



Philately from Australia

Journal of the ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY of VICTORIA Inc



William Ackland's Philatelic Material



Australia's SAL Service

Queensland Registration Labels



1954 Australian Red Cross Stamp



**A few items in our June 2021 Auction.
Auctions are held every 6-8 weeks**



**£2 SMW MUH
Cat \$20,000**



**1d Deep Pink
Salmon Eosin**



**3d Laureate
Black Die Proof**



**5/- Laureate
Black Die Proof**



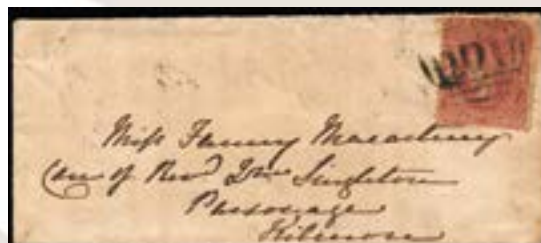
BN '52' of Janefield - the unique cover



**5/- Laureate
Part O.G.**



**1d Laureate
Wmk Double-Lined 4**



BN '161' 1st Type



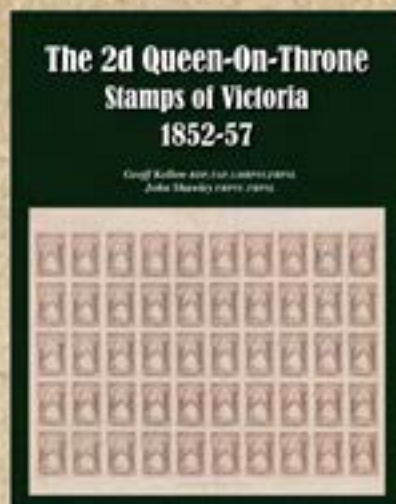
**1869-80 5f
SG #57, Cat £2,500**

PhoenixAuctions.com.au



CLASSIC BOOKS FROM "THE ROYAL"

Enhance your knowledge, extend your library!



THE 2D QUEEN-ON-THRONE STAMPS OF VICTORIA 1852-57

*By Geoff Kellow
and John Shawley*

490 pages
\$180



VICTORIAN POST OFFICE CURIOSITIES: A TREASURE FROM THE ARCHIVES

*By Eric Frazer
and Max Watson*

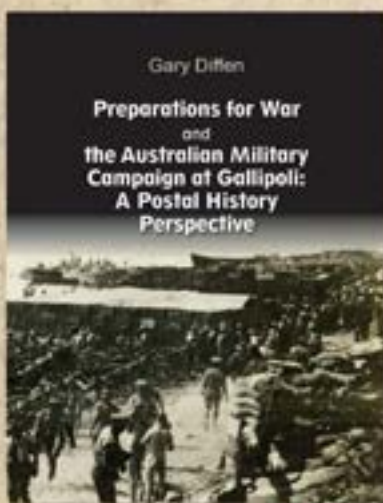
358 pages
\$100



POST OFFICE REGISTRATION LABELS OF AUSTRALIA AND ITS TERRITORIES

By Kevin Burt

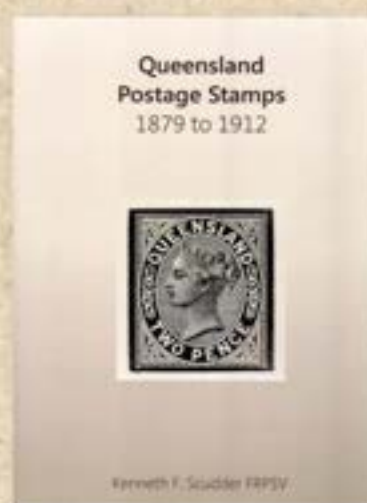
160 pages
\$90



PREPARATIONS FOR WAR AND THE AUSTRALIAN MILITARY CAMPAIGN AT GALLIPOLI

By Gary Diffen

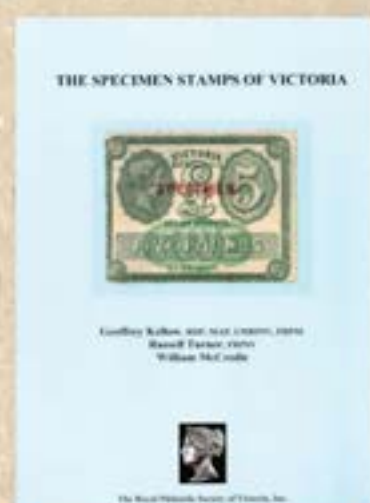
149 pages
\$80



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

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

Information on all Royal books is available on our website at: www.rpsv.org.au



Contents

Editorial	31
A Word from Your President	32
Vale: Dr William George Wells AM, FRPSL (1939–2021): <i>Richard Breckon</i>	33
A Celebration of William Ackland’s Philatelic Material: <i>Vito Milana</i>	34
SAL: Australia’s Surface/Airmail Service, 1971–89: <i>Richard Breckon</i>	40
The Repair to the “HAMILTON” Numeral Cancellor of 1891: <i>Ian Greig</i>	43
Early Registration Labels in Australia: - Queensland: <i>Kevin Burt</i>	46
A Study of the 1954 Australian Red Cross Stamp: <i>Ted Gallagher</i>	48
‘A Few of My Favourite Things’, Number Seven: Automotive Eye Candy: <i>Gary Watson</i>	51
An 1850 Entire from Adelaide to Dublin and its Contents: <i>Dr Donald Pearce</i>	53
Anthony Trollope’s Observations on Postal Services: <i>Richard Breckon</i>	54
The 8d Naish Design: Marginal Inscription Printed on the Reverse of the Watermarked Sheet: <i>Ian Greig</i>	55
A Postcard from the Torres Straits Islands by a Famous Visitor: <i>Robert Binner</i>	56
Victoria: Postage Due Stamps: <i>Ian Greig</i>	58
Back Then: Melbourne GPO “Bottle in the Wall”, 1920	59
100 Years & 50 Years Ago	59
Royal News & Society Syllabus	60

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

Welcome to the second edition of the journal for 2021 as the vaccine rollout gathers pace and interstate travel becomes somewhat more reliable. Unfortunately, we must report the recent passing of one of our 50-year members, Dr William Wells (see *Vale* p. 33).

This edition has strength in postal history, beginning with a feature article contributed by Vito Milana. Illustrated with an amazing array of material, Vito celebrates the philatelic achievements of William Ackland, a stamp dealer and collector in Melbourne for over 60 years and former long-term member of our Society.

Richard Breckon continues his treatment of Australian Post Office services. He examines Australia's Surface Air Lifted (SAL) service from its introduction in 1971 to its replacement in late 1989 by the Economy Air service. It is a complex web of countries serviced, zones and rates which he has managed to summarise within two reference tables.

Again with access to archival material, Ted Gallagher brings us the story of the design development and production of the 1954 Australian Red Cross commemorative. Not surprisingly, nearly all the designs under consideration featured the 'Red Cross' which was added by letterpress to reduce paper distortion. Also, look for discussion of the "plate dot" mystery!

Kevin Burt has maintained his research momentum, this time documenting the early usages of Registration Labels in Queensland. He brings us some wonderful covers including the (now) earliest known usage of the Type Q1 on a cover, dated 13 October 1908, from Rockhampton to Germany.

Those readers waiting with anticipation for the next instalment of "My Favourite Things" will not be disappointed. This time, Gary Watson features a very attractive 1903 advertising envelope from the Perth office of the American Motor Car & Vehicle Co. This company's history turns out to be very difficult to trace despite the clues on the cover.

Some readers will be familiar with the writings of English novelist, Anthony Trollope. Richard Breckon tells us about Trollope's long career in the British Post Office and his observations on Australia's GPOs during his 1871-72 travels in Australia and New Zealand.

We are fortunate this time to have three brief items from Ian Greig focused on Victoria: (i) the repair to the Hamilton numeral canceller of 1891; (ii) the change of colour of the 1895 set of postage due stamps; and (iii) a marginal inscription on the reverse of an 8d Naish design watermarked sheet.

Finally, from Don Pearce, we are treated to the fascinating contents of an 1850 entire from Adelaide to Dublin and, from Robert Binner, an 1898 postcard from the Torres Straits Islands.

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 separately 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 2021 PFA:

Editorial: 9 July 2021
Advertising: 16 July 2021

December 2021 PFA:

Editorial: 8 October 2021
Advertising: 15 October 2021

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

Printed by **PRINTGRAPHICS**,
Mount Waverley, VIC

www.rpsv.org.au



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

A Word from Your President



As the end of my two years as President approaches, my mind turns to the contents of my annual report to Council and members. The first section reviewing the year will naturally be dominated by Covid and your Council's efforts to keep some form of programme in place whilst

ensuring a safe environment for all our members. Happily, at the time of writing, our programme is back on track with few limitations. The first of the planned Zoom meetings will have been held with, hopefully, attendance from some of our overseas members. These on-line meetings were well received last year and I am sure that will continue.

A sad aspect of my report will be the loss of long standing and active members of the Society over the last couple of years. They will be missed.

Normally, a statement of the good health of the Society would be included. In all honesty, I will have to record my concerns about the health of the Society and our hobby. Our member numbers are down, as is the revenue from activities such as the Expert Committee and use of our financial reserves has been required.

My calls for volunteers to support the Society's activities have largely gone unanswered. Volunteers are the life blood of clubs such as ours and without them the future of the Society will be challenging. Yes, we have a good programme of events that are well attended but more is needed in terms of adding to the range of ways in which we support our members in pursuit of our common hobby.

One way you can support your Society will be by participating in the Bourse which is now planned for Saturday, 18 September. This event brings in potential new members who see the resources we have and hopefully find us a welcoming group. There will be a members' sales table along with circuit sheets and dealers. Make sure you put the revised date in your diary and think about material you might wish to sell.

My report will thank those who have actively supported the Society over the year and, in particular, your Council and Committee members. Particular thanks to those involved in the timely and high-quality preparation of *Philately from Australia*.

Last, but not least, your Council trusts that you are all well and enjoying the move into the inevitably different post-Covid world.

John Shawley LMRPSV, FRPSL
john.shawley@bigpond.com



Max Stern & Co.
has a new address
on the web!
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
<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



Vale: Dr William George Wells AM, FRPSL (1939–2021)

Our 50-Year member, Dr Bill Wells, passed away in Melbourne on 4 February at the age of 81. A Chemical Engineer by profession, Bill was prominent in Melbourne's stamp world and he was also a leading philatelist globally.

Bill had an early involvement with the hobby, which is not surprising as both his parents were stamp collectors. Recognising the difficulty of competing with his parents' collecting interests, Bill chose fields they did not collect – Asian and Pacific countries.

Together with his parents, Bill joined the Brighton Philatelic Society in 1956 as a junior member. During his 65-year membership, Bill served as president on four occasions, the first being in 1960 making him the Brighton Philatelic Society's youngest ever president at 20. His long involvement with the society's affairs included running Australia's most extensive circuit system as Brighton's Exchange Superintendent. Bill was also active in the Prahran Philatelic Society.

Bill's principal philatelic interests focused on Malaya and Sarawak. Two years after its formation in 1959, he joined the UK-based Malay Study Circle. For many years Bill served as the Study Circle's Australian representative. He was also a member of the Sarawak

Study Circle since 1965. His articles published in *The Malayan Philatelist* include research on the Chinese Post Office in Singapore and Penang and the clubbed packet system, subjects about which he had a particular fascination.

Bill's other life-long interest was the scouting movement. He held several important leadership roles, including Chief Commissioner of Victoria (1986–92) and Chief Commissioner of Australia (1992–99). Bill was a founder of the Scout and Guide Stamp Society of Australia. In 1991, his distinguished services to scouting led to Bill being awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

Bill joined the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria in December 1967, therefore serving as a member for 53 years. He joined the Royal Philatelic Society London in 1972 and was a Fellow of that society.

Bill Wells is survived by his wife Helen, children David and Elizabeth and two grandchildren. His funeral in Brighton was attended by many representatives of the philatelic and scouting worlds.

Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV

The 2d Queen-On-Throne Stamps of Victoria 1852–57

The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria reports continuing strong sales of its latest publication, *The 2d Queen-On-Throne Stamps of Victoria 1852–57*, by Geoff Kellow RDP, FAP, LMRPSV, FRPSL and John Shawley LMRPSV, FRPSL which was launched in February 2020.

This 490-page, hardcover book features more than 2,000 colour images of Victoria's key stamp for the study of recess and lithographic stamp production during the colony's gold rush era.

The Queen-On-Throne book can be obtained for A\$180 plus postage cost; if mailed within Australia, the total cost is A\$205. For overseas orders, the mailing cost will be provided on application. Orders and enquiries should be forwarded via email to the Business Manager, Peter Leitch (pleitch@iinet.net.au) or by mail to: Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Inc, PO Box 490, Ashburton VIC 3147, Australia.

A Celebration of William Ackland's Philatelic Material

Vito Milana



William Ackland (1872-1953).
Image reproduced from *The Australian Stamp Monthly*, 2 Feb 1953, p. 69.

The Australian philatelic-dealer landscape has dramatically shifted over the decades. In Victoria, the peak period (extending from the 1940s to 1960s) saw a rich tapestry of philatelic traders engage in a range of endeavours. From the provision and showcasing of items, to the promotion and selling of postal stationery and revenues, they helped cement the hobby as one shared and loved by many. This article explores one of these pioneering and most distinguished dealers: William Ackland. It is not an exhaustive exploration of Ackland, but rather a snapshot into the breadth of his philatelic achievements, with a focus on some of his material that still exists, thereby capturing the extent of his philatelic ventures and firm place in the philatelic dealer and trader narrative.

Brief History

Akin to the legendary Fred Hagen, one of Melbourne's most celebrated and recognised philatelic dealers, was William Ackland. Born in Nottingham, England, in January 1872, William Ackland's 2 February 1953 obituary in *The Australian Stamp Monthly* outlined his earlier years, including a remarkably early interest in stamps which commenced in his teens. He cemented himself as a formidable Australian philatelic dealer and trader shortly after arriving in Melbourne in 1892 when he commenced trading at 562 Collins Street. Soon after, Ackland shifted locations to the nearby Beehive Chambers at 162 Collins Street, where he remained for several years. One of the earliest examples of a letter to Ackland at his Beehive Chambers address, postmarked 14 May 1894, is illustrated in Figure 1. These early locations were two of several occupied by Ackland over the years, with others including 267 Collins Street from circa 1911, and in the Altson's Building, where the business traded for several decades from the 1920s to 1960. William Ackland also occupied at least two PO Boxes: 340



Figure 1



Figure 2

Melbourne was used in 1893, and Box 1140 Melbourne was used for an extended period, from 1936 to 1964.

William Ackland was a giant and prolific producer of philatelic catalogues and periodicals. His pioneering *Australian Stamp Collectors' Monthly* commenced in October 1893 shortly after the first of many catalogues issued by Ackland. His general catalogue saw many editions, with the latest issues dating 1951–1952. He was also an established and highly regarded collector, building several prominent collections, including one on Victorian stamps. His longstanding membership of the Philatelic Society of Victoria, commencing 1893, served as an outlet for Ackland to showcase his collections over the decades and build the knowledge of philately and its growing interest. After his death in 1953, Ackland's daughter Joyce continued to operate his business for a few years until it was purchased by Max Stern and Co.

Ackland's Philatelic Items

In 60 years of trading, one of Australia's longest careers in stamp dealing, William Ackland was responsible for the production of many philatelic items, including minisheets, postcards and philatelic literature. Collectors revere many of these philatelic

treasures today, and some of the scarcer items fetch high prices in private and public sales. Some of these items are now explored.

Catalogues and Pricelists

Ackland commenced regular publication of priced catalogues advertising his stock, with the earliest identified in 1920. This document was called *Foreign and Colonial Stamps*. He then broadened these documents from 1927 to 1939 with his *British Empire and Foreign Stamps*. William Ackland thereafter

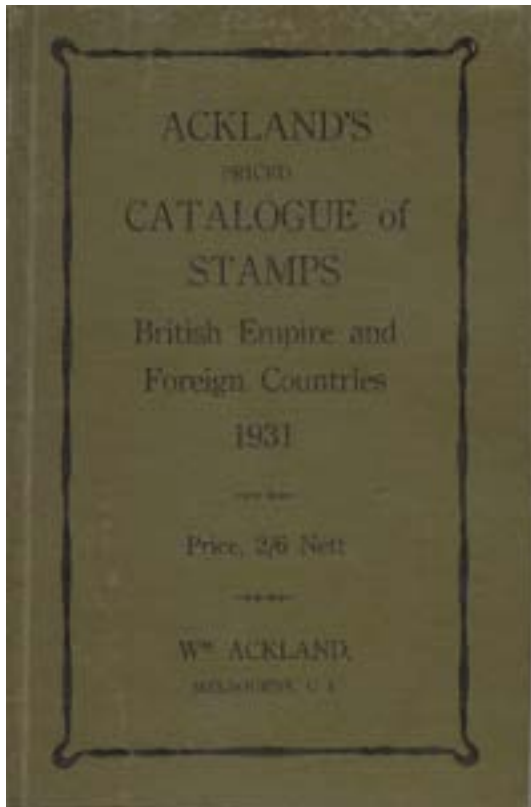


Figure 3

produced catalogues of various omnibus issues; his *Ackland's Special Catalogue of Australian Commonwealth Stamps* is well known and appeared from at least 1939.

The earliest known of his published catalogues is illustrated in Figure 2. This 1893 pricelist dates to only a year after Ackland commenced trading in Melbourne. The Reformer Printing Works, located at 1 Union Street, Brunswick, was the printer. This pricelist features an elaborate border design found in other Reformer Printing Works' publications, including poetry and prose literature printed in the 1880s.

An elaborate hardcover catalogue of stamps was produced by Ackland in 1931. Titled *ACKLAND'S PRICED CATALOGUE of STAMPS British Empire and Foreign Countries 1931*, the edition features 166 pages and cost 2/6. The cover of the catalogue is illustrated in Figure 3. He also prolifically produced more simplified catalogues, as per the example illustrated in Figure 4. This item is titled *1950 General Catalogue of POSTAGE STAMPS* and was priced at 1/-. It was printed by Collis Brothers, Barry Lane, Melbourne.

One of the final known catalogues was issued by William Ackland's daughter, Joyce, in the second half of 1954, a year after his death. It was titled the *SIMPLIFIED CATALOGUE OF*

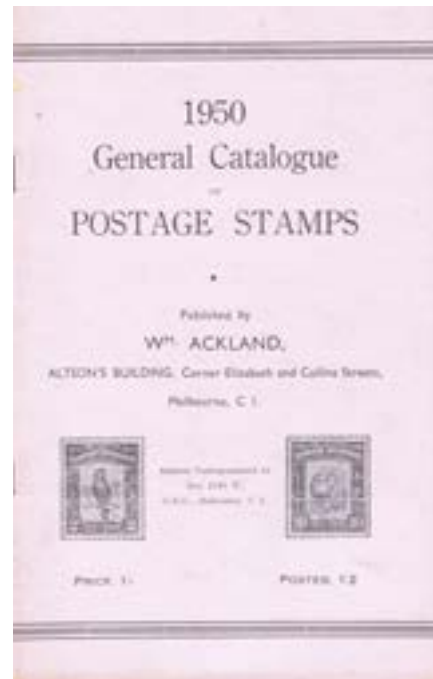


Figure 4

STAMPS OF THE Australian Commonwealth AND Australian States 1954. This edition was printed by The Hawthorn Press, Fine Printers, the third printer enlisted by Ackland over his trading years. The cover of this catalogue is illustrated in Figure 5.

Ackland also released oversized, brief pricelists, which often



Figure 5

served as compendiums to his catalogues. These were often a few pages in length and manually updated in pen. An example of pages from one of these pricelists is illustrated in Figures 6 and 7.

Packets and Envelopes

In addition to catalogues and pricelists, another promotion measure employed by the philatelic dealers of yesteryear was the use of packets to distribute stamps to customers. These



Figure 6



Figure 7

were occasionally elaborately designed, with details of the trader's specialities proudly typed on their fronts or reverses. One type founded by William Ackland was the *Universal Packet (Foreign Stamps)* packet. This envelope, as illustrated in Figure 8, once contained 30 stamp varieties for threepence and featured the address: *267 Collins Street (Opposite ALLAN'S), MELBOURNE.*



Figure 8

Alongside stamp packets, Ackland also sent customers smaller stamp orders in glassine envelopes. One of his earlier ones, illustrated in Figure 9, dates to Ackland's time at 267 Collins Street. Measuring 61mm x 40mm, it carries the text:

WM. ACKLAND, Importer of Foreign Stamps, and Philatelic Requisites. / 267. COLLINS STREET. MELBOURNE.

A later example, which is far less elaborate than the previous one, is illustrated in Figure 10. Measuring 72mm x 54mm, it features the simple purple handstamped text:



Figure 9

WM. ACKLAND POSTAGE STAMP IMPORTER / ALTSON'S BUILDING / Corner Collins & Elizabeth Sts. MELBOURNE.

Ackland's exploration of different colours to print details on his material is evident in his packets and glassines, as well as covers and minisheets.

Ackland's Relationship with Cinderella Labels

William Ackland, alongside other Australian philatelic dealers, likely engaged collectors' affinity for cinderellas. These products were ideal for traders to decorate outgoing



Figure 10

mail and draw attention to a variety of appeals (especially during the Great War period). Ackland appears to have forged a relationship with fellow and lesser-known dealer Alex Trouchet, a Western Australian local (and Mauritius born) trader who was primarily a chemist by trade, and operated as a philatelic dealer from his Wellington Street pharmacy in Perth. While lesser known in philatelic circles than Ackland, his contributions to philately were equally significant. It is clear that both dealers corresponded with each other during their years of operation. Of note, and with some intrigue for the cinderella collector and enthusiast, three covers have surfaced addressed to Trouchet, each with a clear example of Ackland's handstamp as the return address. On all three items, the same example of a 'Liberty Loan' cinderella label is affixed. Details of these three covers are as follows:

- In Figures 11 and 12, the handwritten address is: *Mr: A Trouchet – Barrack & Wellington Sts. Perth West Aust.* This is accompanied by the annotation: *per 1st Overland Mail Oct 20th 1917 Melbourne to Perth.* Two Tasmanian colonial stamps adorn the front of the cover, with postmark: *20 OCT 17, Elizabeth St., Melbourne.* In the top-left corner of the envelope is affixed a cinderella label with the text: *For all*



Figure 11



Figure 12

they mean to you – *Subscribe to the LIBERTY LOAN*. The label is also postmarked. The reverse of the cover displays a clear example of Ackland's purple boxed handstamp: *WM. ACKLAND – FOREIGN STAMP IMPORTER, 267 Collins Street Melbourne*.

- Figures 13 and 14 illustrate a cover that is nearly identical to the one illustrated in Figures 11 and 12, sharing the same address, return handstamp, postmarks, and cancelled cinderella label. One key difference is the single postage stamp used, a South Australia One Penny. It is therefore possible that Ackland posted similar covers on that day to Troughet and/or others.

The item highlighted in Figures 15 and 16 (front and reverse, respectively) also shares similarities with the previous two covers, mainly because it is addressed to Troughet and was also sent as part of the 1st Overland Mail service from Melbourne to Perth. The piece itself, however, is larger in size than the items illustrated in Figures 11-14 and carries several cancelled Colonial stamps. Ackland's handstamp also features on the front (top-left corner) rather than the reverse. And, conversely, the cinderella label that featured on the front of the covers presented in Figures 11 and 13 is affixed to the reverse, with faint remains of a part cancel strike towards its base.

The cinderella labels affixed to all three items are part of a series of 13 different designs that have been documented elsewhere in philatelic catalogues and articles, most notably in Jackson's 1987 text *First World War Patriotic Labels of Australia & New Zealand*. Many of these cinderellas shared a patriotic UK motif, and they were all issued by the Australian Commonwealth Government. They were available, free of charge, from different branches of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. The labels were issued from the later part of 1917 and production stopped some time before 1918 when T. S. Harrison was appointed as the Commonwealth Note and Stamp Printer.

The three covers present as an interesting and valuable set with rare WWI-era Australian cinderellas, especially given that two of them, illustrated in Figures 11 and 13, effectively violate the guidelines that Ackland would have likely have been familiar with, as he affixed them to the front of the envelopes rather than to the reverse. This arguably adds to the overall attraction of the covers and helps promote their patriotic message more obviously.

A question remains regarding Ackland's relationship with cinderella labels. Perhaps he shared an affinity with them,



Figure 13



Figure 14

along with a firm allegiance to Australia's war efforts and, in attaching them when corresponding to fellow trader Troughet on at least three separate occasions on the same day, helped highlight their questionable validity in philately during this time. This is heightened by the fact that they were attached to the face of significant pieces celebrating the first Overland Mail service from Melbourne to Perth. Regardless of the motivation behind Ackland's items, the covers are desirable pieces and broaden both the scope of information relating to Australian cinderella philately and the information already gathered on the philatelic patterns that define William Ackland's efforts.

Handstamps

There were several different handstamps issued by William Ackland over his many decades as a dealer. One of the earliest, oval shaped and issued from at least as early as 1896, is illustrated in Figure 17. It is purple and gloriously elaborate, featuring the text:

WM. ACKLAND / FOREIGN STAMP IMPORTER STAMPS BOUGHT, SOLD & EXCHANGED / 162 ELIZABETH ST MELBOURNE.

This handstamp features on the corner of a 17 May 1897 cover.



Figure 15



Figure 16

second handstamp type was issued by Ackland a few years later, with an example, dated 1900, illustrated in Figure 18. Featuring a prominent purple boxed border, this example has similar text:

WM. ACKLAND, Foreign Stamp Importer, 162 ELIZABETH ST., MELBOURNE, Stamps bought, sold or exchanged.

Later handstamps were used by Ackland reflecting his Altson's Building address. The first, illustrated in Figure 19, on the front of a cover postmarked 25 July 1923, is simple in its presentation. The rectangular handstamp carries the text:

WM ACKLAND POSTAGE STAMP IMPORTER / ALTSON'S BUILDING / Corner Collins & Elizabeth Sts. / MELBOURNE.

Finally, after his death in 1953, a more elaborate oval handstamp was used on correspondence items. The example illustrated in Figure 20 was used less than a year before the Ackland business ended. It is shown on the reverse of a



Figure 17



Figure 18

November/December 1959 registered cover and features the text: *WILLIAM ACKLAND / Altson's Buildings / Cnr. Collins & Elizabeth Sts. MELBOURNE, C.1. / POSTAGE STAMP IMPORTER.*

Of note, unlike earlier handstamps, this later 1959 example



Figure 19

featured the complete christian name of *William* rather than the abbreviation *WM*. It is likely that this handstamp was produced shortly after Ackland's death and the use of his full name helped to signal his firm's ongoing commitment to philately.

Other Items

Stamp Hinges

From as early as 1893, William Ackland sold stamp hinges as part of his philatelic trade. During his early years, he sold 1,000 locally-produced stamp hinges priced at 2s 3d. Ackland also sold American-produced hinges for 1s 3d per 1,000. Samples were also freely offered.

An example of the hinges sold by William Ackland, in his own branded hinges container, is illustrated in Figure 21. As stated on the front of the container, the underside of the box also contained a watermark detector.

Perforation Gauges

Early Australian stamp dealers and traders often provided free perforation gauges as part of their advertising efforts. They are an attractive and practical addition for the budding collector and an opportunity to explore variations in stamps. Ackland himself offered a number of different ones throughout his philatelic career. An early example is illustrated in Figure 22 and a later one in Figure 23. The former piece shows Ackland's address as 267 Collins Street, suggesting a date as early as 1911. The modified *Altson's Bldg.* address text, at the base of the gauge, with the '267' crossed out, however suggests that remaining gauges were offered following the shift of business location. Once stock was exhausted, these perforation gauges were replaced by a stock featuring the printed details of the

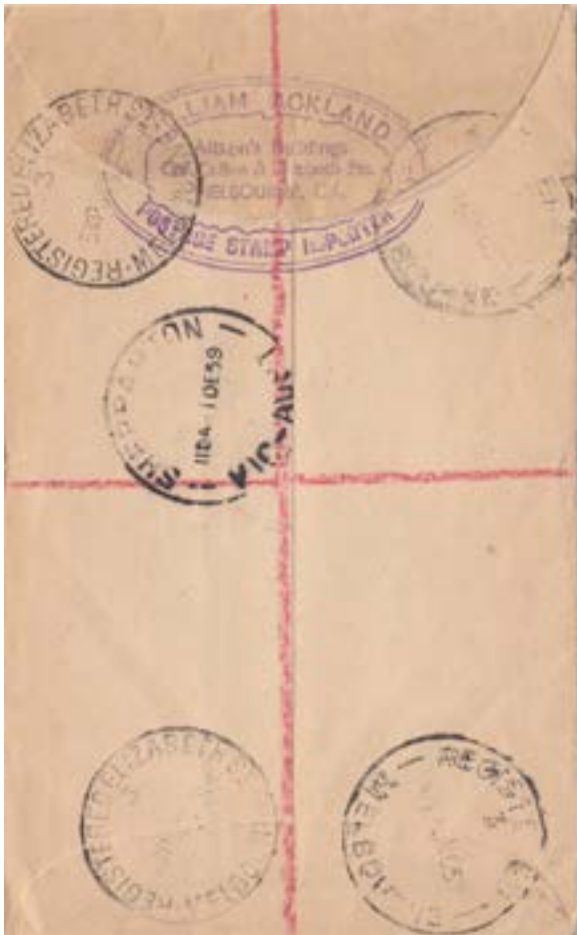


Figure 20



Figure 22



Figure 23

Altson's Building address, as illustrated in Figure 23.

Address Label

The final item explored in this article is rather scarce. For a seemingly short period of time, commencing in the 1920s, Ackland used decorative address labels to post some of his larger items of correspondence. One example is illustrated in Figure 24. Measuring 147mm x 109mm, along with a central space to type or write the address, it features the text:

FROM WM. ACKLAND PHILATELIC PUBLISHER, / DEALER IN AUSTRALIAN STAMPS, IMPORTER OF FOREIGN STAMPS, &C, / G.P.O. BOX 1140, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.



Figure 24



Figure 21

The label is affixed to the cover of a parcel piece postmarked 11 October 1926. The inclusion of the wording *Philatelic Publisher* on the address label reflects Ackland's early years of publishing catalogues from the 1920s.

Conclusion

William Ackland was a juggernaut in the philatelic field, not only in Melbourne but nationwide. His achievements are remembered every time one of his many items surface. From elaborate covers to decorative handstamps, Ackland's pioneering philatelic footprint is firm and continues to shape the world of Australian philately today.

Further reading:

- Loyer, G.K., "William Ackland Catalogues", *Philately from Australia*, September 2010, pp. 82-84
- Breckon R., "Philatelic Profile: William Ackland", *Australasian Stamps*, May 1998, pp. 80 & 82.

SAL: Australia's Surface/Airmail Service, 1971–89

Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV

On 2 August 1971, a new airmail service was launched by the Australian Post Office (APO), the trading name of the Postmaster-General's Department, to meet the needs of customers who wished to send parcels to overseas countries quicker than surface mail and cheaper than airmail. The new service, called "Surface Air Lifted" (SAL), involved normal surface carriage of parcels within Australia and in the countries to which the service applied, but the parcels were airlifted from Australia to these countries.

The *Canberra Times* of 20 May 1971 featured news about "a special airmail parcel service" to be introduced later that year to certain overseas countries. The Postmaster-General, Sir Alan Hulme, was quoted: "The new service would be slower than the normal airmail service, but much faster than surface mail. ... Charges had not yet been fixed. They would be dearer than surface postage, but less than normal airmail."

The newspaper also quoted the APO's Director-General, (Sir) John Knott, who described a new air parcel service to provide a third choice between "fast/expensive service and slow/cheap service with nothing in between." Research by the APO had shown that, if customers were offered a two to three week service at an intermediate rate of postage, about 50 per cent of surface parcels would be diverted to the new service. (Surface parcels to Europe took six to seven weeks to arrive.)

An example was cited of a parcel posted in Albury NSW addressed to Glasgow in Scotland. The parcel would be sent by surface to Sydney, then by air to London (on a deferred basis), from where it would be carried by surface mail to Glasgow.

At this stage, the APO was negotiating with five postal administrations which accounted for about half of Australia's overseas mail:— United Kingdom, United States, West Germany, Italy and Greece. The five countries were serviced by Qantas aircraft and, in due course, other countries would be added to the SAL network.

When SAL was launched on 2 August 1971, it was available to the UK, US and Greece. On 18 October that year, West Germany

was added and Italy joined the SAL network on 3 February 1975, much later than had been anticipated.

Evidently, SAL mail contributed significantly to a rapid growth of all air parcels to overseas countries between 1971 and 1975:— from 154,000 to 301,000. (APO annual reports do not feature statistics for SAL mail alone.) The doubling of parcel volumes during the first four years of SAL contrasts to practically static amounts of letters and other articles carried by overseas air services during the same period.

In 1971, SAL postage was fixed at \$1.20 per one pound (0.45kg), with a minimum postage of \$2.40 applying. This represented a substantial discount compared to full airmail. Postage for a two-pound (0.9kg) parcel by airmail to Europe was \$7.20 and to North America, \$6.40; SAL postage offered up to two-thirds discount. SAL's \$2.40 charge for a two-pound parcel was 60 per cent higher than surface postage of \$1.50 for a three-pound (1.4kg) parcel to Europe or North America, this being the basic weight step for overseas surface parcels. With the introduction of metric measurements on 1 October 1973, SAL postage was 75c per 250g and a minimum of \$3.00 for a 1kg (2.2 pounds) parcel — a small drop in the discount.

Until April 1982, SAL postage was uniform across the world, although normal airmail postage was divided into five zones: Zone 1 (New Zealand & Pacific islands); Zone 2 (Indonesia, Malaysia & Singapore); Zone 3 (India, Japan & China); Zone 4 (US, Canada & Middle East); and Zone 5 (UK, Europe, Africa & South America). The zone system was applied to SAL in 1982, although only Zones 4 and 5 involved countries in the SAL service. (Hawaii was briefly an exception; a Zone 3 destination in 1982, it became Zone 4 about two years later.)

Essentially, SAL was an air service for small packages and parcels, even though any type of overseas mail could be sent by SAL. In August 1986, the structure of SAL mail was changed with weight steps of 20g and upwards being introduced to facilitate the carriage of letters, postcards and greeting cards by



Examples of SAL labels: Large: 1971: Australian Post Office/Qantas; 1978: P[logo] Australia Post; Small: 1978: P[logo] Australia Post; 1986: Square label (rare) probably introduced for letters



Top marginal inscriptions of SAL sheets of 12 large labels: circa 1971: USA, UK, Greece; circa 1977: USA, UK, Greece, Italy, West Germany, Canada, The Netherlands; Nov. 1978: Countries specified in Section 10 of the Postal Guide.

SAL. For example, a standard size letter up to 20g to the UK was 70c by SAL compared to \$1.00 by airmail, representing a 30 per cent discount. Postal rate increases over time had resulted in a reduction of the SAL discount.

Notwithstanding its popularity, today SAL mail is very challenging to collect. All types of parcel mail, whether domestic or overseas, surface or air, are difficult to collect and, during the first 15 years, SAL mail largely comprised parcels.

The SAL network grew significantly during its second decade. From just eight countries in 1982, the network grew to 45 countries by 1989 when SAL became “Economy Air”. Evidently, airlines other than Qantas were participating in SAL – in 1978 the

Qantas name at the bottom of the blue and green SAL label was dropped. For almost the entire SAL era, Australia Post “required” the label to be affixed to the upper-left corner of SAL mail. However, in 1989, this rule was changed to allow “SAL” to be written prominently instead of using the label.

With the end of SAL in late 1989 (an advertisement for Economy Air appeared in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 21 October 1989), more than a change of name was involved. Within two years, Economy Air was operating to virtually every country in the world, but at rates of postage only marginally less than normal airmail. In turn, Economy Air ended in about September 2006; the choice for customers was to revert to surface mail or airmail.

References:

- Australian Post Office/Australia Post, *Postal Charges* (booklets), various editions 1971–89
 Frazer, E.J. & Occlshaw, R.C., *The Official Postal Labels of Australia*, 2nd ed., Sydney: Cinderella Stamp Club of Australasia, 1999
 Postmaster-General’s Department, *Annual Reports* 1971–89
 Trove digitised newspapers, National Library of Australia, trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/

Table 1: Countries joining Surface Air Lifted (SAL) service, 1971 to 1989

2 August 1971:	Late 1986 to early 1987:
Greece (Zone 5), United Kingdom (Zone 5), United States (Zone 4)	China (Zone 3), Czechoslovakia (Zone 5), Denmark (Zone 5), Fiji (Zone 2),
18 October 1971:	France (Zone 5), Indonesia (Zone 2), Japan (Zone 3), South Korea (Zone 3),
West Germany (Zone 5)	Malaysia (Zone 3), Papua New Guinea (Zone 1), Singapore (Zone 3),
3 February 1975:	Spain (Zone 5), Sweden (Zone 5), Taiwan (Zone 3), Thailand (Zone 3), USSR (Zone 5)
Italy (Zone 5)	November 1987:
17 October 1977:	Belgium (Zone 5), Finland (Zone 5), India (Zone 3), Luxembourg (Zone 5), Norway (Zone 5), Philippines (Zone 3)
Canada (Zone 4), Netherlands (Zone 5)	Early 1988:
Late 1981:	East Germany (Zone 5), Israel (Zone 4), Poland (Zone 5), Portugal (Zone 5), Turkey (Zone 5)
Yugoslavia (Zone 5)	Early 1989:
Early/mid 1983:	Pakistan (Zone 3), Sri Lanka (Zone 3)
New Zealand (Zone 1)	Mid 1989:
30 September 1985:	Faroe Islands (Zone 5)
Austria (Zone 5), Hong Kong (Zone 3), Hungary (Zone 5), Ireland (Zone 5), Malta (Zone 5), Switzerland (Zone 5)	
October 1985:	
Cook Islands (Zone 2); discontinued mid 1987	

Note: If actual dates of commencement are not known, approximate dates are provided based on first listing of the countries in the *Australia Post Postal Charges* booklets.

Table 2: Surface Air Lifted (SAL) postal rates, 1971 to 1989

2 August 1971 to 30 September 1973:	Zone 4: 65c up to 20g (Standard); 90c up to 20g (Non-standard); \$1.00 20g up to 50g; \$1.90 50g up to 100g; \$3.35 100g up to 250g; \$6.60 250g up to 500g; \$9.60 500g up to 1kg; \$14.95 1kg up to 2kg; \$5.30 each additional 1kg
\$1.20 per pound (0.45kg); \$2.40 minimum	
1 October 1973 to 30 September 1974 (metric conversion):	Zone 5: 70c up to 20g (Standard); \$1.10 up to 20g (Non-standard); \$1.20 20g up to 50g; \$2.10 50g up to 100g; \$3.60 100g up to 250g; \$7.10 250g up to 500g; \$10.35 500g up to 1kg; \$16.45 1kg up to 2kg; \$6.05 each additional 1kg
75c per 250g; \$3.00 minimum	
1 October 1974 to 31 August 1975:	1 July 1987 to 12 February 1989:
90c per 250g; \$3.50 minimum	Zone 1: 45c up to 20g (Standard); 60c up to 20g (Non-standard); 65c 20g up to 50g; \$1.00 50g up to 100g; \$1.60 100g up to 250g; \$3.15 250g up to 500g; \$6.30 500g up to 1kg; \$1.85 each additional 1kg
1 September 1975 to 30 June 1978:	Zone 2: 55c up to 20g (Standard); 65c up to 20g (Non-standard); 70c 20g up to 50g; \$1.30 50g up to 100g; \$2.20 100g up to 250g; \$3.95 250g up to 500g; \$7.40 500g up to 1kg; \$2.95 each additional 1kg
\$1.00 plus 80c per 250g	Zone 3: 60c up to 20g (Standard); 70c up to 20g (Non-standard); 80c 20g up to 50g; \$1.40 50g up to 100g; \$2.55 100g up to 250g; \$5.10 250g up to 500g; \$7.90 500g up to 1kg; \$3.45 each additional 1kg
1 July 1978 to 31 January 1980:	Zone 4: 65c up to 20g (Standard); 90c up to 20g (Non-standard); \$1.00 20g up to 50g; \$1.90 50g up to 100g; \$3.35 100g up to 250g; \$6.60 250g up to 500g; \$9.85 500g up to 1kg; \$5.40 each additional 1kg
\$2.00 plus 75c per 250g up to 2kg; \$3.00 each additional 1kg	Zone 5: 70c up to 20g (Standard); \$1.10 up to 20g (Non-standard); \$1.20 20g up to 50g; \$2.10 50g up to 100g; \$3.60 100g up to 250g; \$7.10 250g up to 500g; \$10.60 500g up to 1kg; \$6.15 each additional 1kg
1 February 1980 to 13 July 1981:	13 February 1989 to 31 August 1989:
\$2.50 plus 75c per 250g up to 2kg; \$3.00 each additional 1kg	Zone 1: 55c up to 20g (Standard); 75c up to 20g (Non-standard); 85c 20g up to 50g; \$1.20 50g up to 100g; \$2.00 100g up to 250g; \$4.00 250g up to 500g; \$8.50 500g up to 1kg; \$3.00 each additional 1kg
14 July 1981 to 20 April 1982:	Zone 2: 65c up to 20g (Standard); 80c up to 20g (Non-standard); 90c 20g up to 50g; \$1.50 50g up to 100g; \$2.50 100g up to 250g; \$5.00 250g up to 500g; \$9.50 500g up to 1kg; \$4.00 each additional 1kg
\$3.40 up to 250g; 90c per additional 250g up to 2kg; \$3.60 each additional 1kg	Zone 3: 70c up to 20g (Standard); 90c up to 20g (Non-standard); \$1.00 20g up to 50g; \$1.70 50g up to 100g; \$3.00 100g up to 250g; \$6.00 250g up to 500g; \$10.00 500g up to 1kg; \$4.50 each additional 1kg
21 April 1982 to 2 October 1983:	Zone 4: 75c up to 20g (Standard); \$1.00 up to 20g (Non-standard); \$1.10 20g up to 50g; \$2.00 50g up to 100g; \$3.50 100g up to 250g; \$7.00 250g up to 500g; \$11.50 500g up to 1kg; \$6.00 each additional 1kg
Zone 3 (Hawaii from 11 October 1982): \$2.00 up to 250g; \$3.75 250g up to 500g; \$6.10 500g up to 1kg; \$2.60 each additional 1kg	Zone 5: 80c up to 20g (Standard); \$1.10 up to 20g (Non-standard); \$1.20 20g up to 50g; \$2.30 50g up to 100g; \$4.00 100g up to 250g; \$8.00 250g up to 500g; \$12.50 500g up to 1kg; \$7.00 each additional 1kg
Zone 4: \$2.75 up to 250g; \$5.00 250g up to 500g; \$7.50 500g up to 1kg; \$4.00 each additional 1kg	1 September 1989 to 28 January 1990 Economy Air replaces SAL:
Zone 5: \$3.00 up to 250g; \$5.50 250g up to 500g; \$8.10 500g up to 1kg; \$4.60 each additional 1kg	Zone 1: 60c up to 20g (Standard); 75c up to 20g (Non-standard); 85c 20g up to 50g; \$1.20 50g up to 100g; \$2.00 100g up to 250g; \$4.50 250g up to 500g; \$10.00 500g up to 1kg; \$4.00 each additional 1kg
2 October 1983 to 3 March 1985:	Zone 2: 65c up to 20g (Standard); 80c up to 20g (Non-standard); 90c 20g up to 50g; \$1.50 50g up to 100g; \$2.50 100g up to 250g; \$5.50 250g up to 500g; \$11.00 500g up to 1kg; \$5.00 each additional 1kg
Zone 1: \$1.40 up to 250g; \$2.50 250g up to 500g; \$5.05 500g up to 1kg; \$1.55 each additional 1kg	Zone 3: 70c up to 20g (Standard); 90c up to 20g (Non-standard); \$1.00 20g up to 50g; \$1.70 50g up to 100g; \$3.00 100g up to 250g; \$6.50 250g up to 500g; \$11.50 500g up to 1kg; \$5.50 each additional 1kg
Zone 2: \$1.95 up to 250g; \$3.10 250g up to 500g; \$5.95 500g up to 1kg; \$2.45 each additional 1kg	Zone 4: 75c up to 20g (Standard); \$1.00 up to 20g (Non-standard); \$1.10 20g up to 50g; \$2.00 50g up to 100g; \$3.50 100g up to 250g; \$7.50 250g up to 500g; \$13.00 500g up to 1kg; \$7.00 each additional 1kg
Zone 3: \$2.25 up to 250g; \$4.15 250g up to 500g; \$6.40 500g up to 1kg; \$2.90 each additional 1kg	Zone 5: 80c up to 20g (Standard); \$1.10 up to 20g (Non-standard); \$1.20 20g up to 50g; \$2.30 50g up to 100g; \$4.00 100g up to 250g; \$8.50 250g up to 500g; \$14.00 500g up to 1kg; \$8.00 each additional 1kg
Zone 4: \$3.10 up to 250g; \$5.60 250g up to 500g; \$8.00 500g up to 1kg; \$4.50 each additional 1kg	
Zone 5: \$3.35 up to 250g; \$6.15 250g up to 500g; \$8.65 500g up to 1kg; \$5.15 each additional 1kg	
4 March 1985 to 24 August 1986:	
Zone 1: \$1.50 up to 250g; \$2.70 250g up to 500g; \$5.30 500g up to 1kg; \$7.20 1kg up to 2kg; \$1.65 each additional 1kg	
Zone 2: \$2.10 up to 250g; \$3.35 250g up to 500g; \$6.50 500g up to 1kg; \$9.15 1kg up to 2kg; \$2.60 each additional 1kg	
Zone 3: \$2.45 up to 250g; \$4.50 250g up to 500g; \$6.95 500g up to 1kg; \$10.00 1kg up to 2kg; \$3.10 each additional 1kg	
Zone 4: \$3.35 up to 250g; \$6.05 250g up to 500g; \$8.70 500g up to 1kg; \$13.60 1kg up to 2kg; \$4.80 each additional 1kg	
Zone 5: \$3.60 up to 250g; \$6.65 250g up to 500g; \$9.40 500g up to 1kg; \$15.00 1kg up to 2kg; \$5.50 each additional 1kg	
25 August 1986 to 30 June 1987:	
Zone 1: 45c up to 20g (Standard); 60c up to 20g (Non-standard); 65c 20g up to 50g; \$1.00 50g up to 100g; \$1.50 100g up to 250g; \$2.95 250g up to 500g; \$5.85 500g up to 1kg; \$7.95 1kg up to 2kg; \$1.80 each additional 1kg	
Zone 2: 55c up to 20g (Standard); 65c up to 20g (Non-standard); 70c 20g up to 50g; \$1.30 50g up to 100g; \$2.10 100g up to 250g; \$3.70 250g up to 500g; \$7.10 500g up to 1kg; \$10.15 1kg up to 2kg; \$2.90 each additional 1kg	
Zone 3: 60c up to 20g (Standard); 70c up to 20g (Non-standard); 80c 20g up to 50g; \$1.40 50g up to 100g; \$2.45 100g up to 250g; \$4.80 250g up to 500g; \$7.65 500g up to 1kg; \$11.15 1kg up to 2kg; \$3.40 each additional 1kg	

The Repair to the "HAMILTON" Numeral Cancellor of 1891

Ian P. Greig FRPSV, FRPSL



The series of envelopes illustrated tells an interesting story of the damage and subsequent repair to the "46" Numeral Cancellor used at the Hamilton Post Office in 1891.

The story opens early in April 1891 with an envelope cancelled on the 7th of that month with the normal canceller; the envelope of 20 April has the same, although the date slug is inverted showing 1816, an interesting year that had no summer but that is not relevant to our story. The 28 April envelope however shows damage to the side bar to the left of the "46" numeral. This bar is clearly distorted inwards, possibly from being dropped. This damage is still evident on the 5 May envelope. Shortly after this, the canceller must have been returned for repair as the envelopes of 12 and 19 May show the "date stamp" canceller used to cancel the stamps. This canceller was usually used on the back of the envelope as a receiving mark. The final cover in this series dated 23 June 1891 shows the repaired "Numeral Cancellor" with the side bar returned to its correct shape.

These covers are part of an almost weekly correspondence that starts in October 1890 and concludes in November 1892. Most of the envelopes are addressed to Mrs Claughton, 46 Heath Terrace, Leamington, Warwickshire with the first sent from Melbourne dated 13 October 1890. After this, and from 24 November 1890, the envelopes are all cancelled at Hamilton. The last two envelopes of 6 June and 29 November 1892 are in a two different hands and, although to the same address, are sent to Alan O Claughton Esq MA. Although the writer does not know the reason, as there is no accompanying correspondence, it sadly seems all was not well with the writer resident in Hamilton as there were apparently no further letters sent.



*Hamilton Post Office [circa 1900],
NAA: B5919, 850 [Image No 8 ex 31]*

265-273 CORINPHILA

7-12 JUNE 2021



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JUNE 2021 SALE

- **Great Britain 1840-1910** – The “BESANÇON” Collection (part II)
- **British Post Offices Abroad** – The “DUBOIS” Collection (part II)
- **British West Indies** – The “BESANÇON” Collection (part II)
- **South America – Maritime Postal History 1606-1886** – The Everaldo Santos FRPSL Collection
- **Peru** – two specialised collections incl. Lecoq and later issues – The “ALPACA” Collection (part II)
- **Italy, France and European Countries** – The Ing. Pietro Provera Collections (part II)
- **Austria & Lombardo-Veneto** – The ERIVAN Collection (3rd Auction)
- **Switzerland, incl.** Cantonal- & Federal Issues 1843-63 – The Jack Luder Collection (part VII)
- **Europe & Overseas, incl.** Great Britain Surface Printed Issues 1855-1901 – The Hans Blom Collection, Ethiopia – The Dr. Juha Kauppinen International Large Gold Medal Collection

AUCTION



www.corinphila.ch



ORDER AUCTION CATALOGUES NOW

Postage for a complete set of 9 catalogues
CHF 20.- · EUR 20.- · US \$ 30.- · GB £ 20.-
(including 7 hard bound auction catalogues)

OR VISIT WWW.CORINPHILA.CH

- Internet Auction Catalogues online from May 2021
- Online live bidding: registration online starting May 2021



CORINPHILA AUKTIONEN AG
WIESENSTR 8 · 8032 ZURICH · SWITZERLAND
Phone +41-44-3899191
www.corinphila.ch



CORINPHILA VEILINGEN BV
AMSTELVEEN · NETHERLANDS
Phone +31-20-6249740 · www.corinphila.nl

Early Registration Labels in Australia: - Queensland

Kevin Burt FRPSV

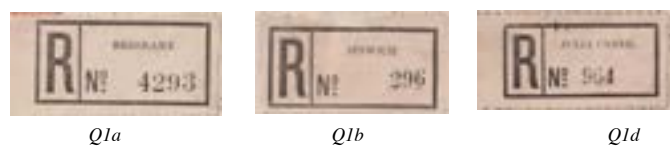
In a previous article (*Philately from Australia*, December 2020), I listed the earliest known dates for adhesive registration labels on cover from each state. Queensland's earliest date was given as 21 November 1908 with label type **Q1** on a cover from Fort. (Fortitude) Valley to Germany.

An earlier registered cover has since been found, dated 13 October 1908 from Rockhampton, also addressed to Germany, arriving there on 22 November. However, Tasmania still holds the honour of having the earliest cover seen bearing an adhesive registration label – by four days.



13 October 1908: Now the earliest known usage of Type Q1 on cover from Queensland.

As the Rockhampton label is No. 4, it is quite possible that it is from the first strip of the first pad to arrive at that city. Label use was supposed to start from 1 October 1908, however it may have taken some days for the labels to arrive from Brisbane, probably by train or ship.



Q1 labels show two different numeral fonts, and two methods of separation – perforating and rouletting. Both numeral types and separation methods appear in the same time frame, so there are four sub-types listed. The differences between numeral fonts are obvious on the two left labels, which are both perforated; the Julia Creek label is rouletted.

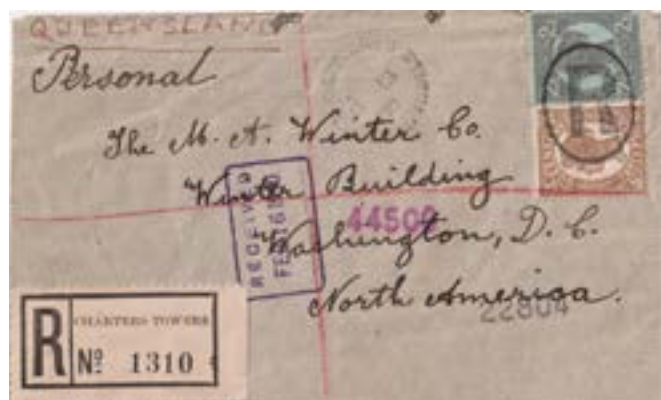
I have classified the sub-types **Q1a**, **Q1b**, **Q1c** and **Q1d**¹, not in any pre-determined order as they all appeared from October 1908 to 1910. **Q1d** (larger numerals - rouletted) appears to be the hardest to find; I have only one from Brisbane.

Most other states had a six-month experimental period, limited to using the adhesive labels at the GPO on overseas mail. However, Queensland took a different path, releasing labels statewide for the experimental period. Campbell² lists 12 Post

Offices using **Q1** labels, however many have been seen that are not on his list. The following two covers illustrate the wide usage, from a small country post office to a larger town.



Label **Q1d** on cover dated 3 March 1911. Peak Crossing post office, 22 km south of Ipswich, originally opened as a Receiving Office on 1 October 1885 and as a Post Office on 1 January 1886. Opening periods varied, the last being from 2 January 1951 to 25 June 1966. It was a station on the long-closed Fassifern Valley railway.



Label **Q1b** on cover dated 13 January 1910. Charters Towers post office opened on 17 May 1872. The town developed after the discovery of gold, and was named after the nearby Tower Hill and the Gold Commissioner at the time, W.S. Charters. There were 10 gold reefs being mined at one period, and goldmining continues to this day. It is 134 km west of Townsville, on the railway from Townsville to Mt. Isa.

No registration labels had a “use-by” date, so it is possible to find **Q1** labels used outside the 1908-10 period. The Julia Creek label (see **Q1d** at left) was used on 9 July 1913.

Following the two-year life span of **Q1** labels, new labels appeared, of the more conventional design, very similar to NSW **N1** and SA **S2** series. The new registration labels appeared at the end of 1910 – the earliest date we have is 3 April 1911³. They were used statewide, and even strayed across the border into Northern Territory, and across the water to Papua.

There are two sub-types, based on the numeral fonts, and all are rouletted. I have classified them as **Q2a** and **Q2b**¹.



29 May 1914: Cover bearing label Type Q2a from Goombungee, a town of around 1,000 people 33 km NW of Toowoomba. The Post Office opened as a Receiving Office in ?/1890, becoming a proper Post Office in ?/1895.

The difference in the numeral font is readily seen in these two examples of the sub-types. **Q2a** was the first issued, with **Q2b** appearing four years later in early 1914. Both sub-types were the mainstay of Queensland registration labels for some 12 years until the **Q5** series appeared in 1922.



16 February 1914: cover with label Type Q2b from Nerang, 8 km SW of Southport – a long time before the Gold Coast was even thought of! The PO opened as Nerang Creek, 1 January 1866, and has been variously named Nerang and Nerang Creek Township.

Label **Q3** was used only by Federal(?) Government Departments in Brisbane; the Defence Department and the Main Pay Office are the only ones seen so far and are very rare. As there is no “R.6” code, it can be assumed they were issued before 1918 when the code was added to every label, although the example below was used in 1919.



15 September 1919: Type Q3 unusually on a parcel tag, the only one I have seen on an original article.

Label Type **Q4** appears to have been a stop-gap printing, probably due to a shortage of **Q2**, not an uncommon situation. Type **Q4b** has the state name added in lower case below the post office name.



9 January 1924: Cover bearing label Type Q4a, Charleville to Switzerland. Charleville is 683 km west of Brisbane. The post office opened on 1 August 1865.

Before the issue of the **Q5** series in 1922, there were two labels issued under unusual circumstances, type **Q3**, and the two sub-types of **Q4**.

References

1. Burt, K.J. (2018), *Post Office Registration Labels of Australia and its Territories*. Melbourne: RPSV.
2. Campbell, H.M. (1990), *Queensland Postal History*. Melbourne: RPSV.
3. Turley, R. and Gavin, A.A. (1973), “Australian Registration Labels” (11 part series), *Australian Stamp Monthly*, January–November.

ZOOM MEETINGS SCHEDULE

Members are reminded that two ZOOM meetings are scheduled in the third quarter, both at 7pm on the Fifth Thursdays of the month:

Thursday, 29 July: Mark Diserio: *The Queen’s Men. Gubernatorial Frank Stamps;*
& Thursday, 30 September: Martin Walker: *Philatelic Varieties found on Australian Stamps produced by the Rembrandt Press.*

Please put these dates into your diaries.



A Study of the 1954 Australian Red Cross Stamp

Ted Gallagher FRPSV

BACKGROUND

In 1950, the Australian Red Cross Society sought the issue of a stamp at the time of its annual fundraising drive (March of each year) to publicise the Society and its work. The proposal and subsequent proposals were not acceptable to the Postmaster-General's Department (the Department). However, in March 1953 the Stamp Advisory Committee agreed to a special stamp issue being released the following year. That year held significance for the Society. Not only did it mark the 40th anniversary of Red Cross in Australia, it was also the 90th anniversary of the first Geneva Convention of 1864 when the Red Cross came into being internationally, dedicated to the care of the sick and wounded in times of war.

SELECTION OF SUBJECT

In anticipation of the approval of an issue, the Society submitted a number of sketches, three of which are shown as Figures 1 to 3.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

The Department's philatelic staff also produced sketches in December 1951, three of which are shown as Figures 4 to 6.



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6

In January 1953, with the possibility of the issue by then under serious consideration, the Drafting Section of the Department prepared design roughs based on the following parameters, namely:

- no design should give the Red Cross prominence in a field in which it played an ancillary role: for example the nursing service,
- the design should seek to represent the ubiquity of Red Cross services, consequently the Society's motif, the red cross, might suffice,
- the red cross might be used as a central motif overshadowing a number of the Society's activities, in which case a large-sized stamp would be necessary, and
- one activity might be selected and featured.

Design roughs were submitted to the Stamp Advisory Committee in June 1953, three of which are shown as Figures 7 to 9.



Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9

The Committee selected two drafts for development into preliminary designs by artists of the Note Printing Branch (NPB), with the following specifications:

- two colour printing,
- design to feature the red cross, and
- stamp size as that of the 1953 Coronation stamp (80 to a pane) or the then current 1/0½d King George VI definitive stamp (120 to a pane).

TWO COLOUR PRINTING

The above specification to use two colour printing follows a 1952 request by the Postmaster-General (H.L. Anthony) for more two-colour printing stamps to be issued. This led to the 1953 Young Farmers' Clubs stamp being two-colour. It was printed using two recess images in separate passes through the press, which did not provide good registration. The second image (the vignette) "floats" about in relation to the first image through pressure of the press distorting the paper. Consequently, the red cross for this stamp was printed by letterpress to reduce paper distortion, and this became the usual practice for two-colour stamps until the introduction of photogravure printing.

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

The NPB had prepared two preliminary designs by early July (Figures 10 and 11). The following month, the Committee selected Figure 11 for further development, with the following modifications:

- the inscription "AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY" be inserted,
- the dates "1914-1954" be deleted,
- the outline of Tasmania be strengthened, and
- adjustment be made to the light beam, so that it either seemed to emerge from the cross, or the cross sat within it, in which case the area of light needed to be extended to the limits of the design.



Figure 10



Figure 11

NPB artist, Bruce Stewart, completed the alterations by mid-August (Figure 12). After review by the Committee, management endorsed the changed design subject to an improvement of the typographic style. Representatives of the Australian Red Cross Society also reviewed the design and requested that the cross be based on the dimensions of five squares and that the inscription appear in one line.

In late September, the NPB was asked to effect these changes, together with the following:

- the typographic style for "AUSTRALIA" to be as for the then current 3½d Queen Elizabeth II definitive stamp,
- the denomination be 3½d, and
- the shadowed bottom left hand corner to be softened to give a diffused effect of diminished light rather than sharp contrast.

The revised version (Figure 13) arrived in October and was considered satisfactory by both the Committee and the Society. However, a query raised about the accuracy of the global presentation led to a further revision (Figure 14).



Figure 12



Figure 13



Figure 14

This further modification was then endorsed by the Stamp Advisory Committee, the Australian Red Cross Society and management in late November 1953.

PRODUCTION

Using his key line drawing (Figure 15), the die was then cut by Peter Morriss of the NPB and colour proofs prepared. Following approval of the die and colours (Figure 16), production was authorised at the beginning of March 1954.



Figure 15



Figure 16

A steel master plate was laid down from a 2-on transfer roller. The layout was 240 impressions, comprising left and right groups of 120, (Sheets A and B), each 10 horizontal rows of 12. From a single alto plate, four nickel electrotype plates were manufactured.

Letterpress plates for the red cross were derived from a 30-on etched copper master. Ten copper electrotype plates, each 30-on, were manufactured, eight of which clamped together formed the printing base for use with uncut sheets of 240.

NPB records indicate that the paper was of sufficient size to accommodate 480 stamps of this size. Accordingly, it is believed that two plates were fixed together on the press. It would then seem that the sheets were cut horizontally before application of the red cross, using the 240-on letterpress plate, and perforating. The sheets were then cut into sheets of 120 for delivery to post offices, for issue from 9 June 1954.

PLATE NUMBERS AND DOTS

An excellent and detailed paper, "Some thoughts on the 1954 issue commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Red Cross", prepared by Richard Guy and Dr Geoff Kellow dated May 2001, and subsequently published in the August 2001 issue of the *Australian Commonwealth Collectors' Club of New South Wales Bulletin*, provides an insight into the plate numbers. The paper concludes that Sheets A (the left-hand sheets) have plate numbers in the left- and right-hand selvedge opposite the join between horizontal rows 9 and 10 and that Sheets B (the right-hand sheets) have plate numbers with dashes in the same relative positions. *The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue* (ACSC) lists plates 1 to 3 with and without dashes and plate 4 only with dashes. The paper records that Richard Guy possesses plate 4 without dashes from the left-hand selvedge and then speculates the existence of plate 4 without dashes from the right-hand selvedge.

The great mystery is the existence of plate dots (Figures 17 and 18). One dot and two dots occur in the left-hand selvedge of Sheets A and the right-hand selvedge of Sheets B in the same relative positions as plate numbers. The paper notes that the plating of these plate dots, (Sheet A or B), has been verified by sheets with and without the short left arm to the cross variety (ACSC 312d), which only occurs on Sheet A. To my knowledge, there are no recorded examples of plate dots in the right-hand selvedge of plates A or the left-hand selvedge of plates B. As the NPB archival records indicate the manufacture of only four 240-on electros, the most plausible explanation is that, for some reason, some plate numbers have been replaced by plate dots. Plate number 4 is suggested as the most likely, because of its scarcity.



Figure 17



Figure 18

VARIETIES

The ACSC lists the three most significant varieties, including:

- short left arm to the cross (ACSC 312d), mentioned above, and
- misplaced cross (ACSC 312c). So, letterpress printing did not eliminate poor registration. However, it did reduce it compared to the Young Farmers' Clubs stamp.

There are other minor varieties to the cross which are not worth recording here. However, there are instances of “kiss” prints to the cross. An example, from the last row of a sheet, is shown as Figure 19.



Figure 19

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.

References:

Australia Post, National Philatelic Collection

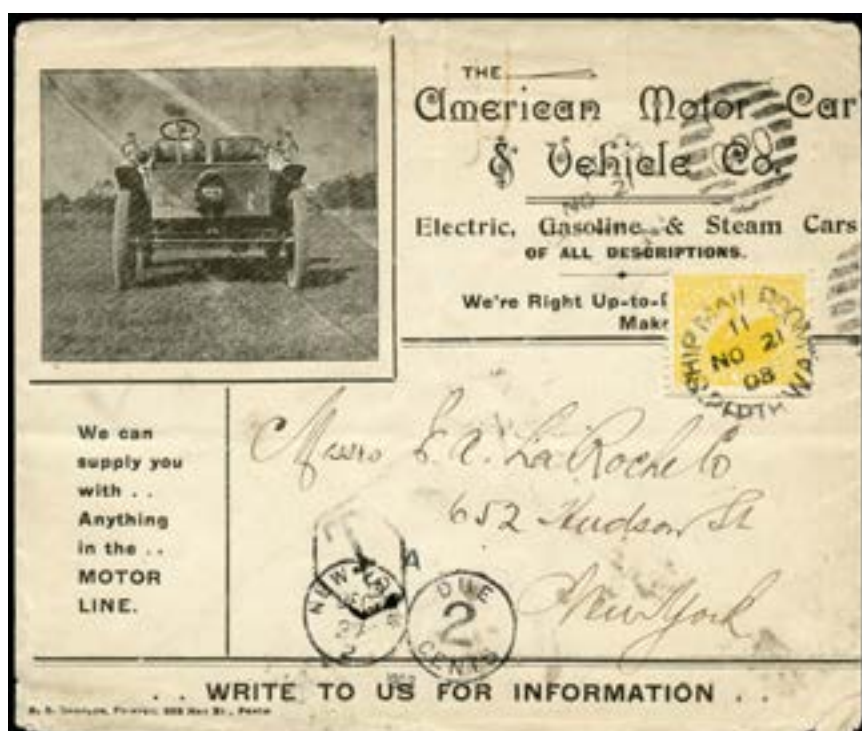
The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue: Queen Elizabeth II, 2019 edited by Geoffrey Kellow, p8/64-66

“Some thoughts on the 1954 issue commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Red Cross” by Richard Guy and Dr Geoff Kellow, May 2001

Australian Commonwealth Collectors' Club of New South Wales Bulletin, August 2001, Vol. 40, No. 4, p148-158

'A Few of My Favourite Things', Number Seven: Automotive Eye-Candy

Gary Watson FRPSV, FRPSL, FACCCofNSW, FBSAP



Australians seem to have always been “early adopters” of new technology. By the turn of the 20th century, the automobile craze sweeping Europe and America had made its way to the Antipodes, even to relatively remote Western Australia. The first car to be brought to Perth arrived in 1898. By 1901, there were several local manufacturers. By the same time, motoring advertisements had started to appear in WA publications. Perth even boasted at least one local representative of an American automobile manufacturer.

Our feature cover on this occasion is a 1903 advertising envelope for the Perth office of the grandly titled *American Motor Car & Vehicle Co.* What can I tell you about this firm? Nothing! It is not even mentioned in an apparently exhaustive list of every US car maker, from *Abbott-Detroit* (1909-1915) to *Zip* (1913-1914) [1].

The closest entries there are for the *American*

Motor Carriage Co of Cleveland, Ohio and the *American Motor Vehicle Co* of Lafayette, Indiana. The second can be excluded because it operated only between 1916 and 1920. The first might be what we are looking for, but it produced cars only in 1902 and 1903. Would they really have had an agent in Perth, WA? The internet site has links to maybe 75% of all the listed automobile manufacturers but, most unhelpfully, not the *American Motor Carriage Co* in Ohio. The first of our automotive dead-ends.



It is possible that the *American Motor Car & Vehicle Co.* was a home-grown operation. Back to the internet: dead-end number two!

In any event, the hyperbolic advertising strongly suggests American origins: “Electric, Gasoline & Steam Cars/OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS” is not a claim expected of a usually self-effacing Australian concern. Nor is, “We can supply you with . . . Anything in the . . . MOTOR LINE”. This all smacks of American advertising puffery.

The theme is continued on the reverse, where we learn that “Motor Cycles, Tricycles, Quads [??], Cars, Busses and Delivery Vans” are all “a Specialty”. Our friends must have had massive premises and a huge sales force, to say nothing of the enormous workshop where “Repairs to all makes” are said to be another “Specialty”.

Surely there must be some record of such a proud company operating in Perth? And, indeed, there is...sort of. The *Geraldton Advertiser* (1893-1905) of Wednesday 3 December 1902 carried a brief entry headed ‘ESPERANCE MOTOR SERVICE’ that states: “...CW Deane, director in Australia of the *American Motor Car Vehicle Company* [sic], said that it was not necessary that there should be a macadamised road in order to admit of a motor car service being inaugurated between Esperance and the goldfields, so long as there was a tolerably level track...” [2].

From this isolated and scant insertion, we have learned that Mr CW Deane was the company’s director, **in Australia**, which strongly hints that the firm was, indeed, founded in the United States. We have also learned that Deane believed his vehicles could easily traverse tough terrain. Considering the photograph on the reverse of the featured envelope, that should be no surprise.

Atop a mound of large timbers stands a peculiar vehicle, apparently a delivery van. One is encouraged to believe that the van mounted the pile unaided. If it could do that, surely it would have no trouble bounding along on the unformed, heavily rutted ‘road’ from the port of Esperance to the inland mining districts of Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie, and the sparsely inhabited areas of the Murchison and other Gold Fields.

It was hoped that the venue for the photograph might be identifiable from the large grandstand in the background. A search of images on Google has at least provisionally ruled out the Subiaco Oval, the old *Western Australian Cricket Association* ground (the WACA), the Ascot Racecourse and the Claremont Showgrounds. Assistance from readers in Western Australia would be appreciated.

Of course, I did not acquire this item just because it is the most spectacular advertising cover I have ever seen from Western Australia. I wanted it principally for the postal history elements. Covers to America at the *UPU*-rate of 2½d per half-ounce are relatively common. Those that have been underpaid and taxed are less available, but still not difficult to find. However, such covers that are also compelling eye-candy are scarcer than the proverbial chook’s tooth.

One of my collecting principles is “Common items in uncommon circumstances”. This item certainly qualifies for that mantra. No wonder, then, that it is one of My Favourite Things. The intriguing back-story, more holes than substance, is a marvellous bonus.

References

[1] <https://american-automobiles.com>

[2] <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/252824967?searchTerm=American%20Motor%20Car%20%26%20Vehicle%20Company>

[NB: Geraldton is on the mid-north coast of WA, while Esperance is on the Great Australian Bight, an as-the-crow-flies distance of some 1000km.]

An 1850 Entire from Adelaide to Dublin and its Contents

Dr Donald Pearce MBBS, FRPSL

I have an entire written in Adelaide on 25 September 1850, postmarked 27 September 1850, and delivered in Dublin on 17 February 1851 (see Figure 1). The message refers to an enclosed bank draft, the second of a bank bill sent on the 27 July, to the addressee, George Johnson Esq, Surgeon, at the Rotunda Maternity Hospital in Dublin (see Figure 2).

Research (in Trove & Google) has revealed that George Johnson had previously visited Adelaide on 1 July 1838 in his role as Surgeon on the Barque *Henry Porcher* and, when in Adelaide, had purchased two 80-acre sections of land for 160 pounds as a speculation. The Captain of the vessel (John Hart, who later returned to Adelaide to live) also purchased one 80-acre section and, in the same month (August 1838), Samuel Smart, the Sheriff of Adelaide, purchased two 80-acre sections.

The contents of the letter, which was written by Samuel Smart, show that the 10 Pounds was in payment for the balance of half-a-years' rent on Section 64, which Section was located near the Sturt River, in an area then known as New Brighton. The letter also mentions the fact that the Government was interested in that section as the possible site for a roadway.

Samuel Smart was the fortunate survivor of an attempted murder in early 1838 by one Michael Magee, who shot at him in Samuel's own house, with the ball creasing his ear. For which action, Magee was tried on 12 April 1838, found guilty, and hanged in the presence of hundreds of observers on 2 May 1838. The hanging was the first in South Australia, and was a botched affair, with Michael still alive 13 minutes later.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Anthony Trollope's Observations on Postal Services

Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV

In the Post Office it was my principle always to obey authority in everything instantly, but never to allow my mouth to be closed as to the expression of my opinion.



Figure 1: Anthony Trollope, Reproduced from Trollope's *Australia* by Hume Dow (Plate 1)

Victorian era novelist, Anthony Trollope (1815–1882), wrote 47 novels and several non-fiction works, including an account of his visit to the Australasian colonies in 1871–72. Anthony Trollope also worked for the Post Office, commencing as a clerk in London in 1834. After a 33-year career, he retired in 1867 as a Surveyor; this role involved surveying rural postal routes and delineating the paths of letter carriers to include as many villages as possible for the delivery of mail.

It is curious that, as a busy author, Trollope spent so much of his life working full time but, as noted in his autobiography (1883), that after the difficult years of his early career, *The Post Office at last grew upon me and forced itself into my affections*. Trollope might have stayed even longer had he been appointed Secretary of the Post Office in 1864, when the incumbent Sir Rowland Hill retired. Perhaps the quotation above suggests a reason why Trollope was passed over for the top job.

Anthony and his wife Rose arrived in Melbourne on 27 July 1871, following a nine-week sea voyage from Liverpool. The Trollopes planned to visit their son, Frederick, who had left England eight years previously to work on a property near

Forbes, NSW. Also, Anthony Trollope had a contract from his publishers to write about his journey. In 1873, *Australia and New Zealand* was published to provide comprehensive descriptions of the seven Australasian colonies, each of which Trollope had visited.

Trollope wrote about differences between the scenery of Australia and the Old World. He asserted that the Hawkesbury River was more beautiful than the Rhine and the “inexpressively lovely” Sydney Harbour had no equal to land-locked scenery he had ever seen. He thought Melbourne (population 206,000) to be *the undoubted capital not only of Victoria but of all Australia*. Trollope was an early advocate of federation of the Australian colonies.

Naturally, Trollope made a number of references to postal services in *Australia and New Zealand*. The following extract relates to the General Post Offices of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide, which were either newly-opened or in the construction stage when Trollope visited. His most favourable comments were for the Adelaide GPO but with a qualification that English postal expertise would have improved facilities offered to the public:

The one building in Adelaide on which the town must pride itself—and of which at the same time the colony is half-ashamed because of the expense—is the Post Office. I was gratified by finding that the colonies generally were disposed to be splendid in their post-offices rather than in any other buildings, for surely there is no other public building so useful. At Brisbane, when I was there, they were building a fine post-office. At Sydney they have nearly completed a magnificent post-office. At Melbourne I found a very large post-office indeed—though, as I thought, one not very convenient to the public. And here in Adelaide the Post Office is the grandest edifice in town. It is really a beautiful building, with a large centre hall, such as we had in London as long as we could afford ourselves the luxury. We have built our hall, compelled by exigencies of space and money—compelled, as I think, by a shabby regard to space and money. It will be long before the authorities of Adelaide will be driven to perpetrate a similar architectural meanness, for surely such a post-office will be more than ample for the population for many a year to come. I went over the building, and knowing something of post-offices, I regret to say that the arrangements might have been improved by consultation with English officials. As regarded [sic.] the building as a building, it is a credit to Adelaide, and would be an ornament to any city in Europe.



Figure 2: King William Street, Adelaide, Reproduced from *Trollope's Australia* by Hume Dow (Plate 8)

Further reading

Dehn, Roy, "Anthony Trollope – a Philatelic Solecism Corrected?", *Stamp Magazine*, October 1975

Dow, Hume (Ed), *Trollope's Australia*, Thomas Nelson, Melbourne & Sydney, 1966

Glasgow, Eric, "Postal Aspects of Anthony Trollope", *Stamp Lover*, February 1999

Glendinning, Victoria, *Trollope*, Hutchinson, London, 1992

Muir, Marcie, *Anthony Trollope in Australia*, Wakefield Press, Adelaide, 1949



Victoria 8d Naish design,
Specimen on Crown V1 paper

The 8d Naish Design: Marginal Inscription Printed on the Reverse of the Watermarked Sheet

Ian P. Greig FRPSV, FRPSL

When reviewing the early "Stamp Duty Stamps" of the Victoria section of *The Queen's Collection*, it was necessary to inspect the back of some of the stamps and on one of the blocks a marginal inscription, not seen before, was noted.

The block was the 8d Naish design – 1885. The block is printed on Watermark Crown V1 pink paper. The part marginal inscription (as illustrated) is on the edge of the equivalent of two stamps width and reads "5 Sheets". It is understood from *The Stamps of Victoria* by Geoff Kellow that 3,537 sheets were printed on the Crown V1 pink paper using the two electrotype plates each of 120 stamps. It is not clear if this inscription is contemporary or added later, and it is not possible to determine if it is on or under the gum, but it is interesting to note that it is in a pink colour as the stamps.

Please note that the hinges are original and as used by Sir Edward Bacon when he mounted *The Collection*.

Please, can any collectors confirm if other marginal inscriptions have been seen on Victoria stamps and, if so, what wording and on which stamps?

References

Geoff Kellow, *The Stamps of Victoria*, B & K Philatelic Publishing, Melbourne, 1990.
Photocopies of the Purves Collection



Illustration is reproduced by gracious permission of Her Majesty The Queen to whom copyright belongs

A Postcard from the Torres Straits Islands by a Famous Visitor

Robert Binner

This Queensland UPU postcard that came up in a German E-bay shop turns out to be a good example where Postal History can turn into Social Philately.

The postal side: a 1898 Thursday Island date-stamp and clear numeral cancel is a popular collecting field that has supported a publication by James W. Turnbull of the RPSV in 1990. The

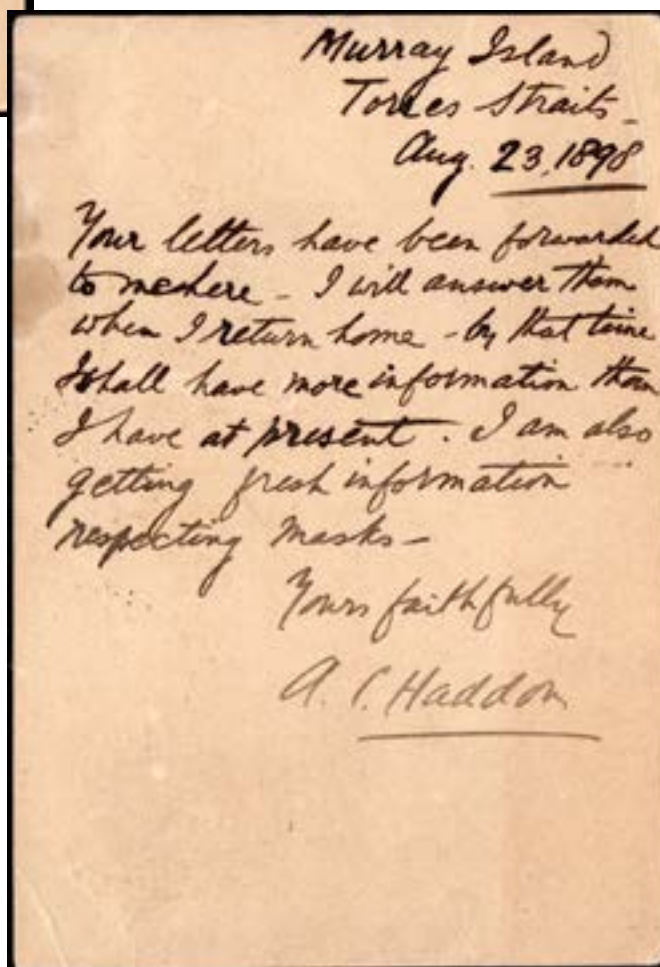
fascination in this card however is the *actual place of origin*, the *sender* and the *addressee in Germany*.

Collecting New Guinea postal history for over 40 years, I was familiar with A.C Haddon and his travels in British New Guinea, although I had never seen a piece of mail from him. A Google search for him turned up a lot of useful information and, surprisingly, a free scan of his book on the 1898 expedition to the Torres Straits Islands and the Western part of British New Guinea.

The map from Haddon's book shows how isolated Murray Island is. Mer, as it is called by the Meriam people, is the easternmost populated island in the group, about 220 km NE from Thursday Island. The London Missionary Society founded a school there in 1872 and the Queensland administration built a Court House in 1898.

Of course the arrival of such an important scientific expedition was news for the Media in Australia as the article from *The Telegraph*, Brisbane of 23 July 1898 shows.

This article appeared after Haddon returned from his tour



Map of Torres Straits. Reproduced from *Head-Hunters, Black, White, and Brown*, p. 13

of British New Guinea aboard the London Missionary Society steamer *Emily May*. The itinerary of Haddon's travels from his book shows that, the day after he wrote his postcard to Dr. Frobenius, two members of the expedition left for Thursday Island to catch a steamer heading for Sarawak. This was the next area of investigation for the Cambridge Expedition. It

is likely the boat that came from Thursday Island to pick up Myers and Wilkin did bring the mail, including a letter from Germany, which Haddon hastily replied to with this postcard.

Finally, the addressee in Germany, **Leo Frobenius**, who worked at the Ethnological Museum Berlin between 1894 and 1898, later became a famous personality. He was an autodidact whose approach to Cultural Anthropology was similar to Haddon's. He wrote some early articles in Anthropological Journals on Oceanic masks and that was his interest when he wrote to Haddon. Later he specialized on Africa and founded an Institute that is named after him and is still active in Frankfurt today.

I hope that the story behind this card will help identify other pieces on mail from this expedition and I would be pleased to hear from the owners. (Email: r-binner @t-online.de)

South Sea Studies.

Professor Haddon's Party

Landed at Murray Island.

THURSDAY ISLAND, July 23.

Professor Haddon's party, from Port Moresby, were landed at Murray Island by the *Emily May*.

About eight or nine years ago (says the *Home News* of February 4) Professor Alfred C. Haddon spent some time on the islands of the Torres Straits to study the habits and affections of their people. He succeeded in amassing much interesting material. During the preparation of a monograph on the subject, however, the professor found his notes inadequate. Consequently, he has decided to return to the islands, accompanied by a rather numerous party of scientific investigators. The University of Cambridge has made a liberal grant towards the expenses of the expedition, from a fund at its disposal for such purposes, and the travellers mean to devote more than a year to studying the language, folk-lore, customs, and anthropology of the natives. So far as is possible the native Australians, Papuans, Melanesians, and Polynesians will be studied for comparative purposes, and it is intended to make some stay in Borneo and New Guinea. Professor Haddon is accompanied by Dr. W. McDougall, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and of St. Thomas's Hospital, London; Dr. C. Myers, Caius College, Cambridge, and of Bartholomew's Hospital, London; Mr. S. J. Ray, Dr. W. H. R. Rivers, St. John's College, Cambridge, lecturer on experimental psychology at Cambridge and at University College, London; Dr. C. G. Seligmann, St. Thomas's Hospital; and Mr. A. Wilkin of King's College, Cambridge.

1898.	
March 10th.	Left London.
April 22nd.	Arrived Thursday Island, where joined by Seligmann.
April 30th.	Left Thursday Island.
May 6th.	Arrived Murray Island.
May 23rd.	Haddon, Ray, Wilkin, and Seligmann left for New Guinea.
June 25th.	Seligmann went to Rigo.
July 20th.	Haddon, Ray, and Wilkin returned from New Guinea to Murray Island.
August 24th.	Myers and McDougall left Murray Island for Sarawak.
Sept. 8th.	Haddon, Rivers, Ray, and Wilkin left Murray Island for Kiwai.
Sept. 12th.	Seligmann arrived at Saguane.
Sept. 15th.	Haddon, Rivers, Wilkin, Seligmann left Saguane for Mabuiaig.
Sept. 17th.	Arrived Mabuiaig.
Oct. 3rd.	Ray came from Saguane.
Oct. 19th.	Rivers left to return home.
Oct. 21st.	Wilkin left to return home.
Oct. 22nd.	Haddon, Ray, Seligmann left for Saibai, etc.
Nov. 15th.	Left Thursday Island.

Haddon's 1898 itinerary. Reproduced from *Head-Hunters, Black, White, and Brown*, p. xiii

Sources:

J.W. Turnbull, *The Postal History and Postal Markings of Thursday Island*, Melbourne: Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, 1990

S. Mullins, "Haddon, Alfred Cort (1855–1940)", *Australian Dictionary of Biography*: available online at <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/haddon-alfred-cort-10386>

A.C. Haddon: *Head-Hunters, Black, White, and Brown*, London: Methuen & Co, 1901: available online at <https://archive.org/details/headhuntersblack00hadduoft>

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/search/category/newspapers?keyword=%22Murray%20Island%22%20Haddon&sortBy=dateAsc&l-decade=189>

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Leo-Frobenius>

<https://www.frobenius-institut.de/en/collections/nachlaesse>

Victoria: Postage Due Stamps

Ian P. Greig FRPSV, FRPSL

On 1 November 1890, the Victoria Post Office issued Postage Due Stamps in brown and blue (Figure 1). The intention of these new stamps was to denote any deficient postage and to assist in

appears to be no surviving correspondence on the reasons for this change and it seems strange to revise the colours so soon after the original issue. The publication *The Postage Due Stamps*



Figure 1a



Figure 1b



Figure 2a



Figure 2b

the accountancy and collection of this revenue. Victoria was one of the first British Colonies to issue such stamps.

A few years later, on the 17 January 1895, a revised set was issued in the new colours of red and green (Figure 2). There

of Australia 1890–1961 gives comments originally published in the *Australian Post Office Philatelic Bulletin* from February 1964 suggesting, “During 1894, it was decided that the colour presentation could be improved” but no further reasons are given.

It is well recorded that these revised values of ½d to 1/- were issued before the 2s and 5s higher values, which followed on the 28 March 1895. Again, no records survive, but it would seem reasonable that the smaller demand for the higher values resulted in the originally issued stamps remaining available.

The illustrated small “GENERAL POST OFFICE” envelope with a pre-printed “POSTMASTER GENERAL OF VICTORIA—FRANK STAMP” (Figure 3) is an interesting survivor of this issue. The envelope is endorsed:—*“The Postmaster Noorat – (new 2/- & 5/- not yet issued will be forwarded subsequently)”* and in a different hand *“Postage Due Stamps, 10/1½, 3 sets new issue”*. This seems to be the package for these new stamps sent to this Post Office for future use.

The January 1895 Postage Due set consisted of ½d, 1d, 2d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 10d and 1/- values, cost per set 3¼½d and 3 sets at 10/1½d, as indicated on the envelope.

Originally, Noorat Post Office opened as Mount Noorat on the 1 August 1874 but changed its name to Noorat from 1 January 1875; it is situated about 25 km west of Camperdown.



Figure 3

References

- Purves, JRW, *Victoria: The Postage Dues: Background and Foreground*, Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Melbourne, [1961]
- Postmaster-General's Department, Australia, *The Postage Due Stamps of Australia 1890–1961*, [Melbourne, 1971]
- Kellow, G, *The Stamps of Victoria*, B & K Philatelic Publishing, Melbourne, 1990
- Freeman, HH and White, GT, *The Numeral Cancellations of Victoria*, Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Melbourne, 2001

Back Then: Melbourne GPO “Bottle in the Wall”, 1920



On 17 August 1920, men employed in the Mail Opening Section of the Melbourne GPO signed a document sealed in the wall of the recently-opened building at the corner of Bourke and Spencer Streets. Prior to 1964, this building served as both Melbourne’s mail exchange and GPO before the postal functions of the GPO returned to its traditional home at the corner of Bourke and Elizabeth Streets. The “bottle in the wall” document also features, at the bottom, the signatures of Prime Minister W.M. Hughes and Postmaster-General G.H. Wise.

100 Years

The Sydney-based journal, *The Australian Philatelist*, June 1921, announced the retirement of Australia’s leading philatelic researcher of his era from professional life:

Mr A.F. Basset Hull, of world-wide philatelic fame, has retired from the public service of New South Wales, he having resigned his position as legal adviser to the Department of Mines. At the end of his extended leave he will have been in official life for over 35 years. He has held many important positions, in Tasmania as well as this state. In 1890 he was admitted to the Tasmanian bar. In 1903 he was engaged upon the work of consolidating the numerous mining Acts and regulations of N.S.W., and he had his reward for his arduous labors by the passing of the Mining Act of 1906, one of the best Acts ever passed in this State. It may not be generally known that Mr. Basset Hull is also recognised as an authority in two or more branches of science; especially ornithology, and his published papers on it have a very wide circulation. He is a Councillor of the Linnean Society, and Hon. Secretary of the Royal Zoological Society. He is still in the prime of life, and will, no doubt, extend his labors in those scientific pursuits with which he has been for years identified.

50 Years Ago

Philately from Australia, September 1971, announced the death of a prominent professional figure and philatelist:

Mr Jack Cato, president of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria in 1935 and a photographer of international repute, died on August 14. He was 84. Mr Cato was Melbourne’s leading portrait photographer for many years. Before that he had been a theatrical photographer in London and an expedition photographer in South Africa. He was born in Tasmania. . . .His interest in philately began with the possession of a set of progress proofs of Tasmania’s first One Penny stamp, given by the engraver, Charles Coard, to Mr Cato’s great-grandfather, Joseph Cato. But his later interests were Australian Commonwealth and locals but he sold his collections about 1953. . . . His last display at the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria was Australian Commonwealth and in reply to the vote of thanks he told his audience how lucky they were to have seen a display such as he had given that night. Then he explained that Orlo-Smith’s Stamp Salon was directly beneath his studio and when Mr Orlo-Smith bought a collection he would rush downstairs and have first pick. For many years he did a daily round of the city’s dealers.

Royal News

New members

The Society has gained two new members: **Dr Susie Sritharan** (Vic.) and **Richard Uglow** (Vic.) whose applications for membership were accepted on 21 January and 20 May, respectively. We wish them a long and happy association with the Society.

Defibrillator

During April, a defibrillator was installed in the first floor meeting room. Members of Council and others with access rights to Purves House have been instructed in how to use the equipment.

Society's Open Day & Bourse

The Society's Open Day & Bourse is now planned for Saturday, 18 September. Further details will be announced by email and on the Society's website.

Australian Philatelic Society

The Australian Philatelic Society has recommenced its monthly meetings, which have been held at Purves House on a Monday evening. For further details, please contact Ian Sadler: iansadler2@bigpond.com.

Newcastle 2021

Newcastle 2021 Stamp and Coin Expo will be held from Friday, 22 October to Sunday, 24 October 2021. The exhibition will incorporate a "Royal Challenge" featuring competitive displays expected to be submitted by the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Royal Sydney Philatelic Club and Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand.

New Rhodesian Study Circle book

The UK-based Rhodesian Study Circle has announced the publication expected shortly of *Memoir 30: The postal history of the Paris Missionary Society in Barotseland 1884-1924: The people, the place and the time* written by two RPSV members, Sean Burke FRPSL and Paul Peggie, together with Patrick Flanagan FRPSL. The hardcover book of 420 pages features details of more than 300 items of postal history.

Nominations for Council

Nominations for 2021-22 Council are to be lodged with the Secretary by 19 August 2021, ahead of the 129th Annual General Meeting to be held on 16 September.

SOCIETY SYLLABUS

www.rpsv.org.au

July 2021

- 6 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **Rajasthan Princely States: Ian Sadler**
- 14 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group
- 15 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **How to Collect and Exhibit Postcards: David Figg MAP**
- 29 (Thu) 7.00 p.m. ZOOM Meeting – **The Queen's Men. Gubernatorial Frank Stamps: Mark Diserio**
- 31 (Sat) 2.00 p.m. Library Afternoon

August 2021

- 3 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **The Emblem Issues of Victoria 1857-63: Bill Clark FRPSV**

- 11 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group
- 19 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **Brighton Philatelic Society Club Display**
- 28 (Sat) 2.00 p.m. Library Afternoon

September 2021

- 7 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **GB Postal History- Postmarks: Graham Hayward FRPSV**
- 8 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group
- 16 (Thu) 7.30 p.m. **129th Annual General Meeting; 8.00 p.m. Retiring President's Display**
- 25 (Sat) 2.00 p.m. Library Afternoon
- 30 (Thu) 7.00 p.m. ZOOM Meeting – **Philatelic Varieties found on Australian stamps produced by the Rembrandt Press: Martin Walker FRPSV**



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 or call us at (03) 9819 9122 or email us at 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

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
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

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.

To apply for RPSV membership, please visit:
<https://www.rpsv.org.au/application-for-membership>

Chris Rainey Online

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

Visit my online shop
www.chrisrainey.com



BENEFIT FROM OUR EXPERTISE & PRESENTATION



Lot 1110 Est \$30,000 Sold \$50,316*



Lot 456
\$800; \$2,995*



Lot 94
\$750; \$1,557*



Lot 185
\$750; \$2,036*



Lot 231
\$750; \$2,036*



Lot 308
\$2,000; \$4,312*



Lot 658
\$250; \$8,685*



Lot 154 Est \$20,000 Sold \$28,752*



Lot 882 Est \$1,000 Sold \$2,396*



Lot 157 Est \$10,000 Sold \$19,168*



Lot 966
\$2,000; \$4,312*



Lot 1011
\$5,000; \$7,487*



Lot 1094 Est \$4,000 Sold \$9,584*



Lot 1057
\$750; \$1,737*



Lot 1147
\$1,500; \$1,737*



Lot 347 Est \$1,000 Sold \$4,073*



Lot 414 Est \$400 Sold \$1,258*

* at Public Auction on 25-26 March 2021 (prices include 19.8% Buyer's Premium)

abacus auctions

29 Hardner Road
Mount Waverley, Victoria, 3149
AUSTRALIA

Post Office Box 296
Mount Waverley, Victoria, 3149
AUSTRALIA



Phone: +61 3 8513 0595
Email: info@abacusauctions.com.au
Web: www.abacusauctions.com.au