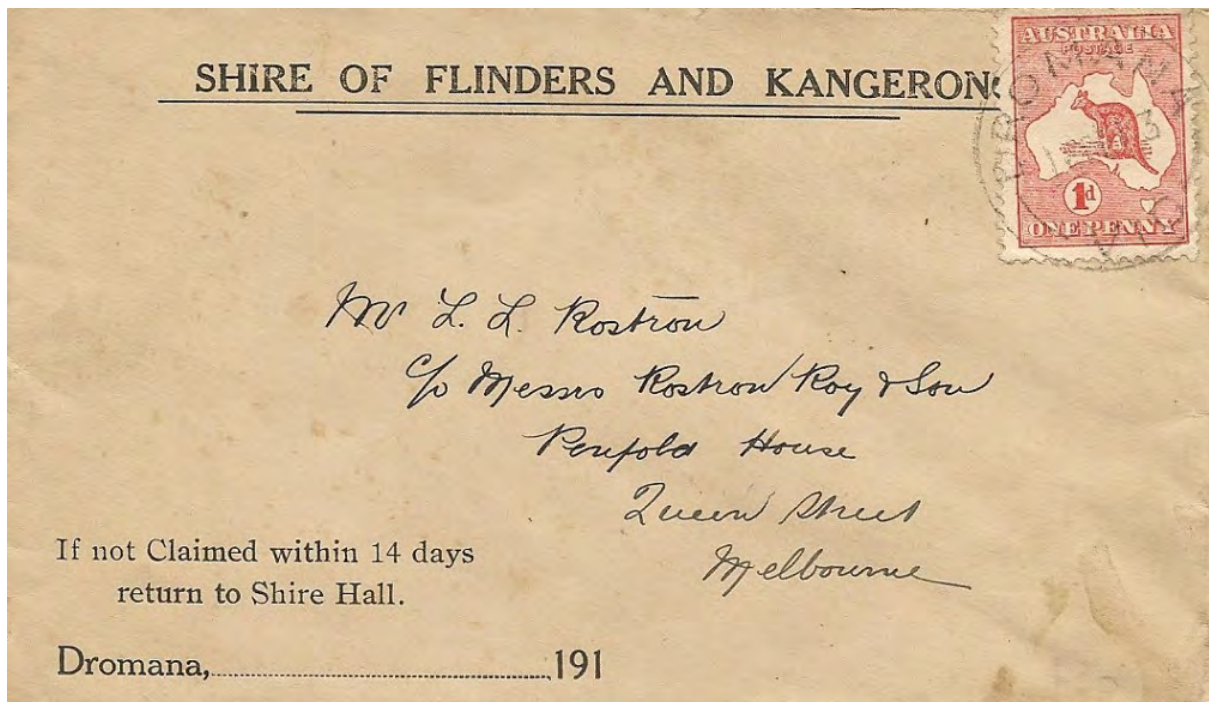


# Australian Journal of Philately

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

No. 119 March 2012



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<b><u>Secretary:</u></b>	<b><u>Australian Journal of Philately</u></b>	<b><u>HHDS Notes</u></b>
Irene Kerry	Tony Lyon	George Vearing
PO Box 7014	6 Allaware Ave	Box 426
Hawthorn	Croydon, Victoria 3136	Mooroopna, Victoria 3629
Vic 3122	Australia	Australia
Australia	Phone: 03 9779 9285	Ph: 03 5825 3194
	E-mail: <a href="mailto:lyonaj@optushome.com.au">lyonaj@optushome.com.au</a>	<a href="mailto:georgedwv@optusnet.com.au">georgedwv@optusnet.com.au</a>

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<b>Date</b>	<b>2012 Programme</b>	<b>Display</b>
April 16 2012	Tony Lyon John Young	WWII Inward Covers to Service Personnel Caribbean Airmails 1928-46
June 18 2012	John Steward	Snowy Mountains Postal History
August 20 2012	A.G.M.	Works in Progress

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## Editorial

*Tony Lyon*

A good range of articles again this issue thanks to our various contributors. It was encouraging, after we hit rock bottom at the conclusion of last issue, that there were so many responses. Keep up the good work. As one can see from items that Ian Cutter sends, all one needs is something to write about and create a story around it.

It was heartening to receive responses to some of the questions raised in the previous issue. Often the knowledge is out there, taking a little time to respond is all that it takes.

It is interesting to note that the next FIP World Stamp Exhibition, to be held in Melbourne Australia, is only thirteen months away. If you are planning an exhibit it is time to be seriously gathering together all that is needed to accomplish the task.

Just a reminder about the society meetings. We meet on alternative months with April being the next. It is an excellent forum for fellowship, sharing and learning from the various displays and members present. Why not insert it in your calendar and come along and join the regulars. We don't bore you with lots of business and there is always an excellent supper afterwards.

George Vearing is always appreciative of any Hand Held Datestamp examples that are sent to him for his column. His address is on page 2 of each journal. As we know, the instances of these postal markings are becoming harder to come by as postal operations change the methods of cancelling mail, or not in many instances.

This of course begs the question as to whether a stamp is used if there is no evidence of such? Something to ponder. For myself I prefer some sort of circular cancel on any used I collect. It becomes harder and harder to maintain that criteria.

Caio till next time.

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# Front Cover

## John Young

The Shire of Flinders and Kangerong was proclaimed on Christmas Eve, 1874. Its area was 174 square miles, taking in the southern half of the Mornington Peninsula, from the shores of Port Phillip Bay to Western Port Bay. Flinders was the shire's most southerly town, from where a submarine Morse communication cable to Tasmania was laid in 1869. Kangerong was the shire's most northerly place. But where was Kangerong?

It is actually a very historic place and is now known as Safety Beach. In March 1836 a Tasmanian, John Aitken, landed sheep safely at Safety Beach's shallows and then drove them on to Sunbury. That was only seven months after Batman and Fawkner settled Melbourne.

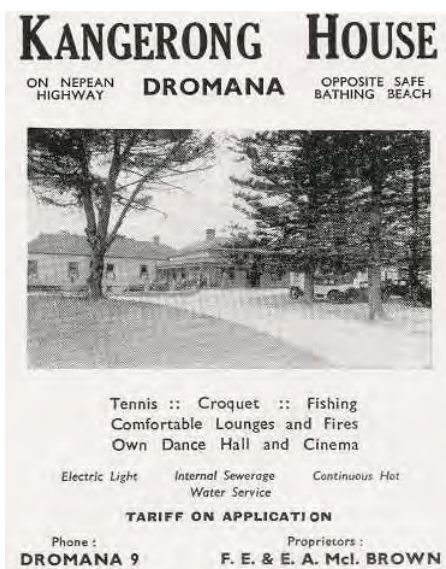
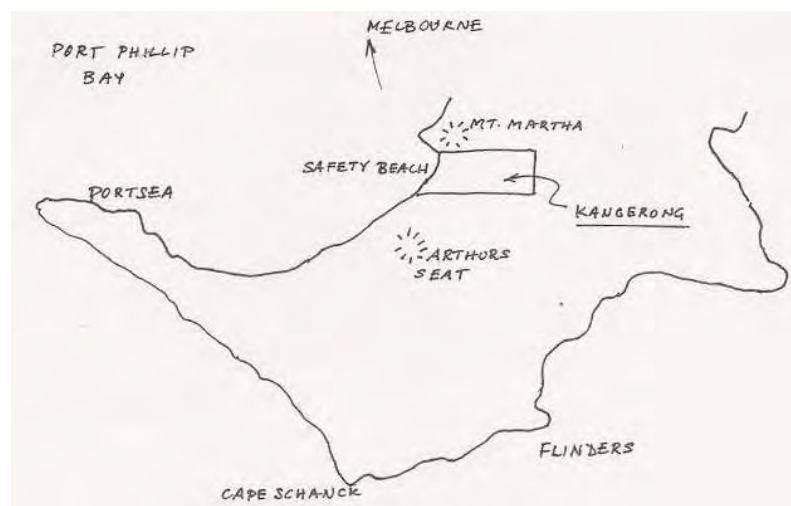
The place was thus known from early days, although it was not very fertile or good for grazing. Nevertheless, in 1840 a prominent settler, Hugh Jamieson, purchased a special survey of eight square miles at Safety Beach. Jamieson built his "Kangerong" homestead there and by the 1850s the area was known by that name. It is thought that Kangerong was an Aboriginal word for hail stones.

The east and north boundaries of the Kangerong special survey survive as postcode boundaries, a little known legacy.

Kangerong was part of the shire's name until 1914, and in Dromana there was the well known Kangerong guest house which operated until the 1950s. The owner of the shire envelope on this journal's cover, John Steward, remembers holidaying at the guesthouse.

Kangerong was also known as the Kangerong Basin, and was one of the peninsula's less appealing places. By the 1990s, however, it was ripe for a canal estate. The name Kangerong, has not been revived, although it survives, as a caravan park in Dromana. The canal estate goes by the name of Martha Cove (shades of Sanctuary Cove on the once mosquito-infested Hope Island in south-east Queensland?). The estate has been a bit hard to get going but another start was made in 2012 with "absolute waterfront" sites at around half a million dollars each. Hugh Jamieson would be astonished. He paid a pound an acre.

There's not much to say about Kangerong's postal history. Safety Beach had a post office from 1953 to 1974. It is doubtful that either it or Martha Cove will have a post office in the future, as Dromana is only three kilometres away. The Flinders and Kangerong Shire was headquartered at Dromana, from where the cover was posted.



## Australian Colonies' Post Office Newspaper Wrappers: Additional Data 2009-2011

Dr. John K. Courtis, [acapjaic@friends.cityu.edu.hk](mailto:acapjaic@friends.cityu.edu.hk)

The purpose of this article is to update the statistical data presented in December 2009 in *Australian Journal of Philately*. Between 2003 and 2008 inclusive, 740 Australian Colonies' Post Office newspaper wrappers have appeared for sale on eBay. This paper adds evidence of another 601 wrappers that have been listed for sale in the three year period 2009-2011. The database of used Post Office wrappers collected from eBay on an almost daily basis since 2003 is 24,580. Images of the Australian Colonies' wrappers were collected in a separate folder and it is these that are the basis of the present study.<sup>i</sup>

The format of Table 1 is consistent with a similar table in the 2009 paper and summarizes the per colony frequency of appearance over the 100 month collection window. Wrappers from Victoria and South Australia continue to dominate the overall supply with almost two-thirds from these two colonies. The supply of Queensland Post Office wrappers is about 20% of the total, while those from New South Wales are less than 10%, and Tasmania and Western Australia continue to be elusive. The 1341 wrappers have appeared on the market at an average rate of about 13 per month. On a colony-by-colony basis this rate is variable: New South Wales about one per month, Queensland 2.8 per month, South Australia 3.7 per month, Victoria 5.3 per month, with Tasmania one about every three months, and Western Australia virtually never. Compared with the worldwide database of 24,580 used post office wrappers the frequency of appearance of each colony is quite low, roughly: New South Wales 1:250, Queensland 1:88, South Australia 1:65, Victoria 1:46, Tasmania 1:680, and Western Australia 1: 6145.

In order to determine whether more or less Colonies' wrappers are being listed on the market, the annual listing rate of wrappers can be examined. The annual sequence is about 149, 99, 125, 126, 120, 121, 200, 200 and 201. This indicates a significant jump in the quantity listed in the last three years with a two-thirds rise over previous years' listings. This rate of listing trajectory implies a growing awareness of post office postal stationery wrappers and an increase in collector interest. Moreover, eBay is an ideal venue for the sale of wrappers. Sellers can access a stronger international market than they would be able to otherwise. Buyers can check their Want lists against daily listings and bid selectively and successfully on auctions in a cost-effective manner without overseas travel and accommodation costs.

**Table 1: Per Colony Frequency of Appearance**

Colony	2003	2004	2005-06	2007-08	Sub-Total	2009-11	2003-2011	%
	<b>Previously reported studies</b>					<b>This Study</b>	<b>Total</b>	
New South Wales	14	12	13	25	64	51	115	8.6
Queensland	31	21	60	48	160	120	280	20.9
South Australia	44	36	86	68	234	141	375	27.7
Tasmania	4	0	8	4	16	20	36	2.7
Victoria	56	29	83	96	264	267	531	39.7
Western Australia	0	1	1	0	2	2	4	0.4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>1341</b>	<b>100</b>

## New South Wales

An additional 51 New South Wales wrappers were listed for sale during this period taking the total to 115 for the 100 month window. As before, the Higgins & Gage "E" catalogue numbers have been used. The profile of the different issues and their demographics are summarized in Table 2. Inter-colony destinations were dominated by addresses to Melbourne (11) (especially Gordon & Gotch) and Adelaide (2). Wrappers addressed overseas were to Germany (11), GB (4), USA (3), Singapore (2), New Zealand (2), Italy, India, Switzerland, Austria and Fiji (1 each).

Six wrappers were uprated, and auxiliary or postage due markings were seen on three wrappers. There is a boxed 2-line black handstamp on E9 with MISSENT TO// MALVERN and two examples on E11 of boxed 2-line black handstamp DEF 5/FINE 5} 10 CENTIMES.

**Table 2: New South Wales Frequency & Survey Details**

H&G Catalogue numbers	03-08 (prior studies)	09-11 (this study)	Total to date	Within NSW	Other colonies	Over- seas	Up- rated
E1 QV oval 1d rose, in center	1	1	2			1	
E2 QV 1d red, watermarked	0	0	0				
E3 QV 1d red, 2 watermarks	2	1	3			1	
E4 1d violet, 100 year centenary	4	3	7	1		2	
E5 1d slate o'printed Halfpenny	1	1	2			1	
E6 QV ½d grey, wmk ONE PNY	25	5	30	1	2	2	2
E7 QV ½d grey, gummed edges	3	8	11	2	6		
E8 1d violet, 100 year, gummed	4	4	8	1		3	
E9 1d rose NSW shield, wmkd	10	11	21	1	1	9	1
E10 QV ½d grey-green on buff	12	12	24	3	3	6	3
E10 as above with OS in black		1	1		1		
E11 QV ½d grey-green on straw	1	4	5	2		2	
E12 1d rose NSW shield, no wmk	1	0	1				
<b>Totals</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>6</b>

Two wrappers bearing private printing have made an appearance on eBay during this latest collection period and these are shown as Illustration 1. The National Association of Sheepbreeders of Australasia private printing was added after the indicium was stamped on clients' coloured private paper. The underlining cuts across the top of the indicium. Additional wrappers bearing private printing may have been listed for sale during this period of time via the traditional philatelic auctioneers and knowledgeable collectors are invited to add these to the record.

### Illustration 1: New South Wales Wrappers bearing Private Printing



### Queensland

Ten types of Queensland wrappers have been listed during the 2009-11 period with a total of 120 wrappers. The distribution of these appears in Table 3. There were 43 addressed to overseas destinations: GB (17), Germany (15), Holland (3), France (2), New Zealand, New Guinea, Egypt, German East Africa, Argentina and Switzerland (1 each). The bulk of domestic usage was sent to Melbourne (45%) and was dominated by wrappers sent to Gordon & Gotch. A little over one-third were sent to Queensland addresses with Brisbane dominant but also with Gympie noted on occasions.

**Table 3: Queensland Frequency & Survey Details**

H&G catalogue numbers	03-08	09-11	Within Qld	Other Colonies	Over-seas	Up-rated
E1 QV ½d green shaded b'ground	31	39	7	25	7	5
E2 QV ½d green, white background, "d" below "W"	45	28	6	14	8	6
E2a QV ½d green, white background, "d" left of "W"	5	6	1	3	3	2
E3 QV 1d dull rose, 'packet will' penultimate line	18	4	0	0	4	
E4 QV ½d green, white background, 'statutory' penultimate line	10	1	0	0	1	1
E5 QV ½d green, ½d in each corner, 'statutory' penultimate line	2	3	1	1	1	1
E6 QV 1d bright vermilion, 'statutory' penultimate line	10	10	2	1	7	1
E7 QV ½d green, ½d in each corner, 'rule be' penultimate line	1	1	0	0	1	
E8 QV 1d bright vermilion, 'rule be' penultimate line	20	15	4	2	9	
E9 QV ½d green vertical design	18	13	7	3	3	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>18</b>

There were no wrappers bearing private printing included in the database for this three year period, nor were there any recorded auxiliary postal markings. There were some attractive concentric and open town postmarks that would likely appeal to the postal historian.

### South Australia

As noted in the statistical summary published three years ago the E3 issue of South Australia continues to dominate the listings, not only for this colony, but it has also the dubious distinction of being the most "common" of all wrapper types issued by all colonies. Almost two-thirds of the additional 141 appearing during this three year collection period were of the E3 type. Almost 40% were addressed overseas: GB (29), Germany (13), New Zealand (3), Hong Kong (2), Egypt (2), Singapore (2), Switzerland, Austria, Argentina, Straits Settlements, Sweden and Cameroon West Africa (one each). The profile of

appearance of each type and the addressee demographics is summarized in Table 4. Straits Settlements and Cameroon would almost certainly qualify as exotic destinations.

**Table 4: South Australia Frequency & Survey Details**

H&G catalogue numbers	03-08	09-11	Within Sth. Aust.	Inter-colony	Over-seas	Up-rated
E1 QV ½d violet on white, oval shield	1	3		3		
E2 QV ½d violet on white, round shield	2	0				
E3 QV ½d violet, Arms, lion full face	144	89	4	40	45	22
E3B QV ½d violet, big Arms, OS o'print	36	21	17	3	1	
E4 QV 1d green	9	11	6	1	4	
E4a QV 1d green indicium on left	2	0				
E4B QV 1d green, OS overprint	4	0				
E5 QV ½d violet, small Arms	4	11		5	6	7
E5B ½d violet, big Arms, lion facing right, Commonwealth of Australia, O.S.	0	0				
E6 QV ½d violet, SOUTH above & AUSTRALIA below indicium	5	1		1		
E7 QV ½d violet, big Arms, lion facing right	15	2	1		1	1
E7B QV ½d violet, big Arms, lion facing right, OS overprint	2	0				
E8 QV ½d violet, Commonwealth of Australia added	4	0				
E9 QV 1d green, Commonwealth of Australia added	6	1	1			
E9 Official as above with OHMS added	0	1	1			
E10 1d deep orange, no text, indicium only	0	1	1			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>30</b>

One surprising observation is that apart from the E3B OS wrapper type there are very few extant wrappers bearing South Australia addresses. Of the 31 identified, about half were used officially and addressed to the Post Office (i.e., the Inspector of Schools) in Monarto. Finding a locally used wrapper is difficult and remains a challenge for collectors.

Two wrappers bearing private printing have appeared on eBay during the last three years: The Advertiser was illustrated in the 2009 summary. The author attended a wedding reception in the Menzies' Hotel in 1968 and has fond memories of wearing a dinner jacket that fitted. Neither the Menzies' Hotel nor the dinner jacket now exists. The E10 wrapper bearing PARCEL WITHOUT LETTER From BAGOT, SHAKES & LEWIS, LIMITED is an acquisition to the market place and to-date is the only one known recorded example. These two wrappers are shown in Illustration 2. There are no auxiliary postal markings on the additional South Australia wrappers.

**Illustration 2: South Australia Wrappers with Private Printing**





## Victoria

A total of 267 used post office wrappers from Victoria are included in this additional analysis and these are summarized in Table 5. Two types, E15 and E17 account for almost two-thirds of all wrappers that have been listed. Victoria E15 is the most common extant used Colonial wrapper, second only to South Australia E3 in absolute terms: 233 and 187 respectively. When individual wrapper types are considered the frequencies of appearance are very low – 19 types have appeared less than ten times in 100 months or once per ten months or worse.

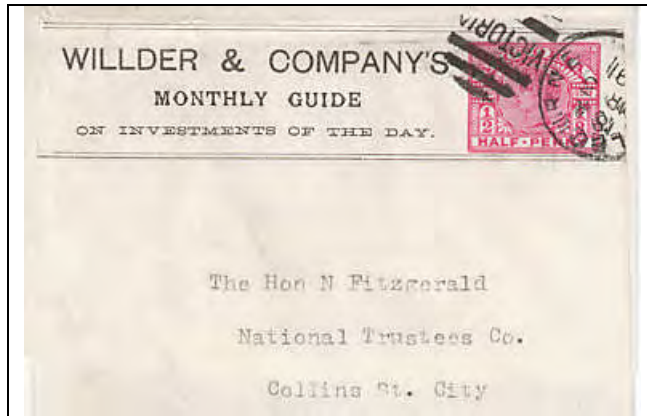
**Table 5: Victoria Frequency & Survey Details**

H&G catalogue numbers	03-08	09-11	Within Victoria	Inter-colony	Over-seas	Up-rated
E1 QV 1d green	0					
E2 QV 1d green with borders	1					
E3 QV 1d green with borders with red overprint ½ ½ HALF	0					
E4 QV ½d carmine bantam,	4	2	2			
E5 QV 1d green,	3	1	1			
E6 QV ½d salmon	2					
E7 QV 1d green	2	2	2			
E8 QV ½d pink on pale blue	0	1	1			
E9 QV ½d rose bantam, vertical STAMP DUTY	0					
E10 QV 1d green, vertical STAMP DUTY	0					
E11 QV ½d pink	4	9	6		3	3
E12 QV 1d green	3	1	1			
E13 QV ½d grey-lilac	3	1			1	
E14 QV 1d green	6					
E15 QV ½d carmine	88	99	70	6	23	10
E16 QV 1d brown	7	7	1		6	
E17 QV ½d yellow	61	81	49	10	22	15
E18 QV 1d blue	26	6			6	
E19 QV ½d emerald	14	14	8	4	2	2
E20 QV 1d carmine	2	2			2	
E21 QV ½d green	4	11	7	1	3	4
E22 QV 1d rose bantam (does this exist?)	0					
E23 QV ½d green	9	10	8		2	2
E24 QV 1d rose	10	2		1	1	
E25 QV ½d green	12	7	3		4	2
E26 QV 1d vermilion single thick borders	0	7	2		5	
E27 QV ½d green	3	3	1		2	
E28 QV 1d vermilion, no borders	0	1			1	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>38</b>

There was a veritable treasure trove of ten different wrappers bearing private printing that were listed during the three years, and these are shown in Illustration 3. More than one copy was listed of each of St. Arnaud Mercury, The Missionary and the Bendigo Evening Mail. All of these wrappers were printed on post office stock except The Willder & Company's Monthly Guide which appears to be a printed-to-private order wrapper with the indicium stamped on the customer's own stock (there are no borders). This is a second example of the Willder wrapper; the earlier extant copy was illustrated in 2009. When only not previously recorded names are considered there is an

increase of five extant STO-PTPO type wrappers: The Australian Stamp Collector, The Kyneton Guardian, The Bendigo Mail, The Missionary and The Sporting News.

**Illustration 3: Victoria Wrappers bearing Private Printing**



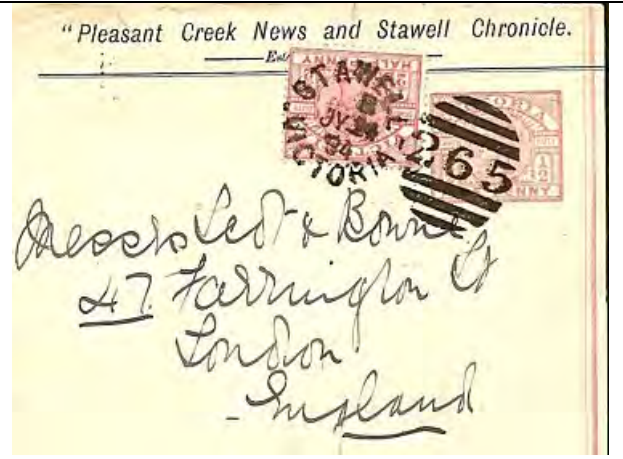
KE (No borders): Willder & Company's  
(also shown in 2009)



E15: The Australian Stamp Collector



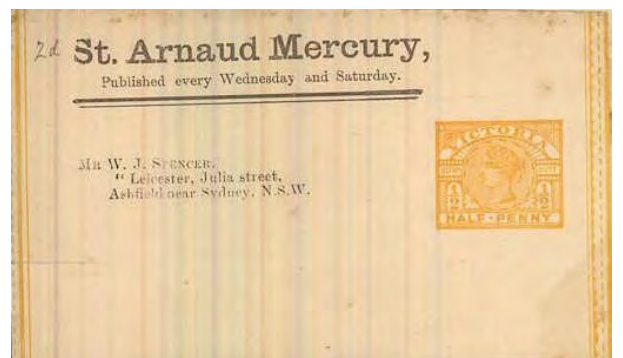
E15: The Kyneton Guardian



E15: Pleasant Creek News and Stawell Chronicle (also shown in 2009)



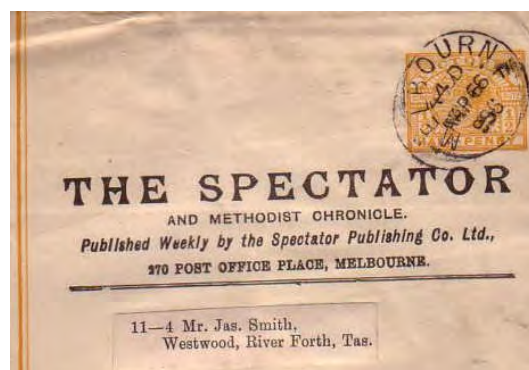
E17: The Bendigo Mail



E17: St. Arnaud Mercury (previously illustrated on E15)



E17: The Missionary



E17: The Spectator (also shown in 2009)



E19: The Sporting News



E17: Bendigo Evening Mail (also shown in 2009)

## Tasmania

There has been a small but notable increase in the number and range of wrappers listed from Tasmania. Between 2003 and 2008 there had been 19 Tasmania wrappers recorded. Between 2009 and 2011 another 20 were added. Identifying the Printed-to-Private-Order or KE numbers has not previously been straight forward. However, a worldwide catalogue of post office wrappers and printed-to-private-order wrappers has almost been completed by Jan Kosniowski, a senior collector in the UK. Hopefully by the time this article is published the catalogue will be available. I have been very fortunate to have had access to his work-in-progress. With the help of Jan's catalogue the author was able to recode all the wrappers of Tasmania that have appeared on the eBay market since 2003. Some of the E numbers have been imputed from Jan's catalogue. The recast data are shown in Table 6 as new information.

**Table 6: Tasmania Frequency and Survey Details**

H&G catalogue numbers	03-08	09-11	Within Tasmania	Other Colonies	Overs eas	Up-rated
E1 QV ½d orange, red borders	1					
E2 QV 1d red, red borders	1					
E3 QV 2d light green, red borders						
E4 QV ½d orange, red borders (wider indicium)						
E5 QV ½d orange, no borders		4	4			
E6 QV 1d red, no borders						
E7 QV 2d light green, no borders						
E12 KEVII ½d bluish green		1	1			
E13 KEVII 1d rose		1	1			
KE1 QV ½d orange	5	3		3		
KE2 QV ½d red	2					
KE3 QV 1d red	7	7			7	
KE4 QV 2d light green		1			1	
KE6 QV ½d orange + 1d red	3	2			2	
KE12 QV ½d red on rose paper		1		1		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>

In recent years there appears to have been a surge of interest in the wrappers of Tasmania with the appearance of six bearing private printing. There are two varieties of *The Mercury* with different size and layout of heading, the reappearance of a copy of *The Federal Australian Philatelist*, and two types of *The Tasmanian Mail*, plus a *Newspaper Only* on rose. While there are several mint copies of the different paper types of KE12, this is the only known recorded copy used.

**Illustration 5: Tasmania Printed-to-Private-Printing Wrappers**



**Western Australia**

The whereabouts of used Western Australia post office wrappers remains a mystery. Only two copies have appeared in the past three years to add to the one each of E1 and E2 previously recorded. The total of extant used wrappers in an eight year period on eBay is now four. One copy of E1 and one of E3 appeared; the E1 was addressed to Singapore and the E3 to Perth.

## Observations & Implications

1. There were 601 additional Colonies' wrappers listed between 2009 and 2011 with Victoria and South Australia accounting for two-thirds of this total.
2. The listing rate has increased by about 65% over previous periods indicating increased seller and buyer interest in this area of postal stationery.
3. There were 14 different new PTPO wrappers that made their first appearance on the eBay market thereby indicating that new discoveries can still be found.
4. While there is some increase in the supply of wrappers of Tasmania, wrappers from Western Australia continue to be elusive.
5. As an international auction market eBay continues to grow and list material of interest to collectors who can pursue their acquisition in a convenient and cost-effective manner.
6. A lengthy period of 100 months of hand collecting 1341 examples is a credible and comprehensive database that provides a sound benchmark for survival rate analysis per type.

## References

Courtis John K. (2009), Australian Colonies' Post Office Newspaper Wrappers: Crude Estimates of Survival, *Australian Journal of Philately*, No. 110, December 2009, pp. 4-15. See also Tracking the Supply of Australian Colonies' Newspaper Wrappers, *Australian Journal of Philately*, No. 100, June 2007, pp. 36-41; Survival Profile of Australian Colonies' Wrappers, *Australian Journal of Philately*, No. 93, September 2005, pp. 9-13; A Survey of Australian Colonies' Wrappers, *Australian Journal of Philately*, No. 89, September 2004, pp. 7-31.

## Endnote

<sup>i</sup> At the outset I wish to make it explicit that this is essentially a study based on data collected from the Internet site eBay. After my paper of a similar title was published in 2009 I received an email from a dealer who nastily castigated me for not doing something that I never set out to do. Research papers normally define the scope of the study so as to have sharper focus and enable the research to be "doable" within cost and time constraints. Criticism directed at research not doing what the reader thinks should have been done reveals a remarkable lack of experience about research questions, research design, data gathering and data analysis. Others who have access to catalogue data are encouraged to analyse the appearance of Australian Colonies' wrappers within these sale catalogues and to add to the findings presented here for a more robust profile of extant Colonies' wrappers. Unfortunately, in many cases the Lot descriptions in these auction catalogues fail to identify the Steig or Higgins & Gage catalogue numbers thereby restricting their usefulness.

## Airmail Rates from Belgium to Australia 1934-1938

### Michael Barden

Recently, I purchased 36 covers, most of which had gone from Verviers to Melbourne in the early days of Imperial Airways – Qantas Empire Airways (IA & QEA) flights from UK to Australia. All could be identified as to which flight they had been on by the arrival backstamps of Melbourne or Sydney. These were usually a day after the arrival time in Brisbane, which then was the end of the Kangaroo Route. Australia then had a well established internal airways system between the main cities to overcome the local “tyranny of distance”.

One thing, which astonished me, was the constant disparity in dates between when the airmail costs were applied (or the first time I have evidence) on this route and the dates they were gazetted in Belgium. The first flight through to Australia left Southampton 8 December 1934. Furthermore, I do not believe the late Walter Major’s information as shown below is entirely correct.

Below is the relevant data for Australia (courtesy of Nick Martin). The Internal Australian information is correct for January 1930, and as we shall see, led to confusion on a first flight letter to Australia. Its purpose was to take +/- a week off a letter’s delivery as ships stopped at Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne and ended in Sydney on Eastern voyages. Similarly, an airmail letter could catch up a ship’s departure from Perth heading west. **None of my covers shows the 18 September 1935 rate reduction.** I do not believe it occurred and is incorrect. Nor does Deneumostier list this. I think there is possibly confusion between the two authors. Major got the 1 May 1935 rate rise correct (see below). The gazetted date of 15/18 September for the 5 Fr rate is incorrect and very late, as it occurred for the 8 December 1934 first flight some nine months earlier.

<b>Australie</b>		
01 janvier 1930	2,50 fr./ 10 gr.	2,50 fr./ 10 gr.
<b>Ligne australienne: Adelaïde-Melbourne-Sydney-Hobart-Brisbane (correspondance avec les paquebots des lignes P &amp; O et Orient Line)</b>		
01 mai 1935	6,50 fr./ 5 gr.	6,50 fr./ 5 gr.
18 septembre 1935	5,00 fr./ 5 gr.	5,00 fr./ 5 gr.
05 janvier 1936	6,50 fr./ 5 gr.	6,50 fr./ 5 gr.
Service aérien suspendu du 01 septembre 1939 jusqu’au 15 octobre 1939 Service aérien suspendu du 10 mai 1940 jusqu’au 22 mars 1945		

Let me illustrate with information from my covers, which I show later:

Flight No	Date ex UK	Postage per 5 gm	Airmail paid	Date rate gazetted
IE 298	8 Dec 1934	1 <sup>75</sup> Fr	2 <sup>50</sup> Fr	Oz internal rate
IE 307	19 Jan 1935	1 <sup>75</sup> Fr	5 Fr	September 1935 ?
IE 321	9 Mar 1835	1 <sup>75</sup> Fr	5 Fr	
IE 343	25 May 1935	1 <sup>75</sup> Fr	6 <sup>50</sup> Fr	1 May 1935 (WM) 1 Jan 1936 (WM, E & M D)

From May 1935 to October 1938 (the last date of my letters), the airmail rate remained constant per 5 gm. I am sure that this May entry of Walter Major is correct. Whether there was a doubling of gazetted dates or the records no longer exist to verify Major or Deneumostier for September, I cannot say. Thus, the confusion remains. I have included the spreadsheet, so that readers may see for themselves the rates and dates. (In the stamps, K=kepi, Ex =1934 exhibition stamps etc)

I can say that the **new** rates applied from the following dates: **5 Fr per 5 gm** from **8 December 1934** and **6<sup>50</sup> Fr per 5 gm** from **1 May 1935**

Are these isolated examples or is this the tip of the iceberg? Even E. Proud cannot help!



**IE 298 letter from the datestamps – 1<sup>st</sup> flight.** Airmail rate of 2<sup>50</sup> Fr paid for Australian Internal delivery, rather than by airmail to Australia.

6 Fr paid for this registered airmail letter to Cairns.



**IE 305 flight (21 Jan 35 ex Brindisi)** with correct franking for current rates



Arrived Brisbane 1 Feb, which was a Friday.

Flights to Melbourne may not have been daily at weekends, as usually 1 day's difference between Brisbane & Melbourne.

6<sup>75</sup> Fr franking



**IE 343 flight** 27 May 35 ex Brindisi arrived Brisbane 7 Jun

1<sup>st</sup> letter in the series after 1 May showing the new airmail rate of 6<sup>50</sup> F / 5 gm and total of 8<sup>25</sup> Fr



**IE 467 flight** 24 Jul 36 ex Brindisi, arrived Brisbane 4 Aug 36.

Double weight paying 13 Fr airmail and 1<sup>75</sup> Fr postage



As can be seen, the airmail postage rate has remained the same.

I have managed to discover quite a bit about Fernand Lenain in Verviers, but little about what became of HB Smith Ltd. Can anybody help me here, please?

Postal systems can move in mysterious ways, such that another government is ill informed of changes to rates – despite the best endeavours of the UPU. Maybe a 1930's problem?

### Bibliography

- EB Proud**, Intercontinental Airmails, Vol 2, Asia & Australasia, 2009
- E & M Deneumostier**, La Poste Aerienne en Belgique, Ses Debuts, Ses Tarifs, 1989
- W. Major**, La Poste Aerienne en Belgique 1919-1999, 3 Volumes, Colofon, 2001



## Airmail letters from Fernand Lenain (et al) of Verviers to Australia

Cat date	Year	Date	Franking	Postage	Airmail to Melb per 5 gm	Wt (gm)	Dep CDS	Transit Brussels 1	Arrival markings Melb Sydney	stamps	Flight No IE	Sheet No
	1935	18-Jan	6.75	1.75	5.00	5	Verviers 2E	18-Jan	3-Feb	5 K + 1.75 Ex	307	1
		8-Feb	6.75	1.75	5.00	5	Verviers 2H	8-Feb	23-Feb	6 K + 1.75 Ex	313	2
		11-Feb	6.75	1.75	5.00	5	Verviers 1D		1-Mar	3x2 K + .75 L	315	3
		1-Mar	6.75	1.75	5.00	5	Verviers 2D	1-Mar	15-Mar	5 K + 1.75 Ex	319	4
		8-Mar	6.75	1.75	5.00	5	Verviers 2D	8-Mar	24-Mar	6 K + 1.75 Ex	321	5
18-Sep-35		24-May	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2D	8-Nov	7-Jun	2x2K + 1 Ex + .25 Cer	343	6
		8-Nov	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2F		22-Nov	5+2 K + 1 Ex + .25 Cer	391	7
		29-Nov	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2F		30-Dec	5K + 2K + 1 L + .25 Cer	397	8
		20-Dec	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2F	20-Dec	3-Jan-36	5+1.75+1.5 K	403	9
05-Jan-36	1936	7-Feb	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2G	7-Feb	25-Feb	5K + 2K + 1 L + .25 Cer	417	10
		14-Feb	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2G	14-Feb	29 Feb	5K + 2x1.5K + .25 Cer	419	11
		21-Feb	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2G	21-Feb		5+1.75+1.5 K	421	12
		20-Mar	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2G	20-Mar	3-Apr	5+1.75+1.5 K	429	13
		19-May	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2B	19-May	5-Jun	5+1.75+1.5 K	447	14
		26-Jun	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2B	26-Jun	10-Jul	5+1.75+1.5 K	457	15
		1-Jul	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	St Amandsberg 1	4 Jul Paris		5 + 2 + 1.25 K	459	16
		10-Jul	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2B		24-Jul	5 + 2 + 1.25 K	461	17
		20-Jul	14.75	1.75	13.00	10	Verviers 2F	20-Jul	5-Aug	2x5 + 1.75K, 2x1L, 2x.5	464	18
		31-Jul	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2F	31-Jul	15-Aug	5+1.5K + 1.75P	467	19
		11-Aug	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2G	11-Aug	26-Aug	5+1.75K + 1L + .50St L	470	20
		29-Aug	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Melreux-Hoiton	29-Aug	15-Sep	5+1.75+1.5 K	476	21
		29-Sep	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2A	29-Sep	14-Oct	5+1.75+1.5 K	484	22
		6-Oct	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2F		20-Oct	5+1.75K + 1L + .50	486	23
		10-Nov	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2B	10-Nov	24-Nov	5+1.5K + 1.75P	496	24
		20-Nov	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2F	20-Nov	4-Dec	5+1.75+1.5 K	499	25
		4-Dec	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2A	4-Dec	18-Dec	5+1.5K + 1.75P	503	26
		11-Dec	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2B		25-Dec	5+1.75+1.5 P	505	27
		18-Dec	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2F		1-Jan-37	5+1.5K + 1.75P	507	28
	1937	16-Mar	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2B		31-Mar	5 K + 1.75+ 1.5 P	532	29
		10-Jul	6.25	1.75	4.50	5	Verviers 2A		23-Jul	5P + 1 L + .25 Baud	565	30
	1938	28-Jan	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2A		16-Feb	5+1.75+1.5 P	624	31
		18-Mar	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2B		29-Mar	5+1.75+1.5 P	636	32
		25-Mar	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2B	25-Mar	6-Apr	5+1.75+1.5 P	638	33
		15-Apr	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2B	15-Apr	27-Apr	5+1.75+1.5 P	645	34
		12-Aug	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2B	12-Aug		5+1.75+1.5 P	SE8	35
		14-Oct	8.25	1.75	6.50	5	Verviers 2D	14-Oct	26-Oct	5+1.75+1.5 P	SE36	36

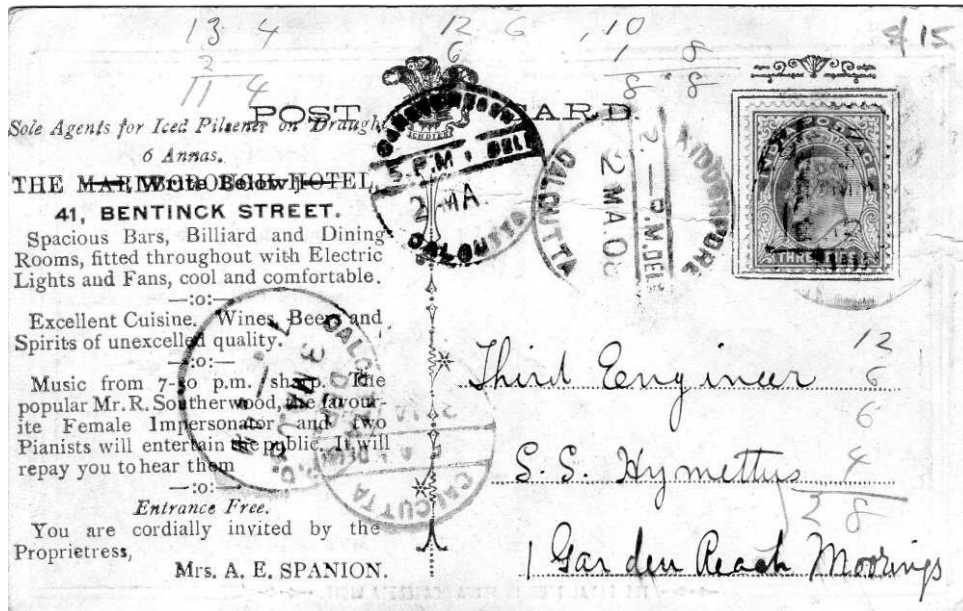
# An Invitation

**Ian Cutter**

This black-and-white postcard with a gold border celebrates "THE ROYAL TOUR IN INDIA –CALCUTTA VISIT". This would be the tour that the Prince and Princess of Wales made of India and Burma from November 1905 to March 1906. The Prince was in Calcutta on 6 January 1906, when he laid the foundation stone of the Victoria Memorial.



The caption shows the scene to be "NIGHT OF THE ILLUMINATION. – Front view of the New Military & Foreign Secretariat Buildings with Tramway wires and some of the other buildings, all facing Esplanade East"



There is a three-pies grey stamp that a 40-year-old Simplified Stanley Gibbons catalogue tells us is SG 119. The postmark on the stamp itself is illegible, but the four others, reading from right to left are (KIDDERPORE / 2.-P.M. DELV/ 2 MA 08 / CALCUTTA), (GARDEN REACH / 5.P.M. – DEL / 2MA / CALCUTTA) (CALCUTTA / 5 AM DEL / 3 MA / ?) (CALCUTTA G.P.O. / DEP. /3 MA 0 / 7. - .AM / ?)

The card is addressed to  
Third Engineer,  
S.S. *Hymettus*,  
1 Garden Reach Moorings.

Garden Reach Moorings were on the Hooghly River about five km downstream from Fort William.

The postcard is from the Marlborough Hotel; its address of 41 Bentinck St. would put it about 3 km in the other direction from Fort William.

Above the sender's address is the note "*Sole Agents for Iced Pilsner on Draught 6 Annas*". This sets the price at 24 times the cost of the postage – roughly equivalent to A\$12 here and now. In Calcutta's climate that might be good value.

Below the address the message reads as follows;

Spacious Bars, Billiard and Dining Rooms, fitted throughout with Electric Lights and Fans, cool and comfortable.

-----  
Excellent Cuisine, Wines, Beers and Spirits of unexcelled quality.  
-----

Music from 7.30 p.m. sharp. The popular Mr. R. Southerwood, the favourite Female Impersonator and two Pianists will entertain the public. It will repay you to hear them.

-----  
*Entrance Free.*  
*You are cordially invited by the Proprietress*  
Mrs. A. E. SPANION.

One might wonder whether the Third Engineer accepted the invitation and enjoyed his evening. After all, if the postcard was produced at the time of the Royal Tour near the beginning of 1906, then by mid-1908 the popular Mr Southerwood may have moved on, and the Third Engineer may have found instead a troupe of dancers or a string quartet.

There is actually enough information available to us to make a reasonable guess at the outcome . If you set off from the centre of the city today, you can travel along Kidderpore Road to the beginning of what is now Karl Marx Sarani, turn right toward the river, then left along Garden Reach Rd. The datestamps show the card to have made a similar journey on the afternoon of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, 1908. Unfortunately they also show the postcard back at the Calcutta GPO early the next morning.

A likely explanation is that the card arrived at Garden Reach Moorings after the vessel had sailed. The Third engineer would have had no views on the entertainment because he wasn't there - in fact he was probably unaware that he had ever been invited.

# Caribbean Airmails 1927-46: Part 1

## John Young

Scheduled, regular airmail services began in the 1920s after a decade or more of experimental or survey flights. Regular services signified confidence in the improved reliability of aircraft and safe landings.

Australia's first regular airmail service started in 1921 from Perth to Derby. It took ten years, however, before regular services began over water instead of over land: an emergency ground landing was slightly safer than water. In 1931 KLM began an air service from Java to Australia and Australian National Airlines Ltd started a Melbourne to Launceston service over Bass Strait. They were early pioneers, but not the first over water. That distinction belongs to Pan American Airways (PAA) in the Caribbean.

## PAA

PAA was awarded the U.S. Foreign Air Mail (FAM) Route 1 in 1927, from Key West, off Florida, to Havana, Cuba. It is claimed to be the first airline to regularly operate an international service over water. PAA flew amphibious floatplanes, mostly machines designed by the famous Igor Sikorsky.

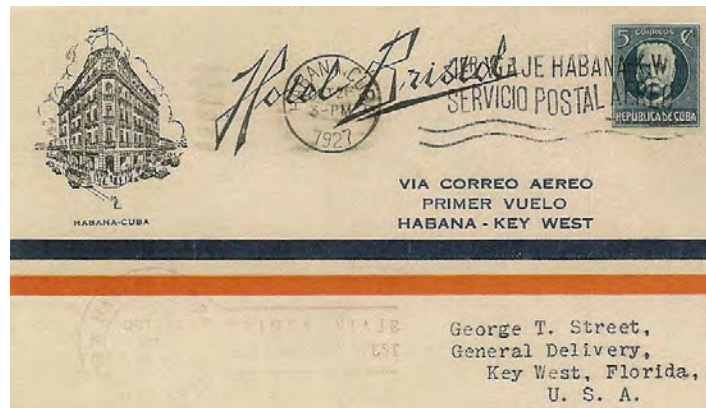
In 1928 PAA and FAM 5 had 7, which flew as far afield as Nicaragua, Canal Zone, the Bahamas and Trinidad. In 1929 PAA flew beyond the Caribbean to Santiago, Chile, where it joined with its part-owned South American PANAGRA airline. The next year (1930) there was regular services to Colombia, and Venezuela on the Caribbean's southern coastline.

The PAA Caribbean air network in 1934 is shown on the following map.



## First Flights

PAA was keen to exploit the aero-philately market. Every new FAM route was commemorated with a special cover with a cachet. The Cuba-USA flight-flight cover (1927) is shown below.



## Early Airmails

When the USA-Cuba service began there was already a domestic airmail network in USA. Until about 1929 airmail from outside USA and flown by air in USA was prepaid by American stamps or stamps of an American Possession such as the Canal Zone. Two examples of these mixed-franked covers are shown below.



Above: Franked Cuba 7 cents airmail and USA 5 cents for internal airmail to Washington

Right: Franked Colombia 38 cents for airmail to Canal Zone, and 25 cents Canal Zone for airmail to New York. Surface mail to destination

PAA was not the only early bird in the Caribbean. The West Indies Aerial Express company had a first flight from Haiti to Cuba on 28 February 1928 before starting a regular service. The cover below from Haiti pre-dates the company's first flight by two weeks, and is correctly franked 60 cents. Who flew it is not known to the author. Does anyone know?



Early Haiti Airmail

## Event

**AUSTRALIA 2013 FIP WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION**

ROYAL EXHIBITION BUILDING MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA

10 - 15 May 2013

## Responses to Queries

Ian Cutter asked a question regarding a postmark puzzle in AJP 118 December 2011 page 15. The following response was received from Neville Solly. Neville also asks for assistance:

North Australia was a political name that never caught on with the general population.

North Aust was applied to all date stamps issued from the late 1930's to the early 1950's. It would be appreciated if anyone can provide 300dpi scans of the following :-

Alice Springs East

Elliot

Newcastle Waters

MIL PO Adelaide River

MIL PO Darwin

MIL PO Darwin No 3

MIL PO Parap

or better scans of those below :-



Neville Solly

SA Study Group Postmark Co-ordinator.

[datestampsant@yahoo.com.au](mailto:datestampsant@yahoo.com.au)

---

### **Boxed Paschor and This Article has been Held by/Post & Telegraph Censorship.**

I was very interested to read about the cover on page 14 of the AJP 118. I cannot answer all the questions, but will try to do my best on some of them.

First there is another up to date censorship book. Whitmarsh and Smith both attempted with a limited amount of material, to make some sense of the many different censor tapes and handstamps from the various military districts. The years went by and much more material and information became available. This was collated over many months (and years) by John Little and published by The Civil Censorship Study Group and titled **British Empire Civil Censorship Devices, World War II, Australia, New Zealand & Pacific Islands.**

Back to the cover. It was sealed by a Sydney censor label which was tied to the envelope back and front by the PASCHOR cachet. The surmise that it was written in German may be incorrect, as all foreign language mail (suitably annotated on the front) would have been sent to Melbourne where the linguists were stationed. No doubt however, it went to Melbourne as there is a Melbourne backstamp, but this was well after the war was over. There appear to be no Melbourne marks, postal or censor, around the time it was posted.

Back to the PASCHOR and the two line THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN HELD BY/POST & TELEGRAPH CENSORSHIP. Both of these handstamps are listed by John Little as being applied in Sydney and in fact the very cover you have shown is illustrated on page 34 of his book and is shown as being in the possession of 'GS'. It indicates in the front of the book that GS is George Spiers.

Only two covers bearing these handstamps are recorded by John Little.

I hope this may be of some help. I look forward to reading any other comments you may receive and publish.

Dee Pullan (Murcia, Spain)

---

And from Harold Sheath, Melbourne:

Enclosed is the information I have concerning your mystery Censored envelope. This book by John Little, of Solihull, West Midlands, was published by Civil Censorship Study Group in 2008, and contains everything in *In Search of Secrecy*, by Whitmarsh, and *Civil Censorship in Australia and Dependencies 1939-1945*, by Smith, plus a lot of information subsequently obtained.

I have photocopied all the pages containing information which could apply to this envelope, and highlighted the relevant bits in red. (I have published Harold's highlighted sections, Ed). Your envelope in question is illustrated on page 34! Summarising this information it would appear that mail addressed to a country not being enemy territory (Switzerland was such a country) was scrutinised under Section 5, and if necessary was sent to the liaison officer of a particular service, who could hold such an article (Page 9).

At this time February/March 1941, large liners, including the R.M.S. Queen Mary, were leaving Sydney Harbour carrying troops to the Middle East. Photos of these ships were taken at the time, but none were shown to the public in various books, magazines, etc. until after the war.

Here we have a person with a German sounding name - Ternan, sending something from a Post Office Box Number in Sydney to a person at a Photo Agency in Bern, Switzerland. Only the contents could tell us the reason, but was it photos or information concerning the convoys mentioned above.

In any case the Censor sent the envelope to the Post and Telegraph Censorship, who decided to hold it until the war was over in 1946. Hope I make some sense. (HS).

Here are some extracts from said document. (Editor).

According to the section written by Bruce Hayes and Brian Pope, the regulations laid out in the War Book, the Censor was empowered to open and examine

all postal articles as defined by the Post and Telegraph Act 1901-1934, and to withhold from delivery all such articles as are considered to be traitorous, or to contain information of a secret or confidential nature likely to be useful to an enemy, or are considered to contain written or printed matter the publication of which would, in

the present emergency, be prejudicial to the public safety, the defence of the Commonwealth, or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community. (Commonwealth Gazette, 1-09-39).

The article continues,

It may be noted that the only sanction available to the Censor was withholding from delivery....the formal power to 'delay the transmission of the article, or forward it to the sender, or forward its destination after obliteration, deletion or excision of any dangerous matter' was not actually published until some fourteen months later. (Commonwealth Gazette, 19-03-41, 610) (p3).

Initially all overseas communications from enemy aliens were subject to censorship however, in August 1940, this was extended to naturalized British subjects of enemy origin resulting in a modification of the procedure:

Where the communication is addressed to enemy territory it shall comply with requirements of paragraph 6 of Control of Overseas Postal Communication Order (No 1), and shall be forwarded to an authorized intermediary for submission to a post and Telegraph Censorship Authority in accordance with paragraph 7 of the order (p4).

Where the communication is addressed to a country, not being enemy territory, it shall comply with requirements of paragraph 5 of the Control of Overseas Postal Communications Order (No. 1), and shall be submitted to a Post and Telegraph Censorship Authority in the following manner:-

The communication shall be enclosed in an unsealed envelope fully addressed and bearing the appropriate postage, and such envelope shall be enclosed in an outer envelope:-

- a) bearing the appropriate postage;
- b) addressed to 'The District Censor' at the Capital City of the State or Territory in which the sender resides; and
- c) bearing on the back of the envelope the full name and address of the sender typed or written in block capital letters.

This order shall not apply to prisoners of war interned in Australia. (Commonwealth Gazette, 22-08-40, 1844).

Section 5. A person shall not despatch by post from a place in Australia to any destination outside Australia, any postal article containing a communication unless the postal article and the communication comply with the following requirements:-

- a) The communication shall be written in clear and unambiguous language and in clear well-spaced and legible type or handwriting and shall bear the full name of the sender in block capital letters, together with his signature, at the end thereof.
- b) If the communication is written in a language other than English, the envelope or other covering in which it is enclosed shall bear on the upper left corner an endorsement (in English) stating the language in which the communication is written.
- c) If the communication is to be despatched to any destination which is not in enemy territory, the sender's full address shall be set out above the text of the communication. (p5).



## Procedures in the Censor's Office....

Witnesses before the Chief Justice of Queensland (Sir William Webb), who has been appointed a Commissioner to inquire into censorship matters, stated....that they had no authority to peruse mail or observe telephone conversations. They had to submit their requests to the censorship authorities who had the final decision.

Professor Arthur L. Campbell, District Censor in NSW, said that on the outbreak of war he was appointed district censor in SA (Adelaide, South Australia) and was transferred to NSW in April, 1942. The methods adopted in both states were similar. In regard to censorship of overseas mails the district censor was responsible. Any mail delivered in NSW was made available to the censor. Mail from an enemy country, a country bordering an enemy country or where enemy activity was suspected would be scrutinised 100 percent. A certain percentage of mail from other countries, particularly British countries, would be selected for scrutiny. A similar procedure would be adopted in regard to outgoing mails.

Mails within Australia, he said, were divided into two sections. That going to or coming from operational areas or potential danger areas received more attention than mails from Sydney or Adelaide. Mails to or from other than operational areas were scarcely censored at all unless they were from an area where troop movements were taking or likely to take place. They would also watch for disclosures as to where any special training was going on.

Except for disclosures of military matters, he said, there was no scrutiny of inland mails. (p8).

It might happen that they would get information about a suspected person, and in that case such a person's letters would be examined. All requests from military intelligence covering the army, navy and air force for censorship of mail must be made in writing and reason given for such scrutiny. He would examine the reasons to see whether the scrutiny was for national security or came within National Security Regulations. If he considered that the reasons justified the scrutiny he would order that it be imposed. After examination of the letters any matter relevant to the reason submitted by the liaison officer of the particular service concerned would be submitted to him....

## Overseas Letters

In regard to scrutiny of overseas letters, if any particular passage was regarded as useful to the proper authorities the reader would make an extract and report it to the information section. That section would scrutinise it very carefully and if considered necessary it would be sent on to the liaison officer of the particular service concerned.

Brig William V. Simpson, of Canberra, Director-General of security, said that he was responsible for the security services throughout the Commonwealth. He administered the regulations dealing with alien control and prevention of espionage and sabotage. He had at least a deputy-director and sometimes more in each State. If it were considered necessary to have the mail of any person observed a formal application in writing, together with the grounds for the application, would be made to the district censor. It was the censor's prerogative to grant or refuse the application. The extracts he received from such letters were limited to the special matters mentioned in the application in the interests of security.... (p9).

Below an extract of the relevant handstamps:

### MD-2 – Sydney – Handstamps - NSW

Type	ERD	LRD	Colour	Notes
H2-13	9 MR 41	25 OC 41	Violet	Acronym unknown (2)
H2-14	9 MR 41	25 OC 41	“	(2)

Both of the above are scarce with only two known of each. (p33).

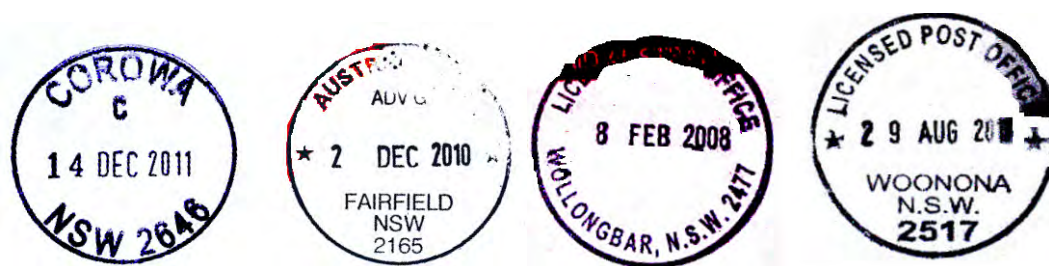
## Hand-Held Date Stamps

**Co-ordinated by George Vearing**

Every so often I put in a request for information on certain postmarks or post offices (like in the last edition) but alas I have not received any replies over the years and it would be appreciated if this column could record also the opening dates of new post offices or closing dates where applicable.

Many thanks to Richard Peck, John Treacy, Ian Cutter and Tony Lyon for contributing material to this edition to keep this column going.

**N.S.W.:-**



**QLD.:-**



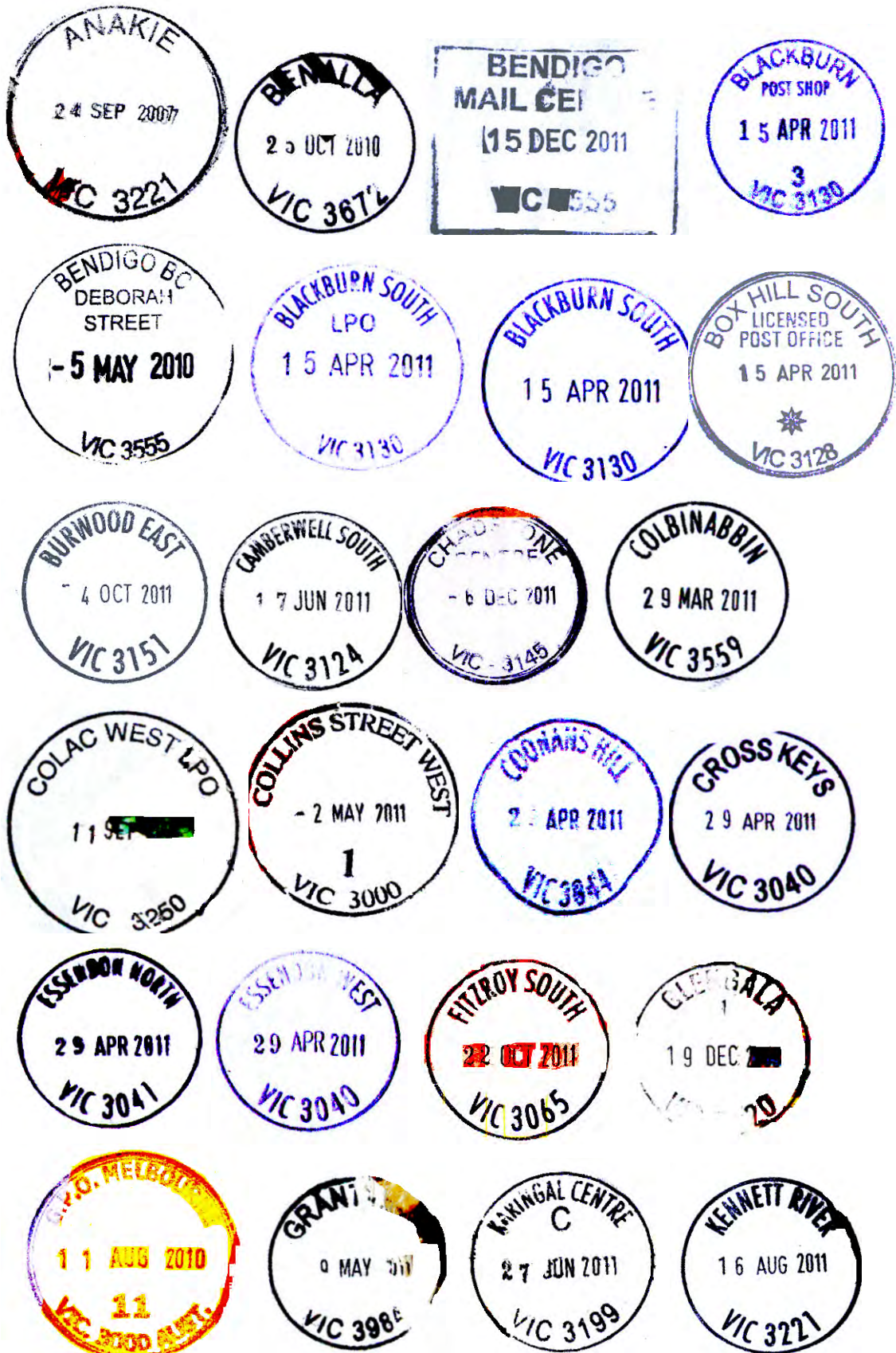
**S.A.:-**Earlier datestamp:-CLARE (89/33) PORT ELLIOT appears to be a steel datestamp still going in 2010, it would be interesting to know how many more are still being used



**VIC:-**Earlier datestamps:-BENALLA(98/24), COLBINABBIN(96/33), COLLINS ST, WEST (1) (96/33), CROSS KEYS (109/27), MALDON(96/35), MAILORS FLAT (71/34), MORELAND WEST (103/32), NEERIM SOUTH (107/29), NOOJEE (90/35).



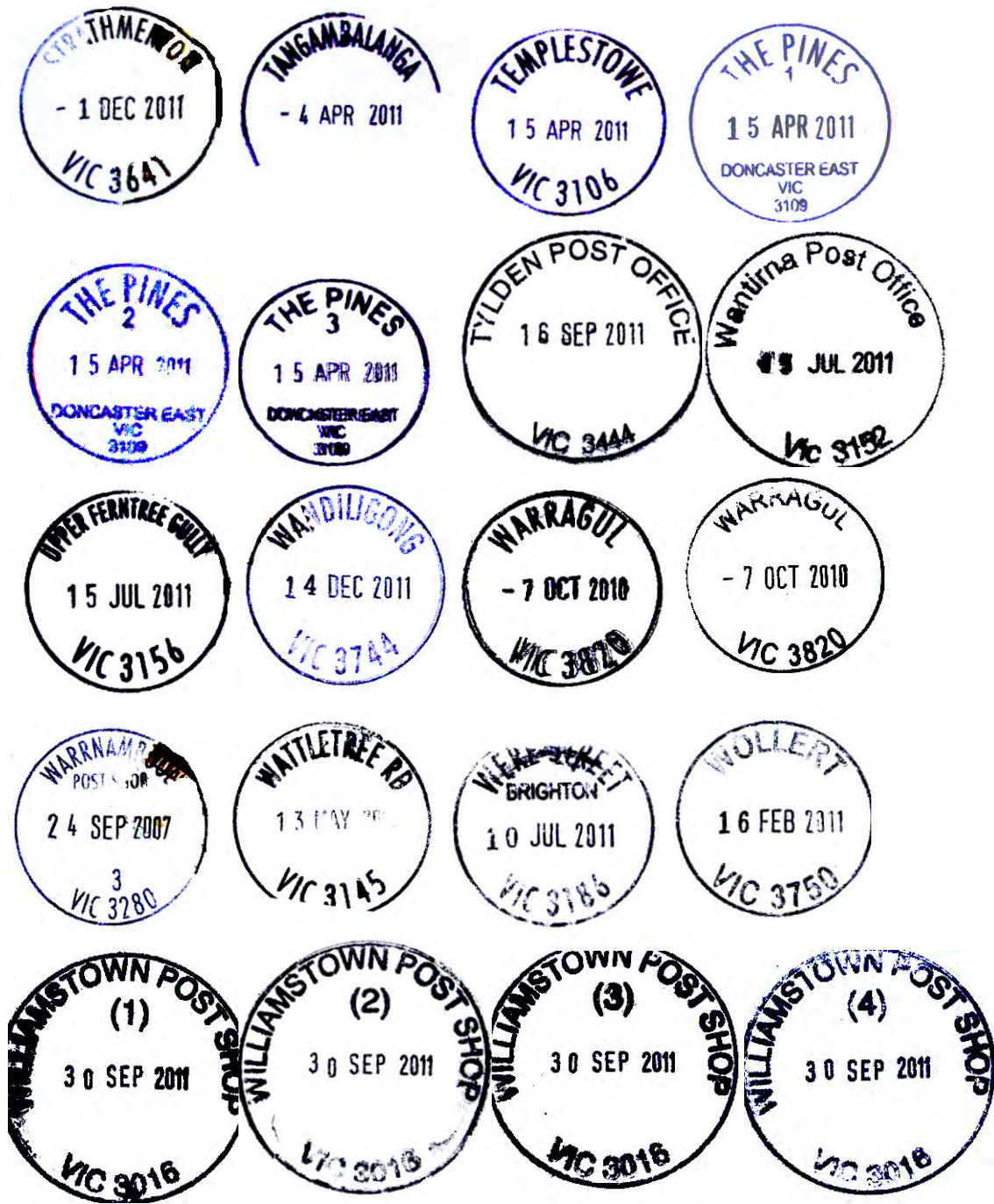
VIC:-(cont)



VIC.:-(cont)



VIC:-(cont) .



W.A.: -Earlier datestamp-PARABURDOO (72/36) Date on PERTH MAIL CENTRE is 30 OCT 2012 yes still 9 months away



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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

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# Back Cover

Folded letter posted at Sunbury where it received a duplex dated AP 16 72. Addressed to Richmond in transit it received a Up TPO M.G.4., Melbourne circular and Richmond unframed.

