

# Australian Journal of Philately

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

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**Australia, Please can You Help Me?**

**Additional Glimpses of Victoria's Social History  
Through Wrappers**

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

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Date	2015 / 2016 Programme	Display
15 February 2016	Michael Barden	Belgium WW2 Charity Issues
18 April 2016	Brian Fuller	3 D Philately
20 June	Tony Lyon	Palestine Pictorials 1928-47 & Military Covers

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## Front cover:

*From John Young*

1941, Fiji to RAAF, Middle East.  
Posted 18 Dec 1941, after PAA  
service from Auckland to Fiji  
ended.

Probably transmitted to Auckland,  
flown TEAL to Sydney, Qantas to  
Singapore, Cairo. Censored in Fiji.



## Editorial

*Tony Lyon*

The APS President John Young expresses displeasure at the performance of Australia Post quoting from a stinging article in Stamp News, September 2105 Vol. 62 No. 11. There the author of Market Matters, Glen Stephens cites a number of instances where parcels have disappeared into a black hole and eventually turned up after apparently holidaying in another state. He states the Australia Post service as never been worse.

John provides his own example in his president's column. I recently strayed upon the Australia Post Facebook page and was fascinated by the tales of woe from customers asking what had happened to their parcel. They can see it in the tracking but it had not been received. So it appears that this is not one man's gripe but a fairly common occurrence.

Considering the millions being paid to the high flying executives at Australia Post one would expect a first class service especially when you consider the way they have increased parcel delivery prices and the soon to be 30% hike in ordinary mail.

I wonder how many Christmas presents are going to arrive sometime after Christmas to the disappointment of those who were anticipating gifts from gran & grandad, uncles and aunts?

Come on Australia Post, this is not some third world country, but your service seems like that!

I hope you all have a great Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Don't eat too much and try to think of others less fortunate.

Ciao for now.

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

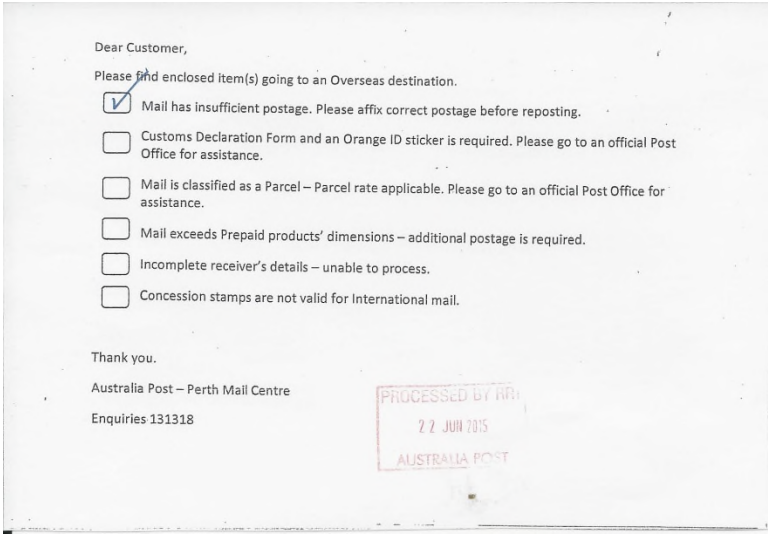
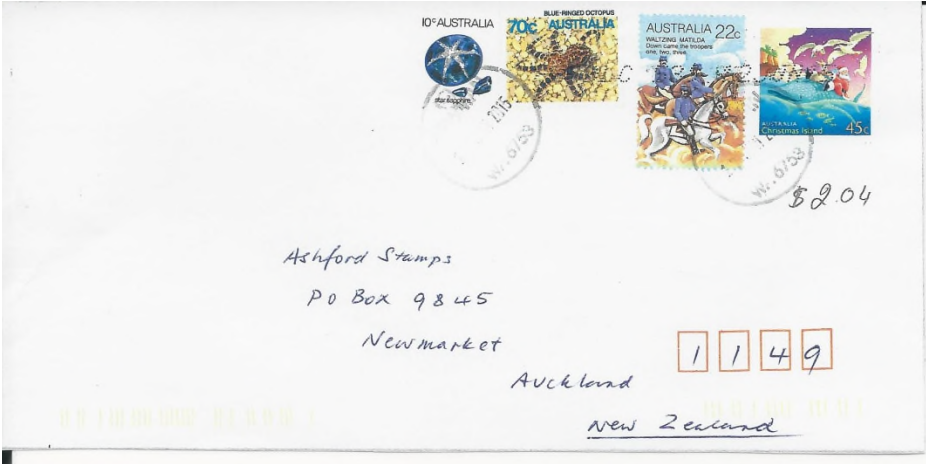
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# From the President

In the November Australian Stamp Monthly a regular contributor, Glen Stephens, devoted several pages to describing a truly appalling Australia Post, covering ground from dysfunctional robotics to dismal executives. I shall add my five cents worth.

In early June I posted a letter to New Zealand, wrongly guessing the correct postage. Back it came in late June, with a note telling me to add the correct postage. Fair enough, but twenty or so days between posting and return seemed over-long. More annoying, however, was the fact that the return mail came from the Western Australian Revenue Recovery Office, Perth; and my wrongly franked envelope had been cancelled not in Perth but in Newman, on the western edge of the Sandy Desert. Melbourne to New Zealand via a W.A. desert region! Perhaps it was a mercy that the letter was not lost in the desert. The pictures below illustrate this story.



It is usual in my last message for the year to extend greetings to members for the coming season. I hesitate to entrust this to Australia Post, but I have every expectation that they will arrive in good time for Christmas 2016. Should my expectation be exceeded, I include a 2015 greeting. Best wishes, anyway.