



NEWSLETTER

OF THE

BALLARAT PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC.

Established 1904

Meetings are held on the 3rd and 5th Mondays of each month (except December) at The Eastwood Street Leisure Centre, 20 Eastwood Street Ballarat, commencing at 7pm.

Membership \$5 (for 2020/21)

Visitors Welcome

To all our Members and Friends – we welcome you to our October 2021 Newsletter

You all know the situation with Covid 19 and we can only hope we can again meet as soon as our friends at the Eastwood Leisure Centre give the controlled all clear!



Secretary Jan Kerr advises that we are anticipating that only Covid 19 double vaccinated people will be able to enter the premises so we will update you when we know more. As soon as Jan knows she will email everybody.

We invite more stories and articles to be sent to Pat for Newsletters ongoing. Please make it easier for him. Could all Members also send Sarah Waugh (our Hospitaller) your birthdays please. Email sarah.m.waugh@gmail.com

The October mini sheets and covers sold well again. All customers were promptly updated with the Club's directive that all items have the Covid 19 Cancellers applied. Only two decided to change their orders so the income derived will pay for the Insurance on the Club's trailer which is excellent. All were keen to find out about the next Fair. The whole mail out both local and overseas occurred has now been completed.

Can all the Club Members please pay Treasurer Brian for their items promptly.

I heard again from Medicine Hat in Canada where they are NOW in full lock down for the first time. Some strong criticism being levelled at their Province of Alberta's Premier!

The updating of the 'Free stamps for Kids' has been delayed but we hope to do a new mail out to them soon.

March 14th is the date for the Begonia Festival Stamps and Coins Fair.

Our Circuit Sheet legend Neil, although he has been in Hospital has been able to distribute new sheets from Bendigo recently. Cheers Neil!

Reports seem to indicate a big upsurge in interest in Australian States stamps recently especially Queensland and Victoria so if you have spares check it out. Might be worth moving them to new homes!

Cheers Peter Morey President Ballarat PS
Cheers and stay safe and well

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Upcoming Events

Note all activities are subject to COVID-19 Restrictions in place at the time

November 15	Mystery Guest Night
November 29	Circuit Sheets and Committee Meeting
December	End of year Function tbc
2021	
March 14th	Begonia Stamp Fair— hopefully normality has returned

Cancelled

Grey Loyer, Secretary Marybrough Stamp Club has advised that after much discussion, it was decided that the Marybrough Stamp Club Annual Club Auction be moved to Tuesday, 8th March, 2022 – pending Covid restrictions, etc.

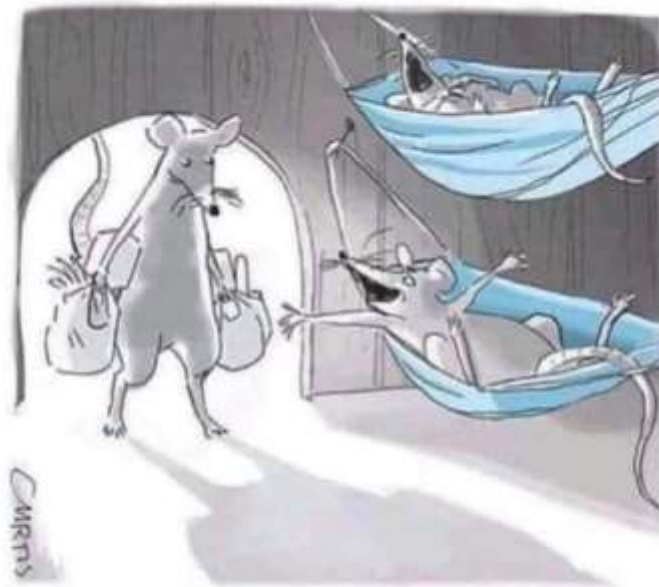
Birthdays and Celebrations

We have decided to acknowledge member birthdays, celebrations and achievements in our newsletters

Sarah Waugh has taken on the tasks of collecting information for this segment. Please email Sarah (sarah.m.waugh@gmail.com) with your birthday or other occasions meriting celebration

17 September Yvonne Cruickshanks

6th October Peter Morey



"Free hammocks, all over town. It's like a miracle!"

Slania celebrated Engraver

To commemorate the 100th birth anniversary of master stamps engraver, Czeslaw Slania, Denmark, Greenland and the Faroe Islands are each issuing a souvenir sheet, featuring Slania's portrait. Slania was born on October 22, 1921, in the small town of Czeladz in Poland.

Slania is considered one of the world's most productive and accomplished engravers. He engraved over 1,000 postage stamps for 32 different countries around the world and became renowned for the precision, speed and sophistication of his work.

While working on stamps he also engraved a great number of other works, including banknotes, and was appointed the Royal Court Engraver of Sweden, Denmark and Monaco. During his lifetime, he received a number of honours and awards for his work.



As a child, Czeslaw Slania demonstrated amazing ability to draw detailed miniatures, especially portraits and horses. In addition, he often drew pictures of his schoolmates and copied banknotes and stamps - and, according to anecdotal evidence, also cinema and boxing tickets. These abilities reportedly proved to be very helpful during World War II, when he made fake identity papers for the Polish resistance movement.

After the war, in 1945, Slania entered the Graphic Department at the Krakow Academy of Arts, where he gradually specialized in engraving techniques, among them etching and copper engraving.

Even before his training was over, Czeslaw Slania was employed by the Stamp Printing Company of the Polish Postal Administration, where he worked for 6 years. In 1956, Slania moved to Sweden. At first, there was not much work to be found for this very talented artist, but after a few years, he was hired by the Swedish Postal Administration.

During the next 40 years he engraved a large number of stamps for the Swedish Post – while eventually also working for many other postal administrations around the world.

In 1962, Czeslaw Slania engraved his first stamp for the Danish Postal Service. In the following years, he engraved a total of 241 Danish stamps, while also engraving 80 stamps for Greenland he also engraved for 100 stamps for the Faroe Islands.



The amazing diversity of Slania's artistic talents reached its full potential in the stamps he engraved for the Faroese Postal Administration. These include landscapes, buildings, carvings, flora, fauna, and people in different situations.

The greatest masterpiece among Slania's Faroese stamps is undoubtedly the famous Ram stamp. It is a detailed and utterly exquisite portrait of an adult ram with impressive horns, looking like it will jump out of the stamp frame at any time. The anecdote has it that at the time Slania was working on another engraving but was so fascinated by the beautiful and spectacular ram that he kept returning to it.

In connection with the 100th anniversary of Czeslaw Slania's birth, Denmark, Greenland and the Faroe Islands are each issuing their own souvenir sheet, all featuring Slania's portrait but with different backgrounds, typical of each country.

The souvenir sheets are engraved by the renowned engraver, Martin Mörck, who many consider to be Slania's heir in the field of engraving.

Recruiting Marches 1915-1916

Following the disaster of Gallipoli and the heavy casualties in France in the latter half of 1915, recruiting figures for enlistment in World War One had dwindled.

In 1915 recruiting committees were formed in nearly every town throughout Australia. In the central west of New South Wales, a movement began which became known as the 'Gilgandra snowball'. Under the leadership of W.T. ('Captain Bill') Hitchen, 25 men who had determined to enlist started off to march to Sydney. A further ten Gilgandra men joined the march along the way.

Recruitment meetings were held in each centre and their number increased to 263 by the time they reached Sydney on the 12th December 1915.



This was known as the Coo-ee March. Other marches took place from around New South Wales and Queensland, known as the Waratahs, Kangaroos, Wallabies, Dungarees, Men from Snowy River, Kurrajongs, Kookaburras, Central West Boomerangs and North Coast Boomerangs.

The total number of men involved was only about 1,500 but the marches attracted wide publicity and may have encouraged fund-raising and enlistment more generally.

In 1918 further 'Freedom' marches were organised but were relatively unsuccessful

In 1987 and 2015 Coo-ee March Re-enactment Reunions and the unveiling of Coo-ee March Roll of Honour Plaque occurred.



Marchers in the 1987 and 2015 Coo-ee March Re-enactments met in Gilgandra for a special reunion over the October Long Weekend, in memory of the 1915 Coo-ees, and to mark the 30th Anniversary of the 1987 Coo-ee March Re-enactment.

Marchers formed up to begin the parade at the commemorative Cairn in Bridge Street, Gilgandra, at 10.45 am on 30/9/2017 for a welcome by Gilgandra Shire Council Acting Mayor Ashley Walker.

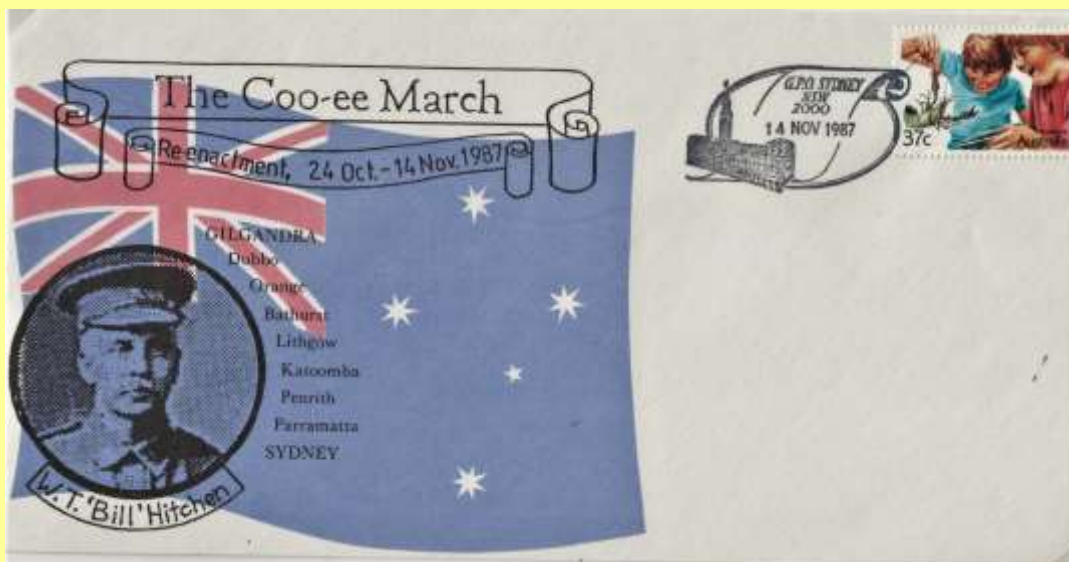
This Cairn marks the spot where the Gilgandra to Sydney Coo-ee Recruitment March started 102 years before, on 10th October 1915. 50 years later, in 1965 seven of the original Coo-ees reunited in Gilgandra, to unveil this commemorative Cairn.



The 1987 Coo-ee March Re-enactment and the 2015 Coo-ee March Re-enactment both started at this commemorative Cairn.

The re-enactment stuck to the script. The exact number joining in at each town. Many were relatives of the originals.

Souvenir covers were produced and cancelled with the appropriate dates to celebrate the Cooee March and 1987 re-enactment. The same cover was used for each of the major towns visited but cancelled with caches celebrating significant features in each town/city as shown on the next page.



Palestine, British Occupation (1918 – 1920)

Region: Middle East
Group: Palestine/Jordan Area
Classification: Military Occupation
Prior Regime: Ottoman Empire



Key Dates:

1916, Jun 5 – Great Arab revolt against the Ottomans
1917, Dec 9 – British Forces Occupy Jerusalem
1918, Sep 26 – British Forces Occupy all of Palestine
1920, May 12 – British Mandate of Palestine established

Following Regime: British Mandate of Palestine

Of all regions in the world, one could literally say that the land of Israel / Palestine is a land of “Biblical” importance. As the bridge between Egypt and Asia Minor, Palestine has seen countless armies marching through this narrow territory as well as a multitude of conquerors. It is sacred to three major religions and has probably had more effect on world history than any other plot of land on earth.

In more modern times, the region fell under the rule of the Ottoman Turks when they defeated the Mamluk Sultans of Egypt in 1517. Egypt had ruled Palestine since the end of the Crusades. Ottoman rule in the entire Middle East continued until World War 1. During the early part of the war, most of the action was in Persia and Iraq, however with the support of T.E. Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia), the British negotiated support of the Grand Sherif of Mecca, Sayyid Hussein bin Ali. This led to The Great Arab Revolt in 1916, resulting in the Arab population revolting against their Ottoman masters. At the beginning of the revolt, Hussein declared the creation of the independent Kingdom of Helez.

With British successes in the east, including the capture of Baghdad in March of 1917, they turned their attention to Arabia and the Middle East. In Sept 1917, the British led Egyptian Expeditionary Force (EEF) under the command of General Edmund Allenby began moving north from Egypt into the Sinai. Coordinating with the Arabs through T.E. Lawrence, the British were able to move swiftly and on 9 December, British forces were marching into Jerusalem. Allenby ordered his troops to dismount as they entered the city as a symbol of respect.



GENERAL SIR EDMUND ALLENBY ENTERING JERUSALEM ON 11 DEC. 1917 (FROM LIBERTY'S VICTORIOUS CONFLICT: A PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY OF THE WORLD WAR)

By 26 Sep 1917, the British EEF forces were in control of all of Palestine and the Transjordan. As WW1 began winding down, the losses for the Ottoman Empire were huge. On 30 October 1918, The Armistice of Mudros was signed on the island of Lemnos between the defeated Ottoman Empire and the Triple Entente, and within two weeks, the French and British were occupying Constantinople. The region was governed by the Occupied Enemy Territory Administration (OETA) south until the formation of the Mandates established by the League of Nations.

With the collapse of the Ottoman Empire at the end of World War 1, the territories of the Middle East were placed under a League of Nations Mandate to France and Great Britain. A “mandate”, was a legal right of a nation to administer a territory captured during WW1 in behalf of the League of Nations. In 12 May, 1920, the region of Palestine (which included Transjordan) was placed under Mandate to the British, while the region to the north, Syria/Lebanon was placed under French mandate (which was divided into six sub-regions: Damascus, Aleppo, [Alawites](#), Jubal Druze, the Sanjak of Alexandretta and Greater Lebanon).

While the mandates were implemented in 1920, the final document for the Mandate of Palestine was finalized on 12 August, 1922, and in the preamble of the document it states: “Whereas the Principal Allied Powers have also agreed that the Mandatory should be responsible for putting into effect the declaration originally made on November 2nd, 1917, by the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and adopted by the said Powers, in favour of the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing should be done which might prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.”



This did not include the region of Transjordan, therefore Palestine and Transjordan were incorporated under different legal and administrative arrangements in the “Mandate for Palestine and Transjordan Memorandum” issued by the League of Nations on 29 Sept 1923.

Andorra, 1932, and a Russian King?

European microstates attract their fair share of adventurers. But some want to do more than mountain climb.

The stamps featured in this article look like stamps from 1930s' France. as well it should. It was printed there. Andorra maintains a coadministration of France and of a Spanish Catholic Bishop. Both administrations put out stamps. The Spanish issues are much more church centred than Spain's non-Franco era issues.



This stamp is issue A50 a 1 Centime stamp issued by the French administration of Andorra in 1932. It was part of 56 stamp issue in various denominations that were the first stamps of the French administration that were not merely overprints of French issues. The stamp features the Church of Our Lady of Meritxell. According to the Scott catalogue, the stamp is worth 55 cents mint. The violet 1.75 Franc stamp from this issue is worth \$120.



Andorra was formed by Holy Roman Emperor Charlemagne as a border buffer state in the Pyrenees mountains to guard against Moor penetration into France. Through inheritances the administration became divided between The Spanish Catholic Bishop of Urgell and the President of France. It is a small landlocked country that was fairly impoverished until recently as improved transportation allowed for more integration with Europe and tourism.

In 1931, a White, (Czar supporter) Russian from Vilneas named Boris Skossyreff was arrested in London for passing bad checks. After being released he made his way to Andorra and obtained citizenship in 1933. He put forth a plan for political reform and requested to be employed to implement them. When this was refused, he showed up in Urgell, Spain and declared himself Boris I King of Andorra and Regent to the King of France. He then declared war on the Bishop of Urgell. Remember in 1934, France had not had a King in many years. The claimed Bourbon Royal connection must have carried some weight as the government began drafting a new constitution.



This wildness only lasted a week with King Boris being arrested by the Spanish Guardia Civil. Interestingly his trial was delayed when as a "Royal" he refused to be transferred to Madrid on a third class train ticket. The Spanish claimed he was really a Dutch Jew who had been in Spain for quite a while. This does not seem to be the case. He was deported first to Portugal and was later to show up in the civilian employ of the World War II German army on the Russian front. He died in Germany in 1989.



Examples of French (left) and Spanish (Right) overprints used in Andorra prior



Andorra, 1932, and a Russian King? (continued)

There seems to be a genre of fan fiction in Russia that has King Boris ruling Andorra for several years until being deposed by the German puppet Vichy French. They have him dying in a Vichy prison camp in 1944.



The church on the stamp burned in 1972. Lost in the fire was the statue of Mary with Child that dated from the 12th century. The legend was that villagers on the way to church kept finding an out of season rose with the statue at its base. They would place the statue in churches only to find it the next day back by the rose. Eventually they took it as a suggestion to build a church in

Meritxell where the statue of Our Lady of Meritxell then sat. The church was rebuilt after the fire and replica of the statue was recast. Meritxell is still a common first name for Andorran females.



Source The Philatelist.

<https://the-philatelist.com/2021/09/30/andorra-we-already-have-2-foreign-princes-how-about-a-russian-king/>



"To you Herbert, your uncle leaves, as a hedge against inflation, a stash of U.S. Forever postage stamps."

Brilliant Austrian COVID-19 Issues

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a factor in our lives for a year and a half now, and life before the restrictions seem like a distant memory these days. Since the beginning of the pandemic, much has changed, and items we might have never even encountered before, suddenly became a fixed part of our everyday lives.

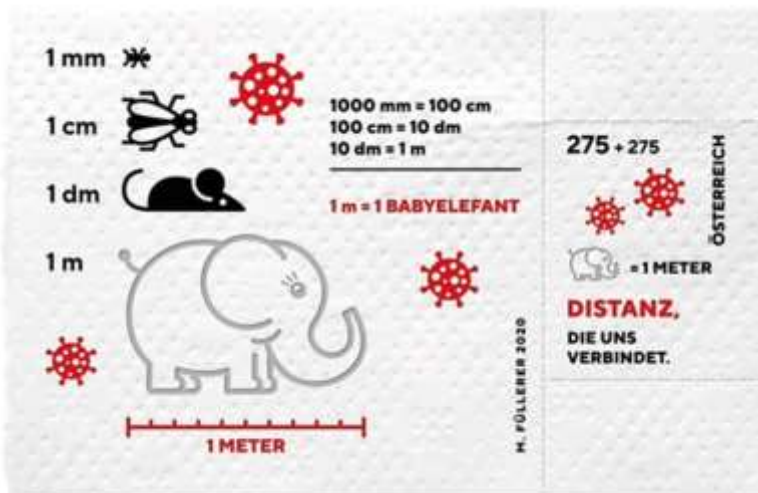
One such item is the face mask - prior to the pandemic, you would practically only see these in hospitals, but as the pandemic went on, we all ended up wearing these in public, to a degree where walking around without one seems wrong!

As always, the innovative Austrian postal service has found a clever way to create a brilliant stamp, which perfectly frames today's world. The stamp was issued very recently on September 16th and is designed in the form of an FFP2 face mask. The stamp is produced from two layers of non-woven material - the same material used for producing the actual masks, which is then embroidered to resemble the now well-known shape of a face mask.



The production of the stamp is a work of art in itself, as the embroidery on the stamp, and the embroidery used for creating the ear loops is part of a complex process, which is used, in order to make the face mask look like the real thing - it is quite impressive.

The Austrian postal service is known for creating unprecedented and unexpected stamps, and in 2020 they certainly did so, when they issued this souvenir sheet.



On the surface it might not look like anything special, but in recognition of the bizarre scenes that played out in the days following the announcement of the global pandemic, where people across the globe stormed the supermarkets, completely draining their toilet paper supply, the Austrian 2020 COVID-19 stamp was printed on actual toilet paper.

Of course, Austria is not the only country to issue COVID-19 related stamps over the past years, and if you wish to see all the COVID-19 themed stamps issued over the past years, You can also see a wide selection of COVID-19 stamps by following the link below (cut and paste into your search engine).

https://www.nordfrim.com/COVID-19-stamp-issues?cur=EUR&utm_source=stampworld&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=SW21101#&pMin=0&pMax=0&sCol=mostsold&pSz=36&pNr=1

These stamps pay tribute to the health care workers and essential frontline responders around the world and offer messages of solidarity. The Swiss COVID-19 Solidarity stamp has helped to donate around 2.5 million francs (more than U.S. \$2.70 million) to people in need. The Isle of Man is also donating money raised from sales of its "Carry Us Through" stamps.



“Wesley” Covers - something for “cover” collectors

With a very few exceptions, there were no official commemorative Australian Post Office FDCs issued up till about 1969. Wesley Cover Service was one of the more prolific suppliers of commemorative FDCs for Australian stamps. JM Gower, the founder of WCS, produced covers from the 1930's onwards.

The best known and most plentiful private FDC's were the “Wesley” brand . The first WCS FDC, featured the set of 4 “Jubilee Year” stamps, was issued for the 1951 Foundation of the Commonwealth 50th Anniversary issue. These were advertised by Gower as a charitable venture in support of the Wesley Nursing Home in Semaphore Park, Adelaide.



Wesley Covers continued to provide their own covers for some time after the Post Office introduced their own commemorative covers in about 1969.



Wesley Covers'
1965 Co-operation Year.
Value \$5 to \$8

Enhanced Version by Hawker –
with the additional date.
Much Rarer Value \$15 to \$20



October Stamp Quiz

Answers will be sent out in a week

Sources <https://qz.app.do/polls/stampboards-weekend-stamp-trivia-quiz> and articles in this Newsletter



1. What is the significance of the tab on the bottom of this stamp?
- Receiver must pay a surcharge if the tab is attached
 - It is selvaige from a stamp booklet
 - Letters were not to be delivered on Sunday if the tab is attached

2. Hong Kong issued its first postage stamp inscribed with HONGKONG
- 1852 1862 1872



3. The stamp above was issued by the Polish Government in exile in 1944. Where was the exiled Polish government based when the stamp was issued?
- USSR
 - France
 - Italy
 - Great Britain



4. What is notable about this US stamp issued in 1933?
- It celebrates a government act which was struck down as unconstitutional in 1935
 - It celebrates the NRA but there is not a rifle in sight
 - The design was inspired by USSR stamps of the time

5. India has had a post office operating in Antarctica
- False True

6. How many current provinces of what is now Canada have issued their own stamps in the past?
- 3 4 5

7. Two countries issue postage stamps for Andorra.
- True False



8. Australia's 1937 2d, 150th Anniversary Sesquicentenary stamp has a famous plate variety known as:
- Man with sword
 - Man with stick
 - Man with rifle
 - Man with tail
9. Where did the Cooee March start and how many men had joined it by the time it reached Sydney.



10. What caused embarrassment for the United States Postal Service when it released the 150th Anniversary of Minnesota statehood commemorative stamp in May 2008.

- The Minnesota State Governor boycotted the stamp launch to protest USPS closure of post offices in his state
- Stamp actually depicts the Lansing Bridge in Iowa- i.e. a landmark from the wrong state
- The launch was in May when the actual anniversary date was in February
- The historic Winona Bridge depicted on the stamp was closed as it was deemed unsafe.

October Stamp Quiz continued

11. Belpochta is the name of official postal authority of which country?

Bulgaria Belarus Belgium Belize

12. What stamp-issuing entity issued stamps in "Zone B" of the Free Territory of Trieste from 1947-1974 ?

Yugoslavia Austria Italy

13. The term 'album weed' is historically accepted to have what specific meaning in philately?

- a. A stamp with a missing corner, crease or tear
- b. In general, a forged or bogus stamp
- c. A famous 1976 Jamaican stamp depicting reggae star Bob Marley smoking a cigarette
- d. A low value common stamp
- e. A purge of unwanted material from a collection

14. Who is credited as starting Wesley Covers and what was their purpose?

15. Other than the three countries highlighted in this newsletter as issuing COVID 19 stamps, list 5 others.



16. This handsome Italian stamp is an example of the following design style:

- a. Pre-Raphaelite
- b. Rococco
- c. Art deco
- d. Art nouveau



17. Between 1957 and 1961 the US Postal Service brought out series of stamps called "Champions of freedom"

What was unusual about these stamp issues?

- a. None of the people featured on the stamps were American
- b. The stamps featured holograms
- c. The stamps included non-English text

18. Collectors of the stamps of Israel have a particular interest in collecting the selvages of the stamps.

These selvages are know to Israeli collectors as:

- a. Control numbers
- b. Monograms
- c. Tabs
- d. Imprints

19. On 11 dec. 1917 who led the British forces into Jerusalem?



20. The former stamp issuing entity, Karelia is now divided between the two following countries:

- a. Russia and Finland
- b. Sweden and Finland
- c. Norway and Finland
- d. Estonia and Finland

Newsletter Items

Please forward anything of philatelic interest to tacey55@gmail.com for inclusion in future newsletter. Stories preferred in a word processing format rather than PDF, pictures in jpeg or png format, although I can work around these restrictions if necessary. Club newsletters are vital in these restricted times to keep members connected, please contribute, next newsletter will be early October, items accepted between now and then.