

Bulletin

Volume 62

No. 4

October 2022



Website: www.brightonps.org.au

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Dear Fellow Members,

Our AGM was held last month, and it is my great honour to be elected as the President of BPS for the year 2022-23. This is my fifth term as President and after 48 years membership you would think I was looking for a quieter life, but this is the largest philatelic society in Australia and with so many activities and enthusiastic helpers I get great enjoyment (and a lot of laughs) from mixing with the many quirky characters that make up our club! My first duty is to thank the outgoing President David Shutler for a fantastic job to steer us out of lockdown and endeavour to get our activities back to some sort of normal. David is also responsible for handling payments to our many auction vendors and also handling money in and out at each auction. This he does with great care and always maintains a calm exterior (which is not always easy when buyers' figures do not tally!)

I am most grateful to our whole committee for offering to give another year of service to the club. And a special welcome back to Deb Harms who has agreed to take on the important role of Vice President for the coming year. We have an increasing number of female members and so it is important that their views be represented at committee level. Deb will also take on the role of Membership Officer. Due to my extra workload for the coming year Dr Deon Smith has offered to handle all postal bids for catalogued auctions and the subsequent posting of parcels to successful bidders. This is a very time-consuming task, and I am grateful to Deon for his assistance.

As has been mentioned elsewhere in the Bulletin members will only receive a hard copy of Bulletins and catalogues if they have requested it. Further details are contained in the following pages.

Our next catalogued auction will be held on Saturday November 6th. Almost 700 lots will ensure there is something for everyone. Have a look at the catalogue which you will have received with this Bulletin, and we look forward to seeing you or receiving your postal bids.

Membership Dues should have been paid last July. Over 60 members are still to pay – are you one? Our Treasurer Brad Baker has done another excellent job of balancing our books – so much so that we were able to reduce fees to \$30 for the current year.

Our new Stamp and Cover Collectors Forum was introduced during the past year and is convened by Dr Ian Sadler. This meeting takes place at 2.00pm on the first Wednesday of each month and has been attracting 8 to 10 people each time. This a great opportunity to learn from more experienced members on a wide range of topics which is designed to improve your collecting. My next task to complete before Christmas is to plan the Display program for the next year. Please make an effort to attend these meetings on the second

Tuesday of each month as you are going to see some world class exhibits – several of them have achieved Gold at an international level.

We commence the year with the very popular Trading Night on Tuesday January 10th commencing at 7.30pm. Come earlier (say 7.00pm) so you can be set up and ready to go. This is your opportunity to sell off some of that unwanted material – and of course make some money. No great preparation is required. Just bring along your material – in albums or loose packets – and of course make sure you have some loose change! We will allocate you a table and away you go! And of course, we encourage members to attend to practice your haggling skills – bargains for everyone!

Ross Newton, *President*

Upcoming Displays

‘UK Horse Racing Philately’ on October 11th 8.15pm by Brad Baker

Brad’s display was postponed last year due to the pandemic, and as many of you will know he has one of the most extensive collections in Australia on horse racing, and we eagerly look forward to an entertaining evening. He will include stamps, covers, post cards from the last 100 years and will include Royal Ascot, Brighton, Cheltenham, Epsom. Newmarket and York just to name a few.

‘Philatelic History of the British Commonwealth’ on November 8th 8.15 pm by John Hewson

John has been collecting this area for many years and is one of the most learned and experienced philatelists in this field. We are expecting to see and learn about new items in this area, and we urge all members to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities to improve their knowledge and understanding of different aspects of our wonderful world of Philately.

Philatelic Meetings on Tuesday evenings at 7.15pm

October 11th: ‘How should members dispose of a collection?’ presented by Ross Newton. As a member of Sales Branch, Ross is deciding how to dispose of collections all the time. Feel free to bring a collection with you to get free advice - he will endeavour to help.

November 8th: ‘Members’ collecting experiences’ Presented by all of you, facilitated by Ian Sadler. This session will ask each Member to explain their collecting preferences. What do you collect, why and how? We can learn from each other.

Ian Sadler, *Philately Coordinator*

Stamp and Coin Collectors’ Forum Meetings

We are reverting to daytime meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at Bri Phil House. Specific members will be invited to show their stamps and covers, but all members are invited to show interesting items on the day. I apologise to Members outside Melbourne; we cannot Zoom these meetings as the material is not available in advance.

Wednesday, October 5th at 2pm

Alistair Glass will show interesting items from his collection.

Other members show items.

Chat about collecting experiences.

Afternoon tea will be provided.

Ian Sadler, *Philately Coordinator*

Reports from the Annual General Meeting

President's Report – 2021/2022

The society has recovered well from the pandemic interruptions of this time last year. Auctions restarted in November and both catalogued and uncatalogued auctions have been well attended with lively bidding. The commission from these auctions is, of course, what keeps our society going and a big thankyou to all of the Sales Branch and especially to Marco Turco who has taken over the extra role of sorting the auction numbers and making sure this all goes smoothly. A mention here to Henry Warren and Devin Trussell who volunteered to try to sort out the computing side and finally to Deb Harms who has now got this side of the auctions running well.

I thank all the Committee for their efforts and support during the year but particularly to Stephen Bradford, our Secretary, who keeps us all informed of the various happenings in the society. He also, of course, maintains the minutes and the agendas of the meetings so that we can function efficiently. Also to Brad Baker, our treasurer, who handles all the difficulties of insurance, rates taxes, people paying into the wrong accounts and so on but has also been our membership secretary for this year.

The newly formed Stamp and Collectors' Forum has been meeting regularly and I thank Ian Sadler for setting this up as well as organising and chairing the Tuesday Philatelic meetings. The Philatelic and Display meetings have, however, been a bit of a concern because the numbers attending have been fairly low despite the high quality of presenters. John Young's China display, for example, was a totally unique opportunity for members to see this very rare collection but only 9 members turned up. We will be looking at ways of attracting more members to these events next year but please attend the upcoming displays by Brad Baker in October and John Hewson in November.

The highlight of the year for me was the naming of this hall "The Wells Hall" in honour and memory of our eminent past president and tireless contributor to many different areas of the society, especially most recently with the exchange books, Dr William Wells.

I have already acknowledged and thanked in my recent newsletter our auctioneer and daytime meeting organiser, John Rennie, and the many helpers at the auctions and I thank them publicly again.

I look forward to the upcoming year under the new President and my continuing role on the committee.

David Shutler, *President 2021-2022*

Treasurer's Report

The return to business after Covid saw the Society return to profits with a profit of \$5810 this year compared to the loss of \$1400 last year. Commissions from auctions were up from \$11,873 last year to \$28,189 this year. Great work from all those concerned.

Expenses also increased from \$31,354 last year to \$45,048. Maintenance \$11,610 was the largest expense as it included the painting of the exterior of the Neufeld Hall. Painting of the Williams Well Hall will likely be undertaken within the next 12 months.

Membership fees at \$12,580 just covered Insurance \$7,335 and Council Rates \$4,799. The Club no longer pays Land Tax as Clubs that are not "Men Only" are excused from Land Tax. The removal of this expense has allowed the Club to reduce its annual membership fees to \$30. So please sign your wives and girlfriends as members to ensure the Club retains this status!

Bradford Baker, *Honorary Treasurer*

Membership Report

Following the Covid lockdown we have been pleased to welcome a number of new members during the year who dragged out their old collections during lockdown and have decided to restart their hobby.

14 new members joined during the year. We now have a total of 328 members at June 30 2022, of which 23 were non-financial members. With these numbers we are still the largest philatelic society in Australia. We thank you for your ongoing support. As a reward for sticking with us during the lockdown your Committee agreed to reduce the subscriptions for the 2022-23 year to \$30.

Bradford Baker, *Membership Officer*

Sales Branch Report

Sales Branch continues to provide an excellent outlet for selling philatelic items for BPS through uncatalogued auctions (17 per year), catalogued auctions (3 per year) and mint stamps sold for postage by Richard Sealey. All outlets continue to provide steady revenue.

The uncatalogued auctions are generating increasing income through commission, providing the Society with funds for ongoing expenses. Catalogue auctions are continuing to sell at about 70% of the listed items.

Sales Branch team of Jim Bell, Ross Newton, David Shutler, Richard Sealey and Marco Turco have been kept

busy collecting deceased estate material an increasing number of which are coming via the Society website.

Sales Branch are approaching 600 vendors whom we have dealt with in recent years.

On a sombre note, we advise all members to inform their families of their wishes for disposal of their collections to avoid any possible conflicts of interest.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge all members of the Sales Branch team for a continuing strong effort supporting the Society.

Jim Bell, *Sales Branch Convenor*

Appointments for 2022-23

We are delighted to welcome Deb Harms back onto the Committee. Deb has recently retired from full time employment and has taken the very brave step of accepting the position of Vice President. We are also very pleased to welcome Vanessa Henry onto the committee. Vanessa only joined BPS 12 months ago and we are always delighted to see younger members getting involved with the club.

As you will see below the position of Public Relations Officer is vacant and we would welcome any volunteers for that position.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| President: Ross Newton | Vice President: Deb Harms | Treasurer: Bradford Baker | Secretary: Stephen Bradford |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|

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 |
| Property Manager: Andrew Ballis | Membership Officer: Deb Harms | Website Management: Michael Tonta |

Other Committee Members

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| Charles Bromser | Marco Turco | Vanessa Henry |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|

Auction Catalogues

As we explained in the last Bulletin, we will no longer be mailing out printed copies of auction catalogues and bulletins. Due to increased printing costs this is now costing over \$1000 for every issue.

Many members find a printed copy useful, and we are happy to provide this. If you wish to receive a printed copy, please send an email to the BPS Secretary via our website. A phone call is also acceptable. As a result of our request in the last Bulletin 21 members have now requested a hard copy.

We note that 67 members have never supplied us with an email address. If you would like to help us reduce our costs and you have never received an email from us, then perhaps you could supply that information so we can update our records.

Honours and Awards Committee

This Sub-committee meets annually to look at potential candidates to become Fellows or Life Members of BPS. This year we are delighted to announce that Mr Charles Bromser be awarded Life Membership of the Society.

Charles joined BPS in 1989 and almost immediately became a member of the Committee, and has been a very positive contributor ever since. Charles has served as President in 1998-99 and again in 2006-07 and again in 2016-17. For 10 years Charles did an outstanding job as Editor of our Bulletin and was the BPS representative on the VPC Committee for many years. In 2001 Charles was made a Fellow of this Society.

Charles is an international philatelic judge and we have been most fortunate to use his knowledge and expertise in our annual competitions and to have him act as mentor to our aspiring judges.

Congratulations

The following members have reached significant milestones in their lives with BPS. We congratulate them all and thank them for their contribution to the club.

Heinze Grossbard - 60 years Serena Wells - 50 years

Rod Grant – 40 years Ken Briscoe – 40 years

Dianne Hutton – 40 years John Shawley – 40 years

Lorrell Trewern – 40 years

BPS Memberships

BPS memberships, which are crucial to funding our club activities, were due on 1st July 2022. All members should have received a renewal notification either via email or mail. A big thanks to those who have already paid their memberships for the 2022/23 year. For those who have not yet paid, you can pay the following ways:

1. Payment can be made directly to the Society's bank account. Details are:

Bendigo Bank - Brighton Philatelic Society Inc Account

BSB 633 000 Account No. 1404 76508

Please **use your name** as a transaction reference so that we can identify your payment on our bank statement.

2/ Cheques can be forwarded to:

The Membership Officer

Brighton Philatelic Society Inc

PO Box 8062

NORTH ROAD LPO

BRIGHTON EAST VIC 3187

BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY PROGRAM 2022-2023

| | | | |
|------|----|---|-----|
| Oct. | 1 | Uncatalogued auction 1.00 pm | |
| | 5 | Collectors' Forum 2.00 pm | |
| | 11 | Ed: Disposing of a collection 7.15pm | |
| | 11 | Display: UK Horse Racing 8.15 pm | E |
| | 18 | Daytime meeting 10.00 am | D,E |
| | 25 | Uncatalogued auction 7.00 pm | |
| Nov. | 2 | Collectors' Forum 2.00 pm | |
| | 5 | Catalogued Auction 1.00 pm | |
| | 8 | Education: Members' Collecting Experiences 7.15 pm | |
| | 8 | Display: British Commonwealth 8.15 pm | E |
| | 15 | Daytime meeting 10.00 am | D,E |
| | 22 | Uncatalogued auction 7.00 pm | |
| Dec. | 3 | Uncatalogued auction 1.00 pm | |
| | 13 | Exchange sheets 7.30 pm | E |
| | 13 | Christmas Supper 8.30 | |
| | 20 | Daytime meeting 10.00 am | D,E |
| Jan. | 10 | Trading night | |
| | 17 | Daytime meeting | D,E |
| | 24 | Uncatalogued auction 7.00 pm | |
| Feb. | 4 | Uncatalogued auction 1.00 pm | |

E = Exchange sheets

D = Daytime meeting

Tues. evening auction commences 7.00 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 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)