



Philatelic Review Bulletin

Wyong & Districts Philatelic Society

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Produced in Australia by

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Dear members,

The Annual General Meeting was held and a new team was elected:

President	Peter van de Ven
Vice President	Michael O'Sullivan
Secretary	Barry Parker
Treasurer	Dennis Sonter
Publicity Officer	Uwe Kruger
Philas Delegate	Barry Parker
Auditor	Mark Field

The outgoing President is thanking the members for their cooperation during his tenure.



Dennis Sonter, Treasurer presenting the Doering Trophy for best annual display to Peter Myers. The editor

Brett Doering¹

At the December 2002 meeting the decision was made to present a perpetual trophy to a member of the club for the best display of the year.

Brett Doering thought that this would encourage members to participate in providing displays, increase philatelic education and to foster the idea of stamp collecting

The trophy was supplied by Brett and it is named after him.

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Meetings and other information:

[Philatelic Association of NSW \(philas.org.au\)](http://philas.org.au)

Evening Meeting:

The **third Wednesday** of the month at
7.00 pm
Canton Beach Sports Club
11 Hibbard Street
Toukley NSW 2263

Daytime Meeting:

The **first Wednesday** of the month at 1.00 pm

RFBI Lake Haven Masonic Retirement Village
12 - 16 Christopher Crescent
Lake Haven NSW 2263

George V Study Group

The **first Wednesday** of the month following the daytime meeting.

2024 Meeting Dates

Evening meetings at Toukley 7.00 pm

21 August

Uwe Kruger - Sport

18 September

Display: Brian Alay: own choice

16 October

Display: Peter Myers: Stamp Identification

20 November

All members: Fair preparation

18 December

All Members: 5 Page Displays

Daytime meetings 2024 at Lakehaven 1.00 pm

7 August

Exchange & KGV study group

4 September

Exchange & KGV study group

2 October

Exchange & KGV study group

¹ Mark Field

6 November

Exchange & KGV study group

1 December

Exchange & KGV study group

Philas Connection

All meetings can be found at

[Wyong and District Philatelic Society \(philas.net.au\)](http://Wyong and District Philatelic Society (philas.net.au))

Monthly Display

Dennis Sonter's topic for the monthly display was My Only Stamp – ½ d orange Roo.

Australia – Forgery: Quokka

2023 \$2.40 Quokka S/A definitive FORGERIES. These were not even issued in a S/A format by Australia Post. Quality examples complete with security die-cut slits however the give away (apart from not actually existing in this format!), is they are on Avery Labels backing paper in strips of 5 x \$2.40. Subsequently reported to Australia Post & thought to be printed in Asia.



Great Britain - Forgeries

1993 24p brown Machin block of 10 forgeries with massive 35mm top selvedge. Fine MUH. This forgery was briefly available through London corner shops & as 24p was the first class rate of the day, it was a big seller before the Royal Mail in association with Scotland Yard began an investigation. The gang of forgers, nicknamed The Lavender Hill Mob by police, were identified and brought to trial at Winchester Crown Court in January 2000 charged with forging stamps and banknotes. The leader of the "mob" was Kenneth Maidstone of Upminster, Essex who was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment. Three confederates got from three to eight years. A fourth was convicted but died of cancer before being sentenced.



1998 2nd class bright blue Machin block of 10 forgery with elliptical perfs. Amateurish in terms of the gum (small black paper adhesion on one) & ragged perfs but were certainly on sale from corner newspaper shops. SG 1664 var.



USA -Marijuana Tax Stamps 1937-1971

The first marijuana tax stamps were necessitated by the Marijuana Tax Act of 1937.

Originally, the United States government had encouraged the agricultural production of "hemp" for its tensile strength in making cloth, ropes, and sails. The product was also used by turn-of-the-century pharmaceutical companies as an ingredient in creams and ointments. Their argument was that the product was non-habit-forming and that it should not be classified as a narcotic.

The Marijuana Tax Act of 1937 classified marijuana as a controlled substance. It imposed an annual tax on medical practitioners, requiring them to display the tax stamps, in order to prescribe products containing marijuana. As a result of this law, most doctors and dentists stopped prescribing products that contained marijuana. The tax stamp portion of the law was never fully implemented, and very few of them were ever used.



The four **documentary stamps** of 1917, shown above (*Sc. #RJM1-4*), were overprinted **MARIHUANA / TAX ACT / OF 1937** and issued during 1937.

The **One, Five, and Ten Dollar** stamps were sold both **perforated** and **imperforate**.

The **100 Dollar** denomination was issued in **panes of four**, with a **receipt tab** attached to each of the stamps. The panes are imperforate at the top, sides, and bottom, thus all of these stamps will have one or two straight-edges.

Before 2005, the only known examples of these four stamps were two One Dollar denomination stamps in used condition, which were in private collections.



The four undated **documentary stamps** of 1940,

shown above (*Sc. #RJM5-8*), were overprinted **MARIHUANA / TAX ACT / OF 1937** and issued during **1962**. The 1962 marijuana tax stamps were only delivered to the Department of Internal Revenue during four years -- 1962, 1969, 1970, and 1971.

The **50 Dollar** denomination was issued in **panes of four**, with a **receipt tab** attached to each of the stamps. The panes are imperforate at the top, sides, and bottom, thus all of these stamps will have one or two straight-edges.

Before 2005, the only known examples of these four stamps in philatelic hands was a used block of four of the One Dollar denomination.

The use of marijuana tax stamps was *officially* discontinued on April 27, 1971.

In April 2005, the National Postal Museum sold approximately 5,000 of the unused tax stamps in their possession at a public auction. Most of the mint examples in the philatelic marketplace today are from that sale.

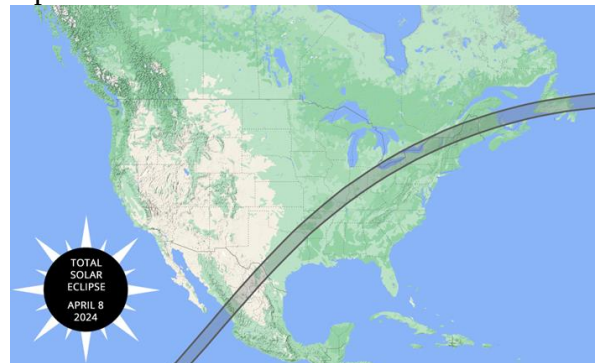
Reference

[US Revenue Stamps \(stamp-collecting-world.com\)](http://stamp-collecting-world.com)

USA Solar Eclipse

2017 marked the first total solar eclipse to cross both U.S. coasts since 1918. It was also the first time since 1257 a total solar eclipse could be viewed only from within the continental United States.

Parts of the USA could observe a solar eclipse in April 2024.



To celebrate the event a stamp was issued:



Stamp with heat applied



US #5211

Russia Corner : Stamps as Money



When one sees above postage stamp few stamp collectors would even think of it as currency or money. This stamp appears in stamp catalogues, but only as an unused stamp and there is no gum on it. World War One, between 1914 and 1918, around the world was a tumultuous time for not only the Russian economy but worldwide. Especially in Russia there were hard times with everyday shortages with clothing, food necessities, housing and shelter and coal and timber used as firewood. This led to Russia's monetary system failing which saw the Ruble well-nigh valueless.



On obverse of above stamp one can see an inscription stating that "1 lot it will circulate on par with a copper coin" of Imperialist Russia. The stamp money was printed on cardstock, so is thicker than the originally stamp issued 1913. Other denominations issued by the Russian Treasury in 1916 were the brown 1 kopek, green 2 kopek, red 3 kopek, as well as the blue 10 kopeks, orange 15 kopeks and the olive 20 kopeks, the pieces resembling the Romanov jubilee issue of postage stamps. The front of the postage stamp money was printed in the same colours as the existing Russian postage stamps. The Russian E.S.S. known as the Expedition of State Securities engraved the stamp money issues.

This dual purpose stamp was issued during the Revolution in 1915. By 1917 there was a shortage of copper coins in Russia so it was decided to issue a pair of stamps surcharged 1 and 2 kopeck that would circulate side by side with the Russian copper coinage.

Lichtenstein

On the 4 April 2024 Lichtenstein Post Office advised that their eight crypto stamp would be issued. It took 60 minutes to be sold out.



Eighth crypto stamp showing a Koala

Mourning Stamps – Germany

Loss of German Colonies

After World War I Germany issued several series of 'mourning stamps' deploring the loss of

its various colonies as a result of the peace settlement. These “Lost Colony” sets are now very scarce Cinderella items. All have a common design featuring a flag and the luxury yacht of Kaiser Wilhelm I. So far the editor has identified ten different labels.

Deutsch Neu-Guinea:



Deutsch-Ostafrika:



Deutsch-Südwestafrika:



Kamerun:



Genuine



Forgery

Karolinen:



Centre shift

Kiautschou:



Marianen:



Marshall-Inseln:



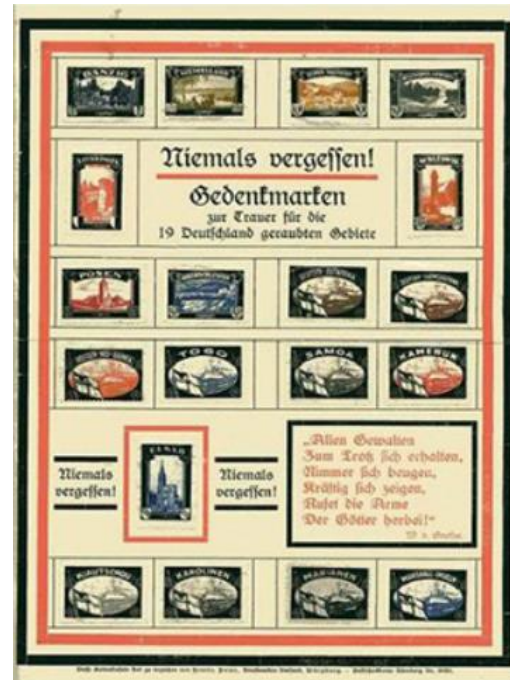
Samoa:



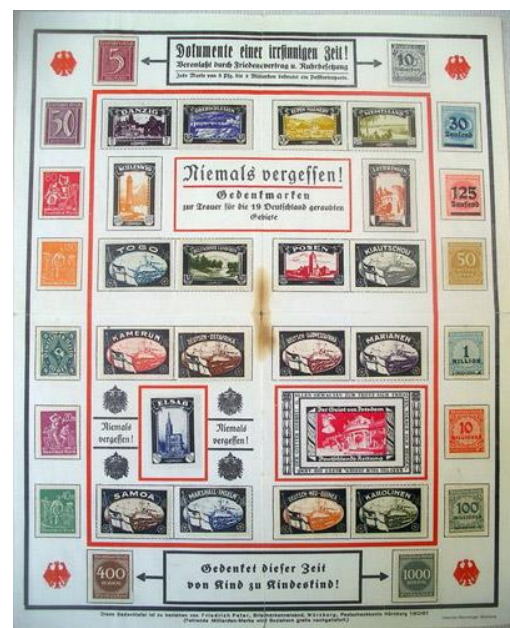
Togo:



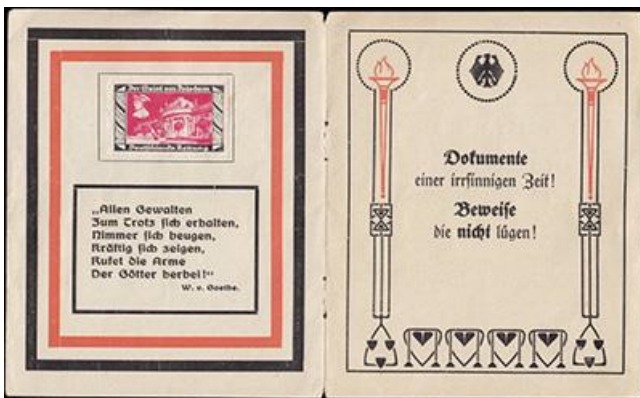
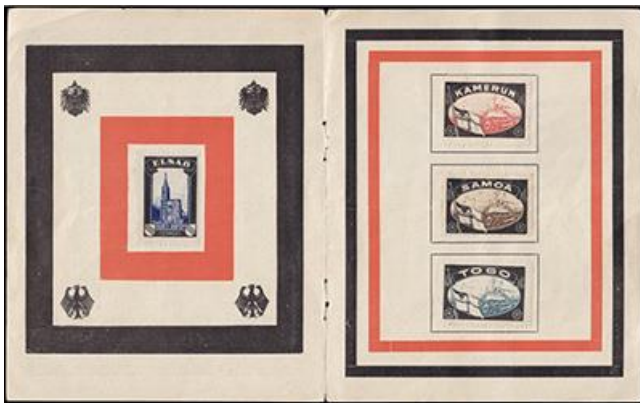
Some of the above labels were issued in sheets mixed with other non-colonial mourning stamps.



There was also a souvenir sheet printed in 1924 by Memminger Brothers of Würzburg, and issued by philatelist Friedrich Peter. It combines the Mourning Stamps with a "Spirit of Potsdam" label, and a border containing 15 mint stamps showing the postal rate increase from 5Pf to 30,000M during the inflationary period of 1923. The 16th border space was reserved for a 10,000,000M stamp which could be obtained upon application from Herr Peter, who then placed the applicant on his mailing list. These sheets appear in roughly equal numbers with and without the 16th inflation stamp.



Booklets mourning the loss of certain areas, formerly part of the German Reich were also produced.



In addition to above the following mourning stamps were produced.



Vergiss nicht unsere Kolonien - Germany
Engl.: do not forget our colonies

Another variant to the mourning stamp issue was by printing an inscribed black label with a replica stamp in the centre.

Samoa:



Deutsch-Neuguinea:



The editor assumes that similar labels exist for all former German colonies.

Bermotian Army

Prince **Pavel Rafailovich Bermond-Avalov**² (Russian: Павел Рафаилович Бермондт-Авалов) or **Prince Avalov** was a Russian Imperial officer and a Cossack adventurer-warlord. He is best known as the commander of the West Russian Volunteer Army which was

active in present-day Latvia and Lithuania in the aftermath of World War I.

Born into a Georgian-Russian family, Avalov received a musical education in Warsaw and joined the Russian Imperial Army's Baikal Cossacks host as a musical conductor. He participated in the Russo-Japanese War, during which he was awarded the Cross of St. George. After converting to Orthodoxy, he was transferred to the Ussuri Cossacks and was promoted to cornet ("cornet" came to refer to the fifth commissioned officer in a cavalry troop, who carried the colours; it never referred to the cornet player himself). During the First World War, Avalov worked as a personal adjutant for Pavel Mishchenko, serving in Eastern Prussia and Galicia. Throughout his military career, Avalov was injured seven times.

After being demobilized in 1917, Avalov became involved in the Russian Civil War as an ardent supporter of the White Army. After defending Kyiv from Symon Petlyura, Avalov was captured and later exiled into Germany, where he formed a unit to fight the Bolsheviks in the Baltic States, along with general Rüdiger von der Goltz's *Baltische Landeswehr*. While fighting in Latvia and Lithuania to establish a pro-German and anti-Bolshevik territorial union, Avalov's West Russian Volunteer Army, also called the *Bermontians*, raided and pillaged the countryside and its occupied areas. After suffering defeats in Riga and Radviliškis, Avalov's army was severely damaged and subsequently retreated into Germany. In Germany, Avalov participated in right-wing White émigré movements, strongly supporting Adolf Hitler's NSDAP. Despite this, he was imprisoned and sent to a concentration camp for embezzling funds meant for his Russian National Socialist Movement. Avalov escaped to Italy through Switzerland, later relocating to Belgrade before finally emigrating to the United States and living there until his death.

The Bermotian army not only issued its own currency but also printed or overprinted stamps.

² From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



On the 10 October 1919 Lithuanian stamps were overprint:



A slightly different overprint was used for the 13 October 1919 issue (3k, 5k, 10k, 20k, 35k, 50k, 75k).

Type 1:



Type 2 (5k, 15k, 35k):



Four types of stamps are known and two of those issues are quite common. The insatiable appetite of collectors made forgers produce material which was quite safe as there was no country to prosecute.

Type 1:

Perforated & not perforated



Type 2:

Perforated & not perforated



Type 3:



Type 4:



Identifier:

Genuine	Forgery
Narrow 'C'	wide 'C'
Head of last letter connected	Head of last letter separated
Rosette defined	Rosette poor
Colours even	Colours poor
Shadow left of female fine dots	Shadow left of female larger dots
Perforation: 12 ½ & not perforated	Perforation: 11 ½ & not perforated
Print: Typographed	Print: Lithographed
Watermark: none	Watermark: none
Paper: poor oily	Paper: hard wove
Gum: brownish	Gum: white



Genuine



Genuine



Genuine



Genuine



Forgery



Genuine

Forgery Type A



Forgery



Forgery



Forgery

Forgery Type B: poor printing



Forgery



Forgery

Forgery type C: wide 'C'; top of last letter



Forgery



Forgery



Forgery

Forgery Type D: poor colours



Forgery



Forgery

Reference:

Michel Europa-Katalog Ost 1993/94; page 847

Odessa Famine Issue



The famine area in the fall of 1921

The **Russian famine of 1921–1922**³, also known as the **Povolzhye famine**, was a severe famine in the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic that began early in the spring of 1921 and lasted until 1922. The famine resulted from the combined effects of severe drought, the continued effects of World War I, economic disturbance from the Russian Revolution, the Russian Civil War, and failures in the government policy of war communism. It was exacerbated by rail systems that could not distribute food efficiently.

The famine killed an estimated five million people and primarily affected the Volga and Ural River regions. Many of the starving resorted to cannibalism.

The famine of 1922 should not be mistaken for the Ukrainian famine after World War II.

The 1922 Odessa Hunger issue or Odessa Famine Relief Stamp Issue was a private initiative. It is unknown to the editor if monies raised actually helped the starving people or if they just helped the originator.

Genuine and Forgery:

Print: lithographed

Perforation: 11 ½



Genuine

³ From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Genuine



Genuine



Genuine



Genuine



Genuine

Forgeries are print poor and colour variations



Forgery (darker red; vertical line lower right thin)



Genuine



Forgery (head lacking detail)



Forgery (reddish)



Forgery (grey green; lacking detail above 10000)



Forgery (very dark)



Forgery (pale)



Forgery (belt nearly missing)

Front Page: Natal

1859-1863. QUEEN VICTORIA. CHALON.
ONE PENNY



Genuine



Forgery

1859-1863. QUEEN VICTORIA. CHALON.
THREE PENCE



Forgery

1859-1863. QUEEN VICTORIA. CHALON.
SIX PENCE



Genuine



Genuine



Forgery

1902. KING EDWARD VII. 10 POUNDS



Genuine Specimen

Forgeries of the higher Natal values are difficult to separate from the originals as some of the forgeries are well executed.



Forgery



Forgery