

Bulletin

Volume 61

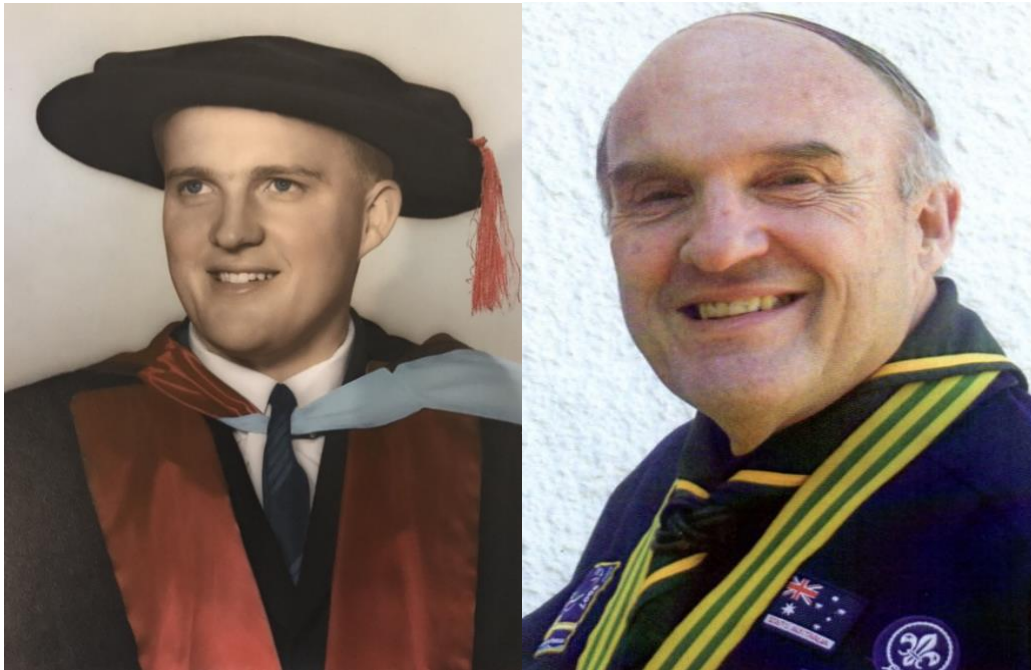
No. 1

March 2021



Website: www.brightonps.org.au

(03) 9530 6760



Vale Dr William Wells AM

Tribute on Page 4

Dear Bri Phil Friends

It is great to see most of you back as our Bri Phil meetings return to (Covid) normal. Your Committee and Sales Branch have put in sterling efforts, behind the scenes, to achieve a silent Catalogued Auction in December and several meetings this year. We still have to be careful until we all get immunised and achieve 'herd immunity'. It has been pleasing to see Members come to the party, generally, and put up with QR codes, social distancing and masks. Our exchange sheets are back in full force, thanks to Howard and James.

Most of you will know that our Honorary Patron, Dr William Wells, AM, passed away on February 4th. William was a long-term contributor to all aspects of the Club and we are sad at his passing whilst celebrating his enormous achievements in Philatelic and

Scouting fields. When you next visit the Club be sure to look at the Tribute Garden being erected near the Members entrance to remember the contribution of Margery Crawford and other women who have served the Club in visible and invisible ways.

Important upcoming events: On April 13th we have our Club One Frame Competition. Already several novices have indicated their intent to show their collections. Please join us to display or take in the philatelic jewels around the walls! Please also diarise our Gala Anniversary Exhibition on Sunday, September 4th. Although delayed, this social day will celebrate anniversaries of three important bodies. A small committee is busy making arrangements and requests for displays will be made in June.

Some changes to the published program have been made: The display on March 9th will be *'Thailand and North Borneo Philately'* by Ray Price. (Unfortunately our friends from Warragul are not able to present). There will **not** be a Catalogued Auction on April 3rd, because it is Easter Saturday. Instead there will be a Premium Auction. The next Catalogued Auction will be on July 3rd.

If other changes have to be made, you will be notified by email or by looking at our website, www.brightonps.org.au

I look forward to collecting, exchanging and studying stamps with you in 2021!

Best wishes,

Ian Sadler, President.

Upcoming Displays

Thailand and North Borneo by Ray Price - March 9th at 7.15pm

Ray will display an impressive collection of North Borneo, which started as a Chartered Company and first issued stamps made by its note printer. Then Waterlows showed it how to make money from collectors, leading to several sets of pictorials, overprints and CTOs. He will also show us a selection of Thai stamps and covers from the earliest issues until 1970.

Queen Elizabeth II and Fauna Definitives of Australia by Ted Gallagher – May 11th at 8.15pm

As a philatelist who studies Australian stamps in great detail, Ted will show us constant varieties, the introduction of 'Helecon' for sorting and sunken die-proofs, given to dignitaries. His collection helped Victoria win the Australasian philatelic challenge for the first time.

A Biography 'In Time and Place' and Norway Posthorns 1872-92 by Jon Fladeby - June 8th at 8.15pm

We have invited Jon because the treatment of his Norwegian events by means of his family's stamps and covers leads to a fascinating collection. His collection of Norwegian Posthorns will be new to most of our Members.

Education Meetings on Tuesday evenings at 7.15pm

Please BYO material. We will try to answer your questions.

There will be no education meetings in March or April.

May 11th: ‘Varieties found in Stamps’. By Ray Price.

This meeting will delve into the different varieties which can be found in your stamps. This includes perforations, watermarks and papers which can add to your understanding of your collection.

June 8th: ‘What do I collect’ by Stephen Bradford.

Continuing our series, which stimulates by seeing other Member’s collections, Stephen will show us his collection of covers and other items from the Pilbara which take you in depth through the social activities of the iron ore miners.

Ian Sadler, *Education Coordinator*



Annual BPS Competition

The competition for the Brighton Philatelic Society (BPS) Cup will be held on April 13th, 2021. We encourage all members to take part.

Brighton Philatelic Society Cup rules:

1. All exhibitors must be financial members of BPS.
2. Entries will be accepted by the Secretary, or Convenor, from 7pm at the meeting. Alternatively, arrangements may be made for their prior delivery to the President or Secretary
3. Each entry will comprise 15 sheets, including a title page.
4. Each sheet shall be within the maximum measurements of 250mm x 290mm.
5. The exhibitor’s name must not appear on the front of any sheet but must be endorsed on the back of each.
6. Each entry must be the property of the exhibitor. All mounting, arrangement and annotation must be the exhibitor’s personal work.
7. If there is a dispute, the Competitions Sub-Committee of the Society is the sole arbiter of the rules.
8. The Society will take every care of entries while they are in its possession but will not accept responsibility for loss or damage.
9. The BPS Cup remains the property of the Society.

10. The winning exhibitor can keep the trophy until the first general meeting of February in the next year.
11. The winner will be given an inscribed certificate as a permanent record of their success.
12. (a) All entries will be examined by the judges appointed by the Committee. In making their decisions, the judges will consider the following general points:
 - Presentation and display (including arrangement and mounting)
 - Annotation
 - Condition (making due allowance for the nature of the entry, the difficulty or otherwise of acquisition)
 - Philatelic knowledge
 - General interest

New Members

Please extend a friendly welcome to the following new members:

Lorette Garlick – Parkdale

Guy Delon – Toorak

Andreas Klein – Pakenham

Barry Minster OAM – East Melbourne

Paul D’Elia – Ormond

Andrew McPhee – Springvale

Mark Taylor - Oakleigh

Albums closed

Dr William Wells AM – a member since 1953 (see tribute below)

Dieter Kaiser – a member since 1994

Daniel Bailey – a member since 2001

Vale Dr William Wells AM

There are so many facets to William’s life we do not have the space to cover them all. So let’s just focus on philately.

William joined Brighton Philatelic Society in 1953 - the year of the first BRIPEX exhibition. That is a membership of 68 years! In 1958 he joined the committee and the next year was elected Senior Vice-president – at the tender age of 20!

William served as President on 5 occasions – obviously a record. As all members would be aware William ran the Exchange Branch for 22 years until he retired last year. But his contribution extends well beyond that as he ran the Sales Branch and conducted our auctions for another 20 years prior to that!

William was an innovator and a forward thinker. In 1960 he introduced the concept of committee meetings – prior to that all the business of the Society was discussed at the start of each auction or display evening!

He introduced the concept of a Bulletin for all our members and was the Editor for many years.

The Malayan Study Circle in Australia was started by William. This group has a worldwide membership of several hundred. During the past 50 years William has had many articles published in overseas journals.

William was an energetic participant in our annual competitions and his name is featured on many of our trophies.

In 1974 he was made a Life Member of BPS. And then in January of this year he was made our first ever Patron of the Society.

William was a man of many talents. In 1991 he was awarded the Order of Australia for Service to Scouting. From a young cub he rose to the position of Chief Commissioner for Scouting for Australia which he held for many years. William is known worldwide for his service to Scouting. Several years ago he was awarded the Bronze Wolf by the international Scouting movement – this has only been awarded 3 times in the history of scouting.

To jump back to philately William has one of the finest stamp collections in the world devoted to Scouts and Guides. He has souvenir covers for every Australian Jamboree, starting with the first ever held in 1926.

William was always innovative – always challenging the way we did things. Even during COVID lockdown William attended committee meetings via ZOOM and he was pushing for a 5-year plan for the club and then a 10-year plan. William had no time for “seat warmers” on a committee – even after 60 years he was still looking for new challenges.

In preparing this obituary our Bulletins offered so much information on the contribution by William. In 1964, as President, he wrote this poem for his BPS Christmas letter to members. And it is just as relevant today.

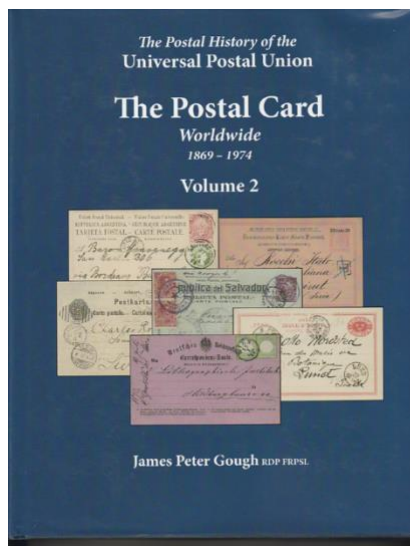
*“May lots from auctions come your way,
With just the stamps you need,
And may the prices you must pay,
Be naught to cause you heed.
May every stamp be perfect too,
Without thin spot or tear,
May each bring happiness anew,
And merit loving care.
So may this day, and all next year,
A constant pleasure be,
And give you every joy and cheer,
In your philately. “*

We are forever indebted to William for his contribution to this Society and his enthusiasm and support for the hobby.

Ross Newton OAM

Book Review

The Postal History of the Universal Postal Union. The Postal Card. Worldwide 1869 – 1974 by James Peter Gough. London: The Royal Philatelic Society, 2019. 935pp. in 2 volumes.



This beautifully produced work will become the standard for any work on the history of postcards. If only it had had a proper index to the wealth of detail inside it.

Austria-Hungary was the first country to develop the concept and issue a card and many other European countries soon followed suit. Initially, the cards were intended for local use but cards for foreign destinations were soon requested and each country involved needed to agree on rules and rates. The 1874 Congress of Berne led to the formation of the General Postal Union and an agreement on regulations for cards including the development of equivalent postage rates for each issuing country was developed. In 1878 there was a Special Convention on Reply-Paid Postal Cards which had been introduced in Germany in 1872, and it was agreed that the general international use of reply cards should begin

on 1 April 1879. Many countries were not interested and what was now the Universal Postal Union demanded that all members accept reply cards from other members by 1886 and return them without further charge. This may sound rather dreary but these changes through to the Congress of Rome in 1906 are illustrated with rare cards, details of the treaties and regulations and illustrations of postage rates in use, for example a table on page 677 gives the rates for cards sent from the Australasian Colonies to UK by two different routes from 1888. There are ten examples of Australian cards showing these rates which had been developed from the Intercolonial Postal Conference in Sydney in 1888. Similar examples are shown for Southern Africa and the West Indies. Appendices include dates of the first issue of postal cards for each country to 1982, dates for issue of letter cards, dates of UPU membership by date and in alphabetical order, a table of rates to France from 1875 – 1920, and a 200-year calendar for 1801 – 2000. A long bibliography follows. Unfortunately, the index is next to useless, just a computer produced listing of the occurrence of country names. The entry for Australia has 75 page numbers with no subdivisions, the entry for France has nearly 240 page numbers listed, nearly one quarter of the pages in the two volumes!

Ray Price, *Librarian*

More on Soaking Stamps

Late last year, in our series of Brighton Papers in Philately, we published some advice on methods of soaking stamps, and in particular the problem of removing self-adhesive stamps from envelopes. This has elicited some comments from members, including this amusing story from Henry Warren:

“Many years ago, way back in Cape Town, a friend and I were "enhancing" our stamp collection. In those days *Readers Digest* in Cape Town threw all their inward mail envelopes into a dustbin outside of their office in the centre of the city. So my friend and I collected this very large number of envelopes and soaked off the stamps. But the volume was so large that we struck upon the idea of a more efficient method to soak them off. So what we did was tip all the envelopes into his mother's washing machine and gave it a run for a few minutes. All the stamps

came off perfectly and as I recall were easy to retrieve. The stamps were all of the same denomination - three pence, the regular letter rate at the time. I had thousands of them and eventually gave them away after arriving in Australia - although I still have a few to this day. The washing machine process caused no damage to the stamps at all!"

Ross Newton has also added some comments:

"I have just soaked 500 stamps ! I use the kitchen bench as it is laminated and they dry quickly in the sun. My wife of course finds it very difficult to prepare meals when every surface is covered with stamps! These new P&S from Oz Post with the slices in them are almost impossible to peel off! In fact the stamp is designed not to peel off. I spoke to someone at Australia Post Philatelic Bureau and they have taken this step to stop uncanceled stamps being reused. "Our superiors have said we really don't care about the stamp collecting fraternity – we just want to stop this illegal practice of reusing stamps".

Perhaps I should try the washing machine!"

BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY PROGRAM 2021

March	6	Premium auction 1.00 pm	
	9	Display: Thailand & North Borneo 7.15 pm	E
	16	Daytime meeting 10.00 am	D,E
	23	Members uncatalogued auction 7.30pm	
April	3	Premium auction 1.00 pm	
	13	One Frame Competition 8.00pm	E
	20	Daytime meeting 10.00 am	D,E
	27	Members uncatalogued auction 7.30pm	
May	1	Premium auction 1.00pm	
	11	Ed: Varieties in Stamps 7.15pm	
	11	Display: UK Queen Elizabeth II and Fauna Definitives 8.15 pm	E
	18	Daytime meeting 10.00 am	D,E
	25	Members uncatalogued auction 7.30pm	
June	5	Premium auction 1.00pm	
	8	Ed: What Do I Collect 7.15pm	
	8	Display: A Biography 'In Time and Place' and Norway Posthorns 1872-1892 8.15pm	E
	15	Daytime meeting 10.00 am	D,E
	22	Members uncatalogued auction 7.30	

E = Exchange sheets

D = Daytime meeting

Tues. evening auction commences

7.30 p.m.

Tues. display evening commences

8:15 p.m.

Evening Auction Viewing

from 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday daytime from 10.00 am to 1:30 p.m.

Saturday auctions commence 1:00 p.m.

Uncat Sat Auctions Viewing: from 10:30 am

Catalogued Auctions Viewing Friday 3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

All meetings are held at BRI-PHIL HOUSE, 80 Gardenvale Rd. GARDENVALE (Corner of Magnolia Rd)