

Bulletin

Volume 61

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October 2021



Website: www.brightonps.org.au

(03) 9530 6760

Dear Fellow Members,

It is with great delight that at the AGM last month I have become the President of BPS for the year 2021 – 22. My first wish is to thank the outgoing President Ian Sadler for being the first person doing not one but two years in the role due to the Covid restrictions having such an effect on the activities or should I say lack of activities within the Society. Ian has provided much support and has done his best to balance the many different views about health and safety and trying to open up as much as possible to keep the Society going. It has not been easy, but he has been able to keep people onside and smooth over the difficulties encountered. Ian will continue on the Committee with his special responsibility of organising the Education Meetings but also a new position of promoting the role of Philately within the society. Ian has submitted an article in this bulletin that I hope you will read and respond to.

I would also like to thank outgoing Committee member Deb Harms for her fantastic contribution over the last years. She has been managing the membership and took over the important computing role for our auctions. Deb has been training new people for the task of computing and will continue to help in this area if required. Pressures of work have meant that she has decided to 'take a back seat' for a while but I'm secretly hoping that this won't be for too long! Brad Baker has stepped into the role of looking after our membership as well as continuing as our very fine Treasurer. Ross Newton has offered to assist him, and I thank both of these members for taking this on. By the way if you have overlooked paying your membership for this financial year please check as it is costly to send out reminders. We kept the membership fee at \$40.00 despite increases in costs in the daily running and upkeep of our premises which have not gone away during the lockdowns.

We are planning to go back to a full program this November starting with a Premium Auction on Saturday, November 6th. Viewing will be at 10.30am and the Auction starts at 1pm. Covid restrictions will still be in place so members must be double vaccinated, masks must be worn and there will be a limited number allowed in the building. We have a new system that we will trial at this auction so please be prepared for something different!

The Catalogued Auction has been moved to 1pm on December 4th. Viewing for this will be on Friday, December 3rd from 2.30pm to 7.30pm and on the morning of the 4th from 10.30am. I have seen the lots for this auction, and we will be offering a wide variety of

quality philatelic items ranging from Australian Kangaroo, George V and Postage Due blocks to rare and difficult stamps to acquire from many different countries. The catalogue is included with this bulletin so please peruse this carefully and attend or put in your postal bids. Remember that many postal bidders were disappointed at the last auction by not putting a maximum bid and hence did not acquire the wanted lot. Please speak to Ross about Postal bidding before the auction.

The rest of our 2021 program will run as planned, covid restrictions permitting.

I will give information about next year's program in my Christmas letter but before that I am looking forward to seeing and catching up with as many of you as possible at our displays, education meetings, auctions and daytime meetings over the next two months.

David Shutler, *President*

Reports from the Annual General Meeting

President's Report – 2020/21

Our Club will weather the Storm!

What a year it has been, off in lockdown, on and off again. Very little happened, from Members' point of view. From mine, the Sales Branch and your Committee, we prepared many Displays, many Auctions and an anniversary Gala, but we had to cancel most of them. The first Club meeting we managed to have was John Shawley's eminent collection of early Mauritius Postal History, done by Zoom in November 2020. The next was the March Display and the successful Premium Auction at Easter. In April and May we had a very successful One Frame Club Competition and a display of QE II definitives. After a short break in June, we had a very successful Catalogued Auction and a well-supported Member's Display, letter 'W' in July. Then the Delta variant got loose, and we were in lockdown until now (September 14th). Our Gala and Display, already postponed for one year, had to be cancelled, after all the publicity had gone out! From a personal point of view, my President's display was postponed for a second time!

Thanks to the indefatigable workers.

I commend Eric Klay for his regular work as Building Superintendent. We thank Debbie Harms for delivering the goods as Membership Secretary and email communications, whilst working very long hours in her day job. She is now resigning because of this pressure. Our Exchange Branch Supervisors, Howard Ellis and James Marinis have continued to circulate books whenever Covid restrictions permitted. This hit the Metro circuits harder than the Regional ones. Stephen Bradford is an excellent Secretary to work with, taking a lot of load off my shoulders. A rarely seen, but hardworking trio, are Brad Baker (Treasurer), John McKay (Bulletin Editor) and Ray Price (Librarian). Our website is capably loaded by Michael Tonta and Mastered by Tom & Ruth O'Dea. Ross Newton has so many roles, one key one being Bulletin printing and distribution. Our Sales Branch, led by Jim Bell, does an excellent job – I shall leave it to him to report more fully. Our Vice-President, David Shutler is a very committed Club worker. On behalf of our Members, I thank all these Officers for sterling service in unprecedented situations.

Planning and Succession.

At Jim Bell's suggestion, a strategic plan for the Future of Bri Phil was put together during the last two months by seven Committee members. I shall have more to say about the exciting plans later this evening. Two important outcomes deserve mention. Firstly, Eric organised a Building Inspection report which states that the building is basically safe and sound. Hence, we intend to remain in our much-loved premises.

Secondly, the Future Report identified several areas in which volunteers are needed to train to succeed long-serving Members.

Sincere Thanks

In conclusion, I thank all the Executives, Committee and other Members who have, together, run our pre-eminent Club during difficult circumstances for a second year in a row. It has been my privilege and pleasure to be President for the last two years. I look forward to renewed Stamp Collecting and Auction Meetings in a month or two, when we emerge from lockdown. I am clear that we have the ability to bounce back.

Ian Sadler, *President 2020/21*

Treasurer's Report Year Ended 30th June 2021

It was a tough year for the Society which returned a loss of \$1,073 this year compared to a profit of \$7,384 in 2020 resulting from Covid.

Income had decreased by \$14,762 while expenses dropped by only \$6,305.

It should be noted here that the Society was not eligible for any Federal or State grants most of which hinged around employing staff & being registered for GST.

The drop in income resulted from the Society not being able to hold its regular auctions particularly the catalogued auctions \$12,443, reduction in interest rates \$1,436.

Membership subscriptions were slightly down with some members not being able to pay their annual membership subscription. The Society hopes that these members will be able to make good their arrears in the 2022 year.

While income drops expenses continue to come. Cleaning, Electricity, Insurance, Council Rates, Water Rates, Land Tax, Printing & Postage of the Bulletin/Auction catalogues and Repairs & Maintenance continue.

Insurance increased by \$303, Council Rates by \$316 and Printing & Postage of the Bulletin/Auction catalogue by \$573. There were some reductions in expenses also, mainly Land Tax by \$3,642 & no Honorariums were taken by Committee members this year, a reduction of \$1,750.

A little more news on Land Tax which has been a huge impost on the Society over the past 15 years. The State Government is currently reviewing submission from small non-profit organisations which will make them no longer subject to Land Tax. If the Society is successful, the Society hopes to be able to pass on a reduction in memberships next year.

Bradford Baker, *Honorary Treasurer*

Sales Branch Report

The pandemic has had a huge effect on the ability of the Sales Branch to continue to be the main source of revenue for the society. A Postal Auction was attempted, and we were able to hold one Catalogued Auction in July under Covid restrictions which had the maximum attendance possible. The usual November Catalogued Auction has been moved to 1pm on Saturday, December 4th with viewing in the morning from 10.30am and on Friday, December 3rd from 2.30pm to 7.30pm. Because of the backlog this promises to be a high-quality auction with many fine items. Noted are an estate that has many of the rarer items from world countries which we have broken up into the separate countries so members can bid only on the countries that interest them. Also, there are

blocks of 2 and 4 of Australian Kangaroos, George V, postage dues and Sydney Harbour Bridge 2d and 3d, some with imprints. It is not often that we get such quality items so please tell your fellow collectors, make sure that you have paid this year's membership and get along to the auction. Remember there is no buyer's surcharge for members so what you bid is what you pay. We look forward to seeing all of you at this and other auctions.

Appointments for 2021-22

We are pleased to welcome James Marinis on to the Committee. James is in charge of the Exchange Sheets along with Howard Ellis. As mentioned elsewhere in this bulletin some assistance is needed with the exchange sheets so, please see James or Howard if you are able to help. It is mentioned in the President's letter that Deb Harms has had to step down from the committee as has, unfortunately, Andrew Ballis. We wish Andrew all the best and hope to see him back at meetings very soon. If you are interested in helping in the areas of Public Relations, Archives and/or Computing then please see the President or other committee members.

President: David Shutler	Vice President: Ross Newton	Treasurer: Bradford Baker	Secretary: Stephen Bradford
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Office Bearers

Librarian: Ray Price	Exchange Superintendents Howard Ellis & Jim Marinis	Sales Branch Convenor: Jim Bell
Bulletin Editor: John McKay	Public Relations Officer: Vacant	Meeting & Education Coordinator: Ian Sadler

Building Services Superintenden t: Eric Klay	Membership Officer: Bradford Baker	Website Management Michael Tonta
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Other Committee Members

Charles Bromser	Marco Turco
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Upcoming Displays

‘Transport of Australian Colonial Mail’ by Gary Diffen on November 9th at 8.15pm

Gary’s exhibit explains the development of early maritime mail from the Australian Colonies to foreign destinations from 1833 to 1891. He will show how the speed increased and the routes and schedules varied according to economic events and wars. This is our chance to see rare postal history from a specialised philatelist.

‘China 1865-1949’ by Ian Sadler on February 8th, 2022 at 8.15pm

Ian has a comprehensive collection of Chinese Treaty Ports, Imperial China, Republic of China and early Communist issues (1930-49) for you to examine. This includes rare issues from Shanghai and Imperial China’s large dragons.

Education Meetings at 7.15pm

‘How to move unwanted material’ on November 9th by John Rennie.

John, our 50 year Member and Auctioneer, will explain the different avenues available to members to get value for their unwanted material. He will cover Bri Phil Auctions, Exchange Sheets and Public Auctions. Members are encouraged to bring items they wish to sell and receive advice on the best place.

N.B. At 6.45pm on Nov. 9th: Special Meeting for Collectors

This aims to review the Adequacy of existing meetings for Stamp Collectors and plan the Future ones required in 2022. See Ian Sadler’s article on page 10.

‘Preparing a One-Frame Display’ by Ross Newton on Feb. 8th at 7.15pm

Ross will show Members how to prepare material for our 2022 Club Competition.

He has displayed and exhibited stamps for many years. Bring your material for tips. It does not have to be a whole frame. It is a great feeling to show your gems to others!

New Members

Please extend a friendly welcome to the following new members:

Vanessa Henry – Highett

Alan Fluck – Templestowe Lower

Future Plans for “Stamp Collecting”

Your Future Committee came up with some ideas to rejuvenate the philatelic side of Our Club. Please share your views on the Meetings and Content that Bri Phil should provide.

I believe that Stamp Collecting is a wide-ranging hobby which can take many forms from getting all the stamps in a particular area, such as Australian Kangaroos, to studies in depth of varieties, postmarks and perfs. Each of us takes up our own position on that spectrum. The Club’s aim is to cater for Members’ needs. Do the stamp collecting meetings provide the right variety of interests, does the timing of meetings align with Members’ needs, including those who work?

These points address that situation:

- Recently 10 Members had a Zoom meeting to design the Education Meetings for 2022.
- Would you like to have an *extra Philatelic Meeting?* (No Exchange Sheets or Auction, just stamp collecting topics)? If so, When? Which Day, What time, What frequency? Some meetings could be held by Zoom. Bear in mind our important younger members who are working on weekdays.
- One or two volunteers are wanted to help Ian and inject new ideas.
- Our data projector and screen will be checked to see that they communicate with laptops to show items to Members at meetings.
- We are compiling a list of interested Members to send them dedicated emails about upcoming Stamp Collecting events.

Ian Sadler, *Education Convenor*

An Invitation to See On-Line Exhibition – Toowoomba 2021

As the Covid lockdown continues several exhibitions have been cancelled or postponed. Fortunately, the Toowoomba Stamp Club were brave enough to hold a Virtual National One-Frame Exhibition. This took place on October 9-10 and the exhibits can still be viewed at <https://toowoomba2021.com.au/exhibition/view-exhibits/>

This is a great opportunity for you to see a wide variety of exhibits without leaving your home. And as the lockdown continues perhaps this will give you some ideas on preparing a One-frame Exhibit of your own – it's a lot of fun!

Several of our members entered an exhibit and all achieved outstanding results.

Mark Diserio – Victoria's ordinary envelopes after Federation - Gold Medal

Charles Bromser – The story of the Woomera rocket range – Vermeil Medal

Frank Pauer – A J Shearsby : First day covers – Gold Medal

Debra Collett – W is for Wine – Large Silver Medal

Ross Newton – Apollo 13: A Successful Failure – Vermeil Medal

Albums Closed

Henry Nicolaas – a member since 2007

BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY PROGRAM 2021-22

Nov.	6	Premium Uncatalogued Auction	
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	9	7.15 Education: Moving Unwanted Material	
	9	8.15 Display: Transport of Australian Colonial Mail	E
	16	Daytime Meeting, 10.00am-1.30pm	DE
	26	Members Uncatalogued Auction	
Dec.	4	Catalogued Auction	
	14	7.30 Christmas Supper at 8.45pm	E
	21	Daytime Meeting 10am-1.30pm	DE
January	11	Members Uncatalogued Auction	
	25	Members Uncatalogued Auction	
Feb.	5	Premium Uncatalogued Auction	
	8	7.15 Education: Preparing One-Frame Display	
	8	8.15 Display: China 1865-1949	

E = Exchange sheets

D = Daytime meeting

Tues. evening auction commences 7.30 pm

Tues. display evening commences 8:15 p.m.

Evening Auction Viewing from 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday daytime from 10.00 am to 2:00 p.m.

Saturday auctions commence 1:00 p.m.

Uncat Sat Auctions Viewing: from 10:30 am

Catalogued Auctions Viewing Friday 2.30 – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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