

# Australian Journal of Philately

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

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<b>Date</b>	<b>2015 / 2016 Programme</b>	<b>Display</b>
18 April 2016	Brian Fuller	3 D Philately
20 June 2016	Tony Lyon	Palestine Pictorials 1928-47 & Military Covers
15 August 2016	AGM	Members—Work in Progress

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## Editorial

*Tony Lyon*

The question has often been asked whether stamp collecting will continue many more years? Persons who from some motive or other object to collecting the "rubbish" as they call it (probably from want of cash cannot afford to purchase stamps), say stamp collecting is now at its height and will go down as fast as it came up; they say this and know nothing of the matter, and how on earth can persons ignorant of the affair be calculated to give an answer. An experienced dealer who is daily receiving his 20 letters at a post from town, country, the continent, or the English colonies; from lady, gentleman, and schoolboy collectors, will be better calculated to give an answer.

ANONYMOUS, The National Postage Stamp Express, March 15, 1864.

They are still saying it 150 years later!

We welcome two new correspondents this issue. Tony Curtis has presented an article published on page 8 and Derek Brennan on page 5.

My apologies to Joan Orr who sent a response for publishing in the last journal and I left it out. Thank you for responding to the article.

Don't forget the April members meeting which is a display by Brian Fuller. Brian is a very eclectic collector and I don't know where he manages to hide it all. If it were me I would be given an ultimatum from 'she who must be obeyed.' Some of you will be saying 'what are you, a man or a mouse.' Just pass me the cheese.

While we are discussing Brian, starting in this issue is a series of articles about Hand Parcel Cancellers. This will be run over 3 issues.

Happy collecting and investigating!

Ciao for now.

### Privacy Statement

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## From the President

In December 2015 the philatelic press, including our own journal, devoted quite a lot of space to the shortcomings of Australia Post. For a change here is some good news, although it is nearly forty years old.

The overseas express delivery cover shown below is postmarked 1 November 1976 from Sydney, and back-stamped Huntington Beach, California, the following day. There is only one day's difference? Surely there's been a mistake.

The Sydney GPO date stamp was applied at 8am on 1<sup>st</sup> November, and the Huntington Beach back-stamp was applied at 3pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. The time between these events was –

8am Sydney to 3pm California  
Time zone difference

31 hours

18 hours

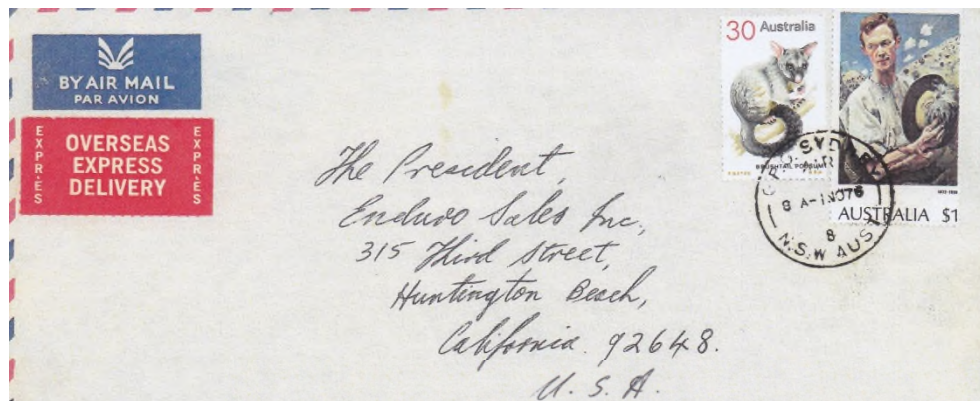
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49 hours

or 2 days and 1 hour.

That seems plausible with trans-Pacific jet aviation. Just think, overseas airmail and express delivery for \$1.30 in a shade more than two days in 1976. Nowadays we can get delivery between *Australian* capital cities in up to four business days for \$1, or priority delivery in two business days for \$1.50. It just goes to show there is such a thing as the good old days.

P.S. On the day I wrote this I received an airmail letter from USA. Transmission from posting to receipt took 13 days.





## 1940 Cover Story – Bialystok (Russian Poland) to Melbourne

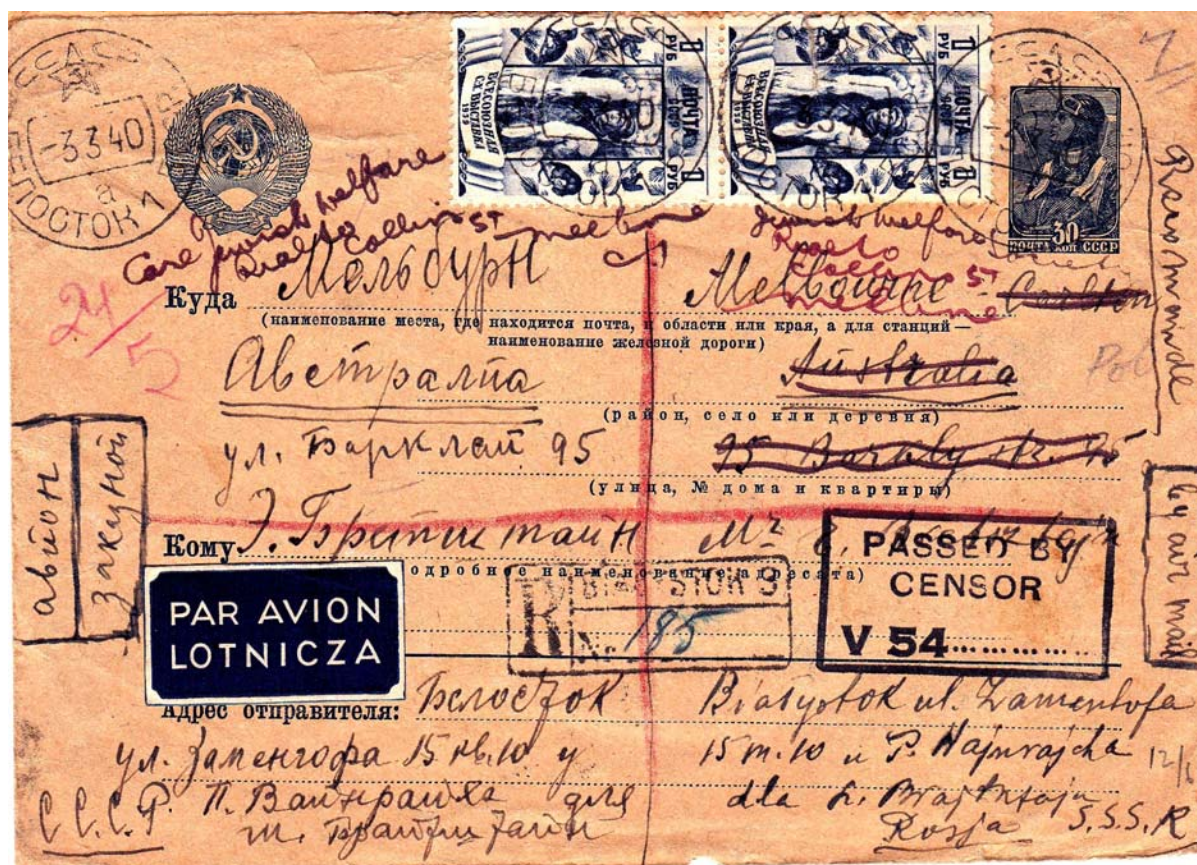
### Derek Brennan

This cover was part of the article by Michael Barden in the December 2015 issue of AJP (# 134 p8). My further research with the assistance of others has prompted this article. As such, it is a correction and improvement to the original.

The top part of a datestamp protruded from under the Victorian censor's label (see #134 p9). When this label was soaked off the verso, an Adelaide cancellation was uncovered.

**Bialystok to UK.** This was a postal stationery envelope sent by air and bearing an etiquette (PAR AVION / LOTZNICA) and a vertical thin black line to separate the Russian and English texts. It was flown from Bialystok to Melbourne. The Polish airline LOT was no longer operational at the time this cover was posted - 3 March 1940.

After these initial strikes, there were no further cancellations until that of Adelaide. But by knowing the date of 18 April 1940 in Adelaide, one can check back on the known routes from Russia, Stockholm and UK.



Bearing a Bialystok 1 cds of 3 Mar 1940 and a Bialystok 3 hand stamped registration label, this envelope was flown to Moscow by Deutsche Luft Hansa (DLH). This was a regular route at the time.

From Moscow it was flown to Riga [Latvia] and onward to Stockholm. This was a regular route served by both Aeroflot (Russian) and ABA (Swedish) air lines.

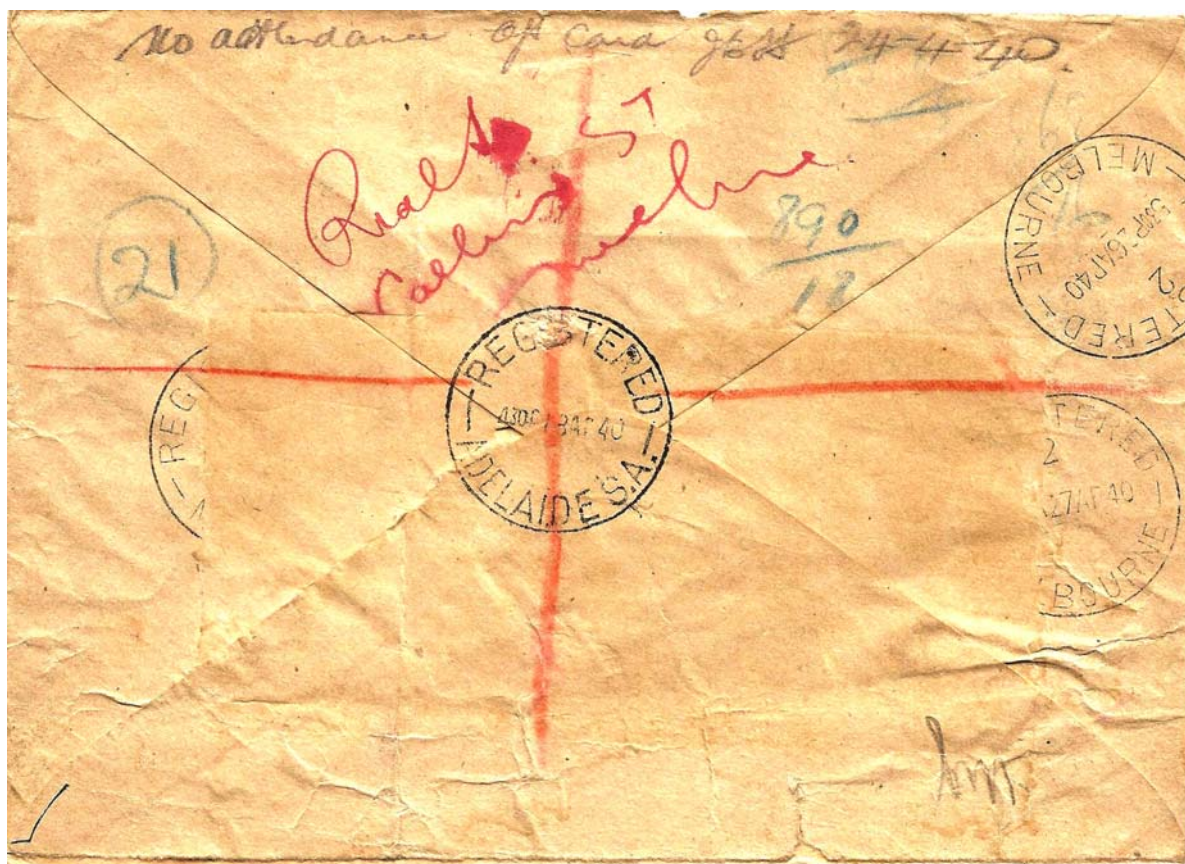


From Stockholm the cover would have been carried by Imperial Airways / BOAC (change of name was from 1 April 1940) to Leuchars (Scotland, just south of Dundee). From there it was carried, probably by rail, to Poole (in Dorset on the south coast of England, west of Bournemouth) where it was to be loaded onto a flying boat for Australia.

**UK to Australia.** At Poole Harbour it would have arrived by 6 April. This allowed a whole month between leaving Bialystok and arriving in time at Poole. It would be in time to catch the flight leaving Poole on 7 April 1940. This was SE 236 (Coriolanus).

Flight SE 236 departed Poole on 7 April 1940 and was overnight at Marseilles on 7/8 April. On the 8 April it flew from Marseilles via Rome to Brindisi. After an overnight stop the leg on 9 April was Brindisi, Corfu and Athens to overnight at Alexandria. Then to Basra overnight 10/11 April and Karachi on 12 April. From Karachi the route followed Calcutta, Bangkok, Singapore, Sourabaya and reached Darwin on 17 April.

**Arrival in Australia.** On arrival in Darwin, the mail would have been sorted at the GPO into destinations by state. Mails for Victoria and South Australia were flown to Adelaide by New Guinea Airways using Lockheed 10/14s.

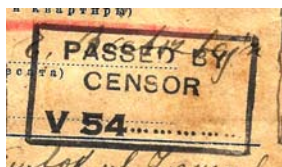


**Verso without censor's label as it would have been in Adelaide**

In Adelaide the cover was recognised as **Registered**, and the red cross-lines were then drawn on the front and back. An Adelaide Registered cds dated **18 AP 40** was applied to the back on the crossing point. From Adelaide to Melbourne the cover would have been carried by ANA (Australian National Airlines).

## Melbourne.

This was the censorship office of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Military District, who applied the label at right, on the back, covering the Adelaide cds.



On the front of the cover is a rubber hand stamp of a framed 'PASSED BY / CENSOR / V54' followed by five groups of three dots each. The label and the hand stamp accord with the criteria for the dates used.

The next date was a cds applied at CARLTON on 24 AP 40 on the back Censor label. This was the destination address but, as there was nobody there to accept a Registered item, a card was left on 24-4-40. (Pencil notes on the back). The addressee was absent from 95 Barkly Street, Carlton.

GPO Melbourne then hand stamped, on the back of the cover, upper right, a cds dated 26 AP 40. A day later GPO Melbourne applied a cds dated 27 AP 40 at each end of the censor label.

Also on the back, was then written in red ink, 'Rialto, Collins St, Melbourne'. Somebody then crossed out 'Carlton' address on the envelope, and wrote a fresh address 'Care Jewish Welfare Rialto, Collins St, Melbourne'.



**Marks unknown.** There are some manuscript marks on the front of the cover, in red crayon. They are, at left, '21' in a circle; at upper right 869 / 16, and at right above the censor label 890 / 18. Above these, at upper right are two short straight lines. In pencil at the bottom right is a possible initial. What might these mean? On the front of the cover, in red crayon, is a date '24/5'. Was this the date of final clearance, having found the addressee?

**Summary.** A not very spectacular route, but complicated at the end. The journey took about 56 days - 3 March 1940 to 27 April 1940.

## Acknowledgements.

My thanks to Norman Banfield, NZ, David Collyer, NSW, Ron Lee, Victoria and Kjell Nilson, Sweden for their help with this cover story.

## References.

1. **Edward B. Proud** 'Intercontinental Airmails, Volume 2, Asia and Australia'. 2009
2. **J.C. Smith** 'Civil Censorship in Australia and Dependencies 1939 to 1945', undated (1990 or later)

## CAMP "D" Federal Capital Territory Datestamp

**Tony Curtis**

The recent listing in *Phoenix Auctions* April 2015 sale of a pair of the 1927 11/2d Canberra with two largely fine and complete strikes of 'POST OFFICE/MAY/9/1927/ CAMP "D" F.C.T.' double-ring datestamp in violet (Lot 1224), came as somewhat of a surprise to me as a long standing collector of Australian Capital Territory postal history and postmarks. In 40 years of collecting in this area I had not previously encountered the datestamp or for that matter had any knowledge as to its existence. Early Canberra material is generally relatively scarce but for an item such as this to have previously escaped unnoticed certainly came as a surprise. With a pre sale estimate of \$155-00 the lot was subsequently knocked down for \$550-00 plus buyer's commission of approximately \$105-00, a total of \$655-00.



Assuming the date-stamp to have been related to postal facilities located at one of the three military camps established in Canberra for the Royal Visit and official Opening of the provincial Federal Parliament House on 9 May 1927, by HRH the Duke of York, I set about a search of official records in an attempt to solve the mystery of Camp "D". Unfortunately, Canberra Post Office records contained in the National Archives of Australia are missing the folios relating to this period. However, fortunately, the official Federal Capital Commission file "Telephone, Telegraphic and Postal Facilities Royal Visit, 1927" (NAA: A6266,G1930/1069), contained in the Archives shed some light on the mystery of Camp "D".

The records reveal that Camp "D" was not in fact a military camp but a civilian camp for interstate camping motorists attending the Official Opening of Parliament House in Canberra on 9 May 1927. Authorities, anticipating the Opening to be a significantly large and well attended event, planned to assign a number of camping sites, identified as Camps "A", "B", "C", "D", "E" and "F", for interstate visitors, given the lack of hotel and other suitable accommodation in the then fledgling capital.

Writing to the Secretary, Royal Visit Section, Federal Capital Commission, Canberra on 11 April 1927, Deputy Director, Posts and Telegraphs, Post Master-General's Department advised that *"Providing there are a sufficient number of camping parties, a Departmental Station will be established on each of the camping areas A; B and C combined; D; E and F, and will be designated by the flying of a 3' x 2' flag colored white over blue. The following facilities will be available at each station:-*

*Sale of Postage Stamps including the new commemorative 11/2d. stamps.*

*Sale of special souvenir booklets containing 16 commemorative stamps. Price 2/- each. (A picture of H.M.S. "Renown" is shown on the cover).*

*Letter receiver which will be cleared in time to catch the outward mail each evening.*

*Public Telephone for both local and Trunk line conversations.*

*Despatch of Telegrams. Any telegrams received and addressed to a particular camping area will be notified on a notice board at the Departmental Station concerned."*

The Director went on to advise that the hours of business would be from 8 a.m till 6 p.m and extended if justified.

On 22 April 1927 the Secretary, Royal Visit Section replied to the Deputy Director, Posts and Telegraphs advising that *"Following an interview with Mr Monfries on 20<sup>th</sup> April, and by direction of the Chief Commissioner, I have to suggest that the provision of postal facilities by your Department for camping motorists be confined to area "D" shown on the map in your possession".* The Secretary further advised *"Approval has been given for the provision of a cubicle for auxiliary postal purposes in an external bay of the Secretariat Building for use by your staff if necessity arises."*



In subsequent correspondence dated 27 April 1927, addressed to the Deputy Director, the Secretary advised that, *"Owing to the small number of applications for camping spaces which has been received, it has been decided to concentrate those who have applied and to whom tickets have been issued, in Camp area "D" to which in another communication it has been requested you be so good as to supply postal facilities."* The Secretary went on to state, *"Will you please note for the information of your local organisation, therefore, that mail matter addressed – e.g. John Brown, Camp C. Unit 1, should be delivered for distribution at Camp D"*.

Additionally, on 27 April 1927, Mr Monfries for the Deputy Director wrote to the Secretary acknowledging his memorandum of 22 April 1927 and confirming *"arrangements are being made to provide postal facilities near camp area "D" and on the site decided upon after consultation with one of your officers"*. He went on to advise that, *"With respect to paragraph 2 of your memorandum and in accordance with my conversation with your Industrial Officer (Major McDowell) I shall be obliged if two cubicles for auxiliary postal purposes can be placed in the front external bay on the western side of the No. 1 Secretariat Building in positions known to the Postmaster and with sufficient room left in the bay for a third cubicle if such should be considered later to be necessary. I would add that it is reasonable to suppose that during the Royal Visit there may be very heavy demands made on the existing accommodation at the Post Office and the Department is anxious to avoid criticism regarding any lack of foresight in this connection"*. The proposed arrangements were subsequently confirmed as suitable by the Commission. Canberra Post Office had at that time recently relocated from Acton to new accommodation in No. 1 Secretariat Building.

The photo below depicting **Temporary Post Office buildings at rear of Parliament House Canberra (NAA: C4076, HN747)** drawn from the collection of the National Archives of Australia would seem to be consistent with the Camp "D" facility previously described and given the similarity in architecture of the respective buildings, the photo could possibly have been wrongly labeled.



Temporary postal facilities also operated from the Provisional Parliament House, staffed by personnel from Canberra Post Office. However, it is understood that this facility was internal, incorporated in the build.

The Commission file confirms the provision of telephone services from the Canberra Exchange to the respective Army, Air Force and Navy Camps established for the event. However, there is no mention of the provision of specific postal facilities for service personnel.

On 18 May 1927, the Deputy Director, Posts & Telegraphs wrote to the Chairman, Federal Capital Commission acknowledging with thanks the Commission's assistance in connection with the provision

of additional services during the celebrations, in particular, the cubicles and the special measures to ensure the comfort of staff accommodated at the Capital Hill Barracks.

The **POST OFFICE CANBERRA F.C.T.** double ring datestamp in violet depicted below is occasionally seen on cover and was obviously used to supplement the regular CANBERRA FCT datestamps during the period in question.



Regrettably, I have not been able to glean any further information concerning Camp “D” and/or the use of the CAMP “D” F.C.T. datestamp. However, it would seem likely on the balance of probability that its use was indeed very limited.

Interestingly, subsequent to the Phoenix sale another pair of the datestamp came to market in Mossgreen’s sale of The Arthur Gray Collection (Lot 376). These were less complete examples of the datestamp and were knocked down for an amount just shy of \$500 along with several other FDI usages of the stamp.

As an aside, the poor attendance at Canberra by interstate visitors on this important occasion was attributed to the day not being declared a public holiday.

## Service with a Smile - 1962 Style – a Response

**Joan Orr**

I read John Steward’s Service with a Smile – 1962 Style in the latest journal and am answering his query “Has anybody ever seen another example?”

Back in May 2009 Andy Jansen and I, with input from Mark Diserio and Ian McMahon, compiled an article for The Postal Stationery Collector Vol.15 No.1 Issue 57 covering the use and numbers held of this Letter Sheet. This was the result of previous articles I had written in the PSC.

Two basic forms were used during the two years of their use.

Type A: price on address side blacked out and simulated cancellation printed over the stamp indicium. The heading on the message side refers to the “Postmaster General’s Department” with the final paragraph advising sender to enquire of a specific person or the postmaster via a phone number re rates of postage.

Type B: Standard form as issued, the heading on the message side now refers to “ Australian Post Office” and an extra paragraph has been added “To assist you, I have enclosed a postage rate card, and extra copies of these are available on request.” This is as the illustration on page 23 of the AJP magazine.

The totals known for this Letter Sheet in 2009 was Type A 12 used in 1961 and Type B 10 used in 1962. John’s copy takes Type B to 11 and another used one for Melbourne, bringing these to 3.

In the scheme of things these are still very scarce items and nice to add to a postal stationery collection or a postal history story on the Tax system.

# Australian Post-War Inflationary Postal Rates

**John Young**

In Australia between 1945 and 1953 the consumer price index doubled in nine years. Taking 1945 as the base year at 100 points, the index went as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Index</u>
1945	100
1946	102
1947	106
1948	117
1949	128
1950	140
1951	167
1952	196
1953	205

The big jumps were in 1951 and 1952, coinciding with the years when wool export prices boomed, aided by demand for wool in Europe and the Korean War. What happened with postal rates?

Domestically, letter and postcard rates did not go up very much. Domestic letters had cost 2½ pence since 1941, and went from 2½ to 3 pence in 1950, and to 3½ pence in 1951, an overall price rise of 40%. They stayed at 3½ pence until 1956. Overseas airmail letter rates went up by about 30%, and airmail to some Asian countries actually went down. The areas where rates did keep pace with inflation were registration fees and postage for surface mail letters and postcards to foreign countries. It is the foreign postal rates that hold the most interest.

First, some wartime background. Ordinary letters and postcards to foreign countries during the war included war tax:

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Postcard</u>
3 pence plus ½d tax	2 pence plus ½d tax

On 1 July 1949 war tax was removed and foreign rates proceeded as follows:

<u>Effective date</u>	<u>Letter</u>	<u>Postcard</u>
1.7.49	*3½ pence	*2½ pence
1.12.50	5½ pence	3 pence
9.7.51	7½ pence	4½ pence
1.10.59	8 pence	8 pence

\*War tax removed for letters and postage went up by ½ penny. Total cost for postcards fell from 2½ to 2 pence.

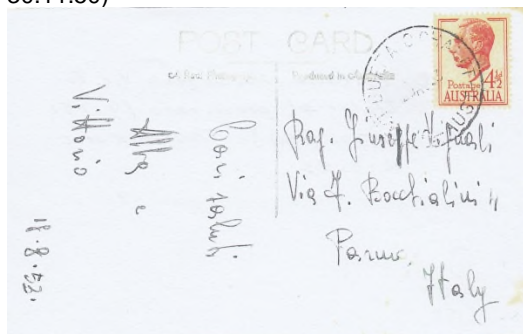
The rates set in 1949 and 1950 had lives of 17 months and 8 months respectively. Letters, as noted above, had the same franking of 3½ pence before and after 1.7.49. The next rate, 5½ pence, is hard to find on commercial covers.

Postcards to foreign countries were probably sent less often than letters, and they are scarce. It is worth noting that the 2 and 3 pence postcard rates had shorter lives than the 4½ pence rate, and examples of that rate sell at around \$300 if they carry the solo stamp of that denomination. The earlier 2 and 3 pence rates are probably scarcer, but less desirable. Some examples of the rates are shown below.

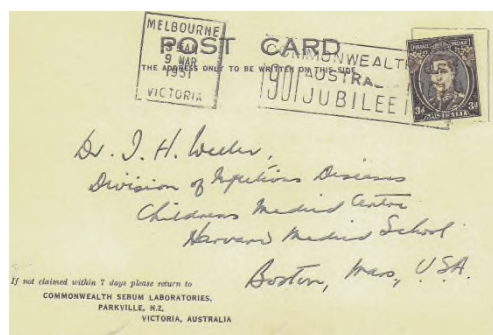
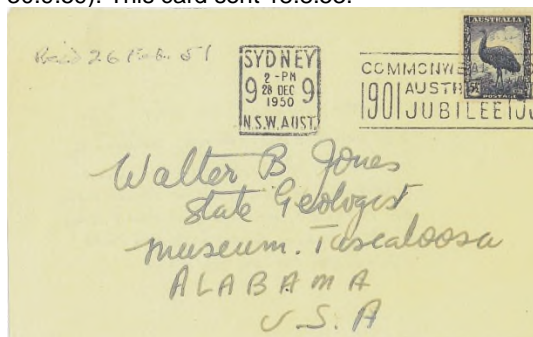




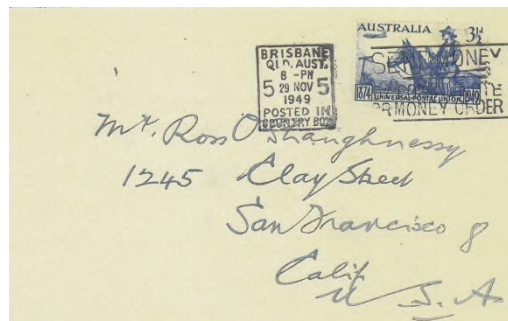
Postcard, Perth to Belgium, 2 pence rate (1.7.49 to 30.11.50)



Postcard, Mt. Buffalo, Vic. To Italy, 4½ pence rate (9.7.51 to 30.9.59). This card sent 18.8.53.

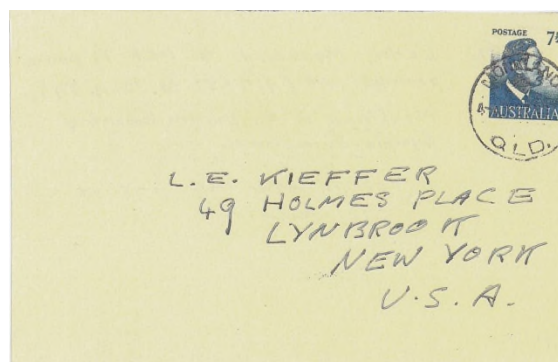


Postcard, Melbourne to USA, 3 pence rate (1.12.50 to 9.7.51)



Letter, Brisbane to USA, 3½ pence postage (1.7.49 to 30.11.50)

Letter, Sydney to USA. The 5½ pence emu stamp, originally issued in 1942 for airmail and registered letters ended these uses on 1.12.50, and began that day the 5½ pence foreign letter rate (1.12.50 to 8.7.51).



Letter, Monkland to USA, 7½ pence postage (9.7.51 to 30.9.59). Monkland is an eastern suburb of Gympie, Queensland.

5½ pence foreign letter rate. This stamp was issued 1.5.51 and had a usage of 10 weeks: The foreign letter rate went up to 7½ pence on 9.7.51.

Printed matter and commercial papers to foreign countries had similar inflationary increases:

<u>Effective date</u>	<u>Printed matter, first 2 ounces</u>	<u>Commercial papers</u>
Pre 1949	1 penny and ½d tax	3d up to 6oz + ½d tax
1.7.49	2 pence	3½ pence up to 4 oz
1.12.50	2 pence	5½ pence up to 6 oz
9.7.51	3 pence	Minimum charge 7½ pence

Here is an example of the 2 pence rate for printed matter which had a life of two years. It is another undistinguished looking object; but also scarce, and comes by courtesy of Tasmanian Stamp Auctions.



## A Response

### **David Collyer**

Some thoughts on the items shown on the Rear and front covers of issue 132 of *Australian Journal of Philately*.

#### **Rear cover:**

Is it possible to have the date on the Los Angeles postmark. The cover is described as 1941 but the only clear postmark the one over the addresses is not readable.

Are all the dates on the postmarks the same? Different dates mean that postage was added later.

#### **Front cover:**

The franking is 5/10d that is the correct rate for a first weight step POW items to the International Red Cross in Geneva.

Again the date would be useful.

Details of A (Arnold).A (Ainsworth). Hiscock can be found using either his name or serial number from the National Archives of Australia site for the World War 2 Nominal roll.

Hiscock was born in 1906 and lived at Nyngan in Western NSW. He joined the AIF on 3 November 1939 at Narromine and was a member of the 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion.

The envelope illustrated has his rank as S(taff)/ Sargent where as the nominal roll lists him as a Private on discharge on 14 October 1945.

Up until mid 1944 mail to Australian POW's overseas had first be sent under cover to the Australian Red Cross in Melbourne. This accounts for the Melbourne postmark and the Victoria civil censor marking.

The full name and camp location was added by the Red Cross. Hiscocks given names were Arnold Ainsworth.

Germany was divided into a number of Military districts and district XVIII was in Lower Austria. Stalag XVIIIId was at Marburg that is now called Maribor in Slovenia. The camp was opened in July 1941 and closed at the end of hostilities in May 1945. The majority of the camp was French. There were 4320 British and Commonwealth Prisoner including 414 Australians and 183 New Zealanders.

Google Images has a large folio of camp life and condition

## Pro Juventute

### *Ian Cutter*

Instructions for the use of this cover are given on the back - an auto-translation of the message reads:

**43.** Special Balloon post per Juventute Children's Village Association. This letter may contact any austrian post office franked by 08.22.1990 and at the United Nations Postal Administration, Department 950, 1400, Vienna, to be given up to 21.08.1990. Price includes membership fee.

This presumably is giving closing dates for the submission of the cover.

The purpose can be gleaned from the following description of similar items (auto-translated from the Italian)

From the collection of an important collector of foreign postal history here's proposals in detail in my shop, under the category "Covers", hundreds of envelopes and cards (over a thousand) all traveling on balloon. Most of them headed Austrian association "Pro Juventute", the proceeds of which were destined to special institutions designed to accommodate children aged between 3 and 15 years old, orphaned or with difficult family situations.

Flight numbers other than the **43** of this cover can be found – within any particular number there may be several arrangements of stamps and datestamps, but each cover on a flight bears a CDS of the same location.

The progress of this cover can be deduced from the datestamps:

UN > Wien > Grossweikersdorf > Leipzig > Grossweikersdorf >

Grossweikersdorf is a municipality of 2 500 people about 40 km north-west of Wien.

Further examples sighted of the **43** covers suggest that:

Not all will have originated with the UN.

All will have passed through Wien and received the special cancellation.

The balloon section of the flight finished at Grossweikersdorf

Covers were addressed to various destinations. – For example a street address in Salzburg was noted

The failure to collect the item on arrival may have been deliberate.

This still leaves two questions, for one of which I can offer a reasonable explanation, the other defeats me completely

i) *Was the destination of the balloon sector arranged beforehand?*

This is not impossible, but given the nature of balloon flights this appears unlikely; the mail was probably taken to the nearest convenient post office after landing.

ii) *Was the cover really sent back to Grossweikersdorf?*



Surely it cannot have been in anticipation of a return balloon flight!

Any suggestions?



## Common Correspondence

### *Ian Cutter*

These two postcards from Victoria's Western District cast light on an interesting aspect of pastoral life. One card is posted at Wickliffe Rd Railway on MY 23 94, and back stamped at Dunkeld on the same day.

The card is addressed "To Herdsman / Dunkeld", and reads as follows:

Sir

23/5/94

Take notice I will pass through ~~a portion of your Estate~~ on the common on Saturday with 700 sheep travelling from Edgerley to Hamilton along Ararat Road.

R. A. Kerr.

Wickliffe Road R.S. was opened in January 1878, transferred to the township on 13 11 1902, and renamed Willaura on 16/10/1905. The barred numeral M50 is noted by Purves to be found in blue, and this is the case here, with the datestamp in the same colour.

Its location is 40 km north-east of Dunkeld. Hamilton, the destination of the mob, is 35 km south-west of Dunkeld. Edgerley is a property at Willaura. The ABC Rural homepage associates Edgerley with the 1866 invention of the shearing table. The 23 May 1894 was a Wednesday.

The later card was cancelled with the barred numeral 574 of Glen Thompson on NO 26 4. As with the previous example the markings are in blue, and it too carries a backstamp of Dunkeld on the same day.

Here the card is addressed "The Manager of / Dunkeld Common / Dunkeld" and reads:

Sir

26-11-94

I will be on your common in the morning of the 28 inst with a mob of x bred sheep from Glen Thompson to Niarabell

I remain / Yours etc / J Niven / Drover & owner.

Glen Thompson is only 15 km east of Dunkeld, which explains the shorter transit time. From Dunkeld the mob would have travelled a further 120km northward along the western flank of the Grampians to near Noradjuha.

Irrespective of what arrangements, if any, were in place for distributing the mail on arrival, it seems that 120 years ago the post office itself did provide a same-day service, to be used in what we now refer to as "real time".



## NSW Hand Parcel Roller Cancellers for MC, IMSO, MSO, and MSC

### Brian Fuller

During the 1970s, the Redfern Mail Centre was established and operated to sort all NSW mails for their destinations.

However, union unrest forced the postal authorities to engage in devolving mail operations to Interim Mail Sorting Offices (**IMSO**) and then to Mail Sorting Offices (**MSO**). After a period of time the Mail Centres (**MC**) became established servicing specific areas of NSW.

Due to the volumes of mail, particularly parcels and large letters, many hand parcel rollers were introduced and their designs varied according to need.

Most were of the evolving format of: NSW-AUST, NSW - 2022, NSW – 2022/1,2, etc, or the name of the office was supplemented by postcode or the number of the die. This occurred for both the standard black ink die used for cancelling stamped mail, particularly parcels, and for PAID and PAID AT rollers for bulk or unstamped mail articles.

I am unaware of any articles listing the hand parcel rollers for these facilities, so if anyone has any references please forward them to myself or the Society (address on p2 of AJP).

Similarly, if anyone has facilities I have missed or possesses earlier or later dates, I would appreciate the information. All information will be acknowledged.

In my list I am obviously missing some devices. 22(1) Seven Hills MC 2147 does not appear to have a PAID AT number 1. Similarly for 21A Northern Suburbs MC 2058 despite many samples there did not appear to be Number 2 black. Were they damaged very early?

Some facilities did not appear to stay at the same address for the period of their existence. Rushcutters Bay and St Leonards MC changed postcode, hence presumably the place of operation.

St Leonards MC became the Northern Suburbs MC at the same postcode.

Generally, it appears that the IMSOs existed circa 1981 – 1984, MSOs 1984 – 1986 and MCs from 1986 onwards.

“Smaller” versions of MCs, were Mail Sorting Centres (**MSC**), namely the Murray Region MSC 2708, is the only one known to have a hand parcel roller. The MSCs are circa 1990s onwards.

I have included some scans of impressions of the types of rollers and, as most facilities have unique rollers, I have not tried to tie them to a facility.

Jack Leek in The ACCC of NSW Bulletin NOV 75 - Article 1184 depicts a range of hand parcel rollers in use, and his list also specifies many NSW and Sydney hand parcel rollers. The late Colin Salt also wrote about Sydney hand rollers in The BSAP Bulletin Oct 2007 No5 pp106 - 108 Article 2327.



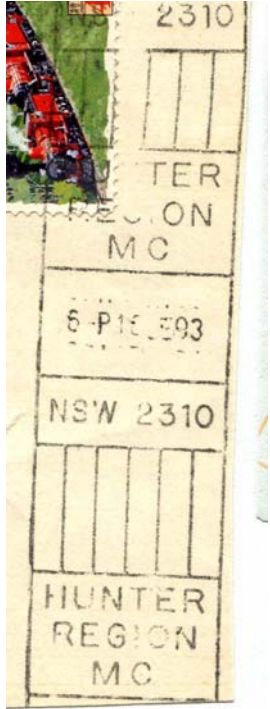

Sydney's hand parcel roller cancellers is forthcoming and if anyone wishes to contribute I would be glad to compare their holdings with mine.


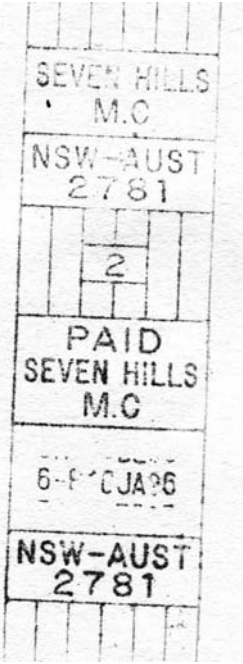
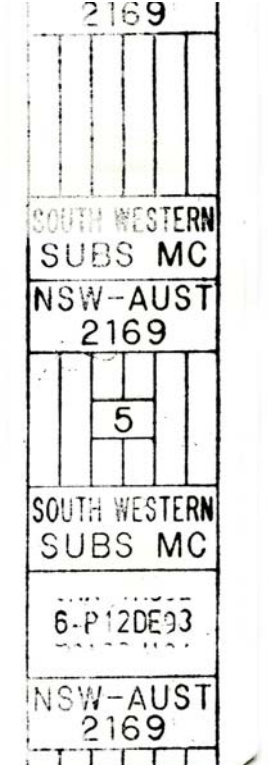
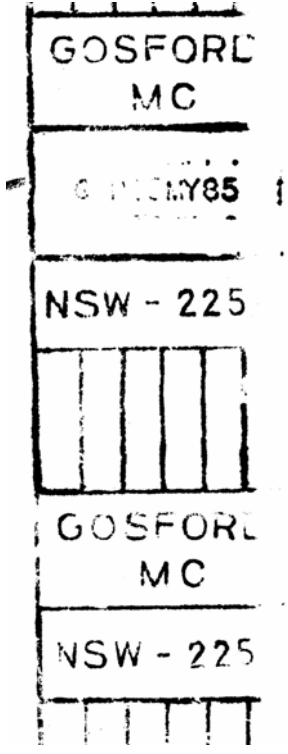
A listing of the place names with centre types is shown below. The numbers 1, 2, 3 or 4 in ( ) in column 2 represent the HPRC number for that centre:-



	Place	Postcode	Dates	Comments
1	ARNCLIFFE IMSO	2205	1981 – 84	black, red Paid At
2	ARTARMON MC	2064	1975 – 78	black, red Paid At
2A	ARTARMON IMSO	2064	1973 – 81	black, ? Paid At (p'copy)
2B	ARTARMON MSO	2064	1981 – 82	black, red Paid At
3	AUBURN IMSO	2144	1983	black
4	BLACKTOWN IMSO	2148	1979 – 83	black
5	CENTRAL COAST MC	2252	1992 – 98	black 2 types
6	CENTRAL WEST MC	2796	1989 – 93	black
7	CHESTER HILL IMSO	2162	1982 – 83	black
8 (1)	GLADESVILLE IMSO	2111	1954	black old type
8 (2)	GLADESVILLE IMSO	2111	1981 – 83	black, red Paid At
9	GOSFORD MC	2250	1984 – 88	black, red & black Paid At
10	GOULBURN MC	2589	1988 – 89	black, red PAID
10A	SOUTHERN TABLELANDS MC		2589	1993 black PAID
11 (1)	LEIGHTONFIELD MC	2163	1984 – 87	black 1&2, red Paid At 1
11 (2)	LEIGHTONFIELD MC	2169	1988 – 93	black 1&2, black PAID 1
11A	SOUTH WESTERN SUBS MC	2169	1993 – 94	black 1,2,4,5,6&11(2) PAID1
12	MID NORTH COAST MC	2442	2001	black
13	MURRAY REGION MSC	2708	2006	black
14	NEWCASTLE MC	2310	1983 – 97	black 1&2
14A (1)	HUNTER REGION MC	2310	1993 – 11	black 3 line format
14A (2)	HUNTER REGION MC	2310	1998 – 11	black 2 line
15	NEW ENGLAND MSC	2348	1994 – 02	black
16	NORTHERN RIVERS MSC	2468	1998 – 14	black
17	ROSEBERRY IMSO	2018	1981 – 85	black
17A	ROSEBERRY MSO	2018	1987	black
17A	ROSEBERRY MSO	2005	1988 – 90	black 1,2, red PAID1
18 (1)	RUSHCUTTERS BAY MC		1982 – 86	black, red Paid At
18 (2)	RUSHCUTTERS BAY MC	2011	1986	black 2
18 (3)	RUSHCUTTERS BAY MC	2004	1988 – 92	black 1-5, red Paid1,3
18 (4)	RUSHCUTTERS BAY MC	2004	1992 – 03	black Paid 3
19	EASTERN SUBURBS MC	2004	1992 – 06	black 4-8, black Paid 9,10
20	RYDALMERE IMSO	2116	1981 – 83	black
21 (1)	ST LEONARDS MC	2065	1982 – 85	black, red Paid At
21 (2)	ST LEONARDS MC	2065	1985 – 87	black 1-3
21 (3)	ST LEONARDS MC	2058	1991 – 94	black 1-3, red Paid 1,2
21 (4)	ST LEONARDS MC	2058	1992 – 93	black Paid 1,2
21A	NORTHERN SUBURBS MC	2058	1993 – 95	black 1,3,4,5, black Paid 2,3
22 (1)	SEVEN HILLS MC	2147	1985 – 86	black 1,2, red Paid At 2
22 (2)	SEVEN HILLS MC	2781	1993 – 97	black 1,2, black Paid 1,2
22 (3)	SEVEN HILLS MC	2125	1991 – 98	black 1,2
23	SOUTHERN SUBURBS MC	2215	1993 – 97	black 1-6, black Paid 3
24	TAREN POINT IMSO	2229	1981 – 84	black
25 (1)	TURELLA MC	2205	1985 – 87	black 1-4, red Paid At 1
25 (2)	TURELLA MC	2215	1989 – 98	black 1-4, red Paid 1(1990)
25 (3)	TURELLA MC	2215	1995 – 98	black Paid 1,2
26	WATERLOO IMSO	2017	1982 – 84	black
27	WOOLONGONG MC	2521	1988 – 94	black 1,2, red Paid 1
27A	SOUTH COAST MC (2 off)	2521	1998 – 02	black, two formats

Sampling of roller cancellers shown below.

			
ARNCLIFFE ISMO	ARTARMON MSO	HUNTER REGION MC	LEIGHTONFIELD MC 1

			
LEIGHTONFIELD MC 2	SEVEN HILLS MC	SW SUBURBS MC	GOSFORD MC

## Introduction to the Hand Parcel Roller Cancellations of Suburban and Country NSW

### Brian Fuller

The hand parcel roller cancellations seemed to have been introduced into the Australian postal system in the early 1900s. They facilitated the “easier” cancellation of parcels (in particular), large letters, and the high volume of uncanceled machine mail.

A later reason for their continuation was to minimise the risk of contracting Occupational Overuse Syndrome (OOS) through the poor use of Circular Date Stamps (CDS).

The hand parcel roller cancellations have been extremely difficult to collect by the very nature of their use. They were hastily used, poorly adjusted, and extremely difficult to get strikes with readable or accurate dates.

Earlier hand parcel rollers were probably similar in function but I have never seen a picture or drawing of one, let alone an actual device. Jack Leek in Article 1184 in the **ACCC Bulletin** Nov 1975 pp 96 – 101 should be read as he has seen these devices and describes them.

A photograph of a “modern” hand roller, without its inking pad, is shown. “Modern” is probably post 1930s but the device shown is 1990s era. A photograph of the barrel shows the printing on the barrel is reversed so when impressed it is read correctly. Those shown below are for Victoria.





There appears to be a logical design evolution in the barrels from pre-postcode (NSW - AUST), having many devices due to increased mail volumes (NSW – AUST/1 2 etc, NSW - 2210/1) and PAID/PAID AT for paid mail. In the suburban/country roller, I have not seen numbers higher than 2 used at a particular location. All the preceding type device impressions are shown.

The dates shown on my list is from either a readable date, correlation to an equivalent paid device used at that office or from the year of issue of any stamps. An approximation is generally acceptable due to their scarcity. Many offices did not get their decade wheels on the barrels upgraded as rubber self-inking pad CDS were preferred. The rollers are larger than CDS, messy to use, and difficult to clean! The x in my list refers to having been sighted by Jack Leek (op cit).

If anyone has any rollers not shown or better usage dates, please contact myself or the Society. All contributions will be acknowledged.

Many other Sydney designs along the lines of the Newcastle Parcel Post example have been addressed by Jack Leek op cit and although he has not listed any differences in the particular office of use they exist but are generally very hard to describe due to the poor copies available. If I can improve his article, I will at a later stage. Jack has been a trifle pedantic in that he called the earlier impressions postmarks not datestamps!

The late Colin Salt in the **BSAP Bulletin** Article 2327 has published data on Sydney hand rollers without reference to Jack Leek, However, I will upgrade their articles and include the Mail Centres, IMSOs etc. Jack makes passing reference to these. I have subsumed Colin's collection and if Jack Leek's collection is available please advise me.

Other hand parcel roller cancellations for Australia are a current task! If you wish to share please send me appropriate lists and copies.

 <p>AUST. SQUARE NSW-AUST AUST. SQUARE 2-P-3AUS60 NSW-AUST AUST. SQUARE NSW-AUST</p>	 <p>CHARLESTOWN 10-A10000 NSW-2290 2</p>	 <p>NSW - 2121 EPPING NSW - 2121 EPPING 65c AUSTRALIA NSW</p>	 <p>BURWOOD 2-P-3AUS60 NSW-AUST BURWOOD 2-P-3AUS60</p>
Black modern - NSW	Black numbered - NSW	Black numbered 2 - NSW	Black old - NSW

			
Newcastle NSW - ancient	Red paid at - NSW	Red paid at - NSW	Relief 52 - NSW

### Suburban and Country Hand Parcel Rollers for NSW

Place	Postcode	Dates used	Type
Alexandria	2015	1962 – 70	red paid only
Australia Square		1975 – 94	black only
Balgowlah		1968	black
Ballina	2478	1996	black
Bankstown	2200	1987	red paid
Bondi Junction	2022	1988 – 90	black
Brookvale	2100	1984 – 89	black, (NSW – 2100 & NSW 2100)
Brookvale	2100	1988 – 89	red paid No 2
Brookvale	2100	1999	black paid No 2
Botany	2019	1983?	black
Burwood	x	1960 – 64	black
Camperdown	2050	1974 – 83	black, (NSW – 2050 & N.S.W. 2050)
Camperdown	2050	1983	red, (NSW – 2050)
Campsie	2194	1985 – 90	red
Caringbah	2220	1973 - 76	black
Casino	2470	1990 – 98	black, late use only one hyphen NSW 2470
Charlston	2290	1984	black, have No 2. No 1?
Chatswood	2067	x 1971 - 73	black
Chester Hill	2162	1985	red paid
Clarence Street		1960s – 82	black

Place	Postcode		Dates used	Type
Concord	2137		1984 – 86	red
Cronulla			1982/92?	black
Crows Nest	2065	x	1970	black
Crows Nest	2065	x	1966 – 67	red Paid At, NSW – AUST
Crows Nest	2065		date omitted	red Paid At, NSW – AUST/2065
In the last two the P of Paid and O of Crows Nest are misaligned on each half of the impression.				
Darlinghurst		x	1965 - 80	black
Darlinghurst	2010		1984?	red Paid At, NSW – 2010/1
Dee Why	2099	x	1966 – 76	black
Dubbo	2830		1984	black
Epping	2121		1986	black, NSW – 2021/1
Enfield	2136		1979	red
Fairfield		x	1963 – 88	black
Glebe			1971 – 86	black
Hornsby			1963	black
Leichhardt		x	1963	black
Mascot	2020		1973 – 76	black
Mascot	2020		1980 – 85	red Paid At
Maitland			1978	black
Marrickville	2004		1981	black
Newcastle			1913/32?	1/- green roo PARCEL POST/NEWC...NSW
Newcastle		x	1955	black
Newcastle	2300		1978 – 86	black
Newcastle West		x	1984	black
Newtown			1953	black
North Heads			1956	black
North Ryde	2113		1985	red
Parramatta			1972 – 73	black
Pennant Hills	2120	x	1975 – 88	black, PENNANT HILLS
Pennant Hills	2120		1991 - 94	black, PENNANT/HILLS
Penrith	2750		1969 – 75	black
Potts Point			1984 – 88	red Paid At
Queen Victoria Blds			1937 64	black, dates are earliest & latest possible
Randwick	2031		1975 – 86	black, NSW – 2031
Randwick	2031		1990 - 91	black, NSW 2031 & larger letters
Railway Square			1974	black (NSW-AUST)
Railway Square			1970s(?)	red Paid At (NSW-AUST)
Railway Square 2000		x	1983 - 87	black (NSW-2000)
Relief 52			1959 – 75	black, 52 because started in 1952?
Riverwood	2210		?????	red, NSW – 2210/1
Roseberry			1968	black. Readable date is 1930! On 30c Waratah
Royal Exchange			1972	black
Rydalmere	2116		1986	red Paid At
St Leonards	2065		1986	red Paid 1
St Peters	2044		1986	red Paid At
Sans Souci	2219		1979	red Paid At
Seven Hills	2147		1986	black No1



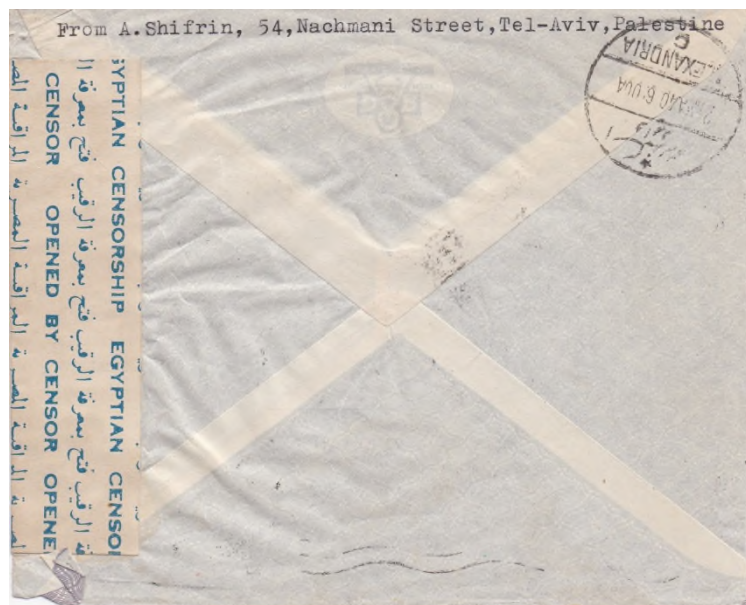
Place	Postcode	Dates used	Type
Seven Hills	2147	1989	red Paid At
Seven Hills	2147	1999	black Paid At
Strathfield	x	1966	black
Strathfield	x	1963 – 83	red Paid At
Sydney South	x	1963 – 80	black
Taree		1969	black
Waterloo		1972 – 83	black
Waterloo	2017	1987 – 89	red Paid At
William St	x	1963	black
Woolahra	2025	1979	black
Woolongong	2500	2010 – 14	black
Young		1973 – 94	black
NB x signifies sighted by Jack Leek. ACCC Bulletin Nov 75 p101 list			

## Front Cover - Censored Airmail Cover Tel Aviv, Palestine to Alexandria, Egypt

### Tony Lyon

The front cover shows an airmail cover from Tel Aviv, 16 MY 40 to Alexandria, Egypt, 21 MY 40. It has been censored in Egypt at Cairo on 20 MY 40 and sent by rail / road to Alexandria.

MISR the Egyptian Airline operated a daily service between Palestine and Egypt. This continued until 8 June 1941. There is a difference between Boyle's rate at 20 mils and Proud 15 mils as this cover shows.



Reverse showing Alexandria receiving cancel



## Tasmanian Hand Parcel Roller Cancellers

### Brian Fuller

The hand parcel roller cancellations of Tasmania are an interesting area primarily because there appears to be action by people in Tasmania to document their findings.

I have been advised via the Tasmanian Stamp Board (TSB) by Ross Ewington that John Hardinge may publish updated postmark information in late 2016. In *Philately from Australia* Vol 37 No 1 March 198, Mr P B Edwards listed the Parcels cancellations in quite some detail. Due to publication space and probable technology limitation he did not photocopy/scan all his findings and I have been unable to find or identify some of his types.

In particular his Type 2 which excludes the numeral after the TAS is poorly explained and is not shown and is not on the TSB website. Hopefully, I have recently acquired a 1954 copy (BF2) from an Exchange Sheet that had been extremely widely circulated throughout Victoria. If there were 7 Type 1 rollers, then why only one Type 2? His paper should be read for full details of the parcels postmarks.

I have a feeling that "some" of his collection was obtained by the late Colin Salt but Types 2, 5, and 11 were not in Colin's estate lots.

I have decided that I need to sort out my holdings to publish and let the populace examine the material I have collected. I will cross reference my holdings to Mr Edward's paper or TSB as necessary.

In identifying the Series those rollers with place names that are unique will be listed but not necessarily shown.

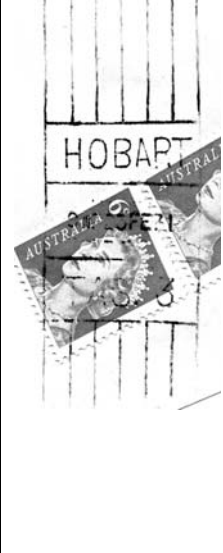
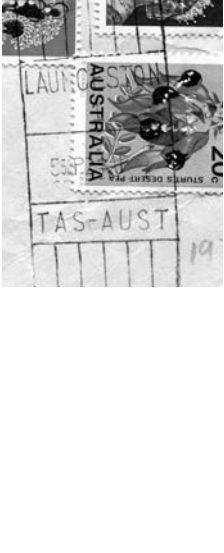
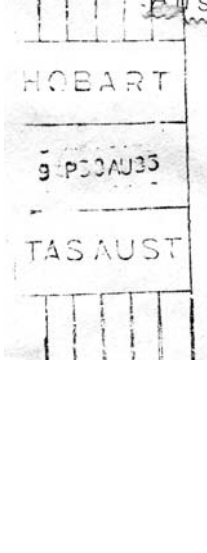

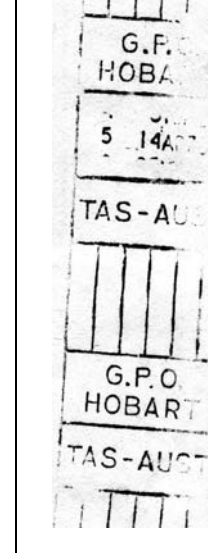
Scans of the series follows the tabulation. (TSB = Tasmanian Stamp Boards, PA = P Allan),

Series	P Edwards	Dates	Heads/width	Place	Comment
BF1	Type 1 Fig 6	1941 – 71	1 26	Hobart	Nos 1 – 7 exist
BF2	Type 2 nil	1951 – 55	1 26	Hobart	no numeral after TAS
BF3	Type 3 Fig 7	1943 – 70TSB	1 26	Launceston	No 1 – 4 exist
BF4	Type 4 nil	1956 – 85	1 26	Hobart	Unknown qty
BF5	Type 5 nil	1954 – 68PA	1 ?	Burnie	per favour 1967, 1984, no p'copies
BF6	Type 6 nil	1950 – 82	2 26	Hobart	No 1 & 2 known.
BF7	Type 7 nil	1970 - 74	2 26	GPO Hobart	TAS AUST

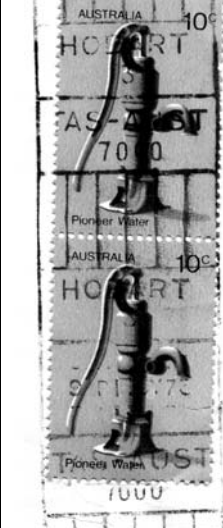

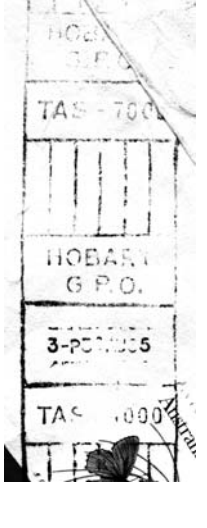
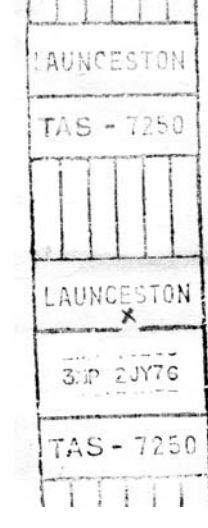

I am separating his Type 8 rollers for ease of discussion as more exist than he lists. His Type 8 is represented by his Fig 8 and is a two head hand parcel roller cancellation. His Type 8 covers virtually all 2 head rollers used when TAS AUST/TAS Postcode was inscribed on the heads.

BF8	Type 8a	1973 - 76	2 27.5	Hobart	No 3 only. Used ? See Notes.
BF9	nil	1987 - 89	2 27	Hobart	No 2. See Notes
BF10	Type 8b	1981 - 85	2 27.5	Hobart GPO	TAS 7000
BF11	Type 8c1	15NOV72	2 ?	Burnie	Edwards per favour strike taken in 1984
BF12	Type 8c2	1979 TSB	2 ?	Devonport	ditto
BF13	Type 8c3	1986 - 90(PA)	2 27	Glenorchy	ditto but last date not mentioned
BF14	Type 8c4	1971 – 79	2 27	Launceston	
BF15	Type 8c5	1986	2 27	Moonah	ditto but last date not mentioned
BF16	Type 8c6	1984	2 27.5	Rosney Park	ditto
BF17	nil	1976(PA)	2 ?	Bellerive	
BF18	nil	1971/81(?)	2 27.5	Hobart Bathurst Street	
BF19	nil	1981	2 27.5	Sandy Bay	
BF20	nil	1987TSB	2 ?	Kingston	
BF21	nil	1994	2 25	Hobart Mail Centre	

What remains elusive is where in Hobart the Series 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 9 were used. Probably the Hobart MC. Certainly BF21 was used at the current Hobart Mail Centre. I do not know the postal history of Tasmania to confidently predict where the Series were used.

				
BF 1	BF 3	BF 4	BF 6 Hobart 2	BF 7

				
BF 8	BF 9	BF 10	BF 14	BF 21

## Notes

**Customs and Australia Post/PMG** I have expressed a comment on Stamp Boards. I do not agree with Mr Edwards that an Australia Post(AP) employee was able to perform the work of a Customs Officer. My experience with the International Mail Centre in Melbourne, where they absolutely separated the functions, **no** AP employee was ever doing the work of a Customs person. Ditto for the Melbourne Gateway Facility. Consequently the hand roller used in Mr Edwards Type 9 Fig 9, which is identical to those used by Customs in Melbourne and other places, is **NOT** an AP hand parcel roller. They are still very collectable! Many of these are in the Customs Museum that was in Melbourne.

**Series BF 8 and 9.** Mr Edwards listed only No 3 for BF8 and did not list BF9 No 2 at all. It may have been poor sampling or poor copies on his part. I do not know where they were used but the missing sequences are mystifying.

**Summary.** Of the 21 hand parcel roller cancellations, it seems that most are scarce with BF2 the rarest. Obtaining clear copies of any roller cancellation is very difficult. Mr Edwards does place a rarity on them but if they are not available in a full identifiable impression they are equally rare!

I commend the Tasmanian Stamp Board as a valuable research guide and contact point for fellow philatelists.

## Hand-Held Date Stamps

### ***Co-ordinated by George Vearing***

Information from Frank Adamik shows Michelago datestamp dated 15 SEP 2009 and this was per favour as this was the last year on the datestamp and a more current one was not held at this agency.

From Victoria there is ST. ALBANS (4) with and inverted dateline and MERINO has a date which reads 32 DEC 2015 and should read 23DEC2015

This edition contains almost all Victorian and it would be nice to include more from the other Australian states as there must be new ones out there. They may be sent by mail, email to the address on the inside front cover or by FAX to 0358252453.

Many thanks go to Simon Alsop, John Fitzsimmons, Frank Adamik, John Young, Richard Peck and John Tracey who help to keep this column going.

A.C.T.

N.S.W.: Earlier datestamp- KATOOMBA (104/27)



QLD.

S.A.

W.A.



VIC.: - Earlier datestamp-CASTLEMAINE (128/28) Also CAMPBELL'CREEK is a square one with no outer frame.





VIC:- (cont)-Earlier datestamps-KARINGAL (101/30) KEILOR EAST (118/28),KILYSTH (A) (122/26), KILYSTH (B) (125/27), LABURNAM (125/27), MALLACOOTA (103/32)





VIC.-Earlier datestamp-WARRANTYTE (120/29), WHEELERS HILL (116/29).



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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



Registered 'airmail' letter to Switzerland



Registered letter from Brussels to Neuchâtel

Brussels 1J cds of 23 Dec 1941

Neuchâtel 1 arrival cds of 31 Dec 1941

Censored Cologne (c) part verso shown

There was no civilian airmail from Belgium after 10 May 1940 until after the 1944 liberation <sup>(5)</sup>. From 1 Apr 1943 – 9 Sep 1944, Swissair or DLH flew to Stuttgart from Zurich <sup>(6)</sup>, but I think it was only German or Red Cross mail carried.

This letter travelled by rail to Cologne and then on to Neuchâtel after censoring.

Postage 1<sup>75</sup> Fr  
Registration 2<sup>75</sup> Fr correctly paid

Pre-war, airmail from Belgium to Switzerland was carried at no additional cost.