

# The Bulletin



The British Society of Australian Philately

*Founded 1933*

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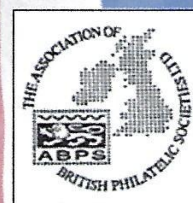
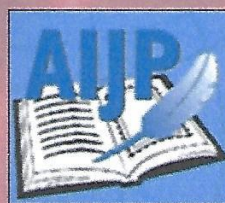


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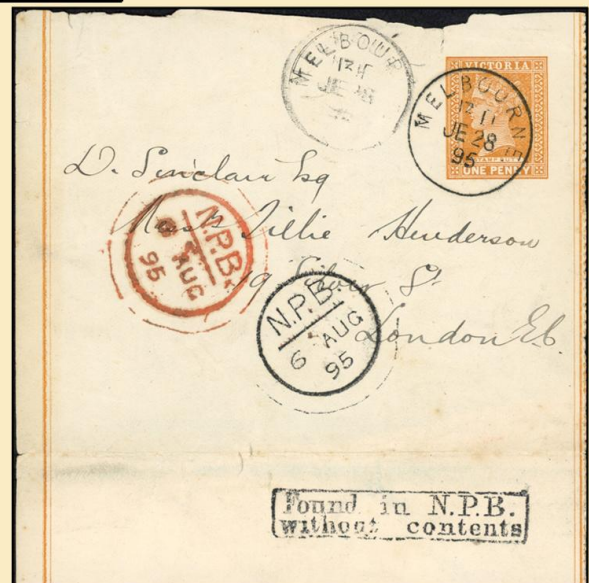
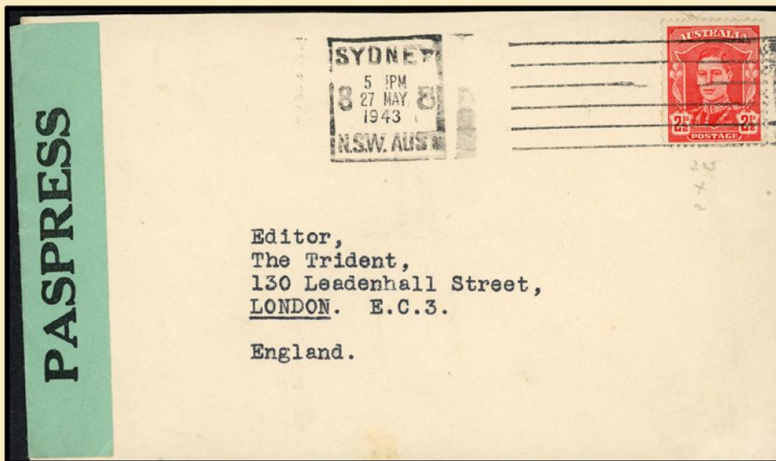


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## **SECRETARY'S LETTER & NOTICES, EDITORIAL OPEN LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY**

It is with great regret that I have to announce that the Christmas Meeting (originally scheduled for 4 December) is cancelled. Sadly, the hostelry that was going to host it has fallen on hard times. The landlord has closed his kitchen and is even considering handing in his keys. Efforts have been made to find an alternative venue, but to no avail. Last year was unavoidable, but this year it does not seem to be practical.

There is also another major change to the Programme. The Grasmere House in Salisbury has been sold, and closed for refurbishment. I have spoken to the new owners, and it will not be ready in time to host our Convention. Fortunately, Council did have a "Plan B" and as the Bulletin went to press we have agreed with The Holiday Inn Rugby/Northampton to hold the Convention ONE WEEK LATER than originally planned. Thanks to Her Majesty that will not be a Bank Holiday weekend, and the booking form, for return asap but no later than 31 January is enclosed with this issue.

Council are also concerned about the London Meetings. Now that RPSL have hiked their prices, the cost per attendee has become very high, even if we get back to having attendees in double figures. This feels like a use of Society resources that benefits only a few members. Feedback from the membership would be appreciated as to whether we should consider abandoning these meetings or perhaps considering a series of day meetings (probably around the Midlands, South East and Southwest) instead. Please address comments to me in the first instance.

Philatelically, we can now look forward to London 2022 in February (only just over three months away). Unlike Autumn Stampex we are assured that there will be a much greater presence from Dealers, especially overseas ones. Do not forget that the exhibits will change midway through the show, so it is worth at least two days of visits. I plan to be there working on the Abacus Stand.

**PGER 09/11/21**

### **2022 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

Normally, the December Bulletin includes a form to renew membership. However, members may recall that payment of their 2021 Subscription also covered the 2022 year. Therefore, there is no Renewal Form with this issue of The Bulletin. However, it is still necessary and important to maintain accurate records of members' contact details.

If you have changed your address, e-mail address or 'phone number in the past year, (or do so in future) please advise the Membership Secretary ([membership@bsap.org.uk](mailto:membership@bsap.org.uk)) as soon as practicable.

Those members who arrange the renewal of their subscriptions to "Philately from Australia" or the ACCC of NSW through the Society will be contacted separately by the Membership Secretary regarding payment arrangements.

MJP 01/11/21

### **Membership Secretary List of Changes to Membership Database – Notification 179 Period: 1 September 2021 to 31 October 2021**

**Reinstated:** 1726 F.J.Sheppard Cumbria

***New Members, Lapsed, Deceased, Resignation, Removed & Change of address:*** None



## PROGRAMME

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 Auction Material to Huw Williams for February 2022 Auction  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Meeting CANCELLED (see Secretary’s Letter)

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Speaker: Susan Burn from Truro with – “Smithy and his Bus”

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Speaker: Ian Greig FRPSL with The early years of the Stamp printing Branch of Victoria.

*For Your Forward Diary* – **EXTRA ITEM** - Thursday 31 March Morning (9 or 10 am)

**ZOOM MEETING** - jointly with the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria

## EDITORIAL

The slightly different structure continues to accommodate the LONDON 2022 Ad; Do say hello to Patrick on the Abacus stand when you visit. Whilst mentioning Abacus, their “Artemis” Kangaroos Catalogue arrived this week (Auction on 1 December – check timing if you are bidding!) – a truly remarkable assembly or material, and a great reference work of some of the scarcest and best material in this very popular collecting field.

Hopefully most (UK based) members received the e-mail swapping around our October & November meetings; if you didn’t contact Malcolm - in his membership secretary capacity. Those who were at our AGM may recall that next year (once the new website with its member area becomes available), I am going to look at the presentation of the George V 1d material (Article 2292 below). We are in the 12<sup>th</sup> year (approximately, as some part numbers have been duplicated (e.g. #64)) of this on-going article, and the authors periodically update the material on each pane, so most have run more than once. The intention is that the latest information is available on-line and the Bulletin will (in the main) focus on new information & changes. That will take some time to do!

Thanks for those who are writing articles; I’d like to receive a few more short articles; these need only focus on one item from your collection, maybe a cover with an interesting story, or that you don’t understand – articles can ask questions to which you are seeking an answer; some of our Zoom meetings have shown some remarkable single items, which would make nice short articles. Talking of Zoom meetings, those unfamiliar with the RPSL programme should enjoy the meeting that presented material from the Navigators series – see [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4GZ9pMXLQ\\_o&list=PLvEhmPTUu0M1X-lnX5aaq26mM1QzfV6mp&index=7](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4GZ9pMXLQ_o&list=PLvEhmPTUu0M1X-lnX5aaq26mM1QzfV6mp&index=7). On a separate point; GSM has approached BSAP, through Colin, and several members have been commissioned to prepare an article on their area of expertise to appear over the next couple of years. all being well.

*Alan Cross, 19/11/21*

### **2292. CONTINUING RESEARCH ON THE GV 1D VARIETIES (Part 67)**

**by Gordon Monk, Bert Wajer and the late Paul Kaigg**

**Pane 4 # 43** *Issued (by authors) Nov. 2012 completely revised Apr 2021*

1<sup>st</sup> State Proof – Final

- 1a Bottom Frame. Shallow irregular dents for 10mm from LF found on 49% of sample. Dents for 14mm from LF found on 10% of sample. Dents for 19mm from LF found on 16% of sample, very variable.



1b

- 1b Bottom Frame. Frame curves upward right of BLC, found on 27% of sample.

- 1c Shade Lines. Break in first clear line over emu's back 1mm from RF, found on 26% of sample.
- 1d Shade Lines. Break in 4<sup>th</sup> line from top 3½mm from RF, found on 18% of sample.
- 1e Shade Lines. Break in 13<sup>th</sup> line under L wattle stem 1½mm from LF, found on 15% of sample.
- 1f Shade Lines. Break in 4<sup>th</sup> line from top 1¼mm left of crown, found on 14% of sample.
- 1g Top Frame. Abrupt curve on inside left of right v-scroll, found on 12% of sample.
- 1h Bottom Left Corner. In mid print run a compartment dot appears ¼mm from LF level with BF. Later more marks appear until it forms an angle around the corner, variable.
- 1j Left Frame. In mid print run compartment marks appear between L41 and L46 or between L54 and L74. Later more marks appear until they go from BLC to TLC, variable.
- 1k Top Left Corner. In mid print run a compartment dot appears ¼mm from LF level with TF. Later more marks appear and form a line ¾mm above TF and down to ½mm below TF, variable.
- 1m Top Frame. Late in the print run compartment dots appear ¾mm above TF and 2¼ to 2¾mm from LF. Later more marks appear until they form a line from TLC to TRC, variable.
- 1n Top Right Corner. In mid print run a compartment dot appears ¼mm from RF level with TF or ½mm line starting ¼mm above TF and ¼mm from RF. Later it forms an angle around corner, variable.
- 1p Right Frame. Compartment marks appear in mid print run between R57 and R60 or between R26 and R47. Later more marks appear until they go from TRC to BRC, variable.
- 1r Bottom Right Corner. In mid print run a compartment dot appears ½mm from RF and ½mm from BF. Later more marks appear until they form an angle around the corner up RF and for 2¼mm under BF, variable.
- Note This is a left margin unit. More info wanted on development of 1k, m, n, and p compartment marks. Can be found with thin BF, sample had 1% thin BF and wide margin.



1c



1e



1a variations



1d

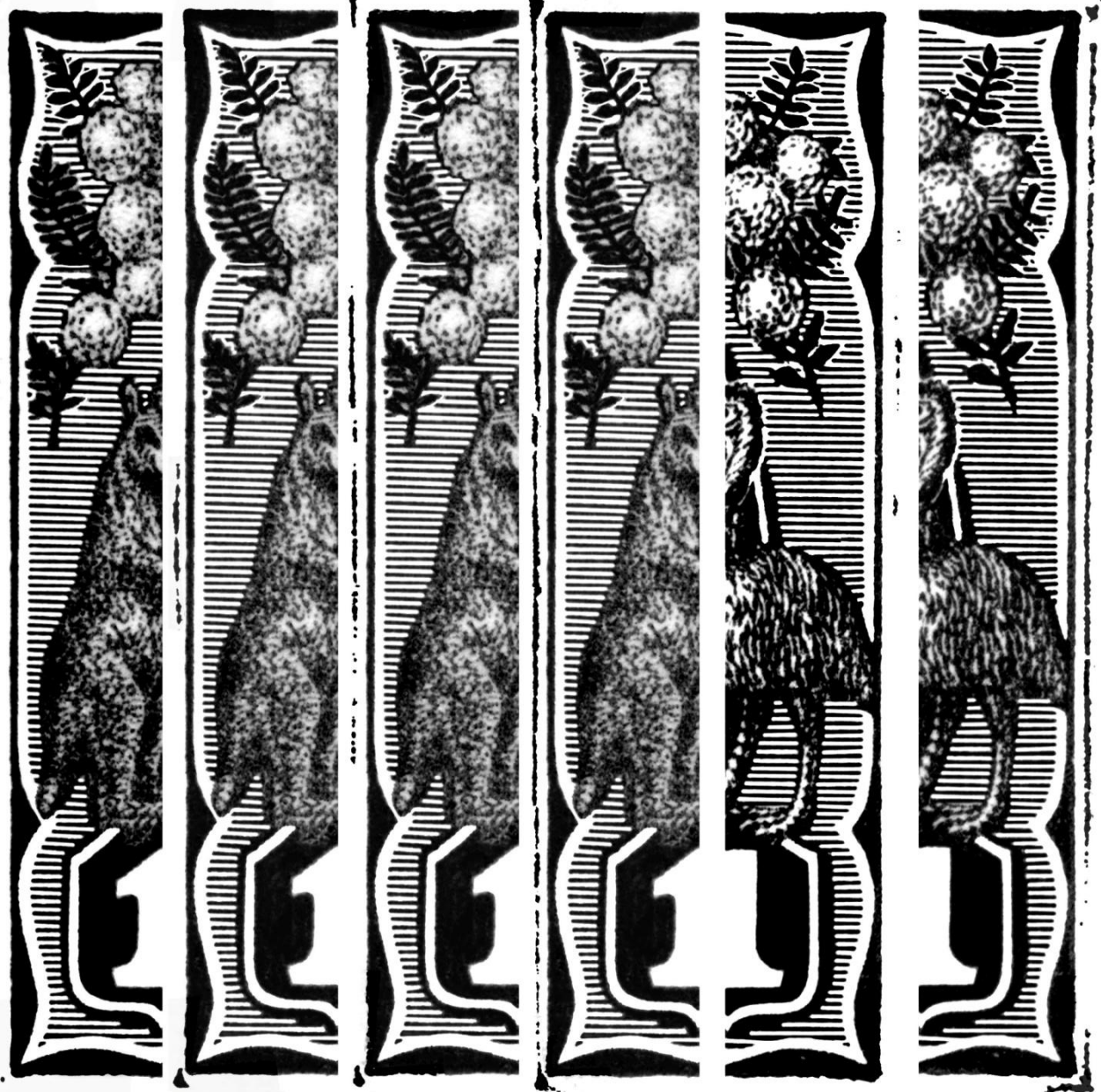


1f



1g





1h, j, k variations

1n, p, r variations



1h variations

1r variations



1k variations

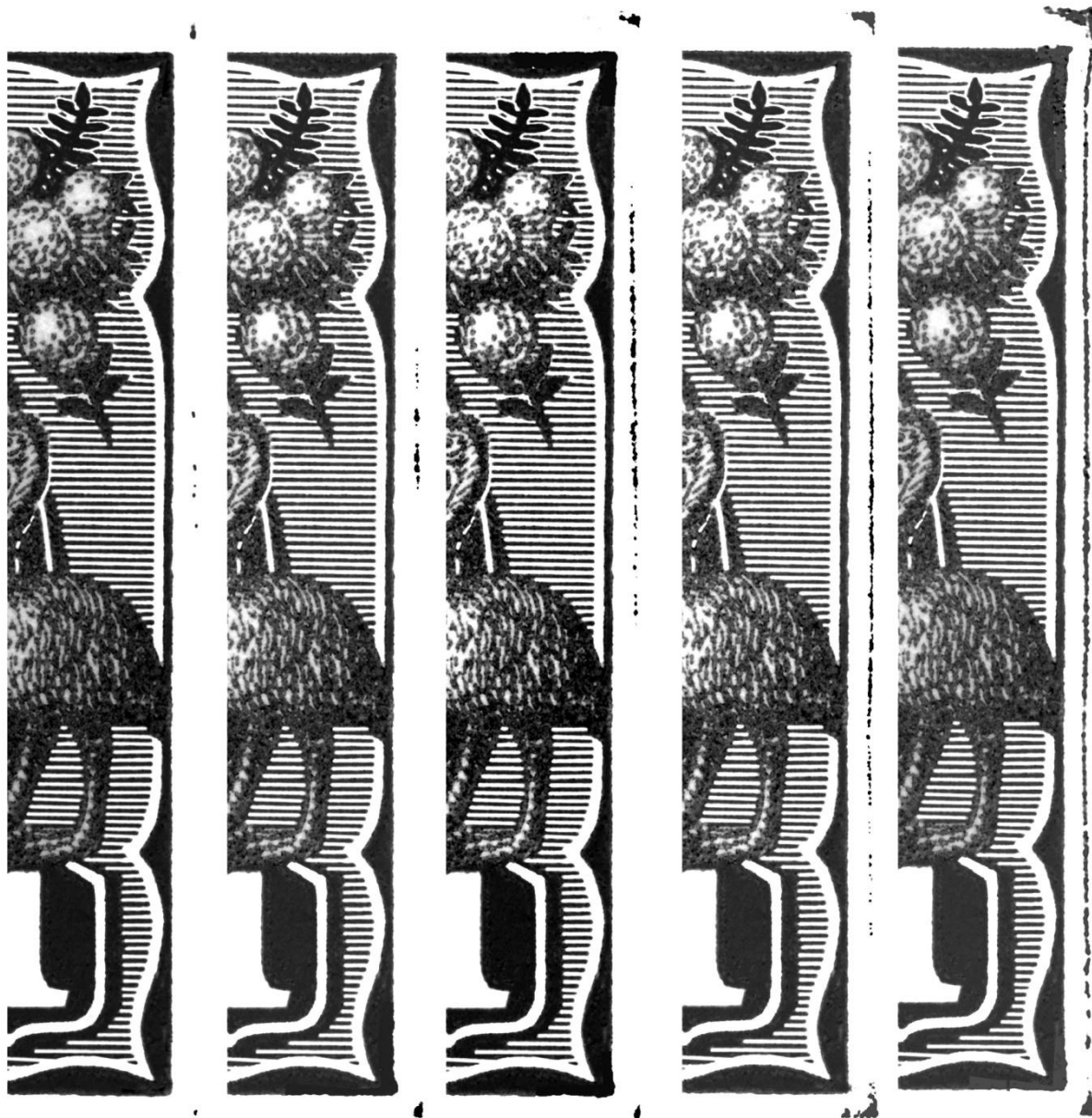
1n variations



1m variations







1j, k, m variations

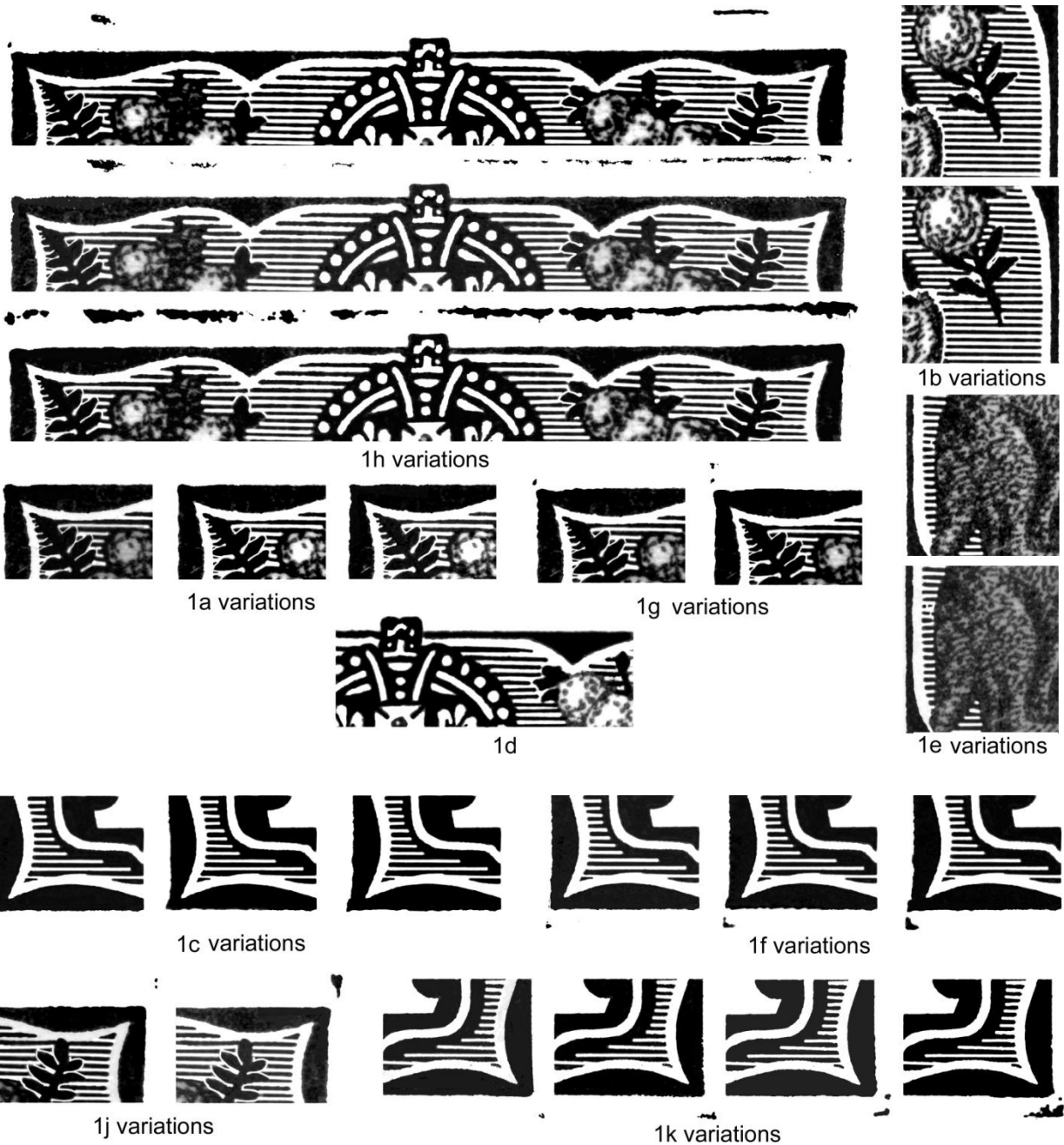
**Pane 4 # 44** *Issued Mar 2001, revised Nov 2005, Jan 2006, completely revised Apr 2021*

**1<sup>st</sup> State 1914 – Final**

- 1a Top Frame. A ½mm dent starting ¼mm from LF, found on 76% of sample, variable.
- 1b Shade Lines. Bottom two lines do not touch right wattle stem, found on 50% of sample, variable.
- 1c Bottom Left Corner. Extends to left, found on 45% of sample, variable.
- 1d Top Frame. Abrupt curve on inside left of right v-scroll, found on 41% of sample, variable.
- 1e Shade Lines. Break in 13<sup>th</sup> line above Roo's tail, 15½mm from TF, found on 30% of samples, variable.



- 1f Bottom Left Corner. A compartment dot appears in mid print run  $\frac{1}{2}$ mm below BF and almost inline with LF. As the run progresses the mark gradually becomes an L shape, variable.
- 1g Top Left Corner. A compartment dot appears in mid print run  $\frac{1}{4}$ mm above TF in line with LF. Later another dot appears above it, variable.
- 1h Top Frame. In mid print run a compartment mark appears  $\frac{3}{4}$ mm above TF and 2-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm from LF. Another mark is 1mm above TF 2-3 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm from RF. As the run progresses more marks appear until they go fro TLC to TRC, variable.
- 1j Top Right Corner. In mid print run two compartment dots appear  $\frac{1}{4}$ mm from RF and  $\frac{1}{2}$ mm above TF. Later more marks appear and form a teardrop, variable.
- 1k Bottom Right Corner. In mid print run a compartment mark appears  $\frac{1}{2}$ mm below BF  $\frac{1}{4}$ mm from RF. Later more marks appear until the form a wedge shape under the corner, variable.



## 2704 NEVER JUDGE A BOOK(LET) BY ITS COVER - A SHORT HISTORY OF AUSTRALIAN STAMP BOOKLETS (Part 5) by Peter M Jones\* (1853)

### The Resumption of Booklet Production in 1979

#### Section A: The Sterner Booklets 1982-1996

Despite the cessation of official booklet production after 1972, it soon became clear that the decision was not as definitive as first thought and that there was a growing need for the decision to be revisited. In advance of a final decision to resume production, during 1979 two stamp vending machines were installed in two major post offices in Brisbane. The machines



Figure 1

were manufactured by the Sterner Company and were capable of dispensing folded booklets and were similar in style to those already in use in Great Britain. Booklets could be made up using existing sheet stamps, affixed by the selvedge and the cover folded for insertion into the machine. Thus, in April 1979 two experimental booklets were produced.<sup>1</sup> The first was a 60c booklet that was more or less square in shape<sup>2</sup> (figure 1) and had a red cover with the Australia Post logo and the word 'Stamp Folder' and 'Three 20c stamps' in black print and the price in white.<sup>3</sup>



Figure 2

This booklet contained 4 x 20c 'Little Grebe' stamps (SG 673) which were affixed in a variety of ways to the folder either to the front or rear and using the right hand, left hand, top or bottom selvedge, giving a minimum of eight possible combinations.

---

\* The author is grateful to Steve Irwin for his helpful comments on this paper.

<sup>1</sup> For a very detailed listing of stamp booklets see: <http://www.sergent.com.au/stamps/australianbooklets.htm>

<sup>2</sup> The booklet measures 55mm x 51mm

<sup>3</sup> This booklet measured 75mm x 44mm



Before the formal reintroduction of booklet production began, a final trial was undertaken in September 1982 using Sterner machines in Sydney and subsequently in Melbourne. The booklet was rectangular in shape<sup>4</sup> with a plain cover and was sold for 60c. It contained a combination of 2 x 1c 'Zebra Finch' stamps (SG 669); 2 x 2c 'Crimson Finch' stamps (SG 670) and 2 x 27c 'Tree Frog' stamps (SG 790). The 27c 'Tree Frog' stamps exist in two perforation combinations: original booklet issues contained stamps with a perforation of 12.6 x 12.8 (SG 790), but later booklet issues had stamps perforated 14.0 x 14.4 (SG 790a). All the booklets were made up by hand which means that there are innumerable variations of the way in which the stamps are affixed to the card cover using the selvedge (e.g. overlapping, left or right, upside down) and this booklet could prove an interesting study in itself.<sup>5</sup>



Figure 3

Following an analysis of the trial booklets a final decision was made on the subject of the appropriate size and shape of the booklets<sup>6</sup> and in November 1982 the first of a number of booklets known as the 'Sterner series' was officially released. Between 1982 and 1996 14 booklets were issued in this series. The first and second Sterner booklets were issued on November 17 1982. The first booklet was sold for 60c and had a plain light cream cover with a drawing of a Eucalyptus flower; the logo of Australia Post and the price printed in black. The Dutch Security Printing firm of Enschedé printed the stamps for the booklet that contained a single se-tenant pane of 2 x 1c 'Eucalyptus calophylla "Rosea"' stamps (SG 870); 2 x 2c 'Eucalyptus caesia' stamps (SG 871) and 2 x 27c 'Eucalyptus forrestiana' stamps (SG 874) affixed to the card using the left selvedge. Two types of paper were used for these stamps these can be identified using UV light. The second booklet was sold for A\$1.00 and had a plain rich cream cover with a drawing of a Eucalyptus flower; the logo of Australia Post and the price printed in red on the front. The Dutch Security Printing firm of Enschedé printed the stamps for the booklet that contained a single se-tenant pane of 2 x 1c 'Eucalyptus calophylla "Rosea"' stamps (SG 870); 2 x 2c 'Eucalyptus caesia' stamps (SG 871); 1 x 3c 'Eucalyptus ficifolia' stamps (SG 872); 1 x 10c 'Eucalyptus globulus' (SG 873) and 3 x 27c 'Eucalyptus forrestiana' stamps (SG 874) and a blank label affixed to the card using the left selvedge. In both booklets all the stamps were imperforate at the top and at the right end on the first row and at the bottom and right end on the lower row. A number of different types of paper were used in the printing of these stamps which can be identified using UV light.<sup>7</sup>

*(Editor : A longer section will appear next time!)*

<sup>4</sup> This booklet measured 78mm x 44mm

<sup>5</sup> Sergent, *op. cit.* estimates that about 20000 such booklets were issued. See also, Brusden-White, *op. cit.* p11/140 which states that these issues were divided equally between Melbourne and Sydney.

<sup>6</sup> Booklets were printed rectangular in shape measuring 78 x 44mm and folded to allow for machine delivery.

<sup>7</sup> The paper types are White and Pink in both the 60c and A\$1.00 booklets and Cream (A\$1.00 booklet only).

**2717 NEW GUINEA - THE NORTH WEST PACIFIC ISLANDS 1918 SURCHARGES  
1d on 5d and 1d on 1/- (SG100 and SG101) - AN EXERCISE IN DECEPTION (Part 2)  
by Robert Benoist (1859)**

*Readers will recall we ended in the last issue with the paragraph*

**THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE STAMPS**

The surcharged stamps were effectively withdrawn on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 1918 and thus had an authorised life of only 6 days. Use after the 28<sup>th</sup> May 1918, or their removal from the Territory became an offence and as such disobedience to it could be met by a Court Martial<sup>8</sup>.

**INVESTIGATION BEGUN**

To his discredit Johnston did nothing further at that stage. It was only after he received correspondence from the Secretary of Defence in Melbourne on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 1918<sup>9</sup> that he set up a court of enquiry to investigate the issue and the findings are reproduced below. Probably as important as the Court of Enquiry findings is the memorandum that was sent with them to Melbourne. Copies of these documents are illustrated (pages 215/216).

Both the covering memorandum to the Secretary of Defence in Melbourne and the findings of the Court of Enquiry require scrutiny and each paragraph will be individually analysed.

**THE MEMORANDUM**

**Paragraph 1**

*'With reference to your 53441 of 25th June, I attach herewith the proceedings and finding of a Court of Inquiry, appointed to inquire into and report upon certain paragraphs published in the "Australian Stamps Journal", Volume 8, No. 8 of June 12th 1918'.*

Johnston refers to a memorandum of the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 1918 (a copy of which does not appear on the file) received from the Secretary of Defence in Melbourne which enclosed an extract from the Australian Stamp Journal<sup>10</sup>. The extract from the Journal reads as follows:

*"NORTH-WEST PACIFIC ISLANDS – We were somewhat astonished to be informed the other day that, owing to a shortage of penny stamps, certain values in stock at Rabaul had been placed on sale – surcharged 'one penny'. This is very bad management and should form the subject of an official enquiry, for there is plenty of paper in Melbourne to print stamps, and, seeing that there is no shortage of penny stamps in this country, there is no reason whatever why they should have been short at Rabaul.*

*New Britain has achieved a very unenviable notoriety in connection with stamp issues, and this latest procedure is most reprehensible.*

*There are other things in connection with the North-West Pacific Island stamps which should be enquired into as well. For instance, how is it that Messrs Stanley Gibbons are able to advertise the 5/- Grey and Yellow (no 15) on the first watermark paper at 15/- when it is a well known fact that the stamps which were current when they were being overprinted were those on the second or King George watermark paper. The 5/-*

---

<sup>8</sup> Order Number 300 New Guinea Gazette May 1918. The Order is reproduced herein.

<sup>9</sup> Memorandum no. 53441, which does not appear in the official file.

<sup>10</sup> Australian Stamp Journal, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1918, volume VIII No. 8.



*on the first watermark paper, overprinted N.W.Pacific Islands, was only known in Australia about six or eight months ago, and then created considerable surprise. The explanation given to us in Melbourne was that when a fresh supply of 5/- stamps was being prepared, some sheets of 5/- on the first watermark paper were found in stock, and were INADVERTENTLY used up<sup>11</sup>. This tale is a bit thin. Further, having heard something regarding the 4d K.G. stamp in the pale lemon shade having been overprinted 'N.W.Pacific Islands', we sent home a specimen of that stamp not overprinted, and asked if it was procurable in London. The reply was that Messrs Stanley Gibbons' Ltd., certainly had some of them with the overprint. (The following sentence has been scored through and is unreadable, probably because it could form the basis of a suit for libel). In view of these statements, we ask, did either of these stamps go the Messrs Stanley Gibbon via Rabaul or from Melbourne direct? We are not imputing anything to Messrs Gibbons'.*

It is obvious that the Court of Enquiry was set up because of the article by Smyth.  
Paragraph 2

*I concur with the finding, and now in the light of after events, see that the surcharging of £25 worth of stamps herewith referred to could have been avoided, but at the time I had been in Rabaul only a few weeks, my time and mind were fully occupied with matters which seemed to be of more importance, and I accepted the advice of our Treasurer when he stated that he would not have sufficient stamps to issue supplies, pending arrival of the lot ordered from Australia, and that the suggested surcharging was a way out of the difficulty which had been adopted on other occasions.*

'Hindsight is a wonderful thing'. That Johnston had other things on his mind is understandable. It is also interesting to note that he must have been told that surcharges had been adopted on other occasions. He was referring to the Stamps of German New Guinea surcharged with values between 1d and 5 shillings. It must have been known to those in the Post Office and Treasury that these issues were highly sought after and extremely valuable, but there is no evidence that Johnston was aware of this. It would certainly have been known to Captain Eather who arrived as a private with ANMEF on the Berrima and was in the same Company as Captain Ravenscroft<sup>12</sup>, who was then his lieutenant. He was attached to the treasury department on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 1914 some 14 days after arrival in New Guinea<sup>13</sup>. He would have been actively involved with the accounting for Postage Stamps throughout his next five years in New Guinea and would certainly have known and had dealings with Sergeant Moore. Conclusions as to Captain Eather's part in this will be drawn later in this paper. Paragraphs 3 and 4

*I will admit that I know positively nothing about stamps and to the best of my*

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<sup>11</sup> It is likely that at least 4 whole sheets of the first watermark 5/- were overprinted NWPI and sent to Rabaul, not the one or two panes as is sometimes accepted. Although Smyth opines that the Printing Office statement was 'a bit thin', the author believes their comment to be the case. Smyth seems to be questioning whether the inclusion of these sheets was deliberate, not their actual inclusion. First watermark 5/- exist in numbers unused, postally used, telegraphically used (especially from Nauru and Woodlark Islands) and cancelled with yet to be identified straight line cancellations (in 1915).

<sup>12</sup> The then Private Eather was attached to D Company of which Ravenscroft was then Lieutenant. (Berrima personnel list 1914, reproduced in *Australians in Action*, Signaller L.C.Reeves reprinted By Papuan Philatelic Society July 2005).

<sup>13</sup> Service record of Captain Thomas Robert Lynch Eather, National Australian Archive, available online.

*knowledge have never come in contact with a stamp collector.*

*It is quite a revelation to find that stamps cause so much interest to certain individuals. If I had known that surcharged stamps would have anything but a face value, and be used for any purpose other than that for which they were printed, I should undoubtedly have given the matter my personal attention.*

Both statements made by Johnston are frankly astonishing. That any adult with two sons in the Georgian era should say he had ‘never come in contact with a stamp collector’ is absurd. Similarly, to say that stamps would have ‘anything but their face value’ is similarly difficult to believe. The author’s view is that Johnston is being economical with the truth. It was well known that King George V was an avid collector and had, through his Private Secretary, enquired of the Stamp Printer in Melbourne as to the availability of GRI overprints, which request was sent to the Administrator at Rabaul from the Department of Defence<sup>14</sup>! As a missive directly from the King’s representative it is almost certain that this would have landed on Johnston’s desk.

#### Paragraph 5

*Captain Eather, our treasurer, now recognises his mistake and I am convinced that the necessity for surcharging stamps will not occur again during my Administration.*

The author is sure that Captain Eather had realised his mistake, which was to be caught. Eather came from a respectably family, his father being a senior police officer and his siblings were members of the armed forces. That having been said, it cannot be imagined that Eather did not know of the Courts Martial of Captain Ravenscroft or Sergeant Moore. Nor can it be imagined that he was unaware of the ‘accounting’ for stamps to be overprinted GRI as explained during Ravenscroft’s Court Martial, and the Treasury’s responsibilities therefore, given that it was part of his duties at the Treasury. Eather was, in fact, responsible for accounting for the number of postage stamps issued to the Post Office on a daily basis.

#### Paragraph 6

*I direct attention to paragraph 5 of the finding and venture to suggest that the individual responsible for the article in the ‘Australian Stamp Journal’ is not altogether unbiased.*

Here Johnston attempts to shift some sort of blame on to Smyth. Given that Smyth’s comments regarding the surcharges are fundamentally correct, Johnston can only be referring to the remainder of the article. Smyth had a history with New Guinea, having been banned from receiving NWPI stamps from the Treasury in Rabaul or from the Stamp Printer in Melbourne after the Moore and Ravenscroft affairs, in which he was suspected to be one of the prime movers. Smyth had admitted, in his synopsis of Moore’s Court Martial (at which he gave evidence) that he had offered Moore financial inducement for what was considered by the Defence Department, restricted information (the number printed of the various overprinted values and varieties).

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<sup>14</sup> This request is ‘hidden’ in an NAA file relating to other matters. The Administrator was unable to assist and eventually the King’s private secretary confirmed that the King had acquired the relevant copies at auction in London. By 1918 no GRI surcharges were extant in the Treasury at Rabaul.



Paragraph 7

*About the 27th May last I saw telegrams from various people in Australia to the Postmaster and others, asking to be supplied with surcharged stamps, and I then issued the following order – Administration Order NO 300 – Rabaul, 28th May 1918.*

**SURCHARGED POSTAGE STAMPS**

*"Postage stamps were recently surcharged for the convenience of troops and are intended for postage purposes only. All troops and civilians are therefore warned that surcharged stamps will not be permitted to be sent away from the colony for trafficking and other purposes, and holders of the same are advised that exchange or refund for such stamps held by them may be made on demand at the Post Office, Rabaul. Attempts to evade this order will be treated as an offence.*

As has been stated previously, Johnston had seen the larger than usual number of telegrams arriving requesting the sale of the surcharges. By 1918, the sale of stamps to collectors worldwide was significant and communication to Rabaul would have been relatively constant. From the wording of the order, it is evident that the surcharged stamps were not to be used, nor sent from Rabaul. This did not, however, prevent Johnston from sending a letter as late as July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1918, bearing a copy of the 1d on 1/- to a friend in the Melbourne suburbs. The addressee, Mrs Edith Embling, the wife of an eminent Melbourne doctor, was a member of the hunting set known well to Johnston.



Letter from Brigadier General Johnston bearing 1d on 1/- Emerald sent to Edith Embling and member of the ‘horsey’ sent in clear contravention of New Guinea Military Order 300.

The number of July 1918 cancellations shows that the banning order was mostly ignored. There is no evidence of any person being charged in contravention of Order 300.

Paragraph 8

*Surcharged stamps to the value of £3.10.0 referred to in the attached statement have been destroyed in the presence on 2 officers who have given a certificate to this effect.*

(SGD.) GEO. J. JOHNSTON.  
BRIGADIER GENERAL  
ADMINSTRATOR

If the above statement is to be believed, the number of stamps destroyed was 840 out of a surcharged number of 6,000. Thus 5,160 copies remained in circulation although the split of 5d and 1/- units is not quantified. Given that there are no more than two covers<sup>15</sup> which can properly be called commercial and are dated between the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March 1918, it must be assumed that the remainder were sold by the perpetrators of the scheme to dealers in Australia in cancelled to order and mint panes of 30.



Local front from Rabaul to Kokopo dated July 1918 bearing 6 copies of 1d on 5d (SG100). Clearly philatelic in origin and over a month after the recall of the issue. It is most likely cancelled per favour. Whiteman was a resident of Kokopo who had been instrumental in assisting in the capture of the German yacht Komet in 1914<sup>16</sup>.

#### THE FINDINGS OF THE COURT OF ENQUIRY

The Findings of the Court of Enquiry can now be analysed in similar manner to the covering letter.

Paragraphs 1 and 2

*The Court finds that there was a shortage of 1d (one penny) stamps at Rabaul at the time of surcharging the 5d and 1/- stamps. That sufficient notice had been given to ensure a fresh supply from Australia, and that the delay in executing the order of the 17<sup>th</sup> February 1918, cannot be attributed to any individual in Rabaul.*

<sup>15</sup> These two covers are illustrated by kind permission of Hugh McMackin. Two out of date covers the Author has seen are dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1918 to E.D.E Van Weenen, and the Embling Cover from July 1918.

<sup>16</sup> Rabaul Record Volume 1 No 8 October 1916, on the celebration of the second anniversary of the invasion.



This statement cannot be gainsaid. The 1d stamps being subject to the order of the 17<sup>th</sup> February had not yet arrived from Melbourne, although what enquiries had been made of the stamp printer as to the date of dispatch is not known. What is known is that between 1921 and 1924 numerous telegrams were exchanged between Rabaul and Melbourne regarding the shipping of stamps, and dates of dispatch were regularly given, thus enabling the Post Office in Rabaul to be aware of the arrival date and any delay in delivery. There is no evidence that this had been done in this case. The 1d stamps arrived on the 24<sup>th</sup> May and had there been an exchange of telegrams this would have been known<sup>17</sup>. There would be no necessity to surcharge in those circumstances.

### Paragraph 3

*The Court considers that the act of the Treasurer in recommending the surcharging was premature, in-so-much as that at the time there were nine thousand six hundred (9,600) 1/2d (halfpenny) stamps in stock, which could have been utilised for Postal and Telegraphic purposes, and that this quantity was sufficient for a month's requirements, the collectors' orders could have been held over, and that there was no need for any surcharging until the halfpenny stamps had been exhausted. The evidence shows that had this course been followed stocks would have been ample until the arrival of the 36,000 stamps on the 24<sup>th</sup> May.*

This is more than a veiled criticism of Captain Eather. As treasurer he would be responsible not only for auditing the number of stamps in stock and confirming the balancing accounts from the post office, but also for holding the stock of stamps<sup>18</sup>, releasing them to the post office as required. He would have been aware of the numbers of halfpenny stamps on hand when he put the surcharging order before Johnston. The author believes that Captain Eather was perfectly aware of the position, and acted in concert with post office military personnel to manufacture the issue. Had there been ample communication between Rabaul and Melbourne Eather would have known that the 1d consignment would have arrived on the 24<sup>th</sup> May, the day after the issue of the surcharges.

### Paragraph 4

*The Court is of the opinion that Rabaul is not concerned in the statement that Messrs Stanley Gibbons Ltd., London, have been able to get stamps that are not available to other people. The evidence shows that no five-shilling (5/-) stamps have been received from Australia since 1916; that the Rabaul officials handling stamps know nothing of the watermarks; that collectors' orders are executed without examination from stocks that may be held and that no stamps whatever have been issued to Messrs Stanley Gibbons. The Court is further of the opinion that if this firm has obtained stamps elsewhere additional enquiries should be instituted as to where they obtain them, as the matter may effect Administration revenue.*

which would make it impossible to dispose of stamps from the Stamp Printer in Melbourne. Even during the Moore Court Martial it was never suggested that any stamps had been removed from the Post Office in Rabaul without payment being made and the Treasury

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<sup>17</sup> National Australian Archive, 'New Guinea Stamps, The New Design.1922-1927'

<sup>18</sup> See the evidence of Captain Fry, the then Treasurer in the Moore Court Martial, Eye-witness report by J H Smyth in his report referred to earlier in this paper.

accounting for the stock. It is probably true that the post office staff would not check, or even have any idea about watermarks.

C.563/7/46.

COLONY OF GERMAN NEW GUINEA  
(In British Military Occupation.)

R.18/26819  
29064.

HEADQUARTERS.  
RABOUL 15th August, 1918.  
New Britain.

MEMORANDUM FOR :-

The Secretary,  
Department of Defence,  
MELBOURNE.

NORTH WEST PACIFIC ISLAND STAMPS.

With reference to your 53441 of 25th June, I attach herewith the proceedings and finding of a Court of Inquiry, appointed to inquire into and report upon certain paragraphs published in the "Australian Stamp Journal", volume 3, No. 8 of June 12th 1918.

I concur with the finding, and now in the light of after events, see that the surcharging of £25 worth of stamps herewith referred to could have been avoided, but at the time I had been in Rabaul only a few weeks, my time and mind were fully occupied with matters which appeared of more importance, and I accepted the advice of our Treasurer when he stated that he would not have sufficient stamps to issue supplies, pending arrival of the lot ordered from Australia, and that the suggested surcharging was a way out of the difficulty which had been adopted on other occasions.

I will admit that I know positively nothing about stamps, and to the best of my knowledge have never come in contact with a stamp collector.

It is quite a revelation to find that stamps cause so much interest to certain individuals. If I had known that surcharged stamps would have anything but a face value, and be used for any purpose other than that for which they were printed, I should undoubtedly have given the matter my personal attention.

Captain Rafter, our treasurer now recognises his mistake and I am convinced that the necessity for surcharging stamps will not occur again during my Administration.

I direct attention to paragraph 5 of the finding, and venture to suggest the individual responsible for the article in the Australian Stamp Journal, is not altogether unbiased.

About the 27th May last I saw telegrams from various people in Australia to the Postmaster and others, asking to be supplied with surcharged stamps, and I then issued the following order - Administration Order No. 300 - Rabaul, 28th May 1918.

SURCHARGED POSTAGE STAMPS.

"Postage stamps were recently surcharged for the convenience of troops and are intended for postage purposes only. All troops and civilians are therefore warned that surcharged stamps will not be permitted to be sent away from the Colony for trafficking and other purposes, and holders of same are advised that exchange or refund for such stamps held by them may be made on demand at the Post Office, Rabaul. Attempts to evade this order will be treated as an offence.

Surcharged stamps to the value of £3.10.0 referred to in the attached statement have been destroyed in the presence of 2 officers who have given a certificate to this effect.

(Sd) GEO. J. JOHNSTON.  
BRIGADIER GENERAL  
ADMINISTRATOR.



FINDINGS.

- 4337
- (1) The Court finds that there was a shortage of 1d (one-penny) stamps at Rabaul at the time of surcharging of 5d and 1/- stamps.
  - (2) That sufficient notice had been given to ensure a fresh supply from Australia, and that the delay in executing the order of 17th February, 1918, can be attributed to no individual in Rabaul.
  - (3) The Court considers that the action of the Treasurer in recommending the surcharging was premature, in-as-much as that at the time there were nine thousand six hundred (9,600) 1/2 (halfpenny) stamps in stock, which could have been utilised for Postal and Radiotelegraph purposes, and that this quantity was sufficient for a month's requirements, the collectors' orders could have been held over, and that there was no need for any surcharging until the halfpenny stamps had been exhausted. The evidence shows that had this course been followed stocks would have been ample until the arrival of the 36,000 stamps on 24th May.
  - (4) The Court is of the opinion that Rabaul is not concerned in the statement that Messrs Stanley Gibbons Ltd., London, have been able to get stamps that are not available to other people. The evidence shows that no five-shilling (5/-) stamps have been received from Australia since 1916; that the Rabaul officials handling stamps know nothing of the watermarks. That collectors' orders are executed without examination from stocks that may be held. and that no stamps whatever have been issued from Rabaul to Messrs Stanley Gibbons. The Court is further of the opinion that if this Firm has obtained stamps elsewhere additional enquiries should be instituted as to where they obtain them, as the matter may effect Administration revenue.
  - (5) The Court notes the fact that the publishers of the "Australian Stamp Journal" Messrs J. K. Smyth Ltd. - against whom an order was issued by the Defence Department and the Rabaul Administration, prohibiting them from being supplied with stamps, on account of irregular practices, and that they nearly experienced prosecution on a charge of attempting to bribe an officer of the Administration to give official information.

(SGD). R. C. COX. Lt. Col. R.A.N.

(SGD). J. T. TARRANT. Capt. PRESIDENT.

(SGD). THOS. W. WALKER. Capt. MEMBER.

I concur

(SGD) GEO. J. JOHNSTON.

Brigadier-General.  
11/8/18.

The Court, quite properly, ignores the further comments made by Smyth, and suggest that further enquiries should be made regarding the possible sale of NWPI stamps other than through the Post Office in Rabaul. Should that have been the case the Administration would obviously lose revenue as a result. It is clear the Court were unaware of the audit structure.

## Paragraph 5

*. The Court notes the fact that the publishers of the 'Australian Stamp Journal', Messrs. J. Smyth Ltd. - against whom an order was issued by the Defence Department and the Rabaul Administration prohibiting them from being supplied with stamps on account of irregular practices, and that they nearly experienced prosecution on a charge of attempting to bribe an officer of the Administration to give official information*

Smyth had attended the trial of Sergeant Moore and had been a witness. He admits in his published account of the trial that he offered to buy GRI overprints from Moore, who had exchanged correspond with him, informing Smyth of what was available. Copies of this correspondence no longer exist but there is no reason to doubt Smyth's word as to its existence, given his evidence to the Court Martial was given under oath. Smyth's admitted offer to buy stamps from Moore at above their face value was seen by the Defence Department as attempted, if not actual bribery<sup>19</sup>.

The Findings are then signed by Lt. Tel. R. A.N. Cox, President, Captain J. T. Tarrant, Member and Captain Thos. T. Walker, Member and endorsed 'I concur' by Brigadier Geo. J. Johnston, Brigadier General.

Thus, the Rabaul Court of Enquiry ended with a peremptory 'no fault' finding when to any informed reader it is obvious that there was a conspiracy between the Post Office and the Treasury staff to replicate the philatelic rewards enjoyed by their colleagues in late 1914 and early 1915.

Given the findings of the Court of Enquiry exculpating any personnel from guilty intent the only previously published account questioning the bona fides of the issue remained Smyth's article. The content of the Court of Enquiry report has, until now, remained hidden in the archives. The stamps themselves have, over the years, achieved acceptance as a regular, postally used issue whose current catalogue value reflects the small number surcharged<sup>20</sup>. Enquiries into the issue did not end with the court of enquiry findings but over the next 12 months moved to London and Paris. The enquiries carried out were somewhat more wide-ranging in that they encompassed the 1<sup>st</sup> watermark 5/- and to a lesser extent GRI surcharges on the German New Guinea issues. The London and Paris investigations give an interesting insight into the practices of auctioneers and dealers in the immediate aftermath of WW1, and will be the subject of a future article.

## **2641. RESEARCH ON AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY LUGGAGE AND PARCEL LABELS (Part 15) by Ian Spencer (999)**

### Part L Inter-State Railway Labels from Victoria

Inter-state railway labels from Victoria broadly follow the colour coding for each of the destination states seen on the corresponding issues for South Australia, although the yellow (for Victoria) is not always prominent (often printed on cream paper)

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<sup>19</sup> Interestingly TH Harrison considered that informing philatelists of the numbers of stamps printed by the Stamp Printer in Melbourne could constitute a similar breach of official confidentiality. See The Numbers Game parts 1 and 2; the Author, BSAP Bulletin December 2004 and June 2005.

<sup>20</sup> SG100 £90 Mint, £85 Used, SG101 £100 Mint, £85 Used. SG Part 1 2021 Edition.

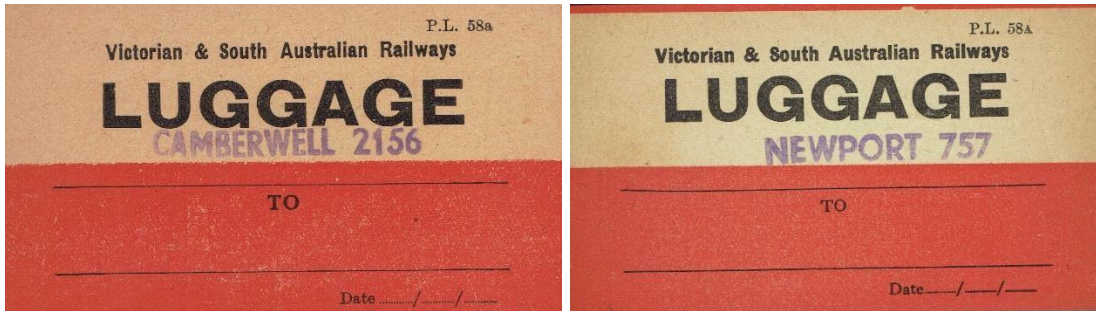
(A) Inter-state Luggage Labels from Victoria

(1) Luggage Labels between Victoria and South Australia

Labels for luggage from Victoria to South Australia have all been printed on cream paper, with the lower portion printed in shades of red. Designated P.L.58A at top right.

Type L1

Type L2



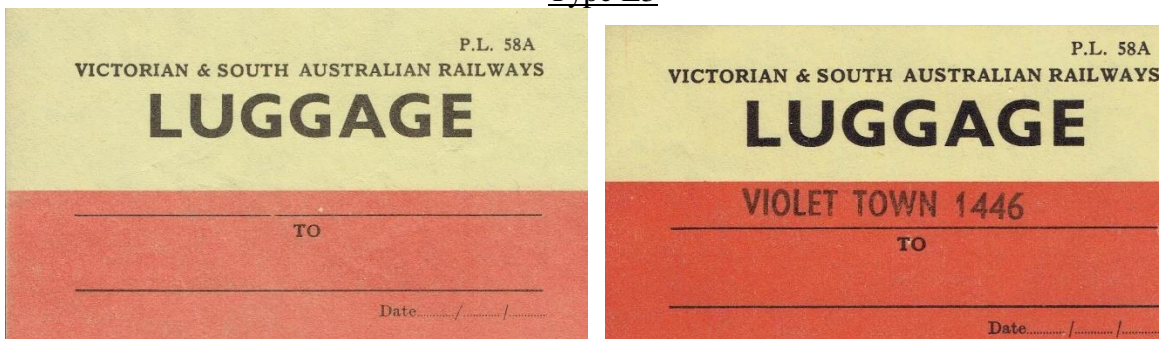
Type L1

Size 95 x 53 mm. Printed on poor quality, beige coloured paper (wartime paper?) Designated “P.L, 58 a” (lower case “a”) at top right, in a seriffed font. “Victoria & South Australian Railways” is 58 x 2 mm, and has upper and lower case, sans serif letters. “LUGGAGE” is 60 x 7 the letter “G”s “TO” is 5 x 2.5 mm, in seriffed letter there are two thin lines for the stations, and the “Date” has dotted lines between the divisions. Two examples have been seen, both hand-stamped “CAMBERWELL 2156”. Both show the red portion as poorly printed, without the normal clear break of the colour.

Type L2

Size 95 x 53.5 -54.5 mm. Printed on beige coloured paper – slightly better quality. Designated “P.L, 58 A” (smaller upper case “A”) at top right, in a seriffed font. “Victoria & South Australian Railways” is 60 x 2 mm, and has upper and lower case, sans serif letters. “LUGGAGE” is 60 x 7 mm, and all in sans-serif capital letters, with a down-stroke to the letter “G”s “TO” is 4 x 2 mm, in seriffed letters. The example shown is hand-stamped “NEWPORT 757”, and has a red line at top, with a nick over “ian” of “Australian” The example without overprint does not have this line.

Type L3



Type L3

Most are 95 x 53.5-55 mm – one outlier (shown) at 97 x 59 mm. Printed on deep cream paper, with the red portion in shades of salmon. “VICTORIAN & SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RAILWAYS” (upper case, small serifs) is 75 x 2 mm, and “LUGGAGE” is 52 x 7 mm, in a

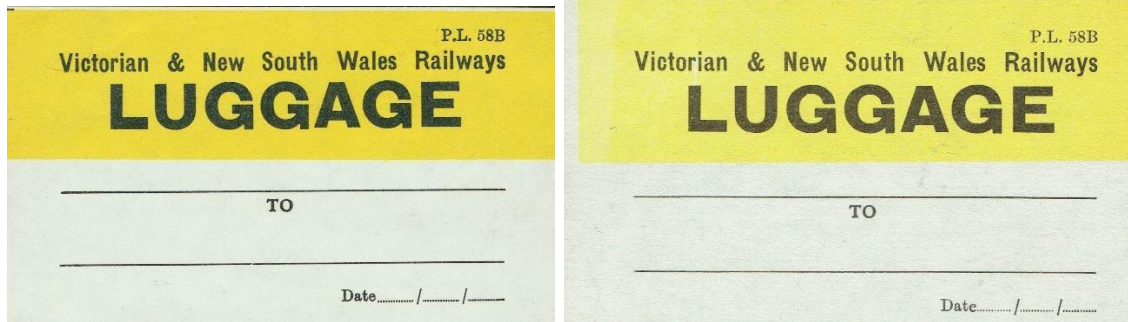


different font, with no down-stroke to the letter “G”s The “TO” is 4 x 2 mm, in seriffed letters. The two lines for the stations are thicker. One example has been seen hand-stamped “VIOLET TOWN 1446” in a darker shade of red.

(2) Luggage labels between Victoria and New South Wales

Luggage labels for use between Victoria and New South Wales have been printed on white paper, with the yellow portion (for Victoria) at the top (as expected) and also with the yellow portion at the base, contrary to that expected. These are all designated P.L.58B at top right.

Type L4



Type L4

Size 95-95.5 x 53-55mm. Yellow portion at top, as expected “P.L.58B”at top right, seriffed font. “Victorian & New South Wales Railways” is 75 x 3 mm in upper and lower cases letters without serifs. “LUGGAGE” is 59.5 x 7.5 mm. Two distinct shades – the darker one at left has a black guideline at top left (not seen on any other copy), and the paler shade has the yellow shifted 2.5 mm to the right.

Type L5

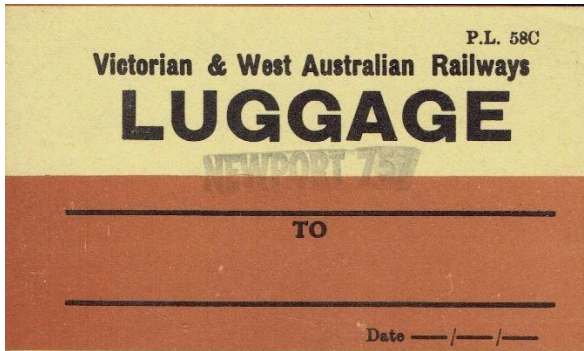


Type L5

Size 95 x 53-55 mm. Very similar to Type L4, but the yellow portion (for Victoria) is at the bottom, contrary to expectations. Also seen in two shades. One copy hand is stamped “NEWPORT 757”. The right copy has the text printed higher, resulting in the yellow colour being only 2mm above the top station line (6 mm in other copies seen).

(3) Luggage Labels between Victorian and Western Australia

Type L6



Type L7



Type L6

Size 94 x 54 mm. Designated "P.L.58C" at top right, in a seriffed font. "Victorian & Western Australian Railways" is 68 x 3 mm, and in a mixture of upper and lower case letters, without serifs. "LUGGAGE" is 60.5 x 7.5 mm. The two station-lines are much thicker. "TO" is larger (3 mm high) and the spaces for the dates have thick solid lines, instead of dotted ones

Type L7

Size 95 x 54 mm. Almost identical to Type L6, but in a different, more-orange shade of brown. Text is slightly thinner – particularly seen on the word "TO", where the serifs on the "T" appear more pronounced, and also on the "Date". The brown section is placed lower, being only 2.5 mm above the station line

(4) Luggage Labels between Victoria and Queensland

Type L8 (5 shades)







### Type L8

Size 94-96 x 53-54 mm. Similar in appearance to Types L7 & L8. Designated “P.L.58D” at top right. “Victoria and Queensland Railways” is 59 x 3 mm, in a font without serifs but with an unusual double-tag at the base of the. “Q” “LUGGAGE” is 60 x 7.5 mm. “TO” is 3mm high, with thick lines for the stations, and solid lines for the date. This type is known in five shades – four printed on cream paper, but with very different shades for the lower blue portion (very pale to deep). The fifth is printed on deep cream paper, similar to that of Type L1, making the lower portion appear sage-green. Second shade is hand-stamped “NEWPORT 757”.

### Type L9



### Type L9

Size 95 x 53.5 mm. The upper part is beige in colour and has P.L.58d” at top right, in a slightly larger font and a lower-case letter for the “d”. ”Victorian & Queensland Railways” is slightly shorter at 57 mm. “LUGGAGE” is 60 mm long. “CRIB POINT” is 6 mm high, in a seriffed font, with long serifs on the “T”. “BRISBANE (Q.)” is 7.5 mm high, in a thick, sans-serif font, and with a square stop after the “Q”. The date line at base has dotted lines.

Crib Point is on the Stoney Point Line, 54 miles (87 Km), south of Melbourne – you might ask why a small station would require a printed label for a destination nearly 1250 miles (2000 Km) away? Crib Point is on the same peninsula as HMAS Cerebus, principal training station for the Royal Australian Navy. A trip home to Brisbane would have taken more than a whole day of travelling each way.

### (B) Excess Luggage Labels from Victoria

These are characterised by the top part being printed in shades of purple, and the “P.L.” number being three higher than that of the corresponding luggage label for each state, and also one letter higher. Labels with “P.L. 57A” have not yet been seen for use within Victoria

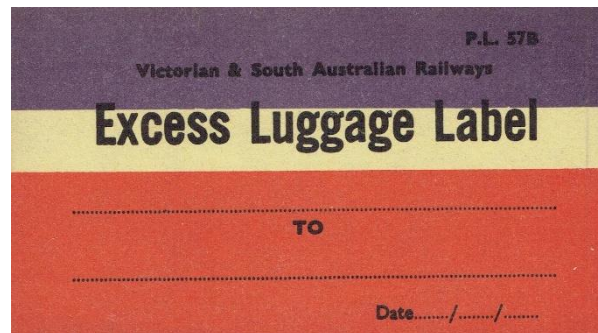


What constitutes “Excess Luggage” is not known with any degree of certainty – perhaps more than two normal suitcases + one item of hand luggage. Large travelling trunks may have fit into this category, but no definitive answers have been found in a search of literature to date.

CAN ANY RAILWAY BUFF PROVIDE A MORE DEFINITIVE ANSWER?

(5) Excess Luggage Labels for use between Victoria and South Australia

Type L10

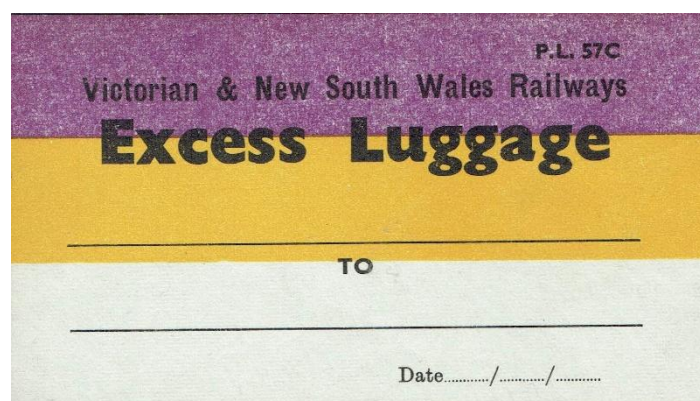


Type L10

Size 95 x 54 mm. Designated “P.L. 57B” at top right, in a sans-serif font. Printed on cream paper, with a 16mm deep purple section at the top, and with the lower half (27 mm) being printed in red, leaving only a small section in cream in the middle. This has “Excess Luggage Label“, with the tops of the capitals going into the upper purple part. This phrase is in a sans-serif font, but with curly tags to the “g”s of “Luggage”. The “Victorian and South Australian Railways” is 54 x 2mm – a smaller (sans-serif) font than seen elsewhere. Lines for Stations and Date lines are all dotted – the Word “Date” is in a sans-serif font.

(6) Excess Luggage Labels for use between Victoria and New South Wales

Type L11



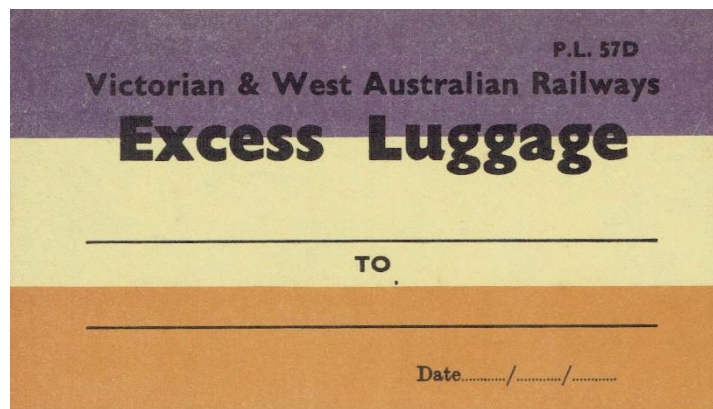
Type L 11

Size 95 x 53 mm. Designated “P.L. 57C” at top right, in a sans-serif font. Printed on white paper, with a 16mm less-deep purple section (of mottled appearance) at the top and a 16 mm deep middle section in yellow. This type has only “Excess Luggage”, with the tops of the letters going into the upper purple part. This phrase is in a sans-serif font, but with flat-topped tags to the “g”s of “Luggage”.

The “Victorian and New South Wales Railways” is taller at 71.5 x 2.5 mm. Lines for Stations are solid, but those for the date are dotted – the word “Date” is in a seriffed font.

(7) Excess Luggage Labels for use between Victoria and Western Australia

Type L12

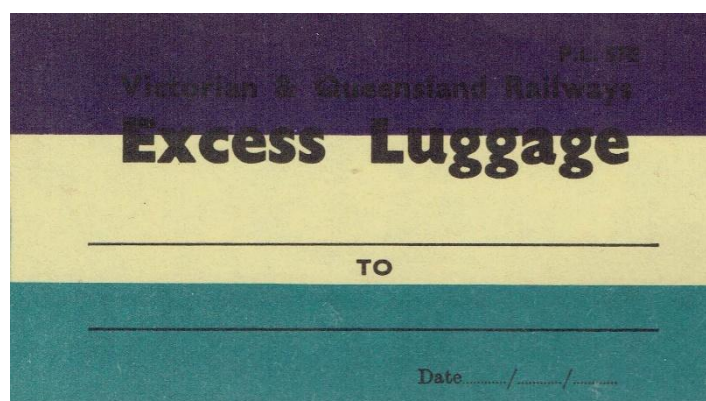


Type L12

Size 95 x 54 mm. Printed on cream paper. The three colour bands are fairly equal in size: top = purple (16.5 mm deep), middle = cream (19.5 mm) and bottom = deep beige (16.5 mm), with a 1mm band in cream at the base. The purple section is palest in colour, and fine appearance, making the text easiest to read. This type has only “Excess Luggage” (67 x 5 mm) in a thicker font, with flat tops to the “g”s of “Luggage”. Thin, solid lines for adding the stations, but dotted ones on the date line. The word “Date” is in a thinner, seriffed font.

(8) Excess Luggage Labels for use between Victoria and Queensland

Type L13



Type L13

Size 95 x 54 mm. Designated “P.L.57E” at top right, Type L13 is in many respects similar to Type L12. The purple portion (16.5 mm) at the top is a very deep shade, making the text in that part very difficult to read. The turquoise section (17 mm) is a brighter blue than any of those seen on the corresponding Luggage types



## 2719 AVOIDING VARIETIES BY JOHN ASH AUSTRALIAN NOTE AND STAMP PRINTER 1927~1941 by John Bozic

(Editor – Astute readers will note the article last time about the broken rifle butt flaw failed to collect number 2718, so this is 2719).

I was clearing and sorting my library and came across this two-page article. The article is an extract from the 1928 Melbourne International Philatelic Exhibition Catalogue. I am sure that all passionate Australian stamp collectors know who John Ash was and will be surprised reading as to what level did the printing branch take precautions not to create varieties especially inverted watermarks. Below is the extract from the catalogue written by Ash (illustrated by Jack Cate FRPS).

[This article on Surface Printing, by Mr. John Ash, late Government Stamp Printer, was written for the International Philatelic Exhibition Catalogue; it has never appeared in the philatelic press, and we feel sure it will be of great interest to many of our readers.—Editor.]

My interest in stamp production is to give the Postmaster-General a stamp which, in the first place, will be secure against forgery, and, in the second place, of such a quality that it will be a credit to Australia. It would be idle for me to attempt to justify the appearance from time to time of "varieties" which are brought to the public's notice; suffice it to say that every endeavor is made to minimise variation in quality, shade and perforation.

The philatelic public who read the magazines are doubtless well informed as to the methods of making dies, plates and paper, but there are other processes which may interest the reader, and I propose to dwell for the present on these small but essential details, which are really the crux of good stamp production. I feel sure you will at least recognise how very important is this preliminary work, and the care which is required to ensure freedom from "varieties."

The machines used for the typographical printing of stamps are similar to those in use for fine art printing, except that they are specially strengthened for long and constant running, which is essential in producing 800 million stamps a year for the Commonwealth.

All being ready, the plates are issued to the machinist from the strongroom. After the plate is duly fixed down on the machine, "blind" impressions (without the plate being inked) are taken on colored paper, the weak places in the impression being interlaid with paper under the plate until a uniform and even impression on all stamps is secured. This, however, is only the beginning of what is termed "make ready." Further impressions are taken with the plate inked in order to test the perforation. Great care has to be exercised in getting the impression or printing cylinder to its correct circumference, even one thin sheet of paper too many on the cylinder will cause a stretch on the gummed paper, materially affecting the perforation of the sheet; the larger the cylinder, the greater the difficulty.

During the process of "making ready," a trial sheet is sent to the engraver, so that he can bring his eagle eye to bear on the faults in the plate. Every stamp is minutely examined, and



Retouched top left corner.

Break in frame top right corner.

the fault indicated on the proof before the engraver orders the plate to be returned for correction. It is during this examination that he discovers the "varieties" which have crept in during the previous printing. Great care is required to see that adjustments are made which will effectively remove the blemishes from the stamp. Sometimes the plate is in the engraver's hands for two or three days at a time, but the printer is not idle during this period. Much skill is required to bring out the light and shade on each stamp, and to ensure that there are no broken lines. Consequently, the machinist takes this opportunity to perform important work technically called "cutting the overlay," that is, building up on a printed sheet of stamps to bring out the solid and to lighten the shaded parts of the stamp, and in assisting the engraving by reducing the high lights in the face and other parts of the stamp, thus having the effect of putting life into the picture and making it more pleasing to the eye.

The Australian stamps, as most people know, are printed on sheets of watermarked gummed paper, 480 sets on. It is no sinecure to be able to get the whole of the stamps to appear with the same even color on every sheet which is passed through the machine. How many people realise that this "making ready" process occupies about a week for each value! Nevertheless, this is a fact, but any shirking of this operation only results in trouble during the production period. It is then that, "making ready" being complete, the machinist "prepares his rollers," also seeing that the ink flows evenly from the fountain. This is important in order to maintain a good even color. The machine is then tested with some colored trial sheets of paper to see that the printing is right, particular attention being taken to see that there are no broken lines.



### Why Inverted W.m.k.s. Are Rare.

Everything being ready for printing, one ream (500 sheets) of paper is put up on the feeding table of the machine, care being taken to see that the watermark is the right way up. I may say that each machine crew includes a girl, who is solely responsible for seeing that the watermark is the correct way up; it also is her duty to mark the edges of the paper to show how they are to be laid into the machine. Specially selected girls are put on this work to minimise errors. Paper makers, being human, are not infallible, but every error is reported to the makers, the checking slip also being returned for identification purposes. Each operator signs the slip, which follows the work through the department.

The troubles of the machinist begin when he starts printing, particularly is this the case during the summer. He has to contend with the hot north wind, when the paper on exposure curls up like a walking-stick, and, for the same reason, it is almost impossible to get a sheet through the perforating machines. In winter, the printing room temperature can be adjusted, as each machine is fitted with an arrangement which heats up the printing ink and the plate, thus ensuring evenness of color, and regularity of production. Care has to be taken to see that the temperature is as nearly uniform as possible, as variations in temperature affect the product. Mild, damp days are the best for stamp production; it is then that the composition rollers are sharp and "tacky," picking up the color cleanly, and depositing it uniformly all over the plate. During the very hot days of December, January and February, it is customary to have all the window blinds drawn, and the floor frequently watered so as to minimise the bad effect of the heat, otherwise there could be many breaks in the continuity of production. It is then the machinist is to be sympathised with, as he takes his large magnifying glass to examine each stamp, in order to discern the "faults" quickly. This is repeated every half hour with frequent interruptions to wipe away the drops of perspiration which fall on the glass.

This then is a picture of the environment of the stamp printer, who is fighting against "varieties" every day of his life, but from a sense of duty to the public, and pride of craft, he endeavors to keep his end up. Machinists for this work are born and not made, for not only does it require skill, concentration and keen eyesight, but the man, to be successful, must have an interest in his work and be a good judge of color.

When printing is completed, and the ink is sufficiently dry to handle the paper, the sheets of 480 stamps are handed over to the cutter to split into 240 set size in order that they may be



Wide coastline, W.A.

Broken leg, Kangaroo.

perforated. It is here that paper stretch is most troublesome, and "varieties" are created. Perforating machines have, however, now been fitted with micrometer gauges, which can be adjusted with the stretch of the paper, thus minimising the amount of spoilage.

After perforation, the sheets are again examined for watermark, and then passed on for examination of faults. The trained eye of the examiner quickly discerns changes in shade of color, or "spots" in the printing or in the paper. When one thinks of the occasional piece of grit in the latter which sometimes indents the printing plate or the "making ready," it will be seen the examiner cannot afford to take risks by neglecting her part of the work.

When examination is complete, the work is passed on to the checker, and then on to the packer who is responsible for sealing the bundles of sheets, which are now ready for sending to the Post-office.

From the foregoing, it will be seen how important a part the preliminary processes play in eliminating "varieties," and the care that is essential for purposes of security, for not only has every engraven line to get its proper value, but the impression as well as the color must be uniform in order to protect the issue and the philatelist, for to be a "variety" it must also be a "rarity."

## 2720 KGV SINGLE WMK 4d OLIVE SOLO AND COMBINATION FRANKING

By John Bozic (1698)

Going through some of my old collections that I bought decades ago and came across an interesting piece of a South African newspaper, which was sent from Port Kembla to Rushcutter's Bay in the Eastern Suburbs in Sydney, dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 1928. This is seven days before the issue of the 4d Olive Small Multi Wmk perf 14. I wonder how many collectors know that the newspaper rate did not apply to newspapers published outside Australia. We learn something new every day. See the scan below (opposite).



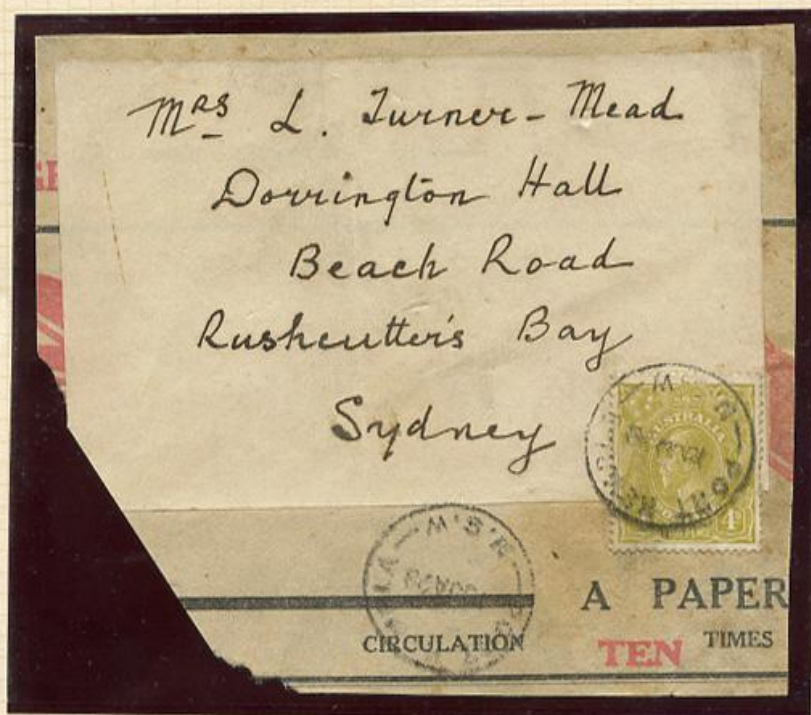
COMMONWEALTH of AUSTRALIA

4d OLIVE 1924~1938: SINGLE WMK

*Solo and combination franking*

4d Olive

10th January 1928, solo franking piece of South African newspaper. Port Kembla to Rusheutter's Bay.



4d: 1d per 4 ozs. Printed matter rate x4  
(Newspaper rate did not apply to newspapers printed and published outside Australia.)

Correspondence to [stampcollectorboz@gmail.com](mailto:stampcollectorboz@gmail.com)

## 2721 KG V 1½d Die 2 , JUBILEE LINES (UPDATE TO 2585) by Sandy Forbes (1174)

*(Editor –This article links back to the August 2016 issue of the Bulletin, and related correspondence in October & December, after Sandy gave the Eric Ash Memorial Lecture at Convention that year. Fig 1 is reproduced from the October 2016 Bulletin)*

Further to previous correspondence on this subject following the printing of my Handout in the Bulletin in August 2016, Tony Finlayson's reply in October, and Neville Carr's reply in December of the same year. I did reply (at the time) but was not fully satisfied with my answer so I searched again through my notes and books until I found the original of the idea. The idea that the Jubilee Lines were set slightly higher than the Printing Level was first put forward by Dr Gordon Ward in his book "An Introduction to the study of the King George V 1½d Die 2" published by Orlo Smith and Co, Melbourne, c1950. In it he states, (p7) "Jubilee Lines are seen as continuous lines of colour or broken lines surrounding the whole sheet. On the plate itself they are represented by printing surfaces standing above the general level".

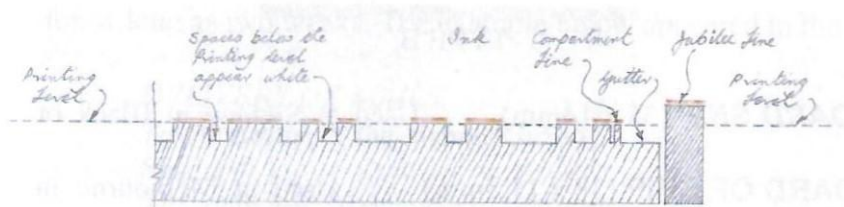


Fig 1

This goes against normal thinking and as far as I am aware may only apply to this issue, printed on thinner plates made from a different type of alloy. The important point to

note is that the Lines are set at a level which is higher than the Printing Level and makes very little impression on the face of the paper BUT if mint blocks are examined on the gum side there is no doubt that the deeper impression can easily be seen. I trust this helps other members who are studying this subject and I look forward to future discussion.

## REPORT ON THE BSAP MEETING AT HAMPEX ON 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021.

A select group gathered for our meeting. We were joined later by Colin Mount. Four of the six original attendees displayed. Sue Burn showed material relating to the early part of Kingsford-Smith's life. The structure is based on the Book "Smithy" by Ian Mackersey. She included letters from Kingsford-Smith to: a commercial dealer; Charles Ulm (who was a better administrator). The display closed with a letter offering a contract that would have secured the future of ANA, but it was delayed over Christmas and in the interim Kingsford-Smith was killed in a crash.

Neville Carr showed the 1928 3d Kookaburra produced for the Melbourne Exhibition. It was printed as a Miniature Sheet at the Exhibition and he showed some variants. He concluded with examples of a licensed printing made by French printers and the 1978 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative issue.

Ian Greig Showed the Victoria Fergusson and Mitchell ½d from 1886, including a cover with 9 copies on. Originally printed in Grey, the colour was later changed to pink. The stamp was also valid for fiscal use and it was noted that straight line cancels are of Railway origin. We were shown colour trials on watermark paper made from the plate (not dies) followed by a run of shades (relating to dates) and it was clear that the pink shade gets stronger. UPU rules required a colour change to green in 1899. He ended with some unusual items: "Cleaning



Trials” to show the effects of attempts to remove CDS cancels; examples of double perforations and illegal printing by the printer.

Patrick Reid showed his one-frame exhibit of the 1947-54 Postage Due markings of Victoria that had recently gained a Large Vermeil in the Virtual Exhibition in South Africa. This was followed by some items that had failed to find a space in his (major) display to the Royal in 2019. These included: a pretty Tasmanian Tourist Association cover with Australian Antarctic Expedition cancels (philatelic); a couple of used covers with multiple embossings supplemented with stamps; a small range of Tattersall Accommodation addresses; an example of Pictorials used on a parcel label, and a block of six of a bogus £1 stamp in the style of the Pictorials showing the Legislative Council.

Patrick thanked all who had brought material and wished everyone a safe journey home

### **REPORT ON THE BSAP ZOOM MEETING OF 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

Robert Benoist presented his survey of North West Pacific Island puncture OS to an international audience comprising some 21 members and including a good Australian contingent. In his opening remarks he commented that he had been to carry out his research by the late BSAP members David Banwell and Patrick Williams. In that the meeting was recorded, and will eventually be posted online, and because an article by Robert on page 182 of the October BULLETIN covers the same topic in some detail, I do not (despite my extensive notes) intend to provide a full meeting report that covers the same ground. Suffice to say that the meeting created good interactions, in particular that with Gary Diffen, and I expect that Robert may be updating his paper in due course. The meeting showed the benefit of the interactive possibilities of the ZOOM meeting and how presenters as well as presentees can learn more about their subjects and find new avenues to explore.

The display was well received and Chairman Brian Peace commented at the end that he was amazed at the rarity of the material. The only problem was that the interactions caused the meeting to overrun somewhat.

PGER 24/10 21

### **REPORT ON THE BSAP LONDON MEETING ON 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

A select group of five members plus one guest gathered to see Patrick Reid’s display of Tasmania Revenues. Three members had sent apologies.

Patrick explained that the display was basically the material that he had shown two years ago in his overall (major) display of Tasmania to the Royal. However, he had brought along a few extra items for which he could not find room in the Royal Display.

He began with the use of Chalon Head postage stamps for revenue purposes, as there were no dedicated Revenue stamps. The first of these were the George & Dragon series, with four values to 10/- issued in 1863, initially



imperforate, but later perforated in various ways. He showed proofs in blocks of four (ex-Butler), and a range of used examples including later printings and the official reprints in blocks of 12. He also showed some use on document.

In 1889 they were supplemented by the long-lived Platypus issue, again with four values, but only to 1/-. He showed original artwork (photo illustration, with margins reduced) and the pencil drawings of the original design (ex-Kiddle), followed by proofs of frame and vignette, die proofs, issued stamps and examples overprinted SPECIMEN. Postal and revenue issues followed with a comment that the 3d platypus stamp was the favoured 3d postage stamp at one time. A remarkable item was an 1891 attempt to send photographs at the packet rate (3d) that was sealed and therefore charged at the letter rate (2/-) It was struck with the "Deficient Postage/Fine" marking (third recorded) and the 3/6 postage due was paid at Mount Nicholas by 14 x 3d platypus all cancelled numeral 276. It is the only recorded example of platypus stamps used to pay Postage Due. The De La Rue essays for 2/6 and 10/-, prepared but not issued, were shown Cancelled to Order.

When the decision was made to separate Postage and Revenue stamps remaining stocks of platypus stamps were overprinted REVENUE in 1899. A range of overprint varieties was shown, including inverted, double and treble plus many varieties of the 1d overprint and a complete pane of the 4d overprint, both on 3d platypus. Other remaining stocks including 5/- and 10/- George & Dragon were also overprinted REVENUE. In 1901 a new printing was made of the Platypus issues including a 2d value and stamps and varieties were shown as well as usage on document and commercial perfins.

The plates were stored in the strongroom and in 1930 they were brought back into use. New stamps were needed for Wages Tax (see below). Three values were printed: 1d, 9d and 7/6d. The 9d was in three different styles, some were perforated and some rouletted. All stamps were shown as well as varieties and perfins and use on document.

There was a need for a £1 Revenue stamp, and the original delivery of the £1 Tablet (250,000) was far more than needed. Residual stocks were overprinted "REVENUE", but use continued for many years. The latest recorded use is believed to be 1956. The stamp was further overprinted 5d in 1918 and 1s. in 1919 to help use up stocks. A corner block of 12 of this stamp was shown with the 1s doubled on the first two rows of the sheet.

In 1904, the first set to £1 of the "Numeral of Value" series was introduced. printed on V over Crown paper. Values to 5/- were reprinted on Crown over A paper in 1907. There are many varieties, perforation changes and shades on these issues. A single page of varieties of the 1d was shown as well as usage on documents. A third printing was made in 1919 printed on unwatermarked paper with a Crown over TAS device lithographed on the paper before the stamps were printed. A fourth series was printed in 1920 on unwatermarked paper. All four series have perforation combinations of 11, 11½ and 12. The final fifth series was printed from 1931 on unwatermarked wove paper with some colour changes and it was rouletted. The plates were in use until 1955 and deteriorated over time. The quality of ink also varied and there are many shades. In 1954 new plates were made for the 1d and 2d values. Over this time there were two emergency issues: in 1907 and 1917 of 1s in black on 3d yellow and in 1953 a change in stamp duty required a ½d value. The 1d was overprinted "½".

In 1955 a new series designed by Mr Koskie of Hobart Technical College was introduced with values in three designs up to £1. Proofs in blocks of six were shown followed by the



issued stamps, printed on no watermark paper. Two different roulettes were used. A £5 value was added in 1957. A further issue was made in 1961 on paper watermarked "T". The £5 is not known on watermarked paper. Examples were shown of use on document, attempted use for postage; perforation varieties and commercial overprints (in lieu of perfins).

The move to decimal currency necessitated a new issue in 1966. The watermark "T" paper was used and there were values to \$3. The 8c yellow was swiftly replaced as it was easily confused with the 5c orange. 14 used and one mint copy are known. Two used were shown. The issue was rouletted in various gauges. Later issues included \$5, \$10 and \$20. A used block of 40 of the \$5 was shown. Finally a page of commercial overprints was shown.

The introduction of Wages Tax (a form of Income Tax) in 1930 eventually gave rise to a number of new issues. At first regular Duty Stamps from the Numeral of Value series were used. From February 1935 these were overprinted "WAGES TAX" in two different settings and colours. These were shown, together with use on appropriate documents. Finally in this section the complete set to £5 of Commonwealth Tax instalment stamps in use 1941-44 was shown.

The final section was devoted to the Impressed Duty stamps, introduced in 1880. Originally they were colourless with date plugs. The date plugs were soon abandoned and most impressions are in red. The section began with an original pencil drawing for the design, followed by proof strikes of various values and examples on use on both cutouts and documents. The original series had values to £20, but during the 1920s and 30s further values were added, most not using a platypus design but retaining the red colour. In 1956 the series



was superseded by the "Lion" series which was used up to Decimalisation. A small selection of proofs was shown followed by a range of values as cutouts and on documents. A decimal series followed but this was not shown.

Brian Peace thanked Patrick for an educational meeting. He is now more conversant with Wages Tax and the uses of various revenue stamps. He loved the item from the Gas Company and the platypus sketches.

PGER 22/10/21

## **REPORT OF THE LONDON MEETING OF 10 NOVEMBER 2021**

Having swapped programme slots around to accommodate a medical appointment, your editor presented Bi-Colour Postage Dues (Part 1). Our Chairman was to introduce but railway problems kept him in Leeds, so I introduced and presented to the 4 members who came. Colin Mount (Programme Secretary) had asked for up to 180 sheets in a full display; but as we were in the first floor room with 15 frames available I put up 240 sheets, including 2 exhibits. This enabled a wide range of features of due collecting to be illustrated, though other aspects will need to await a subsequent display, as will the mono-colour dues (once some of that material has been written up).

The display started with the basic values from the Colony of Victoria dues starting with those printed brown & blue before moving to the green and red stamps, most stamps being shown upright & inverted watermark, mint & used and overprint *Specimen*. This was followed by the 5/- Victoria Due Study, a display exhibit that had been prepared for the RPSL Thames Valley meeting, pre pandemic. The use of significant numbers of 5/- stamps on (amended newspaper) docketts used by the Education Department for bulk postage facilitated study, bearing in mind 58/120 frame plate positions have an identified variety, rendering most blocks platable.

The display went on to illustrate flaws on the 1d, 2d, 10d & 2/- Victoria Dues, including extensive ranges of singles, blocks and large part sheets. This included the 1d line flaw that appears from top to bottom of the sheet on the final Victoria printing and the 1d Die 1 of the first Commonwealth printing as the Victoria Value Plates were initially used. The 10d value illustrated both sub types on the value plate. The 5/- study and to some extent the 10d and 2/- studies add to the information in Purves book (and in due course will be presented in the Bulletin).

The initial thick paper printing of Australia was then presented including an extensive range of JBC and CA monograms, and 1d & 2d perf 11 examples (the latter being unique). These were the first stamps of the Commonwealth, predating the Kangaroos by a couple of years. The display moved on to include the Dues of the George V Period Exhibit, originally presented at Stampex in 2019 as part of RPSL's 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration. This section included Monograms on the Thin Paper of 10/- & £1 values, and used pairs of 3d & 4d values watermark sideways, before Imprints were introduced, and the move to print stamps with a central gutter, necessitating two of the six "sub plates" (that formed the sheet) down the middle so half sheets of 6 x 10 stamps could be formed (rather than a whole sheet of 6 x (4 x 5) sub blocks). An extensive range of imprints was included, and this continues in the next part where 3d and, 6d Perf 11 imprint blocks were included (an article about the latter will follow shortly), and from the Itaglio/Recess printed period, the decision having been taken pre war to replace the almost 30 year old frame plates, followed by the postwar decision to redraw the value dies.

The exhibit included several inverted watermark examples, notably the corner piece from the original block of 1d 4 inverted watermark and 1½d, both third watermark, the latter found in Scotland about 18 years ago. Other than a few examples in the George V exhibit, space did not permit Frame Plates (two plates used) varieties to be shown, but did allow for the ½d value plate study to be included. This is an extensive (almost 40 page) study of varieties on the various printings (save the relatively scarce thin paper perf 14 apple green printing), and includes numerous singles, blocks and large part sheets.

The starter collection I bought for the Victoria study commented that with all the various watermarks, main shades, different perforations, that a "complete" collection would require over 7000 stamps, and whilst the overall exhibit included many of these, there are many more still to be found.

Questions were dealt with as those present examined the material.

*Illustration to right – the 1d progressive (white) line flaw through 1 (see base of 1 –moves from left to right) – rows 2-9 illustrated*





**BACK OF BEYOND? (ARTICLE 3) compiled by Ian Spencer (999)**

To make up for the lack of this section last time, Ian has sent a rather longer piece;

**Can you find a BIGGER stamp variety?**

NSW Railway stamps are much larger than postage stamps at 45 mm square. Below, are three examples where the whole of the right frame is missing – thought to be previously un-recorded. These are all from different stations – two are on entires



(1) West Ryde

(2) Stanmore



(3) Wagga Wagga

(4) Normal Right Side - Wynyard

By comparison with the Wynyard example, with a normal right side, you can see how much is actually missing. All three show damage from the top frame, though the “S” of “RAILWAYS”. The right side of the name plate is missing, along with the “S” of “WALES”, and all have a spur at forty five degrees from the bottom frame. All three have individual characteristics:

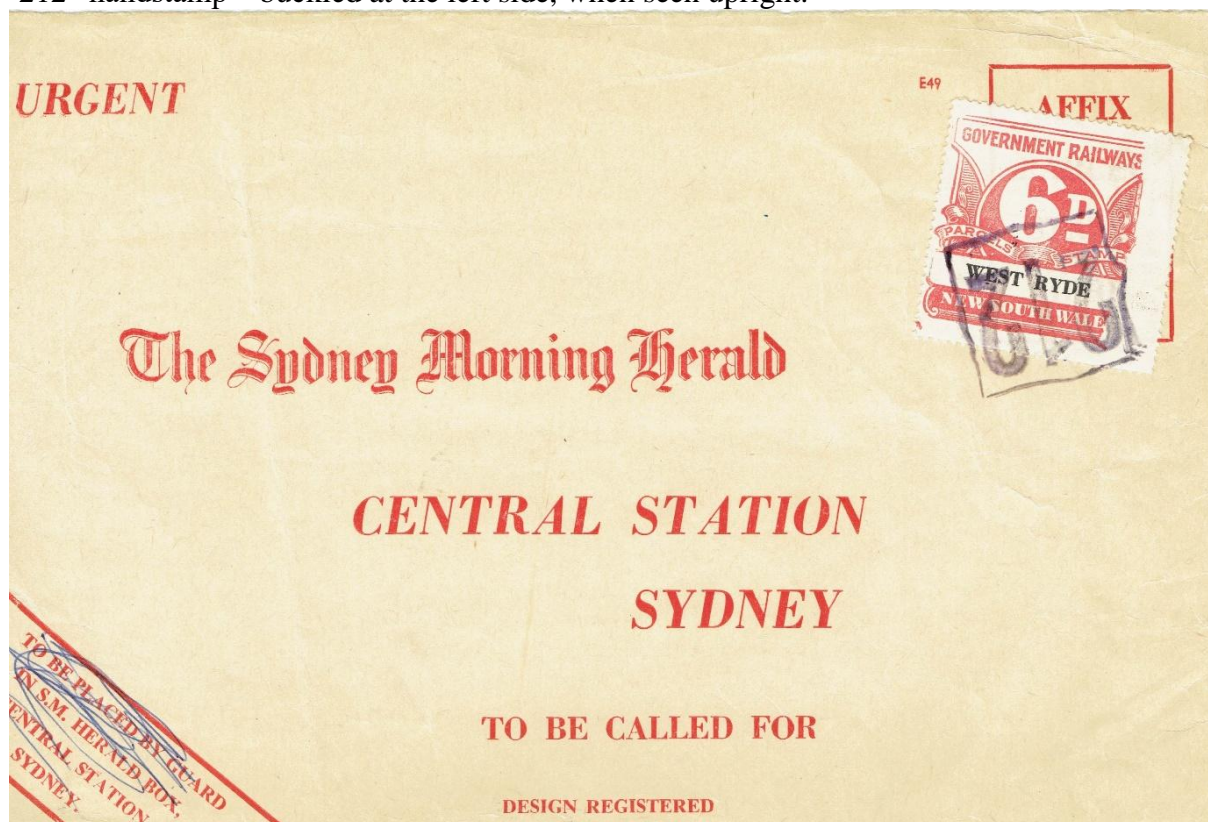
(1) West Ryde

Broken top right corner – outer frame missing. Left edge of the name plate is missing. White dot under the “L” of “PARCELS”.



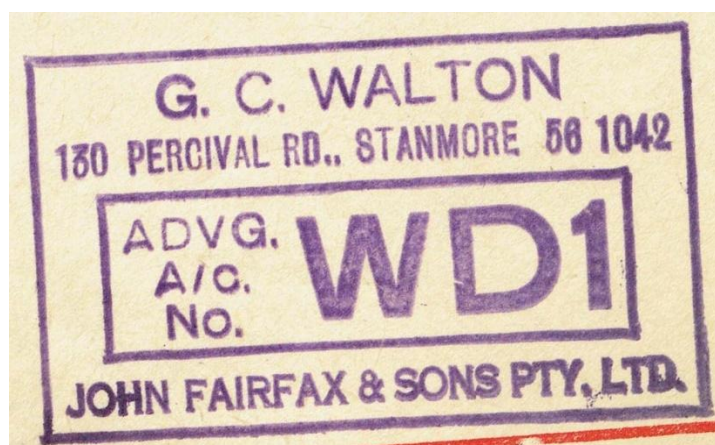
Bottom frame is buckled. Coloured flaw below bottom left corner.

West Ryde is a Sydney suburb, 19km from Central. This example is a on a front sent to the Sydney Morning Herald, probably containing advertising copy. Cancelled by a square, rubber “212” handstamp – buckled at the left side, when seen upright.



(2) Stanmore

Top left corner is almost complete. Flaw through “P” of “PARCELS” Left edge of the name plate is much more complete, White dot under the “L” of “PARCELS”. Coloured flaw at bottom left corner has smaller size. Bottom frame is more buckled. downwards. This copy is also on a front addressed to the Sydney Morning Herald, & bears a large rectangular (62 x 36 mm) cachet applied by the newsagent who sent it.



Newsagent cachet  
– applied diagonally

Stanmore is in another Sydney suburb, 5 Km from Central. There is still a newsagent’s shop at 130 Percival Road, Stanmore.



### (3) Wagga Wagga

Printed in a much paler shade of red. Left side of the stamp is weakly printed, but fairly complete. Flaw through “P” of “PARCELS” and the bottom frame under “PARCELS” is broken at left. No coloured flaw under bottom left corner. Scratches to the left of and above the “N” of “NEW”. Bottom frame appears to be less buckled

Wagga Wagga is on the main Sydney to Melbourne line, 521 Km (324 miles) south of Sydney. . The “130C “ cancel is also known in second type, with a more oval “O” and a smaller letter “C” – there may a partial strike of this cancel at right.

The fact that all three copies are from different stations is not of special significance. Sheets of railway stamps were printed in bulk, and the station names added later.

### (4) Wynyard

This copy has a normal right side, but has a small break in the top frame, near the top-left corner, and the left side of the name plate is broken. Flaws above “NEW SOUTH WALES” may not be constant and there is a white flaw in the bottom colour, near the right corner.

Very little has been seen by the author on the printing flaws on these railway stamps. Peck and Smith (1999) illustrate a number of flaws, mainly on the penny value and one sixpence, but nothing of this magnitude! The major difficulty in studying these stamps is the rather limited quantities available. The author has had these three examples for more than twenty years, with the two on entire coming from the same auction lot, bought in Australia. No other examples have been seen since then.

The author would love to hear from anyone who collects these fascinating stamps and / or cancels, particularly if you have any additional published information on these.

### **CAN ANYONE FIND A BIGGER STAMP VARIETY?**

#### References

- (1) “Priced Catalogue of New South Wales Revenue and Railway Stamps”, pages 97-98. Edited by Richard C. Peck and David Ingle Smith (1999.)

### **MEMBER BIOGRAPHY (29) ALAN CROSS**



When I became Bulletin Editor mid way through last year, I indicated (at least to some people) an intention to say something about myself, only to discover over the next few months that our Chairman (who has been the commissioner of the vast majority of the two dozen plus profiles so far published) had a reasonable queue of profiles “ready for publication”.

That queue has now been worked through, so there is space for mine! I was born in Leicestershire in the mid 1960s where we came to live next door to the Headmaster of the primary school, his wife being my infant school teacher. As far as I can recall he collected Hungarian stamps, and (whilst, like most of their generation my parents had childhood collections), his collecting interest influenced my initial wish to start in the hobby. In the long pre e-mail days my mother corresponded with a number of family/college/early career friends who over time resided in South Africa then Canada, Australia and (eventually), New Zealand, so a steady supply of up to date stamps arrived monthly or so from these countries which fed into my childhood collection.

The family moved to SE Sheffield in the early 1970s when my father became Deputy Head of the secondary school there, being promoted to Headteacher 4 years later just before I went to the school. As a child I was “going to collect all the stamps in the world” and my grandparents bought me Gibbons SOTW 1973 Edition (then still one thick volume)... I still have it! Obviously I came to realise the initial ambition was unrealistic and I needed to specialise, which initially meant GB and the 4 afore-mentioned countries ... after all I had most of those (and quite a lot of Hungarian stamps I had been given by the neighbour mentioned). The ambition then became one of each in the catalogue, which got extended to include the different watermark options as I became aware of them. My collections grew, from postal approvals, some local fairs, though inevitably my childhood collection had many cheaper stamps or poorer quality examples of higher catalogue stamps, as that was what my pocket money could afford. In due course I came to concentrate more on GB and Australia.

Following school I went to Durham to do maths before moving to Reading in the mid 1980s to be a trainee accountant with the local authority. The collection continued at a low level, though as I began to earn my own money I started investigating local auctions and fairs, eventually going to Stampex/Philatex in London. I am not sure whether there or on an occasion in Reading when he had organised a fare there that I came to meet Ian Perry, and over a few years I filled most of the remaining gaps in my “one of each” Australia collection (excluding more expensive stamps beyond my early career budget). At some stage Ian introduced me to postage dues with a “starter lot”, and I also began to get interested in stamps with watermark varieties (mainly inverted). Over time, I met and began to buy from the overseas dealers notably Michael Eastick, Andrew Kimonides, Richard Juzwin and Torsten Weller among others. As my career progressed I was spending more and started to keep records of that spending and insured my collection, keeping the best part of it in a small safe in my home office. I acquired a number of certificated stamps (mainly scarce invested watermarks; several of which I had acquired before the prices went crazy).

Unfortunately around 2003 there was a burglary at my home and the safe was ripped off the wall, so I lost the lot ... though mercifully the records I had enabled the insurer to pay out an amount of money that was sufficient by then to repay my mortgage. I didn't actually pay it all off retaining some to restart the collection, but the focus shifted; it had been on Kangaroos and Heads, with some interest in shades and varieties, but I decided I would build a specialised postage due collection, and for a few years bought not too many other things. (I did separately rebuild a general GB collection, far better than the one had been stolen).

At that time Michael sold me a varieties collection, which became the starter collection for my Victoria varieties collection, and the Postage Due collection grew to several volumes (that fill a larger, more robust safe I have in my house). Just before Christmas 10 years after the burglary, I received a couple of calls from Arthur O'Hanlon from Provincial Auctions in Didcot and Ian Perry. The former had phoned the latter about a collection that had been submitted for auction, and Ian quickly realised that the material was my stolen collection. It was quite nice in the new year to take certificates into the Police Station in Reading that I had kept separate from the stamps and point out the stamps they were certificates for. The insurer agreed that I could have the collection back if I paid them back the insurance settlement, but (although not all the material returned) I think that worked in my favour, although I had a more substantial mortgage again (and quite a few duplicates).

I joined BSAP and started attending Convention, London and Ringwood meetings, as you will know becoming Bulletin Editor in mid 2020, a couple of years after I left Reading BC



(after well over 30 years service), leaving (in a management / finance reorganisation) as Head of Finance. I just retain the (unpaid) role of Chair of the Pension Board these days, which I will probably carry on doing at least until I draw mine shortly after I am 60 in a couple of year or so's time.

Somewhere in the years after the burglary, the late David Watson was due to show his Postage Dues at a Scottish show in Perth shortly after Easter (which was late that year), and I managed to go ... spending the day after the meeting at the show, and sought every postage due offered by all the dealers, among them spotting the (unrecognised) 1½d inverted watermark (which came to be D93w, now cat £6,500); I was delighted to pay the dealer the £5 he had on it; it remains the only known example (I am aware of) showing it to various people at the Telford convention, which was "en route" home from my Scottish holiday. At the other end of the price spectrum, a few years later I was delighted to acquire (as a phone bidder in the middle of the night) the third discovered 20/- stroke used, by far the most expensive thing I ever envisage buying other than a house (costing more than half the price I paid for my first home in Reading and about a third of what I paid for my present home). Whilst the late Paul Fletcher's Dues collection is undoubtedly the best dues collection ever formed, I suspect my dues varieties collection may be the most comprehensive yet assembled, and it is far from "complete." On this point I am drawn back to a statement in the starter collection Michael Eastick sold me "if one were to complete a collection comprising all possible varieties of these stamps, such as all the frame plate flaws of the Victorian stamps on each of the different printing, with all the colour, perforation and watermark variations possible, together with the .... value then ... the Commonwealth, the minimum number required is staggering, being in excess of 7,500." I have quite a few of these still to find!

## **AUSTRALIAN PHILATELY IN PRINT #6, 2021.**

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

### **AUSTRALIAN STAMPS PROFESSIONAL, Vol.15, No.5.**

- Australia's Rocketeers and their Rocket Mail Experiments Pt.2 – Nickolas Oughton.
- Australian Privately Manufactured Formular Airletters and Aerogrammes Pt.4: The Commercial Issues, Education & Science – Neil Cornish.
- Collecting the KGV Four Pence Orange, Violet & Blue Varieties – Dr Scott Starling.
- Mail to Australian POWs in Germany & Italy during WW2 -Andrew Brockett.
- A Postcard from China, a typhoon, the Steamer Changsha and the "Detained on Board" Ship Cachet -Brian Peace.
- Patrick (Paddy) Farrell & Accomplices rob the Beechworth Mail Coach - Brian R Peace FRPSL APR.
- 2021 Newcastle Stamp & Coin Expo -new dates.
- 1879 Sydney International Exhibition – The allure of No.1 – Peter Bond.
- Victoria Pt.4 – The Registered and Too Late Stamps – Les Molnar.
- The OS/NSW type A puncture on Kangaroo issues – identifying the 12 dies Pt.4: a look at some of the forgeries – Tom Weir.
- Victorian Post Offices – The GoldFields- Jenny Colman.

### **CINDERELLAS AUSTRALASIA, Vol.35, No.2, August 2021.**

- From the Secretary – Paul Storm.
- War Loan Bond and Liberty Loan Labels – extract from April 2017 CSCA Journal.
- From the Editor – Marilyn Gendek.

Great Bitter Lake Association Stamp Catalogue by Peter Valdner.  
 In the MailBox: “Genuine or Cinderella? KUT QE2 Official” – Richard Peck;  
 “Miscellaneous Labels: Follow up”. Richard Rathbone recalls these may have been trade cards issued with Nabisco breakfast cereals in the 1950s. “Mona Lisa caricature labels” – issued by MAD magazine over 50 years ago; “Nigerian Scams”, Peter Simpfendorfer provided a scan of his collection of Nigerian forgeries showing wide colour variation.  
 Queensland Land Tax Clearance Searches – Dave Elsmore.  
 New Revenue Catalogues: “Queensland Revenues – The Colourless Impressed Stamp Duty” – Dave Elsmore SRM.  
 Fiji Bomber Fund 1941 – Joan Orr.  
 Queen Victoria Sanatorium 1947 – Paul Storm.  
 Carn Iar: the pursuit of information – Ron Davies.  
 Duchess of Gloucester WW2 Red Cross Appeal – Marilyn Gendek.  
 The Redex Australia Trials – Richard Rathbone.  
 Dual Purpose Cinderella: Trans Australia Railway & Empire Fund.  
 Mevu: response to 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary article.  
 Meters with rare cancellations – Richard Peck.

**THE QUEENSLAND STAMP COLLECTOR, Vol.38, No.3, Aug-Oct 2021.**

Editorial – John Crowsley.  
 APF News; QPC News; Queensland Philatelic Societies and Stamp Clubs, Club Scene.  
 Talk Queensland – Some examples of Special Postal Department Arrangements for Mail

Despatch -John Stein.  
 QANTAS 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Round the World Flight – Jeff Gunston.  
 Registered Post, Joan Orr.  
 Philately and Education – Paul Xavier.

THE STAMP LOVER, Vol.113, No.1, February 2021. A few more books on Forgeries – Michael Round.

THE STAMP LOVER, Vol.113, No.2, April 2021. No Australian Content.

THE STAMP LOVER, Vol.113, No.3, June 2021.

Book Review: “Australian Crash Mail from other incidents, Vol.3, 1936-1939 – Brian R Peace”.

THE STAMP LOVER, Vol.113, No.4, August 2021.

Obituary: Christine Earle FRPSL.  
 Book Review: “Australian Airmails across the Pacific, 1937-1951 – Laurence Kimpton.

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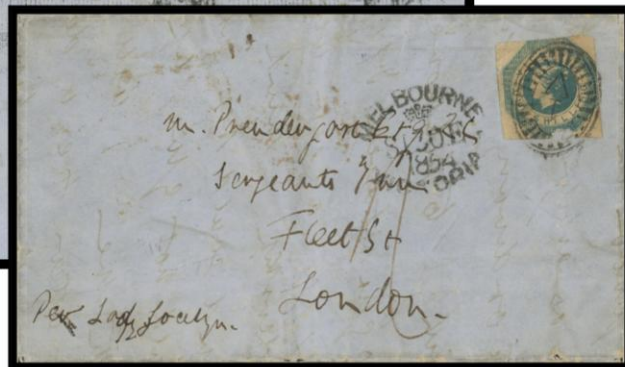
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