

An interesting corollary to this is that when Joseph Chamberlain learned that Frederick Sander had named *Cypripedium chamberlainianum* for him, he interpreted this as a slight. At the time, Chamberlain was buying up many smaller screw manufacturers in the Birmingham area and receiving some unfavourable comments in doing so. He saw the twisted petals as a 'dig' at his money coming from a trade background as a screw manufacturer and tacit support of those upset by his business dealings. The Chamberlain fortune was obtained from the manufacture of woodscrews. Although angry at the time, records indicate that he later visited Sander's nursery at Bruges Belgium, so maybe all was forgiven.



Chamberlain Square
Birmingham

Chamberlain did win Royal Horticultural Society silver medals in 1897 and 1898 for his orchids. He was also Vice President of the Royal Horticultural Society for many years and up to his death in 1914.

Towards the end of Chamberlain's political career, 200 Unionist MP's indicted their wish to attend a dinner in his honour. As they arrived an orchid was pinned to their lapels.

His long and at times feisty political career could be said to have culminated in July 1906, when Birmingham held a memorable festival, for his thirtieth anniversary of his election to the House of Commons on the 7th June and his seventieth birthday, on the 8th July. The festivities started a day early when all elementary school children were presented with a commemorative medal. The following day saw flower sellers doing a brisk trade selling artificial orchids. Festivities ran all day and at nightfall they concluded with fireworks in all of Birmingham's seven parks. Each display featured an orchid which turned into a portrait of Chamberlain.

A Feedback Session was held on the Sunday morning at 10.15am when the Jury Chair, Ian McMahon introduced the jury teams and invited the team leaders to provide a few general remarks. For picture postcards, overall the title pages were of a good standard however sometimes there was a miss-match between the plan and the exhibit itself. For new exhibitors, it was mentioned that a good habit to get into is to continue to refer to the guidelines and special regulations for the class as extra marks can be had in the areas of treatment, subject knowledge and cards knowledge without the need to acquire new material.

A highlight for South Australian at this session was the fact that Linda Welden, our own Secretary, was the first operator of the new X-Aide Exhibition Program (used in the Jury Room) to graduate and Linda was presented with a framed certificate while the exhibitors were present. Congratulations Linda. Linda will now use her skills at Congress this year.



Cancelled Meetings

6th March	Trading Night
23rd April	Alma Downes—"Edinburgh Castle"
2nd May	Saturday Open Day SAPHIL House 10am-4pm
28th May	George Turner—"Railway Advertising"
30/31 May	ANNUAL POSTCARD EXHIBITION

Sadly along with many other clubs The Postcard Society made the decision to cancel 3 of our meetings, March, April and May. As well the 2 events scheduled for History Month on the 2nd of May, and The May fair to be held jointly with the Match Cover Collectors Society on the 30th and 31st May will be rescheduled for late May 2021 next year.

At this stage we will hold our next meeting on the 25th June, this is our Club Competition (16pages), hoping to pick a team for Congress this year, in October).

The AGM, Betty Cornish Trophy (6 pages) and the Empire Trophy (8 pages) Competitions will be on the 23rd of July.

If any of our interstate members would like to enter the 2 competitions in July they are most welcome, you can either post your entries, or scan and send via email, all would be most welcome.

CANBERRA EXHIBITION 2020

What unprecedented times we live in! The COVID-19 Pandemic is having a huge impact on the lives of people around the world including our freedom. As I write this report, no less than 2 billion of the world's population must self-isolate with borders closed and flights disappearing fast. There has also been an impact on our hobby with meetings and exhibitions cancelled.

At least Canberra Stampshow (13-15/3) proceeded however the NZ2020 FIAP Exhibition in Auckland the following weekend (19-22/3) had to be scaled back from an International to a National event as the NZ borders were closed requiring overseas visitors to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival which would have meant the show was over before you were mobile again! It has since been learnt, that following further NZ Government restrictions on gatherings, the exhibition actually closed its doors at 1.00pm on the Saturday. Likewise London 2020 has been rescheduled to February 2022 while other shows have been cancelled such as the Antarctic Festival in Hobart. A huge amount of effort has gone into these shows which will now be lost, unless they can be re-scheduled. Our own Joint Exhibition at the Drill Hall on 30 & 31 May has also had to be cancelled as has the entire History Month.

Back to Canberra and the picture postcard class. There were 7 exhibits, 2 x 2-frames, 2 x 3-frames, 2 x 5-frames and 1 x 8-frames. Awards given were 1 Silver Bronze, 3 Large Silver, 1 Vermeil & 2 Large Vermeil. Best in Class was won by Peter Allan for his entry "A Journey through Tasmania's Wild West Coast" (Large Vermeil) and Runner-up was our own club member Alma Downes with her entry "A Cornish Tour" (Large Vermeil). Peter won the prize donated by the Postcard Group of the Canberra Philatelic Society while Alma won the Allen Downes Memorial Postcard prize donated by our Society. As well as Alma, we had another member in Tony Presgrave exhibit with his "Adelaide – Queen City of the South" (Large Silver). Congratulations to our two members.



Celebrating Chamberlain's 40 years in Parliament and his 70th birthday.

The Highbury orchid collection was sold in London in April 1915, after his son Neville, had taken a substantial portion of his father's massive collection.

Very few individuals have raised the interest in orchids to such an eminence, albeit often accentuating orchids as flowers for the wealthy or privileged.



Orchid glasshouse at Highbury

CLUB MEETING—February 2020

John Bodnar—presented
The Queen of the Fairies and her subjects
by Ida Rentoul Outhwaite



Thanks to our Vice President, John Bodnar for displaying his postcards on Fairies by Ida Rentoul Outhwaite, (born 9 June 1888 – 25 June 1960).

She was an Australian illustrator of children's books. Her work mostly depicted fairies. Outhwaite worked predominantly with pen and ink, and water colour. Her illustrations were exhibited throughout Australia, as well as in London and Paris between 1907 and 1933.

She died in Caulfield, Victoria, Australia. For most of us, the word 'fairy-tale' conjures up the stories of Hans Christian Andersen and the magical worlds of Disney. At the beginning of the 20th century, one woman in particular was bringing fairies to life for generations of Australian children.



Three books that Ida had produced, Booklet from 1924 for Shell Motor Spirit, Bush songs of Australia for the young and old. Australian Bush Songs and Fairy Stories that came true.



She is a Spring Fairy



The Jazz Band



Twinkle painting the petals



These coloured offset Lithographed postcards were published by AC Black, Ltd, London in a number of "Elves and Fairies" series between 1926 & 1928.



The Revoke

The story of Ida Rentoul Outhwaite's rapid rise to fame, and then her dwindling popularity, charts the difficult path to recognition many female artists faced in the 20th century.

It is also the story of changing artistic tastes, and a subject matter that, while beguiling, was easily dismissed as a mere feminine folly. "So many people today have got fond memories of growing up in a house where they found a book illustrated by Ida Rentoul Outhwaite and they were entranced by it."



Members looking at and talking to John about his display