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

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Meetings: The Australian Philatelic Society meets bimonthly on the third Monday of (February, April, June, August, October, December), at 7.45 pm at the RSL Canterbury Memorial Homes, 152 Canterbury Rd, Canterbury, Melway Ref: page 46 C 10/11. Visitors welcome.

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2008 Programme		
16 February 2009	John Steward	Fabulous assortment of Victorian Railway Station Postcards
20 April 2009	Members	Work in Progress — 8 sheets per member
15 June 2009	John Young	Australian Overseas Airmail 1930-50

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Harewood

Cover

June 1932 issue of 8mils Postcard which resulted from an increase of the foreign postal rate from 7mils to 8mils. Uprated 2mils for airmail transmission from Tel Aviv to Berlin. Airmail etiquette has been struck with a Jusqu'à Marking to cancel the airmail.

I believe this has been applied at Brindisi. The airmail postcard rate as of 25.11.32 was:

10mils Great Britain

15mils Foreign

This postcard has been underpaid by 5mils thus the cancelation.

References:

McQueen I. 1993. *Air Cancels. The sequel to Jusqu'à Markings Part Two*. G.S.M. August 1993. London. Stanley Gibbons.

Proud E. 1985. *The Postal History of British Palestine 1918-1948*. Heathfield, E. Sussex: Proud Bailey Co Ltd.



Editorial

Tony Lyon

Well I have finally managed to put this issue of the Journal to bed. Five weeks overseas in November / December made it impossible to get it out in time and a lack of material didn't help. My apologies for the lateness and I will endeavour to get back on track in March. But I need material to publish. My trip took me to Indonesia for a ministry assignment for three weeks. I then met my wife in Belfast and we visited distant relatives in Glenarm, County Antrim where we were made most welcome. My Great Grandfather left from there for New Zealand in the 1890's. After four days of snow and ice we flew to Paris for a week. Visited the Musée d'Orsay to view some stunning art. Added Henri Fantin-Latour to my list of favourite artists. Loved the dark sombreness of his works. I will turn the rest of the editorial over to the webmaster.

Dear APS Member,

I would like to let you know that the APS Web site has been revitalised and to invite you to use it. This enhanced Web site will be kept up to date. It provides both members and the general public with information about the Society. As a benefit to members it now restricts access to some areas, such as the latest Journals, to members only. So please log onto the Web site (<http://aps.org.au>) and send a message to the Secretary asking to be registered as a financial member.

The Society intends to use this Web site as our primary means of communication to Members so, as well as registering, please use the Notifications facility to ensure that you are notified whenever new items, such as the latest journal, are added to the Web site. If you have difficulties using the Web site's features, please read the User Guides and, if you still have problems, use the Contact Us section to send a message to the Webmaster, clearly explaining your concerns and including a contact land line phone number. Our Webmaster is very responsive and will attend to your issues promptly.

Privacy Statement

The Society collects, uses, discloses and holds personal information of members in accordance with the Commonwealth Privacy Act 1988.

The Society collects personal information about a member in order to:

1. maintain a current membership list;
2. inform members about the Society's activities;
3. publish details of members, with their consent, in the AJPH or other Society publications.

Members' personal information will be kept confidential and secure and will not be accessible for unauthorised use, amendment or disclosure. Members may seek access to and lodge any complaints about their personal information by contacting the Society's Privacy Office, John Young.

The Society will strive to ensure that the personal information of members is accurate, up to date and complete. Members can assist the Society in this task by providing correct information and advising when details have changed.

New Zealand Musings

New Zealand at war 1939-45

By Tony Lyon

One of the fascinating aspects of philately is how one decides what they will collect. I guess the reasons are many and varied. When it comes to stamps, it is often the fact that you live or were born in that particular country. Therefore many Australians collect Australian stamps. I live in Australia and have Australian citizenship, but collect that which pertains to New Zealand because that is where I was born. However it is the other areas of philately which often presents surprises as to why someone collects that particular field.

Such is the case with my collecting of New Zealand WW1 Military covers. Back in the 1970's, remember them? There was a small postal bid auction out of Perth, only one page in the Stamp Monthly which read "25 New Zealand WW1 Military Covers" with an estimate of about \$25. I decided to place a bid on the lot. Until this point I had not collected NZ WW2 Military covers and had no thought of doing so. I won the lot and it duly arrived and a passion was ignited. There was something about them that intrigued me. Before long I was on a mission to acquire more and to learn about them.

After a period of time I put together my first exhibit and eventually entered a Sydney Exhibition. That was about 1990. I soon realised that if I was going to exhibit and display military material there was much I needed to know. I received some very helpful advice from David Collyer after my Sydney showing, but it became obvious that if I was to persevere with exhibiting, I not only needed information on the military postal system, but also an understanding of the workings of the military.

I would venture to say that acquiring this knowledge took me the next 10 years, as little by little I accumulated covers and every type of publication about New Zealand military postal history I could get my hands on. I began buying the various military histories both official and unofficial. These were not cheap and take up more space than she who must be obeyed would like. In it all I found pleasure and fun. Fun having a cover and trying to make sense of it and sometimes waiting years before the bits fell into place.

Sometimes though, in spite of all the research, you are still not sure whether you have got it right. That is the joy of publishing, if you are wrong someone will correct you. Fortunately both here in Australia and New Zealand we have some very knowledgeable military postal historians. For a long time I tried to make sure I was 100% certain that I had it right before I would even show something, but realised that this was an hindrance and denied the opportunity for others to help. My experience has been that there are those who are more than willing to point you in the right direction, or clarify something you have stated or even show you that you have more of a gem than you actually realised.

The purpose of this article and is to commence to show some of the covers that I have exhibited and what I was able to glean from them. One of the difficulties in exhibiting military covers is the fact that there is no separate class for this area. In my humble opinion there should be, as you are forced into either entering Postal History class, or, Open class which allows more scope, but is not always available. I have tended to enter my exhibit in Postal History but it does limit some of the aspects which I get particular enjoyment from. However, maybe there are not enough Military exhibitors to warrant a separate class.

My interest extends beyond just the routes, rates and markings to the reason the postal unit was in a particular place at a given time. For example, one could show postal unit markings and ignore the diversity of movements of that unit. I find it more interesting to show covers from the various locations. However this could become boring for a viewer as it may mean that there are many covers with similar markings with only the date differentiating between items. However, a different censor marking may also differentiate

as originating from another unit, battalion, base, hospital etc. This is the part I really enjoy trying to ascertain what unit a cover originated from. Some of this is made easy by the information already published, but many still need to be allocated. Life then is never dull.

I will as the King said to the White Rabbit, "Begin at the beginning and go on till you come to the end and then stop." (*Lewis Carroll: Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*). Or as Cole Porter wrote, "*Begin at the Beguine*." (1935 Broadway Musical, Jubilee). But I digress.

New Zealand responded to the declaration of war and began to train additional troops to raise a division for the Middle East. These troops were sent in three echelons, the second was diverted to UK because of Italy's entry into the war and didn't leave for Egypt until January 1941. The second echelon arrived at Maadi camp in September 1940..

The first echelon 2 NZEF comprising the 4 NZ Infantry Brigade arrived at Maadi Camp situated 12 Km south of central Cairo on the 12th February 1940.

The 4th NZ Infantry Brigade (until August 1942)

- I. 18 Battalion (1 NZ Rifle Battalion Hopuhopu Camp, after becoming 18 Battalion moved to Papakura Camp).

Organised on a district basis: A Coy men from Auckland City and its surroundings, B Coy Hauraki, the Bay of Plenty, and the Rotorua area, C Coy North Auckland, D Coy Waikato, 1 Reinforcement Coy. There was also a HQ Coy.

Sailed to Egypt on HMNZT Z4 or Orient Lines '*Orion*'.¹

- II. 19 Battalion (19 Wellington Rifle Battalion, training camp Trentham).

Made up of men from Wellington A Coy, West Coast B Coy, Hawkes Bay C Coy and Taranaki D Coy. Note* I have assumed this was how the companies were comprised as the unit history does not specify. There was also a HQ Coy.

Sailed to Egypt on HMNZT Z3 or P&O liner '*Strathaird*'.²

- III. 20 Battalion (3 Rifle Battalion, renamed 20 Battalion and formed at Burnham Camp).

Made up of men from the South Island. The Rifle Companies were organized on a geographical basis: A Coy Canterbury, B Coy Southland, C Coy Nelson, Marlborough and the West Coast, D Coy Otago. There was also a HQ Coy.

Sailed to Egypt on HMNZT Z2 the '*Dunera*'.³

Other units that sailed as part of the first echelon

- IV. 27 NZ (Machine Gun) Battalion (formed at Burnham Camp).

The men who comprised the 27 (MG) Battalion came from all over New Zealand. Initially men from North Auckland, Auckland, and Waikato were in 1 Coy, Taranaki, Wellington West Coast, Wellington, Hawkes Bay and Wairapa 2 Coy, men from the South Island 3 Coy, and members of Scottish Territorial units and others of Scottish descent 4 Coy. HQ Coy was made of of those with previous experience in Administration, signals, transport etc.

Sailed to Egypt on HMNZT Z6 the Polish ship '*Sobieski*'.⁴

1. Other units which sailed on the *Orion* were: ASC
2. Other units which sailed on the *Strathaird* were: NZANS, NZMC, Divisional Postal, Provost Company, HQ Divisional Engineers, 6 Field Company NZE, 5 Field Park Company NZE, Base Records, Base Pay, Base Post Office.

3. Other units which sailed on the *Dunera* were: some personnel of 4 Field Ambulance, 4 Field Hygiene Section and Divisional Signals.
 4. Other units which sailed on the *Sobieski* were: 4 Reserve Mechanical Transport Company, a section of both the Medical Corp and the Dental Corp.
- VII. New Zealand Engineers (training at Hopuhopu Camp and later Waiouru).

The Engineer units with the First Echelon were:

HQ Divisional Engineers,	5 Field Park Company	6 Field Park Company
NZ Base Post Office	Divisional Postal Unit	
10 LAD	11 LAD	12 LAD

Sailed to Egypt on HMNZT Z3 or P&O liner '*Strathaird*'.²

One of the indications that a cover is from a Engineer unit is the designation of the rank of Sapper rather than Private for the lowest rank. In a Cavalry unit, Private becomes Trooper.

What is a LAD you ask? Well firstly, governments and military love acronyms. How would they survive without them. The puzzle for the military postal history collector is trying to decipher them. LAD stood for Light Aid Detachment.

- VII. Divisional Cavalry (3 parts of the regiment training at Ngaruawahia Military Camp and the nucleus of a Squadron at Narrow Neck Military Camp.

Sailed to Egypt on Z5 or CPR '*Rangitata*'.⁵

5. Other units which sailed on the *Rangitata* were: Staff of 2 NZEF Overseas Base, detachments of 13 LAD and 14 LAD, some of 4 Field Ambulance, some RNVR ratings and 3 sisters of NZANS.

- VIII. 2 NZ Artillery (training at Hopu Hopu where 4 Field regiment was formed)

.Sailed to Egypt on Z1 the CPR '*Empress of Canada*'.⁶

6. Other units which sailed on the *Empress of Canada* were: Some Medical Corp personnel and nurses.

The Chief Base Post Office

A BAPO was set up by the Base Postal Unit 2NZEF, sharing space with the Australian and British BPO in the Civil GPO in Cairo. There was inadequate space so the NZBPU sought other accommodation. The requirement was for a distribution centre for mail to the respective post offices. The BAPO remained in Cairo throughout the war. Initially the Egyptian Government insisted postage was prepaid using Egyptian stamps. The rate was 10 mills per 20 grammes. Free postage for surface mail at a rate of 2 letters per week was applied from 26 June 1940. It was allowed when NZ troops moved to the Western Desert because of a lack of postage stamps.

It was not until 1 May 1941 when a new Anglo-Egyptian Treaty allowed free surface postage for forces mail. However it was a requirement that all such mail had to be cancelled "Egypt Postage Prepaid (E.P.P.P.). This in practice applied to base and stationary APO services in Egypt (Startup and Proud. (1992). *History of the New Zealand Military Postal Services 1845—1991*. Heathfield, East Sussex, UK: Postal History Publishing Co). Other rates will be discussed in this article as they arise.



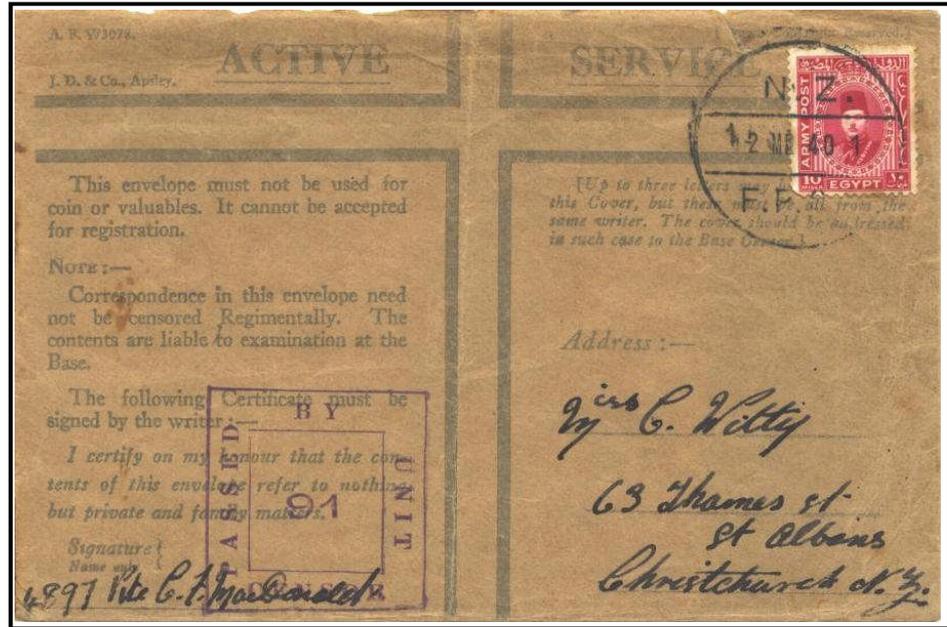
A last day example (dated 4 MR 40) from N.Z. ARMY BASE POST OFFICE located at Maadi Camp (14.2.40—4.3.40). The Airmail rate was 40 mils. New Zealand used the Empire Route, Cairo by Imperial Airways (later BOAC) to Singapore, Qantas to Sydney and until 30 April 1940, by sea to Auckland.



A first day example from Cairo GPO 5 MR 40 (5.3.40—1.8.40)

NZ Field Post Office 1

First location in Egypt was at Alexandria at the civil post office from 5 MR 1940 until 21 JE 1940 when heavy German bombing caused its closure. It moved to Maadi Camp opening 22 JE 1940 until 1 JE 1943 when it moved to Mena opening 2 JE 1943 until 31 JY 1943. Initially FPO 1 acted as a sub-base post office at Alexandria. It made up and received sea mail from/to New Zealand which arrived at the ports of Alexandria and Port Said. Airmails through Ras el Tin via BOAC service. FPO 1 was re-designated MPO KW7 18 Jan 1943.

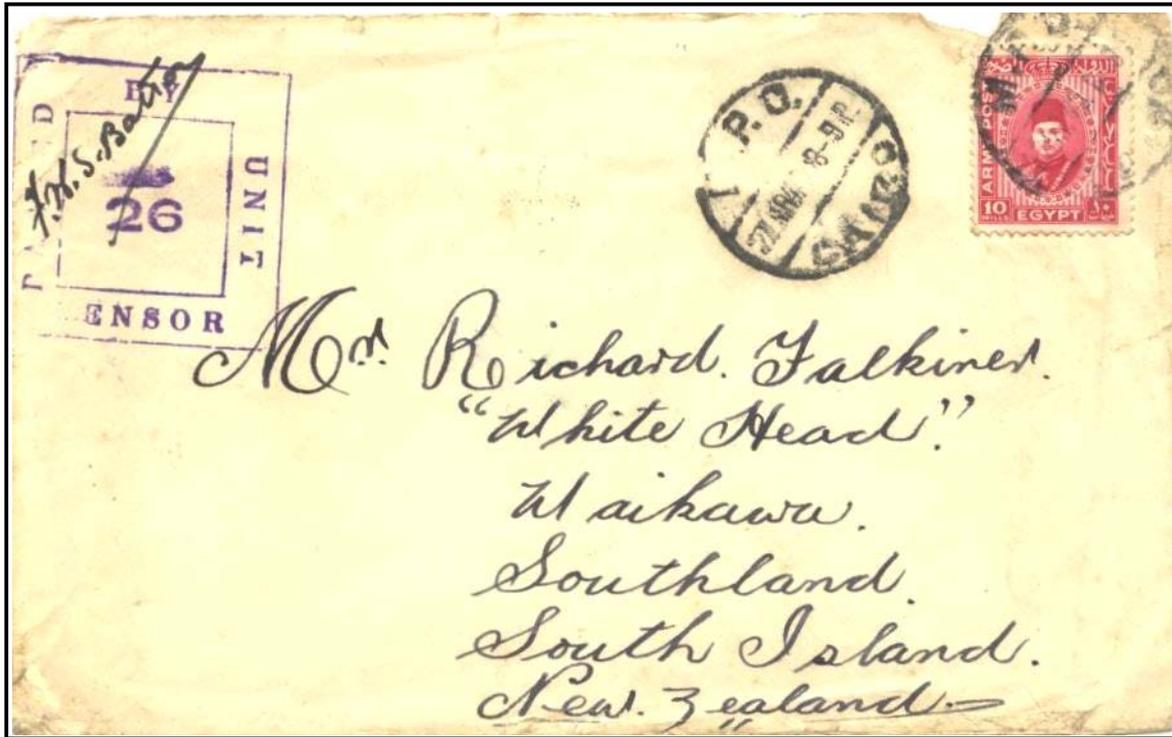


Active Service type cover from member of the 1st echelon showing the surface rate of 10 mils per 20 grammes prepaid by Egypt Army Post stamp. Posted through the NZ FPO 1 dated 12 MR 40. It was censored by unit squared censor 91 signed by the sender. This was located at Alexandria civil post office 5.3.40—21.6.40.



Backstamp

OAS Cover dated 25 MR 40 at the surface rate of 10 mils per 20 grammes. Received at Beaumont NZ Post Office 27 AP 40, a one month transmission time.



On active Service cover showing the surface rate of 10 mils per 20 grammes prepaid by Egypt Army Post stamp. Posted through the British MPO Cairo 27 MR 40. It is backstamped by the NZ Army Base Post Office at Cairo dates 28 MR 40 and on forwarded to BPO E 602 dated 28 MR 40 at Alexandria where it would have been sent by sea to NZ.

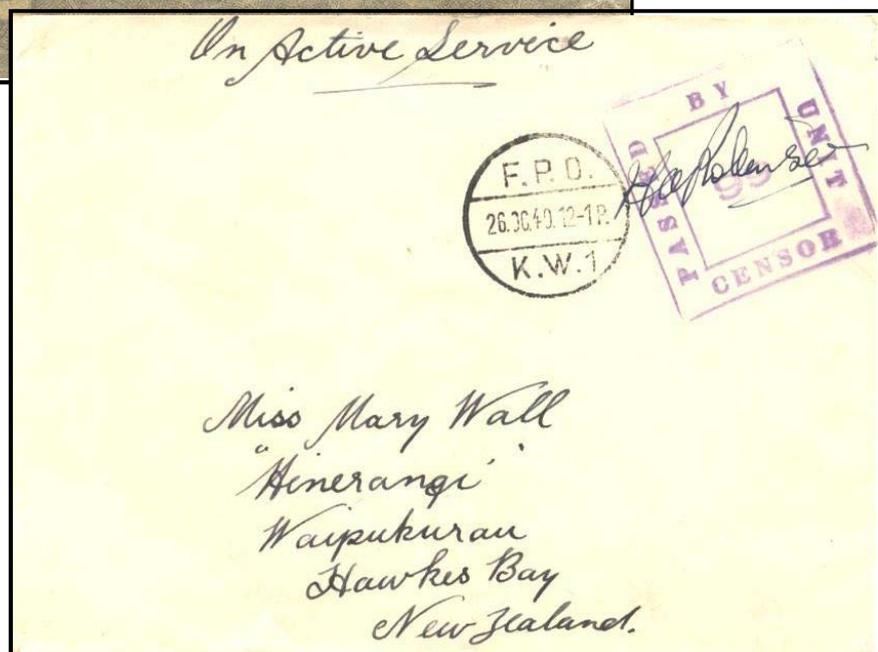


Active Service type cover from member of the 1st echelon showing the Airmail rate of 70 mils. This was the rate for a 20 grammes airmail letter. It has been prepaid by 7 x 10 mils Egypt Army Post stamp. Posted through the NZ FPO 1 dated 8 AP 40. Censored by unit squared censor 91 signed by the sender. This was located at Alexandria civil post office 5.3.40—21.6.40.

Egypt / Western Desert

1. An airmail rate of 70 mils (20 gramme airmail rate) which has been prepaid by 4 x 10 mils Egypt Army Post stamps and 1 x 30 mils King Farouk & Pyramids. Censored by unit squared censor 206 signed by the Lieutenant C H Bishop 16th Railway Construction Company. This railway company was located at El Daba.
2. Free of postage available in Western Desert from 26 June because of stamp shortage. Unit squared censor 99 signed by H A Rollensen. Both through FPO KW 1 (1) 11 DE 40 (2) 26 OC 40. Libyan Campaign opened 9-11 December 1940 where 4th Brigade was involved.

FPO KW 1 was at El Daba (Dabaa) 6 SE 40—14 DE 40 at 2 NZ Divisional HQ. El Daba was an advanced supply base. The 16th ROC (Railway Operating Company) and the 13th RCC (Railway Construction Company) left Maadi Camp on the 21 October 1940 for El Daba accompanied by a formation of Australians. (Note. The 13th RCC, 16th ROC, 17th ROC and HQ ROC all sailed with the 3rd Echelon on the Empress of Japan (later renamed Empress of Scotland for obvious reasons) from Wellington on the 28 August 1940 and disembarked at Port Tewfik 29 September 1940).



Amyria Transit Camp—Egypt to Greece

A transit area cover with airmail rate of 140 mills (**Quadruple rate for a 40 grammes. Airmail letter: rate applied until 1 May 1941**). Posted through BPO KW 17 FE 41. This was at the British transit camp at Amyria as troops were assembled to go to Greece. Censored by Unit Squared Censor 201. Censor J A Carroll.

Rate steps were: 10 mills surface; Airmail 40 mills, 70 mills, 110 mills, 140 mills in 10 gramme increments.



Voulliameni - Greece

Sent from Greece through the NZ Advanced Base, Voulliameni, near Athens, FPO KW 1 (20 3 41—22 4 41). Dated 26 MR 41. **The airmail rate from Greece to NZ was struck at 9d per 10 grammes and 10d elsewhere.** Possibly the use of British stamps caused the overpayment of 1d. The double ring 43 is a censor mark used in Greece and is signed Father L P Spring (Senior RC Chaplain). During the Greek campaign Father Spring was attached to 27th Machine Gun Battalion.



Help Wanted

This pre 1913 envelope was sent FE II 12 PM 95 from NEWTOWN N.S.W to Wetzikon in Switzerland where it arrived 17 III 95 XI. It has the two pence Emu plus Queens head ½ penny and several cancels besides the NEWTOWN. There is over the ½ penny stamp, on the front, an oval cancel with the digits 1 plus probably 8 and 2, as there on the right edge of the envelope is the same (left half) cancel with digits 1 and 8. On the back arrival cancel at Wetzikon 17 III 95 XI- plus round SYDNEY FE II 2 PM 95 32 (what is 32 for?) and an oval cancel with 3 rings and inside N.S.W.

The envelope left NEWTOWN February 11th 12 PM 1895, passed SYDNEY FE II 2 PM - two hours later, and arrived at Wetzikon in Switzerland on March 17th 1895 at XI- a time span of almost 6 weeks. This round cancel from Switzerland is in Denmark known as a ' bridge ' type, as far as I know.

What would be the price of such an item for sale at auction?

Does anyone know the way it would be sent from Sydney to Switzerland?

Finally I would like to know why the 2d is inscribed "ONE HUNDRED YEARS"

William Hempel — Denmark



If you can assist William please email the editor and I will pass on the information to him.

William has sent some other queries which I will publish in the March journal.



The New Australian Philatelic Society Web Site

Tom & Ruth O'Dea

1. The New APS Web Site is now Live!

During 2008 the APS Web Site has undergone a major transformation in order to make it more dynamic and interactive for the benefit of members and potential members.

This article provides a summary of what the new Web Site has to offer.

1.1. Major Changes

You will notice major changes in these areas:

- Interactive facilities for Officers of the Society to maintain information of interest to members through the Event Calendar, online access to the latest editions of the APS Journal (The Australian Journal of Philately), a Dictionary, a set of FAQs, and Web Site Links.
- Interactive facilities for members through Forums, Notice Board, Photo Gallery, Advertisements, etc.
- Paying new or renewing membership subscriptions electronically.
- An easy to use Web Site.

1.2. Objectives

The Society has defined these objectives for the Web Site:

- Authorised members of the Society can change Web Site content at any time ¹.
- Encourage new members to join the Society.
- Facilitate trading between members.
- Facilitate communications between members.

1.3. Meeting the Objectives

To meet these objectives, we have introduced these facilities:

1. A Home Page which includes a summary list of the most recently updated items.
2. Information from Officers of the Society:
 - a. Event Calendar.
 - b. Office Bearers.
 - c. APS Journals.
 - d. Dictionary.
 - e. Links to Other Web Sites.
 - f. FAQ.
3. Interactive facilities for members:
 - a. Forums.
 - b. Notice Board.
 - c. Photo Gallery.
 - d. Contact Us.
 - e. Advertisements.
 - f. User Search.
4. Electronic payment of Membership subscriptions:

¹ While some areas of the Web site will be maintained by the Office Bearers, all members will be given update authority to contribute new content in areas such as the Forums, the Notice Board, the Photo Gallery and Advertisements.

5. Web Site support:
 - a. Site Map.
 - b. Help Desk.

For more information about these items, please refer to Section 6 – Web Site Menu Items.

1.4. Access Rights

The information and facilities available to the user will depend on the user's Group and the access rights that have been defined for each Group. This means that some of the items listed above will be available to some users and not others. For more information on this subject, please refer to Section 2 – User Groups.

1.5 Ease of Use

We have designed a **Home Page** which provides a useful summary of what's new on the Web Site. The Home Page is updated dynamically with summary lists of the most recently updated items. For more information on this subject, please refer to Section 4 – The Home Page.

We have adopted a **simple, consistent approach to navigation** where:

- Each page has a clear heading so the user can easily tell what function is being used.
- There is a link from each page to an online User Guide so the user can easily find additional information about how to use the function.
- The user sees menu and sub-menu items based on the access permissions defined for the User's Group.
- All hot-links are displayed in bold and underlined so there is a clear distinction between hot-links and normal text.
- There is a consistent approach in the use of icons and buttons so that the system looks and behaves in a consistent manner.

We have provided an **automatic notification system** where you can choose to receive a notification message by e-mail when a new item has been added to the Web Site. For more information on this subject, please refer to Section 3 – Automatic Notifications.

We have also provided a site-wide search facility. This is a customised Google search engine which makes it easier to search the APS Web Site using the familiar Google-style method of searching.

1.6 Accessing the New Web Site

Please refer to Section 5 – Getting Started.

2. User Groups

There are four main User Groups:

1. Anonymous Users.
2. Registered Users.
3. Financial Members.
4. Honorary Members.

Each Group has certain access rights for Menu Items and Information Blocks on the Home Page.

2.1 Anonymous Users

An **Anonymous User** is a Web Site user who is just visiting, i.e. a Guest. Generally speaking, Anonymous Users can view selected information on the Web Site but they cannot create or update information. For example, Anonymous Users can view the Event Calendar, the Forums, the Notice Board, Dictionary, FAQs and a subset of the pages of the APS Journals.

2.2. Registered Users

A **Registered User** is a user who has registered with the APS Web site by choosing a Username (Logon ID) and providing a valid e-mail address. Registered Users can view most information on the Web Site and they can create or update information in selected areas.

Registered Users are encouraged to contribute new information by:

- Discussing and debating philatelic matters in **Forums**.
- Submitting articles about philatelic subjects in the **Notice Board**.
- Uploading images of philatelic items in the **Photo Gallery**.
- Submitting recommendations for new items to be added to the **Event Calendar**.
- Submitting recommendations for additional web site links to be added to the **Links to Other Web Sites**.
- Reporting Web Site problems or offering suggestions for Web Site enhancements using the **Help Desk**.

2.3. Financial/Honorary Members

Financial Members and **Honorary** Members can view any information on the Web Site (apart from sensitive information which is only available to the Administrators) and they can create or update information in selected areas.

Financial Members and Honorary Members can access all the issues of the APS Journal available in electronic form. The editions currently available are No. 100 (June 2007) to No. 105 (September 2008).

Financial Members and Honorary Members are encouraged to contribute new information by:

- Performing any of the activities listed above for Registered Users.
- Submitting **Advertisements**, e.g. items For Sale, Wanted, Exhibitions.

A Financial Member is a Registered User who has been upgraded in status by the Society when the required membership fees have been paid. A Financial Member will be downgraded in status to Registered User if the membership fees have not been paid.

An Honorary Member is a Registered User who has been upgraded in status by the Society in recognition of some special service the user has provided to the Society.

2.4. Other User Groups

There are also special User Groups for the Office Bearers of the Society so they can maintain certain parts of the Web Site content. For example, the **Editor** can create new editions of the APS Journal and the **Secretary** can add new events to the Event Calendar.

3. Automatic Notifications

One of the dynamic features of the new Web Site is the **Notification system**.

This enables the user to receive an automatic notification message by e-mail when a new item has been added to the APS Web Site. The user chooses the topics of interest so the number of e-mail messages will depend upon the user's interests.

Notification settings are available in each of the following areas of the Web Site:

1. Event Calendar.
2. Forums.
3. APS Journals.
4. Notice Board.
5. Photo Gallery.
6. Links to Other Web Sites.
7. Advertisements.
8. FAQ.

Notification settings are entered, modified or deleted when the user is using a particular section of the Web Site. Within each section, the user can ask to receive a notification message when certain types of updates occur, e.g. when a new APS Journal is published or when a new Advertisement is submitted.

Notification settings can be:

- Global:
 - o e.g. all calendar events, all Forum postings.
- By Category:
 - o e.g. all FAQ items within the Stamp Collections category.
- By Topic:
 - o e.g. a new answer for a particular question: How do I sell my stamp collection?

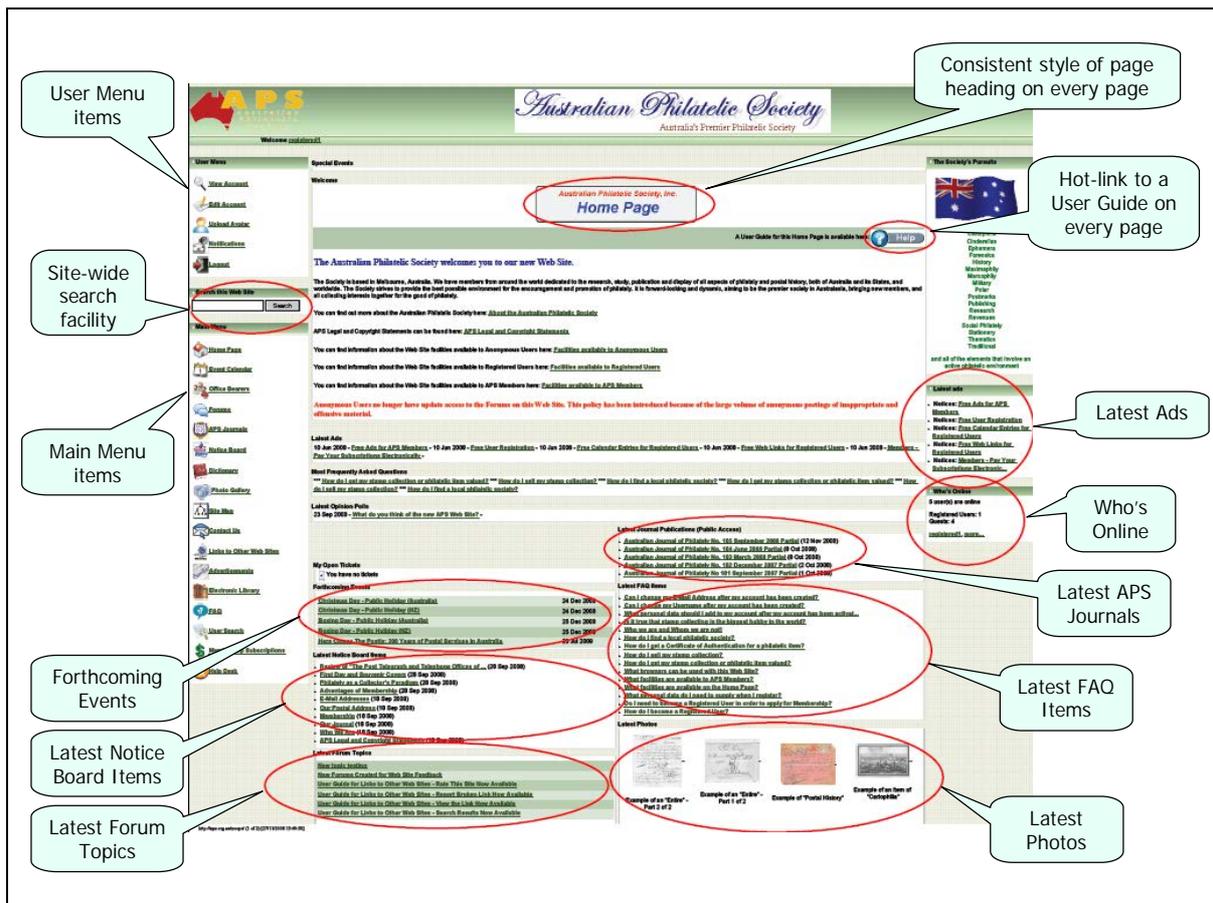
4. The Home Page

4.1. Aims

1. To provide an entry point into the APS Web Site for all users.
2. To provide summary level information about the APS to all visitors.
3. To provide a link to the APS Legal & Copyright statements.
4. To provide links to information about the Society for users who wish to know more about it.
5. To provide links to FAQ items for information about the facilities available to different types of users.
6. To provide access to facilities to enable the user to logon, to recover a lost password, to become a registered user, etc.
7. To enable users to access various Web Site facilities through a Main Menu.
8. To provide a summary list of the most recently updated items in these areas:
 - Open Help Desk Tickets for the user, i.e. Tickets the user has opened but have not yet been resolved.
 - Events recorded in the Event Calendar which will be starting soon or are currently in progress.
 - Most recent Notice Board items.
 - Most recent Forum topics.
 - Most recent APS Journals.
 - Most recent FAQ items.
 - Most recent Advertisements.

4.2. Home Page Layout

The layout of the Home Page will vary depending on the user's access rights. The Home Page for a Registered User is shown below.



5. Getting Started

To access the new Web Site, you simply enter this address in your browser window:

www.aps.org.au

Once the Home Page has been displayed, you can browse as an **Anonymous User**.

If you wish to explore the Web Site further, you will need to become a **Registered User**. The registration process is quite simple. You just have to click on the **Register now!** option at the top left of the page.

You will be asked to enter a Username (Logon ID), your E-Mail Address, your Time Zone and a Password. (Please ensure that you have entered your e-mail address correctly because this address will be used for important communications with you, including completing the registration process and lost password situations.) You will also be asked to review the Disclaimer notice and confirm that you agree with it.

Once the user registration form has been submitted, your account will need to be activated by the Web Site Administrator. The system will send the account details to the Administrator by e-mail. This allows the Administrator to review your registration request and, if necessary, seek additional information from you (by e-mail) about your philatelic interests. You will be notified by e-mail once your account has been activated.

When your account has been activated, you can logon to the Web Site using your Username (Logon ID) and Password and start to explore the wide range of facilities available to Registered Users. In particular, you are encouraged to:

- Use the **Forums** to initiate discussion and debate about philatelic matters. (Select the **Forums** item on the Main Menu, select the name of an appropriate Forum and click on the “new Topic” icon to start a new discussion thread.)
- Submit articles about philatelic subjects in the **Notice Board**. (Select the **Notice Board** item on the Main Menu and then select the **Submit an Article** sub-menu item.)
- Share images of philatelic items by uploading them in the **Photo Gallery**. (Select the **Photo Gallery** item on the Main Menu and then select the **Upload a Photo** sub-menu item.)
- Contact the Society with recommendations for new items to be added to the **Event Calendar**. (Select the **Contact Us** item on the Main Menu and then select the **Recommend a New Calendar Event** option from the list of forms)
- Report Web Site problems or offer suggestions for Web Site enhancements using the **Help Desk**. (Select the **Help Desk** item on the Main Menu and then click on the **Log Ticket** icon to create a new Ticket.)

6. Web Site Menu Items

The menu items available on the Web Site are listed below.

Facility	Description
Login	Enables the user to login as a Registered User of the Web Site or as an APS Member.
Lost Password	Enables the user to report a lost password and have a new password assigned
Register now!	Enables a user to become a Registered User of the Web Site
View Account	View your APS Web Site “account”. Your “account” is the record that is created when you become a Registered User.
Edit Account	Change information in your APS Web Site “account”. Your “account” is the record that is created when you become a Registered User.
Upload Avatar	Add or replace an Avatar (a small image) associated with the user. Once an Avatar has been created it will be displayed as a visual identification of the user in Forum posts.
Notifications	View a summary of the notification settings the user has selected from within one or more of the APS Web Site facilities.
Logout	Enables a logged on user to logout of the Web Site.
Search	Provides a site-wide search facility. This is a customised Google search engine
Home Page	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides a summary view of recent Web Site updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The latest publications of the APS Journal. • Forthcoming events. • The latest Forum topics. • The latest FAQ items. • The latest Notice Board items. • The latest Photos. • The latest Advertisements. 2. Enables the user to access APS Web Site facilities through the User Menu and the Main Menu.
Event Calendar	Provides a calendar which shows events that are considered to be of interest to users of the APS Web Site. Events are added to the Calendar by authorised users, such as the Secretary of the Society
Forums	Enables the user to access the set of Forums that are available on the APS Web Site and to participate in one or more Forum discussions. Depending on the user’s access rights, the user will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start a new discussion by creating a new Topic. • Reply to a Post that a user has created within a Forum Topic. • Modify a Post the user has created within a Forum.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delete a Post the user has created within a Forum. • Create a Poll about a particular subject and invite users to vote in that Poll. (In most cases, authority to add a Poll belongs to the Web Site administrators.) • Record a vote in a Poll about a particular subject. • Attach a file to a Forum Post the user has created.
APS Journals	<p>Enables the user to view a list of APS Journals that have been published on the APS Web Site. Financial members of the Society can read the complete APS Journal while selected pages of each Journal are available to everyone.</p> <p>Versions of the Journal currently available in electronic form are No. 100 (June 2007) to No. 105 (September 2008).</p>
Dictionary	<p>Enables the user to access the set of Dictionary definitions that are available on the APS Web Site. Depending on the user's access rights, the user will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit a definition of a philatelic term to be added to the APS Web Site Dictionary. • Ask for a definition of a philatelic term to be added to the APS Web Site Dictionary.
Site Map	<p>Enables the user to view a map which shows the pages on the APS Web Site. The site map shows the names of the Web Site pages in a hierarchical manner with the Home Page at the top, the second level pages listed below the Home Page, then the lower level pages under each of the second level pages and so on.</p>
Contact Us	<p>Enables the user to access a set of customised forms which make it easy to contact the Australian Philatelic Society by e-mail.</p>
Links to Other Web Sites	<p>Enables the user to access the set of external Web Site Links defined on the APS Web Site.</p>
Advertisements	<p>Enables the user to access the set of Advertisements that have been published on the APS Web Site. APS Members are able to submit new advertisements. Registered Users and Anonymous Users are not able to submit new advertisements</p>
FAQ	<p>Enables the user to access the set of FAQs that are available on the APS Web Site in order to find answers to frequently asked questions or to submit new FAQ items. Depending on the user's access rights, the user will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit a question within the selected category. • Submit an answer to a question within the selected category. • Submit a question and its answer within the selected category.
User Search	<p>Enables the user to search for other Registered Users.</p>
Membership Subscriptions	<p>Enables the user to submit an electronic payment for a new membership or a membership renewal.</p>
Help Desk	<p>Enables the user to ask for help on various aspects of using the APS Web Site. The user notifies the help desk of his or her issue, and the system creates a Ticket that has details of the issue. This enables the Web Site administrators to manage the issue through to resolution. The user may need to open a Ticket to report a minor problem such as an error in spelling or grammar in the words on a Web page or a major system problem such as a blank screen when the user tries to use some Web Site function. The user may also open a Ticket to log a request for a change or an enhancement such as a request to change the order in which information is presented on the Home Page.</p>

NOTE: Even though a User Group may have access to a particular menu item, e.g. Forums, there may be limits on what operations are available once that menu item has been selected. For example, Anonymous Users can view articles in the Notice Board but cannot create new articles.

Hand-Held Date Stamps

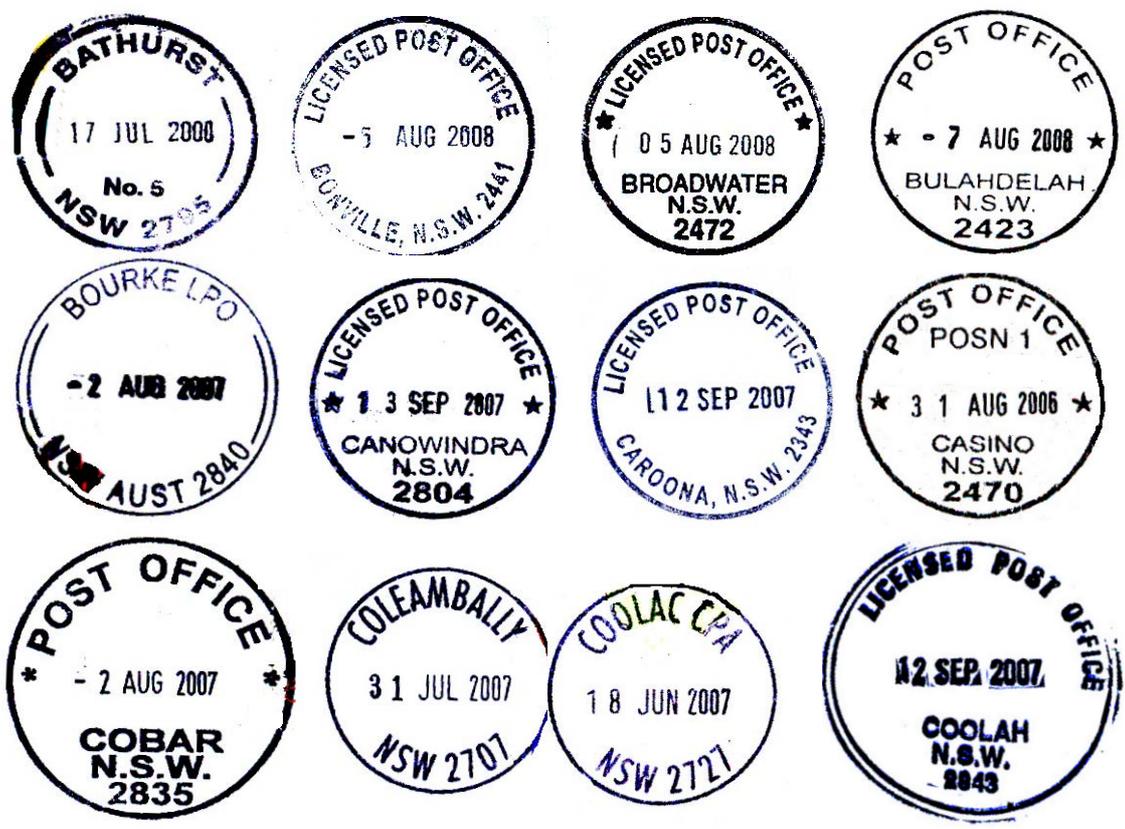
Co-ordinated by George Vearing

Those inkjet cancels that appear on the top of each letter that go through the mail sorting centres are a bane to postmark collectors, but the example sent to me by Ian Cutter shows that they can be quite helpful at times as someone at the Gold Coast Mail Centre did not check the date properly before he used it. I know time flies but I don't want it to go that quick.

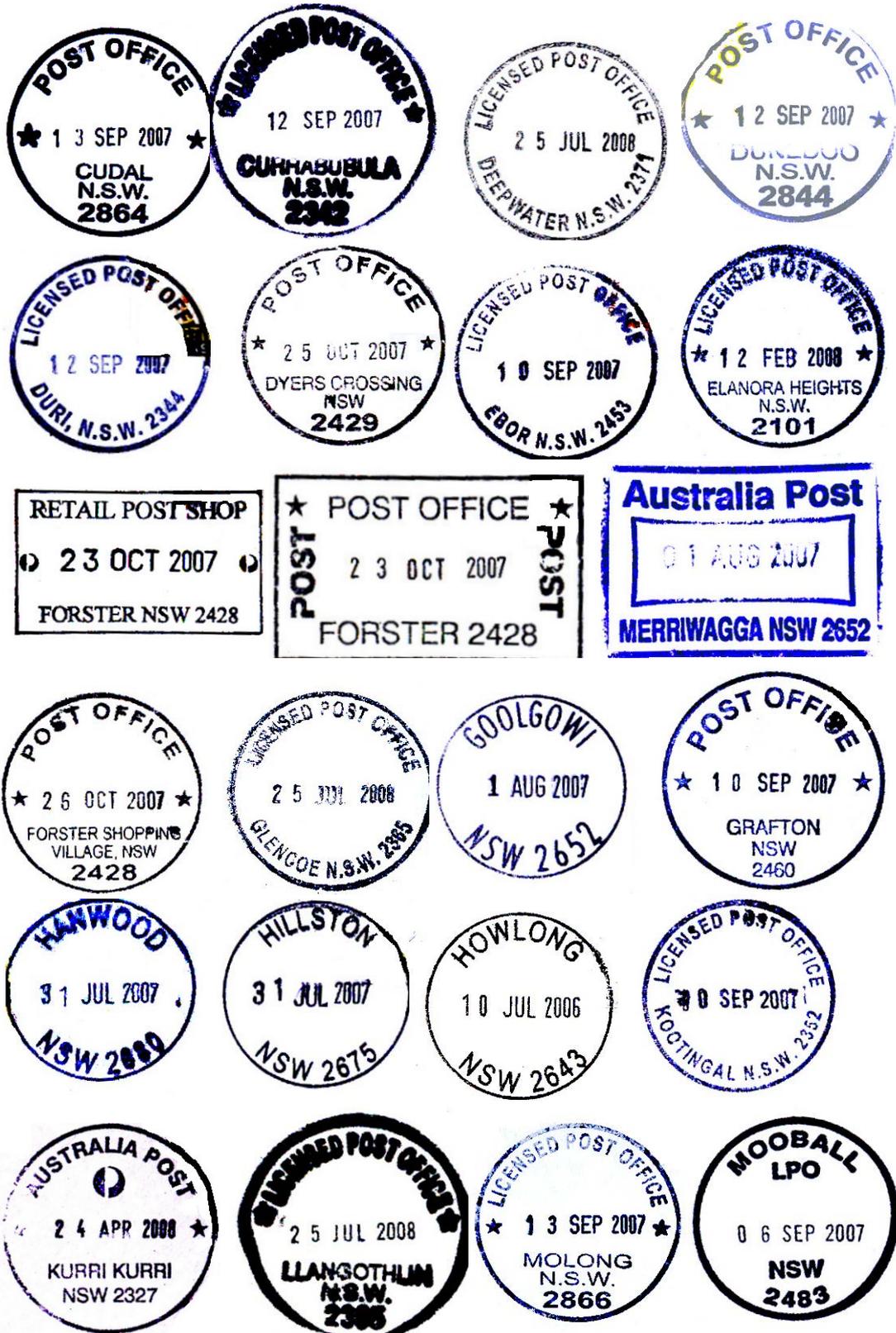
Many thanks to Ian Cutter, Richard Peck, Ron & Sandra Lee, John Tracey, Frank Adamik and all the other contributors that have kept this column going for the past year.

Cancel showing different dates inkjet 1NOV07 and datestamp 31 OCT 2012

N.S.W.: -MUMBIL appears to have an inverted dateline as only 07 is visible, Earlier datestamps: -DEEPWATER(77/30), DYERS CROSSING(69/33), ELANOR HEIGHTS(85/33), FORSTER SHOPPING VILLAGE(104/26), GLENCOE(77/31), GRAFTON(73/28), TENTERFIELD(79/33), SOUTH TAMWORTH (95/29) URALLA(98/22), WESTDALE(76/32).



N.S.W.(cont)



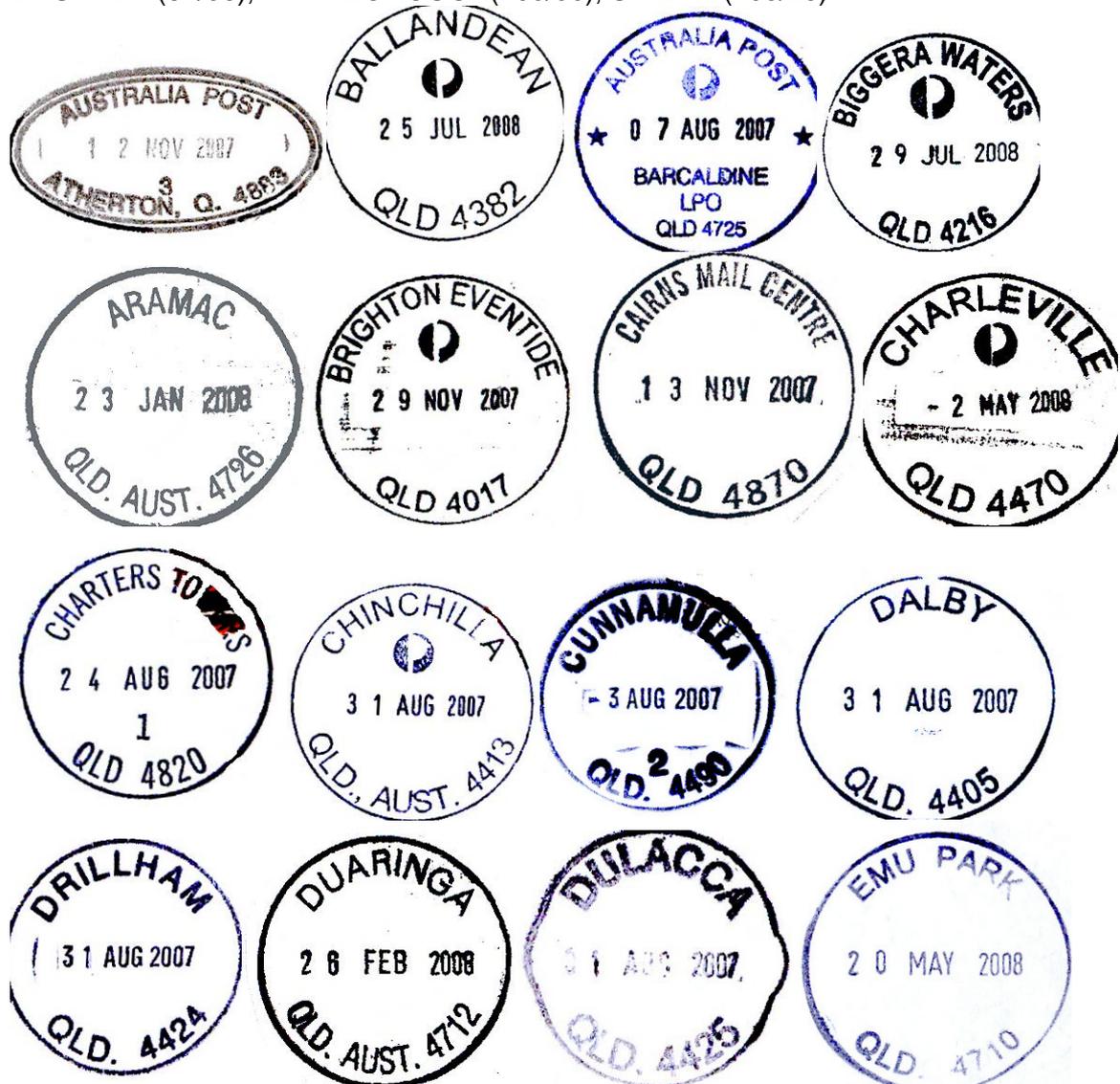
N.S.W.:- (cont)



N.T.: -MATARANKA was closed when Ian Cutter went past in 1993 but has since reopened as the datestamp shows.



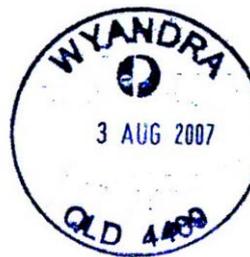
QLD: -Notes from Ian Cutter-CHINCILLA and GREENMOUNT have a comma after QLD, and GUNUNA (no.10) has inverted dateline but also is it big enough to have another 9 cancellers as it is out on Mornington Island. Earlier Datestamps: -CHARLEVILLE(97/27), EMU PARK(84/36), MARYBOROUGH(103/30), SARINA (105/25).



QLD:- (cont).



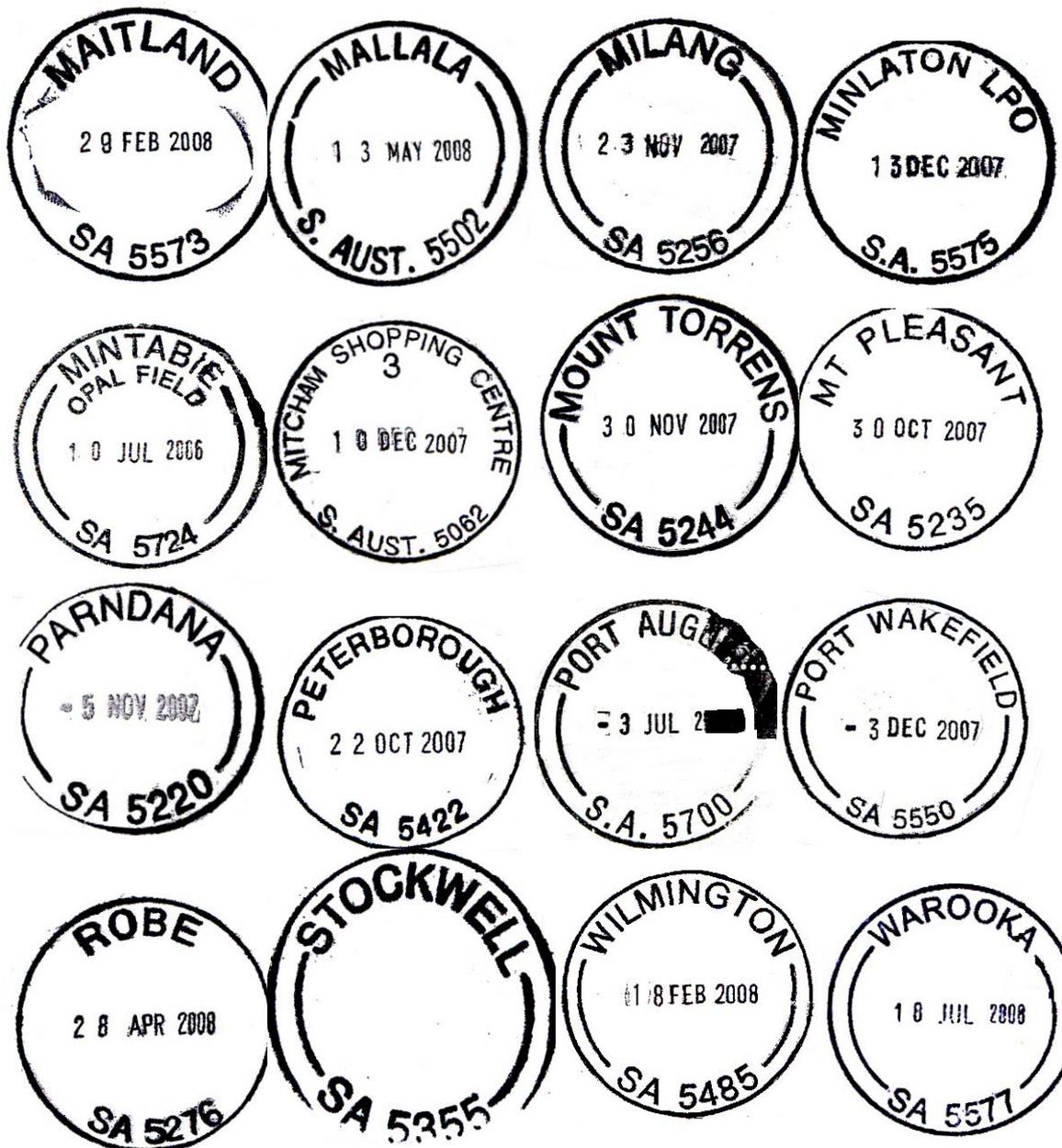
QLD:-(cont)



S.A.: -STOCKWELL(no date-transit date 4DEC2007), Earlier datestamps :-CEDUNA (78/44),GLOSSOP(84/36),MINTABIE (66/36),WILMINGTON(91/37),WAROOKA(87/32).



S.A.:-(cont.)-



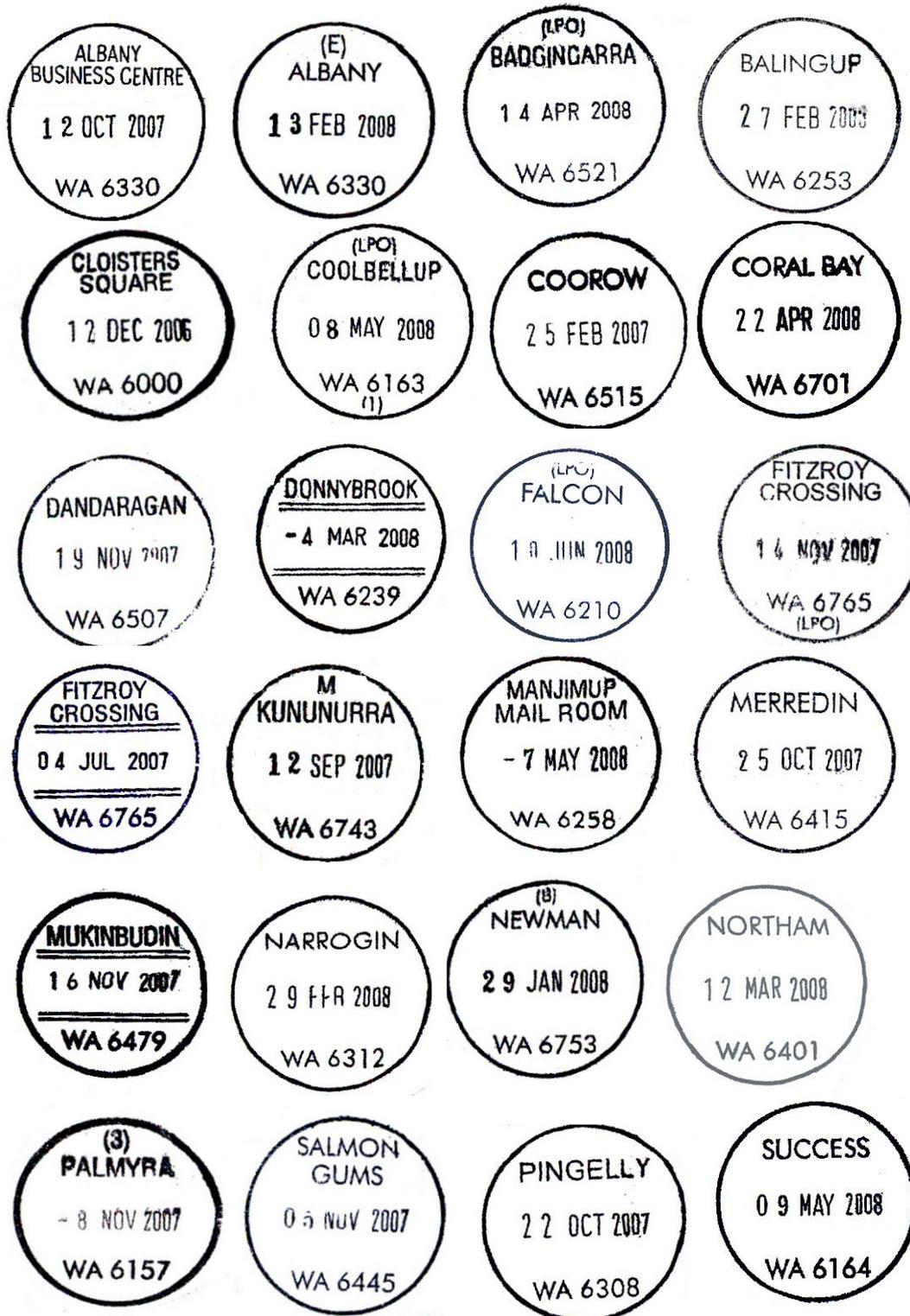
VIC:-Earlier datestamps:-ANGLESEA(105/26), BACCHUS MARSH(2)(93/34),BOORT (88/34), BROADFORD (100/60), HARCOURT (96/34), MERRIUM (98/25), PYALONG (96/35), ST. ARNAUD (90/34), TALLYGAROPNA (97/29), TIMBOON (88/36), WANGOOM (99/28).



VIC.:-(cont).



W.A.



Urban Myths

By Harewood

December
2008

Trawling the bric-a-brac of second hand book shops is a rewarding passion for the aged Harewood. Several years ago he came across a tatty January 1937 copy of Gibbons Stamp Monthly. What caught his rheumy eye was the editor's piece "Philately Gone Mad". It's worthwhile to recapitulate upon this observation.

"In the early days of our hobby, people collected stamps or anything that looked like a stamp simply because they liked doing so. Each individual did what was right in their own eyes for there were no experts, gurus, or pundits to tell them otherwise. In those days in England at least, there were people capable of a sort of sturdy independence of thought who refused to be led like sheep by any facile shouter.

Gradually there grew up an idea in the minds of some that the study of stamps, of their origins, their production, and their usage, might be an interesting, and this study was pursued with a growing intensity. This it took to itself the name '**Philately**' partly because even in those days people liked to clothe even unimportant doings with self-effacing words. And partly in order to distinguish it from the accumulative fever called '**stamp collecting**'. This study though sometimes misguided did attempt to deal with realities. If it noted facts, it sought for reasons behind those facts and even today – in fact we may say more than ever today – there's a devoted band of thought in order to arrive at truth.

True students are always in the minority and what do we see when we look at the majority of present-day stamp enthusiasts? There are larger numbers of course who are collecting quietly and sanely along their own chosen lines regardless of what others are doing. Stamp collecting is their hobby their amusement their education and they treat it as such and keep a level head. Then there

are gamblers, investors and speculators whom we may dismiss with the remark that they are neither collectors nor philatelists but merely the petty tradespeople who do their best to spoil any amateur pursuit for true amateurs and often come very near to doing so.

Yet there are many who make the mistake of following the blind guides – pseudo experts and philatelic tub-thumpers – who for their own profit try to without having any idea of what philately really is. The Press too, with its cheerful ignorance often sets the crowd running hither and thither in the crazy fashion in which crowds do run about in these days so let's take some examples.

The true student is concerned with evidence which will help them in their search for ultimate facts. If a damaged stamp provides such evidence they will not reject it on the ground of poor condition. But too many today condition is an almighty being and like all gods of the many a false god to boot. We need not elaborate this theme which has been dealt with by numerous collectors in our columns.

To the true student the word '*used*' means '*employed for its legitimate purpose in the manner intended*' and a cover has no interest for them unless it tells them the truth. But to a modern collector a '*used*' stamp simply means a stamp postmarked, even though postmarking has been done on envelopes bearing far more stamps than are necessary, which have never contained any correspondence and which may even have been sent through the post in one bundle with hundreds of others, tied together with string. What the stamp gains from an ordinary postmark in such circumstances it is hard to say, while the cover if it tells anything tells a lie.

The student who has no information as to

day of issue of a particular stamp searches carefully through their examples until they find one which bears the earliest date with the dates found by others, they gradually arrive at an approximate issue date. Our modern collectors reverse the process. For every issue they want a *'first day cover'* being an envelope franked with stamps bought on the day of issue and postmarked with that date. It does not matter that the cover bears stamps representing non-existent postal rates that, as we have said, never contained a letter. Its sole purpose is to get certain stamps postmarked on a specific day. The fact that the whole thing is from the philatelic point of view, a farce and nothing else. The collector will have it and rejoice in its possession not as evidence, for it tells them nothing, not for the sake of a record, for records are made by individuals, not by hundreds of thousands, and certainly not with a view to financial gain, for mass-produced first day covers are rapidly becoming more common than covers of any other day.

Then what of *'varieties'*? If student notes a flaw or defect they do not value it for itself, but only if from it, they may deduce or confirm facts relevant to the history of that stamp. Not so the collector of today. Tell them there is a break here or a blob there or let them even imagine a speck for themselves and they will scour the world for it regardless of causes or reasons. The flaw is a flaw and as such is given the reverence accorded to all false idols.

'Secret marks' too are a mania with some. Every scratch for which they cannot account is a *secret mark* though last thing a modern printer would do would be to make marks on the actual stamps. The Jubilee [issue of 1887] 'double flagstaff' variety was in some quarters dubbed a 'secret mark' whereas it was simply a scratch caused by a bit of grit on paper. In this case mark has some philatelic importance for it enabled a particular plate to be identified, yet there was nothing either intentional or secret about it and as we now know the printers tried to get rid of it later by erasure on the actual sheets.

You may well say *"Well, what is the harm of all this? The student is happy in their way and the modern collectors are happy in their way. Why can't you let them alone?"*

There is something to be said for this point of view for, as we ourselves have often remarked, stamp collecting is a hobby and it is for everyone who takes it up to enjoy it in their own way. The point is that great numbers of our present day collectors are not enjoying it in their own way, but are simply running like sheep after the false guide of the moment and if, in doing so, they parody true philately which is now beginning to be recognised as a sane and reasonable pursuit, they bring that sanity and reasonableness into doubt and, to that extent do despise our hobby."

Harewood has appreciated your gossip, innuendo, scuttlebutt and so forth sent via the website and other nefarious ways, but please no more, for its now time to put down the quill and chock the windmill. There will be no more.

Stop Press

Having searched high and low we have unearthed a tribute to Harewood which will be featured in the next issue of the Australian Journal of Philately. It was felt that the death of such a luminary as indeed Harewood was, with serious philatelists from across the globe turning first to Harewood's page just to ensure that they haven't been sprung in some act of philatelic ineptitude, or, indeed some dark dead of skulduggery which seemed to always filter it's way to within sight of Harewood's deadly pen, should not pass unrecorded. Look for Vale Harewood in the next issue.

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What YOU can do to help the Australian Philatelic Society

- ◆ Sign up a new member
- ◆ Write an article for the Journal (Better still, write two!)
- ◆ Send the Editor any interesting philatelic news
- ◆ Come to the monthly meeting if in Melbourne
- ◆ Help George Vearing with his Datestamp Notes
- ◆ Get involved in one of the Study Groups
- ◆ Enter the Society Competitions
- ◆ Volunteer to display your collection at the monthly meeting
- ◆ Ensure the Council receives your feedback and suggestions for the Society

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