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JUNE 2020

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**C.G.**

June 2020

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Dear Reader

Welcome to the June edition of *Philatelic Exporter*. This is the second edition with

the new-look design – I do hope you like the changes.

Working conditions continue to be challenging for us all, and this edition has a special feature on how different businesses are managing the situation. It clearly shows that as things develop, we are all going to have to be adaptable and willing to alter how we do things.

On a slightly reassuring note, the International Reports highlight the way stamp issues and postal history reflect attempts to fight infectious diseases throughout history.

Hopefully, in-person philatelic events of some sort will be possible in the near future. I look forward to a time when we can all meet in person. Please stay safe and take comfort in the fact we are all in this together and will come through the other side.

Alison Boyd

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# News Round-up

Virtual Stampex 2020

• ASCAT to Cease Operating

• Ian Hunter Retires

## AUTUMN STAMPEX REPLACED BY VIRTUAL STAMPEX 2020

Just as this edition of *PE* was going to press, the news broke that Autumn Stampex, scheduled for 30 September–3 October, was being replaced with a Virtual Stampex event.

This decision was made by the Philatelic Traders' Society, responsible for hosting Stampex International, after a full assessment of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic factors affecting the show. These included safety and financial implications for both visitors and exhibitors.

The new Virtual Stampex will take place online and will enable you to meet, shop for stamps, attend Stampex Talks and get special Stampex offers.

This decision is not the first and will certainly not be the last during the current situation. The Summer Seminar of Philately, an annual tradition of the American Philatelic Society, was moved online earlier this month. Instead of the usual in-person event, there will be a month-long series of workshops and seminars in June that participants can enjoy from their own homes. Only this week, London's Chelsea Flower Show held its own virtual event, including talks, how-to guides and tours. I am sure these and other events will be an inspiration as plans are made for a Virtual Stampex.

Suzanne Rae, Chair of the PTS said: 'The decision to postpone Stampex safeguards the health of those we care about and the future of the show. It is a shame we won't be able to meet many of our colleagues and clients in person this Autumn but we are excited about inviting collectors from around the world to our Virtual Stampex event. In the meantime, if you are looking to buy or sell stamps, visit the PTS website to search our members and look for the shield.'

Sign up to the Stampex Newsletter to keep up with the latest news and Virtual Stampex offers: [www.stampexinternational.co.uk/signup](http://www.stampexinternational.co.uk/signup)

## SPINK PODCAST AND ONLINE Q&A BEFORE 13 MAY AUCTION

SPINK have been holding their most-recent auctions behind closed doors, but before their auction of Great Britain Stamps and Postal History on 13 May, Spink released a special podcast detailing highlights from the auction. Iain Murphy, Head of Philatelic Auctions London, gave general explanations of the type of items on offer, before turning to describe individual lots, such as Penny Blacks and Mulready envelopes. Josh Barber then took over to focus on four other lots, including a £5 orange and a 1935 Silver Jubilee 2½d. Prussian blue error of colour. This was followed by a live Q&A.

## ASCAT TO CEASE OPERATING

ASCAT, the International Association of Stamp Catalogue, Stamp Album and Philatelic Magazine Publishers, will end its work this year, with the association's remaining funds to be donated to a social project.

Members of ASCAT have selected the non-profit organisation Kinderlachen, which sponsors the project 'Baby Sarah's Home', as the beneficiary of its funds. Therefore, over €4000 is to be used for the important work of Kinderlachen in the city of Pondicherry in India. 'Baby Sarah's Home' was established in 1995 and provides care for orphans and children with disabilities. Today, it is home to approximately 100 children.

For more information about Kinderlachen and the project visit [www.babysarahshome.de](http://www.babysarahshome.de)



## IAN HUNTER RETIRES

WARWICK and Warwick have announced that, after over 20 years in the role, Ian Hunter, their senior stamp valuer, has decided to put up his tweezers and enjoy a well-earned

retirement. Ian has worked in the stamp trade for most of his working life and joined Warwick and Warwick way back in 1999.

All members of Warwick and Warwick staff, and undoubtedly their customers too, would agree that Ian is one of the funniest and kindest human beings anyone could meet and they are all going to miss him. Unfortunately, due to the current health crisis, it has not been possible to give him the send-off he deserves.





## 'Corrie' Stamp Issue • Great American Stamp Show 2020 Cancelled • Exploring Stamps

## CORONATION STREET

ON 28 May, Royal Mail released an eight-stamp set celebrating the nation's favourite soap, *Coronation Street*, which is affectionately known as 'Corrie'. The stamps (2×2nd class, 2×1st class, 2×£1.42 and 2×£1.63) feature key characters from across the show's 60-year history.

Following the lives of those living in a cobbled northern backstreet, the show was created by 24-year-old Tony Warren. It originally aired twice weekly, but since 2017 *Coronation Street* has been broadcast six times a week.

From the start, as well as the drama, there was warmth and humour, and the show featured strong-willed women, such as Enna Sharples, Annie Walker and Elsie Tanner. Much-loved storylines included the Ken, Mike and Deirdre love triangle, the demise of abusive Alan Bradley under a Blackpool tram, the devastating tram crash in 2010, the killing spree of Pat Phelan and Aidan Connor's suicide in 2018. The farewell of Hilda Ogden in 1987 attracted 26 million viewers – nearly half the UK population at the time.

Now, 60 years after it began, the show is an integral part of British culture and is watched by millions of viewers – both young and old alike.

As well as the stamps, additional products include a miniature sheet depicting four famous barmaids who have graced the bar of the Rovers Return – *Coronation Street*'s very own pub. A presentation pack, containing both the miniature sheet and stamp set, takes its inspiration from the show's official newspaper, *The Weatherfield Gazette*, while the design of the f.d.c. envelope features flying ducks, which are a familiar part of the set design from the early years and are now considered a show icon. A retail book with six first class stamps, four definitives and two of the special *Coronation Street* stamps (depicting Jack and Vera, and Ken and Deirdre) is also available.



## GREAT AMERICAN STAMP SHOW 2020 CANCELLED

On 22 May, the American Philatelic Society, American Topical Association and American First Day Cover Society announced the cancellation of this year's Great American Stamp Show. The show scheduled for 20–23 August in Hartford, Connecticut, is the largest annual stamp show in the United States.

Based on local state coronavirus precautions, the show would either have to be cancelled due to its size or require aggressive mitigation as an indoor activity. Therefore, to ensure the health and safety of members, dealers and visitors, the APS Board approved cancelling the show and naming Hartford as the host venue for the 2024 Great American Stamp Show.

APS Executive Director Scott English said: 'Thank you to the dealers and members committed to supporting our show. The strength of our hobby is the people in it and that's not worth risking.' He added that: 'Though the pandemic is changing our community, it will never weaken it.'

Since 1886, the American Philatelic Society's annual convention has only been cancelled once and that was in 1943 at the height of World War II.

Dealer and society booth deposits and exhibitor entry fees may be applied to next year's show in Chicago or will be refunded on request. The possibility of holding a virtual show for the original dates in August is being explored, including a possible virtual dealer bourse.

## EXPLORING STAMPS REACHES ONE MILLION VIEWS

IT has been reported that the YouTube channel Exploring Stamps has now enjoyed one million views. Exploring Stamps is dedicated to stamp collecting through fun and entertaining videos produced by Graham Beck. He travels the world (real and virtual) while sharing his experiences on social media. The videos cover a wide variety of philatelic topics, with the most recent being 'The Philatelic Revolution', 'Windmill Stamps' and 'Olympic Stamps'.

## TRADE DIARY

ALTHOUGH there has been some relaxation of the UK's lockdown rule, these are fairly minimal at the moment. With that in mind, it has been decided to again leave the 'Trade Diary' out of this month's edition of *PE*, but with the hope of it returning for the July issue. It would be great if fair organisers could email the editor (aboyd@philatelicexporter.com) with a revised list of their fairs to the end of the year as soon as the situation becomes clearer.

## YORK STAMP AND COIN FAIR IN JULY CANCELLED

DUE to the coronavirus pandemic, the organisers of the York Stamp and Coin Fair, which was due to take place in July, have announced that the event has been cancelled. The next fair at the racecourse will be held 22–23 January 2021.

## THE POSTAL MUSEUM LAUNCHES FAMILY HISTORY CAMPAIGN

TO mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day on 8 May, The Postal Museum has invited the public to share their family histories of the Post Office personnel who gave their lives during the two world wars of the last century.

The Post Office, known as the GPO prior to the 1960s, was once the largest employer in the UK, and during both world wars was a vital part of the war effort with 70,000 employees fighting in each war. Both men and women of the GPO carried out the essential job of helping to keep communication lines open. Sadly, 12,830 postal employees are recorded to have lost their lives fighting.

To commemorate those who gave their lives, postal worker James Trezies created a unique record and memorial to his fallen colleagues from the two world wars. Over the period of three years in the mid-1950s, he researched and hand-wrote the names of each of the fallen on individual sheets of cream wove paper, with each name appearing in alphabetical order. These were bound into two volumes, one for each conflict, and later donated to The Postal Museum in 2015 by The Post Office Fellowship of Remembrance. These volumes have been recently digitised and made available online with the support of The Post Office Fellowship of Remembrance and BT Archives.



The Post Office Rescue and Salvage Squad, c.1940.  
© The Postal Museum

Now, members of the public are able to access both memorial books at the GPO War Heroes website. Here, they can search the name of relatives or friends and add details about their lives through a simple form. Submissions will be reviewed by the museum team and added to the website, to bring these volumes of names alive with citizen history. It is hoped that these online memorial books will become a valuable resource for family history researchers and future generations alike.

One of the stories uncovered is that of Percy Walter Minns. He joined the Post Office as a postman in 1937, before this he had served in the Royal Navy and he rejoined the service in 1939. However, on 17 September 1939 in the early weeks of World War II, Percy died on HMS *Courageous*, along with over 500 crew members, when the ship was torpedoed by a German U-boat. He is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

The GPO War Heroes website can be viewed at [gpowarheroes.org.uk](http://gpowarheroes.org.uk)

## VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE MUSIC STAMP

MOTIVGRUPPE Musik, the international philatelic music study group based in Germany, has opened voting for the most-popular music stamp of the past year. The stamps are shown on the Motivgruppe Musik's website ([www.motivgruppe-musik.com](http://www.motivgruppe-musik.com)) and everyone has three votes to select their favourites. It is hoped that this year's competition will provide an enjoyable diversion from the restrictions everyone is facing at present.



Some of the stamps you can vote for as this year's most-popular music stamp on the Motivgruppe Musik website

## HUNFILEX TO BE HELD IN SPRING 2022

TO celebrate its centenary, the Hungarian Federation will hold a Specialised World Stamp Exhibition in Budapest from 31 March–3 April 2022. The exhibition, designated as Hunfilex 2022, will have four competitive classes – traditional, postal history, thematic and literature – with a total of around 1600 frames.

The exhibition has been granted provisional patronage by the FIP, subject to confirmation at the next FIP Congress, which is currently due to be held in Jakarta on 10 November 2020.

This will be the first World Stamp Exhibition to be held in Budapest since the 1971 exhibition commemorating the centenary of the first Hungarian postage stamp.

## LIVERPOOL 2021

ON another positive note, plans for Liverpool 2021 are progressing well. This two-day stamp fair, running Friday 5 February (10.30am–5.30pm)–Saturday February 6 (10am–4pm) will be the 23rd time it has been held. The venue is the Liner Hotel, Lord Nelson Street, Liverpool L3 5QB, which is a three-minute walk from Lime Street Station. Beside the dealers present, societies are invited to put up displays outside the main hall. There is a very mixed group of 23 dealers confirmed, including those covering postal history, GB, thematics, new issues, foreign, George VI and general Commonwealth, Europe and Hong Kong/China. At the time of writing, there are two tables still available. The dealers come from all around the country (such as Reading, Twickenham, Basingstoke, Fakenham and Stafford), along with several who are more local. Many of the dealers have been attending for well over 10 years.

A programme is produced, which is sent to the attending dealers and many hundreds of collectors, as well as societies around the country. Advertisements are also placed in all of the philatelic publications. This year's fair showed a substantial increase in the attendance, which is always pleasing to see.

For more information, please contact Terry Barnett ([terryhunts@yahoo.com](mailto:terryhunts@yahoo.com)).



## Europa Stamp Competition • Royal Mail's Rico Back Steps Down • Letter: Postal Delays

## EUROPA STAMP COMPETITION

POSTEUROP announced the launch of its most-beautiful 2020 Europa stamp competition on 9 May 2020 (Europe Day). In these troubled times, it seems appropriate that this year's theme of the Europa stamp issue is 'Ancient Postal Routes' – reflecting the fact that postal operators, as Universal Service Providers, have been serving communities for centuries.

The Europa stamp design competition has been a yearly online event for the public since 2002. The online voting competition is open to the public. A separate Jury competition has been held since 2011, with philatelic experts invited to serve as jury members. To vote go to [www.posteurop.org/europa2020](http://www.posteurop.org/europa2020)



Stamps in the running for the most-beautiful Europa stamp of 2020

## DEPUTY POSTMASTER GENERAL LEAVES USPS

In his column this month, Wayne Youngblood outlines the difficulties facing the USPS with the resignation and appointment of a new Postmaster General. However, it has now been reported that their Deputy Postmaster General, Ronald Stroman, is to leave on 1 June. Stroman, who has served as the 20th deputy postmaster general for the past nine years, gave notice of his departure on 8 May, two days after Louis DeJoy was selected to be the new PMG.

## ROYAL MAIL'S RICO BACK STEPS DOWN

ROYAL Mail announced on 15 May that Rico Back had stepped down as Group CEO, and from the Group Board, with immediate effect. Keith Williams becomes interim Executive Chair of Royal Mail Group and Stuart Simpson becomes interim CEO of Royal Mail (UKPIL). Back had served two years in the role.

In the same announcement, Royal Mail said that year on year, its revenue was down £22 million in April and that there had been a substantial switch from letters to parcels in the UK, with UK parcel volume up 31% and revenue up 20%. Additionally, there were 308 million fewer addressed letters (down 33%), with letter revenue down 23%, offset, in part, by 36 million more parcels. As would be expected, there was a shift from business-to-business to business-to-consumer parcels across all markets in the UK and overseas.

## LETTER: POSTAL DELAYS

While everyone's attention has been focused on the coronavirus and its effect on business, Royal Mail seems to have quietly buried a piece of bad news. Who among us knew that the delivery of letters (if not parcels) on Saturdays has now been suspended? (It is not clear whether this is for the duration of the current crisis or permanently.)

Professionally, this is a nuisance if nothing more. For a start, it risks delaying copies of *PE* in the post. But it comes at a particularly insensitive time for locked-down customers still looking forward to one of their few remaining means of communication – especially in the light of this Royal Mail announcement: 'We understand the importance of the postal service in keeping the UK connected... We have also listened to our hard-working colleagues who have asked us to ease the additional burden on them.'

As someone within Royal Mail has already observed, this is absurd. The move will simply increase the load on 'our hard-working colleagues' during the week.

Michael Round  
London SW19

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# Obituary: In Remembrance of Rodney A Perry

Gary Watson FRPSL, FRPSV, FACCC of NSW, FBSAP, Senior Specialist and Auctioneer at Abacus Auctions, remembers Rod Perry.

ALL who knew him well will be saddened to learn that Rod Perry passed away at the beginning of May. To quote his friend of 50 years, Allan Levy, we have lost a giant of our industry.

Rod Perry started trading in stamps while at school. Right from the beginning he was a bold risk-taker. He opened his first bricks-and-mortar business, a retail shop in Melbourne's CBD, in the early-1970s and made his first fortune as a major supplier to the speculative 'investment' market through that decade.

Always alert to opportunity, Rod saw that public auctions gave him far greater access to the market, not just in Australia but overseas. Right from the beginning, he took an international perspective, courting both buyers and vendors from England, America and elsewhere. In addition, he became a familiar figure at auctions in those countries, on many occasions making huge purchases that cemented his reputation as a major player. His Rarities Auctions conducted in 1977, 1978 and 1979 offered some truly astonishing material, much of which Rod owned. I think I'm right in saying he is the only person who has twice owned and twice sold the iconic King George V 2d. *tete-beche* pair!

A keen believer that one had to spend money to make money, Rod spent bucketloads. Stewart Wright from Status has many times been the dominant buyer at other auctions, especially in Sydney. During the 1970s, Rod Perry was like Stewart Wright on steroids. At the time, Harmsers of London were running regular auctions in Sydney. Rod was the major buyer at all these sales. Phil Downie, Rod's direct competitor in Melbourne, was more than happy to have Rod vacuum up all he wanted from his auctions. And if there wasn't enough to buy locally, there was always the northern hemisphere. I well remember Rod coming back from a 1988 *Corinphila* sale in Switzerland with many of the best items from Robert Gibbs' famous collection of GRI overprints plus an array of New Zealand Chalons that certainly were not the flavour of the month! Everyone in the trade thought he had gone totally bonkers. True to form, Rod ignored the naysayers, successfully re-offered all this material straight away and reinforced his status as an outstanding operator.

Along the way, Rod developed a passion for collecting the stamps of Victoria. From the mid-1970s, mentored and nurtured by J R W ('Bill') Purves, Rod became the buyer of Victoria. Purves had encouraged him to purchase outright the Gold Medal collection formed by John Gartner, which was the basis of one of Rod's earliest public auctions. Rod was nonplussed that many of the important items failed to sell, which inspired him to start his own collection of his home state.

Rod went on to be the major purchaser at the Henry Harvey sale in London in 1976. When Bill Purves' monumental collection was presented in six Robson Lowe auctions in London between 1980 and 1982, Rod Perry was seated front and centre and was virtually unbeatable, buying the lion's share of all those offerings. He also made major private acquisitions, notably the holdings of Melbourne dealers Robert Rex and Greg Fair. On one occasion, Rod flew to California to buy the important collection formed by Dale Forster's grandfather, completed the transaction at the airport and flew straight back to Australia! The result of all this frenetic activity was that, in a period of less than a decade, Rod created what must be the

most comprehensive and important collection ever formed of the stamps and postal history of a single issuing entity. By his own assessment, and he would have known, Rod said that he owned at least 90% of the key items available. In 1984 at 'Ausipex', Rod showed just the 1850-58 period and, as a novice exhibitor, walked away with the Grand Prix National, the first time an Australian had achieved a Grand Prix at an international exhibition.

Rod often complained that the *Australian Commonwealth Specialists Catalogue* was inaccurate or not detailed enough. About 1990, he purchased the business of Brusden White and installed Geoff Kellow as editor, with a brief to make the ACSC the best single-country catalogue in the world. This was a masterstroke for which every member of the trade should applaud Rod for his courage and his foresight. Today, the ACSC has grown from one to nine volumes and is the primary general-access work on everything from the pre-Kangaroo period to the postage dues, plus the postal stationery. If he had done nothing else, the catalogue would be a fitting legacy for Rod.

Despite having made his name in stamps, Rod's interest in traditional philately had begun to wane. His epiphany was to realise that stamps were far more interesting on cover than loose, whether mint (which bored him) or used. A cover told the whole story and Rod decided to turn his attention to acquiring as many as he could. It is no exaggeration to say that he bought millions of them. They occupied his time and his premises.

This new passion caused him to decide that he had done all he could with auctions. The final Rodney A Perry Auction Galleries public sale was on 22 November 2001. It was sale Number 210. Rod, as only Rod could, managed to find two white knights in the form of Arthur Gray and Paul Fletcher. Not only did they pay Rod an eye-watering amount for his auctions, they also acquired the ACSC and Geoff Kellow along with it. Rod not only landed on his feet, yet again, but he was paid to call Millennium's early auctions and negotiated a low-cost outlet for his own stock. A win/win, at least for Rod!

Rod's interest in covers wasn't so much about postal history as about the usage of the stamps themselves. Ever the innovator, he set about spreading the gospel according to Rod, penning one of the longest-running series of articles in Australian philatelic publishing history. He championed things like solo usage and the largest-known frankings of a particular stamp. He encouraged his readers to form collections of single definitive series and to search out examples of every possible purpose for which a stamp could be used. He attracted many people of like mind, both here and overseas, who have created usage collections of distinction. They will sorely miss his leadership, his flag-waving and his advice.

We last saw Rod in October last year. He and Madel visited Abacus to view one of our sales. He appeared to be in high spirits and good health. Only a month later, we learned that Rod was critically ill.

Outside of stamps, Rod loved his family, his dogs, classic cars, good food and fine wine, especially fine wine. As we reflect on the career and achievements of the man who for more than half a century was one of the most important players in world philately, it is appropriate that we all raise a glass of chardonnay to his memory.

Vale Rodney Arthur Perry. Rest in peace.





# Crime Column

To publicise philatelic losses in *Philatelic Exporter's* 'Crime Column', please email the editor (aboyd@philatelicexporter.com).

## Valuable Canadian, Newfoundland and British Columbian revenue stamps missing

NINE valuable British North American revenue stamps were stolen between 6–8 May, while on their way back to their owner in the United States after being expertised by the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation's Expert Committee (Greene Foundation).

The theft happened while the material was in the custody of the FedEx Corporation somewhere in the south east of the United States. The theft was reported to FedEx and to Hugh Wood (USA) Ltd and case files have been opened. The stamps are all identified by their individual number in *The Canadian Revenue Stamp Catalogue* (the leading authority on Canadian and British North America Revenues): BCD1, BCT1, FB53a, FSC10, FSC13, FWS2, NFB1 and TNR7.

Unfortunately, once in the hands of a carrier, return shipments are subject to the forces of transportation, which sometimes result in unforeseen incidents. That is why the Greene Foundation strongly recommends the use of philatelic insurance. Additionally, the Greene Foundation reviews its best practices regularly to ensure improvements in the delivery of its services.

For more information, please contact Ingo Nessel at b62hkg@yahoo.ca



Some of the British North American revenue stamps missing after being expertised at the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation

# Buying British Stamps

Current Market Values



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Stamps 44p to £1.99	60%	Sorted by value
Stamps £2 to £10	65%	Sorted by value
GB MNH Decimal Stamp Collections	47%	UNSORTED - Pre 2000
GB MNH Decimal Stamp Collections	55%	UNSORTED - Post 2000
Unsorted MNH Stamps 1971-2019	48%	Made up in Bags of £100, £200 and £500 face value
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First (1st) Class NVI Stamps (self-adhesive)	62%	All 1st class stamps with self-adhesive gum, definitive, commemorative regional and Christmas.
First (1st) Class NVI Stamps (lick and stick)	50%	Ditto 76p with NON-ELLIPTICAL perf pre 1993
Second (2nd) Class NVI Stamps (lick and stick gum)	64%	All 2nd class stamps with lick and stick gum, definitive, commemorative regional and Christmas.
Second (2nd) Class NVI (Self-adhesive gum)	68%	All 2nd class stamps with self-adhesive gum, definitive, commemorative regional and Christmas.
Second (2nd) Class NVI Stamps (lick and stick)	50%	Ditto (65p) with NON-ELLIPTICAL perf pre 1993
First Class LARGE NVI (self-adhesive)	65%	ALL TYPES (£1.15)
First Class LARGE NVI (lick and stick)	62%	ALL TYPES (£1.15)
Second Class LARGE NVI (self-adhesive)	70%	ALL TYPES (88p)
Second Class LARGE NVI (lick and stick)	65%	ALL TYPES (88p)
1st Class Signed For Stamps (standard & large)	62%	Standard 67% Large All types (£2.06 and £2.45) poor sellers
Special Delivery Stamps	62%	up to 100g 72% up to 500g (£6.70 > 100g and £7.50 > 500g poor sellers)
Europe up to 20g, 40g & 60g NVI Stamps	80p ea	Up to 20g, 40g & 60g grams (£1.42)
Worldwide up to 20g, 40g & 60g NVI Stamps	95p ea	Up to 20g, 40g & 60g grams (£1.63)
Europe 'E' Rate up to 20g Stamps	80p ea	'E' Rate Stamps (£1.42)
Europe & Worldwide NVI Stamps up to 100g	E £0.95 ea	ALL TYPES (88p) W £1.40 ea Up to 100g (e £1.68 & w/w £2.42)
Presentation Packs	47%	from 1971 to 1998
Presentation Packs	55%	from 1999 to 2015
Presentation Packs	60%	from 2016 to 2019
Presentation Packs	68%	2020
Royal Mail Year Books	58%	1984 to 2000
Royal Mail Year Books	60%	2001 to 2020
Prestige Booklets	48%	up to 1998
Prestige Booklets	55%	1999 to 2014
Prestige Booklets	60%	2015 to 2020
Booklets with Stamps up to 29p	47%	folding & retail etc
Booklets with Stamps from 30p to 68p	55%	folding & retail etc
Smiler Sheets	60%	Lick & Stick Gum
Smiler Sheets	62%	Self-adhesive Gum

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25May2020



# Disinfection and Diseases – Disinfected Mail

In these seemingly unprecedented times, Michael Burzan explains that postal history has reflected the fight against epidemics over many centuries.

IN these days that seem so unique for our lifetime, philately and postal history may widen the perspective and demonstrate how the fight against diseases and epidemics has accompanied mankind throughout history.

Repeatedly, over recent centuries, letters have been treated with various measures to curb the spread of diseases. Such items are rarely attractive, often stained or browned, perforated with an 'indexing iron' or knife stitches. At first sight, they may seem damaged and worthless to the uninitiated collector. So even more, information about these pieces of history should be spread widely, to prevent the destruction of remaining items. They may not have the appeal for everyday collectors, but they can help to spread the non-lethal 'virus philatelicus' in a more sophisticated clientele.

Denis Vandervelde from the Disinfected Mail Study Circle ([disinfectedmail.org](http://disinfectedmail.org)) explains:

'The Republics of Venice and Ragusa (Dubrovnik) enforced quarantine from the 1370s. Out of this grew a complex of health passports, ships' bills of health, quarantine guards and lazarettos. The same states introduced the "perfuming" of mail from the Levant with sweet-smelling herbs and flowers a half-century later; a treatment which left no discernible traces. With the advent of the terrible plagues of the mid-17th century, most Mediterranean ports smoked or scorched mail from suspect vessels, sometimes after dousing it with vinegar. Wafers or seals, legitimising the opening of covers to treat the contents, are seldom seen before the 1720s. The earliest cachets to certify treatment appeared in the 1780s. These measures were mainly directed at plague, though England and France also quarantined ships against yellow fever.'

## To London's Corsinis in 1590

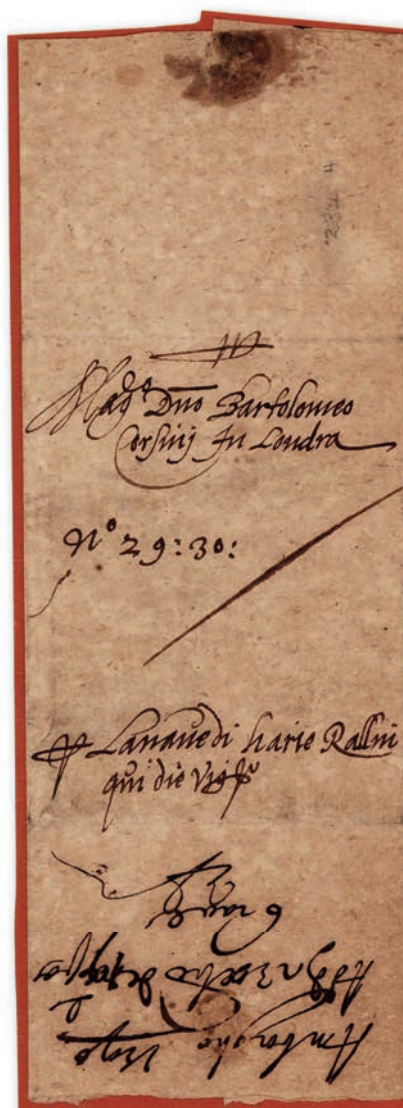
Hamburg authorities caused the heating of mail to disinfect it against yellow fever as early as the 16th century. This is evidenced by a ship's letter, which was sent from Hamburg to London in 1590 and is regarded as the earliest German mail item of this kind (1).

It is addressed to the Corsini brothers, descendants from a Florentine princely family, Filippo (1538–1601) and Bartolomeo (1545–1613), who increased the family wealth

thanks to their large and well-organised web of commercial offices around Europe, which were connected with a very fast private postal service. A letter of Bartolomeo from London would need less than three days to reach Florence – maybe even faster than today. They also developed a large banking and brokerage business.

The letter shown comes from the award-winning exhibition collection of a doctor, 'De Prohibitione Contagionum – From the History of the Prevention of Contagions', which was divided into four main parts: Irrational against epidemic diseases; Empirical against epidemic diseases from the beginning to the 19th century; The path to knowledge; and The application of microbiological knowledge since the 19th century. A large number of better pieces were included, such as a pre-philately letter from 1703 signed by Emperor Leopold I, documents on quarantine, plague and cholera, and letters pierced for disinfection. Forty more sheets were filled with philatelic items until 2010. It was offered by Christoph Gärtner with an estimate of €2000, but closed at €1800. The complete collection can be downloaded ([www.stamp-auctions.de](http://www.stamp-auctions.de)).

Felzmann in Dusseldorf, Germany, included 277 covers treated in different ways in its



1 A 1590 letter, part of the Corsini correspondence, from Hamburg to London and disinfected by heat

“...over recent centuries, letters have been treated with various measures to curb the spread of diseases”





2 A 250ore stamp from Denmark's miniature sheet for Hafnia 87 illustrated a 1711 decree on the disinfection of letters



3 Sanitary passport produced in 1723

July 2019 auction, demonstrating 400 years of disinfected mail. In older times, people believed that diseases such as the plague, cholera and yellow fever could be spread by post. Because of this, postal authorities and states attempted to disinfect all letters that came from areas in which epidemics had broken out. For instance, yellow fever spread in Spain between 1804 and 1805, while cholera broke out in Germany in 1831 and the plague in India in 1899. This meant that postal consignments were redirected to quarantine stations where they were disinfected – by smoking them with a special powder, dipping them in vinegar or baking them in an oven. Incisions were made and holes punched in the letters beforehand so that the contents remained intact but the viruses and germs were killed.

Philatelist Gerhard Binder, who was overseeing the collection, said: 'The population was kept regularly informed about the latest infection areas – consulates would send weekly reports to the authorities containing information.' The resulting instructions were then sent to the responsible officials. Quarantine stations for letters were established, for example for mail travelling via the Mediterranean route, which was rerouted to Malta or, in the case of letters travelling via the Balkan route, to Zemun in Serbia. One letter was sent in 1845 from Alexandria to Marseille and disinfected in Malta. It had two vertical incisions and bears the stamped wording 'Purifié au Lazaret Malta' (purified in the quarantine area in Malta).

### Document from Denmark

Pre-philately from a wide range of countries includes letters and documents on diseases. There is even a 250ore stamp in Denmark's first miniature sheet for the Denmark World Philatelic Exhibition, Hafnia 87, from March 1985 (Mi 831) that reproduces a decree on the disinfection of letters from 27 August 1711 (2).

The Schlegel Berlin stamp shop has several decorative sanitary passports printed and used in Italy in the 18th century, like a 1713 medical certificate from Pesaro, Papal States, with a nice illustration or from Toscolano, Republic of Veneto, for consignments (€50–€60 each) (3).

A triple-sealed letter from 1779 in Old Germany's Württemberg, signed 'T. Authorized Feldmeister', served as an epidemic passport for a flock of sheep, permitting 'the above 123 mutton to trot and pass meadows and waters to all other places safely and without hindrance...' (Feuser, starting at €100) (4).

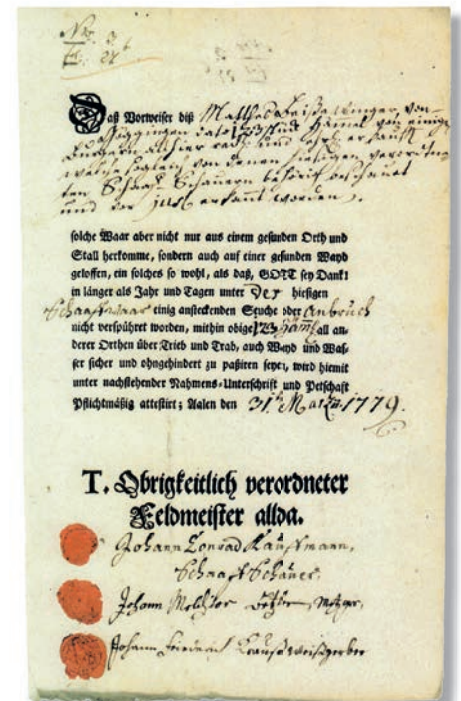
Veuskens offers two Disease Ordinances in France's pre-philately. One of 1786 from Marseille, printed on both sides of watermarked paper, with various signatures inside (€50); the other similar but from Toulon and dated April 1791 (€35).

Chris Rainey has one of the few recorded examples of disinfected incoming mail to London from Jamaica. Dating from around 1795, it is a wrapper with 'P Packet charged 3d' in manuscript, and a straight-line 'JAMAICA' applied in Kingston on the reverse. It was disinfected by scorching, showing a clear shadow of tongs used in the process (£200).

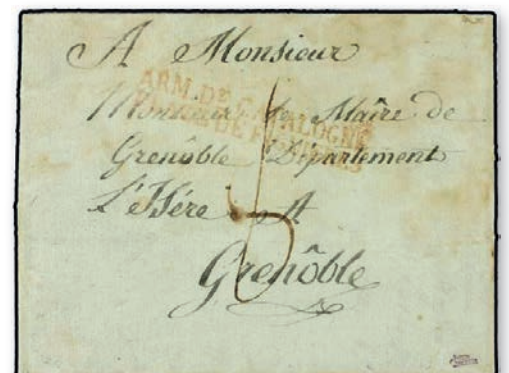
Spanish-French connections may be documented with a letter of 10 January 1813 that was largely stained by disinfection with vinegar. It was sent from Figueras during the French occupation, with the cancel 'ARM. DE CATALOGNE/PLACE DE FIGUERES' in red (Soler y Llach, €200) (5).

### Cholera pandemics

In 19th century, six perennial waves of cholera pandemics spread through countries and continents, costing the lives of millions. For decades, London was affected, possibly initially from the naval trade links of the British East India company. In the Crimean War, more people died from the disease than from military action.



4 A triple-sealed letter served as an epidemic passport for a flock of sheep



5 An 1813 letter that was disinfected with vinegar



Malta was one of the most important traffic hubs for international mail. Here, disinfecting letters was carried out over many years. An interesting folded entire was sent in 1829 from there to Miss Hannah Parker in Dunbarton, NH, United States, displaying an underlined quarantine partial strike red handstamp with matching 'Ship', manuscript '2' rate and a light red 'Boston' c.d.s. (6). It reads in part 'I think even though there should be a good understanding between the Sultan and the mediating powers of England and France, for I fear that the Pashalick of Acre will not be in a desirable state at present', and 'The plague has appeared in Syria but to what extent it ranges we have not heard' (CompuStamp, \$2250).

In 1831, the cholera pandemic hit Germany. Letters were perforated and disinfected, with various cancels used to indicate the process. From this time, a Prussian letter, with content, went from Berlin to Poznan, with disinfection cancellations 'Disinficirt.' as a one-line and 'SAN.S.' in a circle (estimated at €200) (7).

A group of five letters at David Feldman included two 1832 entires with boxed 'LAZARETTO SAN/ROCCO DI LIVORNO' disinfected handstamp. These were recommended as a useful group for a Cyprus postal history collector (£400).

An attractive cholera letter, dated 11 November 1854, travelled with a 9k. value from Austria's first issue (Mi 5 Yalll) on machine paper from Trieste to Lugo (8). On the way, it received incense slits in Ferrara and the decorative disinfection cancel 'Ferrara Netta Fuori e Dentro', indicating it had been cleaned outside and inside (Gert Müller, estimated at €1000).

The most expensive Austria offer at Müller on 31 May 2020 was a spectacular registered military letter from Wallachia, which was occupied during the Crimean War (9). It was franked with two machine paper copies of a 6k. brown (type III), one of them on the back, and a 9k. blue (type IIIb), with all values in fresh colours and good-to-wide margins. The cover bears a circular 'K K ÖST. FP KRAJOVA 20/12' (1855) with a one line 'RECOM' on the 6k. and with a blue sender cachet above left. On the back, there was Alt-Orsova with a disinfection cancel of '22.12.1855' and transit 'TEMESVAR 24.12.' to Pesth (Hungary) with arrival stamp. The asking price was €6000!

The most recent auction lot I want to mention was sterilised by ironing out (10). This was a German 20pf. stationery postcard to the Hanover auctioneer Jürgen Grobe, sent in March 1967 with 'warmest regards from the quarantine camp'. The postal document bears two red handstamps saying 'Germ-free ironed/smallpox quarantine/2178 Otterndorf = Müggendorf', complete with the blue official seal of the State Health Office (Christoph Gärtner, €90).

### Red Cross and anti-tuberculosis

The frequently cited 'Spanish flu' epidemic of 1918 has not been mentioned explicitly on European stamps, but I assume it was one reason (among others) for the numerous charity issues with surcharges for the benefit of the Red Cross and other welfare organisations.

The most lethal disease affecting lungs until today is tuberculosis. The Global Tuberculosis Report of the WHO gives a number of 10 million cases per year and 1.4 million deaths in 2015 alone. This plague has frequently been a reason for charity issues round the world.

MICHEL's online catalogue lists 473 hits for tuberculosis, in alphabetical order for Europe, starting with Austria's 'Youth and Tuberculosis Care' of September 1924 (Mi 442/46), which is best rated on f.d.c. at €180; followed by 'Anti-Tuberculosis-Fonds' of May 1948 (Mi 868/77), with beautiful flowers, cheap mint and used, but rare on f.d.c. where it is valued at €400. The 1948 set (ANK 877/86) on three registered covers closed at €130 in April at Thomas Juranek in Vienna. The multi-coloured combination printing of intaglio and typography did not succeed perfectly in some cases, so rare errors with missing colours and proofs occurred, which are estimated at three to four figure values (11). The 1s.+50g. 'White

Gentian' missing the blue (Mi 876 Fl) recently fetched €420 at a Deider auction in Munich. Another mint example from the sheet margin, certified Soecknick, appeared at Merkurphila where a minimum of €580 was asked.

One of the oldest issues is the trio by the Dutch Post Office, dedicated to the Amsterdam Association to fight tuberculosis on 21 December 1906 (12). The horizontal format in an Art Nouveau style include the Imperial coat of arms and four symbols for air, light and vitality. Most sets were cancelled sheetwise 'AMSTERDAM



6 Disinfected mail addressed to Dunbarton, NH, and sent via Boston



7 During a cholera pandemic, this letter was sent from Berlin to Poznan



8 An Austrian cholera letter from Trieste 1854 with Italian disinfection cancel, cleaning slits and browning by heat (Müller)





9 A military cover from Wallachia with a disinfection cancel had an asking price of €6000



11 Austria's 1948 anti-tuberculosis issue has a number of errors



10 Postcard ironed for disinfection in 1967 that was sent to philatelist and auctioneer Jürgen Grobe



12 The Netherlands 1906 anti-tuberculosis issue



14 Belgium's 1933 anti-tuberculosis issue



13 The 1921 anti-tuberculosis set from the Free City of Dantzig is rare with genuinely used postal cancellations



15 Registered letter with all seven values of the Belgium 1933 anti-tuberculosis issue

31 JAN 07 10-12 N., other cancellations and mint unhinged sets are rarer. Michael Rogers has an online offer with four mint never hinged plate flaws of this issue on a stockpage, which contains the following mast numbers: 84P, 84PM, 84PM1 and 84PM2 in nice quality (NVP, €1200; estimate \$300–€400).

The October 1921 bicoloured set of three from the Free City of Dantzig (Mi 90/92), which represent St George fighting the dragon, are cheap mint and c.t.o. but rare with genuinely used postal cancellations (13). The lower-two values are perforated, the higher value, larger format was rouletted but not always perfectly separated from the sheets, so quality is a special matter here. Valued at €400 certified, auction offers started between €100–€140 for nicely used sets or covers in 2020.

Belgium has the longest tradition of charity stamps supporting the fight against tuberculosis. Four dozen issues, many with six or more values, a number of booklets and miniature sheets have been dedicated to this topic since 1910! One of the best sets is from 1933 (Mi 366/72) at €800 in mint unhinged condition (14), and estimated between €140 and €250 in recent auctions on a registered letter (15). An imperf. signed Tuberculosis proof set of 1934 (Mi 386U-392U), started at CHF460 in May at Helvetia; other issues from the 1950s and 1960s are priced below €100.



Michael Burzan formerly traded in stamps and philatelic literature but is now an established philatelic author, columnist and editor.

# Coping with the Challenges of Coronavirus

As the philatelic world continues to operate under new and extremely challenging conditions, a number of different businesses have provided an insight into how they are adapting to the impact of coronavirus.

## Philatelic Traders' Society

**The PTS has been providing help and advice to its members on navigating their way through the crisis.**

There are, of course, always two sides to every story. The impact of this pandemic has meant that there has been a resurgence of stamp collecting. With most of the world in lockdown, more and more people are getting involved. Here at the Philatelic Traders' Society, we can see new collectors researching the hobby, asking us questions and finding dealers to connect with. We have also seen a marked increase in new philatelic social media accounts, especially on Instagram.

This doesn't mean that our members have not been hit. They, like many other businesses, have had to learn to change and adapt with the times. Philately is a very personal hobby with dealers and auction houses developing long-term relationships with collectors to build an in-depth understanding of what they are collecting and how they can help build and expand collections and exhibitions. These dealers have had to adapt their one-on-one relationships. Retailers have had to close and auction houses have been hosting closed-door events. The stamp show calendar is empty. Some of our members have had to quickly set up and launch online sales platforms, learn about social media and install video conferencing so they can stay connected. They have had to do this quickly in order to keep driving business forward. Many of them have had to furlough staff and take out bridging loans.

The Philatelic Traders' Society have been supporting our members throughout. At the start of lockdown, we surveyed them to better understand how the pandemic was

impacting their business and how we could best help them through this unprecedented time. We have a strong member-only Facebook community, with members helping each other out with advice and support. We will continue to support our members throughout this tough time and to help drive and raise the awareness of the hobby. As the lockdown continues, we are delighted that so many of our members are now reporting a positive shift in their business activity as the result of changes they are making. This month, the PTS launches an enhanced online directory of its members allowing collectors to find dealers and auction houses they can trust, cross-check eBay handles against our member list and



find the philatelic professionals with flexible contact and buying/selling options. If you'd like to join the PTS, you can find out more about applying at [www.thepts.net](http://www.thepts.net)

## Internet Philatelic Dealers Association

Michael Dodd, the General Secretary of the Internet Philatelic Dealers Association (IPDA), provides his view on the effects of the current situation on internet sellers and the likely outcome in the years ahead.

Being a stamp dealer who sells on the internet during these past months, when coronavirus has affected us all, has brought its challenges and opportunities.

As a global association, the IPDA (Internet Philatelic Dealers Association) have had differing comments from our members. Comments that reflect the

countries they live in, the material they sell, the internet channel they use, their brand profile, and the size of their business and customer base.

In summary, there is no one consistent theme to the observations we hear from members. We have feedback that sales have increased during the coronavirus lockdown at the same time as others have reported no change or even a decrease in sales.

What change has been seen is likely a function of location. For example, the USA and UK/Europe may have seen an increase in domestic and local market share, while other regions, say Australia and Asia, might be seeing sales decline because a greater percentage of their sales are international rather than domestic. One factor behind this is thought to be the ability of collectors to continue to get their orders from domestic sellers, whereas the delivery of orders from international sellers have stopped or slowed down very badly.

Yes, we expect more collectors are spending more time with their stamps while in lockdown. And yes we believe this might be leading to more purchases, but only at the domestic and local market level.

Why? Because it is likely collectors will not want to wait a long time for their orders. They will be turning to their domestic and local dealers who can offer a much faster delivery because they are less affected by the lack or absence of international mail deliveries.

A European member has said his website sales have increased dramatically and he views this to be because people have found stamp collecting again. The lockdown has given them time to spend with their stamps, which has helped take their minds off the situation and its challenges.



A dealer in the USA comments that it has been mostly business as usual. He noted he has not been getting orders from some countries and mail delivery has been slow on only a few mailings, but his business has not significantly changed, yet.

A dealer in the Asia region saw sales continue at the same rate during March and April but slow down considerable in May. He commented that all his sales are international, and with the international airmail service restrictions seen in so many countries, he felt that buyers were moving their business to sellers in their own country rather than overseas sellers. That might account for the apparent increases in sales some dealers report.

Observations from Australia have some members reporting sales have dropped, while another has seen sales increase.

One thing almost certain is that internet sellers are likely to see a change to their business model in the months and even years ahead.

The internet made the world smaller when material could be shipped around the world quickly. With today's international aviation issues, resulting in a lack of fast and timely airmail services, the internet no longer makes the world smaller in this context.

One view is that it is going to take months, even years, for international aviation and airmail to recover. There is surely a great opportunity to grow sales from large domestic market bases like the USA and UK.

The outcome will be positive for many dealers who have a large domestic and local market base. For sellers who rely on overseas-based customers, the outcome is potentially poor. The internet selling model after coronavirus is likely to be very different. A situation many dealers will have to consider how to address.



Finally, it is not a simple matter to even begin to articulate this topic. The months ahead will bring interesting aspects for us all to consider.

## Ray J Howes

Ray J Howes has been an active stamp dealer for around 50 years. His first tentative steps into stamp trading were postal approvals when he was 15 years old. He subsequently moved on to building a successful private client list worldwide, selling mainly GB and US philatelic items.

I don't know about you, but for me, my current 'house arrest' (lockdown) has brought forth a whole host of advantages

and disadvantages selling and, more importantly, buying new stamp stock. And, of course, the added difficulty of visiting people who have stamp collections they wish to sell brings more problems – one of which, if they choose to let you visit, is how to view it safely? Well, a few weeks ago, I spent an hour or so inside a seller's

The outcome will be positive for many dealers who have a large domestic and local market base

conservatory on my own wending my way through his collection of Great Britain. We communicated via the shout method. It was a successful outcome. I left the cash in his conservatory. Not the best way for seller and buyer to conduct business, but it's been my experience of late that those willing to go down the route of selling their

collections are few and far between. No surprise there. I guess consigning stamp collections to auction is probably safer for most people now. Safer for me too.

I say safer but, sadly, the opportunity of visiting private sellers retreats as more of them put their safety first before disposing of their philatelic assets. Although, some light maybe coming from the end of a long tunnel because yesterday (10 May), it was announced that an ease to the current restrictions will be implemented in England. Mind you, I can't see myself being inundated with requests any time soon to visit people desperate to get rid of their stamp collections. But you never know.

However, I have seen a sharp spike in my online sales. Maybe a direct cause and effect of people having a lot of time at home to cruise stamp sites instead of being at work. But there is certainly going to be a huge change in the way that business will be conducted, particularly in open-to-the-public stamp auctions (although that now looks to change). Something which affects me in a smaller way than it might do many other fellow stamp dealers. After all, it's better to actually see and feel what you might purchase, rather than buying from postal stamp auctions where, all you have to go by is a sometimes less-than-accurate description of what you might get instead of what occasionally you don't. Then you've got to send it all back!

On another plus side, our main tool of the trade luckily remains unaffected by the pandemic. Stamps can still be bought online by our clients and we still have access to buying them from postal auctions, etc. And there is always a brave soul somewhere eager to flog their collection from home direct. Aside

from the tragic loss of life, socially and economically, the global cut and thrust of dealing has taken a huge hit, recovery 'back to normal' is probably on a far-away horizon. But remaining positive is the key issue here. Besides stamp collecting isn't going away any time soon. The sustenance and the sheer joy of philately will, I'm sure,



ensure that this viral crisis won't starve our collective imaginations nor our willingness to continue doing what we all love doing – buying and selling stamps and collecting them too!

## Cherrystone Auctions

Josh Buchsbayew is Vice President of Cherrystone Auctions in New York. He began working there in 2002, after a career in finance. As an appraiser and lot describer, Josh has vast experience with stamps of the world. His personal interest is United States Classics.

Fortunately, at Cherrystone, we were already equipped to 'work from home' as all our systems can run remotely, so we were able to proceed uninterrupted once the lockdown orders came through. We have individuals (only one at a time) going into the office every few days to check the mail, ship material and bring more stamps to work on from home. We held a sale on 22 April and ran it on dual online platforms (CherrystoneLive and Stamp Auction Network), and participation and realisations were extraordinary. FedEx has been working well and we are using it to ship both to and from our offices/homes. We are actively collecting consignments for future sales and adjusting to new ways to 'meet' our clients, including via FaceTime and Zoom.

Stamp collectors are stuck in their homes like everyone else and luckily they can still enjoy their hobby online. Our sales on 12 May and 13 May were also run exclusively online and our plan is to continue with our regular auction schedule, despite the fact that New York city remains the epicentre of the virus.

We hope everyone remains safe and well and look forward to a time when we can meet in person again.



At our 22 April auction, Cherrystone sold a 1880 1c. dark ultramarine from the 1880 Special Printing of the 1879 Issue for \$13,500 (lot 193).

## Stanley Gibbons

With London 2020 postponed, Stanley Gibbons decided to launch an online, single-sheet philatelic competition aimed at bringing the philatelic community together during the current crisis.

Titled the Stanley Gibbons Blue competition, the competition took its inspiration from prestigious institutions who award 'Blues' to those individuals who represent the highest level of excellence in their field. In the competition, a Stanley Gibbons Blue was awarded to collectors who successfully conveyed philately's best quality – its ability to represent history's most significant moments. No extra points were awarded for value, quality or condition. The competition ran until 5 May on a special Stanley Gibbons website ([sgcompetitions.co.uk](http://sgcompetitions.co.uk)).

Two categories were available in the competition – Apprentice or Master. The Apprentice category was for new collectors, with less than two years of experience, while the Master category was reserved for more advanced collectors. All entries were displayed on the Stanley Gibbons website and members of the public were asked to vote for their favourites. Master entries were also reviewed by Peter Cockburn, Vice President of the Royal Philatelic Society, and Graham Winters, Chair of the Association of British Philatelic Societies. The judges said: 'The competition was well-supported and it was a pleasure to judge the final submissions.'

After voting, in the Apprentice class, the top-three were Aditya Singh, Susan Taylor and Cleo Lownster. For the Master class, Keith Brandon, with 'The Sad Story of Nurse Albine Pecha', was named the overall winner and Lew Paterson, with 'The Transition of the Austrian Postal System after the Anschluss' was named runner up.

All Apprentice category winners were awarded their choice of a Stanley Gibbons catalogue, a £25 SG shop voucher and a Stanley Gibbons Teal certificate. Master winners will see their entries displayed in the new 399 Stanley Gibbons Gallery and will receive an exclusive invitation to the opening of the refurbished SG building. They will also receive an annual subscription to GSM, a £50 SG shop voucher and a Stanley Gibbons Blue certificate.

The competition received 78 entries, with entries, and votes, from across four continents – Asia, North America, Australia and Europe. A total of 1203 were registered to vote, with the poll receiving 2328 votes.



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HONG KONG	£4.50 per HK\$100
IRELAND	To advise
ISLE OF MAN	To advise
JAPAN	35p per ¥100
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NEW ZEALAND	£15.00 per NZ\$100
NORWAY	To advise
SWEDEN	To advise
SWITZERLAND (FROM 1964)	£38.00 per 100 SFR
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# New Zealand Ceases Health Stamps

In this month's column, Glen Stephens takes a look back at New Zealand's much-loved Health stamps and their most-recent charity issue, before recalling his friendship with the late Rod Perry.

NEW Zealand Post in recent years announced that the very familiar New Zealand Health stamps, which have been issued annually in New Zealand since 1929, have now totally ceased – ending an 88-year tradition for this very popular series.

In 1929, New Zealand Post worked with Children's Health Camps – now called Stand Children's Services ('STAND') – to create an annual postage stamp issue to help New Zealand's most at risk children with the funds raised. These funds were raised via the clearly visible charity surcharge on each stamp.

Those who purchased the stamps, in effect, donated the surcharge to the 'Health' cause. The iconic New Zealand Smiling Boys stamp pair issue from 1931 raised 2d. to the cause (1d. each stamp) and were only valid for 3d. of postage value (1). Nearly half of each set purchased was donated.

Each issue had a different theme, with the aim to educate New Zealand children and their families about good health. The donation from the sale of each stamp provided important funding for the Children's Health Camps across New Zealand. For each year since 1957, sets of stamps and miniature sheets were issued – so 60 years of Health miniature sheets exist.

## 'Stamps not financially viable'

In recent times, New Zealand letter mail volumes have been in decline, a global reality, and this has, of course, been reflected in the number of children's Health stamps sold. Unfortunately, this has led to the New Zealand Post Office advising the stamp world that it was no longer financially viable for them to administer this stamp issue each year.

I'm not sure why because the Health surcharge was only 10c. on the then current \$2 health stamp (2), versus near *half* of the purchase cost of the 1931 set shown above. Therefore, one imagines, the monies raised were not breaking the post office or the purse of those who bought them?

So these Health issues survived each year right through the Great Depression, and even right through World War II, they did not miss a beat, and a set was issued every year. It is sad to see them go, but at least a 'complete' collection can now be

formed with some certainty. Try getting them all on f.d.c. – that is an incredibly tough ask!

As a result, this annual stamp issue will be no longer. However, New Zealand Post claims they will continue to support the great work that STAND does, by other means. I hope so. However, as can be seen below, the new May 2020 Bear Hunt stamp issue makes a \$3 donation to Red Cross so maybe the thinking is changing?



1

## 1996 Teddy Bear Health stamps

The most notorious issue of the New Zealand Health stamps was in 1996 (3). The 40c. value was about to go on sale when the road safety 'powers that be' noticed the baby in the back seat was facing forward. It was obvious because the Teddy Bear had a belt across the left shoulder, proving both it and the baby were facing forward.

As I gather NZ law back in 1996 stated babies in these seats must face backwards in the car, so they do not get flung forward in any accident, the stamp issue depicting 'Road Safety' was not doing a great job here! So all hell broke loose in Post Office headquarters and the New Zealand media.

The offending Teddy Bear design was amended at the last moment, and the original large printing supposedly



2

The donation from the sale of each stamp provided important funding for the Children's Health Camps across New Zealand





3



4

destroyed. As the final issued design had no Teddy Bear and no seat belt, it was not apparent if the restrained child was facing in the 'illegal' direction. This largely kept everyone happy.

The amended-design stamps were issued on 5 June 1996. It soon became apparent, due to an alert stamp collector, that at least some of the original Teddy Bear stamps had not been destroyed as the Post Office had claimed was the case. A few commercial covers were sighted, one of which was an f.d.c. The hunt was on!

Further investigations showed that a financial institution, the Auckland Savings Bank, had purchased most of the error stamps and used them on normal business mail. A part sheet was broken down and auctioned, with the \$60,000 proceeds donated by the bank to charity. A daily newspaper of the time reported on the incident.

The error stamps were sold from only two New Zealand post offices, which did not bother to read their 'Do Not Sell These Stamps' memos – Royal Oak in Auckland and Te Ngae near Rotorua of all places. The only stamps sold, and only a few hundred in total, were 40c. sheet and coil stamps – but never the miniature sheets for some reason.

### Rapid global publicity

I wrote extensively about these Teddy Bear issues at the time, and several of my stories were on page 1 of the mass-selling *Linn's Stamp News* in the USA ([tinyurl.com/TeddyStamp](http://tinyurl.com/TeddyStamp)). A *Linn's* reader in the USA read one and then

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bid for two singles, paying \$A2640 and \$A2210 in the auction sale mentioned below.

Stanley Gibbons Auctions in Australia offered three lots of these stamps in their Sydney auction on 25 February 1997. These were a corner block of six and two single stamps. The corner block of six sold to a telephone bidder in Japan for \$A10,450.

As the *Linn's* reader told *Linn's* staff he had no idea these errors even existed until that article, it does prove that stamp magazine articles do sometimes get read! The self-adhesive 40c. single is known to be many times scarcer than the regular gum version, so him paying 20% more for it was a good buy, but I think he bought right at the top of the market.

The New Zealand Post Office was not amused when Dutch dealers and individuals started offering the Teddy Bear miniature sheets to dealers here – mainly because the sheet had never ever been on sale in New Zealand! I refused to handle them, as it appeared they were stolen property, and the New Zealand Post Office was breathing fire and brimstone that legal action would ensue if anyone offered them (4).

I am most surprised to see that the Auckland City Stamps catalogue fully catalogues and prices these sheets in their latest 2020 catalogue. None were sold by the Post Office, and I'd suggest their legal status would be 'very dark grey' at best, even today. Stolen goods would be a term many would prefer.

Stanley Gibbons quite correctly does not list or price these Dutch printed and unissued sheets. From what I have been offered over two decades, many exist. Both normal as shown, and overprinted 'CAPEX 96' for the big show. I'd say they were stolen from the printer type material.

Even more oddly, the ACS catalogue does not number or price the 2006 Kapa Haka sets of five, coil stamps, booklet stamps and booklets, plate blocks and f.d.c. (5). Quantities of all of which were mailed to collectors by NZ Post and their credit cards charged.

### Instant death for Enschedé Security Printers

The error 40c. and the miniature sheets were printed by Enschedé Security Printers in Haarlem, the Netherlands. The miniature sheets exist both normal, and with 'CAPEX 96' wording. It seems clear that staffers at Enschedé got their hands on these sheets, despite them never being 'issued'. I do know the brass at the New Zealand Post Office were furious with this breach, and as far as I know, Enschedé has never printed another stamp issue for them.

I was told by an ex-employee there that visitors to Enschedé, such as potential future clients or VIPs, were routinely given a 'goody bag' of recent stamp issues they had printed, as a memento of their visit. Things that might have been printed but not yet issued by the respective government. So it seems pretty clear staff internally had access to such material.

1 Mint New Zealand Smiling Boys Health pair from 1931 – the all-time classic New Zealand Health set

2 The very last Health stamp issue

3 40c. Teddy Bear normal and coil stamps

4 Miniature sheet with wrong teddy bear – handle these with extreme care!

5 The 'Kapa Haka' set of five



### New Bear Hunt 2020 set

New Zealand Post released a miniature sheet on 20 May 2020, which includes six images of Teddy Bears chosen from national entries in its Bear Hunt photography competition. The New Zealand public was asked to enter to capture the spirit of the people of New Zealand during its recent Covid-19 lockdown.

The stamps are arranged so that there are three different vertically se-tenant stamps at either side of the miniature sheet. New Zealand Post will 'donate' \$3 from the sale of each sheet it sells to the New Zealand Red Cross 'to support New Zealanders to stay at home and save lives'. Big deal – the buyers are making the donation, not the PO!

The new issue was designed by Cam Price of New Zealand Post in Wellington and was printed by Collectables and Solutions Centre, Whanganui (6–7). They are perforated 14.4x14.6 on gummed paper in a miniature sheet format of six stamps. Unless stocks are exhausted earlier, these stamps will remain on sale until 19 May 2021. As each sheet is 3x\$1.30 and 3x\$2.60, the face value of the stamps is thus \$11.70, giving a total postal franking value of that sum, but they will charge buyers \$NZ14.70.

Pretty stingy by the New Zealand Post Office – had they sold these for \$11.70 franking value, and then donated \$2 or \$3 per sheet to Red Cross – as Australia did for the Bushfire issue earlier in 2020, that is a 'donation'. Right now, the New Zealand Post Office is adding nothing themselves to the tally raised, despite stating to the media they are 'donating \$3 a sheet sold' – stamp collectors are making the donation.

### Collectors are the 'donors' here!

Most buyers of such sheets retain them for stamp collections, and the stamps on them never see any postal use, so essentially each \$11.70 of stamps is pure profit anyway. Switzerland very recently issued a Covid-19 sheetlet featuring 10 of 1+5CHF stamps, making a total of 60 Swiss Francs (8).

However, a 50CHF cost price was shown on the sheet of 10, and Swiss Post are donating the entire 50CHF paid per sheetlet of 10 (about \$A80), to Swiss Solidarity and the Swiss Red Cross. Their website shows a daily tally of how much has been donated so far – very unusual.

Australia Post sold panes of its five different \$1.10 letter rate Bushfire stamps for \$5.50 and donated \$2 of that \$5.50 to the Red Cross in February 2020 (9). That is a donation and that shows some corporate concern to the issue at hand – I reported full details in this magazine three months back ([tinyurl.com/DisasterAP](https://tinyurl.com/DisasterAP)).

The New Zealand idea to depict teddy bears on these new stamps came about from people self-isolating and placing teddy bears in house windows, on front porches or at entrances to homes. The New Zealand



6



Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern, seems to have embraced and encouraged the idea and said that when people go for a walk and take their children outside to get some fresh air, 'They might look for teddy bears in windows.' She added 'And if you're in Wellington, and you're walking in a local neighbourhood, you might see one in my window.'

### Rodney A Perry – RIP

IT was with great sadness I took a call from a close colleague on the morning of 8 May to advise me that Rodney A Perry had passed away peacefully in Cairns, an hour or so earlier. Rod Perry had been very ill for months and sadly lost the long battle aged 72.

A very great loss to this hobby and to all those who knew Rod or dealt with him. Margo and I had a long lunch with Rod and wife Madel in late 2019 up in Cairns, over many bottles of wine, and grandson Raphael popped in at the end for a photo taken by his mum Alana (10).

I've known and dealt with Rod for over 40 years, and he was a font of knowledge on all aspects of stamps, and on the dealers and collectors who make up the hobby. His current collecting passion was assembling covers, advertisements, material and pricelists relating to the vintage Australian dealers right from the 1860s ([tinyurl.com/OzDealers](https://tinyurl.com/OzDealers)).

Rod ran the largest stamp auction here for ages, and helped launch and fund the current Brusden White ACSC set, the finest one-country catalogue series on this planet, into their current form. Rod and Geoff Kellow started this off when Geoff occupied an entire floor of Rod's large heritage ex-Tramways Trust Building in downtown Melbourne, along with his vast reference library.

He was a past President of APTA, the dealer body, but also collected on a serious level, forming the finest ever collection of the stamps of the state of Victoria, winning an FIP Grand Prix D'Exhibition Award and Gold Medals for his material, and he had many other many varied and unusual stamp collecting interests.



8



9





### Infectiously enthusiastic about covers

Rod above all was passionate about collecting stamps on cover. His passion was infectiously enthusiastic, and thousands of current collectors of covers were inspired to do so by him. His monthly columns in *Stamp News Australia*, 'Woodchip Free Zone', constantly stressed that soaking or snipping stamps off covers was vandalism in his eyes.

The Stampboards tribute to Rod ([tinyurl.com/RodPerry](http://tinyurl.com/RodPerry)) has pages of messages from the global stamp family Rod was part of there – add yours by all means. Rod posted nearly 4000 messages, and 1000s of images there over 10 years. All are still visible, and are a permanent memorial to his huge knowledge.

Rod lived most of his life in Melbourne, of course, but a decade or so back, moved the family and his stock from there to the tropical and humid Cairns area, in far north Queensland. Nearly 3000km or 30 hours driving away – as distant as London to Moscow!

Rod and Madel built the most talked about home in the history of world philately, the massive 'Alkira', in 75 acres of World Heritage Rainforest in the truly remote Daintree wilderness. It looked more like a resort hotel! Rod's stories about the complexities and approval paperwork of getting that built were well worth hearing.

Each huge wing has stamp perforation designs in the concrete walls – very striking. The shape of the swimming pool was based on the profile of the famous 'One Pound Jimmy' 2s.6d. Aboriginal stamp that Rod loved (11). It sold for nearly eight figures, after a long international campaign.

A great man, an icon of philately – not just here but globally. A true encyclopaedia of stamp knowledge that he was always ready to share patiently on stampboards and elsewhere. My condolences to Madel, his children and wider family. RIP Rodney Perry – your friendship, support and enthusiasm will be sorely missed.

### Major Kangaroo auction 12 June

PHOENIX Auctions in Melbourne Australia will auction off on 12 June the fantastic Large Gold Medal mouth-watering exhibit of the Australia Kangaroo and Map stamps formed by Peter O'Rourke of Queensland, who exhibited it widely.

This wonderful collection is full of top Kangaroo rarities, many of which have not been on the market for decades. There are a staggering number of now very popular monogram and non-monogram items. Also a wide range of watermark and perforation errors, and other major varieties.

This is one of the most significant collections formed of this era. Unlike the Arthur Gray collection, there are no proofs or essays in here, as the owner did not like them, but plenty of nice stamps!

6 Two designs from the May 2020 issue

7 The New Zealand Bear Hunt miniature sheet

8 Swiss PO donated every cent

9 The Australia Post Bushfire issue from February 2020

10 Madel and Rodney Perry at left

11 Rod Perry's rainforest 'Alkira' legacy

12 \$A2.5 million of pre-sale estimates!

13 Can you pick the watermark?

10

O'Rourke started collecting in 1944, and some of these pieces have not been seen for a generation.

### Covid rules affect auction

David Wood, the owner of Phoenix Auctions, told me that the pre-sale estimates total around \$A2.5 million and that advance internet bidding on the material was already strong. With the Covid-19 rules, only 10 people can attend in person, but extra phone lines have been set up, as well as enhanced internet bidding.

I smiled reading the 12 June 2020 sale catalogue (12), to see the £2 'OS' mint Kangaroo I'd illustrated in a previous column. I had this to say about it, after reading the original Phoenix press release on the O'Rourke Kangaroo sale, where it was stated to be a 1913 First Watermark:

'I sell more Roos than just about anyone, and you get to be able to sort most of them by watermark just by looking at them – perf. characteristics and colour, etc. If I were asked to guess at the watermark off this photo, I'd opt for third watermark almost certainly. I have not seen the stamp in person, so assume it is correctly ID in a Gold Medal collection. Interesting.'

The auction description now says it is, indeed, the third Watermark Kangaroo, as I had guessed immediately, without ever seeing the stamp or the reverse (13)! Nonetheless, a very rare stamp in fresh mint, unhinged, original gum condition, and I'll bet that it will fetch a good deal more than the \$8000 estimate.

The sale is weeks away, so plenty of time to take a look at the material being offered. Better Kangaroo material is going absolutely gangbusters this year, and all nice looking material

I list up on my Rarity Page sells in days if not hours. Often, for a few thousand dollars, you can buy pieces that are unique or very close to it, and that is a tiny price for pay for such scarcity.

Stamps from the USA or other major collected countries, of which one, two or three pieces are known, can and do fetch six, seven or even eight figures, so a mere thousand or two, obtained for many Kangaroo pieces, is actually insanely low when you think on it. Still plenty of good buys exist, and with bank interest rates near zero today, not a bad option!



12



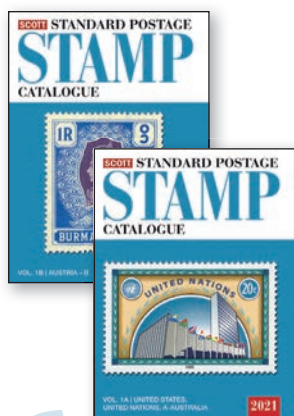
13



Sydney-based philatelic journalist Glen Stephens has been a full-time stamp dealer and writer for over 40 years. Life Member of ASDA (New York), PTS (London) and IFSDA. He owns [stampboards.com](http://stampboards.com), the world's largest stamp bulletin board with nearly seven million messages, and has had 100 million visits to his sales site ([tinyurl.com/GlenRare](http://tinyurl.com/GlenRare)).

# New Books

*Philatelic Exporter's* book reviewer, David Rennie, takes a look at the latest books and catalogues from leading publishers. His long philatelic experience as an author and auctioneer, as well as being an active collector, make him ideally suited to cast his eye over the latest releases.



Each has the extensive introduction pages, Stamp Identifier, yellow pages section and full Country Index to the other volumes

## **SCOTT 2021 STANDARD POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE VOLUME 1: USA, UN AND COUNTRIES A-B OF THE WORLD (177TH EDITION)**

**Publisher:** Scott Publishing Co  
**Address:** 911 Vandemark Road, Sidney, Ohio 45365-0828, USA  
**www.amosadvantage.com**  
**ISBN Volume 1A (USA, UN and countries A–Australia):** 978-0-89487 580-9  
**ISBN Volume 1B (countries Austria–B):** 978-0-89487 581-6  
**Price:** \$74.99 for digital version; \$104.99 for bound two-volume set; and £115.95 (for two-part bound set)

WHILST Volumes 1A and 1B have separate ISBNs, only the price for a set is quoted because they come shrink-wrapped as a unit. Volume 1A has over 870 catalogue pages and Volume 1B over 920. Each has the extensive introduction pages, Stamp Identifier, yellow pages section and full Country Index to the other volumes.

While the actual 'country' catalogue pages in the individual volumes start at page 1, the page number search button on the digital version continues numbering in one sequence up to page 1875. This is not a problem as clicking the list-button at the bottom of the screen brings up a full list of the contents of both volumes at the left of the screen, including individual USA sections and countries in alphabetical order. Clicking on the chosen section or country brings the screen to the first page or double page spread for that entry. The magnification is easily adjusted to suit the user.

The Editor's Letter covers both volumes as does the page of new numbers, deletions and number changes, but these are very short this year. Value changes mention Aden, AAT mostly down, Azores up, Bangladesh a mixture of up and down, many Benin items now priced and Bhutan 1973 record increase.

New varieties added for the USA include the black colour omitted on the 1995 32c. Garden Flowers pane, 2019 imperforates of the USS Missouri and George W Bush stamps. Earlier items to check are the 1885 2c. pale red-brown and the 1875 Continental Bank Note Co Newspaper printings.



## **MICHEL KATALOG: CHINA 2020, VOLUME 9 PART 1 (44TH EDITION)**

**Publisher:** Schwaneberger Verlag GMBH  
**Address:** Industriestraße 1, 82110 Germering, Germany  
**www.michel.de**  
**ISBN:** 978-3-95402-304-2  
**Price:** €89/£89

THIS fine hardcover catalogue covers all the stamp issues of China and the Chinese-influenced areas. All issues are featured, from the 1878 Large Dragons, including the early Local issues, with China People's Republic to December 2019, and Taiwan, Hong Kong (including the British period issues) and Macau all to January 2020.

The last edition of the MICHEL China catalogue was published just two years ago (see *PE* February 2018). Since then, the market for this popular collection area has again changed considerably. While some issues that were extremely sought after have lately become less popular due to being overpriced, other areas are now increasingly in demand among collectors.

For example, this applies to prestige stamp booklets from Hong Kong, such as the 2007 Butterflies (including Mi1432/36), which has doubled from 'only' €100 to €200 in this new MICHEL edition. It certainly pays off to pay close attention to the market for Chinese issues!

Modern issues of Macau showing old China have also proved popular and have increased in value.

However, the expensive stamps issued by the People's Republic that kept growing in value in the last ten years are stagnating at the high-level prices, while issues from Taiwan have shown a tendency towards slight decreases in value.

There are now over 8500 illustrations in total, mostly in colour though, notably, Tibet issues are all in black and white. There are 52,000 prices on 858 catalogue pages, including the detailed Introduction, and two coloured maps that show the locations of foreign post offices. There is a full country index to MICHEL world volumes. This is a fine lie-flat hardback with two place-marker tapes. Despite the page increase, the publisher has maintained the previous cover price.

This is a fine lie-flat hardback





The opportunity has been taken for a thorough review of prices and enhanced editorial content

### MICHEL KATALOG: WESTERN EUROPE 2020, VOLUME 3 (105TH EDITION)

**Publisher:** Schwaneberger Verlag GMBH  
**Address:** Industriestraße 1,  
82110 Germering,  
Germany  
**www.michel.de**  
**ISBN:** 978-3-95402-333-2  
**Price:** €49.80/£49.80

THIS is half of the old Part 2 Southwest Europe volume and contains French Andorra (to January 2020), France (to January 2020), including the early Levant and Egypt and overseas Post Offices in Africa, as well as the general colonial issues, and Monaco (to February 2020).

The opportunity has been taken for a thorough review of prices and enhanced editorial content. This time including useful cross-references for earlier issues with overprints for other post offices and colonies, etc., and 260 new numbers have been added in France alone. However, a comparison of the prices quoted for one-year collections show

no changes at all compared with the previous edition, either mint or used.

French thematic issues are very popular, but so too are the long-running allegorical issues depicting Marianne, the national personification of the French Republic, which has appeared in various designs since 1945. The latest design, by Yseult Digan, was selected by President Emmanuel Macron and issued in 2018. It already has additional values; the latest in November 2019 (Mi 7494).

As usual, all the main categories are included, such as postage dues, booklet panes, parcel stamps, local stamps and telegraphs, as well as the popular machine labels. There is a comprehensive index to all the volumes in the European series and a map, but no single design index for France, although there are numerous tables for long-running series, etc. A contents list showing the sub-sections, tables, etc., for each main country would be very useful and time saving.

This is a fine hardcover lie-flat volume with 832 pages in full colour throughout. There are now over 8800 colour illustrations and 40,800 priced items.



### MICHEL CATALOG: DEUTSCHLAND SPEZIAL 2020 (50TH EDITION)

**Publisher:** Schwaneberger Verlag GMBH  
**Address:** Industriestraße 1,  
82110 Germering, Germany  
**www.michel.de**  
**ISBN Volume 1 (1849–April 1945):**  
978-3-95402-301-1  
**ISBN Volume (2 May 1945 to date):**  
978-3-95402-302-8  
**Price:** €89.90/£89.90 for each volume

AS usual, these hardcover volumes follow the usual split with stamps up to the end of World War II in Volume 1 and those of the post-war and modern era in Volume 2, with new issues listed to 2 March 2020.

The first edition of this monumental title was published in 1935 with just 436 pages. Even then, the most famous and expensive variety of the German States, the Baden 1851 9k. printed in error on green instead of red paper was priced at 25,000 marks. Its value in 2019, when it was last sold in the high-profile auction of the Erivan Haubs' collection, was more than one million euros. This value is given in the new edition.

#### Volume 1 1849–April 1945

As usual, this volume includes all the German States, Colonies and Post Offices issues, as well as occupied areas, the various Zonal issues and Local issues of both world war periods. There is much useful information on early postmarks used by the 'Old German States'.

Numerous new varieties, such as the watermark variety on the 5m. German maritime

mail (Mi.9Y), the Saar 1930 60c. on 80c. double print (Mi.142 DD) and the Eesti Post overprint se-tenant (Mi.33/28) are now included. In the Propaganda Forgeries section, additional type variations and plate flaws have been included. There are other editorial improvements throughout the whole edition but especially the areas of Bohemia and Moravia. The stamp booklets issued by the German Reich have been revised and expanded considerably. The publisher mentions numerous price changes in the old German States, the Reich and Sudetenland.

This volume contains 6000 illustrations and over 96,000 priced items on over 1200 pages.

#### Volume 2 May 1945 to date

Price changes, particularly concerning local issues, the Soviet and the French occupation zones, and bi-zones, are noted. Numerous new type variations in various collecting areas have been confirmed. New information and newly added issues include the test prints for the postage stamp series *Frauen der Deutschen Geschichte* (Women in German History) and supplements regarding the vending machine test stamp (Mi.10) issued by the Federal Republic of Germany.

There are about 10,000 illustrations and 115,500 prices in this volume of more than 1450 pages.

Both volumes are high-quality hardcovers, which more or less lie flat when open, each with three marker tapes, and come with separate 'Watermarks' folded card inserts with stamp size illustrations. There is no increase in the cover price.

Please note a small quantity of the 2019 two-volume set is available at half price direct from the publisher's website.

Both volumes are high-quality hardcovers



# GREAT

## LATEST GB DEFINITIVE SET PRICES

Definitives								
SG. No's/range	Year	Description	Values	U/M	L/M/M	AV/M/M	FU/VFU	GU
164-169	1880	INDIGO	set 5v.	850.00	325.00	200.00	30.00	20.00
178-183	1883	2/6- 10/-	set 3v.	2000.00	1000.00	650.00	150.00	80.00
187-196	1883	Q.V. Lilac & Green	set 10v.	POR	1100.00	850.00	230.00	150.00
197-214	1887	Q. Victoria Jubilee	set 14v.	480.00	160.00	135.00	62.00	45.00
215-314	1902-13	Edward 7th simplified	set 15v.	350.00	135.00	110.00	45.00	26.00
215-257	1902	DLT Ordinary paper	set 15v.	550.00	135.00	110.00	40.00	25.00
223-259	1906	DLR Chalky paper	set 9v.	450.00	120.00	95.00	45.00	25.00
267-278	1911	Harrison perf. 14	set 5v.	225.00	110.00	95.00	90.00	POR
279-286	1911	Harrison perf. 15x14	set 5v.	120.00	45.00	35.00	20.00	11.00
287-314	1911	Somerset House	set 8v.	270.00	110.00	85.00	40.00	25.00
321-350	1911-13	GEO. 5th Downey Head	set 10v.	85.00	30.00	25.00	20.00	12.00
351-396	1912-22	Royal Cypher wmk.	set 15v.	220.00	70.00	58.00	22.00	12.00
397-8	1913	Multiple-cypher wmk.	set 2v.	340.00	180.00	-	175.00	135.00
413a-417	1918	Bradbury seahorses	set 3v.	650.00	235.00	POR	65.00	36.00
418-429	1924	Block cypher wmk.	set 12v.	125.00	38.00	30.00	9.00	6.00
418a-421b	1924	Block cypher sideways wmk.	set 4v.	130.00	38.00	30.00	35.00	18.00
439-449	1934	Photogravure	set 11v.	42.00	18.00	15.00	6.00	3.50
439a-442b	1934	Photogravure sideways wmk.	set 4v.	140.00	38.00	32.00	35.00	12.00
439wi-441wi	1934	Photogravure inverted wmk.	set 3v.	15.00	6.00	5.00	2.00	1.00
450-452	1934	Re-engraved seahorses	set 3v.	560.00	230.00	180.00	35.00	20.00
457-460	1936	Edward 8th	set 4v.	0.40	0.30	-	0.40	0.20
457wi-459wi	1936	Edward 8th inverted wmk.	set 3v.	8.00	3.00	-	3.00	1.50
462-475	1937	George 6th Dark colours	set 15v.	18.00	8.00	-	1.90	0.80
462a-466a	1937	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 5v.	70.00	22.00	-	22.00	12.00
462wi-466wi	1937	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 5v.	70.00	25.00	20.00	6.00	3.00
476-478b	1939-48	Square' High Values	set 6v.	180.00	95.00	80.00	20.00	12.00
485-490	1941	Light colours	set 6v.	1.00	0.40	-	0.45	0.25
486a-489a	1941	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 3v.	13.00	7.00	-	6.50	3.50
485wi-489wi	1941	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 3v.	3.00	1.50	-	0.40	0.10
503-508	1950	New Colours	set 6v.	1.50	-	-	0.60	0.30
504a-507a	1950	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 4v.	1.25	-	-	1.75	0.80
503wi-507wi	1950	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 5v.	7.00	4.00	-	5.00	2.50
509-12	1951	Festival High values	set 4v.	42.00	19.00	17.00	7.50	4.00
515-531	1952	QE2 Tudor Watermark	set 17v.	42.00	17.00	14.00	11.00	6.00
517a-519a	1952	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 3v.	2.00	-	-	2.50	1.75
515wi-519bwi	1952	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 5v.	17.00	-	-	10.00	6.00
536-539	1955	Waterlow High values	set 4v.	115.00	45.00	36.00	18.00	6.00
540-556	1955	Edward Crown wmk.	set 18v.	65.00	20.00	16.00	12.00	5.00
542a-545b	1955	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 5v.	9.50	6.00	-	6.00	2.75
540wi-545wi	1955	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 7v.	9.00	-	-	6.00	3.00
561-566	1957	Graphite lines	set 6v.	4.00	3.00	-	3.50	2.00
536a-539a	1958	1st De La Rue Castles	set 4v.	350.00	175.00	-	30.00	12.00
570-586	1958	Multi-Crown wmk.	set 17v.	5.00	-	-	1.00	-
570a-576ab	1958	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 8v.	3.75	-	-	3.50	1.30
570wi-576awi	1958	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 9v.	65.00	-	-	30.00	16.00
587-594	1958	Graphite lines	set 8v.	55.00	40.00	-	40.00	25.00
587wi-592wi	1958	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 5v.	45.00	-	-	30.00	18.00
595-598	1959	2nd De La Rue Castles	set 4v.	70.00	35.00	30.00	5.00	2.00
599-609	1959	Phosphor-Graphites	set 8v.	35.00	27.00	-	30.00	24.00
610-618a	1960	Phosphor crowns	set 17v.	4.50	-	-	2.50	-
610a-616ab	1960	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 9v.	10.00	-	-	10.00	6.00
610wi-616awi	1960	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 10v.	140.00	-	-	120.00	POR
595a-598a	1963	Bradbury wmk. castles	set 4v.	7.50	-	-	5.00	1.50
759-762	1967	Bradbury no wmk. Castles	set 4v.	7.00	-	-	5.00	1.75
723-744	1967	Machin Head	set 16v.	1.00	-	-	0.90	-
787-790	1969	Machin Head High Values	set 4v.	5.00	-	-	3.00	2.00
829-831b	1970/1	Machin Head 10p to £1	set 4v.	2.50	-	-	0.40	0.20
1026-1028	1977	Machin Head £1-£5	set 3v.	8.50	-	-	1.40	0.75
1026b-1026f	1983/7	Machin Head £1.30-£1.60	set 5v.	13.00	-	-	10.80	6.00
1410-1413	1988	Castles High Values	set 4v.	11.50	-	-	1.50	0.75
1611-1614	1992	Gold-head Castles High vals.	set 5v.	20.00	-	-	2.75	1.50
1658	1993	£10 Britannia	1 value	14.00	-	-	4.50	2.50
(1611-14)	1994	Gold-head Castles Re-engraved	set 4v.	14.00	-	-	3.20	-
1993-1996	1997	Enschede Castles High vals.	set 4v.	25.00	-	-	7.00	-
Y1800-3	1999	ditto...Small format High vals	set 4v.	15.00	-	-	3.00	-
Y1800-3	2000	DLR Small format High values	set 4v.	15.00	-	-	3.00	-
Y1726-1729	2003	DLR Small format High values	set 4v.	15.00	-	-	12.00	-
S2917-2920	2009	DLR Self-ad, with security slits	set 4v.	13.50	-	-	13.50	-



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SG. No's/range	Year	Description	Values	U/M	L/M/M	AV/M/M	FU/VFU	GU
D1-D8	1914	Royal Cypher	Set 8v	275.00	75-00	55-00	10-00	6-00
D10-D18	1924-31	Block Cypher	Set 9v	380.00	90-00	70-00	25-00	16-00
D19-D26	1936-7	Edward VIII	Set 8v	260.00	90-00	70-00	45-00	35-00
D27- D34	1937-8	George VI	Set 8v	130.00	45-00	30-00	6-00	4-00
D35- D39	1951-2	Colour change	Set 5v	40.00	15-00	10-00	7-50	5-00
D40- D45	1954-5	Tudor wmk	Set 6v	130.00	65-00	—	55-00	40-00
D46-D55	1955	Edward wmk	Set 10v	175.00	65-00	55-00	20-00	15-00
D56-D68	1959-63	Multiple crowns	Set 13v	22.00	12-00	—	5-50	4-00
D69 - D76	1968-69	No wmk	Set 8v	6.00	—	—	5-00	—
D77 - D89	1970	Decimal	Set 13v	12.00	—	—	2-75	—
D90 - 101	1982	Decimal	Set 12v	8.00	—	—	3-50	—
D102 - D110	1994	Elliptical	Set 9v	18.00	—	—	18-00	—

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76	80.00	108	80.00	143	220.00	185	80.00
78	80.00	109	90.00	144	220.00	186	80.00
79	80.00	110	90.00	145	80.00	189	80.00
80	80.00	111	80.00	146	80.00	190	80.00
81	80.00	112	80.00	147	80.00	191	80.00
82	120.00	113	125.00	149	80.00	192	80.00
83	140.00	114	125.00	150	80.00	193	80.00
84	80.00	115	100.00	151	100.00	197	90.00
85	80.00	116	100.00	152	90.00	198	80.00
87	80.00	117	80.00	153	150.00	199	80.00
88	150.00	118	80.00	154	80.00	202	90.00
89	80.00	119	80.00	155	80.00	203	120.00
90	80.00	120	80.00	156	80.00	206	140.00
91	80.00	122	80.00	157	80.00	207	140.00
92	80.00	123	80.00	158	80.00	208	150.00
93	80.00	124	80.00	159	80.00	209	150.00
95	80.00	125	80.00	160	80.00	214	200.00
96	80.00	127	80.00	161	150.00	215	200.00
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# A Perfect Storm for the USPS

Wayne L Youngblood explains that the appointment of a new Postmaster General has highlighted the difficulties facing the United States Postal Service.

JUST when you thought it was safe... or so it goes in the classic horror film *Jaws*, the United States Postal Service is facing a bit of a perfect storm.

On the face of it, the situation looks bad: a quasi-governmental agency struggling to keep its head above water financially for many years (while haemorrhaging red ink), then suffering significant drops in first-class mail volume and – now – during the Covid-19 crisis, bottomed-out revenue from the loss of significant advertising mail volume. The USPS said it may be out of money by September at this rate, without a bailout from Congress (from which it has so far received \$0), but it's much more complex than that.

Our nation's post office was conceived in 1775 and codified as part of the US Constitution, which gives government the right 'to establish post offices and post roads' as a means of promoting communication between states of the fledgling country, as well as to raise revenue. It was the only agency specifically mentioned in the Constitution. Since then, of course, the USPS has become an integral part of essential infrastructure.

Fast forward nearly 200 years. As a result of the 1970 Postal Reorganization Act, the USPS went from a wholly owned governmental agency to one that is quasi-governmental, receives absolutely no tax dollars and is expected to break even.

For several years now, the beleaguered postal agency has been struggling desperately to stay out of the deep red. Actually since 2006 (the last year the USPS posted a surplus), when Congress passed the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (PAEA), which required the USPS to pay earned retirement entitlements well into the future – something virtually no other governmental agency has ever had to do.

In a nutshell, passed by a Republican-led Congress (for reasons unknown to me) and signed into law by President George W Bush, the 2006 PAEA gave the USPS new accounting and funding rules for its retiree pension and health benefits.

Until then (since the 1970 Postal Reorganization Act), the USPS funded those obligations on a pay-as-you-go basis, which makes sense in the real world.

It pulled from its pension fund and added to it as retirees' costs came in. But the PAEA required the Postal Service to calculate all of its likely pension costs over the next 75 years, and then stash away enough money between 2007 and 2016 to cover most of those years. Oh yeah, again, 2016 was the last year the USPS posted an operating surplus.

Before going forward, think about this for a moment. What if you had to set aside a few hundred thousand dollars in advance to pay – in full – a 30-year mortgage on your home, yet you were still going to have to make those monthly payments anyway. Could you afford to take out a mortgage and would your normal cash flow be affected?

To accomplish this near-impossible task, the USPS was saddled with putting aside an extra \$5.6 billion each year! I seriously doubt any business could survive that type of 'programme', particularly when its competitors (UPS, FedEx and others) were exempt from doing anything similar. From 2007–18, the USPS was calculated to have lost an estimated \$77.8 billion, yet approximately \$71.6 billion of this can be directly attributed to prefunding retiree benefits under the PAEA, according to the US Inspector General. This leaves approximately \$6.2 billion in 'actual' potential losses, yet the

USPS currently 'owes' the federal government \$15 billion and was specifically excluded from any of the various programmes to help businesses during the Covid-19 crisis.

According to the IG in a 2018 report, 'This requirement has deprived the Postal Service of the opportunity to invest in capital projects and research and development,' which, of course, deprives the USPS of any form of opportunity for business growth, as well as dealing with its recurring expenses.

Further, this massive pre-funding was mandated to be invested

exclusively in US government bonds, which are low-risk but extremely low interest.

President Donald Trump has repeatedly called the USPS 'a joke' and similar derisive terms that show absolutely no understanding of the issues at hand, and he has said that he would veto any effort to 'rescue' the USPS during this crisis.



**1 Louis DeJoy will become the 75th US Postmaster General on 15 June**

As a result of the 1970 Postal Reorganization Act, the USPS went from a wholly owned governmental agency to one that is quasi-governmental, receives absolutely no tax dollars and is expected to break even



In late April, Trump made noises that he would not support any form of bailout unless the USPS raised its parcel shipping rates for third-party shippers (Amazon and others) by 400%, something that would essentially amount to business suicide. Trump also supposedly has personal axes to grind with Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon and owner of the *Washington Post* newspaper.

Further, some have speculated that Trump would like to see the crippled USPS privatised – a move that would be disastrous to the world's largest postal agency – if nothing else because of the huge land mass (with many remote areas) covered by the USPS – something no other postal agency in the world has to deal with. This worst-case scenario, alone, is worth nearly an entire column to discuss!

And then the Postmaster General resigned. In fairness, Postmaster General Megan Brennan, who has served as PMG since early 2015, resigned (or intended to) in October 2019, well before the Covid-19 crisis but stayed on as the search for a new PMG continued.

### A new Postmaster General

On 6 May, it was announced that Louis DeJoy (1) would become our nation's 75th Postmaster General. DeJoy, who will take over on 15 June, has extensive business experience, but he also is a major contributor to various Republican causes, including some that directly benefit Trump's re-election, and is reported to be a close Trump ally. According to the Federal Election Commission, DeJoy has given more than \$157,000 to Republican candidates and super-PACS (Political Action Committees) that support them since the beginning of the year. Given Trump's apparent attitude towards the USPS, what does this signal for them?

Still, DeJoy's strength is in logistics (something that could help the USPS), and he stated that 'I have a great appreciation for this institution and the dedicated workers who faithfully execute its mission. I look forward to working with the supporters of the Postal Service in Congress and the Administration to ensure the Postal Service remains an integral part of the United States government.' DeJoy continued, stating that 'Postal workers are the heart and soul of this institution, and I will be honored to work alongside them and their unions. It will be an incredible honor to serve as Postmaster General, and I commit myself to upholding the Postal Service's cherished role in our nation.'

There is no question, the USPS has a tough road to steer during the coming months. Is the agency's new head a friend or foe? Only time will tell.

DeJoy will become the 75th Postmaster General and only the fifth selected from outside the agency since it became quasi-independent in 1971 (14th overall).

### Demonetised due to circumstance

One of the many ideas floated in response to the USPS problems is to demonetise all stamps released prior to the 'Forever' stamps, which will always be

valid for whatever is the current first-class rate. I've noticed some recent noise on social media echoing this. This would, of course, mean that tens of millions of dollars, if not hundreds of millions, in so-called discount postage would be rendered worthless overnight. While I'm certain that is not a serious consideration, it did get me thinking about the issue of the demonetising of postage stamps. This, of course, is something that has been done by a number of countries over the years, but not in the United States for almost 160 years or at least not intentionally.

Most collectors are aware of the fact that all postage stamps issued prior to 1861 were demonetised as a result of the commencement of the Civil War, an artifact of which is shown from a past Schuyler Rumsey auction (2), alongside some other examples. As a side note, that cover was postmarked 26 August 1861, the first day that old stamps were no longer valid for postage in Philadelphia, thus the 'OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED' marking. That cover sold in 2011 for \$9500.

Fewer collectors realise this was not the first time US stamps were demonetised. As a result of the postal act of 3 March 1851, which reduced the letter rate from 5c. to 3c., both the 5c. and 10c. stamps of 1847 (US Nos. 1 and 2) were demonetised.

However, even fewer collectors (and, for that matter, postal personnel) know there are a number of more recent stamps that have been demonetised – not by specific postal order – but by circumstance.

Over the years, many stamps were service-inscribed for various types of mail. For example, in 1913, when parcel post stamps were first issued, they were valid only for that purpose. Later that year (1 July) their use was approved for any postal use. Similarly, for many years airmail stamps could only be used for airmail, and non-compliant uses were marked and assessed postage due. Eventually, these, too, were approved for use on any class of mail.



2 'OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED' was a marking used on mail after the 1861 demonetisation of all previous US stamps (Top Schuyler Rumsey, bottom Robert A Siegel)



4 The vast majority of all US pre-stamped postal cards issued before 1987 are invalid because they are not a mailable size

One type of stamp that was never approved for any other class of mail or purpose is the group of stamps that comprise the special delivery section of the US catalogue (Scott E1/23). The last special delivery stamp, released 10 May 1971, was the 60c. Arrows design (3). Because the use of these stamps was never approved for any other purpose, their validity died with the abolishment of the special delivery service on 7 June 1997. Similarly, airmail special delivery stamps (CE1/2) are no longer valid for postage, either, although the use of both is generally tolerated by the USPS.

Most older US postal cards (before 1987 or so), such as those shown, are no longer valid either because the current minimum mailing height is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, therefore, all older-style postal cards that measure  $5\frac{1}{2}$  by  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches (or smaller) are simply not acceptable as mailable material (4). Period. Thus, they have been demonetised by circumstance.

Finally, for all practical purposes, the single certified mail stamp (Scott FA1) is essentially demonetised by function (5). Although there is still certified mail service (the current fee is \$3.55), their use is extremely difficult. Like special delivery stamps, their use for any other purpose has never been authorised.

The next few months will be extremely interesting to watch, in terms of what happens to the USPS.

...all older-style postal cards that measure  $5\frac{1}{2}$  by  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches (or smaller) are simply not acceptable as mailable material. Period



3 All US special delivery stamps became invalid for use as of 7 June 1997 because the service was phased out and they were never authorised for any other use. Shown here is the 60c. Arrows design of 1971 alongside earlier examples



Wayne L Youngblood has been a professional philatelic journalist for almost 35 years. He ran a mail-order business and is now a frequent bourse dealer. A gold-medal exhibitor, he is the recipient of the APS Luff Award, a member of both the Writers Unit and Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs' Halls of Fame, and a distinguished topical philatelist.



5 Although certified mail still exists, the single stamp issued in 1955 is effectively invalid because its use is not approved for any other class of mail and it would require more than 20 stamps to meet the current rate





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# Promoting Picture Postcards

After outlining the continuing importance of postcards as signifiers of art, history, life and culture, Brian Lund gives his top-12 postcard books and shares a new place revealed to him by postcards.

Postcards  
are art,  
history, life  
and culture

HOW best to tell the world at large about the fascination of picture postcards is a perennial puzzle for those of us who think postcard collecting is the best hobby going – and going forward would like it to be sustainable and popular. Connecting with a new generation is key: lots of current postcard collectors had their interest awakened in their 20s and 30s, but the shifting demographic means there are fewer of that age group active in the hobby today – at least not in the mainstream of fairs and clubs. Who knows, though, how many buy cards online and collect in isolation?

Recently, I did an interview with an author in the USA who's writing a book about the communication psychology and interaction that was implicit in postcard sending a century and more ago.







3

She came from a scientific background and wasn't initially attracted to postcards by their subject matter, rather what they represented as a social phenomenon. One of her questions was where I saw the future of postcard collecting. That is the \$64,000 one! It is even more pertinent now that any sort of social interaction between collectors at fairs, clubs, auctions and exhibitions has gone into limbo for the foreseeable future. For the moment, the answer is an online one or at least a postal one. I told her I was very optimistic about the future of the hobby. Postcards are such a rich resource I can't ever see them being ignored, and no matter how many collections are recycled in the coming years, I am confident there will always be other, younger people, to become entranced by the genre. Postcards are art, history, life and culture. Postcards of places attract people whose lives have been lived there, artistic postcards have the same appeal as paintings and are massively cheaper, and subject cards cover every facet of life (1-4). As Dr Johnson once might have said, 'When a man is tired of postcards, he is tired of life.'



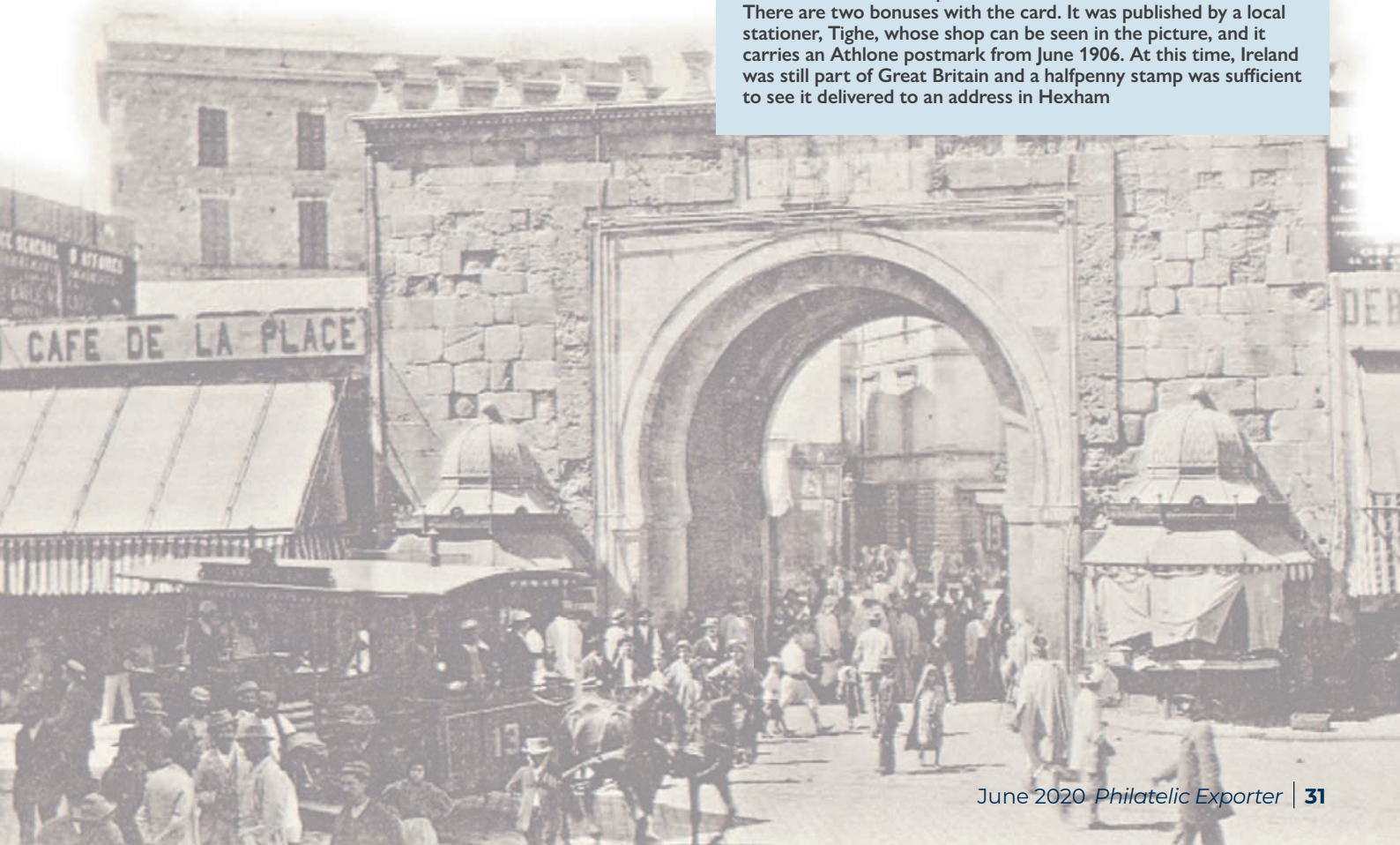
4

1 A beautiful art nouveau postcard by an unattributed artist on a card published by Raphael Tuck; the greatest of all postcard producers. It was sent from London to Shanklin in June 1903 with the simple message 'much love'. Another one for the miniature art gallery!

2 *Gruss aus* (Greetings from) postcards were all the rage in Europe from the late 1880s, but it is rare to see a London card titled like this. It was published in Germany, though, and posted in June 1897 to The Hague, Holland. A great international postcard journey!

3 Postcards cover the world. Here's a scene in early 20th century Tunis

4 Local culture on this postcard of Athlone, an Irish market town. There are two bonuses with the card. It was published by a local stationer, Tighe, whose shop can be seen in the picture, and it carries an Athlone postmark from June 1906. At this time, Ireland was still part of Great Britain and a halfpenny stamp was sufficient to see it delivered to an address in Hexham

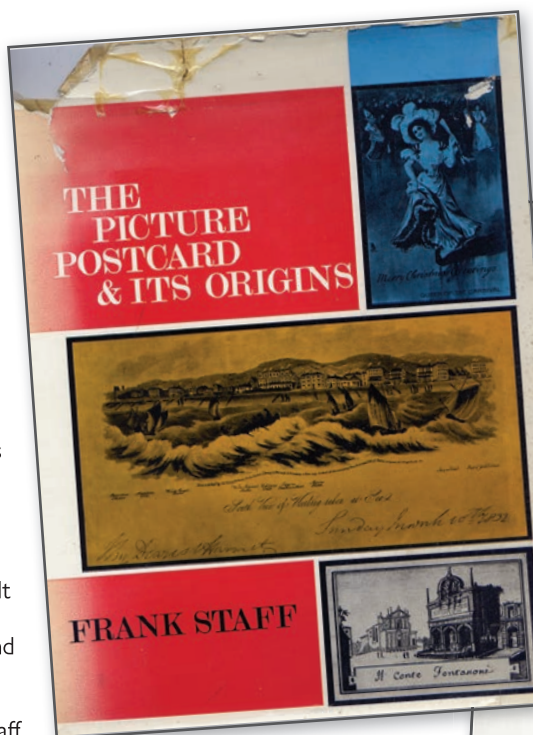




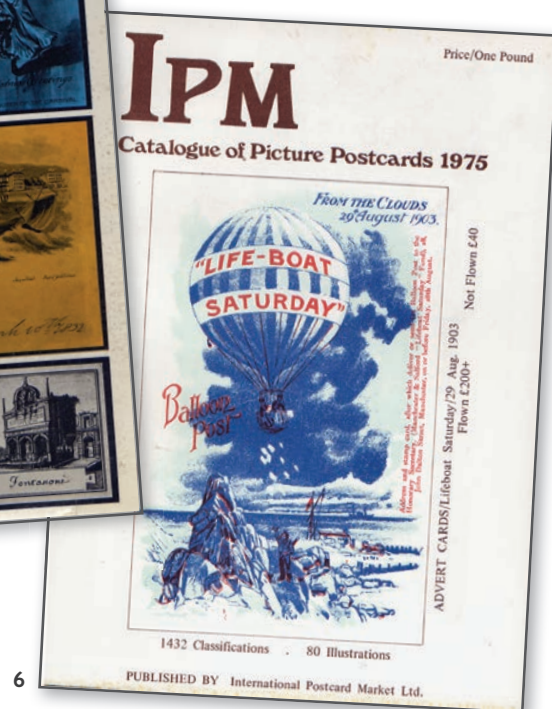
### The best postcard books ever

The postcard collecting hobby has in the past 60 years stimulated a massive amount of literature, covering everything from the general to the specific. Here, I'm giving my choice of the most important dozen ever; the ones that have contributed most to collectors' knowledge and ability to explore the hobby fully. They are in no particular order, and I'm sure some of you will be able to give alternative nominations. The more the merrier! I'd love to hear your top three!

- 1 *Guide to Artists' Signatures and Monograms on Postcards*, Nouhad Saleh (1991), Minerva Press  
A monumental piece of work analysing those mysterious signatures on artist-drawn cards.
- 2 *Picture Postcards of the Golden Age: A Collector's Guide*, Tonie Holt and Valmai Holt (1971), MacGibbon and Kee  
Summarised the development of postcards and the rise of the new wave of collecting them.
- 3 *The Picture Postcard and its Origins*, Frank Staff (1966), Lutterworth Press  
Seminal work on how the picture postcard evolved (5).
- 4 *Till The Boys Come Home: The First World War Through its Picture Postcards*, Tonie and Valmai Holt (2014), Pen and Sword Military  
A superb study of World War I postcards on both sides of the conflict.
- 5 *IPM Catalogue of Picture Postcards 1975*, J H D Smith (1974), International Postcard Market  
It wasn't the first catalogue of picture postcards but it was the one that had the most impact. Simply laid out and amply illustrated, it inspired thousands of collectors and became an annual fixture, latterly becoming *Picture Postcard Values* (6).
- 6 *Picture Postcards and their Publishers: An illustrated account identifying Britain's major Postcard Publishers 1894 to 1939 and the great variety of cards they issued*, Anthony Byatt (1978), Golden Age Books  
What a brilliant work of research! Tony tracked down the history of all the major UK publishers and made sense of their output.



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- 7 *The Postcard Century: 2000 Cards and Their Messages*, Tom Phillips (2000), Thames & Hudson  
The famous artist trawled the fairs to select 2000 postcards that would represent the 20th century, then illustrated them with a detailed commentary for each – breathtaking.
- 8 *Neudin Postcard Catalogue 1991*, Gérard Neudin  
The French equivalent of IPM but far more thorough and detailed. Neudin devoted particular editions to specific themes. This one included an exhaustive listing of artists.
- 9 *Art Nouveau Postcards*, Giovanni Fanelli and Ezio Godoli, (1987), Rizzoli International Publications  
Sumptuously illustrated presentation of one of picture postcard's top genres.
- 10 *The Official Railway Postcard Book*, John Alsop (1987)  
Brought together years of research by John and other railway postcard experts.
- 11 *A R Quinton Picture Postcards*, Wayne Robbins (2004)  
Even without any pictures, which is a shame, this listing and pricing of one artist's output is a tour de force.
- 12 *The Collectable World of Mabel Lucie Attwell*, John Henty (1999), Richard Dennis  
Aimed to illustrate every MLA and provide a thorough biography.

Tell me if I've missed anything that deserves to be included!

### A winning collection

Is there no end to the fascination of picture postcards? They are always introducing you to new places and subjects. Recently, I was sent a small collection of cards of a place called Esh Winning, five miles west of Durham, which I can honestly say I'd never heard of (7–10). Shame on me! Like so many places in County Durham,



it was built to house workers at the eponymous local colliery and their families. I've also learned that 'Winning' was a Victorian term used when coal deposits had been discovered. The railway ran through Esh Winning, though passengers had to get on at nearby Waterhouses station; the end of a short branch line from Durham. Local suffragettes burned down a wooden building at the station in 1914. Passenger services ceased in 1951, but goods traffic continued until 1964. The site of the station is now a park. The collection contained some lovely photographic cards with no indication of publisher – presumably it was a local photographer who was too shy to promote himself. Several others came from Robert Johnston of Newcastle, a prolific postcard publisher. I'm now inspired to visit the place, walk the old railway line and check out the buildings featured on the various postcards. This is what picture postcards do to you! This story could be replicated for any place, anywhere, in its ability to inspire the desire to research and travel.

### Auction prices show the enduring appeal of silk postcards

There are basically two types of silk postcards – the embroidered and woven varieties – and the rarer types continue to fetch impressive prices, with recent eBay realisations including £206 for an Army Pay Corps embroidered and £123 for an Expeditionary Forces Canteen example. A woven silk of Atlantic City made £195 and one of Bruges £110. Virtually all silk cards are highly collectable, although the standard hearts/flowers/flags types are relatively common and can be picked up for around £5. Elsewhere on eBay, the headline sale went to a real photographic postcard of a Suffragette parade at Upminster, which netted an astonishing £1019. Two other highlights were cards of American black baseball players – a team photo of the Lelands Giants went for £970 and one of pitcher W P Drake for £566. Escapologist Harry Houdini, pictured with his wife, sold for a handsome £257, one up on Mussolini on horseback at £136. Hand-painted Chinese postally used cards from the early 20th century are selling regularly for upwards of £250, part of a long-running strong market for south-east Asian postcards. British street scenes worthy of mention included one from Croydon at £201, an empty street in York at £100, and a Woodside, Sheffield, view at £101. Two cards from the Raphael Tuck Celebrated Posters series made £132 and £135 respectively.



Brian Lund has over 40 years' experience in the postcard hobby. He edited and published (along with his wife Mary) *Picture Postcard Monthly* from 1980–2015. The duo, as *Reflections of a Bygone Age*, have also published many postcard-based books and organised postcard fairs in Nottingham since 1982. Brian currently does a daily blog on the *Reflections of a Bygone Age* Facebook page.



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#### 5 Frank Staff's *The Picture Postcard and its Origins*

6 The first IPM postcard catalogue cover. John Smith, the compiler and at the time the leading figure in postcard retailing, famously sent a copy to all his contacts with the injunction 'Send me a pound if you think this is worth it. Otherwise just keep it.' I think most people paid the money – quite rightly!

7 A postcard of the general store at Esh Winning by an anonymous publisher

8 A fabulous postcard of the station at Waterhouses. The waiting room was under a verandah and boasted an array of hanging baskets. The card was posted in August 1909

9 A view of the platform at Waterhouses; the terminus of the Deerness Valley Railway that ran from Durham. The station closed to passengers in 1951 and the line closed completely in 1964. It is now an eight-mile footpath and cycleway

10 A typical street of colliers' houses at Esh Winning, with the village school on the left

# Around the Rooms

Since the lockdown caused by coronavirus, auctions houses have been adapting their usual processes to ensure the safety of all involved.

## Cavendish

CAVENDISH'S auctions of 12–13 May were conducted in a revised format due to the coronavirus pandemic. As there was no bidding in the room, bids were made online before the auction, via online live bidding or by telephone. Prior to the auction, as personal viewing was unavailable, good-quality scans were placed online. Prices shown exclude buyers' premium.

The Hong Kong auction on 12 May featured the Russell Muir and Peter Ball collections of stamps and postal history and included China and Treaty Ports.

The highlight of the auction was an exceedingly rare 'CUSTOMS HOUSE/SHANGHAI' cachet of 17 December 1874 (lot 1058). It was on a cover, with the sending firm's chop, but the addressee's name had been overscored. Posted from Hong Kong to Milan, it was franked with a 24c. Queen Victoria tied by a light 'B62' barred cancel and with a 'P.D.' handstamp alongside. On the rear, there was a red bilingual double-ring oval 'CUSTOM HOUSE/SHANGHAI' handstamp. There were also Hong Kong, Brindisi and Milano datestamps. The lot also included another very fine strike of the 'CUSTOM HOUSE/SHANGHAI' handstamp on a fragment. Seven examples are recorded on mail to or from Hong Kong and, of these, three are very defective or have a stamp missing. Estimated at £10,000, it realised £30,000. An Imperial Chinese Post 1c. postcard



had an exceedingly rare combination of markings on Imperial Post postal stationery (lot 1007). On the front was a very rare Hangchow dollar datestamp of 29 December 1897. The indicia was cancelled with the double-ring 'SHANGHAI' dollar datestamp for '29 DEC 97' and there was a mostly clear 'HANGCHOW' dollar datestamp for '31 DEC 97' struck at lower left. On the reverse, 'Presbyterian Mission Press/Shanghai' was printed. Its realisation of £13,000 was more than ten times its £1000 estimate.

The Coxon Collection of Great Britain, held on 13 May, featured fine and rare line-engraved, embossed and surface-printed

stamps, proofs and trials, and varieties, from a well-informed collector.

An early highlight was an 1841 1d. red plate 11 trial on Dickinson silk thread paper (lot 1). The 'silk' thread (really cotton) was just visible in the right margin outside the printed design. Its realisation of £2400 was exactly double its estimate of £1200.



From the Archer Trials and Treasury Roulettes, lot 33 was an 1848 plate 71 Archer Roulette. It realised £9500, more than double its estimate of £4000. From the same section, lot 35 was a plate 170, with a fine 'Treasury Roulette'. Estimated at £1200, it went for double that amount.

From the unissued line-engraved values, lot 49 was an 1860 1½d. rosy mauve on blued paper. What made this special was that it was an extraordinarily rare used example. It realised £3200, just over its estimate of £3000.

An 1873 6d. pale buff from plate 13, with a part Leeds duplex cancel, had been reperfed at right (lot 199). Its realisation of £4800 was much higher than its estimate of £3000.



A fine mint example of the rare unissued 1876 8d. purple-brown realised £4000, exactly double its estimate of £2000 (lot 200).

## Daniel F Kelleher

ON 31 March–3 April, Daniel F Kelleher held an auction of US, British and Worldwide Stamps and Postal History. Prices shown exclude buyers' premium.

One of the highlights from the USA section was a top-margin block of six of the 1911 8c. olive green (lot 1154). Featuring the imprint, star and plate number '5238' in the margin, this extremely fine block realised \$8700, just over its estimate of \$7000–\$8000. A 5c. deep brown postage due from the 1879 special printing was in an extremely fine condition and was beautifully centred (lot 1381). This was one of only 249 examples reportedly sold and realised \$19,200, which was considerably more than its estimate of \$12,000–\$15,000.

From St Kitts-Nevis, lot 2215 was a block of four of the 1920 1½d. orange yellow from the reign of King George V. This very fine and rare block featured a sideways, inverted and reversed watermark. It sold for \$3000, which was at the lower end of its estimate of \$3000–4000.

A highlight from the French section was an 1876 (type I) 25c. ultramarine on bluish paper (lot 2304). This very fine and rare stamp realised \$3900 – the top of its \$3000–\$4000 estimate.

A 1956 Mohammad Riza Pahlavi 50d. brown and yellow brown from Persia had an inverted centre (lot 2641). With excellent centring and large margins, it was from a sheet of 100 with this error and had position '39' lightly pencilled on the reverse. Very fine and rare, it was estimated at \$1500–\$2000 but realised \$2280.





## Cherrystone

CHERRYSTONE'S United States Stamps and Postal History auction, held in New York on 22 April, comprised 740 lots ranging from the very earliest issues to modern errors. Prices shown include buyers' premium.



A mint example of the rare 1847 10c. black, with original gum and full to clear margins, realised \$6250 (lot 32). Several examples of the later 1851–57 issue were also offered in the sale, including a fine and seldom offered mint 1851 1c. blue (type IA), complete with the bottom sheet margin (lot 37). Ex-Caspary, this realised \$9500.

A fine mint 30c. red orange from the so-called *Premiere Gravure* printing of August 1861, one of only 33 copies recorded from this rare printing, realised \$4500 (lot 73).

Another item to perform well was a horizontal block of 12 of the 30c. ultramarine and carmine from the 1869 Pictorials, reasonably cancelled by black grids (lot 153). In common with all large multiples



of this issue, a few minor faults (minor ironed out creases and wrinkles) were noted. However, as few multiple blocks of 12 are known, it still managed to realise \$4750.



Lot 193 was a mint 1c. dark ultramarine, without gum as issued, from the 1880 special printing of the 1879 issue. Described as very fine, with beautiful colour and wide margins, it realised \$13,500.

Lot 477 was a used horizontal pair of the rare 1923 1c. green perf. 11, printed by rotary press. These rarities were salvaged from waste from a rotary press printing used to make coil stamps. Featuring a wavy line machine cancel, this is one of only four known pairs. It realised \$7500.

## David Feldman

DAVID Feldman held an online auction of Egypt and Persia on 31 March. Prices shown exclude buyers' premium.

A very rare mint 10m. imperforate miniature sheet of the 1952 issue for the birth of Crown Prince Ahmed Fouad of Egypt was one of only 25 printed (lot 2163). Its €4200 selling price was within its estimate of €4000–€5000.

Lot 2167 was a very fine and extremely rare 1951 Egyptian Royal Wedding miniature sheet showing the imperforate error. It sold for €7000, which was at the lower end of its €7000–€9000 estimate.

From the Arab Republic, lot 2186 was a rare complete set of six of the 1959 Anniversary of the Revolution issue presented in marginal imperforate blocks of four. The set's selling price of €1200 was its lowest estimate.

A rare set of nine 1947 Egyptian airmails, ranging in value from 2m. to 200m, with 'Doctor blade' streaks were presented in vertical mint pairs (lot 2238). This very fine set sold for €2200, from an



estimate of €2000–€3000. Among the Egyptian revenue stamps, lot 2273 was a large hand-drawn and hand-painted essay for the salt tax £E1 value. This very fine item sold for €1700, well above its estimate of €800–€1200.





## Warwick and Warwick

AMONG the highlights at Warwick and Warwick's auction on 1 April was an extensive and valuable specialised collection of Egypt, which was very well presented in five albums (lot 337). Estimated at £2000, it sold for £3800 (prices shown exclude buyers' premium).

There were also a number of auction highlights from GB. A fine 1840 1d. set of plate numbers, with a black or red Maltese Cross sold for £1800, from an estimate of £1400 (lot 490). A block of ten of the 1887–92 1s. green from the reign of Queen Victoria was estimated at £700 but sold for £1150 (lot 511). From the Officials, there was an Office of Works 1896–1902 5d. (lot 661). In a very fine condition, this scarce stamp was estimated at £1200 but eventually sold for £1650.



## Siegel

THE Edward Morton Collection of Outstanding Quality US Stamps was auctioned by Siegel on 8–9 April. Prices shown include buyers' premium. The highlight of the entire auction was lot 49, an 1851 1c. blue (type I); the rarest of all United States stamps regularly issued prior to the 1868 Grills. The example offered featured variable margins, including a large sheet margin at the top and significant parts of the adjoining stamps at the sides, and had been cancelled by a neat strike of the red grid and matching 'Darien (Ga.) Sep. 11' c.d.s. It sold for \$90,000, near its estimate of \$100,000–\$150,000.

From the 1860 issue, lot 138 was an extremely fine used 90c. blue. With good centring and well-balanced margins, it bore a neat strike of the Philadelphia c.d.s. This is a hard-to-obtain stamp in a used and well-centred condition. It was issued in 1860 but saw limited use, partly due to the postage rate but more likely due to the effects of the American Civil War. For this reason, genuinely cancelled copies and covers bearing the 90c. are extremely rare. It sold for £15,500.



Among the 1867–68 Grilled issue, lot 229 was a 3c. rose (A grill). It featured good centring, intact perforations on all four sides, a clear all-over grill and an

attractive blue pinwheel fancy cancel. The August 1867 3c. experimental A grill was the first grilled issue, but due to damage caused by the all-over grill it was modified within two months. Therefore, any example with complete perforations is valued far in excess of its catalogue value. The example offered here, with intact perfs, sold for \$30,000.

One of the highlights from the 1870–71 National Bank Note Co. Grilled issue was a used 10c. brown (H grill) (lot 338). It featured a clearly defined grill with almost all points visible and wide margins, which is unusual for this issue. It also had a face-free strike of the New York foreign mail cancel. It sold for \$11,500.



Lot 438 was an example of the \$3 value from the 1893 Columbian issue, depicting Columbus describing the third voyage. The \$3 value is one of the most difficult of the dollar values to obtain because only 24,713 were issued, which is approximately half the number of the \$1 and \$2. The example offered featured a deep colour, along with perfect centring and large margins, which are unusual for this value. It realised \$10,000. Also from the Columbian issue, a \$4 value with almost perfect centring, sold for \$12,500 (lot 439).

Lot 493 was a well-centred and richly coloured mint 50c. with wide margins from the 1898 Trans-Mississippi issue (lot 493). The stamp depicts a single prospector in a

barren landscape, hammer in one hand and a gold prospecting pan in the other, with his dog and two pack mules. The design was originally considered for the \$2 (for which an essay is known) but it was ultimately used for the 50c. It sold for \$17,500.

Elsewhere, a well-centred example of the 1c. value from the 1901 Pan-American issue with inverted centre (lot 501) made \$15,500.





## Spink

IN line with their coronavirus policy, Spink's Philatelic Collectors' Series sale that took place in London on 14–15 April was conducted behind closed doors. Prices shown exclude buyers' premium.

In the Ceylon section, lot 1079 was a fine 1857 6d. purple-brown on blued paper. With just clear to small margins that were a little ragged in places, it sold for £2400 – double its starting price of £1200. The next lot was a mint 1857–59 imperf. 8d. brown with a Star watermark (lot 1080). It had good margins on three sides, but the outer frame was touched at the top. Very fine and extremely rare, it sold for £4800, much higher than its starting price of £3200.

A highlight from India was an 1852 Scinde Dawk ½a. blue (lot 1239), featuring large balanced margins and a central bar cancellation. From a starting price of £800, this rare stamp eventually sold for £3500.



A horizontal pair of the Official 25r. violet from the League of Nations 1931 issue was a highlight from the Iraq section. Coming from the upper-right corner of the sheet, this superb and rare pair sold for £8500, considerably more than its starting price of £1300.

From the 1852–56 issues of Victoria, there was the largest unused multiple of the Queen on Throne issue outside of the Royal Collection (lot 1742). This was a block of eight (FL-IO/QV-TY) of the 1852 2d. reddish brown Ham printing. It sold for £10,000, from a starting price of £8000. Lot 1745 was a mint 2d. lilac Queen on Throne. Originating from the 1855–56 Campbell and Fergusson stone A printing, it featured the rare creased transfer variety of 'two' for 'two'. Its selling price of £3500 easily surpassed its starting price of £2000.

From the British Postal Agencies in Eastern Arabia, there was a block of four of the 1956–57 St Edwards Crown watermark 1½a. on 1½d. green (lot 1069). With a central Dubai cancellation, the block sold for £2500, from a starting price of £1100.

A highlight from France was an entire letter to Alençon with an 1849–52 20c. black tied by 'false/1/janv./49' first day cancellation (lot 1123). From a starting price of £550, it sold for £3200.

Two hand-painted essays were highlights from the Hong Kong section. Lot 1232 was a very fine 4c. hand-painted essay in grey-green, pale green and white of an unadopted octagonal design on tracing paper affixed to thin card. It was dated 'nov.16.99' and sold for £5000, which was much higher than its starting price of £480. Lot 1233 was a hand-painted essay in grey-green, pale green, blue and white of an unadopted design for the 5c. value. It also sold for £5000 from a starting price of £480.

An October 1866 cover from from Durban to Ireland, marked 'Via Mauritius and Southampton', was a highlight of the covers and cancellations from Natal (lot 1329). It bore a strip of four of the 1859–60 perf. 14 3d. blue. It was clearly cancelled '2' and showed an arrival datestamp on reverse. From a starting price of £60, it sold for £2000.

A highlight from New Zealand was a die proof in bright blue on wove paper of the 2s. Captain Cook from the 1935–36 Pictorials (lot 1404). Fine and rare, it sold for £2100, from a starting price of £850.

A fine vertical pair, imperforate horizontally and with a top margin, of the Southern Rhodesia 1932 Falls 3d. blue sold for £11,000, almost double their starting price of £6000 (lot 1703).

A highlight from the Great Britain section was an 1840 1d. Black (position CB) from plate II (lot 1844). With good to large margins all around, this superb example sold for £2600, just above its starting price of £2400.

Amongst the illustrated envelopes was one dated from 16 February 1872 featuring a superb pen and ink illustration of a mother with her four children illustrated by Edmund Hubert Walker, a lithographic artist, and sent to his daughter to arrive on her birthday (lot 1840). This delightful envelope, which bore a franked 1d. plate 136 with barred oval cancellation, is considered to be one of the finest illustrated envelopes in existence and sold for £4500, from a starting price £2100.



Spink's auction of British Borneo Stamps and Covers took place on 16 April. A mint 1883 Labuan 16c. blue surcharged in red manuscript 'One Dollar A.S.H.' sold for £2300, more than double its starting price of £950 (lot 41). Lot 7 was a mint marginal example of the 1906 'BRUNEI' overprint on a Labuan 1c. black and purple. The overprint had been erroneously printed in black and features the line through 'B' variety. Its selling price of £2900 was nearly double its starting price of £1600.

A major rarity of North Borneo was offered as lot 151. This was a mint 16c. brown-lake horizontal pair from the 1922 Exhibition issue with the overprint in red. The right stamp featured the stop after 'EXHIBITION.', while the left stamp was missing its lower-left corner. Its selling price of £3800 was considerably more than its starting price of £2400.



A September 1884 envelope to London was marked 'By first mail from Singapore' (lot 64). It bore an 1883 2c. red-brown, tied by an oval of bars, and a Straits Settlements 10c. slate, tied by a circular 'singapore/p.o.' handstamp, as well as an 'elopura' c.d.s. in red. On the reverse were Singapore paid and London datestamps. This rare cover sold for £4000, considerably more than its estimate of £1600.

Essays and proofs of the 1931 50th Anniversary issue were a highlight of the auction. Lot 153 was a 6c. stamp-size essay handpainted in black and orange that had been inset on thick card. It had an embossed 'waterlow & sons/specimen' device at lower right, corrected Jawi characters at left and was marked 'Appd with dates moved to top corner' and then initialled and dated '12/10/28'. It sold for £2900, from a starting price of £1200.

## Invitation to auction houses

If you would like your auction results to be considered for inclusion in this monthly feature, please send a brief illustrated report of your sale's highlights to the editor (aboyd@philatelicexporter.com).

# New Issues

New and recent stamp issues based on information received from postal authorities and/or their agents. In the light of the current situation, some release dates are liable to change.

## ALAND

**8 May**, My Stamps DunderDans (miniature sheet), Europa – Ancient Postal Routes €2.  
**5 June**, Medical and Industrial Tubing, €1.70; Mammals (Nordic), €1.

## ALBANIA

**21 January**, 100 Years of Albanian Parliamentarism, 20l., 30l., 40l., 60l., 200l.  
**10 February**, 75 Years of Albanian Liberation, 50l., 250l.

## ALGERIA

**24 February**, Birds, 20d., 25d., 30d.

## ANDORRA (FRENCH)

**21 March**, 50 Years of La Francophonie, €1.16.  
**4 April**, GR7, €1.16.

## ANDORRA (SPANISH)

**14 May**, Opening of the Cocio-cultural Cal Pal in La Cortinada, 75c.; Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), €1.45.

## AUSTRALIA

**7 April**, The Queen's Birthday, 1×\$1.10, 1×\$3.20.  
**14 April**, Anzac Day 2020, 4×\$1.10.  
**15 April**, Australian Legends of Comedy, 4×\$1.10.  
**21 April**, Bird Emblems, 6×\$1.10.  
**29 April**, Navigating History: Endeavour Voyage 250 Years, 5×\$1.10.  
**19 May**, Citizen Science, 4×\$1.10.

### Australian Antarctic Territory

**31 March**, HMAS Wyatt Earp, 2×\$1.10, \$3.30.  
**Cocos (Keeling) Islands**  
**12 May**, Booby Birds, 2×\$1.10, 1×\$2.20.

## AUSTRIA

**17 April**, 125 Years of Excavations in Ephesos, €2.10.  
**24 April**, 100 Years of Auee, €2.75.

## BELARUS

**30 April**, 75 Years of Victory in the Great Patriotic War, 1r.92.  
**5 May**, Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), 1r.74, 1r.92.  
**8 May**, 75 years of Victory in the Great Patriotic War (joint issue between Belarus and Russia), 1r.92.

## BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

**12 May**, Archaeological Treasure 2020 – Radimlja (Stolac), 20m.

## BRAZIL

**23 April**, 150 Years of Chorinho, souvenir sheet, 6×1st.

## CANADA

**2 March**, Dahlia, 2×domestic.  
**24 April**, Eid, domestic.  
**29 April**, Victory in Europe 1945–2020, 2×domestic.

## CHINA (TAIWAN)

**20 May**, Inauguration of the 15th President and Vice President, 2×\$8, 2×\$15, \$35.

## CROATIA

**22 April**, Lelja Dobronic, 41c.; John the Baptist of Rab, 41c.; Count Janko Draskovic, 41c.

## CZECH REPUBLIC

**13 May**, Works of Art on Postage Stamps – Jiří Kolář, 45k.; Personalities – Václav Neumann, 19k.;

The Prague Archbishopric, sheet of four stamps, 30k.

## ESTONIA

**23 April**, Guiding in Estonia, €1, €1.50.  
**30 April**, Bird of the Year – Crested Grebe, 65c.

## FAROE ISLANDS

**27 April**, Artwork in National Collection (Sepac), 20k.  
**27 April**, World War II, 20k., 35k.

## FRANCE

**9 March**, Boris Vian, 97c.; Cabinet of Curiosities, 12×lettre verte.  
**16 March**, Marianne Stamp Festival, booklet, €11.64; European Capitals – Dublin, miniature sheet €5.60.  
**20 March**, Spring Fruits, 4×lettre verte; Spring Vegetables, 4×lettre verte.  
**23 March**, Andrée Chedid, €1.40.  
**30 March**, Philatelic Spring Fair Dole, 97c.; Cars and Holidays, three sets of 4×lettre verte.  
**6 April**, Bird Eggs, 12×lettre verte.  
**15 April**, Treasures of Notre Dame, miniature sheet €1.40.  
**20 April**, Raphaël 1483–1520, €2.32.  
**27 April**, Olympe de Gouges, €2.32.

## FRENCH POLYNESIA

**6 March**, Women's Rights – Maadi Gobrait 1909–80, Tuianu Le Gayic 1922–95, 80f., 100f.  
**24 April**, Ancient Actions – Société Agricole de Mopelia, 20f.; 80f.

## GERMANY

**2 April**, 100th birthday Geburtstag Richard von Weizsäcker, 80c.; Marienplatz München,

95c.; Optical Illusions – Two Shades of Grey?, Free Square?, €1.10, €1.70; Zinnia, 50c.  
**7 May**, 300th birthday Baron von Munchausen, 80c.; Historic Postal Routes (Europa), 80c.; New Olympic Sports – Climbing, Skateboarding, Karate, 80c.+40c., 95c.+45c., €1.55+55c.

## GIBRALTAR

**8 March**, Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), £1.66, £2.86.  
**30 April**, Our Schools, 70p, 80p, £2.86, £3.46.  
**7 May**, Post & Go VE Day 75th, 22p, 40p, 64p, 70p, 80p, £3.

## GREAT BRITAIN

**18 June**, Roman Britain, 2×2nd, 2×1st, 2×£1.63, 2×£1.68.

## GREECE

**8 April**, Ancient Theatres of Greece, 10c., 50c., €1, €2, €2.50.  
**8 May**, Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), €2, €4.50.

## GREENLAND

**16 April**, 80th Birthday HM Queen of Denmark, 25k.  
**5 May**, 75th Anniversary of American series, 11k., 16k., 18k.  
**18 May**, World War II, 26k. 41k.; Artwork in the National Collection (Sepac), 18k.; Norden Mammals, 16k., 18k.

## GUERNSEY

**2 May**, 250th Anniversary of Beethoven – Part 2, £1; 75th Liberation Day Anniversary, 50p, 68p, 70p, 85p, 95p, £1.02; Endangered Species: Kodofan Giraffe, miniature sheet, £3.

## HONG KONG

**21 May**, Hong Kong Museums Collection – Selection from the Chih Lo Lou Collection, \$2, \$2.60, \$3.40, \$3.70, \$4.90, \$5.

## HUNGARY

**16 April**, 150 Years of the Picture Postcard, personalised Stamp, 250fo.; Eminent Philatelists III – Dr Lajos Richter, personalised Stamp, 250fo.; 100 Years of the Postal Directorate in Debrecen, personalised Stamp, 135fo.  
**24 April**, 100 Years of the Hungarian Police Force, personalised stamp.  
**4 May**, 150 Years of the Fire Brigade and the Association of Hungarian Fire Service, 125fo., 135fo.; Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), miniature sheet, 2600fo.; Centenary of the Birth of Saint Pope John Paul II, miniature sheet, 1500fo.; Hungarian Meteorological Service is 150 Years Old, 515fo.; Postal History IV, 25fo., 225fo., 350fo., 450fo., 800fo., 900fo.

## ICELAND

**7 May**, Centenary of the Icelandic Met Office, 195k.; Iceland 50 Years a Member of EFTA, 550k.; Centenary of the Supreme Court of Iceland, 195k.; Reykjavik Arts Festival 50 Years, 250k.; 100 Years of Equal Voting Rights for all Icelandic Citizens, 195k.; The Young of Iceland's Domestic Animals IV – Chick and Piglet, 250k., 315k.; Tourist stamps IX – White Water Rafting and Whale Watching, 250k., 315k.; Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), 250k., 315k.



## ISLE OF MAN

**4 May**, #CarryUsThrough, 4x1st, 2xL, 2xROW.  
**12 May**, World Health Organization Year of the Nurse and Midwife 2020 – 200 Years Since the Birth of Florence Nightingale, 4x1st, 2xL, 2x£1.82.

## ISRAEL

**21 April**, Concentration Camps Liberation 75 Years – Resurrection, 8s.30; Memorial Day 2020 Haganah Organization Centennial, 4s.10; Bees in Israel, 4s.10; Good Luck, 37s.50; Mikva Israel – 150 Years, 4s.10.

## ITALY

**8 May**, Centenary Proclamation of Madonna of Loreto as Patron Saint of Aviators, €1.10.

## JERSEY

**9 May**, Liberation 75, 54p, 70p, 84p, 88p, £1.05, £1.18.  
**9 June**, Charles Dickens 1812–70, 54p, 70p, 84p, 88p, £1.05, £1.18.

## LATVIA

**15 May**, Lighthouses, €1.54.  
**29 May**, Centenary of the First Latvian Opera Baņuta, €1.

## LUXEMBOURG

**5 May**, 150 Years Diocese of Luxembourg, 80c.; 40 Years Arts Section in Secondary Education, 80c.; Rural Tourism, 80c., €1.05; Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), 80c., €1.05.

## MACAO

**21 May**, 70 Anniversary of the Women's General Association of Macau, 2p.50, 4p., 4p.50, 6p.

## MONTENEGRO

**16 March**, Flora – Berkel's Stargazer, 95c.  
**15 April**, 100 Years Since the Birth of Cedo Vukovic, 30c.

## NETHERLANDS

**6 April**, Typically Dutch – Tompouce, souvenir sheet 6xInternational.  
**16 April**, 75 Years of Freedom, 2xInternational; Golden Stamp – Peace and Freedom 1945–2000, €50.

## NORWAY

**17 April**, Mammals – Orca, 26k.; Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), 26k.  
**8 May**, 75 Years of Peace, 17k.

## POLAND

**20 April**, 100th Anniversary of the Founding of the Ruch Chorzów Sports Club, 3z.30.  
**24 April**, 100 Years of the Polish Physical Society, 3z.30.  
**29 April**, Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), 120z.  
**30 April**, Major Hubal's Memorial Day, 3z.30.  
**7 May**, Flowers and Fruits, 8z.40.

## PORTUGAL

**17 April**, Archbishops of Braga (3rd series), 3x53c.  
**22 April**, Portuguese Numismatics (1st series), N, A, E, I.  
**5 May**, World Portuguese Language Day, 65c. 91c.

## ROMANIA

**9 April**, Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), 11.90, 20l.50.  
**23 April**, Aeromila 2020, souvenir sheet 29l.  
**5 May**, 100 Years Since the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations with the Holy See, souvenir sheet 29l.

## RUSSIA

**8 May**, 75th Anniversary of Victory in the Great Patriotic War (joint issue between Russia and Belarus), 75r.

## SERBIA

**5 May**, Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), 74d., 108d.  
**6 May**, 190th Anniversary of the Serbian Armed Forces Guard, 27d.

**9 May**, 75 years of Victory Over Fascism, 9 May – Victory Day (1945–2020), 74d.  
**13 May**, Stamp Day, 27d.

## SWEDEN

**30 April**, Active Leisure, 5xDomestic; Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), miniature sheet, 3x22k.; Hilma of Klin, 5x22k.

## SWITZERLAND

**7 May**, 100 Years Florist, 1f.; Animal Families, 85c., 1f., 1f.50, 2f.; Microscopic Art, 85c., 1f.; Society for the History of Swiss Art, 1f.; Swiss Foundation for Landscape Conservation, 1f.; 100 Years Geneva Airport, 1f.; Ancient Postal Routes (Europa), 2x1f.; Pro Patria 2020 – Living Cultural Heritage, 85c.+40c., 1f.+50c.

## THAILAND

**2 May**, Important Buddhist Religious Day (Vesak Day), 4x3b.

## TUNISIA

**9 April**, Motherland Martyrs – Chokri Belaïd and Mohamed Brahmi, 2x750m.  
**11 April**, Kantaoui Dahmane, 1st Tunisian Post Office Receiver Tunis-Belvédère (1958–62), 1d.5.

## UKRAINE

**8 May**, 'Remember 1 September 1939–2 September 1945', 9h.

## UNITED NATIONS

**12 May**, 200th Anniversary Florence Nightingale, €1.35.  
**18 May**, 40th Anniversary of Eradication of Smallpox, 1f.70.  
**29 May**, A Tribute to the United Nations Peace-Keeping Service, sheet of 10 stamps, \$1.20.

## USA

**24 April**, Chrysanthemum, \$1.20.  
**13 May**, American Gardens, 10x55c.  
**21 May**, Voices of Harlem Renaissance, 4x55c.



Australia: Australian Legends of Comedy



Canada: Victory in Europe 1945–2020



France: Olympe de Gouges



Greenland: Norden Mammals



Jersey: Liberation 75



Switzerland: 100 Years Geneva Airport

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26th August 2020

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Dealer's stocks, collections, better single items, etc. always wanted.

Our May 27th auction had 1055 lots, mostly unreserved  
& many very bulky. Every one of these lots had either  
a video or picture online.

If public viewing is not possible in August we will  
again make every lot viewable online.

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[brian@brian-reeve-auctions.com](mailto:brian@brian-reeve-auctions.com)

Live Internet bidding – see website for details



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# Auction Diary

Auction dates have been compiled from information supplied by event organisers. *Philatelic Exporter* cannot be held responsible for any errors, changes or omissions. During the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, please check every event carefully to confirm its current status. For inclusion in future listings, please email [aboyd@philatelicexporter.com](mailto:aboyd@philatelicexporter.com)

## JUNE

### 2/3 ZÜRICH ASIA

Java Road 108 Commercial Centre, 108 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong

### 3/4 CAVENDISH

Cavendish House, 153–57 London Road, Derby DE1 2SY

### 3 WARWICK & WARWICK

Court House, Jury Street, Warwick CV34 4EW

### 5/6 NPV

Leeuwendseweg 14, 1382 LX, Weesp, The Netherlands

### 6 STADE

Markgrafenstraße 579639, Grenzach-Wyhlen, Germany

### 6 WORTHING

Charmandean Centre, Forest Road, Worthing, West Sussex BN14 9HS

### 8/10 SCHLEGEL

Kurfürstendamm 200, 10719 Berlin, Germany

### 9/10 COMPLETE

P O Box 80-226 Green Bay, Waitakere, Auckland 0643, New Zealand

### 9/11 DANIEL F KELLEHER

22 Shelter Rock Lane, Unit 53, Danbury, CT 06810, USA

### 10 AJH STAMPS

Dunkenhalgh Hotel and Spa, Clayton-le-Moors, Lancs BB5 5JP

### 10/11 AB PHILEA

Svartensgatan 6, SE-116 20, Stockholm, Sweden

### 11 COLONIAL

5757 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90036-5816, USA

### 11/13 CORINPHILA NETHERLANDS

Mortelmolen 3, 1185 XV Amstelveen, Netherlands

### 12/13 AIX-PHILA

Aula der Kaufmännischen Schule II, Lothringerstraße 10, Aachen, Germany

### 13 BIL

Community Centre, Fen Road, Washingborough, Lincs LN4 1AB

### 13 CHESHIRE STAMP AUCTIONS

Cottons Hotel & Spa, Manchester Road, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 0SU

### 16/17 H R HARMER

45 Rockefeller Plaza, 630 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2607, New York, NY 10111, USA

### 16/19 CHRISTOPH GÄRTNER

6–8 Steinbeisstraße, 74321 Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany

### 17 HARMERS OF LONDON

Westbury Mayfair Hotel, 37 Conduit Street, Mayfair, London W1S 2YF

### 17/18 GROSVENOR

399–401 Strand, London WC2R 0LT

### 19/20 MIRKO FRANKE

Jersbeker Strasse 2, D-22941 Bargteheide, Germany

### 23/27 HEINRICH KOEHLER

Hasengartenstraße 25, 65189 Wiesbaden, Germany

### 24/25 VIENNAFIL

Fleming's Hotel, Josefstädter Straße 10–12, 1080 Vienna, Austria

### 25/27 JOHN BULL

7/F Kwong Fat Hong, Building, 1 Rumsey Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong

### 29/3 DAVID FELDMANN

59 Route de Chancy, Building D, 1213 Petigny, Switzerland

## JULY

### 1 WARWICK & WARWICK

Court House, Jury Street, Warwick CV34 4EW

### 2 SPINK

67–69 Southampton Row, Bloomsbury, London WC1B 4ET (online)

### 2/4 FELZMANN

Immermannstraße 51, 40210 Düsseldorf, Germany

### 7 UNIVERSAL

4 The Old Coalyard, West End, Northleach GL54 3HE (postal)

### 8 AJH STAMPS

Dunkenhalgh Hotel and Spa, Clayton-le-Moors, Lancs BB5 5JP

### 11 SOUTH WEST

Rydon Building, Toby Carvery, Rydon Lane, Exeter EX2 7HL

### 13 PLUMRIDGE

Sunbury Cricket Club, Lower Hampton Road, Sunbury-on-Thames TW16 5PS

### 14/16 SPINK

67–69 Southampton Row, Bloomsbury, London WC1B 4ET

### 23 MAYFAIR

Vintage House, 37 Albert Embankment, Lambeth, London SE1 7TL

### 25 AVH

Girl Guide Hut, Hatch End, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 4SE (postal)

### 29 BRIAN REEVE

2 College Fields, Prince Georges Road, London SW19 2PT

### 29 STANLEY GIBBONS

399 Strand, London, WC2R 0LX

## AUGUST

### 5 WARWICK & WARWICK

Court House, Jury Street, Warwick CV34 4EW

### 6/7 H R HARMER

45 Rockefeller Plaza, 630 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2607, New York, NY 10111

### 8 BIL

Community Centre, Fen Road, Washingborough, Lincs LN4 1AB

### 8 SOMERSET

Hill Farm, Hemyock, Cullompton EX15 3UZ

### 12 AJH STAMPS

Dunkenhalgh Hotel and Spa, Clayton-le-Moors, Lancs BB5 5JP

### 14/15 GERT MÜLLER

Carl-Zeiss-Strasse 2, 76275 Ettlingen, Germany

### 29 SOUTH WEST

Rydon Building, Toby Carvery, Rydon Lane, Exeter EX2 7HL

## SEPTEMBER

### 2 WARWICK & WARWICK

Court House, Jury Street, Warwick CV34 4EW

## FORTHCOMING

### CHRISTOPH GÄRTNER

Christoph Gärtner's preparations for their summer philatelic auction of 16–19 June are in full swing. The whole Gärtner team are looking forward to the auction, although with health and security the highest priority, it is not clear yet in what form the auction will take place.

The auction, ranging from small but unusual lots to extensive collections and accumulations, will include more than 10,000 single lots and several thousand collections.

As usual at Gärtner, the Germany section is particularly extensive. Many important single lots will be auctioned, such as a Helgoland stamp with a very rare Hamburg stamp. The section covering the rest of Europe ranges from classic stamps and postal history covers to modern rarities.

From China, there is a great range of rare stamps and letters, including a 'Liberated Areas' section full of rarities. Other countries are also strongly represented. As an example, a used 1847 'Lady McLeod' 5c. blue from Trinidad is a new discovery among the 23 listed used.



# Major Events

During the current coronavirus crisis, before travelling, readers are strongly advised to confirm with organisers that events are still being held. Please email [aboyd@philatelicexporter.com](mailto:aboyd@philatelicexporter.com) with details of future events.

## AUGUST

**20/23 GREAT AMERICAN STAMP SHOW**  
Connecticut Convention Center,  
100 Columbus Blvd, Hartford, CT

**CANCELLED**

stamps.org  
Co-hosted by the American Philatelic Society, the American Topical Association and the American First Day Cover Society, the Great American Stamp Show is the largest national stamp and postal history show in the USA.

## SEPTEMBER

**4/6 NORDIA 2020**  
Malmömässan, Mässgatan 6,  
215 32 Malmö, Sweden

www.nordia2020.se  
The exhibition is organised by a number of philatelic clubs together with all the Nordic Philatelic Associations.

**18/19 AUTUMN SOUTH OF ENGLAND POSTCARD FAIR**  
Leisure Centre, Kingfield Road,  
Woking, Surrey GU22 9BA

postcard.co.uk/woking.php  
PTA (01929 463428)

**18/20 PERTH STAMP & COIN SHOW**  
Community Centre, South Perth,  
WA 6151, Australia

perthstampandcoinshow.com.au

**30/3 VIRTUAL STAMP EX 2020**  
The Philatelic Traders' Society, PO  
Box 919, East Grinstead RH19  
9PH

stampexinternational.co.uk  
Stampex (01342 837888)  
Now a virtual event.

## OCTOBER

**2/4 ÖVEBRIA 2020**  
Jahrturnhalle, Jahrturnstrasse 15,  
3100 St Pölten, Austria

bsvstpoelten.at

## 9/11 STAMPA 2020

Griffith College, South Circular  
Road, Dublin 8

stampa.ie  
Irish national stamp exhibition.  
Souvenirs and special pictorial  
covers will be available.

## 16/17 SCOTEX 2020

Dewars Centre, Glover Street,  
Perth PH2 0TH

http://www.spta.org.uk/  
Chad Neighbor (01674 832823)

## 23/25 LATINPHIL 2020

Piana delle Orme Museum, Strada  
Migliara 43 1/2, Latina, 04100 Italy

**23/25 NOJEX-ASDA POSTAGE STAMP EXPO**  
Hilton Meadowlands, 2  
Meadowlands Plaza, East  
Rutherford, NJ 07073, USA

asda@americanstampdealer.com

## NOVEMBER

**5/10 INDONESIA 2020**  
Jakarta, Indonesia

indonesia2020.com

**13/14 STAFFORD STAMP SHOW**  
County Showground, Weston  
Road, Stafford ST18 0BD

jrs-stamp-shows.co.uk  
JRS Fairs (01785 25950)

## 2021 JANUARY

**2021 YORK STAMP AND COIN FAIR**  
York Racecourse, Knavesmire  
Road, York, YO23 1EX

stampshows.net

## 2021 FEBRUARY

**5/6 LIVERPOOL STAMP FAIR**  
Liner Hotel, Lord Nelson Street,  
Liverpool L3 5QB

terryhunts@yahoo.com

## 11/14 MELBOURNE 2021

Caulfield Racecourse,  
Station Street, Caulfield East,  
Victoria 3145, Australia

melbourne2021.com.au

## 2021 MARCH

## 12/14 NORDIA 2021

Musiikkikeskus, Kuopionlahdenkatu  
23, Kuopio, 70100 Finland

## 17/20 CAPE TOWN 2021

Cape Town International  
Convention Centre,  
Convention Square,  
1 Lower Long Street,  
Cape Town, South Africa

capetown2021.org

## 2021 MAY

## 6/9 IBRA 2021

Stamp Fair Messe Essen,  
Norbertstrasse, 45131 Essen,  
North Rhine-Westphalia,  
Germany

ibra2021.de

## 7/8 SPRING SOUTH OF ENGLAND POSTCARD FAIR

Leisure Centre, Kingfield Road,  
Woking, Surrey GU22 9BA

postcard.co.uk/woking.php  
PTA (01929 463428)

## 2021 JUNE

## 4/8 TAIPEI 2021

Taipei World Trade Center,  
Taipei City

taipei2020.post.gov.tw

## 2021 AUGUST

## 25/30 PHILANIPPON 2021

Yokohama Exhibition Hall,  
1-1-1 Minato Mirai, Yokohama,  
Nishi-ku 220-0012 Japan

www.japan2021.jp

## 2021 SEPTEMBER

**17/18 AUTUMN SOUTH OF ENGLAND POSTCARD FAIR**

Leisure Centre, Kingfield Road,  
Woking, Surrey GU22 9BA

postcard.co.uk/woking.php  
PTA (01929 463428)

## 24/26 ÖVEBRIA 2021

St Pölten, Austria

## 2021 OCTOBER

**15/16 SALISBURY STAMP AND POSTCARD SHOW**

Five Rivers Leisure Centre,  
Hulse Road, Salisbury SP1 3NR

machins.org  
All 2020 show reservations already  
received will be honoured for the  
2021 show if still required.

## 2021 NOVEMBER

## 19/22 NOTOS 2021

Peristeri Exhibition Centre,  
Athens, Greece

hps.gr/notos2021

## 2022 FEBRUARY

**19/26 LONDON 2022 INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION**

Business Design Centre,  
52 Upper Street, Islington,  
London N1 0QH

london2020.co

## 2022 MARCH

## 31/3 HUNFILEX 2022

Budapest, Fővám tér 11–12,  
Budapest, 1093 Hungary

## 2026 MAY

## 23/30 BOSTON 2026 WORLD EXPO

Boston Convention and Exposition  
Center, 415 Summer Street,  
Boston, MA 02210, USA

boston2026.org





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### 2020

#### AUCTION DATES

Wednesday	<b>10</b>	June
Wednesday	<b>8</b>	July
Wednesday	<b>12</b>	August
Wednesday	<b>9</b>	September
Wednesday	<b>14</b>	October
Wednesday	<b>11</b>	November

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For trade enquiries, contact Kerry Finney on **01425 472 363**

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STANLEY GIBBONS  
399 Strand | London | WC2R 0LX  
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# Philatelic Exporter

THE WORLD STAMP TRADE JOURNAL

## Classified Advertisement Order Form

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(PE will place your advertisement under the requested heading or the closest equivalent)

Please tick which issues you wish to advertise in:

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\*Please note, prices do not include VAT. Please add +20% onto your payment.



Attach your ad and post to:  
**Advertisement Sales Department,**  
Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 7 Parkside,  
Christchurch Road, Ringwood,  
Hampshire. BH24 3SH.

[advertising@philatelicexporter.com](mailto:advertising@philatelicexporter.com)  
**01425 481055**

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o 1 year .....£50

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### Payment in £ Sterling

I wish to pay by

o cheque/postal order (must be payable to: Stanley Gibbons)

o credit card

**Instruction to your credit card company to accept charges against your debit/credit/switch card**

Name of Account Holder .....

Debit/Credit/Maestro card number

.....

Card starting date .. / .. / .. Card expiry date .. / .. / ..

Card issue no (Maestro) .. CVC Number ..

Signature..... Date .....

**Philatelic Exporter is strictly trade only and your company details will be checked by our sales team.**

**Call the Hotline now +44 (0)1425 472363  
or simply post the reply form**

Send to: Philatelic Exporter, Stanley Gibbons Limited, 7 Parkside,  
Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3SH, England  
E-mail: [subscriptions@philatelicexporter.com](mailto:subscriptions@philatelicexporter.com)

## Regular Feature: Back Stampix

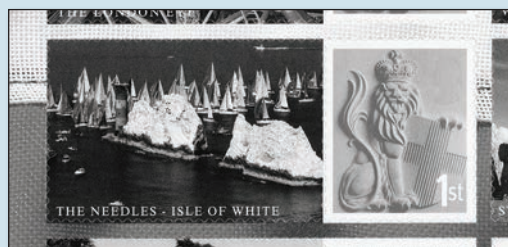
Graham Phillips reports on what was pictured in *Philatelic Exporter* in...

### JUNE 2007



The 40th anniversary of the launch of Royal Mail's series of Machin definitives was marked with a new £1 ruby stamp and the miniature sheet shown here. Also pictured was a clip from Royal Mail's classic film *The Story of the Stamp*

featuring Arnold Machin at work on the sculpture of the Queen's head, and the magazine reviewed the book written for the occasion by Douglas Muir, Postal Museum curator – *A Timeless Classic: The Evolution of Machin's Icon.*



Royal Mail's latest Smilers sheet was the second in the 'Glorious' series depicting ten views of the four countries of the United Kingdom. The 'Glorious England' sheet included an aerial view of yachts rounding the Needles; the rock formation off the coast of the Isle of Wight. Unbelievably, in the caption, 'Wight' was misspelt 'White'! Furthermore, the error was repeated in accompanying products. A complete recall and reprint was ordered, but several of the error sheets and an f.d.c. had already been distributed to some of Royal Mail's key account holders.



In July 2006, with inflation running rampant, Zimbabwe had issued a set of four stamps depicting 'National Heroes'; the top value of which was this one with a denomination value of Z\$650,000. This was to be the country's highest-ever face value stamp.





# Not just a hobby A lifestyle

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SINCE THE BEGINNING AND THERE IS A REASON  
THEY KEEP COMING BACK!

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## A MESSAGE TO EXPERIENCED DEALERS

# Tired of Selling at Poor Prices? – *Work 'Smarter': Sell through UPA*

## Do You have More Stock than You can Sell, and Too Few Clients? An Opportunity Exists for Experienced Dealers...

As we're all getting older, we need to find NEW ways to stop duplicating work, make our knowledge, our experience and stock work harder and 'smarter' for us.

If you send stamps to auction, you'll know the problem – they don't sell them! And when they do, at other times they 'give' them away by poor description and paucity of clients and then they congratulate themselves by publishing the results. So, you end up paying an auction to sell your stamps to other dealers, or to sell them to collectors at dealer prices, a modus operandi hardly likely to be a profitable proposition for you...

Let's face it, the best person to describe your stamps is the person that cares most about them – and that person is you! So here's the proposition – you describe them, UPA will carefully monitor your descriptions against condition of stamps (and level of returns), and present your stamps to *more genuine qualified collectors*, that are prepared to pay an appropriate price, *than you can reach outside of any other philatelic postal auction* (and that includes promiscuous 'bargain-seekers' on-line).

Naturally we can only offer this service to reputable, knowledgeable, experienced dealers who know how to describe stamps properly. Obviously you will have a



**Your stamps presented to 10,000+ collectors in 50+ countries in UPA's 20,000+ lot quarterly auctions with NO buyer's premiums and NO hidden extras, 95% lots shipped 'Loyalty Post-Free'**

minimum estimate value per lot, and we may 'tier' our commission fee according to the value of the lots sold... **BUT**, if you wish to take advantage of 2,002 different bidders in UPA's last auction (Nr.73) from 47 different countries (95% collectors), catalogues which are printed and mailed to 6,400 different collectors all over the world at a cost of £50,000+ each auction, and viewed by thousands more collectors on-line, £150,000+ per annum marketing 'spend', 5,000+ high-res quality colour corrected images in each catalogue and more on-line... you will need to be computer-literate, because after we agree commission on a no sale no charge basis, we'll give you unique stock numbers which track your lots through each auction, and a stock input program so that you can get started describing and making the most of your surplus stock...

It goes without saying, there's a little more to discuss, you'll want to know what percentage of lots sells 1st time (33% to 50%) and 2nd time offered (30% to 35%) etc... and agree commission rates which won't be that low for the premium service/ access to real collectors that UPA provides, but will be lower for the simple reason that you're describing your lots, which we're carefully vetting... because I'm not prepared to let our 1% returns level be exceeded, which ultimately benefits us all.

**Thank you for reading. If you have higher value material and would like to try selling profitably through UPA's quarterly auctions, please contact Andrew to discuss.**

To our mutual success, sincerely,

Andrew McGavin, Managing Director

**Universal Philatelic Auctions**

[andrew@upastampauctions.co.uk](mailto:andrew@upastampauctions.co.uk)

Office: 01451 861111

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**NB. Absolutely NO lots to be sent to UPA without prior agreement**