



# Philately *from* Australia

Journal of the ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY of VICTORIA Inc

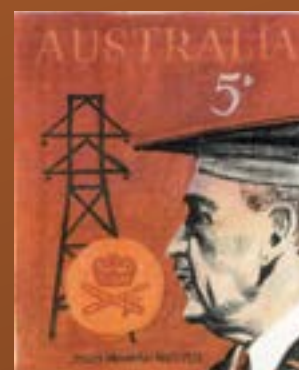
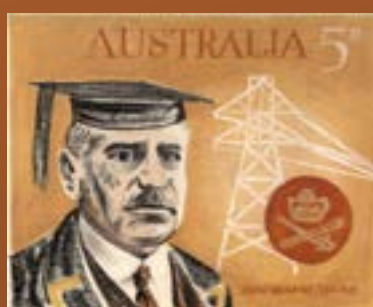
South Australia:  
Perkins, Bacon 1d



Tasmania:  
Revenue Overprints



The 1965 Monash Issue





**A selection of items scheduled for future auctions.  
Auctions are conducted on the 1st Friday of every Month**



'9' Experimental



3d Die 1 Imprint



5d No Monogram



"266" Manuscript



'746'



6d Die IIB Imprint



6d 'CA' Monogram



'1553'



'1798'



'1862'



1/- 'CA' Monogram



'611' with Wurruk Wurruk datestamp

[PhoenixAuctions.com.au](http://PhoenixAuctions.com.au)



Phoenix Auctions Pty Ltd · Auction Rooms: 274A Canterbury Road, Surrey Hills, Victoria, Australia.  
Postal Address: PO Box 458 Canterbury, Victoria, 3126, Australia. · ABN: 92 132 987 663  
P: +61 3 8682 9876 · F: +61 3 8677 2858 · E: phoenix@phoenixauctions.com.au

# CLASSIC BOOKS FROM "THE ROYAL"

*Enhance your knowledge, extend your library!*



## VICTORIAN POST OFFICE CURIOSITIES: A TREASURE FROM THE ARCHIVES

*By Eric Frazer and Max Watson*

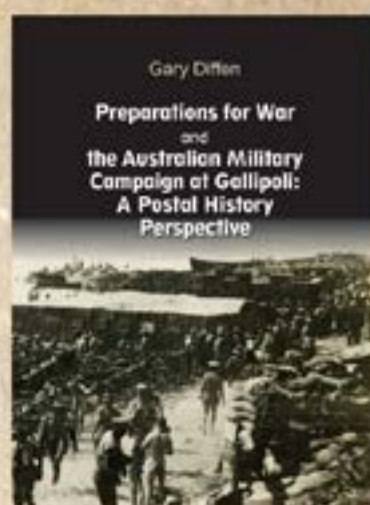
358 pages  
**\$110**



## POST OFFICE REGISTRATION LABELS OF AUSTRALIA AND ITS TERRITORIES

*By Kevin Burt*

160 pages  
**\$90**



## PREPARATIONS FOR WAR AND THE AUSTRALIAN MILITARY CAMPAIGN AT GALLIPOLI

*By Gary Diffen*

149 pages  
**\$85**



## QUEENSLAND POSTAGE STAMPS 1879 TO 1912

*By Ken Scudder*

399 pages  
**\$160**



## THE SPECIMEN STAMPS OF VICTORIA

*By Geoff Kellow,  
Russell Turner  
and William McCredie*

113 pages  
**\$135**



## THE CHAPMAN COLLECTION OF AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH STAMPS: THE KANGAROO ISSUES

*By Ray Chapman*

162 Pages  
**\$160**

These books are available from The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. Prices do not include postage.

*Enquiries to:*

Publications Manager - P.O. Box 490 Ashburton Vic 3147 Australia or email: [pleitch@iinet.net.au](mailto:pleitch@iinet.net.au)

Information on all Royal books is available on our website at: [www.rpsv.org.au](http://www.rpsv.org.au)

# Spring Auction Series

## June 4-7, 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland



Our Spring Auction Series will feature several specialised sales including British Empire, Romania, France & Colonies, Rarities, Saudi Arabia and Olympics, as well as our traditional All World and collections catalogue.

David Feldman SA 59, Route de Chancy, 1213 Petit Lancy, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel. +41 (0)22 727 0777 Fax +41 (0)22 727 0778 Email [info@davidfeldman.com](mailto:info@davidfeldman.com)



Browse the lots and bid on  
[www.davidfeldman.com](http://www.davidfeldman.com)

## EARLY SUMMER AUCTION SERIES 2019

**Auktionshaus  
CHRISTOPH GÄRTNER GmbH & Co. KG**

### 44<sup>th</sup> AUCTION

5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019 | banknotes & coins

24<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019 | special auction CHINA

24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019 | philately

[www.auktionen-gaertner.de](http://www.auktionen-gaertner.de)

### AUCTION GALLERIES Hamburg

vormals Schwanke GmbH

13<sup>th</sup> Auction | 28<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019

Closing date for consignments 2 months before auction

[www.auction-galleries.de](http://www.auction-galleries.de)

### Auktionshaus

**EDGAR MOHRMANN & CO**

Internat. Briefmarken-Auktionen GmbH

ANNIVERSARY AUCTION | 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019

“90 years Auktionshaus Edgar Mohrmann”

Auction held at “Haus der Patriotischen

Gesellschaft” Trostbrücke 4,

20457 Hamburg, Germany

[www.edgar-mohrmann.de](http://www.edgar-mohrmann.de)

**ALL CATALOGUES ONLINE!**



Christoph Gärtner

**BIETIGHEIM | STUTTGART  
DÜSSELDORF | HAMBURG**

*At all our locations we offer:*

- FREE CONSULTATION
- FREE VALUATION
- CONSIGNMENTS
- OUTRIGHT PURCHASE

*Give us a call:*

**+49-(0)7142-789400**

*Or contact us by mail:*

**[info@auktionen-gaertner.de](mailto:info@auktionen-gaertner.de)**

**C.G. COLLECTORS WORLD –  
A global brand for collectors**



## Contents

---

Editorial .....	37
A Word from Your President .....	38
<i>Vale: Hugh Freeman APR 1934–2019: Richard Breckon</i> .....	38
<i>Vale: Ray Chapman AM, MBE, RDP, FAP, LMRPSV, FRPSL 1922–2019: Richard Breckon</i> .....	39
New Retail Premises of Max Stern & Company: <i>Richard Breckon</i> .....	41
A Study of the 1965 Centenary of the Birth of General Sir John Monash: <i>Ted Gallagher</i> .....	42
Australian Registration Labels Used Overseas Outside Australian Territorial Interests: <i>Kevin Burt</i> .....	45
South Australia: Later Printings of One-Penny Perkins, Bacon Stamps on Cover, 1858-1875: <i>Dr Donald Pearce</i> .....	48
Notes on Tasmania's Revenue Overprints: <i>Bill Lloyd-Smith</i> .....	55
Australia's Postal Rates Increase, 1930: <i>Richard Breckon</i> .....	59
1959 Christmas Issue: Flaw Plated: <i>Richard Guy</i> .....	62
1959 Christmas Issue: Variety Plated: <i>Ted Gallagher</i> .....	62
Handling the Mails in Melbourne, 1917: <i>Richard Breckon (edited)</i> .....	63
Exhibition Awards for Society Members .....	64
Back Then: Melbourne Postie, circa 1950 .....	66
100 Years & 50 Years Ago .....	66
Royal News & Society Syllabus .....	67

The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Inc. is not responsible for opinions expressed by contributors in this journal, nor do the views of contributors necessarily reflect the policy of the Society or the members of its Council. Every reasonable effort is made to check the accuracy of information published in the journal, but the Society cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies or for any consequences arising from the publication of inaccurate information. Acceptance of an advertisement does not necessarily mean endorsement of the product or service. The Society has the right to refuse any advertisement without giving a reason.

# EDITORIAL

Our second edition for 2019 begins with sad news. We mark the passing of Ray Chapman at 96, our oldest member and Australia's senior RDP, who joined the Society in 1949, and Hugh Freeman, a former member pre-eminent in researching NSW and Victoria's numeral postmarks. Richard Breckon has prepared tributes focussing on their philatelic lives (see *Vale* pp. 38 & 39-40).

In happier news, we celebrate members' achievements at a number of international exhibitions including: Thailand 2018; Sharjah Stamp Exhibition 2018 (UAE); Armistice 2018 (New Zealand); EXFIL 2018 (Chile); and SAVPEX 2018 (South Africa).

Ted Gallagher has again delved into the depths of the Australia Post archives and his personal collection of bundlware to bring us the story of the production of the 1965 Monash issue, detailing the intricacies of the design process. Also, we have had an excellent response to Ted's recent article on the 1959 Christmas issue. Two varieties have now been plated, one by Richard Guy and one by Roy Larkin, the latter being reported by Ted.

Fresh from the recent publication of *Post Office Registration Labels of Australia and its Territories*, Kevin Burt has recently uncovered usage of Australian labels outside its formal territorial or military jurisdictions – North Borneo and the New Hebrides Condominium. The article is illustrated with several covers which raise a number of perplexing questions.

Don Pearce has followed-up his detailed examination of the South Australia SG 1 which appeared in the December 2018 edition. This time he reports on the later (Adelaide) printings of the one penny from the Perkin, Bacon plates. Collecting and analysing data over several decades, he has established an inventory of over 100 known covers, outstanding examples of which have been selected to illustrate the article.

Bill Lloyd-Smith's research on Tasmania issues has continued at a fast pace. He has prepared extended notes on the revenue overprints of 1900-1905, much of which has not been published previously. This account includes: the very rare 1s perf 14 Platypus; 2s6d imperf St George & Dragon; £1 Queen's head; 1d, 2d & 3d Platypus; the use of old stocks of paper; and the overprinting formes employed.

Richard Breckon continues his series on Australia's postal rates changes which he began in the September 2018 edition. He presents a careful treatment of the 1930 postage increases accompanied by a detailed summary reference table. The last article in this present series is planned to appear in the September edition and will cover the 1941 Halfpenny War Tax.

Finally, Richard has also contributed two brief articles, one on the establishment of the new Max Stern shop in the Melbourne CBD. Max Stern & Co are the longest regular advertiser in *PfA* – since 1961! The second is an edited version of a 1917 Melbourne *Herald* newspaper account entitled "Handling the Mails".

## Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Inc.

Purves House  
303 High Street  
ASHBURTON VIC 3147

### General correspondence:

Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Inc.  
PO Box 490  
ASHBURTON VIC 3147, Australia  
TEL: (03) 9885 1483 (answering service)

### Business Manager (sale of publications):

Peter Leitch  
C/o Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Inc.  
PO Box 490  
ASHBURTON VIC 3147, Australia  
Email: pleitch@iinet.net.au  
TEL: (03) 9571 3686

### Philately from Australia Committee:

Eric Frazer (Editor)  
Richard Breckon (Assistant Editor)  
Bill Lloyd-Smith (Assistant Editor)  
Gary Diffen (Advertising Manager)

### Editorial contributions:

Articles on any subjects of philatelic interest are welcome from contributors, whether or not they are RPSV members. Articles should be submitted as plain text in the body of an email or as an attachment in Word or Rich Text format. Please include a list of references or bibliography, as appropriate. Images should be supplied at 300 DPI or higher; quote source/permission for non-author images.

All contributions will be reviewed by the editorial team. Articles exceeding 3,000 words may have to be divided into instalments appearing in various editions of the journal.

Note that *Philately from Australia* does not normally reprint articles that have been published elsewhere.

Editorial submissions to: Eric Frazer  
Email: eric.frazer@internode.on.net  
Tel: 0412 489 958

Advertising submissions to: Gary Diffen  
Email: garydiffen@gmail.com  
Tel: (03) 9510 3291

### Closing dates for submissions:

#### September 2019 PFA:

Editorial: 12 July 2019  
Advertising: 19 July 2019

#### December 2019 PFA:

Editorial: 11 October 2019  
Advertising: 18 October 2019

Designed by A DESIGN design@adesign.net.au,  
Geelong, VIC

Printed by PRINTGRAPHICS,  
Mount Waverley, VIC

[www.rpsv.org.au](http://www.rpsv.org.au)



Journal of the  
**ROYAL PHILATELIC  
SOCIETY of VICTORIA Inc**



## A Word from Your President

We were saddened in April to learn of the passing of Honorary Life Member, Ray Chapman. Ray was our longest-serving member, joining in 1949. His amazing contribution to our Society and the wider philatelic community are covered in the following obituary by Richard Breckon. A number of our members attended a memorial service for Ray held at the RACV Club in early May. Richard has also prepared an obituary to past member Hugh Freeman.

Our Annual Bourse was well attended by dealers, members and guests. Consideration will be given to next year's bourse, to ensure that the auction has more to offer.

Those who have attended Purves House recently will have seen that the front façade and the upstairs meeting room have had a much needed refurbishment. Council made the decision to proceed with these works, conscious of the need to maintain the value of our main asset.

The Prahran Philatelic Society has been wound up due to lack of patronage. Its accumulated capital has been distributed equally to us and the Brighton Philatelic Society. This will help ease our financial position.

We still have many daytime and evening meeting displays for the rest of the year. This includes the display of the entries for the Annual Competition on 20 June, which should be interesting and diverse.

I trust that you are all in good health and enjoying your philatelic interests.

*Ted Gallagher FRPSV*



## VALE: Hugh Freeman APR 1934–2019

*Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV*

*Hugh Freeman with the 2017 Australian Philatelic Research Award (image courtesy Elizabeth Page)*

Postal historian Hugh Freeman died aged 84 in Tasmania on 7 March, following a long illness. Hugh joined the RPSV in 1981, although his membership later lapsed.

For many years, Hugh worked in the philatelic auction industry, but it is his publications for which he is widely known. Hugh's philatelic interests centred on numeral postmarks of the Australian colonies. He compiled the standard works, illustrating and with rarity ratings the numeral postmarks of Victoria and New South Wales. The books demonstrate a prodigious knowledge of the subject.

In co-authorship with the late Geoff White, Hugh's *The Numeral Cancellations of Victoria* was published by the RPSV in 2001. This 420-page book updated the Society's 1963 publication, *The*

*Barred Numeral Cancellations of Victoria*, by J.R.W. Purves; the Freeman & White book is double the size of the original work.

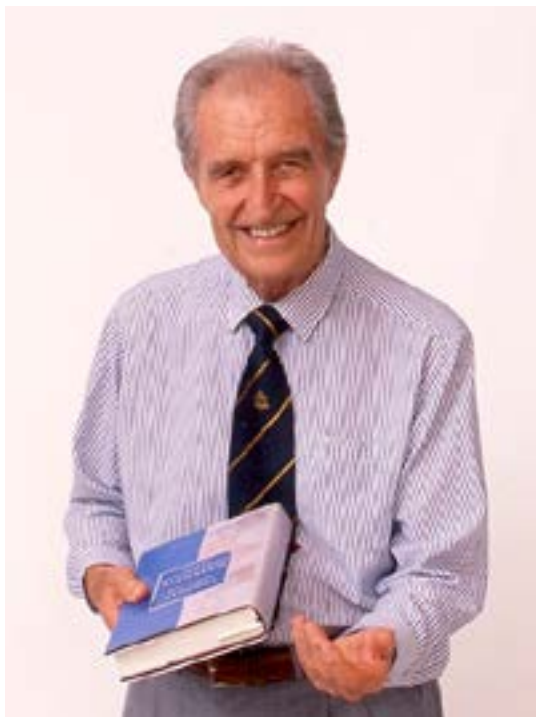
Last year, Hugh completed a revised edition of *The Numeral Cancellations of Victoria*, published by Brusden-White (Sydney), illustrated with colour images, and the content expanded to 484 pages.

In 2012, Hugh's 375-page work, *The Numeral Cancellations of New South Wales*, was published by the Australian States Study Group of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club.

In 2017, Hugh's work was recognised by the Australian Philatelic Federation Research Award. He is survived by his wife Rondel and two daughters.

# VALE: Ray Chapman AM, MBE, RDP, FAP, LMRPSV, FRPSL 1922–2019

Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV



Ray Chapman with a copy of "The Chapman Collection of Australian Commonwealth Stamps" (image courtesy Australia Post)

Raymond Thomas Chapman, a 70-year Life Member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, died in Noosa, Queensland on 4 April at the age of 96. Ray was unarguably a philatelist of great ability, bringing about Australia's formal entry into the global philatelic community through leadership of AUSIPEX '84, the first world stamp exhibition in Australia held under patronage of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP).

Ray Chapman's lifetime embraced 88 years of stamp collecting, beginning with his first mint stamp acquired as a Christmas present when eight years old – the 1927 1½d Canberra Parliament House. The stamp sparked a love of Australian Commonwealth philately. Fifty-five years later, in 1986, Ray's 23-volume collection of Australian Commonwealth 1901–65 was purchased by Australia Post for A\$750,000. Significantly, 33 pages of the Chapman Collection are devoted to the 1927 Canberra stamp.

To an older generation, Ray was well known for his radio career at Melbourne station 3AW. Ray even topped "The Listener In" poll in 1944, nudging the legendary Jack Davey into second place! Moving away from on-air announcing, Ray managed the 3AW Community Trust, which raised funds for the Royal Women's Hospital through Victoria's Miss Teenage Quest. His "MBE" (Member of the British Empire) was awarded in 1976 for services to the community, followed by the "AM" (Member of the Order of Australia) in 1994 for services to philately.

Ray's love of Australian Commonwealth stamps took on renewed focus after he joined the Royal in 1949. In 2001, he reminisced about the early members who *looked a formidable group of people with dark suits, homburg hats and even some with winged collars. They were not too sure about the new radio announcer member. Bill Purves called me a 'spieler' and asked me what was my main interest. I said Australian Commonwealth – used King George V. "Goodness, you shouldn't be wasting your money on them. Have a look at Victoria or some of the other States." I remember saying they were all I could afford and there was much*

*to interest me. They were an issue for the long haul, with different printings, watermarks, perforations, wonderful shades and many varieties. I actually cut my philatelic teeth on them.* ("Collecting for a Life Time", *PfA*, December 2001.)

Surprisingly, Ray's Australian Commonwealth was exhibited competitively for the first time at ZEAPEX '80 (Auckland, August 1980), followed by SYDPEX '80 (Sydney, September 1980). At ZEAPEX, he was given the Grand Award and Gold medal, and at SYDPEX, the Grand Champion and Gold Medal. Ray believed ZEAPEX to be the first time an Australian Commonwealth exhibit gained the Grand Award at international level. (Gold was the highest medal award at the time; Large Gold was introduced later.)

Early in 1982, Ray took over as president of the organising committee for AUSIPEX '84 following inaugural president John Gartner stepping down for health reasons. Ray led a dedicated team of organisers that included Myra Farley, Joyce Buchanan, Len Buchanan and a number of other leading "Royal" members, all working hard to ensure Melbourne's 10-day exhibition was successful. It was a great success. About 85,000 visitors came to AUSIPEX, including about 20,000 in organised school groups. It is fair to say Australia has never seen a philatelic exhibition quite like AUSIPEX.

Ray Chapman was Australia's senior signatory to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, the "RDP" being considered the highest honour to which a philatelist can aspire. Ray was the 15th Australian to sign the Roll in 1987, followed by Peter Jaffe (1994), Geoff Kellow (2009), Ray Todd (2011) and Geoffrey Lewis (2018).

Ray held the major awards offered by the RPSV – David H. Hill Medal (1984), J.R.W. Purves Medal (1995) and Honorary Life Member (1999). He was a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London and an Honorary Fellow of the British Society of Australian Philately. He served as a member of Australia

Post's Stamp Advisory Committee (1980–84). Ray was appointed a Fellow of Australian Philately (FAP) in 1995.

For a number of years in the 1980s and 1990s, Ray wrote a monthly column in *Stamp News*, "The Chapman Report", in which he discussed all aspects of Australian Commonwealth pre-decimal philately, basing the column on his collection. In turn, "The Chapman Report" was the basis of Ray's major work, *The Chapman Collection of Australian Commonwealth Stamps*, published by the RPSV in 1999. It was a particularly successful venture for the Society.

Ray gave notable service at National and International levels of organised philately, including APF Public Relations Officer and editor of *APF News* (1982–92); representative on the FIP Traditional Philately Commission for six years; and an Australian representative at four FIP congresses.

Ray served on the Publicity Committees of the Melbourne



Ray Chapman with his impressive array of ZEAPEX and SYDPEX trophies (image courtesy Australia Post)

exhibitions ANPEX (1950) and MIPEX (1963). Between 1982 and 1996, he was on 12 National exhibition juries (as Chairman on five), as Vice-Chairman AUSIPEX '84 jury and member of CAPEX 1987 jury (FIP, Canada).

A friendly man who loved to talk about stamps, Ray was especially effective at publicising the hobby using the skills he acquired in a long radio career. The huge level of media publicity generated for AUSIPEX and the astonishing attendance figures at the exhibition reflect these attributes. Ray

worked hard at everything he did and he had good reason to be proud of many achievements.

Ray's wife Pam died shortly before him. She was a partner in all Ray's activities, particularly through the typing involved in his published works. Ray is survived by his two sons and daughter, five grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.



**Max Stern & Co.**  
has a new address  
on the web!  
[www.maxstern.com.au](http://www.maxstern.com.au)

**Australasia's most comprehensive  
'new issues' list released monthly!**

All new issues are listed alphabetically by country from A-Z. Hundreds of issues arriving weekly including special products, thematics, souvenir sheets and more!

We also act as agents for over 26 Philatelic Bureaus including Canada, China, Great Britain and Islands, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Macau, New Zealand, Sweden and many more.

Australian, A.A.T., Christmas Islands, Cocos Keeling islands, Nauru, Norfolk Island, P.N.G., Pitcairn Island and Great Britain are also fully listed together with SPECIAL SAVINGS on Collections.

**Max Stern & Co.**  
271 Collins Street, Melbourne  
(G.P.O. Box 997, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3001)  
Phone +61 3 9654 6751 Fax +61 3 9650 7192  
Email [maxstern@maxstern.com.au](mailto:maxstern@maxstern.com.au)  
<http://www.maxstern.com.au>

**STAMP NEWS**

**STAMP NEWS** is an informative monthly magazine for philatelists with news stories from around Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific and the rest of the world. Each issue runs to at least 90 pages with special features on Australian Commonwealth Philately, Postal Stationery, Investments, Cinderellas, Postcards, Collectibles and much more. Brought to you by our worldwide network of informed contributors and correspondents.

For a free sample copy of STAMP NEWS without obligation, write to us advising that you are a reader of *Philately from Australia*

**STAMP NEWS** P.O. Box 1290, UPWEY, VIC, 3158 Australia

# New Retail Premises of Max Stern & Company

*Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV*



*Manager, Sam Seigel, with a customer*



*Window shopping outside the new premises*

The former National Australia Bank building at 271 Collins Street, Melbourne, is the new home to Max Stern & Co. Pty. Ltd. The shop opened in February 2018, following a move out of nearby Port Phillip Arcade, now demolished in works carried out by the Melbourne Metro (rail) Tunnel Project.

For some years, Max Stern & Co. Pty. Ltd. has been the only ground-level stamp and coin shop operating in Melbourne's Central Business District. More significantly, the City of Melbourne recognised the late Max Stern as being the CBD's longest surviving sole trader.

When Max passed away three years ago (a few months after learning of the arcade's impending demolition), management of the business was taken over by his son-in-law, Sam Seigel, who started working for Max in 1973. Sam is married to Max's eldest daughter, Judy.

Max opened his first shop in the Empire Arcade, near the corner of Flinders and Degraves Streets, in 1952. Following the Empire Arcade's demolition in 1961, the business moved to the new Port Phillip Arcade, a short distance away along Flinders Street. Together, the three arcade shops have operated within a small area of the city for 67 years.

Max Stern began stamp trading in his native Bratislava (Slovakia) in 1938, aged 17. In 1948, Max and his wife Eva arrived in Australia owning practically nothing and speaking little English. That year, Max became a member of the newly-established APTA (then called the Australian Stamp Dealers' Association) and, within two years, he was appointed secretary. Max was a Life Member of APTA.

In 1999, Max Stern was awarded Member of the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM) for services to philately. His medal can be viewed in a dedicated display cabinet to Max in the new shop. (For more on the career of Max Stern, see *PfA*, Vol 68 No 2, June 2016, pp. 44-45.)



*Max Stern's Order of Australia medal on display*



# A Study of the 1965 Centenary of the Birth of General Sir John Monash

*Ted Gallagher FRPSV*

## BACKGROUND

In mid-1919, a century ago, General Sir John Monash was busy repatriating Australia's 160,000 troops back to Australia. This task was assigned to Monash following his outstanding contribution to bringing an end to World War I. With the task completed within a year, Monash himself returned to Australia, arriving in December 1919. In July of the following year, Monash was appointed Chairman of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria (SEC), providing the impetus to develop the vast Latrobe Valley brown coal reserves into a reliable source of electricity for Victoria. A few years later, in July 1923, Monash was elected as vice-chancellor of Melbourne University.

This study of the stamp, which was issued on 23 June 1965, is largely reliant on material from Australia Post's *National Philatelic Collection*.

## ORIGINS OF THE STAMP ISSUE

The proposal for a stamp to commemorate the centenary of Monash's birth originated within the SEC's sub-branch of the Returned Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia (later the RSL). Representations were made in May 1964 to the Attorney-General and to the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs. The idea was immediately endorsed and accommodated in the 1965 stamp issue program.

## DESIGN CONCEPT

The representation included a design concept, namely that the stamp feature a head and shoulders portrait of General Sir John Monash, and incorporate the attributes marking his pre-eminence as a scholar, engineer and soldier. Photographic portraits of Monash were attached including those shown as Figures 1, 2 and 3 and two rudimentary sketches. More specifically, the following imagery was to be included:

- The gown of the university vice-chancellor
- An electricity transmission tower to symbolise Monash's contribution as an engineer and as Chairman of the SEC, and
- The insignia of General in the Australian Military Forces



*Figure 1*



*Figure 2*



*Figure 3*

Whilst the concept was favoured, it later emerged that Monash was remembered primarily as a soldier and an engineer, with his academic background being secondary. Thus, the concept was modified to feature a bust of General Sir John Monash in military uniform derived from a photograph taken circa 1918, an electricity transmission tower, and the captions: "SOLDIER ENGINEER EDUCATOR" and "JOHN MONASH 1865-1931".

## DEVELOPMENT OF THE DESIGN

The initial commission went to Owen Foulkes in June 1964, with the following specification:

- Printing by multicolour photogravure,
- Preferable size as the smaller 22mm x 27mm stamp image, unless the design warranted the larger size of 34.5mm x 22mm,
- Prepare several versions,
- Portray Monash as a scholar, engineer and soldier, and
- Include the attributes from the original submission (see above)

Foulkes had three pastel sketches based on photographs of Monash finished by the end of June. These were 18.4cm x 22.7cm in size and are shown reduced as Figures 4, 5 and 6. These were first shown to officers of the SEC in Melbourne. The outcome was the modification of the design concept (see above). The idea ensued of basing the portrait on the bronze bust of the General by Paul Montford located at Yallourn in the Latrobe Valley. In July, the Stamp Advisory Committee concurred with these views. It also decided that Monash's reputation meant that explanatory symbols could be kept at a minimum.



Figure 4



Figure 5

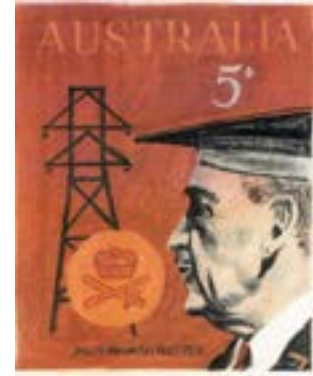


Figure 6

A recommendation followed to prepare preliminary designs based on photographs of the Monash bust (Figure 7), with a pylon or generator “ghosted” into the background. The preliminary design was presented to the Committee in September. While the overall concept was liked, the following changes were asked of the designer:

- provide a mask depicting shoulders,
- extend the tower legs to the base of the design, and
- improve the portrait

However, Foulkes prepared a sketch which indicated that no improvement came from including Monash's shoulders. Consequently, this requirement was not pursued. The modified design (Figure 8) was tabled at the Committee's meeting in October. Members remained dissatisfied because the portrait was still too closely bound to the bronze bust and, as a result, failed to capture a “likeness” of Monash. The main criticism lay with the head, namely:

- the chin and hat were too close together,
- the hat needs to be higher off the nose, and
- the right eye appears too high.



Figure 7



Figure 8

It was then agreed that a version based on a greyed-out photograph might resolve the problem. Next month, after considering the design, the Committee recommended its submission to the Postmaster-General, the Honourable Alan S. Hulme MP, for approval, provided the portrait was refined. This step was taken so as to enable the preparation of the separation drawings needed for printing cylinder manufacture. Hulme approved the design shortly afterwards. In December, a trial printing was made by the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank so as to establish the design's colours, a decision needed before Foulkes proceeded with the separation drawings.

It was not until February that Foulkes' revised portrait arrived (Figure 9). Trial prints were made (see enlarged scan as Figure 10) which established that the image was not yet suitable for printing – tones ran together, notably on the cap band and badge. In addition, the Committee remained critical of the likeness itself, especially with the cap, the width of the head and the nose and lips. It was decided to commission the portrait from another artist. Wes Walters was selected, and his sketch (Figure 11), which was based on a photograph (Figure 3) of Monash at his home prior to him leading the 1927 Anzac Day parade in Melbourne, was completed within a few days. It was adopted subject to minor changes, namely:

- some heavy tones on the cap, face and neck be lightened, and
- the badge be centred

A modified version, which became available towards the end of March, was established as suitable by way of trial printings (see enlarged scan as Figure 12).



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12

## PRODUCTION

Foulkes was now able to complete the separation drawings. Once completed, cylinder manufacture commenced. For each of the four colours used, the printing cylinder is 120-on comprising an upper sheet with yellow and tan autotrons in the lower-left margin and a lower sheet with red and black autotrons in the upper-left margin, both 60 stamps in 5 horizontal rows of 12. One cylinder each was prepared for the yellow and red colours, two cylinders for the tan colour and five for the black colour. In fact, one tan and three black cylinders were not used. Because of commitments at the Note Printing Branch and the damaging of two of the Monash printing cylinders (black), colour proofs were not taken until the beginning of June. Once these were approved, the stamps went into production immediately so they could be in circulation by 27 June 1965, the centenary date of the birth of General Sir John Monash. The stamp was printed on unwatermarked paper incorporating luminescence and duly issued in sheets of 60 on 23 June; it remained on sale until 7 July.

## VARIETIES

No varieties are listed in *The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue*. However, there are two varieties that are worth noting:

Upper sheet (with yellow and tan autotrons), row 4, stamp 2: a black dot on the cheek. (Figure 13). Based on numbers found in bundleware, it would seem that this variety only occurs on one of the two black cylinders used.

Lower sheet (with red and black autotrons), row 5, stamp 9: a yellow dot under the 'S' of 'AUSTRALIA'. (Figure 14). As only one yellow cylinder was used, this should occur on all lower sheets. This was confirmed by the numbers found in bundleware. This was first recorded by Cec Evenett in the July 1965 issue of the *Australian Commonwealth Collectors' Club of New South Wales Bulletin*.

Also of interest is a recent discovery of missing yellow from most of the '5d' from stamps in the top row of a sheet. Whilst it is apparent from Figure 15 that the yellow printing is slightly misaligned, it would appear to be a genuine partly missing colour. A block of 15 (5 rows of 3), with all three in the top row exhibiting the missing yellow, was purchased last year by RPSV member Richard Guy. It is supported by a Certificate of Authenticity from Krzysztof Ceremuga.



Figure 13



Figure 14



Figure 15

## Acknowledgements:

The author wishes to thank Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV for providing access to and scans from the Australia Post Archives and for his advice, and Richard Guy OAM for providing the scan of the partial missing colour.

## References:

Australia Post, *National Philatelic Collection*

*The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue: Queen Elizabeth II. 2015* edited by Geoffrey Kellow, p. 8/322

Evenett, C., *The Australian Commonwealth Collectors' Club of New South Wales Bulletin*, July 1965, pp. 81-82

# Australian Registration Labels Used Overseas Outside Australian Territorial Interests

Kevin J Burt

This article covers labels used outside Territorial or Military connections to Australia. Collectors will be aware of covers bearing labels used in Japan as a direct result of the conduct and termination of World War II in the Pacific, such as Bofu, Iwakuni, and the many RAAF and Military post offices.

The labels were used in two geographic areas with no military or legal connection with Australia as far as can be seen, and appear to have been used as emergency supplies. The two areas are:

- 1) North Borneo immediately after the end of WWII, 1946 and,
- 2) New Hebrides - since 1980 Vanuatu - in the 1950s and 1960s.

The labels used were all C6/7 types as defined in my recent book, *Post Office Registration Labels of Australia and its Territories*. Earlier label types have not been seen as all were a result of World War II - the C6/7 labels were introduced in 1935 and were widely used in Australia.

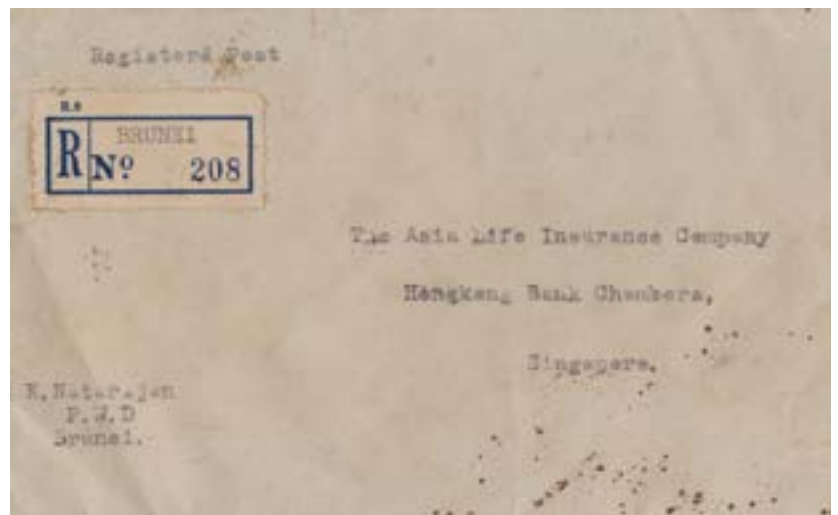
The difference between C6a and C7a is in the size of the "No." and the shape of the numerals, especially those with horizontal bars such as 2, 5 and 7.

## 1) North Borneo

British influence after 1946 covered Sarawak and Brunei, both part of the large island of Borneo, South-East Asia.

Sarawak was a British Crown Colony until 1963 when it became a state of Malaysia. The Island of Labuan is now a federal territory of Malaysia. Brunei after WWII was a British Protectorate until Independence in 1984. Belait is a town in Brunei.

Three post offices were probably operated under



3 APRIL 1946: C7a on cover from Brunei



3 APRIL 1946: Reverse of Brunei cover

British control. All labels seen were provisional, with the post office name added by typewriter. Australian stamps were used from 29/10 to 16/12/1945 until the arrival of North Borneo stamps overprinted “BMA”, so there was an Australian relationship of sorts.

C6a has been seen on cover from Labuan (dated 11 April 1946), and C7a on cover from Brunei (see above) and Belait (dated 28 March 1946). All covers seen were franked with stamps from Sarawak or North Borneo and addressed to both overseas and domestic destinations.

Registration numerals suggest an erratic usage. Perhaps pads of labels supplied were broken up, the post office name added by typewriter, and sent on to the post office concerned. Labels from other sources were used during 1946 and 1947.

## 2) New Hebrides Condominion

The territory of New Hebrides, named by Captain Cook in 1774, was administered jointly by Britain and France, an arrangement dating from 1906 and often referred to as Pandemonium! Arrival of American forces during WWII set the scene for ultimate independence which occurred in 1980, the country being renamed Vanuatu. Geographically, the country is an archipelago of around 80 volcanic islands running SE-NW for around 650 km, lying between New Caledonia and Fiji. The island of Tanna has an active volcano, Mt. Yasur.

Australian registration labels were used extensively from the early 1950s to 1970.



22 JUNE 1967: C7a with “R.6” on cover. Tanna to the capital, Port Vila

It will be noticed that the C7a label on cover below from Santo is missing the “R.6” code or document number seen on most Australian labels as part of the registration document system. This code was missing on the earlier labels. I have set out in the table the post offices seen so far, their usage of C6a or C7a including dates of use, and whether “R.6” is present or not. It gives a picture of the usage.

Post Office	C6a (without R.6)	C7a (without R.6)	C6a (with R.6)	C7a (with R.6)
Vila (Port Vila)	21/5/1952 16/9/1952 30/12/1954 29/8/1957	30/11/1957 (on Santo) 19/1/1959		29/8/1967 25/3/1968 24/2/1969 27/5/1969
Port Vila (always provisional)		17/7/1965 6/8/1965		15/10/1970
Forari				18/11/1968
Lamap			8/4/1970	
Longana				15/10/1970
Santo	30/4/1953	30/4/1953		31/5/1968 10/12/1960
Tanna				22/4/1963 22/6/1967

The post offices seen so far are scattered over the length of the archipelago; it is quite likely more will be found. From 1971, registration labels were sourced from elsewhere.

Perhaps a reader may have an answer to two questions:

- (i) Why did New Hebrides - partly administered by the French - use Australian registration labels for almost two decades when the French New Caledonia was next door and much closer than Australia for perhaps a supply of French labels?
- (ii) Why was “R.6” omitted from early labels, but reappeared on later labels?



10 DECEMBER 1960: C7a on cover from Santo to Paris, the label missing "R.6"



30 DECEMBER 1954. C6a on cover from Vila, being Port Vila, the capital. An early usage.



15 OCTOBER 1970: Philatelic cover from Longana on the post office opening day, using label type C7a with "R.6" included. The last year of usage of Australian labels.

## Bibliography

Burt, K. J. (2018). *Post Office Registration Labels of Australia and its Territories, including Papua and New Guinea*, Melbourne: Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria.

Higgins, J. (2016). "North Borneo, Australian Type Postmarks and Post-War Registration Cachets. Part 2." *Sarawak Journal*, 69, No. 2, pp. 45-47.

*Plus the resources of the Internet, covers seen for sale.*

# South Australia: Later Printings of One-Penny Perkins, Bacon Stamps on Cover, 1858-1875

*Dr Donald Pearce MBBS, FRPSL*



Cover A33

This article is an attempt to list all known Perkins, Bacon one-penny stamps existing on cover. It has been compiled from items known to me, mainly derived from auction catalogues and private treaty sales. Prior to the 1950s, the details of covers in sales were sketchy and lacking in detail. It has been my routine to ask for a scan of a cover or a photocopy if the item was not photographed in the sale catalogue.

I am not able to identify the relevant Stanley Gibbons number in many cases, as I do not have colour likenesses of many items. I can make out the perforation details in most cases, so I have described them in that way. The Adelaide imperfs listed as SG 5/6 are quite different to the London printing SG 1, and the first Adelaide roulettes (SG 13/14) are found in the same colour as the imperforates, which I describe as pale yellow-green.

The largest local correspondence, the covers from Tanunda to Miss Wegener at Stepney, have all the covers cut down on the left hand side by a small amount. I think they may well be letters from an admirer, which she treasured in the envelopes. Unfortunately, the contents are no longer with them.

Pairs are horizontal pairs unless described otherwise. The cancellations are indicated by either DN [Diamond Numeral] or CDS [Town Name].



Cover B1 Image courtesy Joseph Hackney



Cover B2



Cover B40



Cover B45

## A. From Adelaide to the United Kingdom

1. Single SG 5/6 with a six-pence SG 3 and a two pence to John Tann, London. 'Per Continent Packet'. 11 Jun. 1858.
2. Single SG 5/6 with a six-pence SG 3 and a two pence to C.C. McDonald Renfrew. 11 Nov. 1858.
3. Single SG 5/6 with a six-pence SG 3 and a two pence to Miss C. Reeve, Bristol. 'Per Oneida'. 25 Jan. 1859.
4. Single roulette SG 13/14 with a six-pence roulette and a two-pence roulette to Thomas Pain, Banbury. 'Per Contract Packet to Suez and Overland'. 18 May 1859.
5. Single roulette SG 13/14 with a six-pence roulette and a two-pence roulette to J. Milne, London. 17 Sep. 1859.
6. Single roulette SG 13/14 with a two pence and three six-pence (including a pair) to Cadell, Cockenzie, Scotland. 17 Sep. 1859.
7. Single penny roulette with a two-pence roulette and a six-pence roulette to unknown addressee. 18 Feb. 1860. [This is the only South Australian cover in the Royal Collection.]
8. Single penny roulette with a two pence and six pence. 'Per Behar via Marseilles' to Thompson, Whitehaven. 17 Mar. 1860.
9. Single penny roulette with two pence and a six pence. 'Per Northam via Marseilles' to Anthony Thompson, Whitehaven. 26 Oct. 1860.
10. Single penny roulette with a two pence and a six pence to Mrs Eamer, Camden Town. 26 Mar. 1861.
11. Single penny roulette with a six pence and a two pence to C.C. McDonald, Renfrew. 27 Mar. 1863.
12. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to T. Whistler, Exeter. 26 Oct. 1863.
13. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to J. Daly, Cork. 27 Nov. 1863.
14. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to Messrs. Buckley, Yorkshire. 27 Jan. 1864.
15. Strip of 4 rouletted pennies with a rouletted six pence to William Purdy, S.A. Bank Co, London. 1 Feb. 1864.
16. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to C.C. McDonald Renfrew, Scotland. 26 Mar. 1864.
17. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to Daly, Cork. 27 Oct. 1864.
18. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to Messrs. Buckley. 26 Nov. 1864.
19. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to Percy Roberts, London. 27 Mar. 1865.
20. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to Percy Roberts, London. 27 Apr. 1865.
21. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to C.C. McDonald, Renfrew, Scotland. 27 Apr. 1865.
22. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to Percy Roberts, London. 26 Aug. 1865.
23. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to Mrs Eamer, near Gravesend. 27 Jan. 1866.
24. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 and a six-pence roulette on LATE FEE cover to Messrs Hicks & Son, London. 27 Jan. 1866.
25. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to W.W. Watson, London. 27 Jan. 1866.
26. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 to Percy Roberts, London. 29 Jun. 1866.
27. Single penny roulette with a nine-pence SG 34 and three one-shilling roulettes on REGISTERED 4x rate cover 'via Marseilles' to Mr Wynne, Shropshire. 29 Aug. 1866.
28. Three penny roulettes with three six-pence roulettes to Hicks & Son, London. 29 May 1867. [LATE FEE COVER]
29. Single penny perf 10 with a one-shilling perf 10 to Messrs Hicks & Son, London. 4 Jan. 1871. [One of three known covers sent at 1/1d rate.]
30. Strip of three, and a single penny perf 12x10 with a two-pence De La Rue to Rev West, Dublin. 28 Mar. 1871.
31. Single penny perf 10 with a two-pence De La Rue and a six-pence perf 12x10 'via Brindisi' to F. Pearse, London. 8 Nov. 1871.
32. Single penny perf 12x10 with a six-pence perf 12 and a De La Rue two pence to P. Roberts, London. ? Sep. 1873.
33. Single penny perf 12 with a two-pence De La Rue and a six-pence perf 12. 'Via Brindisi' to Percy Roberts, Strand, London. 26 Mar. 1874.
34. Single penny perf 10 with a six-pence perf 12 and a De La Rue two pence. 'Via Brindisi' to Mr de Bernardy, Bedford Row, London. 21 May. 1874.
35. Strip of five, and a single penny to Mrs Burdett, Lancashire. 30 Jan. 1875.



Cover B51



Cover B55

# 234-243 CORINPHILA

## 11-15 & 17 JUNE 2019



- **AUSTRALIAN STATES & COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**  
incl. The Hess Collection

- **GREAT BRITAIN 1840-1910**  
The 'BESANÇON' Collection (part I)

- **SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA**  
The Brian Moorhouse Estate (part I)

- **CAPE OF GOOD HOPE 1853-1903 AND PRE-UNION SOUTH AFRICA**  
The 'BESANÇON' Collection (part II)

- **LEVANT POSTAL HISTORY** • **DUCATO DI PARMA**

- **CHILE – THE COLON ISSUES 1853-1867**  
The Joseph Hackmey Collection (part II)

- **AUSTRIA & LOMBARDO VENETO**  
The ERIVAN Collection (part I)

- **SWITZERLAND**  
fine selection Stamps, Covers & Postal History

- **ALL WORLD**, incl. Gibraltar · Ceylon (part II) · New Zealand (part II) · Cyprus · British Levant · Marocco · Ionian Islands · Austria · Portugal

# AUCTION



[www.corinphila.ch](http://www.corinphila.ch)



VISIT [WWW.CORINPHILA.CH](http://WWW.CORINPHILA.CH)

- Internet Auction Catalogues online
- Online live bidding: registration online

CONSIGN NOW !

Next Corinphila Auction:

3-7 December 2019

Latest date for consignments: 15 September 2019



CORINPHILA AUKTIONEN AG  
WIESENSTR 8 · 8032 ZÜRICH · SWITZERLAND  
Telefon +41-44-3899191  
[www.corinphila.ch](http://www.corinphila.ch)



CORINPHILA VEILINGEN BV  
AMSTELVEEN · NETHERLANDS  
Telefon +31-20-6249740 · [www.corinphila.nl](http://www.corinphila.nl)

Philatelic Partner



**STOCKHOLMIA2019**  
29 MAY - 2 JUNE

**B. Items posted elsewhere (other than in Adelaide)**

1. Strip of six SG 5/6 from Port Adelaide [DN1] to Mrs Smith, Thurlow Place, redirected to West Green, Tottenham. 18 Mar. 1859.
2. Pair of SG 5/6 from Goolwa [DN71] to E. Stirling, Adelaide. 5 Jun. 1859.
3. Pair of SG 5/6 from Clare [DN36] to Captain Bishop, Port Lincoln. 25 Jun. 1859.
4. Single SG 5/6 [One stamp missing] from Gawler [DN25] to James Huggins, Kapunda. 8 Aug. 1859. TOO-LATE marking.
5. Pair of SG 5/6 from Rapid Bay [DN76] to Hurford & Boucaut, King William Street, Adelaide. 10 Jan. 1860.
6. Pair of SG 5/6 from Milang [DN100] to Strathalbyn. 3 Feb. 1860.
7. Pair penny roulettes from Truro [DN32] to J. Barritt, Esq, Lyndoch Valley. 26 Oct. 1860.
8. Pair penny roulettes from Mount Gambier [DN61] to Messrs Learmonth & Trangmar, Portland, Victoria. 25 Jul. 1862.
9. Pair penny roulettes from Port Augusta [CDS] to Mr. Harry Williams, Far North. 4 Oct. 1862.
10. Pair penny roulettes from Port Augusta [CDS] to John Pascoe, Nuccaleena. 4 Oct. 1862.
11. Pair penny roulettes from Port Augusta [CDS] to Michael Fleming, Kanyaka. 4 Oct. 1862.
12. Pair penny roulettes from Port Augusta [CDS] to Edward Palmer, McKinlay's Exploring Expedition, Adelaide. 8 Oct. 1862. UNCLAIMED mark.
13. One penny roulette with two-pence roulette [5 in circle] on 'Banker's parcel, without letter' item to John Bishop, Port Lincoln. ? Apr. 1863.
14. Pair penny roulettes from Talia [DN169] to Captain John Bishop at Port Lincoln. 25 May. 1863.
15. Pair penny roulettes from Steelton [DN152] to Mrs Jas. Turnbull, Smithfield. 8 Feb. 1864.
16. Vertical pair of rouletted pennies with pair of rouletted two pence from Crafers [DN45] to Mrs Smith, Camberwell, London. 26 Nov. 1864.
17. Single one penny roulette with a two pence and a six pence from Willunga [DN69] to Bossey & Ching, Holles Street, London. 26 Aug. 1864.
18. Single penny rouletted from Talia [CDS] to Captain Bishop, Port Lincoln. 28 Nov. 1864. [Underpaid].
19. Single penny rouletted with SG 34 from Aldinga [DN73] to Mrs Seward. 2? Dec. 1864.
20. Single penny rouletted with SG34 from Gawler [DN25] to F. Hill, Scotland. 27 Mar. 1865.
21. Single penny rouletted with SG 34 from Gawler [DN25] to F. Hill, Scotland. 27 Apr. 1865.
22. Single penny rouletted with SG 34 from Gawler [CDS] to Fred Hill, Scotland. 26 May 1865.
23. Single penny rouletted on copy <i>Illustrated Melbourne Post</i> newspaper from Gawler [DN]. ? July 1865.
24. Single penny rouletted with SG 34 from Gawler [CDS] to F. Hill, Scotland. 27 Nov. 1865.
25. Single penny rouletted with a nine-pence SG 34 from Koorunga [CDS] to Mr. J. Johnson, Basingstoke, Hants. 28 May 1866.
26. Pair of rouletted pennies from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss H.W.S., Adelaide. 15 Nov. 1867.
27. One-penny rouletted and one-penny perf 12, from Port Adelaide to Captain Bishop, Port Lincoln. 2 May 1868.
28. Pair rouletted pennies from Gawler [CDS] to I.O.O.F. Adelaide. 18. 9. 1868.
29. Vertical pair penny perf 12 x rouletted from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss Wegener, Stepney. 31 Dec. 1868.
30. Pair penny perf 12 x roulette from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss Wegener, Stepney. Date? 1869.
31. Pair penny rouletted from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss Wegener, Stepney. 25 Oct. 1869.
32. Pair penny rouletted from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss Wegener, Stepney. 3 Nov 1869.
33. Vertical pair penny perf x roulette from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss H. Wegener, Stepney. 24 Nov. 1869.
34. Pair penny perf x roulette from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss H. Wegener, Stepney. 11 Jan. 1870.
35. Pair penny perf x roulette from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss H. Wegener, Stepney. 22 Jan. 1870.
36. Pair penny perf x roulette from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss Helene Wegener, Stepney. 3 Feb. 1870.
37. Vertical pair penny perf x roulette from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss H. Wegener. 19 Feb. 1870.
38. Pair penny perf x roulette from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss Wegener, Stepney. 22 Mar. 1870.
39. Pair penny perf x roulette from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss Wegener, Stepney, 4 Apr. 1870.
40. Pair penny perf x roulette from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss Wegener, Stepney. 23 Apr. 1870. [R.P.S.L. Certificate 81538.]
41. Pair penny perf x roulette from Tanunda [CDS] to Miss Wegener, Stepney. 5 May. 1870.
42. Pair penny perf x roulette from Tanunda [CDS] to Miss H. Wegener, Stepney. 13 May 1870.
43. Vertical pair penny perf x roulette from Tanunda [DN30] to Miss Wegener, Stepney. 24 May 1870.
44. Penny grey-green perf 10 from Port Adelaide [CDS] with a two-pence De La Rue to Mr Richardson, Newcastle, New South Wales. 8 Aug. 1870.

45. Penny perf 12, with a two-pence De La Rue and a ten-pence perf 12 on cover from Kooringa [CDS] to J.S. Challoner, London. 7 Dec. 1870. [One of three known 1/1d rate covers]
46. Two single pennies perf 10 from Gambierton [CDS]. Date? 1871.
47. Pair penny roulette from Gawler [CDS]. Date?
48. Single penny with De La Rue two pence to Mr Kelsey, New Zealand. 7 Mar. 1871.
49. One-penny perf 10,12 with six-pence perf 10 and two-pence De La Rue from Crafers [DN45] to London. Date? [1872].
50. Pair of pennies perf 12 from Tanunda [CDS] to Miss Helena Wegener, Stepney. 25 Jun. 1872.
51. Single penny perf 10 with a six-pence perf 10 and a two-pence De La Rue from Stirling East [CDS]. 11 Jul. 1872.
52. Strip of 3 pennies perf 12 x 10 [inverted], with six-pence perf 12, from Gambierton [CDS] to U.S.A. 12 Aug. 1873.
53. Pair of pennies perf 12 x 10 from Kapunda [CDS] to Jas. Robin & Co, Grenfell Street, Adelaide. 22 Dec. 1873.
54. Single perf 10, [with missing second penny], from Palmerston [DN184] to Mrs. Latham, Angaston. 3 Jan. 1874.
55. Strip of three one-penny perf 12 x 10 from Fowler's Bay [DN214] to Hokitiki, New Zealand. 13 Jan. 1874.
56. Single perf 12 with a De La Rue two-pence and PB six-pence perf 12 from Gawler [CDS] to Messrs Broughton & Wyman, Peterborough. 22 Apr. 1874.



Cover C1



Cover D3



Cover D4



Cover D5

### C. Mail from Adelaide delivered within South Australia

1. Four singles SG 13/14 to Captain Bishop. 'Per Marion'. 1 Sep. 1860.
2. Two penny roulettes [upside down] to David Liston, Port Adelaide. 19 Jun. 1863.
3. Two penny roulettes, with two two-pence roulettes on TOO LATE cover to Capt Bishop delivered in Port Lincoln 30 July 1865.
4. Two penny roulettes to D. Liston at Newman & Co, Port Adelaide. 13 Jul. 1868.
5. Two deep-green one penny perf 10 to D. Liston at Port Adelaide. 22 Mar. 1872.
6. Two one-penny perf 12 to Mr W. Seebo, Seppeltsfield. 22 Nov. 1872.
7. Two one-penny perf 12 on mourning cover to Mr W. Seebo, Seppeltsfield. 5 Dec. 1872.
8. Two one-penny perf 10,12 to Mrs Seebo, Seppeltsfield. 17 Jan. 1873.
9. Two one-penny perf 12 to Mrs F.P. Green, Jeffcott St, N. Adelaide. 20 Jan. 1873.
10. Two one-penny perf 12 to Mrs F.P. Green, Jeffcott St, N. Adelaide. 26 Feb. 1873.
11. Two one-penny perf 12 on cover to Mr Higgins, Currency Creek. 1 Sep. 1874.

#### D. Covers from Adelaide to other states/overseas

1. Pair 1d imperforated SG 5/6 on Newspaper to Dr Schwarz, Germany. 19 Nov. 1859.
2. One-penny rouletted and four two-pennies and a six-pence rouletted on TOO-LATE cover to W.B. Isaacs, Melbourne. 22 May 1867.
3. One-penny rouletted and a ten-pence [SG 36] to Mrs Spink, Wisconsin, U.S.A. 14 Sep. 1868.
4. One-penny perf 12 and a ten-pence perf 12 on 'PD' cover to Mr Denis, Bremen. 9 Dec. 1868.
5. One-penny perf 12 and a ten-pence roulette on 'PD' cover to Altona, Germany. 8 Dec. 1869.
6. One-penny perf 12 x roulette and a two-pence De La Rue perf 10 and two six-pence perf x roulette on LATE FEE cover to Beilby & Co, Sydney. 26 Jul. 1870.
7. One-penny perf 12 and a two-pence De La Rue perf 10 to Kelsey, Stafford Town, New Zealand. 9 May. 1871.
8. One-penny perf 10,12 and a two-pence De La Rue to Mrs Levick, Sydney. 'Per Aldinga'. 5 Sep. 1871.



Cover E1

#### E. Government Departmental overprints

1. H.A. in RED on pair penny roulettes on 'O.H.M.S.' cover to Sergt [name erased], Adelaide Artillery, Adelaide. 1 Oct. 1868.
2. G.P. in BLACK on single penny perf 10 on wrapper to Mr. Ottomer Gehrke Esq. J.P. 1871.
3. G.P. in BLACK on single penny perf 12 on wrapper to same addressee – date unknown.

The Government Gazette was sent frequently to a large number of recipients, but the two wrappers listed above are the only known existing examples.

The Police Gazette was also posted at frequent intervals, but was sent sealed at letter rate (i.e., twopence) and always franked by two-pence stamps, overprinted C.P. or P.

The Perkins, Bacon penny stamps perf 12 or 10,12 were also overprinted with the letters O.S. in block type, but no example on cover is currently known.

*I realize that further examples may exist which I have not listed and would welcome information (or scans) of such items.*

*(Author contact: [don@pearce.com.au](mailto:don@pearce.com.au))*



Cover E2

# Notes on Tasmania's Revenue Overprints

Bill Lloyd-Smith FRPSV



Figure 1

Here are a few remarks and observations on the Revenue overprints of Tasmania (1900-1905) that do not seem to have appeared in print. These include remarks on the status of two rare varieties (2s6d imperf on TAS paper and 1s perf 14) and some notes on stocks of these Revenue overprints with reference to the £1 stamp of 1897 and the 1d, 2d and 3d Revenue overprints of 1900 onwards.

We note for future reference that these stamps followed as a consequence of a Treasury Notice of 14 November 1900 which specified the stamps that would be reserved for fiscal use only as from 1 December 1900. These were: 1d, 3d, 6d, 1s of Platypus type; 2s6d, 5s and 10s of St

George and Dragon type; and the £1 of Queen's head type. We note that the 3d St George and Dragon was not included in this announcement and hence it remained valid for postage, even though it had been obsolete since December 1870. (Andrew Wilson noticed this curious consequence in his articles in *Western Stampgroper*, especially December 1993 and October 1994. David McNamee very kindly sent me copies of Wilson's serial on Tasmanian revenue stamps.) The public were given the opportunity to exchange stocks of these stamps (now declared to be revenue stamps) for current postage stamps during December 1900.

Of course, this decision was a necessary consequence of Federation since the Post Office was to be transferred to the Commonwealth soon after the Federation was officially proclaimed.

Unless otherwise stated, all stamps discussed in this article were printed on the second type TAS watermarked paper (machine-made) as used initially for the London printings of 1d, 2d and 8d Sideface stamps of 1878 onwards. The word "Revenue" as used for the overprints described below is 1.5 mm high unless otherwise stated. Locally printed stamps were perforated 11.8 unless stated otherwise. The stamps printed in London were always perforated 14.

## 2s6d imperf (St George and Dragon)

This variety was first recorded in Stanley Gibbons *Monthly Journal* for July 1902, page 6. In the Weisz listing (February 1921, Supplement to the *Australian Philatelic Record*), it is stated that only one sheet of 120 (two panes of 60 each) was issued (without gum). No source is cited for these claims. This variety turns up in auctions from time to time, often as unused or with a neat circular cancel, apparently CTO. Very occasionally, a fiscally cancelled example is seen.

As far as the perforated version is concerned, there is no doubt as to its status as a postal fiscal, as a letter from Henry L. D'Emden, Post and Telegraph Department, Hobart, shows. It appeared in *Australian Philatelist* for 1 January 1903, page 61. (The 3d Platypus, 2s6d and 10s St George and Dragon, and £1 Queen's head, all overprinted "Revenue", were available for postage for about 14 days, up to 30 November 1900 only.) However, the imperforate version of the 2s6d is not known to the author in genuine postally-used condition. It is suspected that all postmarked copies are CTO or cancelled by favour. It seems doubtful if this variety was ever postally used, unlike the perforated version of the 2s6d which is known on cover (probably philatelic).

A fiscally used pair is illustrated, cancelled in 1900 (Figure 1). Very few fiscally-cancelled examples have been seen by the author. Clearly, it would not be possible to affix such a stamp to a postal article without recourse to a pot of glue in the post office. Of course, the Stamp Duties Office might have provided glue to ensure that revenue stamps were firmly affixed to documents requiring these stamps, even those already with gum.

## 1s perf 14 (Platypus)

This variety is not to be confused with the 1s perf 12 overprinted "Revenue" that is normally seen by collectors. The perf 14 variety is from the single sheet left over when old stocks of St George and Dragon stamps (2s6d and 10s only), along with old stocks of Platypus stamps (3d and 1s only) and the £1 of 1897 were overprinted "Revenue". The original stamp (perf 14) is from the De La Rue printings of 1877 and 1880. (It is impossible to say which one due to the excellent quality control in the printing work). The perf 12 version is from the local printing made in Hobart in November 1900 (and also in 1901).

The 1s perf 14 was apparently first reported in *Morley's Philatelic Journal* for September 1901 while the normal 1s perf 12 was recorded in *Australian Philatelist* for 30 January 1901, along with the 1d, 3d and 6d of that issue. A stocktake was taken on 10 January 1901, as described in an article by the author in *The Courier*, No. 35 (April 2003). For the 1s, the result was 100 sheets (reckoned as 240-on) plus 6 stamps. This would include the 100 sheets (reckoned as 240-on) already printed to the order of the Commissioner of Stamp Duties, but not the extra sheet

of 1s described above. Note that not all of the 3d and £1 stamps had been overprinted by this time. (Details are: 750 sheets of £1 plus 7 stamps out of approximately 974¾ sheets initially, and 1,000 sheets of 3d plus 16 stamps out of approximately 1,218¾ sheets initially.) The counts of individual stamps are almost certainly due to old stamps exchanged by the public for current postage stamps during December 1900, as allowed by the Treasury Notice of 14 November 1900 (described above).

The apparent failure to overprint the entire stock of old stamps by 10 January 1901 can be justified by the Government Printer's need to complete much other work as requested by the Government of the day. In any case, the stock already overprinted by January 1901 was more than adequate for immediate needs. Nevertheless, the overprinting of old stock was probably completed over the next few months. Certainly, a stocktake on 30 June 1902 (end of financial year) indicates that all stamps must have been overprinted as required.

An example of the perf 14 variety has been seen dated 27 April 1901 (well after the cutoff date for postal validity). It seems virtually certain that the 1s perf 14 was not issued until 1901 and, hence, it cannot possibly be even a postal fiscal by any stretch of the imagination.

### £1 Queen's head

The £1 stamp is unusual in that it is the only stamp overprinted REVENUE that was originally issued as a postage stamp. The £1 stamp (without REVENUE) has always been catalogued as a postage stamp, while the Platypus and the St George and Dragon stamps were originally issued as fiscals. All of these 'postal fiscals' except the 3d St George and Dragon were overprinted REVENUE for use as revenue stamps. The Amending Act that made this change to the law stipulated that the amendments would come into force on 1 December 1900 so that postal use of old stocks of these newly-created revenue stamps was definitely allowed up to 30 November 1900. (New printings of these stamps were not issued to the public until 1 December 1900 and so they were not valid for postage, although a few seem to have passed through the mail on letters.)

The £1 stamp seems to have had a modest amount of use prior to 1904. The evidence is in an article by the author in *The Courier*, No. 35 (April 2003). The stocktake on 11 June 1903 shows 967½ sheets (240-on) as compared to 975 sheets (approximately) on 24 October 1900 in a special stocktake to evaluate the need for new revenue stamps. This amounts to around 1800 stamps issued in little over two years and seven months since 1 December 1900. Comparing with the three years and ten months of use of the £1 stamp (as from the issue date of 3 February 1897), we estimate that the number of £1 stamps with Revenue overprint up to late November 1900 is close to 2,700, almost surely under 3,000. With 9,600 issued for all purposes, the difference is up to 6,900. Many of these 6,900 or so stamps were almost certainly used to prepay bulk postage. There was also some use on telegrams (including Press telegrams) and a modest number of heavy packets containing valuable contents such as gold. A fiscally used

example cancelled in 1899 is illustrated (Figure 2).

By way of comparison, we mention the £1 'thin postage' of South Australia, issued around April 1903, as Purves stated in his book on 'long stamps' (1978). (It was replaced by the £1 'thick postage' around December 1904; this latter stamp is much more often encountered in used condition as it lasted until 1913.) He estimated the number printed to be 9,600, which is the number of £1 Queen's head of Tasmania that were *not* overprinted "Revenue". This latter £1 stamp is seen much more frequently in postally-used condition than the £1 'thin postage' of South Australia, which was never available for fiscal use. The major use of the £1 of South Australia was almost certainly for bulk postage charges, along with some use on telegrams and a modest number of heavy parcels containing bullion or other valuables. Mursell (1918) stressed that the £1 was largely used for bulk postage charges and pointed out that the rule on destruction of bulk postage dockets bearing high value stamps was rigidly observed.

The point of this apparent digression is to throw more light on the frequency of £1 Queen's head stamps of Tasmania. One cannot help thinking that many of these Tasmanian £1 stamps used for bulk postage charges were given back to the customer. This was not the rule in South Australia. Also, see Purves (1979) on the higher values of Victoria for 1901-1912, especially pages 71-72 for the use of the Victorian £1 and £2 KEVII on bulk postage dockets.

It would seem that the number of £1 stamps ordered was considerably greater than necessary. Indeed, the £1 with Revenue overprint has been seen used in the late 1940s and probably later still (Figure 3). Some of these stamps were used up by surcharging with new values of 5d and 1s (for fiscal use only around 1919-1921). Other surcharges for fiscal use are discussed below.

### 1d and 3d Platypus (and also the 2d)

The 1d and 3d Platypus provide an interesting contrast. The 3d was never printed in Hobart, only in London. Thus all 3d stamps, including those with "Revenue" overprinted and sometimes with extra surcharges, are of good impression as expected from a De La Rue printing. In contrast, the 1d with "Revenue" overprint is of



Figure 2



Figure 3

distinctly inferior impression since stocks of the original De La Rue printings had been exhausted long ago when the decision to separate postage and revenue stamps was made. Thus, supplies of the 1d were printed in Hobart from November 1900 onwards. The 2d differs from all the other Platypus issues of this period since the duty plate for TWO PENCE had to be produced locally. The letters are smaller and not as evenly positioned as for the De La Rue duty plates. See Figure 4.

The number of printings of the 1d is not known with any degree of certainty, owing to the loss of records. There are a few surviving records in the files of the Government Printer and the Treasury in Hobart so a partial account was given in the author's article in *The Courier*, No. 35 (April 2003). An article by Brian Barrett in *Philately from Australia* for June 2015 provides more information for the time around the beginning of 1903, with special reference to the 2d value.

Instead of digging in the archives, as the present author did on several occasions, Barrett found a lot of interesting information relating to the Platypus issues with the help of Trove, an online tool very useful for seeking information in early Australian publications, especially old newspapers. Thus, Barrett quotes various contemporary accounts of the somewhat haphazard way new stocks of revenue stamps were hurriedly rushed into service at the very beginning of 1903 to meet the demand to pay stamp duty on receipts on amounts of at least £2. Thus, a new 2d duty stamp was needed. Indeed, an insufficient supply of duty stamps had been prepared when the new rates of stamp duty came into force on 1 January 1903. From the extracts given by Barrett, we can be almost certain that the 2d was first issued on 1 January 1903 (not previously recorded).

Barrett's article tells us that about 47,000 revenue stamps were rushed into service on 1 January 1903. Further, about 70,000 of the new stamps of values 1d, 2d and 3d had been issued by noon on 2 January 1903 (probably including the 47,000 for 1

January 1903). Figures are clearly rounded since they are not divisible by 120, the number of stamp impressions on the plate. Further supplies were being printed, as the reports stated, with the need to surcharge 24,000 stamps of 'higher value' as well. This alludes to the first type of 1d surcharge on the 3d Platypus with "Revenue" overprint. (It can now be clearly stated that the first surcharge of 1d on 3d was issued on 3 January 1903, a fact not previously recorded.) The reported exhaustion of stock really means that all 1d stamps were exhausted, not literally all revenue stamps still held by the authorities. By 6 January, an 'ample' supply of all values was now available to the public.

Barrett's article also tells us about the introduction of the 2d rate of duty as part of a scale of duties on receipts, originally planned to start on 1 September but progressively postponed in stages to 1 January 1903. Some other information about the 2d is provided. Also, see an article by the author in *Philately from Australia* for June 1998 for information relating to the 2d, including reference to a plate proof of the 2d submitted to the Treasurer (Stafford Bird) for approval on 3 December 1902.

The 1d stamp also appeared on the old TAS watermarked paper (hand-made) that was initially used for printings of Sideface stamps from 1871 onwards. This variety is believed to have been issued from July-August 1903. This usage of old paper points to an impending shortage of paper for printing revenue stamps, as discussed below.

### Stocks of stamp paper

As hinted in the previous section, stocks of the machine-made TAS watermarked paper were running low in the second half of 1903. Archival evidence is limited and comes mostly from the Archives Authority of New South Wales, to which I am grateful for the supply of a few archival extracts for the period 1903-1906.

I have seen copies of six letters from the New South Wales Government Printer to his counterpart in Tasmania. The first four of them concern the supply of paper for printing stamps in Tasmania. The letters from Hobart have not been seen and may no longer be extant. The surviving correspondence was written with specific reference to the communications of the Tasmanian Government Printer (John Vail); these have not been seen so we do not know exactly what Vail actually wrote. We can be sure that Vail was seeking to obtain paper for printing stamps. (These would be various revenue stamps, including beer duty stamps.) The letter of 4 December alludes to cheque paper for duty stamps; this probably refers to the old double-lined numerals paper that was variously used up for cheques and postal notes, as Basset Hull said on page 44 of his book. The letter of 27 August 1903 refers to tinted paper with watermark. This can only mean paper for beer duty stamps, as described in the Craig and Ingles catalogue (1979). A similar letter of 17 June 1904 stated that no tinted watermarked paper was available.

As far as the issued stamps are concerned, there were two instances of stamps being printed on old stocks of paper. The 1d on old TAS paper has already been alluded to. Now we refer to the 2s6d Dragon on paper watermarked double-line 4. This



Figure 4a



Figure 4b



Figure 4c



Figure 4d



Figure 5

is on the cheque paper that is referred to above. This stamp was printed in deep lake on the old 4 paper and first appeared as early as November 1903. The word “Revenue” was now 2 mm high. This probably arose because the original forme made in November 1900 was no longer available (or perhaps not usable any more). Perforation was 11.8 as usual for this period. See Figure 5.

### Some extra notes

The stamps to be overprinted “Revenue” were in three formats and sizes, namely St George and Dragon, Platypus and Queen’s head, thereby necessitating three different formes for applying the required overprints. The St George and Dragon stamps actually differ slightly in size, being about 25 × 20 mm for 5s and 10s and 26 × 21.5 mm for the 2s6d, but the same forme was used for all three denominations. The fit is good for the 2s6d, but for the two other values it is apparent that the position as viewed horizontally varies for the 5s and 10s. The illustrated strip of four 10s gives a good hint of the horizontal spacing problem (Figure 6). The effect of this horizontal positioning is quite dramatic as shown on a block of 48 (4 rows of 12 stamps each) of the 5d on 10s surcharge in the Doble collection, auctioned by Leski on 18 November 2003 (see photo of Lot 432).

The formes for the Platypus and Queen’s head stamps need no further explanations.

The old stock with “Revenue” overprints was first issued in November 1900 about two weeks before the cessation of interchangeability on 30 November 1900 (3d, 2s6d, 10s, £1 values only, as confirmed in D’Emden’s letter to *Australian Philatelist*). The contemporary newspapers have only the official notice, as a search in Trove shows. Presumably,

customers had to say whether they wanted postage or revenue stamps, as in the case of the “No Postage” series and the 1d and 3d stamp duty types in new colours of 1901 for Victoria, but no evidence has ever been located to this effect for Tasmania. (An article in *Philately from Australia* for December 2014 discussed these issues for Victoria.) There is a section on revenue stamps (in addition to postage stamps from 1d to 5s) being available in denominations from 1d to 10s in the Regulations under the 1881 Postal Act of Tasmania in Part 5 of the compendium assembled by Orchard noting that customers would have had to say which kind of stamp was required (and probably also from November 1900 onwards).

### Concluding notes

To meet the need for 1d stamps, especially for use on receipts, more 3d Platypus stamps were issued with surcharge 1d but in a heavier font that is very similar to that used for the 1½d surcharge on the 5d Tablet stamp of December 1904 for postcards to foreign countries. The date of issue was 12 January 1904. This expedient temporarily sidestepped the shortage of stamp paper. A supply of 4d stamps was made by surcharging some 3d Platypus stamps in early 1905; these were supplanted by a new design (see below). Last, but not least, old stocks of 10s Dragon stamps were surcharged 5d in 1918 due to a new schedule of duties on receipts.

In the end, a new series of revenue stamps in a numeral design (printed in Melbourne) was issued over a period of time in 1904-1905. They ranged from 1d to £1 and all of them bore the V/ Crown watermark of Type V4 in the Purves scheme (described in Kellow’s book on Victoria). A 4d was added to this series in 1905. They were comb perf 12×12½ but the 1d is also known perf 11 (apparently quite scarce as the author has seen only one example). As from 1906, they were printed in Sydney for many years. The last two letters seen by the author from the New South Wales Archives Authority concern the printing of these stamps in Sydney.

This concludes our survey of various Tasmanian topics around 1900-1904.



Figure 6

## References

- Barrett, B. (2015), 'PENOE' vice 'PENCE' double, on 2d Tasmania 'Platypus' 1903, *Philately from Australia*, Vol. 67, June, pp. 62-63.
- Charles Leski Auctions (2003), Auction No. 222.  
[Features collections of John Cress, Les Doble and some lots ex Lancaster and others].
- Craig, W.D. and Ingles, O.G. (1978), *The Revenue and Railway Stamps of Tasmania*, Hobart: Revenue & Railstamp Publications.
- Kellow, G. (1990), *The Stamps of Victoria*, Melbourne: B & K Philatelic Publishing.  
[The V4 watermark is discussed in Chapter 1, the 1d and 3d stamp duty (new colours of 1901) are discussed along with the colonial printings of these designs in Chapter 14, and the No Postage series is described in Chapter 16.]
- Lloyd-Smith, B. (1998), The 2d Platypus of Tasmania, *Philately from Australia*, Vol. 50, June, pp. 70-72.
- Lloyd-Smith, B. (2003), The Revenue Overprints of Tasmania, *The Courier*, No. 35 (Special Issue), April, pp. 19-34.
- Lloyd-Smith, B. (2014), The Victorian 1d and 3d Stamp Duty Types of 1901, *Philately from Australia*, Vol. 66, December, pp. 128-129.
- Mursell, J. (1918), The "Long" Stamps of South Australia from 1902, *London Philatelist*, Vol. 27, pp. 191-195.  
[See pp. 194-195 for a discussion of the £1 'thin postage' and its usage.]
- Orchard, A.E. (2000), *Tasmanian Postal Acts and Regulations, Part 5. 1880-1882*, Weston Creek, A.C.T.: Magpie Publications.  
[Revenue stamps are covered on pp. 89-90.]
- Purves, J.R.W. (1978), *South Australia, The 'Long' Stamps of 1902-1912; A study in surface-printing*, Melbourne: Hawthorn Press for Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria.  
[See p. 96 for the £1 'thin postage' and p. 36 for this stamp in the context of the so-called 'value page numbers' used to account for stamps printed.]
- Purves, J.R.W. (1979), *Victoria: The 5/-, 1867-1901 and the 1/-, 5/-, £1 and £2, 1901-1912*, Melbourne: Hawthorn Press.
- Wilson, A. (1993), The Revenue Stamps of Tasmania, Part 3, *Western Stampgroper*, Vol. 2, No. 3, December, pp. 42-45.
- Wilson, A. (1994), The Revenue Stamps of Tasmania, Part 6, *Western Stampgroper*, Vol. 3, No. 2, October, pp. 42-45.

# Australia's Postal Rates Increase, 1930

*Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV*

The increases in postal rates in August 1930 were an emergency measure to generate revenue for the Commonwealth, offsetting the loss of revenue brought about by the Depression. In normal circumstances, postage increased to meet the rising costs of labour and materials. By mid-1930, a collapse in business confidence, leading to greater unemployment and reduced economic activity, resulted in a contraction of taxation revenue collected by the Commonwealth.

Introducing a bill in the House of Representatives to amend the *Post and Telegraph Rates Act* on 15 July 1930, the Postmaster-General, J.A. (Joe) Lyons, explained:

*The justification for this measure is the urgent necessity to raise portion of the money that must be found under the budget proposals. In normal circumstances we should not be submitting a bill to increase postal rates, because we feel that the postal department should not be used as a taxing machine. But these are not normal times. It is absolutely essential that additional revenue be raised from the postal service if we are*

*to avoid further collection by way of direct taxation .... We are hoping that this additional impost will be of a temporary nature only, and that before long we shall be able to return to the conditions that obtain to-day.*

Normally, a bill to amend postal rates would be considered (together with other bills associated with the Federal Budget) during August-September, so that increased postage and other government charges would come into effect on 1 October. Prior to 1975—the year Australia Post was established and given authority to set the rates of postage—increased postage generally applied from 1 October. However, the urgency associated with the 1930 postal rates increase, planned to augment Commonwealth revenue as quickly as possible, led to the new rates coming into effect on Monday, 4 August 1930. (Public sentiment might be judged by a Wells cartoon published in the Melbourne *Herald* that same day.)

Basic letter postage was increased from 1½d to 2d per ounce. The Postmaster-General noted in his speech:

### Caught Again!



The increased postage rates imposed by the Federal Government for revenue purposes came into operation today.

A cartoon by Samuel Garnet Wells published in the Melbourne "Herald" of 4 August 1930 shows a citizen as a fly trapped by the gum of a 2d stamp.

It is difficult to prepare an actual estimate of the additional revenue which will be derived from the proposed increases in postage, as the present financial depression has considerably affected postal traffic. As far as can be foreseen, the additional revenue which will be derived during the current financial year will not exceed £1,000,000.

According to newspaper reports, the introduction of 2d letter postage involved a few challenges – people either forgot entirely or posted their mail on the last day of the old rates. As the Melbourne Argus, Tuesday, 5 August 1930, page 6, commented:

Many people forgot that the new postage rates operated from yesterday, and postal officials were kept busy marking letters insufficiently stamped. When the letters are received this morning those to whom they are addressed will be asked to pay double the amount of the deficiency. Many of the defaulters were business firms. Where there was a possibility that letters had been posted after the last clearances on Sunday, the sorters gave the sender the benefit of the doubt, and the receiver will not be called upon to pay. No leniency will be shown from to-day. Evidently numbers of people were anxious to avoid the extra half-penny postage on ordinary letters, for the mail sorted on Sunday night was about 22 per cent. greater than on an ordinary Sunday night. As more than 400,000 letters are cleared on a normal Sunday, the saving to the senders was, in the aggregate, at least £833. The demand for two-penny stamps and halfpenny stamps was about 200 per cent. greater yesterday than on an ordinary day. At the Elizabeth street office long queues of people waited at the stamp counter; and the clerks were kept working for more than an hour after their usual time of leaving.

A problem was quickly noticed concerning the rates for overseas

newspapers. The cheapest rate at 1d per four ounces applied to newspapers posted to New Zealand, United Kingdom, Eire and United States. To all other British Empire and foreign countries, the printed matter rate of 1d per two ounces applied to newspapers. As a result, an awkward problem arose, as explained in *The Argus*, 5 August 1930, page 6:

*Under the new schedule of postal charges Canada, South Africa, and several other portions of the British Empire will suffer an anomaly in the postal rates of newspapers. The rate on newspapers to New Zealand, islands annexed to New Zealand, Fiji, and to the United Kingdom and the Irish Free State (when sent by the all-sea route), is 1d. for 6oz. The rate to the United States of America, including Alaska and Hawaii, the United Kingdom and the Irish Free State (sent via America or France), is 1d for 4oz. Newspapers sent to all other places have to pay the rate for printed papers, which is 1d for 2oz. In these circumstances mail sent to Vancouver for Canadian addresses must have newspapers stamped at the rate of 1d for every 2oz., but if the mail is transhipped at Vancouver for Alaska newspapers need pay only 1d for 4oz. It also appears anomalous that mails to British Dominions should be charged a higher rate than mails to the United States of America.*

To eliminate the anomaly, newspaper postage to the United States was raised to 1d per two ounces (instead of four ounces), the increase taking effect on 1 September 1930. A short-lived postal rate had come and gone.

The rates increase was particularly harsh for printed matter (2nd Class mail articles), which had doubled from 1d per four ounces to 1d per two ounces. This adversely affected the printing industry, so the government decided to restore the original rates. As explained by *The Argus*, 19 March 1931, page 5:

*Moving the second reading of a bill to reduce postage rates on second class mail matter from one penny for 2oz., to 1d for 4oz., which he introduced in the House of Representatives to-day, the Postmaster-General (Mr. Greene) said that the rates were increased last year. It was now proposed to revert to the original rates. The printing trade had found that the increased rates had seriously affected output. Instead of increasing revenue [postal revenue] the new rates had resulted in a decrease. Strong protests had been received from public libraries. In the last few months there had been a considerable reduction in mail matter of this class.*

The reduced rates for printed matter came into effect on 16 April 1931. Although the basic 1d rate was unchanged, the first weight step was doubled from two ounces to four ounces, permitting heavier printed matter to be carried for 1d.

The 1930 postal rates were described as an emergency measure dealing with the Depression, but these rates remained unchanged for more than a decade, apart from the exceptions discussed above. Basic letter postage of 2d was never reduced, and a 2d rate continued until a ½d war tax was imposed on mail articles on 10 December 1941. During the 1930s, frequent pressure came from the public to reduce letter postage to 1½d or even to 1d, but the Post Office firmly resisted.

## Australian Domestic & Overseas postal rates, from 4 August 1930 to 9 December 1941

<b>LETTERS</b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories, and to British Empire countries:</i> 2d per 1 oz.
<i>To all other countries:</i> 3d up to 1 oz.; 2d each additional 1 oz.
<b>POSTCARDS</b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories, and to British Empire countries:</i> 1½d each
<i>To all other countries:</i> 2d each
<b>LETTERCARDS</b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories, and to British Empire countries:</i> 2d each
<i>To all other countries:</i> 3d each
<b>COMMERCIAL PAPERS</b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories, to NZ &amp; territories and Fiji:</i> 1d per 2 oz. (unchanged)
<i>To all other countries:</i> 1d per 2 oz.; minimum postage 3d (unchanged)
<b>PRINTED MATTER</b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories, and to British Empire countries:</i> 1d per 2 oz. (From 16 April 1931:
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories, and to British Empire countries:</i> 1d per 4 oz.)
<i>To all other countries:</i> 1d per 2 oz.
<b>PATTERNS AND SAMPLES</b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories, and to British Empire countries:</i> 1d per 2 oz.
<i>To all other countries:</i> 1d per 2 oz.; minimum postage 2d
<b>MERCHANDISE</b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories, to NZ &amp; territories and Fiji:</i> 1d per 2 oz.
<i>To all other countries:</i> Parcel rates apply
<b>BOOKS</b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories:</i> 1d per 6 oz. (if printed in Australia); 1d per 4 oz. (if printed outside Australia)
<i>To all other countries:</i> Printed Papers rates apply
<b>CATALOGUES</b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories:</i> 1d per 4 oz. for each catalogue (printed in Australia only)
<b>MAGAZINES</b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories:</i> 1d per 6 oz. (if printed in Australia); 1d per 4 oz. (if printed outside Australia)
<i>To British Empire countries:</i> 1d per 4 oz.
<i>To all other countries:</i> 1d per 2 oz.
<i>Hansard (Parliamentary debates printed and published by the Commonwealth or a state) within Australia &amp; territories:</i> 1d per 12 oz.
<b>NEWSPAPERS: PRINTED &amp; PUBLISHED IN AUSTRALIA</b>
<b><i>Posting by Registered Vendors</i></b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories:</i> 1½d per 20 oz.
<i>To NZ &amp; territories and Fiji:</i> 2d per 16 oz.
<b><i>Other than posting by Registered Vendors</i></b>
<i>Within Australia &amp; territories, to NZ &amp; territories and Fiji:</i> 1d per 6 oz.
<i>To UK &amp; Ireland “via France” or “via America”:</i> 1d up to 4 oz.; or 1d per 6 oz. if transmission is by all-sea route
<i>To other British Empire countries &amp; United States:</i> 1d per 4 oz. (From 1 Sep. 1930 to USA: 1d per 2 oz.)
<i>To all other countries:</i> 1d per 2 oz.
<b>NEWSPAPERS: PRINTED &amp; PUBLISHED OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA</b>
<i>Printed Matter rates of postage apply</i>
<b>ARTICLES IMPRESSED FOR USE OF THE BLIND</b>
<i>To all countries:</i> 1d per 40 oz.

### Note:

“Within Australia & territories” applied to: *Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island, Papua and Territory of New Guinea, and to the following Islands in the Pacific, viz.:- Bismarck Archipelago (New Britain, New Ireland, New Hanover, Admiralty Island, &c.), Nauru, Bougainville, and Buka (Solomon Islands).*

“Commonwealth of Australia: Post Office Guide”, No. 28, May 1931, page 19.

### Sources:

Trove digitised newspapers and gazettes, National Library of Australia, [trove.nla.gov.au/newspapers/gazettes](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspapers/gazettes)

*Commonwealth of Australia: Post Office Guide*, No. 27 (1930) & No. 28 (1931)

*Postmaster-General's Department, Annual Report 1930-31*

Commonwealth Parliamentary Debates, <http://search.historichansard.net/>

# 1959 Christmas Issue: Flaw Plated

Richard Guy OAM

I refer readers to the wonderful and complete paper on the 1959 Christmas issue written by the current President of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Ted Gallagher FRPSV, which was published in the March 2019 issue of *Philately from Australia* (Vol LXXI No 1, pp. 26-7). Ted identifies the three main flaws, and this paper plates the one shown in his Figure 11. See my Figure 1.

the dealer, plus 700 from his own bundleware made in 1959. After the bundleware search, I located a part sheet at a dealer's shop, and found this flaw at row 6, number 4. I too found enough copies of this "extra line" variety to be confident of saying these are on every sheet, as it must be on the master-plate. More sheets would be needed to check this. Also, I found that the extra line is sometimes found in pieces, and is not continuous. This could be a variation from a different sheet.

My search of this issue was really for the recut left frame behind the camel (Ted's Figure 8). Ted found just two copies in 10,000, and I found two copies in my 2,800, proving these are very scarce. Brusden-White catalogues this variety as 376d, but it has no diagram of the flaw. My two copies are shown in Figure 2.



Figure 1:  
Small horizontal line between the lines of shading to the right of the middle man's finger

After Ted had searched through 10,000 stamps in bundleware, this author had to do the same, but could only find 2,100 from



Figure 2:  
The two copies of the recut left frame flaw, 376d.

# 1959 Christmas Issue: Variety Plated

Ted Gallagher FRPSV

I refer to my article in the March 2019 issue of *Philately from Australia*. At the time, I was unaware of the plate location of the one variety listed, but not illustrated or "plated" in *The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue*: "376 d Recut left frame from opposite camel's back to lower corner" and invited readers to assist in its location. At the March 2019 Philatelic meeting of the Society, I was approached by RPSV member, Roy Larkin, who showed me a full sheet with the variety on stamp 1 of the 5th row. The sheet has perforation guide pips in the top centre and horizontal perforations extending into the right-hand selvedge. This would indicate that it is a sheet A, i.e., the top-left sheet of the printing plate. Based on the relatively few examples found in bundleware, it would indicate that the variety is not a master plate variety and only occurs on one of the six nickel electrotype plates used. Roy provided me with the scan show here as Figure 1. Figure 2 is an enlargement of the variety from my previous article.

## Acknowledgement:

The author wishes to thank RPSV member, Roy Larkin for locating the variety and providing the scan.

## References:

Gallagher, T. "A Study of the 1959 Christmas Issue", *Philately from Australia*, Vol. 71, No. 1, March 2019, pp. 26-27

*The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue: Queen Elizabeth II. 2015*, edited by Geoffrey Kellow, p. 8/208



Figure 1



Figure 2

# Handling the Mails in Melbourne, 1917

*Edited by Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV*

*An account of the procedures for handling mail at the Melbourne General Post Office was published in the Melbourne "Herald" newspaper on Thursday, 3 May 1917 (page 1), a month prior to a newly-constructed building at the corner of Spencer and Bourke Streets being opened for business as the city's new GPO.*

*The building at the corner of Elizabeth and Bourke Streets had served as Melbourne's GPO from 1867 until 1917. In addition to postal transactions with the public, the GPO handled most of Victoria's mail sorting and accommodated the Post Office's administrative staff. The mail sorting operations were carried out in the ground floor vestibule, public business being conducted through open windows in the colonnade.*

*The new building on Spencer Street was purpose-built for mail sorting and to serve as the city's new General Post Office – the Elizabeth Street building had become too cramped for these functions. The new building's location directly faced the Spencer Street Railway Station, the point of entry and departure of country and interstate trains, making it convenient for receiving and despatching mails, and for the travelling public.*

*On 4 June 1917, the Spencer Street building opened as the new Melbourne GPO and the former Elizabeth Street GPO was renamed the "Elizabeth Street Post Office". However, it reverted to being called the Melbourne GPO on 1 January 1964 and the Spencer Street building became known as the Melbourne Mail Exchange.*

*The Melbourne "Herald" account of mail sorting in 1917 was apparently intended to describe the procedures in the Elizabeth Street GPO on the eve of the transfer of mail sorting and administrative staff to the Spencer Street GPO.*

## **HANDLING THE MAILS**

**MODERN MIRACLE WORKED  
BY A PENNY POSTAGE STAMP  
ROUTE TAKEN BY A LETTER  
IN REACHING ADDRESSEE**

Of the many postal sections controlled by Mr C. E. Bright, Deputy Postmaster-General, not the least important is the mails branch.

Many people who talk about "red-tape" and Government inefficiency, would have their eyes opened—and opened wide—by a visit to this branch of the General Post Office.

There they would see part of the organisation by means of which hundreds of thousands of letters, newspapers, and packets, posted daily in Melbourne and suburbs, reach their destinations with almost unfailing regularity.

When the average citizen posts his letter in the pillar-box, he seldom pauses to think of the many stages through which the missive passes before reaching the addressee. These may be divided roughly into six sections: — (1) The clearance from the post-box or pillar; (2) the "pick-up" table; (3) the stamping machine; (4) the primary division; (5) the final sorting; and (6) the transport of mails.

As the letters are brought in from the various post offices and receiving pillars they are placed on what is known as the "pick-up" table. It is a table with a perforated metal top, on which the letters can readily be gathered up. Eight men work at the table, and place each letter, right side up, in a slot, through which an endless belt is moving. The belt carries the letters on and piles them up on an adjoining table. There an attendant passes them through the cancelling machine, which imprints on them the familiar post-mark. As many as 20,000 letters have been passed through the cancelling machine, by way of the pick-up table, in half an hour.

### **MAIL SORTED TWICE**

Having been post marked, the letters pass on to the primary sorting tables. It should be explained here that in handling mail matter it is always necessary to sort it twice. Obviously this greatly simplifies the work and ensures a greater degree of accuracy than would be possible if the mails were sorted in one operation.

In the preliminary sorting room the city, suburban, country, interstate and foreign letters are separated. The first three divisions are then dealt with in the inland mail room, and the others in what is called the "ship" room.

Victoria has more than 2000 post offices. Naturally there are not 2000 corresponding divisions in the sorting room, for that would require a huge and altogether superfluous staff. The letters are sorted into canvas bags bearing the names of the various country centres from which they are distributed to outlying districts.

On English mail day the ship room is a scene of great activity. Letters and other mail matter, addressed to practically every part of the world, have to be sorted, placed in bags, carried to the railway station, and placed aboard the express trains.

Generally the bulk of the overseas letters are posted in the last day or two before the mail closes. This entails a heavy task on the mail branch officials, but good organisation and loyal co-operation enable the biggest rush to be overcome.

Letters for overseas countries are not merely heaped into the mail bags, but are carefully sorted and tied in bundles. London letters are sorted into nine separate divisions. For South Africa there are 11 divisions, for New Zealand 17, and for America 51. West Australian letters, which, of course, are still sent by sea, are sorted into 23 divisions.

### **COLORED TAGS USED**

When the overseas mail bags have been fastened and sealed colored tags, in addition to stiff buckram labels, are affixed to them in order that they may be more readily assembled. Each color represents a certain line of mails, and these tags are found to be especially convenient when the bags are put off at foreign places by people who, in all probability, cannot understand the labels.

As the bags are packed into the mail vans and lorries they are checked off by the driver and a mail officer stationed at the

door. The driver thus makes himself responsible for the number of bags in his vehicle. The vans and lorries are under the control of the transport officer, whose duty is to see that as each loaded van or lorry moves off another moves up beside one of the doors of the despatch room. Delay in the transport section is, consequently obviated.

When the mails reach the railway station they are handed over to the care of a responsible officer, who sees that the number of bags marked on the driver's docket corresponds with the total number on the vehicle. He also superintends the stacking of the bags on the train.

In the suburban room work goes on day and night. The sorting here is much simpler than in the ship room, there being fewer divisions. Nevertheless, there is always a large volume of mail matter to be dealt with, necessitating the employment of a numerous staff of sorters.

## DEALING WITH COMPLAINTS

In such a large organisation as the mails branch, it would be impossible to avoid occasional mistakes. When a letter is sent to the wrong locality, the person responsible for the error—whether he be sorter, mail officer, or letter-carrier—may be traced easily.

Sometimes complaints are received that post pillars are cleared before the specified times. In such cases a test card is posted, and the mistake is thereby traced to the man responsible for clearing the particular pillar or box referred to in the complaint. It may be that the clearer has not begun his round at the proper place. In that case he is promptly instructed as to the correct starting point.

The officer in charge of this great section of the postal service is Mr E. P. Ramsay, the Superintendent of Mails. He has under his direct control some 750 men.

Mr Ramsay is proud of the work performed by the officers of his branch, and of their readiness to respond cheerfully to any call made upon them, especially on the occasions of the receipt or despatch of heavy expeditionary force mails.

# Exhibition Awards for Society Members

*Congratulations to RPSV members for their awards at various overseas philatelic exhibitions at International and National levels.*

## THAILAND 2018 WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION, Siam Paragon, Bangkok, Thailand, 28 November–3 December 2018

### *FIP Championship Class*

**Stephen SCHUMANN**, New Zealand Postal Stationery (Postal Stationery, 8 frames)

### *Competition Classes*

**Bernard BESTON**, British Guiana: The Airmail Story (Aerophilately, 8 frames): GOLD (90)

**Linda LEE**, Flower Magic (Thematic, 8 frames): GOLD (90)

**Stephen SCHUMANN**, New Zealand Prisoner-of-War Air Letter Cards 1941–1945 (Postal Stationery, 1 frame): (90)

**Glen STAFFORD**, Nicaragua: Airmail Stamps (Aerophilately, 8 frames): GOLD (90)

**Jeanette BANFIELD**, History of and Advances made in Medicine (Maximaphily): LARGE VERMEIL (88)

**Ian MCMAHON**, Queensland Revenue Stamps (Revenues, 8 frames): LARGE VERMEIL (88)

**Geoffrey KELLOW**, The 2d Bell Design of Victoria 1873–1880 (Traditional, 5 frames): LARGE VERMEIL (86)

**Peter ALLAN**, Australia Postal Rates: December 1934–1952 (Postal History, 5 frames): VERMEIL (83)

**Martin WALKER**, South Australia's Revenue Stamps 1966–2008 (Revenues, 5 frames): VERMEIL (83)

**John MOORE**, 1989–1991 Australian Sporting Definitives (Modern, 5 frames): VERMEIL (82)

**SHARJAH STAMP EXHIBITION 2018,  
Megamall, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates,  
13–17 November 2018**

- Gary BROWN**, Postal Stationery of Natal (Postal Stationery, 5 frames): LARGE VERMEIL (88)  
**Frank PAUER**, Australian Aerogrammes to 1980: The Note Printing Branch Era (Postal Stationery, 8 frames): LARGE VERMEIL (88)  
**John MOORE**, Treatment and Handling of Australian Registered Mail 1900–1966 (Postal History, 5 frames): LARGE VERMEIL (85)  
**David FIGG**, The Independent Order of Rechabites (Picture Postcards, 1 frame): VERMEIL (83)  
**Bernard BESTON**, Avis de Reception: The AR System of Australia 1966–2016 (Postal History, 5 frames): VERMEIL (81)  
**David FIGG**, The Adelaide Hills Railway Viaduct (Picture Postcards, 1 frame): VERMEIL (80)

**ARMISTICE 2018, NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION,  
MoreFM Arena, Dunedin, New Zealand,  
9–11 November 2018**

- Gary DIFFEN**, Preparations for War and the Australians Military Campaign at Gallipoli (Open, 8 frames): LARGE GOLD + GRAND AWARD (95)  
**Gary BROWN**, South Africa: 1910–1932 The 1st Revenues (Revenues, 5 frames): LARGE GOLD (91)  
**Jeanette BANFIELD**, Taxed from the Cradle to the Grave (Revenues, 5 frames): GOLD (87)  
**Mark DISERIO**, “The Queen’s Men”: A Study of the Gubernatorial Frank Stamps of Australia (Postal History, 5 frames): GOLD (85)  
**Ross DUBERAL**, Fiji War Stamp Overprints 1915–1920 (Traditional, 1 frame): GOLD (85)  
**Linda LEE**, Algeria Pre-Independence (Traditional, 8 frames): GOLD (85)  
**Jeanette BANFIELD**, New Zealand’s Medical Involvement in World War I (Picture Postcards, 2 frames): LARGE VERMEIL (84) + SP  
**David FIGG**, Jetties of South Australia (Picture Postcards, 3 frames): LARGE VERMEIL (84)  
**Bernard BESTON**, Ecuador Papel Sellado Stamped Revenue Paper 1882–1884 (Revenues, 5 frames): LARGE VERMEIL (82)  
**David FIGG**, Arthur Ebenezer Pitt 1859–1935 (Picture Postcards, 1 frame): LARGE VERMEIL (82)  
**Glen STAFFORD**, Postage and Official Stamps: The Seebeck Era 1890–99 (Traditional, 5 frames): VERMEIL (78)  
**John MOORE**, Australian Airmail Rates 1921 to 1945 (Postal History, 5 frames): VERMEIL (76)

**EXFIL STAMP SHOW 2018,  
Hotel Presidente Suites, Santiago,  
Chile, 9–13 October 2018**

- Bernard BESTON**, British Guiana: The Airmail Story (Aerophilately, 8 frames): GOLD (90)  
**Glen STAFFORD**, Nicaragua: Airmail Stamps (Aerophilately, 8 frames): GOLD (90)  
**Ian MCMAHON**, Queensland Postal Stationery (Postal Stationery, 5 frames): VERMEIL (83)  
**Darryl FULLER**, The Development of the Commercial Mails of the Caribbean (Postal History, 5 frames): VERMEIL (82)

**SAVPEX 2018 NATIONAL VIRTUAL ONE FRAME EXHIBITION,  
Bloemfontein, South Africa,  
22–23 September 2018**

- Harry LOWER**, South Australia’s “Tannenburgs” (Traditional, 92)  
**David FIGG**, Circular Quay, Hub of Sydney (Pictorial Postcards, 86)  
**Harry LOWER**, The Halfpenny “Bantams” of South Australia (Traditional, 85)  
**David FIGG**, The Adelaide Hills Railway Viaduct (Pictorial Postcards, 82)  
**Harry LOWER**, Australian Birds Series 1964–1965 First Day Covers (First Day Covers, 80)

# Back Then: Melbourne Postie, circa 1950



Wearing winter woollen uniform, a suburban postman carrying letters in a mail bag strung across the shoulder is a reminder of a past era. The postman's rounds would have been close enough to the base post office to justify delivery of the mail on foot.

## 100 Years

A report of the annual meeting of the (Royal) Philatelic Society of Victoria on Thursday, 17 July 1919 appeared in *The Australian Philatelist*, August 1919:

*Against a membership roll of 108 twelve months ago, we have a total of 118, showing an increase for the year of 10. This number is made up of 58 town and 46 country, Inter-State and abroad, and 14 honorary. The latter includes the names of 9 members who enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force or proceeded to England for war service. The list of active members has been increased by the return of two from service abroad, who were on the honorary list last year, viz., Dr. J. Sandison Yule and Mr. A. Rosenblum. . . . For the first time in the history of the society, we were compelled to suspend one of our monthly meetings, the influenza epidemic being so severe in February last that all meetings were prohibited by the Government. Mr. Berry has been as indefatigable as ever in his most successful efforts on behalf of the Red Cross funds by auction sale of stamps which had either been donated for the purpose, or which he had found in various public offices. The sales till now bringing the grand total up to the highly satisfactory amount of about £200.*

## 50 Years Ago

*Philately from Australia*, June 1969, featured a report of a display by Dr Leslie Abramovitch of his "Australian Commonwealth gems" at the Society's meeting on 29 May:

*There was a die proof of the Kangaroo without value plugs, Altman's prize-winning essay of 1911 and Perkins Bacon proofs in used colours, in blocks, including the Thin G variety. The kangaroos ranged from a ½d strip imperf at base to a mint block of 12 of the £2 small multiple watermark. The 2½d missing portion was present, used, normal and OS, and the 2/- third watermark imperf three sides and the £2 same watermark, in a control strip of three and a control single. A notable rarity was the 6d third watermark in strip of 12 with double CA controls, and substitute cliché. Showing the 6d with broken leg and double perf, Dr Abramovitch said he was convinced that the variety was on the upper plate, and not the lower as stated by the philatelic authorities. The George V highlights were the 3d single watermark, imperf on three sides, 1d green imperf at top, the 1½d small multiple watermark, perf 13½ x 12½, pair imperf at base, 1½d chocolate C of A, imperf at top. There was also a C.T.O. imprint block of the unissued 4½d Die II.*

# Royal News

## Library Catalogue

The Society has purchased a “Maxus” Library Catalogue to allow the full holdings of books, journals, catalogues and reports in the Royal’s Library to be searchable by topic and location. Allen Shatten has been appointed to oversee the project, commencing with the loading of data for books. A full report will appear in due course.

## Painting of Purves House

For the first time since the Society moved into Purves House 15 years ago, a comprehensive repainting of the building has

been undertaken. The upstairs meeting room has been painted in a lighter colour to improve the ambience. The repainting also involved the ground-floor front entrance and external concrete walls.

## Nominations for Council

Nominations for the 2019–20 Council are to be lodged with the Secretary by Thursday, 15 August, ahead of the 127th Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday, 19 September.

## SOCIETY SYLLABUS

[www.rpsv.org.au](http://www.rpsv.org.au)

### JULY 2019

- 2 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **Cricket: Gary Brown FRPSV, FRPSL**
- 10 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group
- 18 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **Australia KGV One Penny 1914–37: David Terrington LMRPSV, FRPSL**
- 27 (Sat) 2.00 p.m. Library Afternoon

### AUGUST 2019

- 6 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **Helen’s Favourites: Helen Watson**
- 14 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group
- 15 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **Mauritius: John Shawley FRPSV, FRPSL**
- 29 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **Australian External Airmails to 1945: Malcolm Groom FAP, FRPSV, FRPSL**
- 31 (Sat) 2.00 p.m. Library Afternoon

### SEPTEMBER 2019

- 3 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **Romania 1859–1990: A Turbulent Story in Stamps & Postal History: Adrian Michell**
- 11 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group
- 19 (Thu) 7.30 p.m. **127th Annual General Meeting & Retiring President’s Display**
- 28 (Sat) 2.00 p.m. Library Afternoon

### OCTOBER 2019

- 1 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **GB Postal History 1936-1939: Graham Hayward FRPSV**
- 9 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group
- 17 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **Philatelic Archival Collection Abstracts: Australia Post**
- 26 (Sat) 2.00 p.m. Library Afternoon
- 31 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **The Kingston Earthquake of 1907: Dingle Smith**

### NOVEMBER 2019

- 12 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **Victoria: Bill Jenkins FRPSV**
- 13 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group
- 21 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **Kangaroos: Richard Guy OAM**
- 30 (Sat) 2.00 p.m. Library Afternoon

### DECEMBER 2019

- 3 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **Members’ Six Sheets**
- 11 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group
- 19 (Thu) 7.30 p.m. **President’s Social Evening**  
(Members are invited to bring a guest)
- 28 (Sat) **Library not open**

# SPECIAL PRICES ON "ROYAL" PUBLICATIONS

*Enhance your knowledge, extend your library!*

<b>Australian Numeral Cancellations: A Compendium</b>	- H.M. Campbell \$25
<b>Postal History of the Australian Army during WWII</b>	- P. Collas \$25
<b>Postal History of Internees &amp; POWs in Australia during WWII</b>	- P. Collas \$15
<b>Postal History of Australian Forces in Japan &amp; Korea</b>	- P. Collas \$15
<b>Beating the Odds: The Story of Tattersall's</b>	
<b>Private Mail Network 1902-1930</b>	- D. McNamee \$25
As above, but encased and leather grain edition \$35	
<b>A Subject Index of Victorian Philately</b>	- G.N. Kellow \$15
<b>Beaded Oval &amp; Laureated Issues of Victoria:</b>	
<b>The 3d Beaded Oval</b>	- R. Jones & G.N. Kellow \$8
<b>South Australia Numeral Cancellations</b>	- H.M. Campbell & D.H. Pearce \$15
<b>South Australia: The Long Stamps 1902-1912</b>	- J.R.W. Purves \$15
<b>Postal History of the Northern Territory</b>	- E.A. Williams \$45
<b>Queensland Postal History</b>	- H.M. Campbell \$35
<b>Queensland Postal History supplement</b>	- H.M. Campbell \$5
<b>Postal History of Thursday Island</b>	- J.W. Turnbull \$10
<b>Western Australia: The 4d Lithograph 1854-1864</b>	- B. Pope \$7
<b>Century of Happiness: Centennial History of RPSV</b>	- H. Chisholm \$20
<b>The RPSV Library: A History and Catalogue</b>	- G.N. Kellow & R. Turner \$90
<b>J.R.W. Purves RDP, FRPSL: A Philatelic Bibliography</b>	- G.N. Kellow \$5

These books are available from the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. Prices do not include postage.  
Stocks of many of the books are low.

**Enquiries to:**

Publications Manager (Peter Leitch): PO Box 1, CARNEGIE VIC 3163, Australia;  
email: pleitch@iinet.net.au mobile 0478 624 566

For further details, including an order form, visit our website at:

**[www.rpsv.org.au](http://www.rpsv.org.au)**



Is **finding** insurance driving you **nuts**?



Contact H.W. Wood Pty Ltd for all your insurance needs.

Visit our website at [www.hwint.com.au](http://www.hwint.com.au) or call us at (03) 9819 9122 or email us at [admin@hwint.com.au](mailto:admin@hwint.com.au)

## D Morrison Ltd.

**British Commonwealth Postal History,  
Shipwreck & Train Crash Mail, Unusual  
Postal Incidents**

Please check my website

[www.forpostalhistory.com](http://www.forpostalhistory.com)

**CompuStamp**  
Specializing in  
Fine Postal History and Philately.

**Gary and Nancy DuBro**

Taco71 on eBay  
8869 E. Lariat Lane  
Scottsdale AZ USA

[www.CompuStamp.com](http://www.CompuStamp.com)  
[compustamp@aol.com](mailto:compustamp@aol.com)  
Phone: 480 284 8503



### The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Inc.

Purves House, 303 High Street,  
Ashburton VIC 3147

PO Box 490, Ashburton VIC 3147, Australia

[www.rpsv.org.au](http://www.rpsv.org.au)

*The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria is one of the premier philatelic Societies in Australia. It was founded in 1892 and in 1946 was granted the "Royal" prefix by King George VI. The Society has owned its own building for over 50 years and, in 2003, moved into Purves House in Ashburton, a suburb of Melbourne. The Library is now located in a highly accessible space and the meeting area can accommodate up to 100 people.*

New members are always welcome and are offered the following services:

**MEETINGS/DISPLAYS:** Around 25 meetings are held annually (day and evening) with some of the best available collections on display.

**EXCHANGE BRANCH:** Exchange books circulate regularly within Australia.

**LIBRARY:** Members have access to the largest philatelic library in the southern hemisphere. The Library receives many of the leading philatelic journals.

**EXPERT COMMITTEE:** The Society's Expert Committee will provide members and others with Certificates of Opinion on Australasian and Pacific Island items.

**PUBLICATIONS:** Members receive the quarterly journal *Philately from Australia*. The Society has produced many keystone philatelic publications and actively seeks new research for publication.

An Application for Membership form may be downloaded at:  
<http://www.rpsv.org.au/rpsv-docs/Application-for-Membership.pdf>

*Chris Rainey Online*

- British Commonwealth •
- Postal History •
- Thematic Postal History •

Visit my online shop  
[www.chrisrainey.com](http://www.chrisrainey.com)



# abacus auctions

General Public Auction: Saturday 22 June 2019  
**Stamps, Postal History, FDCs, Postcards**  
featuring the 'Tamiami' South Australian Departmentals



Request your complimentary catalogue or browse the auction on our website  
See us at Sydney Stamp Expo 13-16 June on Booths 7 & 13 (viewing available)

**abacus  auctions**

19A Hampshire Road  
Glen Waverley, Victoria, 3150  
AUSTRALIA

Post Office Box 296  
Mount Waverley, Victoria, 3149  
AUSTRALIA

Phone: +61 3 8513 0595  
Email: [info@abacusauctions.com.au](mailto:info@abacusauctions.com.au)  
Web: [www.abacusauctions.com.au](http://www.abacusauctions.com.au)