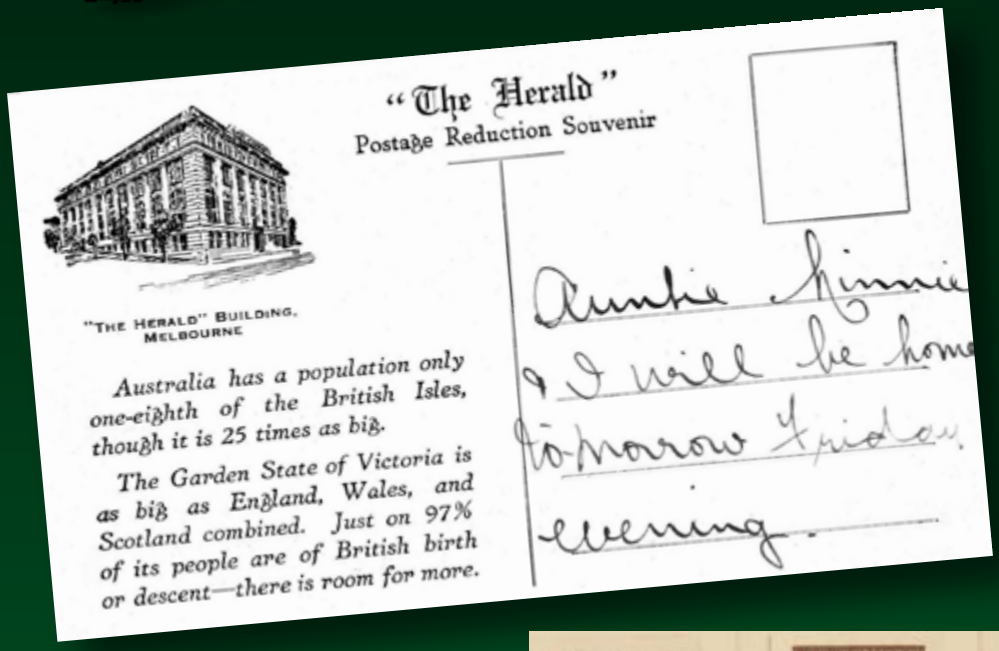
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Philately *from* Australia

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



Australia's Postal Rates Changes 1922-23



NSW Centenary Stamp Competition



Keep Australia Safe Campaign

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'9' Experimental



3d Die 1 Imprint



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1974 $1 strip, one with black completely omitted



1966 Navigator $1 die proof. The only example recorded in private hands

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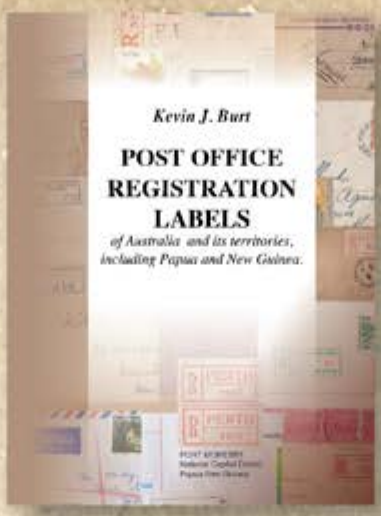


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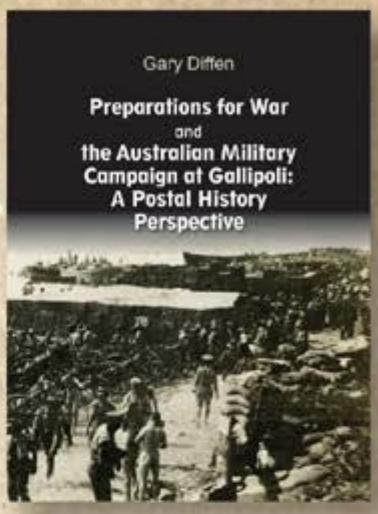


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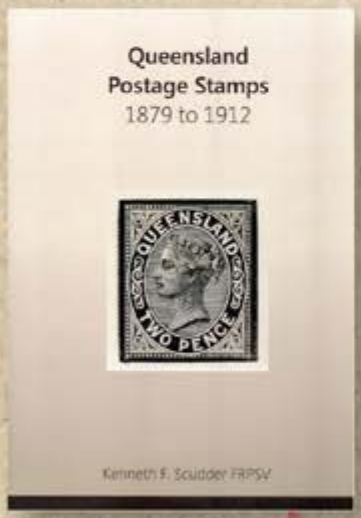


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C.G.

Phil_Australia 2019-1

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EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first edition of the journal for 2019 which marks the beginning of our 71st year of continuous publication. *Philately from Australia* is the country's oldest surviving philatelic magazine! Richard Breckon traces the origins of the journal which continues to be one of the leaders in a sometimes crowded field. In other news, we celebrate the recent election of one of our very distinguished long-term members, Bernard Beston, as President of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie.

By chance, your Editor encountered an interesting item of postal history on a recent visit to the State Library of NSW. A little further research has resulted in an article covering aspects of the public competition for the design of the NSW Centenary Stamps 1888, the display of the prize-winning entries, and the particular contribution and background of one of the less-well-known prize winners.

As foreshadowed, Richard Breckon has followed-up his two articles on the halfpenny War Tax and the postal rate increase of 1920, published last September & December, respectively. This time, he provides a detailed treatment of the increased overseas postage in 1922 and reductions in postage in 1923, again backed-up by summary reference tables.

Martin Walker has contributed a fascinating article about what some might describe as officially-sanctioned interference with the mails. He recounts the "Keep Australia Safe" militia recruitment campaign of 1938-39, the associated slogan postmark, and the placement of "Join the Colours" stickers on mail posted at a large number of South Australian post offices.

Continuing with the Christmas theme initiated by Vito Milana's article on first day covers in the last issue, Ted Gallagher presents a study of the 1959 Christmas issue. In his usual very methodical style, he covers design development, production, and the various types and varieties. The article is illustrated with some rare material from the Australia Post archives.

Since December, Bill Lloyd-Smith's research on Tasmania issues has progressed. He has collated a significant body of information on the treatment of bulk mail. The payment for such mail resulted in receipts/dockets featuring numbers of very-high-value postage stamps which rarely escaped from official hands.

Richard Breckon has also contributed two brief articles. In the first, he updates his December 2017 article on Melbourne Postal District Numbers with two covers showing official efforts to stimulate compliance with the scheme by the public and business. In the second, Richard tells us about the re-establishment of mail services to Germany after WW2.

Finally, I draw your attention to a concise article by Gary Brown on the preparation of One-Frame exhibits. This is very timely given that entries for the Society's Annual Competition are due to be with the Secretary prior to the May meeting.

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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.

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A Word from Your President

It was good to see so many members and guests enjoying the President's Social Evening, rounding out another successful year for our Society. The Hon. Ted Baillieu enthralled us with a description of the activities of the Australian Corps a hundred years earlier at the end of World War I, starting with General Sir John Monash's resounding success at the battle of Hamel, where Monash established the formula for subsequent British victories, leading to an end of the war. And then the problems of repatriating 160,000 Australian soldiers! Ted's insight into the latter was little known to most of us.

Thank you to Richard Breckon for his display of the design development of the 1965 Monash stamp and for the framed enlargement of the recent Australia Post issue, which I was pleased to present to Ted. Thank you to my daughter, Tamara Chalmers, who organised the catering and to all the others who assisted on the night.

A reminder that entries for the Annual Competition close with the Secretary at the 16 May meeting and that photocopy entries are acceptable from out-of-town members. We had good participation in last year's competition. I hope that even more members will enjoy the opportunity of showing us a portion of their collection this year. Elsewhere in this issue you will find a brief article from Gary Brown to assist entrants prepare their exhibits.

2019 is off to a good start. I hope you will enjoy the rest of the outstanding displays at both the daytime and evening meetings.

Ted Gallagher FRPSV



Outgoing FIP President, Mr Tay Peng Hian congratulates Bernard Beston (image courtesy David Figg, APF)

Bernard Beston
FAP, FRPSV, FRPSL
Elected FIP President

Bernard Beston is the newly-elected President of the FIP (Fédération Internationale de Philatélie). The first Australian to occupy the position, Bernard was elected by 64 to 24 votes at the 75th congress on 2 December 2018 held in association with THAILAND 2018 General World Stamp Exhibition. He succeeds Tay Peng Hian RDP (Singapore), who retired as FIP President after eight years.

A RPSV member for many years, Bernard Beston served as a FIP Vice-President since 2014, and as a FIP Director since 2010. Between 1985 and 1995, he was a Vice-President of the FIAP (Federation of Inter-Asian Philately).

At national level, Bernard spent 15 years on the Australian Philatelic Federation executive, filling the roles of International Officer, Secretary, Vice-President and President. In 2003, he was appointed a Fellow of Australian Philately (FAP), the highest national honour for an Australian philatelist.

A resident of Bundaberg, Queensland, Bernard is a retired Barrister and Solicitor. His philatelic interests are wide-ranging and, in particular, embrace postal stationery. For many years he was a philatelic adviser to postal administrations, including Australia Post, the Universal Postal Union and Norfolk Island Post.

The Society extends our congratulations to Bernard Beston on becoming FIP President, taking on this influential role in promoting the hobby at the top level.

Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV

Philately from Australia is 70!

Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV



Seventy years ago, *Philately from Australia* commenced publication – Volume 1, Number 1 appeared in March 1949. We are Australia's oldest philatelic journal in continuous publication.

The chief force behind *Philately from Australia* was J.R.W. (Bill) Purves (1903-1979). In July 1948, he outlined his ideas at an informal meeting of leading members of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. The early post-war years were a time of expanded activities for the Society having recently acquired the "Royal" prefix: a permanent home was established in Melbourne's Collins Street "Stamp Centre"; regular auctions were being held; and an Expert Committee planned. Publishing a journal, together with new books, was a natural extension of the Society's functions.

At the time, a journal of philatelic research had been missing from the Australian stamp scene for nearly 20 years. From 1918 to 1930, the *Australian/Victorian Philatelic Record* met this need. (The original title was "Australian", later changed to "Victorian" and finally reverted to "Australian".) The APR/VPR was published by the (Royal) Philatelic Society of Victoria, Prahran Philatelic Society and Melbourne Philatelic Club. A young Bill Purves was a regular contributor to the "Record" and served as editor in the last year of publication (1930).

The conception of *Philately from Australia* in mid-1948 was fortuitously linked to a new RPSV member, John Gartner (1914-1998). As proprietor of The Hawthorn Press, he could provide a level of assistance which would not have been affordable to the Society if normal commercial costs had applied. *Philately from Australia* was designed and printed by The Hawthorn Press from March 1949 to November 1980, when the business ceased trading. During its 35-year life span, more than 700 titles were published by The Hawthorn Press, including all the "Royal" books from 1950 to 1980. For John Gartner the pleasure of publishing for its own sake often overrode commercial considerations.

The two philatelists provided the essential ingredients for the success of *Philately from Australia* – Bill Purves for his philatelic knowledge and writing skills and John Gartner for his printing expertise and passion for publishing.

A third member entered the picture: Hugh Campbell (1914-2002), the inaugural editor of *Philately from Australia* from 1949 to 1955. A leading pioneer of Australian postal history research, he was appointed Librarian (1947) and elected President (1949); this happened within four years of Hugh joining the RPSV (1945). A series of articles, "The Post Offices and postal cancellations of Fiji" appeared in *PfA* (1950-51), but ultimately Australian colonial postal history absorbed Campbell's energies and the bulk of his published work. Interestingly, as a 15-year-old member of the Melbourne Grammar Stamp Club, Hugh Campbell's 1930 competition essay on philately was chosen by Bill Purves for publication in the *Australian Philatelic Record.*

In the March 1949 edition of *Philately from Australia,* Campbell wrote his first editorial under the heading "You can't take it with you; why not write about it now?" He hoped the new journal would *encourage many students of Australasian stamps who have so far failed to add to the common store of knowledge to give the benefit of their research to their fellow philatelists. . . We know you are doing the work – there have never been so many keen students in Australasia as there are today – so let us see the results.* The editorial concluded by saying forcefully: *Half the joy of discovery comes from being able to tell others about it. Previously some students may have felt their Society unsympathetic in making it easy for them to publish their findings. THIS IS NOT THE CASE*

NOW. We give you the opportunity, and hope that you will take it.

Bill Purves added his view in the inaugural edition: the journal was created for the benefit of those philatelists who *"aim at doing a little more with the hobby than the majority, who desire to be above the average, who wish to impart to it* [the hobby] *your own particular individuality.* His regular advice to aspiring researchers involved reading widely in areas outside the student's favourite topics.

From 1949 up to his death in 1979, Purves wrote "The Other Side of the Picture", three or four pages of notes and discoveries relating to Australasian colonial-era philately. Also, a third of *PfA* editorials were his work, the emphasis generally being the importance of reading extensively and acquiring quality philatelic literature. One of Purves' articles is of particular interest. In "Victoria: Apologia pro vita sua", *PfA* December 1951 and March 1952, Purves outlined his experiences during 25 years of research of Victoria's stamps.

Two others deserve mention for their contribution to the success of *PfA*. Horace Chisholm (1906-1999) was the second and longest serving editor. In 1955, he took on the job for a year until a permanent replacement could be found. He stayed for 26 years, joking he had been sentenced to a 25-year term of hard labour. "Horrie" Chisholm, a journalist on the Melbourne *Age,* had collecting interests in aerophilately and New Zealand, as reflected in his contributions to *PfA*. The publication of *A Century of Happiness* to celebrate the Society's centenary in 1992 was Horrie Chisholm's notable achievement. Geoffrey Kellow (b. 1953) was appointed the third editor in 1981, occupying the role for 19 years. He is well known to most readers and it is probably fair to say that no other Australian philatelist today has made an equivalent contribution to philatelic research. These two *PfA* editors spent a total of 45 years in the role.

It is not without significance that four of the five Royal members discussed above are signatories to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

This article began on a note of hubris. However, notwithstanding its longevity, *PfA* is not the oldest philatelic journal in Australasia. Launched in November 1919, the *New Zealand Stamp Collector* is published every two months by the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand. The *NZSC* will shortly celebrate its centenary – a notable achievement for any philatelic journal in the world.

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Melbourne Postal District Numbers: a follow-up

Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV

The two covers illustrated feature labels used by the Postmaster-General's Department in Melbourne to promote adherence to the Postal District Number (PDN) scheme. (See "Melbourne Postal District Numbers", *PfA*, December 2017, pages 124-128).

In Figure 1, the label features a four-line inscription in red: DELAYED *Owing to Insufficient Address. Please ask Writer to Include* Postal District Number. The fifth line is a row of dots to provide space for postal workers to write the correct PDN. The window-faced envelope does not allow the addressee's exact location to be known, but the sender possibly wrote the address as "Coburg" (N.13), causing the letter to be mis-sorted in the city. It received a transit postmark at Coburg on arrival the day after being posted. The correct PDN "W.7" (Pascoe Vale South) appears on this label.

As explained in the original *PfA* article, the objective of the PDN scheme was to minimise the amount of mail being addressed with the *right* street name and number, but the *wrong* suburb name. From the perspective of the postal authorities, the *right* suburb was the post office from which postmen whose rounds included the relevant street operated. Consequently, the unknown address in Figure 1 must have been a street serviced from Pascoe Vale South Post Office, not Coburg Post Office.

Although Figure 2 appears to be a single label in black, it is divided by roulette cuts (not visible in the image) to facilitate separation of the right hand portion by the addressee asking the sender to use the correct PDN. The left hand portion reads: *Incorrect addressing has delayed the delivery of this article. Please ensure correct addressing by detaching the other portion of this notice and forwarding it to your correspondent.,* and the right hand portion: *In order to avoid delay in delivery, please address my mail to* −, with space left for the correct PDN to be entered. Also, the label is numbered "Q. 2212".

The address on the cover shown in Figure 2 demonstrates that "106 Kooyong Road" is outside the delivery area of Malvern Post Office (SE.4) and, instead, falls within the Armadale Post Office (SE.3) delivery area.

The label in Figure 1 (without a reference number) was introduced around late 1930 and it continued until about the mid-1930s. It is possible the label was used in "hot spots" where confusion over the locality name and the name of the delivery post office was widespread enough to justify using the label. For the most part, wrong PDNs on postal articles were corrected in handwriting by the staff.

Evidently, by the mid-1950s a new label was required to encourage correct use of PDNs. This label was in use by mid-March 1957, as noted on two covers including the one illustrated. The label appears to be rather scarce and perhaps its period of use was of short duration.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Note by Eric Frazer: Both of the above labels are listed in *The Official Postal Labels of Australia*, 2nd Edn. by Frazer & Occleshaw (pp. 44 & 73). Being specifically produced for use in Melbourne, they did not form part of the national PM (Postmaster) series of postal labels. It is suggested that the "Q.2212" imprint might be a local quotation number instead of the more usual "Sch. C.xxxx" (Tender Schedule number) imprint.

Preparing a One-Frame Exhibit

Gary Brown FRPSV, FRPSL

This article is directed at our members who wish to enter the Annual Competition and maybe then progress further into One-Frame exhibiting at National shows.

A Day at Aden

A diverse collection of postcards from various publishers and producers to tell the story of a passenger on a journey from London to India, stopping off in Aden for a day.

Aden prior to World War I was a stopping point for all ships on their way to and from India being a major coaling station. It was a chance for passengers to take a journey off the ship and go ashore.

Prior to WWI in 1914 it was estimated that 140,000 letters, including postcards passed through Aden from Asia or in reverse from the UK and Europe.

There were a very large number of publishers and producers of postcards for the wide range of visitors to Aden prior to the War as after a week on board ship many passengers were eager to send postcards home.

This exhibit is the story of one of those passengers as they go ashore to Aden, while the ship is re-coaling. They will see the sights, enjoy refreshments away from the ship life of the previous weeks.

1.	5.30am:	Wake aboard ship	9.	10.00am:	On Road to Crater
2.	7.30am:	Arrive Harbour	10.	11.30am:	Water Carts
3.	8.30am:	Approach Wharf	11.	12.15pm:	Lunch
4.	9.00am:	Board Carriage	12.	1.30pm:	Stroll in the Crater
5.	9.05am:	Esplanade	13.	2.00pm:	Stroll in the Crater
6.	9.20am:	Esplanade	14.	2.15pm:	Afternoon Tea
7.	9.45am:	Esplanade	15.	4.45pm:	Return trip from Crater
8.	9.50am:	Barracks	16.	5.00pm:	Return Landing Wharf

January 13, 1913.
5.30am:

Awake on the dawn of a new day at the south end of the Red Sea and look out of the porthole and see Abu Ali Island. The ship is turning towards Aden, 2 hours away.



Abu Ali Island and Lighthouse at the Southern End of Red Sea.
Producer and Printer: Unknown. Process: Letterpress. Divided Back.

One-frame exhibits (i.e. an exhibit of 16 standard size pages, or equivalent in oversize pages, contained within a single frame) are increasingly popular as Club Competitions and at stamp exhibitions where they have their own competitive Class for quite some time now. Initially intended as a medium to encourage more novice exhibitors to enter smaller exhibits into our shows, the medium has subsequently evolved into a more exacting and challenging method of exhibiting for all levels of exhibitors.

The key to one-frame exhibiting is the choice of subject matter. There must be a self-contained topic that lends itself to material that can only be shown in one frame, such that the topic is most appropriate for only a single frame. Think of an area that can have only a limited amount of material and you are well on the way to determining if it is appropriate for just a single frame.

Therefore, for example, one should not consider "The Penny Red Issues of Australia" for single-frame treatment as there is much more material necessary to be shown than would be sufficient for a single frame. On the other hand, one might consider "KGV 1/4 Blue", or the "1963 2/3 Cable stamp", or even "The 1st Issue of Cocos Islands" given the limited scope of what is available for each of these topics in Australian Philately.

Similarly, the one-frame exhibit can be used to advantage for a limited postal-history study (say, of a small town, or a short-lived rate or route), or a limited thematic study as well. Consequently, some of the best one-frame exhibits can appear

particularly specialized or especially narrow in focus, and many will be seen to encompass only small slices of a much larger story. As examples:

Australia: Parcels Post Label P.P.1

The Antarctic Voyages of Commandant Charcot 1948 – 1951

Australia's First Franking Machine Dies

The First AIF - November 1914 to April 1915

All the above indicate the sort of narrowly-focused topics that are appropriate for one-frame exhibiting and contain what it is you will be showing. Your Plan needs to outline how you will develop your topic; the first of your philatelic material and its story line is most often introduced on this page. An example title page for an exhibit entitled "A Day at Aden" is illustrated.

A general principle however is that:

Detailed treatment of all important aspects of the selected theme can be shown in one frame.

The RPSV Annual Competition

The competition is held at the June meeting and entries are required prior to the May meeting as the judging is done prior to the June meeting where all entries are shown – some circulated and some in frames depending on the final number of entries.

The exhibit can be Traditional, Postal History including Marcophily, Postal Stationery, Revenues, Aerophilately, Astrophilately, Thematics, Open, Picture Postcards or Topical. The other major alteration is in the scoring where a mark is now given for the Title Page, replacing Importance, with Research increased to 20 from 15 points and finally Rarity being dropped and Difficulty of Acquisition taking its place.

Current FIP/FIAP	Points	RPSV Annual Competition	Points
Importance	10	**Title Page**	**10**
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Knowledge	20	Knowledge	20
Research	15	**Research**	**20**
Condition	10	Condition	10
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Presentation	5	Presentation	5

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The connection between the items in the exhibit will be **by subject shown and not a thematic theme or Traditional Country.** There must be a connection between the items in the exhibit.

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If any member is interested in further information, please contact Gary Brown: garyjohn951@optusnet.com.au

NSW Centenary Stamps 1888: The Prize Winning Designs and "Miss Devine"

Eric J Frazer FRPSV

The story of the design and issue of the NSW Centenary Stamps has been well documented by both Houison [1] and Basset Hull [2]. Some of the aspects of the public competition and the design selection and display are worthy of discussion, particularly with regard to "Miss Devine's" contribution.

The competition to design postage stamps of eight denominations was announced by the Postmaster-General, Charles J. Roberts, on 15 November 1887, with a closing date of 6 December 1887 [3]. The designs were to be drawn in black and white and four times the size of the then current 1d postage stamp. Some 956 designs were received from some 250 competitors. The designs were inspected by members of the Philatelic Society on 12 December who made recommendations to the Postmaster-General. The results of the competition were announced on 6 January 1888, again by Charles J. Roberts [4]. Prize winning designs were to become the property of the Crown to use or modify in any way desired; awarding of premiums did not guarantee that the designs would be used at all.

The announcement of results [4] also indicated that: "It is intended to publicly exhibit for a short while the whole of the designs that have been sent in…" In the event, public display of all the designs at the General Post Office was reported by the *Australian Star* of 18 January 1888. This item is worth reproducing at least for its frankness [5]:

> The Centennial Postage Stamp Design Exhibition at the General Post Office is one of the most feeble shows ever given in the world. Excepting the work of at most half-a-dozen competitors, the designs shown would disgrace an infant school, and many are grotesque enough to have emanated from an idiot asylum. Through the throwing open of this exhibition to the public our local caricaturists are furnished with on opportunity not often granted to them.

All non-prize winning designs were available to be collected from the Secretary to the Post Office on 2, 3, 6, & 7 February 1888 [6]. In addition to the above display, the *Brisbane Courier* reported that: "The Postmaster-General intends to have the successful designs photographed in order that the public may have an opportunity of seeing them." [7] This intention was also reported by Houison in an article published in *The Halifax Philatelist* [8]. Given that two of Miss Devine's non-prize winning designs (Emu & Lyre Bird) were later chosen for the 2d and 8d denominations, respectively, this poses questions as to whether photographic records of *all* (or selected) designs were kept and whether equivalent prize premiums were also paid for these substituted designs. The 2d stamp was gazetted on 10 August 1888 to be issued on 1 September 1888, only eight months after the competition results were announced. Of course, the preparation process would have begun some months earlier.

Four illustrations of the various first and second prize winning designs have been located:

Item 1: *Illustration Q* (printed from collotype plates) from A.F. Basset Hull's *The Postage Stamps…of New South Wales,* 1911 (see Figure 1a): The source is quoted as "photographs in the possession of Mr E.D. Bacon". This is the *only* time that Miss Devine's First Prize winning design for the 2d denomination (Lord Carrington) is shown in the "2d position" as part of the whole group of prize winners (see Figure 1b).

Item 2: *Prize Designs for New South Wales Centenary Postage Stamps. Exhibited by the Honourable Charles J. Roberts, C.M.G., M.P., Postmaster General of New South Wales*: State Library of NSW, Call number M Posters 2044 (see Figure 2). Of note, this item featured the 1s design (Emu) by Miss Devine in the "2d position" rather than her prize winning design (Lord Carrington). Also illustrated (actual size) were: "New Stamps Now In Issue. Executed at the Government Printing Office, Sydney." These were the 1d (issued 9 July 1888),



Figure 1a: ***Item 1:*** *Illustration Q (from A.F. Basset Hull's The Postage Stamps…of New South Wales, 1911)*



Figure 1b: ***Item 1:*** *Enlargement of Miss Devine's 2d design from Illustration Q*

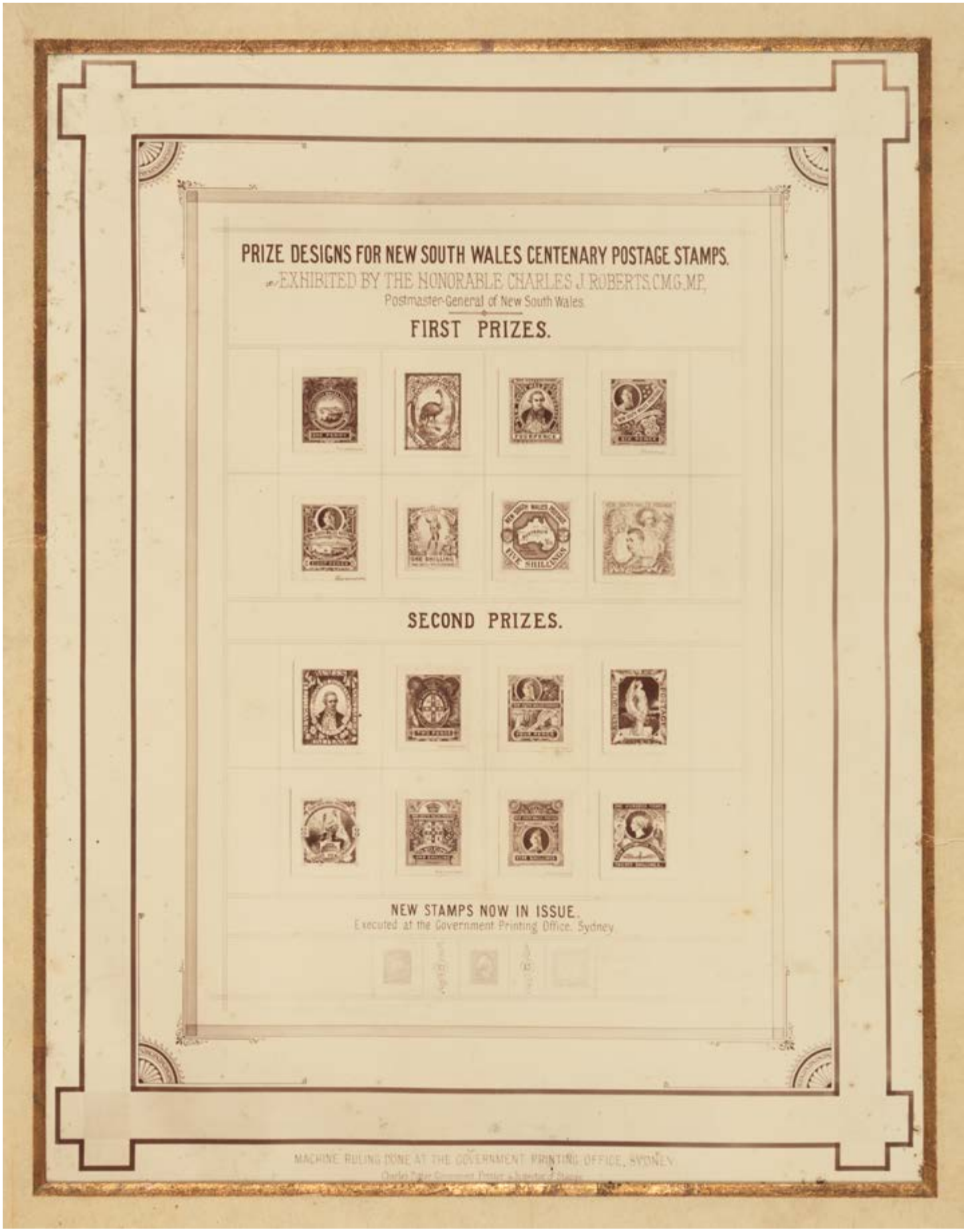


Figure 2: ***Item 2:*** *Prize Designs for New South Wales Centenary Postage Stamps. Exhibited by the Honourable Charles J. Roberts, C.M.G., M.P., Postmaster General of New South Wales (Image supplied from the collections of the State Library of NSW)*

the 2d (issued 1 September 1888) and the 20s (issued 27 April 1888). The base of the poster carries the attribution: "Machine ruling done at the Government Printing Office, Sydney. Charles Potter, Government Printer & Inspector of Stamps." Charles J. Roberts was NSW Postmaster-General for the period 20 January 1887 – 16 January 1889 which includes the stamp design competition and most of the Melbourne Centennial Exhibition. This item appears to be a sepia print of the poster prepared for display at the Exhibition which began 1 August 1888; it is mounted on stiff board and has a gilt border. An enlargement of the prize winners and some of the corner detail are shown in Figures 3 & 4.



Figure 3: ***Item 2:*** *Enlargement of First & Second Prize Designs*

The *Sydney Morning Herald* of 18 July 1888 provided a detailed description of this item [9]:

> A NOVEL exhibit from the General Post Office of New South Wales has been prepared for display at the Melbourne Centennial Exhibition. It consists of the original prize designs for the postage stamps issued to commemorate the Centenary of Australia. Those have been mounted on a Bristol board, and are enclosed by an oak frame. The sketches–16 in number–have been effectively arranged, and the beauty of the several designs has been brought out very strikingly by some artistically executed machine ruling in columns, which was done at the Government Printing Office. As well as the designs for the Centennial stamps, which are four times the size of the stamps to be issued, and are in black and white, the frame encloses specimens, in colours, of the new postage stamps recently issued, the values of which are respectively 20s. and 1d., as well as of the new two-penny stamp about to be issued. The lettering above the designs is as follows : –"Prize design for Centenary postage stamps exhibited by the Hon. C. J. Roberts, O.M.G., M.P., Postmaster-General of New South Wales." The preparation of the exhibit reflects exceedingly great credit upon the Government Printing Office.

Item 3: *Prize Designs for New South Wales Centenary Postage Stamps. The Honourable Daniel O'Connor, M.P., Postmaster General*: National Archives of Australia, Series C4078, Control Code N7169 (see Figure 5). This item is very similar to Item 2; again, it featured the 1s design (Emu) by Miss Devine in the "2d position". A note at the base of the poster details the subsequent substitution of designs for the 2d, 8d and 1s denominations:

> NOTE.–Of those designs which were awarded First Prize in the first instance, some were subsequently rejected, and others substituted. Thus, for the Two Pence, designed by Miss Devine, was substituted the Emu, also by Miss Devine; for the Eight Pence of M. Tannenberg, the Lyre Bird, by Miss Devine; and for the One Shilling of Mr Charles Turner, a Kangaroo, photographed from a Specimen in the Sydney Museum.

This item must date from Daniel O'Connor's *second* term as Postmaster-General (8 March 1889 – 22 October 1891). As it happened, he gazetted the announcement for the issue of the 5s denomination, the last in the series, on his first day of office [2, p. 291].

Item 4: This is a copy of the Item 2 (in sepia on thin paper) which is held in the National Philatelic Collection, Australia Post. The relevant file also contains sepia prints of three mounted images of Miss Devine's entries: First Prize "Lord Carrington" (2d); and Second Prizes "Captain Cook" (1d) and "Allegorical Australia" (6d). Presumably, these are part of the official photographic record referred to by Houison and the *Brisbane Courier*. Part of Item 4 and Miss Devine's First Prize 2d entry were reproduced in the *Philatelic Bulletin*, Vol. 19 No. 3, March 1972.

A number of other mounted images of the first and second prize winners (described as essays) were offered in the Prestige Philately



Figure 4: ***Item 2:*** *Corner detail showing machine ruling executed at the Government Printing Office, Sydney*

Stamp Denomination	Prize-Winning Designer	Item 1: ex Basset Hull (Illustration Q)	Items 2, 3 & 4: (ex NSW Postmaster-General)	Adopted Design
FIRST PRIZE				
1d	M. Tannenberg	View of Sydney	View of Sydney	View of Sydney
2d	Miss Devine	Lord Carrington	Emu (1s. design)	Emu (Miss Devine)
4d	Henry A. Barraclough	Captain Cook	Captain Cook	Captain Cook
6d	M. Tannenberg	Queen Victoria/Arms	Queen Victoria/Arms	Queen Victoria/Arms
8d	M. Tannenberg	Queen Victoria/view	Queen Victoria/view	Lyre Bird (Miss Devine)
1s	Charles Turner	Captain Cook/Hyde Park	Captain Cook/Hyde Park	Kangaroo (ex photo)
5s	Charles Turner	Map of Australia	Map of Australia	Map of Australia
20s	Mrs F.W. Stoddard	Lord Carrington/ Captain Arthur Phillip	Lord Carrington/ Captain Arthur Phillip	Lord Carrington/ Captain Arthur Phillip
SECOND PRIZE				
1d	Miss Devine	Captain Cook	Captain Cook	
2d	M. Tannenberg	NSW Coat of Arms	NSW Coat of Arms	
4d	M. Tannenberg	Queen Victoria/lyre bird	Queen Victoria/lyre bird	
6d	Miss Devine	Allegorical Australia	Allegorical Australia	
8d	Charles Turner	Queen Victoria/orb	Queen Victoria/orb	
1s	M. Tannenberg	NSW Coat of Arms	NSW Coat of Arms	
5s	M. Tannenberg	Queen Victoria crowned	Queen Victoria crowned	
20s	Charles Turner	Queen Victoria/Captain Cook & George III	Queen Victoria/Captain Cook & George III	
2½d (1890)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Allegorical Australia (Miss Devine)

Auction of 24 May 2008. Two of these (see Figure 6) are particularly interesting because of accompanying text detailing the proposal to substitute the Second Prize 2d design for the First Prize 1d design (both from M. Tannenberg); in the event, the original First Prize 1d design was adopted:

> It is proposed to substitute the Twopence design of "Finis coronat opus" for this one, the denomination to be changed from "Two Pence" to "One Penny." &
>
> It is proposed to make this the "One Penny" stamp instead of the design "Finis coronat opus" for One Penny."

The prize winning and adopted designs are summarised in the above table; Miss Devine's contributions are highlighted in yellow. Examination shows that M. Tannenberg was overall the most successful entrant (three 1st & four 2nd Prizes), followed by Charles Turner (two 1st & two 2nd Prizes), then Miss Devine (one 1st and two 2nd prizes) accounting for 87.5% of the total number of prizes. However, in terms of adopted designs, the order was Devine (three: 2d, 8d & 2½d (1890)), Tannenberg (two: 1d, 6d) and Turner (one: 5s).

Who was "Miss Devine"? Little information was provided in the newspapers of the day except for her address, which was listed as Sunnyside, (10) Arthur Street, Ashfield, Sydney [7], and her Motto, "Chi la dura la vince", which can be interpreted as "Good things come to those who wait". The latter is perhaps prophetic given the use of her Second Prize winning 6d design (Allegorical Australia) for the 1890 2½d issue.

It has been suggested that Miss Devine and Mrs F.W. Stoddard (20s First Prize) were the same person [10]. It turns out, however, that they were very closely related. "Miss Devine" was in fact "Catherine Devine" (c. 1856–1899), the younger sister of "Mary Devine" (c. 1852–1901); they were two of the three daughters of Peter Devine, a famous Scottish miniature painter in Edinburgh. Mary Devine was married to Frederick W. Stoddard (hence, Mrs F.W. Stoddard) in Edinburgh in 1875. The family moved to New Zealand in 1878 and finally came to Sydney in 1880 [11, 12]. It appears that Miss Devine moved to Sydney with the family [13].

Both sisters were members of the Ladies Committee of the Art Society of New South Wales [14] and commonly entered the same competitions (e.g., [15]). Mary "Stoddard was regarded as one of Sydney's most accomplished artists. Her watercolours and oil paintings of wildflowers, children and adults, won her many awards and medals". She eventually moved to London in 1900 to "achieve artistic recognition", but died in June 1901 after surgery for appendicitis [12].

Catherine Devine was noted in Sydney for painting wild flowers and portraits [16]. She moved to Chelsea, London in the early 1890s and did black-and-white work for the *Ladies Pictorial*, *Black-and-White*

and other well-known illustrated papers [17]; she also exhibited at the Dudley Gallery and the Royal Academy as a miniaturist painter [18]. Unfortunately, she died in tragic personal circumstances in January 1899.

Acknowledgment

The author wishes to thank Richard Breckon for advice, reference material and access to the relevant album held in the National Philatelic Collection.



Figure 5: ***Item 3:*** *Prize Designs for New South Wales Centenary Postage Stamps. The Honourable Daniel O'Connor, M.P., Postmaster General (National Archives of Australia, Series C4078, Control Code N7169)*



Figure 6: *Stamp-size photographic reductions of two of the prize winners (Prestige Philately, The Sixth International Rarities Auction, 24 May 2008, Lots 175 & 176)*

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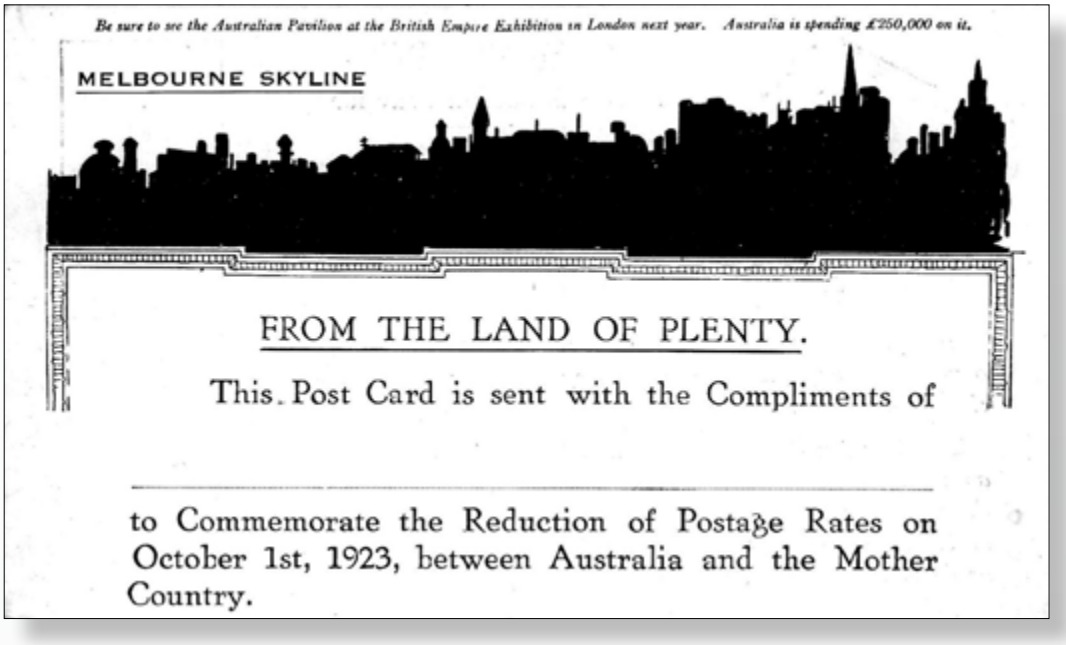
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Australia's Postal Rates Changes, 1922-23

Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV



"The Herald" Postage Reduction Souvenir Postcard 1923. (Front cover shows the reverse.)

The imposition of a ½d (halfpenny) war tax on postal articles on 28 October 1918 *effectively* never ended. Even the abolition of the war tax on 1 October 1920 involved postal rates being increased to higher levels. (See *PfA*, September 2018, pages 71-75; and December 2018, pages 108-110). Two more adjustments to postal rates followed:− for foreign (i.e., non-British Empire) countries on 1 January 1922; and for domestic and overseas countries on 1 October 1923. The latter change involved a *reduction* of postage − the first reduction since Penny Postage was introduced on 1 May 1911, and the last reduction until decimal currency on 14 February 1966 which involved some marginal reductions in rates.

1922 Postal rates to foreign countries

Until the beginning of 1922, the upper limits of international postage applying to member countries were governed by the 1906 Rome Convention of the Universal Postal Union (UPU). The Rome Convention restricted the scope for increasing Australia's overseas postage, as explained in the September 2018 *PfA* article. On 1 January 1922, the Rome Convention was replaced with the convention adopted at the Madrid UPU Congress in October-November 1920. The Madrid Convention increased the maximum rates of international postage to allow Australia's increases to take effect on 1 January 1922.

After being delayed by World War I, the UPU Congress at Madrid was held 14 years after Rome. There was much for the delegates to consider. In particular, the effects of wartime inflation had caused francs of different values to emerge in Switzerland, France and Belgium. There was no longer a single franc for the purposes of conducting international postal business.

To solve the problem, the Madrid Convention introduced the gold-franc, a notional currency that was based on gold prices. The gold-franc became the basis for fixing equivalents in different currencies for the settling of accounts, fixing postage rates and calculating postage due.

The Madrid Convention specified minimum and maximum levels of international postage in gold-centimes, leaving each country free to fix postage rates at any amounts falling between the two levels:

Letters

Minimum: 25 centimes per 20 grams
Maximum: 50 centimes for first 20 grams; 25 centimes each additional 20 grams

Postcards

Minimum: 10 centimes each
Maximum: 30 centimes each

For Australia, the 20-gram weight step had presented a problem when it was originally introduced at the 1906 Rome Congress. The previous weight step of 15 grams was the Imperial equivalent to ½ ounce, but the nearest equivalent to 20 grams was an inconvenient ¾ ounce. The Rome Convention allowed the 20-gram weight step to be optional for member countries, but the Madrid Convention made the 20-gram rule compulsory. The practicable solution was to consider one ounce to be the nearest equivalent to 20 grams. Therefore, the 1922 postal rates adopted by Australia to foreign countries were expressed in one ounce steps. (Note that postal rates to British Empire countries, being tied to domestic rates, remained as ½ ounce steps.)

The 1906 Rome Convention also involved a reduction in postal rates from 25 centimes to 15 centimes for the additional steps – the second and subsequent weight steps – of international letters. Like the 20-gram rule, it was optional for countries finding the change inconvenient to delay adopting the lower additional postal rates until it was practicable to do so. The 1920 Madrid

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Convention made this rule compulsory too, so Australia's rates to foreign countries from 1 January 1922 involved a lower amount of postage for additional weight steps.

Table 1
Australian Overseas postal rates, excluding British Empire Countries, from 1 January 1922 to 30 September 1923

LETTERS
4d up to 1 oz.; 2d each additional 1 oz.
POSTCARDS
2d each
LETTERCARDS
4d each
COMMERCIAL PAPERS
1½d per 2 oz.; with minimum postage 4d
To British Empire countries: 1½d per 2 oz. (unchanged); with minimum postage 3d (increased)
PRINTED PAPERS
1½d per 2 oz.
PATTERNS & SAMPLES
1½d per 2 oz.; with minimum postage 3d
MERCHANDISE
Parcel rates apply
BOOKS, MAGAZINES & NEWSPAPERS
Printed Papers rates apply
ARTICLES IMPRESSED FOR THE BLIND
1d per 20 oz.

The effects of the Madrid Convention on overseas postal rates are seen in Table 1. The letter rate to foreign countries became 4d up to one ounce and 2d for each additional ounce − previously it was 3d per ½ ounce. Interestingly, although the basic rate to foreign countries was increased by 1d, the amount of postage was reduced for a one-ounce letter from 6d to 4d.

The introduction of the new postal rates to foreign countries was arranged by Regulation – a purely administrative procedure by government. Australia was obliged to fix international postal rates in accordance with the UPU Convention, so the most convenient way of changing overseas postal rates was by Regulation, rather than Parliament being asked to amend the relevant Act.

The *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette*, Number 95, Thursday, 15 December 1921, announced the new overseas rates:

POSTAGE RATES.

The Governor-General in Council has approved that the rates of postage on articles posted in the Commonwealth, addressed to places beyond the Commonwealth (excluding places within the British Empire), be as shown hereunder, such rates to effect from 1st January, 1922, the date from which the Universal Postal Convention concluded at Madrid, in November, 1920, will come into operation, namely:−

Letters−
For the first ounce, 4d.; for each additional ounce or fraction thereof, 2d.
Post Cards–
Single, 2d. each; with reply paid, 2d. each half
Commercial Papers−
For every 2 ozs. or fraction thereof, 1½d., with minimum of 4d.
Printed Papers−
For every 2 ozs. or fraction thereof, 1½d.
Patterns, Samples, and Merchandise−
For every 2 ozs. or fraction thereof, 1½d., with minimum of 3d.
Articles Impressed for the Use of the Blind−
For each 20 ozs. or fraction thereof, 1d.
And that the existing rates apply to correspondence addressed to places within the British Empire, except the following:−

Commercial Papers−
For every 2 ozs., 1½d., with minimum of 3d.
Articles Impressed for the Use of the Blind−
For each 20 ozs., 1d.
GEO. H. WISE, Postmaster-General.

1923 Reduced postal rates

Two pence letter postage was in operation for three years, from 1 October 1920 to 30 September 1923. Unsurprisingly, calls by the public for a reduction to 1½d or preferably 1d postage were made regularly. The government's need for revenue to meet growing expenses had been cited as the reason for high postal rates, but changing political circumstances would bring about a more sympathetic attitude by the authorities.

In February 1923, the Nationalist government was replaced by a Coalition of the Nationalist and Country parties. The portfolio of Postmaster-General was given to W.G. Gibson of the Country Party, with the result that lower postal rates and increased expenditure on postal facilities, especially in regional and rural areas, would get higher priority.

Prior to 1922-23, the Post Office relied on revenue to meet nearly all its capital expenditure, but a new policy was adopted of providing for the greater part of postal works from loan funds. In 1922-23, the Post Office's financial position was healthy enough to shoulder reductions in postage, with a profit that year of £1,469,850 from revenue of £9,792,272.

The 1 October 1923 postal rate reductions involved basic letter postage dropping from 2d to 1½d. Also, the weight steps were changed from ½ ounce to one ounce units, bringing domestic and British Empire postal rates into line with foreign countries. The "double reduction" had the effect of postage for a one-ounce letter dropping from 4d (i.e., 2 x 2d per ½ ounce) to 1½d.

On 15 August 1923, Postmaster-General W.G. Gibson in the Second Reading speech to the Post and Telegraph Rates Bill said in parliament:

The Bill is to provide for the reduction of postal rates. Such a reduction is, I think, necessary. Practically every section of the community has been asking for it. The request has not been confined only to people living in city areas; it has also been made by the residents of country areas. Many deputations have waited upon me to ask that the existing rates should be somewhat reduced. It is necessary that this Bill should be passed if effect is to be given to the financial proposals set out in the Budget. Practically every country has reduced its postal rates from those existing during war time, to something like the rates which existed in pre-war days. Australia is practically the last country to come into line in this regard. For quite a long time we have been receiving mails from abroad with a rate of 1½d. per half ounce, whilst we have been charging external rates of 2d. per half ounce. An extraordinary anomaly is created by the

Table 2 Australian Domestic & Overseas postal rates, from 1 October 1923 to 3 August 1930

LETTERS
Within Australia & territories, and to British Empire countries: 1½d per 1 oz.
To all other countries: 3d up to 1 oz.; 1½d each additional 1 oz.
POSTCARDS
Within Australia & territories, and to British Empire countries: 1d each
To all other countries: 1½d each
LETTERCARDS
Within Australia & territories, and to British Empire countries: 1½d each
To all other countries: 3d each
COMMERCIAL PAPERS
Within Australia & territories, to NZ & territories and Fiji: 1d per 2 oz.
To all other countries: 1d per 2 oz.; minimum postage 3d
PRINTED PAPERS
Within Australia & territories, and to British Empire countries: 1d per 4 oz.
To all other countries: 1d per 2 oz.
PATTERNS AND SAMPLES
Within Australia & territories, and to British Empire countries: 1d per 2 oz.
To all other countries: 1d per 2 oz.; minimum postage 2d
MERCHANDISE
Within Australia & territories, to NZ & territories and Fiji: 1d per 2 oz.
To all other countries: Parcel rates apply
BOOKS
Within Australia & territories: 1d per 8 oz. (if printed in Australia); 1d per 4 oz. (if printed outside Australia)
To all other countries: Printed Papers rates apply
CATALOGUES
Within Australia & territories: 1d per 4 oz. for each catalogue (printed in Australia only)
MAGAZINES
Within Australia & territories: 1d per 8 oz. (if printed in Australia); 1d per 4 oz. (if printed outside Australia)
To British Empire countries: 1d per 4 oz.
To all other countries: 1d per 2 oz.
Hansard (Parliamentary debates printed and published by the Commonwealth or a state) within Australia & territories: 1d per 12 oz.
NEWSPAPERS: PRINTED & PUBLISHED IN AUSTRALIA
Posting by Registered Vendors
Within Australia & territories: 1½d per 20 oz.
To NZ & territories and Fiji: 1½d per 16 oz.
Other than posting by Registered Vendors
Within Australia & territories, to NZ & territories and Fiji: 1d per 10 oz.
To UK "via France" (each newspaper): 1d up to 4 oz., 1½d over 4 oz. up to 10 oz., 1d each additional 2 oz.; 1½d per 16 oz. if exceeding 8 oz. and transmission is by all-sea route
To UK "via America" (each newspaper): 1d per 4 oz.
To other British Empire countries and the United States (each newspaper): 1d per 4 oz.
To all other countries (each newspaper): 1d per 2 oz.
NEWSPAPERS: PRINTED & PUBLISHED OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA
Within Australia & territories, and to British Empire countries (for each newspaper): 1d per 4 oz.
To all other countries: 1d per 2 oz.
ARTICLES IMPRESSED FOR USE OF THE BLIND
To all countries: 1d per 20 oz.

Note:

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

"Commonwealth of Australia: Post & Telegraph Guide", No. 21, May 1924, page 19.

fact that we fix the whole of our postal rates for inland postage by an Act of this Parliament, and the whole of the rates for postage abroad by regulation. In the case of telephones, the rates are fixed by regulation, whilst the rates for telegrams are fixed by an Act of this Parliament. That has been the practice followed in this country for many years, and it is proposed to let it remain in operation for a little longer. We estimate that the loss of revenue that will be occasioned by the reduction of the postage rate from 2d. per half ounce to 1½d. per ounce, will be somewhere in the vicinity of £930,000. We have made big profits in the Post Office during the last few years. I have no doubt that some honorable members representing country districts will be inclined to say that profits made by the Post Office should be utilized for the extension of the services of the Department. If that practice had been followed, we could not expend the amount it is proposed to spend at the present time on the extension of these facilities. Up to 1912, practically no commercial records of the business of the Post Office were kept. From that time onwards records have been kept. A charge of 3½ per cent. as interest on assets has been made against the Post Office, and I find that from 1912 to 1917 the operations of the Department showed a loss of £2,031,417. From 1917-18 up to the present year we have had profits amounting to £4,084,830. If the extension of the services of the Department had been determined by the profit made by the Post Office, we should have had only some £2,000,000 to spend over that long period. As a matter of fact, we spent £2,000,000 last year; we are proposing to spend £4,000,000 this year, and probably some £3,000,000 will be spent next financial year on the extension of the services of the Department. . . . I do not think the Post and Telegraph Department should make a profit of £1,500,000 a year. It should afford facilities, especially to residents of out-back districts. If the Department's operations pay expenses, provide an adequate sinking fund for the redemption of moneys borrowed and keep the telephone system in a state of efficiency, that is all that should be expected.

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Keep Australia Safe
Recruiting Campaign of 1938-39

Martin Walker APR, FRPSL

In the late 1930s, the Australian Government was concerned with political tensions around the world. Whilst the civil war in Spain and the rise and expansion of the Third Reich were viewed with concern, it was the political troubles in China and the threat of Japan's aggressive expansion into Asia that really alarmed former World War One Prime Minister, and then Minister of External Affairs, Billy Hughes.

In one of his most dramatic speeches since the First World War, Mr. Hughes said, "*If Australia is to retain her liberty, if she is to remain safe and free, she must make herself strong enough to resist aggression.*"

To deter the threat of invasion from the north, the Government commenced a militia recruiting programme in 1938. The aim of the campaign was to increase the numbers of the militia, or home defence force, from 42,000 to 70,000 men. Launched in November, the campaign included the usual newspaper promotions, rallies and processions in cities and towns, and posters in government offices and public utilities like railway stations and, of course, post offices.

The 70,000 mark was reached in late March 1939. In announcing this, the Minister for Defence (Brigadier Street) said on 30 March, "*the campaign for recruits had succeeded and the special recruiting effort was therefore no longer necessary*."

Slogan postmark publicity

On 6 January 1939, the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs advised the Deputy Directors in each state "*It is desired that as soon as the necessary equipment is received the slogan "Keep Australia Safe – Enlist Now" be impressed on correspondence dealt with at the G.P.O.*"

Each General Post Office was supplied with a quantity of slugs during the third week of January with the instruction to continue to use the "Prevent Bush Fires" slogan for its allotted period of January and then use the recruiting slogan for the remainder of the month. The "Prevent Bush Fires" slogan was then to be used for the first week in February with the recruiting slogan being used again for the



The Join The Colours Australian Militia poster



Keep Australia Safe slogan postmark: earliest known use, 19 January 1939 (Sydney)

remainder of that month. It was also desired to restrict the use of the recruiting slogan to mail for Australian addresses.

For the month of March, the first and third weeks were allocated to the recruiting slogan and the second week (8th to 14th) to "Prevent Bush Fires". If, however, the weather was favourable, the GPOs were to continue using the recruiting slogan. I have seen use for Adelaide on 9 & 10 March, and Melbourne on 14 March, so this option was certainly used. At the end of the third week of March the Deputy Directors in each state were telegraphed with a message from the Director-General to continue using the slogan until the end of March.

The cost of the postmarking slugs was met by the Department of Defence. The total number supplied is not recorded but, for the Adelaide G.P.O., four were supplied and went into use from noon on 19 January 1939.

The recorded periods of use of this slogan for each General Post Office are:- Adelaide (19 Jan to 31 Mar); Brisbane (25 Jan to 29 Mar); Hobart (no record); Melbourne (26 Jan to 31 Mar); Perth (27 Feb to 31 Mar) and Sydney (19 Jan to 30 Mar).

Posters and stickers

In addition to the poster campaign, the militia also had a miniature version in the form of stickers about the size of a matchbox label (38mm x 50mm). It is not clear if these stickers were an Australia-wide distribution or purely a South Australian innovation. On 28 November 1938, Brigadier A.M. Martyn, Commandant, 4th District Base, Keswick Barracks, wrote to the Deputy Director of Posts & Telegraphs for South Australia seeking assistance to distribute some 25,000 stickers for attachment to envelopes. He wrote, "*It has occurred to me that a good way of getting the stickers into the hands of the public would be to have a distribution to Metropolitan Post Offices and the stickers could be brought to the notice of purchasers of stamps.*"

The Adelaide Superintendent of Postal Services was not in favour of the idea pointing out that the purchasers of postage stamps were frequently children and that the stickers would be misused to decorate the walls and associated furniture and equipment in the post offices, and also placed on other buildings to the annoyance of the public.

As the campaign was considered a "National moment", the Superintendent was asked to meet with the Brigadier to find a suitable means of distributing the stickers so they could be used on the mail. The meeting was ultimately held between their 'seconds' – the Acting Assistant Superintendent of Postal Services, M.G. Dickson, and a Colonel Stantke from the Keswick Barracks.

The plan agreed upon was for the staff at official post offices to place the stickers on letters, but not business invoices, as they were posted. Business invoices were excluded as it was perceived these would be received by office staff who would readily discard the envelopes bearing the stickers.

As it was nearing Christmas, it was also agreed to commence the distribution of the stickers after the busy period and Brigadier Martyn was supplied with a list of the 146 official post offices in the state and a suggested quantity to send to each. These quantities ranged from 100 to 550 stickers per office.

The stickers were eventually distributed in mid-January 1939 in time to be used from Monday 16 January when most people had returned from their holidays. Instructions by the Deputy Director of Posts and Telegraphs were issued to the postmasters on 13 January 1939.

"*A supply of stickers in connection with the recently inaugurated campaign to increase the strength of the Commonwealth Militia Forces will shortly be forwarded to you from the Defence Department.*

Please arrange for the members of your staff to place the stickers on the envelopes of letters (excluding invoices) posted at your office for onward transmission until such time as the supply becomes exhausted.

The Stickers should be affixed to the bottom left-hand face, or alternatively, to the back of each envelope, and special care must be taken to ensure that no portion of the address will be obliterated."

On Wednesday, 18 January, *The Advertiser* newspaper announced, "*Postal authorities have agreed to affix to letters in transit stickers regarding the recruiting campaign in South Australia*" and all seemed well with the plan.

Then, on 1 February, the Deputy Director of Posts & Telegraphs received the first of several letters of complaint. H.W. Tossell of Kadina wrote,

"*Dear Sir,*

I was concerned to learn that on a letter I had posted to a young man in another part of the State a stamp was affixed containing the figure of a man in military uniform, and the words "Join the Colours." I presume that the stamp was added by the postal department, or under that authority. There was nothing to signify this, therefore the inference could be that the exhortation was from me.

Is the position fair to the sender? Is it right to use letters of citizens for propaganda on a vital personal question?

I take it that a letter is the property of the sender, in the trust of the postal department, for delivery by payment.

I wish to protest about what has been done."

Several letters expressing similar concern and sentiments survive in a file held by the National Archives of Australia (Adelaide Branch). The response by the Adelaide-based Deputy Director of Posts and Telegraphs was to stop the affixing of the labels and this action was advised to the complainants on 9 February 1939.

Whilst most of the complaints came from senders of letters who were embarrassed by the implication that they had affixed the offending sticker, there were also complaints from recipients of such letters and stickers. These complaints are best summed up by returned soldier V.A. Smith of Rendelsham to whom I shall allow the last words on this unusual affair.



The Join The Colours Australian Militia sticker used on cover, 26 January 1939 (Adelaide)

"*Sir,*

On a letter recently received, I noticed a tag stuck thereon re joining the militia. Now doesn't it make your Dept. look ridiculous, attaching same to a letter of a Limbless Ret. Soldier already nearing the allotted span of life. 70 years old. Couldn't the Dept use a little common sense and ascertain fuller particulars before pasting such things on all and sundry letters.

Even a married woman received one.

Yours etc., VA Smith.

P.S. Let the militia "Heads" do their own job."



Keep Australia Safe slogan postmark: last day of use, 31 March 1939 (Adelaide)

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NAA (Adelaide): D959, IA1948/459, "Postmarking Machines 1937-1950".

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A Study of the 1959 Christmas Issue

Ted Gallagher FRPSV

BACKGROUND

Although a few countries had, on occasions, issued stamps that featured Christmas themes, in 1957 Australia became the first country in the world to commence annual issues of Christmas stamps, officially described as intended "*to emphasise the spiritual significance of Christmas"*. The first issue shows a child at prayer, reproduced from Sir Joshua Reynolds' *The Infant Samuel*. This was followed in 1958 with a Nativity scene following the arrival of the shepherds. When in December 1958 a potential issue for 1959 was discussed, the Stamp Advisory Committee recommended that no issue be made. However, management did not concur as there was concern about an adverse reaction from church authorities and the public. A design was eventually approved by the Postmaster-General, the Honourable C.W. Davidson, in June 1959 and issued on 4 November.

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

Following recommendations from the National Gallery of Victoria of various works by Raphael and Albrecht Dürer, the Committee recommended a design based on Dürer's *Virgin and Child* as shown as Figure 1. However, the design failed to gain endorsement from church authorities because, from a Protestant point of view, it emphasised the Madonna too much, rather than showing a Nativity scene, which traditionally signifies Christmas. Consequently, further designs were ordered specifying the Nativity and showing the "Adoration of the Magi". Figure 2 shows one of the designs considered. Eventually a design by F.D. Manley of the Note Printing Branch was adopted. It featured the three Magi (Wise Men) approaching Bethlehem on their camels, guided by a star. See Figure 3. Following minor modifications to the star, a font change to "1959" and enhancement of Bethlehem, Manley's design, as shown in Figure 4, was approved in July. In preparation for an increase in postal rates on 1 October the denomination was changed to 5d. The rate increases discontinued the cheaper rates for printed matter, so unlike the earlier Christmas issues, only one denomination was required.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

PRODUCTION

Figure 5 shows Manley's key line drawing for use in the engraving of the die. It was subsequently amended with a flap to show the approved "1959" font, hence the word "FLAP" in the right hand margin.

A steel master plate of 480 impressions was prepared. It comprised four groups of 120, each 10 horizontal rows on 12. From a single alto plate, six nickel electrotype plates were manufactured and used for printing. Sheets of 120 were issued to post offices.

TWO TYPES

Examination of sheets revealed that there are two types of stamps, with variations to the right hand leg of the "R" of "Australia". The approved design, which I have designated as Type A, has the leg finishing at a point, whereas Type B has the leg curling upward at the end. Refer to Figures 6 and 7. The two types appear on different sheets, so it is apparent that the difference is not the result of a two-on roller die. I am unable to explain whether the types appear on different groups of 120 on the master plate or whether they appear on different nickel electrotype plates.



Figure 4



Figure 5

VARIETIES

The *Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue* lists only one variety: "376 d. Recut left frame from opposite camel's back to lower corner". No plate position or illustration is provided. The recut is referred to in the literature of the day, with a sketch provided by Mr T. Glee in the January 1968 edition of *The Australian Commonwealth Collectors' Club of New South Wales Bulletin*. I searched through bundleware and found only two copies in 10,000 stamps. Refer Figure 8. Its rarity could have several



Figure 6 TYPE A



Figure 7 TYPE B

explanations, including that it occurs on an electro that was little used or it was retouched early in the printing. If the latter was correct, what was the reason for the recut? I found one stamp (Figure 9) amongst the 10,000 that could be the reason. If so, it would have been necessary for more extensive recutting, including more of the frame and the rump and leg of the camel. This must have been done expertly as it is not easily detectible.

Of less interest is a coloured flaw on the "d" of "5d". See Figure 10. This was reported by Mr Walder Hansen in the May 1962 edition of *The Australian Stamp Monthly*. He considered it as a roller flaw and nominated its position as 1/8 and 1/9 on an upper sheet.



Figure 8



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11

References:

Australia Post, *National Philatelic Collection*

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

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Hansen, W., *The Australian Stamp Monthly*, May 1962, p. 285

The flaw shown as Figure 11 is a horizontal line between the lines of shading to the right of the middle man's hand. Whilst minor in size, it appears to be a master-plate variety based on the large number found in bundleware.

To my knowledge, the Figure 8 variety has never been plated. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who can provide this information.

Acknowledgement

The author wishes to thank Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV for providing access to and scans from the Australia Post Archives and for his advice.

Tasmania: Bulk Postage & more on the Frank Stamps and Beer Duty Stamps

Bill Lloyd-Smith FRPSV

This article is part of Bill-Lloyd Smith's series detailing much of the research involved in the preparation of the proposed second edition of Basset Hull's The Stamps of Tasmania. –Ed.



Figure 1

Bulk postage

This is a major use for high denomination stamps but is not often discussed in existing literature for the Australian states' stamps. For the early Federal era, Purves (1979) discussed this topic with special reference to the £1 and £2 KEVII stamps. For further details of bulk postage, one has to consult his book on Victorian postage dues (1960) where the use of high-value postage dues for bulk postage charges is discussed. An interesting example showing £6.13s.6d in postage dues on a bulk postage docket was in a 2016 Mossgreen auction (Lot 779). It bore instructions to the effect that the form had to be sent to the Accountant. These observations are most relevant to Tasmania (and the other states) since the Post Office was under Federal jurisdiction after 1901.

Now we refer to the Tasmanian *Postal Guides* from the 1890s to July 1909. Many of them are now online at the website of the Tasmanian Philatelic Society.

In the Tasmanian *Postal Guides* for July 1902, August 1906 and July 1909 (held by the Tasmanian Philatelic Society), we learn that the Commonwealth bulk postage rules applied. In summary, bulk mail could be lodged at certain large post offices for prepayment in cash. Normally, the amount of postage had to be at least £1. Also, the person posting this bulk mail had to sign across the face of each stamp affixed to a docket for bulk postage. The postal clerk would then apply a datestamp to the docket, usually across the stamps, and then forward that docket to the Accountant at the General Post Office, Hobart. (Similar rules would clearly apply in all the other states.) Thus, the stamps affixed to these dockets very seldom escaped from official custody.

For the Colonial era, we refer to older *Postal Guides*. The relevant issues are for editions from January 1899 to January 1902. While postage normally had to be prepaid with stamps, we learn that: "Postage on a large number of letters or packets posted at the same time is, however, accepted in cash, except to Queensland and Western Australia." The minimum number of letters required was not stated. No such rule appears in earlier editions of the *Postal Guides* up to July 1898. However, bulk postage markings are known dating back to early 1896, with the earliest known example being dated 21.2.96 for a 1d postage paid marking from Hobart (see Figure 2). Postage paid markings are discussed in the 'green books' and also listed in Hardinge's book (2018), where they are described as 'Paid cds'. It appears that several large businesses were able to make special arrangements with the Post Office to have large volumes of their mail prepaid in cash. One such business would be Tattersalls.

It is suspected that some of the surviving used high-value stamps from 1896 to 1900 inclusive were actually used for bulk postage and given back to the customer. Indeed, there are a reasonable number of postally-cancelled high-value Tablet stamps known with dates prior to the end of 1900. Stamps of denomination 2s.6d, 5s and 10s postally cancelled with dates from 1901 onwards seem to be less common, while the £1 was relegated to fiscal use only as from 1 December 1900. If this guess is correct, it is clear that the rules for using stamps on bulk postage dockets were different in the Colonial era from the Federal era from 30 June 1902 onwards. However, this remains unproven.

From a study of the surviving *Postal Guides*, it is evident that Parcel Post rates were less than £1, except in the *Postal Guide* for July 1900 where certain Parcel Post rates to Bechuanaland and Mashonaland (Rhodesia) were well over £1. Thus, the £1 stamp would not normally be needed on a postal article at all. However, it could be used on a heavy parcel of gold (sent at letter rate plus 3d registration), as the *Postal Guides* show. Indeed, the £1 has been seen used on a piece with other stamps with a total face value of £1.9s.2½d (see Figure 1), which is well in excess of normal Parcel Post charges. (This could be usage on a gold parcel to the United Kingdom as permitted by the then current regulations.) Further, a used strip of three of the £1 and a vertical used pair of the £1 are also known. These usages seem to be well outside the range of Parcel Post to any country in the world at that time.

Using archival records, the author has examined the numbers of £1 revenue stamps issued from 1 December 1900 to July 1903. The total is less than half the number of £1 stamps issued up to November 1900, so the best way to explain this result is to conclude that many £1 stamps were used to prepay bulk postage (not mentioned in Basset Hull's published supplement to his book).

Frank stamps and beer duty stamps

In the December 2018 issue of *Philately from Australia* (pp. 122-123), I omitted a few important references on frank stamps and beer duty stamps, as Patrick Reid has kindly pointed out. So, it is time for us to fill in these gaps before proceeding further. He has also sent me a soft copy of his article on the special postal markings that were previously discussed in Chapter VIII in each of the so-called 'green books'.

Concerning frank stamps, I should have included the two articles by Randall Askeland in *The Courier* (1999, 2000) which are now listed below. They form an important update to Karman's catalogue listing for Tasmanian frank stamps.

Concerning beer duty stamps, these were part of a major collection of Tasmanian revenue stamps formed in recent years by the Kiddle brothers. There was an online display of these stamps but it was no longer accessible at the time of writing. This collection was sold by Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions in early 2016. Collectors are referred to the catalogue for this auction for details of the beer duty stamps in this collection (including some major rarities). As a comparison, there is the online display by Elsmore of Tasmanian revenue stamps which has a broadly similar holding of beer duties (except for a few different rarities).

The write-up contains some auxiliary information on these stamps.

The supplement by Reid (2008) is a valuable reference on most of the special purpose markings that will be cited in the new edition for readers who wish to pursue this aspect of postal history. They form a major update to the 'green books' for special purpose markings.



Figure 2

It is important to receive feedback so as to ensure the most up-to-date account. It is also desired to ensure that details are correct. Thus, I am very grateful for Patrick Reid's response to my article.

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Online resources

Elsmore, D., *The Revenue Stamps of Tasmania*, http://www.ozrevenues.com/exhibits/t/f1.html

Tasmanian Philatelic Society, http://www.tps.org.au



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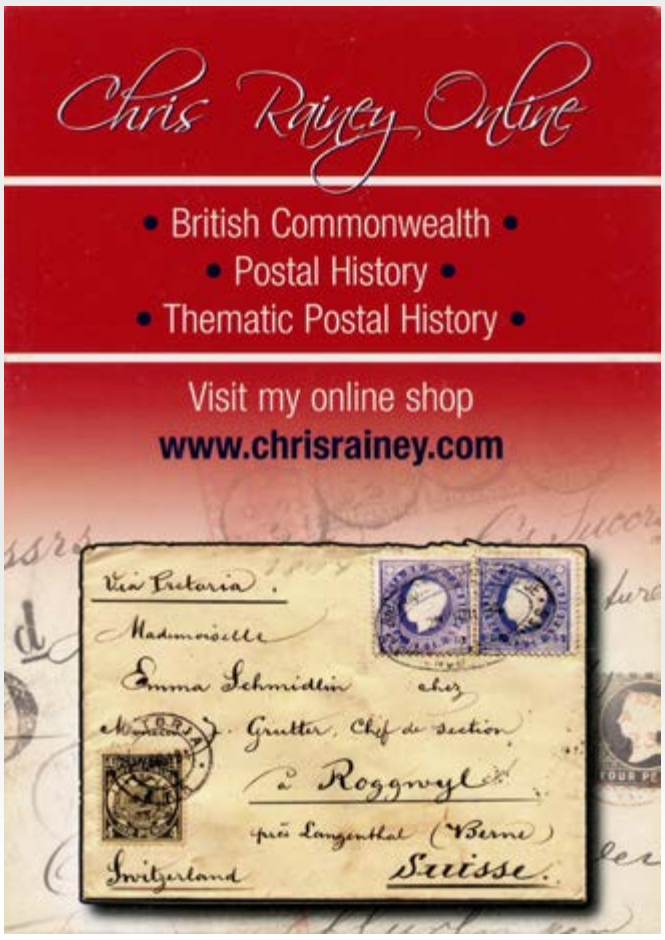
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Back Then: Scott's Hotel



Located at 444 Collins Street, Melbourne (opposite Market Street), Scott's Hotel was the favourite venue for RPSV functions in the 1940s and 1950s. No doubt this was because the hotel's manager, J. Stanley Smith, was himself a member of the "Royal". Scott's Hotel closed in 1960 and the building was then demolished.

Scott's Hotel (from The Treasure House by Fred Archer)

100 Years

The Australian Philatelist, March 1919, speculated about the publishing plans of the Royal Philatelic Society London, but the journal was wrong in guessing the Society's intentions:

The fact that the early stamps of Victoria have of late years received far more consideration in the philatelic press, especially in "The London Philatelist", than any other State in Australia, leads us to surmise that the next work of the publication committee of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, will be the stamps of Victoria. In the November, 1918, number of the "L.P." there appear two articles: "The Four Pence Beaded Oval Type", by Mr. M.H. Horsley, illustrated by two full panes – left and right – and one pane of single stamps; and "Notes on The Later Issues of Victoria", by Mr. R.B. Yardley – both continuous of previous articles. Then Mr. Pack's illustrated articles on the first issues will give the committee plenty of solid foundation on which to build the book. Collectors are quite ready for this work, as it is now nearly eight years ago since Mr. Basset-Hull's (sic.) *work on the N.S.W. stamps appeared.*

50 Years Ago

Philately from Australia, March 1969, featured news of the invitation to Hugh Campbell (1914-2002) to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists:

Mr H.M. Campbell, of Melbourne, has been selected to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. With Mr J.R.W. Purves, also of Melbourne, Australia now has two members of philately's most elite group. Both are Fellows of The Royal Philatelic Society, London, and past presidents of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. Hugh Campbell has had a wide range of collecting interests and a distinguished record as a philatelic writer. His first major collection was the stamps and postal history of Hong Kong and Treaty Ports. He also formed collections of St Helena and Ascension and in more recent years has been actively interested in the cancellations of Fiji, Tasmania, New South Wales, Queensland and Ceylon. He joined the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria in 1945 and The Royal Philatelic Society, London, in 1947. He was president of the Victorian society in 1949-50. He was the foundation editor of "Philately from Australia" and during his period from 1949 to 1955, set its editorial standards and tone. . . He wrote the handbook "Post Offices and Cancellations of Fiji", published by The Hawthorn Press, and was general editor of another, "Tasmania: The Postal History and Postal Markings" by H.M. Campbell, J.R.W. Purves, and L.C. Viney, published by the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria in 1962.

Restoration of Australia's Mail Links to Germany after WW2

Richard Breckon APR, FRPSV

In May 1946, the restoration of postal services to Germany (the last European country to have mail links with the outside world restored after the war) occurred exactly one year after the German surrender. Up to that point, only mail to members of the Allied forces stationed in Germany was permitted. Limited services existed for sending mail to German civilians, such as via the World Jewish Congress, but it was not possible to send mail from Australia to Germany until the official announcement on 10 May 1946.

Initially, only letters and postcards up to a maximum of one ounce (28g) weight were permitted. No images on envelopes or postcards were allowed and correspondence was limited to personal matters. Throughout the occupation era, the Allied authorities in Germany censored domestic and international mail. The prohibition on images was presumably intended to stop secret messages being conveyed by illustrations, or the juxtaposition of lines and other graphics.

In the first half of 1947, restrictions on mail were relaxed to the point where postal articles of a type normally permitted in the international postal system could be posted to Germany. The last major restriction removed involved the resumption of registered post in February 1948.

The following summary of postal services from Australia to Germany has been prepared from newspaper articles sourced on the Trove website. The notes are not necessarily comprehensive but, hopefully, most of the principal steps involved are explained. The dates cited are the publication dates of the newspapers sourced and words in quotation marks are from the news articles.

11 May 1946

The restoration of mail services to Germany was announced the previous day by Postmaster-General, Senator Donald Cameron. Letters and postcards are limited to one ounce (oz.) weight. Surface postage is 3½d for 1oz. letters and 2½d each for postcards. Airmail services are available at 1s.6d per ½oz. (maximum postage is 3s.) and 9d for postcards. No Registration service is available. Letters must be enclosed in "plain envelopes" and postcards, non-illustrated. Correspondence is permissible in any language, but must be restricted to messages of "a personal or domestic nature only". By early 1947, business communications are allowed, but are restricted to "ascertaining facts and exchanging information."

12 March 1947

Gift parcels not exceeding 11 pounds (lb.) weight may be sent to Germany, as announced the previous day by Prime Minister, J.B. Chifley, in reply to a question in parliament. Parcels are despatched via the United Kingdom and the contents "must be confined to essential relief items, such as non-perishable foodstuffs, clothing, soap and medicines".

15 March 1947

Post Office announcement that mail to Germany had been extended to "newspapers, periodicals and books printed in any language, not exceeding 4lb. in weight, addressed to persons residing in the British and American zones in Germany, and the British sector of Berlin".

20 May 1947

Post Office announcement that letters weighing up to one pound (16 oz.) may be sent to Germany. Surface postage is 3½d up to 1oz. and 2d for each additional 1oz. The service is restricted to non-registered letters and postcards containing personal and domestic correspondence, and business communications for the exchange of information only.

22 October 1947

"Letters, commercial papers, and samples up to normal international weight limits may now be sent by post to the whole of Germany. Sending of printed papers under similar conditions is, however, restricted for the present to British and American zones and to the British sector in Berlin", as announced the previous day by Postmaster-General, Senator Donald Cameron. The minister also added "that the way was not yet clear to extend registration facilities to any part of Germany".

25 November 1947

Post Office announced that Allied control authorities would now admit into Germany letters addressed "Poste Restante". The full name and address of the sender must appear in the bottom left-hand corner of the envelope or wrapper.

28 February 1948

Post Office announced "an extension had been made to mail services to Germany which permitted the registration of postcards and, articles prepaid at letter rates, when addressed to any part of that country. Registered post would not apply to articles other than letters and postcards."

Source:

Trove digitised newspapers, National Library of Australia, trove.nla.gov.au/newspapers

Royal News

New member

The Society has gained one new member: **Margaret WALLACE** (Vic.), whose application for membership was accepted by Council on 31 January. We wish her a long and happy association with our Society.

Council members' display

The varied collecting interests of Council members were showcased at the 18 January meeting, which involved six-sheet displays: **Richard Breckon** (1904 Blank postcards produced in Melbourne for personal photographs to be printed); **Gary Brown** (South Africa Airgraphs of 1941-44, including processing facilities in Johannesburg; **Bill Clark** (Constant flaws of Victoria 1857-60 Emblems, including both states of the broken electro); **Gary Diffen** (United States pre-1860 Brewery illustrated advertising covers); **Peter Leitch** (Victoria 1879 Stamp Duty values £5 to £9, a study of watermarks); **Frank Pauer** (John Gower's "Wesley" first day covers, including scarce early types); **Allen Shatten** (Stamps of Malta, Queen Victoria to King George V types); and **John Shawley** (British Central Africa/Nyasaland registered covers).

Dr Derek Pocock FAP (1931-2018)

Derek Pocock was a former member of the RPSV who died in Perth on 17 November at the age of 87. A retired forensic pathologist, Derek had wide ranging philatelic interests and particularly focused on Nicaragua. He gave outstanding service to organised philately in his home state and at national level. In 1974, Derek was a founder (with Ross Duberal) of the Western Australian Study Group, publisher of *The Black Swan*. They also established the Western Australian Philatelic Council, on which Derek served for many years. Derek also spent six years with the APF, including a term as president. He rose to become an international judge in three FIP classes and a prolific exhibitor, with more than 25 different exhibits over a 40-year period. In 1997, Derek was awarded the highest honour for an Australian philatelist – Fellow of Australian Philately (FAP).

Annual Competition 2019

The Society's Annual Competition will be held on Thursday, 20 June. The competition rules permit high resolution scans of exhibits to be submitted for judging, if full colour at 600 DPI (dots per inch) and laminated, to encourage interstate and overseas members to participate. Annual Competition entries must be lodged with the Secretary by 16 May. For further details of the Annual Competition, see the Society's website:

www.rpsv.org.au/services/annual-competition

"The Two Teds"

The image below (courtesy Sarah Wapling) shows the Hon. Ted Baillieu (left) and our President, Ted Gallagher, at the President's Social Evening last December. Ted Baillieu presented an account of the Australian Corps at the end of WWI and the role of General Sir John Monash to a very appreciative audience.



STOCKHOLMIA 2019 Jury

In the December 2018 edition of Royal News, we neglected to include our US member, **Stephen D SCHUMANN** RDP, FRPSL, in the list of RPSV jurors for STOCKHOLMIA 2019. We send Gary Brown, Malcolm Groom and Stephen Schumann our best wishes for their deliberations.

SOCIETY SYLLABUS

www.rpsv.org.au

April 2019

02 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **Australian KGV on Cover: Graeme Plaw**

10 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group

13 (Sat) 10 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. **Society Open Day and Bourse,** Members, guests and visitors welcome

18 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **Indian States: Tony MacGillycuddy**

27 (Sat) 2.00 p.m. Library Afternoon

May 2019

07 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **South Australia: Ken Scudder APR, FRPSV**

08 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group

16 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **Advertising Covers of the Australian Colonies: Gary Diffen FRPSV, FRPSL**

25 (Sat) 2.00 p.m. Library Afternoon

30 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **Republic of China, Airmail Rates to North America: Bruce Chadderton**

June 2019

04 (Tue) 1.00 p.m. Daytime Meeting, **Australian Engraved Issues: Kevin Keast**

12 (Wed) 7.45 p.m. Postal History Group

20 (Thu) 8.00 p.m. **Society's Annual Competition**

29 (Sat) 2.00 p.m. Library Afternoon

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

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

Enquiries to:
Publications Manager (Peter Leitch): PO Box 1, CARNEGIE VIC 3163, Australia;
email: pleitch@iinet.net.au mobile 0478 624 566
For further details, including an order form, visit our website at:

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