

# Australian Journal of Philately

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

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**Hand-Held Date-Stamp Notes**

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Date	2015 / 2016 Programme	Display
20 June 2016	Tony Lyon	Palestine Pictorials 1928-47 & Military Covers
15 August 2016	AGM	Members—Work in Progress
17 October 2016	Ian Sadler	Indian Princely States
	George Speirs	Miscellany

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## Front Cover

*Tony Lyon*

One from my humorous military post-card collection. Nos Soldats Delivrance Paquetages. Rough translation, French soldiers receiving their kit. Produced by Librairie, 7 Rue Chevalier-Paul — Toulon. Military humour seems to be universal.



## Editorial

*Tony Lyon*

It is always a good feeling when the final page is completed on an issue. Hopefully everything comes together and you the reader find something of interest.

Another of our long time members passed away 5 May 2016. Harold J. C. Sheath (1927-2016), was a much valued member who continued to contribute to this society until shortly before his death. As a lasting legacy his help in compiling a complete index of the journal from issue No 1 will benefit all who are looking for past information. Harold went through each issue and wrote out in long hand the index which enabled your editor to type it up into a PDF. It is indexed by article and by author. It will be available soon on-line at our website. Well done Harold.

Please read the article that Michael Barden has written concerning the future publishing of the journal. A decision then needs to be made as to how you wish to receive future issues.

It is pleasing to have additional contributors for the journal and we are always looking for contributions. Even hand written articles can be accepted from those who don't have or use computers. Don't let that stand in your way. Many of you must have some interesting covers that would be appreciated by a wider readership.

While on the subject of computers I came across this little pearl of wisdom. 'To my children—Never make fun of having to help me with computer stuff. I taught you how to use a spoon.' On that note I will say:

Ciao for now.

### Privacy Statement

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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.

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## Australian Journal of Philately in a Cost-Price Squeeze

### Michael Barden with your Committee

Some 70% of your Society's expenditure goes on printing and mailing the journal (AJP). The 30% balance covers overheads, such as meeting room rental, free journals to kindred societies, PO box, four life members etc. Authors and the Editor get paid in thanks. Committee members pay their own expenses at committee meetings!

Like other societies, this Society has a falling membership. Overheads must be covered by fewer people. Add to this the recent postal increases for mailing journals and we have a cost-price squeeze. There's not much in our bank account to subsidize operations further and keep subscriptions from rising – we have done this for several years now.

We publish a good and varied journal, with the help of a diligent honorary editor and contributing members, always on time and full of variety. This is a big plus and a good reason for wishing to continue as a Philatelic Society. We think we are reasonably good at what we do. Cast an eye over some other journals to compare their quality, quantity and cost. **If members wish to see different content from what is now offered, may we suggest they become contributors and submit an article.** Your editor and I are both willing to help with computer skills to paginate articles by inserting illustrations or effecting layout, so don't let that put off first time authors or those with limited computer skills. We offer this service already and it is used. You sign off before we print.

The unit cost of printing and binding a 32 page AJP is nearly \$4 a copy. P & P are extra. Costs including overheads versus subs are currently as shown below:-

costs			costs		
<b>Australia</b>	<b>\$35.50</b>	<b>Sub now \$25</b>	<b>ROW 2x</b>	<b>\$45</b>	<b>Sub now \$28</b>
<b>A/P 2x</b>	<b>\$37.20</b>	<b>Sub now \$25</b>	<b>ROW 4x</b>	<b>\$60.20</b>	<b>Sub now \$41</b>
<b>A/P 4x</b>	<b>\$47.20</b>	<b>Sub now \$35</b>			

Overseas postage is horrendous! Subscriptions are around journal cost, so we are not covering any of the 30% overheads. **How can we maintain the service, yet strip costs?**

Elsewhere in this issue you can read about the Society's new on-line index for all 136 issues of AJP. Tony Lyon is scanning all back copies of AJP and putting them on the web. Members with back copies will be able to go straight to relevant articles. So it has never been a better time to be a member. Not only will you have the index but also now access to exchanged journals (hard copy only to date – they too will go electronic). Hard copy exchange journals will cease to exist.

On-line communications show us the way forward. From July 2016, members with email addresses can receive journals as soon as they are produced and 100% in colour. The **annual membership costs for four electronic journals**, wherever you live in the world, with **access to the website** will be **\$A25**. Journals will be sent out as a PDF attached to an email (~ 6 Mb).

Some of you will prefer to receive hard copies by mail for one or other reason. AJP will be all B & W as an A4 sheet stapled in the top left corner, not an A3 booklet as now. Bold type gives best options.

<b>Australia</b>	<b>4 copies per year</b>	<b>annual sub \$39</b>			
<b>Asia/Pacific</b>	<b>2 copies per year</b>	<b>\$43</b>	<b>ROW</b>	<b>2 copies per year</b>	<b>annual sub \$49</b>
	<b>4</b>	<b>\$55</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>\$68</b>

The choice is yours to select on the annual subscription renewal form. If you have an email but wish to receive a hard copy, **we would still appreciate having all email addresses for communication purposes**. None of these is given to a third party nor will it be.

**Acknowledgements.** Michael Barden for the cost analyses with John Steward's assistance.  
The late Harold Sheath for his work on the creating the index.  
Tony Lyon for typing up and formatting the index.

## Nimmitabel Registration Labels

### **Mike Kaponay**

I have been collecting Registration Labels for almost forty years and when I see ads for labels from small post offices I wonder how scarce they are. Nobody seems able to give me a reasonable answer.

Despite asking dealers, exchange superintendents and even club members this question they would just give me a funny look and tell me that they do not have any or know much about them.

I got the feeling that registration labels are second class citizens in the stamp collecting world. Of course the type I am looking for are not used any more, they have been replaced by a different system with different types of labels.

Just lately I have been having a general clear out of boxes gathered over many years and I came across some registered covers from a small post office (a post office agency), from the Snowy area in New South Wales. The post office was called NIMMITABEL.

The story is, I was in the Main Post Office when a postal worker brought in a number of white envelopes and gave them to the Post Master and he stored them in a filing cabinet near his desk. (rubbish beans) I asked him if he would give these to me when they had been dealt with and he said "Yes". They were Listed Registered envelopes which contained the excess over the Post Office's advance which was required to be sent daily to the head office.

Putting the label numbers in sequence corresponding with the date on the envelope I can tell from the missing numbers how many registered articles were posted from this office. Between 29 June 1983 and 1 August 1984, only 49 labels are missing, presumably used by the public. That is less than 1 per week. This, I feel makes them very scarce.

It would be interesting to know how many collectors collect registration labels either full time or as Cinderella items, because I have no problem, to sell them.



# Postcards to Australia

## John Young

Australians are a long way from most places, but have often had enough money to travel. They have also been inveterate senders of postcards. The heyday of postcards in general is thought to have been during the early 1900s, but the heyday of cards from overseas was probably the last third of the twentieth century. The combination of increased population, higher incomes and cheap air travel sent Australians to all corners of the globe. In contrast to the early twentieth century, 'going home' in the 1970s could be Holland, Italy, Greece or Yugoslavia, as well as Great Britain.

The reasons for sending back postcards were varied. Often a card simply told the addressee where the sender was staying, en route to Europe; or a card might recall earlier times – do you remember being here? The message might describe the place shown on the card – with an arrow captioned 'here is our hotel' – or a comment on dress, customs or lavatories. Postcards also did for season's greeting, anniversaries and birthdays.

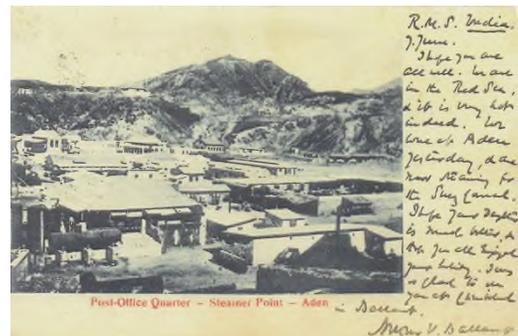
For almost as long as there have been postcards there have been collectors. An example below, one of several to survive, was sent from Prague to Miss May Wise of Sale, Victoria. The sender wrote a three paragraph message in neat handwriting; his other cards carried only a few words, saving postage as printed matter. Their object was to find a place in May's collection.

Since about 2010 fewer postcards have been mailed to Australia. They've become a quaint relic, and seem to take longer than ever to reach their address: travellers often get back to Australia before their postcards arrive. Electronic messages and images are quicker and cheaper. Cheapness, however, may not be everything. A good postcard can be better than a swag of selfies or clumsily composed digital photos; it is like comparing a gift-wrapped chocolate with a packet of gumdrops.

Shown below are some postcards with varied messages, often from out of the way places, over nearly 100 years.



Illustration 1 from Suez is an Aden postcard sent to Glenorchy, Victoria in 1907. Glenorchy had about 400 people then, but is now a somewhat decaying township. The sender mentioned the extreme heat in the Red Sea, and exchanged family news.



Picture side



Illustration 2 is a new year greeting from Austria in 1900. The card is the message.



Picture side

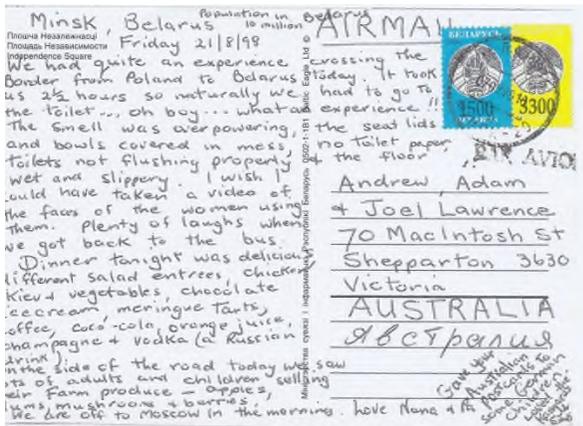
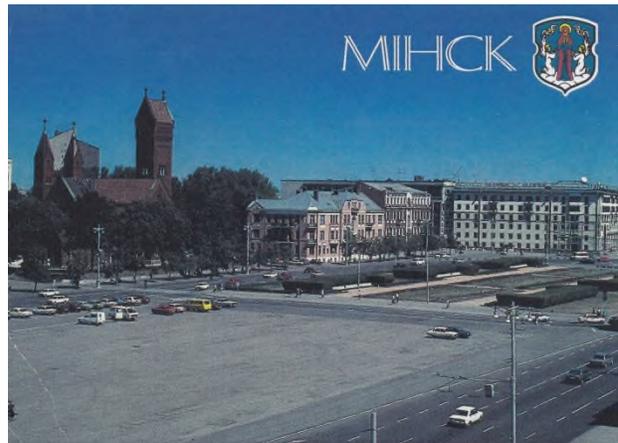


Illustration 3 is from Belarus in 1998. A long message includes dietary and lavatorial intelligence.



Picture side

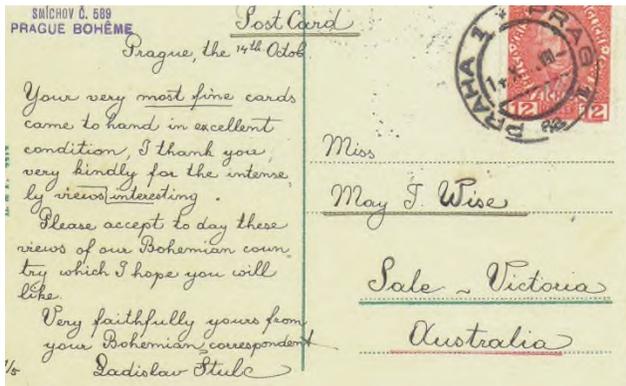


Illustration 4 is the card to May Wise in Sale.



Picture side

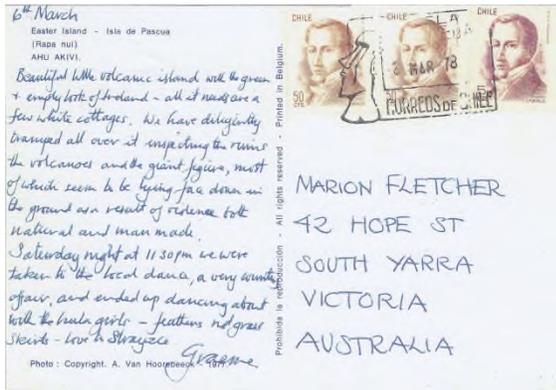


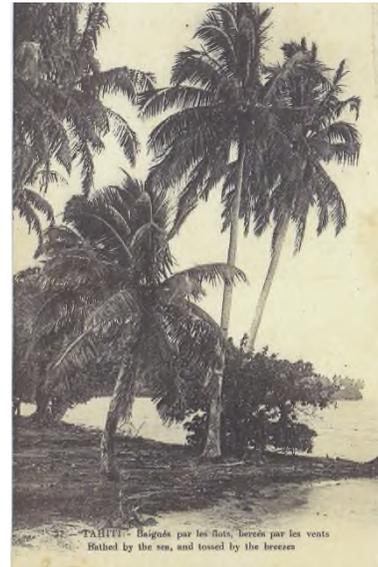
Illustration 5 includes a chatty message from Easter Island in 1978, a time when visits to the island were not very common.



Picture side



Illustration 6. Visits to Tahiti have been plentiful since the 1960s, but a visit in 1930 was a bit of a novelty. Posted in early December, presumably the compliments of the season reached Bayswater, Victoria, by early 1931.



Picture side

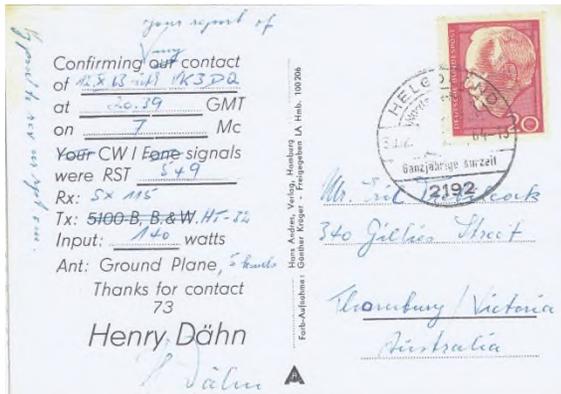


Illustration 7 is almost a no-message card, sent at the printed-matter rate in 1904. It is addressed to Miss Monash, c/o Tivoli Place, South Yarra.

Bertha Monash was General Sir John Monash's daughter who was staying with her father's Aunt Uthilde Roth, nee Monasch.



Picture side



Picture side

Illustration 8. Postcards from Germany are common, but from Heligoland (1964) they are seldom seen. Apparently Mr Trebilcock at Gillies St, Thornbury, picked up Mr Dahn's radio signal from Heligoland. The card also has a nice aerial picture of the island.

## Cover Story

Tony Lyon

An interesting airmail cover which involves three commonwealth forces, unfortunately it is a front only which precludes help with which member sent it but a Canadian could be presumed. But if the Crown over circle censor is 2081 as I suspect it is, this was censor device was held by a New Zealand Officer so it is more likely to be a New Zealand person who sent it.

1. New Zealand. The Egypt Postage Prepaid No. 46 dated 9 JL 43 was used at the New Zealand Forces Club, Cairo, 33 Malika Farada between 23 February 1942 when it opened and 20 July 1943. The NZ Field Post office was redesignated MPO KW 6 1 August 1943.
2. It is addressed to a Pilot Officer with The Royal Canadian Air Force.
3. He is with the Indian Command, India. India Command, under General Auchinleck Commander-in-Chief, India, was responsible for the development of India as a base, for internal security in India and the defence of India's North West Frontier. India Command's base responsibility included the training, equipping, maintenance and movement of operational forces assigned to SEAC.<sup>1</sup>



Postage of 1/8d was for a double weight letter up to 20gms being 10d per 10 gms from 1 1 May, 1941.

Not sure what the 503 manuscript indicates. It was not a squadron in India.

<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India\\_Command](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India_Command)

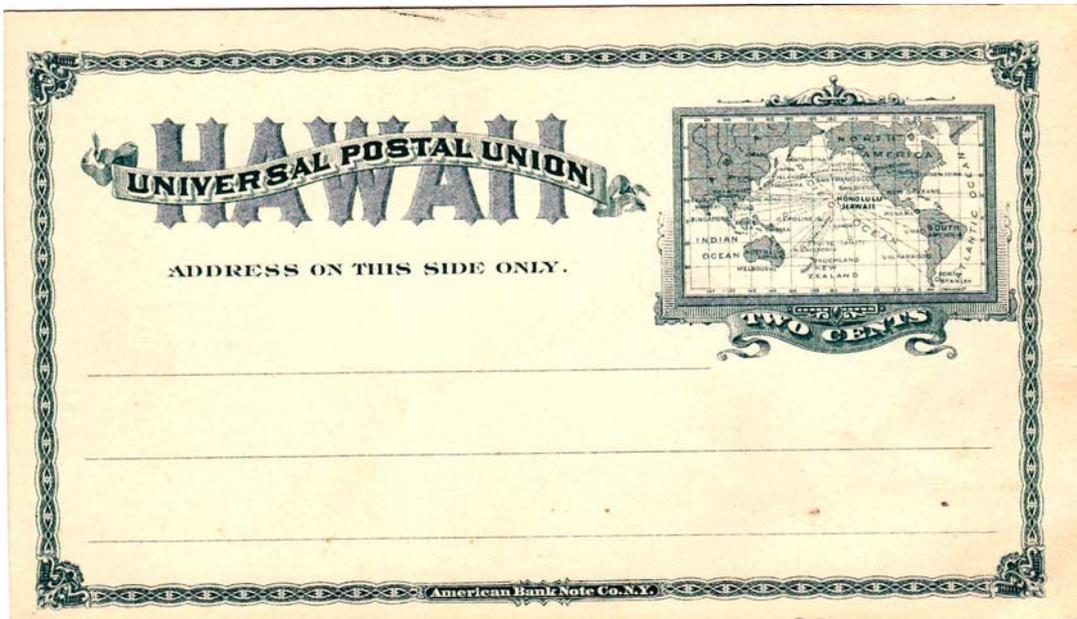
# Japanese Conquest and Defeat in World War II

## 1. Success and Victory

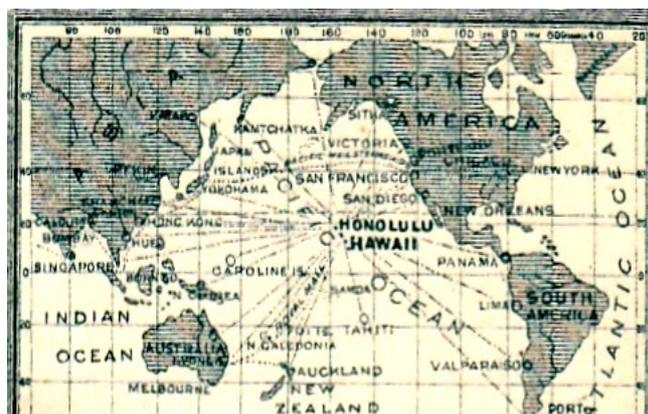
**Ian Sadler**

In late 1941 the Japanese started World War II in the Pacific by attacking Pearl Harbour, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Malaya. Their belligerent armies, navies and aircraft conquered a swathe of lands from the Philippines across PNG and the Netherlands Indies to Burma. But four years later they lost all those countries, and surrendered unconditionally, to the Allies. This article tells the first part of that bloody story, covering Japanese capture of the Philippines, Hong Kong and Malaya, including Singapore.

The war in the Pacific started on 8 December 1941 with an unheralded Japanese air attack on the United States naval base in Pearl Harbour, Hawaii. 460 planes from six aircraft carriers attacked the unprepared US Pacific Fleet at dawn and sank or crippled 18 warships (refer Japanese enlarged stamp below). The postcard shows the central position of Hawaii in the Pacific, 7000 km from the Japanese ships' base. (See detail below).



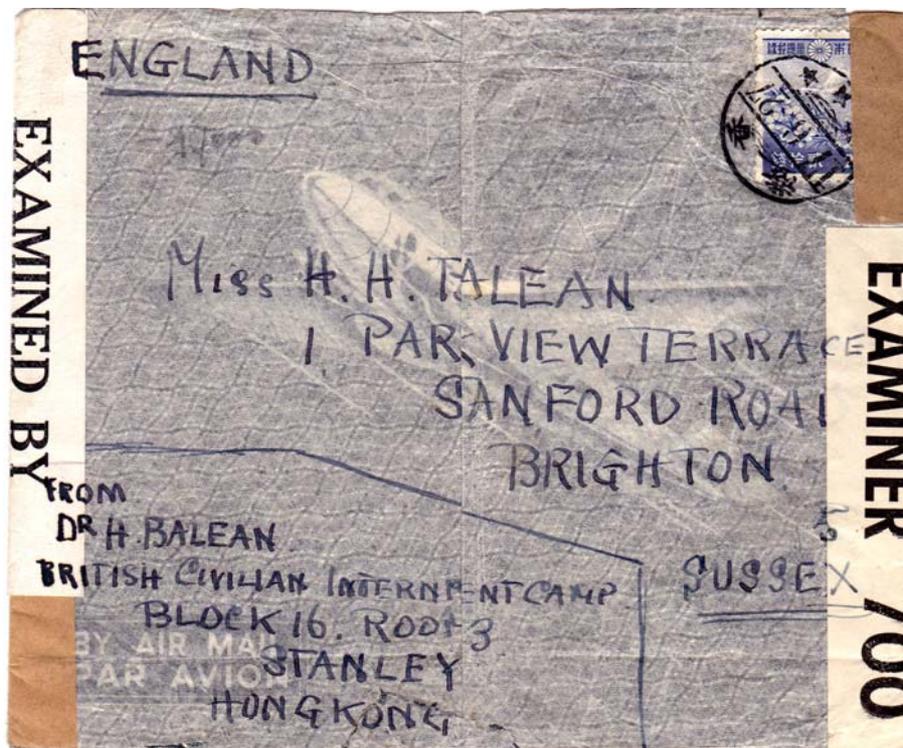
The second strike on December 8<sup>th</sup> was Japanese destruction of the US aircraft at Clark Field in Luzon. This allowed their 14<sup>th</sup> Army to land in northern Luzon and Mindanao and make quick gains from the off-guard US military (refer cover). The Japanese main effort enveloping the capital Manila on December 22<sup>nd</sup> was so successful that the Americans were forced to abandon Manila and Luzon and withdraw into the Bataan peninsula.





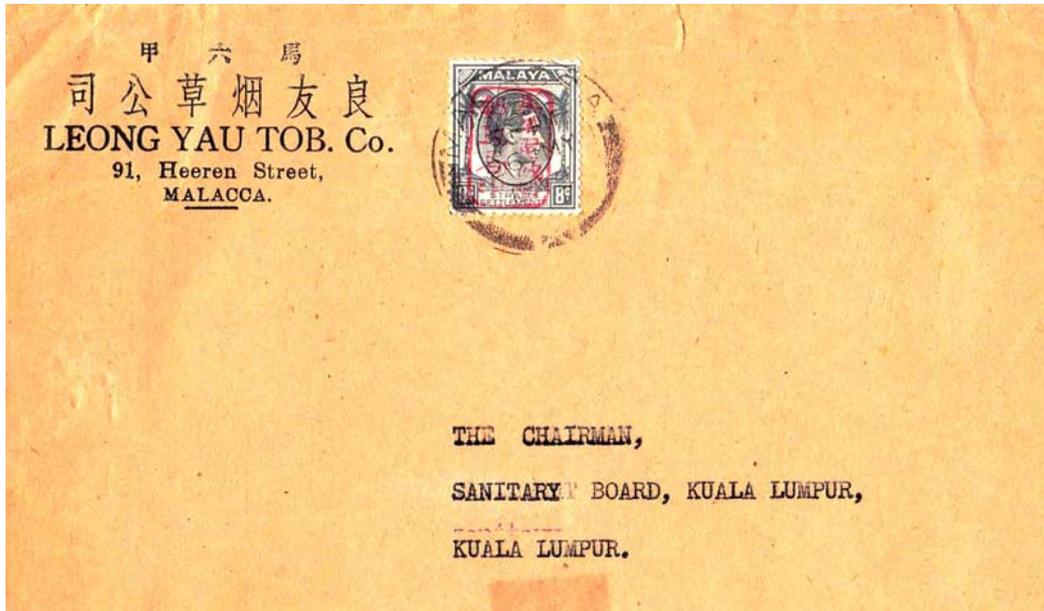
First day cover celebrating the anniversary of the Japanese attack on the Philippines. Philippines 5c stamps were surcharged in Japanese, a cachet shows the geographical location and the Japanese Military Censor applied a violet chop in Japanese and English.

In a third strike on the same December day, Japanese aircraft wiped out Hong Kong's five aircraft and a division of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Army invaded the New Territories. This was easy, because Japan already controlled the whole of the east coast of China from its earlier invasion. Aided by a disinterested Chinese population, Major General Maltby had to pull his few troops back onto Hong Kong in three days. The Japanese 38<sup>th</sup> Division soon landed on the north-east corner of the island, denied the cities electricity and water and forced the surrender on Christmas Day. A rare cover illustrating this unfortunate situation is below.



Very rare cover from civilian internee in Stanley, Hong Kong to his daughter in Brighton, UK, six months after the conquest. Scarce use of Japanese 20 yen stamp. The cover was carried from a neutral port in Asia to Los Angeles in the Swedish ship 'Gripsholm', censored in USA (LHS) and again in the UK (RHS).

The fourth strike on the same day comprised coordinated landings in Siam and northern Malaya. Working from a rendezvous in the Gulf of Siam, the Japanese landed 26,000 men of the 25<sup>th</sup> Army on the Kra Isthmus and many more at Kota Baru in Kelantan, Malaya. With strong air support, Yamashita's Army drove south, capturing Penang, whilst the other forces captured Kuantan in Pahang. By the end of December the Japanese had routed British and Indian forces in northern Malaya and their bombers started raiding Singapore. For the first year of occupation the Japanese overprinted existing Straits Settlement stamps (and others) by hand with a military seal.



Occupation commercial cover showing early use of single frame Kanji handstamp on an 8c Straits Settlements stamp on 26<sup>th</sup> May 1942 from Malacca to Kuala Lumpur.

In 1942 the lightly accoutred Japanese advanced inexorably southwards, breaking British and Indian troop positions. Assisted by landings from the Malacca Strait, they cleared Selangor state and moved into Negri Sembilan. By the end of January, the Japanese troops had completely conquered the Malay Peninsula. The next cover is registered from Selangor to Penang.



Reverse shows a single-frame Kanji hand stamp used on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1943 on the earliest known Selangor registered envelope. The front bears a block of Japanese occupation 8c stamps cancelled by a double circle date stamp in violet.

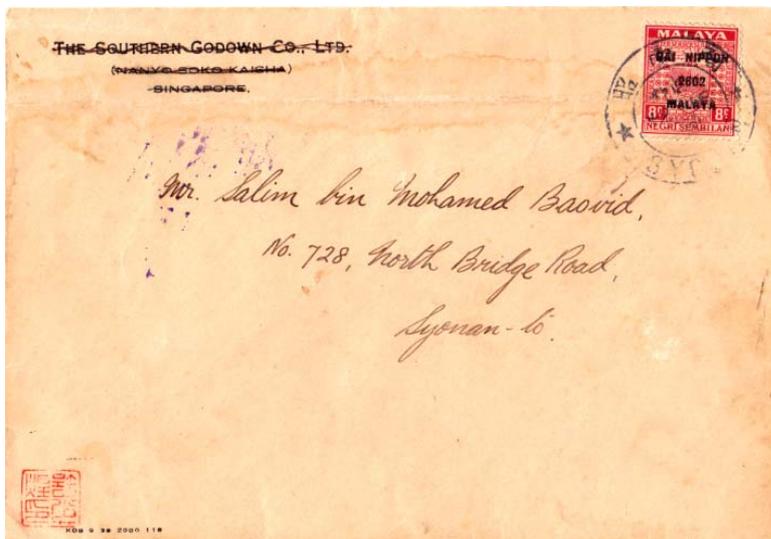
**The Fall of Singapore.** By early February 1942 the Japanese army was ensconced in Johore across the strait from Singapore. On the night of February 8<sup>th</sup>, they landed troops on the west coast of Singapore. Although both Japanese and defenders, the Australian 22<sup>nd</sup> brigade, suffered heavy losses, General Yamashita conquered most of the island. This forced General Percival, the British commander, to surrender unconditionally on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Churchill believed that 'fortress Singapore' could hold out for six months, but the whole of Malaya fell to the Japanese in 54 days, causing many allied soldiers to be taken prisoner.



Air mail cover from Singapore to China in October 1941, just before hostilities started. It was censored in both countries and has a Chungking back stamp.



Japanese stamps  
Overprinted 'Fall of  
Singapore, issued 16<sup>th</sup>  
February, 1942



Local commercial cover sent in Singapore (Japanese 'Syonan') on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 1942 during occupation bearing Negri Sembilan stamp overprinted. Bears red chop on front and purple censor chop on reverse.

As a result of the surrender, the Japanese housed 2,000 European civilians in Changi Jail and all the military prisoners-of-war in Changi Camp, including 15,000 Australians. Many of these had just arrived from the Middle East and they would later be sent to build the Burma-Thailand railroad. The cards are from a Corporal in the Australian Infantry Force, who was interned in Changi.



Whilst still free in December 1941, AIF Corporal Max Pearce sends Christmas greetings from his 2/18 battalion



Max Pearce was interned in Changi POW Camp in Singapore. By December 1943 he is so sick, from poor food, that a friend writes 23 words on a card to his mother for him. The Japanese military printed postcard, with extra characters for Changi and censor chop, was sent to New South Wales.

This story will be continued in another issue, as the Japanese proceed to conquer most of Burma, Dutch East Indies and Papua New Guinea.

## Brisbane & Country Qld Hand Roller Parcel Cancellers

### Brian Fuller

Many years ago I corresponded with collectors of Brisbane Hand Roller Parcel cancellations, but I have since lost contact with them. Many images were hand drawn so their true descriptions remain unconfirmed. The quality and scarcity of postmarks to be reviewed assisted in the colouring of each person's interpretation of them. However, I have found photocopies of John Irwin's collection of that era and he has extended four dates and found two more dies. His photocopy of the only POSTAGE PAID/BRISBANE I have seen is at Fig 12. I apologise for its labelling as BF12.

In preparing the table below I found that the rollers could be generally classed as those with only one head for leaving an impression or two heads for two impressions. Seven vertical bars join the head impressions. The very early period certainly used only one head ie types BF1 – 3. BF4 and 5 are of a later period of usage but only one head too. Sequencing these five whilst guided by their Earliest Date (ED) known to me does not guarantee the correct sequence.

BF 6 (two head) date-of-usage wise logically comes before BF2 (one head). This example merely highlights the difficulty of logical classification.

The wording on the engraving also was used as a guide. Unfortunately the lower section of the die head BF4 and 5 had QLD – 4000 (Q-P) whilst my later sequenced dies reverted to QLD – AUST (Q-A) before returning to QLD – 4000. Other sightings and die manufacturer knowledge will improve the sequencing hypothesis.

The sequencing of the types can also be compromised by the dies actually seen. BF1 has numbers 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11. BF2 has 21, 22 and 23. BF3 has 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15.

I can only guess as to the reasons behind the lack of sequential numbering of the dies. Dies No 2 and 8 of BF1 have not been seen by me, John Irwin, or the late Colin Salt. Ditto for 14 of BF3. Did they exist and “broke” very early? Assuming they existed and were used in the same facility surely a register would have been kept for their security, hence the next number in the series would be ordered. BF 8 is anomalous in design and numbering. Only two dies seen – numbers 14 and 15.

The issue of facilities is also important, as I am unaware of the postal sorting history of QLD to confidently say they were all used in the one or two mail processing centres such as the Chief Parcels Office in Roma St or the State Mail Centre. They may have been registered with one facility and used in the GPO or surrounding depots. The other facilities may well have “ordered more” directly from the manufacturer; presumably the PMG workshops.

I alluded to the fact that the hand rollers were either one or two head leaving a single or dual impression. The engineering drawing for the rollers designates the width of the two head roller impression as 25mm. The following tabulation indicates for each Series the widths measured from good copies. BF6 is inexplicably anomalous. Die 16 is different from 10 and 11.

I am in the course of preparing a similar list of the hand parcel rollers I possess for non “Brisbane” usage ie GPO, newer Mail Centres, country and suburban offices. If anyone has supplementary information, unwanted samples, etc please contact me directly or via the Society. All information will be acknowledged.

### My sequence and usage of Queensland Brisbane hand roller parcel cancellers.

Series	Usage	Die numbers	Feature		
BF 1	Fig 1	1936 – 82	1 3 4 5 6 7 9 10 11	QLD.5	one head 25mm
BF 2	Fig 2	1953 – 72	21 22 23	QLD – 23.	one head 25mm
BF 3	Fig 3	1954 – 72	10 11 12 13 15	BRISBANE.13 Q-A	one head 25mm

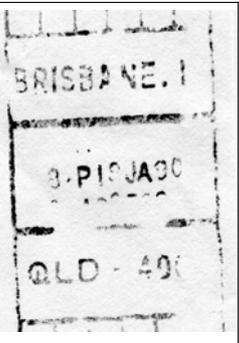
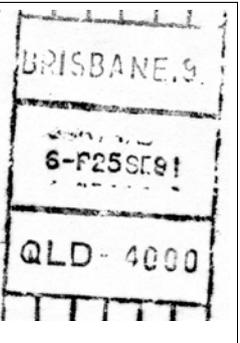
Series	Usage	Die numbers	Feature
BF 4	Fig 4	1 10	BRISBANE.1 Q - P
BF 5	Fig 5	5 6 9 11 15 23	BRISBANE.9. Q - P
BF 6	Fig 6	10 11 16	QLD - 10. Q-A
BF 7	Fig 7	3 5 10 18	QLD - 5 Q-A
BF 8	Fig 8	14 15	QLD - 4000/14
BF 9	Fig 9	2 5 8 9 11	QLD -11 Q - P
BF 10	Fig 10	6 7 10 12 17 21 23 24	BRISBANE 7 Q- P
BF 11	Fig 11	4 6 8 11 13 14 16	BOXED NUMBER
BF 12	Fig 12	No number	POSTAGE PAID/BRISBANE

one head 27mm  
one head 27mm  
two head, 10/11-25,  
11/16-26mm  
two head 26mm  
two head 26mm  
two head 26mm  
two head 27.5mm  
two head 25mm  
two head 27mm

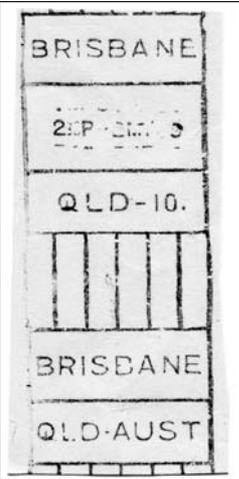
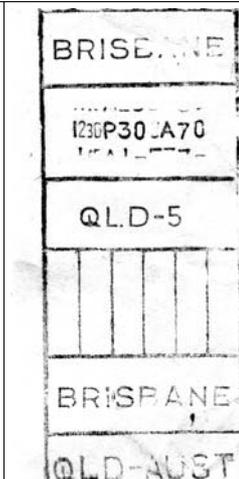
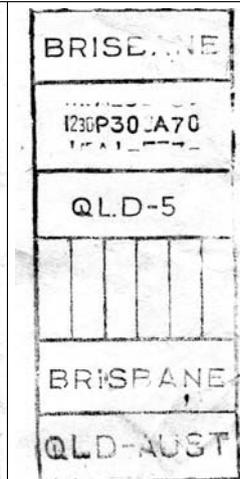
Once again if anyone has any information to assist with formulating the correct sequence of the dies, especially where they were used, I welcome their input.

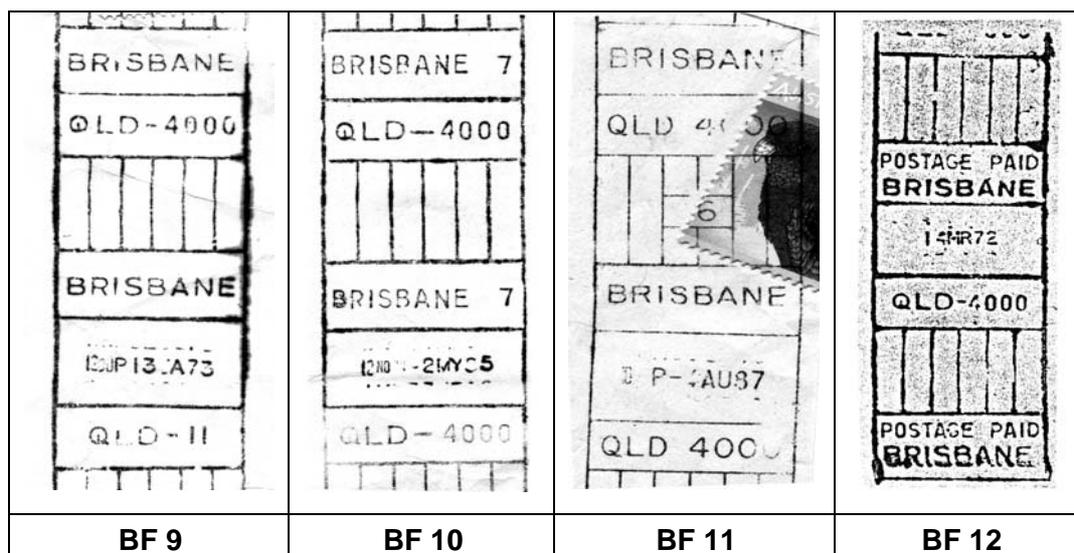
**BF 1-12 Figures 1 – 12**

**Single Head BF 1 – 5**

				
<b>BF 1</b>	<b>BF 2</b>	<b>BF 3</b>	<b>BF 4</b>	<b>BF 5</b>

**Two Head BF 6 - 12**

		
<b>BF 6</b>	<b>BF 7</b>	<b>BF 8</b>



### Qld suburban and country hand parcel roller cancellers

In keeping with the series on the hand parcel roller cancellations of QLD, the following have been sighted for the listed towns. There is no requirement to depict the rollers as the town name is self evident in their identification.

The only observation is that in some places there was a need to use the rollers (one head) from a very early date ie Bundaberg and these were upgraded to two headed dies for postcode.

The dearth of samples is evident by the single date in the table. Again all help is welcome.

Series	Location	Usage	Feature	Width	Comment
BF13	Aitkenvale 4814	1984	2 head	27mm	
BF14	Archerfield 4108	1982	2	27.5	
BF15	Ayr 4807	1972	2	27	
BF16	Brisbane Markets 4106	1970	2	27	Red PAID AT
BF16A	Bundaberg AUST	1961	1	25	
BF16B	Bundaberg 4670	?	2	27	
BF17	Cairns AUST	1978	1	25	
BF17A	Fortitude Valley AUST	1985	1	25	
BF17B	Fortitude Valley 4006	1987	2	25	
BF18	Hermit Park 4812	?	2	27	
BF19	Ipswich 4305	1991	2	27.5	
BF20	Mareeba 4880	1984	2	25	
BF21	Nambour 4560	1976	2	27	
BF22	Rockhampton AUST	1950 – 71	1	25	
BF23	Toowoomba AUST	1969	2	25	
BF24	Townsville AUST	1983	2	26	
BF25	Tweed Heads 2485	1984	2	27	Red PAID AT
BF26	Zillmere 4034	1984	2	27.5	Red PAID AT

## NSW 'Sydney' Hand Parcel Roller Cancellations

### Brian Fuller

The hand parcel roller cancellations of NSW is being published in the Australian Journal of Philately in three parts. The first was the Suburban and Country hand parcel rollers (No 134.), whilst the second was the Mail Centres, IMSO, MSO, and MSC (Nos 116,127). The cancellations are restricted to those with dates in their impression which limits the range and types of cancellers.

This is the third of the series and discusses the hand parcel roller cancellations with the text "SYDNEY" in them. Most of these were used in the City of Sydney ie "SYDNEY 2000" OR "SYDNEY/NSW AUST" but the latter few were used in the Sydney West Letter Facility (SWLF) and have "SYDNEY/NSW 3175" in their impression. The Sydney Chief Parcel Office and GPO are included.

Known published texts include those of the late Jack Leek (JL) and Colin Salt (CS). Jack in The ACCC Bulletin NOV75 Article 1184 covered many of the types of parcel cancellations both those with dates and those that are undated plus the series from the 1930s – 60 of the two line type (Nos 1 - 26). I am not intending in this paper to discuss these or the undated cancels.

Colin Salt published in the BSAP Bulletin OCT 2007 Vol 62 No 5 pp106 – 108 only SYDNEY city type hand roller cancellations that were dated. In separate articles he considered the two line 1930 – 1960s roller cancellations. Colin did not cross reference Jack Leek's paper and in publishing my collection I will cross reference and summarize all three collections.

In my ED and LD I have only used the years of use. Many rollers were "put away" and used many years after the majority have been disposed of. If anyone has earlier or later dates or items not mentioned (or wanted) I would welcome their contribution. All inputs will be acknowledged.

I have found a few more types than Colin specifies and in his collection I have also found a few items incorrectly attributed ie my series BF4 and 6, which makes some of his earliest and latest dates unreliable.

I have found an almost parallel series of numbers that might be a result of poor impressions due to wear or poor inking ie series BF4. Unfortunately as the actual cancellers are consigned to distant history I will list them and collectors can decide whether the series really exists or not. The impressions I have of this series are very distinct. See the General Discussion for deliberations.

Broadly the types published are: JL7 equivalent to CS1, JL8 – CS2, JL9 – CS3, JL9 (PAID AT)– CS4, JL9 (Chief Parcels Office) – CS no equivalent, and JL10 – CS5.

Due to publication space I have not imaged the whole lengths of the rollers in the Figures 1 – 17.

### BF Series of hand parcel roller impressions.

BF 1	Fig 1	JL7 – CS1	Nos 27 - 30, 33, and 34. Not seen 31 and 32.	ED 1937	LD 1960
BF 2	Fig 2	Nil	8, 20, and 26, No hyphen. Range ??	ED 1963	LD 1973
BF 3	Fig 3	JL9 – CS3	Series 1 – 34 (not seen 29 – 32) plus 62.	ED 1961	LD 1985
Fig 3A		Nil	No 62 from series BF 4A but BF3 format.	ED 1966	only copy.
BF 4	Fig 4	Nil	Disputed series 1-34. Not seen 1 – 4, 6 – 9, 12, 14 – 16, 19 – 25, 27 – 33. Discussion below.	ED 1969	LD 1986
BF 4A	Fig 4A	Nil	60 – 67 Not seen 62, 64 - 65.	ED 1954	LD 1972
BF 4B	Fig 4B	Nil	PAID AT No 2 (3 copies)	ED 1963	LD 1967
BF 5	Fig 5	JL8 – CS2	Series 60 – 65. Not seen 61	ED 1957	LD 1972

BF 6	Fig 6	JL9 – CS4	Series 1 – 6 (PAID AT). No 2 – 4 not seen. Note all No 2 copies seen are BF4B format.	ED 1963 LD 1970
BF 7	Fig 7	JL10 - CS5	Series 1 – 8 . No 1 – 3 not seen.	ED 1973 LD 1980
BF 8	Fig 8	Nil	Removed MC name and Postcode.	ED 1998 LD 1999
BF 9	Fig 9	Nil	Series 1 – 5. No 4 not seen.	ED 2000 LD 2007
BF 10	Fig 10	Nil	SWLF (SYDNEY/NSW 2135) Series 1 – 14	ED 2002 LD 2014
BF 11	Fig 11	Nil	SWLF (SYDNEY/NSW 2135) NO number.	ED 2000 LD 2005
BF 11A	Fig 11A	Nil	SWLF (SYDNEY/NSW 2135) smaller print	ED 2010 1 sample

### GPO Sydney

BF 12	Fig 12	JL9	JL9 has typo? No numbers	ED 1962 LD 1966
BF 13	Fig 13	Nil	Series 1 – 4. No 4 not seen.	ED 1981 LD 1996
BF 14	Fig 14	Nil	Large print. No numbers	ED 1998 LD 1990
BF 15	Fig 15	Nil	Small print. No numbers	ED 1980 LD 1987

### Chief Parcels Office

BF 16	Fig 16	Nil	“CHIEF” No numbers	1 sample	ED 1974 LD (none)
BF 17	Fig 17	JL9	“CH” No numbers		ED 1949 LD 1976

### General Discussion.

**Series BF 1.** Whilst the general impression of the die number is “-3.” some numbers ie 6, 8, 15 and 27 have the hyphen broken or foreshortened during manufacture to read “.3.” The usage periods for these is 6 is 1967, 8 1962 – 79, 15 1985, and 27 1965. 6, 15, and 27 have only one sample of each. The shown usage period 1961 – 85 is possible only because the later date cancels a stamp issued in 1985. If that date is removed the next general dates are 1962 – 79, another 1962 – 73 and yet another 1962 – 72. The acceptable general period of use is probably 1961 – 73.

**Series BF 4.** This die series follows on from BF 3 which has a “-3.” format to BF 4 having NO period after the number “-3”. BF 4B PAID AT die No 2, (all three samples) do not have any period mark after the number. Possibly because it is a period mark the ink just did not adhere to the point source. Unfortunately there are no significant die breaks to permit accurate comparisons. Many numbers in BF 4 have not been seen. Thus series BF 4 may not exist. The BF 4 dates range from 1972 – 1986. This extends BF 3 if BF 4 is deemed not to exist.

**Series BF 12.** My samples read PARCELS/OFFICE G.P.O. Not PARCELS OFFICE G.P.O/NSW AUST.

**Series BF10 and 11.** These series relate to Sydney West Letters Facility. I wrote to them asking whether I had a poor sample range as I was missing some numbers. Also whether they had more and were still using them as my latest dates were several years ago. I got a huge shock when they advised they actually had 22 hand parcel rollers and were still using them. They are primarily for the Slips mail and large letter cancelling.

I was sent a photocopy of the impressions taken by staff on 12OCT15 and from that I could identify several rollers but not all. What was also a surprise was that most of my 2135 numbered dies (BF10) were not there. The rollers apparently costs about \$2000 each to purchase.

There are 5 rollers that can be easily identified: P/C 2135 engraved numbers 1 3 8 10 (Fig 10) are photocopy 8 10 15 22, and P/C 2000 engraved number 1 (Fig 9) is photocopy 3.

There are two others of the 17 remaining dies that are identifiable by impression. Photocopy No 19 (small SYDNEY 15mm Fig 11A) as there is a 4mm break below the date. The other Photocopy 9 is the only large print SYDNEY 17mm (Fig 11). The remainder appear intact and identical (Fig 11A).

The measurement of the SYDNEY is from the start of the bottom of the S to the base of the Y. I cannot confirm current postal usage as I do not get mail from Sydney and the few people I asked do not have samples. Marcophilists please provide copies/samples of recent commercial strikes please

and my latest dates can then reflect the discussions with SWLF. For the moment the 22 samples can only be regarded as proof copies - not commercial copies.

**Roller widths.** In a previous issue the master die drawing for the roller cancels indicates the die impression width should be 25mm.

Whilst the dimension does not permit the width to be the deciding element into which series a die goes I have measured them for interest. There is a variety as shown in the next tabulation of width versus Series. I cannot draw firm conclusions in respect of any apparent grouping.

<b>25 mm</b> 8 9 10 11 11A 13	<b>25.5 mm</b> 1 2 14	<b>26 mm</b> 3 3A 4A 5 6 12 16 17	<b>26.5 mm</b> 4B	<b>27 mm</b> 4 7	<b>27.5 mm</b> 15
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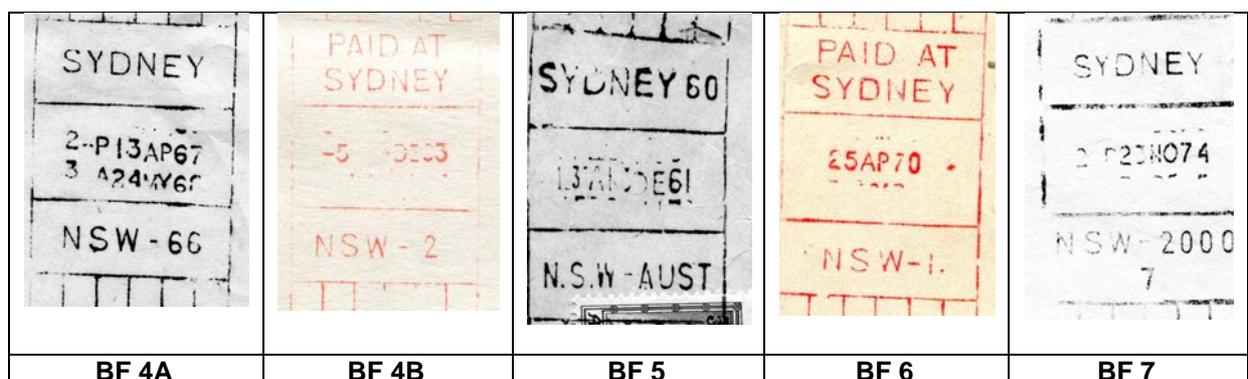
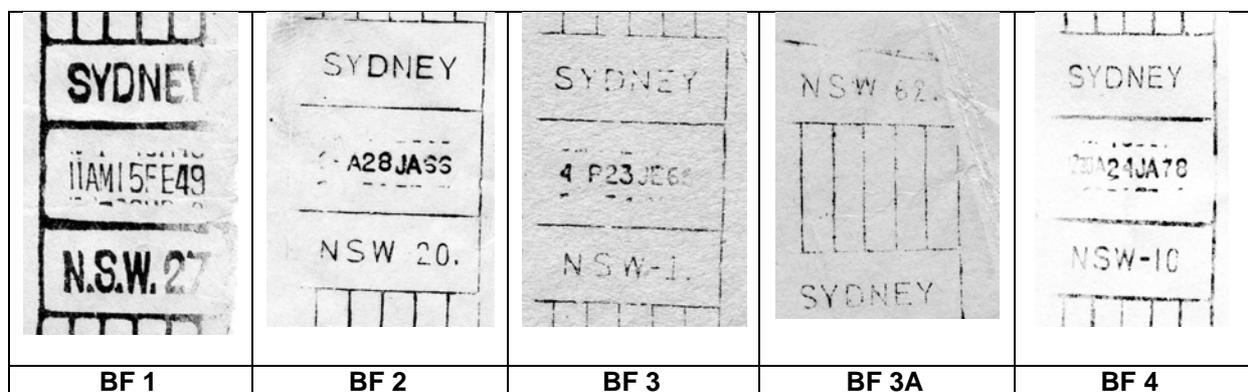
**Rarity.** I have not assigned a rarity rating to the hand rollers as generally they are by their very nature rare. It is very difficult to get good impressions with readable dates. Worse is finding scannable copies. They are also invariably thrown-in-the-bin on sight whether good, bad or indifferent, as they are a neglected field in marcophily.

### Acknowledgements

The staff at SWLF deserve special praise as my request caused turmoil in regards audit and accounting issues. Hopefully our liaison has helped them as much as it helped me.

I would like to thank David Collyer, who has provided a great deal of advice as to where to research the hand roller parcel cancellers, particularly the earlier information. He also extracted copies of Jack Leek's hand rollers from his photocopied collection held in the Philas Library.

Michael Barden deserves wondrous praise as without his formatting and editing skills these series of articles on the hand parcel rollers would look very plain indeed.



<b>BF 8</b>	<b>BF 9</b>	<b>BF 10</b>	large print S...Y	small print S...Y
			<b>BF 11</b> 17 mm	<b>BF 11A</b> 15 mm

<b>BF 12</b>	<b>BF 13</b>	<b>BF 14</b>	<b>BF 15</b>	<b>BF 16</b>

<b>BF 17</b>

# South Australian Hand Parcel Roller Cancellations

**Brian Fuller**

The first part of the paper addresses the hand parcel rollers of Adelaide City in South Australia. The second part relates to those rollers used in suburban and rural South Australia.

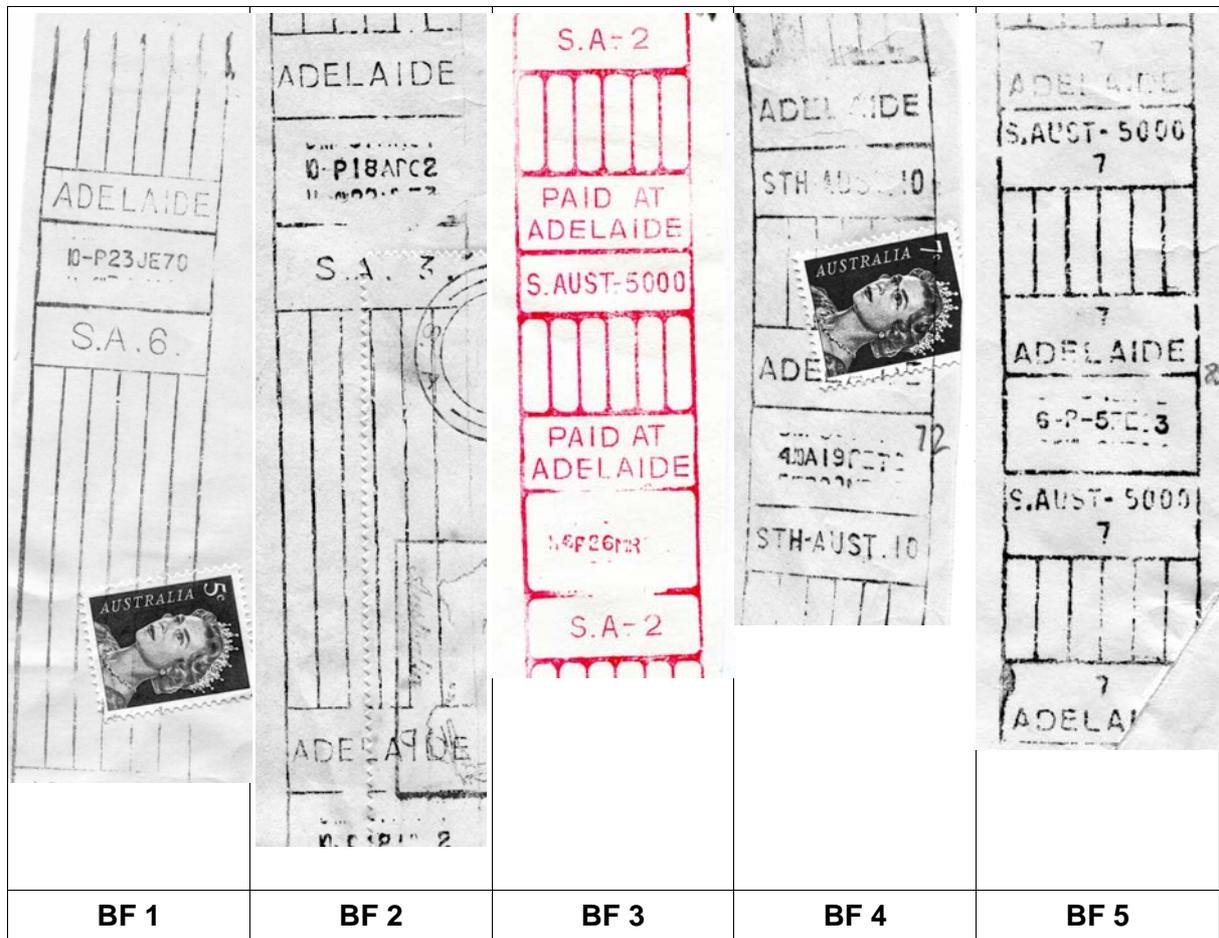
## 1. Adelaide City.

Adelaide City in South Australia appears to have only 5 distinct hand parcel roller cancellations. This is the least of any capital city examined so far.

There were 18 actual devices in use of the period 1942 – 07. The design of BF 5, whilst similar in principle to other capital city devices, is different. There is one PAID AT canceller. Their usage is presumed to be only in the Adelaide MC although the inscriptions do not indicate this. No GPO or CPO canceller is known to me.

There are two basic designs of the hand parcel roller cancellations. They are either a one head usually 25mm wide or two head roller canceller and can be 25, 26 or 27mm wide. One head gives one impression per 360 degrees of turn whilst the 2 head gives two (not necessarily identical) impressions. In both types one head has a date line. There are seven bars around the circumference joining the impressions. There are five one head and 13 two head roller cancellers. The PAID AT rollers are two head.

The following images depict the 5 types of cancellers in use:-



BF 1	Fig 1	1942 – 70	one head	Nos 3 4 6 & 7	Black
BF 2	Fig 2	1962 71	one head	No 3	Black smaller print than BF1
BF 3	Fig3	1968 – 81	two head	No 1 and 2	Red PAID AT (see text)
BF 3A		1985 – 07	two head	No 2	Black PAID AT
BF 4	Fig 4	1960 – 72	two head	No 8 10 11 12 13	Black
BF 5	Fig 5	1971 – 92	two head	Nos 3 7 8 9 & 10	Black (see text)

**Discussion** Several dies appear to be “missing” in virtually all of the series.

I have cross checked my holdings against Tony Presgrave’s holdings from a two page Australia Post (AP) document headed, **“Examples of Handstamps held in the Collection at GPO ADELAIDE. Evaluation and Recommendation. Page of , A D Presgrave October 1999.”** He does not show any ADELAIDE 5000 cancellations. Jack Leek’s collection only has samples of BF 1 #3 and #6. However, in the superb three volume books: “The Hand-held Postmarks of South Australia and the Northern Territory compiled by the South Australian Study Group co-ordinated by Neville Solly”, in Vol A – G Adelaide on pp 46 and 55, for the sake of completeness I have amalgamated their findings with my holdings - both quantities and dates – with acknowledgments.

In BF 3 and BF 3A The study group lists PAID AT die No 1 and 2 with expanded dates to mine. There appears to be a design difference between them. No 1 has the P in PAID in direct line with the D of ADELAIDE. No 2 has the P in between the A and D.

In BF 5 the Group, Page 55, lists No 7 8 9 & 10.

**2. SA Suburban and Country.** Twenty five hand parcel roller devices have been identified in use at 21 country and suburban SA post offices.

I do not have my own impressions of many of these. AD Presgrave according to a two page Australia Post (AP) document headed **“Examples of Handstamps held in the Collection at GPO ADELAIDE. Evaluation and Recommendation. Page of . A D Presgrave October 1999”** lists 7 different offices and has an impression of each horizontal across the page. Two impressions, making eight in total, are from Rundle Street of differing types. Information derived from AP/TP document is acknowledged.

However, the superb three volume books: **“The Hand-held Postmarks of South Australia and the Northern Territory** compiled by the South Australian Study Group Co-ordinated by Neville Solly”, are superb reference handbooks. I have amalgamated them as few people will have access to the three volumes to view the images or even be aware those rollers exist. Again I acknowledge the information from the Handbooks.

I have not illustrated the rollers as the town name makes them quite distinctive. The offices that have the rollers with early and late dates are:

BF 6	Adelaide Railway	1947 – 60	page9(p) A4	1 head
BF 7	Blair Athol 5084	1987 p B29	PAID AT	2 heads
BF 8	Currie Street	1972	but TP 1977	2
BF 9	Elizabeth	1973 – 82	p E11	2
BF 10	Glenelg (TP)	TP – 1961	also p G20	2
BF 11	Gouger Street	1962 – 68	p G31	2
BF 12	Grenfell Street	1956 – 60	but TP 1971	1
BF 12A	Grenfell Street	1953	PAID AT Black	1
BF 13	Halifax	1970	p H4	2
BF 14	Hindley Street	1965 – 83	p H23	2
BF 14A	Hindley Street	1971	PAID AT Red	2
BF15	Hindmarsh	1963		2
BF15A	Hindmarsh	1962 – 63 p H25	PAID AT	?(2)
BF16	Mt Gambier	1971	p M70	1
BF17	Norwood	1959		2
BF18	Port Adelaide	1952 - 59 p P48	but TP 1968	1

BF19	Port Augusta	1952 – 87	p P52	2
BF20	Port Lincoln	1940 – 95	p P62	1
BF21	Pulteney Street 1968(?) (TP)		also p P80	2
BF22	Rundle Street	1956 -58	but TP 1929	1
BF22A	Rundle Street	1957 – 66		2
BF23	Salisbury	1974	p S9	?(2)
BF24	Thebarton (TP)	1973 TP and p T20	PAID AT	2
BF25	Unley	1956 – 59	p U6	2
BF26	Whyalla	1971	p W32	?(2)

**Discussion.** Apart from one PAID AT, the roller cancels I possess are impressed in black ink. As AP/TP is a reproduction document the original colour for Thebarton PAID AT is unknown. Ditto for Blair Athol and Hindmarsh as they are from the handbooks.

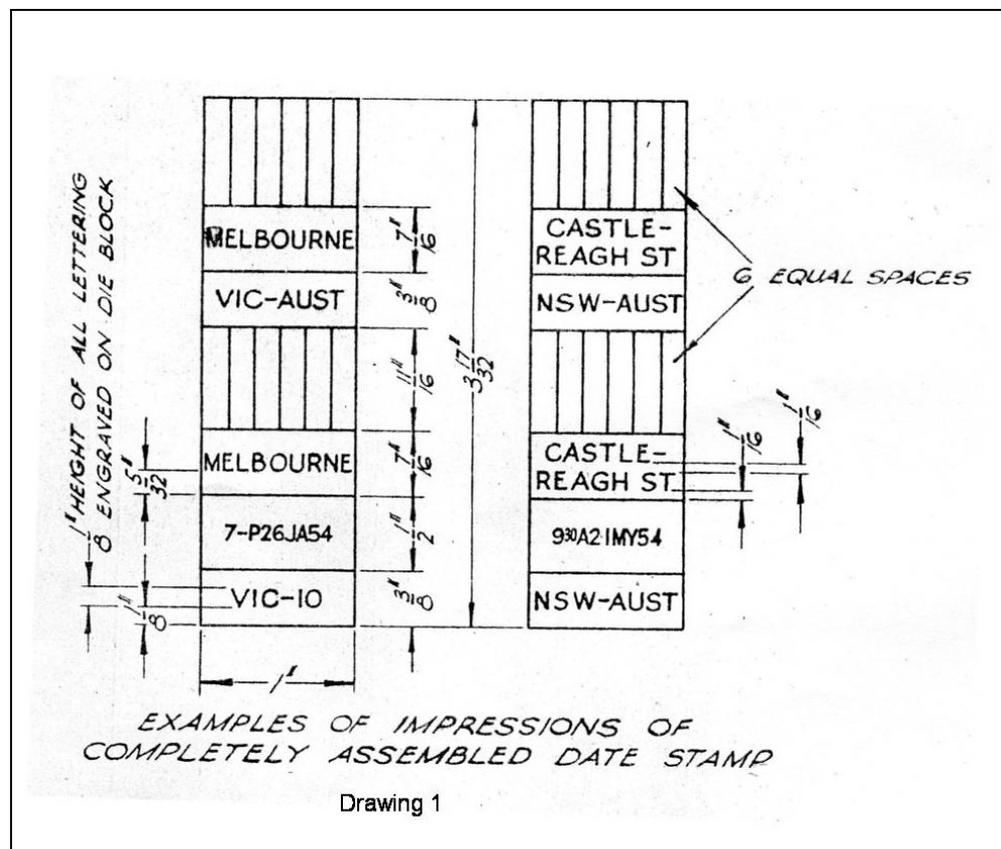
There are several listings where there is doubt as to whether the impression is from a one or two head device. My opinion is shown ie ?(2).

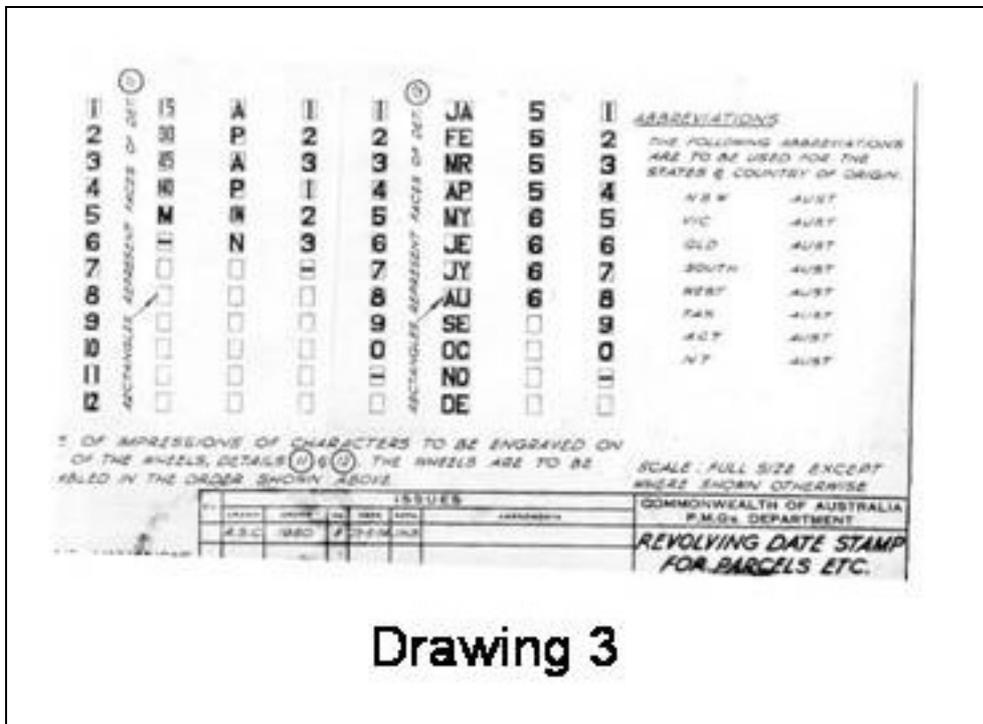
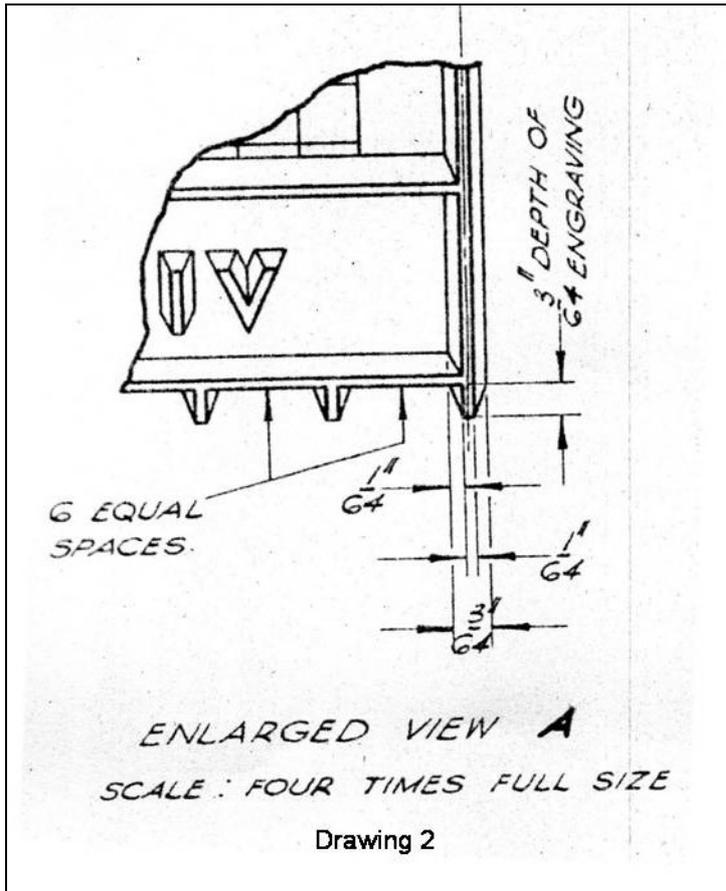
**Summary.** Many of the roller cancels are extremely scarce and full impressions with readable dates are but wish-list material.

For collectors of South Australian postmarks the Study Group's volumes are a must have. **All** postmarks are listed in alphabetical order of their town. All appear to be illustrated and with rarity and period of use. I wish to thank Martin Walker for informing me of the SA/NT Postmark Handbooks. I again acknowledge the references of Tony Presgrave and the Study Group.

**Future Papers.** The roller cancellations from Western Australia, ACT and NT are being prepared. Any information or samples would be welcomed. All information will be acknowledged.

#### Drawings of roller cancellers received from Martin Walker





## “Reliefs” a Response

### Tim Cowley

Some information for Brian Fuller’s ‘Introduction to the Hand Parcel Roller Cancellation of Suburban and Country NSW’ in relation to the RELIEFS

As far as the production of the RELIEF Hand Parcel Rollers are concerned, the late Bob Tobin’s research states:

*“However, two more Reliefs were engraved by Horton a year or two later in a different capacity altogether. These were the Relief rollers – intended for use on non-standard articles in those larger Offices which used rollers for this purpose. The numbers allocated were 51 and 52. These particular rollers are the scarcest of all Relief markings because of the relatively small number of Offices which used rollers in the first place.”*

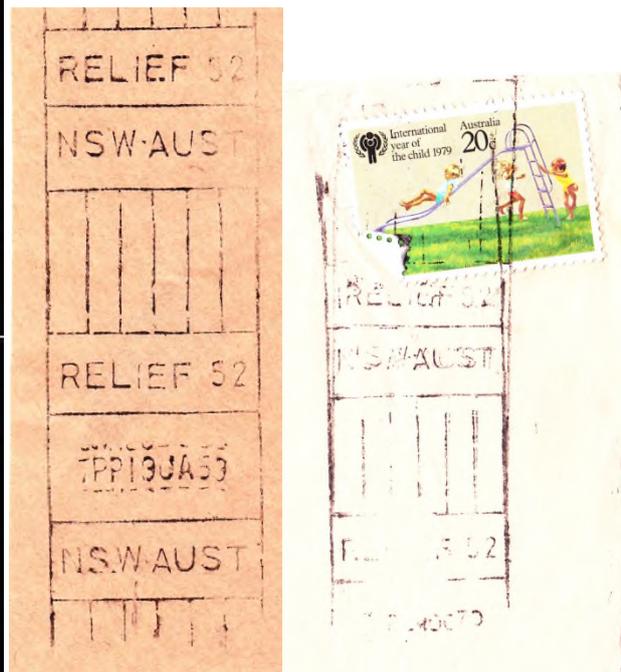
The reference to ‘a year or two later’ follows the First Definitive Relief Stamp production in 1953-54.

The allocation of the numbers 51 and 52 were part of Horton’s numbering system and do not have anything to do with the years in which they were created. RELIEF 50 and RELIEF 53 are both type RD-3 and therefore there is no space for any further Roller RELIEFS at this point in the series.

### RELIEF 51



### RELIEF 52



Ref: New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory RELIEFS – Tim Cowley and Richard Peck – 2015 – Pages 31 and 95.

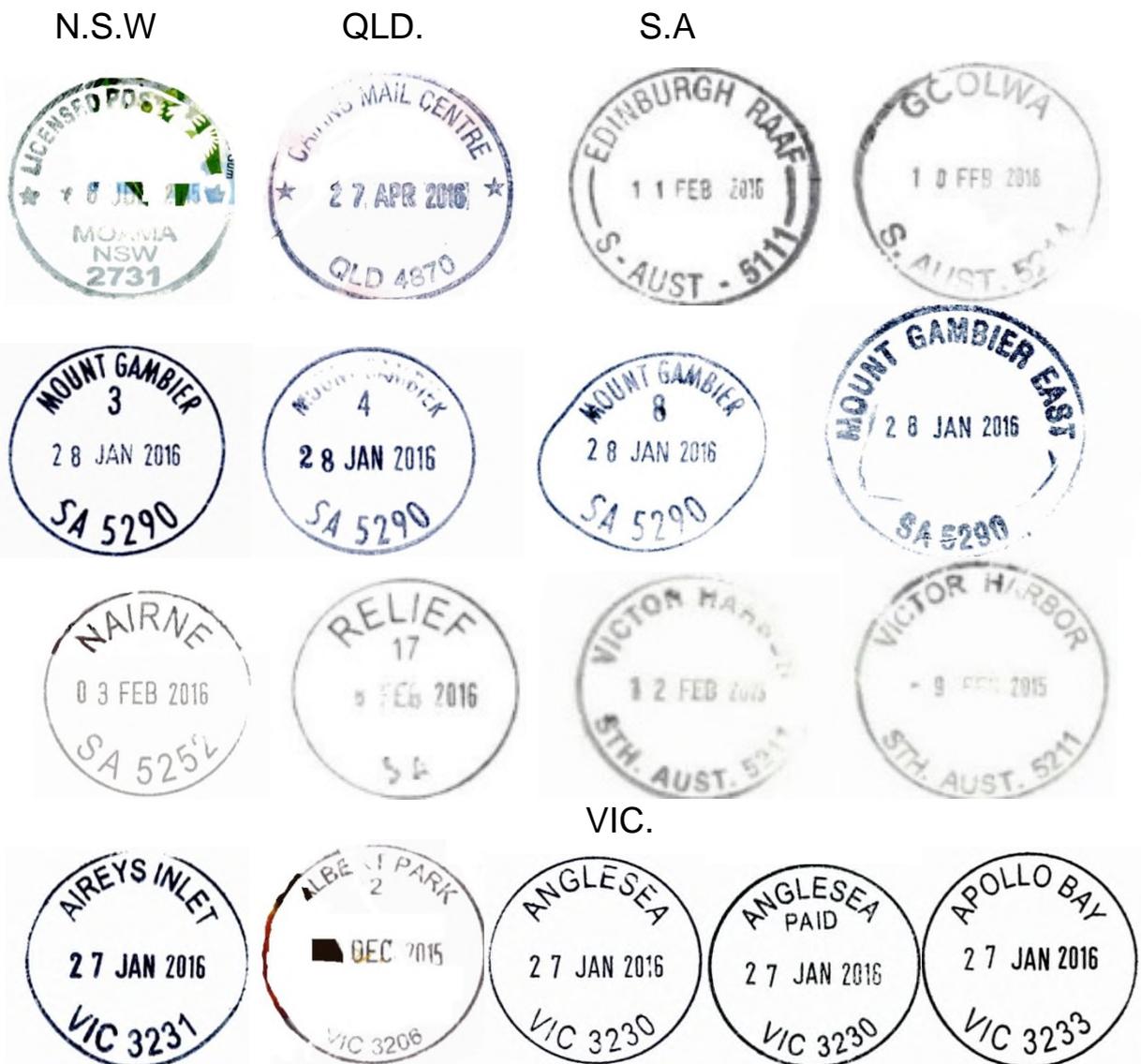
## Hand-Held Date Stamps

**Co-ordinated by George Vearing**

On his visit to Shepparton Simon Alsop obtained some new postmarks from the Business Hub in Shepparton one of which now reads Business Post Centre while the postmark from the Manager reads Business Hub.

The two postmarks from Victor Harbour in the South Australian section appear to be the same until the distance between Victor and Sth are examined and there is quite a noticeable difference in the gap.

Many thanks to Simon Alsop, John Fitzsimmons, Frank Adamik, John Young, Richard Peck and John Tracey who help to keep this column going.



VIC.- Earlier datestamps- CANTERBURY (130/26), KOROIT (115/28), LAW COURTS (124/28)



VIC:- Earlier datestamps-MONTROSE(123/29),MOUNT EVELYN (104/31). MOUNT MARTHA (128/29), NAGAMBIE(122/26), OUYEN(127/29), PARKVILLE (130/28)



VIC.- Earlier postmarks-SEAFORD B.C. (117/29), SANDRINGHAM (2) (116/29)



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

# Airmail

**John Young**

Sydney to Hong Kong



1953: Correctly franked one shilling and three pence for ordinary airmail letter. Rate effective 1 August 1952

North Brighton, Victoria to Kahuku, Hawaii



1954: Correctly franked one shilling and three pence.