



THE ROYAL PHILATELIST

VOLUME | 34



A PUBLICATION BY THE PHILATELIC CLUB OF ROYAL COLLEGE

The Royal Philatelist

34th Volume 2021

**The First
Philatelic Magazine In
Sri Lanka
&**

**The Longest Continually
Published Philatelic Magazine
In South Asia**

**Published by
The Philatelic Club of Royal
College To Commemorate Its
77th Anniversary**



SCHOOL OF OUR FATHERS

(Words and music by Maj.H.L. Reed. Music revised by W. Schmid. First performance by The Royal College Choir on 13th July 1928.)

Thy spirit first to life awoke
In eighteen hundred and thirty five
Beneath the sway of Marsh and Boake
Thenceforth did Lanka's learning thrive.

Refrain

School where our fathers learnt the way before us
Learnt of books and learnt of men, through thee well do the
same True to our watchword "Disce Aut Discede"
We will learn of books and men, and learn to play the game

Within thy shade our fathers trod
The path that leads to man's estate
They have repaid the debt they owed
They kept thy fame inviolate.

And we their loyal sons now bear
The torch, with hearts as sounds as
oak Our lusty throats now raise a
cheer
For Hartley, Harward, Marsh and
Boake

1944



2021

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M. V. S. Gunathilaka

Senior Master Clubs and Societies

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Senior Vice President

Mrs. H.V.D.T.Thushari Gunawardena

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Aakeel Fairoz

Tresurer

Chathil Dharmawardena

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Chathurna Kasturiratna

Hasin Amaradasa

Rumeth Kodithuwakku

Nejan Gunawardena

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF GUEST



It gives me great pleasure to pen a few thoughts for The Royal Philatelist of 2021. I felt extremely honored when I was invited to be the Chief Guest at the first ever virtual stamp exhibition organized by the philatelic club of Royal College.

The club celebrated its 75th Year of existence in 2019. What started in a single class room in 1944 has today grown to have many followers from all three sections of the school. I am sure the founder Mr. H P Jayawardena will be ever so happy to see the club as it is today.

I myself feel privileged that it was during my tenure way back in 1982 that we reorganized the exhibition and relaunched the magazine. That exhibition was held within the Royal Junior School Museum premises itself. The museum itself was the brain child of then principal Mr H P Jayewardene.

The organization and participation in the exhibition helped as it resulted in us taking part in the National stamp Exhibition which was held from the 2nd to the 5th of December 1982 at the National Museum. We were the only school represented among the Junior Section which had 57 participants and we had an exhibit under category (b) Thematic, all countries. Our exhibition was titled "Environment Conservation" which won a Bronze Medal at this exhibition.

Coming back to the club I still recall my first day at the club, we had meetings at Mr. Jayewardene's office (the principal's office) a majestic room all lined in wood on the right hand as you entered Nawarangahala. The membership was by exchange of stamps. New member gives the club 10 stamps and gets to pick one out of the biscuit tin that held the collection of the club. I am grateful to the club and mentors associated with the club in nurturing the hobby and for the knowledge and skills they shared with us.

Through the years many teachers, old boys, parents and well-wishers have helped the club and its activities. I take this opportunity to thank all of them. Congratulations to all the winners and a big thank you for the participants if not for your effort there wouldn't be a "Royal Phelix". I express my gratitude to the committee and membership I wish you all for the wonderful work you have done and continue to do during these trying times.

May the new normal bring you more challengers and enrich your journey in the hobby of collecting stamps. I look forward for a continued association in the years to come.

Stay safe and may the spirit of college be with you all

Dharshana Ranatunga



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



It is indeed a great pleasure to address you all through the 34th Royal Philatelist published in celebration of the 77th Anniversary of the Philatelic Club of Royal College.

Philately has been a unique hobby in the world since the invention of the postage stamp. The Philatelic Club of Royal College too has come a long way since its inception way back in 1944.

It has inculcated and encouraged philately among the young Royalists and has always maintained its standards as a club that provides knowledge, experience, discipline and other valuable qualities through the collection of stamps. Through this the club has been a catalyst in moulding the characters and personalities of its members.

I am indeed glad to see many students being involved in Philately, a hobby which brings great benefits to the philatelists. The collection of stamps brings great benefits to the mind and body alike and I'm pleased to see the amount of work done by the Philatelic Club for the betterment of the young Philatelists of Royal College. It is with great pleasure that I pen this message to the Royal Philatelist at the 77th Anniversary of the Philatelic Club of Royal College.

I also extend my appreciation for the services rendered by Mrs. M.V.D.T. Thushari Gunawardane, the teacher in charge, for the tremendous efforts taken by her in guiding the young philatelists. I also wish to commend the Chairman and the Board for their dedication and effort to making this club year a success regardless of the difficulties that arose with the COVID-19 pandemic.

I bestow my blessings and extend my best wishes to all the future activities of the Philatelic Club

M. V. S. Gunathilaka
Principal



MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR MASTER CLUB AND SOCIETIES



It gives me great pleasure to extend this message for the 34th volume of the Royal Philatelist magazine Published in commemoration of the 77th Anniversary of the Royal college Philatelic club in 2021.

The club has had a vast and distinguished history going back to the year 1944 and is currently one of the oldest and biggest clubs in college. Over the years it has rendered a remarkable service in spreading the hobby of philately and promoting positive attitudes and values among its members.

Philately is a strong source of acquiring knowledge, which has occupied a unique position in the world of hobbies as both an enjoyable and educational hobby. Royal College has been at the forefront of the sphere of school-based philately in Sri Lanka since the club's inception in 1944. A prime example of this is the annual philatelic exhibition organized by the club known as the Philex which was successfully held for the 76th time this year.

It is especially notable that the club has continued its actives despite the Covid-19 Pandemic in the country providing children with a hobby to entertain themselves during these challenging times.

I must extend my gratitude towards the Teacher In-Charge Mrs.Thushari Gunawardane for her service towards the club, my gratitude also goes to the board of the Philatelic Club for their unwavering commitment to successfully carry out their club year despite the hardships endured during this pandemic.

Finally, I wish the Philatelic Club of Royal College all the best in all of its future

T.D.C.P. Amaratunga
Senior Master- Clubs and Societies



MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT



It is with great pleasure that I contribute this message to the 34th Royal Philatelist published in marking the 77th year anniversary of this great institution.

The Philatelic Club of Royal College is proud to be the first and foremost Philatelic Association founded in Sri Lanka, even before the Philatelic Bureau of the Postal Department of Sri Lanka was established

Despite the circumstances, I am extremely delighted to see the club being able to continue its projects in a successful manner this year.

As we all know stamp collecting is one of the most knowledge building hobbies in the world. Stamp collecting is an early stepping stone to learn about the world and its diverse cultural variations while engaged in this hobby. The philatelic club of Royal college supports in this cause by mentoring young philatelist become the change the world needs.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Principal Mr. M.V.S.Gunathilaka and our Senior Master Clubs and Societies Mr.T.D.C.P Amaratunga for the support and guidance given the club throughout the year.

I also wish to record my appreciation to the Board on such a successful Club year and wish the club success in all of its future endeavours

H.V.D.T Thushari Gunawardena
Senior Vice President



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



It is with immense honour that I pen down this message as the Chairman of The Philatelic Club of Royal College for the “34th Royal Philatelist” published in commemoration of the 77th Anniversary of this great student body founded in 1944.

The Philatelic Club while having a rich history, also has the distinction of been one of the 1st clubs that every young Royalist have the privilege of joining during their formative years at the College. Hence to every Club Member is one of the first activities we partake in as a student and will eventually end up being the last activity we do as a student of College as well. Throughout

this journey, the club strives to teach students an immeasurable number of life lessons from simple things such as stamp collecting to lessons of leadership, unity, and life-long friendships to name a few. This Club year has been far from “normal”, due to the ongoing pandemic. This resulted in us not been able to have a single physical club meeting throughout the year. But during these trying times the Club has successfully been able to complete a multitude of projects including the 76th Royal Philex which was successfully held “Virtually” for the very first time in its prodigious history. As the Chairman, of this prestigious club I am extremely delighted to state that we continued to progress with greater vigour by transforming all our clubs’ projects to online platforms while adjusting to the new normal. Thus, making it a year my fellow club members of all ages would be able to remember for many years to come.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Principal Mr. M.V.S.Gunathilaka for all of his support towards the club year. Also, I would like to extend my gratitude towards the Senior Master – Clubs & Societies Mr. T. D. C.P. Amaratunga for tirelessly supporting and guiding us throughout the year.

It wouldn’t be befitting, if I do not thank our Teacher in Charge Mrs. Thushari Gunawardena for always supporting the club throughout the years no matter what the circumstances were. I would also like to extend my heart felt appreciation to all our club members ,the Prefects Council of Royal College, Parents and all the other individuals who supported us throughout the year.

Finally, I would like to thank my board members, for their immeasurable support over the course of the club year. None of what we have accomplished this year, would have been possible, without their unstinted co-operation. I am certain that the club is in safe hands for any more years to come.

Floreat!

M.Taque R. Rasheed
Student Chairman



MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY



It gives me much pleasure to contribute this message as the secretary of the Philatelic Club for the 34th edition of the Philatelist published in celebration of the 77th Anniversary of The club.

The Philatelic club for many Royalists gives a vast experience outside the classroom by inculcating values and other respectable attitudes which aid us in many ways. The annual exhibitions philatelic exhibition known famously as the Philex which was held on a virtual platform for the first time in the history undoubtedly gives new experience for the board members as well as everyone

who participated in the projects .

The Royal Philatelist, for generations has been giving a collection of great articles with valuable information about philately to its readers and I am sure that this year is no different. It was no easy no task carrying out these project with the ongoing pandemic but with the support of the board and club members we able to pull of the project successfully.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our principal Mr. M.V.S.Gunathilaka and our Senior Master Clubs and Societies Mr.T.D.C.P Amaratunga for the support and guidance given to us throughout the year. I would also like to thank our teacher in charge Mrs. Thushari Gunawardena for the support and guidance given to us to make the club what it is today. I am extremely grateful to the members of the club who stood behind and gave a helping hand in every project conducted throughout the year.

I do not doubt that the club will continue to grow and prosper for many years to come. I am sure our junior club members will take the club to greater heights preserving the values handed over to us by our seniors

Floreat!

**Aakeel Fairoz
Secretary**



EDITORIAL



We are glad to convey our message as Editors of this magazine at its 34th volume published in 2021 to celebrate 77th Anniversary of the Philatelic Club of Royal College. As students of Royal College and as members of Philatelic Club of Royal College, we are proud of the Philatelic Club as it is the Oldest Philatelic Club in this country and also the 3 in Asia. "The Royal Philex" annual stamps exhibition holds in every year to mark the anniversary opening an avenue to its members and invited school, to exhibit their collection of stamps under a certain theme, first day covers, Coins etc. and this has become one of the major annual event of Royal College.

It is to be noted that this magazine one of key element at the "The Royal Philex", But it would not be in your hands if not valuable guidance and encouragement extended us by our Principal Mr.M.V.S.Gunathilaka, Senior Master Clubs and Societies Mr. T.D.C.P. Amaratunga, Senior Vice president Mrs. Thushari Gunawardana and all the others who helped us in so many different ways to make this magazine complete. Above all we must salute you, members of Philatelic Club of Royal College for the support, encouragement and feedback on making our task easy. Thank you for all your help, and contribution.

Hope you have an Enjoyable Read!

Floreat!

**Rumeth Kodithuwakku
Nejan Gunawardana
Hasin Hmaradasa
Chaterna Kasturiratna
Editors**



76th Philex Winners
and Participants



Winners of the 76th Philex

Primary School

1st place - Janev Yahas Thoradeniya

2nd place - Kevan Perera

3rd place - Gaveesha Pathiratne

Middle School

1st place - Thisala Navindu Sadagiri Pathiraja

2nd place - Thamindu Gamage

3rd place - Thaviru

Upper School

1st place - Anuda Gunarathan

2nd place - Basitha Ariyapala

3rd place - Jithain Wimaladrma

3rd place - Venidu kulathunga

Showcase

1st place - Binuth Amarathunga

2nd place - Senuth Amarathunga

3rd place - Hiruka Gallage Arachi

Overall winners

1st place - Thisala Navindu Sadagiri Pathiraja

2nd place - Anuda Gunarathan

3rd place - Janev Yahas Thoradeniya

76th Royal Philex 2021 - Exhibitors

W.J.O. Wimaladharma
Viren Meegahawatte
U.Dilith Wijetunge
Tharin De Silva
Minula Masingha
Anupa Abeywardana
Nishadh Semasinghe
Venindu Kulatunga
Anuda Gunaratne
R. Bathisa Dewnaka Ariyapala
Gavesha Pathiratne
Kevan Perera
Janev Sahas Thoradeniya
Sehan Dinusara
Thamindu Uthpala Gamage
Tharuka Sansira Dias
Nisandu Dulnitha Rajaguru
Thaviru De Silva
Thisala Nanvidu Sandagiri Pathiraja
Tharindu Indeewara Gamage
P. Senul Randira Goonawardena G.R.
Hirunaka Methsilu Gamlath Nethun
Bandara
Aaqil Abdullah
Sathsen Samarakoon
Sasinu Themiya Kanaheraaachchi
Dewmina Rajinda Rajapakshe
Rajeewa Perera

W.A.DimathSensanda Karunarathne Dhulanjana Tharidu
Wickremasinghe Divoj Savitha Thoradeniya
R. Hirun Damsithu Ariyapala
Kavan Bandara Ekanayake
Jithen Bandara Ekanayake
Okitha Pathiratne
Kavya Perera
Shinal Kenula Amaratunga
Anukh Shanilka Pathirana
K.A. Methuja Anusara
Dasindu Sasmitha Perara
T. Anjula Kumudith De Silva
Senul Liyanage
S.M. Kulunu Prapashwara

Showcase

Anuda gunaratne
Archana jayathilake
Binuth Amarathunga
Hirunaka Gamlath
Minol Watson
Ramiru Nimsath Aluthge
Senul Randira
Goonawardena
K A Methuja Anusara
Anukh Shanilka Pathirana
Tharuka Sansira Dias
Thamindu Uthpala Gamage
Senuth Amarathunga
Chanuth Amarathunga
Tharindu Indeewara
Gamage Dimath Sensanda
Karunarathne



Club Members

Lesandul Venuja Wijesiriwardane
Tharin De Silva
Thareen weerathunga
R. Bathisa Dewnaka Ariyapala
R.Bathisa Dewnaka Ariyapala.
M.I.M.Althaf
Archana Jayathilake
Venindu Kulatunga
Thilina Dissanayake
Nishadh Semasinghe
Nilana Weerasinghe
Dulain Silva
Yashika Methmin Amaratunga
Yashika Amaratunga
Minol Watson
Senuka Jayakody
Navod Widanagamage
Gayuka Gunasekara
Gayuka Yumeth Gunasekara
Hiruna Damsith Ranaweera.
Thumal Adikary
Binuth Amarathunga
Vinuka Gunawardena
Senira Prematillke
Viren Meegahawatte
Dilisha Ravihara Hettiarachchi
Minula Masingha
Menul Ranwala
Anupa Abeywardana
Anuda Gunaratne
Thisal nimsara
Nejan Gunawardena
Abilash Sureshan
Jithain Wimaladharma
Janev Yahas Thoradeniya
Onitha De Alwis

K G Gayuru S. Wijewardane
Lesandul Wijesiriwardane
Sethun Penuja Dodangoda
Sathsen Samarakoon
I W Shanidu Dilek Karunasingha
P. Senul Randira Goonawardena
Dulneth Bandara Wijerathne
Evin Insitha Bandara Amarakoon
Nethun Bandara
D. M. Devja Disas Jayawardena
Thareen Sandesh Ranaweera
Yenuka De Alwis
Sathsen Randira Bandara Samarakoon
W Vonal Aasher Botheju
W.M Sachitha Wickramasinghe
Shethil Prematillke
Maggonage Medika Nirmala
Viren Manilka Wettasinghe
Himesh Karunarathne
Disen Sankitha Kinigama
Imeth Rajapakse
Minula Wijesekara
Himesh Dinal Karunaratne
Imeth N Rajapakse
A.M.Mindula Madev
P.Dasindu Sasmitha Perera
P. Senul Randira Goonawardeana
Hesandu Vimath Wijesiriwardane
KonaraMudiyanselage Sanuja
Vidath Bandara

W W M R Sarith Weerasekera
B.I.R Batawala
Senul Gunasekara
Menul Dehan Gunasekara
R. Hirun Damsithu Ariyapala
IW shanidu dilek karunasingha
Sanula Sanrith Wijegunawardena
D.M Isara Hansana
R.Hirun Damsithu Ariyapala
Mahiru Dhanudha Peiris
I.A. Kawshalya Umesh
Thisala Nanvidu Pathiraja
Thisala Nanvidu Sandagiri Pathiraja
W.K.C.Muthuhara
W.A Dimath Sensanda Karunarathne
Manuthaja Pansilu Vithanapathirana
Aaqil Abdullah
Bulathwalage Guththila Anjana
Padmasiri
Kavan Ekanayake
Senupa Dinhas Thewmina
Samarasinghe
Yonal Bimsara
Dithira Dithnal De Silva
W.Sanuj Mindinu Hemajith
Shinal Kenula Amaratunga
Shinal Amaratunga
Inuka Abhayaratna
Tharuka Sansira Dias
Ranudaya De Silva
Senith Ranudaya De Silva
Rajeeva Perera
Dhulanjna Wickremasinghe
Dhulanjana Wickremasinghe
Divoj Savitha Thoradeniya
Sasinu Themiya Kanaheraarachchi
Thisas Abeyweera
Sasinu T.Kanaheraarachchi

Sehan Dinusara
Sayonne Abeyasekera
Batagoda Tharindu Indeewara Gamage
Batagoda Thamindu Uthpala Gamage
Tehan Anuk Gunatilaka
Jithen Ekanayake
K A Methuja Anusara
Anjula De Silva
Thaviru De Silva
Shevin Prematillke
Anukh Pathirana
Nisandu Dulnitha Rajaguru
Saahil de Silva
Mohamed Rhysa Muhammadh
Methvan Wijemanne
Senul Liyanage
G.R. Hirunaka Methsilu Gamlath
K.G.Navamina Hesath Wijewardane
Wanasinghe Arachchige Sanuka
Senadhi Wanasinghe
M.A.M. Abdullah
S.Ashwin
Abdullah Azhar
Sanuka Senadhi Wanasinghe
Ashwin Srisantha



Office Bearers
2021

ROYAL COLLEGE PHILATELIC CLUB 2021 OFFICE BEARERS

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Secretary	- Aakeel Fairoz
Treasurer	- Chathil Dharmawardena
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Sub-Editors	- Hasin Amaradsa Chaterna Kasturiratna
Club Organizers.	- Sanuka Wanasinghe Ayooob Palle
Student Co-ordinator	- Senira Gunathilaka
IT Coordinators.	- Thumal Adikary Minula Masinghe
Graphic Designer	- Hansaja Jayathilaka



Taaee
Rasheed
Chairman



Aakeel Fairoz
Secretary



Chathil
Dharmawardena
Treasurer



Nejan
Gunawardena
Editor



Rumeth
Kodithuwakku
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Sanuka
Wanashinghe
Club organizer



Senira
Gunathilaka
Student
Coordinator



Minula
Masingha
IT Coordinator



Thumal Adikary
IT Coordinator



Archana
Jayathilaka
Graphic
Designer



Project in 2021

The Philatelic Club of Royal College

The Philatelic Club of Royal College was established in 1944 and is one of the oldest functioning clubs in school. It is also recognized as the oldest Philatelic Club in Sri Lanka and also holds the prestige of publishing the first philatelic magazine in Sri Lanka and the longest continually published philatelic magazine in South Asia. Since its inception, the Philatelic Club has been encouraging students in philately through various activities it organizes every year.

The Philatelic Club has one of the largest member bases for a club or society in Royal College with an annual average of approximately 150 members. Currently the clubs engage in enhancing the talent of young philatelists as well as give them an opportunity to showcase their talents in the Annual Exhibition conducted by our club. Through activities of this caliber, we hope to be one of the most prominent clubs in college as per to the service rendered to its members.

Over the years the club has under taken many projects that aim to develop philately among students. These projects cover a wide range of interests: personal development, communication, creativity and community service being few of them.

Projects completed by the Philatelic Club of Royal College for the Year 2021

1. Phila Facts

This is an ongoing project done by the club, Once a Month throughout the year The members of the Philatelic Club will paste posters of a fact about Philately on notice boards around School. The members will also share the facts via social media

Click the Link below to see more about Phila Facts

[Link to the Page](#)



2. Stamp Exchange Day

The club will upload the school collection into our social media accounts and exchanged the stamps with members if the situation permits the club will have this on a face to face basis to as done in previous years



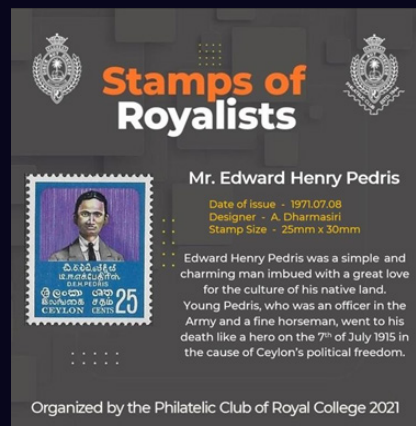
3. Introduction to Philately

The year started with a project conducted to recruit new members to the club. This recruiting program was done for the grades 3 and 6 students of Royal College. A booklet consisting interesting facts about Philately was distributed among all the students of each grade. Then our club organized 2 workshops themed “Introduction to Philately” for grade 3 students and “How to collect stamps” for grade 6 students. The students were recruited as club members at the workshops.

4. Stamps of Royalists

Stamps of Royalists is an initiative of the Philatelic Club to enhance the knowledge of club members regarding alumni of Royal College who have served their country with great distinction. Sharing posters portraying stamps, which have been issued, of eminent old Royalists.

Click the Link below to see more about Stamps of Royalists
[Link to the Page](#)



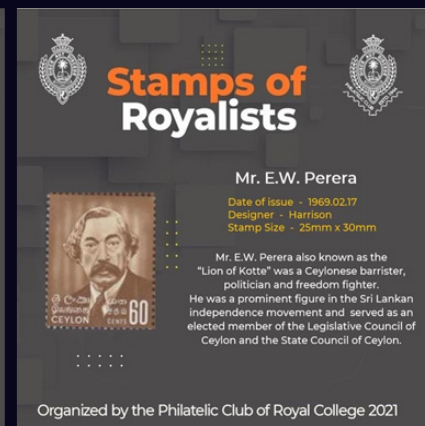
Stamps of Royalists

Mr. Edward Henry Pedris

Date of issue - 1971.07.08
Designer - A. Dharmasiri
Stamp Size - 25mm x 30mm

Edward Henry Pedris was a simple and charming man imbued with a great love for the culture of his native land. Young Pedris, who was an officer in the Army and a fine horseman, went to his death like a hero on the 7th of July 1915 in the cause of Ceylon's political freedom.

Organized by the Philatelic Club of Royal College 2021



Stamps of Royalists

Mr. E.W. Perera

Date of issue - 1969.02.17
Designer - Harrison
Stamp Size - 25mm x 30mm

Mr. E.W. Perera also known as the "Lion of Kotte" was a Ceylonese barrister, politician and freedom fighter. He was a prominent figure in the Sri Lankan independence movement and served as an elected member of the Legislative Council of Ceylon and the State Council of Ceylon.

Organized by the Philatelic Club of Royal College 2021

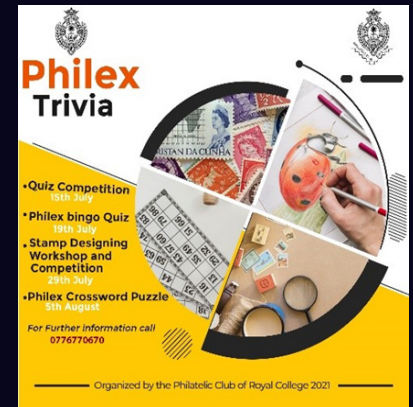
5. Philatelic Database and Blog

A website introducing the philatelic Club of Royal College. through this website anyone can learn details regarding philately and our club history and the projects we hope to do. The main attraction to the website will be the blog which will share articles written by our club members, in regards to philately and will be updated regularly with new articles as well as archives.

6. Philex Trivia Competitions

i. Philex Bingo quiz

Due to the prevailing situation in the country we cannot conduct the projects as we planned earlier. So we decided to do online projects. Philex bingo trivia quiz competition is a game which engage students in a leisure activity. It also help them to develop their mental skills. So basically we will be sending a 3x3 or 4x4 boxes in a chart filled with different types of Sri Lankan Stamps through our social media platforms. The participants (members and non members) must find those stamps in their collection and they have to send a picture of it kept in the relevant box in particular chart drawn by them in A4 sheet.



ii. Stamp Designing workshop and competition

This is an annual project done by the club. We will be teaching participants about how stamps, Postcards are designed step by step . This was conducted by a lecturer, and we will have a competition done to decide which stamp design is best.

iii. Quiz Competition

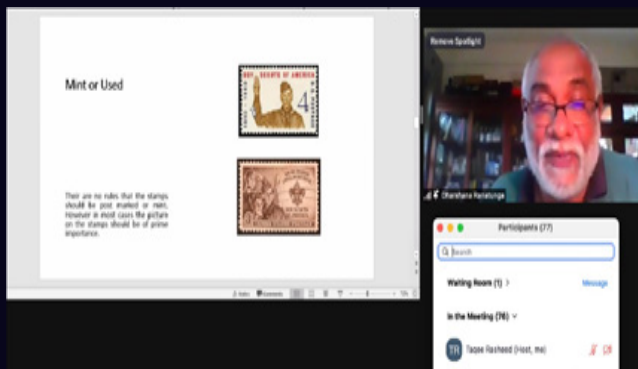
This project will be done as a quiz competition where students will be able to present there answers and the best results will be announced.

iv. Philex Crossword

This competition was conducted under a new initiative to involve the members in a fun activity in a competitive way. Crossword was designed, including questions relating to the topic of philately.

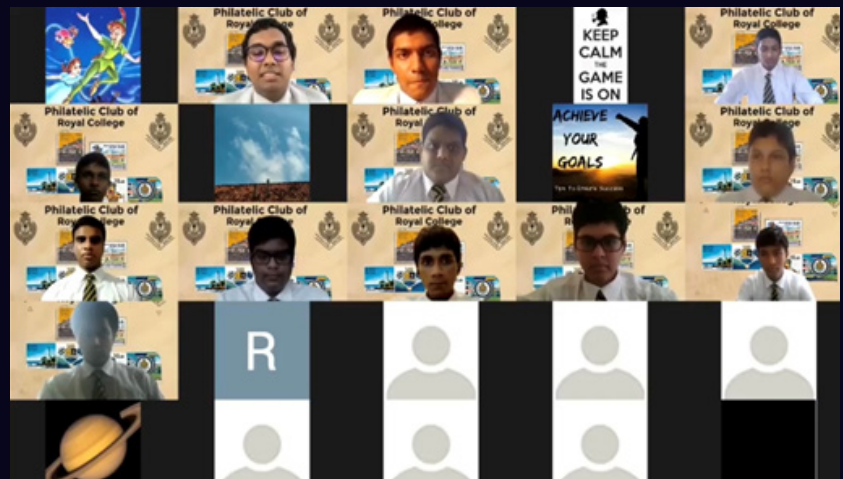
7. Lecture series

This project will be a lecture series conducted various prominent philatelist. This series will be done to share knowledge regarding philately and interesting aspects as well as the evolution of philately



8. 76th Philex

Philex is the main event in the calendar of the philatelic club. It has been held every year since its inception in 1944, although it has vastly grown in the years since then. The exhibition sees the participation of students from grade 3 to 13, as well as many exhibits created by students of other schools. The exhibition gives the members the opportunity to use what they have learnt about philately throughout the year and create a meaningful exhibit using their collection of stamps. The best three exhibits of the primary, middle and upper school sections are given special awards and the best overall exhibit is awarded the A. W. Panchalingam Challenge Shield



Click the Link Below to watch the recording of the 76th Philex

[Link to the Page](#)

9. 34th Philatelist

Accordingly This is the souvenir for The Royal Philex exhibition. The club has printed 33 issues so far and this year we are planning on issuing the 34th edition This souvenir is named as South Asia's oldest philately related document . The article for the souvenir are collected from members and non-members

10. Virtual Field Trip

This project is a Virtual field trip organized by the Philatelic Club of Royal College. The virtual trip is conducted in lieu of the annual field trip to Coin Museum, and will consist of 5 videos that will create a virtual experience for the viewers. The videos will be centered around places which have an importance to philately. This will allow the club members to partake in an experience similar to a physical field trip in a virtual and safe setting.

Click the Link Below to
watch the Virtual Field
Trip
[Link to the Page](#)

11. World Postal Day

In celebration of the World Postal Day, the Philatelic Club conducted project to attract students from the primary section of college, mainly Grade 3,4 and 5. This was done by presenting an exhibition of stamps and other philately related collectibles via a zoom meeting to the students. In addition to the exhibition, we also had a small 8-10 minute presentation detailing why they should choose philately as their hobby and the importance, as well as the beauty of philately and how philately can impact their lives.

12. King of Hobbies

The King of Hobbies is a presentation competition which gives an opportunity to the students of Royal College to present their ideas about a given topic regarding philately. The students will be informed through club meetings and social media such as WhatsApp, Instagram, and Facebook. They will have to submit a video with a short speech about a given topic. We will be giving them certain rules and regulations to be followed. Finally, a google form link will be shared to upload their videos. The top 5 videos will be selected by an eminent philatelist.

13. Importance of Philately

Philatelic Club as one of the oldest clubs in Royal College has been promoting Philately as a hobby throughout the years. With the current pandemic situation in the country the club has decided to launch an online project to showcase the importance of Philately as a hobby. This project is organized by the Philatelic Club, so that young students of Royal College can start a hobby to spend their free time leisurely and effectively during this lockdown period. This will be done by posting short videos of 2-5 minutes by past Chairmen of the Royal College Philatelic Club. These short videos will be uploaded to social media such as Facebook, Instagram and Whatsapp Stories.

14. 142nd Big match Post Card

For the 142nd battle of the blues the club has decided to realise a postcard along side the big match to celebrate this occasion and sell the postcard in school among students and old boys



15. Social service projects

i. Cancer Hospital Project

This is a project that has been carried out by the club for many years as a way to give back to society but due to the pandemic the project was not completed last year we collect dry rations, Medication needed by the cancer hospital and provide it to them

ii. Tree Planting Project

The club plans to donate money directly to a tree planting organization as this will help towards the environmental balance for which the trees were used to design stamps



History of the Club

Former Chairmen and Secretaries

Year	Chairman	Secretary
1997	Sahampthy Dissanayake	
1998	M.S.M. Mendis	
1999	Gihan Jayathilake	
2000	Chamara Kottehewa	
2001	Udayanga Ariyaratna	
2002	Vajira Somerathne	
2003	Isuru Jayathilake	L. Devida
2004	Jayantha Soyza	U. Sasintha Perera
2005	U.Sasintha Perera	Roshan Dissanayake
2006	Roshan Dissanayake	Yasitha Abenayake Umar Saibukanda
2007	Yasitha Abenayaaka	Umar Saibukanda
2008	Umar Saibukanda	Madhaya Hettiarchchi Dharithra Perera
2009	Dharithra Perera	Dasun Perera Dhanika Weerasekara
2010	Dasun Perera	Chandika Ambawatta
2011	Chandika Ambawatta	Insaf Nazir
2012	Dhanuja Gunasekara	Oshad De Silva
2013	Kushan Ambawatta	Selaka Molligoda
2014	Shamil Akbar	Dhanuk Ranathunga
2015	Senith Abenayake	Dakshitha
2016	Ruweesha Jayawardena	Karunarathana Sidath
2017	Manjitha De Silva	Samarasingha Kalinda
2018	Kalinda Abenayake	Abenayake M.A.M. Afzal
2019	Shenal Ambawatta	Heshan Balasooriya
2020	Helika Adikary	Thinal Amaratunga

Teacher In Charge's of The Philatelic Club Royal College

1944 - 1974	- Mr. H.P. Jayawardena
1974 - 1977	- Mr. W.M. Karunarathne
1977 - 1990	- Mr. W. Kannangara
1990 - 1996	- Mrs. Mallika Peiris
1996 - 2004	- Mrs. P.P.S.M Weerasooriya
2004 - 2017	- Mrs. W.A.H.N Damayanthi
2017 - To Date	- Mrs. H.V.D.T Thushari Gunawardena

Overall Winner

A.W. Panchalingam Challenge Shield

- 1997 - T.S. Bandaranayke
- 1998 - T.S. Banadaranayake
- 1999 - N.P. Kulathunga
- 2000 - M.A. Vinula H. Perera
- 2001 - Vickmal Meemaduma
- 2002 - Kushan Dassanayake
- 2003 - Kasun Weerasooriya
- 2004 - M.A.Vinula H. Perera
- 2005 - Kushan Ambawatta
- 2006 - Not Awarded
- 2007 - Osura Nawaradasa
- 2008 - Yuvin Amaradasa
- 2009 - Senith Abeynayake
- 2010 - Sihavikum Waidyarathne
- 2011 - Kalinda Abeynayake
- 2012 - Helika Adikary
- 2013 - Movindu Samaranayake
- 2014 - Shenal Ambawatta
- 2015 - Budwin Jayawardena
- 2016 - Thivain Wimaladharma
- 2017 - Chathil Dharmawardena
- 2018 - Thinal Amaratunga
- 2019 - Isaac Chiran Adithya
- 2020 - Not Awarded

- Winners of the shield on more than one occasion

1997/1998 - T.S. Bandaranayaka

2000/2004 - M.A. Vinula H Perera

- Brothers who won The Shield

2005 - Kushan Ambawatta

2014 - Shenal Ambawatta 2011

2009 - Senith Abeyanayaka

- Kalinda Abeyanayaka

- Philatelic Club Chairmen who won The Shield

2005 - Kushan Ambawatta (Chairman - 2013)

2009 - Senith Abeyanayaka (Chairman - 2015)

2011 - Kalinda Abeyanayaka (Chairman - 2018)

2014 - Shenal Ambawatta (Chairman - 2019)

2012 - Helika Adikary (Chairman - 2020)

Winners of The H.L.B. Gomez Shield Best Showcase

2018 - Nejan Gunawardena

2019 - Anuda Gunaratne Not

2020 - Awarded



Articles

1. Brief History of A.W.Panchalingum
2. Coin Collecting
3. Philately the King of Hobbies
4. Origin of Ceylon Post
5. Three tips for Stamp Collecting
6. The History of Philately
7. The first Postage Stamp
8. Ancient Maps of Sri Lanka
9. The Longest Stamp in the World
10. Why do people collect Stamps
11. Forest Conservation
12. Error Stamps
13. Factors that make stamps Valuable
14. Light Houses in Sri Lanka
15. School Where our fathers learnt the way before us

Brief History of the A.W. Panchalingam Challenge Shield

The Philatelic club of Royal College has successfully organized the 71st ROYAL PHILEX for the year 2015. This is the 19th year that this prestigious A.W. Panchalingam Challenge shield is awarded to the Best Exhibitor Royalist.

The judges will decide the 1st, 2nd and 3rd places for the Best Exhibits, separately from the Primary section, Middle school and the Upper school.

The A.W. Panchalingam Challenge shield was the first awarded in the year 1997. Due to the limited space available in the Original Shield to accommodate the winners over the years, a new A.W. Panchalingam Challenge Shield was introduced in the year 2009 and has been awarded to the winners to date.

Mr. A.W. Panchalingam, was a distinguished Old Royalist from the Group of 1943 and was a member of the Royal College Union as well as an active member of the Old Royalist Association of United Kingdom (ORAUK). He was a Boy Scout during his school days with a tremendous knowledge on stamps and had a very valuable collection of stamps as a philatelist.

A Building Surveyor/Architect by profession, he migrated to United Kingdom in late 1950's/ Mr. Panchalingam worked for the Oxfam in United Kingdom for many years, thereafter retired from Oxfam as the chief Building Officer. He was married to Ms. Shiyamala Panchalingam and they have one daughter.

Mr. Panchalingam travelled to Sri Lanka during his holidays and in 1955 he visited the Royal Philex at the National Art Gallery. Since then, he had been a strong supporter of the Philatelic Club and donated two Stanly Gibbons Stamp Catalogues with a bunch of Stamps for the Philatelic Club's Stamp Pool in 1996. He donated the A.W. Panchalingam Challenge Shield in 1997 to be awarded to the Best Exhibitor Apart from the Philatelic Club, Mr. Panchalingam also supported the activities of the Royal College Scouts and the Royal College Archives, as an Old Royalist



Coin Collecting

Coin collecting is one of the many avenues of Philately, and is also famously known as numismatics, the systematic accumulation and study of coins, tokens, paper money, and objects of similar form and purpose. The collecting of coins is one of the oldest hobbies in the world. With the exception of China and Japan, the introduction of paper money is for the most part a recent development (meaning since the 18th century). Hence, while paper money and other types of notes are collectible, the history of that form of collecting is distinct from coins and largely a modern phenomenon.

Some rarest coins in the world can be found

below

1. 1933 Penny

2. The Coinage of Edward VIII



3. Queen Anne Vigo Five-Guinea



4. Una and the Lion



5. 1996 Football European Championships Gold Proof £2 Coin



PHILATELY, THE KING OF HOBBIES



Philately is the study of stamps and related items. Philately is distinct from stamp collecting which does not usually involve the study of stamps. It is possible to be philatelist without owning any stamps. For instance, the stamps being studied may be very rare or exist only in museums.

Origin of the word

The word “philately” is the English version of the French word “Philatalie”, coined by Georges Herpin in 1864. Herpin stated that stamps had been collected and studied for the past six or seven years and a better name was required for the new hobby than tim bromanie which was disliked. He took the Greek root word phil or philo, meaning an attraction or affinity for something, and ateleia, meaning “exempt from duties and taxes” to form “philaterie”. The introduction of postage stamps meant that the receipt of letters was now free of charge, whereas before stamps it was normal for postal charges to be plid by the recipient of a letter. The alternative terms “timbr”omania,’ ‘timbrophily” and “timbrology gradually fell out of use as philately gained acceptance during the 1860s

Origins of Philately



The origin of philately is in the observation that in a pile of stamps all appearing to be the same type, closer examination may reveal different kind of paper, different watermarks embedded in the paper, variations in color shades, different perforations, and other kinds of differences. Comparison with records of postal

Authorities may or may not show that the variations were intentional, which leads to further inquiry as to how the changes could have happened, and why. To make interesting, thousands of forgeries have been produced over the years, some of them very good, and only a thorough knowledge of philately gives any hope of detecting the fakes.

Types of Philately

Traditional philately is the study of the technical aspects of stamps production and stamp identification, including:

- The initial stamp design process.
- The paper used (wove, laid, etc, and including watermarks)
- The gum
- The method of separation (perforation, rouletting). Any overprints on the stamp.
- Study of philatelic fakes and forgeries
- Aerophilately is the branch of philately that specializes in the study of airmail.

Philatelists have observed the development of mail transport by air from its beginning, and all aspects of service have been extensively studied and documented by specialists.

Thematic philately, also known as topical philately, is the study of what is depicted on the stamps. There are hundreds of popular subjects, such as birds, insects, sports, maps etc. Interesting aspects of topical philately include design mistakes and alterations, for instance, the recent editing out of cigarettes from the pictures used for our stamps, and the stories of how particular images came to be used.

Postal stationery philately studies stationery items, such as envelopes, postcards, aerogrammes and newspaper wrappers which have an imprinted stamp.

One of many covers flown on the Hindenburg zeppelin, featuring a variety of postal markings. Postal history concentrates on the use of stamps on mail. It includes the study of postmarks, post offices, postal authorities, postal rates and regulations and the process by which letters are moved from sender to recipient, including routes and choice of conveyance.



A classic example is the Pony Express, which was the fastest way to send letters across the United States during the few months that it operated. Covers that can be proved to have been sent by the Pony Express are highly prized by collectors.

Cinderella philately is the study of objects that look like stamps but aren't stamps. Example include Easter and Christmas seals, Propaganda Labels, and so forth. Philatelic literature documents the results of philatelic study and includes thousands and periodicals.

Revenue philately is the study of stamps used to collect taxes or fees on documents, tobacco, alcoholic drinks, drugs and medicines, playing cards, hunting licenses and many other things.

Origin of Ceylon Post



The British stabilized their occupation of Ceylon (as Sri Lanka was then called) when they seized the Kandyan Kingdom in 1815. Since 1802, Ceylon was administered as a Crown Colony in the British Empire with a Governor at the helm. The year 1815 saw the establishment of the Postal Department and the opening of the first few posts office in Ceylon. These were established in Colombo, Galle, Matara, Mannar, Trincomalee and Jaffna. An Englishman, E Blatterman was the first Postmaster-General.

Postal runners were used at the time to carry the mail. It was a family sight to see the postal runner holding on to the mail bag in one hand a carrying a spear in the other for his protection. The spear had been attached to it. With transport facilities virtually nonexistent, this form taking mail from one point to the other continued for quite some time.



Ceylon took the lead among Asian countries in using horse drawn carriages to transport mail. This service was inaugurated i.between Colombo and Kandy. The prospectus of the Mail Coac Company published in the Government Gazette started that the original proposal was to have two four-wheeled carriages running daily from Colombo to Kandy leaving at 4 a.m. The outward journey was to be accomplished in 14 hours and the homeward run t Colombo in 12. Shares of the company were issued at £ 50 /- eac and these were soon sold out. The fare was£ 2.10 a seat and the coach carried all the mail from post offices along the route. The coach started from Rest House (also known as Royal Hotel) at Prince Street in the Fort.

Okitha Pathiratne

THREE TIPS FOR STAMP COLLECTORS

- **Soaking Stamps (removing them from paper)**
- **Choosing an Album**
- **Using Stamp Tongs**

Tip 1: Soaking Stamp (removing them from paper)

BEFORE SOAKING

Set aside any stamps on colored paper, or on paper with a colored backing. Pick out any stamps with colored cancellations, especially with red or purple ink. Set aside any dark-colored stamps, stamps on poor-quality paper, or with strange-looking inks that might dissolve in the water and stain other stamps being soaked, etc. Any “problem” stamps must be handled carefully later, one at a time. Trim the envelope paper close to the stamp, being careful not to cut the perforated edges or otherwise damage the stamp.

SOAKING THE STAMPS

Use a shallow bowl and fill it with several inches of Cool-to-Luke warm water. (Never use hot water.) Float the stamps with the picture side up. Make sure the stamps have room to float and do not stick to one another. Don't soak too many at one time. Let the stamps float until the glue dissolves and the stamps slide easily off the paper. Paper is very weak when it is wet and it's easy to tear a wet stamp if you handle it roughly. Be patient, and let the water do its work! Rinse the back of the stamp gently in fresh water to make sure all the glue is off. Change the water in the soaking bowl often to make sure it is clean. Place the stamps to dry on paper towels or old newspapers. (Don't use the Sunday comics! The colored inks might stick to the wet stamps.) It's a good idea to use your stamp tongs (see next page!) to lift the wet stamps, instead of using your fingers. Lay the stamps in a single layer, and so they are not touching one another. Let the stamps dry on their own. They may curl a little or look wrinkled, but don't worry about that. When they are completely dry, lift them with your tongs and put them in a phone book or a dictionary or some other book. (Special “stamp drying books” also can be purchased.) It's important not to put the stamps in a book until they are completely dry. After a few days, they should be nice and flat, and you can put them in your collection.

STAMPS ON COLORED PAPER OR WITH COLORED INK CANCELS



Cut away all the excess envelope paper without harming the edges of the stamp. Fill a shallow dish with cool water (cooler than you would usually use for soaking) and float the stamp face up. If the water becomes stained before the stamp is free from the paper, empty it out and use clean water, to prevent the stamp from being stained. Dry as before.



DIRTY OR STAINED STAMPS

These can be soaked carefully in a small amount of undiluted liquid dishwashing detergent, then rinsed in clean cool water. Very badly stained stamps can be washed gently in a weak solution of water and a bit of enzyme laundry detergent. Careful! This can work too well and remove the printing ink!

SELF-ADHESIVE STAMPS

Some self-adhesive stamps have a special, water-soluble backing, and they can be soaked off envelopes. You just need extra patience, as they may have to soak for an hour or more before they will separate from the backing paper. In general, U.S. self-adhesive stamps from about 1990 and later can be soaked with water; earlier ones cannot. If you don't want to try soaking, just trim the paper closely around a self-adhesive stamp on cover, and then mount it in your collection with a stamp mount.

Tip 2: Choosing an Album

You've raided the mailbox, rummaged in the wastebasket in the post office lobby, and pestered your friends to save their envelopes. Now that you have all these philatelic goodies, where will you put them? True, an ordinary shoe box gives storage space, but you should want a nicer home for your treasures - a place to display your material, not just store. And, on the practical side, stamps and covers (envelopes with stamps on them, used in the mail) kept in a shoe box or paper folder risk damage from dirt or creases, losing value as well as beauty. Since the first known commercial stamp album was published in 1862, the stamp hobby has grown tremendously, and many types of albums have become available.

When buying a home for your collection, here are some things to think about: It may be your first album, but it probably will not be your last or only one. Your first album may be a kind of experiment unless you already have seen someone else's album and think that kind would be right for you too.

You also may have tried homemade pages and got some ideas of what you would want in a standard album. If you are buying an album in person, rather than by mail, listen to the seller's advice, but don't be fully convinced by claims that one or another album is "the best." An album may be by a famous maker, and expensive, but that doesn't make it "the best" one for you. Be a careful shopper; consider all the factors - appearance, price, format - and make the best choice. Good beginners' albums are available that are not too

expensive, are fully illustrated to show which stamp goes where, and may even contain extra information, such as maps and facts about the countries. Certain styles of albums can present problems. For example, if an album is designed for stamps to be mounted on the front and back of each page, when the book is closed, the stamps can become tangled with one another on the facing pages.

Opening the book may tear the mounted stamps apart, if you are looking at an album with this page format and don't like that aspect, but do like other things about the album, buy some good quality plastic sheets to insert between the pages, and prevent the tangles. You may choose not to buy a top-of-the-line album because of cost, but do be willing to pay for some quality. An album with pages of flimsy paper will not stand up to the stress of increasing numbers of stamps as you fill the album. An album with tom, falling-out pages is not much better than the old shoe box. Homemade pages can be experimented with before album shopping or. may even become your permanent storage choice. Some options include a notebook or loose-leaf binder of plain paper, though longtime, safest.



Storage of your stamps should be on acid-free paper. If you have an unusual specialty, or enjoy unique arrangements, no standard album may ever suit your needs, and homemade will be best. Blank, acid-free album pages punched for three-hole binders are widely available. It is easy to assemble a safe, stable home for your personalized collection, if you don't need or want the kind of structured format that standard albums provide.

Makers of custom pages and albums advertise regularly in the philatelic press. Buying an album is not so different from buying anything else: Think before and during the purchase; buy as wisely as you can and not over your budget; and don't be too discouraged if your first acquisition turns out to be less than perfect. You will always need places for temporary storage as you continue in the hobby. Old albums never go to waste!

Tip 3: Using Tongs



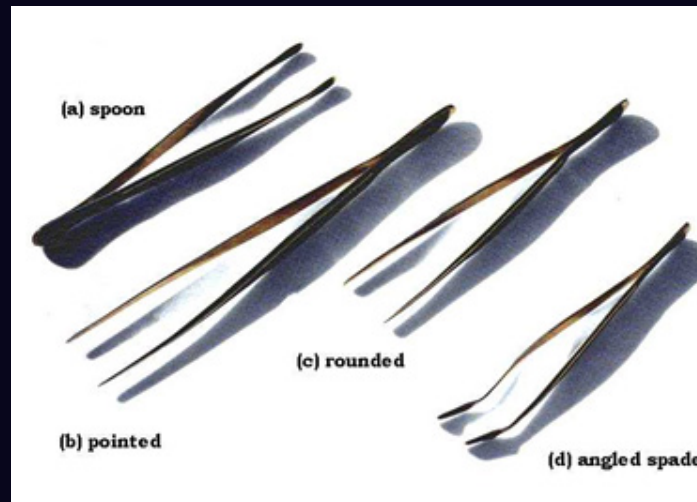
Philatelic tongs (not to be confused with the tweezers in the medicine cabinet) are must-have items for every stamp collector.

Get into the habit early of using your tongs every time you work with your stamps. They will act as clean extensions of your fingers and keep dirt, skin oil, and other harmful things

from getting on your philatelic paper. It's important to use tongs correctly and carefully.

As with knives, scissors, and other helpful tools, tongs used carelessly are harmful rather than helpful. Cut some plain paper into stamp-sized pieces and practice using your tongs, watching what happens as you change the angle, pressure, and method of using them. Grip a bit of paper strongly with the pointy-end style of tongs and watch what happens.

If that were a favorite stamp, would you have wanted that hole poked in the middle of it? Keep experimenting, and you will find that it's not difficult to hold a stamp firmly but gently with tongs. There are several common styles of tongs, to suit your preference and for special purposes.



Some have very pointed ends; they touch only a tiny part of the stamp, but there is the risk of poking holes through. Working with extra-long tongs (five or six inches) with small pointed tips requires a lot of dexterity, and while experts may prefer them, they may not be comfortable or necessary for everyday stamp work. The rounded, spatula-type style known as the “spade” are good, general-purpose tongs.

A squared-off version of the spade also is commonly available, though the rather sharp corners present the same kind of risk as the thin, pointy tongs. One handy style is angled, with a bend near the tips that makes it easier to remove stamps from watermark or soaking trays, or to insert and remove stamps from stock books or mounts. Tongs cost anywhere from a couple of dollars to quite a few for some of the imported, high-quality models. A special gift for a philatelist would be some gold-plated tongs, which are not hard to find, believe it or not! Tongs can be found anywhere stamp supplies are sold; check under “Accessories” in the philatelic press ads. Tongs are among the least expensive and most essential stamp-hobby needs. You may even want to have several different kinds on hand – instead of your hands! Your stamps will appreciate it.

The History of Philately

1. In The Nineteenth century

As a collection field, philately appeared after the introduction of the postage stamps in 1840, but did not gain large attraction until the mid 1850s. In the USA, early collectors of stamps were known as 'stamp gatherers'. The United States Postal Service re-issued stamps in 1875 due to public demand for 'old stamps', including those from before the American Civil War. Some authors believe that the first philatelist appeared on the day of the release of the world's first postage stamp, dated to 6 May 1840, when the Liverson, Denby and Lavie London law office sent a letter to Scotland franked with ten uncut Penny Blacks, stamped with the postmark "LS.6MY6. 1840." In 1992 at an auction in Zurich, this envelope was sold for 690 thousand francs.



Already in 1846, cases of collecting stamps in large numbers were known in England. However, without reason for collection, stamps at this time were used for pasting wallpaper. The first philatelist is considered to be a postmaster going by the name Mansen, who lived in Paris, and in 1855 had sold his collection, which contained almost all the postage stamps issued by that time. The stamp merchant and second-hand book dealer Edard de Laplante bought it, recognizing the definitive collector's worth of the postage stamp. Due to the boom in popularity and news of this transaction, stamp merchants like Laplante began to emerge.

Towards the end of the 19th century stamp collecting reached hundreds of thousands of people of all classes. Even some states had collections of postage stamps, for example, England, Germany, France, Bavaria, and Bulgaria). In countries who held national collections, museums were built to dedicate that nation's history with philately, and the first such appeared in Germany, France, and Bulgaria. Allegedly, the first of these museums housed the collection of the British Museum, curated by MP Thomas Tapling and bequeathed to the Museum in 1891. The Museum für Kommunikation Berlin also had an extensive collection stamps. The largest collection of the time belonged to Baron Philipp von Ferrary Paris.

2. In The Twentieth century

Philately as one of the most popular types of collecting continued to develop in the 20th century. Along with the “Scott”, “Stanley Gibbons”, and “Yvert et Tellier” catalogs, the “Zumstein” (first published in Switzerland, 1909), and the “Michel” (first published in Germany, 1910) catalogs began publication. In 1934, the idea to celebrate an annual Postage Stamp Day was suggested by Hans von Rudolphi, a German philatelist. The idea was adopted rapidly in Germany, and gained later adoption in other countries. In 1926, the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP) was founded, where international philatelic exhibitions have been regularly organized since 1929. The first World Philatelic Exhibition in Prague was held between August and September 1962; in 1976, the FIP brought together national societies from 57 countries, which held over 100 exhibitions, and in 1987, over 60 countries entered the FIP.

Tharuka Dias

THE FIRST POSTAGE STAMP OF THE WORLD

Postage stamps have facilitated the delivery of mail since the 1840s. Before that, ink and hand stamps usually made from wood or cork were often used to frank mail and confirm the payment of postage. In 1837, British postal rates were high complex and inconsistent. To simplify matters, Sir Rowland Hill proposed an adhesive stamp to indicate pre-payment of postage.



A competition was announced to design a new stamp. There were some 2600 entries, but none was considered suitable.

Instead, a rough design endorsed Sir Rowland Hill was chosen, featuring a profile of Queen Victoria. Accordingly, the first adhesive postage stamp of the world commonly referred to as the 'Penny Black' was issued in the United Kingdom in 1840. It features a profile of Queen Victoria.

We cannot see the country name on the 'Penny Black', but we all know England is the only country in the world allowed to use the image of its sovereign instead of its country name. The stamp was 19mm in width and 22mm in height and the stamp was printed in black ink. The two upper corners hold Maltese crosses with radiant solar discs at their centers. The lower corner letters show the position of the stamp in the printed sheet.

The 'Penny Black' allowed letters of up to the Penny Black allowed letters of up to 1/2 ounce (14 grams) to be delivered at a flat rate of one penny, regardless of distance. The 'Penny Black' lasted less than a year. A red cancellation was hard to see on a black design and the ink was easy to remove, both made it possible to reuse cancelled stamps. In February 1841, England switched to the 'Penny Red' and began using black ink for cancellations, which was more effective



The Penny Black with red cancellation



The Penny Red

Ancient maps of Sri Lanka



The Philatelic Bureau of the Department of Posts has Issued three new postage stamps and a souvenir sheet, in the denominations of Rs. 15.00 each, on 22nd March, 2020, that depict ancient maps of Sri Lanka

Ancient Map of Sri Lanka (1560 – 65 AD)

Around 1595, Cypriano Sanchez, a Spanish cartographer who was working for Portuguese map makers in Lisbon, produced this map of Sri Lanka, pentagonal in shape and fairly detailed in its description. This map was included in the famous Mercator's Atlas in either the 1619 or 1630 edition. This map does not depict Colombo; however, it has detailed topographical notes and depicts at various points, of the type of vegetation and the animals special to the district. In this remark this map is quite different from Tomaso Porcacchi Castilione's map circa 1572 AD.

Ancient Map of Sri Lanka (1572 AD)

Early Roman, Arab, medieval European and Asian maps do not depict the true shape of Sri Lanka in its maps. These maps also contain inaccurate or incomplete depictions of rivers, mountains and other geographical features. However, Tomaso Porcacchibb Castilione's (1530 – 1585 AD) map is a marked improvement in this aspect.

Ancient Map of Sri Lanka (1681 AD)

Out of the three maps depicted in the stamps, this map, drawn by Robert Knox is the most accurate one. Knox, who was a sailor, was taken captive in 1659 by the troops of King Rajasinghe II king, who ruled Kandy at that time. Knox lived 19 years in Sri Lanka and had an extensive understanding about the country. This helped him to create a more accurate map. This was also one of the first maps in English. The central highlands, most of the rivers and cultivations, lagoons and ports around the country are fairly accurately depicted on the map.

Sasinu T.Kanaheraarachchi

The Longest stamp in the world

On April 1, 2017 Thailand Post issued a sheet of five stamps—the longest the world has seen, at 170 mm in length—to mark the 70th anniversary of late King Rama IV's accession to the throne. Each of the five stamps features the same design, which includes a series of photographs of the king set against a background of lush green fields. Nine million stamps were printed by the Thai British Security Printing Public Company.



The record set of five stamps contain 6 images of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej at work with 6 major research and development centres which were launched by His Majesty for the benefit of the Thai people serving as the backdrop.

All these images are joined in a set of stamps that will break the existing world record for the longest set of stamps currently held by Nile River and Singapore River stamp sets. The length of 170 millimetre is significant in that it represents His Majesty's 70th birthday anniversary which is the only one of its kind in the world. Another point of major interest is the fact that these stamps will employ the Asian Stamp Application technology ingrained within the Thailand Post's logo which when scanned will generate a 9-minute-long video of all the 6 Royal initiated research and development centres. The videos showcase the history as well the work that these centres have carried out which when considered makes them 'living stamps' able to interact with humans. The stamps are priced at 9 baht each and one complete set will contain 5 stamps of total price of 45 baht.

Archana Hansaja Jayathilake

Why do people love to collect stamps?



Stamp collecting is one of the world's most the most satisfying and educational hobby and there are an estimated 20 million+ collectors world-wide. Stamp collection is an amazing hobby that comes with many benefits. People of all ages, from different walks of life, love to collect stamps, but why? Some of the benefits that you can get through stamp collection are below mentioned.

Gives satisfaction to life by a simple method

This is a hobby that everyone can afford, easy to store and does not take up too much space. This makes people happy, satisfied and gives sentimental value and help to remember good old memories of past. Will also help to relieve stress in everyday busy life as well as a perfect way to avoid boredom. Further, another way to show your dedication to real-life interests eg. Sports Stars

Educational benefits

The best thing about stamp collecting and will give a great opportunity to learn about cultures, currencies and landmarks of other countries. Also, it is a great teaching tool, because it is a discovery-based method. Further, it trains orderliness, cleanliness and comprehensiveness.

Financial benefits

Stamp collection has huge financial benefits as well. Investing in some stamps that can be worth a fortune. Rare stamps are the most prized ones and require specific storage conditions.

Social benefits

A collector can join a club our philatelic club and have weekly interactions with other people. This is a great way to meet people from other countries all over the world and make new friends and share ideas. These clubs are an excellent way to increase your social skills and enjoyment by getting involved in community events. Also is a great way to meet new friends who share a common interest. Adults can leave a "personal" legacy to their children to be passed on to the next generation. My stamp collection is inherited from my father and he got them from his mother and grandfather. Many famous and influential persons have collected stamps. Some of them are King George V of England, II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Russian tennis player Maria Sharapova, French President Nicolas Sarkozy.

Venindu Kulatunga

Forest Conservation

Forest Conservation is planting & protecting forests. We must protect trees, animals and water supply of our forests. It is very important that we need healthy forests. They help us to have stable climate, good air in the environment and regulate our water supply. They also provide home to many animals and also help many natural systems to work smoothly. When British were ruling Sri Lanka, Mr. R. Thompson the first conservator of forest was appointed in 1887 along with the structure to support the concept. In 1899, the official department of forest was established. It is a government department which is responsible to maintain national parks, nature reserves and wildlife in Sri Lanka. Since 1949, this department has functioned as two entities. Those are Department of Forest Conservation and Department of Wildlife Conservation. To commemorate the 100 years of forest conservation, stamps issued on 25th June 1987. The stamps were valued at Rs.5.00 and Rs.0.75, which carries an image of a forest and a national tree of Sri Lanka.



There has been a series of stamps issued on 27th November 1981 to mark the forest conservation concept. The value of those stamps was Rs.5.00, Rs.0.50 and Rs.0.35.



Imeth N Rajapakse

Errors Stamps

Stamp errors are often highly prized by philatelic investors and collectors. The reason stamps with printing errors are so desirable is because their defects have unintentionally created some of the rarest and most visually striking stamps in the world. With such a wide range of striking stamp errors to collect, some of which are surprisingly affordable, this area of philately is one of the fastest growing in terms of popularity. A postage stamp error refers to any of several types of failures which can occur in the stamp production process, resulting in the finished product not appearing as intended. It encompasses everything from major design errors and missing parts of the design to the use of wrong colours, incorrect denominations and misplaced or inverted design elements. Philatelists reserve the term 'error' for obvious production failures. Every part of the printing and production process is strictly controlled by the postal authorities in order to spot and address any issues before stamps go on public sale. Nevertheless, oversights happen. Many different factors cause postage stamp errors – and one of the main types of error is design error. As far as Sri Lankan postage stamps are concerned the main design stamp error was occurred in 1983. The Postal Department of Sri Lanka decided to issue series of stamps to commemorate distinguished personalities such as H. W. Amarasuriya, Father S. G. Perera, C. A. Lorenz, N. H. M. Abdul Cader and C. W. Thamotheram Pillai under the category of National Heroes on the 22 of May 1983.



First Day Cover with Error Stamp

Although they have printed said set of stamps, since they have used wrong portrait instead of correct portrait of Thamotheram Pillai, they withdrew it and issued only four other stamps.

Somehow the correct stamp to commemorate C. W. Thamotheram Pillai was issued on 01st October 1983.



First Day Cover with Correct Stamp

The Other design error in Sri Lankan Postal history was happened in 1997. The Sri Lankan Postal authority decided to issue a stamp on veteran writer, poet, artist and the lyricist Mr. Mahagamasekera. At the design stage his name was written as Gath Kathuwara Mahagamasekera (Writer Mahagamasekera) somehow it was printed on the stamp as Shantha Kumara Mahagamasekera in all three languages. Subsequently that words Shantha Kumara were hide with over print of star marks and issued.



Error Stamp

Factors that make a stamp valuable

When buying stamps, we should be careful. There are numerous instances where sellers sell stamps which are not worth for a higher price. To know the value of some stamps in our collection, we need to have a knowledge about the factors which increase and decrease the value of stamps. The following are the ways to identify the value of stamps.

Physical condition of the stamp

1. Judge the centering design

The more centered the stamp is inside the white perforation border the better the stamp

2. The gum of the stamp should have no skips or heavy creases for its value to be high.

3. Check for a stamp hinge



A stamp hinge is a small transparent piece of folded paper coated in a mild adhesive sometimes needed to attach into a stamp album. A stamp hinge will make a stamp less valuable.

4. Look at the neatness of the perforations



Perforations are tall holes punched along the edge of the stamp. If the perforation roll teeth and clean holes, the value of the stamp increases.

5. Look for cancellation marks

If the stamp has been used, it will be stamped with a cancellation mark. The heavier the cancellation mark, the lower the value of the stamp. Stamps without a cancellation mark (mint stamps) are more valuable.



6. Evaluate the colouring

A stamp design should be bright and vibrant. If the stamp has a faded colour, which is caused by dirt, artificial light, etc., the value is less.

7. Leave the stamp on its envelope if it's still attached. By keeping the stamp like this, it reduces the chance of the stamp becoming damaged.

8. Look at the year the stamp was issued; the older the more valuable a stamp becomes.

You can determine whether the stamp is old or not by historical events or figures and various other methods.

9. Check the rarity of the stamp

In 1861 Benjamin Franklin old stamp isn't very valuable because about 150 million of them were produced. Therefore, a rare stamp is more valuable



10. Errors in a stamp increases the stamp value.



11. Stamps with letters punched into the stamp

These sorts of stamps are called per fines. It really depends on what the letters stand for date they were printed. Generally, collectors usually avoid them.

12. Old stamps with postage marks are worth much more when they are mint

- a. If it is hard for you to determine the proper value when you are buying an expensive stamp Seek the advice of experts
- b. Look in a stamp referral book (catalogue)
- c. Search in a website

Lighthouses of Sri Lanka

Most of the lighthouses in Sri Lanka were built during the British rule of the country (then known as Ceylon). These were operated and maintained by the Imperial Lighthouse Service. After Sri Lanka gained independence the operation of the lighthouses was taken over by the Sri Lanka Navy in stages with the completion of transfer by 1976. There are twenty-five lighthouses in Sri Lanka, with sixteen of them being still active. Most of these lighthouses now fall under the control of Sri Lanka Ports Authority, whilst the others are under the control of the Sri Lanka Navy. The four lighthouses are Barberyn Lighthouse at Beruwala, Oluvil, Point Pedro and Colombo's Galbokka Point.

Being an island, Lighthouses have been an essential element in Sri Lanka's maritime activity from

the earliest times. Even the great tsunami which devastated the Sri Lankan coast on 26th December 2004 failed to destroy any of the lighthouses, though some were slightly damaged.

Details of the Issue

Date of issue : 26th November 2018

Denomination : Rs. 45.00 x 4 Stamp Designer : Ruwan Upasena

Catalogue No. : Barberyn Lighthouse, Point Pedro Lighthouse Galbokka Point Lighthouse, Oluvil Lighthouse

Barberyn Lighthouse

Beruwala lighthouse was built in 1890. It is one of four international lighthouses in Sri Lanka. It is a round embossed tower painted white. Situated in an island named Barberyn on the South- Western coast of Sri Lanka near the town of Beruwala. Its focal height is 46 meters (151 feet). The white light flashes every 20 seconds and is visible up to 27 nautical miles.



Point Pedro Lighthouse

Point Pedro lighthouse was built in 1916 lies on the Northern coast of Sri Lanka in close proximity to the town of Point Pedro, the northern most point of Sri Lanka. The focal height of the tower is 31 meters (102 feet) and it flashed a white light every 5 seconds when it was active. The flash could be seen up to 10 nautical miles.

Galbokka Point lighthouse

Galbokka Point lighthouse was built in 1952 after the decommissioning of the nearby Colombo Clock Tower Lighthouse. This round concrete tower was inaugurated by Sri Lanka's first Prime Minister Rt. Hon. D.S. Senanayake. The focal height of the lighthouse is 26 meters (85 feet). The white light flashes every 10 seconds. The light beam is visible up to 25 nautical miles.

Oluvil Lighthouse

Oluvil lighthouse was built in 1999 with the commissioning of the Oluvil fisheries harbour. It is situated on the Eastern coast of Sri Lanka 12k.m. from the town of Kalmunai. The focal height is 25 meters (82 feet). The white light flashes every 10 seconds

SCHOOL WHERE OUR FATHERS LEARNT THE WAY BEFORE US

Our School was founded 1835 as Hill Street Academy with 30 students as a private Institution by Rev. Joseph Marsh. In 1836 Sir Robert Wilmot Horton, the Governor of Ceylon converted it as the Colombo Academy. In 1881 it was renamed as Royal College Colombo with the consent of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

During past 180 years Royal College developed strength to strength. So many developments have taken place. It was not only limited physical development but, social, cultural, leadership, sports ect....One of the most interesting aspects in our history is harmonically co- existence of Sinhalese, Tamil, Muslims and Burgers as school song says Learnt of Books and Learnt of Men.



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please visit the Philatelic club blog to read
more captivating articles in regards to
various Philatelic topics written by our club
members

Thank you

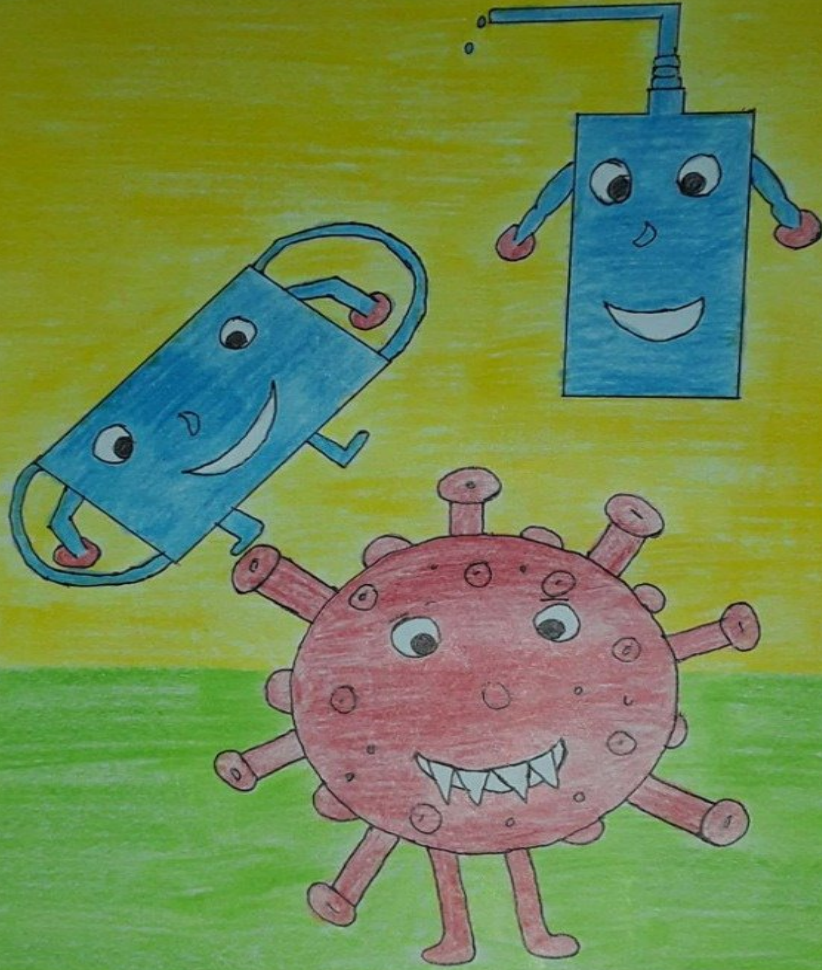
[Link to the page](#)



Stamp Designing Competition

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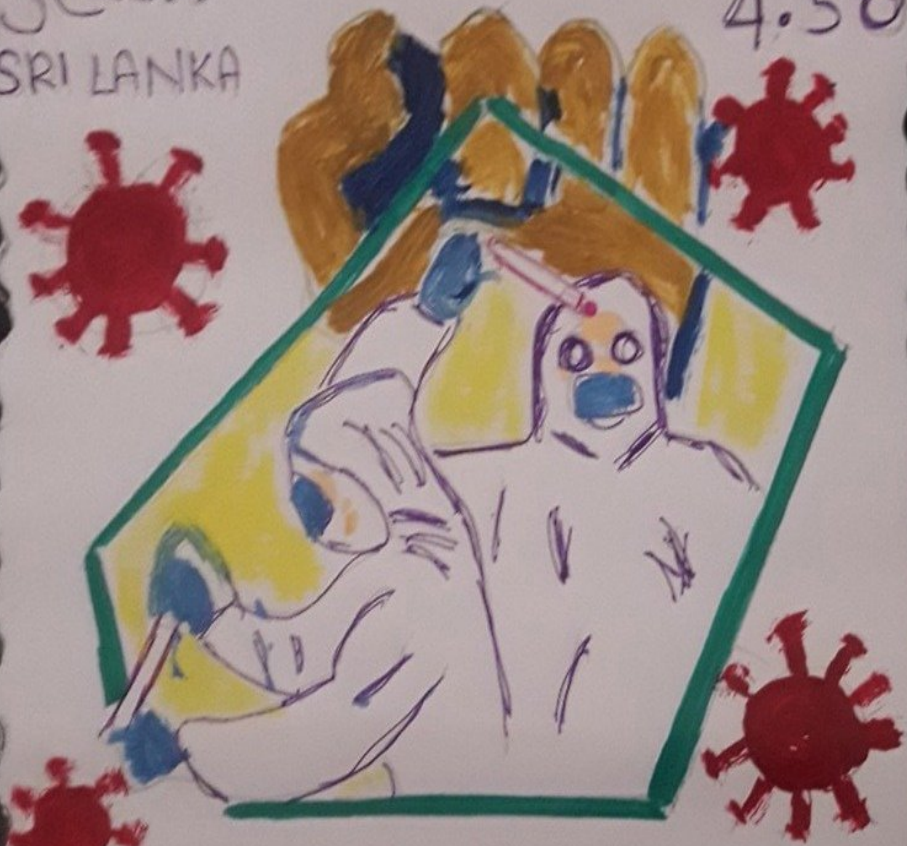
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Thisala Navindu Pathiraja



Yenuka De Alwis



Nishadh Semasinghe



Sarith Weerasekera



Mohamed Rhysa Muhammadh



Sayonne Abeyasekera



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இலங்கை
Sri Lanka

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இளஞ்சிவப்பு தாமரை
Pink Lotus



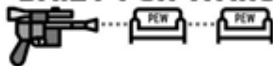
Stamp Jokers

Jokes on Philately

- Did you hear the joke about the letter with no stamp?
You wouldn't get it
- What did the stamp say to the envelope?
Stick with me and we'll go places.
- Police report a robber breaking into homes and stealing stamps? The perpetrator is believed to be male.
- If you rearrange the letters of MAILMEN They get really upset.
- It doesn't matter how much you push the envelope It'll still be stationery.
- What do you call a herd of rampaging mailmen?
A Stamp-edo.
- The letter was inside the envelope and couldn't see outside so he told the stamp...
To keep him posted

Let's all make puns about mail today.
Remember though ...the key to a good mail
joke is in the delivery.

DAILY PUN WARS



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- The Principal Mr. M.V. S. Gunathilaka for the moral support and encouragement bestowed on us.
- The Senior Master –Club & Societies Mr. T. D. C. P. Amarathunga and the Senior Vice President Mrs. H. V. D. T. Thushari Gunawardena, for their valuable advice.
- The Prefects Council of Royal College for supporting us throughout this club year.
- Mr.Dharshana Ranathunga and Mr.Ravindra Ratnapala for their support throughout the years.
- All of the respective lectures of the Philatelic Lecture series.
- President and the Executive Board of the Philatelic Club of Sri Lanka for the support and guidance extended to us.
- All Royalists including old boys Office Bearers and Club members who helped us in numerous ways.
- To all our parents for their invaluable support.

FLOREAT.....