

# PHILATELY *from* AUSTRALIA



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## MYRA FARLEY RETIRES AFTER 40 YEARS SERVICE

In November 1995 Miss Myra Farley, O.A.M., F.R.P.S.,L. announced her retirement from the Council of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, ending a period of service to the Society extending over 40 years.

After joining the Society in June 1952, Myra became Secretary in 1956. She served in this capacity for 18 years, from 1956-57 to 1961-62, and from 1979-80 to 1990-91. In all, she has served on Council for a total of 31 years. In 1974 she was elected President, and in doing so she became the first Lady President of any Royal Philatelic Society. Myra served a second term of President in the Society's Centenary Year of 1992.

Myra has been received the Society's three awards for achievement - the J.R.W. Purves Medal in 1970, Honorary Life Membership in 1976, and the David Hill Medal in 1984. She is also a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (1983), Life Member of the American Philatelic Society, and has been awarded the V.P.A. Award of Merit (1984).

Her work for philatelic exhibitions ranges from MIPEX in 1963 to SYDPEX in 1988, and she became well-known as the Chief Executive Officer of AUSIPEX 84 and STAMPSHOW 89.

Myra's lifetime of work in philately received its most prestigious recognition in 1993 when she was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for "Services to Philately".

The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria has always been Myra's first love, and she has devoted her philatelic career to maintaining and improving the position and prestige the Society enjoys both in Australia and overseas. She has in many ways been the "voice" of the Society since

the death of Bill Purves in 1979.

The difficulties under which Myra laboured during the Society's Centenary Year are not generally known, but her devotion to her Presidential duties during that important year were total, and unfortunately contributed to the poor health she has suffered since. Her movements are now restricted to the extent that she feels unable to continue her previous level of activity. Nevertheless, since leaving Council in november, Myra continues to attend the monthly meetings.

The Council and Members of the Society wish Myra many more years of enjoyable participation in the Society.

#### OBITUARY

### THEO. LESTER

The death occurred in March of one of the Society's greatest stalwarts, Theo Lester. He was 90 years old.

Theo Lester was a member of Council for 27 years between 1957 and 1985. He was twice President, in 1971 and 1982.

In 1956 and 1957 he was the Society's Exchange Superintendent. This role was preliminary to his greatest service to the Society - as Sales Superintendent for a record 21 years from 1958 and 1978. It was during his tenure that the Sales Branch developed a considerable reputation for the material offered, and the integrity of its service. This was at a time when, for the earlier years of his superintendence, there were relatively few stamp auctions in Melbourne.

Theo's collecting interests were many and varied, but his major collection was New Zelaand, the subject of his 1971 Presidential Display.

He was one of the unfortunate victims of the stamp robberies perpetrated in Melbourne in the mid-1980s. At that time he lost a number of his stamps, including the New Zealand collection. This included a 1d claret Chrischurch Exhibition which had come out of one of the Society's sales.

Our condolences go to John, his son, who is also a member of the Society.

## INTERCHANGEABILITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STAMPS

By C.W. LLOYD-SMITH

### Introduction

Prior to 1893, postage and revenue stamps were entirely separate. Indeed, the Stamp Acts of 1881 and 1882 provided that: "*Stamp*" means as well as a stamp impressed by means of a die as an adhesive stamp, and not being a postage stamp within the meaning of "*The Postage Stamp Ordinance, 1854*."

Reference to this Ordinance reveals two things of importance. Firstly, postage stamps were those issued by the Postmaster-General for use on correspondence. Secondly, postage stamps were required to bear the likeness of a swan as specified in Section 7 of that Ordinance. This requirement does not appear in the Post and Telegraph Act 1893 which repealed this Ordinance and much other legislation on postal and telegraph matters.

The issue of telegraph stamps from 1879 onwards complicates the picture somewhat, as we shall see. The Queen's head appeared on the telegraph stamps to ensure that postage and telegraph stamps were markedly dissimilar. This is documented in the Western Australia Study Group handbook (1979). It is worth noting that these telegraph stamps were technically not postage stamps in the sense of the Post Office Ordinance 1854 as they lacked a swan motif. Yet they were not available for revenue purposes when the Stamp Act, 1881 came into operation (1 November 1881).

The reason for this remark is that revenue stamps had to be provided by the Colonial Treasurer, as provided by the Stamp Acts of 1881 and 1882 (see Sections 8 and 9 respectively). Also, the *Gazette* notice of 29 November 1881 stated that "*Only those postage stamps marked IR may be used for National Revenue purposes.*"

Thus, in November 1881, there were three distinct sets of stamps, any two of which were mutually non-interchangeable. However, this situation was short-lived as a *Gazette* notice of 7 February 1882 made it clear that 1/- postage stamps were available for use on telegrams.

It is well-known that 1d telegraph stamps were available for postage as from 26 October 1886, due to the exhaustion of 1d postage stamps. It is perhaps doubtful whether this was consistent with the requirement that postage stamps depict a swan, but there were apparently no objections raised to the Postmaster-General's action. It is known that some postage stamps were used for revenue purposes prior to 1893 but this action was not authorised.

Nevertheless, there was a substantial amount of discussion concerning the issue of interchangeability during the latter part of the 1880s onwards. Some relevant correspondence is reproduced in the Parliamentary Paper No. 23 for 1890 (*Correspondence as to making Postage and Revenue stamps interchangeable*). The Postal Conferences of 1887 and 1888, held by the Australian Colonies took the view, Queensland excepted, that such interchangeability was undesirable. The Colonial Treasurer (A. O'Grady Lefroy) endorsed this view in a letter to the Colonial Secretary (Malcolm Fraser) dated 26 November 1889. The Postmaster-General (R.A. Sholl) vigorously emphasised the necessity of keeping postage and revenue stamps separate. He said that it would be impossible to ascertain exactly what the postal revenue was, and maintained that the majority of postmasters and postmistresses in the outlying districts could not be safely

entrusted with the high denominations in use for revenue purposes, and that they would not be sufficiently educated to keep the necessary accounts. Sholl strongly endorsed the resolution on interchangeability passed at the Postal Conferences, adding that the revenue stamps were too large for postal use.

Nevertheless, Fraser supported the idea of interchangeability and on 27 December 1889 the Executive Council unanimously supported the idea of making 1d stamps interchangeable. The government then sought advice from the Crown Agents on how the authorities in Great Britain separated the postal revenue from the combined sources of revenue. The Crown Agents replied on 27 February 1890 and mentioned in passing the weakness inherent in interchangeability, whereby postal revenue could only be estimated. Sholl was again asked for his opinion on 1 April 1890. He stood his ground in a minute dated 3 April 1890. The Government's response was to call for detailed statistics for the past three years of the two classes of stamps issued (1887 to 1889) and these figures are quoted in *Philately from Australia*, December 1995.

Evidently, the Government was determined to introduce interchangeability, citing public convenience repeatedly as the main consideration to be aimed at. In the event, it was decided to make stamps up to 1/- (not just 1d) interchangeable - of course, the highest denomination postage stamp was 1/-.

### **The Introduction of Interchangeability**

The legislation of 1893 concerning postal and telegraph matters repealed all previous postal legislation. It also introduced a limited degree of interchangeability of postage and revenue stamps.

The Post and Telegraph Act, 1893 which was assented to on 5 September 1893, actually specified that this Act would come into force on 1 September 1893, but the date of signing the Act into law is generally taken to be the date of commencement of the Act, for obvious reasons. This legislation (in Section 4) defined a stamp as:

*A stamp available for denoting fees or dues payable under this Act, and the stamp impressed or printed on a post card, letter card, wrapper, envelope or telegraph form.*

This included any stamp issued by the Post Office, including all obsolete issues, and all kinds of postal stationery and telegraph forms. The 1d and 6d adhesive telegraph stamps could be included, as these were certainly valid for telegraph fees at least, even though these were already obsolete. Incidentally, this definition of a "stamp" could have provided a pretext for the use of cut-outs from 1/- telegraph forms for postage on letters, mostly in 1894. The motivation for these overfranked covers was philatelic, as such usage was never intended by the authorities. To say that such usage of telegraph form cut-outs was unauthorised it is enough to show that there were regulations in force to prohibit such activity. It is fair to say that the Regulations made on 5 June 1902 under the Post and Telegraph Act, 1901, passed by the Federal Parliament, expressly forbade the use of cut-outs for postage on and after 30 June 1902. The situation prior to 30 June 1902 is not as clear.

Now we consider the status of the internal revenue stamps in the light of the Postal and Telegraph Act, 1893. Section 23 specifically authorised the interchange of postage and revenue stamps for fees up to one shilling but no more. This is quoted by the W.A.S.G. in their handbook of 1979 and by Juhl in his book on the De La Rue printings of Western Australia. This authorisation is also given in the Stamp Act Amendment Act 1893, Section 7, which states:



*Notwithstanding anything contained in the Principal Act, the word "stamp" shall be deemed to include any adhesive postage stamps which under "The Post and Telegraph Act, 1893", may be used to denote duties under the Principal Act.*

The term "Principal Act" refers to the Stamp Act, 1882. We note that "postage fees" includes telegraph fees. Thus one could, in principle, use a 1/- internal revenue stamp to pay telegraph fees but instances of such usage are unlikely to have survived since the Post Office kept the forms. Similarly, telegraph adhesives could be legally used to pay duties on a document but this is unlikely as they were already obsolete. Obsolete postage stamps are not likely to exist fiscally used for the same reason. However, various obsolete revenue stamps exist postally used, mainly because collectors unearthed some and put them to use.

From a strictly literal point of view, it was not permissible to pay postage fees higher than 1/- with revenue stamps and similarly it was not permissible to pay stamp duties higher than 1/- with postage stamps. In practice such niceties were ignored. Several examples are illustrated in Dzelme's book *The Fiscal Stamps of Western Australia* (see pages 4, 33 and 132). By further stretching the law, one might try to cut corners by prepaying postage on heavy packets, especially gold parcels, with high value revenue stamps. Such usage was evidently tolerated by the authorities, just as stamps had been tacitly accepted for either purpose prior to 1893, in contravention of the law.

#### **A Note on the Status of Telegraph Stamps**

It is well-known that the 1d telegraph stamps were allowed to be used for postage as from 26 October 1886. This is documented in *The Black Swan*, September 1980, thanks to Brian Pope who found the long-sought official notice on this subject. However, we can say more. In the *Australian Stamp Journal*, April 1931, Basset Hull stated that the remaining stock of adhesive telegraph stamps was pressed into ordinary postal service in 1885. Thus, the use of separate adhesives for postal and telegraph purposes was discontinued. Unfortunately, Basset Hull did not give a source for these statements.

Turning to the Postmaster-General's reports for 1883 to 1886 inclusive, the following data on telegraph stamps may be extracted:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Value sold</i>
1883	£5/1/6
1884	£12/2/-
1885	Nil
1886	Nil

Clearly, the annual sales were very small. For instance, the 1884 figures correspond to such hypothetical scenarios as 2,904 1d stamps and no 6d stamps, or 484 6d stamps and no 1d stamps. At this rate, the stock of telegraph stamps could have lasted for decades. The figures for 1885 and 1886 lend support to Basset Hull's statement. If Basset Hull was right, then the adhesive telegraph stamps were still valid for postage when the Post and Telegraph Act, 1893, became law. No other evidence is yet available.

Finally, it should be remarked that the 1d and 6d telegraph stamps were included in the 1901-03 presentation sets as documented by Brian Pope in *The Philatelic Collections of the Western Australian Museum*. Examples are in the Bromfield collection.

#### **Postal Use of Internal Revenue Stamps**

Shortly after the postal legislation of 1893, these postal fiscals attracted a brief flurry of

attention in the contemporary philatelic press. The current revenue stamps were, of course, the long rectangular stamps of which the 1d, 2d, 3d, 6d and 1/- were available for postage. Of course, the earlier issues of these denominations were also valid for postage and a detailed description appears in *The Philatelic Journal of America*, May 1894, pages 217-218, based on information provided by Mr J.G. Thompson of Western Australia. Of the provisional type in lilac, he asserted that not more than 500 of the 2d and 150 of the 3d would be postally used, while he did not expect more than 50 each of 1d, 6d and 1/-. He had seen all but the 1/- postally used. He described the 1d postage with green "IR" overprint in its three varieties of watermark and perforation, namely Crown CC, perfs. 12½ and 14, and Crown CA, perf. 14. Thompson reported a postally used copy but did not specify watermark or perforation, and added that very few would come to light. As for the current issue, he had encountered the 2/6 and 5/- postally used on gold parcels, although the Act did not permit such usage.

Some additional information is chronicled by R. Snellgrove in a letter to *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* of August 1894. He listed all the varieties mentioned by Thompson and erroneously added a 9d to the series of long revenue stamps. He confirmed postal use of 2/6d, 3/- and 5/- high values on gold parcels, and also explains why the 2d long revenue stamp is scarce postally used. The reason is simply that the Stamp Act, 1882, sharply reduced the need for 2d revenue stamps. Indeed, as Snellgrove noted, only a few sheets of the 2d long revenue stamp had been issued when the legislation was changed in 1882. Thus, the 2d temporary revenue stamp is not especially scarce postally used. Apparently the Customs Office had supplies of 2d revenue stamps which were used up for postage when adhesive stamps became interchangeable. (In any case frank stamps, other than the Governor's Frank, were introduced after April 1894). I have seen a number of postally used 2d temporary revenue stamps with Fremantle cancellations, generally dated late 1893 or 1894, as expected.

The other temporary revenue stamps are very scarce postally used especially the 1d and 1/-. We have seen, in *Philately from Australia*, December 1995, that very few of the 1d temporary revenue stamps would have survived in unused condition. The 1/- temporary revenue stamp is very scarce postally used because the supply printed (6,240) was quite small and most of these would have been used up when the long revenue stamps were issued.

I have seen remainders of the 2d, 3d, 6d and 1/- temporary revenue stamps cancelled-to-order with the oval registered datestamp of Perth, dated 17 JU 01.

It is understandable that some high value revenue stamps were used for postage on gold parcels in the 1890s as these were the days of the gold rush. Dzelme states on page 32 of his book that many stamps of denominations above 1/- up to £1 were used by country-based government departments. A 30/- stamp in oblong format postally cancelled on piece appeared in a recent Charles Leski (Melbourne) auction.

Of course, values of £5 and above are beyond the practical limits as far as postal use is concerned. Of the high value stamps up to £1, only the 15/- is apparently unrecorded both by Juhl and Dzelme in postally used condition. Juhl's *Catalogue-Handbook* records a range of high value stamps postally used among the three watermarks that appear.

The 1d, 3d and 6d long internal revenue stamps are fairly plentiful in postally used condition, while the 1/- is less common in this condition. The printings and watermarks are discussed in the standard references such as those of Dzelme and Juhl, and those details need not be repeated here. A table of deliveries was provided in *Philately from Australia*, December 1995.

After the brief period of excitement in 1893 and 1894, most philatelic journals lost interest in these stamps. Yet they did not become obsolete as some collectors and even editors of journals thought (see *Australian Philatelist*, 25 February 1899). The separate series of postage stamps and

revenue stamps were maintained up to Federation when it became necessary to make these series strictly separate.

### The End of Interchangeability

With the approach of Federation, all six Colonies had to ensure that postage stamps were entirely separated from revenue stamps. The Western Australian Parliament passed an Act (64 Vic 34) entitled "*An Act to repeal the Twenty-third Section of the Post and Telegraph Act, 1893*". This Act was assented to on 5 December 1900 and provided the legal basis of the well-known Treasury notice dated 17 January 1901. The text of this notice is quoted in the W.A.S.G. handbook. However, the legislation itself has apparently remained unnoticed hitherto in the philatelic press. From the legislation it is now clear that interchangeability had definitely come to an end by 1 January 1901. This Act is reproduced below.

ANNO SEXAGESIMO QUARTO

## VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

.....  
No. XXXIV.

### AN ACT to repeal the Twenty-third Section of the Post and Telegraph Act, 1893.

[Assented to, 5th December, 1900.]

WHEREAS by the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act the Posts, Telegraphs, and Telephones of Western Australia will, on a date to be proclaimed by the Governor General, become transferred to the Commonwealth: And whereas it will not be permissible, after such date, to denote the Revenue Duties of Western Australia by Postage Stamps, or to denote Postage Duties or Fees by Revenue Stamps of Western Australia: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of Western Australia, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. FROM and after the thirty-first day of December, 1900, section twenty-three of the Post and Telegraph Act, 1893, is hereby repealed.

In the name and on behalf of the Queen I hereby assent  
to this Act.

ALEX. C. ONSLOW, Administrator.

As a result of this Act, Section 7 of the Stamp Act Amendment Act, 1893 (previously quoted) no longer had any practical effect. It was not until 11 December 1902 that an Act (2 Edwardi 21) entitled "*An Act to further amend the Stamp Act, 1882*" was assented to. This repealed Section 7 as required.

The contemporary philatelic press did not report the end of interchangeability for Western Australia at all. In contrast there are many contemporary references on this topic for Victoria and Tasmania.

### Concluding Remarks

In retrospect, it is clear that only a limited degree of interchangeability applied. It seems that the authorities made no attempt to aim for a uniform series of postage and revenue stamps. Indeed, printings of both the postage series and revenue series continued to be ordered as though interchangeability had never been introduced. Nevertheless, there is no obvious reason why some of the high value stamps, up to 10/- or £1, for instance, could not have been allowed to be used for postage. In the days of the gold rush, such high values would be useful for payment of postage and registration on gold parcels. Indeed, Dzelme noted that various government departments used some of the high value revenue stamps for postage, even though they were not supposed to do so. After Federation, there were no stamps of denomination over 1/- until October 1902. Apart from gold parcels, high value stamps would be useful for the payment of bulk postage charges, this facility having been provided by the Post and Telegraph Act, 1901.

Thus, after a brief and somewhat unconvincing experiment with interchangeability, Western Australia's postage and revenue stamps went their separate ways. The postage stamps retained their postal validity, along with the 1d telegraph stamp. In the light of Basset Hull's comments and the following discussion it is quite likely that the 6d telegraph stamp also remained valid for postage. Postal stationery and telegraph forms remained valid for their respective functions but, of course, were never available for revenue purposes. Similarly, impressed and embossed duty stamps were never available for postage.

## OBITUARY

### REV. JOHN C.W. BROWN

Reverend J.C.W. Brown died in a Melbourne nursing home on 23 January 1996. Although not well-known to many present members of the Society, having lived for many years in country Victoria, Rev. Brown played a prominent role in society activities during the 1950's. He joined the Society in March 1949 and in the same year won the Silver Medal in the Society's Competition for his entry of "Australia: The Surface-Printed KGV 1d Green". He was a member of council from 1951-53, Vice-President in 1953-54 and President in 1954-55.

He was an accomplished researcher in Australian Commonwealth stamps, and made several valuable contributions, mostly published in the pages of this journal. For many years he contributed "The Trail of Commonwealth" column in *Philately from Australia*, and he was the editor of the 18th to 26th editions of *The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue* (1957-65). His other interests included the Barred Numeral cancellations of Victoria, in which he undertook a considerable amount of original research which was incorporated into J.R.W. Purves' 1963 handbook. He also formed a fine collection of postal stationery, and was the author of both the Australian Commonwealth and Victorian postal stationery listings in Volume IV of the Robson Lowe *Encyclopædia*. Most of his collections were sold through the Society's auction several years ago.

## FORWARDERS OF AUSTRALIAN MAIL

By DALE FORSTER and ED DRUCE

Kenneth Rowe, in *The Postal History of the Forwarding Agents*, defines a forwarding agent as "A person or firm, who undertakes to see that the goods or correspondence of another are transported without himself acting as carrier." In the 1984 revision of the above work, Rowe lists three forwarders from Melbourne, but no other Australian forwarders. This article expands on the Rowe listing of Australian forwarders, and looks at forwarders outside Australia who sometimes directed Australian letters en route to various destinations.

Rowe's definition above attempts to distinguish forwarders from local posts and express companies which *carried* mail. There are grey areas, however, and some firms carried local letters *and* arranged for carriage of ocean-going mail. In Australia, Burdell's express carried mail in Victoria, but also advertised that they arranged for carriage of sea mail to Launceston, Adelaide, England, and America. Burdell's well-known green label advertised both a forwarding and delivery service, so Burdell's express can be considered to have performed both functions. The known Burdell's covers all were delivered locally in Melbourne, so Rowe does not list the company as a forwarder. Presumably if a Burdell's cover were found to an overseas destination, they would be listed as a forwarder. The American express company, Adams & Company, had Melbourne and Sydney offices and performed a forwarding business in Australia. They advertised that they arranged shipment of parcels and mail to England and America, and are listed by Rowe as a Melbourne forwarder.

### En Route Forwarders

Figure 1 shows a letter from Sydney to Singapore which began in the government mail system but was given over to a private forwarder in Batavia. A red "3" in manuscript designates the ship postage paid in Sydney, and there is a red Ship Letter Sydney oval handstamp of 17 August 1846. The private ship *Kyle* took the letter to Batavia where it was delivered to Maclaine Watson & Co. who applied their red handstamp and arranged passage to Singapore. The fact that a private firm was used to forward post office mail may make a statement about the capabilities of the Batavia post office in 1846. If Maclaine Watson collected a fee it must have come from the Singapore addressee.

The cover in Figure 2 has no Australian markings, but is headed Hobson's Bay, Port Phillip, and is written by an American ship captain to the owners of the ship in Salem, Massachusetts, U.S.A. It was given over to the captain of a private ship crossing the Pacific, and at Panama was given over to Adams & Co. At Panama a red oval handstamp reading "FORWARDED BY/J.M. FREEMAN. AGENT OF/ADAMS & Co's EXPRESS/PANAMA" was applied. There are no U.S. postal markings applied on arrival in New York, so presumably Adams or another private carrier delivered the letter to Salem, Massachusetts. It is possible that the cover had been given over to Adams in Melbourne, but there is no marking or letter contents to prove it. We have as yet seen no covers with an Australian forwarder marking and another forwarder marking from another part of the world applied en route - such a franking could exist, as covers with two or



Figure 1. 1846 entire from Sydney to Singapore with the MACLAINE WATSON & Co. forwarder's handstamp applied en route in Batavia.

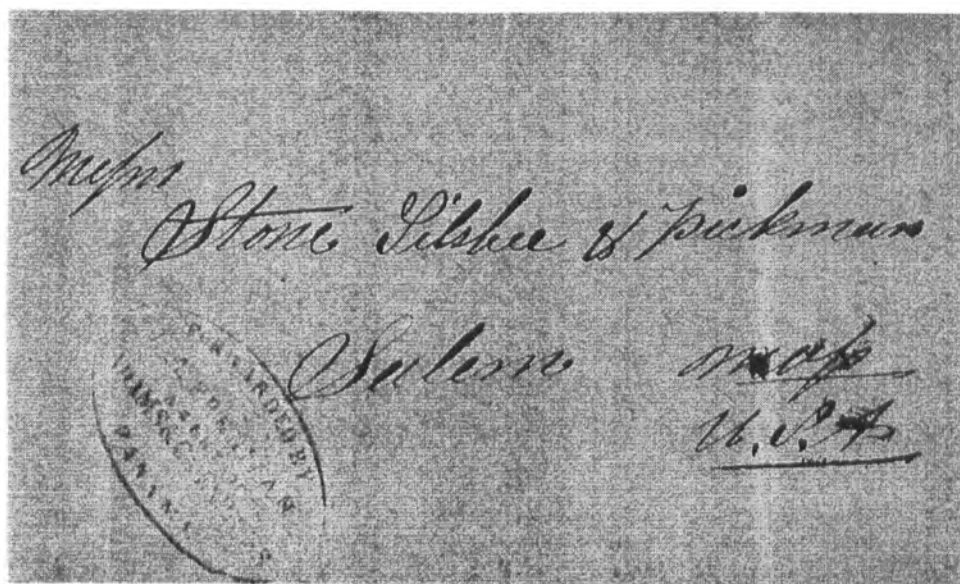


Figure 2. 1848 entire from Port Phillip to Salem, Massachusetts, with the ADAMS & CO. forwarder's handstamp applied en route in Panama.

more forwarder handstamps are not too uncommon. In fact, one of the Australian letters listed below has forwarder markings from Lima and Panama.

Other en route forwarders of Australian mail so far recorded:

1. Hobart, Tasmania to New London, Connecticut, U.S.A. 1 January 1848, addressed care of Harnden & Co., Liverpool. Shows G.P.O. Hobarttown handstamp and circular Harnden handstamp applied in Liverpool (Christie's Robson Lowe, Melbourne, 17 October 1990, Lot 43).

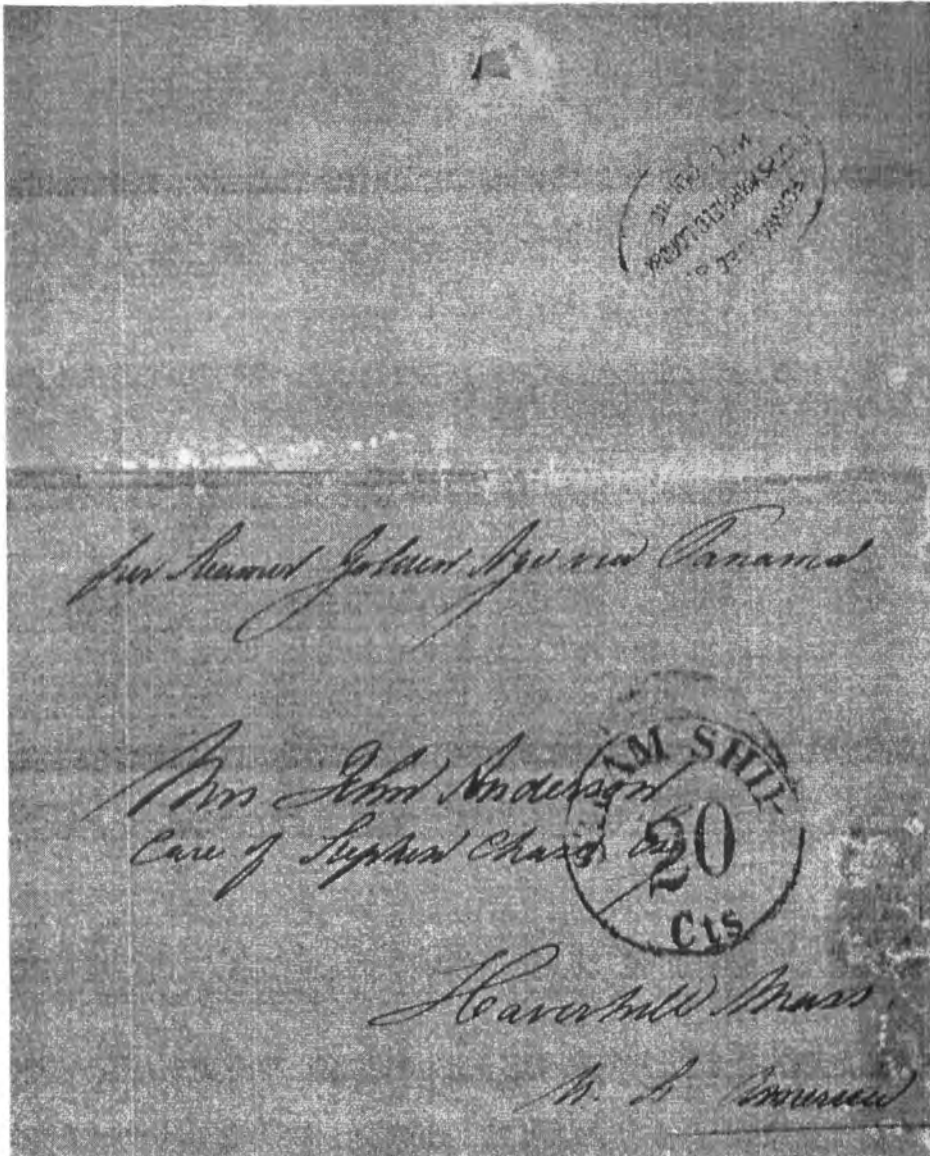


Figure 3. 1854 entire from Melbourne to Massachusetts with the forwarder's handstamp of Rogers, Warfield, Lord & Co., Melbourne.

2. Melbourne, Victoria to Messrs. Moses Taylor & Co., New York, U.S.A., care of Messrs. Wm. Smith & Sons, Liverpool. Taylor & Co. was a New York forwarding firm and Smith & Sons were their Liverpool agents. The letter is franked with a 3d Ham Half-Length, and entered the government mail in Melbourne, 3 October 1853. It was sent to Liverpool on the private ship *Great Britain*, receiving a black "8" for the postage paid in Liverpool. It was carried privately to New York, thereby avoiding the 37c postage it would have incurred if sent in the mail. There are no forwarder markings.

3. Sydney, N.S.W. to San Francisco, California, U.S.A. 6 June 1855, inscribed via Callao, and with no Australian markings. Indistinct red oval handstamp of a Lima, Peru forwarder, and red double-oval forwarder handstamp of Cova & Co., Panama. "20" handstamp applied in San Francisco for steamship postage due by addressee. (Illustrated in *United States Incoming Steamship Mail 1847-1875*, Theron Wierenga, 1983, page 149).

### AUSTRALIAN FORWARDERS

#### Melbourne

Rowe lists an Adams & Co. shield handstamp (see cover to Adelaide illustrated on page 13 of J.R.W. Purves' article "Burdell's Express" in *The Stamp Specialist Mahogany Book*, 1947). There also exist manuscript markings for Adams & Co. Rowe also lists oval handstamps for Flower McDonald & Co. and Rogers, Warfield, Lord & Co. We have not seen the Flower McDonald handstamp, but illustrate the only Rogers, Warfield, Lord cover seen to date. The oval handstamp reading "FORWARDED BY/ROGERS WARFIELD LORD & CO./MELBOURNE" does not show up clearly on Figure 3, but in manuscript the cover is routed "per steamer *Golden Age* via Panama". Apparently the cover was given to the captain of the *Golden Age* in Melbourne on the experimental Pacific route packet voyage in May 1854. At Panama the cover went into the U.S. mail system, crossed the Isthmus, and took a contract ship to New York where the STEAMSHIP 20 cts marking designated the postage due from addressee.

A handstamp used from Melbourne in 1858 not listed by Rowe was in the Purves collection and appeared in Robson Lowe's Sale 4608, 13 May 1981, Lot 731. This cover is described as being from Melbourne to New York and endorsed "via Marseilles". It is franked with a 1/- Octagonal, 6d Woodblock and 2d Emblems, and the New York Packet "5" handstamp was applied on arrival. On the reverse, in blue-green, is a double-oval handstamp reading "FORWARDED BY/NEWELL HOOPER & STEVENS/MELBOURNE VICTORIA".

Figure 4 shows the first forwarder's label seen used from Australia. The envelope is endorsed "p(er) Tasmania and Callao", and we cannot tell for sure if "Tasmania" refers to a ship name or to the Colony. The June 1855 contents are enclosed, and relate to a shipment of lumber. The letter is signed by Rogers, Warfield & Lord, the forwarders of the 1854 cover illustrated in Figure 3, and apparently they were no longer in the forwarding business a year later. The Port Phillip Directory of 1855 lists Burlingame & Co., American Stove Merchants, at 87 Bourke Street East and 15 A'Beckett Street in Melbourne. The label is on rose paper with black letters surrounded by a frame of arrows which may signify the company's shipping in both directions between Melbourne and New York. The absence of U.S. postage can be explained by the fact that the addressees were consignors of merchandise, and thus exempt from the provision that private ship letters be turned over dockside to the post office at the U.S. port of entry to ensure collection of postage.





Figure 4. The forwarding label of Burlingame & Co., Melbourne on an 1855 cover.

### Geelong

Rowe lists no forwarders from Geelong, but an 1849 manuscript marking reading "Forwarded by Y.O.S. Dansford & Co." has been found on a cover to Birmingham, England. The cover is directed per *Posthumous* and has a red manuscript "3" designating prepayment of outgoing Victorian ship postage, a Geelong Port Phillip handstamp, a black manuscript "8" for the private ship postage due in England, and an April 19 Birmingham arrival handstamp. The cover probably was written somewhere else, then brought into Geelong and handed over to the forwarder. We thank Max Watson for making a photocopy of this cover available to us.

### Sydney

Rowe lists no forwarders from Sydney, and surprisingly *The Postal History of New South Wales* does not do much in this area either. H.L. Chisholm, writing in *Philately from Australia* in 1965, addressed the 1830s Sydney forwarders of early New Zealand mail. John Thomas Wilson, an ironmonger at 68 George St., forwarded New Zealand mail in the 1833-1836 period. *The Postal History of New South Wales* mentions these Sydney forwarders of New Zealand mail: Campbell & Co., Wilson & Uther, Wilson (alone), and the Wesleyan Missionary Society. The latter organisation forwarded their own mail from missions in New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. There is evidence that the Sydney forwarders of New Zealand mail forwarded both outgoing mail from New Zealand and incoming mail to New Zealand. George Molnar has shown us an 1844 letter from Hobart Town, Tasmania sent to New Zealand "Care of Messrs. Campbell & Co., Campbell's Wharf, Sydney".

One of the authors, writing in *Capital Philately* in May 1988, illustrates an 1839 entire from Sydney to London with a circular handstamp of "DELOITTES SYDNEY". There are no

Australian post office markings so presumably the letter was given over to the ship captain. In England it received Falmouth and London arrival handstamps. The letter was written by Campbell of Campbell's Wharf, who used Deloitte to arrange forwarding. At least one other letter from the same correspondence with an example of the Deloitte handstamp has been recorded.

One of the authors (E.D.) has two 1838 covers from Ollerton, U.K., via London, one per private ship *Earl Grey*, addressed "To the care of A.B.C. Smith & Co., Agents, Sydney, New South Wales". Smith & Co. were ship chandlers and performed a forwarding service. The other cover is addressed to "Mr. R.N. Rhodes on board the *John*". Both covers have postal markings from the U.K. and Sydney arrival markings.



Figure 5. Reverse of 1858 envelope to the United States Consul, New Zealand, with the oval forwarder's handstamp of Merrill & Leavitt, Sydney.

Figure 5 illustrates the back of an 1858 envelope addressed to the United States Consul, Bay of Islands, New Zealand, care of United States Consul, Sydney, New South Wales. The origin of the letter is not known, but it came into Melbourne by ship and has a red G.P.O. Ship Letter handstamp. It arrived at Sydney as a ship letter four days letter, and was given over to Merrill & Leavitt for forwarding to New Zealand. They applied the first example of their oval handstamp we have seen, and we have not been able to determine if Merrill & Leavitt were connected with the U.S. consulate in Sydney, or were a private commercial firm. In either case, the Merrill & Leavitt Sydney handstamp is a previously unrecorded forwarder marking.

An example of another previously unknown Sydney forwarder handstamp has been reported to us by George Molnar. The oval handstamp reads "FORWARDED BY/GILCHRIST, WATT & CO.", and is seen on an 1859 envelope to London which was mailed at Sydney with an imperforate 1/- Diadem. Gilchrist, Watt & Co. were a firm of Sydney shipping agents.

### Newcastle

Figure 6 is a Newcastle cover first reported by Robson Lowe in the November 1990 issue of *Sydney Views*. It shows a red boxed octagonal handstamp "FORWARDED BY/MITCHELL & TULLY/NEWCASTLE". Mitchell & Tully were commercial forwarders in Newcastle, and Barbara Hancock has found evidence in the Sydney archives that Mitchell & Tully notified the Sydney postmaster about Pacific route sailings from Newcastle. This letter, written in Sydney

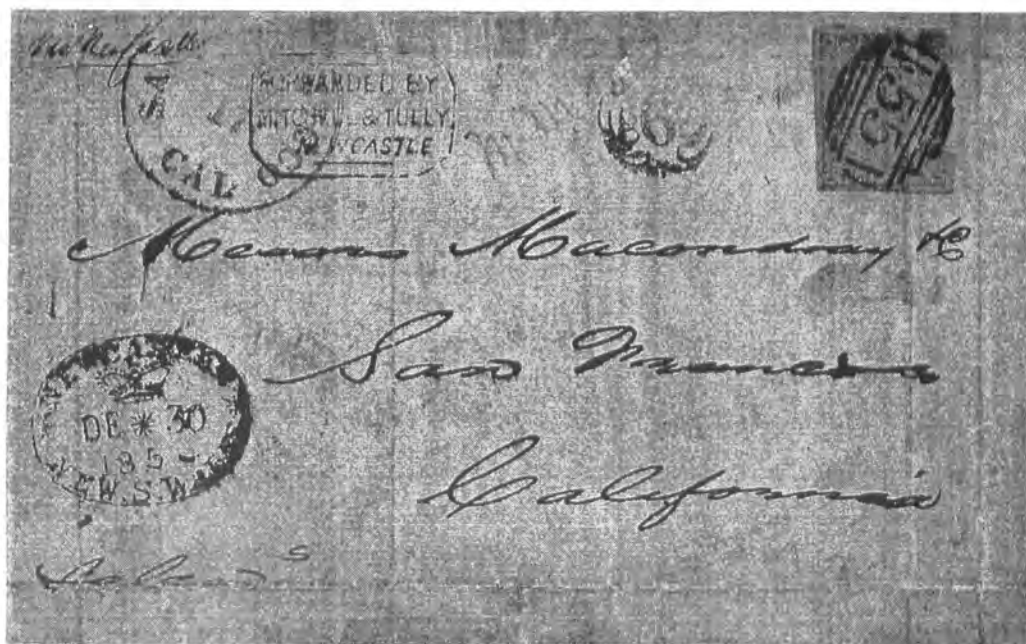


Figure 6. 1852 cover from Sydney to San Francisco routed via Newcastle, and with Mitchell & Tully's forwarder's handstamp.

on 30 December 1852, was sent by the post office to Newcastle to catch the American ship *Salem*, which sailed direct for San Francisco. Forwarders performed a valuable service in advertising Pacific route sailings. Except for the one experimental voyage of the *Golden Age* in 1854, there were no contract sailings across the Pacific until the New Zealand Panama Line of 1866, but private ship Pacific routing could save time and money. If this letter had gone via England, the addressee would have had to pay at least 37c if carried by private ship, more if by contract packet. In this case the addressee paid the 6c arrival fee for a private ship letter arriving at the port of destination (2c for the ship captain and 4c postage). Note the "SHIP/6" in clamshell arrival marking applied at San Francisco. Although not indexed under "forwarders" or "Mitchell & Tully", there is a second example of this handstamp illustrated on page 146 of *The Postal History of New South Wales*. It is on an O.H.M.S. cover from the Newcastle Harbour Master to the Sydney Port Master dated 29 May 1851, and the forwarder handstamp is in black. This cover is in the New South Wales archives, and although these archives were well-researched for postal markings preparatory to publication of the Postal History book, one wonders if any forwarder markings went unreported?

Figure 7 shows a handstamp for Geo. Mitchell, presumably after Tully had dropped out of the picture. One of the authors (E.D.) first reported this 1855 cover in his May 1988 article in *Capital Philately*, and he reported a second cover in the archives with a second handstamp. The second cover was reported orally to Druce by the researchers for the Postal History book, so probably it is the item later illustrated on page 146 of the book. Presumably Mitchell, a shipping agent, received the cover from a private ship (? the north coast of New South Wales), applied the 2d Laureate, and gave the letter to the post office.

The above listing of Australian forwarders can undoubtedly be expanded, and there is a



Figure 7. Geo. Mitchell's forwarding handstamp on an 1855 cover.

chance that forwarder markings may be found from other major ports such as Adelaide and Fremantle. The authors would appreciate hearing about any new information and markings. When the Rowe forwarder book is next revised, Australia should be given much better representation.

#### References

- Chisholm, H.L. "New Zealand's First Forwarding Agent in Sydney", *Philately from Australia*, June 1965.  
 Druce, E.C. "Postal History Column - Forwarding Agents", *Capital Philately*, May 1988.  
 Levy, Allan A. "Adams & Co.'s Express, The Melbourne Australia Branch", *Collectors Club Philatelist*, May 1982.  
 Purves, J.R.W. "Burdell's Express", *The Stamp Specialist Mahogany Book*, H.L. Lindquist, New York, 1947.  
 Rowe, Kenneth, *The Postal History of the Forwarding Agents*, Leonard Hartmann, 1984.  
 White, J.S. (ed.). *The Postal History of New South Wales 1788-1901*, Philatelic Association of N.S.W., Sydney, 1988.

## PUBLICATIONS MANAGER APPOINTED

Sale of the publications of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria will henceforth be the responsibility of the Society itself.

Russell Turner has been appointed the Publications Manager, and all orders and enquiries regarding publications should be addressed to him care of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Box 2071, G.P.O. Melbourne, 3001

The list of publications currently available will be found on the back cover of this issue.

## 6d KANGAROO POSTAL STATIONERY ENVELOPES

By MARGARET HORTON

Since the publication in *Philately from Australia*, June 1992, pages 35-38, of my original article on the 6d Kangaroo stamped-to-order envelopes a second 6d brown imprinted "FOY & GIBSON Pty. Ltd./MELBOURNE/Winter Catalogue 1929" large brown manilla envelope was acquired mid-1995 by an American postal stationery collector who has kindly made an enlargement of the imprint available to me.

This envelope, similar to mine in all aspects except the imprint, is also re-addressed to Footscray, but from Dimboola, with the typewritten address label bearing Dimboola datestamp, 12 MR. Following personal research of the printed/issued records (File RBA NP-S-9 to 11), Richard Peck's *Australian Stamp Archives* (1986) figures are substantiated. For the period to June 1928 when the printed/issued records cease, only two printings, and issues, of 6d stamped-to-order envelopes are found: November 1916 - 1,741, and December 1920 - 100, all of which bore the imprint in blue, the colour change to brown occurring December 1923, due to U.P.U. requirements.

There must have been another printing after June 1928 to create the two known 6d brown "FOY & GIBSON" envelopes, both datestamped March 1929.



The two electros used show little similarity. The 12 March usage imprint is apparently Die 2, with no obvious evidence of the Die 2A flaw, whereas the 20 March usage (refer previous article) gives the appearance of a retouched Die 2A flaw.

The earlier dated imprint is very interesting. It shows a large, almost square break in three background lines immediately below foot of "L" and a possible retouch to the first two lines from top frame above "AL". These two lines appear to slope towards the right inner frame corner, which the top line joins. There is no evidence of the rounded outer frame in the top right corner (on either imprint). There are several breaks in the background lines between "AG" and the north coast. The left outer frame is of variable width, as is the right frame, especially from opposite Tasmania, where it bulges towards the inner frame, to the middle

stroke of "E". Opposite the top bar of "E", the inner frame is thinned and broken, with colour dash opposite break almost touching the outer frame, appearing to be a splinter broken from the inner frame. Other flaws are a break in two shading lines immediately above "C", below and to left of the bottom of Tasmania. From the lower left inner frame, under "S", a definite break occurs in three background lines. There are also broken lines under the foot of the first "E" of "PENCE".

If anyone has a cut-out or piece with this 6d imprint, in blue or brown, I would be most interested to hear from them.

## THE 2/- KANGAROO "REDRAWN DIE" OF 1945

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

Since the article on this subject in the September 1995 *Philately from Australia*, further researches at the Reserve Bank Archives in Sydney provide a short addendum. An estimate of 13½-14 million stamps issued was given on the basis of incomplete annual delivery figures. It is now possible to be much more accurate. Register RBA NP-RP-6 is a Watermarked Paper Stock Book which lists the quantities of paper issued to the printing room, the date of issue, and the purpose for which the paper was issued. Thus, the total quantity printed of each stamp can be computed. For the 2/- Kangaroo, for the relevant period, the entries are:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Order Nos.</i>	<i>Sheets of Watermarked</i>	<i>Quantity of Stamps Paper 25 x 27"</i>
28.11.1945	145-164	5000	2,400,000
29.1.1946	165-184	5000	2,400,000
25.6.1946	185-204	5000	2,400,000
30.10.1946	205-224	5000	2,400,000
13.1.1947	225-254	7500	3,600,000
17.1.1947	255-284	7500	3,600,000
TOTAL		35000	16,800,000

The dates will be seen to correspond closely with the records of plate movements taken from Register NP.-IS-14, and confirm that five printings were made - there being two separate issues of paper for the final printing. The "Order Nos." represent printing warrants, each order representing a ream of paper. These Order Nos. begin at "1" for each different stamp, the earlier numbers for the 2/- Kangaroo being those for the previous printings from the original (1913) plates. The size of the sheets of paper (25 x 27", cut from larger sheets) indicates each sheet was printed 480-on, and thus cut in half prior to printing. This yields the quantities given in the last column. The final January 1947 printing of 7,200,000 stamps was from the re-arranged plate with wide (25mm) gutter. It should be emphasised that the total figure of 16,800,000 stamps is a quantity printed, and takes no account of (i) spoils in manufacture, (ii) any quantity still at the Note Printing Branch following the issue of the 2/- Aboriginal Art stamp, and (iii) unsold stock at post offices.

## QUEENSLAND: THE 1892 STAMP DUTY SERIES

By KEN SCUDDER

Here is some further information on these Duty Stamps, much of which has been due to the assistance given the author by Dave Elsmore of Queensland.

Refer to the previous articles in *Philately from Australia*, December 1993, March 1994 and March 1995.

### BASIC DESIGN GROUP

#### Three Pence

This is the first type of this value, and has the "washed-out" appearance. It now appears the length of issue may be as short as 6 months, as an early date of 10.4.1895 is reported for the second type.

No dated examples were originally noted for this first type. Three dates are now reported, 4.8.1898, 14.2.1901, and 4.5.1909.

In view of the early demise of this type, it appears odd that these dates are so late. Perhaps they are from remainders which were not destroyed when the second type was issued.

#### Six Pence

A new early date of 5.7.1892 and a new latest date of 28.11.1901.

#### One Shilling

A new early date for the blue colour stamps of 3.7.1892. Three stamps are reported all with the date written 7.3.92. As these stamps were not issued until 1st July 1892 the date is most likely to be 3rd July 1892. However it could be a backdated cancel. There is also a backup date of 7.7.1892.

In the original article a note relating to the fact that stamps in both the blue and the brownish-claret colours appear to have been used concurrently was inadvertently omitted, except for the first word "No". This followed the dates and should have read, "No explanation has been seen for this, and it can only be surmised that these may have been used for two separate types of duty". Recent enquiries made to the Office of State Revenue, Queensland Treasury, shed no light on this issue.

#### Two Shillings

A new early date of 5.9.1892 for the yellow-orange, but in a pale shade. Also a new early date for the pale yellow of 6.6.1900, with the latest date now 14.1.1907.

It would appear the change of colour occurred around the early part of 1900.

#### Five Shillings

A new late date of 4.3.1904.

**Ten Shillings**

Some late usage has been noted by the author in the Seamen's Engagement Book of the Shipping Master, Townsville at the Australian Archives, Queensland. Three 1910 dates and two for 1911, the latest being 30.1.1911.

**One Pound**

Late usage, also in the Seamen's Engagement Book. Latest date 12.11.1910.

**ALTERED DESIGN GROUP****Three Pence**

A new earliest date of 10.4.1895.

It was originally stated that six types may be distinguished by the reworking to the bottom of the "STAMP DUTY" tablet, and by the positioning of the words "THREE/PENCE", and that these words appeared to have been *engraved* in a block. Now that the number of variations to these two distinguishing features has grown to sixteen the question as to how this 3d plate was prepared needed to be reviewed. It then became obvious that no 3d working dies were used at all, and that the plate was prepared as follows;

Lead moulds were struck from the paired working die of the 3/- value and not from the 3/- intermediate die as originally suggested. This is indicated by the fact that some, but not all, of these sixteen varieties exhibit the 'blunted star' deformity of the 3/- Type I.

The words of value, "THREE SHILLINGS", were removed from the lead moulds. It was in this operation that the varying degrees of damage to the bottom of the "STAMP DUTY" tablet occurred.

The plate electros, with blank value areas, were then grown in the electro-plating bath.

The new words of value, "THREE PENCE", were *stamped* in a block onto each of the plate electros. The reason for believing this is their rough appearance, which, had they been engraved, would have been finer.

**Three Shillings**

A new latest date of 13.8.1904.

**Five Pounds**

The first two reported dated examples, 24.3.1903 and 19.7.12. Again, it seems odd that no earlier dates have yet been seen.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

*Research Medal of the Australian Commonwealth Collectors' Club*

Geoff Kellow has been awarded the 1995 Research Medal of The Australian Commonwealth Collectors' Club of New South Wales. In the citation issued by the Club, Dr. Kellow's authorship of the *Index to the Philatelic Literature of the Commonwealth of Australia, Kangaroos,*

and *The Stamps of Victoria*, and his editorship of *Philately from Australia* were mentioned.

*New Fellows of the R.P.S.,L.*

Two further members have been made fellows of The Royal Philatelic Society, London. They are Malcolm Groom (Hobart) and Bernie Beston (Brisbane).



## THE DE LA RUE CORRESPONDENCE BOOKS

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

*(continued from December 1995, page 111)*

### VI. GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS

The Correspondence Books for this Colony are quite straightforward, the whole being concerned exclusively with postage stamps. The letters regarding the provision of the Pandanus Pine design in 1911 seem incomplete. Gilbert & Ellice Islands was the only Pacific Colony for which De La Rue printed the 1937 omnibus set for King George VI's Coronation. Some letters provide some previously unrecorded information. For the 1918 1d War Tax overprint, De La Rue note that they will use the overprint plate that had been used previously for St. Lucia. Late in 1941, De La Rue successfully tendered for the production of a commemorative issue. The subject of these stamps is not actually revealed in the letters, and virtually nothing seems to have been published on this subject. However, the issue was apparently for the 50th Anniversary of the Protectorate, such a set being announced for issue in the *Australian Stamp Monthly*, March 1942, page 63, and the *Australian Stamp Journal*, March 1942, page 73.

All correspondence is between the Crown Agents and De La Rue.

- 29.4.1910      *From CA* - enclosing an order for overprints on Fiji stamps:
- |     |            |     |           |
|-----|------------|-----|-----------|
| ½d  | 100 sheets | 6d  | 50 sheets |
| 1d  | 100 sheets | 1/- | 50 sheets |
| 2½d | 75 sheets  |     |           |
- 10.5.1910      *From DLR* - re 29.4.1910, acknowledged. Cost of overprint plate given, and specimen of overprint enclosed.
- 30.4.1910      *From CA* - re 29.4.1910, note that the name of the island is Ellice, not Ellis.
- 10.5.1910      *From DLR* - re 30.4.1910, acknowledged.
- 30.5.1910      *From CA* - re 10.5.1910, the stamps for overprinting are to be specially printed. In addition, 100 sheets of 2d and 75 sheets of 5d are required.
- 31.5.1910      *From DLR* - re 30.5.1910, acknowledged.
- 2.6.1910      *From CA* - enquiring when the overprinted stamps will be ready.
- 3.6.1910      *From DLR* - re 2.6.1910, the stamps will be ready in six weeks.
- 15.6.1910      *From CA* - re 30.5.1910, the quantity required of the 5d is to be altered to 50 sheets.
- 16.6.1910      *From DLR* - re 15.6.1910, acknowledged.
- 30.6.1910      *From DLR* - re 10.5.1910, overprints in red and black on the 1/- are enclosed. The red overprint is more distinctive on the green paper.
- 30.6.1910      *From CA* - returning the design submitted 16.6.1910 [letter absent], approved.
- 1.7.1910      *From DLR* - re 30.6.1910, acknowledged.
- 8.7.1910      *From CA* - re 30.6.1910, the red overprint on the 1/- stamp is approved. Please supply 1/- with red overprint and 1d with black overprint over FIJI.

- 12.7.1910 *From DLR* - re 8.7.1910, Appendix sheet enclosed showing 1/- overprint in red as requested. All stamps but the 1/- overprinted in black have been handed to the Inspector.
- 15.7.1910 *From CA* - re 12.7.1910, the overprint on 1/- (original type) approved.
- 2.8.1910 *From DLR* - re 15.7.1910, acknowledged.
- 4.8.1910 *From CA* - the quantities required of stamps in the new design are:
- |     |        |
|-----|--------|
| ½d  | 25,000 |
| 1d  | 50,000 |
| 2d  | 50,000 |
| 2½d | 30,000 |
- Three copies of the copper plate price schedule are required for transmission to Fiji.
- 5.8.1910 *From DLR* - re 4.5.1910, acknowledged., and enquiring whether the copper plate colour scheme is to be followed. Three copies of the price schedule enclosed.
- 28.11.1910 *From CA* - enclosing telegram from High Commissioner re delivery of stamps.
- 28.11.1910 *From DLR* - re 28.11.1910, the stamps were delivered Friday last.
- 24.3.1911 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps.
- 27.3.1911 *From DLR* - re 27.3.1911, acknowledged. Order for:
- |    |            |     |            |
|----|------------|-----|------------|
| ½d | 434 sheets | 2d  | 875 sheets |
| 1d | 861 sheets | 2½d | 551 sheets |
- 10.10.1911 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps.
- 14.10.1911 *From DLR* - re 10.10.1911, acknowledged. Order for:
- |     |         |
|-----|---------|
| 5d  | 120,000 |
| 6d  | 120,000 |
| 1/- | 120,000 |
- Sketch for the overprint plate is enclosed.
- 27.10.1911 *From CA* - re 14.10.1911, the title may be abbreviated to "Gilbert & Ellice Islands". We prefer the values in all new plates to be in colour on a plain ground. The Universal Colour Scheme is to be followed. The sketch is returned, and a telegram enclosed notifying an alteration in the quantities required.
- 2.11.1911 *From DLR* - re 27.10.1911, acknowledged. It is noted that the quantities required are now 60,000 of each value. A new design for the overprint plate is enclosed.
- 23.11.1911 *From CA* - re 2.11.1911, design for overprint plated approved and returned.
- 24.11.1911 *From DLR* - re 23.11.1911, acknowledged. We assume the stamps are to be printed from the King George V plates.
- 20.1.1912 *From CA* - re 24.11.1911, an order has now been received for 120,000 ½d stamps of the same type.
- 22.1.1912 *From DLR* - re 20.1.1912, acknowledged.
- 12.3.1912 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- 13.3.1912 *From DLR* - re 12.3.1912, acknowledged. Order for:
- |     |        |      |        |
|-----|--------|------|--------|
| 4d  | 60,000 | 2/6d | 12,000 |
| 2/- | 12,000 | 5/-  | 12,000 |
- Cost given.
- 10.4.1912 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- 11.4.1912 *From DLR* - re 10.4.1912, acknowledged. Order for:
- |     |        |
|-----|--------|
| 1d  | 60,000 |
| 2d  | 60,000 |
| 2½d | 60,000 |
- Cost of dies and plates provided.
- 6.10.1913 *From CA* - order for postage stamps.
- 7.10.1913 *From DLR* - re 6.10.1913, acknowledged. Order for 60,000 ½d and 60,000 1d King George V stamps.
- 3.8.1915 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps.

- 4.8.1915 *From DLR* - re 3.8.1915, acknowledged. Order for 60,000 ½d and 90,000 1d stamps.
- 29.12.1917 *From CA* - enclosing order for 1d War Tax stamps.
- 31.12.1917 *From DLR* - re 29.12.1917, acknowledged. Order for 4,000 sheets of 1d War Tax stamps. We propose to use the overprint plate prepared for St. Lucia.
- 23.1.1918 *From CA* - enclosing order for 500 sheets of 3d postage stamps (new duty).
- 24.1.1918 *From DLR* - re 23.1.1918, acknowledged. Order for 500 sheets of 3d. Cost of die and plate given, the die to show a solid figure on white ground.
- 28.1.1918 *From CA* - re 24.1.1918, design approved.
- 30.1.1918 *From DLR* - re 28.1.1918, acknowledged.
- 29.10.1918 *From CA* - the mail carrying the 504 sheets (each of 120) 3d stamps was lost at sea through enemy action. A reprint is requested.
- ? date *From DLR* - re 29.10.1918, acknowledged. Delivery will be in six weeks.
- 24.7.1919 *From CA* - enclosing order for 1d postage stamps.
- 25.7.1919 *From DLR* - re 24.7.1919, acknowledged. Order for 1,000 sheets of 1d stamps.
- 3.6.1921 *From CA* - enclosing order for 3,000 sheets of 2d postage stamps, urgently required.
- 4.6.1921 *From DLR* - re 3.6.1921, acknowledged.
- 13.6.1922 *From CA* - enclosing order for 3,000 sheets of ½d postage stamps.
- 14.6.1922 *From DLR* - re 13.6.1922, acknowledged.
- 2.10.1923 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- |      |         |
|------|---------|
| 1½d  | 240,000 |
| 10.- | 60,000  |
| £1   | 60,000  |
- The 1½d stamp is to be in red.
- 9.10.1923 *From DLR* - re 2.10.1923, acknowledged.
- 6.4.1927 *From DLR* - re 5.4.1927, acknowledged.
- 5.4.1927 *From CA* - re 4.4.1927, 1d proof approved and returned.
- 4.4.1927 *From DLR* - enclosing 1d proof in selected colour.
- 18.2.1927 *From CA* - order for 240,000 1d postage stamps, to be printed in blue-purple. A colour proof is to be submitted, and 424 Specimens are required.
- 12.10.1936 *From CA* - enclosing order for King Edward VIII stamps:
- |           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| 1d violet | 420,000 |
| 1½d red   | 420,000 |
| 3d blue   | 420,000 |
- Also 416 specimens of each value.
- 13.11.1936 *From DLR* - re 13.11.1936, acknowledged.
- 13.11.1936 *From CA* - re 12.11.1936, proofs approved for die and colour.
- 12.11.1936 *From DLR* - re 28.10.1936, enclosing proofs of the 1½d in approved red shade, showing stamp in finished state.
- 28.10.1936 *From DLR* - re 24.10.1936, acknowledged. The correction is noted.
- 24.10.1936 *From CA* - re 22.10.1936, the proof of the king Edward VIII stamps is approved for lettering and values, and returned. The "O" of "ONE" on the 1d is slightly out of alignment and should be corrected.
- 22.10.1936 *From DLR* - enclosing proofs of the three King Edward VIII stamps, submitted for approval of lettering and values.
- 23.11.1936 *From DLR* - re 20.11.1936, acknowledged.
- 20.11.1936 *From CA* - re 19.11.1936, proofs approved and returned.

- 19.11.1936 From DLR - re 28.10.1936, enclosing proofs of the 1d and 3d taken from transfer dies.
- 20.1.1937 From DLR - re 19.1.1937, acknowledged.
- 19.1.1937 From CA - re 19.1.1937, proofs of dies for the 1d, 1½d and 3d Coronation are approved and returned.
- 19.1.1937 From DLR - enclosing proofs of dies of the 1d, 1½d and 3d Coronation stamps.
- 25.1.1937 From DLR - re 22.1.1937, acknowledged.
- 22.1.1937 From CA - re 21.1.1937, colour proofs approved and returned. Please forward two further sets, as we have forwarded one set to Bradbury Wilkinson to be followed for British Solomon Islands.
- 29.1.1937 From DLR - re 28.1.1937, acknowledged.
- 28.1.1937 From CA - re 26.1.1937, acknowledged. One set of proofs is approved and returned.
- 26.1.1937 From DLR - re 25.1.1937, enclosing two further sets of colour proofs as requested.
- 27.1.1937 From CA - enclosing order for Coronation stamps:
- |     |         |
|-----|---------|
| 1d  | 212,000 |
| 1½d | 190,000 |
| 3d  | 156,000 |
- Also 416 Specimens of each value.
- 3.2.1937 From DLR - re 2.2.1937, acknowledged An amended estimate of cost is enclosed.
- 2.2.1937 From CA - re 27.1.1937, the quantities of Coronation stamps have been amended to:
- |     |         |
|-----|---------|
| 1d  | 252,000 |
| 1½d | 220,000 |
| 3d  | 186,000 |
- 6.4.1937 From CA - enclosing order for further quantities of Coronation stamps:
- |     |         |
|-----|---------|
| 1d  | 218,000 |
| 1½d | 135,000 |
| 3d  | 129,000 |
- 27.5.1937 From CA - enclosing order for further quantities of coronation stamps, urgently required:
- |     |        |
|-----|--------|
| 1d  | 18,000 |
| 1½d | 15,000 |
| 3d  | 30,000 |
- 27.8.1937 From CA - enclosing order for further quantities of Coronation stamps, urgently required:
- |     |        |
|-----|--------|
| 1d  | 39,000 |
| 1½d | 30,000 |
| 3d  | 39,000 |
- 15.9.1937 From CA - enclosing order for further quantities of Coronation stamps, urgently required:
- |     |        |
|-----|--------|
| 1d  | 25,400 |
| 1½d | 23,000 |
| 3d  | 23,000 |
- 8.12.1937 From DLR - re 7.12.1937, the stamps are being printed today and will be delivered early next week.
- 7.12.1937 From CA - re order of 1.12.1937, the stamps must be delivered by 21 December without fail.
- 1.12.1937 From CA - enclosing order for further quantities of coronation stamps, urgently required:
- |     |        |
|-----|--------|
| 1d  | 31,640 |
| 1½d | 18,740 |
| 3d  | 18,740 |
- 25.8.1937 From DLR - re 24.8.1937, acknowledged.
- 24.8.1937 From CA - re 17.8.1937, it will be sufficient that your quote, together with designs, is submitted not later than noon on 12 October.
- 23.8.1937 From DLR - re 17.8.1937, receipt of tender form acknowledged, and requesting an extension of the time for submission to 9 October.

- 23.9.1937 *From CA* - re 17.8.1937, note that CA paper is also available in size 21 x 16" (22/- per ream). It has been decided to extend the date of submission of tenders to 22 October, but quotes should reach us by 12 October.
- 17.8.1937 *From CA* - enclosing tender form for a new pictorial postage stamp issue. The sketches referred to will be available in a few days, and should be returned within 24 hours.
- 12.10.1937 *From DLR* - enclosing tender for new pictorial issue. Values to be ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 5d, 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6 and 5/-, using pictorial designs in sheets of 60. The designs to be selected from 17 sketches, and all to bear the portrait of the King at left or centre. Cost of dies, plates and printing appended. The quantities required are:
- |     |         |      |        |
|-----|---------|------|--------|
| ½d  | 108,000 | 5d   | 45,000 |
| 1d  | 96,000  | 6d   | 42,000 |
| 1½d | 236,000 | 1/-  | 39,000 |
| 2d  | 66,000  | 2/-  | 28,000 |
| 2½d | 66,000  | 2/6d | 21,000 |
| 3d  | 75,000  | 5/-  | 15,000 |
- 21.2.1938 *From DLR* - re 19.2.1938, acknowledged.
- 19.2.1938 *From CA* - re 12.10.1937, please submit revised trial designs for 1½d, 2½d, 3d and 1/- modified in accordance with the enclosed schedule. Also, a further trial design of the 5/- showing the coat-of-arms (to be supplied shortly) - the inclusion of a portrait on this value is left to your discretion. The folder of original designs is returned.
- 4.3.1938 *From DLR* - re 2.3.1938, acknowledged.
- 2.3.1938 *From CA* - enclosing proof plate of coat-of-arms for the 5/- design. Please return as soon as possible.
- 23.3.1938 *From DLR* - re telephone call, enclosing other eight designs submitted with our tender.
- 21.3.1938 *From DLR* - re 15.3.1938, enclosing the revised designs, and returning the coat-of-arms sent on 2 March.
- 15.3.1938 *From DLR* - re 14.3.1938, acknowledged. The revised designs will be ready at the end of next week.
- 14.3.1938 *From CA* - re 19.2.1938, asking when the revised designs will be ready.
- 9.5.1938 *From DLR* - re 6.5.1938, acknowledged. Proofs will be submitted on 27 June, with delivery of stamps six weeks after approval.
- 6.5.1938 *From CA* - re 12.10.1937, your 1½d, 2½d, 3d and 1/- designs are approved, subject to:  
 1½d being a brighter red  
 3d border colour being a deeper blue  
 1/- border being the same shade of blue as the rejected 2d  
 2½d no change
- The quote for dies and plates is accepted. The quantities required are:
- |     |         |     |        |
|-----|---------|-----|--------|
| 1½d | 240,000 | 3d  | 72,000 |
| 2½d | 74,000  | 1/- | 72,000 |
- The original designs are returned, and in due course these should be returned to us for presentation to the Royal Collection.
- 17.5.1938 *From CA* - enclosing formal order for 1½d, 2½d, 3d and 1/- in confirmation of our letter of 6 June.
- 27.5.1938 *From DLR* - re 26.5.1938, acknowledged.
- 26.5.1938 *From CA* - enclosing the original sketches used for preparation of the new stamps. Please return these when they are no longer required.
- 30.5.1938 *From DLR* - re 27.5.1938, acknowledged. The last stamps supplied (other than the Jubilees and Coronations) was in 1927, interleaved with wax paper. We think the trouble is caused by the wax setting off onto the gum, due partly to the long period of storage.
- 27.5.1938 *From CA* - re order of 17.5.1938, we draw your attention to the gumming of the stamps. We have been advised that the quality of the gum on the current stock in the Colony is poor.
- 1.7.1938 *From DLR* - re 30.6.1938, acknowledged.
- 30.6.1938 *From CA* - re 28.6.1938, proofs of 1½d approved and returned.

- 28.6.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing proofs of the dies of 1½d, 3d and 2/-, together with the approved designs.
- 2.7.1938 *From CA* - re 28.6.1938, further proofs of the 3d and 1/- are needed. The 3d required alterations to the native hut as noted. The 1/- to be altered to show more clearly phosphate being loaded into small boats through hoppers. The approved design of the 1½d is returned, together with the rejected designs of the other duties, the original designs of the 1½d, 2½d, 3d and 1/- and the Colonial sketches.
- 11.7.1938 *From DLR* - re 8.7.1938, acknowledged. Revised proofs will follow in due course.
- 8.7.1938 *From CA* - re 6.7.1938, in the 2½d design the supports to the floor are bamboo, not solid legs. This shows clearly in the original sketch, and we ask if it can be more clearly indicated on the die. The original sketch and approved design are returned.
- 6.7.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing proofs for die and colour of the 2½d, together with the approved design and original sketch.
- 14.7.1938 *From DLR* - re 13.7.1938, acknowledged.
- 13.7.1938 *From CA* - re 12.7.1938, proof approved and returned, together with the approved design and original sketches.
- 12.7.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing proofs from revised dies for the 3d and 1/-, together with the approved designs and original sketches.
- 22.7.1938 *From DLR* - re 20.7.1938, acknowledged.
- 20.7.1938 *From CA* - re 19.7.1938, proof approved and returned, together with approved design and original sketch.
- 19.7.1938 *From DLR* - re 8.7.1938, enclosing a revised proof of 2½d, together with the approved design and original sketch.
- 8.8.1938 *From DLR* - re 6.8.1938, acknowledged. The inks for all printings of the Coronation stamps were of the same formula. Regarding perforations, three perforation dies were used for the whole Colonial issue. There are minute differences, but it is not possible to say whether more than one die was used for Gilbert & Ellice Islands.
- 6.8.1938 *From CA* - as a result of local enquiries by dealers and philatelists, the Government asks whether the shades and perforations of the later printings of coronation stamps were the same as the first printing.
- 2.9.1939 *From CA* - re 30.8.1939, acknowledged.
- 30.8.1939 *From DLR* - re 26.8.1939, acknowledged. Approved designs and original sketches enclosed.
- 26.8.1939 *From CA* - re 22.7.1939, asking for return as soon as possible of approved designs and original sketches.
- 9.10.1939 *From DLR* - enclosing tender for new issue of postage due stamps. The designs have been prepared for two-colour surface-printing.
- 9.10.1939 *From DLR* - tender for new issue of eight values of postage due stamps, the design to differ from that for Fiji.
- 2.11.1939 *From DLR* - re request for a simpler design for the postage due stamps, enclosing a design which would enable the use of an already existing duty plate. Costs given.
- 27.2.1939 *From DLR* - re 23.10.1939, acknowledged.
- 23.10.1939 *From CA* - re tender of 9.10.1939, not accepted. Designs returned.
- 7.11.1941 *From DLR* - re 4.11.1941, acknowledged. Requisition amended and returned.
- 4.11.1939 *From CA* - returning tender form for 2½d and 3d stamps. The original was placed on 17.5.1938 when it was agreed an increase of 6½% should apply. Please amend requisition and return.
- 10.10.1941 *From CA* - enclosing order for 60,000 2½d and 60,000 3d postage stamps.
- 11.11.1941 *From DLR* - re 10.11.1941, acknowledged.
- 10.11.1941 *From CA* - re 21.10.1941 and 28.10.1941, tender accepted. Trial designs should be prepared in accordance with the specifications and the three enclosed photographs. The values and colours are to be:

- 2d orange and blue  
3d deep blue and black  
1/- black and green
- The Dorothy Wilding full-face portrait of the king is to be used. It is desired that the stamps be issued 27 May 1942, and everything possible must be done to ensure shipment at the beginning of January.
- 28.10.1941 *From DLR* - re 25.10.1941, cost given.
- 25.10.1941 *From CA* - re 21.10.1941, asking for charge for original dies and working designs.
- 21.10.1941 *From DLR* - enclosing tender for commemorative stamp issue.
- 20.10.1941 *From DLR* - tender for commemorative stamp issue, comprising 150,000 2d, 120,000 3d and 100,000 1/-. Cost of dies, plates and printing given.
- 7.11.1941 *From CA* - formal acceptance of tender of 20.10.1941.
- 16.12.1941 *From DLR* - re 5.12.1941, enclosing amended designs for 2d, 3d and 1/- commemorative stamps, together with original designs. For the 1/-, we have had difficulty finding suitable portraits of Queen Victoria. Bunhill row will report on 17 December.
- 8.12.1941 *From DLR* - re 5.12.1941, acknowledged. Amended designs will follow.
- 5.12.1941 *From CA* - re 26.11.1941, returning designs for the 2d, 3d and 1/- commemorative stamps, and requesting amended designs as follows:
- (1) title in each case to be GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY
  - (2) "TONGA" to appear on map on 1/-.
  - (3) rearrangement of wording on 2d and 3d as shown
  - (4) rearrangement of 1/- design as shown
- 26.11.1941 *From DLR* - re 11.11.1941, enclosing designs for 2d, 3d and 1/- commemorative stamps.
- 16.2.1942 *From DLR* - re 29.1.1942, invoice enclosed.
- 7.2.1942 *From DLR* - re 29.1.1942, acknowledged. An invoice will be submitted.
- 29.1.1942 *From CA* - re 15.1.1942 and 23.1.1942, confirming cancellation of order and requesting an invoice for the work performed.
- 23.1.1942 *From DLR* - re 10.1.1942, costs given.
- 15.1.1942 *From DLR* - re 10.1.1942, acknowledged.
- 10.1.1942 *From CA* - the proposed commemorative issue has been cancelled. The incomplete designs of 16.12.1941 and 17.12.1941 have been retained. Please conform that you will accept this cancellation and advise of the costs incurred.
- 5.10.1942 *From CA* - re 17.8.1942, by error the account was not paid, and this is being seen to immediately.
- 18.8.1942 *From DLR* - re 17.8.1942, confirming that our invoice of 12.1.1942 for £19/1/10d is unpaid.
- 17.8.1942 *From CA* - according to our records your invoice of 12.1.1942 has not been paid. Please conform.
- 19.10.1942 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps, urgently required:
- |     |         |     |        |
|-----|---------|-----|--------|
| 1½d | 240,000 | 3d  | 60,000 |
| 2½d | 72,000  | 1/- | 60,000 |
- 21.4.1944 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- |     |         |     |         |
|-----|---------|-----|---------|
| 1½d | 146,000 | 3d  | 135,000 |
| 2½d | 136,000 | 1/- | 92,000  |
- 8.6.1945 *From DLR* - re 5.5.1945, acknowledged.
- 5.6.1945 *From CA* - re order of 11.5.1945, this should read 20,000 only to be numbered and interleaved.
- 11.5.1945 *From CA* - enclosing order for 60,000 1½d postage stamps.

## THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

### *Seychelles Postal Stationery*

At the meeting on 30 November, Ronnie Winchester, F.R.P.S.,L. displayed his collection of Seychelles Postal Stationery.

The display began with the 1879-80 Mauritius 4c on 8c and 6c postcards with a handstruck "POST OFFICE/SEYCHELLES" intaglio seal, of unknown status. Other Mauritius stationery used in Seychelles included an 1885 8c envelope and 1887 6c postcard.

he attractive 1895 stamped envelopes began with die proofs in black of the 15c and 30c., and the De La Rue file copies of the complete series. There were many fine usages including the small 15c envelope cancelled at Anse Royale, and an 1897 usage of the 30c addressed to the Governor at Grenada, but sent to British Honduras, and bearing the "JAMAICA/TRANSIT" handstamp.

The later surcharged envelopes were all represented, with the 1896 18c on 30c, and the two sizes of the 1900 6c on 8c, and included village usages.

he postcard issues were also highlighted by the scarce local provisionals, these included the 1898 4c single and reply cards surcharged 3c and "LOCAL" both mint and used. Later, in 1902, the 3c on 4c reply cards, which were little used, were cut in half and used as single cards., and the examples shown included a used one to Budapest. The same procedure was repeated in 1907 to use up 6c on 8c reply cards.

Seychelles never used wrappers, and registration envelopes were not introduced until the reign of Edward VII. The latter were preceded by a piece cut from the De La Rue ink formula book showing a block of 4 sample stamps in the proposed blue colour. The 1903 series included examples in all five sizes, including the rare size K.

Throughout the display a special feature was the "SPECIMEN" overprints. Apart from the usual overprints applied in London by De La Rue for distribution to the U.P.U., there are a variety of locally-applied overprints. The local overprints are generally very scarce and seem to have been applied to only a few items for presentation. Certain of the local overprints, applied to the locally-surcharged stationery, were for U.P.U. distribution. Some errors of double and inverted "SPECIMEN" overprints were made, and these were also shown.

### *Australian Contract Mails of the Nineteenth Century*

Malcolm Groom, F.R.P.S.,L. travelled from Hobart to present his collection of Australian Contract Mails at the meeting on 18 January.

The first mail contract between the United Kingdom and the Australian Colonies was by the Toulmein Brothers. From this contract an inwards cover of 1844 to Queensland, and outwards covers on 1845, 1846, 1847

and 1848 were shown.

The Australian Royal Mail Steamship Co. contract was represented by an 1853 cover from New South Wales bearing a 3d Laureate and 6d Laureate pair, and the first P. & O. contract showed mail from Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales, including letters routed via Marseilles, plus a cover from Western Australia bearing the 4d lithograph.

There were letters carried by the General Screw Steamship Co., and an 1856 cover with a pair of 6d Woodblocks carried per the *Hellespont* on the one-off contract that connected with the P. & O. Far East service. Another single voyage contract was the trans-Pacific voyage of the Golden Age, represented by an 1854 cover from Melbourne to Glasgow with a strip of 4 3d Half-Lengths.

Mail carried by the clipper ships during 1855-56 was well-represented, and the succeeding contract of the European & Australian Royal Mail Co. included 1858 covers from the wreck of the *Emeu* from Tasmania and Victoria, and 1857 covers from Victoria and south Australia carried by the *Great Britain* which received the scarce boxed LIVERPOOL SHIP d.s. Inwards covers included 1859 from Rome to Melbourne with Papal States 7 baj (x4), and 1859 India to Western Australia with 4a.

From 1859 the P. & O. company returned to play the major role in the carriage of the Australian mails. The earliest cover was one of 1859 with a Western Australia 6d lithograph to Malta. There was an 1860 cover from Sydney to Edinburgh with three 6d Diadems carried on the supplementary mail, and 1860 and 1874 N.S.W.-Victoria combination covers from the Riverina District. An 1863 inwards cover from Pisa to Melbourne bore two 40c Sardinian stamps. An 1867 cover from Melbourne to Vienna franked 1/6d was carried via Trieste, and an 1870 Victorian cover to London bore the boxed "INSUFFICIENTLY PAID VIA BRINDISI 3d" handstamp applied when the mail had to be redirected following the escalation of the Franco-Prussian War. The short-lived 1/1d Brindisi rate was represented by a Victorian cover and a double-rate Tasmanian cover.

The short-lived route via Panama in was represented by an insufficiently paid cover from New South Wales, inward covers from the U.K. to Victoria and Tasmania, and another inwards cover from U.S.A., also insufficiently paid. From the 1870s other shipping companies joined P. & O. in the carriage of the mails. The Orient Line carried mail via Naples, and the ships used the Suez Canal. Later, the French and German shipping lines also occasionally carried Australian mail.

Subsequently, the Pacific route became more important, with contracts of the Australasian Steam Navigation Co., the Pacific Mail Co. and the Union Steamship Co.



*The 1/- Octagonal Lithograph of Victoria*

At the 15 February meeting Geoff Kellow showed his study of the 1854 1/- lithographed stamp of Victoria.

This began with the original contract between Campbell & Fergusson and the government for the production of the stamp, and then followed the 1901 reprinted die proof of the die together with four unadopted engravings. The imperforate stamps included used blocks of 12 and 10, stitch watermarks and a kiss print. The covers displayed the various purposes to which the cover could be put.

Most of the early mail contracts to the United Kingdom were represented. One clipper ship cover of 1856 bore the 1/- in conjunction with two strips of 3 of the 2d Queen-on-Throne, each strip containing as substituted transfer. Another 1856 cover with 1/- and 1d and 3d Half-Lengths endorsed via Marseilles was carried on the one-off *Hellespont* contract voyage.

There were covers to Germany, France, Holland, Denmark, Papal States, and a strip of 4 with 1d Queen-on-Throne pair and 1/- Registered to Switzerland. Transpacific mail to U.S.A. included one cover with the 1/- tied by large red "SHIP", and another with boxed "DETAINED FOR/2d POSTAGE". Registered mail included an 1854 cover to Bermuda with two 1/- which is

believed to represent the earliest registered cover showing prepayment of the fee with stamps. There were two late fee covers, one of 1855 to Sydney with the Too Late stamp, and another of 1857 to Scotland with three 1/- and two 3d Half-Lengths.

The rouletted 1/- Octagonal included an unused stamp, a used pair and three covers, one in combination with two 6d Woodblocks, one of which was also rouletted.

The perforated issue began with a mint block of 4, and SPECIMEN overprint. The used block of 9 was the largest recorded, and a cover to Philippines dated 4.2.1859 is the earliest known date.

The perforated covers demonstrated the changing rates to the United Kingdom via Marseilles. There were also covers to Denmark and New Brunswick with "INSUFFICIENTLY PAID/VIA MARSEILLES". An 1864 cover to France with single 1/- has "INSUFFICIENTLY PAID/VIA THE/UNITED KINGDOM" and the GB/1F 62c" accountancy mark.

Registered mail included an 1863 cover to Sweden with four 1/- and a 1d Netted corners. There were 1861 and 1864 outers paying packet rates, and an 1864 cover with a strip of 4 paying the x 12 inland rate.

The scarce indigo shade was represented by a spectacular 1863 cover to London with a block of 5.

## THE ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

FOUNDED 1890



☆ **MEETING ROOM:** The club meets at 8 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, First Floor Meeting Room, Philas House, 17 Brisbane Street, Sydney.

☆ **EXCHANGE BRANCH:** Members are entitled to receive the Exchange Books which circulate regularly within Australia.

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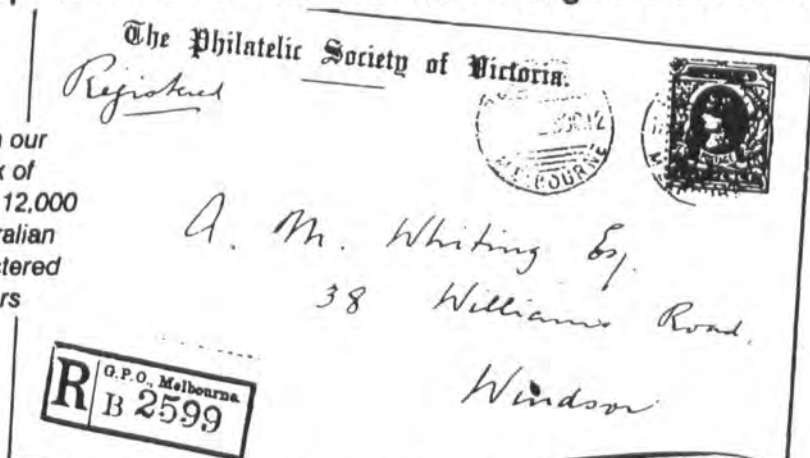
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# Philatelic Literature

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## AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH

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