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Date	2018 / 2019 Programme	Display
18 February 2019	John Young	Indo –China postal history
15 April 2019	Alan Gray	'Postage to Collect', Australian Colonial Mail
17 June 2019	Ian Sadler	China 1878-1920

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Editorial *Tony Lyon*

Christmas greetings to those who were unable to attend the members meeting. This quarter's journal contains an interesting range of articles and information so I hope there is something that pecks your interest.

Thanks to all the contributors.

Ian Cutters article 'More Expectation of Service' brings to mind the complete lack thereof from the various administrations around the globe. With all the modern conveyances it boggles the mind how slow the mail is. I think the snail gets a bad wrap!

Did you hear the funny one about the boffins at New Zealand Post who decided that it was too costly to cancel the stamps so they would do away with that operation altogether. Remember these people get paid huge sums of money to think! This state of affairs that quickly went pear shaped, resulted in the spin doctors being pushed under the bus to explain that this experiment was now complete and they will revert to cancelling the mail. A famous saying of the veritable John Elliot comes to mind-some thing about the rear of a pig.

Must have been a field day for the stamp recyclers if you know what I mean!

Anyway hope your Christmas celebrations go well and you approach the new year with great hope and success.

Until next time ciao.

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From the President

With the approach of Christmas I thought it appropriate to remember a Christmas past, 104 years ago.

Charles Davey, an Australian Lieutenant, was en route to the European war in December 1914, and sent a Christmas greeting to his father, W J Davey. His father was the proprietor of the Observer newspaper in Kerang, Victoria. Charles wrote:

> Dear Dad,
>
> Best wishes for Christmas. Keeping good health. Weather rather hot. Cool
>
> nights, doing 12 ½ knots,
>
> Yours, Chas

The greeting was on the back of a Ceylon postcard that depicted a Buddhist procession. The card was endorsed 'On Active Service AIF No Stamps Available' and was machine cancelled in Melbourne on 21 December 1914, timed nicely to arrive in Kerang by Christmas Eve.

Charles went into action at Gallipoli. When engaged in an action against a Turkish position he was shot through the hip. He was evacuated by ship to Alexandria, but died from his wound and was buried at sea on 27th April 1915, two days after the Anzac landing. He was 25 years old. The New Year turned to ashes for his father.

Speaking of the New Year, I set out below the syllabus for members meetings for 2019. We meet at RSL Canterbury Memorial Homes, 152 Canterbury Road, Canterbury [Melway 46 C10-11] at 7.45 pm.

18 Feb	John Young, Indo –China postal history
15 April	Alan Gray, 'Postage to Collect', Australian Colonial Mail
17 June	Ian Sadler, China 1878-1920
19 Aug	Tony Lyon, New Zealand military-issue stationery. AGM
21 Oct	Frank Pauer, early Aust. FDCs: OR Members' exhibits up to 10 pages
16 Dec	Ditto

A final thought. We have lost the services of Michael Barden after decades of unstinting help, and Ian Sadler has stepped in for a short time. We need a member to replace him in the role of membership secretary, keeping the membership list up to date and arranging the dispatch of the electronic version of our journal. Please think about it over the Christmas-New Year break.

Philately of Rajasthan, India
1. Jaipur Postal History

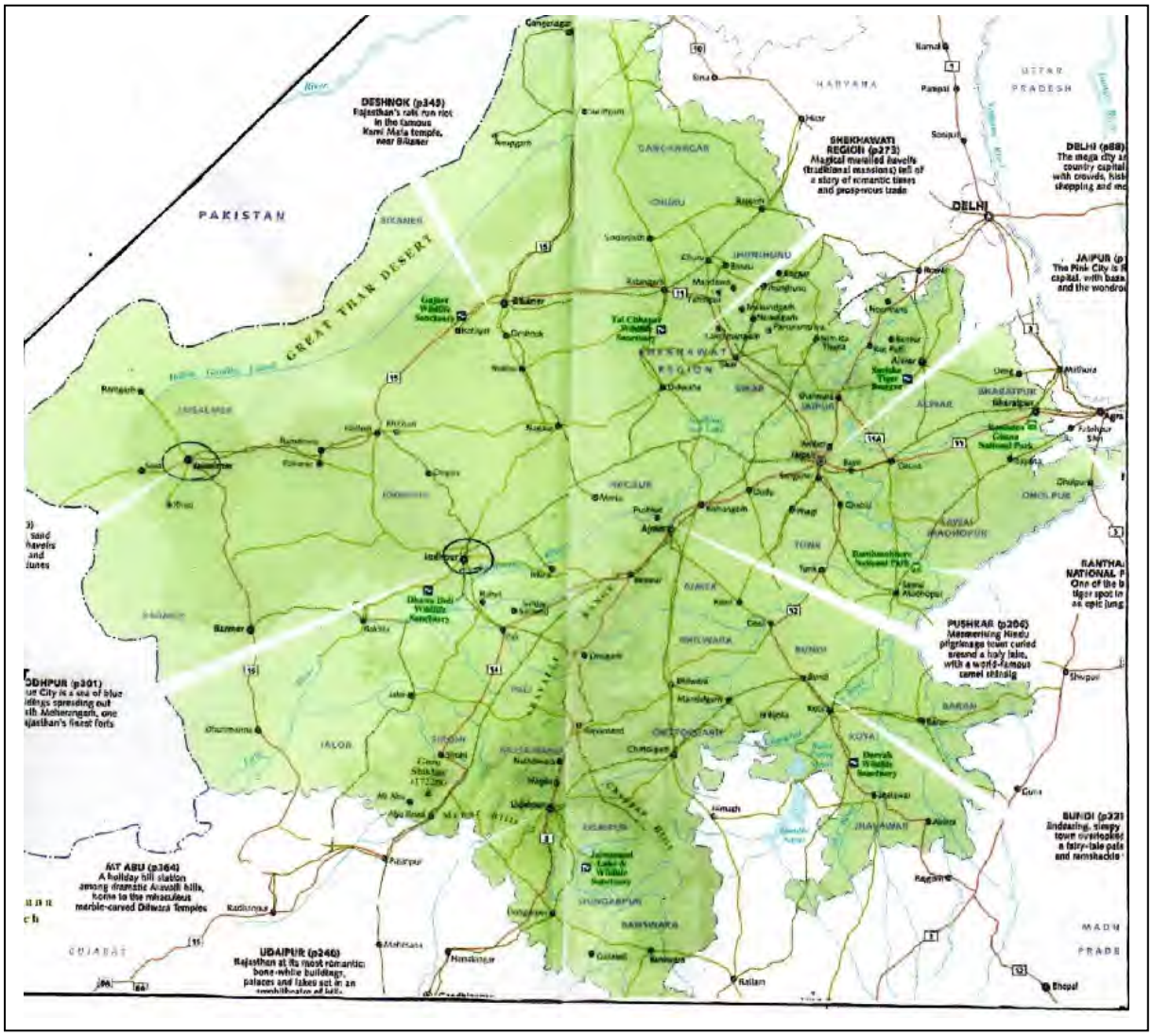
Ian Sadler

Aim: This series aims to show the philately of Rajputana, which is now known as Rajasthan, from 1877 to 1950, until local stamps ceased after Independence. I have chosen the seven former Princely States, which Gibbons calls Feudatory States that issued postage stamps or revenues.

Rajasthan is today the largest state of India, comprising 10% of India's total area with a population of 75 million. It includes the inhospitable Thar Desert, shares a border with Pakistan on the west and with the Indian states of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Madya Pradesh and Gujarat. Its capital is Jaipur and its official language is Hindi. The majority of people are Hindus with about 9% being Muslims.

This Article shows the post cards and covers of Jaipur from 1910 onwards.

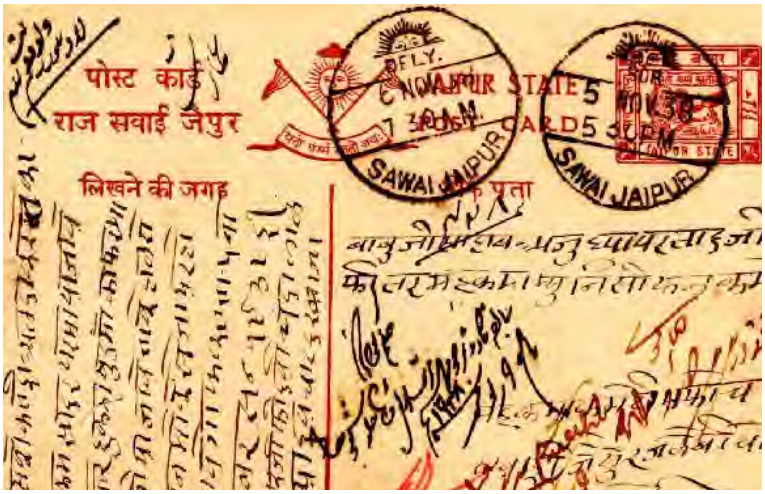
The Map below shows the current area encompassed by Rajasthan, with Jaipur on the right-hand side, Bundi due south of Jaipur and Jodhpur in the west centre.



Selection of Jaipur Post Cards: 1912-41

Postcard c. 1910's because of image & Hindi postmark.

Not yet translated



Postcard to & from Sawai, Jaipur November, 1938.

Postcard from Kishangarh to Madmupur, February, 1941.

1931 March. Investiture of Maharaja Sawai, lithographed in Nasik, perf. 14.
The high values in this set are scarce, especially used.

Chariot of Sun God

Maharaja Sawai Man Singh

Elephant & state banner

Sowar in Armour

Common Peafowl

Bullock carriage

Elephant carriage

Albert Museum

Sireh Deori Gate

Chandra Palace

Amber Palace

Maharajas Jai Singh & Man Singh

10.

Jaipur Covers in the 1930s

Postal card in 1930s with special overprint.

Date stamp includes crest. Sent to Jaipur City.

Note name 'Rajputana', British name for Rajasthan.

PS with stamp overprinted '¼ anna' uprated for registration (?).

Sent to Sawai district, Jaipur about 1938.

Jaipur Cover 1942

Cover sent by Salt Merchant in August 1942 from Sambhar Lake to Bovedikui in Jaipur. Note sun crest on CDS.

Front reproduced on right full size.

Further articles in this series will deal with older Jaipur, Bundi and other states in Rajasthan.

Stationery Necessitated by Wartime Conditions – Part 3

Tony Lyon

Before I begin to explore the Air letters utilised by NZ forces, two other 'Honour' envelopes which were used by New Zealand personnel should be displayed.

S 1324 **[Crown Copyright Reserved]**

No Printer shown

Royal Navy

The Royal Navy version was printed in black on Manila paper. There are at least two types. The type shown below, [Fig. 1] and a second printing by C & Co (B) Ltd.

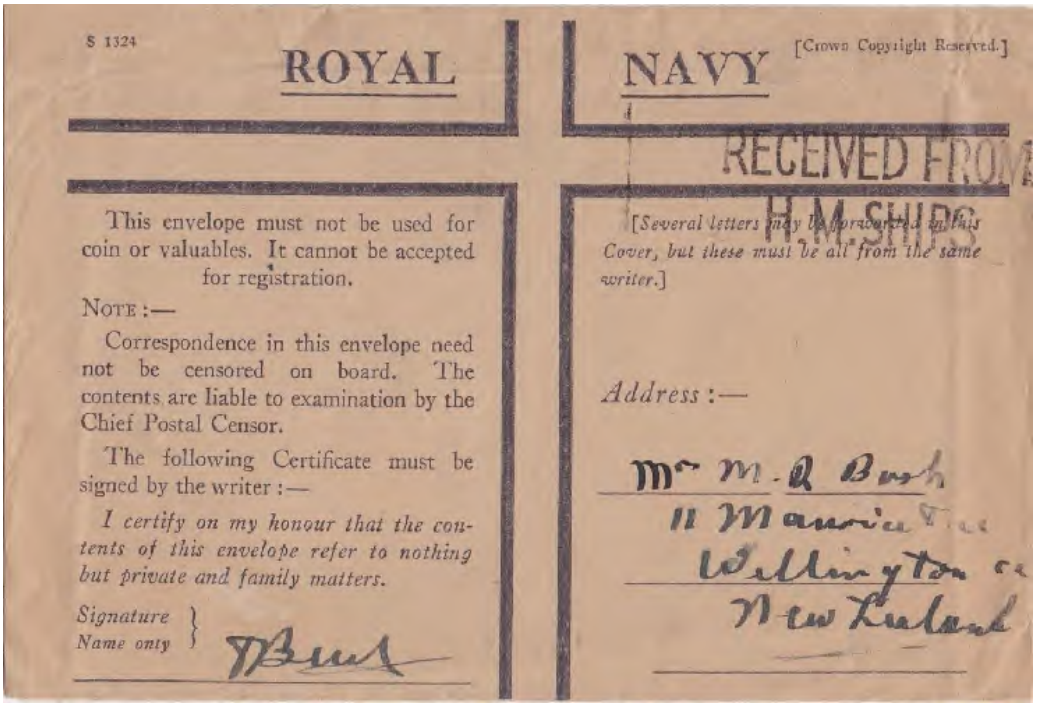
These were used by RNZN personnel serving on RN vessels. Example cancelled 'Received from H. M. Ships.' (Could have been applied at Edinburgh) and received at Waipukurau, New Zealand.

After extensive googling I was able to find that the sender of this cover was Lieutenant Thomas Noel Bush son of Charles and Margaret Rubina Bush of Wellington. Thomas N. Bush of was killed in an aircraft accident at HMS Tern which was an airfield on the Orkney Islands used by the Fleet Air Arm (FAA).

HMS Tern – or Royal Naval Air Station Twatt – operated as a vital part of the Royal Navy's presence in Orkney while Scapa Flow was the base for the Home Fleet in WWII. It was one of four airfields set up in Orkney during WWII.

Although the aircraft based at Tern formed part of the defences of Orkney, the site's main role was to provide training facilities for the Navy. Also, when the Fleet's aircraft carriers were in harbour, their aircraft would fly ashore rather than stay on board, and the facilities at Tern and other airfields in Orkney were expanded to accommodate the extra squadrons.

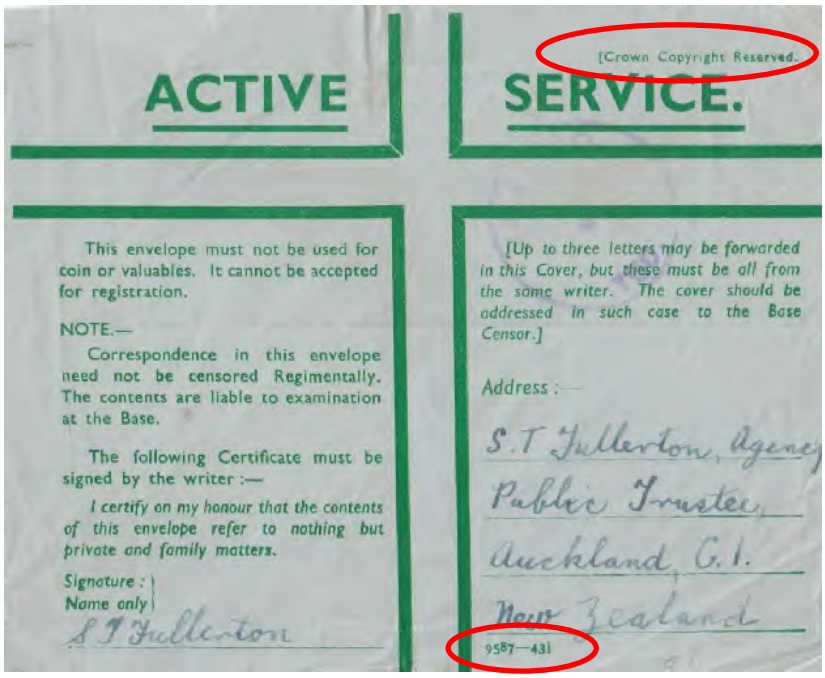
The airfield started operating in 1941. Many different squadrons were based there, flying many different types of 'plane – Gladiator, Swordfish, Roc, Skua, Seafire, Chesapeake and more. After WWII the station was 'mothballed', but was in the care of the Royal Navy and maintained as a usable station until sold off in 1957.



Government Printer, Wellington

Blue Honour Envelope

The Green Honour envelope was printed by the Government Printer, Wellington in Green on blue paper for use of the 3rd New Zealand Infantry division and support forces in the Pacific. However, by the time they had been issued the war had moved on and they did not see a lot of use. This is the first I have seen. It is in my collection.



Example from Stirling Island, Treasury Group sent by Sergeant Samuel Thomas Fullerton (47601) who was with the New Zealand Medical Corp.

The circular cancel N.Z.A.P.O 4 150 was known used in the Treasury group from about 19.4.44. (Fig. 1).

Fig. 1

The second item 7206-43 has been used by an Australian (Fig. 2).

Available from War Covers at http://www.warcovers.co.uk/shop/World-War-2/?sort=title&sort_direction=1&page=5 it is described as follows

1945 (15th. May) New Zealand Army Honour Envelope [Ref: 7206-43] from EMIRAU Island, Papua New Guinea to Australia with s/r. AUST. UNIT POSTAL STN. 374 p/m. Also 2 OBC label tied by boxed censor h/s. Posted by member of the 8th Bn., 23rd. Australian Brigade at the concessionary 3d. Air Mail RATE. Last recorded day of use. £125

Fig. 2

Air Mail Letter Cards

Air Mail Letter Card Army (AMLC) (designated Army Form W3077) was introduced in May 1941 in an endeavour to allow more mail to be carried. About 137 cards was equal to about 30 standard letters and with space at a premium, but the needing to ensure morale was high, it was a good solution. Initially they were only available for use by British troops to correspond with family and friends in the United Kingdom. . From 3 December, 1943, the title Air Mail Letter Card was discontinued in favour of Air Letter. To economize on production and transportation costs, many forms were printed locally; this gave rise to many variants of W3077.

From 5 July 1941 these could be used to send to New Zealand addresses using New Zealand Stamps. At first they were rationed to one per man per month.

Early Air Mail Letter Card sent by Signalman Austin William Griffiths (35106), attached to 14 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment addressed to Wellington.

Squared censor 686 has been signed by Lt (later Major) Stuart James Kernan Hislop 31512 OC 14 LAA signals section, (Jun-Nov 1941),

There was concern by the users that the thin paper could encroach upon privacy so the inside of the lettercard was printed with cross hatching to ensure privacy.

Egypt Postage Prepaid 42 from Maadi Camp and dated 28 JL 1941 British stamps have been used to pay the 3d postage rate.

Air Mail Letter Card sent by Private Stanley Milburn Henty (30377), A Coy, 22 Battalion addressed to Tikokino (Back stamp J26 20 NO 41).

MPO KW 3, 8 NOV 1941 sent from Baggush, Egypt. Unit censor 637 by Capt. Erl Travice Pleasants 6558 2 i/c A Coy 22 Wn Bn.

A 3d Pictorial of New Zealand was used to pay the 3d postage rate.

Transmission time of 12 days.

Air Mail Letter Cards were specially produced with NEW ZEALAND pre-printed on the address side. These also had a change in the inside overlay that was lighter and consisted of diagonal blue stripes. The previous cards had a darker blue cross hatch pattern. Earliest I have seen is early October 1941.

Air Mail Letter Card from MPO KW 3 dated 5 OCT 1941 which was located at Baggush, Egypt 11.9.41-5.11.41.

Sender was Sergeant Peter Guy Fulton (30811) with HQ Company, 25 Wellington Battalion, 6th NZ Brigade.

A 3d Pictorial pays the postage rate.

Diagonal blue lines

Air Mail Letter Card from MPO KW 2 dated 30 OCT 1941 which was located at Baggush Western Desert, used there from16.9.41-19.11.41.

Sender was Sapper Kenneth Alan Stuart McTaggart (34715) with Divisional HQ New Zealand Engineers attached to 5th NZ Brigade. Squared censor 665 has been signed by 2 Lieutenant A Terrance Walter Bowes 34861 HQ NZE:

3d Pictorial pays the postage rate.

To be continued:-

Australia: Second Class, Third Class and Parcel Mail

John Young

The title of this article may leave the reader wondering that if there was second and third class mail, what was first class mail? It was the type of postal history that collectors nowadays mostly collect: sealed letters, lettercards and postcards.

The material comprising the second and third classes is generally less desirable, sometimes elusive and occasionally intriguing and attractive.

Second class mail comprised commercial papers, printed matter, patterns samples and merchandise. [Printed matter was 'printed papers, circulars and catalogues; and books, periodicals and newspapers NOT registered at a GPO'.] The mail had to be unsealed, capable of being opened for inspection. Third class mail comprised books, periodicals and newspapers that were registered at a GPO.

Of all these categories, printed matter is the one most often found.

Postal rates for these categories were lower than letter post, and varied between themselves. For example, in 1948 the rates for Australian inland delivery were:

Letters and lettercards 2 pence per ounce

Postcards:	11/2 pence
Commercial papers:	1 penny per 2 ounce
Printed matter:	1 penny per 4 ounce
Patterns, samples and	1 penny per 2 ounce merchandise
Registered books, newspapers:	1 penny per 6 ounce

In 1948 each item also attracted Y2 penny war tax, regardless of weight

Richard Breckon has listed the rates for all the classes and their categories over a 60 year period.in his series of articles in the Australian Philatelic Journal, Nov/Dec 1987 to Summer 1991, and will probably elaborate on them further in a forthcoming book expected to be published by R. P. S. V. In this article and other/s to come in subsequent issues of this journal, I will show various examples of the different classes of mail.

Printed Matter

Readers may be familiar with early 20th century postcards sent as printed matter. For example, a postcard with ONLY the addressee's details passed as printed matter, costing ½ penny intrastate in NSW and Vic. If a card included a message postage was 1 penny. A similar rate applied for a postcard sent to USA from 1912 to 1918: 11/2 pence for a postcard with a message and 1 penny for a card with no message' i.e. printed matter.

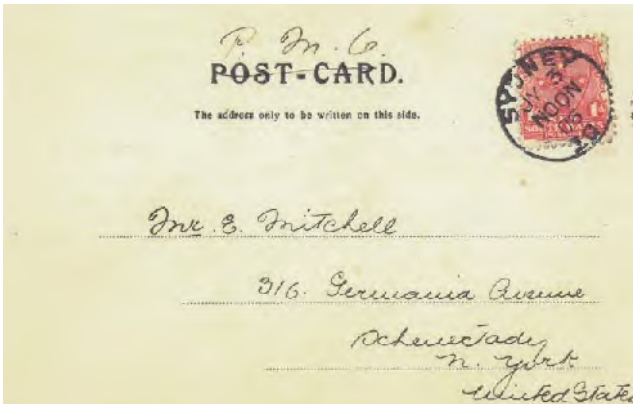


Figure 1 above shows a printed matter postcard posted to USA in 1906.

The next illustration is a typical printed-matter envelope sent in 1937, but it is an envelope from E. S, Wigg, a manufacturer of window-face envelopes made especially for printed matter [fig.2].

Fig. 2

Because senders could send up to 4 ounces of paper in a printed -matter envelope for 1 penny, over-size envelopes can be found. Frank Beaurepaire senior [the father of Sir Frank Beaurepaire, the champion swimmer and lord mayor ran the Carinya guesthouse in coastal Lorne, Victoria. The pictorial envelope [fig.3] enclosed a tri-fold brochure and was mailed in 1944.

Until 9 Dec 1942 printed matter could still be sent for 1 penny, up to 4 ounce in

Fig. 3

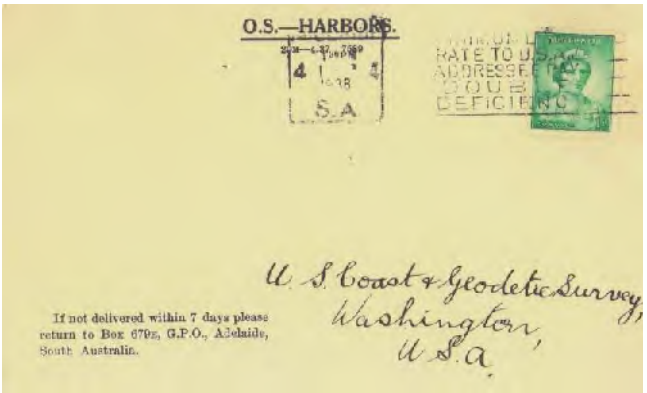


Fig. 4

Australia and the British Empire and up to 2 ounce to foreign countries. The South Australian harbours authority paid 1 penny to post what was possibly a circular to the Coast and Geodetic Survey office in USA in 1938 [fig.4].

The foreign postage actually stayed at 1 penny, but with the addition of $^1/_2$ penny war tax from 10 Dec 1941 to 1949. The Esperanto printed matter sent to USA in1947 went for 1 ½ pence [fig.5].

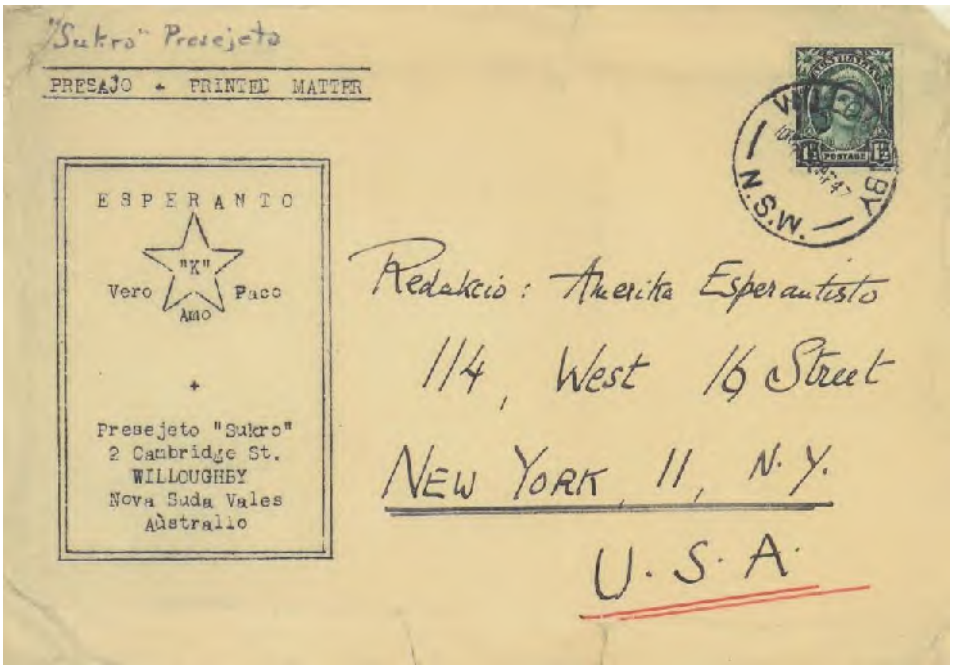


Fig. 5

On 1 July 1949 printed matter to foreign countries went up to 2 pence per 2 ounce [domestic letter at that date was 2 $^1/_2$ pence per ounce]. Another Esperanto envelope, this time to Austria in 1951, illustrates the 2 pence rate, which had only a short life, 1 July 1949 to 8 July 1951 [fig.6].

Fig. 6

On 9 July 1951 postage rates came under a general increase because of postwar inflation. The Australian letter rate was fixed at 3 ½ pence per ounce, and printed matter at 3 pence per 2 ounce plus 2 pence for each additional 2 ounce. Printed matter at the double rate thus came to 5 pence, which co-incidentally provided a way to use up the unsold King George 6 brown 2 ½ pence stamps issued in May 1951 and for which their main use expired in about seven weeks. Fig. 7 shows the three elements of a double-rate envelope [268 x 215 mm.] posted in 1952.

Fig 7

The last two examples [figs. 8 and 9] of printed matter are slightly exotic: second class printed-matter airmail to Fiji in 1952; and express delivered mail to Henry B Smith in Spencer Street, Melbourne, a short bike ride for a telegram boy from the Spencer Street mail exchange in 1956. The franking of 1 shilling and 2 ½ pence was:

3 pence for 4 to 8 ounce printed matter or 2 to 4 ounce commercial papers

2 pence for late fee

9 pence for express delivery

Fig. 8

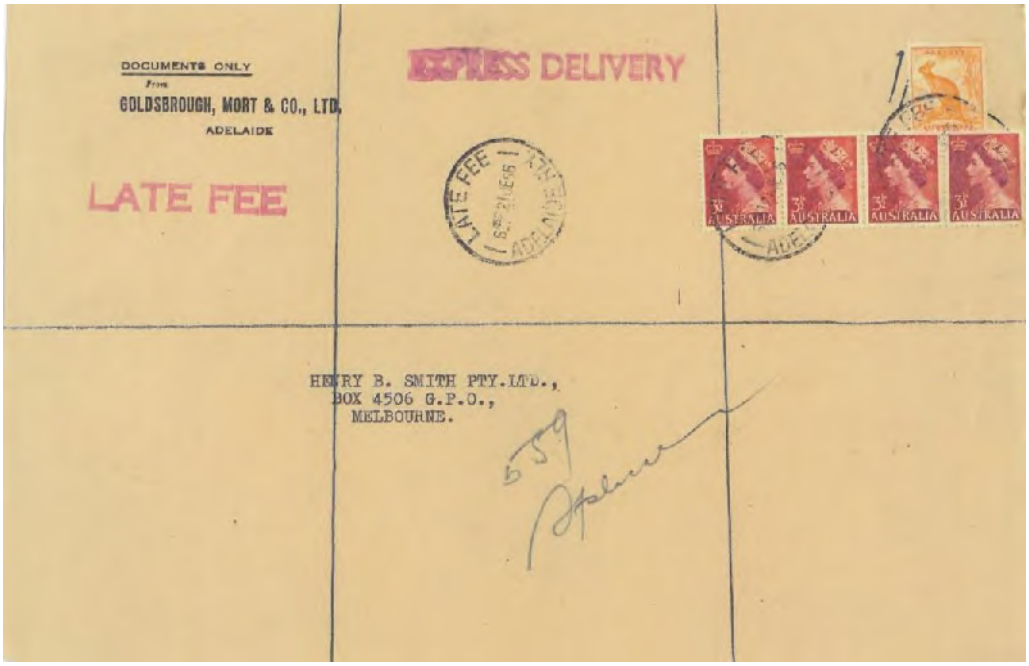


Fig. 9

To be continued:-

A COVER STORY (Number 3)

Frank Adamik

My cover this month is one of my own creations - one of my ‘trip covers’. Some years ago I decided that in addition to taking photographs and buying souvenir postcards, it would be nice to have a philatelic souvenir of the trips undertaken by my wife and I so I created a new series of covers for myself - my ‘trip covers’. As you will see from this month's cover (illustrated below) the results are the creation of a very, from my point of view, collectable cover that has both personal and philatelic interest, and I am very happy with the result.

Fig 1

This cover (figs 1 & 2) records the trip we took in February 2015 from Canberra to Mannum in South Australia and return to Canberra via Warrnambool in Victoria. The aim of the cover was to record the various cities, towns and villages that we visited on the trip, by having the cover postmarked at the local post office in each place we stopped at. As you can see, most of the post offices visited on the trip had a pictorial postmark that they could use to cancel my stamps I believe that this makes the cover a very attractive and interesting item, and certainly of interest to the postmark collector.

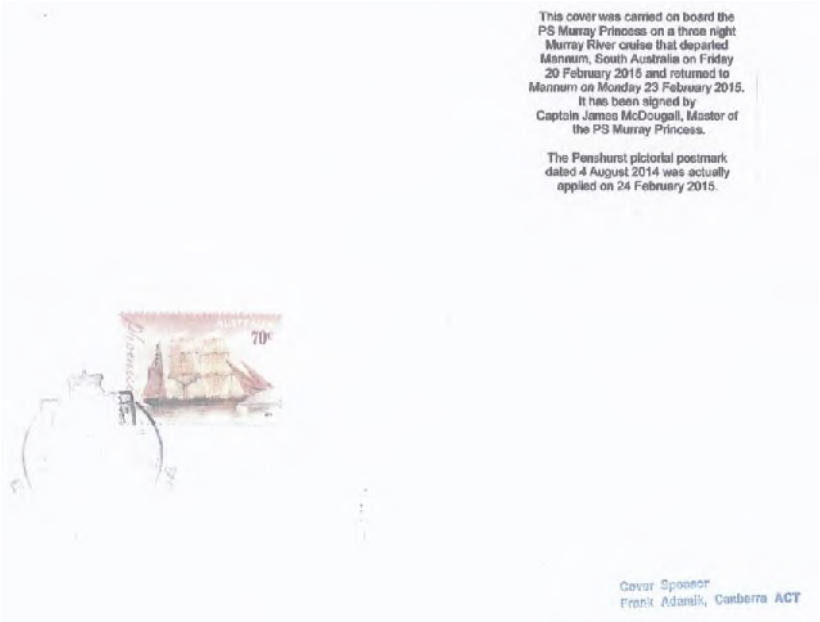


Fig 2

The main purpose of the trip was to do a Murray River Cruise, and the cover was with me on board the PS MURRAY PRINCESS during our three day cruise up the Murray River and return to Mannum. It was signed (front bottom left) by Captain James McDougall, the Master of the PS MURRAY PRINCESS. These details are shown (as is my custom) on the back of the cover (fig 2). The stamp at bottom left of the back of the cover was postmarked, very poorly, at Echuca, Victoria.

The PS MURRAY PRINCESS is a stern wheel paddle wheeler based on the Murray River at Mannum, South Australia. She is a tourist vessel with a capacity of 120 passengers. She is 67 meters long and weighs 1506 tonnes. She is the largest paddle wheeler ever to operate on the Murray River and is the largest paddle wheeler in the Southern Hemisphere.

Fig 3

Figure 3 is a bow view of the MURRAY PRINCESS, and is a copy of an Australia Post postage pre-paid postcard promoting Murray River cruising that I purchased in Mannum. Figure 4 is an image of the message / address side of this card. Figure 5 is a photograph of the stern wheel paddlewheel of the MURRAY PRINCESS that I took at Mannum on 20 February 2015.

Fig 4

Fig 5

As well as my ‘trip cover' I serviced two souvenir postcards specific to the MURRAY PRINCESS. One, (figs 6 & 7) an Australia Post postcard was purchased at the Mannum post office and was postmarked there on 20 February 2015, prior to the start of the cruise, and then again on 23 February 2015 on our return to Mannum.

Fig 6

Fig 7

The other, (figs 8 & 9) a MURRAY PRINCESS tourist postcard was purchased locally and postmarked at the end of the cruise. Both postcards were carried on board during the voyage and have been signed by myself and Captain James McDougall.

Fig 8

Fig 9

Fig 10

Figure 10 is a photograph of Captain McDougall signing one of the postcards.

Figure 11 is a photograph of the wheelhouse of the MURRAY PRINCESS with Captain McDougall (at left) and First Officer Warren Hardiman (at right). Both photographs were taken during the cruise on 22 February 2015.

Fig 11

We had an enjoyable cruise and these items are both philatelic items in my collection, and a reminder of our 'cruise on the Murray River'.

This 'trip cover' is only one of such covers that I have serviced to date, and while it is personal in nature, it also has philatelic and postal history interest. In addition it is also of interest to the social historian, in that it shows, graphically, a holiday trip (by road and river) taken by an Australian couple in the early years of this century.

Xmas Greetings 1899

Tony Lyon

A New Zealand 1897 Queen Victoria postcard with coloured views on reverse has been uprated 1d.

Posted at Christchurch 20 NO 99 and addressed to Dublin, Ireland where it received a Dublin circular DE 30 99.

A manuscript via Frisco indicates the route.

It contains a greeting for Xmas 1899.

John Young

Front Cover

The 5½ pence surcharge stamp was issued to take account of the ½ penny War tax. The stamp was for registered letters within Australia and the British Empire, airmail letters within Australia and airmail letters to New Zealand. They are not often found on Commercial cover, least often on airmail to New Zealand.

This cover was returned to sender, and the back has a DLO datestamp and resealing strip.

Types of Postmarks found on Post Office Postal Stationery Wrappers of South Australia

Dr John K. Courtis FRPSL acapjajc@friends.cityu.edu.hk

There are 835 used post office postal stationery wrappers of South Australia in the author's image database. These images, mostly gathered from eBay listings, have been hand-collected daily since September 2003. The purpose of this paper is to identify the several types of postmarks that have appeared on these wrappers. It extends the analysis of postmarks on wrappers previously published in this journal of those of Victoria (March 2018), New South Wales (June 2018) and Queensland (September 2018).

Table 1 is a summary of the postmark analysis grouped into six basic types (covering 97% of postmarks) and another eight types (covering the remaining 3%) each with very small frequencies of appearance. The only surprise was to find a South Australian wrapper used in Sydney with a Ship Room Sydney postmark. South Australia is notorious for its void cancels on postal wrappers. The Adelaide GPO often employed void cancellations on wrappers without the date, the belief being the date and details are included in the wrapper's enclosure. Overwhelmingly these cancels were carelessly applied, their use more to ensure the indicium was not used again as a cut-out.

Table 1: Basic Postmark Types on 835 Wrappers of South Australia

Type of Cancellation	Freq'cy	%	Type of Cancellation	Freq'cy	%
Void (rim, no date/inside details)	388	46	Ship Mail Room	5	<1
Squared Circle	185	22	Duplex Ship Mail Room	4	<1
Duplex Adelaide - Sth Australia	88	11	Frameless (details within)	4	<1
Numeral within framed diamond	65	8	Numeral w/in unfr'd diamond	2	<1
Single Rim	55	7	Continuous Roller	2	<1
Double Circle (date inside)	29	3	Inside Circle	2	<1
Void (Frameless)	5	<1	Ship Room Sydney	1	<1
				835	

Void frameless no interior details

Void (rim, no interior details)

Duplex GPO Adelaide-S. Australia

Numeral within unframed diamond

Frameless G.P.O. Adelaide

Frameless Nundah

Single rim cds Strathalbyn

Murray Bridge

Double circle w/date

Longer curved bars

Adelaide STH AUS

Frameless, Inside circle

Continuous Roller and date-bridge (1 at base)

5-pointed star at base

Squared Circle

In South Australia, there are about 584 different postal agencies using over 800 types of squared circle cancellations (Cox). From the analysis of South Australian wrappers in the database, 185 examples of squared circle postmarks were identified. About one in five wrappers are postmarked with this type. Of those legible, 134 revealed towns that could be matched to a town/city name and a summary of these appears as Table 2. Twenty-six names were identified together with the frequency of appearance of each name. However, 51 squared circle cancellations were such poor strikes that names could not be identified. The actual numbers in Table 2 could be larger in some cases and there may be other names. Adelaide is well represented with two types of arc corners. Examining internet images is difficult and no attempt was made to note arc differences in any systematic way. North Adelaide and Port Adelaide are also identified but with very small appearances. Seven names appeared once only making their appearance elusive on wrappers.

Table 2: Frequency of Appearance of 26 Identifiable Names on Squared Circle Postmarks

Name of Town/City	Frequency	Name of Town/City	Frequency
Clare	3	Mt Barker	3
Gawler	7	Mount Gambier	2
Gladstone	3	Naracoorte	1
GPO Adelaide	33	North Adelaide	2
Goodwood	1	Petersburg	7
Gumeracka	1	Port Adelaide	1
Jamestown	4	Port Darwin	7
Kadina	14	Port Pirie	4
Kooringa	7	Quorn	1
Largs Bay	1	Stirling West	1
Laura	3	Tanunda	2
Millicent	6	Wallaroo	1
Moonta	10		134
Mount Barker	9		

Illustrative images could be found for all but one of these names; ironically no satisfactory image for Kadina could be found despite this town having the highest number of square circle appearances. The striking process at that post office was much less careful than in other offices. The variability in the inking of the canceller can be seen from a comparison of the images which were cropped from actual images of the postmark on wrapper. Although I did not set out to deliberately identify sub-types with different corner arcs, Mt. Barker's two arcs and four arcs were identifiable and these are shown in the illustrations. Diameter measurements cannot be performed accurately from internet images, and many type varieties depend on this measurement.

Identifiable Names on Squared Circle Postmarks

Clare

Gawler

Gladstone

G.P.O. Adelaide

G.P.O. Adelaide rounded corners

Goodwood

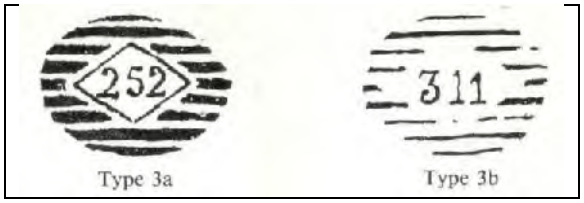
Gumeracka

Jamestown

Kooringa	Largs Bay	Laura	Millicent
Moonta	Mount Barker	Mt. Barker (2 arcs)	Mt. Barker (4 arcs)
Mt. Gambier	Naracoote	North Adelaide	Petersburg
Pt. Adelaide	Pt. Darwin	Port Pirie	Quorn
Stirling West	Tanunda	Wallaroo	Ship Mail Room see illustration under that section

Numeral in Diamond Obliterators

Obliterators used in South Australia were all of the same general type, comprising an ellipse of horizontal bars, with the central bars truncated to contain the numeral usually within a diamond frame. There were three types of 'numerals in diamond' obliterators, the first having 11 bars with five interrupted, the second with 12 bars with six interrupted and the third with nine bars with five interrupted. The third type has two versions: with a diamond frame and without a diamond frame as shown in the illustration below (Campbell and Pearce 1988). Although there were 65 examples of diamond framed numerals, less than ten of the numerals were readable; of the two cases of unframed diamond one only could be read (numeral 307). This numeral (previously illustrated) was used at the G.P.O. Adelaide as a "killer" on uncancelled stamps.



Type 3a Type 3b

Approximately 314 post offices were allocated numeral obliterators within a diamond frame. However, unlike cancellations on cover, these obliterators on wrappers were frequently poorly applied and few numerals are readable.

Examples of Numeral Within Framed Diamond Obliterator

51: Mount Barker

59: Narracoorte

61: Mount Gambier

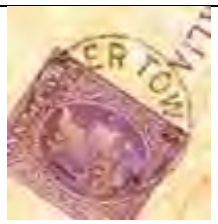
63: Cherry Gardens

Single Rim Circular Postmarks

Setting the void rim Adelaide postmarks to one side, there were 55 examples of the single rim with town/city name, although only a few were readable. Earlier, Strathablyn and Murray Bridge were illustrated. Another five names are illustrated here: Port Darwin, Tanunda, Border Town, Pt. Adelaide and Mt. Barker.

Port Darwin

Tanunda


Border Town

Pt Adelaide

Mt. Barker

Ship Mail Room

Three types of Ship Mail Room postmarks were observed. There is a square circle (one readable example observed), a duplex with date and S. Australia within 6-bars (four examples), and a single rim circular date stamp (five examples), all three appearing on wrapper indicia. The fourth illustration is included because it appeared on a South Australian wrapper but the postmark was applied in Sydney. Subsequent to the inter-changeability of States' stamps and postal stationery the use of a South Australian wrapper was allowed in sending an item through the Sydney Ship Room. The date is 30 8. 1919.

Square Circle: Ship Mail Room, Adelaide

Duplex Ship Mail Room

Ship Mail Room

Ship Room, Sydney

Summary

A large sample of 835 post office postal stationery wrappers of South Australia enabled an analysis to be undertaken of the postmarks that have appeared on wrappers. Six basic types accounted for 97% of the sample: rim void, squared circle, duplex Adelaide-S. Australia, numeral within framed diamond, single rim and double circle (these last two types overlapping the Commonwealth period). There were examples of other postmarks such as ship mail, frameless void and town name and inside circle, and continuous roller. There were 26 readable names on squared circle postmarks but examination of the actual wrappers would likely lead to the recognition of additional names. The number of poor strikes overall was surprisingly high.

References
Campbell Hugh M. and Pearce Donald H. (1988), *South Australian Numeral Cancellations*, Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Melbourne, pp. 56.
Cox Donald G. (undated), South Australia: *The Squared Circle Cancellations*, The Hawthorn Press, Melbourne, pp. 26.
Mishkel Maurice A., (2003), *Reversed Listing of South Australia Post Office Names*, Australian Commonwealth Collectors Club of New South Wales, Bulletin, August, pp. 21.
Overton Rodney (c 1983), *A Catalogue of Squared Circle Postmarks of South Australia*, Private Printing, Adelaide, pp. 34.

More Expectations of Service

Ian Cutter

The postcard shown here was sent from Melbourne to Box Hill over 100 years ago. It demonstrates the writer's expectations of a standard of service that no longer seems realistic.

The first expectation is that the very basic address is sufficient to ensure delivery. The address appears to have initially been just "I.Davis Esq , Box Hill". Then the writer judged this to be a little sparse, and inserted what looks like "Brewers Traveller" – an interpretation prompted by the picture on the card.

According to the Victorian Municipal Directory of 1909, Box Hill was then a Horticultural Township with a population of 2000. Would it have been it reasonable to expect the local post office to keep track of that number of people?

There is the possibility that people came to the Post Office and collected their mail on being recognized or providing identification. This still does happen in small townships, but Box Hill in 1908? That raises an interesting question – when did to-the-home mail deliveries begin?

There is no identification of the sender, but it is reasonable to assume that it originated from the Royal Arcade Hotel shown on the card. At least there is a logical connection with the recipient's occupation.

The hotel was situated at 301 – 307 Little Collins St., Melbourne. It was still there in 1960 but has since been demolished and replaced by other businesses. {Note in passing: The proprietor, Frank Paget "of the Royal Hotel, Collins St" is listed in 1912-1913 Committee of the United Licensed Victuallers Association of Victoria.]

Many interesting things would have taken place in an establishment that lasted for so long. To take one example: on 24 November 1932 Mrs Durham Marcel, otherwise known as Miss Nell Fleming, revue artist of that address was awarded £196/17/4 for breach of contract by a theatre company. Some of the other recorded incidents were more colourful.

Turning now to the message itself, it reads "Would like to see you by the 8.57 train tomorrow morning. / Trusting they are all well at home. / Kind regards / [Signature].

Naturally, those involved would have other information to add to this bald statement, but it is not clear whether the recipient is expected to travel to the city, or the writer intends to travel to Box Hill. It is more likely intended as an invitation to the Brewer's Traveller to travel. Anybody with a 1908 railway timetable to hand could resolve this point.

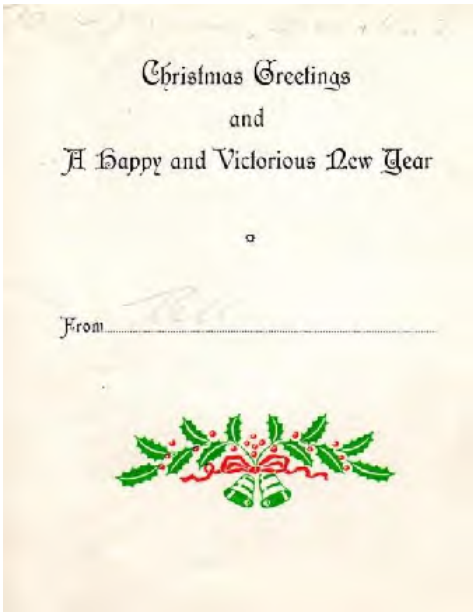
So, were the expectations fulfilled?

Of course, we can't be definite. However, although the Melbourne machine cancel is quite light, it is just possible to make out "1908 JE 13 -12-15A". So the answer would seem to be "Probably not".

It's Christmas

It is that special time of the year when commerce celebrates Santa Claus and Christians remember the birth of Christ. Notwithstanding the fact there was a war on, special Christmas themed stationery and other means of communication were created such as the Airgraph.

Bill sent this Christmas card from New Guinea in 1943



Inside of card

Christmas 1943 Airgraph from Charles Innes McConachie 36922 serving with A Squadron Light Repair Section, Long Range Desert Group (LRDG).

Christmas 1943 Airgraph from Lieutenant (Later Major) William Hantz McClure 71095 of the Base Postal Unit. Later was Assistant Director of Postal Services.

Postmark Collectors at Work

Ian Cutter

People who collect things operate in all sorts of ways. There is more than one postmark collector who visits post offices with a stamped envelope and has it cancelled at the counter, and then gets a second impression on a clean part of the envelope.

Recently I passed a PO I hadn't seen before, so bought a stamp, stuck it on the envelope and had it cancelled. However, when I asked for the second impression I was told that this was not permitted – the date-stamp must touch the stamp or indicium. Fortunately, I had the receipt for the stamp, and there was no prohibition on a postmark on the back of that.

Looking further afield, I was putting in order a collection of cards and covers from the USA, when I came across a batch of what appeared to be at first sight duplicates. They were all on the same style of pre-paid cards, all for ALBANY, all postmarked within a few days of each other in October 1982. However, further observation revealed that they were from different states: LA, OH, OK and OR. (There are in fact about 15 places named ALBANY in the USA.) It seemed that they had been produced by a collector by writing directly to the post offices concerned. By good fortune there was a cover returned from a PO along with some other paperwork that revealed the system.

First of all, he would take a pre-paid card and affix a small label with his own address; next an envelope large enough to take the card, with his address label and a stamp; then a letter to the postal manager asking for the card to be cancelled carefully and returned inside the envelope. Card, envelope and letter were then put together in a larger envelope and mailed to the target post office. The card would therefore have been cancelled, and would have passed through the mail, but does that mean it could fairly be described as "postally used"? Anyway, once the card is in the collection, who can tell?

A check on the populations of those places mentioned above gave, respectively, 50 000, 830, 140 and 1000 people. The last three, in particular, are not large towns, suggesting that the collector could perhaps be filling the gaps in his collection.

Spreading the net that wide makes one think that he may have started at the beginning of the alphabet, working from a list for the whole of the USA.

There is no way to tell whether these items came from his completed collection or were still in the queue when collecting finished. It would not be the first time that a collector's rate of acquisition exceeded the rate of organizing.

[Note added later. I have now found two similar covers from the state of Alabama, postmarked earlier in the same month as the Albany covers. One is from BROOKLYN, population 67, one from WOODVILLE population 760. This supports the small-town theory, but calls into question the

alphabetical one - although the state of Alabama is, after all, the state at the beginning of the alphabet.]

On another matter; when looking at covers addressed to "Poste Restante" one is tempted to question whether there was really any prospect of the addressee actually picking up the mail, particularly when the addressee and the sender have the same name. The intention could be that after the expiry of the prescribed waiting period the cover comes back with interesting postmarks.

Actually, there is no need to wait. The example illustrated is a cover from Germany to Saudi Arabia, where the sender and recipient are the same, and the last two lines of the address read "Poste Restante / Please return to sender".

Clarence (Carrie) King Illustrated Covers

Tony Lyon

According to a Rod Perry article on the website The Philatelic Database, Clarence ("Clarrie") King was born in 1915. He chose a career as an illustrator/cartoonist, beginning with Associated newspapers in Sydney, where he was employed from 1936 to 1950. He later joined Australian Consolidated Press, and was political cartoonist at the Daily Telegraph. King retired in 1980, and died at Belrose (NSW) in 2000.

http://www.philatelicdatabase.com/postal-history/clarrie-king-putting-more-fun-in-philately/

Clarrie King illustrated cover sent by Private Raymond Henry Connolly 459015, B Coy 31st Bn., 9th Infantry Brigade, 2 NZEF. Posted through EPP 87 26 JU 43. Crown over Circle 6362 has been signed by 2 Lieutenant Frederick John Lea 287246 24th Battalion.

Hand-Held Date Stamps

Co-ordinated by George Vearing

Following on from the article on post offices in the last edition, this month there is an article on the Branditt Post Office which has closed and a new post office which has opened in its place and called Shepparton North

Thanks to John Young, Richard Peck, Frank Adamik and Tony Lyon who have contributed to keep this column going

A.C.T. N.S.W.

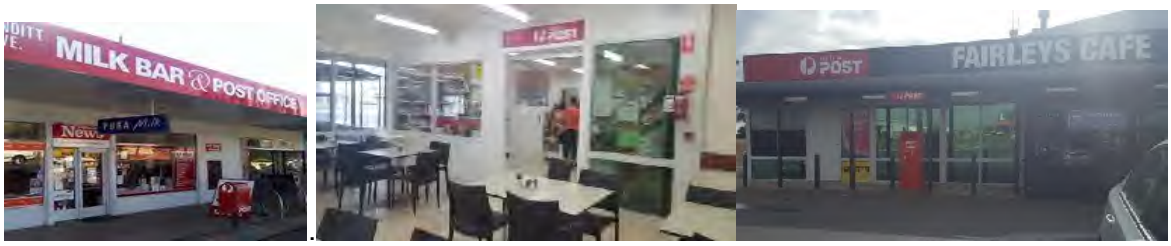
QLD.:-

VIC.

VIC.-(cont.)

Branditt post office opened on 1st April 1963 to service a growing area in the north part of Shepparton. Located in Branditt Avenue, hence the name and became known as Branditt Avenue post office and milk bar. It became a LPO on 16th February 1994. The original datestamp remained in use up until 1994 and after that at least 9 different datestamps were used, quite a lot for such a small post office and 3 of them are illustrated below.

The present owners who had been there for 13 years decided that to benefit the growing community in the north part of Shepparton it would be best for the community that they separated the Post Office from the milk bar and relocate the Post office to beside the café in the IGA supermarket in Numurkah Road and it was named Shepparton North. So Branditt closed on Saturday 13th October 2018 and Shepparton North opened on Monday 15th October 2018. Here are pictures of the 2 Post Offices and some of their datestamps



Branditt Shepparton North (inside) Shepparton North from outside

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stamp & coin co

stamps - coins - banknotes

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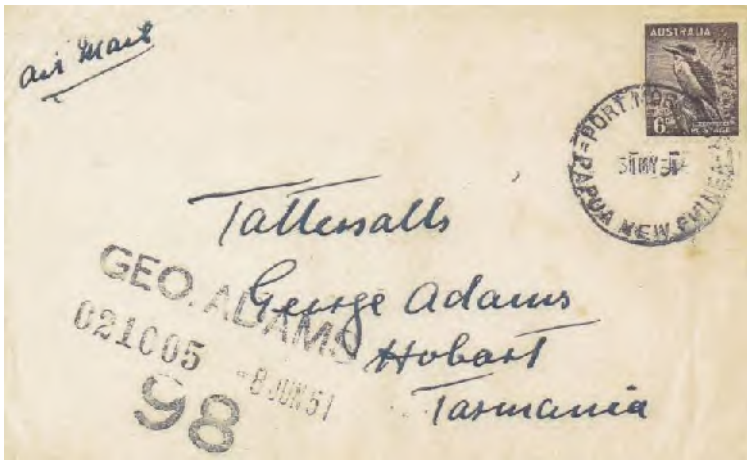
What YOU can do to help the Australian Philatelic Society?

- **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**

The Back Page

John Young

Airmail letters within Australia cost 6 pence from 1 December 1950 to 8 July 1951. The top cover is correctly franked and was sent from Port Moresby.



The lower cover has two 6 pence stamps, one for airmail and the other for the express delivery fee, operative from 1 July 1949 to 8 July 1951. Both rates are not often found on commercial covers.

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