NEW MEMBER:
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Also, Law on Stamps, U.S. singles and plate blocks, Shakespeare on Stamps, Photography on Stamps, New York World Fairs (1939 & 1964) on stamps.

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AN INTERESTING STORY
FROM MEMBER PETER KEEDA

I have just come across a curiosity which might interest fellow members. This is taken from the Australian Jewish Historic Society Journal, vol 2, part 5 (1946), pages 232-4. If anyone would like a PDF of the full article, they should contact me (keedad@gmail.com).

“The history of Western Australia as a British colony begins on 18th June, 1829. The lists of people who came out with Stirling show no one apparently Jewish, and the first definite information of a Jewish settler in the colony is the arrival of Lionel Samson on the ship Calista on August 5th, 1829. Samson, born in 1798, brought out with him a load of merchandise, with which he set up business at Fremantle in the year of his arrival as a wine and spirit merchant and wholesale grocer ...

... other members of Samson family whose works earns him a mention in any record of this formative period is Lionel Samson’s nephew, Horace. He came to Western Australia as a boy with his uncle after the trip to England of 1842. He apparently led a quite life as records or recollections survive of him which deal with his early years in the colony. In 1853, however, he was draftsman n the Survey Department at a salary of £225 a year. He must have done the job well, for a year later his salary was recorded of £275 and he combined the duties of draftsman with those of lithographer. It was those latter duties which enabled him to design and print the first issue of the postage stamps of Western Australia, which was on sale in the early part of 1854. Philatelists, especially the wealthy ones, must he grateful to him, for the issue was very fruitful in producing those errors and varieties so dear to the hearts and the pockets of stamp collectors. The formidable list of errors which appears in standard catalogues is no very great compliment to the skill of the printer. The almanacks of the period do not ascribe either the design or the printing stamps to any particular person but the tradition
that Horace Samson did both is a firm one in family, and there is no reason to doubt it. As a draftsman he would have had the technical ability to design the stamp (a very simple one), and as a lithographer both the art and the equipment to print it. It is said that this first issue was "lithographed by M. Samson, Government Printer in the Colony", but this statement though on high authority is contrary to the family memories and is diminished in force by the fact that the contemporary almanacks make no reference to the Office of Government Printer. The present generation of the Samson family know of no "M. Samson" except Michael Samson, a younger son of Lionel, who was born in 1844 and could scarcely be printing stamps at the age of ten. I am forced to the conclusion, therefore, Western Australia owes its first issue of stamps to Horace Sampson. After leaving the public service in Australia, Horace went to Victoria, where he became Registrar of Titles. He died in England in 1910.

Whatever the achievements of Horace Samson, the giant of the early family remains its founder, Lionel...”

SUBSCRIPTIONS, WEBSITE, AND ISRAEL!!

Following my article in the last newsletter, many thanks to all the members who are in favour of a subscription charge, to fund a website. I am sure there must be members against too - but I have not received and negative feedback yet!.

One member who responded, was Hilton Israelson from the U.K. I publish his comments below, - and he also mentions about "Israel". - Which strangely enough, compliments another comment from another member:-

Here is Hilton's comments:-

No society can survive with a nil fee subscription, neither with a "one off" subscription.

People join any society fully expecting to pay a reasonable annual membership fee. National Philatelic Societies all charge between £10-£30 per annum, some even more. Even my tiny local club charges £5 and manages to produce a quarterly bulletin (black & white). I believe that it in fact lowers the status and credibility of the society if membership is free.

Don't be embarrassed to ask for an annual subscription. £15 per year (for instance) is the cost of a couple of drinks or barely one evening's parking in London! Even if 30 members resign (highly unlikely!!) I would rather have 65 x £15 each year than nothing. I don't mean to sound arrogant, but I truly don't believe there can be many members so close to the breadline that £15 (£1.25 per month) is totally unaffordable.

Of course, members expect something in return. you have to provide value for money. Here we have to turn to the newsletter/bulletin. Yours is excellent in quality and content. You are doing a great job, but as a member of a society I would expect a newsletter with illustrations and images of stamps (it is after all very much a visual hobby) and despite my comments previously, I think it should be printed and mailed out to members.

I really look forward to receiving newsletters from a number of societies of which i am a member and having colour images of the stamps makes them all a really good read and I usually retain them for future reference.

A good and high quality newsletter also attracts new members, who always ask "what do I get for my membership" and more importantly would attract advertisers who often cover the entire cost of the printing.
Lastly, why not include Israel? I don't understand this as there is great Judaica material, leave out run of the mill commemoratives, political etc...

**ISRAEL**
By a strange coincidence, new member Bennett Bardfeld, from the U.S.A. also comments on Israel:
I am intrigued by the suggestion that Israeli stamps do not belong in a Judaica collection. What do you do with the recent Israel-Canada joint issue? I have a joint first day cover with stamps and 1st day postmarks from each country. Do I cut it in half and just mount the Canadian part!! I am trying to show how ridiculous this theory is!!

Very valid comments, and the more comments received, the interesting the debate becomes.
My opinions and views are only personal, and everyone has their own choice as what to include and not include in a judaica collection.

However, quite a number of the members seem to have the same views, as me that Israel is a seperate "topic" - Infact Israel is really all Judaica.
As I say "Israel is Judaica - But Judaica is not Israel". This is proved by the 40 + albums of Judaica that I have from all over the world and that does not include Israel.

Of course, when there is a joint issue, like the recent Canadian issue. I have to buy the Israel items twice, one for my Israel collection and one for my Judaica collection.

I always believe that in stamp collecting, there is no right or wrong way of collecting, afterall that is what makes the hobby so interesting and varied.

I believe, that there is already an excellent Society for Israel stamps, that being the Society Of Israel Philatelists, and there is no reason to compete, or even duplicate with that Society. Infact many of the Judaica Thematic Society members, that collect Israel, are also members of the SIP. (Further details about this Society will be published in a future newsletter, when I receive the information from the Society.)

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**FRANCE NEW ISSUE - REPORTED BY CLAUDE WAINSTAIN.**
France issued on May 17th 2010 a souvenir sheet of philatelists including Alberto Bolaffi.
he is already on stamps from Italy (Oct 25, 1991), Antigua (June 14, 1993) and on a GB postal cancel from Tel Aviv (Israel '98) on May 13, 1998 with "Bolaffi European Distribution".

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