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**THE NEXT MEETING of the Wagga Stamp Club (Inc.) will be held at the ARCC hall
in Tarcutta Street on **Wednesday, 1st July, 2026**, commencing at **7.30p.m****

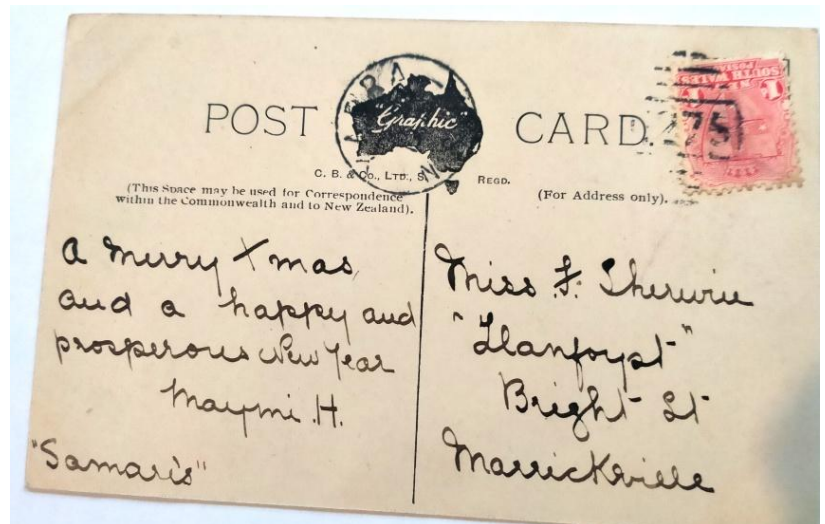
THIS MEETING: Large Auction

2026 Calendar

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|-------------------|---|
| August 5 | Presentation by R Brennan – Unusual Australian Gutters. |
| August 9 | Yarra Valley Coin & Collectables Expo |
| August 29 | Stamp & Coin Market by club members at ARCC Hall, 131 Tarcutta Street.
9am until 3pm. Free admission |
| Sept 2 | Presentation by R Dooner – Queensland stamps. |
| Sept 12 | Wodonga Coin & Stamp Fair, 15 Havelock St. Wodonga. 9.00a.m – 3.00p.m |
| Sept 26 | Echuca Coin & Collectables Expo |
| October 3 | Stamp & Coin Market by club members. ARCC Hall, 131 Tarcutta Street,
9am until 3pm. Free admission |
| October 6 | Large auction. |
| Nov 4 | Five Page Members Display |
| Nov 21/22 | Stamp & Coin Fair. Seven dealers. Sturt Public School, White Avenue,
Koorinal. |
| Dec 2 | G Hatty, Mounting a display part 4. |
| June 10-13 | Canberra Stampshow |

Enquiries for all events Phone 0488 081 933

Yarra - N.S.W.



Yarra NSW is a small village 9 km south of Goulburn. It straddles the Hume Motorway. In the 1940s and 50s, it was a bigger place with two service stations, at least one church, a police station, a shop, a public school, a post office and at least 100 houses. I didn't live in Yarra, but I caught the Yarra school bus each day to go to Goulburn High School, so I knew most people who lived there. Today there are a few houses, but the businesses have all closed and very little is left of the village.

The Post Office opened in June 1881, closed later that year, and then re-opened on 1st January 1885. Mrs M. Lyneham was the postmistress. In the 1960s, the post office was run out of a shop conducted by Tom Pierce. Yarra Post office finally closed on 30th September, 1970.

Yarra was allocated numeral postmark number 1275 at opening and according to Hopson, there were two later circular postmark types used at the office. The last type used did not have a postcode shown.

I have a postcard with the numeral 1275 clearly shown dated Dec. 23rd, 1905 and a later impression on piece of the second type described dated 9th Sept. 1957.

Gary Croker

References: Norm Hopson: Post Offices of NSW Vol. 4. Freeman: Numeral Cancells of NSW.



ONE UP FOR ABKHAZIA! Thinking outside the square.....

In 1994, Abkhazia (*a semi-autonomous region in Georgia*) released a parody series of stamps celebrating Marxism and Leninism, but instead had a picture of Groucho Marx and John Lennon.

They did this to try to assert their independence from the Soviet Union

THE RAREST AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH COIN THE 1919 “PATTERN” SHILLING



The above images are of the 1/- “Pattern” coin in the Museums Victoria

The 1919 “Pattern” Shilling is a rare and significant Australian coin, produced as part of a planned debasement of the silver alloy. This debasement was brought about due to the soaring value of silver after World War I. Prior to 1919 all Australian silver coins were minted to the 92.5% silver standard, whereas the “pattern” shilling contained 62.5% silver and 37.5% copper, hence the copperish appearance.

This **experimental** coin **had a mintage of three coins only**. They were officially counter stamped with two small “S”s on both the obverse and reverse to signify the coins reduced silver content and specimen status.

What happened to the three coins? One “pattern” coin was initially retained by the Melbourne Mint, then gifted to the Museums Victoria (see above) where it is to the present day.

One “pattern” shilling was presented to the Federal Treasurer of that time, Alexander Poynton. This coin has been tracked and auctioned many times, the last being Spink Auction House in 2023, where it was sold for AU\$70,000. The present owner has not been publicised for obvious reasons (is this coin still in Australia?).

William Watt, the immediate past Federal Treasurer and Deputy Prime Minister, is **thought** to have been presented with the third “pattern” shilling. William Watt was the Post Master General in 1899. He had a tumultuous political career, including spending some time in London for the Versailles Peace Conference. The “pattern” coin **supposedly** presented to him has not been seen since.

HOWEVER! -

The non-pattern un-issued circulation strike of the 1919 One Shilling



It has to be noted, though, that the 1919 one shilling coin in the pics at left, also belonging to Museums Victoria, does not have the “S” punch marks. Note: in **bold** the second paragraph above.

The metallic composition is similar to the “pattern” coins counter-stamped with the “S”.

The very small mintage of these were not circulated, and in most cases, their whereabouts have not been recorded. It was at one time

assumed that these coins were presented to other politicians not mentioned above.

According to Rennick's "Catalogue of British Commonwealth Coins 1649-1971", four of these coins are known. Rennick's have not mentioned these particular coins in recent years. Krause 1988 Edition lists six pieces, and later editions show mintage as “unknown”.

JAPAN'S FIRST EUROPEAN TRADERS



Japan's first European trading partners were the Portuguese, who reached Japan in 1543. However, the Dutch became Japan's sole European trading partner for nearly 250 years, starting in 1609 and continuing until Japan reopened its doors to the West. From 1633, when the Tokugawa Shogunate proclaimed the isolation of Japan, until the middle of the 19th century, the Country's external relations and trade had been confined to China and Holland, and the only port open for these purposes was Nagasaki.

In the year 2000, Japan Post issued a set of two stamps to commemorate 400 years of Japan-Netherlands relations, featuring the ancient Dutch ship De Liefde and the Dutch captain Willem Adams, which marked the first encounter between the two countries in 1600. The stamps were part of a series celebrating the anniversary of cultural exchange and the initial landing of the De Liefde in Japan.

The 1989 Japanese postage stamp above depicts a 17th-century Dutch sailing ship, likely a representation of a Dutch East India Company (VOC) vessel, to commemorate the historical connection between Japan and the Netherlands, particularly through the "Holland Festival" that was held in Japan that year.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

First of all, Peter Robinson, welcome to the Club. Hope we see you at some meetings. And welcome back Mazen Mira.

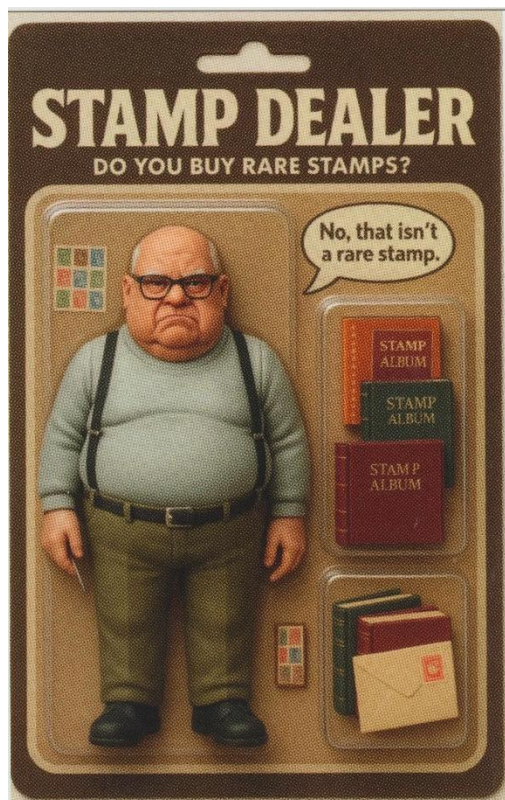
At the last meeting, Rod D commented that he was unsuccessful in making up tied bundles of 100 stamps. I commented that women are quite good at this sort of thing. To explain my comment: women (without arthritis) generally are more nimble and more dexterous with their hands, and more patient, than we old blokes who have thicker fingers and are less patient (GENERALLY). 'nuf said.

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### AUCTION REPORT from meeting June 4th

Seven vendors present 53 lots for auction with 41 (77%) selling to e4ight purchasers.

Top stamp sale was Aust. 'roos \$22.00 and notes/coins 3 x USA \$2 1976 notes with consecutive serial numbers selling for \$25.00. Six club lots Raised \$23.40.



**THIS CARD** was provided by Peter Simpfendorfer. It was sent to him from Matthew Rigby of Sandybay Stamps, Tasmania, with Sandybay Stamps “compliments” promotion on the reverse.

Many of we stamp collectors, and “coinies”, can relate, one way or another, to this card.

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> of August  
9AM- 3PM

215 Victoria Rd, Yering VIC  
3770  
EASTERN GOLF CLUB

**YARRA VALLEY COIN,  
ANTIQUE &  
COLLECTABLES EXPO**

Come along to the Yarra Valley Coin, Antique & Collectable Expo!  
Browse coins, stamps, antiques, vintage toys, collectables,  
memorabilia, jewellery and more. Something for every collector  
and curious mind. Entry is a gold coin donation all welcome!

For Enquires contact Steve on 0435 534 467

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S gripe.

**Wanted:** Articles for the newsletter.

Apart from Peter, Des and Gary, I have had no articles for the newsletter recently from any other member. This is disappointing. My imagination goes only so far. So, **please help me** with anything suitable.

As I have mentioned in the past, I will publish anything provided, on the proviso that it is suitable.

#### AN INTERESTING STAMP FACT

It is estimated that 10% of San Marino's revenue is generated by the sale of its postage stamps to international collectors.

The government of San Marino has the world's only philatelic minister of state.

