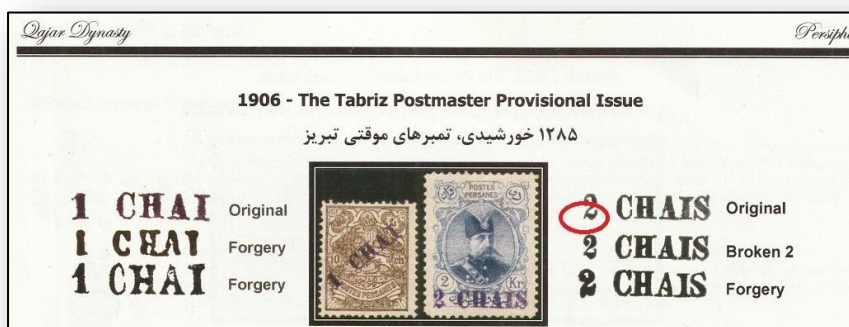
Scott #420—Fake

Off to page 101 of the ICPR by M. Sadri. (www.persi.com) What am I not seeing? OH heck! The bottom of the '2' is too long. I missed that.



Scott #420—Long 2

As seen, the bottom of the '2' does protrude but not as long as my stamp.



But It's a \$250 Stamp!.....cont'd

What I learned from this was, double check. No matter how experienced you are, it never hurts to ask for a second opinion. I'm not too proud. I would hate to sell someone a stamp that turns out to be fake.

A quick check of my certified stamps, bingo. Missed it, totally, ugg.



Scott #420—Certified Stamp,
my collection

I hope you can see it. The bottom of my certified '2' looks nothing like the stamp I sent in for cert.

Well, we learn something new every day—no one is infallible, even me.

Good luck to all sellers/collectors and happy holidays.

By Lee Coen

(Editor's note—the images in this article are exactly as Lee sent to me. If the colours of the stamp and the overprint are accurate, they are stunning!)

A British Propaganda Stamp of WWII

The PWE produced a parody of the genuine Hitler stamp instead depicting Hans Frank, the General Governor of German Occupied Poland.



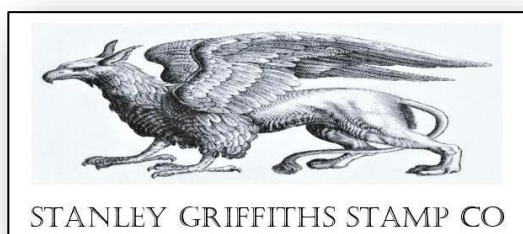
The stamp is a British WWII imitation of the 1941 20 Groschen Hitler issue, Michel 77, and was air dropped to the Polish Resistance in January 1943.



The design was started in early January 1943, and was printed by Waterlow & Sons in sheets of 20 and was codenamed "INTONATION"

Catalogue Value (Michel 2020) €3,300

By Jon Griffiths





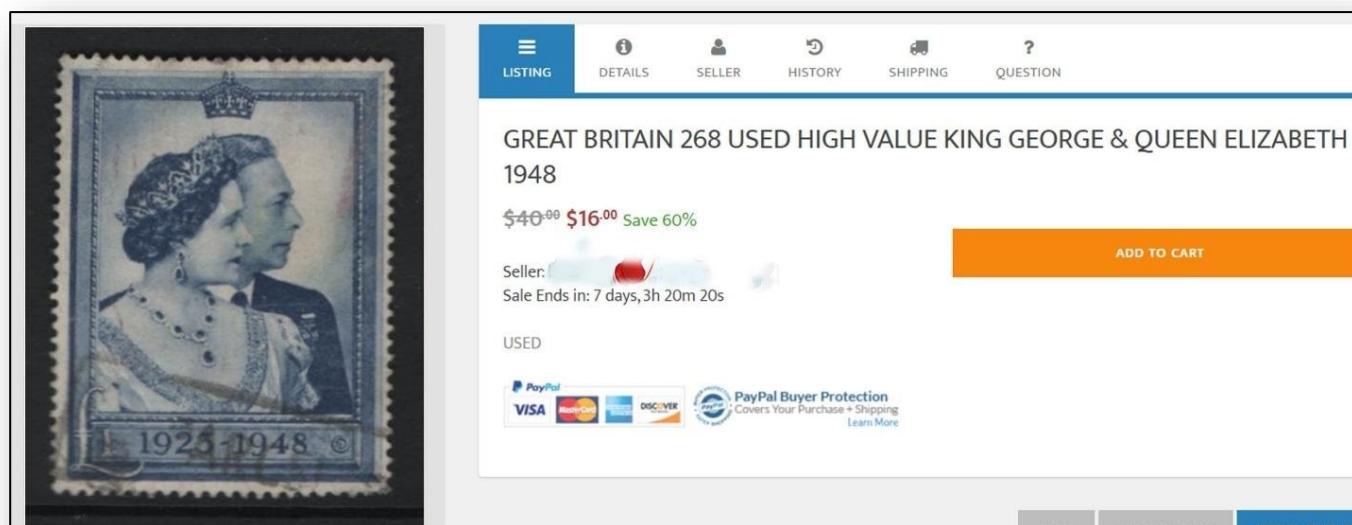
Showcasing an IPDA Member Showcasing the IPDA

How nice to see an IPDA member use the IPDA Logo on their storefront.

We all know the IPDA brand name but many collectors and stamp buyers do not.

Much as we have tried to advertise the IPDA name over the past year on various social media channels, in the SG British Empire catalogue, a UK Stamp Magazine and a specialist stamp club magazine, and also with a banner logo on StampCommunity.org, we need to do more to get collectors and buyers to say to themselves – this is an IPDA dealer I can trust and who I know will sell me quality stamps at a fair price.

Is this an IPDA dealer? No of course not. In fact in my language this is a con artist and it embarrasses me to know collectors are thinking they get a deal from people like this. Yes I know, it is a free world and buyer beware, but that is too easy an excuse to do nothing about it. And no, this is not a one off example:



However, Tony Ward is a highly respected and knowledgeable IPDA dealer, one who promotes the IPDA, and one that collectors will feel confident dealing with.

Tony sells on eBay and Hipstamp and as soon as you see his material, the display style and the content, you get a feeling of confidence. Well, I do. If we read more, we find out he is knowledgeable and writes on philatelic topics especially on his blog [Marcophily https://marcophily.co.uk/](https://marcophily.co.uk/) - a dedicated resource for the study of Postmarks.

Tony is based in the UK and has collected stamps for over 45 years, focusing on British Empire and Commonwealth stamps covering all the reigns from Queen Victoria through to Queen Elizabeth II.



Showcasing an IPDA Member Showcasing the IPDA.....cont'd

This is a screenshot of an eBay store page for 'Great Britain Stamps and Covers'. At the top is a large green £1 postage stamp featuring Queen Victoria. Below the stamp, the store name 'Great Britain Stamps and Covers' is shown with '214 followers' and a 100.0% positive feedback rating. A welcome message states: 'Welcome to Great Britain Stamps and Covers DURING THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS I AM WORKING FROM HOME. I HAVE ACCESS TO MY STOCK AND WILL CONTINUE TO FULFIL CUSTOMER ORDERS TO ALL OF MY CUSTOMERS OLD AND NEW AS USUAL. PLEASE STAY SAFE AND FOLLOW THE GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES. Many thanks for visiting our ebay store. You will find to good-to-fine mint and used Postage Stamps of Great Britain 1840-to-dat...'. Below this are links for 'Save this seller', 'Business details', and 'Contact seller'. The 'Category' list on the left includes 'All', 'Air Mail & Surface Covers', 'Queen Victoria', 'Victoria Line Engraved', '1841 1d Red Brown Imperf', '1850-62 Perforated Stars', '1847-54 Embossed', 'SG43 1858 Penny Plates', 'Penny Red Inverted Watermarks', and '1870 1d Rose'. The 'Featured items' section displays four stamps: a block of four purple 1d stamps, a red 1d stamp, a red 1d stamp, and a blue 1/6 stamp.

Anything you can do in 2021 to promote the IPDA to collectors and the philatelic community will surely be to the advantage of your business, but more importantly it will be to the advantage of the stamp collecting community.

Why? because in the months and years ahead collectors will not be thinking negatively about stamp sellers when they realize they have been - let's be blunt here - conned into buying something that looked like a good deal when it was not.

If it looks too good to be true, it most probably is too good to be true

How can you help the IPDA in 2021? Promote the Association in any way you can, write on social media about the IPDA. use the logo wherever and whenever you can, tell us where to advertise the Association, which magazine, which web sites for example. If the advertising costs money we have some budget available.

And finally, if you have the time, talent and flair why not become the IPDA Advertising and Marketing Director?

Why not? We still need someone to take this on for us.

By Michael Dodd

OK—I'm a Nerd

I put it off for as long as possible. I don't mind being called a nerd and a geek because I "play" with little pieces of paper. However, I never, ever, wanted to look like one.

Well, more fool me.

Santa brought me one of these this year.



As a variety hunter, working through bundleware can be a real drag when you have to pick up a stamp, get your magnifier in the right place, check the stamp and move on to the next. Eye strain and physical pain are a result.

As usual, I may be the last to know, but this headpiece has changed my world. I can fly through a bundle in no time, the increase in speed (and therefore productivity) is amazing.

I'm now pumping through around 1,000 stamps an hour, with a consistent field of vision, and much less arm and eye fatigue.

What can I say other than get one if you don't have one. Just don't let anyone take your photo while you're wearing it.

You'll look like a nerd.

Cheers, Dave Sheridan

Re the above—WANTED TO BUY—Australia and New Zealand bundleware to 1980, GB bundleware to 1970.
Please email me at globalphilately@gmail.com with quantities and prices. Thanks, Dave