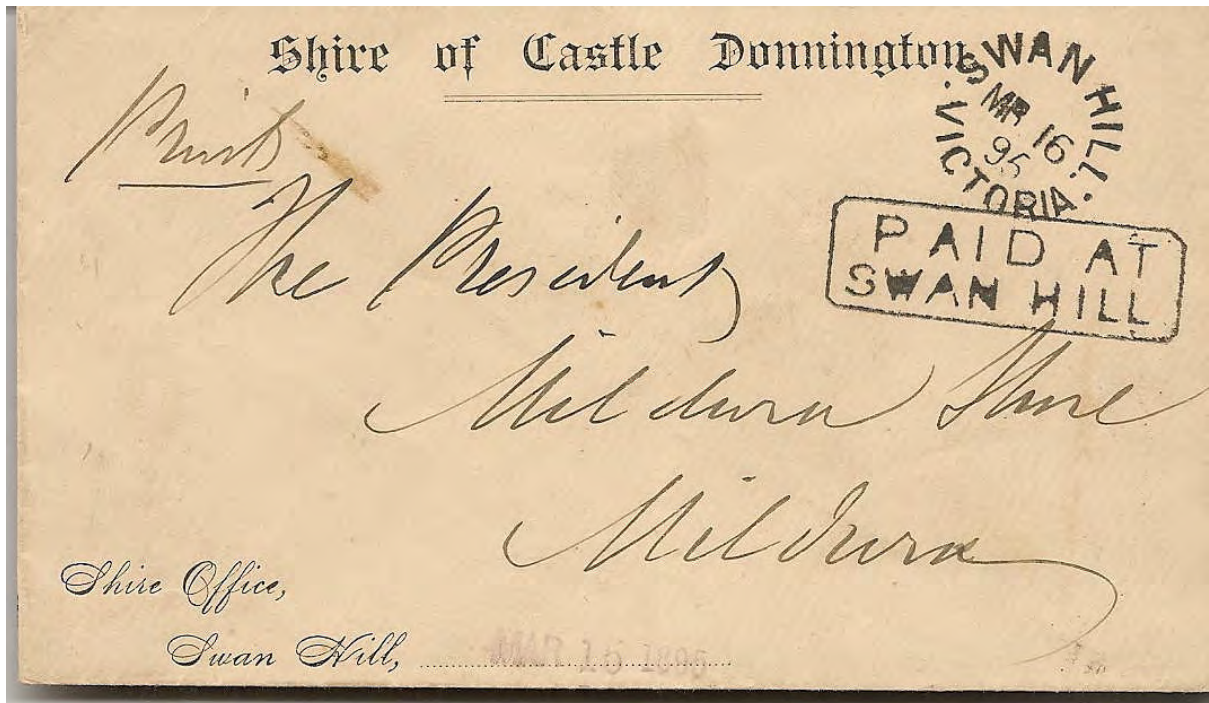


Australian Journal of Philately

(Incorporating: The Date Stamp and Australian Journal of Postal History)

No. 117 September 2011



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Another Possible Trans Pacific Airmail Cover 1942-44

The Speed of the of the Postal Service 2000 Years Ago

New Zealand Musings: New Zealand at War 1939-45

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on Part 1: The Rabbis**

Hand-Held Date-Stamp Notes

Meetings: The Australian Philatelic Society meets bimonthly on the third Monday of (February, April, June, August, October, December), at 7.45 pm at the RSL Canterbury Memorial Homes, 152 Canterbury Rd, Canterbury, Melway Ref: page 46 C 10/11. Visitors welcome.

Subscription. The annual subscription: In Australia: \$A25.00 (Australian Journal of Philately by surface); Asia/Pacific - including New Zealand: \$A30.00 (airmail*); USA, Canada, Europe etc: \$A35.00 (airmail*). Joining fee for new members \$A10. Society members receive four copies of The Australian Journal of Philately each year . (* airmail is now the only overseas option)

Webmaster: Website address: <http://www.aps.org.au>

Correspondence: All to the Secretary except as noted. Journal articles to be with the Editor by 15 February, May, August and November respectively.

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2011-2012 Programme

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 17 October | Michael Barden | Belgium, International Trade Fairs 1913-1935 |
| 12 December | Harold Sheath & George Speirs | OZ WW1 PH & Christmas Island (Pac) PH |
| 20 February | TBA | |

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Editorial

Thank you to all of the contributors this issue. I had a little extra time and cleaned out the inbox which resulted in my finding contributions from a number of sources. At times in order to get a balanced mix of interests, articles are held over until they fit in to an issue. The problem occurs if the inbox becomes over full and I consequently overlook items sent to me.

Hopefully this issue has taken up most of the backlog. I apologise if you contributed sometime ago and didn't see it published. I still have the odd item that someone is asking questions about. These will make the December issue.

Please keep the articles coming as the downside of emptying the inbox is I now have little for December which is the hardest issue to get articles.

Just a reminder for those who live in Melbourne that the society meets every second month February through to December where displays from various members are shown and knowledge shared. We have great fellowship, plenty of laughs and stuffiness is banned. If you are visiting Melbourne on a meeting night do feel free to drop in and join with us.

Judy Kennett with the help of Michael Barden has given us the second part of her interesting *Mail from Eastern Europe Pre World War 2—letters from Bucharesti to Irvin Tullin* which is most interesting. There is also follow up comments to part 1 *The Rabbis* after feedback from David Collyer.

Thank you again to George Vearing who faithfully compiles the Hand Held Datestamps segment. It is most appreciated George. Michael Barden as usual has been most helpful.

Finally, many of us know Max Harding who is one of those unsung heroes in philately, who keeps many a stamp show around the traps ticking over. Max was rushed to hospital after the Essendon Stamp Show. We trust he will have a speedy recovery.

Ciao till next time.

Privacy Statement

The Society collects, uses, discloses and holds personal information of members in accordance with the Commonwealth Privacy Act 1988.

The Society collects personal information about a member in order to:

1. maintain a current membership list;
2. inform members about the Society's activities;
3. publish details of members, with their consent, in the AJPH or other Society publications.

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The Society will strive to ensure that the personal information of members is accurate, up to date and complete. Members can assist the Society in this task by providing correct information and advising when details have changed.



Back Cover

John Young

The airmail cover shown here was sent by the Swiss consulate to a Legation in Portugal in 1941. It is franked 9 pounds 6 shillings and 11 pence, including 3 pence registration, and was mailed from the Rialto post office in Melbourne. It measures 325mm x 228mm and is probably the highest franked Australian airmail cover in existence. The franking was about triple the Australian weekly basic wage.

The cover has been shown in black and white in journals a couple of times, but here it is larger and in colour. It was last sold by postal auctioneer George Knight (once a member of this society) in about 1998 for around \$400. Since then prices have moved a bit. In 2010 Prestige Philately sold for \$6250 an airmail cover/parcel front franked 6P 14sh 11p to Scotland, and a year before an ordinary looking cover carrying 4P 8sh to USA sold for \$1800. Both of those covers were flown on the route/s for which the postage was paid.

The big one here, however, was not flown on its intended route. It was mailed on 10 Dec 1941 for the trans Pacific-USA-Atlantic air route to Lisbon. Three days before, the Japanese airforce bombed Pearl Harbour and the PAA trans Pacific clipper air service was immediately suspended, a fact not announced until 18 Dec. The cover was carried by sea to USA and then put on aircraft, arriving in Lisbon on 5 Feb 1942.

The envelope carried 16 ounces. It is ragged at the edges and no doubt was knocked about during transmission. The airmail rate was 5sh 10p per half ounce. That figure, multiplied by 32, amounts to 9P 6sh 8p.

