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OFFICE BEARERS 2010 - 2011

2011 Programme		
20 June	Michael Kalka & Max Bulley	Timor 1999-2002 & HM Transport Covers
15 August	**AGM** & then Members	Work in progress (6 - 10 sheets each)
17 October	Michael Barden	Belgium, International Trade Fairs 1913-1935

Contents

Editorial

Firstly, thank you Michael Barden for sitting comfortably in the editorial chair whilst I was in Indonesia. Michael has also helped former editor of this journal he sure hasn't lost his touch.

We have some excellent contributions this issue. which I hope you enjoy. Part 1 of Judy Kennett's article Mail form Eastern Europe Pre World War 2 is an illustration of how interesting collecting postal history can be. Judy suggests her study a could be called a social study. Maybe it is social philately. Whatever one entitles it, there is an interesting story to tell from postal items that are a result of a very sad time in world history.

Brian Fuller, as is his wont, is searching for answer to a postmark question and also has provided an article of his research into the Double Circle Killers used in the Central Mail Exchange (CME) and the Melbourne Mail Exchange (MMC). Modern philately is not everyone's cup of tea but it is important that postal history is recorded for the future generation of collectors.

Thank you to all contributors.

Ciao and happy hunting and gathering.

From the President

Collectors of postal history often talk about the allure of "solo uses". What follows is the story of one of them.

In 1938-39 the USA postal administration issued a long set of definitives with portraits of American presidents, from Washington to Coolidge. They are known as the prexies. There was an 11 cent stamp, showing James Polk, president during 1845-49.

What could an 11 sent stamp be used for? Well, not very much. Its main use was for a make-up value, although it did pay for 3 ounces surface mail to overseas until 1953 and for partial airmail to Europe (US airmail 3c, seamail 5c, Europe airmail 3c) from 1934 to 1939. Surviving examples of these bring about $100 each.

In 1969 airmail postage for postcards went up from 10c to 11c, and longstanding remainders of the Polk stamp were used up. There were probably not many left, and the postal administration issued a new 11 cent stamp, in two colours depicting the Statue of Liberty. There were apparently so few Polk stamps left that a solo-use Polk airmail postcard is a highly desired rarity.

Early in 2011 a part-time dealer had a shoe box of ham-radio postcards airmailed to Australia. Among about 25 eleven-cent cards there was one Polk. One in 25 is possibly an exceptional strike rate.

Shown to the left is a common postcard from a US Air Force post office in Germany (worth $10?) and the Polk postcard (worth $???) below. It will go to auction soon. Hopefully it will attract some American bids, and an Australian bid or two from collectors of incoming airmails.

4
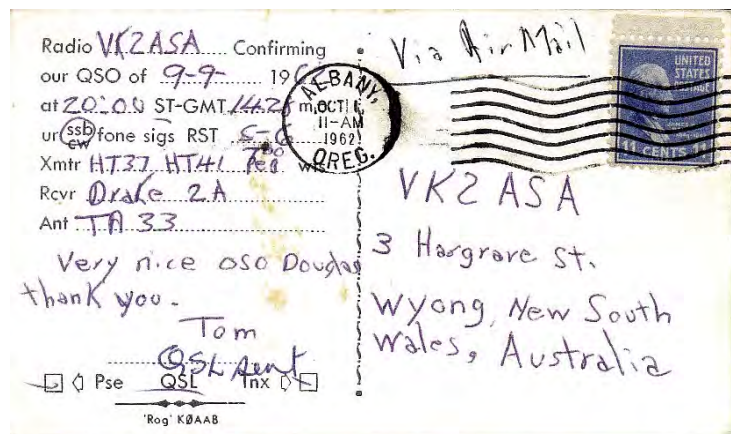
Mail from Eastern Europe Pre World War 2

Judy Kennett

Introduction   In 1995 a collector friend in Sydney gave me six covers sent to Melbourne from Romania in the years 1938-40. Three were registered, all had good receiving marks and some had indications of routes taken. One was addressed to Rabbi Herman Sanger, two to Irvin Tullin and three to Eugene Stanley. What was interesting was that they seemed to indicate links to the Melbourne Jewish community.

Already I had noticed, in my Hungarian airmails from the same period, three envelopes sent to Australian Jewish community organisations in Sydney. Then I found four covers from Poland in 1937-38 that I had bought for my collection of Greek currency control markings. These were all addressed to Rabbi JL Gurewicz in Melbourne. Here, certainly, was a link with the Melbourne Jewish community.

Three reasons for this correspondence are apparent

First is letters from family members still in Eastern Europe to relations who had already settled in Australia. Keeping in touch was a matter of urgency.

Second was letters from Jewish people writing about religious and community matters to the Rabbis and to fellow adherents living here.

Third, and perhaps the most pressing reason then, was the rise of Nazism and Fascism and discrimination against Jews in Europe. It seems natural that people, alarmed by the turn of events, would wish to get as far away from Europe as possible. So I feel that some of these covers had carried letters written by people seeking sponsors from Australian Jewish communities to help them and their families to immigrate to Australia.

Setting the parameters of the study

Before examining the covers, I need to emphasize that this is not a full postal history study, as rates will not be dealt with, and routes will be referred to only where it's necessary to indicate how the covers were carried out of Europe and reached Australia. Perhaps this should be called a social study, illustrated with used postal material.

Part 1: The Rabbis

Correspondence to Rabbi J L Gurewicz from Poland (4 covers)

Rabbi Joseph Lipman Gurewicz was born at Vilna in 1885. This city has had a number of names, and masters. When the Rabbi was born, it was under the rule of Tsarist Russia. In the peace settlements after the First World War, when Poland achieved sovereignty, this area came under Polish rule, and the city was known as Wilno. It is now in Lithuania, one of the Baltic States, and is known as Vilnius.

The Rabbi arrived in Australia in 1932 and became the spiritual head of the United Congregations of Carlton. His role in the life of his community is described on the home page of the Melbourne Jewish Museum. An archive of his papers and correspondence is held at the Museum.

The four covers addressed to him were purchased at postal auctions in 1997 and 1998. They range in dates of posting from July 1937 to November 1938. The Rabbi's reputation seems to have been widespread in his homeland, for the covers were posted in four different locations, and none in Warsaw. They all travelled to the capital city, where they were consigned to the Polish airline Lot. In

the 1930s, Lot had regular services in Eastern Europe, particularly from Warsaw through Bucuresti (Bucharest, Romania), Sofia (Bulgaria), to Salonika (Greece) thence to Athenai (Athens). Lot operations ceased with the German invasion of Poland in September 1939.

There are two airmail carriers that might have brought these Polish covers to Australia. From examination of the backstamps on the two registered covers, it seems likely that they were carried from Athens to Sydney on the regular Imperial Airlines (IA) / BOAC flying boat service. In July 1938 a second carrier commenced a three times weekly service from Europe to Australia. This was the Netherlands KLM / KNILM airlines, with land based aircraft. Two of the Polish covers have Sydney airmail machine cancels, and I checked those dates of arrival against the timetables in ***Bridging the Continents in wartime: important airmail routes 1939-1945*** [1]. Flights from Batavia (now Jakarta) did arrive in Sydney on those dates, 3 Sep 1938 and 4 Nov 1938.

Registered airmail letter from Jedwabne, Poland to Melbourne.

Posted **Jedwabne 30 Jul 1937.**

Backstamps :-
Warsaw 1 Aug 37
Athinai 3 Aug 37
Darwin 10 Aug 37
Registered
Melbourne
13 Aug 37,
Carlton North
13 Aug 1937.
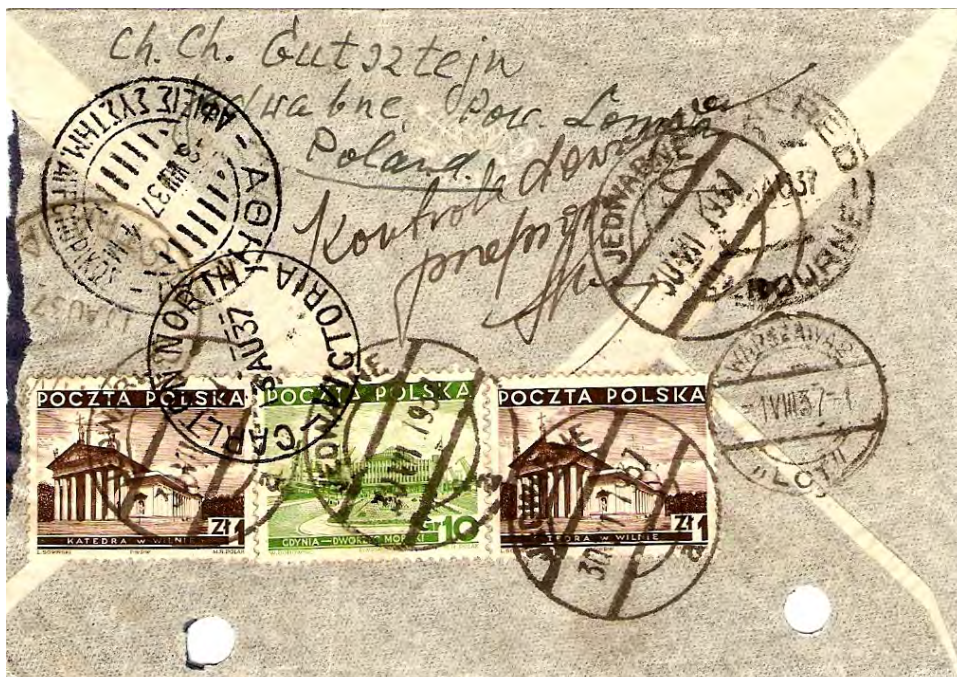
Likely travelled by IA / BOAC flying boat service.

Comments:
1. m/s *Polecony* [2] in top LH corner = registered.
2. Greek currency control mark on front by cds
3. m/s (letter rear)
***Kontrola dewizowa przeprowadzona* [2] = letter checked for money (Poland)**
4. Red cross on front added in Melbourne.

Airmail letter from Glebokie, Poland to Melbourne.

Posted **Glebokie 24 Aug 38,**

backstamps :-
Warsaw 25 Aug 38

arrival airmail machine cancel Sydney 3 Sep 1938.

Likely travelled by KLM from Athens to Batavia (Netherlands Indies), then by KNILM to Sydney.

Comment:
Greek currency control mark on front.
(over Melbourne)

Airmail letter from Wilno, Poland to Melbourne.

Posted **Wilno 25 Oct 38**
backstamps :-
**Warsaw 25 Oct 38,
Athinai machine cancel 27 Oct 38** (verso)
Sydney airmail machine cancel 4 Nov 1938 (verso)

Likely travelled from Athens by KLM to Batavia, by KNILM to Sydney.

Comments:
Greek currency control mark on front.

Correspondence from a Rabbi, from Rabbi Gurewicz's 'home town'.

Registered airmail letter from Nowogrodek, Poland to Melbourne.

Posted **Nowogrodek 1 Nov 38**

Backstamps **Warsaw 2 Nov 38, Athinai 4 Nov 38, Darwin NT 13 Nov 38, Registered Melbourne 16 Nov 38, Carlton North 16 NO 38.**

Likely travelled by IA / BOAC flying boat service.

Comments: **Greek currency control mark on front. Blue cross on front and back added in Australia.**

Reference   1. Aitink, Hans E and Hovenkamp, Egbert, ***Bridging the continents in wartime: important airmail routes 1939-1945***, Stiching Luchtpostgeschiedenis Tweede Weredoorlog, Enschede, The Netherlands, 2005.

2. Private correspondence with Alex Kaczmarek of the Polish Community Council of Australia in Canberra. Many thanks for his help with the translations of the Polish on the recto & verso of the letter from Jedwabne to Rabbi Gurevbitz..

Correspondence to Rabbi H M Sanger from Romania (1 cover)

Rabbi Herman Max Sanger was born in Berlin in 1909. His interesting life as a scholar and linguist in Europe can be researched on Google. He came to Melbourne from the UK in 1936, having been forced out of Germany by the Nazi authorities. He went to the Temple Beth Israel in St Kilda, and became a leader in the life of his community. He was described as a gifted linguist, also a brilliant orator and teacher.

Registered letter from Bucuresti, Romania to Melbourne.

Posted
Bucuresti 7 IAN (January) 1938,

Backstamps
Registered Melbourne 12 FE 38, sent first to St Kilda 14 Feb 38 (S2 on front), returned to Registered Melbourne 14 Feb 38, South Melbourne (date not readable), **back to Registered Melbourne 15 FE 38, then Caulfield 15 Feb 38 (SE7).**

On the front is a cancel South Yarra S.E.1 for 14 Feb 38.

Comment
Blue crosses added in Melbourne

Part 2 of this article will deal with covers sent from Romania to Irvin Tullin, who arrived in Melbourne as Ismail Tulcinischi on 29 September 1939. Digging out his story from nothing except an identity has proved to be a fascinating and sometimes a frustrating exercise.

Part 3 will deal with correspondence from Hungary and Romania to Eugene Stanley, who arrived in Melbourne as Eugen Szabadi on 15 January 1939. There are covers from his former career in Vienna, and covers and a postal card from 1939-1940, and a cover from 1946, sent to him in Australia.

Trans Pacific Airmail, 1942-44

By John Young

When Japan attacked Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, in December 1941, the trans Pacific PAA "Clipper" air service ended, and airmail direct to America ended as well.

After the attack a letter might be sent to USA from Australia with stamps approximating the cost of airmail, but in vain (figure 1).

Figure 1 - Franked 4 shillings and 10 pence, a shilling less the than full airmail rate, trans Pacific-USA-Atlantic before Pearl Harbour attack. Transmission was 6 July-28 August 1943 (backstamp).

Americans did the same, paying 70 cents airmail postage, and quite a few of these U.S. covers survive. Rarely though is there a date marking to say how long transmission took, and the few seen indicate the journey took several weeks (figures 2a, 2b). Not even part airmail to Hawaii seemed to happen, although there was postal air service between there and USA throughout the war.
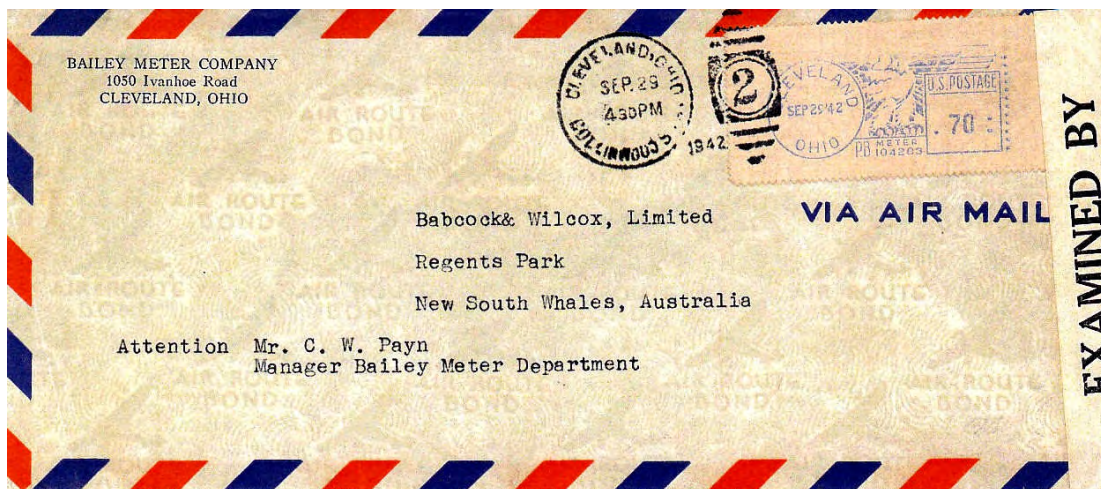
Figure 2a – Full airmail postage, 70 cents, 29 September 1942

Figure 2b – Faint receival stamp on back of envelope, dated 25 November 1942

The possibility of airmail part or all of the way is now suggested with the cover shown below from, of all places, Metro Goldwyn Mayer, Peru, to Sydney (figures 3a, 3b). It was registered and franked 2 sol 65 cents, probably not enough for airmail all the way, but possibly to Hawaii. (Registered airmail Peru to USA was 1 sol 55 cents.) The backstamps tell a surprising story, and they were:

Miami 25 May 1943

San Francisco 31 May

Hawaii 7 June

Brisbane 12 June

Sydney 14 June

Figure 3a

Figure 3b – backstamps, Peru to Brisbane. The important dates for San Francisco and Brisbane are clear.

Airmail all the way seems to have happened with a thirteen-day Pacific crossing from San Francisco to Brisbane; and a Brisbane landfall is in keeping with that city being the headquarters of the South West Pacific war command. No doubt there was much coming and going by senior U.S. forces personnel, and Brisbane was the destination for US Lend Lease aircraft.

Presumably per favour trans Pacific airmail could happen by the time the U.S, forces were in Australia, and possibly MGM mail was important for entertainment of the troops. Does anyone have further evidence of Trans Pacific airmail during 1942-44?

P.S. Trans Pacific airmail formally resumed in August 1945 with a service run by the Royal Air Force Transport Command Service. PAA resumed its "Clipper" service in June 1946.

Front Cover

Scare registered military cover from NZ MPO KW14 dated 29 OC 44 to Timaru, NZ. Crown over shield Censor 8071.

MPO KW14 was located the NZ Advanced Base Camp, Bari, San Basilio, Italy from 1.10.43 – 10.2.46. The 3d Blue Geo VI paid the registration. Registered covers back to new Zealand are very uncommon.

Tony Lyon

The Double Circle Killers Used in the CME & MMC

BRIAN FULLER

The Dumb Killers used at the Central Mail Exchange (CME) and Melbourne Mail Centre (MMC) from the 1960s through till the 1990s were made from a "rubber" material and were in the shape of a two concentric rings with typical lettering as follows:

Series 1   MELBOURNE/VIC., AUST.   (Types 1 – 9).

Series 2   MELBOURNE 3000/VIC AUST   (Categories A - 5 types, B – 4t, C – 5t).

Series 3   MELBOURNE/VIC 3000   (Categories A - 6 types, B – 2t, C – 2t).

There are many variations on these themes and the following text expands these designs. I have analysed approximately 600 copies and the ones now "foxed" or indecipherable are in-the-bin. The measurable duplicates, once I am assured of their recording, are also destined for the recycling file. My research **only** includes those items I can actually accurately measure. So poorly struck "different" ones may have been "missed".

The most difficult aspect is to be assured of a measurement when the cancellers are rather abused through use or being in constant contact with the inks affecting the "rubber". I used dividers to find the smallest diameter consistently measured to specify a size. Some of the dimensions are 0.5 mm in metric, but in imperial measurements are exact amounts. Not all of the cancellers appeared to be Imperial! In one particular series a deformed canceller impression was approximately 3 mm larger than the original size (Item 5). Thus exact measurements are nearly impossible. Virtually all impressions are part on stamps so distortion automatically occurs.

References.   Several people have published articles and these will be referred to as necessary. The known sources are:

BSAP Bulletin Oct 86 Art 1578 by the late David Young. Recent and rather comprehensive.
BSAP Bulletin Jan 63 Art 724 ASM reprint – author unknown.
BSAP Bulletin Apr 69 Art 1059 by B Peace.
BSAP Bulletin May 69 Art 1059 by B Peace.
BSAP Bulletin Jul 69 Art1059 by B Peace.
ACCC of NSW Bulletin Nov 70 ART 931 Unobliterated Stamps – Cancellation by Jack Leek
ACCC Bulletin May 1976 Article 1259 Unobliterated by R Peck.
ACCC Bulletin May 1980 Article 1564 Unobliterated by R Peck.
Postal History Soc (PHS) Journal Date Stamp FEB89 Page A 186 – my visit to the Melbourne MC.
J Webster wrote in Stamp Monthly (?) regarding the "non accountable rubber stamps" in the CME/MMC.

The purpose of the canceller was to deface stamps that had not been cancelled by the letter-cancelling machine (SLIPS MAIL) to minimize their chance of reuse. They had no date of use. They came in a wide choice of inks some reflecting what was available (black, blue, and purple) but others were used in the DLO that at times used red and green inks for extended periods. As the late John Webster lamented they were non-accountable. My visit in 1988 found a supply of the killers in a drawer of the Non Standard Letter Section on the First floor of the Melbourne MC (MMC). None has survived to be preserved by the "Friends of the Archives".

Series 1   MELBOURNE/VIC, . AUST.

This Series is extremely interesting in that two of my dimensions Type 5 and 9 appear to coincide with David Young's No 1 and 1b respectively. I suspect measurement technique and missed "other cues" for the differences. Mine are VIC,. AUST.

My listing for Series 1.

Type	OD	ID	stamp/period	Identifying trait
1	30	19.5	5c blue QE2	purple ink, MELB…E is central whilst VIC is offset higher.
2	31	19.5	5d blue QE2 - 1968	purple, black. VIC is even and central. VIC . large gap to Pd.
			1959 & 63 - 71	Also measures 31/20. Black very worn.
3	31	19	Xmas 63 - 66	black, purple. V/C – I is long and slopes significantly. Also 30.5/19, 30.5/20

Note: On top RH corner 32 mm down 13 mm in is a 5 mm wholly black circular mark that appears on many envelopes in the 4c QE2 era. Another form of Killer?

Type	OD	ID	stamp/period	Identifying trait
4	31	20	Sturt 1962	purple, black, red. V/C – I not as long and less slope. Black on 5d green
			4c QE2	QE2 very worn. Also 30/19, 30.5/20 (red), & 31.5/19.5 (black).
5	32	20	5c blue QE2.	purple, V\C, The I slopes backwards. Possibly from Jul 73 (Fiddler Crab) – Sep 75 (Thompsonii) the 75 Xmas canceller is OK but from Xmas 75 after the VIC is a series of marks thus: .ĩ The Pd & comma with a "hat". I have 2 of each.
6	32	19	5d blue QE2(59+)	purple. ELBO in MELBOURNE is worn and touching. No others have that type of wear. Only copy.
7	31	19.5	5d QE2 blue	V in VIC appears curved sides. Worn and only copy. (Type 5?).
8	30.5	19	5cQE2 blue (67+)	V\C. I is backward sloping similar to Type 5. (2 off). 1 18c Thompsonii. Thompsonii (Aug 75) & Blue QE2 5c (SEP67).
9	33	9.5	10c Saphire	Same size as DY Type 1b.

My listing for Series 2   MELBOURNE 3000/VIC AUST

This series has three categories and each of those with 4 designs. Only my B2 appears to coincide with David's Item 2. He has no other designs listed.

Category A   **VIC, AUST.**

Type	OD	ID	qty	stamp/period	Identifying trait
1A	35	21	1	5c Namajira	Black, worn.
1B	34	20	1	5c orange Post/Stat	Black, very worn/distorted - could be 1A.
2	31	19	5	5c QE2 blue(67+) 1969, 7c QE2 purple	Black, very worn, M high, V central.
3	29	19	3	5c Deakin	Ditto.
4	30	19	16	Aug 69-Oct 79	Purple, M high, V low.

Category B VIC. AUST.

Type	OD	ID	stamp/period	Identifying trait
1	31	19	Black 66 – 71	Black, M high, V low, very worn
			Purple Nov 73+	Purple, M high, V low, clear
2	29.5	19	Deakin 69 - QE2 `	orange Sep 70 DY item 2 – 30/20. M high, V central
	30.5	20	18c Thompsonii Nov 73+	
3	30.5	21	circa 1980	purple, M central, V high
	31	21		
4	29	20.5	1979 – 81+	purple, ditto

Category C VIC. , AUST. Note the faint Pd between C and ,

1	29	19	1970 – 71	purple, M high, V low.
2	31	19.5	1972 – 77	M and V central, Black, worn, Black 8mm central dot-bounce? Purple, stretched.
3	30	19	1970 – 75 – 78	purple, M high, V central.
4	32	20	1977 – 78	purple, M high, V central.
5	34/20		5c QE2(1967+)	black, worn, distorted.

Comment: C1, C3, C2 then C4 could be the wear pattern from 1970 – 78. Are they all the same?

My listing for Series 3   MELBOURNE/VIC 3000

This particular series can be further divided into three general categories. These are in turn subdivided into specific designs.

Category A   (6 designs) Two concentric rings of different diameters and the wording size was consistent for the enclosed texts ie MELBOURNE and VIC 3000 same size printing. Some have a Period (full stop) marks after the VIC but not all. The stamps I have are in black and purple coloured inks. The years of postmarked/written dates are 1972 – 1983. I believe for my samples that they were used for the Slip mail function in the CME and MMC, in the Tax Room ditto, and GPO Elizabeth St.

Category B   (2 + yet another design?) Two concentric rings of different diameters and the wording size was not consistent for the enclosed texts ie MELBOURNE, VIC, and especially the 3000 which was always markedly smaller than the VIC. On one stamp there appeared a Period mark between the VIC and 3000 whilst the others had no markings. The stamps I have are in green, blue, and purple coloured inks. The years of postmarked/written dates are circa 1988. I believe for my samples that they were used for the Slip mail function, and DLO.

Postal History Soc (PHS) Journal Date Stamp Feb 89 Page A 186 – my visit to the Melbourne MC example is 31/19 and lettering 2.25 mm and postcode 2mm. Most probably Type 6 due to measurement technique differences then and now.

Category C   (2 designs) Two concentric rings of different diameters and the wording size was not consistent for the enclosed texts ie MELBOURNE, VIC, and especially the 3000 which was always markedly smaller than the VIC. All stamps had what appears to be a high apex triangle (Δ) instead of a comma or period mark between the VIC and 3000. The stamps I have are in red, green, blue, and purple coloured inks. The years of postmarked/written dates are 1988 - 92. I believe for my samples that they were used for the Slip mail function, and DLO.

The Detail
David Young has 6 designs whilst I have 10. This is not to disparage David, as I started off by having 13 and amalgamating them to have 10, but kept the original numbering. Due to his items 5 and 7 (virtually identical) I had to split one of my types into two. I suspect there should be one type only. There may be more (or less) but as David indicates, the difficulty with their measurement is immense.

I measured mine at the smallest diameter not necessarily the horizontal or vertical. As they are killers, unlike Date Stamps, they are unlikely to be preferably positioned when used. This means they could stretch in any direction. Some are extraordinary stretched, eg one of my Type 5!

Where do we differ or agree?

In Category A David has Items 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8. Five items in total - I have six.

In Category B and C David has zero items and I have two in each. I do not have a copy of his item 6 that by his own measurements and statement I find is most likely his item 4. Unfortunately further liaison to elicit how he has all his items shown in the Bulletin NOT on stamps is impossible. This may have improved the likelihood of readability and more accurate measurements.

My listing for Category A.

My Types	1	1A	2	5	8/9	10
Years	76	76	78	72	77 `	75
	82	78	83	76	79	-
Dot/Pd	y	y	y	-	-/y	-
DY items	5	7	8	3	-	4

My listing for Category B.				**My listing for Category C.**		
My Types	6	page A186	13	My Types	3	7
Years	88	88	88	Years	88	92
Dot/Pd	y	y	-	Δ	y	y
DY items	-	-	-	DY items	-	-

Specific Details

Type	Post office	OD mm	ID mm	Remarks
1	MELBOURNE VIC. 3000	33.5	22	purple ink. Imperial 1 5/16" & 7/8".
1A	MELBOURNE VIC. 3000	34	22.5	purple.
2	MELBOURNE VIC. 3000	27	16	purple & black,
3	MELBOURNE VICΔ 3000	30	19	purple & blue.
5	MELBOURNE **typ** VIC 3000 **Worst**	30.5 34	17 18	purple, disjointed ME in Melbourne. Completely misleading
6	MELBOURNE VIC 3000	29.5	19	purple, green & blue Feb 89 Page A186 31/19
7	MELBOURNE VICΔ 3000	30	19	purple & black.
8	MELBOURNE VIC 3000	29	19.5	purple. Many copies.
9	MELBOURNE VIC. 3000	29	19.5	Only one of item 9 & has faint Pd.
10	MELBOURNE VIC 3000	31.5	22.5	purple.
13	MELBOURNE VIC 3000	29	19	purple. VIC 3000

Summary

There is a strong possibility that I may have engaged in idle pursuit, as the dimensions of the strikes, due to their poor clarity and hence difficulty of measurement, may be leading me astray.

However, others have noticed differences. They published their measurements and results. My data for better or for worse adds to those findings.

Appendix: A. Scans of the cancels – many of which are poor reflecting the difficulty of the topic.

Thank you, Colin Salt, for correcting my draft references and advising me of David Young's demise.

Appendix A   Melbourne dumb canceller imprints All series, categories and types

Series 1   9 types
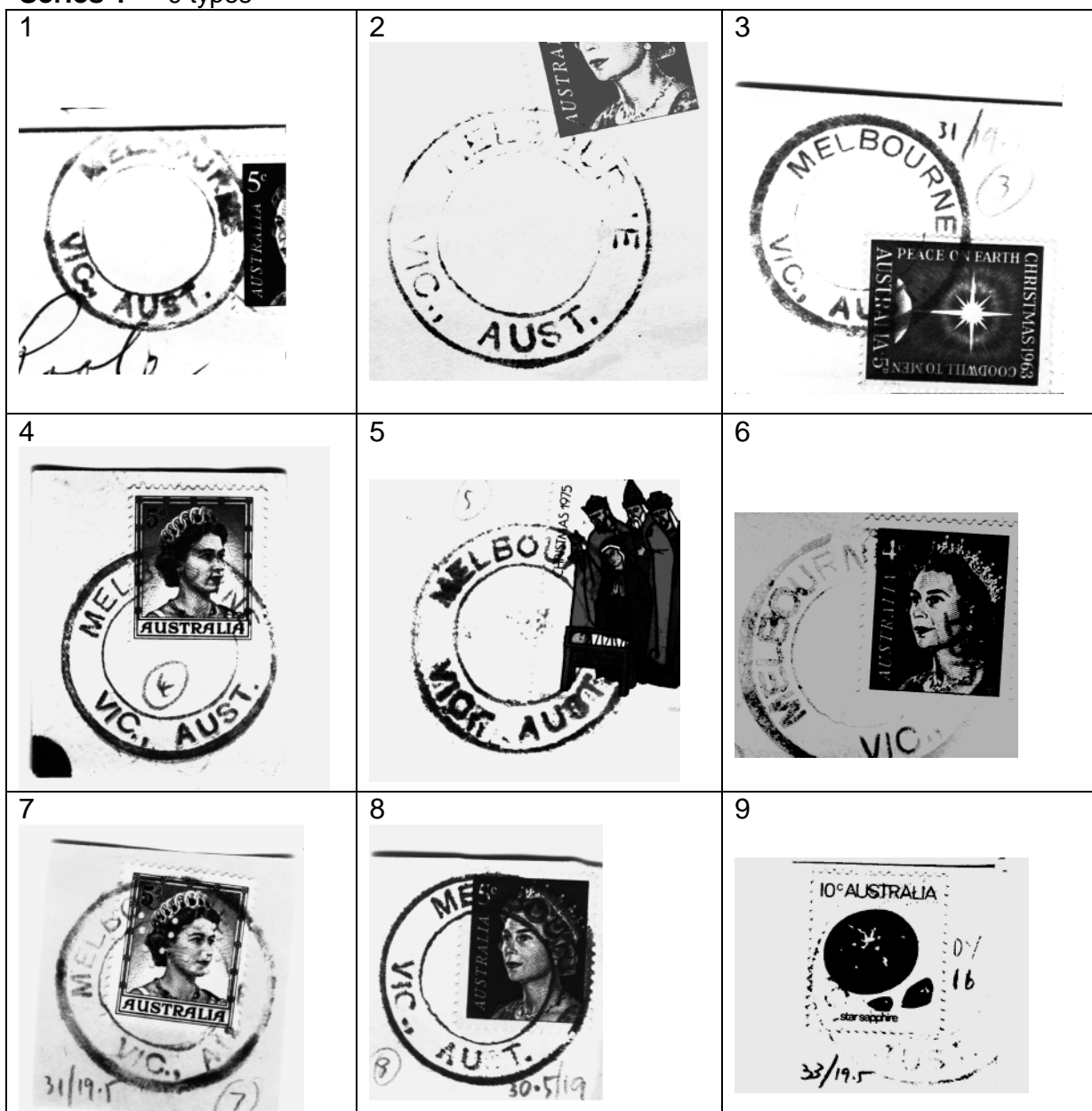
Series 2 Categories A – 5t, B – 4t, and C – 5t. (14 types)		
A 1A	1B	2
3	4	
B 1	2	3
4		

C 1	2	3 (format/size error)
4	5	
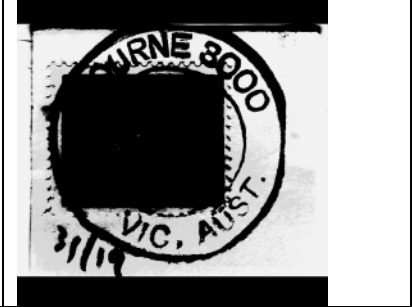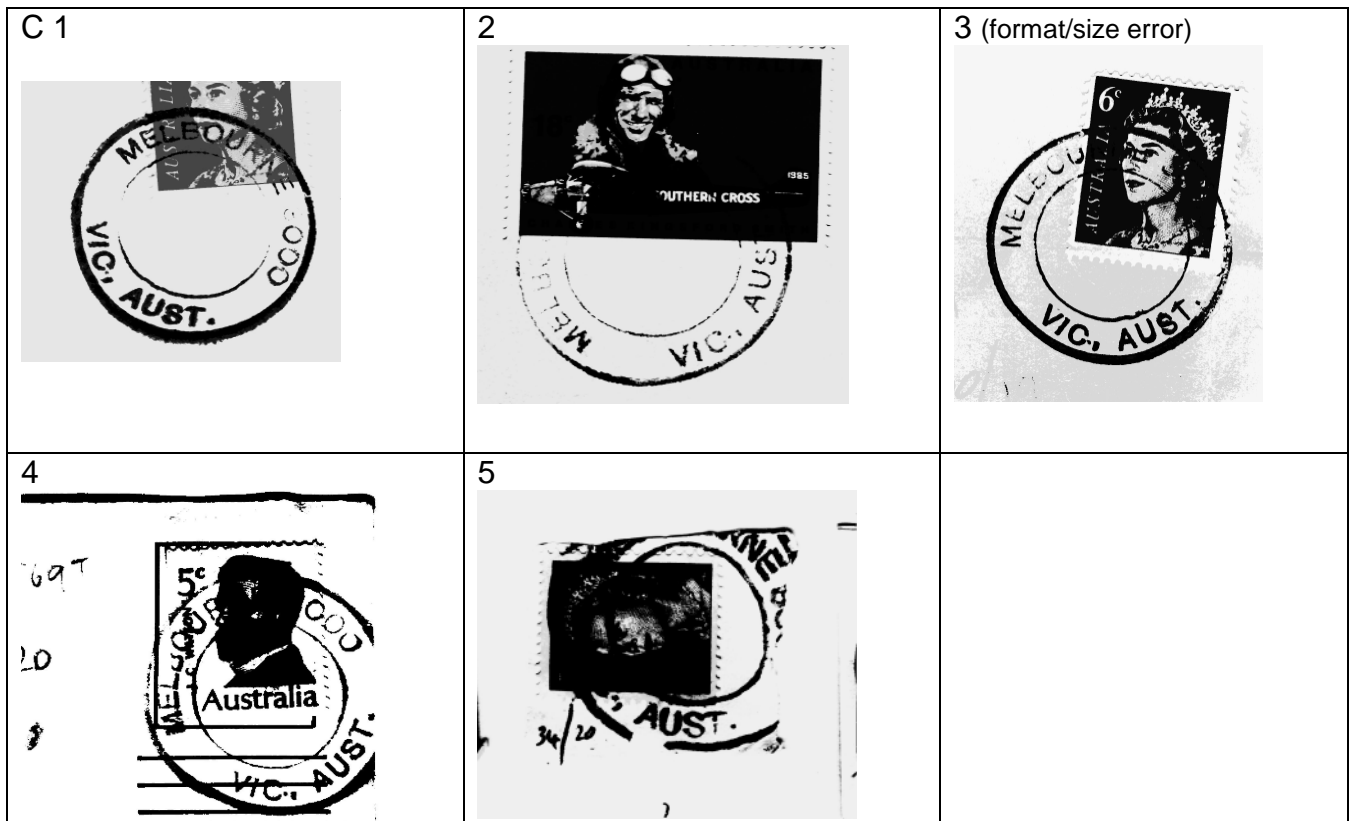
Series 3	Categories A – 6t, B – 2t, and C – 2t. (10 types).	
A 1	1A	2
5	8/9	10

B 6	13	
C 3Δ	7Δ	
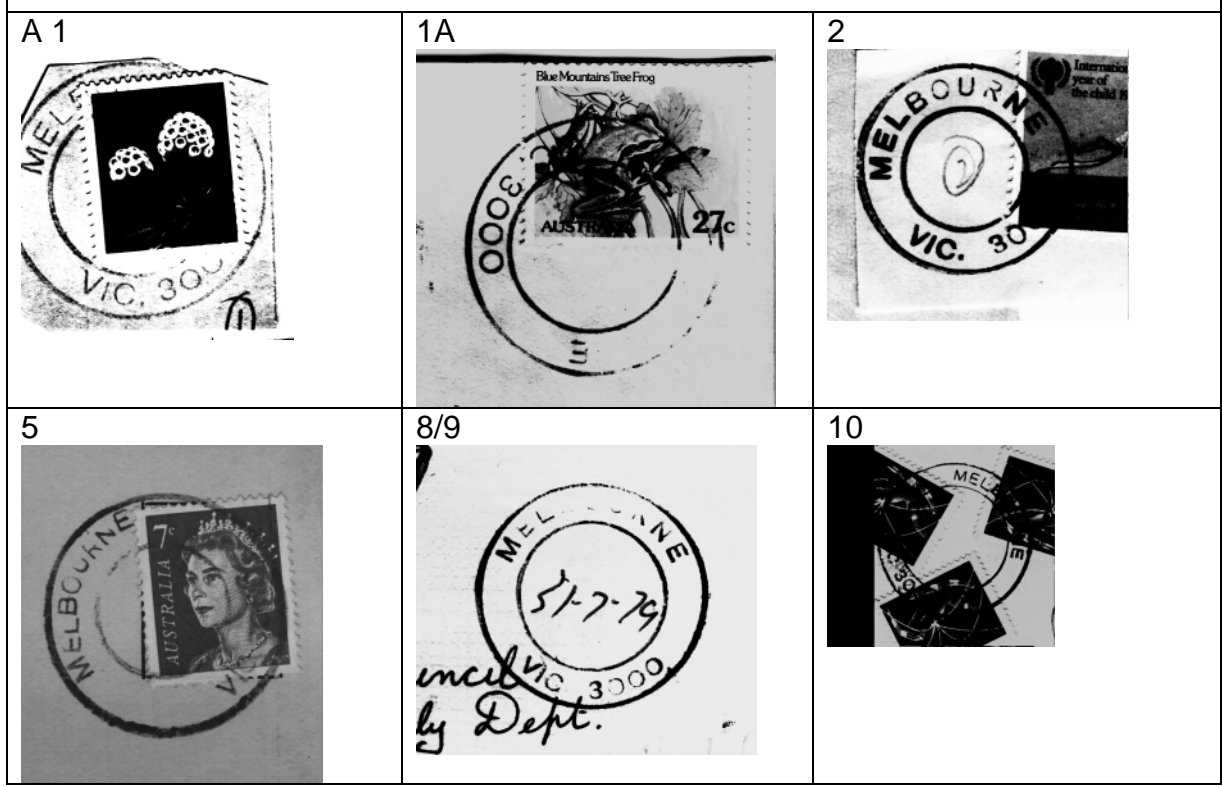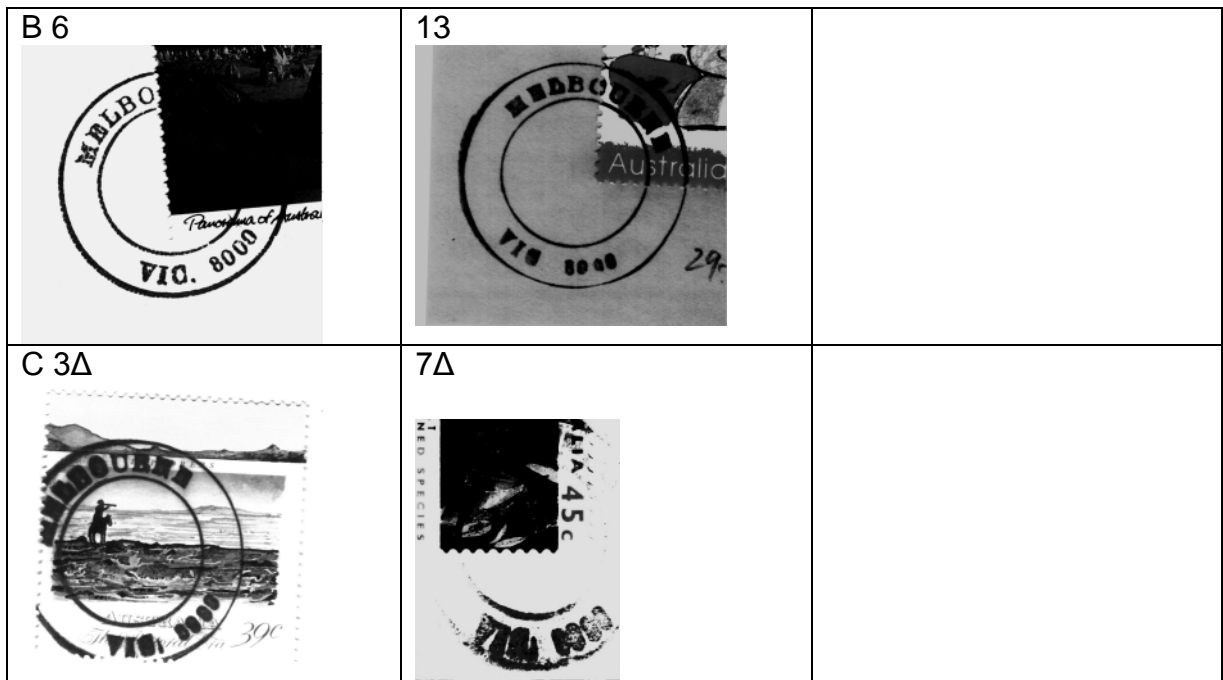
How Much Do You Pay to Post a Letter ?

By Brian Fuller

For many people in business, the **METER** (franking machine) has been a godsend. It put an end to whizzing off to the local post office to buy stamps, accounting and securing the stamps, and the task of putting them on the envelope.

As an individual, I pay 60c for the privilege to use the post, but some users, for a standard lette,r pay as little as 42.7c. Other rates for 2011, which I possess are: 43.8, 47.7, 51, 55, and 58c. 58c is the low volume user rate.

It would be an interesting challenge to equate the cost savings (if any) of bulk users of imprint mail against bulk users of meter machines and the requirements to be met for both from an in-house as well as an Australian Post perspective!

....

Wanted to Exchange. Bernard Piquerez , a retiree from Switzerland b_piquerez@hotmail.com has requested the following: **Stamps of Australia and the Australian Antarctic Territory**. Being interested in stamps of Australia, I look for correspondents for the exchanges of stamps. I propose 5 x 1 minimum. I would work with scans photo as 'mancoliste' for the simple reason that I have no catalogue Scott or Stanley Gibbons. It will have to be mutual for a good progress of the exchanges. Every philatelists will have to indicate me the countries which he seeks. If interested or you can assist, please contact Bernard directly.

Large Oval Postmark of NSW

Brian Fuller

Allegedly, there were no **large** oval parcel postmarks used in NSW as in Victoria.

Phoenix Auctions lot 1065 in their sale of 25 Feb 2011 show a large oval postmark with a rectangular box in the centre, which appears undated. The outer frame is mostly gone. This copy is cancelling 1st Watermark Kangaroos, which have been on issue forever, so this does not help provide a period of use. The severe wear on the outer frame indicated colonial period origin. The words L SQUARE intrigued me. The same for the bottom line reading ...LE(?)S and the top line L(?) PARCEL OFFICE.

The NSW Railways Historical Society Railway Digest Editor pointed me to the website: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Railway_Square,_Sydney, which showed that "Railway Square was originally known as Central Square. In the 19th century and early 20th century, Central Square was the heart of the city's modern retail district, enhanced by the presence of Central railway station and its adjacent hotels, erected to serve country visitors arriving in Sydney by train was the electric train station site." Both websites make interesting reading.

Thus I could deduce that it was either CENTRAL or RAIL PARCEL OFFICE for the top line. CENTRAL SQUARE for the inner line, and NEW SOUTH WALES for the bottom line.

Does anyone know where Central Square PO was located? Lee St Parcel Section Office was constructed in 1913 and the CPO occurred in 1933. Have members seen anything like it please or have a better guess at the letters? If it is as I suspect, then it is a very rare part postmark from NSW.

Telling the Time

Brian Fuller

I read a book on the local history of North East Victoria where the comment was made "two separate clocks, with two separate times, and two separate gauges". While this referred obviously to Albury/Wodonga train stations, I realized I did not know what the time oriented comment meant.

I referred my query to the Australian Government, from which I promptly received the following reply:-

"First of all, you get the gold star for the most interesting question this week! What a nightmare it must have been with all those time differences, even within the same state.

"It appears that up until 1895, when Australia adopted Standardised Time Zones based on Greenwich Mean Time, we followed Mean Solar Time of the capital city of each of the colonies. More information (though brief) is located on the Museum of Victoria website at:

http://museumvictoria.com.au/collections/themes/1632/melbourne-observatory-standard-time-in-victoria

"If you're interested, further articles can be located by using the following search terms in your favourite internet search: "solar time" 1895 site:.au (by enclosing the words solar and time with quotation marks, the results will be limited to only those where the words are together; adding site:.au restricts results to those from Australian websites; adding 1895 will give us historical context)."

Having visited the Museum website I extracted the following portion for those without access to computers:

> "Once the Williamstown Observatory was opened, a timeball was quickly established at the Telegraph Office in Melbourne, linked by telegraph to the Observatory, and this was used by Melbourne's watchmakers and citizens to check their timepieces. In 1870 a telegraph wire was erected between the Observatory and the city centre and used to control a clock at the watchmaker Thomas Gaunt's shop in Bourke Street. Within a few years the Observatory was also controlling clocks at the railway stations at Spencer Street and Flinders Street, the Post Office clock, Parliament, Customs House and several banks.

> The railways became a particularly important mechanism for the distribution of Observatory time. A master clock at Spencer Street sent an impulse every hour to clocks at other stations on the main passenger lines. Station masters at the smaller branch line stations received a daily signal on the railway telegraphs to allow them to set their clocks accurately. Accurate time helped ensure that the railways operated safely, and railway time became an important source of accurate time for the whole community.

> Nevertheless, time throughout the state was not uniform. Many towns preferred to keep their clocks set to local solar time, so that the local midday coincided with the Sun's zenith; this meant, for example, that Warrnambool was 10 minutes later than Melbourne. After discussions in the early 1890s, the separate colonies agreed to establish three standard time zones, based on the times at set meridians of longitude. On 1st February 1895 Eastern Standard Time was adopted; Melbourne's clocks went forward 20 minutes, while Sydney's were set back by 5 minutes. Some commentators saw the adoption of standard time as a sign of political maturity between the colonies, and as a positive step towards political federation.

> The development of radio technology provided a new means to disseminate time. From September 1913, the Melbourne Observatory joined the Wireless Time Service established by the International Time Association, and a series of time signals were transmitted at noon and midnight from a radio station in the Domain. At first this was primarily used by ships at sea, but with the development of commercial radio in the 1920s, the hourly time signals became a familiar sound to the whole community. Radio signals made the Williamstown timeball redundant, and it was discontinued in 1926.

Melbourne Observatory retained responsibility for Victoria's time signals until it closed in 1944, when responsibility passed to the Commonwealth Government's Post Master General's Department." QED!

AUSTRALIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY Inc

ABN # 85 081 158 36

COUNCIL for the YEAR 2010-2011

President: John Young

Past President: vacant

Vice-President: vacant

Honorary Secretary: Irene Kerry

Honorary Treasurer : John Steward

Honorary Librarian: John Young

"Australian Journal of Philately" **Editor:** Tony Lyon

Committee: Michael Barden, Tony Lyon

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

and

REPORT and STATEMENT of ACCOUNTS

for year ending 30 June 2011

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 15 August 2011 at 8pm, for the transaction of the following business:

1	Apologies
2	Minutes of last Annual General Meeting held 16 August 2010
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 2011
7	**Elections:**

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

President: John Young; **Vice-President –** no nomination; **Secretary** Irene Kerry

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, 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

In the postmark material that was sent in there were postmarks from Docklands and as it is the first that I have seen from this post office it would be very helpful if the opening date was known so that it could be recorded. The only other interesting item to appear is the new postmark from Wallan post office and it now reads Wallan and not Wallan Wallan as all the previous ones have.

Many thanks to Richard Peck, John Treacy, Ian Cutter, Simon Alsop, Ron Lee that have sent in postmark material to keep this column going

N.S.W.:- Earlier datestamps-DENILIQUIN (94/29), GUILDFORD WEST (97/26), KURMOND (85/34) , LITHGOW (94/29), WEST BATHURST (102/24)

N.S.W.:-(cont)

POST OFFICE ★ 1 1 MAR 2011 ★ LITHGOW N.S.W. 2790

LOCKHART 1 6 NOV 2010 NSW 2656

LICENSED POST OFFICE ★ 1 0 MAR 2011 ★ MT VICTORIA NSW 2786

NARRABRI 1 6 JUN 2010 NSW 2390

LICENSED POST OFFICE ★ 2 7 JAN 2010 ★ OURIMBAH N.S.W.

LICENSED POST OFFICE 1 1 JUN 2010 PALLAMALLAWA NSW 2399

URANA 1 6 NOV 2010 NSW 2645

URANA 16 NOV 2010 NSW 2645

POST OFFICE C 2 3 APR 2010 RANDWICK N.S.W. 2031

AUSTRALIA POST - 5 NOV 2010 4 ROZELLE NSW 2035

POST ★ BACK OFFICE ★ - 8 AUG 2001 POST YOUNG NSW 2594

POST OFFICE ★ ★ 1 1 MAR 2011 WEST BATHURST N.S.W. 2795

QLD.

KENMORE 1 4 AUG 2010 1 QLD AUST. 4069

KIPPA-RING 2 1 7 APR 2010 QLD. 4021

MALENY 2 0 JUL 2010 ADV 1 QLD. 4552

MURGON 2 4 NOV 2010 QLD 4605

VIC.:-Earlier datestamps:-

BAXTER(96/32),BEAUMARIS(103/31),BROADFORD(106/27),CALIFORNIA GULLY(84/37),
CASTLEMAINE(PM)(98/25),CAULFIELD JUNCTION(111/29),HEPBURN SPRINGS
(103/32)HIGHETT(86/36),MANANGATANG(99/28),MEENIYAN(100/61),
MILPO PUCKAPUNYAL(87/35)NARRE WARREN SOUTH(108/29),PINES
FOREST(100/61),TALLAROOK(90/34),TORRUMBARRY(93/36), WHEELERS HILL (96/36)

ASCOT VALE 3 0 5 NOV 2010 VIC 3032

ASHWOOD POST OFFICE 1 1 MAR 2011 VIC 3147

BAXTER 0 4 MAR 2011 VIC 3911

BAXTER 0 4 MAR 2011 VIC 3911

BEAUMARIS 1 8 FEB 2011 VIC 3193

BELVEDERE PARK 0 4 FEB 2011 VIC 3198

Beveridge Post Office 4 MAR 2011 Vic 3753

BEVERIDGE LPO 8 JAN 2005 VIC 3753

25

BLACK ROCK
1 8 FEB 2011
VIC 3193

BONNIE DOON
VIC 3720

POST OFFICE
2 1 JAN 2011
BONNIE DOON VIC 3720

BRENTFORD SQUARE
POST OFFICE
2 4 MAR 2011
VIC 3131

BRENTFORD SQUARE
2.4 MAR 2011
VIC 3131

BRIDGEWATER ON LODDON
1 8 NOV 2010
VIC 3516

BROADFORD
1 8 MAR 2011
VIC 3658

BULLA
2 5 FEB 2011
VIC 3428

Z
Business POST
CENTRE
1 0 DEC 2004
AUSTRA

CALIFORNIA GULLY
3 1 MAY
VIC 3556

CARRUM DOWNS
3
0 4 FEB 2011
VIC 3201

CARRUM DOWNS
2
0 4 FEB 2011
VIC 3201

BUNDOORA

CASTLEMAINE
1 9 NOV 2010
VIC 3450

POSTAL MANAGER
1 9 NOV 2010
03 5412 .034
CASTLEMAINE VIC 3450

CAULFIELD JUNCTION
2 1 JAN 2011
VIC 3161

CAULFIELD JUNCTION
LPO
3 0 JUL 2009
VIC 3161

CAULFIELD JUNCTION L.P.O.
2 1 JAN 2011
VIC 3161

CHARLTON
1 8 NOV 2010
VIC 3525

CHELTENHAM EAST LPO
1 1 MAR 2011
VICTORIA 3192

CLUNES
JAN 2011
VIC 337

COLLINS STREET WEST
9 APR 2010
6
VIC 3000

CROYDON
1
2 9 NOV 2008
VIC 3136

CROYDON SOUTH POST OFFICE
2 3 NOV 2009
VIC 3136

DRYSDALE
2 8 2010
VIC 3222

DOCKLANDS
2 6 NOV 2010
1
VIC 3008

DOCKLANDS
2 6 NOV 2010
2
VIC 3008

DOCKLANDS
2 6 NOV 2010
3
VIC 3008

AUSTRALIA POST
3
2 8 MAY 2010
ELSTERNWICK
VIC 3185

DONNYBROOK
1 APR 2000

POST OFFICE
1 2 JAN 2010
DONNYBROOK 3064

DONNYBROOK
4 MAR 2011
VIC 3064

DUNKIRK LPO
SHEPPARTON
2 1 FEB 2011
VIC 3630

FAWKNER
POST OFFICE
2 5 FEB 2011
D
VIC - 3060

FAWKNER
2 5 FEB 2011
VIC 3060

FAWKNER
2 5 FEB 2011
VIC 3060

Australia Post
2 5 FEB 2011
FAWKNER EAST LPO 3060

FOUNTAIN GATE
RPS
- 7 JAN 2011
1
VIC. 3805

FOUNTAIN GATE
RPS
- 7 JAN 2011
2
VIC. 3805

FOUNTAIN GATE
RPS
- 7 JAN 2011
3
VIC. 3805

FOUNTAIN GATE
RPS
- 7 JAN 2011
4
VIC. 3805

FITZROY NORTH
1 4 DEC 2010
VIC 3068

FRANKSTON
POST SHOP
1 1 MAR 2011
1
VIC 3199

FRANKSTON
POST SHOP
1 1 MAR 2011
2
VIC 3199

FRANKSTON EAST
1 1 MAR 2011
VIC 3199

AUSTRALIA POST
1
1 1 MAR 2011
FRANKSTON CENTRAL
VIC 3199

AUSTRALIA POST
2
1 1 MAR 2011
FRANKSTON CENTRAL
VIC 3199

AUSTRALIA POST
4
1 1 MAR 2011
FRANKSTON CENTRAL
VIC 3199

GOLDEN SQUARE
1 9 NOV 2010
VIC 3555

VIC :- Cont.:-

GLADSTONE PARK RETAIL SHOP
1
2 5 FEB 2011
VIC 3043

GLADSTONE PARK RETAIL SHOP
2
2 5 FEB 2011
VIC 3043

GLADSTONE PARK RETAIL SHOP
2 . FEB 2011
3
VIC 3043

GLADSTONE PARK RETAIL SHOP
2 5 FEB 2011
4
VIC 3043

GLADSTONE PARK RETAIL SHOP
2 5 FEB 2011
5
VIC 3043

GROVEDALE
1 0 AUG 2010
VIC 3216

HALLAM
- 7 JAN 2011
VIC 3803

HAMPTON EAST
1 8 FEB 2011
VIC 3188

HEPBURN SPRINGS
1 3 DEC 2010
VIC 3461

POST OFFICE
* 1 8 FEB 2011 *
HIGHETT VIC 3190

POST OFFICE
1 8 FEB 2011
HIGHETT VIC 3190

HOTHAM HILL
2 6 NOV 2010
VIC 3051

INGLEWOOD
1 8 NOV 2010
VIC 3517

KANGAROO FLAT
1 9 NOV 2010
VIC 3555

KILMORE
0 4 MAR 2011
VIC 3764

LALBERT
1 7 NOV 2010
VIC 35A2

MAIDEN GULLY
1 8 NOV 2010
VIC 3551

MANANGATANG
1 2 JAN 2011
VIC 3546

MANANGATANG
PAID
1 1 JAN 2011
VIC 3546

MEENIYAN
1 6 NOV 2009
VIC 3956

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY
2 6 NOV 2010
1
VIC 3052

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY
2 6 NOV 2010
3
VIC 3052

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY
2 6 NOV 2009
4
VIC 3052

MERTON
2 2 JAN 2011
VIC 3715

VIC:- Cont:-

MENTONE 1 · 11 MAR 2011 · VIC 3194

MENTONE 3 · 11 MAR 2011 · VIC 3194

MILDURA B.C. 3 · 15 JUL 2010 · VIC 3500

NARRE WARREN 2 · 07 JAN 2010 · VIC 3805

NARRE WARREN SOUTH · 07 JAN 2010 · VIC 3805

OCEAN GROVE · 24 JUN 2010 · VIC 3226

PINES FOREST · 04 FEB 2011 · VIC 3200

PINES FOREST · 04 FEB 2011 · VIC 3200

DIFFERENT 4'S IN DATELINE

MILPO · 18 MAR 2011 · VIC 3662

MILPO PUCKAPUNYAL · 18 MAR 2011 · VIC 3662

SANDRINGHAM 2 · 18 FEB 2011 · VIC 3191

SANDRINGHAM · 18 FEB 2011 · VIC 3191

TALLARGOK · 18 MAR 2011 · VIC 3659

TORRUMBARRY · 18 JUN 2011 · VIC 3562

WALLAN · 04 MAR 2011 · VIC 3756

WHEELERS HILL · 3 MAY 2010 · VIC 3150

W.A.:-MANDURAH EAST Also 2

66 ST GEORGES TCE · 29 APR 2008 · WA 6000 (2)

(C) GERALDTON · 13 FEB 2009 · WA 6530

POSTAL MANAGER · 27 NOV 2008 · KALGOORLIE WA 6430

PAID AT · 27 MAY 2010 · KARRIDALE WA 6288

MADDINGTON · -2 OCT 2009 · WA 6109

MANDURAH EAST · 23 JUL 2010 · WA 6210 (4)

(1) GPO PERTH · 14 AUG 2006 · WA 6000

WOODANILLING · 27 MAR 2009 · WA 6316

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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 bi-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**

♦ **Ensure the Council receives your feedback and suggestions for the Society**

Geyser Whakarewarewa New Zealand.

This is at the Hot Springs
Yours Sincerely J.B. Martin

Postcard of the Whakarewarewa, NZ issued by the New Zealand Government Department of Tourist and health resorts. This particular card was produced in 1904.

Posted at Wellington 12 FE 04 addressed to Postal Office, GPO, Phillipopolis, Bulgaria, Turkey,

(Correct spelling Philippopolis — Bulgarian, Plovdiv; Turkish Felibe).

Colombo 9 MR 04 – Suez 21 MR 04 - Cons – Ple - Galata Arrive 27 MR 04 - Cons - Ple Galata Depart 28 MR 04.

This is a very scare destination for a New Zealand Postcard of 1904 and would be a very scare postcard.

(Cons an abbreviation for Constantinople).

Philippopolis is the capital of Eastern Rumelia. Its population in 1906 was 45,572. Part of the Ottoman Empire in 1878 it was made the capital of the autonomous Ottoman region of Eastern Rumelia. In 1885 it became part of Bulgaria with the unification of that region and the Principality of Bulgaria.