

PHILATELY

from

AUSTRALIA

A CHRONICLE OF AUSTRALASIAN STAMPS
AND THEIR COLLECTORS



Published Quarterly by
THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
and
THE ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

Vol. XII, No. 1

MARCH 1960

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

- (a) From *Australian* residents: 12/6d. per annum.
(b) From *Overseas* residents: 10/6d. sterling for British Empire (ex. Canada) and \$2 for United States of America and Canada.

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Cumulative Index, Vols. I-X (1949-1958):

Price, post free, 7/6 U.K. 6/3 stg. U.S. \$1.00

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	Single Insertion		FULL YEAR FOUR INSERTIONS	
	Aust.	Dollars	Aust.	Dollars
Covers	£10 0 0	40	£8 15 0 ea.	35 ea.
Full	8 15 0	30	7 10 0 ea.	25 ea.
Half	4 17 6	17	4 10 0 ea.	14 ea.
Quarter	3 10 0	10	3 5 0 ea.	8 ea.

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TWENTY-FIRST EDITION JUST PUBLISHED

THE
Australian Commonwealth
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1960

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Made about 1890 and printed in two panes of 50 (10 × 5) built up from a transfer stone of 5 horizontal impressions, this item, offered as it now is in the complete sheet of 50, provides a colourful and attractive piece for collectors of forgeries, for collectors of Victoria and for those who like bits and pieces. (Don't we all?) This and other similar productions led ultimately to the forgers being convicted at the Old Bailey, and to all concerned serving prison sentences.

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By John Easton

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Published on behalf of the Royal Philatelic Society, London by
Faber and Faber Limited, 24 Russell Square, London, W.C.1

Price 75s. net (postage to the Commonwealth 3/4 extra) sterling

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*Official Organ of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria
and the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club*

VOL. XII, No. 1

MARCH 1960

THE OBLIGATIONS OF PHILATELIC GREATNESS

The award of the Lichtenstein Memorial Award for distinguished philatelic service to Mr J. R. W. Purves by the Governors of the Collectors' Club poses the question of the responsibility of those who have achieved philatelic greatness to philately itself.

A glance down the list of previous recipients of this distinction shows that all of them were great philatelists as well as great workers for the hobby. That is surely as it should be.

Contemplation of those of our acquaintance who present gold-medal winning collections at national and international exhibitions reveal a wide divergence of outlook to the hobby in which they have climbed so high.

The subject stands out in more brilliant relief when the remarkable success of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria's building fund and the establishment of new headquarters is remembered.

A member of the society remarked during a working bee that the project had been made possible because there were 32 members of the society—more than 10 per cent of the membership—who could be "counted on to do anything for it."

That happy statement did not represent the whole truth. It neglected the drive of Mr Purves, the other members of the committee, and the fact that almost every member of the society contributed something towards the goal, either in money, or effort, or, so often, both—and the monetary help of so many interstate and overseas philatelists.

But it contained sufficient truth to prove that philately progresses only by enthusiastic work.

How many of those top-ranking philatelists are absorbed in their own collections, and in the minutiae of their single-country specialism? How many of them cannot even pay lip-service to the needs of the hobby because their conversation is so fully occupied with the importance of their own collection or its subject?

The universal appeal of philately means that it must contain most types of human beings, with all their greatneses and frailties.

But many of those who have reached the highest rungs of the collecting ladder would benefit themselves and their hobby by widening their collecting interests and seeking to take a more active and thoughtful part in the management of philately.

The experience of the years taken in amassing their collections and the contacts made in the process should surely benefit philately and, of course, themselves.

Failure to do so will be a continuing loss to both.

NEW HONOUR FOR MR J. R. W. PURVES

Mr J. R. W. Purves, of Melbourne, has been awarded the Alfred M. Lichtenstein Memorial Award, America's highest philatelic honour.

The Lichtenstein award was established in 1952 to perpetuate the memory of Alfred Lichtenstein, who probably did more than anybody else for philately in the United States.

Mr Purves is one of the few collectors beyond the United States to receive the award, and it must be regarded as an honour to Australian philately.

Others are Theodore Steinway, Dr C. W. Hennan, Dr Carroll Chase, August Dietz, Sir John Wilson, H. L. Lindquist, W. S. Boggs, and Lieut.-General C. W. Wickersham.

Mr Purves was awarded the Collectors' Club Medal in 1957; and has also the Tapling and Crawford Medals of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

R.P.S.V. BUILDING FUND

Stamps donated to the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria's Building Fund and disposed of through the Sales by Tender branch realised a grand total of £2046.

Thanks are extended to all the generous donors. The concluding list of realisations is:

A. G. H. Briskham (S.A.)	18 0	G. M. Leon	5 17 6
W. H. Bromfield (W.A.)	£3 9 0	C. McNaught (N.Z.)	2 0 0
M. Bulley	3 5 0	J. R. W. Purves	1 18 0
E. G. Creed	2 10 0	H. Serjeant White	2 10 0
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L. Frank	14 2 6	T. H. Stone (N.S.W.)	1 9 0
Dr J. A. James	7 6	Anonymous	3 0

The Trail



of Commonwealth

Conducted by J. C. W. BROWN, F.R.P.S.L.

6d. Blue Kangaroo, Die 2B

I have a single specimen of this stamp showing a large extension to the s.w. coast of Australia. The flaw is somewhat similar in character to the well-known flaw below "IA" on the 2d. Kangaroo, 3rd wmk (R39 on the old upper plate). It is however much more extensive than this. Has anyone material that would establish constancy or plate position?

The ½d. King George V

I trust that by now all students of this interesting stamp will have acquired their copy of the recently-published handbook by Professor Dix and Mr Rowntree. This book is philatelic study at its best, sober and exact, and as thorough-going as eight years' work can make it.

Its clear setting-out and generous illustrations, and in particular the identification key at the back, will make it an ideal book of reference for the average collector wishing to identify the ½d. varieties that come his way.

The specialist student will find particular interest in its treatment of the Third (or "provisional") Plate. The authors can now date stamps from this plate as far back as 25.11.15, and have an unusual piece of evidence to prove its use in pair with Plate 2. They have seen and examined all but twenty-five of its units. One of the major varieties they illustrate from it was previously unknown to me.

Another, the Clubbed Fraction Bar (F2 f in the *Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue*), I had wrongly attributed to Plate 1. In doing so I erred in good company, but that is no excuse for one who ventures to write on these subjects. Readers might care to make a necessary correction on p. 75 of *P. from A.*, Vol. V No. 3 (September 1953). The unused block of four with single line perforation which I described on that page actually comes from Plate 3, not Plate 1. It is now in Professor Dix's collection.

Another correction which the authors are able to make concerns the grill of white dots in the marginal line at the base of sheets from Plate 3. The catalogue has always referred to a grill below the corner stamps. The grill, however, is to be found only below stamp No. 60 on the right pane. There is *no* such grill under any stamp in the left pane.

Each of the nine plates is closely studied, and specialists will be further interested in the discovery of a secondary state of the die on the authors' Plate 9. The book, however, should be allowed to speak for itself. In time it may be supplemented in detail, but it is difficult to imagine its ever being displaced as the standard work of reference on its subject.

1s. Kangaroo, Die 2B

In *P. from A.*, Vol. I, No. 2 (June 1949) p. 37, a variety on this stamp was reported, involving distortion to some 30 lines of shading above "ONE" and an outward bulge in the left frame opposite this. It was stated to be No. 12 in one pane. I possess and have seen various specimens of this variety, both single and small mult. wmk, but am still unable to plate it exactly. On material I have seen, No. 12, *left* pane, is quite normal on both upper and lower plates. I have no information about the right panes, on one of which the variety is presumably to be found. Can anyone help?

EDITORIAL NOTES

Missing Numbers

Mr R. Lloyd-Smith, librarian of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria would be pleased to hear from any members or friends who could help fill the following gaps:

Holy Land Philatelist—Nos. 15-16, 18-21, 24, 26-7, 29-33 and 41.

Bulletin of the Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Society of Great Britain—Period 1951-54, pages needed: 33-6, 69-72, 86-90, 95-100, 161-8, 184-191.

The Great Wall (The China Stamp Collectors' Club of Australia)—Vol. 1, Nos. 1-3.

The society intends to bind these publications when the gaps are filled.

Position Finder

Stanley Gibbons Ltd have put the famous Thirkell Position Finder on sale again.

The position indicator is a transparent grid, the squares being numbered horizontally and lettered vertically so that the position of re-entries, retouches, flaws, and plating points can be indicated by placing the left top corner of the finder over the corresponding corner of the stamp, the position of the variety may be described as "Th. K7," etc.

Stanley Gibbons are now using this system in their publications.

Millimetre gauges on the other two sides

of the rectangle will be useful for measuring overprints and cancellations.

Gibbons' English price is 2s. 6d. stg. plus postage.

States at Auction

Robson Lowe's accountancy department has been investigating the relation of valuation to prices realised for Australian States stamps.

Over a ten-months period, South Australia averaged 24% under valuation, Tasmania 19%, New South Wales 11%, and Victoria 1%. Queensland was 2% above valuation and Western Australia 8%. New Zealand averaged 1% over valuation. The total turnover in New Zealand stamps averaged the same as the Australian States.

Mr Lowe adds that steps have been taken to make the valuations of Australian stamps accurate, in the light of the analysis.

New Plates for New 8d.

The Director-General of the Postmaster-General's Department (Mr R. C. Stradwick) states that the postponement of the issue of the 8d. tiger cat stamp "results from the development of a serious fault in the printing equipment at a late stage and it has been necessary to prepare new printing plates."

The stamp, previously scheduled for 6 April, will now appear on 11 May.

AUSTRALIA: THE UNISSUED 5d. AND 10d. POSTAGE DUES

By P. COLLAS

Included in the Postmaster-General's Department display at ANPEX 1959 was a sheet of the unissued Australian 5d. postage due, of the 1909 issue.

Behind that item is an interesting little sidelight on the days before the Kangaroos, for both 5d. and 10d. postage dues were printed but not issued in the permanent Commonwealth series.

Fivepence and Tenpence postage dues had been included in the Commonwealth set developed from the New South Wales in July 1902. They had not appeared in the original N.S.W. set and although they figured in the early Victorian issues, were not among the later printings.

The last 10d. printing had been the 1894 one and the last 5d. the 1902-04.

When consideration was being given to providing a new uniform series in the Victorian two-colour pattern, in 1909, it was decided that the 5d. and 10d. should not be included.

The question of providing these values was again considered early in 1910, and the original decision was confirmed on 15 February 1910.



Then, six weeks later, it was discovered that the original 1909 decision had not been conveyed to the Commonwealth Stamp Printer, Mr J. B. Cooke.

In his ignorance, he had prepared value plates for the 5d. and 10d. stamps, similar to those of the others in the set—and he had completed the printing.

On 5 February 1910 he had printed 992 sheets (119,640 stamps) of the 5d. and, on 10 February, 985 sheets (118,200 stamps) of the 10d.

For 10 years these stocks remained intact and then, in April 1920, it was decided that all stocks except one sheet of each should be destroyed.

The surviving sheets were placed in the Postmaster-General's Department's reference collection.

These sheets were printed in the normal rose-red and green, on thick white paper watermarked Crown over double-lined A, in sheets of 120 (10 rows of 12).

Both sheets are perf. 12½ (comb). The CA and JBC monograms appear in red beneath the third and tenth stamps of the bottom row, the third stamps in from the corners.



The Other Side of the Picture



Conducted by J. R. W. PURVES, F.R.P.S.L.

QUEENSLAND

(a) *More "Ties" in Numeral Cancellations*

Since writing the notes in the last number more material has been examined. Collaboration has now been fully established between Messrs Campbell, Collas and the writer. As well as new philatelic material a great deal of new archival material has been unearthed and it can be confidently assumed that much further progress will be made, so much progress, in fact, that at some not too remote date, a new edition of our old friend Harry's work may be possible. Mr Collas' discovery of new archival material relating to openings and closings of post offices will be invaluable although we still have no official records available as to any numeral allocations.

This time we have 34 new "ties" to report, making a total of over 100 such reported since the publication of the Porter monograph. Only two of these—Mount Usher (605) and Kingaroy (644)—have been in the 600s, so it is obvious that if progress is to be made in the later numbers entirely fresh material, dated between 1902 and 1912, will have to be located.

(a) *Further confirmatory pieces—one only having been previously reported*

This time I have no less than 46 such confirming pieces, additional to those previously reported, these including a number reported to me by Mr Campbell. They are as follows, in numerical order:

39 (Calliope), 48 (St. Lawrence), 57 (Granchester), 58 (Alice), 61 (Watsonville), 67 (Inglewood), 93 (Jondaryan), 95 (Eton), 103 (Avondale), 108 (Nanango), 109 (Yandina), 128 (Hemmant), 129 (Gundiah), 134 (Thargomindah), 139 (Logan Village), 149 (Cloncurry), 151 (Condamine), 152 (Mount Perry), 156 (Georgetown), 181 (Veresdale), 186 (Lake's Creek), 204 (Toowong), 205 (Indooroopilly), 206 (Croydon), 230 (Walkerston), 242 (Swan Creek), 252 (Jundah), 283 (Redcliffe), 353 (Ayr), 362 (Queenton), 398 (Stonehenge), 405 (Dulvadilla), 414 (Woodford), 425 (Bogantungan), 450 (Urandangie), 477 (Degilbo), 499 (Cairns), 502 (Paddington), 518 (Homestead), 526 (Red Hill), 527 (Mossman River), 537 (Cordalba), 543 (Prairie), 565 (One Mile Creek), 567 (Queensport), 612 (Clermont).

The post office using 58, Mr Campbell tells me, must have been "Alice Railway

Station" (see p. 25, where it is incorrectly described as "Alice River Station." Name was changed to "Alice" on 1.1.87). Mr Campbell also informs me that there is a mistake in Porter and that the original name of "Watsonville" was "Great Western" (and not Ramsey). In the case of 405 the c.d.s. on the new piece found reads "Dulvadilla" whereas earlier it read "Dulbydilla."

(b) *Corrections*

- 328 A re-examination of the piece crediting this number to KYNUNA has shown it to be a badly struck 522. BURKETOWN is therefore the only 328 found to date.
- 263 NELSON. *Delete* 265: HODGSON previously reported.
- 330 BOLLON. A re-examination of a previous piece and the acquisition of further pieces shows that Bollon is definitely 330, and not 430 as previously reported.
- 339 BURDEKIN. Previously reported as 359. Mr Campbell tells me *this* "Burdekin" is almost certainly the same as "Macrossan Bridge" (see p. 23).
- 469 ALLORA. This post office, a very old one, is wholly distinct, geographically, from LAURA. The note on p. 100 of the December issue must therefore be corrected.
- 547 GYMPIE. This *had* been reported previously and has also been confirmed by subsequent findings. The note opposite this number in our last issue must also be *deleted* (and see note on 216 in this issue).

(c) *New Ties*

CLEVELAND. See top p. 13. Here I have found a piece bearing the c.d.s. (dated 1898) and a "Q.L." rays marking, i.e., *no number*. Porter reports 21 as used here but it is now my belief that a poorly struck "Q.L." might have looked like a "21" and that, in fact, neither 21 nor any other number was used by Cleveland.

It seems more likely that this post office was opened after the New South Wales distribution of numbered cancellers, after the distribution of the cancellers numbered 1-20 (see last number of this journal) but *before* the first batch of new cancellers, numbered 21 on, was distributed.

- 13 Mr Campbell has shown me a clear and unmistakable 13-"rays" type—struck on a 2d. on a small piece and recently discovered by him. This discovery underlines the writer's thoughts, expressed in the December 1959 issue (p. 101), as to the use of Nos. 1 to 20.
- 85 NEBO (2). Previously used 27 (first allotted to FORT COOPER)—see p. 13. 85 also reported used at DRAYTON, p. 15.
- 107 KILKIVAN. See p. 17. Also used 325, see later in this list.
- 137 BIGGENDEN. See p. 28. A re-allocation, 137 being allocated originally to YANDILLA (p. 17), closed in 1878. When the latter office was re-opened in 1892 it received 501.
- 167 YENGERIE. See p. 18.
- 196 HAWKWOOD (2). See p. 19.

- 216 GOWRIE JUNCTION. See p. 19. Mr Campbell and the writer have this number, on piece, with "---CTION."
- 239 ANAKIE. See p. 28 (two references). Evidently a re-allocation.
- 244 HENDON(2). See p. 20.
- 246 TANGORIN. Formerly ROCKWOOD, see p. 25. Piece shows "---ORIN."
- 263 NELSON. See p. 28.
- 271 NORTH BUNDABERG(2). See p. 21. Is found first with "North Bundaberg" and then with "Bundaberg" c.d.s.
- 293 WARRA. See p. 21.
- 301 DULACCA. See p. 21.
- 313 RAGLAN(2). See p. 21.
- 31? ROSS ISLAND. Porter calls this post office "ROOS" ISLAND. Third figure is, unfortunately, quite undecipherable.
- 325 KILKIVAN. See pp. 17, 20—also 25 (KILKIVAN JUNCTION).
- 326 CLARE. Reported by Mr Campbell, formerly MULGRAVE, see p. 22.
- 338 COOLGARRA. See p. 23, formerly called RETURN CREEK.
- 350 DUNGENESS. See p. 23, later called LUCINDA.
- 351 WOMPAH(2). See p. 23.
- 365 HUNGERFORD. See p. 25.
- 378 LAURA. See p. 26, both the identification of this and the other number (347 in blue) previously reported seem to be sure, and unless there was some other post office with the letters "LAUR" it would seem that two numbers will be found.
- 380 EMU VALE. See p. 24.
- 406 WALLANGARRA (2). See p. 25.
- 420 WOODSTOCK. See p. 25, cancellation is sure, on a registered piece, but only letters "WO" show. Is either a 9 or 10 letter word because the "WO" is under the "RE" of REGISTERED.
- 434 DONALDSON. See bottom p. 28.
- 447 ROCKHAMPTON. Reported by Mr Campbell.
- 455 GOODWOOD (2). Formerly called BARGHOOL, see p. 26.
- 462 STRATHPINE (3). See p. 26.
- 511 ---- DIGGINGS. Here the number and the second word are clear but only the top of the first word (probably of 7 or 8 letters) can be seen in a Registration marking. The name does not appear to correspond with any name found in Porter.
- 529 COLLAROY. Reported by Mr Campbell.
- 546 AYRSHIRE DOWNS (3). Another name not found in Porter.
- 589 STAMFORD. One of the names missed by Porter. Mr Campbell now reports the number used. Previously I had found two pieces with "Stamford" markings but no decipherable number.
- 600 CHILLAGOË. See p. 30.

(d) *Probables*

We have a further number of these. For instance, Mr Campbell has 56 with ----LD (? Brookfield or Corfield) and I have a 269 with ----AVILLE (? Floraville or Tummaville).

NOTES ON TASMANIA

By O. G. INGLES

Here are a few observations of possible interest which do not appear to have been noted. All items and varieties referred to have been confirmed from the extant records of the P.M.G. Department, to which the author is much indebted.

8d. Queen's Head

The plates of the Queen's Head values issued in 1878 and onwards, which were prepared by Messrs De La Rue & Co., London, and from which many printings were made over a period of more than twenty years by the firm, are remarkable for their perfection. The printings themselves are no less excellent. The seeker of flaws and philatelic interest has found them all (1d., 2d., 8d.) a very barren field indeed.



It is thus all the more important to announce the discovery of a constant flaw.

Unfortunately, from the point of view of available copies, it is found in the rather uncommon 8d. value.

The author has had several copies of the flaw (establishing constancy) for some years; none of these, unfortunately, had been sufficient to establish the plate position. It can now, however, be stated to be left pane No. 9, after examination of a full sheet of this value from which only Nos. 6 left pane and 1-6 right pane were missing.

It is also interesting to note that the flaw persisted through the subsequent printing from this plate which was made at the Government Printing Office, Melbourne, in 1905, and the author holds copies on the Crown A paper, as well as the close TAS paper of the De La Rue printings.

Whether the flaw, which may be described as two small cuts on the upper right leaf, together with a "weeping G" in the EIGHT (see diagram) arose in preparation of the plate or during the printing is still an open question. Only more placed blocks can point an answer; at present no placed block is known which does not contain the flaw.

2s. 6d. and 10s. Values Prepared for Use but not Issued

The plates of these stamps bore four control numbers, above left pane No. 2 and right pane No. 5, and below left pane No. 56 and right pane No. 59. All four control numbers consisted of the figure 2 in a solid colour circle with outer ring, entirely similar to the control numbers of the 1892 Tablet series, all of which consisted of the number 1 similarly circled. As in the Tablet series, the 2s. 6d. and 10s. values bore the same control numbers.

Edward VII 1d. Postcard (1904-12)

Although several major alterations were made to the plate of this card during its currency (and which it is intended to list in the near future), it has also been established that a number of quite major flaws exist on individual clichés of the plate, some of which may well have arisen during the plate alterations referred to. It is important to check dates of appearance of these flaws from used cards, which are not plentiful, and the author would appreciate details of any such used cards before proceeding with the account of this card's history.

½d. Queen's Head

A variety in this local printing from the De La Rue plate has been known since the turn of the century, namely, a long scratch running across the Queen's face over two adjacent stamps. This has now been found to be *absent* from a full sheet in the author's possession. It does not appear to arise from over-inking, since many other much more minor constant flaws appear in the sheet. It is possible, therefore, that the damage occurred during the printing, and this well-known flaw may only be semi-constant.

Halfpenny on One Penny

Previous references to the method of printing and the flaws of this overprint are not common, doubtless due to the scarcity of blocks of the overprinted stamp. The best account is that of Basset-Hull (*The Stamps of Tasmania*, 1890) and some further comments have been made by R. B. Yardley (*London Philatelist*, XI, 1902) and O. G. Ingles (*Philately from Australia*, IX and X, 1957 and 1958). These accounts were not always mutually corroborative, and all were far too brief and often speculative. However, the careful search for material has had some measure of success, and it is now possible for the first time to present a fairly complete picture of the details associated with this overprinting.

The new information has been gained principally from substantial blocks now in the writer's collection, from material in the collection of Mr K. Lancaster, of Launceston, and most important of all from a magnificent . . . almost certainly unique . . . entire pane showing the vertical "al" flaw, in the collection of Mr T. H. Stone, of Sydney. The writer has had the privilege of examining all this material, on which basis the following is deduced.

Basset-Hull's statement that the printer ". . . set up a forme of 120 repetitions

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of the new value to be surcharged. . . ." is abundantly confirmed. This overprint is undoubtedly a type forme overprint since

- (a) horizontal alignments are perfect in the pane, but of different slope in each row
- (b) there is no regular vertical alignment
- (c) the vertical and horizontal distances between individual overprints are different throughout the panes and constant sheet to sheet
- (d) all overprint flaws detected are consistent with damaged type
- (e) constant varieties of the left pane are distinct from those of the right pane. (Hence a 120 forme is confirmed.)

In listing the constant flaws below it should be added that, although almost all of the right pane flaws are now proven both for constancy and position, some substantial portion of the left pane has not yet been fully confirmed, and "possible" flaws in this area are therefore not listed here.

LEFT PANE

- 25 No foot to "p" (shorter than L.55).
- 38. "y" strongly depressed.
- 51. Broken tail to "a".
- 54. "Ha!f" flaw (broken "l" similar to exclamation).
- 55. No foot to "p."
- 57. No rear top to "a."
- 58. No left foot serif to "f."
- 60. No top serif to "p" and slight warp of the upright bar.

RIGHT PANE

- 1. Hook on front foot of "l."
- 2. (*Late sheets only*) "al" horizontal.
- 4. No front top serif to first "n."
- 5. "y" slightly depressed.
- 6. "alf" slightly raised.
- 12. "Ha" strongly depressed (Yardley lists as "lf" raised; and states occurrence only on the "displaced al" sheets. The latter point has not yet been corroborated).
- 19. No final serif to foot of second "n."
- 44. Small dot in the left foot of "H."
- 45. 'Squashed' "e."

Additionally, two constant flaws of the left pane, unproven for position:

- (i) second "n" slightly depressed
- (ii) no top serif to "p" (column 5).

The interesting "chipped e" which has been referred to previously as a constant variety, actually appears now to represent numerous examples of damage to the type "e"s used. The extent of the chipping ranges from slight to very marked (complete severance of the upright bar). Each is constant for position (and thus they are not variations of impression) but they do not occur in any regular manner in either pane. The great frequency with which they occur, and the curious fact that the chipping always occurs in the same position on the letter (opposite the horizontal bar of the "e") leads to a strong supposition that the defect arose in the mould from which this type was originally cast. The most strongly chipped right pane "e" varieties occur on 5, 6, 11, 12, 25, 45; in the left pane the most marked are, *inter alia*, 14, 56.

Some damage, similar to the chipped "e," occurs also on the lower front curve of the "a," especially in the left pane; but is seldom so marked as is the case with the "e" flaws.

The more pronounced right pane varieties are readily visible on the reproduction of the Stone pane.

Overprinted Railway Newspaper Stamps

These were not dealt with in my previous articles as they are of considerable rarity, possibly less than six examples known: the overprinting of ONE PENNY, the words being separated by two horizontal bars, on the 5d. newspaper stamp was originally discovered and described by Mr E. M. Pickop, of Hawaii. The writer has now located a new usage of this overprint, namely on the 6d. newspaper stamp. The piece consists of a block of 3 (illustrated): the overprint



is clearly impressed by a rubber stamp and as can be seen has been applied individually to each stamp in the sheet. Evidently the rubber stamp was specially prepared to allow usage of considerable excess stocks of higher value issues before they became invalid (it would seem a waste of time to "salvage" by overprinting a few excess sheets only). That so few copies have survived is no doubt due to the former lukewarm interest in railways newspaper stamps, which was quite unwarranted.



PACIFIC PARAGRAPHS

Contributed by the Pacific Island Circle of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club

(Convener's address: 42 Park Road, Burwood, N.S.W.)

COOK ISLANDS

Dating the First Issue

Having read Mr Burge's article (*P. from A.*, December 1959, p. 91), the members of the Pacific Island Circle consider it seems to support the date they put forward as the date of the first issue, rather than the earlier date.

Surely the official statement of Mr Moss, made on 30 September 1892, is more valuable than a statement ascribed to him and appearing in a paper some three years later. Also the statement of the Chief Postmaster must carry much weight.

So far as the "naive" idea is concerned, presentation sets "cancelled to prevent their use" for postal purposes have been known since the earliest days of philately, e.g., the first issue of Chile, printed by Perkins Bacon and cancelled before their issue in 1853, was presented to Rowland Hill. Similar practice has continued ever since.

Nauru Overprints

It has come to our notice that a paragraph on Nauru (*P. from A.*, December 1959, p. 103) has been misinterpreted by some people who thought that we implied that the varieties "short n" and "Naupu" were of equal scarcity. We, of course, did not say that at all. What we said was that, when each of these varieties occurred, it appeared once in each pane of 120 stamps.

NEW SOUTH WALES CIRCLE

Members of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club have decided to form a Circle for the study of the stamps of New South Wales.

At the December meeting of the Club, members stressed the importance to philately of a study of the stamps of their own State. No major work devoted to the stamps of New South Wales has been published for many years and it was felt that much of the pleasures of philately are being denied by the absence of authoritative information.

Mr Victor Frankenstein will be convener of the Circle. Eleven members will form the foundation of what should prove to be a most successful venture. The Club's famous Pacific Island Circle has been working for nearly 20 years.

The new Circle will also be a counterpart to the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria's Old Victoria Group.

THE COOK ISLANDS

By A. R. BURGE

*Convenor of the Island Dependencies Circle of the Royal New Zealand
Philatelic Society*

The Perf. 11 Printings of the Makea and Torea Issues

Some years ago now the late Mr H. S. Porter contributed an article on the Cook Islands to *Gibbons' Stamp Monthly* ("Too Many Cooks," August 1949), and it was from the information contained in this article regarding the sheet serial numbers that we saw the possibility of identifying a particular printing from the sheet numbers.

At that stage the Royal New Zealand Philatelic Society's projected handbook, now to be known as Volume V, on the stamps of the Island Dependencies and Samoa, was then in the early planning stages. It was realised then that for it to be as complete as possible an endeavour would have to be made to identify all the printings of the issues concerned. If we could prevail on the Post Office to supply the numbers of the papers issued for the various printings and sufficient numbered blocks or pieces could be accumulated in the meantime, then some progress could be made. We received an assurance that the relevant extracts from the official records would be made available in due course, and, over the years, we have accumulated a fair number of the sheet numbers—sufficient to identify most of the printings of the 1920 and 1932 series, but not so the earlier issues.

The late Mr Porter was most helpful as he, too, collected the sheet numbers and as a consequence we were able to make a few satisfactory exchanges.

Although we have found the sheet numbers of the Palm Tree issues of Samoa, particularly the perf. 11 available to a limited extent, those for the contemporary issues of Cook Islands, the Makeas and Toreas are extremely scarce. This, of course, is only to be expected when the number of sheets printed for the two groups is compared—altogether 12,900 sheets were printed for the perf. 11 Samoa, but only about 2165 for the perf. 11 Cooks, between the years 1895 and 1902.

We, of course, have been particularly interested in the very fine serial article on the Cook Islands contributed by the "Pixies" that appeared in *Philately from Australia* in the past few years and the subsequent publication in monograph form. It is in an endeavour to ascertain that certain information published in this work, which we believe is not quite accurate, is in fact correct, that we are drawing attention to one or two sections in the hope that the matters will be taken a little further and the conclusions verified.

The point at issue this time is the sheet numbers of the Makea and Torea printings as listed on page 35 of the monograph. After a study of the same list published in the December 1954 number of *Philately from Australia* we wrote to Mr Porter in 1956 and drew attention to what appeared to be an anomaly in the list of sheet numbers listed. The pertinent condensed extract is as follows:

- “(d) $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 187512/187690
 (e) $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 350550/350671, 1d. 187720/187860, 2d. 209005/209200
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. 187908/187975, 6d. 209202/209295, 1s. 209321/209350
 (g) 1d. 187770-187790”.

Mr Porter referred this matter to the “Pixies” who later replied that the Circle had checked their information and found it correct. We are still not entirely satisfied that this is so.

We learn from the Post Office, through the good offices of Mr C. W. Watts, although this has yet to be checked, that paper was issued for these printings as follows:

Date issued to Govt. Printer	Sheets	Serial Numbers	Value	Watermark	Pixies' Reference
Sept. 1899	100	350301-350400	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	NZ & star apart	(d)
Feb. 1900	650	350401-351050	All values	NZ & star apart	(e)
5 Sept. 1902	500	187501-188000	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. 1d. $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.	NZ & star close	(g)
21 Sept. 1902	350	209000-209350?	Other values	NZ & star close	(g)

A comparison with the two lists suggests:

1. That the 1d. sheet numbers listed under (g) (187770 and 187790) are correctly classified, but not those listed under (d) (187521-187690) which are undoubtedly from the same batch of paper.
2. That the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. sheet numbers listed under (e) (350550 and 350671) are also classified, but not so those for the 1d. listed under (e) (187720-187860) which should also appear under (g).
3. All other numbers under (e) should be listed under (g).

To prove this contention it is only necessary to: (a) verify the watermark on the blocks concerned, which should be the close NZ and star mark, or (b) check on the colours of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. which were changed from the earlier perf. 11 printings.

If the Pixies, or, for that matter, any other students, have any numbered blocks of the issues in question—we have none that will help in these particular cases—an examination of the watermark will soon indicate the printing. We would be pleased to examine any such blocks.

It could be, of course, that the information as published is indeed correct, and if this is proved to be so we offer our apologies to the Pixies. But when the published details conflict with the official extracts—well, only one can be right. Which is it?

Postscript: Since writing these notes the author has re-read an article on the Cook Islands by Owen C. Limmer in the *Stamp Lover* for March 1933. In it Limmer records possessing a marginal pair of the 2d. “no figures of value” with the sheet number 209183, which ties in with the official records.

COMMONWEALTH AND QUEENSLAND NOTES

By J. P. MEARA and C. O. DUNN

½d. Orange Kangaroo 1942

In the twilight of its life this value, now a very slow seller, still provides surprises—on this occasion a new electro with retouches to two well-known plate varieties. Sheet "A" has not been seen to date and the type IV pips show no variation to otherwise assist in distinguishing the new electro, so-called "N."

SHEET "C" 24.10.59

Left Pane R4/5—Retouch to lines over hill. The horizontal shading lines have been recut more or less within the confines of the several diagonal lines eliminated. This retouch is readily distinguishable from that on electro 7 so-called where the recut portions of the horizontal shading over the hill are much longer.

R5/4—Spot left margin $6\frac{1}{2}$ mm. down, $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. out.

R8/5—Short horizontal lines in front of kangaroo's ear between existing shading, suggestive of possible recutting, but why? This unit was always normal.

Right Pane R4/8—Sloping scratch for 6 mm. from right frame 5 mm. down.

Gutter 5 mm. almost vertical scratch 1 mm. right of right gutter line divided by perfs. between rows 9 and 10.

SHEET "B" 4.11.59

Right Pane R6/8—O-Ear flaw again retouched. The horizontal shading lines from O to Ear have been rather heavily recut over the width of the eliminated two flaw lines.

SHEET "D" 23.12.59

Until further sheets studied presumed to be new as no trace appears of electro flaws previously listed for other electros. Dilly Bag appears as normal plate flaw.

Both these retouches are worthwhile and we suggest they will not be plentiful.

3½d. Green Q.E. II 18.3.59

This short-lived value with type IV pips was rendered obsolete by the revised postal charges operative from 1 October 1959 and was withdrawn from sale in Brisbane about 14 January 1960. In horizontal format the 640-on plate was laid down in composites of four and the "grip indicators" in this instance are found opposite R1/1 and R8/1 of the upper and lower panes respectively of sheets "B" and "D."

The main variety, re-entry to left side of crown and "E" of monogram, is found on R1/10 lower pane of sheet "A." On sheet "B" upper pane R1/9 there is a constant spot in the right foot of last A of Australia.

On 10.7.59 sheet "D" was purchased showing a small portion of plate No. 4 on right selvedge with a vertical 1 mm. dash 5 mm. below and 6 mm. below again five Xs spaced at 5 mm. intervals.

5½d. War Memorial

This value is a 320-on plate with type IV pips. A central horizontal layout line and distinguishing extraneous markings appear between upper and lower sheets and the main varieties are:

SHEET "A"

Electro retouches R8/8 and R9/4. There are two electros affected to date and in each case the horizontal lines over the central dome have been recut to correct a plate weakness. The more obvious retouches from a philatelic viewpoint are listed in the *A.C.S. Catalogue*, but the neater retouches (our reference type (a)) are found on the sheet bearing (i) R1/6 colour spot between 5 and 2 of ½d., (ii) R10/4 excess of colour between lines two and three from top over dome.

SHEET "D"

R9/8—Minor roller shift to right frame.

R10/8—Roller shift to right frame, nurse and surrounding design.

7d. *Flying Doctor* 21.8.57

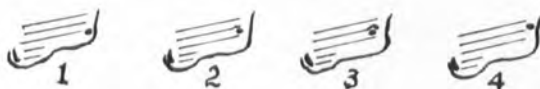
This is also a 320-on plate and the central horizontal layout line has arcs of 25.5 mm. radius below sheets "A" R10/1 and "B" R10/8 thus providing easy sheet positioning.

This value initially bore type II pips and types III and IV appeared in Brisbane on 5.6.58 and 10.2.59 respectively. The several interesting varieties are:

SHEET "A"

R1/6—Plate retouch to base line below Australia associated with weak entry. This unit, which is of great philatelic interest, also bears the "Wandering Dot" within Cape Howe and our theory, recently given prominence in a contemporary publication, is briefly recorded here:

Dot Position	Pip Type	Pip Date
1	II	21.8.57
2	II	21.8.57
	III	5.6.58
3	III	5.6.58
4	IV	10.2.59



Position 1 is held with reverse perf, and the "wanderer" moves northwest then towards northeast. We suggest the dot, being in colour, is derived from the alto plate due to the possible settling therein during growth of a piece of flexible material, e.g., fibre, the end of which slightly shifted position as each electro was prepared. We keep an open mind as to the probable cause, also incline to the view that the above record is not quite complete.

As the 7d. value is not likely to be reprinted combination strips showing the dot position with pip types are scarce and we again stress the philatelic importance of the pip developments of the past two years.

SHEET "B"

R4/6—Plate retouch somewhat similar to "A" R1/6.

SHEET "C"

R8/2—Roller shift below base under 7d. to right corner.

2s 3d. *Wattle* 9.9.59

This stamp is on a plate of 480 impressions with type V pips providing four sheets of 120 (10 × 12) and two nice flaws and their retouches are recorded:

1. Sheet with pips on left R4/9—FLAW 1½ mm. sloping line through right side of first T of wattle. The RETOUCH leaves the T thin and the surrounding colour dots and dashes lighter, while the position of the flaw is slightly discernible. As yet we are undecided whether the flaw is plate or electro, but the weak entry to frame over wattle on the adjoining unit R4/10 is a plate variety therefore constant to both phases.

2. Sheet with pips on right R5/10—FLAW 1 mm. vertical dash centrally between wattle leaves and R of Australia with smaller and lighter dashes immediately below, and in the loop of and from left foot of R of Australia. The RETOUCH only partially removes the 1 mm. vertical dash which is still evident as an excess of colour, removes the dash below, but not those on R. Is this also plate flaw and electro retouch?

Queensland Numeral Cancellations

Lest it be thought the "Brisbane Pair" collects and studies nothing but the stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia to prove our philatelic interests cover a wider field, we offer a few new ties of Queensland numerals.

Most of our evidence is on registered envelopes addressed to "The Manager, Government Savings Bank, Brisbane," and very desirable are the ties when backed up by covers complete with the registration labels.

We quote the page number of the Handbook:

P. 27	485	ARRILALAH (note spelling)	18 SE 13
P. 27	487	SPRING BLUFF (Black Reg. Label)	9 NO 12
P. 35	712	YUNGABURRA (Red Reg. Label)	13 JA 13
P. 34	323	GARGETT (Black Reg. Label)	27 JA 13
323 is shown on p. 22 as: "323 ? NORTH BRANCH 1.1.80 called KINCORA from 1.1.82." (Kincora township is 10 miles west of Pittsworth, 2 miles south of Yarranlea on the Millmerran Branch Railway.)			
P. 18	307	BULIMBA (Red Reg. Label)	20 JA 13
This confirms an unknown tie.			

EDITORIAL NOTES

Six New Fellows

Six Australians have been elected Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society, London. They are Messrs Hamilton Croaker, Sydney; Louis Frank, Sydney; P. J. Garrard, Sydney; Rev. J. C. W. Brown, Melbourne; Dr W. P. Heslop, Melbourne; H. F. McNess, Perth.

Gracious Giver

Mr H. L. White, of Belltrees, Scone, N.S.W., the creator of the White Collection in the Mitchell Library, Sydney, made possible the well-known Hill of Content Bookshop in Bourke Street, Melbourne.

The story is told by Mr A. H. Spencer, founder of the shop in his recently-published autobiography *The Hill of Content* (Angus and Robertson).

Mr Spencer, who says he aroused Mr White's interest in book collecting, relates

that he asked Mr White for an interview on one of his Sydney visits, and tells of the conversation:

H.L.W.: Why do you wish to see me?

A.H.S.: I want you to lend me a thousand pounds.

H.L.W.: Just like that, eh? All right, you can have it. What do you want it for?

A.H.S.: To go to Melbourne to set up in business. . . .

Mr Spencer adds that Mr White lent it without any security and he said, "Here is the money, Mr Spencer, try not to lose it, but if you do, try not to worry too much about it."

Then he continues, "Many, many times I have thought about H. L. White, of Belltrees, and still think about him, and shall bless his large-hearted trust and generosity while I live. . . . In three years I paid back the loan, plus seven per cent interest."



This is the famous find of "Missing Red Cross" in New Zealand's Red Cross stamp. The first row is without crosses; the third is normal. Mrs Joyce E. Murphy, of Putaruru, 15 miles from Rotorua, bought a sheet of the stamps at the local post office, took them home, and a week or so later her 12-year-old daughter spotted the absence of the red crosses. The sheet was acquired by Mr C. M. McNaught, well-known Wellington dealer, and has now been broken up.

THOUGHTS ON QUEENSLAND NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS

By H. M. CAMPBELL, F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from December 1959, page 107)

There were, unfortunately, many typographical errors or errors of transcription in Mr Porter's monograph (as well, probably, as some errors in reporting). Some of these Mr Porter pointed out in his supplementary article in *Philately from Australia*, but there are many others. For example, on page 23 the remarks "Moved to Railway Station in 1893" and "Renamed WATSONVILLE, 1.1.82" apply, not to Boggo and Ramsay (incorrectly spelled "RAMSEY"), but to Eton and Great Western respectively, several lines above. On page 32 the remark "called MANY PEAKS from July 1909," applies not to Farleigh but to Nanandu, just below. There are others too numerous to mention here, and, in any case, many of them are spelling errors which do not affect the main argument. There is, however, one error which is important:

The fifth name on page 21 reads "Rosevale." This, Mr Collas has discovered, should read "Rosedale." This is a transcription error, not a typographical one, as at the top of page 32 opposite Rosevale (a *different* place) Mr Porter has the remark "Here re-opened, see 1895," which is not correct in the circumstances. What complicates the issue is that Mr Porter has No. 525 in both places, and although this number fits Rosedale in the ordinary run, it could also fit Rosevale as a re-allocation (it was opened during a re-allocation period). For the present the writer is assuming that Rosedale is the correct allocation, but with reservations.

So far as errors in reporting are concerned, the following comments are offered:

(1) Yeppoon is reported as both 265 and 285. It is now known that 265 is correct.

(2) There is a single report of No. 307 used at Bulimba. This does not fit at all, and as it is a "tie" which neither Mr Porter nor Mr Jewell had seen, the writer is inclined to believe that 307 was used at Boulia, which fits very well.

(3) There is a single report of No. 23 used at Murphy's Creek, but this could not have been the number allotted to this post office at its opening on 18.5.68. There were no re-allocations at this period, and it has been fully established that No. 23 was in use at Roma. It could just possibly be a later re-allocation, but the writer is more inclined to believe that this is a case of a cover being wrongly read, and that the correct number for Murphy's Creek was probably No. 106. Mr Jewell had this as One Mile Creek, with a query, but this latter office, it has now been established, used No. 103. If the "Murphy's" was almost illegible, the wrong "Creek" could easily be picked.

There are still a number of problems to which the researches of Mr Collas and the writer cannot as yet suggest an answer. In particular, how the earliest numerals were allocated is veiled in mystery, as there seem to be eleven post offices to share Nos. 21 to 26. Some of these eleven may have been Receiving

Offices which did not receive obliterations. Then again, Nos. 24 and 27 (and possibly 23) appear to have been re-allocated to new post offices at various later dates, although the original post offices were still open. These re-allocations could be explained if the original numeral obliterations wore out, and the original holders received new numbers, but when the new offices received the obliterations bearing the old numbers is in most cases a problem. The cases of Nos. 23 and 24 have already been discussed, but the use of No. 27 at Ingham has still to be explained. It evidently was not allotted when the office was opened under the name of Lower Herbert on 1.7.71, but after the name was changed to Ingham on 1.1.81. This was during a re-allocation period, so it is possible that we have here a case of change of location where for some reason the original number was not passed on to the new site, but another issued.

The use of No. 425 at Bogantungan, 430 at Beaudesert, and 492 at Emerald is also peculiar, as each must have had an earlier number when they were first opened. Mr Porter suggested, so far as Beaudesert and Emerald were concerned, that the original obliterations may have met with some mishap, and had to be replaced. This may be the explanation, but there could be others.

In Mr Porter's supplementary article, he amused himself by suggesting what the original allocations were of numbers which were known to have been re-allocated to new post offices. The writer has also amused himself in this regard. There must be a certain amount of doubt about most of these, of course, but one or two seem reasonably certain, such as the original location of No. 219, which was later used as a second or replacement obliterator at Winton. This would appear to have been Cork, a homestead near Winton, which was opened as a post office on 1.7.76, and closed on 30.9.82. Evidently after Cork was closed, its obliterator was held at Winton, instead of being returned to the Comptroller of Stores in Brisbane.

Having found Mr Porter's purely chronological listing difficult to follow, the writer prepared for his own guidance a numerical list, and as this clarifies many points which appear obscure in the chronological list, it is considered worth while reproducing it here, excluding those numbers which so far have not been reported as "tied." Where necessary names and dates have been altered to conform with Mr Collas' findings, but readers will find no difficulty in finding the appropriate references in Mr Porter's list, with which that below should be read in conjunction. As it is sometimes important to know the actual name for which a "tie" is reported, where a post office had more than one name during its career, the writer has placed an asterisk before the reported "ties," where he has been able to trace these. Tentative original allocations of numerals later re-allocated are shown in brackets. Since this article was first written, many more "ties" have been discovered by Mr Purves and the writer, while a few others have been reported by Messrs Groves of Warwick, and Gartner of Melbourne. Those known to date are included in the list, but there will probably be others.

It is possible that we have been deprived of one or two other "ties" through lack of knowledge of early Queensland place names by the editor of *The Australian Philatelic Review*, who, in the issue of August 1924, writes:

"Several correspondents have written re numbers of towns such as Albany,

Merton, and others, but these are not in Queensland, and are evidently the towns in other States to which letters were mailed."

Some of the "ties" reported to him did, no doubt, fall into this category, but the fact remains that in Queensland there was a post office at Albany Creek from 1885 to 1905, and at Murton for a few months in 1878 and Marton from 1884 to 1904.

Mention has been made earlier of certain fairly well defined re-allocation periods. So far as the writer's researches have indicated, these are:

- (1) Middle 1880 to end 1881.
- (2) Late 1882 to middle 1883.
- (3) Early 1886 to middle 1886.
- (4) Late 1888 to middle 1889.
- (5) Late 1891.
- (6) (?) 1893-94.
- (7) Early 1898.
- (8) 1905-06.
- (9) Late 1910.

It is to be hoped that this article will have helped to smooth the path of others a little, and thus stimulate greater interest in what is still a difficult subject. In this way further progress may be made.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 21 <i>Re-allocation:</i> ADAVALE (opened 1.1.81). | 50 <i>Re-allocation:</i> JERICHO (opened 2.7.85). |
| 23 BUNGEWORGORAI, moved to *ROMA (1.1.64). | 51 SOMERSET, moved to *THURSDAY ISLAND (1878). |
| 24 BANANA. <i>Re-allocation:</i> MIRIAM VALE (re-opened 11.3.98). | 52 (MUNGINDI, N.S.W.) |
| 25 OXLEY CREEK, later *OXLEY (1863) | 53 CHARLEVILLE. |
| 27 *FORT COOPER, closed and moved to NEBO (1.1.64). <i>Re-allocation:</i> *INGHAM, moved from LOWER HERBERT (1.1.81). | 55 GATTON. |
| 31 ALLORA. | 57 GRANDCHESTER. |
| 32 LAIDLEY. | 58 *LILLYVALE, later LILY VALE (1866). Closed 21.6.68. <i>Re-allocation:</i> ALICE RAILWAY STATION, later *ALICE. |
| 33 MACKAY. | 59 TOWNSVILLE. |
| 35 *LOGAN RESERVE, later LOGAN (1865), reverted to LOGAN RESERVE (1866), moved to WATERFORD (1.4.77). | 61 <i>Re-allocation:</i> GREAT WESTERN, later *WATSONVILLE. |
| 36 ST. GEORGE. | 63 BOWEN, |
| 37 CURRIWILLINGHI, moved to *HEBEL (17.8.89). | CLAREMONT. |
| 38 BARCOO (ALICE DOWNS), later *BLACKALL. | 65 <i>Re-allocation:</i> KYOOMBA (opened 9.8.81). |
| 39 CALLIOPE. | 67 INGLEWOOD. |
| 40 *BURDEKIN, later *DALRYMPLE. | 68 *ROCKY WATERHOLES, later ROCKLEA. <i>Re-allocation:</i> RAVENSBORNE (opened Oct. 1906). |
| 41 YAAMBA. | 71 GERMAN STATION, later *NUNDAH. |
| 43 SANDGATE. | 72 HELIDON. |
| 46 *ROMA, moved from BUNGEWORGORAI. | 74 GOONDIWINDI (N.S.W. allocation). |
| 47 CARDWELL. | 79 *GAINSFORD, probably moved from KNEBWORTH (closed 24.5.74). <i>Re-allocation:</i> HERBERTON (opened 22.11.80). |
| 48 ST. LAWRENCE. | |

- 80 MITCHELL DOWNS, later *MITCHELL (1878). (1883), moved back to YANDINA (3.2.91).
- 81 WARWICK (N.S.W. allocation). 110 SURAT (N.S.W. allocation).
TIARO (Qld. allocation).
- 82 MARANOVA, later *FOREST VALE (1865). 111 ISIS DOWNS, moved to WITTOWN (1876), later *ISISFORD.
- 83 COPPERMINE, later *COPPERFIELD (1869). 113 PIMPAMA.
- 84 *SPRINGSURE, moved from RAINWORTH. 114 NORMAN RIVER, later *NORMANTON (1873).
- 85 DRAYTON (N.S.W. allocation). 115 *Re-allocation*: (?) *DUCKWORTH (opened Sept. 1906), later BLUFF (Feb. 1907).
- 86 NEBO (Qld. allocation). 116 *Re-allocation*: MACALISTER (opened 1.7.80).
- 87 GAYNDAH (N.S.W. allocation). 118 CAWARRAL.
- 88 IPSWICH (N.S.W. allocation). 120 CAMBOOYA.
- ? (Qld. allocation). *Re-allocation*: 121 *CLIFTON, later KING'S CREEK (26.6.69), reverted to CLIFTON (1870).
- EAGLE JUNCTION (opened 1.12.88). 124 RAVENSWOOD.
- 88 *Re-allocation*: TORBANLEA (re-opened July, 1905). 125 *Re-allocation*: CAPELLA (opened 5.12.82).
- 89 WESTWOOD. 126 OAKEY CREEK, later *OAKEY (1877), later OAKY (1885), reverted to OAKEY (1897).
- 91 *TINGALPA, later CAPALABA (1874). 127 COOMERA, later *COOMERA UPPER (1891). (c.d.s. read "UPPER COOMERA").
- 92 (?) DUNROBIN (no record of P.O. so named). 128 *DOUGHBOY CREEK, later CLYDESDALE (1.7.76), later *HEMMANT (1.10.76).
- 93 JONDARYAN. 129 GOOTCHY, later *GUNDIAH.
- 95 BEENLEIGH (Qld. allocation). *Re-allocation*: *ETON (opened 2.10.81), moved to RAILWAY STATION (1893). 130 BURENDA, later ELLANGOWAN, later *AUGATHELLA.
- 96 MARYBOROUGH (N.S.W. allocation) 131 GLADSTONE (N.S.W. allocation).
GYMPIE (Qld. allocation). *Re-allocation*: DALBY (replacement or additional canceller). CABOOLTURE (Qld. allocation).
- 97 CARRANGERA (Barcoo), later *TAMBO (1867). 133 DALBY (N.S.W. allocation).
VILLAGE OF LOGAN (Qld. allocation), later *LOGAN VILLAGE.
- 98 *NERANG CREEK, later NARANG CREEK (1866), reverted to NERANG CREEK (1869), moved to NERANG (17.2.74). 134 THORGOMINDAH, probably moved from NORLEY, later *THARGOMINDAH (1882).
- 99 EIGHT MILE PLAIN. 135 (NEW ZEALAND GULLY, also known as MOUNT WHEELER, closed 30.6.71). *Re-allocation*: WOOLGAR (opened 4.8.80).
- 100 CUNNAMULLA. 137 YANDILLA (closed 30.9.78). *Re-allocation*: BIGGENDEN (opened 1895)
- 101 (TELEMON, later CHRISTMAS CREEK, 1.10.77, closed 23.4.88). *Re-allocation*: KILLARNEY NORTH (opened 26.6.89), later *NORTH KILLARNEY (1897), later KILLARNEY (Nov. 1905). 138 WALLOON.
- 102 (BOWEN DOWNS, closed 1.11.84). *Re-allocation*: ROCKHAMPTON (replacement or additional canceller). 141 *Re-allocation*: MELLUM CREEK (opened 23.2.81), moved to *LANDSBOROUGH (24.3.90).
- 103 ONE MILE CREEK (probably later closed). *Re-allocation*: AVONDALE (opened 1898). 142 *Re-allocation*: ILFRACOMBE (opened 7.12.91).
- 106 (?) MURPHY'S CREEK. 144 YATALA.
- 107 (?) KILKIVAN. 148 BUNDABERG. *Re-allocation*: THURSDAY ISLAND (a replacement).
- 108 BURNETT INN (N.S.W. allocation), later *NANANGO (1863).
- 109 YANDINA, moved to MAROOCHY

- 150 *Re-allocation*: JONDOWA (opened 1.1.90).
- 151 CONDAMINE (N.S.W. allocation).
- 152 TAROOM (N.S.W. allocation), (later closed).
MOUNT PERRY (Qld. allocation).
- 154 (PURGA CREEK, closed 7.5.85). *Re-allocation*: ISISTOWN (opened 31.7.86), moved to ISIS JUNCTION (1892).
- 156 GEORGETOWN.
- 159 GYMPIE (replacement or additional canceller; possibly a re-allocation).
- 161 *Re-allocation*: WOOROOROOKA (opened 25.3.86).
- 163 STANTHORPE.
- 164 MOOLOOLAH.
- 165 CHARTERS TOWERS.
- 166 EULO.
- 167 YENGARIE.
- 168 TEWANTIN.
- 170 *Re-allocation*: MALENY (opened Feb. 1906).
- 171 *Re-allocation*: KINGAROY (opened 1905).
- 174 *Re-allocation*: KALLANDA (re-opened April 1906).
- 176 MILLCHESTER.
- 177 MOUNT ESK, later *ESK (1881).
- 178 COOKTOWN.
- 181 VERESDALE.
- 183 *Re-allocation*: LOWOOD (opened 15.10.88).
- 184 ROSEWOOD.
- 186 *Re-allocation*: LAKE'S CREEK (re-opened 24.12.88).
- 187 (TINGALPA, closed Sept. 1909). *Re-allocation*: MOUNT ALFORD (opened Nov. 1910).
- 192 WESTEND, later *WEST END (1875).
- 193 MAYTOWN.
- 194 (KELVIN GROVE, closed 30.4.83).
Re-allocation: BRANDON (opened 6.9.83).
- 196 HAWKWOOD.
- 198 ARAMAC.
- 199 *BOOLBURRA, probably moved from GAINSFORD.
- 201 ROCKHAMPTON (N.S.W. allocation). *Re-allocation*: EIGHT MILE PLAIN (a replacement).
- 202 (FREESTONE CREEK, closed 31.8.76). *Re-allocation*: *DALVEEN (opened 16.5.81), probably moved from CHERRY GULLY.
- 203 *GIN GIN, later GINGIN (c. 1900).
- 204 TOOWONG.
- 205 INDOOROPILLY.
- 206 *Re-allocation*: CROYDON (opened 20.3.86).
- 209 THORNBOROUGH.
- 210 DUARINGA.
- 214 TOOWOOMBA (N.S.W. allocation).
- 215 SOUTH BRISBANE, later MELBOURNE STREET (1890), reverted to SOUTH BRISBANE (1892).
- 218 (or 213) GOWRIE JUNCTION.
- 219 (CORK, closed 30.9.82). *Re-allocation*: WINTON (replacement or additional canceller).
- 221 *GEHAM, moved from HIGH-FIELDS.
- 224 DINGO.
- 226 ALBION.
- 227 CAIRNS.
- 229 MORVEN.
- 230 *WALKERSTON, later ALSATIA (1879), reverted to WALKERSTON (1882).
- 232 MAIDA HILL (closed 1897). *Re-allocation*: *BELL (opened 1898), later MALAKOFF.
- 233 T.P.O., SOUTHERN & WESTERN RAILWAY.
- 234 T.P.O., SOUTHERN & WESTERN RAILWAY.
- 236 MARYBOROUGH (replacement or additional canceller, may have been a re-allocation).
- 237 *Re-allocation*: STANWELL (opened 1.10.80).
- 239 *Re-allocation*: ANAKIE (opened 1898).
- 242 SWAN CREEK.
- 244 HENDON.
- 245 OXLEY WEST, later *SHERWOOD.
- 246 *Re-allocation*: ROCKWOOD (opened 20.7.86), later *TANGORIN (1.1.90).
- 252 JUNDAH.
- 253 (IMBIL, closed July 1905). *Re-allocation*: TOOGŌLAWAH (opened July 1905).
- 254 *KILLARNEY, later KILLARNEY SOUTH.
- 255 BLACKWATER.
- 256 PORT DOUGLAS.
- 258 FORTITUDE VALLEY.
- 259 JIMBOOMBA.
- 261 *Re-allocation*: STONY POINT (opened 8.10.80), later *WIN-DŌRAH.

(To be continued)

REVIEWS

The Australian Commonwealth George V Halfpenny by Professor V. W. Dix and A. W. Rowntree. 48 pp. 7¼ x 9¼ in. Published by H. E. Wingfield and Co., 392 Strand, London, WC2., and distributed by The Hawthorn Press, 15 Guildford Lane, Melbourne, C1. Australian price, 15s. 6d.

This very fine work is discussed by Rev. J. C. W. Brown in *The Trail of Commonwealth* (p. 3).

The Stamp Collectors' Annual, 1960. Edited by Tom Morgan. 88 pp. 5½ x 8½ in. Published by Harris Publications Ltd, 27 Maiden Lane, Strand, London, WC2. Price 3s 6d. (stg).

The Stamp Collectors' Annual comes again with a variety of articles which succeeds in providing something new for all real collectors.

Nothing, of course, surpasses Mr L. E. Scott's "Ten Best Designs of the Year." This year Australia comes back into the list with the new platypus, "A truly superb shilling stamp," but there are some unkind words for the recent 3d.

There is also a list of the 10 best for 1948-57 and the suggestion they might be placed in order of merit in the next issue. If so, all selected by Mr Scott for his controversial but widely-read feature over the years might well be included.

Philately's immortal stamps are remembered in articles on the reign of Leopold I of Belgium, and on Perot of Bermuda. For the present day, there are items on Modern Mongolia and Laos; for the postal historian, Palestine Used Abroad, and for the thematic collector, Television on Stamps.

Philatelic Societies' Year Book, 1959-60. 144 pp. 4½ x 7¼ in. Published by the British Philatelic Association, 3 Berners Street, London, W1. Price 2s. (stg).

This useful reference book can rightly be described as a hardy annual—its size increases every year.

The listing of societies and their syllabuses is a valuable and interesting feature. Societies listed which caught the eye included the Union of Polish Philatelists in Great Britain (membership 60), Felag Frimerkjásafnara (Iceland), The Torch (Jordan) and the Selangor Philatelic Society, Malaya (148 members).

The Philatelic Societies' Year Book should be known to all philatelists going to the London International Exhibition, or spending any time in Britain.

The Postal History of Western Australia, 1829-1901 by George E. Owen. 38 pp. 9½ x 7 in. Published by The Hawthorn Press, 15 Guildford Lane, Melbourne. Limited edition, 300 copies. Price, 7s. 6d.

Students of Western Australia were delighted when Mr George Owen's story of the Postal History of Western Australia was published in a series of articles in *Philately from Australia* from December 1957 to December 1958.

There were no reference books on the subject and Mr Owen was covering completely new ground.

Because of the interest shown in these articles Mr Owen was persuaded to use them as the basis for the book now under review.

In this volume, he traces the development of Western Australian Postal services from the appointment of the first Postmaster at Fremantle in 1829 right up to the Commonwealth period.

The story also gives an insight into the early life of the colony, the trials and tribulations of the first settlers, and I am sure will prove interesting, not only to the postal historian, but to anyone having an interest in the early history of the colony.

Much additional information has been acquired since the original articles appeared, and has been incorporated into the book.

The early postmarks of Western Australia are well illustrated, whilst the story of the numeral obliterators is well worth reading, and Mr Owen's detective instincts trace the unknown to logical conclusions.

The chapter on the Travelling Post Offices is of absorbing interest to those devotees of "T.P.O.," and they will find much of interest in the description of the 14 travelling post offices listed.

Two chapters deal with all the post offices in Western Australia which opened between 1854 and 1913, and provide the town-name collector with a list of almost 800 post offices, together with the necessary information in regard to name changes, etc.

The provisional hand-stamps and Saving Bank cancellers are dealt with in a separate

chapter, and an Appendix lists fully the period during which the grid and numeral cancellers were used, together with a listing of the range of stamps on which one can expect to find these cancellations.

It is a most interesting work. Mr Owen is to be congratulated on the excellent manner in which he has presented his material, which is completely authentic, as he obtained a great deal of his information from the official files of the Western Australian Post Office. I think it should also be mentioned that quite apart from his "official" knowledge of the subject, Mr Owen's collection of Western Australian postal history gained a medal at ANPEX, so he is more than qualified to write on the subject.

A.G.B.

A Philatelic Study of the Olympic Games, Part Three, by Ernest Trory. 14 pp. 9½ x 10½ in. Published by Crabtree Press Ltd, 57 Tivoli Crescent, Brighton, 5, Sussex, England. Price 10s. 6d. (stg).

Part Three of this comprehensive study of the Olympic Games and their philatelic impact comes a year after Part Two (*P. from A.*, March 1959, p. 25) and it is noted that Part Two went to a second edition.

This latest section deals mainly with the Paris Games of 1924. The special issue is adequately dealt with, shades and varieties being listed, diagrams of the more important varieties and of the layouts of sheets and pages are included. Proofs, essays and postmarks are recorded and the surcharges for Syria and the Lebanon dealt with.

The section closes with the International Olympic Congress, Prague, 1925, and carries forward a valuable project for those who link their love of stamps with their love of sport.

Thirty-fourth Annual Resume of the H. R. Harmer Organisation, Season 1958-59. 36 pp. 7½ x 9½ in. Published by H. R. Harmer Ltd, 41 New Bond Street, London, W1. Price 2s. (stg).

Harmer's welcome annual reports that its London sales for the season totalled £454,530, (up £162,000) a British record, and only exceeded by New York during the

Caspary sales. New York's total was \$782,686.

The Sydney Office says two Australian Commonwealth collections realised more than £2000 each and an Australian-owned British Commonwealth K.G.V collection more than £1000. Overseas buyers were increasingly active.

A feature of this year's prices was the number of items which realised more than £1000 or its equivalent in dollars, excluding the Caspary material. These included: The St. Maur mint block of 43 1d. black, Plate III, £4400; Canada, 12d. Laid paper unused, £2800, and used, £2000; 7½d. Yellow-green, July 1857, imprint pair, £2000; Austria, scarlet Mercury Newspaper stamp, with almost full gum, \$4500; Reunion, 1852 15c. and 30c. on letter sheet, \$4400; India, 4a., 1854, Die II 2-2½ mm. spacing, half-sheet (12), £1550; Ceylon, 4d., dull rose, S.G. 9, unused, £1450; U.S.A., 1918 24c., airmail, inverted centre, £1450.

Caspary realisations of Australasian material included: N.S.W., 1852 (3 Dec.), part sheet of 38 3d. dull yellow green laureated, £2500; New Zealand, used strip of four 1d., S.G. 1, £1600; South Australia, 4d. deep ultramarine "3-Pence" omitted, £750.

Zumstein Europa Katalog, 1960. 43rd edition. xvi 1464 pp. 8 x 5 in. Published by Zumstein & Cie, Berne, Switzerland.

The Zumstein catalogue is now in sight of its half century and this year's edition fully maintains the high standard which has given the catalogue its reputation as a reliable guide to the European market.

The new edition is 48 pages thicker than its predecessor and there is evidence of thoroughgoing revision. It is especially valuable in Australia because of the extensive nature of its listings and its records of the issues of various stamps in miniature sheets.

Most noticeable increases are in Vatican City, Italy, West and East Germany and the Saar.

The catalogue is in German, with English introduction, and the prices are in Swiss francs—£A.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

Members' Diary

- March
1 Old Victoria Group
Library and Conversation
17 Sicily: Mr L. Frank (Sydney)
31 Seventy Choice Sheets: Six Exhibitors
- April
5 Library and Conversation
21 Egypt: Mr G. T. Houston
Visit by Ringwood Society
- May
3 Library and Conversation
19 Postmarks of Papua and New Guinea:
Mr M. Bulley
26 Sale by Tender
Annual Competition Entries Close
- June
7 Library and Conversation
16 Annual Competition
- July
5 Library and Conversation
21 Annual Meeting
Presidential Display: Mr J. Gartner

Fiji

At the December meeting the President, Mr J. Gartner, gave a talk on the stamps and postal history of Fiji. The display which followed was notable for the high quality of the material, most of which had not been exhibited before. It included a number of the *Times Express* and the two sets of imitations printed by the proprietor of *The Fiji Times*; a selection of the "V.R." overprints, with varieties, and also the later surcharges.

The "War Stamp" of 1916-19 was shown inverted in both values and the only known strip of 12 with the overprint missing. Another item was the horizontal strip of 8 of the first Postage Due, consisting of three 1d., ½d., 4d., and three 3d. Only 31 sheets of these Dues are in existence.

The "Cake Fair" was shown in different colours and also a tete-beche pair, and postal history concluded the display.

Australia

Commonwealth Specialists provided a varied and interesting display for the January meeting.

Mr P. W. Simonson led with a display of the

better-known varieties. This opened with two used copies of the 2½d. Kangaroo, with "1" omitted in the fraction, of which only 34 copies are known. This was accompanied by a North-West Pacific Islands overprinted sheet showing the position in the sheet (No. 33)

Another Kangaroo variety was the 6d. "Broken Leg" in blue. These were followed by the 5s. Bridge re-entries, the King George V and Sydney Bridge forgeries, Kingsford Smith varieties and the Sequicentenary "retouched tail". A plate-number (6) pair of the Lord Howe Island provisionals on cover and the 1s. 4d. K.G. V deep turquoise

Mr Simonson said he joined issue with the editor of *The Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue* regarding the deep turquoise "which has been done a grave injustice in the catalogue."

Mr J. R. W. Purves supported him and said there were, in fact, two "deep turquoise" and that he and others could identify the distinctive shade of the sheet which gave the variety its name and recognition.

Mr G. Skewes provided a surprise when he presented his identification of the "Die II" units in the 1d. King George V plate. He showed enlargements up to 25 diameters of the various Die II stamps, but said he found 12 diameters the most satisfactory.

Mr Skewes showed that the angle of the piece of metal creating the distinctive flaw varied from 21 to 65 degrees, and he identified the various stamps down to a difference of 3 degrees.

Miss J. Resch featured the varieties of 1½d. K.G. V, the 5½d. Emu and the 2d. Jubilee among a very extensive selection.

Mr C. G. C. Hodgkinson displayed a wide selection of Kangaroo Controls to the 5s., plate numbers of the 6d. Kookaburra in blocks of eight and a copy of the 2½d. Kangaroo printed on the gum.

Victoria

Mr J. R. W. Purves spoke at the February meeting on "Victoria—New Light on a Primitive Past." The talk was basically on his own researches into the stamps of Victoria and his philosophy of collecting. He sketched the progress made in the study of Victorian stamps and illustrated the talk with a specially selected number of sheets from his collection.

THE ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

Members' Diary

- April
12 U.S.A. combined display, arranged by Miss M. Salier.
- May
10 J. W. Dovey Memorial—selection from the collection of the late J. Whitesd Dovey. Occupied Europe and Post-War Germany: Mr R. H. Markham.
- June
14 British Solomon Islands and their Postal History: Mr R. H. Taylor.

France

Mrs P. M. C. Rock displayed items of Postal History of France and stamps issued prior to 1900 by that country, at the November meeting. Mrs Rock is well-known for her enthusiastic approach to her hobby and this display delighted viewers with its charm and quality.

Among the many interesting items were pre-stamp covers (the earliest, 1836), Paris postmarks; railroad and ship postmarks; special cancellations; Bordeaux plates reconstructed; balloon post; pigeon post; newspapers with stamps attached; tete-beche pairs; and many first issues in wonderful condition.

Introducing her display, Mrs Rock referred to the debt philately owes to France: the first stamp catalogue, the first stamp album, the first philatelic exhibition (Paris World Exposition, 1867), first major air carriage of mail, the perforation gauge, even the name of our hobby itself.

Christmas Meeting

Four members combined to present the display at the Christmas social meeting in December.

Miss E. M. Kendall showed early U.S.A. Christmas Seals, together with unusual items and varieties of Australian and South African issues; Mr M. L. Challen included miniature sheets of Switzerland, notably Pro Patria and Stamp Centenary. Mr G. L. Rogers gave a very complete showing of the air mail stamps of Sudan, including the uncommon 50 piastre Gordon and the overprints. The display was completed by Mr Louis Frank showing portion of his "Religion on Stamps" collection, emphasising the Christmas theme.

Postal History of Australia

Mr J. C. Thompson, F.R.P.S.L., presented a portion of his extensive collection of Australian Postal History at the January meeting.

Included were pre-stamp covers of West Australia, New South Wales and early cover of Wellington, New Zealand, dated 1842. All in fine condition. Then followed a selection of Queensland imperfs., including pair of 1d. postmarked Surat,

strip of three of 2d., and cover with three of the 2d. value.

The New Guinea section included early covers with the German Empire issues, before the colonial issue, seal postmarks, the only known copy of Buka postmark, and presentation sets to 2 Mark.

South Australia was represented with first issue. Early Penrhyn, covers of Papua with Queensland stamps, New South Wales covers, Sydney Views on covers, and Forgeries, all found their place in the display.

From West Australia were pre-stamps from Perth, Australind, Vasse, and York; Lake Lefroy and Cycle Express on covers; postmarks 1 to 35 complete.

Early Victorian covers showing postal rates completed a most interesting display.

Commonwealth

Mr W. C. Hansen's display in February incorporated a specialised approach to modern issues of Commonwealth.

The display was based on the lesser-known varieties, variations in lay-out and collecting in an advanced form.

Among the items shown were the rejected and approved designs of the 1957 Christmas stamp, treatment of the master die for the Flying Doctor issue, and Olympic Torch retouches not previously reported. The ½d. Kangaroo 1951 with the "cracked" imprint in all stages and the 1949 issue showing the four retouches of the ear flaw.

Geo. VI included the rare "dry ink" printing of the 1d. Queen, Die 2 and numerous retouches, and 1s. Lyrebird on toned paper. The Q.E. re-constructed booklet plate and plate numbers finished the display.

Discussion Groups

A feature of the meetings held this year has been the re-introduction of discussion periods which were tried very successfully a couple of years ago.

In January Mr C. Ashworth Spreat read a paper on "Unnecessary issues and abuses as practised by many stamp issuing countries." Mr. Louis Frank's paper on "Stamp Quality" was presented at the February meeting.

Both papers were followed by very animated discussion and it is hoped to continue bringing matters of interest for discussion during the coming year.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the club will be held on Tuesday, 12 July 1960.

Nominations for the various offices in the club must reach the Secretary, Box 1751, G.P.O. Sydney, no later than 28 June 1960.

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★ **SOCIETY'S OFFICIAL ORGAN:** *Philately from Australia* is posted free to all members.

★ **MEETINGS** held on the third Thursday of each month at 7.45 p.m. in its own premises, 6 Avoca Street, South Yarra, Melbourne, SE1.

★ **EXCHANGE BOOKS** circulate regularly within Australia to interested members.

★ **SALE BY TENDER BRANCH** enables members to buy and sell stamps not considered suitable by the vendor for exchange sheets. Postal bids accepted from members for any item.

★ **COMPREHENSIVE LIBRARY** is open to members on Meeting Nights or by arrangement with the Librarian. Library Catalogues are sent to all members.

★ **CURRENT FILES** of the leading overseas philatelic journals printed in English are available on the tables at the Society's rooms.



★ **QUARTZ LAMP & MICROSCOPE** and a Reference Forgery Collection are available.

★ **MONTHLY DISPLAYS:** It has always been Society policy to obtain the best available collection for display at Society monthly meetings. Lectures and Discussions by leading Philatelists enable members to improve their philatelic knowledge.

★ **PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE:** This Society includes experts on almost all branches of Philately, whose advice is always available.

★ **THE SOCIETY'S FEES** are: Entrance Fee: £5/5/-; Annual Subscription: City and Metropolitan Members, £3/3/-; Country and Interstate Members, £1/10/-.

★ **ALL COMMUNICATIONS** SHOULD be directed to Miss M. FARLEY (Hon. Sec.), Box 222, G.P.O., Melbourne, C.1.

THE ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

FOUNDED 1890

★ **OFFICIAL ORGAN:** *Philately from Australia* is posted free each quarter to all members.

★ **MEETING ROOM:** The Club meets at 8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in the Board Room, 1st Floor, Trust Building, 155 King Street, Sydney.

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

★ **LIBRARY:** A library, comprising over 1000 volumes, is available for use of members by arrangement with the Librarian. Periodical supplements to the Library Catalogue are issued to members.



★ **MONTHLY DISPLAYS:** Displays of interesting collections and philatelic items are a feature of the monthly meetings of the Club. It is the policy of the Club to bring to the members the best available displays, whilst Lectures and Discussions help to further the philatelic knowledge of members. The advice of members, expert in most branches of philately, is always available when requested.

★ **THE CLUB'S FEES** are: Entrance Fee £1/1/-; Annual Subscription due 1 July. Members residing within County of Cumberland £1/1/- (Juniors, i.e., under 18 years, 12/6). Members residing outside County of Cumberland 17/6 (Juniors 10/6).

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