

Australian Journal of Philately

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Postal Rates and Social Philately Implications**

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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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Date	2013 / 14 Programme	Display
20 October 2014	John Young	Asia & Middle East International Air Mails (1937-1945)
15 December 2014	Members Competition	Up to 10 A4 page display
16 February 2015	TBA	TBA

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Front cover:

New Zealand 1886 Postcard

In 1886 a small printing was made which differed from the previous in that 'New Zealand' and 'The Address Only to be Written on this Side' lines had the first letter in upper case.

About 20 used and only 2 mint cards are known, one of which is in the editor's collection.

I believe this resulted because of the replacing of one of the cards in the forme (16 per forme), with one from the 'Reply Paid' forme but with the 'Reply or Reply Paid' removed.

This would explain why there are so few extant and the wide distribution of those cards that have postal usage.

Editorial

Tony Lyon

"The philatelist will tell you that stamps are educational, that they are valuable, that they are beautiful. This is only part of the truth. My notation is that the collection is a hedge, a comfort, a shelter into which the sorely beset mind can withdraw. It is orderly, it grows towards completion, it is something that can't be taken away from us" - Clifton Fadiman in Any Number Can Play.

There is no doubt that philately is beneficial to those who enjoy the pursuit of that elusive item. The things you learn as you research maybe a particular cover in your collection, trying to make sense of a rate or whatever, certainly helps shut out some of the stresses that life can and will bring. Therefore I agree heartily with Clifton Fadiman in his assessment. I wonder if he was a collector. Maybe that should be researched?

Physicist and Noble Laureate Ernest Rutherford observes, rather tongue in cheek I suggest, that, "[a]ll science is either Physics or stamp collecting." I guess that is another way of looking at it.

The AGM of the Society was held on Monday 18 August, 2014. It was quite well attended and it was good to see Simon Alsop being able to be there. One of the points of discussion is the idea that we change from a night meeting to a day time meeting, possibly on a Thursday to enable those who find it difficult to drive at night to continue coming. The Council are interested in feedback regarding this idea.

Thanks again to the contributors for this journal. The editor is looking for front page items, an interesting cover with a short write up. He is also interested in one page items that would be suitable for the back cover which is printed in colour. Please send contributions either by mail or preferably by email to the editor. The address details may be found on the inside front cover.

Ciao for now.

Privacy Statement

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2. inform members about the Society's activities;
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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.



From the President

In the previous issue of the journal I invited members to propose displays for 2015 on the subject of World War 1 postal history. That remains the mission for next year, but I should also mention that postal history on other conflicts is also welcome. In fact, postal history on any subject is wanted.

During the northern summer I toured Albania, a country that has little in common with Australia. Not only is it an obscure place somewhere in the Balkans, it is apparently an obscure postal-history subject. Albanian postal history is nearly impossible to find, anywhere.

When I went on to Slovenia (part of former Yugoslavia), I found an antique shop with thousands – probably tens of thousands – of stamped east European postcards. Among them I found three from Albania in 1947, addressed to Ljubljana, Slovenia. The most interesting of them is shown below. The stamps commemorated Albania's socialist reconstruction, showing a postwar locomotive with heroic workers (men and women) building a railway. The postcard's picture is even more interesting.

It is an aerial view of the capital city, Tirana, with the civic square in the middle. At the left of the square there are significant buildings: an Ottoman Turk mosque, a Venetian watch tower and two Italian fascist buildings. All are still there, and tell much of the history of Albania's 500-plus years of occupation by foreign forces. The stamps on the address side tell of the 45 years of postwar communist government.

Today much of the land in the background of the square is suburbia. The centre of Tirana is dotted with medium-rise apartments, and the grey socialist concrete has been painted in rainbow hues. The civic square, after being a slum site in the 1990s, is now a well laid out open space and boulevard, flanked by a museum, library, theatre, etc.

The postcard is probably a little wanted piece of postal history, but having seen the place, it has its appeal. It is hard to imagine, however, developing Albanian postcards into a fifteen sheet exhibit.



Civilian Censorship in Australia 1939 - 1945

George Speirs

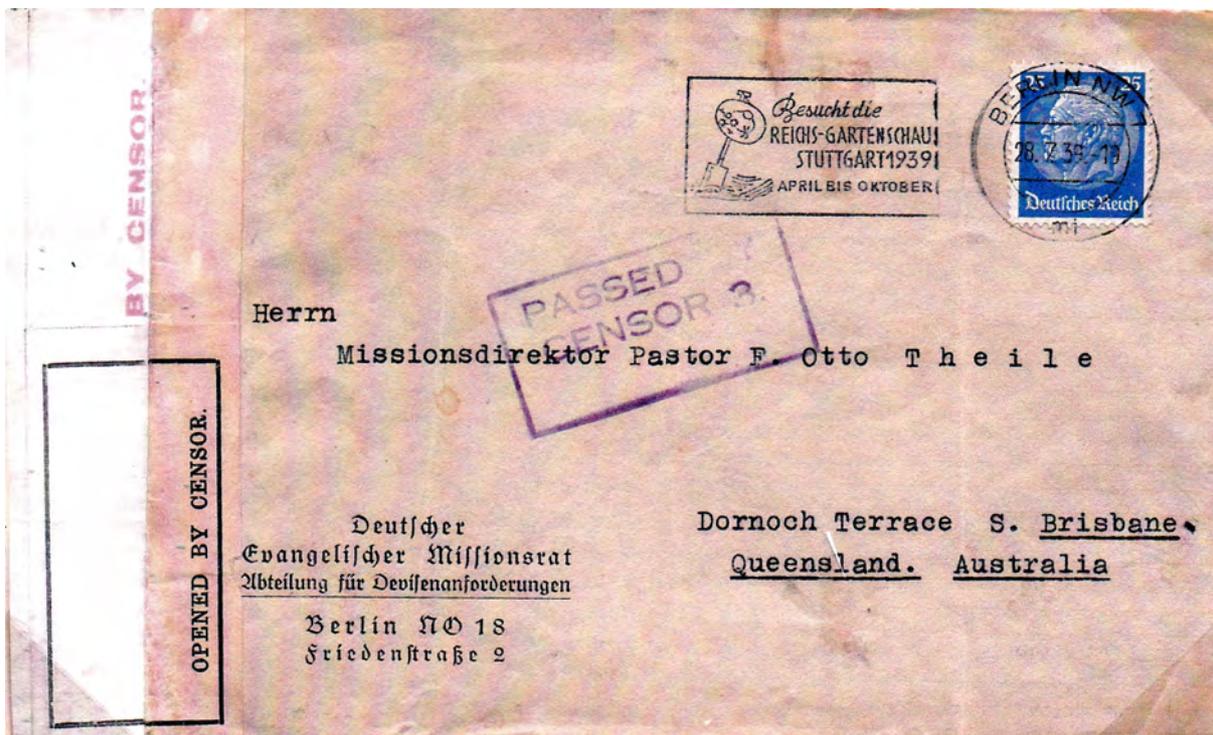
Australian censorship of overseas mail, both inward and outward, began in September 1939 and continued until after the end of the war with Japan. Internal mail hardly ever was censored; however they may have been exceptions.

For security reasons and administrative purposes, Australia was divided into seven military districts with minor exceptions. These followed those of the states of Queensland (1), New South Wales (2), Victoria (3), South Australia (4), West Australia (5) and Tasmania (6). A seventh district covered the Northern Territory (7).

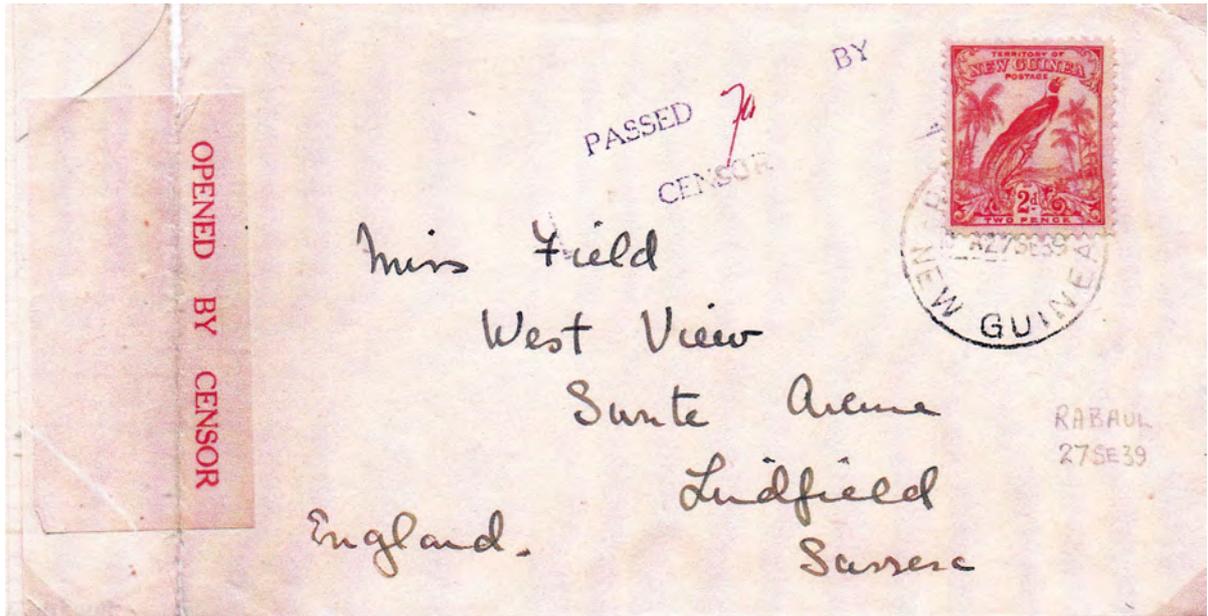
As a result of censorship, a legacy of philatelic material was created. This included resealing labels, censor marks and other cachets, indicating that items were opened, passed, returned or not opened.

The censorship personnel were civilians, many being retired civil servants. Their job required proficiency in looking for all lapses of national security.

Postal censorship was imposed throughout the Australian Commonwealth on 3 September 1939 and did not cease until 10 November 1945¹.



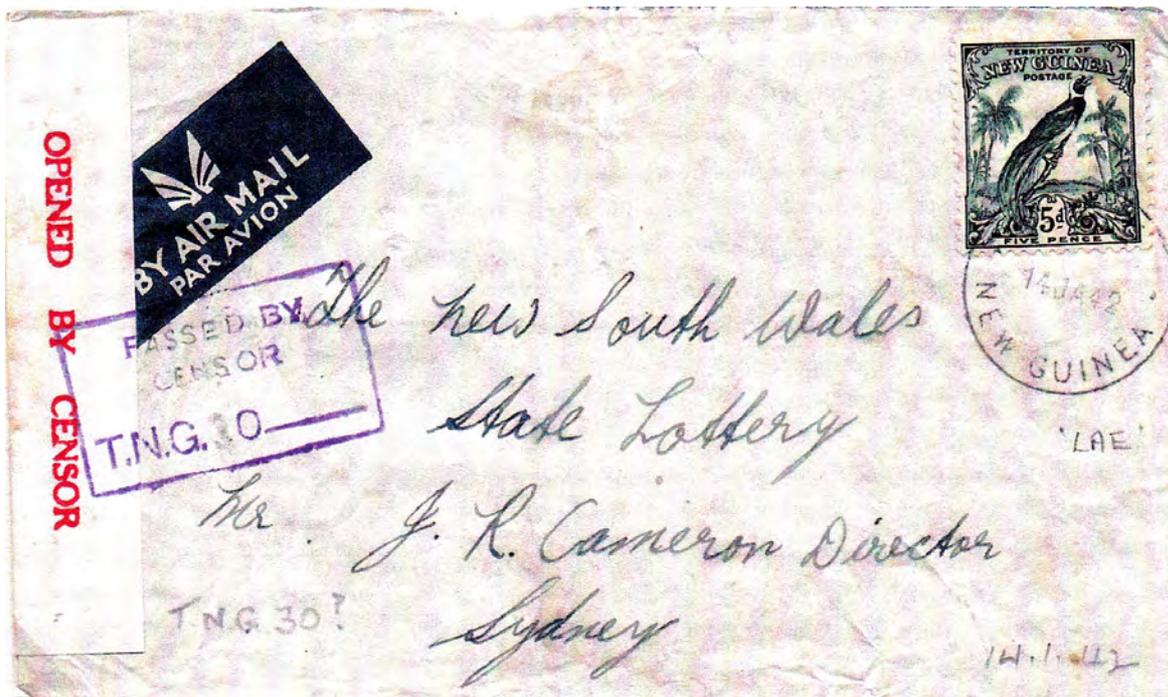
September 1939 provisional use of 'opened by censor' on a letter from Germany. Posted Berlin 28 July, it was received in Brisbane early Sep 39. **Opened by censor** printed in black frame of 56 x 27 mm. "Opened by censor" paper closure seal printed in red. Oblong framed "Passed / censor 3" handstamp in violet in, which was applied at Brisbane. **Only example recorded**, courtesy Max Bulley.



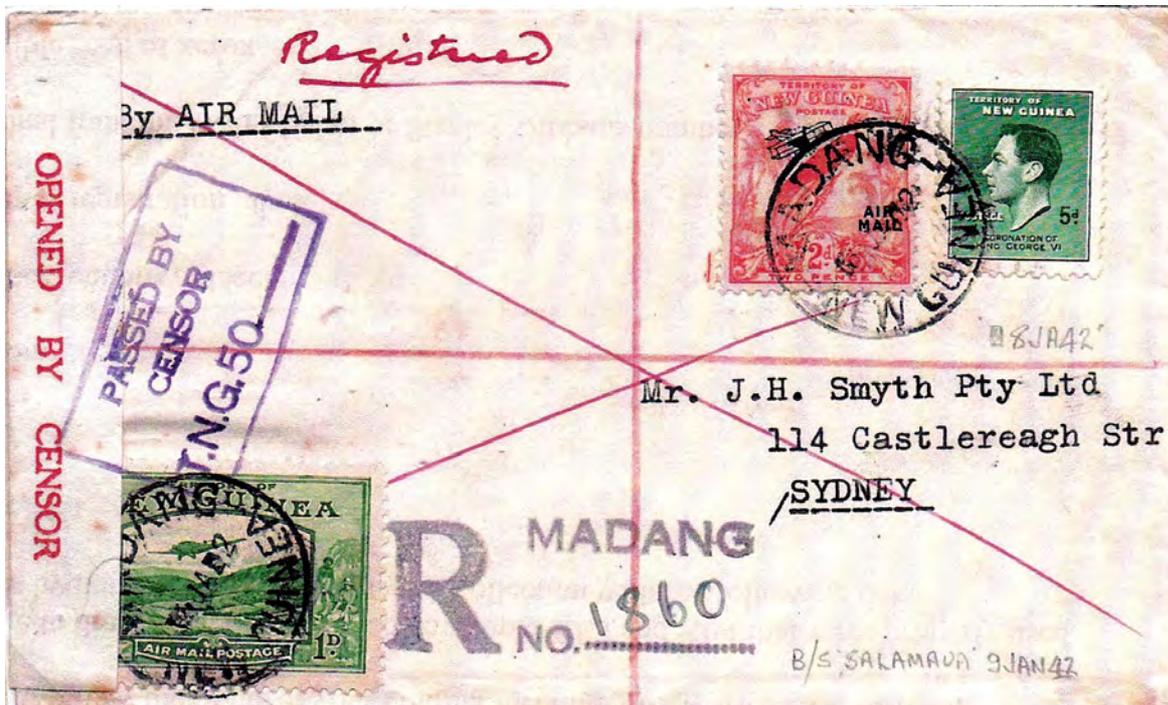
27 Sep 1939 letter from Rabaul to UK. First type of 'Passed by / censor' handstamp without frame, which contained censor's identification 7 in red ink. Earliest use of **Opened by Censor** paper closure seal (65 x 31 mm). Courtesy Max Bulley.



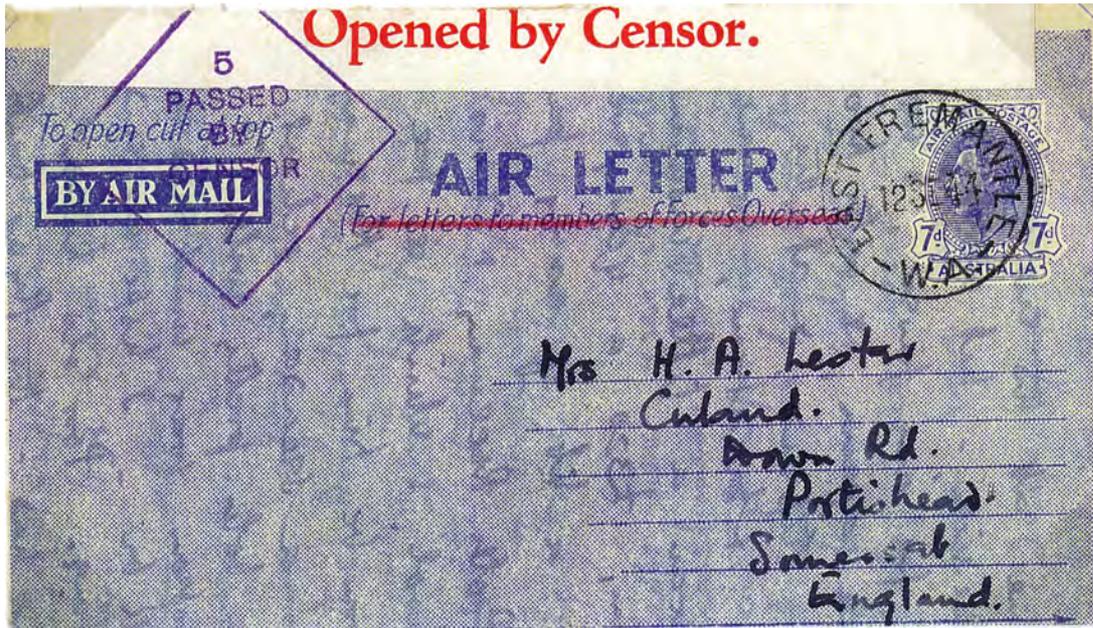
18 Nov 1939 airmail letter from Rabaul to UK. All up rate of 1/6d. Paper closure seal printed in deep red ink. Back stamped Townsville. Passed by censor 8 (red) (cachet shows top and bottom 'rails'). Courtesy Max Bulley



14 Jan 1952 registered letter from Lae to Sydney State Lottery. Paper closure seal type 3 tied by censor handstamp type 2 TNG 30..... Courtesy Max Bulley



8 Jan 1942 registered airmail letter from Madang to Sydney. TNG 50..... censor (type 2) tying paper closure seal type 3 to cover. Note large red lettered registration handstamp (No 1860). Backstamped Salamua 9 Jan 1942. Courtesy Max Bulley.



7d air letter amended for civilian use. Posted on 12 Sep 1944 at East Fremantle, it was examined and resealed using the provisional closure label for air letters. The closure label had been cut in half lengthways to prevent covering any of the printed matter. This air service opened 11 September, the first batch leaving Perth for UK on 15 Sep 1944.



26 Jan 1946 airnail letter from Hataitai, Wellington, New Zealand to Australia. This letter should not have been censored and appears to be an error of judgement. More likely was that the NZ cachet was out by a year? Censored in Sydney.

References.

In Search of Secrecy, civilian censorship in Australia 1939 - 1945, **Derek Whitmarsh** (1977)
British Empire Civil Censorship. Devices WW2, **John Little** (2008)

Private Business Wrappers of Australia: Postal Rates and Social Philately Implications

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The fundamental purpose of a wrapper is to act as an open-ended sleeve to wrap around a newspaper, magazine or other printed matter and to leave sufficient space for postage payment and delivery address details. Wrappers played an important philatelic role for many decades in facilitating the dissemination of a wide range of printed news about world and local events. This type of printed information helped to inform as well as shape the thinking of the populace in cities and towns and encouraged the development of literacy; concessionary mail postal rates were structured to allow a large discount to normal postage. Wrappers that met U.P.U. and Australian regulations were used to contain this class of printing matter.

Post Office postal stationery wrappers bear an official prepaid printed specified denomination which appears in the form of an imprinted indicium positioned in the upper right corner. Private business wrappers do not show a preprinted denomination indicium but instead have either a postage stamp(s) affixed or a meter or other marking indicating postage paid. Private business wrappers are not postal stationery but fall within the domain of postal history. These wrappers can provide examples of different rate usages relating to different periods and to various destinations. The mastheads and other printed details that appear on private wrappers can signal less-known social, religious and economic aspects about a country's past. Research into the names on these wrappers can add an informative social dimension to this area of philately.

The purposes of the paper are to demonstrate how Internet sites such as eBay can unearth private business wrappers of Australia, and to then show how Google can identify sites that enable detection of information about these businesses or organizations.

The author has hand-collecting daily the images of private business wrappers listed for sale on eBay and elsewhere since December 2009. In this period of four and a half years almost 4,000 worldwide images have been collected, and of these there are about 34 different private wrappers of Australia. A list of those in the database is summarized in Table 1. Ten wrappers have been selected arbitrarily for discussion and these are marked with an asterisk.

Table 1: Private Business Wrappers of Australia

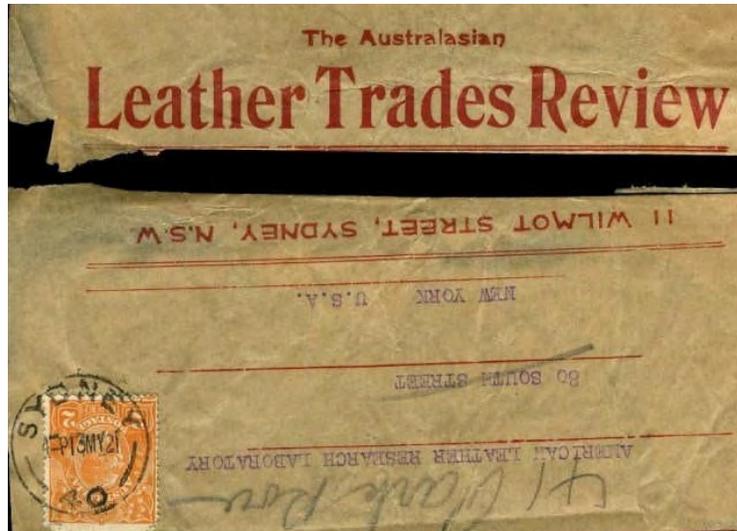
The A.I.F. News	H. R. Harmer Australia*
Aircraft Owners & Pilots' Association	Herald of the Coming Age*
Australian Air League	Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd.
Australian Jewish Herald*	La Rondo (Organo de Australia Esperanto – Asocio).
Australian Journal of Dentistry	Macquarie University Apex Club
Australian Official Journal of Patents, Trade Marks & Design	Maryborough Advertiser
Australian Philatelic Record	Newcastle Morning Herald*
Australian Stamp Monthly	North Broken Hill Limited
Australasian Leather Trades Review*	Pacific Trader
Barrier Miner*	Potato Grower News
"China's Millions" – China Inland Mission*	Presajho
Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd.	Qantas Empire Airways*
Die Brucke – German Australian Weekly	Reveille (Official organ of RSL)
Digest of the World Reading	Stamp News
The Far East*	Sydney Mail Annual*
Fashionweek	Sydney Morning Herald
Fisheries Newsletter	Vineyard

Australasian Leather Trades Review

Although this wrapper of *The Australasian Leather Trades Review* is in poor condition it bears a 1920 2d brown orange KGV (Sc27) and is cancelled SYDNEY 4PM 13 MY 21 & identifier 40. The wrapper is addressed to New York, USA. *The Australasian Leather Trades Review* was classed as a periodical which for foreign countries was rated at 1d per two ounces from 28 October until January 1922. In other words, the contents of this wrapper weighed up to four ounces.

The Australasian Leather Trades Review was founded by John Coghill who was editor for 12 years. Volume 1 appeared in 1904 and continued until volume 56 in 1960. It was printed in colour of 156 pages and contained articles such as the history of the leather trade in Victoria and the development of the woolen industry, leather used for shoes, apprentice courses for tanning, amongst other things.

Illustration 1: Australasian Leather Trades Review



The Barrier Miner

The Barrier Miner was a daily English language broadsheet newspaper published in Broken Hill. It was first published on 28 February 1888, and appeared continuously until 25 November 1974. It served the growing mining community of Broken Hill, when the area was the site of the first gold discovery, and later vast iron ore mines commenced by the Broken Hill Pty. Co. Ltd.

The wrapper is franked with a black oval NEWSPAPER POSTAGE PAID 1d 4.30 BROKEN HILL NSW. For newspapers published in New South Wales and posted within seven days of publication the rate was 1d for up to 10 ounces. The date does not appear in the postmark but would have appeared on the newspaper. The 1d rate for 10 ounces applied from 1 March 1901 until 4 August 1930, when it remained at 1d but for the reduced weight of six ounces. On 10 December 1941 the rate increased to 1d per six ounces plus ½d war tax per item. Hence, the date of *The Barrier Miner* would have been between 1901 and 1930.

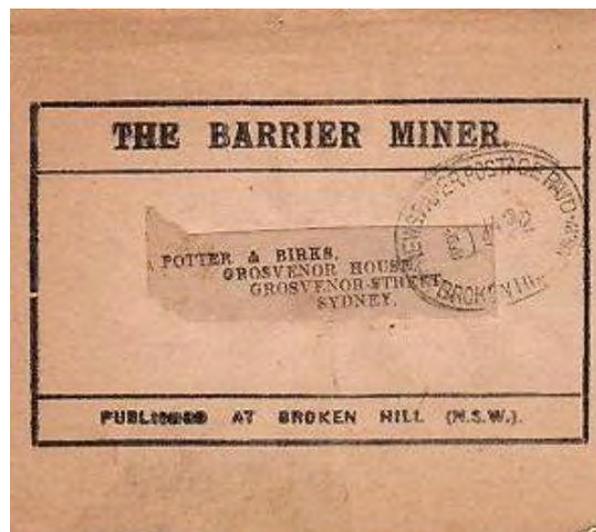


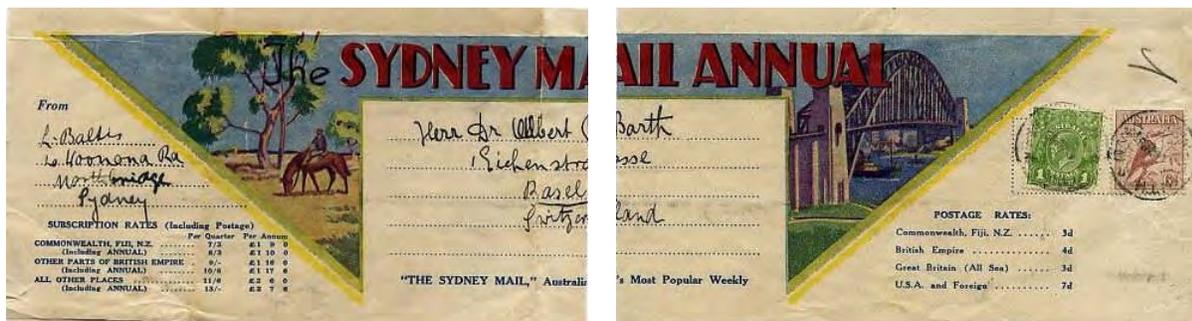
Illustration 2: The Barrier Miner

Sydney Mail Annual

The *Sydney Mail* was an Australian magazine published weekly in Sydney. It was the weekly edition of *The Sydney Morning Herald* newspaper and ran from 1860 to 1938. Special editions were highly sought after especially those published for Christmas, commemorating the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, the opening of Parliament in Canberra and numerous royal tours. *The Sydney Mail Annual* was especially noted for its colour reproduction.

This colorful wrapper showing a man on horseback and a country scene plus Sydney Harbor bridge was mailed to Basel, Switzerland; the postage comprised a 1931 1d green KGV (Sc114) and a 1932 6d light brown kookaburra (Sc139) paying the 7d foreign rate listed on the wrapper. The rate for periodicals to foreign countries in 1932 was 1d per 2 ounces. The weight of this annual was therefore between 12 and 14 ounces. The sender details are written on the left hand panel: North Bridge, Sydney.

Illustration 3: Sydney Mail Annum



The Far East

The Far East is a newspaper devoted to furthering the missionary apostolate of the church and is published by St Columban's Mission Society. It was founded in 1918 as a society of secular priests dedicated to the evangelisation of the Chinese and other overseas people. It is an exclusively missionary society. Fr. Gary Walker became editor of the magazine in Melbourne. The office address is printed in red as Essendon W.5, Victoria.

The adhesive is the 1937 2d scarlet King George VI (Sc169) and postmarked MELBOURNE 5PM 22 DE 37. The wording POSTAGE PAID MELBOURNE was not applicable as the wrapper was addressed to 3rd Theologians, St. Columban's College, Nebraska, USA. The rate for NEWSPAPER ONLY in 1937 to the USA was 1d per 2 ounces which means that the 2d paid was for a weight up to 4 ounces. There is also the message DEAD LETTER OFFICE – RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED. Presumably this guaranteed payment for undeliverable items was to ensure mailing lists were kept up-to-date and that postage was not wasted with undelivered mail.

Illustration 4: The Far East



Newcastle Morning Herald

The Newcastle Morning Herald is a local tabloid newspaper published daily, Monday to Saturday, in Newcastle, New South Wales. The Herald had its origins in two early newspapers, *The Newcastle Chronicle and Hunter River District News* and *The Miners Advocate and Northumberland Recorder*. It was established in 1858 as a weekly journal carrying mining, shipping, court and some small items of local news. It cost 6d. In the years that followed it took on more of the appearance of a newspaper, became a bi-weekly and then tri-weekly, and by 1876 it was priced at 2d. which is the amount shown on the wrapper beneath the masthead.

The wrapper shows a wealth of postal history interest: a departure handstamp A.I.F. FIELD P.O. 23 JY 41, a triangular purple handstamp PASSED BY CENSOR No. 3295 and crown and circular NEWCASTLE 24 JY 41 N.S.W. cancelled on a 1938 1d emerald QE (Sc180). The newspaper rate before 10 December 1941 was 1d per 4 ounces. The rectangular POSTAGE PAID// ? BOX was for domestic mail within NSW. The wrapper is addressed to the Officer in Charge, Australian Soldiers' Club, Jerusalem which gives context to Australian Forces serving in the Middle East.

Illustration 5: Newcastle Morning Herald



China's Millions

China's Millions was the monthly journal published by the China Inland Mission that reported from the field of their missionary work. OMF International (formerly Overseas Missionary Fellowship and before 1964 the *China Inland Mission*) is an interdenominational Protestant Christian missionary society based in Singapore. It was founded in Britain by Hudson Taylor on 25 June 1865.

The POSTAGE PAID, MELBOURNE was not applicable as the wrapper was addressed to Kent, England and was stamped with a 1942 1½d green QE (Sc192) which was the rate to the UK comprising 1d per 4 ounces plus ½d war tax per item from 10 December 1941 – the 1½d rate was not altered until 1 December 1950. The wrapper shows a printed message to the Dead Letter Office that *Return Postage Guaranteed* which was supported by regulation with fines for non-payment.

Illustration 6: China's Millions



Qantas Empire Airways

Qantas is Australia's largest airline and one of the oldest airlines in the world. It was founded in Winton, Queensland on 16 November 1920 as Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Services Limited by Paul McGinness, Hudson Fysh, Fergus McMaster and Arthur Baird. Initially it operated air mail services subsidised by the Australian government, linking railheads in western Queensland. Between 1926 and 1928 Qantas built several aircraft in Longreach and made the inaugural flight of the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, departing from Cloncurry. *Qantas Empire Airways Limited* was formed by Qantas and Britain's Imperial Airways in 1934.

The canceller reads PAID IN SYDNEY 13 OC 43 NSW. The amount paid would have been 1d per 2 ounces plus ½d war tax. The wrapper is inscribed A GAZETTE PUBLISHED MONTHLY and gives the Qantas address as Shell House, Carrington Street, Sydney. The wrapper is addressed to the Aviation Editor, New York Herald Tribune, New York.

Illustration 7: Qantas Empire Airways



Australian Jewish Herald

The *Australian Jewish Herald* was the first permanent weekly publication published in Melbourne from 1935 to 1968 as the official organ of the Jewish community. It was published in South Melbourne by the Andersons' Printing and Publishing Co. Pty. Ltd. and founded in 1890 under a different name. Under the editorship of such identities as Rev Elias Blaubaum, Nahum Barnet and Newman Rosenthal, it survived for about 80 years.

The wrapper bears a 1942 1½d green QE stamp (Sc192) positioned over POSTAGE PAID MELBOURNE which applied to domestic rates. While the date of the cancel is unreadable it is likely to be circa 1942-48

because between 10 December 1941 and 1 July 1949 the newspaper rate to the USA was 1d per two ounces plus ½d war tax per item = 1½d stamp. There is a circular red USA CENSORSHIP EXAMINED by 734. The wrapper is addressed to Mr. A. Weiner, Hotel Century, New York City, New York, USA.

Illustration 8: Australian Jewish Herald



H. R. Harmer Australia

Henry R. Harmer, a signatory of the exclusive "Roll of Distinguished Philatelists", founded the company that bears his name in England in 1918. In 1940, the Harmer firm opened its New York auction gallery and quickly ascended to the top ranks of philatelic auction houses in the United States. His company was the world's biggest stamp dealer that revolutionized the trade by introducing art-market-style auctioneering. He gave customers such as King Carol II of Rumania and King Farouk of Egypt advice that rare stamps are more portable than crown jewels.

Postage details on this wrapper show *Second Class* in manuscript beneath the BY AIR MAIL etiquette. The contents are clearly stated as a DATED AUCTION CATALOGUE and sent from Harmer's 28 Castlereagh Street, Sydney office. The wrapper is addressed to Nairobi, Kenya Colony thereby incurring the airmail rate to "British Empire and foreign countries". The airmail rate to Kenya and Uganda until 1 August 1952 was 2/6. This rate is noted in pencil and paid for with a pair of 1932 9d violet kangaroos (Sc122), plus two 1946 3½d deep-ultra Sir Thomas Mitchell and map of Queensland (Sc204), plus a 1942 4d green koala (Sc171) and a 1d 1931 green KGV (Sc114), i.e., 2x9d + 2x3½d + 4d + 1d = 30d or 2/6. These stamps have been cancelled with three circular strikes of GPO –SYDNEY 2-P 29 1 50 NSW-AUST.

Illustration 9: H. R. Harmer, Australia

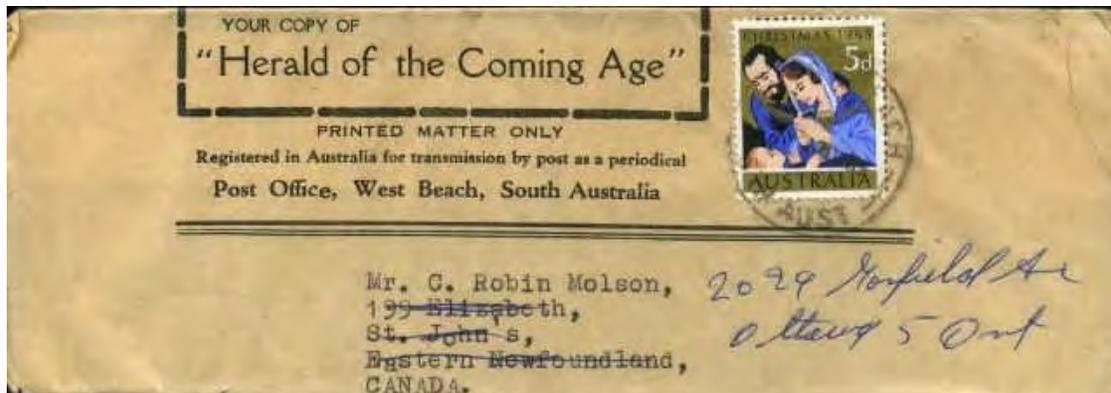


Herald of the Coming Age

The *Herald of the Coming Age* was the title of small booklets dealing with religious matters and bible studies and was issued by the Christadelphians. It bears the wording PRINTED MATTER ONLY and Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a periodical. The address is Post Office, West Beach, South Australia. The wrapper is readdressed from St. John's East Newfoundland to Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

The stamp is a 1965 5d Christmas Nativity scene and is postmarked WEST BEACH SOUTH AUST. While the postmark is illegible regarding the date, the 5d rate for foreign countries for up to two ounces commenced on 1 October 1959.

Illustration 10: Herald of the Coming Age



Conclusion

Aspects of Australia's social history can be assembled from researching the stories behind the names that are printed on early private wrappers. As much as anything though this paper is a demonstration as to how the Internet and the computer have empowered philatelists to find and collect material and undertake research and write-ups. The Internet has enabled auction sites to reach collectors who are located throughout the nooks and crannies of the world. This exposure to a potential international market has encouraged sellers to list an amazing array of diverse items for sale. Buyers can purchase the wrappers in a cost-effective manner (for example, without the costs of travel). Alternatively, the images can be captured and stored on the computer and retrieved, compared and studied at leisure. Dr Maurice Mishkel, who has written several times for this Journal, has completed 1,000 stories about the individuals and businesses mentioned on Australian-connected covers, most of the images of which he captured from auction sales on the Internet. His efforts are now under the preservation of the Australian Postal History and Social Philately's maintained web site www.auspostalhistory.com/

The Internet, and especially the remarkable power of the Google algorithms, enables researchers to conduct more in-depth study of matters more efficiently and comprehensively. For each of the ten wrappers illustrated it would likely be possible to draft a couple of pages and thereby flesh out some lesser known Australian social history aspects. The toe-wetting exercise of this paper is merely a demonstration of how an area of philately can be brought to life through the information highway of the Internet. Anyone with a computer, Internet access, time and patience can do research and writing of this nature.

Reference: Breckon Richard (1989), Australian Commonwealth Postal Rates, 1901-66, *The Australian Philatelist*, Autumn, pp. 45-52.

Acknowledgement: Sincere thanks to Allan Gory for commenting on the first draft and pointing me in the direction of the Breckon postal rate articles.

Was Thailand the First to use the Aerogramme?

Joan Orr MAP

As an aerogramme collector I was interested in Michael Barden's article on ***Who Invented the Aerogramme.***

I had always credited Major Douglas W. Gumbley with the honour until I acquired the attached Aerogramme, a Croxley publication, approved by the New Zealand Post Office for posting in New Zealand to overseas or inland addresses. N.Z.P.O. authority No. 101: produced for the Zeapex '80 Exhibition in New Zealand.

It was produced to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Major Gumbley's birth on 14 August 1880 and inside gives important milestones in his very chequered career.

He was born on the Island of Guernsey. Studied engineering at the United Westminster and Battersea Technical College from whence he qualified.

1898 - Went to India to work in the Indo-European Telegraphic Dept. of the Indian Civil Service, this Dept. was formed to complete the communications from Baluchistan to India. The British section stopped at Tehran.

1914 - He went to Basra in the cable ship "The Patrick Stuart" and there joined the British Army. He first served as a civilian in the Signals, but soon gazetted as a Lieutenant and later promoted to Captain and then Major, mentioned in four despatches; in 1919 awarded the O.B.E.

1922 - Demobilized, made Director of Post & Telegraphs in Iraq, and in the same year awarded the C.B.E.

1923 - Initiated the overland mail system between Baghdad - Damascus using Model T Fords, this system reduced the sea route by eight days to England.

Following this he began an Air Mail Service from Iraq to England at the rate of 15 Fils (3d) the international postage rate by surface mail.

He then chose the site for the first class airport in Baghdad, learned to fly, first entry in his pilots' log book was 22nd June 1930.

1933 - He realised the need for a standard sized letter form for use in newly developing Air Services, and he registered this form under his name at Stationers Hall London in 1933.

This form was printed by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. and weighed just under 4 grammes impressed with a 15 Fils stamp showing King Faisal. The form measured 250mm X 200mm and needed two folds. First issued on 15 July 1933, this became the first folded Aerogramme.

1935 - 1947 he was the Director of Civil Aviation in Palestine, he saw the need for an airport and was the leading light in the building of Lydda Airport.

1947 - Returned to England, spent five years in charge of Aviation and Communications for the Iraq Petroleum Co. Ltd.

1957 - Retired to Sandford on the Isle of Wight.

1973 - Died at the age of 93 on the 5th February.

Now turn to the reverse or back of this aerogramme and some interesting information comes to light:

1930 - AIR LETTER -- Guatemala.

1947 - AEROGRAM - Norway

1932 - "AIR O GRAM" - Siam

1951 - AEROGRAMME - Israel

1933 - AIR LETTER CARD - Iraq

1952 - Official sanction to use the term "Aerograms" - UPU.

1941 - AIRGRAPHS - Allied Forces

Who was responsible for the Guatemala AIR LETTER? We know who designed the Siam item per Michael's article, but it appears that only Major Gumbley had the foresight to register his 'invention'.

Whilst we are on the subject it is correct that the UPU gave its official sanction to use the term "Aerogram" in 1952, but this was with the following definition:

A sheet of paper within the range 45 - 65gsm which when suitably folded dimensions must be at least 88 x 138mm and not greater than 110 x 220mm, length being equal to or greater than the width multiplied by 1.414 which, because of the light weight and fixed dimensions, can be transmitted by overseas air mail at a cheaper rate than letters.

Over the years and at different congresses there have been many changes to this simplistic definition of an Aerogram.

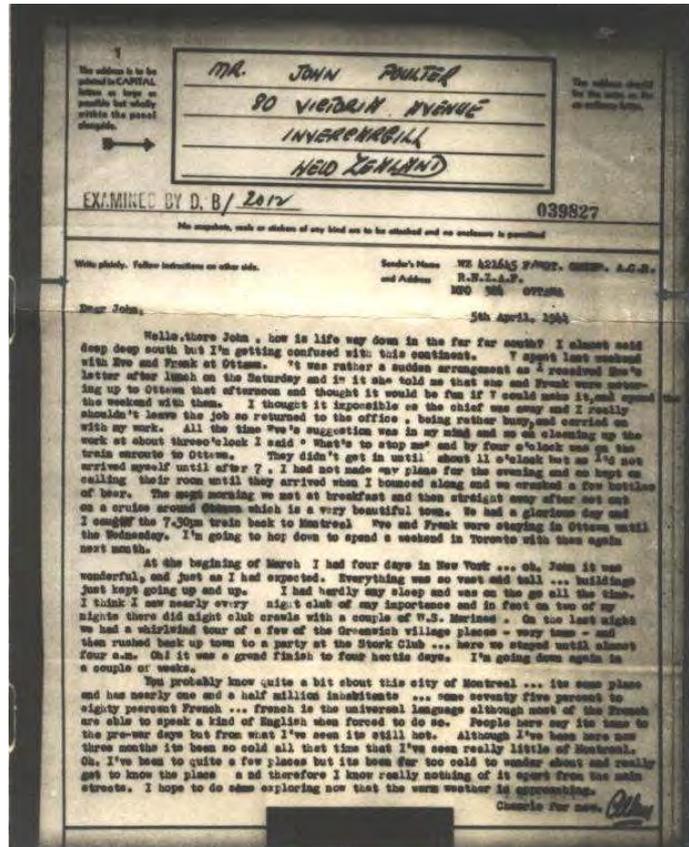


New Zealand Musings—New Zealand at War 1939-45

Tony Lyon

CANADA - Empire Training Scheme

Airgraph dated 5 April 1944 from RNZAF Flight Sergeant attached to A.C.E. (Allied Command Europe) address MPO 304 Ottawa (RACF HQ).



Ascension Island



Cover sent by Corporal RNZAF 45 (Atlantic Ferry) Group HQ, RAF Transport Command, Harrow, Middlesex, England. It was written at Ascension Island, which was a route stop when ATC aircraft crossed the Atlantic. Passed through Montreal where it received a machine cancel 16 FEB 1944 before being on-forwarded to New Zealand.

Iceland – Reykjavik

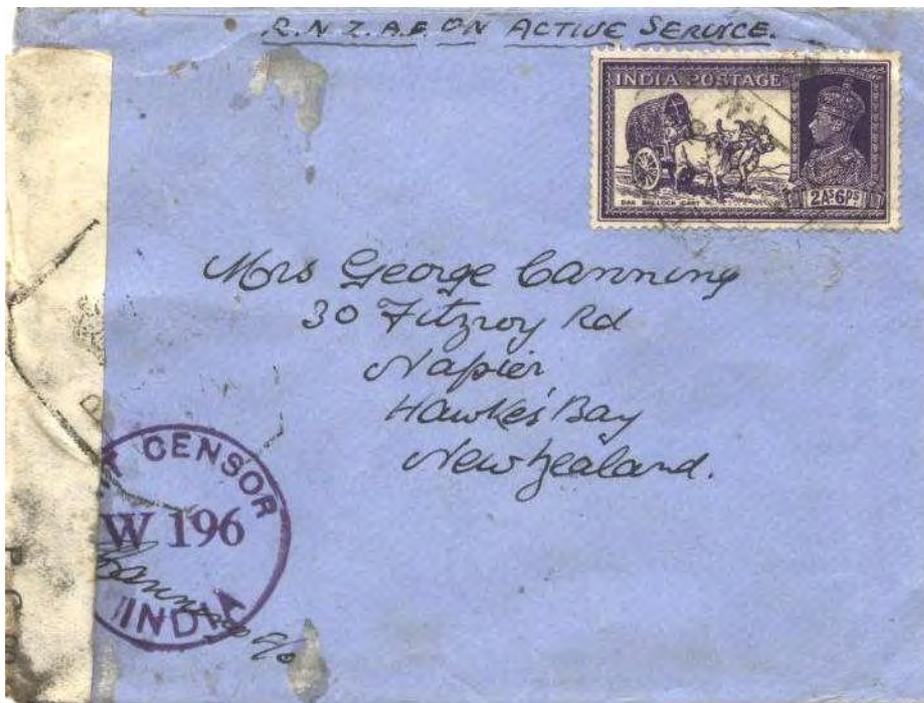
Cover posted at Pahiataua 22 MY 41. Opened by censor and resealed with rubber censor stamp 117 applied at Gisborne. Addressed to 415 The Strand London and on-forwarded to RAF Station, Reykjavik, Iceland. RAF HQ Iceland was located at Reykjavik from 4 May 1941. By 24 October 1942 US Forces had taken over. The main task was anti-submarine warfare and convoy escort duties in the Atlantic and Arctic, protecting Russian convoys. Airmail rate 1/6d



Cover sent from Reykjavik with FPO 306 and censored by RAF Censor 638 type R5 (Colley and Garrard). Opened by examiner 759 and resealed with tape. A number of RNZAF personnel were with Coastal Command in Iceland. Surface rate free.

RAF/RNZAF Ceylon & India

Cover from RNZAF Flying Officer Canning stationed at RAF India Command located at Simla, India. Censored by unit censor W 196 type R53. Examined by the censor and resealed with paper tape which has been canceled with a faint hexagonal censor mark. Surface postage 2A^s 6P^s.



Letter RNZAF Sergeant. He is with RAF Ceylon. The 1R Ceylon stamp is cancelled by a China Bay cancel dated 17 JA 42. Passed by censor 6 and RAF censor type R8 No. 45. Addressed to New Zealand.

RAF/RNZAF India

Cover from RNZAF Sergeant serving with RAF India. The censor marking is a type R53 and W98 was used in India and is part of a numerical series W21 to W 395. The period of use was from November 1942 to April 1944. This particular cover has been handled by the Base Post Office, Bombay as the Passed by Censor DHC/19 indicates. Surface rate free.



Cover from RNZAF Flight Sergeant serving with the RAF. From RAF Post No. 5 which at that time was located at Calcutta. RAF censor 161 is a type R17, which was part of the series numbering 157-211. These are known used at RAFPOST. On the reverse is a Chief Post Office 2 NZEF (Cairo) dated 2 AP 44 and a Base Post Office No 1 (Indian). The airmail rate was 8 Annas.

This all-inclusive airmail rate was promulgated by the Indian Director-General in May 1941. (Virk D S. 1982. *Indian Army Post Offices in the Second World War*. P 162. New Dehi: The Army Postal Service Association).

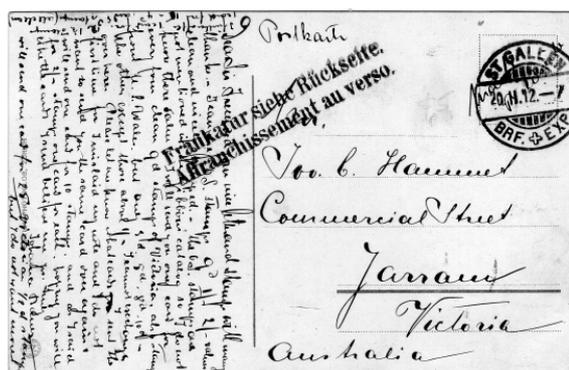


Postcard Service of Johanna Bauer

Ian Cutter

Postcard collecting was a world-wide hobby in the early decades of last century, generally working by means of a one-for-one exchange. This is apparent from the messages they carried; “I hope you like this postcard”, and “Thank you for the pretty postcard” are very common messages, well up there with “I apologize for not writing sooner”, “Why haven’t you written?” and “The X marks the window of our hotel room.”

However, the card illustrated here sheds some light on another aspect of collecting, by direct purchase rather than exchange.



The postcard of Lake Geneva illustrated here was posted from St Gallen, in the north-east of Switzerland, on 20 February 1912. Like many cards of that era it carries the stamps on the picture side, and in fact the other side carries the words “Frankatur siehe Rückseite. / Affranchissement au verso”. There is also a handwritten note, which probably re-enforces the message, in the place where provision is made for the stamp to be placed.

The card is addressed to Mr Ivo. C. Ha...t in Yarram, Victoria. There is no sender's address but the content of the card shows that the recipient would have known what it was. The card is signed by Johanna Bauer.

The card appears to read as follows:

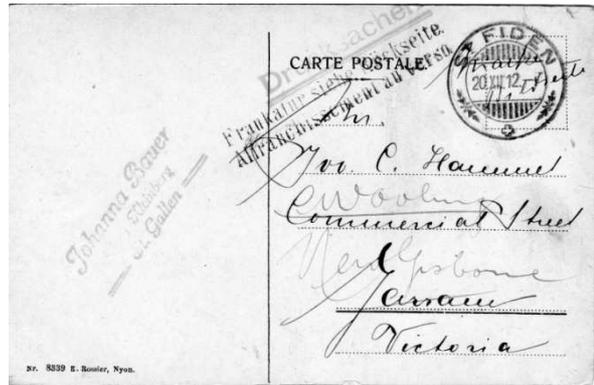
Dear Sir. I received your nice letter and stamps with many thanks. I can use OS stamps 9^d 1/- 2/- values clean and nicely stamped – the OS. Stamps are not mentioned in the Gibbons catalog so I do not know their value. I will send you one card for every four clean 9^d stamps of Victoria, also stamps from N. S. Wales but only 3^d, 5^d, 8^d, 10^d - the others except those above 1/- I cannot exchange over here. Please let me know what cards I sent the first time for I mislaid my note and I do not want to send you the same card over again. I will send one card for 10 stamps, and as I said for 2/- stamps one card for each. Hoping you will like the cards I send believe me

Yrs. Truly Johanna Bauer

I further offer 1 card for 12 1½^d stamps 1 card for 15 – 4^d and 5^d stamps (all clean) will send one card for 25 Victorian ½^d stamps but I do not want more.

From the perspective of 100 years on, does this seem a good deal?

This proposal must have suited Mr Ha....t because there is at least one subsequent card from Johanna Bauer, posted in St Finden (a locality within St Gallen) on 20 December 1912 with the sender's address but no additional writing.



The beauty of this card is that it offers confirmation of the preference for stamping the front of the card, and goes some way to explaining the relatively high proportion of cards of that era that convey no information whatsoever.



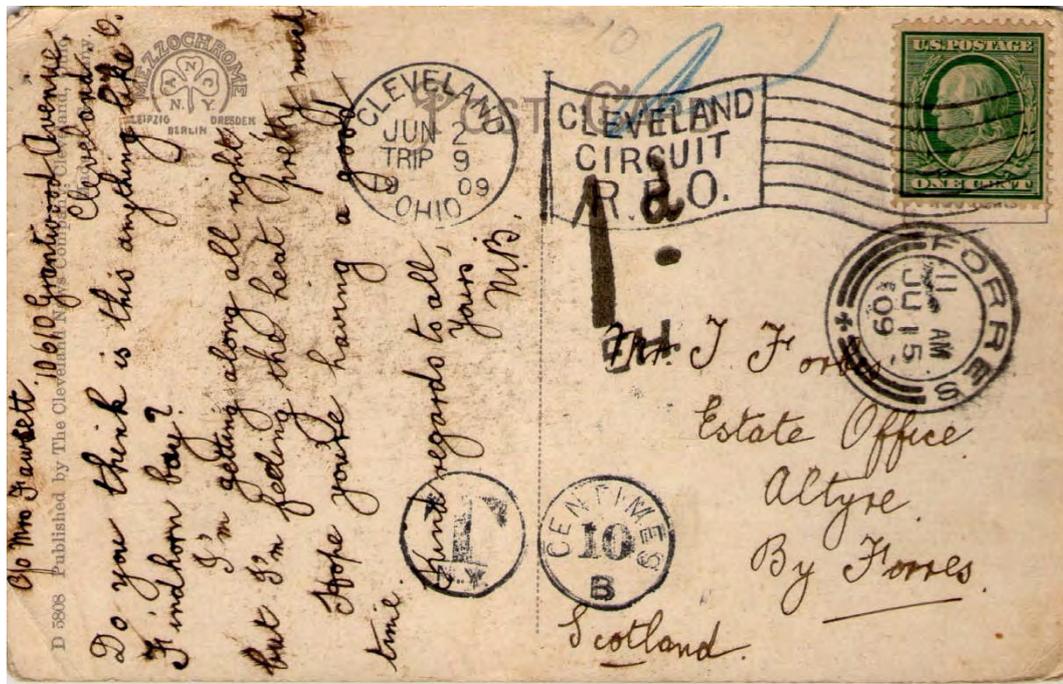
Ian Cutter

Further to tramway post-offices...

The illustration shows a card from Cleveland, Ohio, to Altyre, Scotland.

The "1d" tax seems reasonable, given that the card is underpaid. However, can somebody explain the "10 Centimes" tax, which appears to have been applied in New York.

A picture of the "post office" itself can be seen by Googling "Machine cancel forum March 2010".



Hand-Held Date Stamps

Co-ordinated by George Vearing

Information on the closure of the Toowong Post Office was forwarded to me from David Walker and the post marks from the closure of the Toowong Retail Post Office and the opening of the new Post Office are illustrated in the Queensland section and it is noted that they were both operating on the same day. From a letter from Australia Post the new post office will have limited services with full services available at 5 other post offices within a 3km radius and business customer services are available at the Toowong Business Hub only 250 metres away.

There are also some interesting datestamps with a Narooma (NSW) with no outer border and 2 Hamilton Central (QLD) both with the letter "C". These have come from a collection of covers sent to me from Simon Alsop who did a Post Office crawl and as I only collect datestamps from Victoria they will be forwarded to the first member who contacts me.

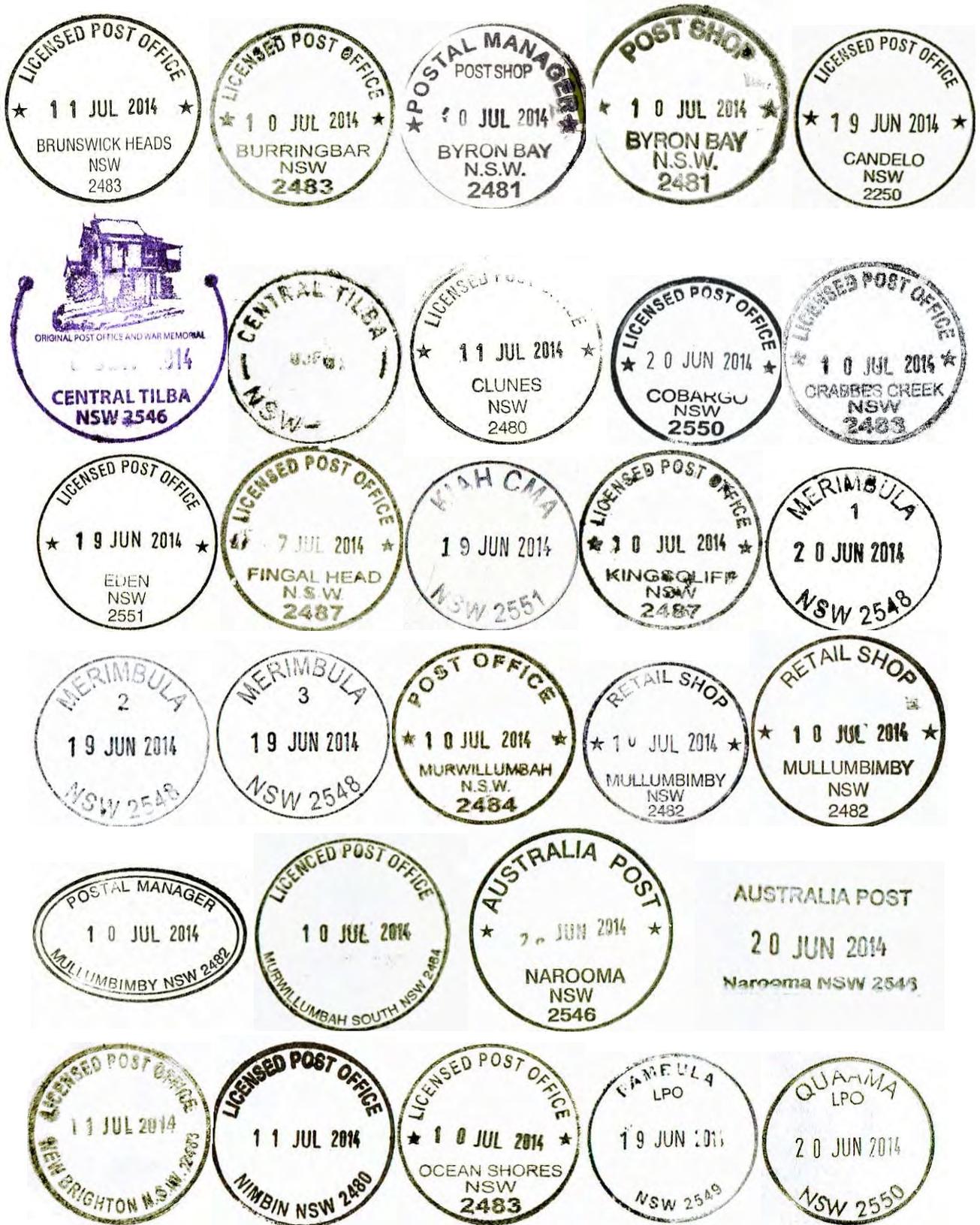
A few months back I bought quite a large collection of Victorian datestamps and quite a few from post offices starting with the letter A appear in this edition and more will follow in later editions and most will be in the period from 2000 onward

Many thanks to Richard Peck, Ian Cutter, David Walker and Simon Alsop for their contributions to this column.

N.S.W.:- Earlier datestamps:- BYRON BAY(107/24),TATHRA(10/25),TILBA TILBA (109/26)



N.S.W.:- (CONT)—CENTRAL TILBA must be one of the last steel datestamps in use



NSW:- (cont)



QLD:- Earlier datestamps-CHERMSIDE WEST (111/28), LABRADOR (121/26)



QLD:- (cont)



LAST DAY OF RETAIL POST OFFICE

FIRST DAY NEW PO



VIC:- ELMORE PAID X3 ALL ARE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT



VIC:- Earlier datestamps:-ROWVILLE (100/61), TARNEIT(1) (115/29),



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- Send the Editor any interesting philatelic news
- Come to the bi-monthly meeting if in Melbourne
- Help George Vearing with his Datestamp Notes
- Get involved in one of the Study Groups
- Enter the Society Competitions
- Volunteer to display your collection at the monthly meeting
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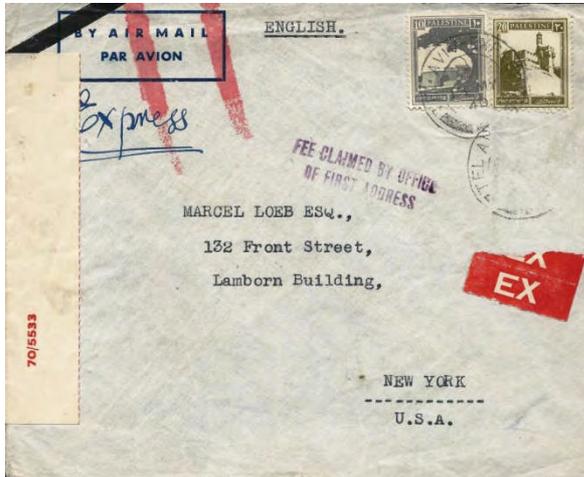
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Web: www.argyll-etkin.com

Palestine Express Mail

Tony Lyon



Express airmail cover from Tel Aviv to New York. Tel Aviv Express double circle dated 13 May 1940 with New York GPO 1.30PM Jun 3 and New York Wall St STA 2.30PM Jun 3. Airmail from Tel Aviv by KLM/Ala Littoria to Naples or Rome surface to London where the Jasqu'a (airmail until or, as far as) cancel was applied, then by ship to New York (transit 22 days).

The cover was opened and censored at Tel Aviv and passed. It appears there was an under payment indicated by the double line cachet 'FEE CLAIMED BY OFFICE OF FIRST ADDRESS'. One stamp appears to have been removed. The rate should be 55 mils, (30 mils plus 25 mils express).



Express local cover posted at Tel Aviv cancelled with Tel Aviv Express double circle dated 30 May 1941 addressed to Benebraq (a settlement situated between Tel Aviv and Petah Tiqva. The addressee refused to accept the letter which was from an advocate.

A cachet was applied indicating reason for return to sender. Also a single line Return to was applied. Back markings include 2 x circular Benebraq cancels dated 30 MY 41 and circular 2 x Tel Aviv dated 2 JU and 3 JU respectively.

The Express label has been cancelled for the return by a Jasqu'a applied at Tel Aviv in red.

Rate 10 mils inland plus 15 mils express fee.