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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, 4th February** , 2025, commencing at **7.30p.m****

THIS MEETING: P Simpfendorfer, 2025 Fair Purchases

2026 Calendar

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| Jan 31 | Stamp & Coin Market by club members. ARCC Hall, 131 Tarcutta Street, 9am until 3pm. Free admission |
| Mar 4 | AGM & Small Auction |
| Mar 29 | ARCC Open Day |
| April 1 | Large Auction |
| April 4 | Stamp & Coin Market by club members. ARCC Hall, 131 Tarcutta Street, 9am until 3pm. Free admission |
| May 6 | Presentation by David Blackman – Royalty stamps update |
| May 16/17 | Stamp & Coin Fair. Seven dealers. Sturt Public School, White Avenue, Koorinal. |
| June 3 | Presentation by Harry Smith – Euro Coins |
| Nov 21/22 | Stamp & Coin Fair. Seven dealers. Sturt Public School, White Avenue, Koorinal. |

Enquiries for all events Phone 0488 081 933

A SALUTE TO AVIATRIX AMY JOHNSON (Item courtesy of Abacus Auctions – Gary Watson)



Front Cover



Back of folder with poem by John Sandes

Supposedly never seen in modern times, this souvenir folder was for sale on the Abacus table at our last fair.

Amy Johnson, an Englishwoman, was the first female aviator to fly from England to Australia. She left England on the 5th May, 1930 in a single engined Gypsy Moth and arrived in Darwin on the 24th May, a record nineteen-day flight. Amy Johnson's record flight to Australia was a historic achievement that set the stage for female pilots in the aviation industry. Her solo flight from England to Australia, completed in 1930, was a testament to her skill and determination. Her flight covered a distance of 11,000 miles (17,600 klms) and took her from Croydon Airport, Surrey, to

Darwin. Her achievement was recognised with the Harmon Trophy and a CBE in George V's 1930 Birthday Honours. Johnson's pioneering spirit and dedication to aviation paved the way for future generations of female aviators.

The folder was released soon after the event, sponsored by City Tattersall's Club, Sydney. How it was distributed cannot be determined.

The front cover shows the purchase price in the stamp area. The folder was not postally used. The backing has a somewhat soppy poem voyage by John Sandes, honouring Amy Johnson's epic

The concertina pages within are printed on both sides. The first page records the distances Amy travelled each day and then three photos of

memorable moments on the trip to Australia. The first photo is of Amy Johnson standing beside the Commonwealth Linesmen's Monument in Darwin, the second photo shows Amy receiving the CBE Honours on 2nd June, 1930, in Darwin. The third photo shows Amy Johnson doing mechanical work on her plane before leaving Baghdad. The final page is a brief record of Amy's record flight.

The reverse page shows four photos of previous England to Australia flying achievements prior to 1930, including the Smith brothers, Poulet and Benoist, and Bert Hinkler. The second bottom photo is of Kingsford Smith and Ulm on their circumnavigation of Australia in 1927.

The insert page is on the next page.

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? (Top image supplied by Steve Hammerton, Deniston, NSW)

Note: The postmark is over the overprinted numeral.

Dealer No. 1: "I have never seen this type of inscription before. Certainly nothing official. I think someone is just having a bit of fun as anyone can produce something like this. Really of no consequence." (*Richard Juzwin*)

Dealer No. 2: "I haven't seen anything quite like that before, so I'm only guessing. It could part of a registration number. If Albury PO temporarily exhausted their supply of registration labels, they might've resorted to hand-stamping the registration number. My other guess is that it is an office accounting system by the sender (can't be the addressee because the postmark is over the overprint). Law firms often recorded their mail (both incoming & outgoing) & sometimes used a numbering system – although manuscript annotations are more common". (*John Pearson*)

Dealer No. 3: "I had a look at your sample stamp and I don't think much of it. Whatever it is supposed to be, it is in my opinion an unauthorised overprint. There was a lot of different overprints over time which there is no explanation". (*John Bosic*)

Collector: "My first impression was that the 50 was a dues tax applied overseas, the 50 being centimes. But this cannot be the case because the postmark overlays the number". (*John Garlick*)

Collector: In regards to this particular 1/2d KGV stamp....what I'm aware of is that it was part of Tasmanian philatelist Andrew Johnston (who is now deceased) collection. The '50' is apparently an unofficial company overprint / surcharge. There were a number of these with various other values overprinted onto the 1/2d noted as well. As to exactly what their purpose was, I do not know at this stage....but I will investigate this further in due course. (*A Wagga Stamp and Coin Club member*).

Conclusion: Many club members, and others, were shown this stamp without reference to others' opinions, with a little variation in opinion. That opinion is that it is, as John Pearson stated, a firm's record keeping overprint, such as law firms, accountant offices etc.

The Tale: Upon receiving this I believed that the image sent to me by Steve Hammerton was a pic of the original that was in his possession. Steve lives next door to my sister and found out that I (Ed.) was a serious collector. He admits to being an occasional serious collector (*read: when he can financially afford it*). He also admits to lifting the image from Ebay on the surmise that I would promptly reply with any knowledge I may have of it, which I didn't, so he might purchase it. Hence my quest for that knowledge. Steve is happy enough with the "Dealer and Collector" responses I sent him.

The twist is that a Wagga Stamp and Coin Club member acquired this stamp soon after my quest began and states that it is from Andrew Johnson's deceased estate. The image at right is from the club owner. As can be seen, it is of the same stamp, same perfs, postmark, centering and numeral alignment.



BLAST FROM THE PAST NO 35 WITH “Simpy”

I was a foundation subscriber to the Australian Stamps Professional magazine and found many interesting articles over the years. The Late John Leah was the first editor and I have sourced the following from their magazines.

No 78: Interesting articles included – PNG Mail during World War II by Hans Proebsting, Privilege envelopes used by Australian troops during World Wars I and II by Neil Cornish, Alternative NZ Post by David Miner and Zululand by Ashley Cotter-Cairns.

There was full page, colour advertisements for AEROPEX '19 in Adelaide and the Sydney Stamp & Coin Expo held at a sports stadium in Hurstville.

No 79: Martin Walker has an article titled “FAMOUS FLIGHTS ON THE ENGLAND TO AUSTRALIA AIR ROUTE”.

Another item was “THE PENNY POST THE STORY OF A GREAT REFORM PART 5” CONTAINING EXCERPTS FROM THE 1881 ILLUSTRATED BOOK “Epochs and episodes of history” by Ward, Lock and Company Ltd.

No 80: There was a book review of “Australasian Crash Mail and Mail from Other Incidents Volume Two: 1931-1935” by Brian Pearce.

A total of sixteen pages were devoted to AEROPEX '19 in Adelaide.

No 81: Once again, a range of interesting items including: Australia's Pigeon Posts by Martin Wheeler, Dispersing a Stamp Collection (Les Molnar) and How the Cocos Islands spawned the shortest-lived airmail rates ever (Brian Pearce).

Full-page advertisers included Phoenix Auctions, Abacus Auctions, Sandafayre, The Stamp People (UK), Edlins of Canberra & Yass, Jersey Post and Rennicks Publications.

No 82: There was a full-page advertisement for CANBERRA STAMPSHOW 2020.

Postal stationery was featured in an article by Andrew Brockett entitled “WWII POSTAL STATIONERY – PART 11 SALVOS WITH THE FORCES” with numerous illustrations.

Peter Bond contributed an article “CINDERELLA MEETS COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS” and Neil Cornish with “AUSTRALIAN PRIVATELY MANUFACTURED FORMULAR AIRLETTERS AND AEROGRAMMES”.

No 83: The first article concerned Australian Rocket Mail by Kerrie Dougherty.

A topical item was “COLLECTING IN THE TIME OF A PANDEMIC” (Covid 19) by Les Molnar.

Peter Bond contributed with “COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS ON REGISTERED COVERS”.

No 84: Two items caught my eye – “Kiwis in the Middle East” by Andrew Brockett and “DEVONPORT STAMP AND COLLECTABLES CLUB INC.”. The latter was a 1½ page item summarising what the club is all about, the activities it undertakes and attempts to modernise the club.

No 85: Pages 4 - 8 announced STAMPEX “the world's first 24 hour international online stamp show officially sponsored by Spink.” From 1 -3 October 2020.

Articles included “Tasmanian Commemorative Postmarks 1894 - 1980” by Peter Bond, and “Nurses, Nursing and Postage Stamps” by Marilyn Gendek

Auction Report by Phoenix Auctions reported on the sale of the Large Gold Medal collection of Australian kangaroos formed by Peter O'Rourke. A 2-pound black and rose kangaroo with JBC monogram sold for \$120,800.

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AUCTION REPORT: January 2026: five vendors presented 43 lots for auction with 37 (86%) selling for a total of \$255.40.

There were 9 different purchasers and the three club lots raised \$13.00.

PARIS PHILATELIC EXPO 1941 *(Card images sent in by Peter Simpfendorfer)*



LA BOURSE AUX TIMBRES EN 1941
Gravure sur bois d'Émile Boizot, d'après un dessin de Paul-Émile Lecomte

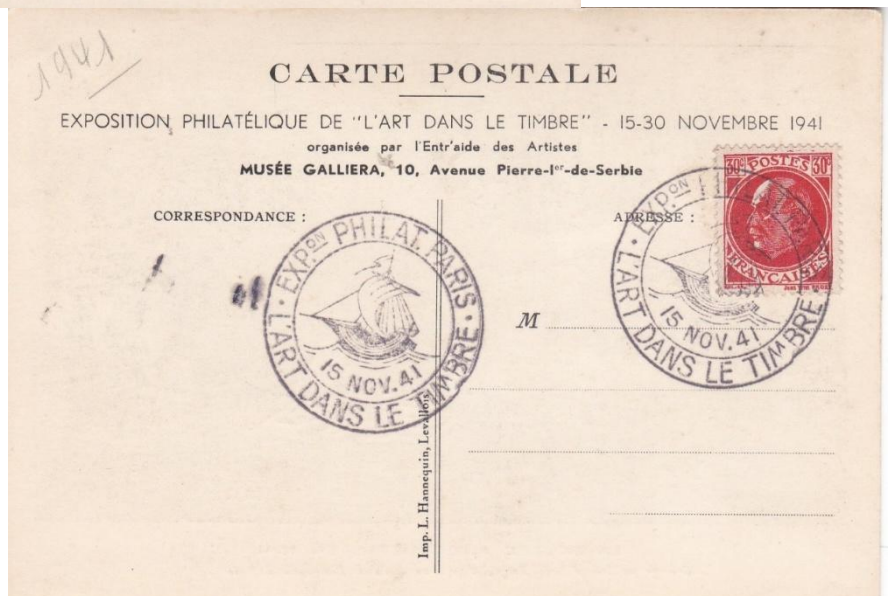
Following on from the postcard from January newsletter, this postcard is of the 1941 bourse in the same location.

The interesting aspect of this card is the postmark of the 1941 Paris Philatelic Exposition.

This Expo was to be a significant event during the German occupation of France during World War II. It was to be held in the Art Museum, Paris, during the

Paris Fair held in November. The German authorities canceled the Expo and Fair two months before the event due to fears that undesirable foreigners will attend.

It is interesting to note that photography was a risky occupation in France at the time, with the risk of being put up against a wall for being a spy. Hence, the postcard is an engraved printing.



~~~~~ **2026 Other Hobbies Displays:** Eight members provided displays as follows-

Peter Simpfendorfer – Extended play and long play vinyl records

Rob Brennan - 1927 Edinburgh University medal

Kev Prior – a glitter lamp

Rod Dooner – music charts commencing from the 1940's and containing 20,000 plus songs

Bob Edyvean – family photos

Harry Smith – model vehicles from his overseas travels

Ross Kennedy – portrait and seascape photos

Grace Hatty – knitting including a shawl that won a Champion ribbon at Wagga Show.

1967 ARC PATTERN SWAN DOLLAR by Andor Meszaros

The 1967 “Goose” dollar is not an official issue, although it does hold an important part in Australia’s numismatic history. The Swan Pattern dollar has been nick-named the “Goose Dollar” by collectors and has risen in popularity in the past few years.

When decimal currency was to be introduced in 1966, collectors were surprised to learn that a one-dollar coin would not be included in the new issues. So, in 1965 the Australian Coin Review magazine ran a competition and the winning entry submitted to the Australian government. When this coin was rejected by the authorities, competition organisers decided to have it minted privately.



Specimen Silver Swan (Goose) Dollar

In 1967 it was engraved and struck by John Pinches medalists of London. The design, by Andor Meszaros features a swan with Australia 1967 on the obverse and wattle with 100 (cents) printed on the reverse. On the obverse at about 4 o'clock right next to the rim are the designers' initials (arrows) which may be mistaken as a scruff on the coin surface.



1967 Unofficial Pattern Dollar in Gold (image courtesy Noble Numismatics Pty Ltd)

There were 1500 specimen uncirculated silver coins issued that feature a milled edge, 750 proof coins with a plain edge and 10 gold with the plain edge. The silver proof was originally available at \$13.50 and the silver uncirculated were \$10. The gold proofs were \$145 including a box and postage. Two of the gold coins were lost in the Ash Wednesday fires in 1983 from John Gartner's collection so there are 8 in existence. John also lost the actual dies used to strike the coins.

Specifications differ between the gold and silver coins. All are 38 millimeters in diameter. The silver releases weigh 28.7 grams and the 22ct gold comes in at 40.3 grams.

Renniks Australian Coin and Banknote Values 32nd Edition catalogue (2023) value for these coins is currently \$2,750 for the uncirculated silver coin, \$3,200 for the silver proof coin, and \$35,000 for the gold proof coin.

In 2017 Edward Cummings (*Edlins – he attends our fairs...Ed*) sold a gold goose, one of eight still in existence, for \$24,500 plus 19.25% buyer's premium, equaling \$29,216.

POLAND'S FAILED RECORD ATTEMPT

In 1938 Poland issued a stamp to commemorate what turned out to be a failed attempt to break the record for reaching Earth's stratosphere in a manned balloon flight.

The balloon “Gwiazda Polski” (*Star of Poland*) was going to attempt to reach the stratosphere and beat the high-altitude record, established on November 11, 1935 by Albert Stevens and Orvil Anderson in their “Explorer II” balloon. Stevens and Anderson managed to ascend to the altitude of 22,066 meters (72,395 feet). The Polish crew, consisting of Captain Zbigniew Burzynski and Doctor Konstanty Jodko-Narkiewicz, made the record attempt in the Chochowska Valley area of the western Tatra mountains in October, 1938.

The 75 Groszy stamp was issued on September 15, 1938, a month before the attempt, to promote the attempt.

Unfortunately, the balloon caught fire when it was less than thirty meters (a hundred feet) above the ground. The crew members escaped unharmed.

(Talk about putting the cart before the horse! ..Ed)

