



President's Message

We in Ballarat hope you are all coping with the acute restrictions of the COVID 19 pandemic. Please uphold the government recommendations and be aware of those around you. Unfortunately due to the continued presence of this deadly virus we have decided to cancel the Stamp Fair scheduled for October 11th, 2020.

With the October Fair being cancelled a “Special Fair Cancelled” cachet will be applied to the club Anzac Day miniature sheets and the covers that feature a 100-year-old image of the main street of beautiful nearby Creswick! See Page 2 for order and payment details.

With the great success of the “Free Stamps for Kids” campaign we are again advertising for more children to apply for stamps. We are happy to provide extra stamps for youngsters who have already received some. If you wish to encourage anybody to apply – please ask them to send a stamp addressed return DL size envelope to Ballarat Stamp Club P O Box 337, Wendouree 3355. At this stage we have enough packets from donations. If we need to, we will contact the people who donated stamps last time.

From all reports the lockdowns have had the very beneficial effect of getting stamp collectors of all ages to open up their albums and seek to fill that frustrating gap or “get back into collecting”. This is a positive for our hobby long term I believe.

Dealers and auction houses say that there has been an upsurge in interest in our great hobby. From my observations the auctions seem to have had high selling rates overall, especially the auction houses who carefully describe their lots. Not all of them do this, so I suggest be wary.

Struan Robertson is now home after a lengthy stay in Hospital. Struan said his wife Joan has been fantastic in helping him – Well done Joan. Struan said to me the other day that he is just starting to look at his stamps again.

To everybody please look after yourselves and as I said watch for the Government Announcements and stay safe and healthy.

Cheers
Peter Morey President Ballarat Philatelic Society

Coming Events

Sunday October 11 Stamp Fair (**CANCELLED see next page to order Sries 2i of the Historic Ballarat Envelopes with a Convid-19 Cancellation Cachet**)

October 13th, 2020 Maryborough Club Auction **CANCELLED**

The Future? We will keep you posted.

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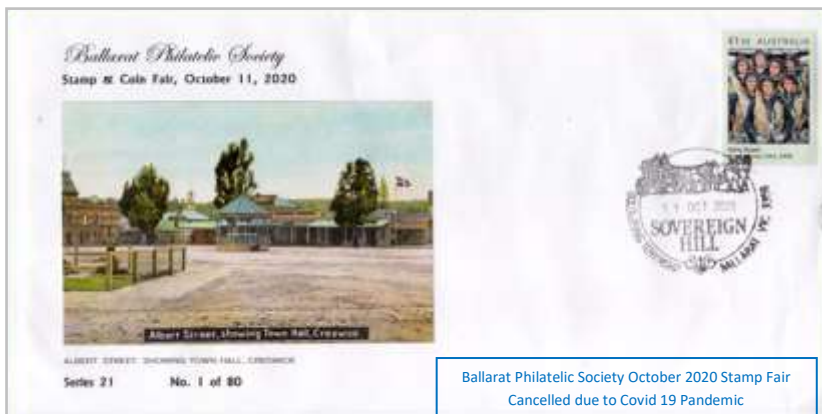
Ballarat Philatelic Society Inc A0012556J

**BALLARAT EUREKA
STAMPS & COINS FAIR
October 11th, 2020**

Cancelled due to Corona Virus Restrictions

To mark this historic period the Ballarat Philatelic Society has decided to issue for sale a limited number of the Ballarat Historical Envelopes, Series 21, and a miniature sheet with the notation that the fair was cancelled due to Covid-19 printed on both the envelope and miniature sheet. You can choose to purchase the cover and miniature sheet with or with the notation included.

The cover carries a 100-year-old image of the main street of the nearby historic goldmining town of Creswick, and the miniature sheet features the 2020 Australia Post issued Anzac Day miniature sheet overprinted for the fair but now with the cancelled notation added. Purchasers can choose to purchase the cover and miniature sheet with or without the Covid 19 notation included, please indicate your preference when ordering.



Historic Envelope \$3 plus P & P

Miniature Sheet \$15 plus P & P

To Order

Contact– Peter Morey

email: petermorey05@gmail.com

mob: 0435 601 673

Orders processed in order of receipt with payment

Allow \$2 postage or \$4.50 registered

Overseas clients allow for 15% for PayPal

Cheques payable to

Ballarat Philatelic Society

PO Box 337, Wendouree, Vic. 3355

Bank Deposit to

Bank of Melbourne

BSB313140

Acct 21301875

Ref: Name of customer



For more information about our club

VISIT our website: ballaratstampclub.com.au

New members most welcome!

Member Profile Struan Robertson

I recently caught up with Struan for a chat and to compose his profile. As many would be aware Struan has not enjoyed the best of health in recent times and is now convalescing at home after a 57-day stay at the Ballarat Base Hospital.

Struan was introduced to the Ballarat Philatelic Society by Leo Konnix and has been a member of the club for about 8 years, having moved to Creswick from Blairgowrie 10 years ago. Prior to retiring and moving to Creswick he operated a moving and gardening business in the Blairgowrie district.

A wide variety of countries, themes and topics are included in Struan's collection that has evolved from cartons of mixed world stamps collected by his grandfather and father and added to by himself. The main countries in his current collections include Australia and Australian states, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, PNG and Canada.

His focus at present is working through his German collection, especially the earlier issues and German states. He is also spending a lot of time and effort researching and identifying variations in Australian Kangaroo stamps and King George V stamps, both particularly challenging topics. He also has a vast collection of English Machin stamps that he is trying to put into some order. To help with his work in these areas he is looking for a good colour chart, so if anyone has suggestions please let him know where he can obtain one.



Apart from stamps and his wife Joan his other passions are reading and listening to his vast collection of country music played on his vintage 4-speed record player. (for those who do not recall records could once be played as 16, 33 1/3, 45 and 78 RPM).

Struan hopes that we are all able to get together as a club sooner rather than later and continue pursuing the philatelic bug.

Did you know?

On June 13, 1920 the US Post Office issued new rules announcing that children would no longer be accepted as parcel post. This followed an incident in the US in 1914 when a postman in a railway post office discovered 4-year-old May Pierstorff who was sent as parcel post from Grangeville to her grandparents in Lewiston. Her "parcel post" was calculated by the pound and was cheaper than buying a train ticket. The fifty-three-cent postage was pinned to her coat and she was put in the baggage car under the care of the postal clerk. Although it was customary to leave packages in the post office overnight, when May arrived in Lewiston, the postmaster took her to her grandparents immediately.

Another recorded example of a person being posted occurred early in the 19th century when Henry "Box" Brown, a slave (pictured), mailed himself to freedom on March 29 1849 with the help of the storekeeper in Louisa County Virginia. He packed himself in a crate that was 3 feet by two feet by two foot six and labelled this side up to be sent to the home of Philadelphia abolitionist about abolitionist James Miller Mckim.



This item comes from the Feedspot website and continues to detail other "Posts you never dreamed of."

<http://www.feedspot.com/>

Peru 1871 to 1884 The Salt Peter Wars.



Region: South America
Group: Chilean Occupation of Peru
Classification: Military Occupations
Prior Regime: Republic of Peru

Key Dates:

- 1879, Feb 14 – Chilean forces occupy the Bolivian port city of Antofagasta.
- 1879, Apr 5 – Chile declares war on Bolivia and Peru.
- 1881, Jan 17 – Chilean troops enter Lima.
- 1883, Jul 10 – Peruvian resistance fighters were defeated at the Battle of Humachurco.
- 1883, Oct 20 – Chile and Peru signed the Treaty of Ancón.
- 1884, Aug – Chile removes the last occupying forces from Peru.

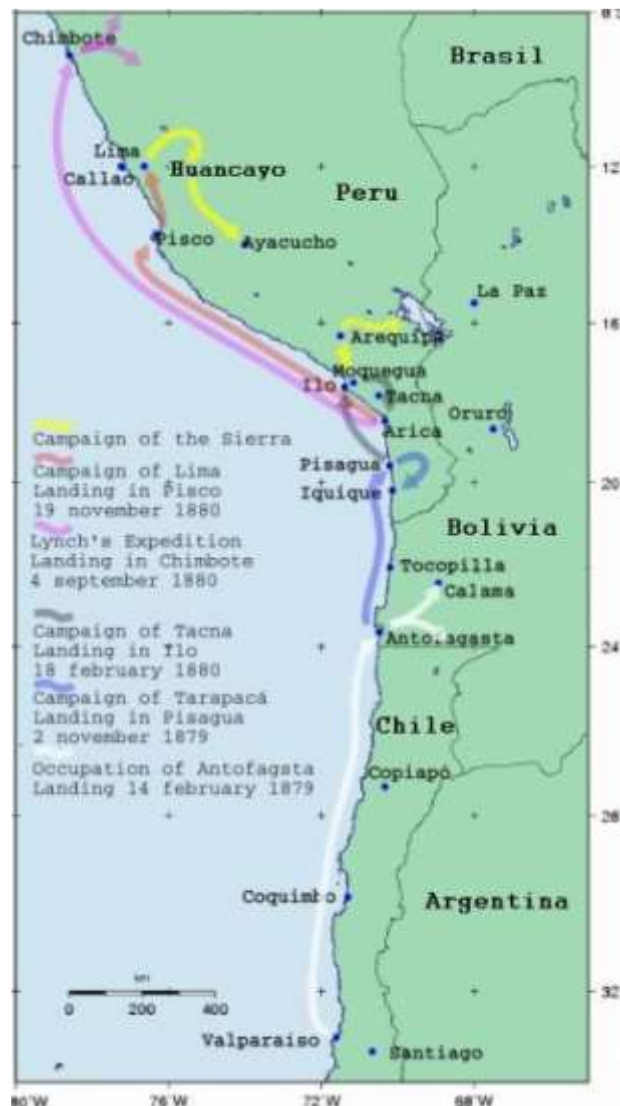
Following Regime: Republic of Peru
Scott Catalogue: (Peru, Occupation Stamps) #N11-N23
Pick Catalogue: (Peru) 11-20, S391-304 for Tacna, 1A-7A for [Arequipa](#)
Currency: Sol = 100 Centavos 1863-1901,
Inca = 10 Soles = 1.000 Reales, 1880-1882

The War of the Pacific, also called the Salt Peter War, was fought in western South America, between Chile and a united Bolivia and Peru, from 1879 through 1883. The war was essentially a battle for the rich nitrate deposits, (the basic ingredient of salt peter, required to make gunpowder), located in Bolivian territory around the Atacama Desert.

Chilean enterprises, which largely exploited the area, saw their interests at stake when Peru nationalized all nitrate mines in Tarapaca, and Bolivia imposed a tax increase on Chilean companies, backdated to 1874. When the Chilean/British owned Antofagasta Nitrate & Railway Company refused to pay the tax, Bolivia threatened to confiscate the company's property. In response, Chilean armed forces attacked and occupied the port city of Antofagasta on 14th February 1879.



The Chilean Army preparing to invade Lima—January 1881



Peru offered to mediate the situation, but Bolivia called on Peru to activate their mutual defence pact, while Chile demanded that Peru immediately declare its neutrality. Peru resisted the demand, and on 5th April 1879, Chile declared war on both Bolivia and Peru.

The first battles of the war were fought on the sea. At the Battle of Iquique (then in Peru, now in Chile), on 21 May, 1879, the Peruvians suffered the loss of one of their best warships, the *Independencia*; the *Huáscar* was captured on 8 October, and Peru eventually surrendered control of the sea permitting the Chilean army to land on the Peruvian coast.

Contributed by Cliff Matthews

The Story Of The Post



The Swan With Two Necks

DURING the 62 years (1784-1846) the Mail Coach Service operated in Britain, a main feature was the coaching inn and among the most famous was the *Swan with Two Necks* in Lad Lane, London. From here, by 1815, coaches carrying mail set off for Bath, Birmingham (via Dunstable), Bristol, Carlisle (via Woburn), Exeter, Falmouth, Liverpool, Manchester, Norwich and Plymouth.

Especially important among the old coaching inns, the *Swan with Two Necks* marked the arrival point of the first (experimental) mail coach trip, the Bristol to London run of August 1784, which, being accomplished in 16 hours, prompted the Prime Minister William Pitt to replace the previous 'post boy' service with mail coaches. By the spring of 1785, mail coaches were serving Norwich, Liverpool and Leeds from London to which were added Dover, Carlisle, Exeter, Gloucester, Holyhead, Poole and Portsmouth before the year had ended.

Apart from London-based coaches, services were also inaugurated between other principal postal towns. But London remained the chief centre of mail coach services, and a number of coaching inns—particularly those in the heart of London—were starting points for famous runs. Notable among

these were Fetter Lane's *White Horse*, Fleet Street's *Bolt-in-Tun*, the *Belle Sauvage* on Ludgate Hill, the *Cross Keys* in Wood Street, the *Spread Eagle*, Gracechurch Street, and the *Saracen's Head*, Snow Hill. But of chief importance were the *Bull and Mouth* and the *Swan with Two Necks*. By 1835, 28 coaches left London every night for all parts of Britain; 25 of these were horsed at the two inns last mentioned.

William Chaplin, of the *Swan with Two Necks*, was probably the greatest of the coach proprietors; during the height of the mail coach era, he used over 70 coaches and had some 1,800 horses ready at various points on the routes.

Having as its emblem a swan with two necks and two heads, and sometimes also known as the 'Wonderful Bird', the *Swan with Two Necks* may have derived its curious name from a corruption of 'The Swan with Two Nicks', the ownership of swans being indicated by nicks on swans' bills.

One of the sights of London was the departure of the mails but even more exciting was the annual procession of mail coaches held on the birthday of the reigning sovereign. The first four coaches in the procession of 1838 were from the *Swan with Two Necks* each led by a horseman in imposing livery.

WORLD'S FIRST 'CHRISTMAS STAMP' (1898) & IMPERIAL PENNY POST

As from 25th December, 1898 the long term dream of *Imperial Penny Postage* became a reality so that for one penny a standard letter could be posted anywhere within the British Empire and to any part thereof! (Remember that in 1898 the British Empire covered about ¼ of the world's surface).

The Canadian Postmaster General, William Mulock, was an enthusiastic supporter and decided to issue a 'special stamp' to commemorate the occasion. The resulting stamp was designed and printed by the American Bank Note Company in Ottawa. 10,000,000 stamps were to be printed in black, green and red, and 10,000,000 in black, blue and red. (Black being the design, green or blue showing the sea, and red showing the British Empire).

In the end, due to different 'ink batches' the sea colours varied from lavender (50%) to pale blue-green (8%) to deep blue-green (8%) to very deep blue-green (21%) to bright blue-green (13%).

Four Line Engraved Plates were used from the original die by a transfer roll. The Plates were unfortunately destroyed in 1928.

Errors occur in the red printing for the British possessions due to "foreign particles on the letterpress plates" Letterpress being used rather than the high quality line engraved process. Other errors occur (in black) as the line engraved plates became worn, and retouches were made to them. Overall there are many, many errors.

Although perforated there are quite a few imperforate stamps about, these being for privileged persons or for official use.

The stamps bear a face value of 2c (Canadian) being the then equivalent of 1d (British) penny, and carry the caption: WE HOLD A VASTER EMPIRE THAN HAS BEEN' plus the inscription 'XMAS 1898', hence it being called the first Christmas stamp.

These stamps can readily be found and vary in price from a few dollars for used copies to hundreds for Mint/MUH or Imperforate singles or blocks.



Contributed by Grey Loyer Hon. Secretary Maryborough Stamp Club (Vic).

Useful Website



The **Stamp Domain** website <http://www.stampdomain.com/> provides information, articles and links regarding "Stamps, Postal History and more." The main menu provides links to topics including Wrapper Catalogue, Philatelic Resource Pages, Newspaper Wrappers, Invention of the Stamp, Thematic Philately, Social Philately, Aerophilately, Selling Stamps and Investing in Stamps.

Although a commercial site (free access) I found the links quite informative. Philatelic Resources for Stamp Collectors covers topics such where to get new stamp issues, selected pages from the internet of philatelic interest, details of books on the philately of the country plus other things which may be of interest to the philatelist of the country. The Thematic Philately sections provides a vast number of suggested themes to base a collection on and the Selling Stamps and Investing in Stamps sections provide advice, tips, and pitfalls incumbent in these areas.

Lorraine, German Occupation in WW2 (1940)

Summary

Lorraine (Lothringen) is an area in eastern France on the German border. The rich agricultural and industrial region changed hands between France and Germany several times over the last few centuries. In May/June, 1940, early in World War 2, Nazi Germany invaded western Europe, taking Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and much of France, including Lorraine. The Germans annexed Lorraine along with Alsace and occupied the region until the Allies liberated the region including its major city Metz on Dec 13, 1944.

Fast Facts

Region: Western Europe
Group: German Occupations
Classification: Military Occupation
Prior Regime: Republic of France

Key Dates:

1940, May 10–Jun 25 – The Fall of France, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg
1940, Nov 30 – Lorraine officially annexed into the Reich
1942, Jan 1 – Lorraine residents designated as German citizens.
1942, Aug 25 – Germany began forcibly inducting men from Alsace and Lorraine into the German Army
1944, Dec 13 – Lorraine liberated with the Allied re-taking of Metz

Following Regime: Republic of France
First Stamp Issued: 1940, Aug 21
Scott Catalogue: France, Lorraine, Issued under German Occupation (N43 – N58)
Pick Catalogue: France R-135-140 (currency for all occupied areas)

History of the German Occupation of Lorraine



Heinrich Himmler, head of the German SS, inspects troops of the Wehrmacht – Waffen-SS in Metz, Sep 1940. (German Federal Archives)

Lorraine (Lothringen), which is currently called Moselle, is a rich agricultural and industrial area in eastern France with a long history dating back to the Roman Empire. For centuries it was part of the Holy Roman Empire until parts were taken by France in the mid 1600's. Strasbourg, the key city of Alsace, was finally annexed into France in 1681 by Louis XV.

With the defeat of France in the Franco Prussian War and the creation of the German Empire, France was forced to cede Alsace along with Lorraine to Germany in 1871. The area remained an integral part of Germany until their defeat in World War 1. Alsace and Lorraine were returned to France after the war, in the Treaty of Versailles in 1919.

With the successful invasion of Poland in 1939, Nazi Germany turned their eyes westward. Finally, on May 10, 1940 German



forces began their assault on Belgium and the Netherlands, as a precursor for invading France. After just six weeks, German forces had taken the lowland counties of Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, as well as much of France including Alsace. The French and the Allies were crushed, with the taking of Paris on Jun 13th and the overall surrender of France on June 22, 1940. Hitler added to the humiliation by insisting that the documents be signed on the same railway car used when Germany had surrendered in 1918.

After the occupation, Hitler enacted a series of "secret laws" which officially annexed Alsace and Lorraine into Germany. On Mar 22, 1941, Alsace was joined with Baden to form a single administrative unit called Gau Baden-Alsace. This was followed by a proclamation on Jan 1, 1942, that all residents of Alsace and Lorraine were considered as German citizens, requiring them to learn and use German. French and Alsatian languages were outlawed. Beginning on Aug 25, 1942, authorities instituted a forced draft of men into the Nazi army. About 130,000 men from the Lorraine and Alsace were conscripted, most being sent off to the Eastern front to fight the Russians. More than a third of those drafted never returned.

As the war continued, the Allies eventually regrouped their forces and the battle for Europe turned. On Jun 6, 1944, the Allies launched "Operation Overlord", better known as the Battle of Normandy. Allied forces pushed eastward, as they began retaking France. Bitter fighting continued, but a great moral and strategic victory was achieved when they retook Paris on Aug 25th, 1944. As they continued eastward, Allied armies were held at Metz in Lorraine for over three months. Eventually, the last holdouts of German soldiers were driven out of Metz on Dec 13, 1944, and Lorraine was liberated. After the war, Lorraine was returned to the Republic of France.

After the invasion and occupation of France in June, 1940, French stamps continued to be valid until Aug 25, 1940. On Aug 21, 1940, German occupational forces issued sixteen denominations (3pf to 100pf) of German Reich Hindenburg stamps overprinted "Lothringen" in black.

The same stamps, with different overprints, were issued for Alsace (Aug 15, 1940) and Luxembourg (Oct 1, 1940). Stamps of Alsace, Lorraine and Luxembourg were valid in all regions including Germany proper.

"Lothringen" stamps remained valid until Jan 1, 1942, when they were replaced with stamps of the German Reich.

