

The Bulletin



The British Society of Australian Philately

Founded 1933

CONTENTS



SECRETARY'S LETTER & NOTICES, EDITORIAL (inc.OBITUARY–NEIL RUSSELL) .1	
£1 BLUE AND BROWN KANGAROO R16 by Richard Guy	3
CONTINUING RESEARCH ON THE GV 1D VARIETIES (Part 64)	
by Gordon Monk, Bert Wajer and the late Paull Kaigg	4
THE FIRST POSTAGE STAMP: THE NEW SOUTH WALES 1838 EMBOSSED	
LETTER SHEET Part 2 by Brian Peace FRPSL APR	10
RESEARCH ON AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY LUGGAGE AND PARCEL LABELS	
Part 11 by Ian Spencer	16
TWO MORE UNRECORDED TAX MARKS by Patrick Reid	21
THE RAREST OF ALL THE KGV COMMEMORATIVE SHADES. 1918 WA	
CENTENARY BW138B CLARET SHADE by John Bozic	22
NEW UNLOCATED CONSTANT VARIETY (UCV) ON THE 2D GV HEAD DIE I	
FROM ELECTROS 3, 4, 4A OR 4B BY Steve Irwin	23
KGV THREE HALFPENCE DIE I - NEW DISCOVERIES, PLATINGS &	
DESCRIPTIONS – REVISED PROVISIONAL PLATING UPDATE by Bill Fiora	24
MAILBAG THROWN FROM AIRCRAFT DAMAGES ELEVATOR	
by Brian Peace FRPSL APR	25
QUARANTINE AUTHORITIES DEFIED BY PASSENGER RETURNING TO	
AUSTRALIA by Brian Peace FRPS	26
BACK OF BEYOND? (INTRODUCTION) compiled by Ian Spencer	28
QUERY - HOW WAS THE POSTAGE RATE DERIVED by Patrick Reid.....	29
MEMBER BIOGRAPHY (25) GARY DIFFEN	29
REPORT OF CHRISTMAS MEETINGS HELD ON 12 TH DECEMBER 2020	31
AUSTRALIAN PHILATELY IN PRINT #1, 2021.....	33

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

PRESIDENT

D.D. Speer FBSAP, The Mede. Luppitt, Honiton, Devon EX14 4RT

Tel: 01404892787 Email dave.speer@hotmail.com

HONORARY SECRETARY

Dr. P.G E.Reid, 12 Holly Spring Lane. BRACKNELL, Berks. RG12 2JL

Tel. 01344867311 Email pge.reid@gmail.com

HONORARY TREASURER, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY and DATA CONTROLLER

Malcolm Price, 33 Manor Gardens, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex, BN6 9UG

Tel: 01273 833963 Email: bsapmjp@btinternet.com

AUCTION ORGANISER	Huw Williams	8 Graham Road, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 1AN	Tel. 0203 566 3837: Email huwie35@sky.com
PACKET SUPERINTENDENT	Brian H Sullman	13 Vallance Place Cravells Road, HARPENDEN Herts. AL5 1AX	Tel. 01582 460317 Email bhsullman36@btinternet.com
LIBRARIAN (Periodicals)	A.E.Coles	13 Lakeland Drive Frimley, CAMBERLEY Surrey GU16 8LD	Tel. 01276 25908 Email a.e.coles@ntlworld.com
LIBRARIAN (Books)	Tom. D. Gillespie	11 Brook Close BOGNOR REGIS West Sussex PO21 5PN	Tel. 01243 826478 Email Tomgillespie123@btinternet.com
PUBLICATIONS STOCKHOLDER	Huw Williams	8 Graham Road, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 1AN	Tel. 0203 566 3837: Email huwie35@sky.com
PROMOTIONS AND PUBLICITY OFFICER	Ian Perry	29 Chetwynd Grove, NEWPORT, Shropshire, TF10 7JW	Tel: 01952 825941 Email: ianperrystamps@aol.com
FACEBOOK CO-ORDINATION	Huw Williams	8 Graham Road, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 1AN	Tel. 0203 566 3837: Email huwie35@sky.com
PROGRAMME SECRETARY	C.V.Mount	151Aa Southampton Road, RINGWOOD, BH24 1HU.	Tel: 01425 474310 Email: cv.mount@googlemail.com
WEBMASTER SOCIETY WEBSITE SOCIETY EMAIL	Dr. P.G.E.Reid	See details as Hon. Secretary above www.bsap.org.uk info@bsap.org.uk	See details as Hon. Secretary above
BULLETIN EDITOR (new)	Alan Cross	7 Thrale Mews, Reading, RG30 2PD	Tel: 0114 2485653 (temporary) Email: ae.cross@outlook.com

ADVERTISING RATES IN THE BULLETIN

POSITION	PER INSERTION		SIX INSERTIONS	
	FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE	FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE
BACK COVER	Not available	Not available	£300	Not available
BACK COVER (INNER)	Not available	Not available	£270	Not available
FRONT COVER (INNER)	Not available	Not available	£270	Not available
INSIDE SHEET	£55	£36	£216	£156

* ALL ENQUIRIES AND COPY SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EDITOR
 * THE CONTENT OF AN ADVERTISEMENT MAY BE CHANGED FOR EACH ISSUE
 * DEALER INSERTS IN ISSUES CAN BE ARRANGED. CONTACT THE EDITOR FOR DETAILS

MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Annual Subscription £30 UK. For overseas, rates vary according to postage requirements, see website membership form. A discount is offered for prompt payment on renewal. Electronic .pdf download copy only £19. Back Issues available from the Publications Stockholder at £5 UK. Overseas £6 (surface) or £7.50 (air) inclusive of postage. Cheques to be made payable to "BSAP". An Electronic archive of back numbers is available from the Treasurer for £15.

Please contact the Hon. Treasurer in first instance on all these matters (as he can provide electronic banking details).

DERBY OFFICE
Cavendish House
153-157 London Road
Derby
DE1 2SY



LONDON OFFICE
Suite G06
Dowgate Hill House
14-16 Dowgate Hill
London, EC4R 2SU

Over 65 years' Service to Philately

Wednesday March 10 & Thursday March 11 2021

Featuring the **Howard Hughes FRPSL & Professor S. David Rockoff** reference collections of Maltese Cross & numeral cancellations (part 3); extensive collections of postal stationery & registered mail; superb Great Britain & foreign stamps including exceptional British Commonwealth; and fine 19th & 20th century postal history.

LIVE ONLINE BIDDING In association with [easyLiveAuction.com](https://www.easyliveauction.com)



Search our catalogues on [PhilaSearch.com](https://www.philasearch.com) and [StampAuctionNetwork.com](https://www.stampauctionnetwork.com)
Consignments welcome for our future sales. Please contact us for more information.

www.cavendish-auctions.com
stamps@cavendish-auctions.com

Derby - (44) 01332 250970

Fax. (44) 01332 294440

London - (44) 020 8785 7750

SECRETARY'S LETTER & NOTICES, EDITORIAL OPEN LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY

Welcome to 2021. Who would have thought that we would now be in a worse state than last March? But we are and at least the Vaccination Cavalry are riding over the hill. Let us hope that they get there in time.

After discussions in Council (via email) we have reluctantly decided to postpone the Convention, scheduled for May in Salisbury. We shall try to rebook for a date in the Autumn. While it is to be hoped that the hotel would have reopened by May, the consensus was that the vaccination programme may not meet the promised timescales, so a number of our expected attendees would be reluctant to come. Let us hope and pray that we are not in a third wave with a new mutation by Autumn.

Not surprisingly, Spring Stampex will only be Virtual as will the Northern National (Perth). However, thanks to Zoom, philatelic meetings do continue. My local Society has organised a series of monthly meetings to cover the first part of the year, and I am sure that the Council meeting later this month will organise further participative meetings for BSAP. Details will be published as soon as possible. If anyone wishes to volunteer to do a Zoom presentation to the Society, please contact the Programme Secretary (Colin Mount). About 50-60 "slides" should be enough, or about 30 for a short contribution. It is relatively simple to share a Powerpoint slide show in a Zoom meeting

Although there will be no Convention, the Auction will still be held, but postally rather than physically. I am getting concerned that my Auctioneering skills are becoming rusty through lack of use.

In these strange times I encourage you all to continue to take the greatest care and keep yourselves safe. We shall emerge from this into the golden sunlit uplands, when we can have the joy of sharing all the material that we have so assiduously written up with our fellow philatelists.

PGER 12/1/21

PS

As we went to press the first **Zoom meeting** was likely to be arranged for
Saturday 13 February, at 9.30 (UK GMT time)

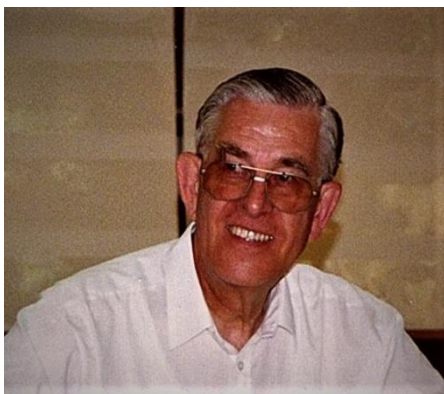
A Saturday morning meeting enables those in Australia to join without needing to go to bed very late and also accommodates UK based members in Monday-Friday employment

Membership Secretary List of Changes to Membership Database – Notification 174 Period: 1 November 2020 to 31 December 2020

Change of address 483 R Wiggins From Hertfordshire to South Ayrshire
Deceased 352 N Russell {see next page}

New members, Corrections of address, Lapsed & Removed Members, Resigned & Reinstated: None Advised

OBITUARY – NEIL RUSSELL



With the passing of Neil Russell just before Christmas, philately, and in particular Australian Philately, has lost a great character, an exceptional mind and source of information.

I first met Neil at the 1960 Annual Convention of the Australian Commonwealth Specialists Society, held at the Paviour's Arms pub in Page Street, Westminster. Whilst Neil was considered one of the younger members, he was still twice my age, and perceived by me as 'old' but not 'ancient'.

A regular attendee at our annual Convention, accompanied by his charming wife Betty, Neil always had time and the patience to explain the rudiments of postal history, and the story of the cover. I found his explanations clear and understandable, due in part to his encyclopaedic knowledge and an almost photographic memory. Fifty years later this memory had not deserted him nor dulled, and my only regret is that he did not commit all his knowledge to print, in particular on the subject of food parcel labels, in spite of my repeated requests.

Neil did expand on an article on food parcel labels in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, his response demonstrating that he was the authority on the subject. His main interest was in military postal history and in 2011 he published *Postal History of Australian Internees in WW1* jointly with members Tony Finlayson and Roger Elliott. He had previously published two studies with G A Pohlig: *Airmail Stationery used by and for POWs and Internees in WW2* (1997) and *Postal Stationery issued to POWs and Internees in Australia in WW2* (2004).

Pat Reid adds; I who have been a member of BSAP for much less time than Brian too found Neil a great source of knowledge on Tasmania, and he was instrumental in encouraging me to develop myself philatelically. He proposed me for membership of the Royal and encouraged me to enter National Competition for the first time.

I had the privilege of processing his material when he sold it at auction, so I was able to see the breadth and depth of his collections of so many types of material. He had unrivalled holdings of the Tasmania Courier defaced plate printings as well as a strong Postal History collection. His holdings of PoW Mails included one of the only two 5d Lettersheets recorded. All of it sold well. In his last few years his health was not good, but his mind was as sharp as ever. I shall miss his encouragement and his reminiscences

The only BSAP member to be our President twice, Neil received many awards of which the Congress Medal was perhaps the most prestigious. It was well-deserved as he had contributed unstintingly for decades. He was also a recipient of the London Medal from the RPSL, and his photo is included in one of the murals in the Members Lounge at 15 Abchurch Lane.

A BSAP member for 66 years we shall not see his like again, and our Society and philately in general is the poorer for his passing.

Brian Peace and Patrick Reid

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 76th Volume of the Society's Bulletin. Those wishing to read (most of) the previous 75 editions (with the promise of the remainder in due course) should contact the Treasurer who can supply them on Memory Stick (for £15). Over the last couple of months I have received a steady flow of new articles and these will be found in this or the next couple of editions. This Bulletin also sees a new (intended to be regular) feature, which has been titled "Back of Beyond" (unless anyone comes up with a better suggestion (in Ian Spencer and my opinion!) before the next issue goes to print. Those who know Ian, or have been following closely his Railway label series will not be surprised to hear it covers all material sometimes called "cinderella". It will only work well if some queries are raised! So if you have something (Australian) that is "sort of " a stamp (but not a postage stamp) and don't know what it is, ask, (and when, in due course some questions appear, if you know, or have a suggested answer, please send it in). That comment more generally applies of course; some articles that appear in the Bulletin are "notes and queries", and constructive comments in response to articles are welcome.

Alan Cross – January 2021

2696 £1 BLUE AND BROWN KANGAROO R16 by Richard Guy (1616)

Two copies of R16 are possessed in third watermark, one overprinted with a type B overprint SPECIMEN. This flaw is described in Holbeach's study (1) as:-

- a) Small break in coastline and adjacent shading lines at the top left below "P" of POSTAGE, and
- b) Break in 9th shading line below last "A", and adjacent to the right frame.

The break in the coastline is near where Derby is found in the Kimberley region of NW Australia. In this author's opinion, it is worthy of addition to the Brusden White Kangaroo Catalogue (2). See figure 1. For a blowup of the flaws.

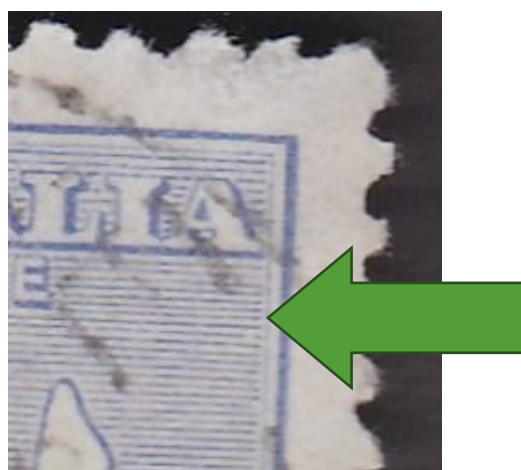


Figure 1. The flaws found on R16 of the £1 kangaroo bicolour.

References 1. A plating study of the hi-value bicoloured kangaroo issues of Australia, WH Holbeach, published by BSAP. 2.. The ACSC, Kangaroos and the early Federal period 1901-1912, edited by Dr Geoff Kellow, and published in 2017 by Brusden White.

2292. CONTINUING RESEARCH ON THE GV 1D VARIETIES (Part 64)

by Gordon Monk, Bert Wajer and the late Paull Kaigg

Pane 6 # 30 Note: Issued (by authors) Dec 2006. Revised 2b to 2h added Jan 2018

1st State Proof – 7 July 1914 (1st half of 1st printing).

- 1a Top Left Corner. Island flaw inconstant and very variable in shape and size.
- 1b Jubilee panel. White spot 13³/₄mm from the top.
- 1c Jubilee panel. Top slopes left to right.

2nd State 28 July 1914 (2nd half of 1st printing) – Early 1924

- 1a, b, c as before.
- 2a Bottom Left Corner. A ³/₄mm bite out of LF, the bottom of the bite is very variable from round to pointed, variable.
- 2b Top Frame. Abrupt curve on inside left of right v-scroll, found on 45% of sample, variable.
- 2c Top Frame. A small break or notch in frame left of cross, found on sample 6% break and 39% notched, variable.
- 2d Top Right Corner. As the print run progresses the corner gradually extends to the right, variable.
- 2e Cross. Late in the print run a compartment mark appears over the left corner, variable.
- 2f Top Right Corner. Late in the print run 1 or 2 dots appear over the corner, variable.
- 2g Right Frame. At the end of a print run a compartment mark appears at R23, alternatively the frame is very rough between R16 and R50, variable.
- 2h Bottom Right Corner. In mid print run a compartment dot appears on RF at the corner and as the run progresses joins the frame and continues to grow making the corner extend to the right. Later compartment marks appear below BF and up RF, variable.

3rd State Early 1924 – Early C of A

- 1a to 1c and 2a to 2h as before.
- 3a Bottom Frame. Small notch 2mm from BRC, variable.

4th State Early C of A - Final

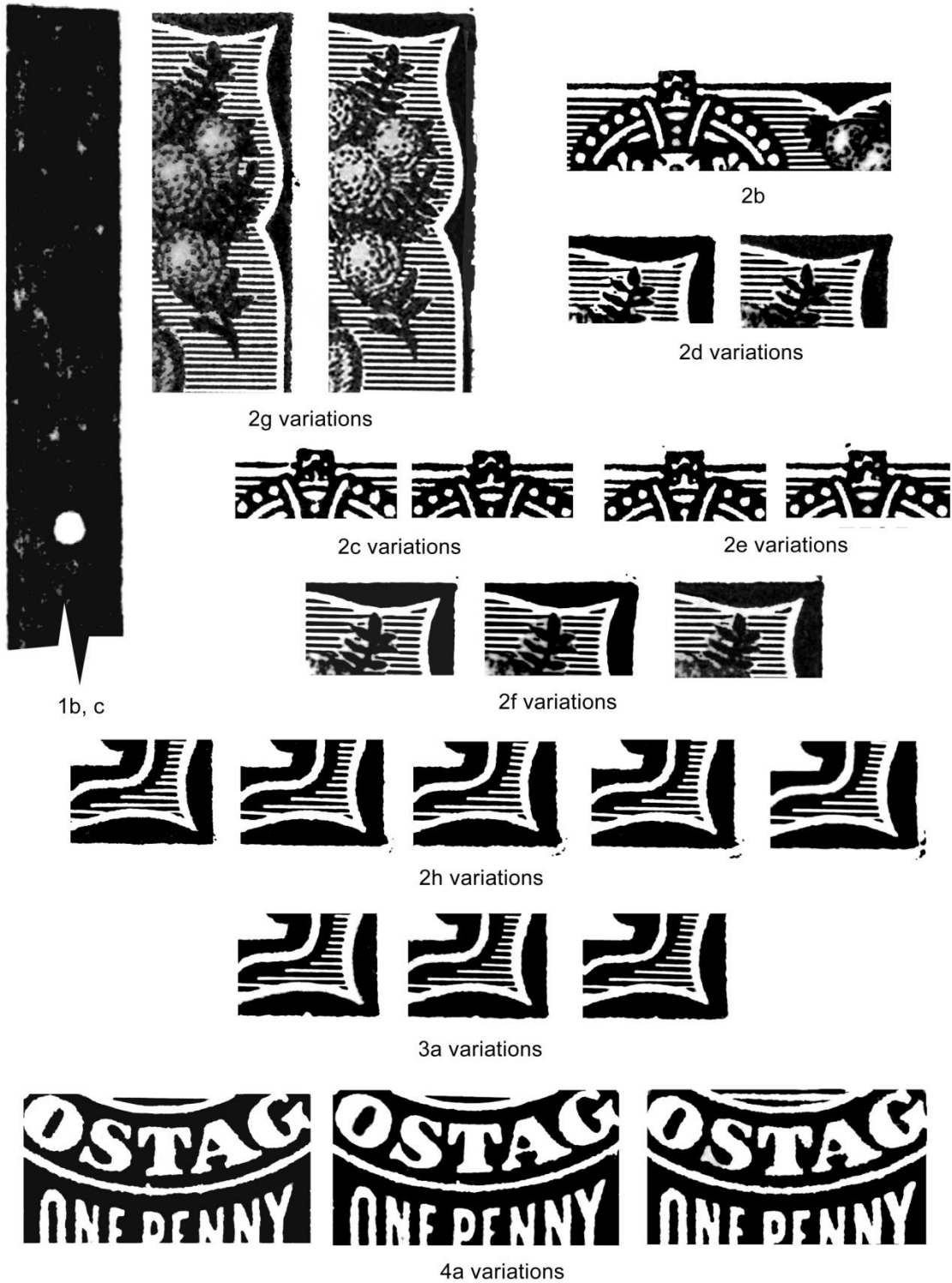
- 1a to 1c and 2a to 2h, 3a as before.
- 4a POSTAGE. Small white flaw ¹/₄mm below the bottom left serif of T, variable.



1a variations



2a variations



Pane 6 # 31 . *Note: Issued 19 Aug 2007. Mar 2018 more info available completely revised*

1st State Proof – 7 July 1914 (1st half of 1st printing)

1a No island flaw.

2nd State 28 July 1914 (2nd half of 1st printing) - 1929

1a as before.

- 2a Top Frame. Straight shallow cut, slanting very slightly down from TLC to 2¼ mm where it ends abruptly. Inking often causes the outline of the cut to become irregular from almost normal to curved.
- 2b Left Frame. Early in the print run the frame is thin, found on 4% of sample. As the run progresses the frame becomes normal.
- 2c Top Frame. A notch just left of cross with the right side of the notch vertical, variable.
- 2d Bottom Left Corner. The corner gradually extends downward as the run progresses, variable.
- 2e Top Right Corner. The corner gradually extends to the right as the run progresses, variable.
- 2f Right Frame. Small break or notch 7 lines below right wattle stem, found on 8% of sample.
- 2g Right Frame. Thinned just above the Emu's tail with a short spike in the margin, found on 8% of the sample, variable.
- 2h Bottom Right Frame. The corner gradually extends to the right as the run progresses, variable.
- 2j Bottom Left Corner. In mid print run a compartment mark appears off the corner and as the run progresses it gradually extends around the corner, variable.
- 2k Left Frame. Compartment marks appear early in the print run between L68 and L89. As the run progresses they increase in number and size until they stretch from BLC to TLC, variable.
- 2m Top Left Corner. Early in the print run a compartment mark appears off the corner and as the run progresses it gradually extends around the corner, variable.
- 2n Top Right Corner. In mid the print run a compartment mark appears off the corner and gradually grows in size, variable.
- 2p Right Frame. Compartment marks appear late in the print run between R71 and R75, later more marks appear until they go from R69 to R90 variable.
- 2r Bottom Right Corner. In mid print run a compartment dot appears off the corner and as the run progresses increases in size, variable.

3rd State 1929 – Final

2a to r as before. Compartment marks are rare in the 3rd State.

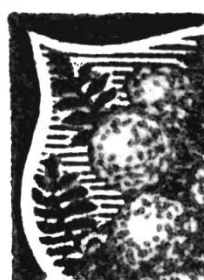
- 3a Left Frame. Curved in for 3 mm from TLC, inking often obscures the cut or allows only the top 2 mm to be seen.

Note Left margin unit.

- 2a Similar flaws on 6-25, 43, 44 & 46. The 2nd state of this unit is difficult to distinguish from 2nd state of 6-25



2a variations



3a variations



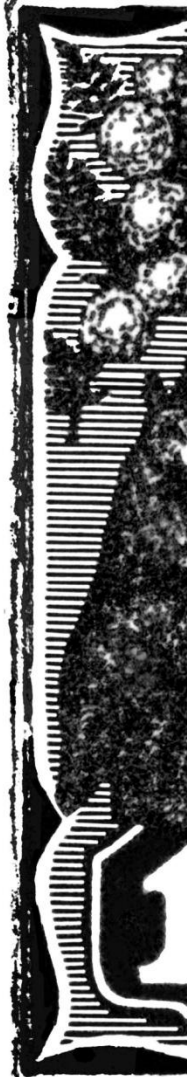
2c variations



2b



2k variations



2n, p, r variations



2f variations



2g variations



2e variations



2h variations



2m variations



2n variations



2d variations



2j variations



2r variations

Pane 6 # 32 Note: Issued Nov 2005.

Mar 2018 more info available completely revised

1st State Proof – 7 July 1914 (1st half of 1st printing)

1a Top Left Corner. Island flaw, variable in size.

2nd State 28 July 1914 (2nd half of 1st printing) - Final

1a as before.

2a Bottom Left Corner. Rounded or truncated sometimes with a small lip at the lower end, variable.

2b Oval. White flaw starting under the first A of AUSTRALIA and running down through 11 shade lines to the tip of the king's nose, variable. To date the full flaw has only been found on C of A printings.

2c Left Frame. Compartment marks appear at the end of the run between L55 and L60, variable.

2d Top Right Corner. At the end of a print run a compartment dot appears over the RF and a short line attached to the corner runs down the RF, variable.

2e Right Frame. At the end of the print run compartment marks appear in a broken line from TRC to R113, variable.

2f Bottom Right Corner. At the end of the print run compartment marks form a curve broken line under the corner with the right end attached to the corner, variable.



2c

2d, e, f



1a variations

More info required on the development of the compartment marks.



2a variations



2b variations

Pane 6 # 33 Note: Issued May 2014. Revised April 2018.

1st State Proof – 7 July 1914 (1st half of 1st printing)

1a Island Flaw. Inconstant and variable.

2nd State 28 July 1914 (2nd half of 1st printing) – Final

1a as before.

2a Bottom Left Corner. A compartment dot appears off the corner in mid print run, as the run progresses it increases in size. Variable.

2b Left Frame. A faint compartment dot appears very late in the print run at L69 and later more marks appear until they go from L61 to L71, inconstant.

2c Cross. Top of cross is dished.

2d Top Frame. Early in the print run TF is broken left of cross, later it changes to a notch. Found on 70% of sample.

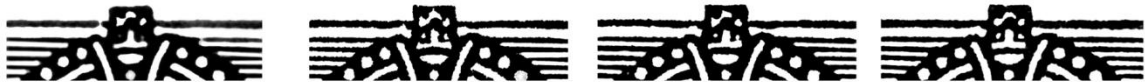
2e Right Frame. Faint compartment dots appear very late in the print run at R46, R48 and at the top of the Emu's tail, inconstant.

2f Bottom Frame. Two small notches at 5 and 3mm from BRC appear early in the print run. As the ink builds up the notches disappear, variable.

Note This is a difficult unit to plate as a single unit.



1a variations

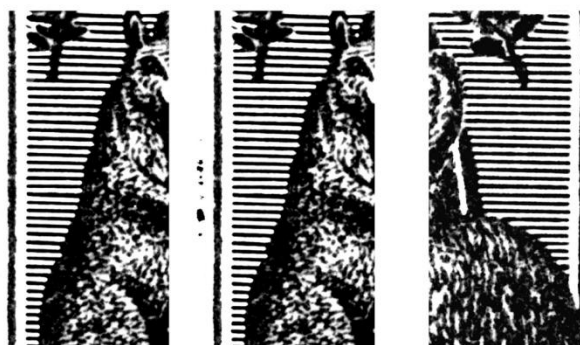


2c, d variations



2a variations

2f variations



2b variations

2e

2693 THE FIRST POSTAGE STAMP: THE NEW SOUTH WALES 1838 EMBOSSED LETTER SHEET Part 2 by Brian Peace FRPSL APR (395)

(Editors Note – This article was originally published in the London Philatelist in May 2019. Last time I published the census of used letter sheets and the article will run this year.)

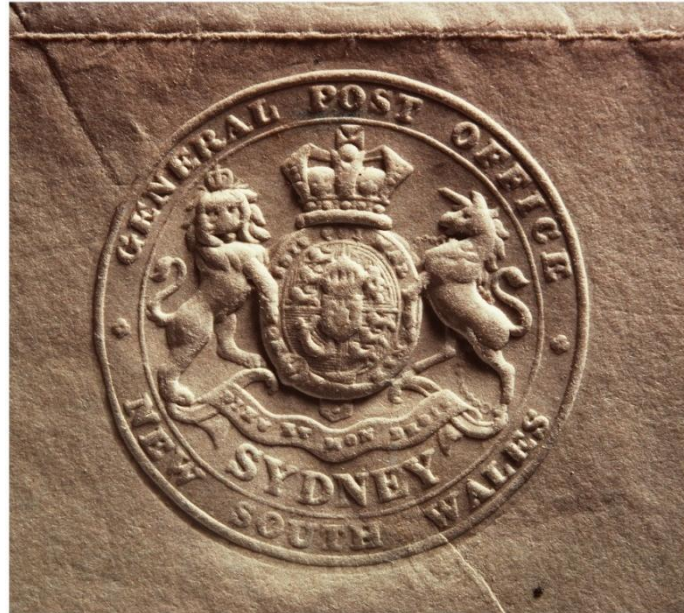


Figure 1
Sydney GPO Seal
(Courtesy Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences,
Sydney Ref: 85/1076)

Ask any philatelist which was the World's First Postage Stamp and they will tell you, without hesitation, that it was the Penny Black. Many will also be able to quote the issue date of 6 May 1840. Whilst the Penny Black was the World's First Adhesive Postage Stamp, it was not the First Postage Stamp. That honour is held by the New South Wales 1838 Embossed Letter Sheet.

Pre-payment with a Stamp

There are many instances of prepayment of postage prior to 6 May 1840. For example: William Dockwra set up the London Penny Post in 1680. It was the first postal system to use hand-stamps to postmark the mail to indicate the place and time of the mailing and that its postage had been prepaid. In 1819 stamped Cavallini (little horseman) letter-sheets were issued in the Kingdom of Sardinia. These were priced at 15c for delivery of up to 15 miles, 25c for up to 35 miles, and 50c for an unlimited distance, but were marked for the payment of fiscal rather than postal duty, thus ruling them out as postage stamps. In neither of these instances, nor in any other instance pre-1838, was the principle of reduction in the postal rate as a consideration for pre-payment combined with the use of a denoting stamp.

Robert Wallace MP had been advocating cheaper postage rates and a reform of the Post Office since 1833. In 1835 the British government succumbed to pressure from him, other MPs and businessmen, and appointed a Parliamentary Committee *to enquire into the management of the Post-office Department*. Over the next three years they produced ten Reports, none specifically dealing with a reduction in postal rates. Following a meeting with

Wallace, Rowland Hill, ex-school-teacher and inventor, examined the Reports, Post-office Accounts and other sources, and built up a solid statistical case for a set of reforms.

Rowland Hill's Proposals

Whilst the suggestions for postal reform by Hill culminated in the issue of the 1d black and 2d blue adhesive stamps on 6 May 1840, the issue of these stamps was not the first practical application of Hill's fundamental suggestions.

In summary, Hill's suggestions which were embodied in the second, February 1837, edition of his pamphlet *Post Office Reform, its Importance and Practicability*, were:

- a uniform postage rate irrespective of distance
- payment by weight instead of by the number of sheets
- a reduction in the amount in consideration of prepayment, and
- the denoting of prepayment by means of an adhesive or impressed stamp

As Hill's penny post was based on charging by weight, either letter sheets or envelopes could be used, this was a departure from the historic practice of using a folded single sheet, or multiple sheets, the counting of which by postal officials was time-consuming and sometimes required the letter to be held in front of a candle.

In May 1837 Robert Wallace MP moved for the appointment of a Select Committee *to report on the present rates of postage, and especially to examine the improvements recommended and the mode of charging postage proposed, in a pamphlet by Mr Rowland Hill, with a view to the general reduction of postage duties*. He withdrew the motion when the government stated they had the plan under consideration, but with a change in government later that year, a Select Committee was appointed in early 1838 with Wallace as chair. Whilst the Select Committee did not fully endorse Hill's proposals in its final report in March 1839, its cautious approach was eclipsed by the campaign of the proponents of penny postage.

Speaking in the House of Lords during a debate on the 1839 Postage Bill (the enabling legislation which led to the complete reshaping of the British Postal Service) the Duke of Wellington said:

it is a curious fact that from the institution of the Post-office to the present time, no important improvement has had its origin in that establishment.

The Duke was looking back over some three hundred years, and specifically at Dockwra's town-posts, Ralph Allen's cross-posts, and John Palmer's network of high-speed mail coaches. In each case the reformer was subject to strong (and sometimes absurd) opposition from the Post Office.

As if to reinforce the Duke of Wellington's observations, the then Postmaster-General and Colonel Maberly, the Secretary to the Post Office, made desperate attempts to prove that Hill's proposals would lead to financial disaster. These were frustrated by the overwhelming support of business leaders and the reformers.

The Initiative of the NSW Postmaster-General

Sir George Gipps had been appointed Governor of NSW on 5 October 1837, succeeding Sir Richard Bourke. He left Plymouth aboard the 596-ton ship *Upton Castle*, master Thomas Williams, on 16 October 1837 accompanied by Lady Gipps, his six-year old son and four

servants. The ship sailed from the Cape of Good Hope on New Year's Day, arriving at Port Jackson on 23 February 1838.

James Raymond, Postmaster-General of New South Wales at this time, had been in communication with Rowland Hill and was much influenced by his February 1837 pamphlet. He was aware that the Parliamentary Committee had been set up and that it had produced several Reports, but news of the findings of the Select Committee would not reach him until mid-1839. However, the ninth Report of the Parliamentary Committee, dated 7 July 1837, arrived early in 1838, possibly with the new Governor.

The ninth Report contained the following recommendations:

...the adoption of a uniform letter rate of 1d for letters under 1oz in weight throughout the metropolitan district of 12 miles round the General Post Office, which they considered might be increased, with advantage to 15; but they made it a condition of the enjoyment of this reduction in the rate, that letters not exceeding 1oz in weight should be enclosed in stamped covers or envelopes of 1d, and exceeding 1oz and up to 6oz, in similar envelopes or covers of 2d.

Recommending the adoption of the principles of reduction and prepayment by means of an impressed envelope or letter-sheet to frank letters within the Two-penny Post radius from the General Post Office, Raymond wrote to the Colonial Secretary on 7 September 1838:

General Post Office

Sydney, 7 September, 1838

Sir,

Having attentively perused the suggestion of Mr Rowland Hill on the subject of introducing stamped covers as a means of simplifying and effecting a reduction in postage, I have endeavoured to perfect an envelope which I do myself the honour to submit for the inspection of His Excellency the Governor.

In accordance with the plan promulgated by that gentleman, I propose that half-sheets of paper, stamped as per specimen, be supplied to the public at such a price as to include the postage; and that letters so enveloped shall be received and passed through this office for distribution, within the town delivery of Sydney, free of any other charge, being first stamped with the Post Office stamp of the day.

By this experiment I anticipate a large increase to the communication throughout the town, and that I shall shortly see invitations, bills, notices and all mercantile communications transmitted, under cover of such envelopes, which will add materially to the revenue, by inducing communications of that nature to be sent through the Post Office, while the labour can be scarcely felt by the letter-carriers, as they will only have to drop them in rapid succession as they proceed along, the chief delay and difficulty in delivery being the waiting for and obtaining change.

Should his Excellency be pleased to approve of the experiment being made, if not found to answer, it could be withdrawn at any moment, as I do not mean to interfere with or disturb the present two-penny or other delivery now established, until it could be ascertained from experience whether subsequent improvements may render the system available for more general purposes.

To commence operations it only requires the Governor's sanction, for by the 3rd section of the Post Office Act, William IV, No. 34, it is competent for his excellency to alter, revoke, or vary the rules and regulations, as well as the postage, provided there be no increase made on the postage set forth in the schedule referred to.

The rate to be fixed forms some matter of consideration; but in my humble opinion a penny will compensate for the paper and delivery, while so low a rate will induce an influx of letters that will ultimately replenish the revenue, and be esteemed as a boon to the public from the hands of His Excellency,

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JAS RAYMOND.

The Honorable the Colonial Secretary.



Figure 2
Archival Copy of Embossed Envelope
(Courtesy Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences, Sydney:
Gift of Richard Peck FRPSL MAP Ref: 85/1076)

This small envelope (size 275 x 167mm opened out) is embossed with the Sydney General Post Office seal. The 29mm diameter seal, which appears twice on the envelope, consists of the Royal Coat of Arms of the UK (the Hanoverian Coat of Arms), a lion and a unicorn on either side of crowned shield, enclosed in a circular border containing the words GENERAL POST OFFICE and NEW SOUTH WALES. The text below the coat of arms reads SYDNEY.

This example is significant because the paper bears a watermark of the year "EHC 1838" and it is known to have been the archival copy for the envelope which was sent to the Governor of New South Wales for approval.



Figure 3
Enlarged Image of Embossing on Archival Envelope
(Courtesy Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences, Sydney)

The Colonial Secretary, E Deas Thomson, referred this proposal to the Governor, Sir George Gipps, who approved the scheme. Thomson replied accordingly to Raymond on 15 October 1838, qualifying the approval by adding the following minute, which had been initialled G.G. by the Governor on 13 October:

... His Excellency approves of your trying the experiment, but that the price of covers must

be fixed at 1½d, the single cover, or 1s.3d per dozen.

P.S. You will be pleased to submit for approval a notice of this arrangement for the information of the public.

The following notice was accordingly submitted for approval, which was received; it then appeared on page 994 of the *New South Wales Government Gazette* dated 14 November 1838:

General Post Office, Sydney
1st November, 1838

Whereas it has been considered that by transmitting letters, invitations, notices, bills, etc., under stamped or Post-Office covers, the delivery thereof would be expedited by avoiding the delay consequent upon the letter carriers waiting payment. His Excellency, the Governor, with this in view, and in order to effect a reduction in postage on such communications intended for delivery within the limits of the town of Sydney, has been pleased to sanction their transmission under envelope which may be obtained at the General Post-Office on payment of one shilling and three pence per dozen, including all charges for payment and delivery. This arrangement is not intended to suspend or interfere with the present two-penny post delivery, which will proceed in all respects as heretobefore.

James Raymond, Postmaster-General

In order to launch his new product, Raymond distributed examples of the embossed stationery to Sydney newspapers. The following appeared on page 2 of the *Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser* on 24 November 1838:

The POST OFFICE - Mr. Raymond, the Postmaster General, has forwarded us a few specimens of the stamped letter covers which, it is directed by a notice in the last Government Gazette, shall pass free through the Post Office. The object of this arrangement is to expedite the delivery, within the limits of the town of Sydney, of letters, invitations, notices, &c, which will be effected by doing away with the delay consequent on the letter carriers being compelled to wait for payment at every house. A reduction will also be effected in the amount of postage, the charge for the stamped paper, which can be obtained at the Post Office, being only fifteen pence per dozen sheets. The principle is the same as that under the consideration of the British Parliament at present, only more limited in extent. The Parliamentary Committee have recommended that letters on twopenny stamps shall pass free from and to all parts of the British dominions.

The World's First Postage Stamp

It has long been recognised and accepted that the NSW embossed letter sheets were the first instance of pre-paid postal stationery, however, using Hill's wording and intention of 'an adhesive or impressed stamp', there is no doubt James Raymond's initiative also produced the World's First Postage Stamp.

Various Australian philatelic authorities have proposed that the 1838 Sydney Embossed Letter Sheet be considered as The First Postage Stamp. In 1890 Dr Andrew Houison, on page 25 of *History of the Post Office ...in New South Wales*, stated:

In the following pages we shall show that, however curious it may appear, still, it is a fact that New South Wales was the first country in the world to adopt the system of prepaying letters by means of postage stamps.

Other notable philatelists repeated this claim in 1922, 1934, and in 1936 when the late A F Bassett Hull RDP put forward an articulate case on behalf of the philatelists of New South Wales. Bassett Hull repeated his claim in an address to the Australian Historical Society, Sydney, on 13 June 1941.

The Penny Black may have been the World's First Adhesive Postage Stamp; it was not, however, the First Postage Stamp. After nearly 180 years it is time to acknowledge the importance of the 1838 Sydney Embossed Letter Sheet and grant it the status it deserves.



REMEMBER

As we were going to press several dozen members had yet **to send** Malcolm their **BSAP subscription payment** covering 2021 & 2022 which is discounted for prompt payment by 31 January.

If you are one of them, make Malcolm's day and send him your money and form (to bsapmip@btinternet.com).

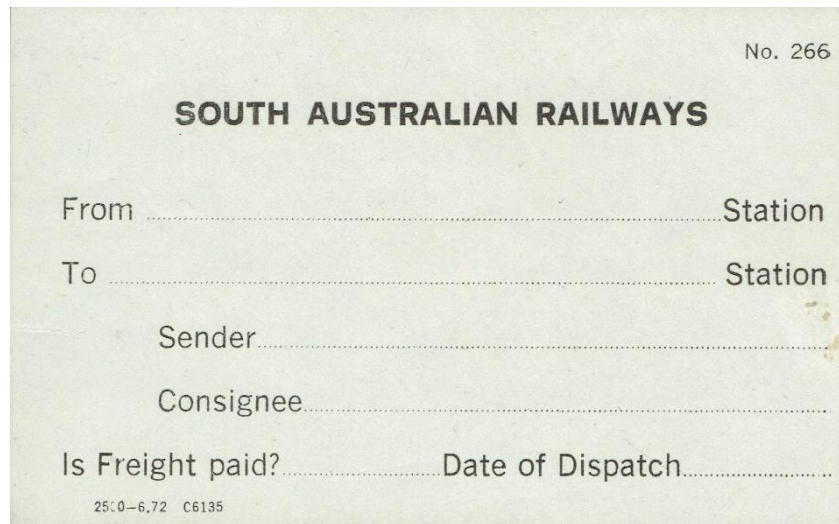
If possible, please pay electronically through the bank! (Malcolm can supply the form if you have lost it).

2641. RESEARCH ON AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY LUGGAGE AND PARCEL LABELS Part 11 by Ian Spencer (999)

Editor's Note – Readers may recall that Part Q on Tasmanian labels has been running out of sequence since June last year, and we now resume the proper sequence with Part I)

Part I – Miscellaneous Railway Labels from South Australia


(A) Type I 1 An Unusual Gummed Paper Label



Type I 1

Size 114 x 70.5 mm – larger than the vast majority of the South Australian paper railway labels and very different in appearance. Numbered “No. 266” at top right. Dated June 1972 – quantity printed 2500 (2500-6.72 C6135 at lower left.). Presumed to be used between stations within South Australia itself. Unusually this label is gummed (virtually all of the other SAR types are without gum). It shows both sender and recipient, date of despatch, and whether the freight was paid? “South Australian Railways” (size 70 x 3 mm) is written in full (normally “S.A.R.”) in a bold, sans-serif font. The rest of the text is in a different font, mainly sans-serif, but with small serifs on the “g”s. Probably for use in metropolitan (suburban) stations, as Australian National Railways had taken over non-metropolitan lines in South Australia from 1968.

(B) Type I 2 Official Service Tag



Type I 2

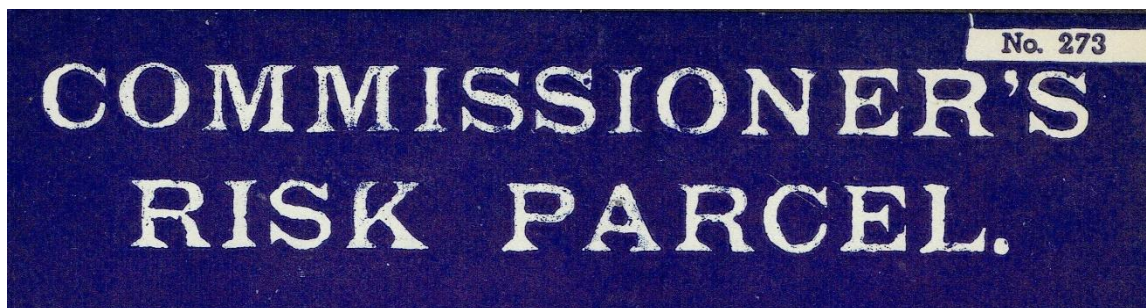
Size 109 x 54 mm. Numbered “No. 901”. Sent “ON SERVICE” to the Station Agent at Callington, a small town on the Adelaide to Wolsley line,(South Australian part of the main line from Adelaide to Melbourne).The originating station is not known – not completed on the front and there is evidenced that a cancelled railway stamp has been removed from the back of this parcel tag. Only a small part of this cancellation remains. This must be dated from before 1968 - pre ANR takeover of non-metropolitan lines.

(C) Railway Commissioner’s Risk Parcel labels

Type I 3



Type I 4



These were issued for more valuable parcels, where an additional fee was paid. Size 153 x 40 mm. Known in two different forms

- (a) Type I 3. Royal Blue. With dot after “No.273.”
- (b) Type I 4. Navy Blue. No dot after “No.273” at top right

Both examples shown here have flaws above the number box –other examples do not show these flaws. These also show bleeding of the ink into the white letters



(c) A further type has been seen on ebay – much paler in colour and the letters are clearer. This is similar to type I 3 (with dot after “273”), but the white box does not have a clear band of colour above it. Dimensions are not known (type I 3a).

(D) Special Handling Instructions

Three different types of these labels have been found to date:

Type I 5



Type I 5

- (a) Fragile Size 113 x 45 mm. Numbered “No.272” –white seriffed letters on a black background / imperf All three copies seen have dots in the centre of “F” and “E” of “Fragile”

Type I 6



Type I 6

- (b) Perishable Size 116 x 29 mm. Numbered “No.282”-red seriffed letters on a white background. Rouletted (in red) horizontally, imperf at sides.

Type I 7



Type I 7

- (c) Eggs Handle with Care. Size 131 x 41 mm. Numbered “No. 300B.” – white sans-serif letters on a red background. Imperf, and unusually, with gum.

(E) **S.A.R. Delivery Adelaide labels**

These would probably be used to identify items for delivery by Rail Motor Services to Adelaide and surrounding areas. Numbered “[No.274B” – with a square bracket at the start, With red seriffed letters (unusual flat top to the “A” of “S.A.R.”) on a white background, these are known in three different forms

Type I 8



Type I 8

- (a) Size 99 x 28 mm – rouletted (~13.2) in red at top, Rouletted in a different gauge (~4.3) at right and left. Imperf at bottom

Type I 9



Type I 9

- (b) Size 102 x 28 mm rouletted in red at top, but not at the bottom. Rouletted in a different gauge at right side only.

Type I 10



Type I 10

- (b) Size 76 x 26 mm – rouletted in red at top and bottom/ Imperf at sides. One explanation could be that types I 8 and I 9 could be from the same sheet with no rouletting at the outer edges, and that type I 10 comes from a coil.

(E) Cardboard Passenger Luggage Labels

These are known from four basic types (all are ~133 x 67 mm overall) –all promises collection of luggage, parcels and freight for dispatch to any part of the Commonwealth:

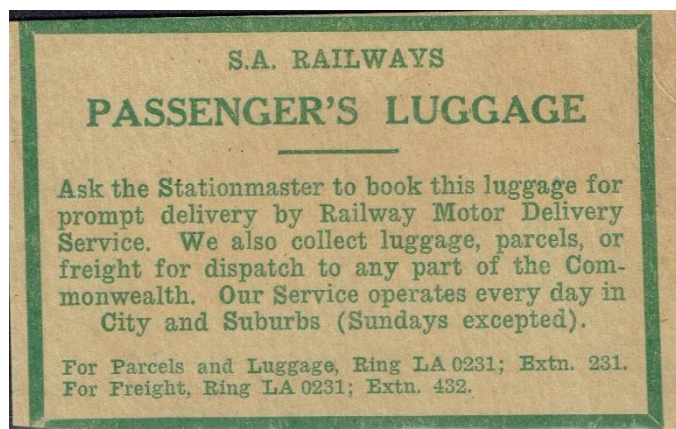
Type I 12



Type I 12

- (a) The earliest one (sage green) probably comes from 1950 (or earlier), as the telephone numbers at the bottom has “Ring Cent 7000” – the Central City Telephone Exchange was closed in 1951. Not numbered at top right. Size of “S.A. Railway” is 36 x 3mm and “Passenger’s Luggage” is 63 x 4 mm, with a serrified font with an unusual shaped letter “G” (not seen on any other SA item) and a with thick 16mm line under this. The Rail Motor Services delivers six days per week – not on Sundays

Type I 13



Type I 13

- (b) Second Type in Dark Green (cut down) is in a different seriffed font. This has Ring “LA 0231” for the telephone numbers at the base. Size of “S.A. Railway” is 28 x 2 mm and “Passenger’s Luggage” is 65 x 3.5 mm, with a thick 15.5 mm line under this. The Rail Motor Services still delivers six days per week – not on Sundays.

Type I 14



Type I 14

‘(c) This tag has more modern-looking phone numbers (51 0231) and the extensions have both been changed to 2031 / 2011 respectively. It is numbered “No.274 C” at top right (above the box).The sans-serif font looks completely different and has smaller letters at the top line. “South Australian. Railway” is written in full (size 62 x 2 mm and “Passenger’s Luggage” is 52.5 x 2.5 mm, with a thick 22 mm line under this. There are two small letters- ”st” at the bottom right corner of the box The Rail Motor Services still delivers six days per week to the City and Suburbs – not on Sundays.

Editor’s Note - The second half of Part I will follow next time

2694. TWO MORE UNRECORDED TAX MARKS by Patrick Reid (1112)

Recently I was fortunate enough to find a couple of 1950’s Tax Marks that have not been previously recorded. One is from South Australia and the other from Western Australia.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Fig. 1

The front shown above at Fig. 1 was sent from Kadina to New Zealand. It was prepaid 6½d, the domestic rate, but the NZ rate was 8d. the deficiency was doubled and converted at the prevailing rate of 1d = 3 centimes to 9 centimes. There is no evidence of collection of the amount due, which would have been 2d, as NZ was working on 1d = 5 centimes at the time.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The front shown above at Fig. 2 was sent from Perth to New Zealand. It was prepaid 6½d, the domestic rate, but the NZ rate was 8d. the deficiency was doubled and converted at the prevailing rate of 1d = 3 centimes to 9 centimes. The amount due was collected via a NZ 2d definitive.



Fig. 2

The style of the South Australia handstamp fits into the series current at the time and the style of the Western Australia also fits into the WA series then current. The deformation of the corners on the WA handstamp supports my current view that the WA handstamp series were rubber. Neither of these handstamps has been recorded before.

2695. THE RAREST OF ALL THE KGV COMMEMORATIVE SHADES. 1918 WA CENTENARY BW138B CLARET SHADE by John Bozic (1698)

This is the shade that has been fascinating me for most of my philatelic life. It was first listed in the 2007 Brusden White (BW) KGV edition and way before I joined the BW research team. I don't know the precise history of the listing but speaking with late Simon Dunkerley on numerous occasions, he was always excited by this variety. He claims that the first time that he has seen this variety was way back in the old student days when working part time for late Rod Perry. I understand that he was instrumental in listing this variety in BW.

How rare the shade is, we don't know. I have seen only a few copies in my life and the only OS as shown in this article. More research is required to ascertain its true rarity and value. I don't think that the current catalogue value does reflect its scarcity. The scan below illustrates the difference in the two shades. Top stamp is the normal Carmine Red shade and below the Claret shade in normal and OS.



Any correspondence on the above to stampcollectorboz@gmail.com (but please copy the editor in). John is a member of the National Philatelic Centre and publishes regular articles in it's research library. Published in <https://www.nationalphilateliccentre.com.au/login.aspx>

Reference: The 2018 Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue, published by Brusden White, See page 5/16

2696. NEW UNLOCATED CONSTANT VARIETY (UCV) ON THE 2D GV HEAD DIE I FROM ELECTROS 3, 4, 4A OR 4B BY STEVE IRWIN (1312)



Over the thirteen years that have elapsed since the publication of the 2d Die I checklist (Commonwealth of Australia, The George V Two Pence Die I, Second Edition by R.F. Parsons, J.M. Sandy and A.S. Wawrukiewicz) in 2007 only a few new discoveries have been published. On working through a collection of 2d Orange stamps I came across a striking variety which was not included in the checklist. I have named it UCV B30.

- (a) Right frame: smoothly indented from 10mm to 13.5mm below upper frame.
- (z) Outside right frame: line 16.5mm long, its lower end joining the frame at lower right corner. Above this the line curves away from the frame, then swings back in to become parallel with it, thickening as it comes close to the indentation (a). There are smaller marks outside the right frame and above the upper right corner. (Similar flaw on BXII 11)
- (z) Outside right frame: thick irregular mark 2.5mm long parallel to the deepest part of the indentation (a). (earliest known date 7 April 1921, watermark line confirms right column)

Four further examples from the collection (with original as above) are illustrated below.
(Should others who study this stamp need these larger contact the editor)



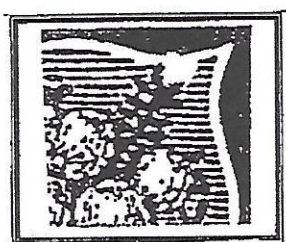
Acknowledgement - The author thanks Bob Parsons for providing the earliest date from amongst the twelve further copies in his collection”

2691. KGV THREE HALFPENCE DIE I - NEW DISCOVERIES, PLATINGS & DESCRIPTIONS – REVISED PROVISIONAL PLATING UPDATE by Bill Fiora

In the article published in December 2020, I had provisionally plated UCV F2 as 13R26. Following further discussion, we now believe that this is incorrect, and UCV F2 is provisionally plated as 13R38. The reasoning behind the change is that Mike’s piece has what is thought to be 13R44 on the stamp below. The provisional plating is due to the flaw on 13R44 being quite small and not easy to identify.

UCV F2 Provisionally Plated as 13R38

One of the pieces Mike purchased is a vertical column of 7 stamps from 2 rows (14 stamps). There are no horizontal watermark lines visible on either the top or bottom stamps, so the piece comes from the centre rows of an electro.



13R38 (Provisional)

The description from Phoenix said it was tentatively plated as being from the right pane of electro 13. Mike identified UCV F2 as the 3rd stamp from the bottom, on the 2nd row.

In my collection, I have UCV F2 recorded as being the 5th stamp down on the 2nd column of a sheet.

If the cliché below UCV F2 is 13R44, then this may be an error, and

it is the 7th stamp down on a sheet. This means Mike's piece is 13R13/14, 19/20, 25/26, 31/32, 37/38, 43/44 and 49/50. A description is as follows:

3R38 (Provisional Plating) (Previously UCV F2) (Green Printings only)

Right Wattles: Variable blurred flaw removing topmost leaflet of the corner leaf and affecting 3-5 lines immediately to the right of the leaf. The underside of the adjacent part of the top frame is often also affected.

Note: We would be interested to hear from other collectors who may be able to assist with confirming this revised provisional plating.

The author and editor asks readers to accept apologies for any confusion or inconvenience.

2697. MAILBAG THROWN FROM AIRCRAFT DAMAGES ELEVATOR by Brian Peace FRPSL APR (395)



The Qantas Empire Airways DH86A VH-USC *Canberra* suffered damage from an unusual cause on 15 April 1937. Operating Imperial Airways Service IW540, she was bound from Cloncurry to Darwin with five passengers and the overseas mail.

The Aircraft dropped into a severe air pocket as the mail bag for the lonely Alexandria station was thrown overboard, and the air currents dashed the bag through the port elevator. A hole measuring about 18 x 12 inches was torn in the fuselage. The damage was not noticed until the liner landed to refuel at Brunette Downs, about 60 miles farther on. It was necessary to make repairs before proceeding because, although the control of the aircraft had not been affected greatly, there was a danger that the force of the wind would rip the torn fabric away completely.

Captain Ron S Adair, chief pilot, commandeered a kerosene case, a tea chest, glue, flour, hot water, and a length of bed sheeting from the station stores. With the help of his first officer, Mr L R Ambrose, he fashioned a new skeleton for the shattered fin from deal torn from the packing cases. Then the passengers, the manager of the station (Mr Barnes) and Mrs Barnes, took turns at the tedious job of sewing and gluing a new fabric covering over the hole.

The overseas passengers included Lieut-Col Robert Wells, from New Zealand, and Miss I B Reid, a well-known veterinary surgeon of Melbourne, who had the distinction of being about the last people to leave Australia in time to reach London for the coronation.

Canberra picked up 30 minutes of its lost time before reaching Darwin, and left on schedule on 16 April for Singapore. Alexandria station subsequently advised that the mail bag which damaged the elevator was carried on the tail of the aircraft for about 25 miles before dropping clear. Parties on horseback were sent out to search for the missing bag, which contained only a few ounces of mail.

Although the incident was a rare one, Qantas investigated a new method for dropping the bags. A trap door in the floor of each aircraft, instead of at the base of the cabin door.

No covers are recorded.

References: *Goodall, Geoff: Website; Courier-Mail* (Brisbane): 17 Apr 1937 page 15

2698. QUARANTINE AUTHORITIES DEFIED BY PASSENGER RETURNING TO AUSTRALIA by Brian Peace FRPSL (395)

Captain L R Ambrose and First Officer O F Y Thomas were in charge of the Qantas Empire Airways DH86A VH-USE Sydney on 25 January 1938 when she arrived at Darwin from Singapore. Operating Imperial Airways Service IE619 which had left Southampton on 16 January, the service had been on schedule throughout.

Refused Vaccination - Mr T S Skillman, an electrical engineer attached to the firm of Philips Lamps, Holland, declined to be vaccinated on arrival at Darwin. Upon arrival he stated he had been vaccinated against both cholera and typhoid before leaving Amsterdam, and did not want to be vaccinated against smallpox because he had been warned by a doctor in Holland of the danger it could induce encephalitis lethargica.

The Commonwealth Health Officer at Darwin, Dr Murray, explained to Mr Skillman that he had failed to produce the requisite health certificate and showed him a copy of the regulations referring to compulsory vaccination. Failure to comply could result in detention and a fine of £50, and the aircraft, crew and passengers were liable to quarantine for 14 days.

Following a conversation with the quarantine headquarters at Brisbane, the aircraft was cleared and Mr Skillman was allowed to spend the night in the Qantas Rest House at Darwin. The following morning Mr Skillman, still unvaccinated, joined the other passengers on the resumption of Service IE619 to Brisbane.

Upon the termination of Service IE619 on 27 January, Acting Chief Quarantine Officer at Brisbane, Dr C Wiburd, explained to Mr Skillman that this disease was a form of inflammation of the brain, once known as sleeping sickness. He assured him that there had been no case in Australia of this illness being induced by vaccination.

Escape from Death

Mr Skillman eventually consented to being vaccinated at Brisbane after arrival. In the course of a later interview he said he had not expected to create any trouble by declining to be

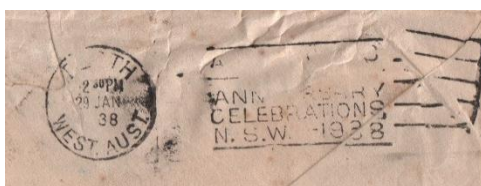
vaccinated. He added that he was lucky to have lived to have come into conflict with the quarantine regulation or any other regulation. He was referring to his escape on 9 December 1936, when a KLM airliner by which he had booked to Amsterdam had left without him. Skillman and his four-year-old daughter, Evelyn, who was to travel with him, had waited at Croydon airport from 8am until 11am, the plane being held up because of heavy fog.

Just after the steward had told Skillman that the plane was ready to leave and had put his bag in the cabin, Evelyn decided she wanted an apple and so saved her own and her father's life. They were away for three minutes only, but for some reason known only to the pilot, the plane left without them and within a few minutes it crashed on the roof of an empty building, damaging the roofs of two houses and incinerated 14 of the aircraft occupants, who included the Spanish inventor of the autogyro, Signor La Cierva.

NOTE: The crash of the KLM DC2 PH-AKL Lijster was the worst in UK aviation history at the time. Fifteen died, only the radio operator and steward surviving when, just after take-off, the aircraft hit two houses, both fortunately unoccupied at the time.

The Mail

Sydney was carrying 720 lbs of mail and 390 lbs of freight when she arrived at Longreach at 1910 on 26 January.



Cancelled in India 4 PM 19 JAN 38 Perth 230PM 29 JAN (19)38

References: Proud, Edward B: Intercontinental Airmails Vol 2, 2009, p392; Wingent, Peter: Aircraft Movements Easter Route Vol 2, 2005, p28; Longreach Leader: 29Jan38 p15; Northern Standard: 28Jan38 p3; Tweed Daily (Murwillumbah NSW):28Jan38 p4

BACK OF BEYOND? (INTRODUCTION) compiled by Ian Spencer (999)

Do you have that odd little something tucked away that puzzles you?
Do you have something interesting to share with your fellow collectors?

I don't mean postage stamps, postmarks or postal rates, but those funny things that classed as "Back of the Book" or "Cinderellas" or "Ephemera" (or such other funny label you choose to put on them). This is the first of a regular column that seeks to share knowledge amongst BSAP members – for one person cannot have all the answers!

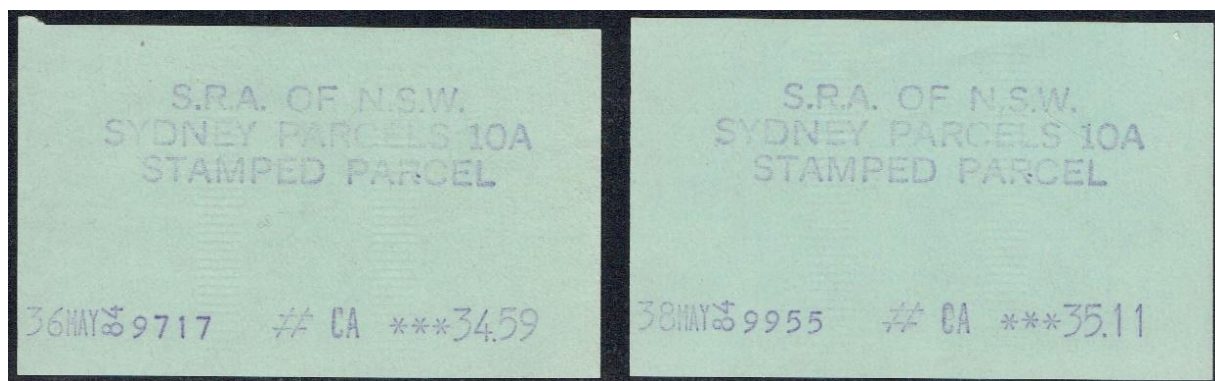
Within the body of collectors, there is a vast pool of knowledge that is not always shared, and passed on to the next generation of collectors. Over the years, I have been able to draw on the expertise of many people, both in the UK and Australia. Here is a starter list of things that could be included – you may be able to add a few of your own:

Revenues, Local Posts, Perfins, Telegraphs, Cinderellas, Poster Stamps, Railway Stamps /Labels, Post Office Ephemera, Philatelic Exhibitions TB seals, Charity Labels

One suggestion for a name for this could be "Cinderella Corner", but who knows what is a "Cinderella"? If you get three Cinderella collectors together, they will probably have at least four different opinions.

CAN YOU COME UP WITH A BETTER TITLE THAN THE ONE ABOVE?

Here is something to start you off, which has been shared on the BSAP Facebook page -not as a New Year spoof.



These are NSW Railway Parcel labels – Cash Register types first introduced at larger stations from 1977 to speed up handling of parcels. The items above have unusual dates - **36th and 38th May 1984** - (bought for 50p each in the UK). Has somebody in Australia created a new calendar?

The rates look rather odd – you could make up a \$34.59 rate with 3 x \$10, \$4, 50c and ??? (the 1-4c and 6-9c railway stamps had been withdrawn in 1977, due to changes in rates). The answer came from Dave Elsmore in Queensland. Collectors of the day had got access to the machines, and produced their own "by favour" copies, including many one cent values, and those with impossible dates / improbable rates. These funnies also exist for the corresponding issues of Victoria.

2699. QUERY - HOW WAS THE POSTAGE RATE DERIVED by Patrick Reid (1112)

The card shown below was sent from Cocos Island via Perth to New Zealand on the first day of Australia taking over administrative responsibility for the government of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands. It was prepaid 1/- but taxed 4d, duly collected in New Zealand. In the circumstances, I would have expected that the "Australia and Territories" rate of 8d to apply, or possibly the Postcard rate of 4d. Why should it have been 1s/2d?



The nearest that I can get is adding the Airmail rate within Australia, 6½d, and the Australia to New Zealand rate of 8d, making 1s/2½d. The flight is listed in Eustis, and this item counts as E1354d. But nothing is said about Postage Rates. So how was this Postage Rate set?

MEMBER BIOGRAPHY (25) GARY DIFFEN



It is interesting when you read other "stamp" biographies and you think: *so many people have had interesting lives.....*and my existence here has been quite sedentary. Born in 1963, I grew up in an outer suburb of Melbourne virtually on the Yarra River. My best friend in these early years had a market garden on the river, and we would spend the whole time chasing Tiger snakes (what was I thinking at 7 years old), sailing rafts down the river and walking 5-6 kms home....it was a great childhood.

At this time, I was introduced to stamps by my grandfather who had collected intermittently since WW1. Although I maintained an interest, there were lots of other competing hobbies to distract my attention. One was basketball, playing for Victoria and winning three Australian Championships. We only lost 7 games in 7 years - at every level of competition - so stamps was certainly not my main interest.

Whilst at school and university (which didn't last long) I maintained my interest in philately, but had no funds to pursue a collection which could maintain my attention. My business career changed quite frequently, until I landed a job selling computers - I had found my niche. I worked in this industry for almost 20 years, and it established my foundation shareholding in a number of private businesses. My current business (with some guys I met at uni) owns and operates 33 aged care centres with about 3,000 residents and 4,000 staff. Developed out of our aged care centres, we also own some IT applications, which we are commercialising. This is the part of the business where I am currently working.

My first major collection was the Victorian Half Lengths 1850-1859. This started with some purchases at London 2000 from the old dealer Derek Bolton which set me on the road, and addiction, to serious philately. Although I disposed of this holding in 2007, I was looking to form collections that had not been done before (difficult to do after 170 years of the hobby), or that very few collectors had tackled.

My grandfather was a Gallipoli veteran from WW1 and fought throughout the war. He was awarded a Military Cross and Bar and was very lucky to return. I was fascinated by the *handmade Gallipoli postcards* and had been buying these since the late 1980s when they came up for auction or through dealers. I decided in about 2003 to form an Australian Gallipoli collection (a collection dedicated to my grandfather and including some items that he had written) and have been a voracious buyer ever since. The collection has extended to all of WW1, so it's quite broad, and you never know what will turn up.

Other philatelic collections have included Australian Colonial Stamp Errors (I think I'm the only person on the planet silly enough to try and assemble this....but then again, no one else has done it); The Carriage of Australian Colonial Mail to 1891 (I only know of two collectors who have attempted this); Australian Colonial Advertising Envelopes (these are much more difficult to source than most people realise, especially before 1890); United States Brewery Advertising Envelopes to 1945 (a reference to my love of a good hoppy beer);...and there are a host of other collections. Needless to say, nearly every major auction house has something for me to bid in every sale

Part of the fun of philately is that you get to collect some great friends along the way. The stamp collecting community is thriving and I have made some great friends from all around the globe. This ability to share your passion with like-minded enthusiasts really makes the hobby worthwhile. The international shows are a great way to meet new people, maintain existing friendships and see foreign cities and countries that you would never otherwise visit. Most of my mates think I'm nuts, and circling the earth, but I think I'm more well-travelled than almost all of them.

One can't maintain the passion without having an understanding (and sometimes not....) partner who accepts you for who you are. Once addicted to the hobby, you rarely hear of collectors who give up philately and go cold turkey - it just doesn't happen. Fortunately, I have had a partner in Kim who at least understands to some extent what I do. Having worked at Prestige Philately, at least she has met a number of collectors at the coal face, so I was the best of a bad bunch....and happy to wear the mantra.

Over the years I have enjoyed exhibiting my various collections at a competitive level, mostly at national shows, with a couple of internationals thrown in. I consider myself more of a *displayer* than an exhibitor, having a preference to show the material and hope others are as enthusiastic about the collections as I am. I have been a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria for around thirty years (as well as numerous other societies). I am a

Member of Council and have sat on the Expert Committee for over ten years. As President of the Society during its 125th birthday celebrations it was fabulous to meet people from around the world and celebrate this milestone for our society.

I think the future of our hobby is that we need to break down the barriers, make exhibiting more accessible, and expand the social aspect of the hobby. Most people have an interest in history. When I say I collect the letters that soldiers wrote in WW1, most are interested in asking questions about them. This philosophy can be extended to all aspects of our hobby, but it needs to be opened up in a social context. Good collections can be formed by all levels of our community. People need to be encouraged to pursue their interests. From grass roots, we can then encourage all levels of the hobby....a hobby that has fully enriched my life.....and hopefully will do so for a number of years to come.

REPORT OF CHRISTMAS MEETINGS HELD ON 12TH DECEMBER 2020

As physical meetings were not possible because of virus restrictions, the usual Christmas meeting was replaced by two meetings held over Zoom. Attendance was extended to include members of the BSAP Facebook page as well as the regular members across the globe; the meetings being timed to facilitate Australian attendance (in the morning) and American attendance (late afternoon) .

For the morning meeting there were 24 participants. The session was hosted by Huw Williams on his Zoom account. Huw opened proceedings by displaying and describing some of the material that he has posted on the Facebook page

Ian Greig showed a Victoria Postal Card that had been returned for Franking and then delayed for delivery until after Christmas. Peter Clarkson had a query about two apparent “early” First day Covers. The consensus was that they had been cancelled “per favour”.

Gordon Masson told us about the “Last words of Queen Victoria” – the Proclamation of the Commonwealth of Australia. Roger Elliott showed us the passport of the Flight engineer on the First Experimental Airmail in 1931 that crash- landed in Timor. He explained the background and what happened to the mail.

Patrick Reid showed a few acquisitions made in 2020, including a Wages Tax overprint he had been seeking for ten years.

Andrew Mortlock showed a range of states material with unusual perforations from Tasmania, Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia. NSW and Queensland. Some considerable rarities were included.

Malcolm Price showed a BCOF Cover that posed a number of problems about how it travelled. He is having difficulty finding background information. Brian Peace told us the story of Alexander McPherson, a jail escapee who turned Bushranger, but was captured and sentenced to 25 years in jail.

Ian Spencer showed a “Molesworth Tas” cancel on a George and Dragon 3d that is bogus but convincing, followed by some Western Australia Revenue Swans with flaws and Alan Cross concluded the morning presentations showing two spectacular blocks of 6d Postage Dues with the first being the 1936 issue, the block being pen cancel and varieties on the stamps.

Our President, Dave Speer concluded the first session, thanking all who had attended and helped make the session international in flavour, with participation from Australia and New Zealand. A wide and fascinating range of material had been shown. He wished all a Happy Christmas and hoped for a better 2021.

The second (evening session attracted 25 people, including representation from North and South America. Malcolm Price began with an RAAF cover from Darwin to Okinawa, but he is still trying to determine the delivery route. He also showed three covers from BCOF to Aden with colourful frankings.

Brian Peace bemoaned the plight of the Australian Mailman in the 1860s/70s noting that five were drowned in this period. He also showed the only surviving cover (1887) from the Swansea (Tas.) mailman's bag when he was washed away and drowned during his delivery. Ian Spencer showed Revenue items, including: Queensland Excess Fare receipts; humorous "Banknotes"; Souvenir Sheets from the Wilkinsburg Stamp Club; South Australia Duty Stamps to £10 and around \$500 of decimal revenues on an Australian Mutual Provident form.

Laurence Kimpton related the story of the 1944 Central Pacific Survey Flight, supported with maps and ephemera as well as philatelic material and Roger Elliott repeated his morning session display.

Christine Earle displayed New South Wales 1d and 1½d Postal Cards with Christmas and New Year Greetings overprints and Patrick Reid showed Tasmania Private Letter Cards from both Hobart and Launceston.

Lorraine Fitzgerald showed Queensland Tourism material from 1906 – a 60 page brochure that includes mail and train details before Gordon Masson repeated his show from the morning session.

Steve Irwin displayed a GV 2d orange discovery, a long compartment line outside the deformed right frame. It is not in Parsons, Sandy & Wawrukiewicz, but is known as an Unplated Constant Variety. (see Notes & Queries article on page 3-4)

Alan Cross showed referred to some material that he has recently acquired, including some from the late Paul Fletcher collection, but showed a small selection of from his full set of images of Paul's display collection. This included a 1928 "Review of Postage Due Stamps" document and the only recorded imprint block of 4d Postage Dues.

Once again David Speer (President) closed the proceedings with appropriate seasonal good wishes. All generally agreed that the meetings had been a success, and the Council were encouraged to fit some Zoom meetings into the Programme.

[Post-meeting note: The principle of adding Zoom meetings (even in normal times) has already been agreed in Council].

PGER 15/12/20

AUSTRALIAN PHILATELY IN PRINT #1, 2021.

A list of articles found in Journals & Bulletins held (or seen) by the Librarian (Periodicals).

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH COLLECTORS CLUB BULLETIN, Vol.59, No.3, September 2020.

- Art.3812: Postal History of the Sydney Showground, Moore Park – Richard Peck ACCCF.
- Art.3813: Frame break on d Kangaroo 1st wmk., (2L50) – Richard Guy ACCCF.
- Art.3814: 2d Kangaroo 3rd wmk., die 1, with broken right frame – John Bozic.
- Art.3815: New South Wales 1966 Postcodes – David Collyer ACCCF.
- Art.3816: Postcodes – New South Wales and Victoria Disposals – David Collyer ACCCF & Ken Sparks.
- Art.3817: The 5/- Postage Due Die2 – is it or isn't it? – Ian Fuary ACCCF.
- Art.3818: King George V 1½ d brown single wmk. – kiss or double print? - Alex Yeung.
- Art.3819: New South Wales Postcodes Forward – David Collyer ACCCF.
- Art.3820: 3d Kangaroo 3rd wmk., ink blob plated – Richard Guy ACCCF.
- Art.3821: 1972 50c Pioneer Transport with missing black – Richard Guy ACCCF.
- ART.3822: 4d Kangaroo unlocated flaw BW 15(U)h plated as 1L39 – Philip Adams.

APF NEWS, Vol.34, No.1, June 2020.

- Editorial – Darryl Fuller
- President's Column- Stephanie Bromser.
- Australian Philatelic Order Research Award to John Hardinge, Bert Wajer and Ed Wolf.
- EPAEX 2020 Dubai Exhibition Report.
- News from APF
- Vale: Rodney A Perry.
- Canberra Stamp show 2020 Report.
- Video Conferencing for Philatelists.
- The One-Up Club.
- Book Review: Tasmanian Postal History: Post Office and Datestamp Compendium by JohnHardinge.
- Adelaide Aeropex 2019 Results.

APF NEWS, Vol.34, No.2, September 2020.

- Editorial – Darryl Fuller
- President's Column- Stephanie Bromser.
- Australian Philatelic Order Awards – David Figg MAP, Gary Brown FAP (Honorary)
- Melbourne 2022 International Stamp Exhibition relaunch.
- Local souvenirs from Australia Post.
- Clubs' Page.
- Getting you Club on-line.
- The Expert Group (What is its role at International Exhibitions?)
- Aerophilately versus Postal History – the changing face of philately – Darryl Fuller.
- The APTA Page.

THE AUSTRALIAN AEOPHILATELIST, No. 122, October-December 2020.

- Editorial – Darryl Fuller.
- A Darwin perspective on the 1934 MacRobertson England-Australia Air Race – David Figg.
- A Mystery Cover (Groote Eylandt airmail cover) – Phil Vabre.

Intermediate Acceptances for the LKM Extension of the Holland-Batavia Service to Australia – Darryl Fuller.

City of Khartoum mail processed at Darwin – Brian Peace FRPSL.

Kay and Piper's Flight from England to Australia in 1930 – John Sims.

Caution required to attributing commercial covers to specific interruptions between Australia and Europe during 1936-1939 – Brian Peace FRPSL.

Sold at Auction.

AUSTRALIAN STAMPS PROFESSIONAL, Vol.14, No.5.

In War and Peace: The Catalina Flying Boat in Australia Pt.1 – Nicholas Oughton.

Detecting Forged "OS" Punctures on Australian Commonwealth issues Pt.1 – John Graham.

The Libyan Offensive 1941 – Andrew Brockett.

Australian Philatelic Exhibition Postmarks Pt.1 - Peter Bond.

Imperial Airways *Horsa* overshoots Bahrain. Lost in the Desert Pt.2 – Brian R Peace FRPSL APR.

The 4th and final "VG" Perforator (a piece of published history) – Jason Rowe.

Australian Privately manufactured Formular Airletters and Aerogrammes Pt.2 – the Special Issues con. – Neil Cornish.

Abacus Auction results exceed all expectations.

CAPITAL PHILATELY, Vol.37, Nos. 2-3, July December 2019.

In Memoriam: Derek Hugh Brennan – 1930-2019.

Territory of Papua and New Guinea – Sterling First Day Covers (1952-65) – Private Cachets – Paul Xavier.

Nauru 2018 and 2019 Stamp Issues – Ian Mahon.

Territory of Papua and New Guinea – Sterling First Day Covers (1952-65) – Varieties of the Cachet – Paul Xavier.

Camp 'D' – Federal Capital Territory – Tony Curtiss.

Pastcards – Running away to the Circus – Act 3, Performances and Feats – Greg Smith & Jenni Creagh.

CAPITAL PHILATELY, Vol.38, Nos. 2-3, October 2020.

In Memoriam: Kaye Lynette McCabe 1947-2020.

Cundumbul Non-official Post Office, NSW – Tony Curtiss.

2020: The International Year of the Nurse and Midwife – International Nurses Day – Marilyn A Gendek.

Introduction of Stamp Duty in the Australian Capital Territory – Ian Mahon.

Pastcards – Keeping in Touch – Postcards from a Nurse at War – Marilyn Gendek.

CINDERELLA PHILATELIST, VI.60, No.4, October 2020.

Australian Red Cross Labels: World War – Vito Milano.

Australia: 1917 War Chest – Vito Milano.

FORCES POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL No.326, Winter 2020.

Compton Mackenzie's "Gallipoli Memories" refers to "The Peninsular Press" – more details.

GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY, November 2020 & December 2020.

November - News of recent auctions – Abacas 29-31 August.

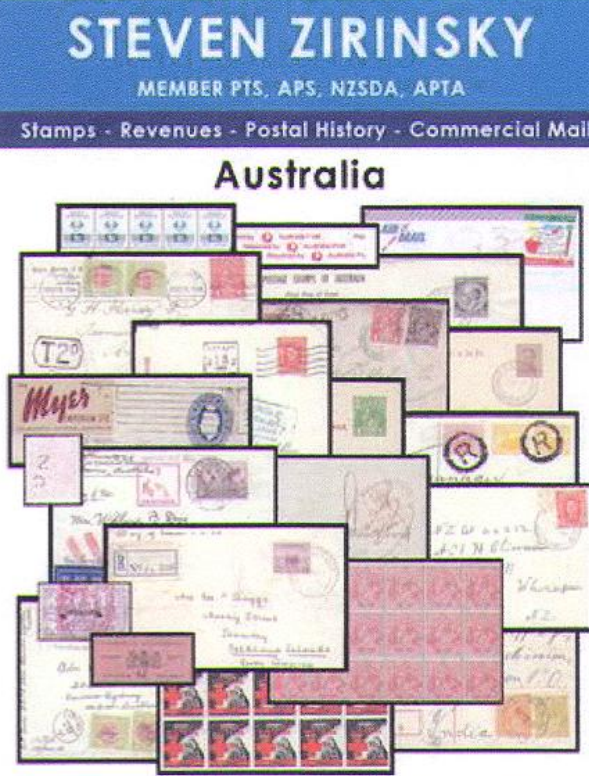
December - Papua: The 1932 Pictorials – Christer Brunström FRPSL.
December - Postal Stationery Matters (incl. 3 NSW items) – Peter van Gelder.

THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Vol129, No.1480/1, November 2020 & December 2020.
No Australian Content.

THE QUEENSLAND STAMP COLLECTOR, Vol.37, No.4, Nov. 2020 – Jan. 2021.

Editorial – John Crowsley.
APF News – Russell Boylan.
QPC News.
Talk Queensland – Expo '88. Souvenir Envelopes and Postmarks – two printings – Craig Chappell.
Silverton Tramways Local Issues – Jeff Gunston.
Registered Post – Joan Orr.
President's Christmas Message.
Philately & Education – Paul Xavier.
Clubscene.

AEColes



STEVEN ZIRINSKY
MEMBER PTS, APS, NZSDA, APTA
Stamps - Revenues - Postal History - Commercial Mail

Australia

PO BOX 230049, Ansonia Station, New York, NY 10023 USA
szirinsky@cs.com (t):718-706-0616

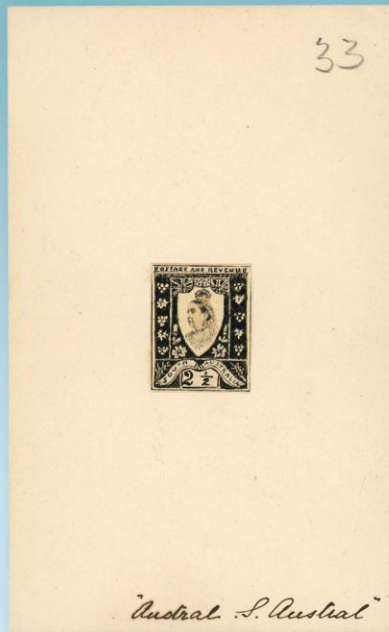
www.zirinskystamps.com
@ZirinskyStamps

COPYRIGHT: Material appearing in THE BULLETIN is copyright and must not be reproduced without the prior written permission of the authors.

Grosvenor's Advised
The auction originally scheduled on **December 2-3** is now happening
on **January 22-23, 2021**.

Australia

in London



Unusual Australian material features regularly in our popular public auctions on London's Strand, traditional heart of the stamp market. Complimentary copies of our catalogues are available to members on request and sales are also available to view, with additional illustrations, on our website www.grosvenorauctions.com

Prices at this time are particularly strong, providing an exceptional opportunity for sellers to take advantage of our fully inclusive commission rates and expert, friendly service. For further advice and every assistance contact **Constanze Dennis** or **Tom Margalski** at the address below.

GROSVENOR

399-401 Strand Third Floor London WC2R 0LT
T: 020 7379 8789 F: 020 7379 9737 E: info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk

www.grosvenorauctions.com

abacus auctions

Stamps, Postal History & Picture Postcards Public Auction – March 2021



Now accepting consignments for this and future auctions

Request your FREE printed catalogue today

abacus  auctions

29 Hardner Road
Mount Waverley, Victoria, 3149
AUSTRALIA

Post Office Box 296
Mount Waverley, Victoria, 3149
AUSTRALIA

Phone: +61 3 8513 0595
Email: info@abacusauctions.com.au
Web: www.abacusauctions.com.au