

PHILATELY *from* AUSTRALIA



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Philately from Australia

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By Brian Peace, FRPSL



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December 1996

50 YEARS A "ROYAL" SOCIETY

December 1996 marks the 50th anniversary of the granting of the prefix "Royal" to The Philatelic Society of Victoria.

Advice of the honour was received in Melbourne in December 1946, and was announced to the Council, and members, at the January 1947 meeting.

Enquiries as to the possibility of the honour being bestowed on the Society were undertaken by the late J.R.W. Purves soon after a similar honour had been bestowed on The Philatelic Society of New Zealand in January 1946. The New Zealand society was only the second philatelic society in the world (after The Royal Philatelic Society, London) to receive the honour.

The communication received from the Crown Law Department announced that:

His Most Gracious Majesty the King has been pleased to approve of the prefix Royal being used in the name of the Society.

Mr Purves, in making the announcement to the members, emphasised the responsibility that went with the honour, in terms of the philatelic leadership the Society must continue to display.

The succeeding fifty years have seen many changes in the philatelic landscape, both at large, and locally. The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria continues to play a leading role in philately in Australia. Perhaps the most notable and continuing presence has been in philatelic scholarship, both in its publishing programme and in *Philately from Australia*, which is also approaching its golden jubilee.

TO BE PUBLISHED 17 APRIL 1997

AUSTRALASIAN WRECK MAILS

The next publication of the Society will be *Australasian Wreck Mails*, to be published on 17 April 1997. This represents an important addition to the postal history literature of the region. The author is Brian Peace, F.R.P.S.L., the leading authority on the subject.

Australasian Wreck Mails is a comprehensive history of maritime incidents in Australia and New Zealand, both within coastal waters, and world-wide, involving the carriage of mails to and from Australia and New Zealand. The incidents described range from 1622, when the *Tryal*, an English ship of the East India Company, was wrecked in the Monte Bello Islands, to 1993, when a Russian container ship *Akademik Gorbunov* from Perth lost a container of mail overboard in the North Sea.

All available archival sources have been consulted, and the author has had access to all the major collections, which together with his own award-winning collection of Australasian Wreck Mail, provide a comprehensive pictorial record of surviving covers. Ancillary illustrations show many of the ships involved, often taken from contemporary sources.

The tragedy of many of the incidents, and the heroism of the rescue and salvage operations are all conveyed.

One of the most remarkable stories is that of a cover given to Ross Smith for carriage on his 1919 England-Australia flight. It was with Smith when he was on board the *Sphinx* surveying his flight path when the boat caught fire, and on another survey boat which came within 400 miles of Australia. Nevertheless, the letter went back to England with him and was eventually delivered in a Ross Smith flight cover.

A separate section covers mechanical breakdowns which resulted in delays to the mails.

Important appendices provide complete lists of all the wrecks and other incidents covered, with indications of the number of covers recorded by the author. The number of these for which no cover is known, but which are known definitely to have carried mail, is quite startling. This book provides, for the first time, all the information necessary to identify such covers, and it seems certain that many discoveries can and will be made in the future using *Australasian Wreck Mails*. Wreck covers are not always stampless, stained and damaged by their adventures, nor do these always bear explanatory marks to confirm their origin.

This new work will appeal not only to postal historians, but to all those interested in the maritime history of the area. It is sure to be the standard text on the subject in the foreseeable future.

The hard-bound book comprises some 300 pages and over 160 illustrations, with eight pages of colour illustrations. It will be available at the special pre-publication price of \$130 (plus postage) up to 20 March 1997. Following publication, the price will be \$155. A deluxe edition limited to a maximum of 50 numbered copies will be half-bound in kangaroo leather, with raised spine and corners and hand-made marbled end-papers, is also available for \$245.

Full details of ordering is given on page ii of this issue of *Philately from Australia*.

RUSSELL JONES REACHES 50 YEARS MEMBERSHIP

In November 1996 Mr Russell Jones attained 50 years membership of the Society, having joined in November 1946. He was a second generation member, his father Herbert having been a member before him.

Russell Jones became a MB BS in 1943, and after serving in the Royal Australian Air Force from 1944 to 1946, set up his medical practice in the Victorian country town of Nyah West. It was not until 1954 that he moved to Melbourne and became a regular attendee at meetings of the Society.

His philatelic interests have been wide-ranging, beginning with the West Indies in general, and culminating in the expansion of the Grenada portion to an International Gold Medal collection.

Other collections have included Australian Commonwealth, Roumania and an interesting collection of "Printing Techniques" showing printing processes and the associated varieties which occur. Russell's long-standing interest in the more technical aspects of stamp printing saw him assemble a collection of Victoria emphasising printing techniques, and incorporating much original research. This collection also reached International Gold Medal standard.

Russell was a member of Council in 1974-75, and again from 1981-82 to the present time. He was President of the Society in 1987. Since 1982 he has been Chairman of the Publications Sub-Committee, in charge of the preparation of manuscripts for publication by the Society, and of *Philately from Australia*.

He has three times won the Society's Silver Medal for the Annual Competition - in 1964 for "Printings of Grenada Chalon Heads", in 1970 for "Victorian Efforts to Reduce Stamp Costs", and in 1983 for "Victoria: 2d 'Bell' Design".

In 1989 he was President of Stampshow '89, the National Philatelic Exhibition held in Melbourne, and in the following year, Russell was awarded the Purves Medal for services to the Society.

He is currently engaged in writing a series of monographs on the Victorian "Beaded Oval" and "Laureated" stamps, the first of which, on the 3d Beaded Oval, was published by the Society in 1994.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Donations to the Library

Thanks are extended to the following members who have made recent donations to the Society's Library: Mark Fabbi, Jon Fladeby, Roland Geitenbeck, Allan Levy, Russell Turner, Ronnie Winchester

New Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London

Congratulations go to Mr David Terrington, our most recent member to be elected to Fellowship of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY INTO NEW NOTE PRINTING OFFICES, 1919

By RICHARD BRECKON

In October 1919, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works produced a report, titled "Erection of Commonwealth Note Printing Offices". This Committee investigated the proposed relocation of note and stamp printing operations from the existing King's Warehouse to a new site in Melbourne.

The committee's report appears in the *Commonwealth Parliamentary Papers 1917-19, Vol. 6*. The evidence given by each witness at the Committee's hearings was reproduced verbatim. The report is quite lengthy although it deals chiefly with the structural and staff requirements of a new building, as well as considering the options of relocating note and stamp printing to Sydney or Canberra. However, a few details emerge of production of notes and stamps which are of special interest.

One of the chief witnesses at the Committee's hearings was, of course, T.S. Harrison, the Note and Stamp Printer. J.B. Cooke had retired in 1918, following which Harrison combined his existing role of Note Printer with that of Stamp Printer. It is interesting to note the nomenclature used in 1919. The organisation is called the Note Printing Offices. The term Note Printing Branch came later, possibly as a result of the organisation's transfer from Federal Treasury control to that of the Commonwealth Bank in 1926.

The Note Printing Offices were located in the King's Warehouse, off Flinders Street Extension, Melbourne, just west of Spencer Street Railway yards. The building is still standing and remains in Commonwealth ownership. In 1908, the King's Warehouse was occupied by the Federal Customs and Excise Department, when part of it was allocated as "a matter of urgency" for use by the Commonwealth Stamp Printer. Early in 1909, J.B. Cooke transferred from Adelaide to Melbourne, where he assumed responsibility for printing all States' stamps except those of New South Wales and Queensland, which continued to be produced by their respective government printing offices.

Thomas Harrison was recruited in London by Sir George Reid, High Commissioner, to undertake the printing of commonwealth bank notes. At the time, Harrison worked for Waterlow & Sons and he told the Committee that he "... had experience in the same class of work all his life". Harrison arrived in Melbourne in September 1912, and took over the remaining area of the King's Warehouse for note production. The first issue of Commonwealth bank notes occurred on 1 May 1913.

Harrison's rivalry with Cooke is well-known. Although he did not disparage Cooke openly to the Committee, Harrison made comments which, by inference, were unfavourable to Cooke. Harrison said to the Committee, "I was told in London that a first-class building awaited me. Instead of that, I found a rat-hole of a place, with broken windows and dust some inches deep on them. The Stamp Printer had one end of the building, and the other and larger part was handed over to me. The lighting was bad and a lot of money had to be spent to make it fit for my work." Apart from suggesting that Cooke worked in unsatisfactory conditions, Harrison added that "I had nothing to do with the first issues of the Australian kangaroo stamp."

Harrison explained to the committee that the War had caused a huge increase in his workload, which had made conditions in his building very cramped. Note production during the War years had increased eight-fold and to this was added the production of bonds and war savings certificates. In 1913, Harrison had started with five Hoe (intaglio) presses, which had been sufficient for note production at the time, but by 1919 he had 23 Hoe presses. Harrison noted that there was "No falling off in demand for postage stamps since the War - demand is increasing. The quality of work in the Stamp Department I am desirous of improving." The letterpress machinery used for stamp printing was Wharfedale and Miehle presses.

In 1919, there were about 250 staff employed at the Note Printing Offices, of which about a third were involved in stamp printing. As well as postage stamps, the Stamp Department produced postal stationery, postal notes, brewers' duty stamps, entertainment tax stamps, etc. - "nearly 200 varieties of work - were carried out in the Stamp Department alone." During the War extra staff had to be recruited to meet the increased workload. Harrison explained that skilled staff were used for letterpress printing, but men taken from farms and factories, without any experience in printing, were employed to work the Hoe presses. These men could be trained in the special requirements of this work without the influence of ingrained opinions held by experienced printers. Although not mentioned in the Report, it is of interest that only one of the junior supernumeraries taken on during the War was retained in permanent employment. He was W.C.G. McCracken, who served as General Manager of the Note Printing Branch between 1940 and 1963.

Since the additional machinery took up space in the King's Warehouse, buildings of a temporary character were added for storage and other purposes. The latter buildings were not fire-resistant and consequently, the King's Warehouse was judged to be "a very grave fire risk". This was one of the chief factors in the decision to relocate note and stamp printing. Harrison expressed his concern about the hundreds of yards of calico used to wipe off excess ink from plates on the Hoe presses. The calico strips at the end were heavily laden with ink and were liable to combustion if not disposed of quickly. In some areas of the King's Warehouse, there were limited opportunities for staff to escape a fire and the destruction of machinery, which was obtainable from abroad, would have interfered seriously with note and stamp printing.

Another factor which made the King's Warehouse an unsuitable location was the presence of a nearby gasworks. Noxious gas, sulphur and ammonia penetrated the Note Printing Offices and had the effect of tarnishing machinery and shortening its working life. The fumes also had a damaging effect on certain colours used in printing. Perhaps it can be speculated that gas fumes were a factor in the proliferation of stamp shades. Dust was also a problem and Harrison mentioned that a large sheet of plate glass was suspended over machinery to keep dust out. If present, dust was ground into the surface of the plates through the action of wipers and this shortened their life.

Much of the Committee's deliberations were concerned with the options of relocating the Note Printing Offices to either Sydney or Canberra. The Commonwealth had already acquired a site in Melbourne that had been occupied previously by the Turn Verein, a German social club. The site was in Victoria Parade, Fitzroy, and it was here that a new note printing works was completed in 1927. In 1919, the Commonwealth proposed to utilise existing buildings on the site and construct a new fire-resistant building, of four storeys and basement with brick walls and reinforced concrete floors. It was to be built along the lines of the British and American note printing works at an estimated cost of £47,800. However, when this proposal became known, it led to a debate in the House of Representatives about the respective merits of carrying out note and stamp printing in Sydney, Canberra or Melbourne. The Parliamentary Standing Committee

and stamp printing in Sydney, Canberra or Melbourne. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works was authorised to examine the matter further.

The Committee's report recommended against relocating to Sydney or Canberra. In Sydney, no privately-owned building that met the necessary requirements was available. The only Commonwealth building that would be suitable was the Parcels Post Office, near the Railway Station, but this would have caused problems in relocating the parcels post. Harrison had argued against a Sydney move on the grounds that the city's high humidity would affect adversely the output of work. He described the existing room containing the Hoe presses as "like an engine room of a battleship". Canberra was not favoured, as the cost of establishing a note printing works in the national capital was estimated to be four times greater than the proposed new building in Melbourne.

THE VOYAGE OF THE *SIMLA*, 1857

By GEOFF KELLOW, F.R.P.S.L.

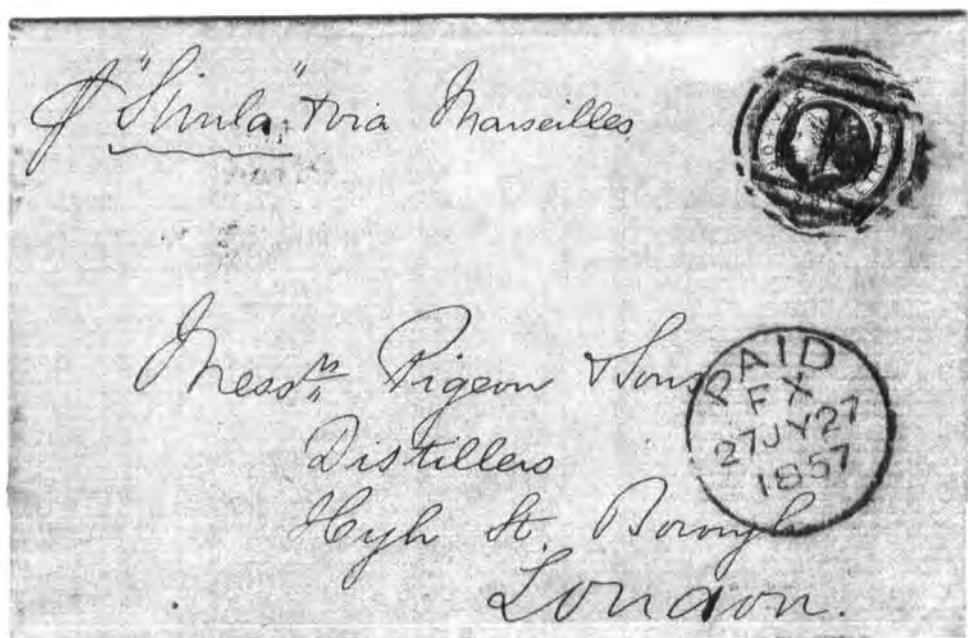
The European & Australian Royal Mail Company held the contract for the Australian mail service for just over two years, from January 1857 to March 1859. Its sailings were perpetually beset with difficulties, and the Company's vessels were more often than not late in arriving with either the inward or outward mails. The history of the service has been traced by Reginald Kirk in *Australian Mails Via Suez 1852 to 1926* (The Postal History Society, 1989), and by George Molnar in *Ship Letters of Australia 1788-1901. Volume 1. The European & Australian Royal Mail Company 1857-1858* (Australian States Study Circle of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club, 1990).

More recently, Kirk has made a more detailed analysis of many of the sailings, illustrated by covers carried by the steamers ("The European & Australian Royal Mail Company Illustrative Covers from Australia 1857-1859", *London Philatelist*, July-August and September 1995).

One of the most interesting sailings was the fifth homeward mail per the *Simla*. On its way to Australia the steamer was delayed by heavy weather after leaving Galle, and eventually arrived in Sydney on 6 September 1857, ten days behind schedule. The lateness of the *Simla*'s arrival led to public suggestions that the English mail should be shipped by the steamer *Great Britain*, due to sail from England for Melbourne on 21 May 1857 (the *Simla* eventually left Sydney on the homeward voyage on 25 May). The New South Wales Post Office did not make use of the *Great Britain* option, but Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania did. The mail on the *Great Britain* was a large one, so large in fact that on arrival at Liverpool provisional ship letter handstamp was pressed into use to help deal with the mail. The additional expense of the one-off contract with the *Great Britain* turned out to be wasted because, although *Simla* left Melbourne nine days after *Great Britain*, her mail arrived in England on 27 July 1857, 25 days earlier.

On her homeward voyage *Simla* arrived at Suez on 12 July 1857. This was too late to connect with any of the proper connections from Alexandria. To wait for the next E. & A.R.M. Co. Steamer to reach Alexandria would have further delayed the mail, and the British Consul at Alexandria used his prerogative to charter the sailing ship *Scamander* to take the mail. Kirk

and "all by sea" portions - was carried direct to Liverpool by *Scamander*, arriving on 1 August 1857. However, Kirk, writing in 1995, has now been able to show that the mail was transhipped at Malta to E. & A.R.M. steamer *Cambria* on 21 July, which proceeded to Marseilles, arriving on 24 July. From there the English mail arrived in London on 27 July. In support of this routing, Kirk reproduces a notice from *The Times* of 23 July 1857 regarding the use of *Scamander* and *Cambria* to expedite delivery of the mail. He also illustrates a Victorian cover from Melbourne to London franked with a pair of 6d Woodblocks and endorsed "via Marseilles" which bears a London arrival datestamp of 27 July 1857 - this cover has clearly travelled per *Cambria*, and not all the way to Liverpool on *Scamander*. Illustrated here is a similar cover, this time franked with a 1/- Octagonal, and with the identical London datestamp.



28 May 1857 cover sent from Melbourne to London. Endorsed "p Simla Via Marseilles" and with London arrival datestamp of 27 July 1857. The London arrival proves the cover was carried by *Scamander* from Alexandria and by *Cambria* from Malta, and then via Marseilles.

One of the reasons that the exact details of this mail have taken some time to elucidate is that covers carried on this voyage of the *Simla* are scarce. Although the full New South mail was carried (Molnar gives the figure as 25,189 letters), the quantity of mail from Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania must have been much reduced, most of the letters intended for *Simla* having been taken by *Great Britain*. Kirk in his 1995 article remains silent on the treatment of the mail intended for carriage all the way to England by sea, although his inference is that it was treated similarly to the "via Marseilles" portion and sent on *Cambria*. One problem with this procedure is that such covers carried via Marseilles would have been underpaid.

It is now possible to illustrate such a cover. The cover is from Ballarat (26 July 1857) sent via Geelong, and addressed to Glasgow. It is endorsed "per Overland Mail" and franked with a 1/- Octagonal, prepaying the double (2 x 6d) rate for a letter weighing ½-1oz. On arrival in



26 May 1857 cover from Ballarat to Glasgow endorsed "Per Overland Mail". The London arrival datestamp of 26 July 1857 indicates carriage per *Scamander* and *Cambria* via Marseilles. Prepaid only as a double rate ship letter, the addressee has been charged 9d, the difference between the prepayment and the 1/9d rate for a 1/2oz. letter via Marseilles.

London, it was struck with the tombstone PAID datestamp of 26 July 1857, proving that it had been carried via Marseilles despite being paid only for the all sea route. The London arrival is the day before the via Marseilles covers, so the bags containing the all sea route mail seem to have been dealt with first. The improper use of the PAID handstamp on this underpaid cover was eventually realised, and the PAID datestamp was overstruck with a circular MORE/TO/PAY in black, and a manuscript "9" added, also in black. The Glasgow backstamp is dated 27 July 1857.

The treatment of the cover may be explained as follows. The manuscript "9" represented 9d underpayment due from the addressee. This was computed on the basis of the difference between the prepayment on the cover and the amount required for carriage via Marseilles. For a letter weighing 1/2-3/4oz. the correct rate was 1/9d, comprising 2 x 6d per 1/2oz. ship letter plus 3 x 1/4oz. French transit. The British Post Office levied no additional fine because the underpayment was no fault of the sender. Of course, there would have been no additional fee due from the addressee had the cover remained on the *Scamander* all the way to Liverpool. The decision to transfer the all sea route mail to *Cambria* may have been because of the lateness of the mail, which would have been increased if the bags had been left on *Scamander*.

This treatment of this *Simla* cover is analogous to that in late 1869, when the Marseilles route was closed due to the Franco-Prussian War, and the Australian and Far Eastern mail en route had to be redirected via Brindisi. The rate via Marseilles was 10d per 1/2oz., whereas the Brindisi rate was 1/1d per 1/2oz. On arrival, the British Post Office collected 3d on each letter, but levied no additional fine.

PRE-WAR NEW GUINEA INTERNAL AIR MAIL SERVICES

By RICHARD BRECKON

In the September 1996 issue of *Philately from Australia*, I discussed the development of pre-War air mail links between Papua, New Guinea and Australia. In this article, I describe the operation of internal air mail services in the Mandated Territory of New Guinea. These services were of considerable importance to the Territory's residents because of its distinctive, rugged terrain.

It was the discovery of gold in New Guinea that led to the development of air services. Until the mid-1920s, New Guinea's European population was almost entirely confined to coastal regions and, of course, shipping provided the means of transport and communication. In 1926, the discovery of gold at Edie Creek in the interior of Morobe District sparked a gold rush. Further discoveries in adjoining river systems led to the creation of the Morobe goldfields. By 1926, about 2,000 Europeans and 7,000 indigenous labourers lived on the goldfields.

The chief towns established in this region were Wau and Bulolo. Salamaua, the administrative headquarters of Morobe district, served as the goldfields port-of-entry. Although Wau was only 35 miles in a direct line from Salamaua, the extremely mountainous terrain in between meant that land parties took at least eight days to cross. In these circumstances, air services became the chief means of linking the goldfields to the outside world.

About five or six companies operated air services, but the pioneer company, Guinea Airways, dominated the trade, carrying about three-quarters of passenger traffic and almost all freight in the early years. Guinea Airways operated three-engined, Junker J31 aircraft capable of carrying payloads up to three tons. These aircraft were needed for the goldfields' services as almost everything had to be transported by air - from mailbags to trucks and mining machinery.

The first air mail contract awarded by the New Guinea administration was granted to Guinea Airways in June 1927. The contract, which was successively renewed over the next five years, provided for the carriage of mail at poundage rates, from outside the Territory to and from the goldfields. Internal air mail carried by the airline between Salamaua, Lae, Wau and Bulolo was not charged to the Administration and this remained so up to 1931.

In March 1932, Guinea Airways commenced an air service from Port Moresby to Salamaua. The aircraft met the Burns, Philp steamer from Sydney, on both its inwards and outwards voyages. The operation of this air service expedited carriage of New Guinea's mail to Papua, Australia and the rest of the world.

Subsequently, air services commenced between Salamaua and Madang, administrative headquarters of Madang District. Following the discovery of gold in the region, the Madang air service was extended to Wewak. Air services were also introduced between Salamaua and Rabaul, New Guinea's capital as a result of the establishment of a through air service between Australia and New Guinea by W.R. Carpenter Ltd.

By 1939, air services operated to practically every part of the Territory. On 21 January 1942, civil aviation abruptly ended as a result of Japanese air attacks which destroyed the airports

at Wau and Bulolo and many aircraft. Surviving aircraft were requisitioned for military use.

The first air mail postal rates were introduced by New Guinea's administration in March 1928 for parcels posted to and from the goldfields. For the next three years additional air mail postage applied only to parcels - all other mail was carried by air for normal rates of postage. In August 1931, additional air mail postage was introduced for all categories of mail posted to or from the goldfields. It is interesting to note that these air mail charges were obligatory, as there was no provision for the carriage of goldfields' mail by surface means. This was possibly the only instance in the world at the time, whereby air mail services were compulsory for the public and not an option.

In this article, I am concerned with the rates of air mail postage that applied to first class mail, i.e. letters and postcards, carried within New Guinea. Separate rates applied to parcels which were calculated on a "per pound" basis and to *other mail* (e.g. newspapers, books, printed papers, commercial papers, etc.), which were calculated on a "per ounce" basis.

In August 1931, air mail postage at 3d per 1oz. was introduced for internal letter mail. This amount was inclusive of ordinary postage, which was 2d per 1oz. In November 1932, postal rates were altered to show air mail and ordinary postage separately. Also, the air mail surcharge was reduced to ½d per 1oz. A further change in November 1933 resulted in a new air mail surcharge of 1d per 4oz., which in some circumstances represented a reduction. That month, the air mail surcharge on letters posted for delivery in the goldfields was abolished, so that the new rates applied only to letters posted *from* the goldfields. Air mail postage was retained for parcels and "other mail" posted to or from the goldfields.

In April 1936, all air mail fees for internal mail - letters, postcards and "other mail" - was abolished. Air mail fees continued to apply to parcels, although these fees were reduced progressively up to the War.

Following the commencement of the Port Moresby/Salamaua air service in March 1932, mail was carried on this route without air mail postage. However, in November 1932 air mail fees were introduced; letters were 1d per 1oz. plus ordinary postage. In November 1933, the air mail surcharge was increased to 1½d per 1oz. With the introduction of the through air service to Australia in May 1938, New Guinea's letters were carried to Papua and Australia at the Australian internal air mail surcharge of 3d per ½oz.

As readers will be well aware, New Guinea issued a considerable number of air mail stamps during the 1930s. The uses to which these stamps were put (apart from being sold to collectors) can be gauged from the above. The chief use for higher value air mail stamps was for parcels, which as already mentioned, was obligatory for all mail to or from the goldfields. The first issue of air mail stamps was the overprinted Hut series, which appeared in June 1931, two months before the introduction of air mail postage to all categories of mail.

Set out below are tables which explain air mail rates of postage that applied to letters and postcards mailed to, from or via the goldfields. As was described in my previous article, air mail fees were collected from the addressee on mail posted from outside New Guinea for delivery in the goldfields. These fees were detailed in that article and are not repeated here.

AIR MAIL RATES OF POSTAGE WITHIN NEW GUINEA(Source: *New Guinea Government Gazette*)

A. POSTED IN NEW GUINEA FOR DELIVERY TO GOLDFIELDS			
<i>Date of Effect</i>	<i>Air Mail Postage</i>	<i>Ordinary Postage</i>	<i>Comments</i>
15 August 1931	Letters: 3d per 1oz. Postcards: 2d each	-	Air mail fees include ordinary postage
1 November 1932	Letters: ½d per 1oz. Postcards: ½d each	Letters: 2d per 1oz. Postcards: 1½d each	Air mail fees additional to ordinary postage
14 November 1933	-	Letters: 2d per 1oz. Postcards: 1½d each	Air mail fees abolished

B. POSTED AT GOLDFIELDS FOR DELIVERY IN NEW GUINEA, PAPUA OR AUSTRALIA			
<i>Date of Effect</i>	<i>Air Mail Postage</i>	<i>Ordinary Postage</i>	<i>Comments</i>
15 August 1931	Letters: 3d per 1oz. Postcards: 2d each	-	Air mail fees include ordinary postage
1 November 1932	Letters: ½d per 1oz. (via Lae or Salamaua services) 1d per 1oz. (via Port Moresby/Samarai services) Postcards: ½d each	Letters: 2d per 1oz. Postcards: 1½d each	Air mail fees additional to ordinary postage
14 November 1933	Letters: 1d per 4oz. via Lae or Salamaua services) Postcards: ½d each	Letters: 2d per 1oz. Postcards: 1½d each	Air mail fees additional to ordinary postage; air mail fees abolished via Port Moresby/Samarai service
1 April 1936	-	Letters: 2d per 1oz. Postcards: 1½d each	Air mail fees abolished

C. POSTED AT GOLDFIELDS FOR DELIVERY OUTSIDE NEW GUINEA, PAPUA OR AUSTRALIA			
<i>Date of Effect</i>	<i>Air Mail Postage</i>	<i>Ordinary Postage</i>	<i>Comments</i>
15 August 1931	Letters: 4d up to 1oz.; 3d each additional 1oz. Postcards: 2½d each	-	Air mail fees include ordinary postage
2 November 1931	To British Empire countries: Letters: 3d per 1oz. Postcards: 2d each To Foreign countries: Letters: 4d up to 1oz.; 3d each additional 1oz. Postcards: 2½d each	-	Air mail fees include ordinary postage
1 November 1932	Letters: ½d per 1oz. (via Lae or Salamaua services) 1d per 1oz. (via Port Moresby/Samarai service) Postcards: ½d each	To British Empire countries: Letters: 2d per 1oz. Postcards: 1½d each To Foreign countries: Letters: 3d up to 1oz.; 2d each additional 1oz. Postcards: 2d each	Air mail fees additional to ordinary postage
14 November 1933	Letters: 1d per 4oz. (via Lae or Salamaua services) Postcards: ½d each	As for 1 November 1932	Air mail fees additional to ordinary postage; air mail fees abolished via Port Moresby/Samarai service
1 April 1936		As for 1 November 1932	Air mail fees abolished

AIR MAIL CARRIED WITHIN NEW GUINEA (Pounds-weight)(Source: *Commonwealth Year Books*)

1927-28	6,117	1934-35	97,889
1928-29	13,876	1935-36	128,982
1929-30	23,257	1936-37	122,063
1930-31	24,604	1937-38	166,643
1931-32	23,394	1938-39	162,608
1932-33	47,097	1939-40	146,998
1933-34	90,046	1940-41	101,000

D. POSTED IN NEW GUINEA, OUTSIDE GOLDFIELDS, FOR DESPATCH VIA WAU			
<i>Date of Effect</i>	<i>Air Mail Postage</i>	<i>Ordinary Postage</i>	<i>Comments</i>
1 November 1932	Letters: 1d per 1oz. Postcards: ½d each	To British Empire countries: Letters: 2d per 1oz. Postcards: 1½d each To Foreign countries: Letters: 3d up to 1oz.; 2d each additional 1oz. Postcards: 2d each	Air mail fees additional to ordinary postage. <i>Note:</i> "British Empire" postage includes withn New Guinea and to Papua and Australia
14 November 1933	Via New Guinea/Papua air service: Letters: 1½d per 1oz. Postcards: ½d each Via Australian air services: Letters: 3d per ½oz. Postcards: 3d each	As for 1 November 1932	Air mail fees additional to ordinary postage
31 May 1938	Via Papua & New Guinea/Australia air service: Letters: 3d per ½oz. Postcards: 3d each	As for 1 November 1932	Air mail fees additional to ordinary postage

THE QUEENSLAND 1882 2/6d: A FRESH ENTRY

By KEN SCUDDER

Early in 1882, Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., of London, England, prepared, for the Queensland Government, five steel plates for the 2/-, 2/6d, 5/-, 10/- and £1 values. The plates were small and each was comprised of 30 subjects, laid down in six horizontal rows of five.

The design was quite handsome, with the Queen's head being based upon that on the earlier Perkins, Bacon series. The engraving of the head was undertaken by Herbert Bourne, with the remaining design being completed by the staff of Bradbury, Wilkinson.

Although the design was fine, the quality of the plates leaves much to be desired. A large number of the subjects show doubling of parts of the design. There is evidence of much, apparently random, re-cutting of the outer frame lines, due largely to these lines being too lightly

engraved on the original die and these lines not being re-cut on the value working dies. To add to the problem, there are many scratch marks in the margins around the stamps and, occasionally, within the stamp design, apparently made on the plates when they were being cleaned following heat treatment.

From a casual glance the design of the stamps of this issue appear quite satisfactory, however, a closer examination reveals the many deficiencies. So much so, that complete plating guides, listing the main flaws in every one of the 30 subjects for all five plates, were made by the early students of Queensland stamps and later published in 1930 by the R.P.S.L. in the *Postage Stamps, etc. of Queensland* by A.F.Basset Hull.



The plating guide for the 2/6d, No. 26, reads:

"26. The left frame projects slightly above the top frame at the N.W. corner. A hair-line runs down from the centre bar of the 2nd E of QUEEN through one of the pearls in the oval. *The 4th and 5th ornaments from the bottom in the left frame have a horizontal coloured dash in them. Three short horizontal dashes between the tail of the Q and U of QUEEN.* A short N.W./S.E. hair-line runs into the top frame about 2mm from the N.E. corner". [Authors italics].

On many examples of No.26 the above is all that appears to be present, that is with the exception of a dot in the pearl of the central oval below the second "E" of "QUEENSLAND", which was not recorded. However, on closer examination of, perhaps, more heavily inked examples, far more is revealed than the "three short horizontal dashes" and the dashes in the "fourth and fifth ornaments".

The author possesses two examples showing the remains of an original entry beyond that described in the plating guide. One is from the thick "Beer Duty" paper issue, and is pen cancelled 22.7.90, and the other is from the 1903 issue on the second type "Crown over Q" paper, perforated 12½,13.

On these examples the following features may be observed, noting, that except where stated, the letters quoted are those within the word "QUEENSLAND":

1. A line of three faint, somewhat smudgy, dots at an angle of about 45° within the "Q", and slightly below centre. These dots relate to the ends of the three horizontal shading lines at the edge of the cross patée on the left of the diadem.
2. A very conspicuous dot, elongated horizontally, in the pearl of the central oval below the second "E". This dot relates to the end of a shading line in contact with the upper right extremity of the fourth cross patée, counting from the left.
3. Traces of three horizontal lines within the "U", and four below and to the right of this letter. These lines relate to parts of the design of the second cross patée, from the left, and to shading lines to its right.
4. Traces of some five horizontal lines between the "Q" and the "U". These lines relate to the shading lines between the first and second cross patée.
5. Traces of some six or seven horizontal lines to the left of the "Q". These lines relate to shading lines to the left of the diadem.
6. Many of the pearls in the central oval, particularly those in the left side, show traces of fine dots or marks. The dots, or marks, in the upper section of the oval relate to points on the engraving of the Queen's forehead and of the diadem, up to the "dot" below the second "E", and those in the lower section relate to points on the engraving of the Queen's chest.
7. Parts of the horizontal dashes in the fourth and fifth ornaments from the bottom in the left frame relate to points of the shading over the "W" of "TWO", although some additional flaw also appears to be present.

It may be concluded that the above markings, additional to the design, are the remains of an initial, possibly only a partial, entry which was not completely removed, and that the completed impression of No.26 is therefore a Fresh Entry. On the stamp, the initial entry may be seen to have been made about 4mm to the left and about 1¼mm above the present fresh entry.

It should be noted that No.26 is at the bottom of the left column of the printed sheet and has a margin to its left. On the plate, therefore, No.26 would be at the bottom of the right hand column.

There is evidence in the 10/- value to show that the subjects on that plate were rolled-in in columns starting from the top right of the plate. Should this sequence have been followed in the plate of the 2/6d, and it would seem highly probable that it may, then it could be that, after the first five entries had been rolled-in in the right column, work on the plate was interrupted. On resuming for the sixth and final impression of the column, the initial entry was offset into the margin and close up to the impression above.

THE DE LA RUE CORRESPONDENCE BOOKS

Compiled by GEOFF KELLOW, F.R.P.S.L.

(continued from September 1996, page 81)

VII. NEW ZEALAND

- 2.3.1916 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 3.3.1916 *From DLR* - re 2.3.1916, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 7.3.1916 *From HC* - re 3.3.1916, tender accepted.
- 9.3.1916 *From DLR* - re 7.3.1916, acknowledged.
- 20.6.1916 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 29.6.1916 *From DLR* - re 20.6.1916, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 4.7.1916 *From HC* - re 29.6.1916, tender accepted.
- 5.7.1916 *From DLR* - re 4.7.1916, acknowledged.
- 29.9.1916 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 2.10.1916 *From DLR* - re 29.9.1916, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 9.10.1916 *From HC* - re 2.10.1916, tender accepted.
- 10.10.1916 *From DLR* - re 9.10.1916, acknowledged.
- 5.1.1917 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 12.1.1917 *From DLR* - re 5.1.1917, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 17.1.1917 *From HC* - re 12.1.1917, tender accepted.
- 22.1.1917 *From DLR* - re 17.1.1917, acknowledged.
- 3.4.1917 *From HC* - request for tender for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 10.4.1917 *From DLR* - re 3.4.1917, tender enclosed.
- 12.4.1917 *From HC* - re 10.4.1917, tender accepted.

- 16.4.1917 *From DLR* - re 12.4.1917, acknowledged.
- 25.5.1917 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 7.6.1917 *From DLR* - re 25.5.1917, tender enclosed for 400 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 8.6.1917 *From HC* - re 7.6.1917, tender accepted.
- 11.6.1917 *From DLR* - re 8.6.1917, acknowledged.
- 11.6.1917 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 12.6.1917 *From DLR* - re 11.6.1917, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 16.6.1917 *From HC* - re 12.6.1917, tender accepted.
- 19.6.1917 *From DLR* - re 16.6.1917, acknowledged.
- 17.9.1917 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 4.10.1917 *From DLR* - re 17.9.1917, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 9.10.1917 *From HC* - re 4.10.1917, tender accepted.
- 12.10.1917 *From DLR* - re 9.10.1917, acknowledged.
- 18.10.1917 *From HC* - asking when order of 8.6.1917 will be ready.
- 20.10.1917 *From DLR* - re 18.10.1917, the delay has been caused by a shortage of labour; 400 reams will be ready in a fortnight.
- 3.1.1918 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 14.1.1918 *From DLR* - re 3.1.1918, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 19.1.1918 *From Sandle Bros. to DLR* - asking for interview tender of 14.1.1918.
- 16.2.1918 *From Sandle Bros. to DLR* - complaints have been received from New Zealand about the quality of the postage stamp paper - there is too much variation and unevenness.
- 18.2.1918 *From HC* - re 14.1.1918, tender accepted.
- 19.2.1918 *From DLR to Sandle Bros.* - re 16.2.1918, the complaints are regretted. More coating will be added to overcome faults.
- 20.2.1918 *From DLR* - re 18.2.1918, acknowledged.
- 12.4.1918 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 18.4.1918 *From DLR* - re 12.4.1918, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 24.4.1918 *From HC* - re 18.4.1918, tender accepted.
- 26.4.1918 *From DLR* - re 24.4.1918, acknowledged.
- 31.5.1918 *From DLR* - enclosing three sheets of paper (numbered J624001 to J624003) which were omitted from the consignment invoiced on 11.2.1918. The workman involved has been reprimanded.
- 5.6.1918 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 12.6.1918 *From DLR* - re 5.6.1918, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 26.6.1918 *From HC* - re 12.6.1918, tender accepted.
- 4.7.1918 *From DLR* - re 26.6.1918, acknowledged.
- 13.7.1918 *From DLR* - enclosing priority certificate for countersigning.
- 18.7.1918 *From HC* - re 13.7.1918, priority certificate returned.
- 19.7.1918 *From DLR* - re 18.7.1918, acknowledged.
- 1.8.1918 *From DLR* - enclosing priority certificate for countersigning (for order of 22.6.1918).
- 3.8.1918 *From HC* - re 1.8.1918, priority certificate returned.
- 7.8.1918 *From DLR* - re 3.8.1918, acknowledged.

- 4.9.1918 From HC - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 10.9.1918 From DLR - re 4.9.1918, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 13.9.1918 From HC - re 10.9.1918, tender accepted.
- 17.9.1918 From DLR - re 13.9.1918, acknowledged. Priority certificate enclosed for countersigning.
- 18.9.1918 From HC - re 17.9.1918, priority certificate returned.
- 19.9.1918 From DLR - re 18.9.1918, acknowledged.
- 9.1.1919 From HC - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 17.1.1919 From DLR - re 9.1.1919, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 24.1.1919 From HC - re 17.1.1919, tender accepted.
- 27.1.1919 From DLR - re 24.1.1919, acknowledged.
- 6.2.1919 From HC - asking for designs and a quote for dies and plates for a Peace stamp.
- 28.2.1919 From DLR - concerning your telephone conversation regarding breakage of stamp reels in coil machines, the postage stamp paper is the same strength as that used by Great Britain. The greater strength is in the length of the sheet, but New Zealand stamps are printed in the width. Strengthening the paper would weaken the watermark.
- 4.3.1919 From DLR - re 6.2.1919, eleven designs enclosed.
- 19.3.1919 From HC - enclosing specifications for Peace stamp issue.
- 20.3.1919 From DLR - re 19.3.1919, acknowledged. Further designs will follow.
- 31.3.1919 From DLR - concerning your telephone conversation, we are unable to reduce the price of the postage stamp paper.
- 1.4.1919 From HC - request for tender for 150 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 2.4.1919 From DLR - re 1.4.1919, tender enclosed.
- 3.4.1919 From HC - re 2.4.1919, tender accepted.
- 3.4.1919 From DLR - enclosing designs (lettered M to S) for Peace stamps, with quote for plate.
- 5.4.1919 From DLR - re 3.4.1919 (tender), acknowledged.
- 8.5.1919 From DLR - tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 10.5.1919 From DLR - as arranged a few sheets have been printed and perforated on New Zealand paper with satisfactory results. The book with 500 sheets is returned, the printed sheets may be returned to us for destruction.
- 15.5.1919 From DLR - enclosing further Peace stamp designs U, V in reduced sizes; design T with "Postage and Revenue" added; and other altered designs.
- 21.5.1919 From HC - re 8.5.1919, tender accepted.
- 23.5.1919 From DLR - re 21.5.1919, acknowledged.
- 2.6.1919 From HC - enclosing tender form for Peace stamps.
- 5.6.1919 From DLR - re 2.6.1919, tender enclosed for dies, plates and printing of Peace stamps. Designs and quantities as under:
- | | | |
|-----|-----------|------------|
| ½d | design P | 11,000,000 |
| 1d | design T | 15,000,000 |
| 1½d | design D1 | 23,000,000 |
| 3d | design C | 1,000,000 |
| 6d | design U | 1,500,000 |
| 1/- | design V | 1,000,000 |
- 17.6.1919 From DLR - we are surprised to learn consideration is being given to producing the Peace issue by intaglio. We have spent considerable time in preparing designs, and under verbal instructions have begun preparation of the dies. We strongly advise the adoption of surface-printing for this issue.

- 18.6.1919 *From DLR* - the paper mill advises that alteration of the postage stamp paper to make it stronger will considerably interfere with the watermark.
- 18.6.1919 *From HC* - re 17.6.1919, the suggestion was made in New Zealand to use intaglio for the Peace stamps, and at the moment enquiries only are being made to determine the cost.
- 20.6.1919 *From HC* - re 5.6.1919, tender accepted.
- 23.6.1919 *From DLR* - re 20.6.1919, acknowledged.
- 3.7.1919 *From DLR* - tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 11.7.1919 *From HC* - re 3.7.1919, tender accepted.
- 14.7.1919 *From DLR* - re 11.7.1919, acknowledged.
- 25.7.1919 *From DLR* - enclosing copies of the six designs for the Peace stamps.
- 6.8.1919 *From HC* - the postage stamp paper invoice for 180 reams was at 49/11 per ream, but the tender quoted 48/9. Please supply correct invoice.
- 12.8.1919 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 18.8.1919 *From DLR* - re 12.8.1919, tender enclosed for 100 reams of postage stamp paper, slightly stronger than previous supplies.
- 18.8.1919 *From DLR* - tender enclosed for 12 reams of postage stamp paper, cut the other way to normal.
- 27.8.1919 *From HC* - re 18.8.1919 (100 reams), tender accepted.
- 27.8.1919 *From HC* - re 18.8.1919 (12 reams), tender accepted.
- 1.9.1919 *From DLR* - re 27.8.1919 (both), acknowledged.
- 9.9.1919 *From DLR to Sandle Bros.* - enclosing two sheets of the 1/- Peace stamp for approval.
- 12.9.1919 *From HC* - the 1/- sample sheets supplied to Sandle Bros. are approved. Please supply one imperforate sheet to Mr. Sandle for reference, and forward a list of all proof sheets thus far supplied.
- 26.9.1919 *From HC* - re 12.9.1919, asking again for a list of proof sheets to be supplied.
- 29.9.1919 *From DLR* - re 12.9.1919 and 26.9.1919, Mr. Sandle has been supplied with the following proof sheets: 2 x ½d, 1d and 1/-, and 1 x 1½d and 3d. In addition, he has one sheet each of the 6d and 1/- which he has approved subject to your confirmation.
- 3.10.1919 *From DLR* - Mr. Sandle has called our attention to the indistinctness of the watermark in the last supply of postage stamp paper. It is difficult at the moment to obtain material of sufficient standard, but we are confident that the paper will print satisfactorily.
- 6.10.1919 *From HC* - re 3.10.1919, acknowledged. Mr. Sandle suggests an allowance might be made for the paper if it is agreeable.
- 7.10.1919 *From DLR* - re 6.10.1919, agreed.
- 9.10.1919 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 15.10.1919 *From DLR* - re 9.10.1919, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 22.10.1919 *From HC* - re 15.10.1919, tender accepted.
- 22.10.1919 *From DLR* - in accordance with your verbal request, we have had six reams of postage stamp paper gummed, milled, cut to 20¼ x 11½", and parcelled into 500's.
- 22.10.1919 *From DLR* - re 29.9.1919, we have in addition given Mr. Sandle three 1½d and 3d imperforate proof sheets (Peace issue).
- 23.10.1919 *From DLR* - re 22.10.1919 (tender for paper), acknowledged. The sheets will be numbered up to K1,000,000, and then from L1.
- 24.10.1919 *From HC* - re 23.10.1919, numbering of sheets approved.
- 31.10.1919 *From HC* - request for tender for coils of 1d New Zealand stamps.
- 23.12.1919 *From HC* - perforating machines the same as those used for the Peace issue are required by the Colony, together with a quantity of postage stamp paper equal to that used for printing.

- 30.12.1919 *From DLR* - re 23.12.1919, acknowledged. It appears to us that the Colony requires only perforating blocks for existing machines now in use. If this is so, we would require drawings of the blocks required. The postage stamp paper used for the Peace issue is the same as that currently supplied.
- 2.2.1920 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 4.2.1920 *From HC* - request for tender for repeat order of the Peace stamps.
- 9.2.1920 *From HC* - asking when the order of 27.8.1919 (100 reams of postage stamp paper) will be ready.
- 10.2.1920 *From DLR* - re 9.2.1920, the mill could supply only 30 reams of stronger paper, the rest is of ordinary make.
- 17.2.1920 *From DLR* - re 2.2.1920, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 17.2.1920 *From HC* - asking for reply to letter of 4.2.1920.
- 17.2.1920 *From DLR* - re 4.2.1920, tender enclosed for printing Peace stamps:
- | | | | |
|-----|------------|-----|-----------|
| ½d | 11,000,000 | 3d | 1,000,000 |
| 1d | 15,000,000 | 6d | 1,500,000 |
| 1½d | 23,000,000 | 1/- | 1,000,000 |
- 20.2.1920 *From HC* - re invoice of 11.7.1918 for 340 reams of postage stamp paper, Nos. J818,501-J988,500, two sheets were missing from one ream.
- 26.2.1920 *From DLR* - re 20.2.1920, it is difficult to provide an explanation after this lapse of time. Most likely the sheets were accidentally damaged and not replaced.
- 27.2.1920 *DLR internal memo to Mr. Banks* - more care must be taken to ensure no sheets are missing from the orders for postage stamp paper.
- 27.2.1920 *From HC* - re 17.2.1920 (postage stamp paper), tender accepted.
- 1.3.1920 *From HC* - re 17.2.1920 (Peace stamps), tender accepted.
- 2.3.1920 *From DLR* - re 1.3.1920, acknowledged.
- 2.3.1920 *From DLR* - re 27.2.1920, acknowledged.
- 7.4.1920 *From HC* - re 3.10.1919 and 7.10.1919, 160 reams of the paper have now been used, and though inferior has been passed, and a 10% allowance is acceptable. The paper supplied since 1912 has varied in quality, and the Government Printer has complained.
- 9.4.1920 *From DLR* - re 7.4.1920, acknowledged. We will try to maintain the quality of the paper.
- 10.4.1920 *From DLR to Sandle Bros.* - enclosing a sheet of 1d stamps 160-set and of 3d stamps 140-set in black for constructing the perforating blocks.
- 15.4.1920 *From Sandle Bros. to DLR* - re 10.4.1920, acknowledged.
- 15.4.1920 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 16.4.1920 *From Sandle Bros. to DLR* - acknowledging specimens of perforation sent.
- 22.4.1920 *From DLR* - re 15.4.1920, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 28.4.1920 *From HC* - re invoice of 9.10.1918 for postage stamp paper, six sheets have been found missing. Please explain.
- 30.4.1920 *From DLR* - re 28.4.1920, we are unable to explain the missing sheets unless Mr Sandle took specimen sheets.
- 10.5.1920 *From HC* - request for tender for Victory stamp plates.
- 12.5.1920 *From DLR* - re 10.5.1920, tender enclosed for ½d, 1d and 1½d nickel-faced Victory stamp plates, with six proofs of each.
- 12.5.1920 *From HC* - re 22.4.1920, tender accepted.
- 20.5.1920 *From DLR* - re 12.5.1920 (postage stamp paper tender), acknowledged.
- 3.6.1920 *From HC* - asking when the repeat order of Victory stamps will be ready for shipment.
- 4.6.1920 *From DLR* - re 3.6.1920, all except the ½d stamps are ready. The ½d's will be ready in a fortnight.

- 15.6.1920 *From HC* - re 12.5.1920, instructions have now been received to send plates of each denomination. Please submit a revised tender.
- 16.6.1920 *From DLR* - re 15.6.1920, tender enclosed for ½d, 1d, 1½d, 3d, 6d and 1/- Victory stamp plates, and six proofs of each.
- 18.6.1920 *From HC* - re 16.6.1920, tender accepted.
- 19.6.1920 *From DLR* - re 18.6.1920, acknowledged.
- 8.7.1920 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 17.7.1920 *From DLR* - re 8.7.1920, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 23.7.1920 *From HC* - a cablegram has been received asking that the supply of ½d Victory stamps be cancelled. What is the current position?
- 24.7.1920 *From DLR* - re 23.7.1920, all the ½d stamps are printed. 10,000 sheets remain to be perforated.
- 28.7.1920 *From HC* - re 17.7.1920, tender accepted.
- 29.7.1920 *From DLR* - re 28.7.1920, acknowledged.
- 29.7.1920 *From HC* - re 24.7.1920, the colony will be cabled re the ½d value before shipping the supply.
- 9.8.1920 *From HC* - re 29.7.1920, the ½d Victory stamps are to be shipped with the other values.
- 31.8.1920 *From HC* - request for tender for postage and revenue dies and plates. Denominations - ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 4½d, 5d, 6d, 7½d, 8d, 9d and 1/-.
- 2.9.1920 *From DLR* - re 31.8.1920, we are unable to tender due to pressure of business.
- 8.10.1920 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 12.10.1920 *From DLR* - re 8.10.1920, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 15.10.1920 *From HC* - re 12.10.1920, tender accepted.
- 18.10.1920 *From DLR* - re 15.10.1920, acknowledged.
- 9.2.1921 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 17.2.1921 *From DLR* - re 9.2.1921, tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 30.3.1921 *From DLR* - the price of postage stamp paper can be reduced by 2/- per ream (compared to our tender of 17.2.1921).
- 12.4.1921 *From HC* - re 17.2.1921 and 30.3.1921, tender accepted.
- 14.4.1921 *From DLR* - re 12.4.1921, acknowledged. Sheet numbers will go up to L1,000,000, then begin from M1.
- 14.4.1921 *From HC* - re 30.4.1920 (missing sheets of postage stamp paper), Mr Sandle states two sheets are taken from each book for inspection, but these were returned.
- 21.4.1921 *From DLR* - re 14.4.1921, it can only be assumed that our examiner rejected the sheets, but failed to replace them.
- 23.7.1921 *From DLR* - a serious complaint has been received about the postage stamp paper. Variation in quality is causing shade variation in the 2d stamps.
- 23.7.1921 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 25.7.1921 *From DLR* - re 23.7.1921 (paper variation), the current paper is of good quality, but during the war it no doubt suffered. We use the same make of paper ourselves and experience no difficulty in printing.
- 2.8.1921 *From DLR* - re 23.7.1921 (tender), tender enclosed for 325 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 19.12.1921 *From HC* - the printing plates of the Victory issue used to print the original supplies are to be forwarded to New Zealand.
- 20.12.1921 *From DLR* - re 19.12.1921, the plates are packed and await shipping instructions.

- 3.4.1922 *From DLR to Mr. Sandle* - the sheets of Victory stamps sent from the colony are the same size as the plates, whereas the sheets printed by us are stretched in printing and so fit the perforating heads. The stamps should be printed by rolling the narrow way of the sheet.
- 8.6.1922 *From Sandle Bros. to DLR* - re 23.7.1921 complaint about postage stamp paper, the sheets referred to are now enclosed, with a letter of 20.3.1922.
- 20.3.1922 *From Stamp Duties Department, Wellington* - enclosing sheets of 2d stamps showing variation in colour caused by coating.
- 13.6.1922 *From DLR to Sandle Bros.* - re 8.6.1922, the different shades do appear to be due to differences in the paper. Our own experience is that orange-yellow ink is very susceptible to such influences.
- 5.9.1923 *From DLR* - re 31.8.1923, tender enclosed for 400 reams of postage stamp paper. A paper of lower quality would cost 3/- per ream less.
- 31.8.1923 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 14.9.1923 *From HC* - re 5.9.1923, tender not accepted.
- 14.9.1923 *From DLR* - enclosing two sample sheets of lower quality postage stamp paper.
- 8.5.1931 *From DLR* - re 29.4.1931, tender enclosed for dies and plates for Air Mail issue.
- 29.4.1931 *From HC* - request for tender for dies and plates for Air Mail issue, values 3d, 4d and 7d.
- 28.5.1931 *From HC* - re 8.5.1931, tender not accepted.
- 1.9.1932 *From DLR* - tender enclosed for recess-printed stamp issue (9d to be single-colour typography).
- 30.8.1932 *From HC* - substitute the enclosed for the circular letter of 29.8.1932.
- 29.8.1932 *From HC* - re tender for recess-printed stamp issue, state what reduction in printing costs would be effected if the paper was supplied gummed.
- 29.8.1932? *From HC* - request for tender for Postage and Revenue stamps, for dies, plates and printing (specifications given). Quantities required:
- | | | | |
|-----|------------|-----|-----------|
| ½d | 24,000,000 | 5d | 960,000 |
| 1d | 60,000,000 | 6d | 1,600,000 |
| 1½d | 600,000 | 8d | 800,000 |
| 2d | 6,000,000 | 9d | 600,000 |
| 2½d | 240,000 | 1/- | 1,200,000 |
| 3d | 1,800,000 | 2/- | 480,000 |
| 4d | 1,600,000 | 3/- | 240,000 |
- Also required are ½d and 1d surface-printing dies with collars for postal stationery.
- 6.12.1932 *From DLR* - re 1.12.1932, acknowledged.
- 1.12.1932 *From HC* - re 1.9.1932, the matter has been referred to New Zealand. Your tender for the stamps is declined, but that for the ½d and 1d surface-printing dies is accepted.
- 16.1.1933 *From DLR* - re 13.1.1933, acknowledgment of receipt.
- 13.1.1933 *From HC* - enclosing pattern die and collar, original designs for the ½d and 1d, and two bromides.
- 18.1.1933 *From HC* - re 16.1.1933 (missing), acknowledgment of receipt of ½d and 1d original designs. We note these have been photographed and you are working from those.
- 3.3.1933 *From POSD to DLR* - re 28.2.1933 and 2.3.1933, acknowledgment of receipt of three proofs each of ½d and 1d dies, together with photographs of the original designs, and two bromides.
- 2.3.1933 *From DLR to POSD* - returning two bromides.
- 28.2.1933 *From DLR to POSD* - enclosing ½d and 1d proofs in triplicate, together with photographs of the original designs.
- 24.2.1933 *From DLR* - re 23.2.1933, we are now ready to take proofs for sending to Somerset house.
- 23.2.1933 *From HC* - asking when the ½d and 1d dies will be ready.
- 7.3.1933 *From DLR to POSD* - re 7.3.1933, proofs requested enclosed.

- 7.3.1933 *From DLR to POSD* - requesting proofs of the ½d and 1d dies on postcard, lettercard and wrapper paper.
- 23.3.1933 *From DLR to POSD* - re 22.3.1933, acknowledged.
- 22.3.1933 *From POSD to DLR* - the ½d and 1d proofs appear satisfactory. They will be forwarded to New Zealand for final approval, meanwhile do not harden the dies.
- 22.8.1933 *From DLR* - re 19.8.1933, our tender of 1.9.1932 still holds good.
- 19.8.1933 *From HC* - following our discussions, formal confirmation is requested that your tender of 1.9.1932 still holds (the 9d stamp is to be omitted).
- 29.8.1933 *From DLR* - re 23.8.1933, the ½d die is hardened and ready for despatch. The alterations to the 1d will necessitate a new die (cost given).
- 23.8.1933 *From HC* - the ½d surface-printing die is approved. The 1d die is to be amended in accordance with alterations made to the original drawing, as enclosed.
- 29.8.1933 *From DLR* - re 29.8.1933, acknowledged. The 1/- design will be omitted pending further enquiries.
- 29.8.1933 *From HC* - re 23.8.1933, enclosing designs for ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 8d, 1/-, 2/- and 3/-, the design of the 1d is as sent on 23.8.1933. Also enclosing selvedge for 1d stamps showing marginal markings and perforation guide points, and selvedge for two-colour stamps showing position of registration crosses.
- 1.9.1933 *From DLR* - re 23.8.1933, acknowledged. In relation to points raised therein:
1. We would like to use ungummed paper (the reduced price still holds).
 2. Wiggins, Teape & Alex Pirie will supply us with specimens of the paper. The number of sheets required is:

11¼" x 19¼"	27,250
22" x 21"	208,000
 3. Regarding perforation, we suggest the following sizes for the stamps, inclusive of perforations - (a) 17 x 21mm; (b) 21 x 37mm; (c) 21½ x 25mm.

(to be continued)

BOOK REVIEWS

Harry Hayes Philatelic Literature Auctions. Index to Lots and Realisations. Volume 2: Publications of the 1970s, compiled by Ray Price. 182 pages. ISBN 0 646 22665 7. 21 x 29.5cm. Published by the author, P.O. Box 555, Brighton, South Australia, 5048. Price, \$52.50 plus postage (\$6 within Australia).

Harry Hayes Philatelic Literature Auctions. Index to Lots and Realisations. Volume 2: Publications of the 1970s, compiled by Ray Price. 231 pages. ISBN 0 646 22665 7. 21 x 29.5cm. Published by the author, P.O. Box 555, Brighton, South Australia, 5048. Price, \$35 plus postage (\$6 within Australia).

These are the second and third volumes of a planned five-volume series indexing the 64,800 lots offered in 89 Harry Hayes Philatelic Literature auctioned over the period 1960 to 1986.

Although the concept of an index to a single literature auction might seem at first sight one of limited

value, Harry Hayes was very much a pioneer in the field, and his auctions represent a significant record of philatelic literature publication. An index to philatelic publications is a basic tool, but very little of a comprehensive nature has been achieved in this field since the monumental "Crawford" catalogue published in 1911 provided a listing of the contents of the Earl of Crawford's philatelic library. This library (now in the British Library) was of such completeness that the catalogue represents a very accurate record of 19th century philatelic publications. The last 90 years have been much more poorly served. Many compilations have covered restricted areas well, but general indexes have been few, mostly limited to philatelic library catalogues.

Ray Price's compilation thus fills an important gap. The contents of the Harry Hayes auctions were by no means exhaustive, but covered a large slice of published works. The major weakness will be in foreign language

publications, of which those published outside Europe are especially poorly represented. There are probably also gaps in the more specialised monographs, especially in a prolific area such as U.S.A., but also for areas more closely allied to the British market, including Australia. These gaps are more apparent in the later period, when specialist society publication and self-publishing became practicable.

Volume 2, covering works published in the 1970s, lists 2,100 titles, and Volume 3, works published 1950 to 1969, lists 3,250 titles. This is clearly not approaching the hobby's output in this period, but if 50% coverage has been achieved, then a great advance has been made and an important bibliographic tool has been created, for which Ray Price is to be congratulated.

The full bibliographic listing is by subject, and cross-references indexes provide listings by author and title. In cases where the Harry Hayes description has not provided the necessary data, all available sources have been searched to fill in the missing bibliographic details. For each entry, details are provided of the sale and lot numbers when that work was offered, together with the realisations. It is interesting to note the sometimes meteoric escalation in price of some works, corresponding presumably with the period when key works go out of print. Although there is some fluctuation in realisation - no different to philatelic auctions in general, and often the result of two protagonists needing the same item - the general upward trend in literature prices is apparent. The only publications which decrease in price are out of date catalogues.

Two more volumes will complete the series. Volume 4 (publications of 1900 to 1949) and Volume 5 (19th century publications and periodicals) should appear in the next twelve months. The whole of the index is also available in database form on floppy disk.

The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue. Queen Elizabeth II, 1952-1966. Edited by Geoffrey Kellow. 278 pages. 17.0 x 21.0 cms. Published by Brusden-White, 673 Bourke St., Melbourne, Victoria, 3000, Australia.

This volume is the fifth in a series, as follows:

1. *Kangaroos*. Published 1993, revised 1996.
 2. *King George V*. Published 1994.
 3. *King George VI*. Published 1995.
 4. *Booklets, 1904-1973*. Published 1995.
 6. *Queen Elizabeth II*. Published 1996.
- Future volumes are to be:
6. *Decimals Part I, 1966-1978*.
 7. *Decimals Part II, 1979-current*.
 8. *Postage Dues*.

As the Queen Elizabeth Pre-Decimal volume is the first section to be reviewed in *Philately from Australia* some preliminary comments are required.

Fundamentally, the structure of the catalogue follows on from the 1988 edition. However, given the major review and upgrading of information presented it has

been both logical and sensible to break the catalogue down into the series as published. This has advantages for both the publisher and collector. It means firstly, that each part can be revised independently, as with the Kangaroos. Secondly, the collector only needs to purchase the area that interests them, which in turn indicates one way of determining areas of particular specialisation.

The upgrading has encompassed information on (i) design; (ii) production and technical aspects; (iii) booklets; (iv) varieties; and (v) postal usage. Prices have been introduced for (i) first day covers; (ii) commercial usage on cover; (iii) starter strips for coil stamps; (iv) cancelled-to-order stamps from collectors' sets; (v) essays and proofs; (vi) presentation cards and publicity cards; and (vii) marginal markings such as perforation pip guide blocks, autotron blocks and sheet number blocks. Many more illustrations have been included, especially of essays and varieties.

As is acknowledged in the catalogue, the volumes are the cumulative effort of many dedicated individuals over a long period of time. But praise must go to Geoff Kellow for his continuous pursuits into original research. Much of the new material presented has been derived from Australia Post archives, and the Note Printing Branch records held at the Reserve Bank archives in Sydney. The theories, speculations and conclusions of earlier philatelists, using only the evidence to hand (the stamps) can now be more defined. It is pleasing to note where there is insufficient evidence in regard to plate production, paper usage, perforation measurement, etc. the door is left open for debate and further investigation.

The Queen Elizabeth II Pre-Decimal section covers the transitional production period from rotary recess printing to photogravure. As noted above, the catalogue has many additions, one being the abundant illustrations. Whilst the electronic scanning method employed has produced acceptable to excellent results in the majority of illustrations, there are still some problems. The worst results appear to be the 1963 5d Export jib retouches, the 1963-65 5d green and red QEII definitive, and the 1964 5d Airmail re-entry retouches. These examples would be very difficult to reproduce utilising any technique. The experienced collector will not have any problem, but others attempting "to get their eye in" will be confused. In these examples line drawings as have been used in the past may have been more appropriate.

There are a few trivial errors, such as the 2/- Flannel Flower illustrations 367f/367g are not correct, and illustration 403g is not listed.

Collectors have waited some time for the *Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue* to be upgraded. The task undertaken has been monumental, but the wait has been truly worthwhile. Congratulations go to all concerned, particularly the publisher and editors. The end result has been well thought out, is pleasing to the eye, pleasing to handle, scholarly, authoritative and stimulating. It is the essential reference for any collector interested in Australian philately.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

King George V and King George VI "Oval" Postal Stationery

The display at the meeting on 15 August was provided by Mr Mark Diserio, who showed Australian Postal Stationery of 1928-1950, which used the "oval" embossed designs featuring George V and George VI.

The display began with a set of the 1929 envelopes (½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d) cancelled-to-order for U.P.U. distribution. The ½d envelope was never issued as the die was intended only for make-up use on stamped-to-order stationery.

King George V stamped-to-order envelopes shown included the 1d green used as the commercial papers and printed matter rate for bankers' envelopes and printer's proofs, 1d + 1d green, ½d orange + 1d green, 1½d brown permit envelope, "TWO/PENCE" on 1d green, and "TWO/PENCE" on 1½d. Official envelopes using the "OS" dies included the 1½d and 2d, and "TWO/PENCE" on 1½d.

The oval embossed dies on lettersheets and postcards were exclusively for stamping-to-order. Items shown included 1d green lettersheets from various users, including their make-up into stapled booklets, 1d green postcards, and 1½d brown postcards.

The various settings of the "FIVE/PENCE" on 4½d registration envelopes were also shown.

An interesting link between the two reigns was a 1d George V + 1d George VI green envelope.

For the George VI issues, die proofs were shown of the ½d orange and 1½d brown embossed dies. No usage of the ½d die has been recorded.

George VI envelopes shown included various stocks and inner linings used for the 2½d Post Office issues. There were albino impressions of the 2d and 2½d envelopes. Stamped-to-order issues included some unusual items. There were 1d green and 1½d brown Savings Book envelopes, 2d purple permit envelopes, and compound stampings such as the 1d + 1d green and 1d brown + 1½d green. A 5d stamped-to-order envelope and a cut-out of 2½d + 2½d are both rare.

The 1d green lettersheet was shown in a stapled booklet similar to the George V issue. Wrappers included the 2d green, and 2½d red and 2½d + 2½d red stamped-to-order issues.

On postcards, the embossed dies were only used for stamped-to-order items. The 1d brown was shown, and there was a cut-out of the 1½d brown (unknown on entire).

There were several rate changes for registration

envelopes. The 5d was shown with a "SPECIMEN" overprint from a Post Office display, there were various printings of the 5½d, and a stamped-to-order 8½d was a very scarce item.

The display was concluded by the well-known parcel labels. Mint examples of the 5/10d used by Myers and the Department of Agriculture were shown, together with a used example of the 3/7d.

Great Britain Decimal Machin Booklets

At the meeting on 29 August, our new Secretary, Mr Jim Shaw, showed the Decimal Machin Booklets of Great Britain.

The display began with proofs of the Machin stamps, including undenominated colour trials in blue, and pale lilac.

There were proofs and essays for booklet covers and dummy booklets, and even a printing cliché used for a 1971 booklet cover.

All aspects of the booklet issues and the types of varieties which occur were covered, and examples were shown of paper errors, miscuts, repaired booklets, dummy "poached egg" booklets, rare cylinder numbers, and various flaws and retouches.

A modern innovation has been the Window booklets, and these opened with examples of dummy and test booklets. There were cylinder number errors, phosphor omitted, a colour error in the 1st class booklet, and a make-up error in which 2nd Class stamps were included within a 1st class cover.

A feature was made of the various Prestige booklets. The 1972 £1 Wedgwood book was shown with the stamp panes overprinted "SPECIMEN", and with offset. The 1980 £3 Wedgwood book was present doubly perforated, with red omitted, and with offset of black. The 1982 £4 Stanley Gibbons book had misplaced phosphor bands, omitted phosphor bands, and an all-over phosphor variety, and the 1985 £5 Times book was shown with offset of phosphor. The 1986 £5 British Rail book had lemon-yellow omitted, double perforation, and missing phosphor.

The Prestige books containing the Regional issues have had some of the most spectacular errors. The 1989 Scots book was shown imperforate and doubly perforated, and the 1994 Northern Ireland book was shown with shifted perforations, and with the 6p value misplaced.

Decimal Issues of Australia

At the meeting on 20 September Mr Bryan Young showed an overview of Australian Decimal Issues, concentrating on the three types of printing process used - intaglio, photogravure and offset-lithography - and the types of variety that arise.

Intaglio was used only at the beginning of the period, especially for the "Queen's Heads" definitives and the Navigator stamps of 1966. A range of offsets on the Queen's Head definitives were shown, and the same variety was also present on the 40c Tasman. There was a block showing misplaced perforations on the latter stamp. A study was shown of the \$1 Navigator, especially the various recuts to the shading between the sail and Flinder's eye.

For the photogravure process various of the more interesting cylinder flaws were shown.

To represent missing colours, there was the 1972 80c Pioneers with missing black in a strip of five, and the 1977 30c Performing Arts in a large block with partial missing Venetian red.

The 1978 Australia Day stamp was shown in blocks demonstrating the change made in the order of the autotone bars.

Modern Australian stamps have been printed by offset-lithography since 1977. This process was first used for the 1977 Silver Jubilee issue. The 18c stamp was shown in blocks showing the differences between the three printings and the marginal markings found for each. The Aviators issue of the following year included misplaced colours, a missing colour on the Ulm stamp due to a paper fold, and the forgery of the miniature sheet.

The various other problems with offset-litho stamps were demonstrated on various stamps. The 1978 National Stamp Week issue was shown with green printing doubled; 1979 Year of the Child with double perforation; 1980 Opening of the High Court in an aniline purple shade; 1981 35c Sporting Personalities (Victor Trumper) showing the yellow joined plate; and 1983 Australia Day printed on the gummed side. The 1986 South Australian Sesquicentenary stamp was shown with green instead of grey background, caused by exposure to sunlight.

These issues rarely have marginal markings showing on the sheets as supplied to post offices, but strips of the 1981 24c Thylacine and 1986 36c Animals were shown with "MODULE 4" in the margin.

There have been some spectacular errors and varieties in recent times. Amongst the sheets shown were the 1987 Aboriginal Crafts trial booklet accidentally issued, and the 1992 Wetlands booklet with reversed pane. The 1991 41c Cycling was shown imperforate between in two different forms. The 1991 Christmas set of three was printed, in part, from a composite plate for use on first day covers and booklets; very few stamps from these sheets were issued in multiple form, but a set of gutter pairs showing the marginal markings proving origin from the composite plate was shown.

The "Threatened Species" issue has become a

modern "classic" with all its permutations, and Bryan Young's display gave some indication of the possibilities. Almost all the interest lies in the "peel and stick" issues used for rolls, sheetlets and booklets. There was a strip from the rolls showing the black printing missing. In the booklets, there were miscuts, imperforate (i.e. no die cut), misplaced die cuts, missing printings (stamps not printed at all!), and non-helecon errors. The sheetlet was shown without die cut, with the hole punched for display purposes misplaced, and there was also the trial printing with all-over helecon.

Indian Feudatory States Postal Stationery

The meeting on 17 October 1996 was held during the staging of Stampshow '96 in Melbourne and many interstate members and visitors were present. The display was provided by Mr Ajeet Singhee from India, who was the A.P.F. sponsored judge at the exhibition.

Mr Singhee's subject was the Postal Stationery of the Indian Feudatory States, and comprised selections from eight States.

From Bamra, the 1888 6 pies black envelope was shown in two sizes, and the various settings of the 1890 1/2a postcard were displayed. This card was shown used in combination with 1/2a and 2a British India.

The postcards of Barwani are a complex study, and the various printings were shown in depth. There was a 1934 proof block of 4 of the 1/2a clichés in black used for the cards.

The issues of Bhopal began with the 1903 1/2a postcard mint, and the 1/2a green postcard used with 1/2a British India added. The various settings of the 1903 1/2a green envelope were demonstrated, and there was a range of the 1908 1/2a Service postcards with views. In 1922 there was a 1/2a on 1/2a essay surcharge in red on the Service postcard.

The postal stationery of Duttia includes some of the rarest and most unusual material, and there is still much to be learnt about the chronology of the early issues. The first issue is thought to consist of a 1/2a postcard and 1/2a envelope produced entirely in manuscript. Examples of each of these were shown. Subsequent postcards included the only recorded example of the 1893 1/2a brown-red with native heading, and the similar card with English heading. The issues of 1896-98 of the 1/2a black postcard included the 1897 and 1898 issues used, and the 1900 1/2a red single and reply cards were shown both mint and used. The 1894 1/2a black envelope was present mint and used, and there was one of the two recorded examples of the 1/2a black "Ganesh" envelope used. The envelope issues of 1896-97 showed the various paper stocks and settings used, and there were mint and used examples of the 1900 1/2a green.

In Jammu and Kashmir there was a study of the settings of the 1883-91 1/2a red postcards, and the unissued 1894 Service postcard.

The 1899 1/2a blue and 1a green envelopes of Kishengarh were shown in various shades, and there were

examples of the 1a brown-lilac envelope of the same year. There was a mint example of the 1901 ¼a rose-carmine postcard with inverted stamp impression. The 1906 ¼a postcard (Perkins Bacon design) included a proof showing the heading inverted, and there were die proofs of the ¼a carmine-red and 1a blue envelope stamps in the same design; the 1a was never used.

The used 1900 ¼a green envelope of Orceha was one of two recorded examples.

From Sirmoor came the interesting usage of remainders of the postcards as Court Fee stamps on documents. The original 1897 3 pies card was shown mint and in die proof form.

Display by Council Members

The meeting on 31 October saw a combined display by members of Council.

Tom Carter displayed sheets showing the progression of the Die II roller flaw on the 1d red George V of Australia, and showed his reasoning on his theory as to the direction of rolling in.

Roland Geitenbeek showed the Victorian 1898 ½d and 2d colour trials, showing various cancellation experiments with attempts at cleaning.

Russel Jones displayed the reprinted die proofs of early Victorian issues, comprising the Half-Lengths, 1d Netteed Corners, and 3d and 4d Beaded Ovals, together with the artist's essay for the 6d Adapted design and lithographed essays for the 6d Woodblock.

Geoff Kellow showed some unusual examples of Australasian philatelic literature, including the earliest printed auction catalogue, the post office guide distributed to Olympic athletes in 1956, and New Zealand's first philatelic journal.

Roy Larkin showed unrecorded re-entries and roller shifts on the Australian 1935 2d Anzac and 1940 3d AIF stamp.

John MacDonnell showed the Danish post in Schleswig-Holstein, Lubeck and Hamburg, the Schleswig-Holstein post in Hamburg, and various usages of Hamburg stamps on cover, 1864-67.

Ken Scudder showed material he had uncovered in his researches on Thomas Ham during his tenure in Queensland. This included photographs of his workplace in Brisbane, and a copy of his death certificate.

Jim Shaw displayed the 1995 Australian Medical Science issue, showing the gutter strips which showed a different arrangement of se-tenant stamps to that found on normal sheets. These strips, printed from a special plate for inclusion in packs, were meant to be withdrawn from circulation prior to issue.

John Trowbridge showed the annual issues by France depicting the paintings by French impressionist artists.

Russell Turner showed Victorian Stamp Statute issues used on "Hill" covers, demonstrating the various addresses and handwritings used.

Max Watson displayed the "Rundell" first day covers

of Victoria, comprising the 1899 2½d blue Stamp Duty, and the 1901 ½d, 1½d, 2d, 3d, 5d, 6d and 9d Postage.

The display was concluded by President John Sinfield, who showed the curious errors which occurred on the 1995 issue of Australian State View postcards. These included "Queensland" for "Queensland", "St. Lucia University" ((the view was of another university), "Flinder's" for "Flinders" (Street Station), and "Captain" (instead of "Colonel") Light.

Pence Issues of Canada

Mr Mark Dankin travelled from Sydney to provide the display at the November meeting - his Large Gold medal collection of the Pence Issues of Canada.

The display covered all aspects of these classic stamps, with emphasis of used multiples and covers.

A fine opening was provided by an 1851 cover from Montreal to New York with postage paid by the U.S. 1847 10c.

The 3d Beaver was prefaced by a plate proof block of 18 in red, and a block of 23 plate proofs in black overprinted "SPECIMEN" in red. The laid paper issue was shown in a pair, one with major re-entry, on an 1851 cover to Wisconsin, and on an 1852 steamboat letter.

The 3d on thin wove paper included a used pair and strip of four, a pair on an 1854 cover to New York, and a block of three, one bisected, to pay the 7d rate on 1856 cover to Yorkshire. - on of two known 3d Beaver bisects on cover. The medium wove 3d's began with a mint block of 4 in brown-red, and a used strip of three in deep red. Among a number of covers was one of 1859 to Toronto with both "TOO LATE" and "REGISTERED" handstamps, another cover bearing the major re-entry, an 1853 money letter to London, and an 1852 steamboat letter. The 3d thick wove paper had a mint copy and an 1858 cover. The printing on thin brittle wove paper included a used pair and an 1855 cover to Toronto, and the ribbed paper stamps had a number of covers.

The 6d Prince Albert issues were a wonderful showing, with all printings and shades represented.

The 6d slate-violet on laid included a used strip of three and pair, and examples used in 1851 to New York and 1853 to Boston, as well as two examples on an 1852 cover to Boston, Highlight, however, was six examples on an 1854 cover to Boston.

The various shades of the 6d on medium wove paper were well-represented. In grey-violet there was a used block of 4, and a strip of three on an 1859 local cover. Of the greenish-grey there was a mint stamp, a used pair, and several covers, and there was a used pair in brownish-grey. Best of all, however, was a bisect on an 1860 local cover.

The 6d on very thick soft wove paper included the largest known used multiple, a strip of three, and a copy used in 1857 to New York.

The famous 12d black was represented by scarred die proofs in black (x2), red (x2) and purple, plate proofs

blocks of four with red and green "SPECIMEN" overprints, and one mint and two used examples of the issued stamp.

In the 10d Cartier, there were mint examples on hand-made paper and medium machine-made paper, together with a used block of four and pair on the latter. Covers bearing this stamp included a pair used in 1855 to London, an 1856 cover to Edinburgh with "MORE TO PAY", and use with the 6d in 1855 to London.

The 7½d green had one of the two recorded used blocks of 4, and a strip of three. The covers included a stamp with imprint used in 1857 to England, and a combination usage with the 3d Beaver on an 1858 registered cover to London.

The ½d rose began with a used block of 6 and used strip of three, and there were some interesting usages.

The block of 6 on an 1858 cover was unique, and there were single stamps on newspaper, circular, and on an 1858 printed report.

The display was completed by the perforated issue. The ½d's had an 1858 drop letter, and an 1859 cover to Pennsylvania bearing twelve copies. There were also strips of three used in combination with an imperf. 6d in 1859 to Ireland, and with two perf. 3d's in 1859 to London.

The 3d was highlighted by some impressive combination usages. There was an 1859 cover to England with 3d and 7½d, and 1859 cover to Vermont showing the combined use of the 3d perf. and imperf., and even more spectacular, an 1859 cover to Pennsylvania with combined use of the 3d and 5c, the former being the major re-entry. There were five used 6d perforated, and another on an 1859 cover to New York.

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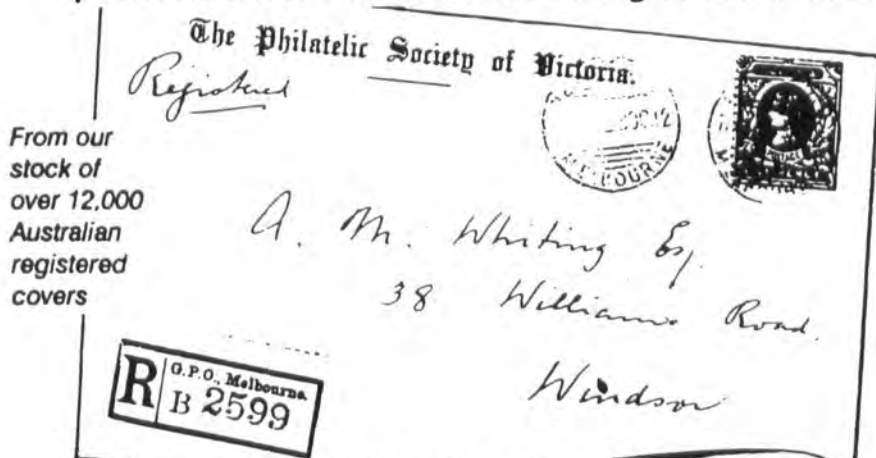
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