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Stamp Collecting Blog bulletin (#1/2016)

Hello,

and welcome to read the latest and greatest edition of Stamp Collecting Blog newsletter. Once again there's hopefully a wide range of interesting stamp related tidbits and news to share.

### **Behind the scenes**

Lately I've been spending some late nights working with a digital perforation gauge. And no, I didn't buy one. I built it myself. This tool was born during Christmas holidays when I needed to gauge a number of stamps in accuracy beyond the traditional gauge. In the past I've done this manually, but since I now had the time, I started writing some code to make the task easier. In about two hours I had fully working skeleton of a digital perf gauge, and in weeks following I've addes some more features to make it even better. Right now the tool is in beta stage, but I hope to release it along the new SCB in few weeks time.

This new tool is just a small 'teaser' on what I've got planned for the next generation of SCB. Over the years I've been giving a lot of thought on the concept of 'digital philately', what it means and what's wrong with the apps/software/solutions that we see and use today. It's time I put some of those lessons into action. Years ago a reader of the blog said that I was 'rocking his approach to stamp collecting'. In 2016 I hope to rock everybody's concept on the limits and possibilities of 'digital philately'.

### New articles on the blog

Goodbye 2015, Hello 2016 - End of an Era

New year is a traditional time to look back of the year behind, and reveal/make some plans for the the upcoming year. For me and SCB, 2015/2016 marks an end of en era for me in number of ways.

#### A review of AFA Denmark special catalog

Right before Christmas I bough myself a copy AFA Denmark SpecialKatalog 2002 catalog, and I've been browsing it almost daily ever since. Though 2002 edition may sound 'old, it is only two editions behind, and for the price of 13€ (plus postage) this seemed like a too good a deal to miss. To find out whether I was I right or wrong, please read on.

#### New Zealand 1960 flower pictorials - mystery after mystery unravelled

This story began during the Boxing day when I started sorting a small pile of duplicates of 1960s NZ definitive stamps. As regular readers of the blog know, one of my habits is to compare copies of common stamps lined up side by side as it's one of the fastest ways to notice abnormal specimens. And whilst doing so I noted that few 3d and 8d stamps had 'weird' vertical perforations that didn't seem to match with the other specimens. Since these stamps should not have any perforation variants (besides the coil version of 1d and 3d - which these weren't) I knew something weird was going on. So I started digging up a bit further, and found a pretty interesting story to share.

## **New Resources**

Latest additions contain links to articles/discussion about different stamp storage methods, British Jubilee issues of 1887, US Express Company labels and much more. Don't miss out these and other resources listed in <u>recommended philatelic resources</u>.

## New discussions at SCB

2 new responses on Why most stamp collecting / inventory software solutions suck?

2 new responses on <u>Is a complete all-era worldwide stamp collection possible?</u>

- 2 new responses on My stamp collection
- 2 new responses on Black versus white background on stock book pages
- 2 new responses on Mounting stamp collections digitally
- 2 new responses on Stamps of Azerbaijan
- 2 new responses on Q&A: stamps of Canada
- 4 new responses on Q&A: stamps of Russia and areas
- 4 new responses on <u>Q&A: stamp albums, stock books and other storage methods</u>
- 2 new responses on Q&A: what stamp is this?
- 2 new responses on <u>Welcome to SCB Store</u>
- 4 new responses on <u>Some useful tidbits about Hong Kong definitive postage stamps</u>
- 2 new responses on <u>My Stamp collection</u>
- 2 new responses on <u>Q&A: stamps of Philippines</u>
- 6 new responses on Ask anything about stamps, collecting, life-pt 9
- 2 new responses on Philippine flowers definitive stamp series of 1991 and what the major catalogs don't tell you about it
- 4 new responses on <u>Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2016</u>
- 10 new responses on New Zealand 1960 flower pictorials mystery after mystery unravelled
- 15 new responses on Goodbye 2015, Hello 2016 End of an Era

5 new responses on Stamp Exchange 2016

# **Closing words**

That's all folks. Hope you've enjoyed this edition of bulletin.

-keijo-

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