

Australian Journal of Philately

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

No. 100 June 2007



100th
Issue

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Women's Work Exhibition - Melbourne 1907

Bangkok B - Overprints

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Urban Myths

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2007 Programme

20 August 2007	AGM	President's Display
15 October 2007	Architecture Thematic	Robin Harris
17 December 2007	Christmas Meeting	Members 4 page Competition

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Editorial

Tony Lyon

Welcome to the 100th issue of AJP which as you will notice is 64 pages. It will revert back to 32-40 pages as of next issue. Twenty six years of publishing is indeed a milestone worthy of commemoration by way of a bumper issue.

There have been five editors over this period. Simon Alsop was the founding editor of The Date Stamp and commenced as editor in the third year of the Postal History Society (Now the Australian Philatelic Society Inc and Australian Journal of Philately). Past editors have been John MacDonnell, John Tollan and Michael Barden.

HHDS has been compiled by Simon, Bob Tobin and currently by George Vearing. Issue 57 saw a change of name to Australian Journal of Postal History. Issue 67 saw the name changed to Australian Journal of Philately which was my first editorial effort.

Reflecting upon all this, I couldn't help but admire those early editors, who didn't have the Internet, email or scanners to assist them. Nor did they have all the publishing software that is enjoyed (endured!) today. In the editorial to the Australian Journal of Postal History, 57, September 1996, Michael Barden wrote concerning the publishing techniques of the late twentieth Century: "I have graduated from Word for Windows 1 and a 286 computer to a Pentium with MS Office and MS Publisher, as well as scanning Facilities" (1996:3). So hats off to all those who went before, the pioneers who had a vision to record Postal History and the like. Well Done.

There are some great articles in this issue and I thank all the contributors. Some material has been held over to next issue. Ciao.

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President's Note #6

A CENTURY

Greetings to one and all. Now it's hard to believe but there it is, 100 issues of your favourite Journal. What a tremendous job our current and all the past Editors have put in, well done chaps. We have to admire the grit and determination that they have shown and the big effort that they have all made. At some time we all put our hand up to do the necessary jobs around the Society and we enjoy doing them. But to say yes to Editor takes commitment. The Editor requires skill, patience, the ability to extract teeth - sorry articles, the knowledge of who knows what and the where-with-all to gently coerce that person into writing. Overall the Editor requires a lot more time and effort than many of us are willing to give. We are fortunate to have such a string of successful Editors. Indeed I'll say it again and on behalf of all the Society members, very well done to you all.

Now that I've given all those editors an inflated ego, let's look at the other people that make up the other part of the team for the Journal, the writers. Some are authors, some are jotters, some want to get something of their chest, some want an answer, some answer the questions raised, others add or correct with additional information. Lets not forget the gathers of all those important pieces of information and postmarks we require. All of these people add so much to the life of our Journal and the Society. If somebody out there hasn't done their bit yet, why not. Get into it and enjoy the effort and share your hard earned knowledge, allow other members to learn and perhaps gain some benefit from your and input.

Perhaps we all know the story of the duck. All serene and perfect up top, but paddling like hell underneath. I refer to our Website sub committee. Tom and Ruth O'Dea have given this project a decent kick in the right direction after our recent floundering. It seems that we are very close to getting a new structured site that may look the same but will be easier to handle and perhaps even more useful for the members. An important presentation to RMIT University in July will clinch the deal, (we have high hopes), and then about four months of intensive work will give us the goods. The sub committee is on the job and we will prevail!

Congrats to the Society for this 100th Journal, and let's all keep on with the good work.

Well that's enough from me and cheers from him.

David



Australian Postal Rates 1937-53

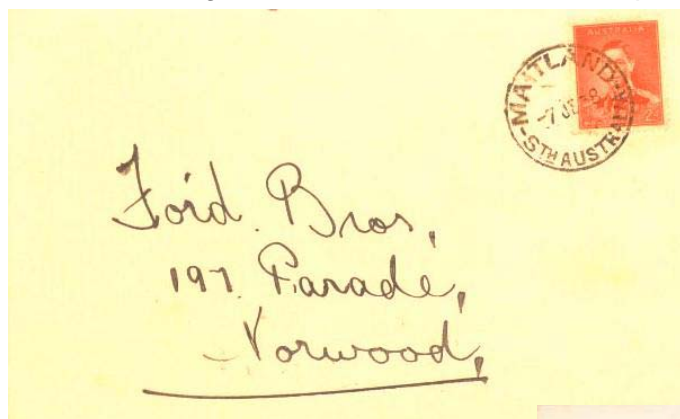
By John Young

This instalment begins with the two pence stamps, but before doing so a correction is recorded. In the previous journal, illustration 3.2 for the second issue of the 1½ pence stamp should have read. 'Second issue used on the first day of the increased rate for printed matter, 10.12.41'.

The lower value stamps can all seem nondescript, but some are as hard or harder to find used for their intended purposes than the high-value Robes stamps. The 2 and 2½ pence stamps were both postcard rates but wartime restrictions on travel and early post war shortages of private motor cars lessened the use of postcards, and hence the number of surviving examples used on postcards. There are also several quirky and unexpected make-up uses.

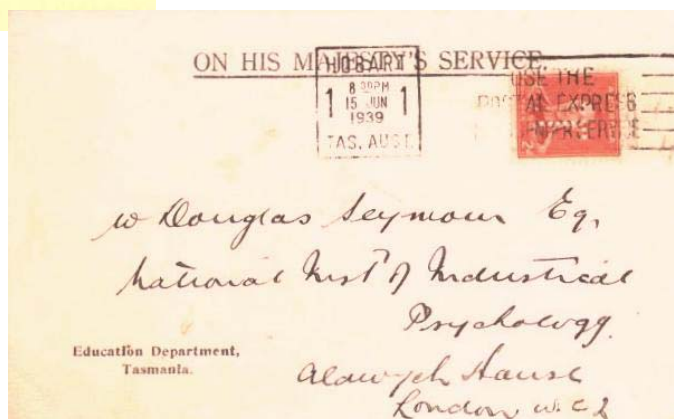
4. Two pence

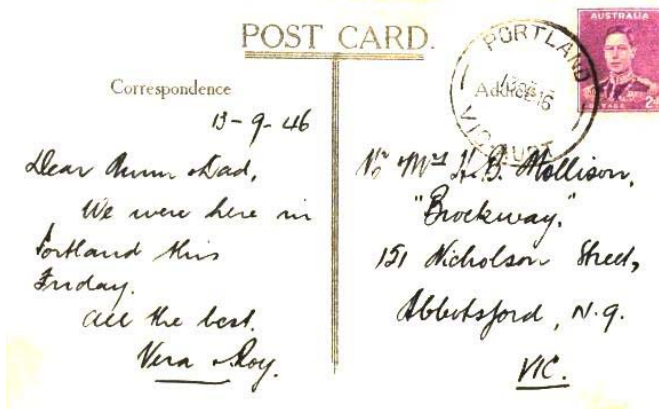
The six stamps of the two pence value were issued during 1937-51. The first two – with red shoulder-length portrait of the king – were for the standard letter rate to Australia and the Empire, and for postcards to foreign countries. The next three issues, both coloured mauve or purple (1941, 1944 and 1949) were for postcards to Australia and the Empire and commercial papers to the Empire (illus 4.3 and 4.4). The last one (1951), a side portrait of the queen and coloured green, was for printed matter to anywhere in the world and commercial papers in Australia. These uses ended less than four months after the stamp was issued, as rates went up on 1 July 1951, and the stamp fell into make-up use. It was also sold through coil machines, as were all the previous issues except the first.



4.1 First issue used on a Standard Sealed Letter.

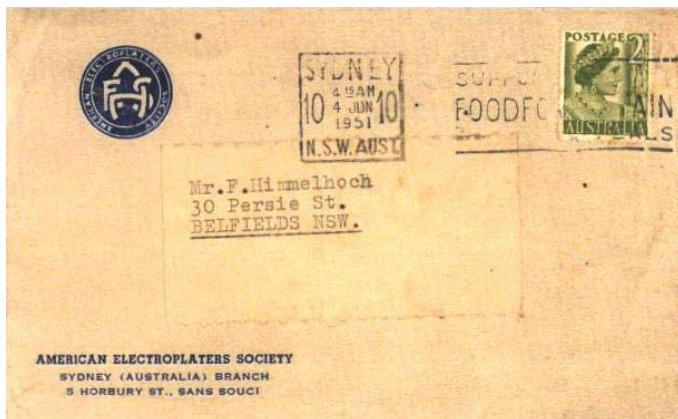
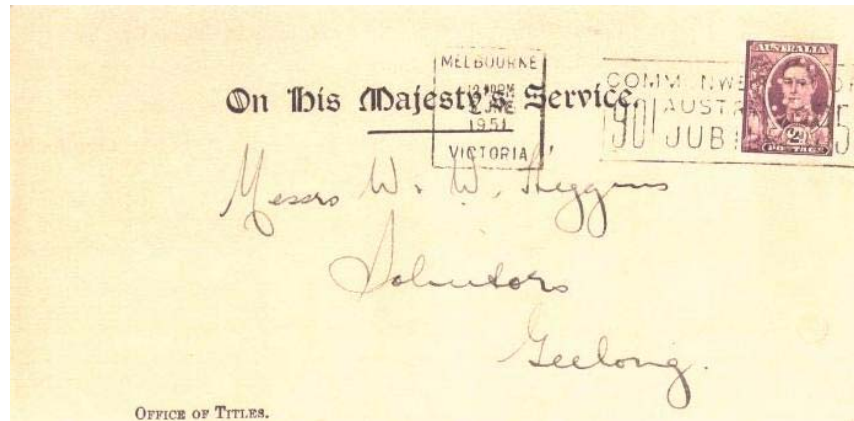
4.2 Second issue, Standard Letter to England with T-punctured stamp.





4.3 Third mauve issue on a domestic postcard, used in 1946, by when it had been superseded by fourth issue.

4.4 Fourth or fifth issue (most likely the latter) used on commercial papers, punctured V.G.

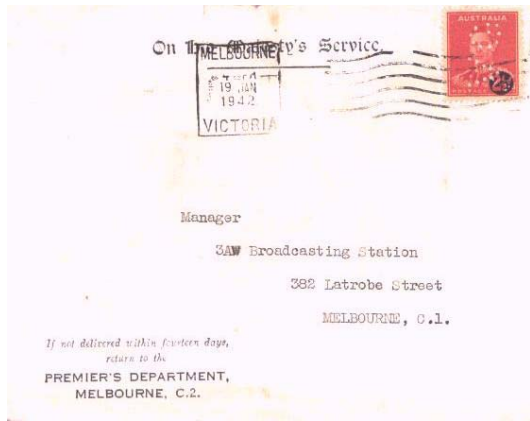


4.5 Sixth issue used for printed matter

5. Two pence half penny

On 10 December 1941 the letter rate for Australia and the Empire was increased to 2½ pence, the extra half penny being a war tax. The new rate continued after the war to 30 November 1950. There were four stamp issues, including the surcharge issues on 10 December, coloured red. Postcards to foreign countries cost 2½ pence from 10 December 1941 to 30 June 1949 (illus 5.3)

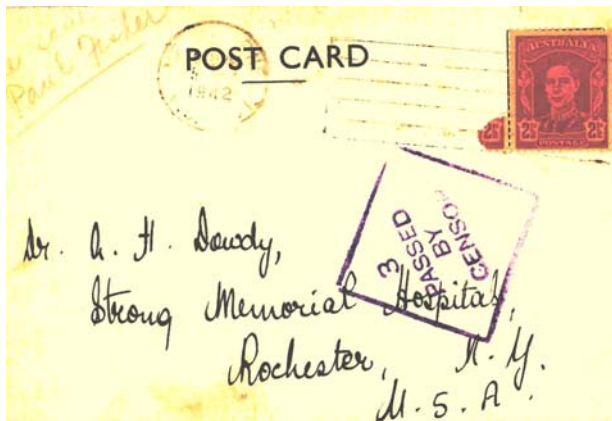
The last 2½ pence stamp (1951), coloured brown, was for postcards to Australia and the Empire. This use ended within six weeks as postage went up to 3 pence, and the stamp was sold for make-up use (illus 5.6).



5.1 The first issue, a surcharge, punctured V.G., for Standard letter rate which included ½ penny war tax.

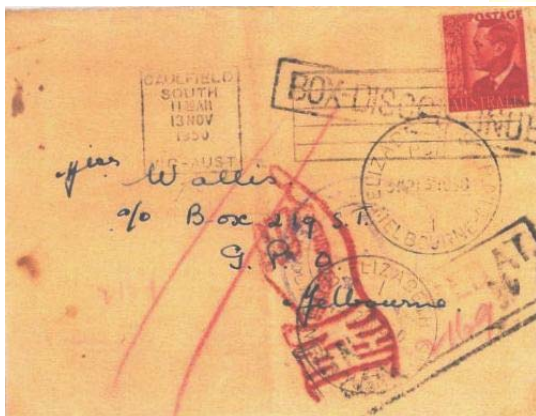
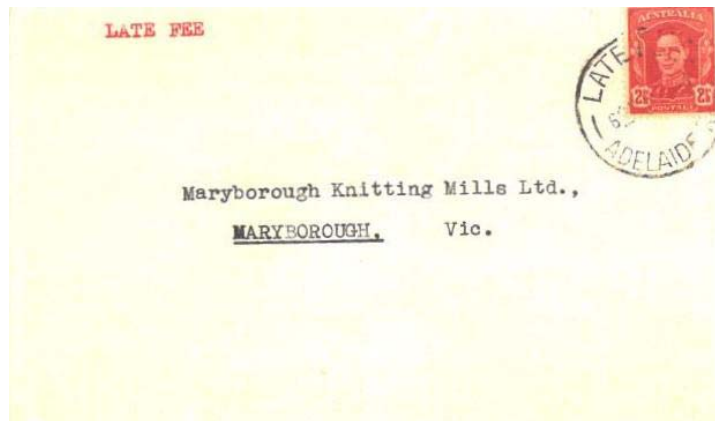


5.2 Second issue, to Canada (Aust and Empire Letter rate) from Mt Buffalo Chalet, Victoria.



5.3 Second issue, used on postcard to a foreign address.

5.4 Second issue, used for printed matter (1½d) plus 1d late fee.



5.5 Third issue, had a life of 8½ months, when letter rate increased to 3d. This cover returned to sender because post office box was



5.6 *Make-up use of the last brown issue for express mail. One shilling and ten pence probably paid for a 4lb parcel carried 30 miles or more, which was one of at least seven dispatched, which attracted a reduced express fee of 4d.*

5. Three pence

The 3 pence rate was for foreign letters, the airmail fee on letters in Australia and for the registration fee. The colour of the stamp was blue, and the first design was a portrait of the king with epaulettes, printed with a complicated series of engraved dies from 1937 to 1941. With the war tax (1941) foreign letters went to 3 1/2 pence and the blue 3 pence stamps were used for service personnel's concessional mail (letter cards (aerogrammes) from the Middle East or Europe and ordinary letters airmailed from the South Pacific.) Two examples are shown in illus 6.3 and 6.4.

The next 3 pence stamp, coloured brown (1941) was also for the registration fee, Australia airmail fee and concessional mail. On and from 1 December 1950 it paid for standard letters in Australia and the Empire. It was replaced by a red side portrait stamp in May 1951 for standard letters, but the new stamp had only six weeks life when postage went up to 3 1/2 pence. It was then used for postcards in Australia and the Empire until replaced by a green stamp of the same design, used for postcards as before and printed matter and commercial papers to anywhere in the world (illus 6.9, 6.11, 6.12). The 3 pence concessional postage continued throughout for military personnel, see illus 6.6, 6.10 and 6.13.



6.1 *Die 1a, 3d blue king, paying the registration fee.*

6.2 *Die 2, 3d blue king, for foreign Letter rate. Cover censored and returned from Russia, "Retour Inconnu" - not known.*





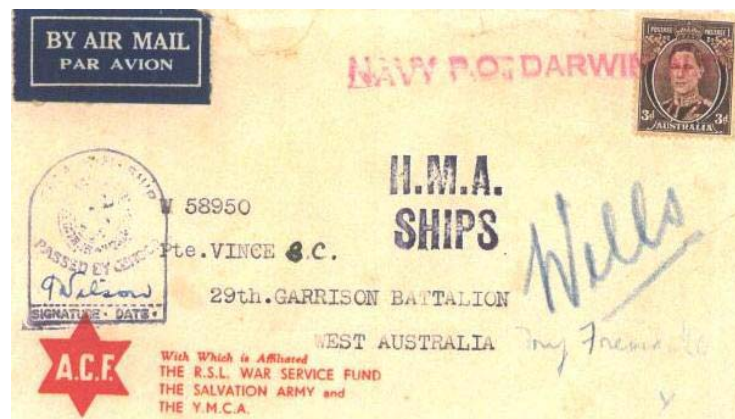
6.3 Die 3, 3d blue king, used on letter posted from a South Pacific military area.

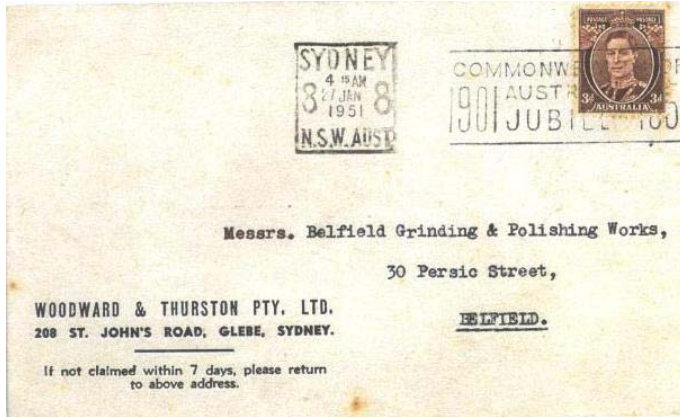
6.4 Die 3, 3d blue king, used on Christmas Letter Card (aerogramme) from Salisbury Plain, UK.



6.5 3d brown king used to pay the airmail fee in Australia.

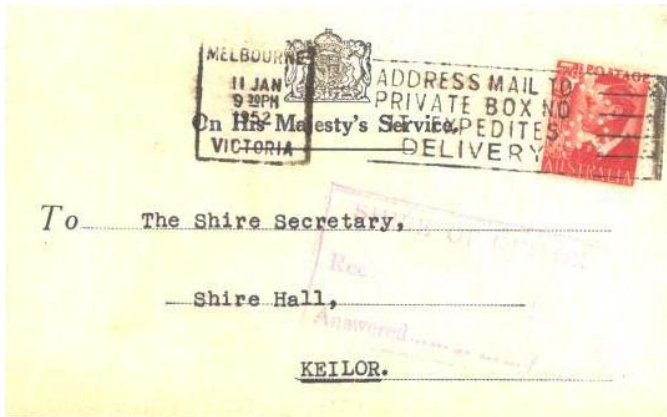
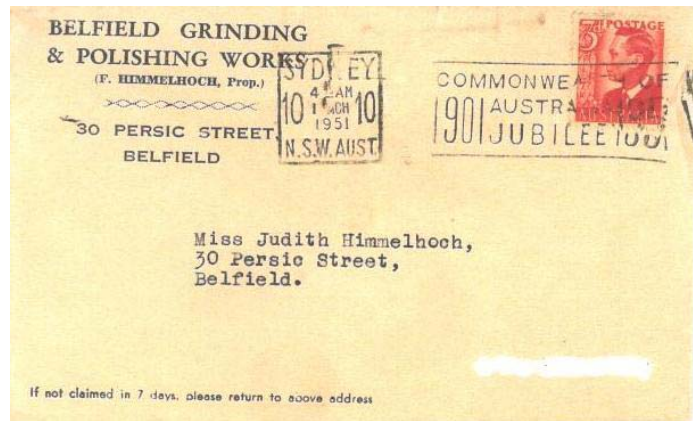
6.6 3d brown king used on letter posted from a South Pacific military area.





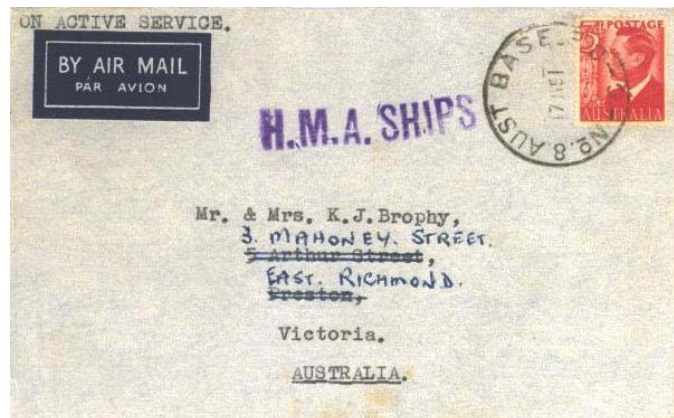
6.7 When the ordinary Letter rate was increased on 1 Dec 1950 the 3d brown came into common use until a new stamp was issued.

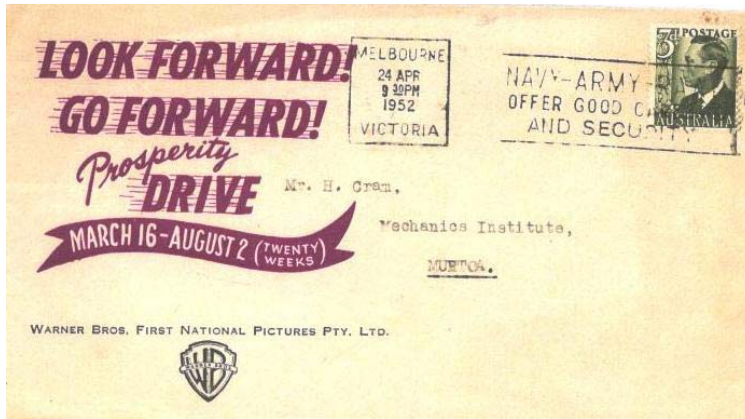
6.8 The new 3d stamp, coloured red, was issued on 28 Feb 1951, but postage went up to 3½d on 9 July 1951.



6.9 The 3d stamp came into use for printed matter on 1 July 1951, here punctured V.G.

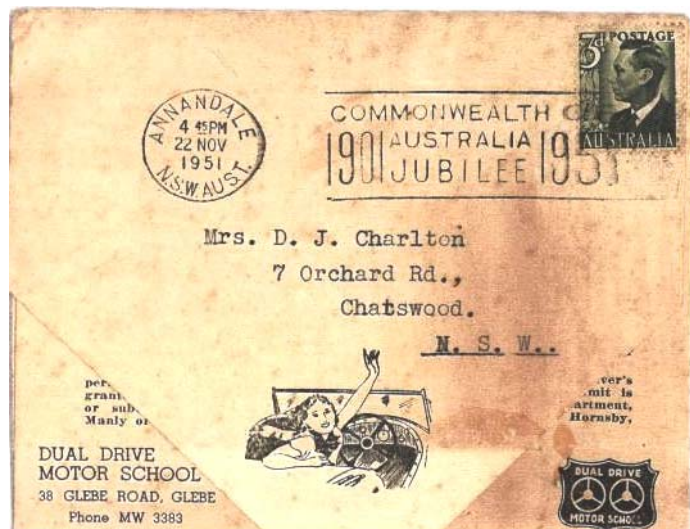
6.10 The 3d red stamp paid for concessional airmail military letters from Aust, Japan or Korea in the post-war years. Here used from 8 Base P.O., Japan.





6.11 After the ordinary Letter rate went up to 3½d, a green 3d value was issued on 14 Nov 51. Here used for

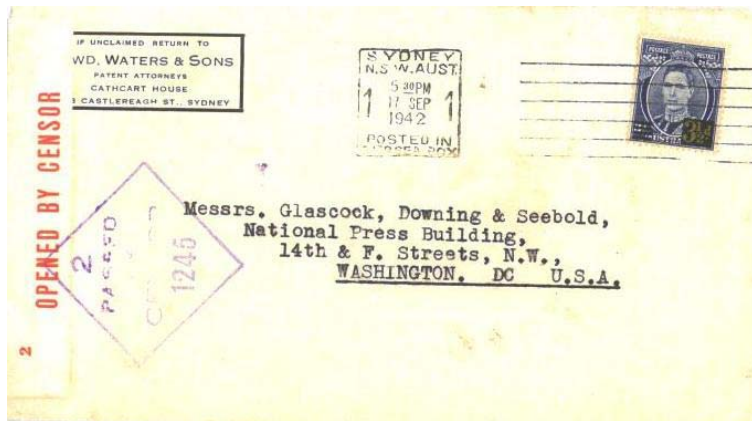
6.12 3d green, used for folding postcard.



6.13 3d green, used for concessional airmail military letter.

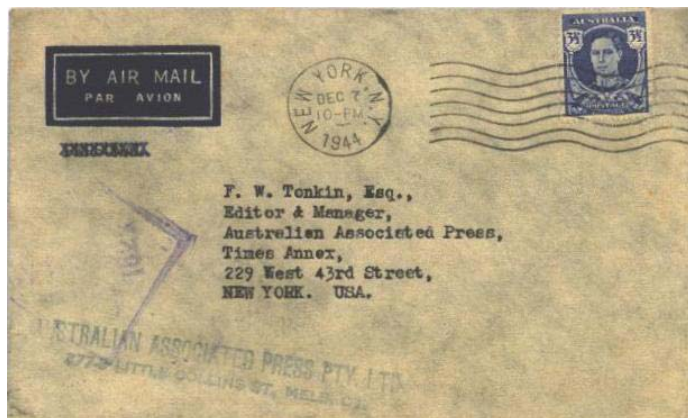
7. Three pence half penny

The first two issues for this denomination (1941 and 1942) were for the foreign surface-mail letter rate, which was fixed at 3 pence plus a half penny war tax. Both were printed blue. The third issue (28.11.51) was for the Australia and Empire letter rate which went from 3 to 3½ pence on 9.7.51. It is the war-time usages which provide the more interesting covers (illus 7.1-7.3).



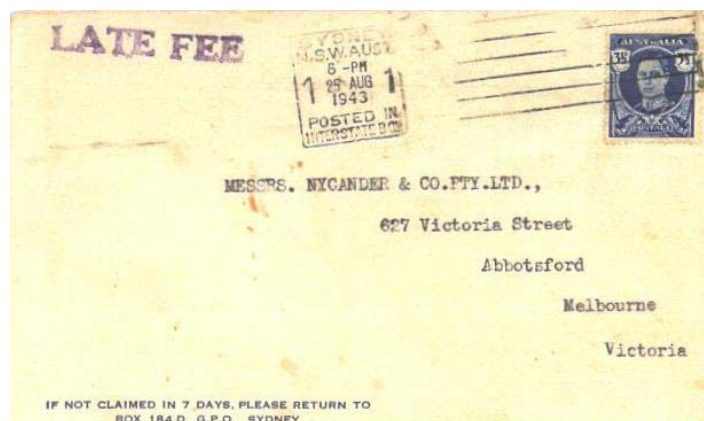
7.1 3½d surcharge, foreign surface mail, from 10 Dec 1941.

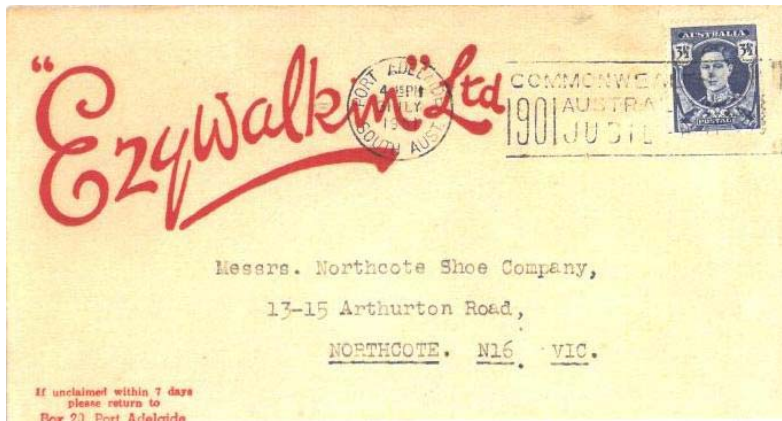
7.2 Second issue, foreign surface mail, censored Australia and New Caledonia.



7.3 Second issue, used for Australian Associated Press purposes, postmarked only in New York, 1944 censored in Sydney (back of envelope).

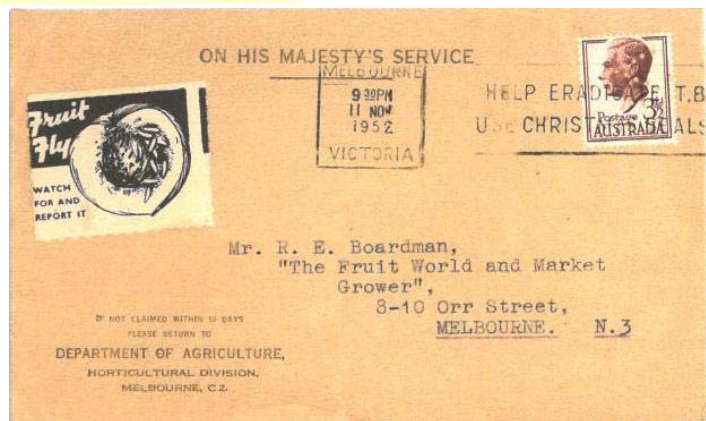
7.4 Second issue, for combined local postage and late fee.





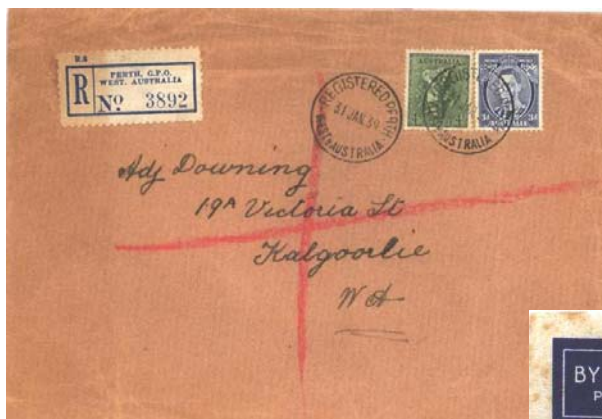
7.5 When ordinary Letter rate went up to 3½d on 9 July 1951 the second issue came into common use until a nes stamp was issued on 28 Nov 1951.

7.6 Third issue, for ordinary Letter rate. Here punctured V.G., on a cover bearing a sticker warning about fruit fly, and addressed to the Horticultural Press which also printed the Stamp



8. Four pence

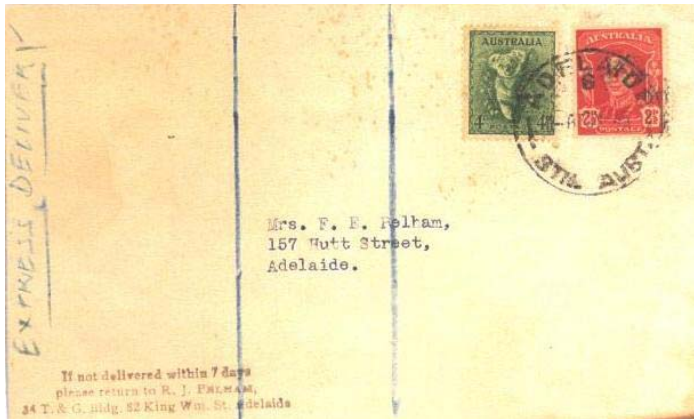
There were two issues of this stamp during 1938-53, both coloured green and printed on watermarked paper. The first issue (1938) was perf 13.5x14 and the second (1942) was perf 14.75x14. Originally issued for double-weight letters to Australia and the Empire, and for commercial papers to foreign countries, it came into wider use for letters airmailed to military personnel or from military personnel in Australia from 18 December 1939 (illus 8.2). It also paid the express delivery fee until July 1950 (illus 8.3 and 8.4).



8.1 4d Koala, first issue, paying for a double weight letter, its intended use.

8.2 First issue, used for concessional military postage within





8.3 Second issue paying the express mail fee. In this case, the letter was handed to the Adelaide post office and immediately delivered by a telegram boy.

8.4 Second issue paying the express mail fee. In this case, the letter was handed to the Adelaide post office and immediately delivered by a telegram boy.



Barred Killer Cancels

Yet another example of the use of this handstamp in Adelaide.

On this occasion it has been used to overstamp the airmail etiquette on an insufficiently paid air mail letter.

Contributed by:
Colin Salt
Frinton-on-Sea
Essex
England



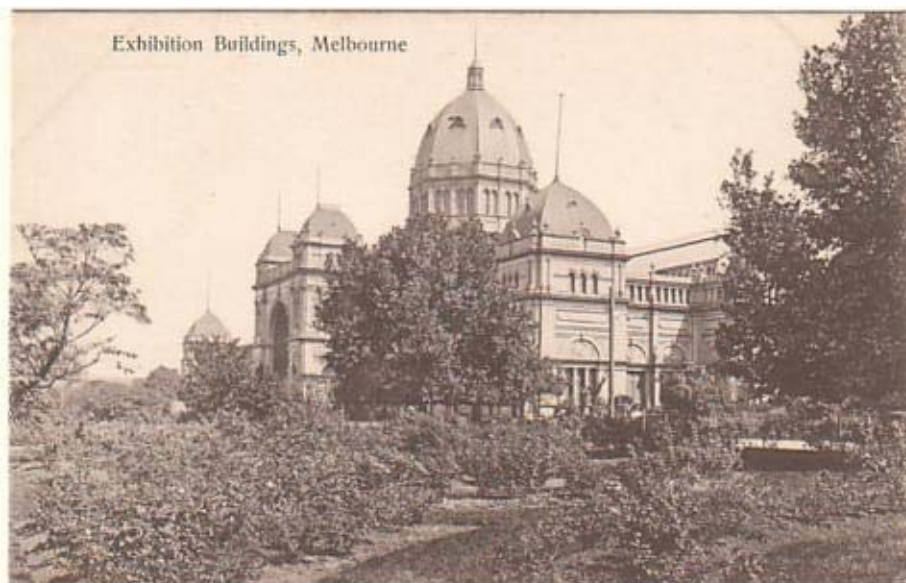
Women's Work Exhibition, Melbourne 1907

By John Lancaster with acknowledgement to Maurice Mishkel

Melbourne has a long history of undertaking trade exhibitions, with the first being held on a site near the corner of William and Latrobe Streets [now known as the Royal Mint site] in 1854 – fig 1.



The first Intercolonial exhibition to be held in Australia was in an especially constructed building behind the Public Library in Swanston Street. This was in 1866, and the building became the Technological Museum when the third and final site was constructed in Carlton – fig 2.



According to Dr Linda Young [refer SIE MA thesis] exhibitions here in the colonies were about asserting culture and a developed civilisation. The impact of gold discoveries brought significant numbers of people to New South Wales and Victoria and with it wealth creation. They required products and effectively created a merchant class to satisfy the need for imported items. However, local manufacturing tended to mirror British products, "How like England we can be?" which indicated a consuming society, with cultural achievement effected through fine art displays that again tendered to mirror British tastes.

Women in International Exhibitions

The first international exhibition that had a dedicated building especially devoted to women's artefacts and work was the Centennial Exhibition held in Philadelphia in 1876. Women lobbied for and set up the first separate women's pavilion. Women's exhibits were separated from the main displays of wealth, knowledge and industry and thus they sat outside of the national identities being developed and defined in the international exhibitions. The Women's Building displayed items of art, crafts, and inventions by women, and represented an early achievement in the feminist struggle for suffrage and equal rights.

The Paris exhibition of 1878 held an International Congress on the Rights of Women, which featured discussions and debates on the place and rights of women in all phases of society. The World's Industrial & Cotton Centennial Exposition in New Orleans in 1884~85 received a grant of \$US15,000 for a Woman's Department, however overall the event was a failure. The Glasgow International Exhibition, which ran from 8 May to 10 November 1888 had a section devoted to Women's Industries.

Australian colonial representation as Commissioners at international exhibitions from 1851 had always been accorded to gentlemen of political connections, and appointed under Royal Commissions established by the various parliaments. It was not until the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893 – the second occasion for a dedicated building - that a woman was appointed to represent New South Wales with respect to Women's Work. *"At the same meeting of the Commission held on 4 December 1891 a committee of ladies was appointed to inquire into the question of exhibits of woman's industry, and to report to the Commission the result of their deliberations, and to also state if they could, what would be the probable cost thereof, the Executive officers of the Commission to advise with the committee."* Committee XII on Woman's Work was established under the Commission and was headed by Lady Mary E Windeyer as President, and comprised twenty-two women and a female secretary.

Lady Windeyer subsequently advised that suitable representation could be achieved for the sum of £500 [today about \$A45,000]. Her appointment as a Commissioner was gazetted on 21 March 1893. This sum was disbursed on purchasing suitable exhibits of £245/18/-, the secretary's salary of £228 and costs of packaging the exhibits for shipment of £28/6/11. The estimated commercial value of them was £1232/5/-. In an official sketch of *"the Woman's Building and what is to be seen in it,"* written by Mary Lockwood, it is stated that *"New South Wales, snugly tucked in between Russia and Great Britain, brings her gifts from the taxidermist, her wares from the ceramic artist, her products of the forest in rugs, and mats of skins and fur. There are also laces and embroideries, sculpture and paintings deserving notice."* Lady Windeyer was appointed a judge in the artistic section of the manufactures exhibits, *"...and in this and in various other ways rendered very valuable service during her stay in Chicago."*

The Women's Building at Chicago was designed by Sophia Hayden of Boston, an architect in her mid-20's. A detailed account of the Women's Building and the activities that occurred during and after the Columbian Exhibition maybe found at page 129 of John Findling's book "Historical Dictionary of World's Fairs & Expositions 1851 to 1988".

The Franco-British Exhibition opened on 14 May 1908 in London, and was the third time that a dedicated building, "The Palace of Women's Work" was devoted to women's industry.

Melbourne 1907

Sydney held the first dedicated Australian event "Exhibition of Women's Industries and Centenary Fair" for a month from 2 October 1888 at Prince Alfred Park, Redfern, with 6,100 entries. The second was again in Sydney in 1904. Both were devoted especially to women's industries. Fig 3: "**Bulletin**" ppc used Sydney 22 Dec 1904 to Grafton.

Then in 1907 came the major domestic event in the field of women's endeavour, the Australian Woman's Work Exhibition during October and November. It included the best of Australia's female artists under the one roof for the very first time. The exhibition catalogue is eagerly sought by those art aficionados' who want to trace the development of women's artwork from the late 19th century. This exhibition was a landmark in the development of women's art in Australia, for it was the largest exhibition of its kind ever undertaken in Australia.

"This Exhibition of Woman's Work was a celebration of all that feminists of the late nineteenth century had set out to achieve, and of the opportunities they believed had now been won. They sought, as others had done, to justify their citizenship of the state by offering their labour as an example of their contribution to the Commonwealth of Australia."

On 23 October 1907 some 15,000 people crowded into Melbourne's Exhibition Building for the opening ceremonies of the Exhibition by Lady Northcote [wife of Australia's Governor General] and Mrs Pattie Deakin [wife of the Prime Minister], who also ran a model crèche during the exhibition. The five week exhibition [up to its close on 30 November 1907] showcased the work of women artists, craftswomen and musicians.

The exhibition's visitors were able to view a display of arts and crafts, including paintings, drawings, sculpture, photography, pottery, needlework, leatherwork, spinning and weaving. Exhibitors from all States of Australia, Britain, Europe, North and South America, India and Africa contributed to the exhibition, which was the inspiration of Lady Northcote.

The exhibition "displayed sixteen thousand exhibits and at least 250,000 people attended. The Executive committee in their final report summarised the exhibits in the various sections of the Exhibition as being comprised of: 5,000 in the Fine and Applied Arts section, 7,000 in Needlework, and, 1,000 in Cookery, Horticulture, Medicine and Nursing, etc., the British and Foreign making up the balance....in the trade section there were 103 exhibitors, representing most of the trades in which women and girls are employed in Australia. Some of the exhibits showed processes of manufacture in operation."

"The motivation of the Exhibition was educational as well as celebratory. It included a series of lectures and musical concerts, an example of a working crèche, and catering exhibits. There were prizes for essays on various progressive topics, like 'Best Essay on the Best Method of Supplying Pure Milk to the Poor of the City, especially in Summer' , trade exhibits from shops and companies run by women and displays of women's inventions. Exhibits of royal women were sent from various countries and there was a

large number of foreign loan displays, including ethnological exhibits.”

It was also the first exhibition to have an internal post office staffed entirely by women – see fig 4 below. The exhibition was the last to use the EXHIBITION/date/MELBOURNE 1197 duplex postmark – which was first used for the Melbourne International Exhibition of 1880.



Fig 4: The Post Office

The postcard below shows a photo of the massed women's choir on stage, with seated dignitaries in front of them [including a 'sprinkling' of male dignitaries], and in the foreground there was a seated audience.

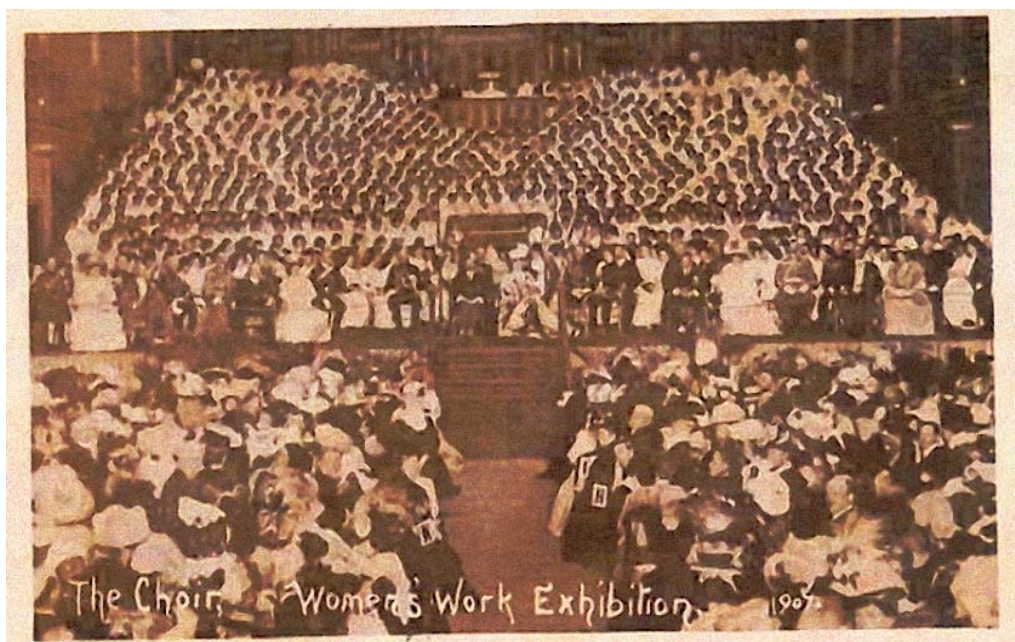


Figure 5: Caption reads “The Choir, Women’s Work Exhibition 1907”

Prize medals in gold, silver and bronze each accompanied with a certificate, were awarded to successful exhibitors. The obverse of the bronze medal shows a coat of arms with the legend, 1907/ MELBOURNE, and a motto in Latin of CHRISTA CRUX EST MEA LUX [The Cross of Christ is My Light] which is that of the Northcote's [figure 6]



Fig 6

The reverse has the legend outside of the wreath: FIRST AUSTRALIAN EXHIBITION OF WOMENS WORK, and within the wreath: HIGHEST/ AWARD FOR/ WANDS/ HAWKSBURN/ S.S. [a State School in Victoria] refer figure 7.



Fig 7

A rare cloth bound programme of the Exhibition designed by Ruby Lindsay and Eirene Mort was found at auction with an estimate of AUD 1500-2000.

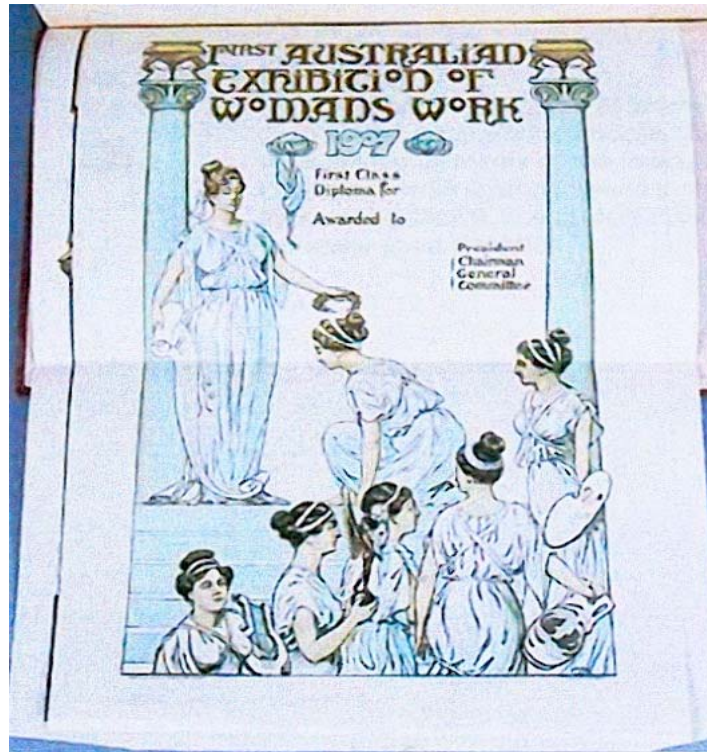


Fig 8

Above is an example of the First Class Diploma [certificate], which would have accompanied either a gold or silver award medal.

The catalogue entitled "First Australian Exhibition of Women's Work 1907; Exhibition Buildings Melbourne – Official Souvenir Catalogue – see figure 9 - [octavo with original pictorial wrappers] is a virtual 'Who's Who' of Australian women artists from the first generation of professional practitioners such as Edith Alsop, AME Bale, Margaret Baskerville, May Gibbs, Ruby Lindsay, Ida Rentoul, Jean Sutherland, Violet Teague, Jessie Traill etc. There was also a section of entries by expatriate Australian women artists then working in Britain and Europe.

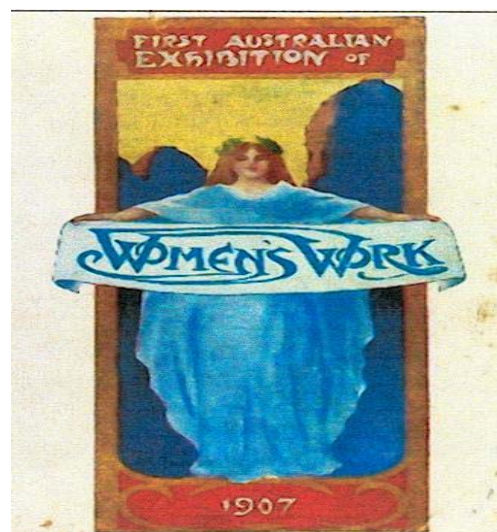


Fig 9

Helen Atkinson's winning entry to the Women's Work Exhibition poster competition, 1907 [figure 10], was used as a promotional poster, and is again used to celebrate this centennial here in Castlemaine.



Fig 10

The costliest postcard

By John Young

Is this the costliest postcard ever mailed? It appears at first to have been franked with a 41p British Machin in 1992, the correct airmail postcard rate to USA, but the sender wanted it express-delivered. A Swiftair sticker was affixed, and the extra postage was 2 pounds 70P (£2.70). The stamps were affixed with perforations extending beyond the lower edge of the postcard, which is common when a message covers most or all of the writing area, and they are all tied by the postmark, Newman Road London, 26 Sep 1944.

The express-delivered postcard turned out to be undeliverable, and a return-to-sender marking ties the left-hand one pound (£1) stamp to the postcard. It all seems genuine. Does anyone have a costlier postcard?



New Zealand Musings

The editor received an excellent response from Robin Startup of Masterton NZ in response to the New Zealand Musings article in the AJP 99 March 2007 page 21– 23. Robin is the Research Officer, Postal history Society of NZ and the Archivist, Royal Philatelic Society of NZ and it is pleasing to have him provide additional information. He writes:

New Zealand Musings, page 21 .

It does please me to see that you are using my book with Ted Proud on the NZ Forces postal history when sorting out your covers. I still regard much of this as a summary and “one of these days” aim to get into print the more extensive details I hold[.].. and use my own charts for quick checks.

With your cover on page 21 I can confirm the double-square unit censor marking 668 was allocated to HQ 4th NZ Brigade in August 1941 — 667 was issued to 21 Battalion rather than 5 NZ Brigade which then had 681. Though this gives the unit allocation the next problem is just where was that unit. When units went into baffle, as the 2 NZ Division had just being doing in Libya, deliberately a proportion of the men plus non-essential troops were formed into a LOB camp — Left out of battle so they could be called on to reinforce the forward troops or to re-strengthen the unit if damaged in battle. My feeling that your cover is from the LOB component. This partly being due to the use of the Egypt PP cancel.

With the EGYPT POSTAGE PREPAID datestamps two points need to be kept in mind

- (a) that when issued to a short-lived Field P0 the datestamp was returned to stock when the FPO closed and thus could be re-issued to the same or another office, and
- (b) they seem to be used within Egypt only as when a Field P0 moved out of Egypt its usual Field P.O. (later MPO KW series) datestamps were used.

Egypt PP 50, though not clearly shown in the Startup & Proud book, was also used at the stationary NZ FPO I after its use at NZ FPO 3. I have recorded its use at NZ FPO I from 18.1.1942 — 28.4.1942 and consider your very nice cover with usage 31,12.1941 to be a new earliest date for NZ FPO I instead of a later date for NZ FPO 3. The records show that FPO 3 closed 30.9.1941 so that angle is closed off but on the other hand FPO I at Maadi Camp had been open since 1940 meaning we have to rely on covers to establish datestamp usages there.

This suggests 4 Brigade LOB were held at Maadi, being picked up from there as the Brigade returned from Baggush early January for training in the canal zone.

The second cover — a nice example of from New Zealand TO an airman in the UK — shows the way letters to NZers in the RAF were handled. Addressed care of London where they were checked against card indexes and redirected to the airman’s latest location. Aus-sie did the same thing with RAAF men in the RAF, using the RAAF Base APO in London.

The third cover, on page 23, is of particular interest as I had been asked about another cover in this correspondence over Easter and had suggested how the owner could sort out the moments just as you have done.

Continued on page 45

Those Problematic Bangkok B-overprints!

By Michel Houde of Toronto

I started collecting Bangkok B's in 1979 when I found two in the back of a stockbook of British Empire stamps I bought at a local auction. I immediately liked the stamps because Gibbons indicated that there were only 23 different stamps and 4 varieties, under its listing for the British Post Office in Siam. Several other things appealed to me: Their limited period of use (37 months), collectors and dealers tended to avoid them because of the many fakes and therefore I could acquire some of them at a reasonable price and the firm chops, often seen on these issues, are interesting to research.

Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, is located on the banks of the Chao Phraya River 25 km inland from the Gulf of Siam. In the 19th century, the missionaries and western business people operating there were isolated. It was not until April 18, 1855 that a British mission sent by Queen Victoria and headed by Sir John Bowring signed a treaty of diplomatic and commercial relations with Siam's King Mongkut. We can only imagine the difficulty and frustration that the early foreign residents of Bangkok experienced when attempting to arrange the delivery of their letters home. Probably even more frustrating was the irregularity of incoming mails. Hence, shortly after the British Consulate opened its doors on June 11, 1856, the foreign community approached the British Consul to enlist his support to find a solution to the problem of irregular mail service.

By 1859, a solution had been put in place and the First Assistant at the Consulate, as was the general custom in Ports in China and the Levant, received the appointment for the Superintendency of Postal Matters. The 1868 Bangkok Calendar published a description of the Postal Arrangements:

A European Mail is made up at the British Consulate to be sent by every departure of the Steamer Chao Phraya, for Singapore, which occurs in about 20 days on average. Letters, papers, and pamphlets are by that Mail sent through to any place in Europe or the United States of America without pre-payment of postage. But letters or papers to any part of Asia, Australia, or Africa, (excepting to Singapore, Hongkong, or any other place in this vicinity to which the vessel bearing letters is bound) must be pre-paid at the Post Office in the port to which the vessel sails, or have the proper postage stamps attached from the first.

The polite Captain of the Steamer Chao Phraya is usually ready to do one the favour of mailing letters and papers in Singapore and pre-paying their postage thence to any place in the world without commission provided he can expect his pay promptly and without trouble on his return to Bangkok.

This accommodation is sometimes of great service when one finds himself a little behind the time of closing the European Mail, or has no suitable postage stamp for a country Mail, or is at a loss what the postage will be. Letters, papers and pamphlets from Europe and America, or for any other parts must be pre-paid, or sent to the care of some agent in Hong Kong or Singapore.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF THE EUROPEAN MAILS AT, AND FROM SINGAPORE

The English Mails arrive from Europe about the 15th & 30th and depart for Europe about the 7th & 21st of every month.

The French Mails arrive from Europe about the 20th and depart for Europe about the 4th of every month.

A Mail for Australia leaves Singapore about the 7th of every month.

This notice explains why some postal history items originating in Bangkok, bear stamps of Hong Kong, the Straits Settlements or the Great Britain.

Foreign Stamps Used at Bangkok

		
<p>Hong Kong</p>	<p>Straits Settlement</p>	<p>Great Britain On a cover to Kent</p>

Mr. H. A. Gardner, the Chief Constable at the Consulate, took over the part-time duties of Post Master in 1869. The volume of mail had increased to the point that it was interfering with the Consular duties of the First Assistant.

By 1881, the weekly volume of mail out of Bangkok averaged of 200 letters, newspapers, etc. and twice that amount was inbound. Mr. Gardner was spending an ever-increasing amount of his time on the duties of Post Master. It was felt that the postal duties demand whole-time attention and the British Consul sought the establishment of an agency of the Straits Post Office as the solution to this situation. By March 1882, an arrangement was in place. Gardner reported to the Postmaster General in Singapore that he was selling an average of \$150 per month of Straits stamps and that he had collected, in the previous year, \$77.52 postage due on unpaid letters received at Bangkok.



The building that housed the Post Office at the entrance to the grounds of the Legation from the banks of the Chow Phya River

Mr. Gardner received a commission of 10 per cent on all the Straits Settlement stamps he purchased as well as the same commission on all amounts he collected on incoming unpaid and insufficiently paid items. His agent in Singapore had to acquire stamps directly from the Treasury. For bookkeeping purposes and to prevent them being used for posting letters within the Colony of the Straits Settlements the stamps had to be overprinted with the familiar "B". Gardner accepted the offer and the first shipment of B-overprinted stamps reached Bangkok in May 1882.




On August 4, 1883, the Siamese Post Office inaugurates a local service within the City of Bangkok. There were three deliveries a day (9 am, 11 am and 4 pm) for a total volume of approximately 300 letters per day at the outset. In a report to Earl Granville (21 March 1884) Consul Ernest Satow mentions that Mr. Gardner's work had increased further in conjunction with this new service to the point that he was distributing 2 to 4 incoming foreign mails per week and sending out as many.









Mr. Gardner died on August 24, 1884. Captain C. Edlefsen, a British citizen took over as "Post Master" at the British Consulate. He remained in this post until Siam joined the UPU on 1 July 1885 when it began handling all internal and external mails. The British Consulate Post Office had operated for nearly 30 years. As for Captain Edlefsen, he found employment with the Siamese Post Office as accountant and cashier.


The Consular Post Office received a shipment of stamps approximately once a month. The last one occurred on 27 May 1885. It was for 740 stamps with a face value of \$41.60. The Consular Post Office closed on 30 June 1885 when Siam joined the UPU effective 1 July 1885.

The Post Master at the Br. Consulate ordered stamps from the Treasury in Singapore as required. The authorities at the Treasury seem to have used these requests as an opportunity to dispose of stamps that had been gathering dust in their safe. For example, 20 of the 1867 32 cent on 2 annas stamps were dusted off and overprinted to fill the 27 May 1885 order for this denomination. They were certainly diligent in accounting for all stock. In one instance, 1 April 1885, a single 2-cent stamp was overprinted. Unfortunately, the records only list the denominations and the numbers of each that were sent to Bangkok, so we do not know, for instance, how many of the 1,643, 24 cents stamps were the CC or CA watermarked type. The Treasury records are incomplete as regards the total number of stamps sent to Bangkok. However, the total number is not much greater than the 51,420 stamp actually recorded.

Summary of the B-overprinted Stamps
Records only list the denominations

Denomination	Total	Sum		Types	
2 cents	8,900	\$178.00			
			CC & CA	wide E & wide S	CA

Denomination	Total	Sum		Types	
4 cents	8,307	\$332.28			
			CC & CA		
5 cents	1,797	\$89.85			
			CC & CA		
6 cents	3,322	\$199.32			
			CC & CA		
8 cents	16,255	\$1,300.40			
			CC & CA		
10 cents	10,040	\$1,004.00			
			CC & CA		
12 cents	1,070	\$128.40			
			CC & CA		
24 cents	1,643	\$394.32			
			CC & CA		
32 cents	20	\$6.40			

Denomination	Total	Sum		Types	
96 cents	66	\$63.36			
Grand Total	51,420	\$3,696.33			



Catalogues list one more stamp, a 30-cent claret watermarked CC. This stamp is not mentioned in the Treasury records of denominations sent to Bangkok, which makes it problematic. Expertizing Committees have validated some of these stamps. The only records found of stamps sent to Bangkok between 15 April 1882 and 10 August 1883 are of the total amounts. They lack any information concerning the denominations and quantities sent. Thus, it is possible that the 30-cent claret stamps were part of these early orders.

As per the agreement between the Postmaster in Bangkok and the Post Office in Singapore, the Treasury was to apply a large B to the stamps ordered. To print these, someone in the printing shop took several cast metal capital B pieces of type and arranged them in a composing stick along with spacers so that they would align and print on several stamps at once. This assembly was tightly bound together in a forme. Next, they mounted the forme on the printing press, which applies a coating of black viscous ink to the letters, to transfer the impression onto the stamps under great pressure. The forme was most likely broken up after each job and the capital Bs returned to the case. This method of printing involving extensive manipulations accounts for many of the varieties found on these issues.

Printing Varieties of the B-overprints



Ink transfer – sheets (or smaller multiples) were stacked face-to-face to dry. At times, this resulted in some of the still wet ink transferring between the stamps. If they had been stacked face-up, then the wet ink would cause the sheet below to stick to the gum of the one above.

In the example, a ghostly inverted B is visible to the right of the central B.



Kiss print – it is believed that the printing form consisted of only a triplet of three Bs. The press operator might have to position the stamps many times to print a B on all of them. He would bring down the press just enough to see if the alignment was correct before actually doing the printing. If he brought it down too much the type, would “kiss” the stamps leaving a partial impression slightly offset from the full impression.

In this example, the kissing is visible just below the B.



Multiple impression – one scenario is when the press operator aligned the forme and one end prints over an already printed stamp. Another is that the operator simply printed twice.

In this example, the B is printed twice. I have seen an example claiming to be printed three times.



Inverted impression – the operator simply inserted the sheet inverted or the forme was inverted.

The late E.E.B. Marshall was an expert of the B-overprints. In August 1994, shortly before his passing, he published his research results dealing with the characteristics of the B. See the diagram below that summarizes his results. He found it necessary to examine the B under at least 15-power magnification. At this power, one can see a clear impression of the die outlining the letter B. The printing press firmly pushed the die on the stamp leaving a thin outlined impression surrounded by ink that squeezed out from beneath the point of impression. This extruded ink pattern is what the unaided eye sees instead of the thin die impression of the letter B. If the printer over inked the letter, then the shape of the printed B is deformed. Despite this, under proper magnification, the die outline is normally visible. I need to stress that it is the examination of this die outline that is used to validate the B-overprint.

In this example of a genuine Bangkok B, the impression of the die is visible along the edges of the letter. Particularly along the left edge of the vertical stroke, the excess ink was pushed out to the left of the die impression giving the edge a jagged appearance. When attempting to validate a B, it is important to view it under at least 15 power. At any lower magnification, the extruded ink pattern is what is seen instead of the critical die impression.



Mr. Marshall made accurate measurements of the Bs found on a block of 30 of the 4-cent brown CA (SG17). He did his measurements to 0.01 mm accuracy. I have taken the liberty of rounding his figure to one decimal place. The results are:

H = Height 5.6 mm

Lu = Upper Loop, measured from the top to middle of crossbar, 2.6 mm

Lb = Bottom Loop, measured from the bottom to middle of cross bar, 3.0 mm

Luw = Upper Loop max width, 2.6 mm

Lbw = Bottom Loop max width, 2.8 mm

Note that the bottom loop is slightly taller and wider than the top one by approximately ¼ mm.

Characteristics of the Genuine B

Characteristic of the Bangkok B
based on the study by
E.E.B. Marshall

A Both serifs are strong and their outer lines are direct continuations of the horizontal top and bottom limbs of the B.

B The junctions of the insides of the serifs with the main upright are clear, well-formed arcs.

C The junction of the underside of the top horizontal line with the main upright is curved into a recognisable formation. A similar situation holds with the upper side of the bottom horizontal line and the upright.

Serifs, which are not as shown are suspect.

The junctions at B & C should never be at right angles.

Bottom loop is slightly taller & wider than the top loop.

Knowledge of the cancellations and chops used at Bangkok is invaluable in identifying stamps and covers.

Cancellations Used on the Bangkok Issues

Letters sent through the British Consular Post Office were initially marked using the British Consular Seal. At times, this is the only marking found on stamps and covers used at Bangkok. It is then difficult to know if the marking was applied as a cancellation or as a security marking. It was not until May 1882 that a proper Bangkok circular date stamp (CDS) came into service.



British Consulate Seal - The Royal Arms in the centre of an oval with the words BRITISH CONSULATE along the top edge and BANGKOK along the bottom, in black. Thus far seen used from 1878 to 1884.





Bangkok Circular Date Stamp - This is a 26 mm CDS with BANGKOK in widely spaced 3 mm letters round the top, no index letter and the date in two lines in the centre. The months are abbreviated: JA, FE, MR, AP, MY, JU, JY, AU, SP, OC, NO and DE. The distance between the NW corner of the B and the NE corner of the K is 24 mm. Observed on the adhesives of Bangkok, the Straits Settlements, Hong Kong and Great Britain (very scarce). In use beginning in 1882, likely sent out from Singapore when Mr. Gardner accepted to function as an agent of the Singapore Post Office. Since the last day of operation of the Post Office at the Consulate was June 30, 1885, there remains the possibility of adhesives being found cancelled up to and

Security markings are found on many stamps and covers that passed through the British Consulate's Post Offices. It was a common practice throughout the East to apply the company's handstamp (firm chop) or that of the consulate to their stamps in order to prevent them being stolen or misused. One of my interests is the study of the firm and consular chops used in Bangkok and the Straits Settlements. [See my website for more information, www.michelhoude.com] Seeing that fakers fabricate Bangkok Bs by applying a large black B to used Straits Settlements stamps, if the stamp also contains a chop this provides a clue to the genuineness of the stamp. A knowledge of the firms operating in Bangkok and the Straits Settlements during the 1880s helps in identifying fake from genuine stamps and covers. In addition, at times these marking are the only indication that the item originated in Bangkok.

			
GERMAN CONSULATE	FORWARDED BY THE BORNEO COMPANY LIMITED	WINDSOR, REDLICH & CO.	F. de JESUS & Co.
Examples of Stamps with Chops that Are the Only Means of Identifying Them as Originating at Bangkok			

			
Some Firm Chops Found on Bangkok Issues			

	U.S. Consulate Bangkok Handstamp - A 19 mm circular handstamp in blue or violet. The dates of use are difficult to establish because when found on stamps, these rarely have a date stamp or if one is present, the date portion cannot be read the date. However, a cover bearing this handstamp exists that received a Singapore transit CDS on DE/5/82. This handstamp predates the U.S. Legation handstamp.
	U.S. Legation Bangkok Handstamp - A 22 mm circular handstamp in black, violet, blue or green. Seen used from 1883 to 1884.
Handstamps used at the American Consulate	

List of Consulate and Company Chops Seen on Bangkok Issues (work in progress)

Consular Handstamps Observed

Austrian Consulate [J.R. Consolato Austriaco]

British Consulate

French Consulate

German Consulate [Kaiserlich Deutsches Konsulat]

Netherlands Consulate [Consulaht der Nederland]

U.S. Legation

U.S. Consulate

Bangkok Firms that used Chops

A. Bjurling & Co. [Operating as early as 1879 and liquidated in 1885]

A. Markwald & Co. [Established in 1857]

Clarke & Co. [?]

E. Lamarche & Cie. [Operating as early as 1879]

Ed. Bonneville [Operating as early as 1879]

F. de Jesus & Co. [Operating as early as 1877]

Falck & Beidek [Established in 1878 liquidated with WWI]

Malherbe Jullien & Co. [Established in 1866]

Möeller & Meisner [Established in 1871]

Pickenpack Thies & Co. [Established in 1857]

Remi, Schmidt & Co. [Established in 1857]

Shaw & Chalant [?]

Siam Daily Advertiser [Began publishing in 1869]

The Borneo Company Limited [Established in Bangkok in 1856]

Windsor, Redlich & Co. [Established in 1871]

Windsor, Rose & Co. [Established in mid-1880's]

An advantage of studying the companies that operated in Bangkok prior to the closure of the British Post office is the identification of fake stamps. All of the B-overprinted stamps bellow are fakes –the "B" has been applied to a genuine Straits Settlements stamp. The stamps displayed here are easily identified as fakes because each has a firm chop of a company that did not do business in Bangkok prior to 30 June 1885, the day the British Post Office closed.


<p>C.M.B. = Chartered Mercantile Bank</p>	<p>Chartered Mercantile Bank / PENANG</p>	<p>H.&S.B.C. = Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation</p>
<p>Gilfillan, Wood & Co / SINGAPORE</p>	<p>G & Co = Guthrie & Co.</p>	<p>Syme & Co. / SINGAPORE</p>



Fake Bangkok Stamps Identified because Firm Chops
All the stamps show the genuine use of firm chops only used in the Straits Settlements, never in Bangkok. In each pair a fake Bangkok issues was created by adding a large black B on the right-hand stamp.


Another security device common in the East was the uses of with PERFINs [perforated initials]. At times, I have come across stamps purporting to be Bangkok issues with PERFINs. As far as I am aware, PERFINs were never applied to the Bangkok Bs.





Below are some fake B-overprints and the explanation why.

	<p>Never Issued: [See the table of issues.]</p> <p>The 32-cent overprint is a fake, red instead of black. The stamps should have been the 2 anna yellow instead of the 2 anna orange.</p> <p>The 2 cents overprint on 32 cents is a fabrication. There is no such stamp listed for the Straits Settlements.</p>
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	<p>Never Listed: [See the table of issues.]</p> <p>In the 125 years since it was first noted, no 30-cent B-overprint with inverted B has been noted. This is a fake.</p> <div data-bbox="715 750 1136 907" data-label="Image">  </div> <p>In addition, the blue chop is that of the well know firm of RAUTENBERG SCHMIDT & Co. that never operated in Bangkok.</p>
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	<p>Date Out of Range: [1882 to 1885]</p> <p>The 1 cent KEVII dated 1902 is impossible. Only QV stamps were issued.</p> <p>The 8 cent QV dated 1892 is outside the of range of usage.</p>
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	<p>Too Tall: [5.6 mm]</p> <p>The B on the 12 cent stamp is 6.5 mm tall, 16% too tall.</p> <p>The B on the 8 cent stamp is 7 mm tall, 25% too tall.</p>
---	---

	<p>Too Short: [5.6 mm]</p> <p>The B on the 5 cent stamp is 4.5 mm tall, 20% too short.</p> <p>The B on the 4 cent stamp is 4.7 mm tall, 16% too short.</p>
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Wrong Style:

There should be no stop after the B.



Wrong Style: [Compare with the sample B]

The B is 5.4 mm tall instead of 5.6 mm.

[Unfortunately, the image does not show sufficient detail to see that there is no die imprint.]

The serifs are wrong.

The bottom of the lower loop bulges, instead of being flat.

Some of the junctions with the vertical are rectangular instead of curved.

Despite having been studying the B-overprints since 1979, I feel that I have just turned the first few pages of a large book. I will be expanding my website to include a section on the Bangkok Bs. Hopefully this will motivate collectors to exchange information and add to the knowledge on these interesting issues.

There remain areas of study that I hope to explore, such as:

- using spectral analysis to type the ink used to print the Bs
- applying computer techniques for the analysis of genuine and fake Bs
- documenting all existing covers sent out from the Post Office at the British Consulate
- documenting all the firm chops used on genuine stamps and covers

Anyone interested in exchanging information with the author may contact him through his website at www.michelhoude.com or via his email address at mjrhoud@gmail.com.

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The **Prakaipet Indhusophon Collection of Siam**, 1989, 3D Printing Company, Bangkok. [With special thanks to the author for his kind permission for the use of images.]

Tracking the Supply of Australian Colonies' Newspaper Wrappers

By Professor John K. Curtis, acapjajc@cityu.edu.hk

This paper extends the survey of extant Australian Colonies' newspaper wrappers that have been listed for sale on the Internet site eBay. This auction site is popular, international and easily accessible and is used to proxy the supply of wrappers. Earlier surveys were published in the September 2004 and September 2005 issues of *Australian Journal of Philately* covering the period mid-April 2003 to mid-March 2005. This paper extends the overall analysis to cover the period mid-March 2005 to mid-April 2007.

In prior studies 248 postally used wrappers were analysed. In this study a further 251 used wrappers are examined. Collectively, these 499 represent 5.8% of 8500 scans of wrappers captured from eBay into a virtual library. A comparison of the frequency of appearance per colony is shown in Table 1. One-third has originated from Victoria and another one-third from South Australia. The 499 that have appeared over this 49 month period represent a supply to the collector market of approximately ten wrappers per month. Whereas there seemed to be a dip in supply in 2004, a constant supply has appeared in the past two years, averaging 125 per year.

Table 1: Per Colony Frequency of Appearance

Colony	2003	2004	2005&06	Total	Percent
New South Wales	14	12	13	39	7.8
Queensland	31	21	60	112	22.4
South Australia	44	36	86	166	33.3
Tasmania	4	0	8	12	2.4
Victoria	56	29	83	168	33.7
Western Australia	0	1	1	2	0.4
totals	149	99	251	499	100

The percentage of extant used wrappers per colony is roughly proportional to the population of the colonies at the time. Moreover, newspapers were transmitted in most cases for no charge in New South Wales, Tasmania and Western Australia for the period 1874-1901.

A comparison of the frequency of appearance per type of post office issue for each of the colonies is shown in Tables 2-5. Higgins & Gage catalogue numbers have been used for standardisation and comparison. There were 41 different post office wrapper types offered over the 25 month period: 13 from Victoria, South Australia 10, Queensland 8, New South Wales 7, Tasmania 2 and Western Australia 1.

Previous papers neglected to mention why surveys showing quantities, addressee destinations and up-ratings might be useful. Some country and postal stationery collectors seek a mint, used and up-rated copy of the same wrapper type. These three basics can become the foundation for building an exhibit. While these surveys shed no light on the availability of mint material, an analysis of used copies can identify the different postage rates applicable for wrappers. This information can help collectors better assess the non-commonality of particular items when they appear on the market. Some collectors also seek wrappers to exotic destinations. Instructional markings on wrappers plus examples of underpaid or registered are also sought.

Victoria

Of the 14 types that appeared during the 25 months, only three types had examples of up-rated wrappers. Other than destinations to France and Switzerland, only London and Germany were apparent. However, there were five different privately printed wrappers, and one is shown as Illustration One.

Table 2: Victoria Frequency & Survey Details

H&G	Yearly totals		Addressee destination						Uprated	
			Intra-colony		Inter-colony		Overseas			
	03&04	05&06	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6
E4	2						2		1	
E5	1	1	1	1						
E6	1						1			
E7		1						1		
E11		2		2						
E12		2		2						
E13	2	1		1			2		1	
E14	1	3	1					3		
E15	21	24	13	14	5	2	3	8	4	4
E16	3		2		1					
E17	21	25	14	16	1	3	6	6	5	7
E18	14	8	1		2	2	11	6		
E19	6	3	5	3			1			
E20	1				1					
E21	4				2		2		1	
E23	2				1		1		2	
E23b		4		2		2				
E24	1	4					1	4		2
E25	3	4		4			3		1	
E27	2	1	1	1	1		0		0	
totals	85	83	38	46	14	9	33	28	15	13

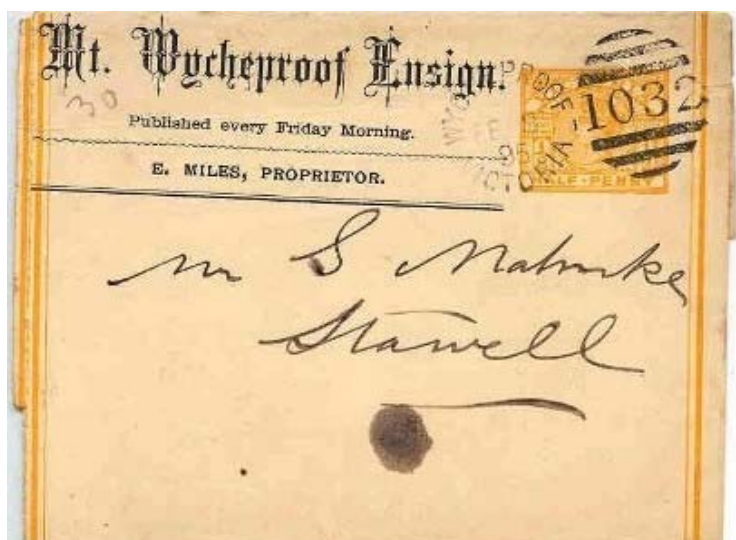


Illustration 1:
Mt. Wycheproof Ensign

South Australia

The listing of South Australia wrappers is constant, with about two-thirds being the E3 QV ½d purple on buff issue. The high frequency of this issue is to be expected because it coincides with peak newspaper circulation in the mid to late 1890s, an argument that can be applied to the high frequencies of other wrapper types from other Colonies. Ten wrapper types have appeared, and six types have appeared up-rated. Overseas destinations were Egypt, Colombo (Ceylon), India, France and Austria apart from Germany and London. An especially attractive privately printed wrapper is shown as Illustration Two (this wrapper and Illustration Three are the only two items captured from non-eBay sites).

Table 3: South Australia Frequency & Survey Details

H&G	Yearly totals		Addressee destination						Uprated	
			Intra-colony		Inter-colony		Overseas			
	2003-04	2005-06	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6
E2		2				1		1		1
E3*	50	56	9	15	14	14	27	27	23	19
E3B	17	10	11	10	4		2		2	1
E4		2		1				1		
E4a		2		2						
E4B*	3		2				1		1	
E5	2		1				1			
E6		2	1	1		1				
E7	4	8	3	3		1	1	4		2
E7B*	1	1	1					1		1
E8	3	1					3	1	1	
E9		2				1		1		1
totals	80	86	27	32	18	18	35	36	27	25

* Some catalogue mislabelling in Table 3, Sept 2005 p.12 has now been corrected for ease of comparison.

Illustration 2: The Burra Record



Queensland

The classification of Queensland wrappers has been expanded and clarified significantly by Sybrand Bakker in the *Postal Stationery Collector* (2006, 2007). However, as it will take some time before this classification becomes popular, the H&G catalogue numbers have been used for comparison with the previous surveys. Eight wrapper types appeared, four of which had uprated examples. A number of overseas destinations were observed other than those to London or Germany: German East Africa, India, Egypt, New Zealand, Finland, Switzerland and USA. No privately printed wrappers were noted.

Table 4: Queensland Frequency & Survey Details

H&G	Yearly totals		Addressee destination						Uprated	
			Intra-colony		Inter-colony		Overseas			
	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6
E1	2	18		6	2	7		5		4
E2	26	11	4	1	17	4	5	6	7	3
E2a		2		2						
E3	6	9	2		3	1	1	8		
E4	5	1	1		2		2	1	2	1
E5		1				1				
E6	5		1		1		3		1	
E7	1				1					
E8		12		6		2		4		
E9	7	6	2	2	2	2	3	2	4	1
totals	52	60	10	17	28	17	14	26	14	9

New South Wales

Only a few New South Wales wrappers have appeared on the market. Seven wrapper types appeared over the 25 month period and only two of these were updated. Half were sent to overseas addresses, none of which were remarkable.

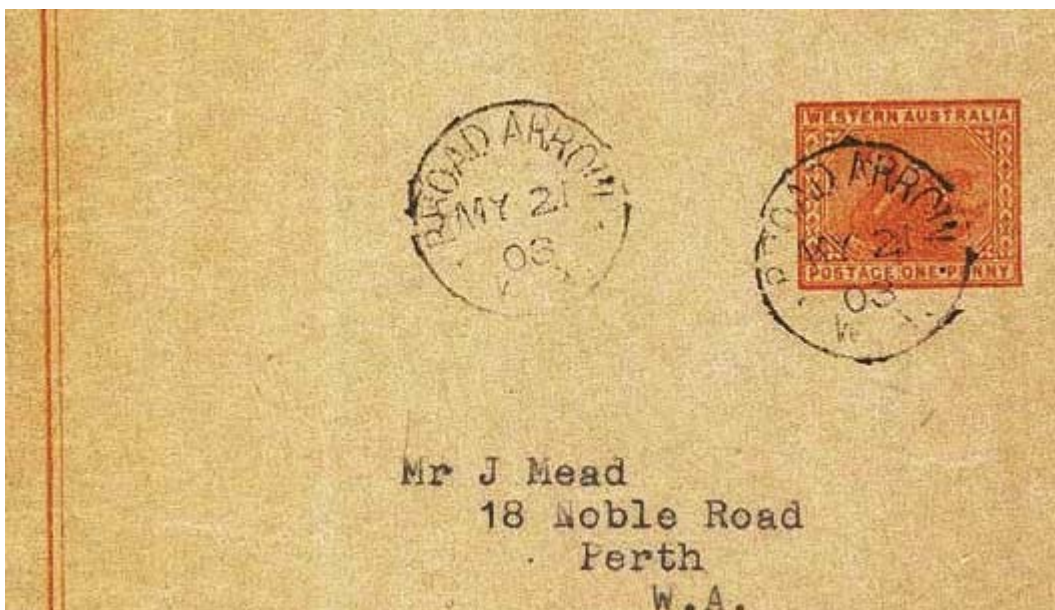
Table 5: New South Wales Frequency & Survey Details

H&G	Yearly totals		Addressee destination						Uprated	
			Intra-colony		Inter-colony		Overseas			
	03-04	05-06	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6	03-4	05-6
E1		1		1						
E3	1		0		0		1		0	
E4	3		1		1		1		0	
E6	11	4	2	1	7	1	2	2	2	2
E7		2				2				
E8		3		1		1		1		
E9	5	1	0		0		5	1	0	
E10	6	1	1		0		5	1	1	1
E11		1						1		
totals	26	13	4	3	8	4	14	6	3	3

Tasmania & Western Australia

Tasmania and Western Australia do not warrant separate tables. All eight Tasmania wrappers were printed-to-private-order: the Mercury (three each of E4 and E5) and Federal Australian Philatelist (two of E5). One locally used Western Australia wrapper was found on a non-eBay site and is shown because of its scarcity.

Illustration 3: Used Western Australia E2



Conclusion

The supply of wrappers of the Australian colonies listed on the eBay site represents about ten wrappers per month, or 499 over 49 months of data-gathering. This quantity is less than 6% of used worldwide wrappers. As was found for the first two surveys, two-thirds originated from Victoria and South Australia. A total of 101 or 40% had been sent to overseas destinations with only an occasional “exotic” address. Uprating with adhesives appeared on 63 or 25% of wrappers.

Of about 90 different wrapper types across all the Colonies, only 41 appeared on eBay during this 25 month period. South Australia’s E3 continues to be is the most common type listed with 56/251 or 22%. Victoria’s E15 and E17 also continue to be “common” with 24 and 25 examples respectively. Queensland’s E1 had 18 or 7%. These four types account for 49% or almost half of the overall total. Of the 37 other types observed, 22 appeared with a frequency of only one or two examples. More than half or 49 types did not appear at all.

References

Courtis John K. (2004), A Survey of Australian Colonies’ Wrappers, *Australian Journal of Philately*, No. 89 September, pp. 7-31.

Courtis John K. (2005), Survival Profile of Australian Colonies’ Wrappers, *Australian Journal of Philately*, No. 93 September, pp. 9-13.

Bakker, Sybrand J. (2006, 2007). A Contribution to the Classification of the Queensland Post Office Newspaper Wrappers Issued in the Period 1891-1912, *Postal Stationery Collector*, Part 1, Volume 12 No. 2, Issue No. 46, August, pp. 35-42; Part 2, Volume 12 No. 3, Issue 47, November, pp. 71-78; Part 3, Volume 12 No. 4, Issue No. 48, February, pp. 100-104.

Continued from page 23.

I can add:

PRS is the acronym for Public Relations Section — this section compiled and published the 2 *NZEF Times*, worked with press reporters, and so on.

The “Tekapo” draft was the second major draft — 263 officers 4542 other ranks - which returned to New Zealand from Italy on 30 September 1945.

With David Brindle’s article — pages 7-18 — asking about censor markings on a cover from Italy to Finland I can comment on two of the unknown markings for him. There were quite a number of New Zealanders held POW in Italy and thus their cards and letter forms back to New Zealand went through the Postale Censura office in Rome. Thus I can say two further markings on David’s cover were Italian and applied in Rome. The 7mm square with 14 in centre is Italian — this may indicate a section within the censorship office.

170/II inside 24mm circle is the personal stamp of an Italian censor — the characters below the bar are actually Roman numerals II rather than | |.

One can have a lot of fun studying WW2 covers working out where they were censored and how they travelled.

The Kangaroos' put Australia onto the world map!

By Simon Dunkerley © Updated 18th March 2007

The Arthur Gray collection of Kangaroos – sold by Shreves Philatelic Galleries, Inc. for \$A7,158,974 including the buyer's premium

Introduction

The sale of the *Arthur Gray* collection of the Australian Kangaroo series by American auction firm *Shreves Philatelic Galleries, Inc.* in New York on February 22nd and 23rd was a landmark event in anyone's language. As I write this report it is expected that the strong results in this sale could change the market for Australian stamps around the world. Indeed, I have already heard reports of increased interest in Australian stamps as a result of the publicity surrounding this sale and the results that were achieved. The strong results for Kangaroo and KGV imprints and monograms in particular, and pre decimal generally at the *Prestige Philately* auction of March 10th are very encouraging in this regard.

With pre-sale estimates at the upper figure totaling \$US4.94 million, the sale of the *Arthur Gray* Kangaroos grossed \$US5,584,000 including the buyer's premium of 15%. This equates to a total of \$A7,158,974 and is a world class result for a truly great collection. Now that the collection has been dispersed, it is safe to say that a Kangaroo collection of this caliber will *never* be repeated.

During my entire time in stamps there have been *two* outstanding collections of Australian Commonwealth or Australian Colonies stamps offered on the market that rise head and shoulders so far above the rest that such achievements will probably never be repeated. The first was *Rod Perry's Victoria*, and this is the second. In terms of their completeness and outstanding range of rarities, more than likely it is doubtful whether any collection of a British Empire Country, State or issue has ever compared to these, nor ever will. What is also amazing is that Arthur Gray's collections of the KGV heads, KGV 'Commemoratives and definitives', KGV, QEII and Booklets are also *each* worthy of an entire auction in their own right.

In regard to his Victoria, Rod had the best that was available with very few exceptions. It is estimated that his collection would have included about seventy of the top one hundred items of Victorian philately, with a number of the missing thirty being in the Royal collection. In the case of the *Arthur Gray* Kangaroos, there were very few of the top items missing.

Whilst the Australian Commonwealth portion of the *Baillie* collection, sold by *Sotheby's* in July 2005 had more *depth* in the representation of the *ordinary* stamps of the Kangaroo series, it had *relatively* few of what would be considered the great items of the kangaroo series by comparison to the *Gray* collection. Yes, indeed there were some, and my detailed report on that sale is available on my website at www.simondunkerley.com Like *Baillie*, Arthur preferred his stamps in mint condition if they were available as such; however, *Baillie* was very strict with that rule whereas Arthur had a range of used in his collection, together with some covers.

At the time of the sale of the *Baillie* collection, the last 'mega' event relating to the sale of Australian Commonwealth stamps, little was known about how or when Arthur would sell

his famous collection of the Kangaroo and map stamps. That story has just been written, and it was a pleasure indeed to be an active participant at the sale.

Both Rod Perry and Glen Stephens have written extensively on this sale for this edition of *Stamp News*; so rather than repeating what they have written, I will tackle it from a different perspective, with a look at prices from a historical viewpoint. I will also include some anecdotes and additional details on my favorite twenty items in the sale.

Context

Conducted by *Shreves*, based in Dallas, with galleries in New York, this sale represents a landmark in the history of Australian stamps. Those that have seen the exquisite auction catalogue produced for the sale will have an idea of what I mean. I believe that the catalogue is already a collector's item in its own right. This however, is only the beginning of the story. The professionalism in the way the sale was conducted was second to none. The hospitality of Charles and Tracy Shreve and their staff was very warm and exceptional. The viewing facilities with individual lighting and great service made the extensive task of viewing the entire sale a manageable exercise. With the temperature outside hovering around the zero to minus seven mark, with a chill factor making it feel much colder than that at times, there was no problem staying inside for about thirteen hours of viewing. The auction itself took just on eleven hours in total, over the two days. It is my view that every other auction firm that I have attended a sale of could learn something positive by attending one of their sales. Even Gary Watson of *Prestige Philately* commented that he picked up a couple of ideas to incorporate in his sales. One feature that *Shreves* have in the bidding process is known as the 'slice', whereby a bidder can offer to increase the amount by half of the next increment, e.g. from \$170,000 to \$175,000 rather than the standard increase to \$180,000 in a final effort to beat the opposition. However, the catch is that once exercised, you can't come back in to bid again on that lot.

At this auction I was carrying bids for a number of interested buyers and of course myself, and was very fortunate to have the use of a dedicated phone line for the entire sale. As someone who would normally call about four hundred lots an hour in a regular auction in Australia, at an average of around ninety lots an hour – slowed down by live internet bidding, the pace of this auction suited me fine. This was particularly the case as I was on the phone to a client for most of the sale, managing several bidding numbers, two limit bidders each with various alternatives and preferences indicated as well, and at the same time sending text messages with results and receiving revised instructions back via the mobile phone. I was even on the two phones simultaneously for one important lot, remembering just in time to call someone who had alternate bids on some earlier lots that he had missed out on. With all of this, I was still able to watch the room and keep on top of what was happening – well most of the time! It could be said that I did my bit to disprove the theory that men can only do one thing at a time! On a more serious note, I think it is fair to say that I have never worked harder at an auction, and that the end results from my point of view justified the effort. This collection was worthy of the closest attention possible and that is what I gave it.

Prices include many records

There is no doubt that rarity played a huge factor in most of the prices, and more so than condition. Whilst it is true that quite a few items had faults of some kind that the condition fanatics would frown upon, it should also be said that in many such cases, the item on offer

was the best known, and indeed sometimes the *only* one known or the only one in private hands. Examples of these include most of the first watermark set of first day and earliest recorded usage covers to 5/-, some of the high value monograms and most of the rarer watermark errors. In such instances, serious potential buyers had the choice to either take the item as it was, or perhaps never own an example. As it turned out, in most instances they took the item after intense competition.

With regard to the results in general, it is fair to say that although they averaged around the current Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue (ACSC) prices, the proofs and essays were not quite as strong as generally anticipated. I believe that the prices of the covers were also generally on the light side, and that those who purchased them have made good choices. However, the stamps were a different story, with single stamps, blocks, monograms, imprints, varieties and errors mostly achieving very strong results, and particularly so on the second day. I know of several bidders who missed out on items on the first day and increased their bids for the second in order to secure some key items. All realisations quoted include the 15% buyer's premium and are converted to Australian dollars at the rate of 0.78



1st Wmk £2 with 'JBC' monogram fetched \$A176,923

Many record prices for *Australasia* were set, and these have been referred to by other writers in this edition of *Stamp News*. Just a few worthy of note include the highest price for any *single stamp* item, the first watermark £2 'JBC' monogram at \$A176,923; and the highest price for *any stamp item*, the third watermark £1 light brown and pale blue 'HARRISON' imprint block at \$A265,385.

The rare *watermark errors* were particularly strong, with the very fine first watermark ½d green showing watermark sideways to right, of which only one example is recorded, fetched \$A55,288. I first reported this item in 1989, and sold it for \$3,000 in 1990 (not to Arthur), when that was considered a high price. That, however, is petty cash by comparison to today's level! At the time this stamp was given a negative certificate and was sold 'as is' however, the general consensus was that it was correct and that has since been completely vindicated. It is interesting to note that two damaged examples pointing towards the *left*

were discovered shortly afterwards and that no others have been found in the last fifteen years.



1st Wmk sideways \$A55,288



CofA Wmk inverted \$A41,282

The only known third watermark 5/- watermark sideways, not the most attractive of stamps to say the least, fetched \$A117,949 and also provides an interesting story. It was first reported in 1919 and subsequently listed in Stanley Gibbons. It was then off the market for several decades, with some speculating that either it was not genuine, or that it had been lost to philately, only to reappear out of the blue in a *Christie's* sale held in Melbourne in 1992. On that occasion it was purchased by a Melbourne dealer, fetching a total price of \$3,080. As it turned out, I was the under bidder on that occasion, sitting next to the buyer who had a bid on the book. Although some were not confident that it was genuine and abstained from bidding, I always held the view that it was genuine. Arthur acquired it some time after the *Christie's* auction.

The CofA watermark 2/- Maroon showing watermark inverted fetched \$A41,282. The last time this item changed hands it was still in a horizontal *pair*. This was the original discovery of this error, having first been reported in 1970. I had purchased it in a London auction in 1989 and advertised the pair in my 'Stampshow 89' catalogue with an estimate of \$1,500 – where it sold for slightly less than that figure. Since that time, two further singles, one of which has a significant tear, have appeared on the market, bringing the total number known of this error to four.



Lot 652 \$265,385



Lot 663 \$103,205



Lot 705 \$103,205

In addition to some bidders increasing their bids for the second day in order to improve their chances of success, the second day saw a new bidder on the telephone, who was clearly interested in imprints and *not* monograms. This buyer, known as 'T2' to those in the room, was successful on some of the major items including the imprint blocks of the third watermark £1 Light brown and pale blue at \$A265,385 and the both the normal and perf 'OS' versions of the £2 Purple-black and rose at \$A103,205 each; the first of these being a record price for *any* Australasian philatelic item. Not just eclipsing the previous record of \$225,840 achieved for the KGV 2d tete-beche pair, the £1 block smashed it out of the water. When the £1 block first came onto the market back in 1989, it amazed many experienced philatelists who had doubted the existence of such a block. Indeed no intact imprint pairs are even recorded. The sum total of other pieces are a part imprint single in private hands and an imprint single with an added stamp in the *Chapman* collection held by Australia Post. This was always my choice to achieve the highest price in the auction. By way of comparison to the above prices, the perf 'OS' £2 block first sold for \$12,000 in the 1987 Australia Post 'Archival' sale.

Having acquired the First Watermark £2 'JBC' monogram single on behalf of a collector on the first day of the sale for an Australian *single stamp* item record price of \$A176,923, we had to settle for being the under-bidder on each of the three imprint blocks above. I understand that the successful buyer of these was from the United Kingdom, and from the way the bids came it appeared in each instance that there was some steam left, so it is not known how much it would have actually cost to acquire the items. Suffice to say I *think* there was a fair way to go on each one of them.

There are too many items of worthy mention in this collection to provide a comprehensive listing here, and both Rod and Glen have covered quite a few in their respective columns, so I will take a different approach.

'Kilfoyle, Perry and Gray Kangaroo Index'

One of my first thoughts when the impending sale of this collection was announced was how will the *monograms* go? They have received extensive attention in recent years, and with strong price rises, the market would surely be tested with so many of them on offer at the one time. To find another extraordinary range in the one auction, I had to go back to Rod Perry's remarkable offering in the 'Ausipex' auction of 1984 where most of the highest value monograms were represented. These included the 1st wmk £1 and £2 'JBC' and 'CA' monograms, two of the 3rd watermark £1 'JBC' and the famous £1 'CA' strip of three, all of which were sold on behalf of an undisclosed vendor. That was twenty-three years ago. To get another significant range of similar items in one auction, it was appropriate to go back to the *Kilfoyle* sale, conducted by H. R. Harmer Ltd in London, in 1961; a further twenty-three years back. That famous collection of Australian Commonwealth across the board was particularly strong in the Kangaroo issues. Accordingly, we have three remarkable offerings of Kangaroos at auction separated by equal time spans.

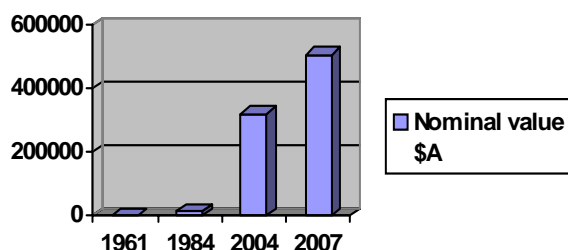
Table 1 shows comparative prices for either the *identical* item or in some instances *comparable* items where items of a similar nature were included. The 'current' yet now outdated 2004 ACSC prices are also shown in the table. All prices given are in *nominal* Australian dollars.

Lot number	Description – the figures in () are the number of examples known in private hands	Kilfoyle 1961 \$A	P e r r y 1984 \$A	A C S C 2004 \$A	G r a y 2007 \$A
237	1 st Wmk 2/- 'CA' strip of 3 (1)	-	908	30,000	66,346
249*	1 st Wmk 10/- Die proof (2)	35	1,430	40,000	47,917
256*	1 st Wmk 10/- 'CA' (3)	37	363	45,000	66,346
258*	1 st Wmk 10/- 'JBC' (3)	37	363	40,000	62,660
270	1 st Wmk £1 'CA' (4)	-	2,640	50,000	81,090
272	1 st Wmk £1 'JBC' (2)	-	2,640	50,000	73,718
285*	1 st Wmk £2 'CA' (2007: regummed) (2)	88	5,060	75,000	66,346
287*	1 st Wmk £2 'JBC' (1)	88	5,280	75,000	176,923
650*	3 rd Wmk £1 'CA' (2)	61	2,429	45,000	84,776
651	3 rd Wmk £1 'JBC' (1984 and 2007 wmk inverted) (3, two with wmk inverted!)	-	1,980	50,000	88,462
-	3 rd Wmk £1 'CA' strip of three (1)	145	5775	100,000	??
	*Totals for items priced in all four columns in nominal \$A	346	14,925	320,000	504,968
	Nominal index value with 1961 = 100	100	4,314	92,486	145,945

Table 1

It would have been most interesting to see what the third watermark £1 'CA' monogram strip of three would have fetched had Arthur owned it. As he wasn't the buyer of it in Rod's 1984 sale, nor since, that will have to remain a story for another day.

The following chart is based on the nominal value of the items that are priced in all four columns, and demonstrates well the magnitude of the price increases since the sale of the *Kilfoyle* collection in 1961.



In order to put some perspective on the price rises for the above group, the 1984 prices were 43.14 times those of 1961, whilst the 2007 prices were 33.83 times those of 1984. This means that on *relative* terms, the price increases from 1984 to 2007 were not all that different to those from 1961 to 1984.

No one can give a definitive answer to the question as to whether such price rises can be sustained. However, what I do know is that for such items, many said the prices were too high in 1984 and again in the 2004 ACSC catalogue. Based on the above sample, the catalogue prices have now been exceeded by an average of 57.80%. As I noted recently when reviewing the KGV catalogue, in a few years time we will be able to look back and make a better informed judgment on this than anyone can at the present time. Hindsight is an interesting concept; however, its great weakness is that it doesn't provide any guidance now! In the mean time, there is no doubt that the market is very strong and is showing no sign of abating. Having said that, I would like to see a little more depth to it in some areas, although there is strong evidence of new collectors entering the market.

My favorite items – *the rare and the beautiful 'top 20'*

In discussing Arthur's kangaroo collection, it would be remiss of me to not include a section devoted to my favorite items in the sale. They are listed in lot number order with each one being there for a special reason. In order to make my 'top 20' each item had to be either unique or of great rarity, either in superb condition or the best of its kind in private hands, and visually attractive. Naturally some of these items are expensive; however, the price was not a primary consideration as some lesser priced items have made the list.

1. 1903 £1 Vaughn essay (lot 18) \$A6,635 – there are possibly only three examples in blue in private hands of which two were in this sale.
2. 1912 Low value sheetlet (lot 50) \$A95,833 – the only recorded example; the Royal collection only has a vertical pair of stamps from a divided sheetlet.



50



52

3. 1912 High value sheetlets (lots 51 and 52) \$A73,718 each – each of the recorded high value sheetlets is in a different colour combination, and they are all visually stunning items.



18

68

94

169

4. 1912 1d Colour trial in brown and blue (lot 68) first sold for \$36,859 to Paul Fletcher of Millennium Philatelic Auctions when offered individually. It was then sold as part of the set which fetched a total of \$A235,897 to a postal bidder. Without doubt the most beautiful of the colour trials and a strong contender for the title of my favorite item in the entire sale!

5. 1st wmk ½d watermark sideways to right (lot 94) \$A55,288 – my favorite of the watermark errors, because it is unique and the most attractive of them, and because I was the first to report it in 1989, and to sell it in 1990! It would not have surprised me to see this item sell for a figure closer to \$A75,000. Purchased by John Zuckerman of Robert A. Siegel on behalf of a client.

6. 1st wmk ½d intersheet block (lot 104) \$A5,529 – this is the finest of the very rare intersheet blocks. I was fortunate to purchase this item on behalf of a client.

7. 1st wmk 3d imperforate three sides pair from top of sheet (lot 169) \$A66,346 – in conjunction with the strip of four in the *Baillie* sale this pair originally formed a strip of six, having been separated not that long before the *Baillie* collection was sold.

8. 1st wmk 9d Violet 'CA' monogram block of six (lot 218) \$A14,744 – the best of the low value monogram blocks and an absolute gem!

9. 1st wmk 2/- Brown corner block of four (lot 233) \$A9,952 – a rare block in any condition, this one being the finest recorded and a gem. I sold this item back in 1989.



104

233

249

10. 1913 10/- Die proof (lot 249) \$47,917 – previously auctioned for ‘only’ \$1,430 in 1984 by Rod Perry! Purchased by a member of the Australian trade.

11. 1st wmk £2 ‘JBC’ monogram single (lot 287) \$176,923 – previously auctioned for \$5,280 in 1984 by Rod Perry. I was fortunate to purchase this item on behalf of a client.

12. 2nd wmk 9d Violet no monogram strip from *right* of sheet (lot 364) \$A41,282 – the better of the pair of unique no monogram strips in this value; rare, beautiful and in superb condition. I was fortunate to purchase this item on behalf of a client.



364



369

13. 2nd wmk 1/- Blue-green ‘CA’ monogram strip of three from *left* of sheet (lot 369) \$30,962 – exceptional in every way and a gem. In regard to condition, this was one of the finest items in the sale, and was purchased by Gary Watson on behalf of a client after advising him that it was ‘magnificent’! I couldn’t agree more.

14. 3rd wmk 2d Grey ‘CA’ monogram block with substituted cliché (lot 411) fetched \$32,436 – previously sold for \$2,050 in *Charles Leski’s* Kangaroo auction in 1989 – the first of only a few auctions dedicated to the Kangaroo series that I am aware of, with the others including the *Nelson* sale conducted by *Prestige Philately*. I was fortunate to purchase this item on behalf of a client.



411



551



698

15. 3rd wmk 1/- Bright blue-green one line Harrison imprint block (lot 551) \$38,333 – the better of the two recorded blocks in private hands. Remarkably well centred for an imprint block. I was on two phones to two different clients at the same time for this item!

16. 3rd wmk 2/- Brown 'JBC' monogram strip of six (lot 582) \$42,756 – very rare with selvage three sides and an absolute stunner!

17. 3rd wmk £1 light brown and blue imprint block (lot 652) \$265,385 – refer to the discussion above for more information on this item. Prior to the sale I was asked many times what I thought would attract the highest price in the sale, and I picked this item without hesitation. The rest is history!

18. 3rd wmk 10/- perf 'OS' 'JBC' monogram block of six (lot 696) \$92,147 – fetched a mere \$2,250 in the 1987 Australia Post 'Archival' sale as a block of nine, with virtually no premium attached for the monogram, how times have changed!

19. 3rd wmk 10/- perf 'OS' imprint block of four, cancelled to order (lot 698) \$32,436 – sold for \$480 in Rod Perry's first rarity auction in 1977. This block is remarkably well centred and in a rich beautiful shade.

20. CofA wmk £2 with other values on cover (lot 822) \$19,904 – the finest of only two recorded commercial covers showing the £2 denomination. Purchased by Richard Juzwin for stock.

Summary

As with most 'name' sales that take place, some will say the prices were too high, some will say that they got a bargain and that some prices should have been higher; some might even say they are about right. This debate will go on for a long time. What I can say without question is that those who 'won' the important lots have them and no one else does; with such a great collection now dispersed, it is fair to say that many will now never own them. This sale has been a once in a generation opportunity to own many of the items that the serious and even the not so serious collectors dream of owning.

Many records were broken, and none more so than the total price being a staggering amount for a 'one issue' collection. At more than twice the amount of the entire *Baillie* Australian Commonwealth and Colonies sale, it is a record that will take some beating! It is also worth noting that the many strong prices achieved in this sale pave the way for a rewrite of the ACSC prices when the publishers decide to next update the Kangaroo catalogue. Along with everyone else who attended, it was a pleasure to participate in this important auction, and I believe that it will only be good for the market.

Simon Dunkerley

Simon Dunkerley has been a full time philatelic consultant for over 25 years. He is a former National President of APTA, has exhibited at National level, and is well known for his research into specialised areas of Australian philately. Many past 'Australia in Depth' columns are available on his website at www.simondunkerley.com You can contact Simon via email simon@simondunkerley.com or directly from the site, or by mail to PO Box 461, Blackburn, Vic 3130.

First published in Stamp News (April 2007 Edition) Australia in Depth #121. This is the revised edition from his website with additional illustrations. Used by permission.

Trans-Australian Railway

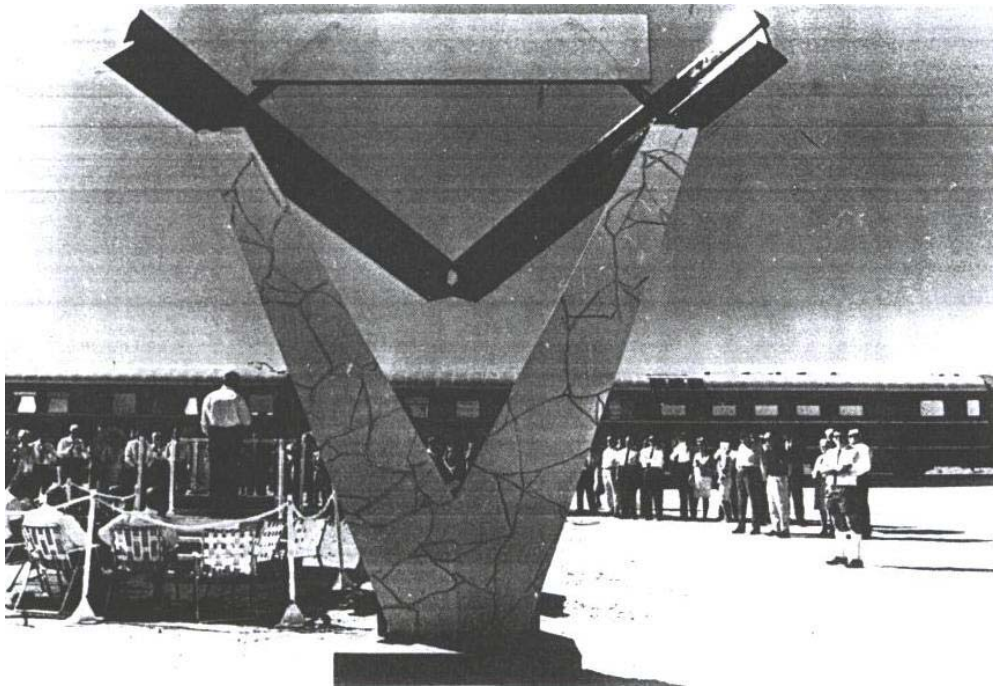
By Frank Gericevich

Answers to Pat McNamara's questions relating to Trans Australian Railway in AJP, No.99 March 2007, pages 14-15.

Question 1

The 1967 Ooldea Special Commemoration Train was a special train to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the completion of the Trans Australian Railway.

'Guests of the celebrations travelled by special rail services from Adelaide to Port Augusta, where a commemorative Dinner was held in the Commonwealth Railway Institute premises, "Cooinda". They were later transported by special train which left Port Augusta at 2 am on Saturday, 21 October! to a point near Ooldea on the Trans Australian Railway where the rails were originally inked in 1917. A brief ceremony was held and a special commemorative monument unveiled. The train returned from Ooldea at 1 pm. arriving at Pan Augusta at 11:10 am, on the Sunday.' (Extract taken from "the Golden Jubilee of the Trans Australian Railway" by T. F. Chambers in *The Australian Railway Historical Society, Bulletin*, No. 373, November 1968 pp 267—275.)



A photocopy of the Commemorative monument unveiled near Ooldea, from Chambers article page 274.

Question 2 —Does the Tea and Sugar Train still run?

The service officially ended on 31st August 1996.

Source — DOWNES, JIM, 1997. 'The Indian—Pacific - From Coast to Coast,'

Question 2 & 3 (will be answered together)

The Trans Continental Railway joined at a point 621 miles from Kalgoorlie on October 17, 1917. The first train passed through exactly one week later.

Construction commenced in 1914. On March 2, 1914, the Postal Inspector, Coolgardie reported that 200 men were working between Parkeston (Depot near Kalgoorlie) and the 67 mile site (from Kalgoorlie). He recommended a Post Office be sent out on the daily train, and that it should deal with Money orders, Postal notes and have a Saving Bank Bureau, and a Date stamp, marked T.P.O. Trans-Railway WA. The service was inaugurated on January 25, 1915. The train moved eastward as sections were completed.

From June 11, 1915, this postal service was supplemented when an Officer from the Kalgoorlie Post Office commenced to travel on the fortnightly Pay Train.

The District Officer reported on December 12, 1915, that a distinctive Kalgoorlie Date was used and referred to it as 'Pay Train, Kalgoorlie.

On December 6, 1915, the Commonwealth Savings Bank endeavoured to have the names of the two Post Offices changed and thus obtain uniformity with the names used on the South Australian Sections. Despite this, the two date stamps, 'TransRailway TPO' and 'Pay Train Trans Railway were used.

On July 7, 1916. Commonwealth Railways requested a Post Office be established at the 411 Miles, as it would be the main depot for materials etc. The PO opened on July, 22, 1916 at 411 Miles.

On August 5, 1916, a construction camp moved to 430 Miles, adding "the Allowance Office therefore is known as Trans-Railway TV' and by the Commonwealth Railway as "Camp Pay Train".

Mobile Offices - The Allowance Office (AC" in the Equipment Train, opened January 26, 1915 with the title, Trans Railway TPO." renamed Trans-Australian Railway - TPO. on March 1, 1916. Closed January 21, 1918.

The Office in the Pay Train opened June 11, 1915 with the title Pay Train Kalgoorlie", re-named "Pay Train Trans Railway". Closed January 1 1918.

These two offices were superseded by two Allowance Offices under WA administration, the Allowance being paid to the Dept. of Home Affairs with date stamp "Pay Train TAR.— opened February 28, 1918.

Renamed Pay Train (1> July 1 1921 Administration transferred to Port Augusta December 1, 1923.

"Camp Pay Train TAR opened July 7, 1918. Closed November 11, 1919.

Re - opened February 13, 1 920, renamed Camp Pay Train (2)'July, 1921. Closed January 23, 1 922.

Source

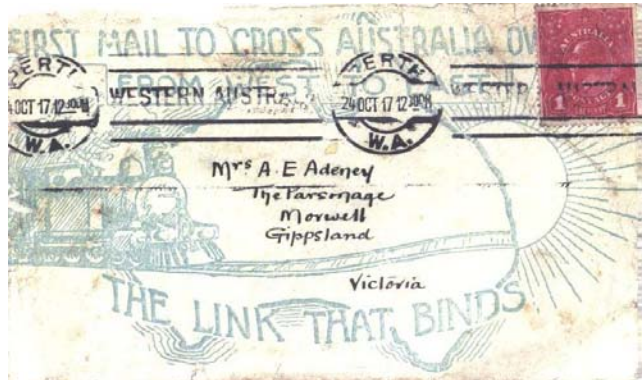
Postal History of the Trans - continental railway, Western Australian Section, 191 5—1953. Alexander Library (Battye) Western Australia.

Note— From this information, it would appear that TPO 1 and 2 operated from the WA side until the transfer. The cover you show in Question 3, is from SA. ? 1981.

Re Question 4—a carriage was used as the mobile P0 when it was required?

Re Question 4-a carriage was used as the mobile P.O. when it was required?

Overall, the whole business is very "messy". It would appear the two States, WA and SA were not that co-operative when it came to administration, which could account for this "mess"



Runs from Port Pirie to Kalgoolie

Runs from Tarcola (SA) to Kalgoolie (WA)

Letter to the Editor

Neville Solly, Yankalilla SA 5203 also sent in a reply to the TAR question as follows:

In reply to the questions 2 to 4 from Pat McNamara I draw your attention to Martin Walkers book *Post, Telegraph and Telephone offices of South Australia and the Northern Territory* for details of these post offices. Relevant details copied from this tome are enclosed

Post, Telegraph and Telephone Offices of South Australia and the Northern Territory

Central Australian Rail TPO

Postmark Registration Label

T.P.O. operating on the narrow gauge Quorn to Alice Springs line.
11/3/1957 Name changed from Quorn - Alice Springs TPO
3/6/1958 Name changed to Central Australian Rail No. 1 TPO

Central Australian Rail No. 1 TPO

Postmark Registration Label

T.P.O. operating on the narrow gauge Marree-Alice Springs line.
"Postmaster" was the Commonwealth Railways.

3/6/1958 Name changed from Central Australian Rail TPO
3/1/1981 Closed

Central Australian Rail No. 2 TPO

Postmark Registration Label

T.P.O. operating on the new standard gauge line from Port Augusta to Marree. From circa 1978 the mails from the construction gangs working on the new Tarcoola to Alice Springs line were flown to Port Augusta and cancelled with the "C.A.R. No 2" postmark.
"Postmaster" was the Commonwealth Railways.

3/6/1958 Opened as a Non-Official Office
1978 Moved to Tarcoola-Alice Springs Construction Camp
30/10/1980 Last Day of Business
3/1/1981 Closed

Pay Train Trans-Australian Railway TPO

Postmark Registration Label

Originally operating from Parkeston (Kalgoorlie), W.A., this office serviced the gangs maintaining the line controlled by the Western Australian division. The service was transferred to South Australian control on 1/12/1923 and from 20/3/1924 the service was operated by the Commonwealth Railways along the entire line from Port Augusta to Parkeston. This arrangement caused the closure of the E-W Railway TPO.

8/2/1918 Opened as a Western Australian Office
16/5/1924 Earliest listing as an Allowance Office
14/2/1940 Name changed to Pay Train T.A.R. No. 1

Pay Train Trans-Aust. Railway No 1 TPO

Postmark Registration Label

This Non-Official Office operated on the fortnightly supply train running between Port Augusta and Watson. By 1955 the train operated between Port Augusta and Cook.

14/2/1940 Name changed from Pay Train Trans-Australian Rly
11/3/1957 Name changed to Trans-Australian Rail TPO

Pay Train Trans-Aust. Railway No 2 TPO

Postmark Registration Label

This Non-Official Office operated on the fortnightly supply train running between Kalgoorlie W.A. and Fisher W.A. Although not strictly a South Australian office it was replaced in 1954 by the Trans-Australian Rail TPO operating the entire length of the line between Port Augusta and Kalgoorlie. Officially, the "postmaster" was the Commonwealth Railways but inspector's reports reveal the following people operating the office - Messrs. I. Caird, G.L. Fry, A. Keally, G.V. Dillis, M. Lavin, O.E. Just, J.L. Main, W. Rayner, E. Keally and C. Keally, who appears to have been a postmark collector as many covers from the remote towns of the Trans-Australian Railway are addressed to him.

14/2/1940 Opened as a Non-Official Office
21/4/1954 Last Day of Business
25/8/1954 Closed

Tranmere North 1980.

Trans-Australian Rail TPO

Postmark Registration Label

TPO operating on the fortnightly train servicing the railway settlements on the line between Port Augusta and Cook. This train is popularly known as the "Tea and Sugar".

11/3/1957 Name changed from Pay Train Trans-Aust. Rly No.1
28/3/1964 First registered mails accepted
2/1/1985 Status changed to a Post Office Agency
25/4/1986 Last Day of Business
30/4/1986 Closed

Re: question 1 *Australian PictorMarks* Eury and Wooley page 90 APM2470 has the answer. Ooldea was the nearest point to where the eastern and western construction gangs joined the rails in 1917. The cover is from the Jubilee train.

The illustrating of postmarks is a good idea. However the "improving" of them is fraught with danger. A prime example is on page 26 of issue 99 where the NAIRNE postmark has been turned into the bogus NAIANE. Please print them "as is" to prevent this from happening. (Response George?)



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stamps



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Chops on stampless covers



Chops on covers, Postal
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See my website dealing with Security Markings on the stamps of British Malaya at:
<http://michelhoude.com> there you can find images of items I have to trade or sell.

Minutes of General Meeting held 16 April 2007

President David Brindle welcomed 12 members to the meeting – there were no apologies. He then introduced Mr John Lancaster who presented the syllabus for the evening: “Pictures from the Trade Exhibitions - 1854 - 1933”.

Mr Lancaster provided an overview of the subject. He pointed out that Mussorgsky wrote music for an art exhibition; whereas the only recorded examples of music especially composed for trade exhibitions were Philadelphia 1876: ceremonial march composed by Richard Wagner; 1893 Chicago Scott Joplin; Expo 1958 Brussels an electronic poem composed by Edgard Varese, and Expo 1970 Osaka Stockhausen.

The illustrations and pictures that form part of the pictorial record of the exhibitions from the 1851 London event until the early 1890's, were either woodcut blocks or steel engravings. The former to be disposed off as once only use, and the latter, usually illustrations of a commercial nature, retained for further usage in advertising or promotional material. With the invention of the photolithographic process in Melbourne by J W Osborne in 1859, it was not until the 1890's that photography was able to be adapted easily into printed newspapers. Osborne's photographs were shown as part of the Victorian display at the London exhibition of 1862. Most of the woodcuts that were shown were from *The Illustrated Australian News*, *The Illustrated London News*, *The Australasian Sketcher* and *The Graphic*

Members were shown pictures that were from exhibitions held in Melbourne, Paris, Sydney, Vienna, Ballarat, Geelong and Adelaide and covered the period from 1854 to the Melbourne Motor Show of 1949. He highlighted the MIE British court – which showed the fabric detail that has since been restored to the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne – a woodcut that showed people travelling to the CIE and the Adelaide sketches plus the Nieuw Holland delegates from first trade ship to SE-Asia.

Mr Brindle invited members to join in the commentary and discussion on such a visually rewarding and very stimulating display, and provided an appreciation to Mr Lancaster. The minutes of the 19 February 2007 meeting were proposed by Mr Brindle and seconded by Mr Steward as an accurate record of proceedings. The President made mention of the ESPC competition for which entries are due by 5 May. He also advised that Mr Pauer would be giving a presentation on FDC to the RPSV on 19 April.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15pm.

Correction

A correction from Frank Adamik Higgins ACT.

With reference to the current issue of AJP (No. 99 March 2007). I am writing to advise of an error in an article. On page 16 it states that Edward Kenna is the only living Australian holder of the VC. This is incorrect. Keith Payne, VC is still very much alive (and living in north Queensland, I believe). He was awarded his VC for action in Vietnam in the 1960s as a member of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (AATTV). He was in Canberra on March 24 for an AATTV 45th anniversary wreath laying at the Australian War Memorial.

AUSTRALIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY Inc

ABN # 85 081 158 366

COUNCIL for the YEAR 2006-2007

President: David Brindle

Past President: Frank Pauer

Vice-President: vacant **Honorary Secretary:** John Lancaster

Honorary Treasurer: John Steward **Honorary Librarian:** John Young

“Australian Journal of Philately” Editor: Tony Lyon

Councillors

Michael Barden, Irene Kerry, Ruth and Tom O’Dea

..... o O o

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

and

REPORT and STATEMENT of ACCOUNTS

for year ending 30 June 2007

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at the RSL Homes, 152 Canterbury Road, Canterbury on Monday 20 August 2007 at 8pm, for the transaction of the following business:

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of last Annual General Meeting held 21 August 2006
- 3 The President (or his nominee) will report on the year’s work of the Society
- 4 The Honorary Librarian’s Report and other reports will be presented
- 5 The report of the Honorary Treasurer on the Accounts will be read
- 6 To receive and adopt Accounts of the Society for year to 30 June 2007
- 7 **Elections:**

a) The following nominations for Officers of the Society have been received:

President David Brindle; **Vice-President** – no nomination; **Secretary** John Lancaster. There being no other nominations, the above-named will at the Annual General Meeting be deemed to be elected.

b) The undermentioned Officers being eligible have offered themselves for re-election and there being no further nominations, will at the Annual General Meeting be deemed to be elected:

Honorary Treasurer - John Steward **Honorary Librarian** – John Young

c) Following nominations for **Members of Council** have been received:

Michael Barden, Tony Lyon, Irene Kerry, Ruth and Tom O’Dea and since no other nominations were received, said will be deemed to be elected as Members of Council.

- 8 To appoint an **Auditor** in accordance with the Constitution.
- 9 Any other business that may arise.

Hand-Held Date Stamps

Co-ordinated by George Vearing

It is wonderful to reach the milestone of 100 editions of the journal and I am pleased to be a small part of it and most of the credit must go to the willing members who continually support this column.

When down at Cowes for a few days, I found out that they had replaced all of their datestamps with 3 identical new ones, one of which is illustrated in this edition and this just reinforces that we must always be on the lookout for new issues.

Thanks to Richard Peck, Ian Cutter, Simon Alsop and Colin Salt for their support in providing material for this column.

N.S.W.



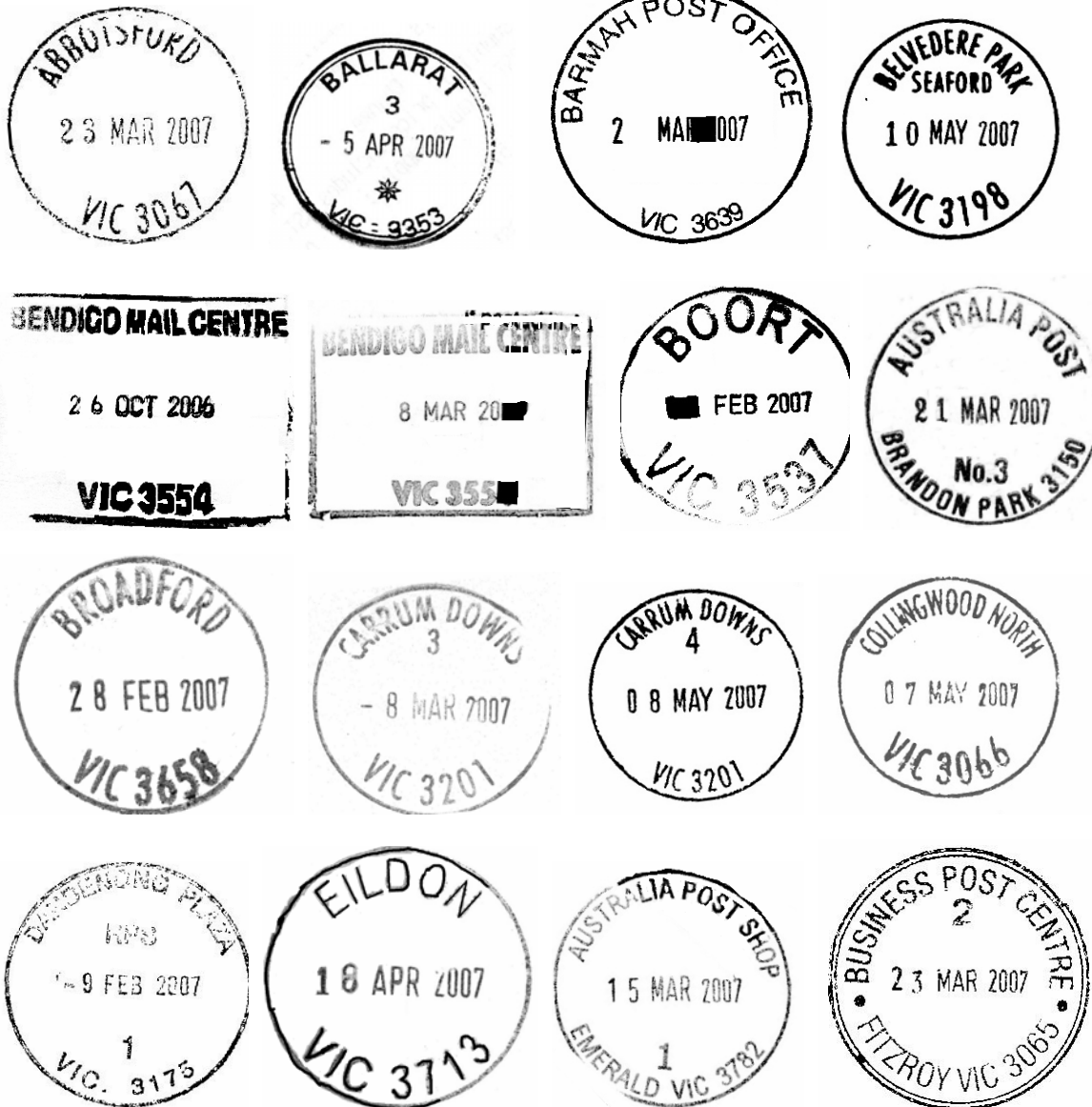
TAS.



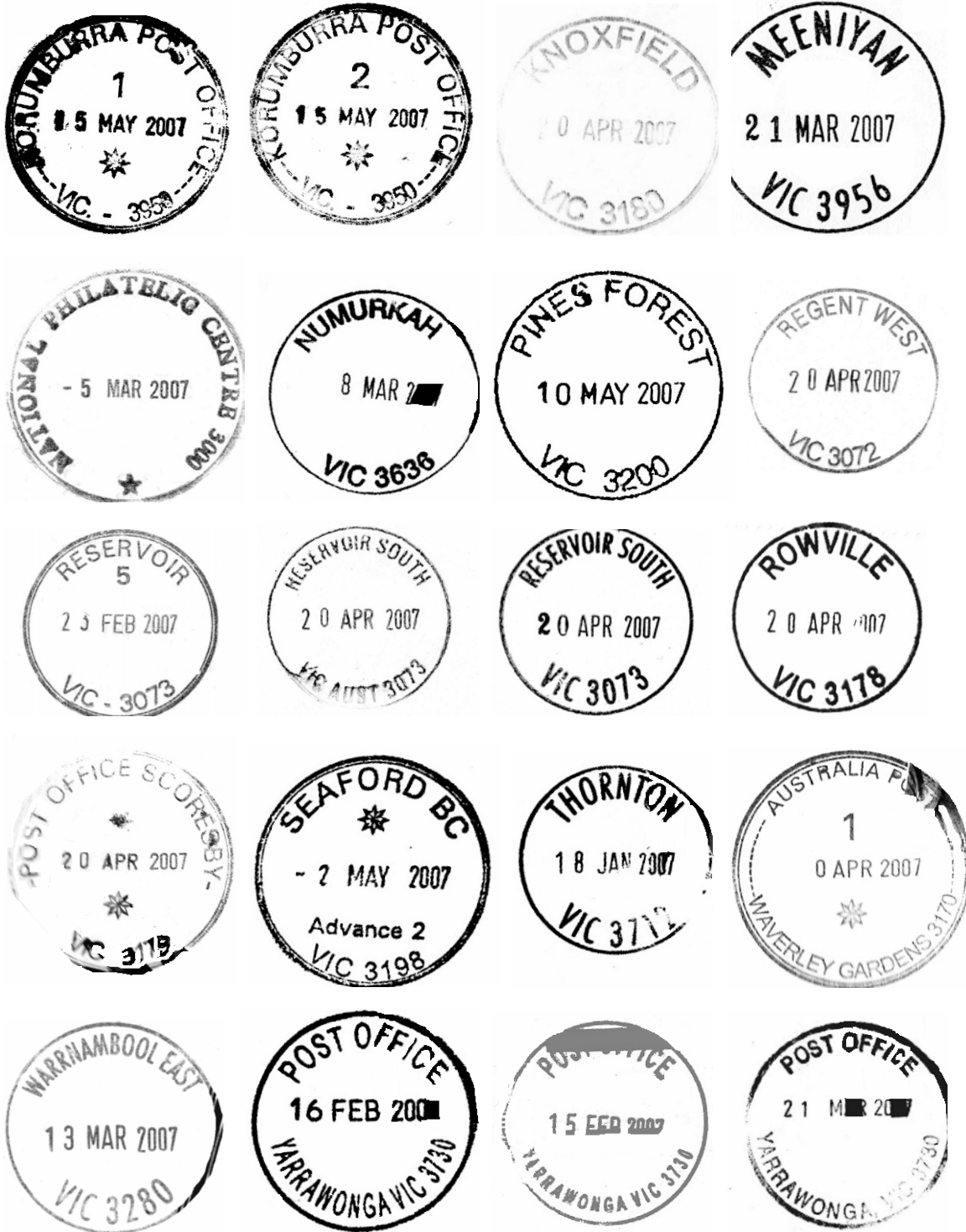
S.A.



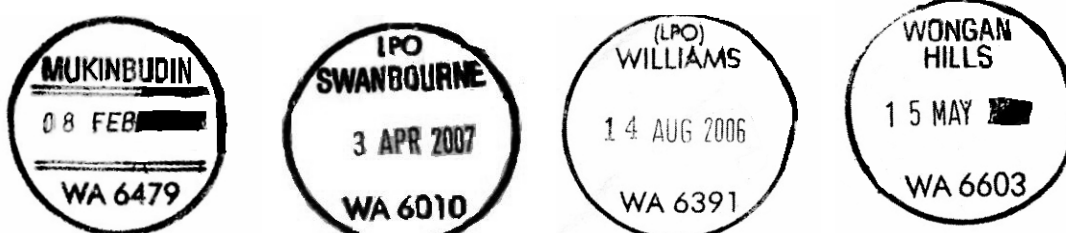
VIC:-EMERALD Also 2, WAVERLEY GARDENS Also 4,5. Earlier Datestamps:-
ABBOTSFORD(79/35), BENDIGO MAIL CENTRE(93/35), BROADFORD(93/35),
DAYLESFORD(87/34), FOSTER(94/31), MEENIYAN(82/37) RESERVOIR(76/36),
THORNTON(74/64), WARRNAMBOOL EAST(98/27), YARRAWONGA(94/31).



VIC-Cont.



W.A.: -Earlier Datestamp:-MUKINBUDIN (77/36).



Urban Myths

By Harewood

June
2007

One hundred editions – Harewood never thought he'd last that long! He salutes that brave band of postal history and stationery aficionado's, who banded together in 1977 to study an emerging yet very important element of philately.

"Date Stamp" number one was issued July 1981 with the president's message from Simon Alsop. He commented that the then Society had been operative for three years and those members "have felt for some time that there is a lack of regular published postal history and postal stationery material." At that stage the "Post Horn" was the only Australian journal focussing on such topics. He extolled them to solicit articles, preferably with illustrations for publication – little has changed since!

Membership fees then were \$5 with numbers 'small'. "Each issue will have columns relating to current events, an information service, wanted to buy and sell columns, as well as a broad but general coverage of postal history and stationery." Articles were from John Macdonnell, Brian Fuller, John Trowbridge, David Wood, and Ron Collumbine. Varied in content they ranged from such topics as Precancelled Stamps of Canada; Trans-Atlantic Mails, Postmarks of Abbotsford, A Different Light on the Subject – being Fuller's advice on using a UV lamp. Alsop wrote on his bete noir, that of relief datestamps, this time for Tyabb, and Collumbine had a column on Postmark Interest–dealing with IMSO m/c NSW cancellations of 1980~81 – the acronym being Interim Mail Sorting Office!

However, what really captured Harewood's attention was an article headed "Eastern Suburbs Competition". It went on to say, "During May our Society had the honour of winning this inaugural competition hosted by the Sherbrooke PS." Even to this day we are still winning this competition.

For 1981 it was quite a bold move for there was little else other than the ASM, Stamp News, Philately from Aust, and perhaps a few other societal publications. Comparing issue number fifty-one is quite a revelation in the significant advances made in the twenty-four years since

1981 in quality, content and presentation. The February 1995 edition had Michael Barden as editor. Harewood and Jenkins had not yet found the back bar of the Polo Club, so no scurrilous material to gestate as Urbane Myths. Fuller was again featured this time updating data about Inkjet Printers. There were seventeen articles from Messrs Barden, Tobin, Fuller, Glover, Gunn, Smithies, Legg & Ross, Vearing, Waghorn, Fitzsimons and Borrie as well as Margaret Toohey.

The first issue had ten pages and 1995 had forty-two. The diversity of articles was still wide and varied, but still essentially focussing on modern postal history – there were no stationery articles. The only social philately element was Keith Glover's "United Kingdom – A Royal Progress". Stationery would appear not to have been as dynamic a factor then and now, as covers and postal history have become, especially with the burgeoning discipline of social philately.

The irascible Harewood first made an appearance in June 1995 when it became apparent that gossip, innuendo and outright liable had yet to find a suitable place in the philatelic press. Now that challenge was just too much for an aging flack, who'd long resigned himself to the turpitude of quiescence and shiraz sampling at the Polo Club.

Steadfastly over the year's we've had a remarkable band of dedicated writer warriors beaver away at obscure postal historical things that absolutely amaze this ageing soul. Issue 99 of March featured several new correspondents as Brindle, Hempel and McNamara. Therefore, we really decided that for issue number one hundred it would be BIG, and we all hope that you've enjoyed it as much as we have in putting it together.

As Harewood contemplates the back half of 2007 and muses upon further pleasant idleness and a little aberrant humour, he sincerely hopes that you will not unnecessarily annoy him at AustPhilSoc@gmail.com

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What YOU can do to help the Australian Philatelic Society

- ◆ Sign up a new member
- ◆ Write an article for the Journal (Better still, write two!)
- ◆ Send the Editor any interesting philatelic news
- ◆ Come to the monthly meeting if in Melbourne
- ◆ Help George Vearing with his Datestamp Notes
- ◆ Get involved in one of the Study Groups
- ◆ Enter the Society Competitions
- ◆ Volunteer to display your collection at the monthly meeting

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