

# PHILATELY

*from*

# AUSTRALIA



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## A CENTURY WELL-CELEBRATED

With the Annual Meeting in July the one hundredth year of The Royal Philatelic society of Victoria has drawn to a close.

At the Annual Meeting, our President, Miss Myra Farley, spoke with pride of the extensive range of activities undertaken to celebrate the Centenary.

These celebrations were based on three major events.

The Centenary Exhibition was held at Caulfield Town Hall from 10 to 16 August 1993, when 76 members contributed 200 frames showing the breadth and depth of their interests. More than 3,500 people visited the Exhibition. At the same venue, on 15 August, the Centenary Banquet was attended by some 150 members and guests.

A special meeting was held in the Society's rooms on 10 August 1993, coinciding with the actual centenary of the first meeting of the Philatelic Society of Victoria. The special display assembled for the evening was contributed by thirteen collectors, and comprised material from the collection of Victoria formed by the Society's most distinguished and decorated member, the late J.R.W. Purves.

Also at this meeting was the launch of the Society's history. *Century of Happiness*, researched and written over many years by Mr Horace Chisholm. This represents one of the most comprehensive histories ever published for any philatelic society.

The President spoke at the Annual Meeting with modesty of the crowning event of the year, when she was awarded the Order of Australia Medal at the Queen's Birthday Honours. Myra Farley is the first Australian philatelist to be so honoured for their service to the hobby.



## AUSTRALIAN COLONIAL DISCOVERIES AND NOTES



*Conducted by* RUSSELL JONES

### VICTORIA: 1d LAUREATE EMERGENCY PRINTINGS OF 1868

Following the listing in the last issue of the postmarks found on these issues, John Panckridge of Hobart sends in a few additions:

*Watermark double-lined 4*: Barred numerals 61 (Maryborough), 439 (Lal Lal).

*Watermark "SIX PENCE"*: Barred numerals 31 (Colac), 93 (Ararat).

### VICTORIA: 1854 1/- OCTAGONAL

There are two aspects of this stamp to report on.

#### **The Design**

First, from Russell Turner, comes some additional information regarding the genesis of the design. Russell has been examining the Minute Books of Correspondence between Government Departments and the Post Office at the Commonwealth Archives.

The three handpainted essays prepared by Campbell & Fergusson for this stamp are illustrated in Colour on Plate 6 of *The Stamps of Victoria* by G. Kellow, and are reproduced here. One essay, in an upright rectangle, shows the Chalon portrait of the Queen, and is unadopted. Another upright essay shows the adopted head in an ornamental frame, and the third is the adopted octagonal design showing, however, a different head to that used. This third essay is annotated "Recommended. The head of the accompanying small specimen to be placed in exchange in this design", and is endorsed by Charles Latrobe as approved.

The new material found by Russell Turner is a memorandum of 20 April 1854 from Mr A. Langston, Secretary of the Post Office:

*The Designs for the Shilling Stamp plate are bad, being too large and would recommend fresh tenders being called for. . . .*

Then follows other comments regarding the tender for the 2d Queen-on-Throne that do not concern us. Appended to the memorandum, however, is a postscript, dated the same day:

*Since writing the above I have received the accompanying design for One Shilling Stamp from Messrs. Campbell & Co. which I beg to recommend for*



*acceptance in Dark Blue colour.*

It is now apparent what the correct sequence of events must have been. Campbell & Fergusson had submitted two designs with their tender, these being the two upright rectangular essays. These were considered too large (they were much bigger than the Half-Length design, although the same size as the Queen-on-Throne), and there must have been some verbal communication with the firm on this point, who immediately prepared an alternative design. This was the octagonal essay, and that it was a "rush job" is evidenced by the simplicity of the design compared to that of the earlier essays. Subsequently, it must have been decided to substitute the Queen's head, probably because the "backward looking" portrait was considered inappropriate. All this happened quickly, because from Rundell's notes (and as mentioned in *The Stamps of Victoria*) the amended design was approved the next day, 21 April.

**Perforated 12 – Early Date.**

Geoff Kellow reports that the early date for the 1/- Octagonal perf. 12 as given in his *Stamps of Victoria* (page 86) and repeated in the new revised listing in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue, is incorrect. The date given there was 10 February 1859; in fact the new earliest known date is 4 February 1859, on a cover sent from Melbourne to Manila. This represents a major improvement over the old date of 13 April 1859, and in fact this is thought to be the second earliest use of a perforated stamp in Victoria. The only earlier use is of the 1d Emblems on wove paper of 11 January 1859.

## PAPUA: THE "ONE PENNY" SURCHARGES OF 1917

THE STORY BEHIND THE ISSUE

By RAY KELLY

### Background

The Protectorate of British New Guinea, which had been administered by Queensland from 1885 to 1901, enjoyed immediate philatelic popularity with the issue of its first postage stamps, the "Lakatoi" stamps of 1901. This issue, comprising eight different values from ½d to 2/6d, were recess-printed in sheets of 30 (5 x 6) by Thomas De La Rue & Co. in London, and have long been considered amongst the finest adhesives ever printed. They were one of the first bicoloured recess series to be issued, and the plates were expertly prepared from finely engraved dies. Few countries in the world had commenced their stamp issues with such a series of beautifully designed and expertly produced postage stamps. It was not envisaged that ten years later, these stamps would have such a strong influence on the Papuan economy, and that future stamp issues would bear such an important relationship to the revenue of the country.

In 1905 the Papua Act was introduced, and in 1906 the administration of the country was transferred to the Commonwealth of Australia. The authorities decided to alter the name of their new dependency, and on 1 September 1906 the new name was gazetted. A provisional issue of "Papua" overprints was introduced in 1906, pending the design and preparation of stamps inscribed "Papua".

The design of the new issue retained the Lakatoi, and the stamps were bicoloured and in the same sheet format as before. The printing of these stamps was entrusted to the Government Printing Office in Melbourne, where various Colonial stamps were produced. Lithography was decided upon for several reasons, mainly because the Printing Office did not have equipment for recess-printing, but additionally it permitted lithographic stones to be taken from the original engraved plates. The bicoloured lithograph issues of 1907-10 did not compare in appearance to their De La Rue predecessors, but were of sufficient quality, not only to retain the country's philatelic popularity, but to increase it. The lithographs produced watermark, perforation, frame and vignette plate varieties, providing a new specialist collecting area for the BNG/Papua collector, which became one of the most popular study areas of Pacific Islands philately at that time.

### The Pre-World War I "Economy" Monocolour Issue

At the end of 1910, after just three years on issue, it was decided to abandon the expense of two-colour lithography, and to bring the stamps of Papua



into line with the others being printed by the newly-established Government Printing Office in Melbourne. The new office lacked lithographic equipment, and the change was obligatory.

Initial consideration was given to two-colour printing from electrotypes, but this was also an expensive method of printing, and it was finally decided that the new issue should be in single colours. This decision was ultimately to prove a major factor influencing future Papua stamp production.

Once again, the identical "Lakatoi" design was chosen. The appropriate dies were engraved by Samuel Reading, and from these plates were prepared for similar denominations as before. When it was decided to print upon the odd-size South Australian Crown over A watermarked paper, a plate of 40 units, arranged in 8 rows of 5, was found to be most suitable. The plates were well made and only a few minor varieties are known. Reference to *Australian Stamp Archives* (Richard Peck, 1986) shows that the initial printing of the Monocolours was in July 1911, and apart from a small additional later printing accounted for the entire quantity which was eventually supplied to Papua.

The reaction of stamp collectors to these stamps, in both interest and demand, plus the influence on the finances and revenue of the country, was very soon apparent. The collector attitude was twofold, in that the stamps were considered unattractive and dull, but more importantly, of such fine quality of workmanship that the new-found interest in plating study and varieties found in the lithographs, was no longer possible.

### Decline in Papua Revenue

The financial report of the Administrator of Papua was presented to the Commonwealth of Australia in 1915, and drew attention to the continued decline in revenue of the Postal Department since the introduction of single colour stamps, and its overall effect on the economy, which had become very dependent on "stamp collector" revenue.

At this time there was world-wide speculation and rumour regarding the future stamp issues of Papua, and similar reports in the *Australian Stamp Journal* (November 1917), *Stamp Collecting* (12 January 1918) and *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (26 January 1918) all record the following observation, in rather similar wording:

"The unofficial rumour has it that Papuan stamps were going to be withdrawn from sale and ordinary Australian stamps issued instead, for as Papua was a Dependency of the Commonwealth, the authorities could see no reason why distinctive stamps should be issued there, and besides, it would mean a saving in expense."

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* was more observant than the other articles, and concluded their comments by saying:

"The unofficial rumour advising probable withdrawal of Papuan stamps, owing to the supposed reason that the Commonwealth authorities do not see why distinctive stamps should be used for the Dependency, and probable saving in expense by substitution of ordinary Australian issues, looks as though some one, unofficial, tries to deceive himself.

"We do not believe the authorities are so blind or wanting in discernment.

Of the stamps sold since 1901 (the date of first issue), the Auditor will possess a clear record of the sum realised by sale of collectors' demands. The amount raised is a nett gain to the Treasury, and must be a far greater sum than that sold for actual postal duties.

"If such a change as rumoured were brought about, there certainly would be no saving in revenue, but at once, a heavy deficit."

The Australian Government agreed that in certain matters, it was obliged to assist the financial structure of the Dependency, but it considered it unnecessary to continue the heavy losses of the Postal Department, when a proven policy of bicolour postage stamp issues had been so successful.

### Re-introduction of Bicoloured Stamps

Reaction to the Administration report was immediate, although partly due to World War I economics, it took several years to fully implement the change, and in early 1916 the Government Printer, J.B. Cooke, was instructed to immediately proceed with the preparation of designs and plates for a new series of bicoloured stamps to replace the monocolour series. As with all previous issues, Cooke decided upon the popular "Lakatoi" design, retaining the identical size and plate format of the monocolours. Although bicoloured stamps were to be produced in future, it was agreed that all stocks of the monocoloured stamps were to be utilised first.

At that time Cooke was preparing additional monocolour values of 3d and 5/-, the former for the registration fee, and the latter for gold bullion parcels coming from the newly developed Papuan gold fields. To comply with instructions, Cooke prepared plates for the base rate of 1d, plus the 3d and 5/- already begun, and these denominations were issued in August and December 1916. The confirmation instruction for the issue of these stamps may be found in the Government Printer Letterbook NP-L2 (Reserve Bank of Australia Archives, Sydney): "15/3/16 - The Executive Council instruction to the Treasury, requests the issue of 1d, 3d and 5/- Bi-colour stamps for Papua, and recommends that the centres be in black."

The bicoloured electrotypes were to become one of the most interesting issues of surface printed stamps ever printed, and the method of plate production is probably unique. A very detailed description of their manufacture is recorded in *Stamps of Papua* by A.A. Rosenblum. To the serious philatelist, these stamps were to renew the opportunity for study of frame and vignette plate flaws, watermark positions, ink types, perforation, papers and the various Government Printer imprints, which eventually achieved the desired result of providing "collector revenue" to the Papuan Administration.

### The Problem of the Monocolour Stock and the Decision to Surcharge

The decision to use up all existing supplies of the monocolour stamps was soon to produce a problem of implementation, since the size of the stock, held either in Port Moresby or in reserve at the Government Printing Office, Melbourne, had not been considered. This stock was far in excess of commercial demand, and with the reduced collector interest the sale of stamps was very slow.

In 1917, in view of these large stocks of all values except the 1/- denomination which still remained, it was decided to reduce these to just a few months supply by the surcharging of all denominations, except the 1d, with "ONE PENNY".

The surcharge was set in one line in seriffed capitals, placed to fall across the lower portion of the stamp. The forme of 40 (8 x 5) was expertly prepared and there are no known varieties of any kind. The overprinting, at the Government Printing Office in Melbourne, was equally well executed and apart from a very close double print on a small quantity of the ½d (which in fact is only a shifted print and does not warrant catalogue listing) there are no known varieties.

*Australian Stamp Archives* records that the surcharge was applied to the ½d, 2d, 2½d, 4d, 6d and 2/6d denominations during August 1917, and were issued out of stock immediately. These were in fact to be used concurrently with the 1d bicoloured stamp issued in August 1916.

Examination of the Cooke Letterbook NP-L2, previously referred to, does not record the instruction to surcharge the monocolour issues. It is known that some instructions were done by phone or on pieces of paper, and not always recorded in the daybook. It can only be assumed that J.B. Cooke complied with a verbal instruction. A further reasonable assumption to be made is that the instruction given to J.B. Cooke was to "surcharge all remaining monocolour stock", without thought to the fact that this would include the ½d denomination, creating an increase in value and thus **extending** the time needed to exhaust the stock. The quantity of 1/- stamps was so small that these were not included in the surcharge issue.

In *Stamps of Papua* (Rosenblum) and *Lakatoi II-III* (Croaker) full details of printings and papers are to be found. For completeness here it is recorded that the Melbourne stocks of monocolours contained printings on a new paper which was thinner than the previous printings issued to Port Moresby. The references mentioned list the printings as follows:

THICK PAPER: ½d, 2d, 4d, This printing must comprise all the stamps returned from Port Moresby, plus any thick paper stock held by the Government Printer, Melbourne.

THIN PAPER: 2d, 2½d, 6d, 2/6d. This printing is on the Melbourne stock on the new paper, which was not issued without surcharge.

### The Collector/Dealer Reaction

It has been said that this cautious policy of not wishing to destroy the very large stock of monocolour stamps was the influencing factor in the surcharging instruction. When first reported, this argument was carefully examined by J.H. Smyth, the Sydney stamp dealer, who published his findings in the *Australian Stamp Journal*, December 1917, of which he was the editor. He calculated ". . . The actual cost, paid by the Papuan Government, for the entire remaining monocolour stock, was approximately £25, and in view of the previous revenue lost, to write off this amount would have been negligible." He was astute enough to add: "On the other hand, assessing the revenue income from the sale of these surcharges, amounts to £1628.13.6, and the potential 'collector' revenue from the sale of all or part thereof, is a more influencing factor for their

issue." He concluded his article by saying: "We are sorry that the Papuan Government has sacrificed its dignity, rather than suffer the loss of £20 or £25. The difficulty, if there was one, could easily be overcome by some other less objectionable means."

The matter of the surcharge on the ½d denomination did not go unnoticed in the philatelic world and further increased the collector-dealer hostility to the issues, and they questioned the integrity of the Papuan Government. Among the many rumours and criticisms is an article which appeared in the *West End Philatelist*, Vol. 14 (1917-18) as follows:

"The Papuan Government has a shortage of 1d postage stamps and a surplus of other values, and it is accordingly surcharging the 2/6, 6d, 4d, 2½d, 2d and ½d stamps 'One Penny'.

Whether this has been done as a Provisional, or with a view to use up the surplus above mentioned, we are unable to say, but the whole procedure is mighty curious. So far as we can recollect, this is a rare instance of the denomination of a stamp being increased by a surcharge ie. from ½d to 1d for it opens up an easy way to fraud, and we believe it contrary to the practice of postage stamp issuing authorities."

#### The Quantity Surcharged

Examination of *Australian Stamp Archives* reveals the quantities of sheets (of 40 stamps) surcharged for each of the six values as follows:

½d	5477
2d	488
2½d	996
4d	1486
6d	475
2/6	850

Similar figures appear in various journals in 1917-18, and while there are some minor discrepancies this listing can be considered reasonably accurate.

It will be seen that the ½d denomination accounted for more than all other values combined (which totals 4295 sheets), and there was no obvious need to surcharge 5477 sheets to produce an additional 219,080 supply of 1d stamps. These figures also show that the 6d denomination was the smallest quantity, and that a maximum of 19,000 individual sets were all that could be available for dealers and collectors.

#### Further World-Wide Criticism

An additional feature which infuriated collectors and dealers was an announcement which accompanied the issue of the surcharges (reprinted in the *Australian Stamp Journal*, November 1917):

*In order that dealers and collectors may not buy up large quantities of these surcharged stamps, only one sheet of each value is being sold to each person who applies. The value of 6 sheets (a complete set) is £1.*

A brief note in *Stamp Collecting* commented "News will probably

40 THE AUSTRALIAN STAMP JOURNAL Dec. 12, 1917

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FRENCH ISLANDS.—King George. 1½. black carmine overprint ... 0 1	64 pale ultramarine ... 0 7
SAMOA.—King George. 1½. black, to arrive ... 0 2	GREECE.—Venusian. Fresh Supply. 1, 2, 10, 25, 50, 75, 6 varieties (in) ... 3 0
ARGENTINE.— 12, 20, 24, 30, 50c, 1 variety for ... 2 6	SERRA LEOE.—King George. 1½. ultramarine ... 0 4
15, 20, 24, 30, 50c, 1p, 6 varieties (in) ... 0 0	TURKS & CAICOS.—War Stamps. 1d. overprint at top ... 0 2

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surprise most collectors, other than those who are acquainted with the temerity of Pacific Postal profiteers, is that a flood of provisional stamps has broken out of Papua." In the following issue of 19 January it was stated: "So far no one appears to have received samples of the 'One Penny' provisional avalanche from Papua. There is very keen demand for them, and we quite believe the story which reaches our ears, to the effect that the folk in Port Moresby all rushed the Post Office and bought up the whole lot in a very short time."

Perhaps the most scathing of all items to appear in the philatelic press is the advertisement illustrated with this article, which was on the back page of the *Australian Stamp Journal* under the heading "NOVELTIES and NEW ISSUES".

In the same issue (December 1917), the editorial states:

"We like Papua from a philatelic point of view, but the latest issue is a miserable stop gap. They have already been dubbed 'THE PAPUAN POVERTY PROVISIONALS'. Since the first issue of postage stamps, many Governments have seen fit to allow the issue of stamps, which, in the philatelic world, are considered to be of questionable nature."

It is known that towards the end of the 19th century and early in the 20th century, some philatelists were loath to even mention these items by name, and merely referred to them as small pieces of **gummed paper**. This reference was soon abbreviated, and the doubtful issues became known as **GUM PAPS**. In view of the questionable nature of the Papua "ONE PENNY" surcharges, it is easy to identify why an astute, and probably critical, philatelist dubbed these issues "GUM PAP-UAS".

### The Rarity Factor

In view of the total quantity of all denominations surcharged and issued as 1d stamps (approximately 390,880 stamps), combined with the considerable publicity and the controversy which surrounded them, it is surprising to note that only a very small quantity were used, other than those cancelled-to-order for collectors, and in fact, just how small the quantity of commercially used covers which exist today. It is not generally known, but such commercial covers are among the postal history rarities of Papua, although philatelic



Philatelic cover sent from Port Moresby, 17 April 1918, bearing a complete set of the surcharges. Envelopes of this type are relatively common to the United Kingdom, U.S.A. and Australia in 1918.



A cover of April 1921 showing two sucharges used as postage dues on deficient postage letter from New Guinea. Interesting commercial use indicating stocks still held and being used in 1921.

Leld

covers from many of the "regular" postmark collectors of the world are frequently seen cancelled into late 1925, with occasional examples noted to 1932.

A survey of auction catalogues from many of the major Papua collections offered in the past 20 years, plus that of retail dealer stocks, show the "ONE PENNY" surcharges are generally available in even quantities, with just the occasional selection of oddment values.

As previously noted, the 1d bicolour was printed in August 1916, and the *Australian Stamp Archives* figures show that 7,950 sheets (318,000 stamps) were issued out of stock in 1916 and 1917.

**Oversupply of 1d Stamps and Withdrawal of Surcharges**

Allowing for normal commercial usage and collector interest, it will be seen that by the time the "ONE PENNY" surcharges were issued in late 1917 (390,880 stamps), Papua had an overwhelming quantity of 1d stamps (possibly 450,000-500,000) which was far in excess of previously recorded demand.

The quantities of commercially used 1d bicolours used from 1917 onwards also exceeds any "ONE PENNY" surcharge, and while there is no evidence or reference to be found in official records, this writer is of the opinion that the infamous surcharges were "quietly" withdrawn reasonably soon after issue, or soon after exhausting supply of the limited quantity of complete sets.

World opinion was certainly against them, and the opinion of their withdrawal is supported by their considerable scarcity commercially used.

**Date of Issue and Place of Surcharge**

It is interesting to note the considerable discrepancy in the recording of important facts, such as the date and place of surcharging, to be found in catalogues and handbooks dealing with Papua stamps. The major references are as follows:

Stanley Gibbons Part I	Issued 1917	Surcharged at Port Moresby
Robson Lowe <i>Encyclopaedia</i>	Issued 1917	Surcharged at Melbourne
<i>Stamps of Papua</i> (Rosenblum)	Issued 1918	Surcharged at Melbourne
<i>Lakatoi II-III</i> (Croaker)	Issued 1918	Surcharged at Melbourne



*1d on 2d cancelled-to-order at Rigo, 20 October 1917 - an early date confirming issue in 1917.*

*Australian Stamp Archives* clearly shows that the surcharges were completed by the Government Printer in Melbourne in August 1917, and were issued out of stock at the same time. There is no conclusive record for the date of issue at Port Moresby. The J.H. Smyth "Poverty Provisionals" advertisement is dated 12 December 1917, and a F. Hagen advertisement in the *Australian Philatelist* of 6 December 1917 also included the surcharges, stating "They have just arrived".

From these two advertisements it can be assumed the stamps were available in Port Moresby in late 1917. The writer has in his collection several examples cancelled by the Post Office Rigo datestamp of 20 OCT 17, and while these are per favour cancelled-to-order, the date surely must be considered correct, and in fact is a logical early (if not first day) issue date in Papua, being two months after issue from Melbourne.

From these figures, it can be further assumed that the correct reference for issue date and print location is that of the Robson Lowe *Encyclopaedia*. The writer hopes that the Stanley Gibbons reference to Port Moresby will be corrected in a future edition of the catalogue.

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## EDITORIAL NOTES

### Tom Howden

Mr D.H.M. Clarke, writing from Colac, writes regarding one of our Society's former members mentioned in *Century of Happiness*:

"On p.174 of *Century of Happiness*, the death of a fifty-year member, H.T. Bowden, is recorded. This should read Howden. Tom Howden conducted the general store and post office for many years at Southern Cross, hamlet between Warrnambool and Koroit, in S.W. Victoria.

"His main interest was British Empire commemoratives, and I recall he had all the

"good old ones" such as Canada Diamond Jubilee set of 1897, and the West Indian and African Colonials of the 'thirties.

"But he also collected Victoria, and impressed upon me to look out for a 6d orange Beaded Oval.

"He was my mentor as a boy, and I still have the 1927 Part One he gave me.

"I think he would be pleased to know I have a used pair of that 6d orange, and one on cover.

Southern Cross is now just a road junction sign. and the old Howden building was destroyed by fire some years ago.



## TASMANIAN "REVENUE" OVERPRINTS: AN UPDATE

By BILL LLOYD-SMITH

### 1. BACKGROUND

Since my article in *Philately from Australia*, March 1992, on the status of the Tasmanian "REVENUE" overprints, I have unearthed a little extra information on this subject. There are also a few corrections to be made. Frequent references will be made to the article cited above.

We begin with some extra background on the Platypus and St. George and Dragon issues. It is worthwhile to recall that De La Rue printed the Platypus stamps on paper watermarked close-spaced "TAS". These stamps were perforated 14. As for the St. George and Dragon issues for the years 1880 to 1900, the relevant perforations are, first, 11.4 (called 11¼ by Craig and Ingles, 11½ by Stanley Gibbons Part I Catalogue and Robson Lowe's *Encyclopaedia*, Volume IV), and a little later, 11.8 (called 11.75 by Craig and Ingles, and 12 by Gibbons and Robson Lowe). Note that the Government acquired the 11.8 machine in 1884 and stamps perforated before that time would have been treated with the 11.4 machine. The notes on page 9 of Craig and Ingles' catalogue are of great value in understanding the perforations used for the locally produced Tasmanian stamps. Also, their catalogue provides an accurate listing of the Platypus and St. George and Dragon issues.

Easterbrook's article on the 5/- St. George and Dragon (*Philately from Australia*, 1964) provides some useful background on this stamp, including a possible reason for the change of colour from brown to sage-green.

As for the postal usage of the preceding issues, Campbell's article in *Gibbon's Stamp Monthly*, February 1963, gives many instances of these stamps with dated cancellations between 1882 and 1893 inclusive. Additional examples for this period are illustrated in Tinsley's *Stamps of Tasmania* (see Figures 10-7, 10-8 and 11-15). These instances of postal use tend to confirm what Basset Hull's *Tasmania* says. There are also later instances of postal use, particularly for the 3d and 1/- Platypus. I have seen the 3d used at Burnie (28 October 1899) and Queenstown (6 February 1900), and the 1/- used at Gormanston (15 June 1897) and Hobart (6 October 1900). Together with the instances recorded by Campbell, these add support to his hypothesis that the 3d and 1/- Platypus were in regular use about the end of the century in an endeavour to use up existing stocks prior to Federation in 1901. Of course the 1/- Tablet had appeared in November 1892 and it may be that some old stocks of the 3d Sideface were released for use in the 1890's. Indeed, Yardley suggested in his article in the *London Philatelist*, September and October 1902, that there was "recently a further

issue of the 3d on the paper watermarked 'TAS', 2nd type" (see page 235). Of course, it is perforated 11.8. Also see page 132 of Basset Hull's book for details of the stamps in stock on 31 December 1889.

It is worth mentioning that the Stanley Gibbons (Australia) auction catalogue of 9 May 1992 illustrates a 10/- St. George and Dragon on piece cancelled with a Hobart duplex of 30 March 1895 (see Lot 746). The stamp was apparently used on a registered package to London. I have a 5/- sage-green St. George and Dragon off paper cancelled at Hobart on 2 December 1897. Thus, these high values did see a limited amount of postal use.

On 5 February 1894 De La Rue received instructions to send the Platypus plates to Hobart. It is not clear when the Platypus die was sent to Hobart but O.G. Ingles reported in *Philately from Australia*, June 1965, pages 58-59, that this die had been preserved in Hobart. However, the Platypus plates had been destroyed. Ingles gave a list of these electrotype plates, including 1d, 3d, 6d and 1/-, but the 2d was not mentioned. Perhaps the 2d value only was lithographed. Alternatively, the keyplate could have been electrotyped while the duty plate containing the words of value might have been lithographed.

## 2. THE LOCAL PRINTINGS OF 1900 ONWARDS

These local printings include the stocks of earlier printings which were overprinted "REVENUE" in 1900 to reserve these for fiscal use on and after 1 December 1900, as explained in my first article. In *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, 31 December 1901, page 108, a correspondent is quoted as asserting that all of the fiscal stamps (i.e., the Platypus and St. George and Dragon types) and the £1 stamps were overprinted over 12 months ago. It is added that no fiscal stamps were issued without the "REVENUE" overprint since 1 December 1900. Here it is necessary to make certain corrections concerning the technical aspects of their production.

It is widely believed that the local printings of the Platypus issues were lithographed. Craig and Ingles' catalogue says only that electrotypes of the Platypus issues were destroyed by the Audit Department on 31 October 1956. Basset Hull suggested in his article "Fiscal Philately" in *Australian Stamp Monthly*, September 1930, that these "lithographs" are merely badly printed examples from the electros. Turning to the report by L.L.R. Hausburg entitled "Philatelic Researches in Australia", in the *London Philatelist* of 1905, on page 277 we read:

"Although for some time the 1d local print of the 'Platypus' type, surcharged 'REVENUE', has been listed as available for postal purposes, the few copies that had done duty have really only passed through the post by chance. This stamp and the 6d and 1/- appear to be lithographed, but I was assured that they were printed from the old original plates, and that the difference is entirely due to the method of printing.

"The following values, surcharged 'REVENUE', were available for postage from November 15th to 30th, 1900: the 3d Platypus, 2s6d, 10/- St. George and Dragon, £1 De La Rue type."

Thus these so-called lithographs (with the possible exception of the 2d value) were really electrotyped after all. This point is also made in Hausburg's

general article "A Trip Around the World" in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* for June 1905 (see page 254). Collectors of Tasmania will recall that the De La Rue printings of the 1d, 2d and 8d Sideface issues are very much better in impression than the local printings of the various Sideface issues (½d to 5/-). Also, it is not uncommon for printings from worn electrotypes to resemble lithographs. Purves made that error in his article on the South Australian small size stamps of 1899-1912 in the *Australian Philatelic Record*, June and July 1922. In any case it is not clear why it would be considered necessary to prepare lithographic transfers from the De La Rue plates.

As for the "REVENUE" overprint itself, O.G. Ingles wrote an article on various surcharges and overprints on Tasmanian stamps in *Philately from Australia*, December 1957, pages 116-118. There, he points out that the "REVENUE" overprints were lithographed. My description of the overprints as coming from various formes is therefore misleading as the reader might get the impression that the overprints were electrotyped or typeset when in fact they were not. Also, the "REVENUE" overprints are often of rather poor quality, as Ingles noted in his articles. In Ingles' display at the R.P.S.V. Centenary Exhibition he showed the local printings of the 1/- Platypus. There, he said that the overprint on the first printing (a deep shade - earliest date about December 1900) is not good whereas the overprinting is good in the case of the second printing (a pale shade with value in red - earliest date 11 December 1901). From the limited evidence I have seen, including my own collection, Ingles' statement about the overprint makes sense. The overprints on the 3d Platypus stamps are not especially well executed, but at least are legible. Similar remarks apply to the early printings of the 1d Platypus. However, the overprints on the 2d Platypus and the 1903 printings of the 1d Platypus are more sharply and clearly printed, although it is sometimes hard to see the overprints on the darker shades of the 1d. I have also encountered a 1d where the value tablet is much darker than the rest of the stamp. I believe that there were several printings of the 1d but I am unable to say how many.

Basset Hull also stated that all of the 5/- "REVENUE" overprints were lithographed and fresh printings of the 10/- (presumably after the end of 1900) were lithographed, as the impressions were said to be flat and smooth. The catalogue of Craig and Ingles is silent on this subject. It is known that the St. George and Dragon plates were destroyed in 1950. It is not clear why one would bother to make new stones for stamps that were not very frequently used. In any case the copper plates would be subject to wear much faster than plates made of steel. Such wear would be apparent on the printed stamps, and such impressions could be mistaken for lithographs.

The articles by Ingles in *Philately from Australia* on the "REVENUE" overprints (and other matters) are quite informative as they describe the technical aspects of these stamps and give some estimates as to the rarity of the various issues in mint and postally used condition. However, they do not say much about the periods of use.

The perforation on these local printings is generally 11.8, which most catalogues call 12 but in the Craig and Ingles catalogue is expressed as 11.75. Even the old stocks of the 2/6 and 10/- values which received the overprint in

1900 bore that perforation rather than the earlier 11.4.

While there are many overprint errors in philatelic circulation, it is only fair to point out that some of these got into regular use. J.S. McNeill mentioned the £1 doubly and trebly overprinted (probably overprinted twice, once horizontally and once vertically) in his article in the *Victorian Philatelic Record*, May 1923, where he stated that most were used fiscally. Ken Scudder has shown me an example of an inverted overprint on the 1/- Platypus. It is fiscally used and the date is either March or May 1901.

### 3. THE PHILATELIC STATUS OF THE "REVENUE" OVERPRINTS

In my previous article it was shown that the 3d, 2/6, 10/- and £1, at least, were authorised for postal use, as an official letter to Fred Hagen demonstrates. Hausburg said much the same thing in his "Philatelic Researches in Australia", quoted in the previous section. It is likely that he was given this information by senior officials in the Post Office at Hobart, as Fred Hagen received the same story.

It is almost certain that old stocks of the 10/- were overprinted first to provide for immediate requirements, as this value was not very often used. Indeed, these stamps with "REVENUE" overprint were certainly available for postage for a short time. However, printings of the 10/- on paper watermarked close-spaced "TAS" appeared later and therefore it is unlikely that these could have been valid for postage. The postally cancelled copies I have seen are all watermarked double-lined "1". The status of the 2/6 with watermark double-lined "1" is unclear as I cannot say when it was first issued to the public, even though the few surviving sheets would have been overprinted in November 1900. I have yet to see an example myself, and postally cancelled copies of the 2/6 appear to be all watermarked close-spaced "TAS".

Ken Scudder has shown me a 3d Platypus overprinted "REVENUE" with a postal cancellation dated 22 November 1900, one week earlier than my example. There was a £1 Tablet with "REVENUE" overprint postally used at Burnie on 26 November 1900 in Prof. Ingles' Centenary Exhibition display. The same display also contained a postally used copy of the £1 with diagonal handstamp "REVENUE".

It remains to deal with the 1d, 2d, 6d, 1/- and 5/-. From Hausburg's comments, it seems clear that a few copies of the 1d passed through the post but no dates are recorded by him. Such usage would have been allowed under Section Ten of the Stamp Duties Act 1882, which remained current until 30 November 1900, as my previous article explained. Hausburg's article seems to hint that the 6d and 1/- did not see postal usage during the relevant period but an explicit declaration would be desirable. The Ingles display previously cited stated that the 1/- first appeared in December. It is difficult to disregard such a remark as it comes from a knowledgeable source. Ingles did not display the 6d value but similar comments may also apply to this value. Incidentally, there was a 1/- London print overprinted "REVENUE" in the Ingles display dated 27 April 1901. This was, naturally, a fiscally used copy. I suggest that the 1/- London prints were overprinted first and then the local prints were stacked on top. Hence the local prints would be issued prior to the London prints, but more evidence would be desirable to establish the patterns of use. As for the

5/- overprinted "REVENUE" it is only fair to mention that it is recorded in the literature as early as 1902. Easterbrook's report in *Philately from Australia* in 1962 is therefore a rediscovery. I have seen a photograph of a 5/- brown, apparently overprinted "REVENUE", in a recent auction catalogue. Since the stock of 5/- stamps remaining in 1871 was destroyed on 13 April 1871, it is difficult to see how it could exist genuinely overprinted, since the brown stamp was superseded by the sage-green colour in 1880.

The last value to consider is the 2d. Earlier, I mentioned that the overprint is relatively well executed, in comparison with the overprints known to have been produced in 1900. In my previous article I mentioned the report in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, June 1902, page 241, where *Ewen's Weekly* was quoted with respect to the "REVENUE" overprints. It is of interest that the 2d value was not mentioned but all the other values were. It is well-known that *Ewen's Weekly* was quite efficient in recording new issues, and thus it is now a valuable source of contemporary information on the stamps of the early twentieth century. The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria's library has most issues from March 1909, but no earlier ones. Perhaps a reader in London could check the 1903 issues of *Ewen's Weekly* to see if the 2d Platypus was recorded then, as there are many fiscally used copies with dates in 1903. Certainly, the Treasury Notice of 14 November 1900 which has been quoted in various sources says nothing about a 2d Platypus.

A further approach to this subject is to consider the "REVENUE" overprints from the viewpoint of the Stamp Duties Act 1882 and subsequent amendments, and to ask what stamps would be needed to denote the various duties under this legislation. The Schedule appended to the various Acts of Parliament pertaining to stamp duties explains in tedious detail the amount of duty payable on various classes of instrument. Most of these duties are multiples of 3d, but the duty on drafts and banker's orders (including cheques) was 1d. Thus, there is no obvious need for a 2d duty stamp. The existence of a 2d impressed duty stamp can be justified by the need to stamp foreign bills of exchange drawn in sets of three. This situation persisted for the entire period of interchangeability of postage and revenue stamps so that it was not necessary to issue a 2d adhesive duty stamp. Even the end of interchangeability in December 1900 made no difference.

This situation was changed by an Act to further amend the Stamp Duties Act, 1882 which was passed on 20 December 1902. It came into operation on 1 January 1903 and introduced a duty on receipts. When the sum received was at least £5 but less than £50, the duty was 2d. For smaller sums of at least £2 the duty was 1d, and when the sum was over £50 the duty was 3d. Thus, a 2d adhesive duty stamp was required and initially the 2d Platypus was used for this purpose. Incidentally, the demand for 1d adhesive duty stamps would have increased and this could provide a reason for the various 1d surcharges on the 3d Platypus stamp. A subsequent amendment which came into force on 2 January 1905 introduced a new scale of duties on receipts ranging from 1d to 4d. Thus, the existence of a 4d surcharge on the 3d Platypus can be explained.

At any rate, it seems fairly clear that the 2d Platypus was neither needed or issued in 1900 but rather in 1903. Therefore it should not be in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue at all.

Regarding the 2d with value omitted, Basset Hull himself remarked that this variety was probably printer's waste. Moreover, it had no expressed value, so it could not be readily sold to the public in the ordinary course of business. This variety is found with a Hobart postmark dated 30 November 1900, but I cannot find any contemporary references in the philatelic literature to such a prominent variety. One feels almost certain that such postmarked copies were produced by favour after the event. The earliest reference to this variety so far found is in the *Bulletin of the Fiscal Philatelic Society*, April 1916, page 214.

#### 4. CONCLUDING REMARKS

While some of the foregoing discussion leaves some conclusions still tentative, it is suggested that the following stamps overprinted "REVENUE" are entitled to be listed in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue:

- 3d Platypus, watermarked close-spaced "TAS", perforated 14.
  - 2/6 St. George and Dragon, watermarked close-spaced "TAS", perforated 11.8.
  - 10/- St. George and Dragon, watermarked double-lined "1", perforated 11.8.
  - £1 Tablet, watermarked close-spaced "TAS", perforated 14.
- Also the £1 Tablet with "REVENUE" diagonally handstamped in lieu of the normal overprint.

Hence we add to the above list:

- 1d Platypus, watermarked close-spaced "TAS", perforated 12 (first printing).

In addition, the 1d Platypus, watermarked close-spaced "TAS", perforated 11.8 with "REVENUE" overprint seems to have been used postally in November 1900 and deserves to remain in the catalogue.

I have seen a auction catalogue photograph of this stamp with double overprint with a Hobart cancel dated 30 November 1900. Could this example have been postmarked by favour?

I cannot find evidence of postal use for the 6d and 1/- but I remain open to this possibility. The 1d on paper watermarked wide-spaced "TAS" probably has no place in the catalogue as it seems to have appeared in 1903.

The 10/- St. George and Dragon watermarked close-spaced "TAS" probably has no place in the catalogue and seems to have appeared in 1902, according to Craig and Ingles. The status of the 2/6 St. George and Dragon watermarked double-lined "1" remains a mystery. It would be worthwhile to record any dates of usage, however. A used imperforate pair of the 2/6 watermark close-spaced TAS was Lot 179 in Rodeny A. Perry's Sale No. 9. The pair is illustrated in the catalogue and bears the familiar cancellation, Hobart 30 November 1900. Finally, I am inclined to think that the 5/- St. George and Dragon watermarked close-spaced "TAS" appeared after November 1900, but I have no proof of this. The earliest date known to me is 1 January 1901, reported by Easterbrook in *Philately from Australia* in 1962.

These stamps created a certain amount of interest and were widely reported in the contemporary philatelic press. Even then there were queries as to their status. There are many references in the journals of the 1900's, including the *Australian Philatelist*, *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, *Philatelic Record*,

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, and *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal*.

The authorities apparently considered it necessary to apply the "REVENUE" overprints even as late as 1903 in order to mark the revenue stamps very clearly as such. It was seen in my previous article that the public continued to use postage and revenue stamps interchangeably as late as the end of 1902, although this practice was unauthorised.

I wish to thank Ken Scudder for his help in providing information, and to Geoff Kellow for further discussions on these stamps. A letter from the Editor of the Stanley Gibbons catalogue following my first article, indicating his interest in this subject, has provided a spur for this further investigation.

## NORTHERN TERRITORY HANDBOOK: CORRECTIONS AND UPDATE

By E.A. WILLIAMS, F.R.P.S.,L.

(Continued from June 1993, page 50)

### CHAPTER XXIII

Page 153 ADELAIDE RIVER. A number of covers of September–November 1942 have appeared with the Avis de Reception (AR) marking used in lieu of a cds, including a registered cover with the AR marking tying the flap on the reverse. The registration label is torn in half so that only the number shows. These appear to be civilian mail with regular postage affixed, no AR fee extra or military reduced rate, posted under war emergency security regulations. The covers are addressed to Sydney or Hobart (Tattersalls), and there are no backstamps except on the registered cover (Melbourne, Hobart). The registered cover has the Tattersalls receiving date stamped on the front. It has been asserted that these civilian covers came from Adelaide River Military P.O. Phil Collas, in *The Postal History of the Australian Army During World War II*, pp.205–7, discusses these covers and illustrates two. He wrote: "The two covers shown illustrate usage of a civil post office 'AR' rubber stamp marking as a security device . . . A further thought is that it was not a coincidence that the same letters also signified Adelaide River (NT), where Army HQ was located . . . It is interpreted that the AR rubberstamp came from the Adelaide River civil PO." Note that Collas did not make a statement of fact.

At this time the war emergency zone was in force in the Territory. Most civil post offices in the northern N.T. were closed (including Adelaide River), and MPO's handled all mail, including civilian mail to and from and within the Territory. Civil mail posted at the MPO

usually received the MPO datestamp, and transit marks on the reverse indicated the course of MPO handling out of the Territory into normal postal channels. Unless certain information surfaces, there seems to be good reason to doubt that covers such as these originated at Adelaide River.

- Page 153 ADELAIDE RIVER. (c) extend use to 1988.  
AILERON. Illustration caption should be Type 4, not 10B.
- Page 154 ALEXANDRIA. In the photograph "fight" should read "flight".  
*You Can't Make it Rain* by Kowald and Johnston (Boolarong Publications, Brisbane, 1992) is the story of the Nrth Australian Pastoral Company, 1877-1991. An important part of the Company holdings is the Alexandria Station. Text and numerous photographs provide a rich history of life on this important property. References are also made to Austral Downs, Lake Nash, Avon Downs, and Brunette Downs, which are significant adjacent properties. Photographs include the Alexandria Homestead, Soudan on the Barkly Highway, the Ranken Store, and the Mail Coach.
- Page 155 ALICE SPRINGS. In caption below photograph "2920" should read "1920".
- Page 156 ALICE SPRINGS. The 1930's Alice springs post office is on the corner of Railway Terrace and Parsons Street. Today the building houses the PINTS Club, the Postal Institute of the N.T. Social Club at Alice Springs.
- Page 159 ALICE SPRINGS.  
(g) 33mm. Extend use to 1988.  
36mm. Extend use to 1988.  
Poste Restante: Add new marking - Type 15: POSTE-RESTANTE (42mm). 1988.  
Registration Section: (2) Insert "SECTION" after "REGISTRATION", sdl. New early date June 1981; (3) Change "1970" to "1968"; add new c.d.s., as (2) but 39mm and 1dl, in violet, 1984.
- Page 160 ALICE SPRINGS. Miscellaneous markings: add new marking - (10) double-lined oval "GENERAL DUTIES SECTION/POST OFFICE ALICE SPRINGS N.T. 5750". 1988.  
ALICE SPRINGS - AYERS ROCK/ULURU. Bottom line, "(5)", add "postcode 5751" after "1988".
- Page 163 ALICE SPRINGS EAST. (c) There were two types of the Type 9a datestamp. The earlier one has larger lettering in the inscription. At the base is "N.T.--AUST.", 30.5mm, 1dl, longer dash. 1956. The later datestamp has smaller lettering in the inscription. At the base is "N.T.-AUST." 30.5mm, 1dl. Almost no dash between "N.T." and "AUST.", and a longer dash between "ALICE" and "N.T." 1959-1960.
- Page 164 ALYANGULA. Add (d) Double-lined oval. 50 x 33mm. "POST OFFICE/ALYANGULA N.T. 5798". 25 January 1978.





- Page 166 ARLTUNGA. Add to photo caption: "Beneath an enlargement of this photo on the wall of the Alice Springs air terminal concourse is this caption 'The mail coach at Arltunga!'"
- Page 167 ARLTUNGA. (b) Type 4. Examples of this rare datestamp have been found on the S.A. 4d thick "POSTAGE" wmk. Crown A thick paper, the 4d Kangaroo and the 4d King George V orange, all with 1917 date.
- Page 168 AVON DOWNS. Second line: Change "As as" to "As at".
- Page 182 DALY WATERS. Last para, 4th line: Change "airsrip" to "airstrip".
- Page 186 DUNMARRA. For a 1943 photograph of the Dunmarra post office see page 15 of Alan Smith's *Convoys Up the Track*.
- Page 191 HAYES CREEK. Change "closed March 1872" to "1972".
- Page 194 JABIRU. Add new cds after (c):  
Type 16: N.T. 5796 (32mm) very large letters. 1988.
- Page 196 KATHERINE. (g) Base inscription should read "N.T-AUST".
- Page 197 KATHERINE. (o) There were two different 37mm datestamps. On the earlier one, the bottom inscription begins and ends below the dateline, sdl. On the second, the bottom inscription begins and ends on a level with the dateline, ldl. Alter dates after first "(37mm)" to read "1983-1987".  
Add new cds after (s): Type 17: TELEGRAPH OFFICE at top. 1988.
- Page 205 PHILLIP CREEK. Second sentence: Alter to read "removal of the settlement (because of inadequate water supply) to Warrabri . . ."
- Page 206 PINE CREEK. 3rd para: Delete final sentence.
- Page 209 RANKINE RIVER. (b): Alter to read "S.A. removed by October 1913. Still in use 17 July 1947. (RRR)."  
RENNER SPRINGS. Add to write-up "Datestamp still at the roadhouse in 1991."
- Page 213 RYAN'S WELL. Add to write-up "Cloudy's Restaurant at the new inn at Glen Helen Gorge is named after Cloudy Beale, who lived at Alice Springs after the Ryan's Well postal installation was closed.

(to be continued)

## PICTORIAL POSTCARDS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

*The following article appeared under the title "Ueber die offiziellen Ansichtspostkarten von Südaustralien" the German journal Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal of 18 June 1910, and was in large part reprinted in Deutsche Sammler Zeitung of September 1926. It presents a contemporary account of the pictorial stamped postcards of South Australia, incorporating lists of views and colours, and information lacking in modern catalogues. The article has been translated for Philately from Australia by Walter Roemer.*

In our issue No. 15 of the previous year (1909) on page 360, we wrote the following in the new issue column:

*Th. N. from Eudunda sent us a series of official pretty postcards which have various views on the front. There are seven different cards altogether, all with the same 1d imprint, but in seven different colours. Of interest is the fact that the value imprint is in the same colour as the text and the picture. That means the 1d stamp exists in seven colours.*

*Unfortunately, we only seem to have five different cards and a description of the colours of the remaining two cards. Should it not be possible that all seven views exist in all seven colours, like the official cards from Argentina?*

*Also, these are the first cards from South Australia with the inscription "Commonwealth of Australia".*

The same gentlemen now sends us a further letter with a lot more details which enables us to prepare a list of these cards. Whilst we do not accept responsibility for completeness, since our correspondent specialises in these cards, we think it to be fairly accurate.

We think it will be difficult to get all different cards for our collection, since they are only sold in packets of 240 (= £1) of the same kind.

Our correspondent enquired if he could buy half a dozen of each card, but was told by the Department that at the present only about a dozen different cards are in stock. [This sentence does not make it clear if the cards could be purchased singly].

The list of colours found are:

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. black         | 12. light blue  |
| 2. grey          | 13. dark blue   |
| 3. greyish-brown | 14. steel blue  |
| 4. grey-lilac    | 15. olive-green |
| 5. brown         | 16. light green |

- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 6. red-brown         | 17. green        |
| 7. lilac-brown       | 18. blue-green   |
| 8. black-brown       | 19. orange       |
| 9. reddish-brown     | 20. carmine-pink |
| 10. light purple-red | 21. lilac        |
| 11. dark purple-red  | 22. violet-brown |

It was also found that cards exist with a smooth surface front and back (Type a), and others with a smooth front and a rough back (Type b).

Our correspondent possesses the following views. The colours found for each are indicated by the numbers listed above.

1. Prince Alfred College. a) 1, 3, 5, 7, 17, 20, 22.
2. Savings Bank in Adelaide. a) 2, 13, 20; b) 4, 6, 11, 17, 19, 21.
3. Viaduct. a) 2, 3, 8, 20.
4. Dairy. a) 8, 20.
5. Cathedral. a) 2, 5, 7, 18, 20.
6. Wheat Stock. a) 2, 8.
7. Mining School. a) 2, 3, 6, 8, 12; b) 5.
8. 160,000 Bags of Wheat. b) 1, 13.
9. Palm House. a) 2, 6, 21; b) 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 15, 19.
10. Hindley Street in Adelaide. a) 2, 20; b) 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21.
11. Kookaburras. a) 15; b) 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21.
12. Champion Shorthorn Ox. b) 11, 12, 15, 20.
13. Wool Cart. a) 2, 13, 17; b) 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 15, 16, 18.
14. Ship on the Murray. a) 5; b) 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 19.
15. Rundle Street in Adelaide. a) 2, 3, 5, 8, 20.
16. Railway Station in Adelaide. a) 5, 8, 11, 17, 20.
17. Merino Sheep. a) 2, 3, 20.
18. Government Butter Factory. a) 2, 4, 13, 20.
19. Fat Oxen. b) 9, 11, 17.
20. Phosphate Mining. b) 9, 11, 12.
21. Ox. b) 11, 13, 17.
22. Chicken Farm. a) 2, 20.
23. Bridge over Hindmarsh River. a) 2, 3, 11.
24. Adelaide Library. a) 2, 3, 20.
25. View of Clarendon. a) 2, 5, 7, 8, 12, 15, 17, 20, 21.
26. Ox Cart a) 11, 13, 16, 20, 21.
27. Camel. b) 5, 6.
28. Digging Waterhole (Dam). a) 2, 4, 20.

It would seem, then, there are nearly 150 different cards.

## QUEENSLAND POSTAL HISTORY

### THERE IS NEVER ANY END

By H.M. CAMPBELL, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.

I recently received a letter from Ken Smithies, who had just finished writing up his collection of Queensland numeral cancellations and other postal markings. In this he found many additions to my *Queensland Postal History* well worth another follow-up article just for them, for which Mr Smithies has sent me photocopies.

The item which I found most interesting was a pair showing a new "tie" - No. 696 to CANIA on its re-opening, and the new c.d.s. accompanying it. This is only the third new "tie" reported since the book was published. There were also six numerals on Commonwealth issues which were previously unknown so used. In addition to all these, there were no less than 13 two-line 'REGISTERED' handstamps unrecorded, as well as a previously unknown oval datestamp on a pair, which may or may not have come from a registered item.

Since writing the above, I have received a further letter from Mr Smithies with more photocopies, mainly of circular datestamps. Several of these are new, some additional types for post offices already on the list on pp.182ff in *Queensland Postal History*, but others are new names. There are others which are corrections. In my earlier book, *Queensland Cancellations and Other Postal Markings*, I listed the various datestamps that I had seen in two groups, "State" and "Commonwealth" types, on pp.67ff, but without listing the particular types. When I came to compile the list in the later book, I no longer had access to some of the material I had seen, so had to guess the particular types that some of those on the earlier lists were. This was not so easy in the case of the so-called "commonwealth" types; some of them could have been at the end of the last Watson, Ferguson contract, or at the beginning of the Roeszler contracts. Not hard if one had the stamps or clear illustrations in front of one, but in the case of some of the later post offices I no longer had these. Some of Mr Smithies' photocopies showed a type different to that listed in the book, so I am assuming that my guess was wrong in these instances, though there were cases where a post office used both Watson, Ferguson and Roeszlers, but these were the more important ones. As an example of how difficult it is to use guesswork, I might mention the case of one of Mr Smithies' photocopies, LOCKROSE. This is not listed anywhere in the book, as according to Dr Joan Frew, LOCKROSE was not raised to post office status until 1913, and my lists have a cut-off at the end of 1912. On the other hand, it is obviously a Roeszler type. The last Roeszler contract ended at the end of 1911, but Roeszler completed the number of datestamps for which the Company had con-

tracted. It had probably been decided to raise the Lockrose Receiving Office to a Post Office well in advance of its actual happening, of which the actual date is not known, but if it was in early January 1913, the datestamp could well have been used on a Queensland stamp carried over from the Receiving Office to the Post Office.

My thanks to Mr Smithies for all this information. The following additions to the book are required.

#### Chapter VI

p.68 Before 'CANIA' add: '696'.

#### Chapter VII

p.78 To the list of two-line 'REGISTERED' handstamps in violet, add: 'BOONAH, ST. LAWRENCE.'

#### Chapter IX

p.96 At the top, alter 'CHAPTER X' to 'CHAPTER IX'

p.98 To the list of 10-bar Railway obliterations known used for postage, add: '332 (MORVEN)', under '318 (KILKIVAN)'.

#### Chapter XX

p.165 To the list of numerals in violet, add: '387'.

p.168 2nd column. '448'. Alter '2a' to '2b'.

p.170 To the list of numerals found on Commonwealth issues, add: '157, 327, 373, 587, 630, 682'.

#### Chapter XXI

p.182 2nd column. To 'BARCALDINE' add: '4b'.

p.183 1st column. Under 'BISMARCK' add 'BLACK RIDGE 3c'.  
'BOONINGBA'. Alter '6' to '5b'.  
'BOYNEDALE'. Alter '6' to '5b'.

2nd column. Under 'CALCIFER' add: 'CALLIDE 6'.  
To 'CANIA', add: '5b'.  
To 'CLIFTON' add: '6 (in violet)'.

p.184 2nd column. 'FORSAYTH'. Alter '6' to '5b'.  
To 'GRANTHAM' add: '6'.

p.185 1st column. To 'GYMPIE' add: '6 (in blue)'.  
To 'HARRISVILLE' add: '4b'.  
Under 'HARRISVILLE' add 'HATTON VALE 5b'.

2nd column. 'KABAN'. Alter '6' to '5b'.  
'KINGTHORPE'. As well as the normal Type 5b, Mr Smithies has one which has lettering more like the earlier unframed types, and a short bar at each side.

- p.186 1st column. 'LUCINDA'. Alter '5b' to '5a'.  
'MITCHELL' should now read: '3a, 3c, 4b, 5a, 6, 6 (in blue)'.  
Under 'MOSSMAN RIVER' add: 'MOUNT ALBION 3c'.  
2nd column. to 'NEBO' add: '6'.
- p.187 1st column. To 'OXENFORD' add: '5b'.  
To 'REID RIVER' add: '6'.
- p.188 1st column. 'TATE TIN MINES'. Alter '6' to '5b'.  
'TOUMOULIN'. Alter '6' to '5b'.  
'UPPER COOMERA'. Alter '6' to '5b'.  
2nd column. To 'WINTON' add: '6 (with time)'.  
To 'WONDAI' add: '6 (with time)'.

In the follow-up article in the December 1992 issue, one of the additions read: "p.187. 1st column. Under 'RICHMOND SOUTH' add: 'RISHTON 3b'." This should have read "... Under 'RICHMOND DOWNS ... "

#### Chapter XXII

- p.199 "Toowoomba (b) 626 8c Time"  
There were two varieties of this duplex, with very similar obliterations, but with different datestamps. The first is illustrated on page 197 in the book, but the second (seen dated in November 1905) is slightly larger, with thick stops at the sides and finer lettering.

#### Chapter XXIII

- p.206 To the list of oval handstamps, add:  
'TOWNSVILLE. One example known on a pair, dated 8 MAY 1908'.  
(With 'POST OFFICE').

#### TWO-LINE 'REGISTERED' HANDSTAMPS

- p.207 3rd column. Under 'BOGANTUNGAN', add: 'BOLLON' and 'BOONAH'.  
Under 'BOWEN', add: 'BROADMOUNT'.  
1st column. Under 'CLERMONT', add: 'CLIFTON'.  
Under 'CORDALBA', add: 'CORFIELD'.  
Under 'DUARINGA', add: 'DUGANDAN'.  
2nd column. Under 'INGLEWOOD', add: 'MUCKADILLA'.  
3rd column. Under 'LEYBURN', add: 'LOCHNAGAR'.  
Delete 'MONTALBION (or MOUNT ALBION)' and under  
'MOSSMAN RIVER' add: 'MOUNT ALBION'.  
Under 'MOUNT USHER', add: 'MUCKADILLA'.
- p.208 1st column. Under 'NORTH KILLARNEY', add: 'NORTH PINE'.  
Under 'SELHEIM', add: 'SHERWOOD'.  
Under 'TANGORIN', add: 'TARINGA'.  
3rd column. Under 'WOOROOLIN', add: 'WYANDRA'.  
Under 'YANDILLA' add 'YANDINA'.

## BOOK REVIEW

*British New Guinea and Papua. Postal Acts, 1888-1945*, by G. Bird, D. Collyer and K. Sparks. Published by Modern Philately, P.O. Box 413, Wantirna South, Vic. 3152. 21 x 29.5cm. ISBN 1 875711 06 8. Price, \$45.

This work is a compilation of all the Acts and Regulations related to the Papuan Post Office up to 1942. British New Guinea was administered by Queensland, and originally operated under that Colony's postal legislation. Following the Papua Act, the Territory received its own legislation in the Ordinance of 1907, revised in 1912, and this formed the basis of Post Office operations up to the cessation of civilian administration in 1942. All this legislation was based on that of the Australian Commonwealth, and in large part Commonwealth postal rates applied.

The 1912 Ordinance and its subsequent revisions are printed in full, and provide an essential framework on which to base any study of the postal history of this popular country. As is always the case, the scope and detail of postal regulations far exceeds the surviving collectable material, and the authors make note of some of the material which may be hunted for. An useful tabulation is the complete listing of airmail rates as at 1941.

The authors have included Appendices explaining the administrative organisation of the Territory, lists of the Public Service, and a 1921 list of residents which should prove useful to postal historians.

The current trend towards the compilation and publication of official sources such as these is a good one, making essential postal history information much more accessible.

## THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

*Correction.* The display of Victoria by Russell Jones was inadvertently given as being in April in the June issue of *P. from A.* This was the March display, and the notes for the April display, which were omitted, are given below. Our apologies to the exhibitor.

### *Australian Coils*

Mrs Nita Wilson, President of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club, presented a Display of Australian coils at the meeting of 15 April.

Following a block of the Victorian 1d trials with black bars, the Kangaroo issues included a 1/2d coil join strip of 3 with CA monogram, and the 1d OS coil on cover.

The George V issues had the 1 1/2d black-brown with starter attached, and 1d C of A wmk. strip of 12 including "NY" joined variety.

The George VI issues included most of the starter strips, with the 2d red large holes with £8 starter, and 2d mauve with black (£6) and red (£8) starters, and 2d Gum Tree with black (£6) and green (£8) starters. The 1/2d kangaroo had a strip including the "foggy hills" retouch.

Queen Elizabeth issues had a comprehensive selection of the scarce plate numbers. The 1953 3d had a coil starter with Plate 2, and blocks with Plates 1 and -1-. Of the 1962 2d there were Plates 1, 2 and 3, and of the 1959 3d there were blocks showing Plates 3 and 5, each on both sides of the sheet.

### *Annual Competition*

At the Annual Competition held on 17 June there were three entries. A silver medal was awarded to Mr Ray Kelly, and a Bronze Medal to Mr John Trowbridge.

Mr Kelly's entry was of Victoria's "Beer & Baccy" postcard of 1895. This covered all aspects of the issue, including original research into plating the cards and determining the size of the plate, and examples of unusual usages. The latter included cards sent overseas, one showing the offending advertisement cut off and subsequently taxed, and another showing the advertisement covered by paper, and with the printed message of the Presbytery of Melbourne South on the reverse!

Mr Trowbridge showed Canadian Semi-Official Airmails, and covered a wide range of the issues of the various private companies made in the 1920's and 1930's, with emphasis on usages on cover.

The third entrant in the competition was Mr John Sinfield, who showed the 1/2d Wilding Definitive of Great Britain, through all its variations. This began with rough artwork by the designer, Enid Marx, and photographic essays. There were part imperf. booklet panes in the St. Edward's Crown and all-over Crown wmk., and an imprimatur block of 4 on the graphite-lined paper.

The competition entries were supplemented by a miscellany presented by Mr Peter Jaffé, which covered a wide range of mainly classic issues of the world.

*Annual General Meeting*

The 101st Annual Meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria was held on 15 July 1993.

The President, Miss Myra Farley, O.A.M., F.R.P.S.L., recounted the numerous successful and memorable special occasions held in August 1992 to celebrate the Centenary of the Society. The highlights were the Centenary Exhibition at the Caulfield Town Hall, the Centenary Banquet, a display of Victorian philately based on the J.R.W. Purves collection shown at the Centenary Meeting, and the launch, at the same meeting, of *Century of Happiness*, the Society's History, written by Horace Chisholm. The J.R.W. Purves Medal was awarded to Mr. Max Watson, the David H. Hill Medal to Messrs Tom Carter and Geoff Kellow, and Life Memberships were conferred upon Messrs David Terrington and John Trowbridge. Centenary medallions were presented to all members.

*Treasurer*

The Treasurer, Mr Geoff White, in presenting his report, stated that he considered the financial result for the year had been highly satisfactory, especially considering the extra expenses associated with our Centenary celebrations, and the painting of the premises.

*Centenary Committee*

Chairman of the Centenary Committee, Mr John Trowbridge, stated that when the Centenary Week concluded on 16 August 1992, there was a feeling of a job well done by all concerned. The Exhibition was well supported by members, and the general public with in excess of 3,500 attending. Good sales of *Century of Happiness* and 16 new members were benefits to the Society.

*Philately from Australia*

Miss Joyce Buchanan, the Business Manager for *Philately from Australia*, who reported that the balance sheet reflected the current recession with both revenue from advertising and subscriptions less than last year. The purchase of two compactus units had enabled back-issues of the journal to be more conveniently stored in the ground-floor storeroom, freeing the smaller first-floor room for the use of the Librarian.

*House Committee*

Mr Len Buchanan, Chairman of the House Committee, reported a comparatively quiet year. External painting was completed, and through the efforts of members at two working-bees the ground-floor storeroom was cleared to enable the re-location of back issues of

*Philately from Australia*. After the clearing of both front and back yards, the rear yard was paved, and a double gate installed in the back fence permitting vehicular access.

*Expert Committee*

Chairman of the Expert Committee, Mr Peter Jaffé, reported that four meetings were held during the year, at which 86 submissions were processed and 76 certificates issued. Council has approved the Committee's recommendation that the fee for an opinion and certificate be increased to \$35 from 1 September 1993.

*Exchange Branch*

Superintendent of the Exchange Branch, Mr Henry Teltscher, advised that there had been little change in the level of support for the Exchange Branch. Unfortunately, total sales fell again, although there had been a slight increase in the number of sheets contributed.

*Deceased Estates*

Chairman of the Deceased Estates Committee, Mr Len Buchanan, advised that there had been little work to do in the past year. Philatelic material left to the Society by the late Stirling Parker, had raised \$1,777 to date.

*Library*

The Librarian, Dr Geoff Kellow, reported good use of the library with 228 items borrowed and good attendances on Library Nights. There were 88 new additions to the library, and 54 volumes of journals had been bound. When extra shelving has been installed in the former *Philately from Australia* storeroom, all reference material will be on the shelves and more bound material will be transferred to the main library. A start has been made on placing the library's holdings onto the society's computer.

*Sales Branch*

The Superintendent of the Sales Branch, Mr Tom Carter, reported that two sales had been held during the year. Material continues to be difficult to obtain, and the Branch needed a higher level of support from members. Pleasingly, the number of postal bidders and sales to postal bidders has increased again.

*Publications Committee*

Mr Russell Jones, Chairman of the Publications Committee, advised that no new publications had emanated from the committee during the year. The final volume by the late Phil Collas, dealing with the Postal History



of the Korean War and B.C.O.F., was due for release soon. Following the phasing out of the book bounty scheme, a policy of limited editions of 300 numbered copies has been adopted. The Society had received \$1,932 from the winding-up of the Purves Foundation, and this has been allocated to future publications.

*Australia Photo-litho Issues, 1877-1986*

The display following the Annual Meeting was provided by Mr Ray Chapman, M.B.E., R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L., who premiered his modern philately collection of Australian issues during the period he was a member of the Stamp Advisory Committee.

Almost all issues over the period from 1977 to 1986 were covered, and for each the photographic essays prepared during the section of the designs were shown, together with an explanation of the changes ordered that resulted in the accepted designs.

Complementing this was a wide range of issued material, with special studies being made of the printings of the 1977 Silver Jubilee stamps, and the 1977 \$10 Painting definitive.

Most spectacular were the errors. The famous 1982 60c Whales trial printing was

shown, including the unique cover bearing a pair.

Imperforates included the 1983 30c Strzelecki, 1984 Blinky Bill, and 1981 24c Thylacine. The misperforated 1977 \$10 Painting was present, and the 1986 36c Christmas double perf.

*1/2d King George V Flaws and Retouches*

At the meeting of 29 July 1993, Mr Les Vincent presented a specialised display of the Australian Commonwealth 1/2d King George V.

The single line perf. variety from Electro 3 was present as a very rare used pair.

The various cracked electro varieties were included, with 4R5 (first state) in a mint block of four, and 5L46 both mint and used. The thin fraction retouch from Electro 5 was well-represented. A complete sheet was shown of Electro 5 (single watermark) in orange.

There was a comprehensive showing from Electros 6 to 9, including the so-called Die 1a flaw of Electro 8.

Postal history aspects of the usage of the 1/2d stamp were also included with a number of covers, including several showing the "20 Posted" handstamps used for bulk rate mail.

## Latin American Literature!

### **Ecuador: Postal History & Prephilatelic Postmarks**

by L.J. Harris et al. (1985)

Spanish paper \$25.00      English-Spanish Hardbound \$35.00

### **Central America: Its Postal History & Prephilatelic Postmarks**

by L.J. Harris (1986)

**\$40.00**

### **Honduras: The Black Air Mail**

by I.I. Green (1962)

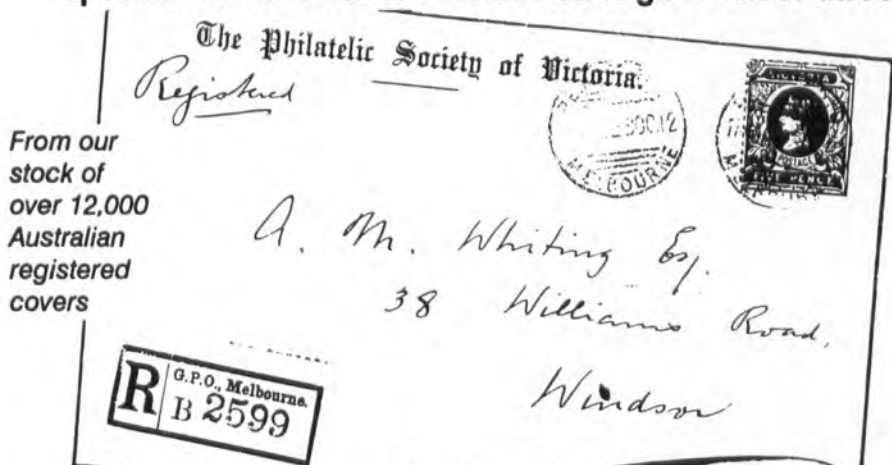
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The Philatelic Society of Victoria which was founded in 1892, and which in 1946 had the privilege conferred upon it of the use of the prefix "ROYAL", is a Society to which you, as a collector, should belong. Among its many advantages are:

★ **SOCIETY'S OFFICIAL ORGAN:** *Philately from Australia* is posted free to all members.

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★ **QUARTZ LAMP & MICROSCOPE** and a Reference Forgery Collection are available.

★ **MONTHLY DISPLAYS:** It has always been Society policy to obtain the best available collections for display at Society monthly meetings. Lectures and discussions by leading philatelists enable members to improve their philatelic knowledge.

★ **PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE:** This Society includes experts on almost all branches of Philately, whose advice is always available.

★ **THE SOCIETY'S FEES** are: Entrance Fee: \$50.00; Annual Subscription: City and Metropolitan Members, \$40.00; Country, Interstate and Overseas, \$35.00.

★ **ALL COMMUNICATIONS** should be directed to Miss MYRA FARLEY F.R.P.S.L. (Secretary), Box 2071, GPO, Melbourne 3001.

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FOUNDED 1890

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★ **MONTHLY DISPLAYS:** Displays of interesting collections and philatelic items are a feature of the monthly meetings of the Club. It is the policy of the Club to bring to the members the best available displays, while lectures and discussions help to further the philatelic knowledge of members. The advice of members, experts in most branches of philately, is always available when requested.

★ **THE CLUB'S FEES** are: City members: \$6.00; Country members, \$4.50.

★ **SUBSCRIPTIONS** are due 1 July yearly. There is no entrance fee payable.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to —

**Mrs Shirley Jones, Hon. Secretary — Box 1751 G.P.O. Sydney 2001**

# Philatelic Literature

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The Postal History of the Australian Army During World War II ( <i>P. Collas</i> )	\$50.00
The Postal history of Internees and Prisoners of War in Australia during World War II ( <i>P. Collas</i> )	\$15.00
Australian Numeral Cancellations: A Compendium ( <i>H.M. Campbell</i> )	\$30.00
Commonwealth of Australia Cumulative Index of Source Material ( <i>W.M. Holbeach</i> )	\$7.50

## NORTHERN TERRITORY

The Postal History of the Northern Territory, 1824-1988 ( <i>E.A. Williams</i> )	\$120.00
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Queensland Postal History ( <i>H.M. Campbell</i> )	\$80.00
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