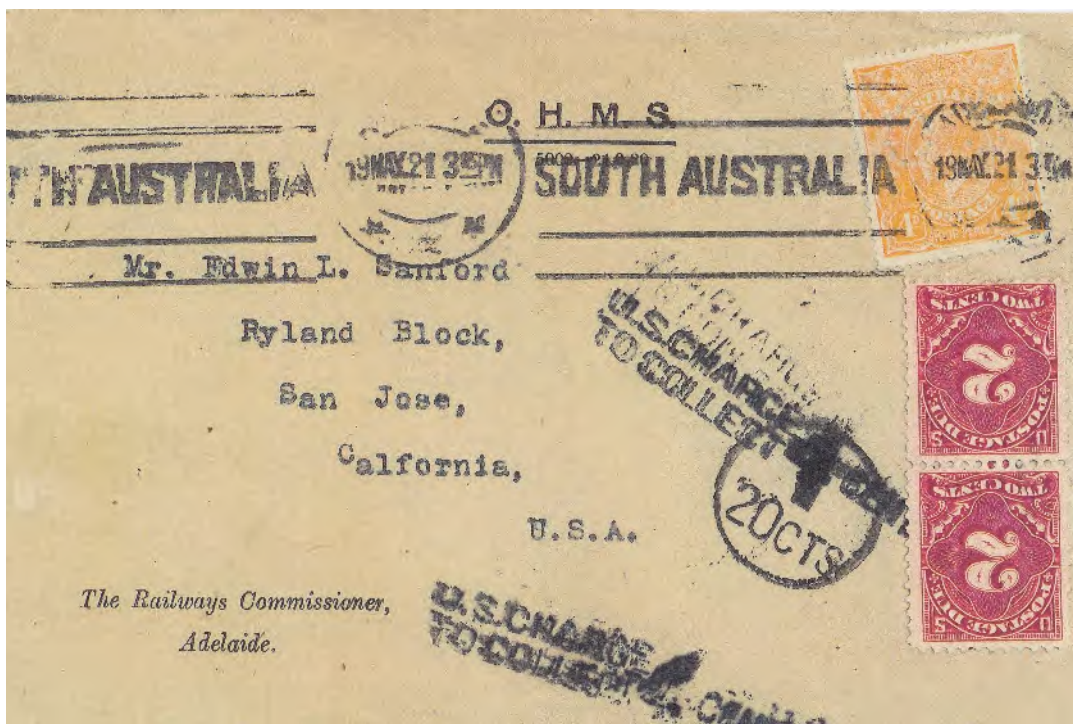


# Australian Journal of Philately

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

No. 150 December 2019



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Airmail Services between North America and Australia,  
1924-46**

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**Hand-Held Date-Stamp Notes**

**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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<b>Date</b>	<b>2019 / 2020 Programme</b>	<b>Display</b>
17 February 2020	Ian Sadler	Sino-Japanese Postal History 1937-45
20 April 2020	John Young	Australian Express Delivery 1934-80s
15 June 2020	Tony Lyon	New Zealand Military Mail 1940-45

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On 1 Oct 1920 the letter rate from Australia to foreign countries was increased to 4 pence per ounce.

The standard 4 pence stamp was the orange / yellow King George V dating from 1915. A purple KGV 4d stamp was issued in June 1921, and it is quite rare on covers to foreign countries.

The orange stamp is equally, if not more, rare on cover.

The example on the front cover is perforated OS and postmarked 19 May 1921. It was apparently affixed an overweight cover and was taxed in USA.



## Editorial

*Tony Lyon*



Yes it is true. The journal has reached its 150th issue thanks to the many contributors down through the years. Many journals don't last 5 years let alone 28 years!

I will need new material though for March as the cupboard is bare, as old mother Hubbard discovered!

'Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard, To give the poor dog a bone; When she came there, the cupboard was bare, And so the poor dog had none....'

This wonderful dog was Dame Hubbard's delight, He could read, he could dance, He could sing, he could write; She gave him rich dainties whenever he fed, And erected this monument when he was dead.'

For further enlightenment see URL below:

<https://allnurseryrhymes.com/old-mother-hubbard/>

We don't want the journal to go the way of so many other journals and societies, so send me your contributions please.

Until next time ciao.

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## From the President

Welcome to number 150 of the Australian Journal of Philately, a respectable score of a century and a half. Back in 1981, when Australian postal historians were young and full of promise, the Postal History Society launched issue number 1 of the Date Stamp. The magisterial Watson, Webster and Wood tomes on Victorian date stamps were still in the future.

In 1996 the name of the journal was changed to Australian Journal of Postal History, signifying that the original impulse for the study of Australian postal history had widened to the study of other countries' material. A few years later, in March 1999, the name changed to Australian Journal of Philately, coinciding with a change of name of our Society from Postal History Society to Australian Philatelic Society. The latter change occasioned a torrid members' meeting; some members have probably never come to another meeting and unfortunately have missed a lot of interesting displays. Still, visitors are always welcome.

In fact, the name change did not signify a lot. The journal's content was more or less settled by then, with a range of world-wide material, and displays at meetings were similarly diverse. Social philately got a run, but postal history stayed as the primary interest.

Early journal editors included the late John Macdonnell, Bob Tobin, Simon Alsop, Michael Barden and John Tollan. Since issue 79 in March 2002, Tony Lyon has been our editor. With issue 150 he is reaching a Bradman score for editorial work. Congratulations to all editors and contributors, and compliments of the season.

\* \* \*

During World War 2 Australian citizens carried identity cards. The card was post-free to citizens from the local Divisional electoral office. Occasionally a specimen may turn up in a dealer's box, usually at weekend markets sourced from deceased estates.

One identity card I recently came across was in a neatly made maroon leather wallet, with gold-blocked 'Identity Card & Ration Book' stamped on it. That I had not seen before, and it was a step up from an envelope or a cloth bag. The card was sent from the Hawthorn [Victoria] electoral office to Ralph Murdoch. 16 Maxwell Street, Ashburton, and was date-stamped Camberwell on 7 April 1942. There was no ration book in the wallet, but possibly a lady of the household ran that side of things.

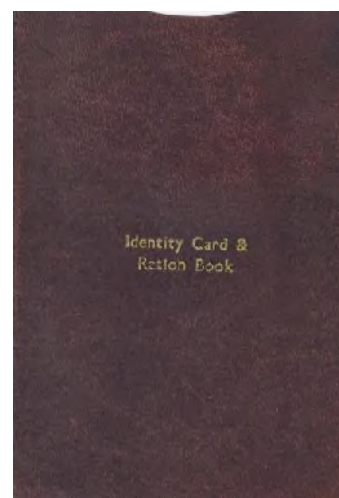


Fig. 1 Leather wallet



Fig. 2 Postal side of card



Fig. 3 Back of the identity Card