

# PHILATELY

*from*

# AUSTRALIA

A CHRONICLE OF AUSTRALASIAN STAMPS  
AND THEIR COLLECTORS



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# Philately *from* Australia

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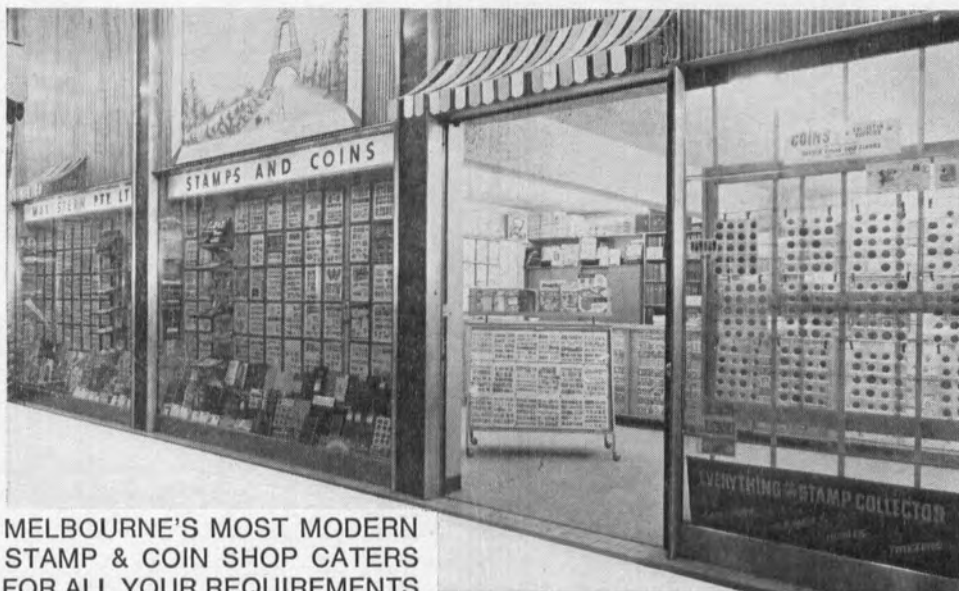
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# PHILATELY *from* AUSTRALIA

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## THE ROLL OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS

The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, unquestionably the premier honour in philately, has completed fifty years.

Any commemoration of its golden jubilee has been marked by the classic British qualities of dignity and restraint, but the occasion is one when one might survey what the Roll has become and its place in philately.

In the half-century since 1921, 158 names have been added to the roll, making a total of 198.

The original signatories represented eleven countries. The number of countries which have now provided signatories is twenty-seven.

Countries represented in the first list, with the number of signatories and the corresponding number now is:

Great Britain, 24 (91); United States, 6 (28); Australia, 2 (11), New Zealand, 1 (5); Belgium, 1 (5); Switzerland, 1 (5); South Africa, 1 (5); Italy, 1 (4); Norway, 1 (2); Japan, 1 (2); India, 1 (1).

Australia's foundation signatories were David H. Hill, foundation president of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, and Mr A. H. Basset Hull. The New Zealand signatory was Mr A. T. Bate.

Senior living signatories are Mr Frederick Jarrett, of Canada, who was elected to sign the Roll in 1935 and Mr J. R. W. Purves, of Melbourne, who was elected in 1937.

The number of living signatories is 52, living in the following eighteen countries: Great Britain, 17; United States, 7; France, 4; Canada, 3; Denmark, 3; Australia, Holland, Italy, Sweden and Switzerland, 2; Brazil, Costa Rica, Egypt, Eire, Finland, Iran, Japan and New Zealand, 1.

The only living woman philatelist on the list is Mrs Doris M. Green (1970), (Great Britain), the third woman signatory. The first woman in the roll was the British aero-philatelist, Miss W. E. Penn-Gaskell (1938), and Mrs Louisa B. Dale (U.S.A., 1956), followed her father, A. F. Lichtenstein.

Father and son on the roll are Charles J. and Stanley Phillips, H. R. Harmer and C. H. C. Harmer, Dr E. Diena and Dr M. Diena.

The signatories to the Roll, by countries, are: Great Britain, 91; United States, 28; Australia and France, 11; Belgium, New Zealand, South Africa and Switzerland, 5; Canada, Holland and Italy, 4; Denmark, Germany and Sweden, 3; Japan, Norway and Portugal, 2; Argentine, Brazil, British Guiana, Costa Rica, Eire, Egypt, Finland, Greece, India and Iran, 1.

The Roll was established by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain at Harrogate in May 1921, with a list of original signatories numbering 40, headed by King George V.

Its foundation developed from the Newcastle-on-Tyne Congress of the previous year when Mr F. H. Vallencey, proprietor of *Stamp Collecting*, on behalf of those interested in the idea, suggested "some permanent recognition of philatelic merit."

The Permanent Executive Committee of the Congress established a sub-committee to consider, and, if practicable, to prepare and establish a suitable scheme.

The sub-committee produced the idea of "a Congress Roll of Distinguished Philatelists" and this was approved by the Permanent Executive Committee.

"The scheme provides for the establishment of a 'Roll of Distinguished Philatelists' instituted by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, and is intended to be of world-wide application, but limited to living philatelists."

But on the Corinthian Pillars bordering the roll are the names of 42 earlier philatelists considered worthy of the honour. This list is also international.

"It is considered," said the committee, "that this token of remembrance of the great names of the past will enhance the dignity and philatelic value of the honour to be conferred upon the living."

Nomination for election is made by philatelic societies affiliated to the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain or by those whose names are on the roll.

In this way, the British-based institution maintains a world character.

The Permanent Congress Executive Committee decided the number to be added to the Roll that year and the nominations are considered by the seven-member Board of Election. It then reports its decisions to the Permanent Congress Executive Committee.

Qualifications "for the honour of enrolment on the Roll" are that a nominee must be a philatelist distinguished by having done service to philately, either by research work, made available to others, or by service to Philately in some public or other capacity.

Nominations must be accompanied by "a full and adequate statement of the status and qualifications" of the nominee.

Information must be provided as to each of the following:

Research work published for the benefit of Philately.

Formation of notable collections which have been exhibited or displayed for the benefit of Philately.

Journalistic work or the reading of papers.

Organisation or propaganda work in connection with Philatelic Exhibitions, Congresses, or Societies.

Australian signatories have been:

A. F. Basset Hull (Sydney), 1921.

D. H. Hill (Melbourne), 1921.

H. L. White (Scone, NSW), 1922.

W. R. Rundell (Melbourne), 1924.

E. D. E. Van Weenan (Sydney), 1925.

A. J. Derrick (Melbourne), 1928.

F. C. Krichauff (Adelaide), 1932

J. R. W. Purves (Melbourne), 1937

Rev James Mursell (NSW), 1946.

W. H. C. Bromfield (Perth), 1950

H. M. Campbell (Melbourne), 1969

Of these, Messrs Hill, Rundell and Derrick were foundation members of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, and the other Melbourne signatories also belonged, as did Mr Krichauff and Rev Mursell.

## CORRESPONDENCE

*Gilbert and Ellice Islands,*

$\frac{1}{2}$ d King George V

Sir.—Reference to the note in *Philately from Australia* (December 1970, p. 102) the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d Gilbert & Ellice King George V stamp inscription.

While most of my copies of the MCA stamp do have the shorter inscription (16.4 by 1.25 mm), I have copies with a larger taller inscription (16.7 by 1.5 mm).

The larger type seems to exist on supplies from Plate 1, judging by the shade and by the c.d.s. on used copies. My dates are 12 December 1912 and 19 July 1913.

My earliest date of the shorter inscription is 13 January 1914.

A puzzling feature is that all three "Specimen" stamps I have are the smaller inscription.

Does anybody have "Specimen" stamps with the larger inscription and can anybody pre-date or ante-date the dates I have given? Or can give evidence from Plate Number copies?

Yours etc,

D. H. VERNON

Editor of "Pacifica",  
Pacific Islands Study Circle of  
Gt. Britain.

# The Trail



# of Commonwealth

*Conducted by O. W. (BILL) EUSTACE*

## *Australia, 1 Cent Queen's Head*

From time to time I have noted that portions of panes of this stamp with total or partial offset are being offered at auction. Recently I saw a complete pane of 100 with strong offset which had been purchased at a Victorian post office some months ago, so evidently there were a number of them about.

## *Australia, 7 Cent Queen's Head*

In the September "Trail", I described a block of this stamp submitted by Mr B. C. Darke, of Canberra, on which there was a coloured spot over the "L" of Australia on Row 7, No. 4 from pane "E" with coloured "pips" under Row 10, stamps 1 and 10. In the same block there were two other items not mentioned at that time, these being an extension of the right bottom frame line of Row 8, No. 3, and a line from the lower frame to the Queen's chest on Row 8, No. 4. Mr Darke has now sent a matching block which differs in having, additionally, a large blob of colour on the foot of the "L" of Australia on Row 7, No. 3 (making the lettering almost appear as "AUSTRALIA") which he advises is constant.

## *Australia, 50 Cent Dampier*

I have seen a block of this stamp on which there were only minor streaks of "helecon" which suggests the possibility of finding some fully "non-helecon" examples amongst commercial mail.

In a Melbourne dealer's stock I noted a block with the perforation guide "pip" half-way down the left side and, further to the left again, a horizontal dash. When he rotated the block through 90 degrees for me I realized that the dash at which I had been looking was actually Plate Number 1.

Although scheduled for withdrawal on the eve of issue of the corresponding denomination in the Pioneer theme, supplies must have been extremely short toward the end for I know of several postmasters who received double the quantity of 25 cent stamps when they requisitioned for the 50 cent Dampier. Among several correspondents from New South Wales Mrs B. Todd wrote to

me regarding some re-cut lines on stamps 5 and 6 of Row 3 and a white break in the cloud running to the top frame on stamp No. 7 of the same row. Evidently I was just too late for this item as I was able to locate only one horribly ill-centred example in Melbourne despite an immediate check of counter stocks at most of the main city post offices.

#### *Australia, 75 Cent Cook*

Readers will know that, for some months past, many Melbourne post offices have been receiving their supplies of this stamp in panes of 50; also that this stamp will become obsolete when existing supplies are exhausted. I was, therefore, pleasantly surprised to find a block with the varieties ACSC Q69d on Row 2, Nos. 1 and 2 and the Plate number 3 above Row 1, No. 3. The left-hand selvedge was wide and ragged which would indicate that it came from a sheet of 100 torn in half. I immediately started a search around the city and suburbs and eventually succeeded in locating all four positions of this number, that is to say above stamps 3 and 8 of Row 1 and below the corresponding stamps on Row 10.

#### *Australia, \$1 Flinders*

Our old friend Row 10, No. 8 continues its run of interest. On recent supplies there is a large "hole in the sea" to the right of the \$1 sign and damage to the "N" of Flinders on Row 10, No. 9. There are also matching blocks, with the damaged N on R10/9 but without the "hole in the sea" on Row 10, No. 8—apparently a case of "before" and "after", as both states exhibit a small white spot in the extreme bottom left corner of Row 10, No. 8.

#### *Australia, 7 Cent Accountants' Congress*

Mr B. C. Darke, of Canberra, supplied a list of ten minor items, of which one of the most prominent is an orange mark passing through the right frame of Row 3, No. 1. This can be collected conveniently with a small retouch over the "U" of Australia on Row 4, No. 2.

#### *Australia, 7 Cent Christmas 1972*

The introduction of the new press has produced an interesting selvedge marking on the left hand panes of this stamp which are "candy-striped" right down the left-hand side in the colours used in printing; this should be of considerable assistance in checking for missing colours during the course of production as even the smallest interruption will show up as a break in the "candy-stripe".

Mr Darke advises that the two central panes have no markings but the right hand sheet has an alignment "T" on the right side. On the centre sheet, upper pane, there is minor weakness of the "2" of 1972 on Row 8, No. 3.

Under ultra-violet light the back of the paper shows a brilliant white reaction not unlike the "white paper" version of the 1971 Christmas stamps. The long narrow format of the sheets has created strong adverse comment from postmasters, being difficult to handle and too large for the existing stock books.

*Australia, 35 Cent Christmas 1972*

A preliminary scan over a sheet of these stamps revealed a number of minor marks. Pending closer inspection, I have selected a constant blemish in the top left corner of the blue area on Row 2, No. 2 as the best of a not very inspiring bunch. Conveniently in the same block there is a white spot on the edge of the blue frame above the "L" of Lance on Row 2, No. 1. not unlike the white spot on the 4 cent Banking stamp.

*Australia, Prime Minister Booklets 1972*

The Victorian Edition V 72/1 was reported in September "Trail" and I have since seen the packing slip which, apart from the rubber-stamped Edition No. 1/72, was similar to the earlier slips for Victorian Edition 3/71. Some stapled booklets of Edition V 72/1 have been on sale in Melbourne. Edition G 72/1 non-tropical booklets have only the one slogan, "For your urgent Interstate mail", on the inside of the back covers.

*Australia, 12 Cent Aerogrammes (ordinary)*

There has been a change in the lay-out of the top portion of the packing slip which now reads (in larger lettering) "RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA NOTE ISSUE DEPARTMENT 115 VICTORIA PARADE FITZROY VIC 3065" — the changes being "Department" for "Branch" and the transposition of "3065" and "Vic". The colour of the printing remains green.

*Australia, 12 Cent Aerogramme (Christmas 1972)*

The revised layout of the packing slip for the 12 cent aerogrammes described above has also been used for the new Christmas aerogramme but the printing is in pale blue and it is further overprinted in magenta at the foot "CHRISTMAS 1972".

*Papua New Guinea 70 Cent Booklet*

From Papua, in the form of the 70 cent booklet containing five pairs of the 7 cent Constitutional Development stamps, comes the nearest thing to a missing colour I am ever likely to possess. The black printing on the outside of the cover is entirely missing resulting in the absence of the emblem, the flag, the wording "10 x 7 cent stamps" and the Oceania Indent Agency advertisement for slide projectors.

To all my readers and especially to those who have taken the trouble to write and to contribute items of news, may the coming year again be full of philatelic interest.

# AUSTRALIA: THE 9d KANGAROO "HARRISON PLATE"

Responding to Mr J. R. W. Purves' invitation in the September issue (p. 65) to discuss an item submitted by Dr W. E. Neff, Jnr, of Cheshire, Connecticut, U.S.A., two leading Commonwealth specialists have given their views:

Following receipt of a block of six of the Small Multiple Kangaroo stamps with top selvage attached, together with a query from an American correspondent, Mr Purves has compounded an ingenious theory in which he postulates the possibility of the so-called Harrison 9d plates being a mixture of die 2A and die 2B stamps somewhat similar to the 3d Kangaroo plates in which fifteen of the cliches in the upper plate left pane are die 2 and the rest of the 225 cliches in both plates are die 1.

He does not think that he has created a mare's nest but has no doubt that Kangaroo enthusiasts will tell him if he has. While no longer collecting Australian Commonwealth stamps I still have the affection for these issues that many years of collecting and studying has engendered and feel that I can enlist myself in the ranks of so-called Kangaroo enthusiasts.

About five years ago a query was received by the Australian Commonwealth Collectors Club of NSW from an American member about the 9d Harrison Kangaroo stamp raising a somewhat similar question to that which Mr Purves' article in the latest issue of *Philately from Australia* discusses. The letter was passed on to me for comment and as I could not find any evidence in my material confirming the member's theory I replied to it privately and there the matter rested.

The material forwarded to Mr Purves is a block of 3 x 2 with top selvage still attached. If the variety described on stamp No 5 is constant the block comes, I think, from the top two rows of the left pane of the upper plate. If the top selvage is imperforate this will confirm this statement. Although I no longer possess the same amount of material that enabled me to refute our American correspondent's theory some years ago, by a fortuitous chance I

still possess more material of the 9d Harrison die 2B plate than of any other Kangaroo stamp:

1. Three N.W.P.I. blocks of 30 stamps in each block constituting the entire Right Pane of the upper Plate and 1-30 of the Left Pane, Lower Plate.
2. A complete lower sheet Ash printing of the 9d. Third wmk.
3. An imprint block of four from the lower sheet, C of A wmk.
4. An imprint block of eight from the lower sheet C of A wmk.

Of course the N.W.P.I. printing predates the Ash 3d wmk. printing and the Ash sheet 3rd sheet predated the C of A imprint block printings.

The three chief characteristics of the die 2B stamps that are usually looked for are:

- (a) The so-called die 2B break in the upper frame over ST of Australia. This is a very fine almost hair-line fracture and understandably could easily be filled in any printing, not necessarily only in a heavy printing.
- (b) The failure of the top horizontal line of shading to meet the right inner frame line at the top right corner. This is a small break but wider than the die 2B break in the top frame and is also subject to obliteration during manufacturing and printing but not to the same degree as flaw (a). There are, of course, in some stamps, retouches of the top right corner which obliterate this landmark.
- (3) The rounded top right corner. I have always ignored this feature in the 9d value as it is supposed to develop after the preparation of the 9d Harrison plates. In fact in the majority of the

cliches of this value the top frame extends very slightly beyond the line of the right outer frame, giving the corner a somewhat pointed appearance.

In identifying these 9d die 2B stamps I have always found that while the presence of the die 2B break in the top frame was an absolute indication of the stamp's classification, much more reliance had to be placed in the presence or absence of flaw (b).

Considering flaw (a) first. In the N.W.P.I. printing, the earliest available for this study, I find flaw (a) is totally absent in Upper Plate Right Pane Nos. 1-60 in Nos. 15, 17, 25, 29, 31, 32, 44, and 49.

In the Lower Plate Left Pane, flaw (a) is totally missing in Nos 1-30 in Nos. 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 29, 30.

In the Ash printing in the Lower Plate Left Pane, flaw (a) is totally missing in Nos. 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 27, and 31, 32, 33, 34, 37, 40, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 52, 53, 59.

In the Ash printing Lower Plate Right Pane, flaw (a) is totally missing in Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 13, 16, 19, 26, 31, 34, 35, 37, 40, 41, 44, 45, 46, 47, 50, 51, 55, 57.

In the Lower imprint plate block of four the flaw (a) is present in all stamps.

In the lower imprint block of eight, both imprints being C of A, flaw (a) is absent from Nos. L.P. 53 and R. P. 49, 50, and 56.

Comparing identical positional blocks in the N.W.P.I. and Ash printings: Lower Plate Left Pane Nos. 1-30, we find that in the N.W.P.I. a Harrison printing flaw (a) is totally absent in 13 stamps.

In the Ash printing flaw (a) is totally absent in 18 stamps but the only stamps in which flaw (a) is totally absent in both printings are Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18.

In the C of A imprint block of four, the

The note by Mr J. R. W. Purves in the September 1972 issue of *P from A*, in which he describes a block of six of the 9d Kangaroo, Small Multiple Watermark, submitted by Dr W. E. Neff, Jr (U.S.A.), showing die variations opens up a particularly wide field for enquiry.

As Mr Purves points out, the gradual deterioration of the original die during its

earlier printing of the two imprints, the flaw is not absent in any stamp but in the imprint block of eight flaw (a) is totally absent in L.P. 53 and R.P. 45, 50, and 56.

Thus in the Lower Plate R.P. 50 is the only stamp in this area in which flaw (a) is absent in two printings—Ash 3rd and C of A printings.

Now examine for flaw (b) the break in the upper R corner of the inner frame lines. In the N.W.P.I. it is not absent in any stamp in the Upper Plate Right Pane.

In the Lower Left Pane Nos. 1-30 it is absent in Nos. 9, 10, 14, 18. In the Ash sheet in Lower Left Pane flaw (b) is absent in Nos. 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 18, 21, 30, and 35, 46, 47, 48, 55, 60. In the Right Pane of this sheet flaw (b) is absent in Nos. 7, 21, 37, 41, 49, 52.

In both C of A imprint blocks flaw (b) is missing from R.P. 49. Comparing similarly placed position blocks, flaw (b) is absent in Lower Plate Left Pane Nos. 9, 10, and 18 and in Lower Plate Right Pane No. 49 in two different printings. But if we now check for both flaws together we find that L.P.L.P. Nos. 9, 10 and 18 are the only stamps with both these flaws in two different printings. However, stamps L.P.L.P. Nos. 9 and 10 both have strong retouches in the upper right corner and cannot be taken into consideration. This leaves one stamp only, L.P.L.P. No. 18, without die 2B characteristics.

Admitting that there is no block here considered that is identically placed with that from which Mr Purves drew his conclusions and that no material from the upper plate left pane has been examined I am still impelled to state that I cannot agree with Mr Purves' theory, admirable though it sounds.

Yours etc.,

L. ABRAMOVICH

long period of direct use in the manufacture of individual moulds for printing plates (something like 5000 altogether) was such that each new fault that developed became an invariable and permanent feature of the die from that moment onwards.

As a result of many years of research by students both in Australia and Overseas, there are now recognised eight states of

this die. These, and their distinguishing features, are:

1. Original state. Break in inner frame at left alongside top of value. This is "Die 1" and was used for the ½, 1d, 2d and 3d (225 only) values. In all 1065 units.
2. Reworked state. The above fault corrected. This is "Die 2".
3. Small break in Queensland coast and another under words of value at right. This developed during the use of Die 2, while making the main lot of moulds for the original 1913 issue — therefore 2 and 3 are usually classed together as Die II. Used for 1d, 3d (15 only), 4d to 2/- (We are not here considering the bicoloured high values.) In all, 2055 units.
4. Reworked state. In an attempt (not quite successful) to repair the above, new flaws were created, the most important being a break in the inner frame opposite N.W. of W.A. Also distortion to upper right corner and break above left of words value. This is known as "Die 2A". Used only for certain new units inserted in the 1d plates during 1914. In all, about 10 units.
5. As 4, but further damage to upper right corner, slight damage to frame over "ST", and slight damage to upper left corner. This was the state of Die 2A used for five 1914 plates of the 1d and for the 2d and 6d substituted clichés. In all, 602 units.
6. As 5, but inner frame in upper right corner broken. Used for new upper plate of 2d. In all, 120 units.
7. As 6, but break in outer frame over "ST". Top frame uneven at right, white dash over last letters of value. This (once described as the "Harrison Die") is now classed as "Die 2B". Used for two "plates" each of 3d, 6d, 9d and 1/- and one of £1. In all 1080 units.
8. As 7, but right upper corner now rounded. Uses for some replacement units in the 3d and 6d plates. In all, about 30 units.

After this, the die apparently deteriorated further, for it was never used again. (It has long been my opinion that, after the two occasions when Cooke reworked the die (see 2 and 4 above) he neglected to *re-temper* it, thereby accelerating its collapse.)

Now, when examining any stamp printed

from electros derived from these moulds, we must always recognise that *absence* of any of the above die flaws must place that mould as *prior* to the *first* appearance of that flaw.

So, in the case of the 9d stamps described, not only are they not Die 2B (i.e., state 7), but they are not state 6 (no break in upper right corner), nor state 5 (damage to frame over "ST") — which would surely have been mentioned by Mr Purves if it had existed). So we come back to state 4 and 5 and I believe that had these stamps shown the break in inner frame at left, Mr Purves would have mentioned it. If there is no break, then these moulds belong to state 2 or 3 — and, in other words, we are back to the *original* (1913) 9d.

The "Harrison Plates" (although the 9d is now thought to have been made by Cooke but to have been first *used* by Harrison with his imprint) were recognised as "different" at the time of their issue and quite early in the twenties, when Australian research began to develop, the die difference became recognised. It was then stated, and despite all that has emerged from fifty years of research, has never been contradicted, that *every* unit of these plates showed what is now known as the Die 2B characteristics. Only if the damage had occurred *during* the making of the plates would it be otherwise — and even then the pre-damage units would necessarily show state 6.

So where are we? This small multiple watermark item undoubtedly exists — and *it must somehow be accounted for*.

This is my suggestion: When John Ash, who had always a reputation as a perfectionist, took over the Stamp Printing Office in 1927, he found that the only Kangaroo die available was in such a bad condition as to be un-usable. So he continued to use the plates available to him, hoping for some later alternative. In 1929, he used these Kangaroo plates for the first printings on "Small Multiple" paper and these were duly noted by philatelists as being from the same plates as before — 6d, 9d and 1/- being Die 2B.

In 1931 the Postmaster General announced that "remaining values" in the Kangaroo series would be replaced by a series in new fauna designs. (Before the end of the "Small Multiple" period, the 1/- was actually replaced, and the 6d a few months afterwards.) So the 9d Kangaroo's days were numbered.

But, early in 1932, the full impact of the

great depression, and a change of government pledged to economy in public spending, led to the abandonment of the "new stamps" programme, and the 9d was "saved".

It is my belief that, after what was intended to be a *last* printing of this value, probably in 1930, the existing plates were dismantled and stored away. The die could not be used so, when it was realised that this value would still be needed, all the available printing material was examined, and the best re-assembled to form new "plates".

Or perhaps it was just a question of replacing a few damaged units. But somehow, I believe that a mixture of Die 2 moulds from the 1913 plates, and Die 2B moulds from the 1919 "Harrison Plates" were brought together to produce this "very clearly printed" printing on the Small Multiple watermarked paper.

In May 1932, further, the 9d appeared on C of A watermarked paper. Who is going to be first with startling news regarding *that* particular issue? Whatever it is, it is sure to add complications to what is already a pretty problem.

*There is now more than one case for investigation.*

*Later:* I have now been fortunate enough

to acquire a single mint copy of this stamp, with Small Multiple watermark, which is undoubtedly printed from Die 2 (not Die 2A as stated by Mr Purves) — in its first condition, before the flaws reported under "state 3" appeared. It must, without any doubt be from part of the 1913 plate in its *original* condition, and therefore fits my suggestion that a late printing on Small Multiple paper was made from a "*composite* plate", consisting of part of the original plate and part of the Harrison plate.

In further support, this specimen shows a number of small marginal coloured flaws and dashes which can easily be explained as having been caused by type-metal "bits" inserted to hold this cliché in position — very probable if such a composite plate was made:

I have never seen the C of A watermarked stamp as anything but Die 2B, but I have always thought it had a slightly abnormal look. I now wonder whether, after the obviously "emergency" Small Multiple printing, Ash may not have prepared a *new* "plate" from a number of units of, say, 30 impressions, four such electros to each sheet — this avoiding the use of the damaged die or of the (probably) damaged portions of the Harrison plate."

Yours, etc.,

ALEC A. ROSENBLUM

Mr Purves comments as follows on the two foregoing letters:

Dr Abramovitch, by plotting the panes from the earlier Harrison printings (with the exception noted), has done some very useful work and has generally established that the suggestion made by me, viz., That at least one of those plates contained, from the *beginning*, two die states cannot be upheld.

He has, however, refused to recognise the decided *abnormality* (by comparison with what went before) of the block of six described. It cannot be ignored and *there can be no doubt whatever of its abnormality*.

The solution, whatever it is, must be looked for in the sheets of the *later* 9d printings on the last two types of watermarked paper employed.

Mr Rosenblum, on the other hand, *has* recognised the interest of the block in question and has advanced some interesting possibilities. He and other students will now be delving into the *later* printings, and a final answer — so far as the stamps are concerned — may be possible. One can, however, only make a guess (however probable) at what *actively* motivated John Ash. As those who knew him will agree he gave nothing away to enquirers and maintained a consistently Scottish reticence in relation to all the things students would like to have known.

The only criticism I have regarding Mr Rosenblum's comments are small ones.

He mentions the use of "moulds" in the building up of the probable composite plate but I think he must mean "electros". My belief (and my information) is that in *that* period no lead *mould* (as such) was ever used more than once for the growing of electrotype "shells". The new plate (or master plate) suggested by Mr Rosenblum must, in the circumstances he outlines, have consisted of cut-out areas comprising the most suitable *electrotype* impressions available (both from the original and later electrotypes). I would also have some reservations on his belief that earlier students must (before 1931) have gone over carefully *every* impression on the 9d (and other *higher* value) sheets. But those are small points.

Mr Rosenblum has now pointed out that further explanation may well involve *two* more major grooves. All in all, the subject *was* worth bringing up, and I hope more will eventuate.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### NEW SOUTH WALES NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS

Following my article in the March issue, and my letter in the June issue, additional items have been shown to me by Mr J. L. Amiet:

#### CHAPTER III

##### List of Known Types (Second Supplement)

- 56 After 1b add 1a.  
171 2a now seen.  
1348 Add 5.

#### CHAPTER IV

Page	No.	Name	Remarks
25	R.152	WOMBAT	
35	729	MERANBURN	
39	?872	COLDSTREAM (ex BROADMOUTH CREEK)	
40	938	TANJA	
43	?1055	FREEMANTLE	
50	(1359)	PEARCE'S CREEK	Cover seen with no Pearce's Creek c.d.s. but with 1359 and Cowlong and Lismore backstamps.

#### CHAPTER V (Second Supplement)

Here there is a new type and some earlier dates:

##### Type 4Db

- 103 MANLY (3/1/01)  
405 COOTAMUNDRA (9/5/99)  
1089 LEICHHARDT (7/11/02)

##### Type 5

- 18 MUDGEES (7/9/94)  
44 YASS (23/12/88)  
186 NORTH SYDNEY ((9/12/93)  
1348 MOSMAN (date indecipherable)

Yours etc.,

H. M. CAMPBELL



# PACIFIC PARAGRAPHS

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

Convenor's address: 30 Warrane Road, East Roseville, N.S.W. 2069

## SAMOA

### *The Bisect 1/- Stamp ("Palm Tree Issue" Perf. 12½) of 1895*

Further information has been forthcoming in relation to the article on the 1/- bisect published in *Philately from Australia* (December, 1970, p. 102).

A cover recently acquired by a member of the Circle has an added inscription reading, "All stamps at Samoa burnt. One now on envelope was issued for 2½d". This inscription is in a different handwriting to that of the sender of the letter.

The letter is addressed to Mr L. F. Clayton, 17 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW, in bottom left corner per "S.S. Alameda". The cover is dated "Apia 16 May 1895" and backstamped "Sydney 27 May 1895".

Readers who have not read the previous article should know that Stanley Gibbons in their Part I Catalogue state that "The 1/- rose (perf. 12½) was bisected, and each half used as a 6d stamp from April to June, 1895".

This article is attempting to prove this statement is in error and that this bisect was, in fact, used as the 2½d rate.

## BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS

### *Vanikoro*

This small island in the Santa Cruz group of the Solomon Islands is not heard of very frequently, nor do we see many stamps or covers with cancellations indicating Vanikoro as the place of origin.

The island is well south-west of the main groups comprising the British Solomon Island Protectorate and is, nearer to the New Hebrides.

The Post Office is recorded as opening in the year 1924 and closing some twenty years later in 1944. Only one canceller is known and this is 29 mm in diameter with "Vanikoro" in the top segment and "British Solomon Islands Ids" at the bottom with the date in one line in the centre. There is no line or other mark separating the name of the island from the name of the group. The letters and figures are bolder and much larger than is usual.

We have seen dates 27.3.28 and 19.10.38 on K.G.V issues, and 12.3.38 on Silver Jubilee stamps.

Now we have seen two covers with manuscript "Vanikoro" markings in ink, both franked with pairs of S.G. 61 1d stamps, with the date "4.5.45", the year after the Post Office closed. Both are addressed to Regents Park in NSW and one bears a "Sydney, NSW" cancel dated 19 Jun 1945.

If any readers have a similar cover with added detail as above, the Circle would appreciate them contacting the Convenor.

# PHILATELY *from* AUSTRALIA

## I N D E X

Vol. 24, 1972

*A CHRONICLE OF AUSTRALASIAN STAMPS  
AND THEIR COLLECTORS*



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# A NEW LOOK AT WESTERN AUSTRALIA

By MOGENS JUHL

(Continued from June 1972, p. 50)

## PART 3

### DE LA RUE PRINTINGS ON WATERMARK CROWN CC PAPER: 1864-81

*Plates:* For these printings, the five Perkins, Bacon plates were used as previously, viz, of 240 impressions for the 1d and of 120 for the values 2d, 4d, 6d and 1/-.

*Paper:* Following a study of the quality of the paper I found that there is a marked *difference* between that used for printing in 1864 and that used during the period 1871-81.

*The H-paper for the 1865 issue* was handmade, greyish, hard, thin and transparent.

According to the D.L.R. Records (p. 270) the Chafford Mills, in the year 1867 replaced the Soho Mill as the supplier of paper and a *new* pair of moulds were ordered. Although it is not specifically stated, the quality and appearance of the paper delivered in 1864 led me to believe that the Soho Mill produced handmade paper.

The other factors characteristic of the H-paper are easy to see. It should be noted that the 4d perf. 12½ and the 1/- only exist on H-paper and that no value perf. 14 exists on this paper.

*The M-paper for the 1872 and later issues* is machine-made, white, soft and of medium thickness.

It is only a comparative statement when I describe the M-paper as white, since it tends to be yellow in tone. In later years, from about 1880, it seems to be slightly *thinner* than before and also to be less yellow. The part ageing plays makes it inadvisable to separate printings on the sole basis of the quality of the M-paper.

When discussing the handmade and machine-made papers with Mr Purves he mentioned that he thought that there were also differences in the Crown CC watermarks used for the two types of paper. In view of there being two suppliers and also of the differences in the impressing of the watermark design (for the handmade "moulds" were used and for the machine-made a dandy roller) this would not have been surprising.

Examination of numerous copies has confirmed that *two* types of CC watermark *are* to be found. That on the handmade strongly resembles (and may be the same as) that found in the Ceylon handmades. That on the machine-made *is* definitely *smaller* and of *plainer* design. In the first case (the handmade) the

broadest part of the Crown is some 2 mms wider than in the second. Likewise the letters "CC" extend about 2 mms further than in the second case.

Unfortunately the rather poor *visibility* of these watermarks, particularly in the case of the machine-made variety, and also the general *lack of centring* of the watermark design, makes investigation rather more difficult than in other cases. More work is, however, being done on this subject and will be incorporated at a later stage.

*Position of Watermarks:* The paper was manufactured in the size fitting the 1d plate of 240 impressions (20 x 12) and the watermarks were placed in a *sideways* position. It follows that the watermark on the 1d stamps is *always* placed sideways.

The other values were printed from plates of 120 impressions (10 x 12). These were practically *square*. As the sheets were cut in halves, they could be fed into the press either with the watermark in the sideways or the vertical position.

This gives four normal positions, sideways watermark with the cross of the crown pointing to the word "WESTERN" or to the word "AUSTRALIA" and vertical watermark *upright* or *inverted*.

However, at times, printing occurred on the *back* of the paper, resulting in four *reversed* positions of the watermark.

It should be noted that in 1864 the printers did not pay much attention to the position of the watermark, though the 1d normally has watermark pointing to "WESTERN" and the other four values have the watermark upright. However, other positions (including reversed) are often seen.

From the time printing commenced in 1871 the rule for the 2d and 6d was to feed the press with sheets with the watermark in the upright position.

The procedure was changed in 1876 and from that time the watermark is in a sideways position.

In the section dealing with the separate printings, it will be noted that the 3rd printing of both the 2d and 6d were printed with watermark upright and watermark upright and reversed respectively in even numbers, and that the 1d, 5th printing, and the 2d, 6th printing, were printed in even numbers with watermark pointing to "WESTERN" and to "AUSTRALIA" respectively.

It is obvious that half of the sheets after being cut in halves were turned upside down in the first situation and turned 180 degrees in the second situation.

The only practical explanation for this is that two men alternated in feeding the press with sheets, one pointing one way, the other pointing the other way. If that had not been the case the point would have been lost due to the different times deliveries were made.

*Perforation:* All values of the 1865 issue are perf. 12½. The pins in the perforator were in a bad state, resulting in rough results. It is difficult to obtain perfect copies, particularly of the three high values.

From 1871 the perforator also measured 12½. It may well have been the same machine, fitted with new pins. The results are better, varying from clean to ragged.

The surface-printed 3d stamp issued in 1872 was perforated 14 and will be dealt with at a later date. The 14 machine was brought into use in 1876 for the 1d, 2d and 6d when the last deliveries of the 3rd, 4th and 4th printings respectively of these three values were being prepared for shipment. The 1d and 2d

were again issued perf. 12½ in 1880, but apart from that later printings were perf. 14.

*Colours:* An exact description of colour is always a difficult matter, however careful one tries to be. Difficulties arise because of shades but are *also* partly due to the fact that hardly ever do two persons view them (or name them) in the same way. Also, the viewing conditions (day or evening light, etc.) play a role but that colours should invariably be judged in clear daylight I do not agree.

Colourwise, all five values, except the 2d, are fairly *easy* to work on, and even the 2d causes no great problems when all factors in the descriptions below of the individual printings are taken into consideration.

*Printings:* My study of the D.L.R. Records, especially the statistics published by Basset Hull, and the few known orders from the P.M.G., have convinced me that De La Rue, from 1871 on, printed in batches of *one printer's ream* of 516 sheets or multiples thereof. (The figure 516 allows for a certain waste.) The reason was that the P.M.G., having introduced the system of ordering De La Rue to deliver stamps at quarterly intervals in fixed quantities, made these so small that to make the orders economically acceptable the firm must have decided to print quantities *sufficient to cover one to two years' requirements at a time*.

The article published in 1930 by F. C. Krichauff tabulating his dated 1d and 2d stamps has been of great assistance. Though he refrained from going further than to separate the stamps along the lines traditionally known, he made the important additional distinction, in the 2d value, of distinguishing the watermark sideways and vertical positions. With the dated records of his material I have incorporated the similar material in my own holding and find that it all fits into a general picture.

*Late use:* In 1883 it was found that considerable quantities of stamps printed on Watermark Crown CC paper were still in stock. Printing of stamps on paper with Watermark Crown CA was temporarily stopped and the remainders were issued to the post offices. When dealing with the stamps on CA paper, I shall go further into this. Here I only need say that all values on CC paper were widely used during 1884-88. When such copies are dated or cancelled with a canceller not in use prior to 1884 they are easy to recognise.

#### THE PRINTINGS OF THE FIVE VALUES ON WATERMARK CROWN CC PAPER

##### *The One Penny Value*

*1d, 1st printing,*

*perf. 12½, bistre, on H-paper with watermark pointing to "WESTERN".  
Issued mid-1865; 994,320 printed.*

According to Hist. Col. (p. 52) 4,000 sheets (960,000 stamps) were ordered on 16.5.1864. The D.L.R. Records show that delivery took place on 22.11.1864 of 994,320 stamps in the colour called *bistre*. Printing was on the H-paper and normally with watermark pointing to "WESTERN", though the other three positions pointing to "WESTERN", reversed, pointing to "AUSTRALIA" and to "AUSTRALIA", reversed, do occur.

The earliest date seen is 19.9.1865. It was in use to the end of 1874 with the exception that during 1872 it was replaced at the larger Post Offices by its predecessor, 1d no wmk., *vide* page 49. Late use has been seen.

Early in 1866 it was found that 4,906 sheets were in stock, equal to about eight years' requirements. This figure shows that the 1d no wmk., in considerable quantities, must have been in the hands of the P.M.G. Apparently he was requested not to order excessive quantities in the future. In any case it was not until 17.4.1874 that he again ordered 1d stamps. At that time his stock was running so low that he had (about six months later) to order a surcharging of the 2d with "ONE PENNY", see 2d, 3rd printing.

*1d, 2nd printing,*

*perf. 12½, olive-bistre, on M-paper with wmk. pointing to "WESTERN".  
Issued early 1875; 120,000 printed.*

The P.M.G. on 17.4.1874 ordered 24,000 1d stamps to be delivered quarterly. This order was effected on 21.7 and 10.11.1874. On 17.12.1874 the order was increased to 72,000 stamps and within days after receipt of the letter (or on 17.2.1875) De La Rue were able to fill this order. It is most unlikely that they were able to fill the order so quickly *unless surplus stamps had been in stock*. This means that 120,000 stamps or 500 sheets had been delivered, thus underlining my previous statement that printing took place in batches of 516 sheets at a time, averaging 500 good sheets or multiples thereof.

Although I have no dated evidence I believe that this 1d in the *unrecorded olive-bistre shade* belongs here in the system. It is a shade of which I so far have only seen very few copies. They are all on the M-paper in use at the time and all have wmk. pointing to "WESTERN". There is no doubt that the shade is *original* and not a changeling.

*1d, 3rd printing,*

*A. perf. 12½, yellow-brown, on M-paper with wmk. pointing to "WESTERN" or to "AUSTRALIA". Issued early 1876; 216,000 printed.*

*B. perf. 14, red-brown, on M-paper with wmk. pointing to "AUSTRALIA".  
Issued early 1877; 144,000 printed.*

This is *another unrecorded shade* of which most likely 1,500 sheets were printed, the standing order having been trebled. That also accords with the approximate occurrence of stamps from this printing and the issue of the 4th printing.

The 3rd printing, perf. 12½, is somewhat scarcer than the 6th printing in ochre, perf. 12½, while the 3rd printing, perf. 14, is as scarce as the 2nd printing in olive-bistre.

Known dates indicate that A. perf. 12½ (deliveries were made on 31.5, 14.10 and 22.12.1875) was issued early in 1876, while for B. perf. 14 (deliveries of 29.3 and 23.6.1876), 9.2.1877 is the earliest known date.

The M-paper occurs A. perf. 12½, with wmk. pointing to "WESTERN" and (on about one-third of the stamps) with wmk. pointing to "AUSTRALIA". The explanation is that the sheets were cut in halves. One-half was fed into the press pointing one way, the other half pointing the other way. The one-half

with wmk. pointing to "WESTERN" and *some* of the other half with wmk. pointing to "AUSTRALIA" were perf. 12½. The remainder of the latter half were at a later date perforated 14 to be ready for deliveries in 1876.

It is noteworthy that this is the *first time* the 1d was issued perf. 14.

*1d, 4th printing,*

*perf. 14, bistre, on M-paper with wmk. pointing to "WESTERN". Issued late 1877; 480,000 printed.*

The bistre, not quite as deep as in the 1st printing, came from a large printing on M-paper with wmk. pointing to "WESTERN".

Considering that the earliest date on record is February 1878, and the time elapsing before the 5th printing was issued, I believe that there were five deliveries between 27.9.1876 and 12.10.1877, each of 72,000 stamps, totalling 360,000 stamps or 1,500 sheets.

Late use of the 1d from 1884 was dominated by stamps from this 4th printing.

*1d, 5th printing.*

*perf. 14, brownish ochre, on M-paper with wmk. pointing to "WESTERN" and to "AUSTRALIA" in even numbers. Issued mid-1878; 240,000 printed.*

The printing is smaller than the previous bistre, A good pointer for identification is that fifty per cent have wmk. pointing to "WESTERN" and fifty per cent to "AUSTRALIA".

The earliest date known is June 1878, indicating deliveries of 72,000 stamps on 29.1.1878, 21.5.1878 and 17.8.1878 *plus* 24,000 stamps from a consignment of 31.12.1878, thus bringing the total printed to 1,000 sheets.

*1d, 6th printing,*

*perf. 14, ochre, on M-paper with wmk. pointing to "AUSTRALIA". Issued 1879, 180,000 printed.*

The colour ochre is close to the colour of the 7th printing, but they are easy to separate because of the difference both in the perforation and position of the watermark.

It is difficult to be certain about the number of stamps printed but my estimate is 180,000, consisting of 129,600 from the delivery of 31.12.1878, and the main part of a delivery of 72,000 on 17.4.1879.

Copies with wmk. pointing to "WESTERN" have been seen.

*1d, 7th printing,*

*perf. 12½, ochre, on M-paper with wmk. pointing to "WESTERN". Issued late 1879; 175,920 printed.*

As mentioned the colour here is very close to that used for the 6th printing, though it is somewhat *deeper*, sometimes even dark ochre.

I have a copy dated in October 1879, although the earliest recorded by Krichauff is from April 1882.

I estimate the number of stamps delivered at 175,920 or practically the same

as the previous printing. These consisted of 21,600 from the delivery on 17.4.1879, 77,520 delivered on 22.7.1879 and 76,800 on 8.10.1879.

Copies with wmk. pointing to "AUSTRALIA" are common.

*1d, 8th printing,*

*perf. 14, olive-yellow, on M-paper, with wmk. pointing to "AUSTRALIA".  
Issued early 1880; 535,920 printed.*

These "yellow" stamps stand out clearly and are the commonest of the 1ds.

It is quite easy to divide them into groups of shades but as my dated material, even from the early months of 1881 intermingle, I doubt that there was more than one printing.

Wmk. pointing to "AUSTRALIA", reversed, and to "WESTERN" (and also to "WESTERN", reversed) occur.

#### THE TWO PENCE VALUE

*2d, 1st printing,*

*perf. 12½, yellow, on H-paper with wmk. upright. Issued mid-1865, 906,000 printed.*

Hist. Col. (p. 52) states that 8,000 sheets (960,000 stamps) were ordered on 16.5.1864. According to the D.L.R. Records 906,000 were delivered for shipment on 22.11.1864, in the colour called *yellow*. The printing was on H-paper, normally with wmk. upright but often met with wmk. upright and reversed. I would not be surprised if inverted watermarks also exist.

The earliest date I know is on a cover in my collection, clearly dated 6.6.1865. This, by the way, is the earliest date I know on any of the five values. Late use has been seen.

*2d, 2nd printing,*

*perf. 12½, orange-yellow, on H-paper, which seen from the back appears orange, with wmk. upright. Date of issue not established; 81,360 printed.*

To complete the original order of 960,000 stamps De La Rue's had to make a second printing, which was delivered on 9.12.1864.

The colour is deeper in shade than the darkest from the 1st printing and has a distinct orange tone. A better test is that the stamps from the 2nd printing, seen from the *back*, are orange.

As in the 1st printing this can be met, quite frequently, with wmk. upright and reversed.

*2d, 3rd printing,*

*perf. 12½, yellow, on M-paper with wmk. upright and wmk. upright and reversed respectively in even numbers. 718,680 printed, minus surcharged stamps. Date of issue uncertain but mid-1872 seems to be indicated.*

On 21.2.1871 the P.M.G. suggested that a supply of 250,000 stamps should be ordered. His attention was drawn to the finding from 1866, mentioned under the 1d, 1st printing, and the order was reduced to a quarterly supply of 48,000 stamps (Hist. Col. p. 53).

It seems that De La Rue's printed 6,000 sheets (720,000 stamps) of which 718,680 were forwarded in fifteen deliveries from 6.6.1871 to 21.7.1874.

The colour is yellow, bright and clear to dark. The printing is easy to separate from the 1st printing because of the clean perforation and the M-paper.

The watermarks met are fifty per cent upright and fifty per cent upright and reversed. The reason for this is that after the sheets were cut in halves, half of them were turned over before being fed to the printing press. Exactly the same happened with the 6d, 3rd printing, printed at the same time.

I have found a copy with wmk. inverted and reversed, but so far I have not seen any with wmk. inverted.

#### THE SURCHARGE "ONE PENNY" on 2d.

*perf. 12½ and otherwise as the 3rd printing above. Two overprintings: I, high and II, low. Issued Dec. 1875; estimated 48,000 printed of each. Double and treble overprints are known.*

A delay in 1874 to order supplies of 1d stamps compelled the P.M.G. to arrange a surcharging later that year. The earliest date of use known is 31.12.1874.

There is *nothing* regarding the overprinting to be found in the archives, nor is the number overprinted recorded.

It is, however, known that in the year 1876, 178,000 stamps of the 1d value were sold. Considering that the surcharge had a life of about six months and in view of its scarcity, I believe that a fair estimate would be that 800 sheets in all were overprinted, equal to 96,000 stamps.

A closer look at the overprints show that there must have been *two* overprintings.

*The first overprint (I) has the "ONE PENNY" rather regularly extending over the "ST" in "WESTERN" to the "RA" in "AUSTRALIA".*

*In the second overprint (II) the "ONE PENNY" has been placed where it really belongs, viz, in such a way that it normally obscures the words "TWO PENCE".*

The two overprints appear in even numbers, and these again with the two watermark positions (already noted under the 3rd printing) in even numbers.

Overprint II *double* with Service Puncture, is in the White coll. in the Mitchell Library. There is also a copy with overprint II *treble*, of which another copy was sold in the T. W. Hall sale in 1964, and yet another, but with Service Puncture, was in the Burrus sale in 1962.

*Beware of common forgeries, even with inverted overprint, on stamps wmk. Crown CC and CA, mostly perf. 14 but very occasionally perf. 12½ and 12. The middle bar on both "E's" is clear on the originals but coarse and rather larger on the forgeries.*

2d, 4th printing,

A. *perf. 12½, dark yellow, on M-paper with wmk. upright. Issued 1875; 288,000 printed.*

B. *perf. 14, dark yellow, on M-paper with wmk. upright. Issued late 1876; 192,000 printed.*

It is difficult to separate the 4th printing A. perf. 12½ from the 3rd printing and when I state that the colour is dark yellow it means that it looks rather "muddy".

A. perf. 12½, consisted of 4 deliveries of 48,000 stamps each, extending from 10.11.1874 to 18.6.1875 and deliveries of 96,000 each on 14.10 and 22.12.1875. The M-paper I have only seen with wmk. upright.

B. perf. 14 — the first occurrence of 2d perf. 14 and the only one with a vertical watermark — must come from deliveries of 96,000 stamps each on 29.3.1876 and 23.6.1876.

B. perf. 14, also exists with wmk. *sideways* as F. C. Krichauff mentions two copies, one dated 2.1.1877 and the other in May 1877. Whether these are with wmk. pointing to "WESTERN" or to "AUSTRALIA" is not mentioned. Whatever they are, copies will be difficult to relate to the 4th printing unless they are dated, but this point needs clarification.

I have one copy of B. perf. 14 with wmk. *inverted*.

*2d, 5th printing,*

*perf. 14, yellow, on M-paper with wmk. pointing to "AUSTRALIA". Issued mid-1878; 863,600 printed.*

The yellow colour varies considerably but the printing is easy to recognize as it is the *only* perf. 14 with wmk. pointing to "AUSTRALIA".

This was a large printing, consisting of eight deliveries of 96,000 stamps each, extending from 27.9.1876 to 17.8.1878 and another, of 195,600, on 31.12.1878.

Late use after 1884 is often seen.

*2d, 6th printing,*

*perf. 12½, yellow, on M-paper with wmk. pointing to "WESTERN" and to "AUSTRALIA" in even numbers. Issued late 1880; 294,600 printed.*

Again, this is a printing which is *easy* to recognize as it is the *only* perf. 12½ with watermark *sideways*. Furthermore, the wmk. points to "WESTERN" and to "AUSTRALIA", each comprising half of the printing.

Three deliveries were made, 96,000 stamps on 17.4.1879, 99,600 on 22.7.1879 and 99,000 on 8.10.1879.

*2d, 7th printing,*

*perf. 14, yellow, on M-paper with wmk pointing to "WESTERN". Issued early 1881; 679,680 printed.*

This printing was forwarded to the colony in seven deliveries, extending between 31.12.1879 and 8.7.1881, in quantities of about 97,000 stamps each.

The position of the watermark makes it easy to recognize stamps from this printing. I have found several copies with this wmk. position but reversed.

I doubt whether the 7th printing consisted of two or more printings. So far I have not been able to detect any constant shade differences which would enable us to differentiate although some are in a rather pale, dry shade.

(To be continued)

## REVIEWS

*The Maritime Postal History of Norwegian Steamships*, by F. C. Moldenhauer. 32 pp. 6½ x 9½ in. Published by Robson Lowe Ltd, 50 Pall Mall, London, SW1 Y 5JZ. Price £1.

The ship letters of Norway, with postmarks, cachets, or manuscript inscriptions are an interesting field, with some real rarities and now we are presented with a comprehensive study, in English, and with more than 100 illustrations.

It is also a field where detailed knowledge is essential and the detail is intricate.

The major part of the work covers the services from 1827 to 1911. The Government Steamship Services 1827-70, the Private Steamship Services, 1827-1911, and the Regular Steamship Services, 1864-91 are fully dealt with. Each company is studied separately.

Also in the volume is *Sandosund, A Travelling Post Office*, a postal history study by E. C. Hannevig. This shows that eight postmarks were used on mail postmarked aboard steamers operating services between Norway and North Sea ports, through Sandosund from 1852 to 1870.

A ready-reference index to all steamships, and their markings and to the services and their markings completes a valuable, thorough, and interesting work.

*Literature of Cinderella Philately*, by H. E. Tester (Cinderella Stamp Club Handbook No. 1). 104 pp. 5½ x 8½ in. Obtainable from E. W. Stannard, 26 Somerset Road, Harrow, HA1 4NG, England. Price £2.50.

The formation of the Cinderella Stamp Club in 1959 and the quality of its journal, the *Cinderella Philatelist*, have brought new depths of interest to their field — locals, fiscals, railway, steamship and telegraph stamps, essays, proofs, and reprints, forgeries and bogus issues, hotel posts, prisoners of war and concentration camp posts, exhibition labels and Christmas seals.

Now the club has produced its first handbook, the work of its secretary. This is an index to the literature on these subjects.

It is an impressive list. Although Mr

Tester specially denies any claim to completeness (in fact, there are no *P from A* references), he has aimed at providing sufficient references to enable a collector to pursue his particular field of interest.

The material is presented under 28 headings, allowing quick reference to what the reader is seeking. Each opens with the list of publications on the subject and this is followed by references to the articles in periodicals.

It is a brave and valuable effort, which Mr Tester hopes to update with annual supplements and for which collectors will be indebted to him for the great amount of work he has put into it.

As other Cinderella philatelists provide him with new data and as the years go by, the work will become increasingly valuable. Mr Tester has made a useful addition to the philatelic indexes.

*Zumstein Europe, 1973*. 56th Edition. 1332 pages. 7 x 9½ in. Published by Zumstein et Cie, Zeughausgasse 24, Berne, Switzerland. Price \$3.00.

*Zumstein Schweiz Liechtenstein, 1973*. 283 pp. 5 x 8 in. Published by Zumstein et Cie, Zeughausgasse 24, Berne, Switzerland. Price \$1.50.

Zumstein is acknowledged as providing a balanced view of the European stamp market and this year the higher auction prices for classics and the increasing demand generally is reflected in the new prices. To some extent, this is due to the shifting of investment money to stamps because of the unrest on the international money markets.

The increased demand has extended to the higher values and scarcer sets to World War I. Overall, the editors say, there has been a "rather calm but firm tendency."

Spanish Andorra and Rumania have been completely revised.

The Switzerland-Liechtenstein catalogue has been completely overhauled this year. Considerable increases in the prices for classics are evident. Prices for blocks of four and first day covers have advanced but modern issues appear to have had no important alterations.

*Swiatowa Wystawa Filatlistyczna* (World Philatelic Exhibition) (Polska 73) 80 pp. 5½ x 8 in.

This is the prospectus for Polska 73, which will be held in Poznan, Poland, from 19 August to 2 September 1973. It is in Polish, English, Russian, French and German. The Australian Commissioner is Mr T. W. Kuzma, Box 113a, Melbourne, 3001 and the New Zealand Commissioner, Mr C. W. McNaught, Box 166, Wellington.

*New Hebrides. A resume of the Postal History and Cancellations of the Islands with prices realised of highlights of the R. A. Baldwin collection sold by Robson Lowe Ltd on 22 February 1972.* 12 pp. 6½ x 9½ in. Published by Robson Lowe Ltd, 50 Pall Mall, London, SW1 Y 5JZ. Price 60p.

When handling the famous collection of Mr R. A. Baldwin, of Sydney, a lifetime collection, Mr Robson Lowe took the opportunity of providing an introduction to the intriguing postal history of the group and a record of the more notable items in the collection.

There is a six-page review of the collection, and four pages of prices realised, with a page of illustrations.

It was a fortunate thought, for it is quite a reference to rare covers, cancellations and markings and an interesting summary of the attractions which a New Hebrides collection may hold.

*Postal History International*. Vol 1., No. 11, November 1972. 32 pp. 6½ x 9½ in. Published by Proud Bailey Publications, 96 Queens Road, Brighton, BN3 3XF, England. Subscription, £3 (£6 by air).

This attractively produced monthly is probably the most ambitious postal history journal yet established, it is edited by Dr K. Pennycook, who is contributing a serial on German East Africa, as part of a wide-ranging variety of material.

Of particular interest are articles on Hong Kong postal markings, Indian Field Post Offices, Forwarding Agents to Guernsey, and Bahamas postmarks.

The new Journal is well illustrated with covers, markings, and maps and the publishers plan to expand it to forty pages an issue.

*The Collectors Club Philatelist. Cumulative Index to Volumes 1 to 50, 1922-1971*, by Ernest C. Wilkens and John D. Dowd. 71 pp. 9½ x 6½ in. Published by The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York, NY, 10016, USA. Price \$10.00.

The *Collectors Club Philatelist*, one of the world's greatest philatelic journals is a publication to which one always looks forward to receiving. The index to its first 50 years, is therefore particularly welcome, and its publication almost coincides with the club's 75th anniversary and with the completion of its set of the *Collectors Club Philatelist* by the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, thanks to the efforts of Mr E. Williams, of Buffalo, USA and B. R. Peace, of Leeds.

The indexing system has been carefully thought out, with the idea of making the published information easily accessible. Entries give month, year and page, a very sensible idea, because indices which give references by volume and number fail to give information as to the date of the material. This is, of course, especially important, when one is comparing references in different journals.

Part I of the index deals with philatelic and postal history articles. Part II deals with references to *The Collectors Club*; and Part III with biography.

The Index also lists the editors from its inception in January 1922, loose plates and other insertions which have been included in the various issues, and a list of the 33 handbooks published by the Club, from 1918 onwards.

British—and that includes Australian—collectors are all too apt to look only at British publications for their background information. This index brings to their attention the very considerable amount of high grade research recorded in the *Collectors Club Philatelist*, and makes it easy of access.

The Club acquired the translation rights of the Kohl handbook, and the index shows the sections available in English in the pages of the *Collectors Club Philatelist*.

Besides articles, the index includes all critical book reviews and all displays containing significant philatelic information.

The index will have wide use and prove of great usefulness. It will enhance interest in the parent journal and, it is hoped, persuade the publishers of other journals that a comprehensive index is worthwhile.

*The Postal History Society. Index to the Bulletin. Issues No. 1-151, 1936-67*, by A. G. Rigo de Righi. 34 pp. 7 x 9½ in. Duplicated. Published by The Postal History Society, Deerings Place, 50 Reigate Road, Reigate, Surrey, England. Price £1.

The great amount of postal history writing that has been done in specialist journals over the years has become rather a problem to students and Mr Rigo de Righi's index to the first 32 years of the *Postal History Society Bulletin* will be appreciated by a wide range of collectors beyond members of the Society.

The material covered in the *Bulletin* is world-wide in scope and the 13 pages of references to the British Isles are evidence that it will be invaluable particularly to Great Britain students.

The indexing system is simple and direct and letters and reviews are indicated by distinguishing letters.

*The New Zealand Stamp Catalogue. Fourth Edition 1972.* 58 pp. 5½ x 8 in. Published by Review Publications Ltd, Sterling Street, Dubbo, NSW. Price \$0.85.

Major re-arrangements of the first decimal definitive set and the current successors are features of this edition, the first for two years. New Zealand's bit-by-bit issue policy, with substitutions of various values within the sets, make chronological listing irksome and the new arrangement is both logical and an improvement. The more notable price-rises are for pre-war issues and the higher values. The background details are, as usual, extensive.

*Thematic Stamp Collecting*, by Robert Bateman. 126 pp. 8 x 5 in. Published by Arthur Barker Ltd, 7 Winsley Street, London, W1. Price \$6.05.

For years there has been talk of the differences between philately and thematic collection. Mr Bateman, whose previous title in this attractive and well-produced series was *Specialised Stamp Collecting*. So now he has books written on both.

In this volume, he points out that many aspects of "advanced thematics" are akin to "conventional philately," and in some thematic collections the two can be combined.

This is a balanced book. Mr Bateman warns that making a choice as to what to collect the same care should be taken in connection with a thematic collection as with a conventional collection.

He points out that the normal dealer prefers to sell stamps in sets, and he is reluctant to break a set to sell the one value a thematic collector wants. Furthermore, the material in thematic collections, "consisting of incomplete sets, plus a range of odd stamps from all over the world," is of practically no use at all to the conventional collector," and, by implication, to the conventional dealer.

"An advanced philatelic study, on the other hand, . . . is very unlikely in the long run to prove a bad investment."

But a thematic collection has one advantage over the conventional collection in it has an appeal to people who are not philatelists. A well presented thematic collection will interest many more people than a specialised collection of Sydney Views that represents a life-time's effort.

Mr Bateman stresses that a thematic collection is no longer the accumulation of stamps showing one particular subject. Advanced thematics presents a theme, develops an argument, or presents a story, such as that of the South African War.

Pointing out that dealers have developed thematic sections, or begun to specialise in thematics, he predicts that one day there will be a thematic catalogue.

Mr Barker provides ideas for many thematic collections of all levels and says a thematic collection can provide much greater individuality than a conventional collection.

*The Australasian Stamp Catalogue, 1973 Edition.* 48 pp. 8½ x 10½ in. Published by Review Publications, Pty Ltd, Sterling Street, Dubbo, N.S.W. 2830. Price \$1.25.

A priced list of Australian Commonwealth first day covers is a new feature of this edition of this catalogue and is one that will be widely welcomed.

The catalogue covers the Commonwealth, on a semi-specialised basis, with the States, Territories, and Papua and New Guinea on a simplified listing.

The background information is copious and it is good to have so much together in a clear form.

# ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

## *Members' Diary*

1972

December

- 6 (12.30-4) Library and Conversation
- 11 Library and Conversation
- 21 Australian Commonwealth, Mr L. W. Buchanan

1973

January

- 18 Stamp Printing, Mr M. F. W. Brown

February

- 7 (12.30-4) Library and Conversation
- 12 Library and Conversation
- 15 Society's Forgery Collection, Miss J. Resch
- 24 Sale

March

- 7 (12.30-4) Library and Conversation
- 12 Library and Conversation
- 15 Malta, Postal History and Stamps,  
Mrs P. L. Turnbull
- 29 Haiti: Liberty Heads, 1881-87,  
Mr J. R. W. Purves

April

- 4 (12.30-4) Library and Conversation
- 9 Library and Conversation
- 19 Victoria Night

## *Western Australia*

Mr John Gartner provided the August display of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria from his world-famous collection of Western Australia.

The highlight collection was the "Inverted Swan", of which only 14 copies are known. This was matched by a piece showing a partial strike of the inverted frame which created the famous variety.

Other 4d lithograph gems were a pane of 60, and a block of 24.

Transfer varieties included the "CE" of "Pence" close together, the only known copy, and one with offset on reverse, one of two copies known.

No. 1, the 1d black, was shown in mint block of eight with the re-entries Double-tailed Swan and doubling of letters on the adjoining stamp.

Mr Gartner had the "Western" re-entry and a selection of covers culminating in the 1d and 4d together on cover.

The 1857 lithographs were another feature. The 2d was shown printed on both sides. A rouletted copy was present and the 6d was on cover and in retouched setting of twelve.

There were two 4d watermark Crown CC, perf. 12½, 1865 double-prints, mint, and a block of twelve 1d 1864.

The 1879 2d error of colour, mauve instead of yellow, was shown mint and used.

Mr Gartner showed pre-stamp covers from 1845 and one postmarked "GPO Perth 1852".

Other eye-catching items were artist's essays for the master die and value tablets of the 1885 issue and die proofs of later issues.

Mr Gartner mentioned that the "Inverted Swan" was No. 36 in the pane of 60 and said that 88 copies would have been issued.

## *Denmark*

Mr Mogens Juhl, Consul-General for Denmark, who is already well known to Australian philatelists, came from Sydney to present an unusual and beautiful display of the Bi-coloured Stamps of Denmark, to the October meeting.

The display started with a demonstration of the first Danish stamp, the 4 RBS issued 1 April 1851 in its four printings. The first printing in chocolate-brown shades on paper with strong dull brown burelage printed from recess plates by M. W. Ferslew. The printing is erroneously called the Ferslew printing because the design was actually typographed — as were also the following three printings — by H. H. Thiele.

The second printing is purple-brown with faint brown-orange burelage.

The third printing has strong brown-orange burelage and the stamps were printed in two distinct shades, black-brown and less often dark red-brown.

The fourth printing, with very faint burelage, stands out clearly as the colour school has changed considerably, the normal colour being yellow-brown. Common also are shades of grey-brown and olive-brown, while light to dark chestnut and nut-brown copies are desirable items.

These were followed by a page each of the 1854 2 Sk. 8 Sk. and 16 Sk., the 1858 8 Sk. the 1863 4 Sk., and 16 Sk. Most remarkable here was a cover with the rouletted 1863 16 Sk., one of the scarcest Danish stamps, on cover.

The next section of the display covered the bi-coloured issues, 1870-1905. The differences between thin and thick frames and between normal and inverted frames were demonstrated, followed by a display of the 5 ore 1875 in its four printings all perf. 14 x 13½, watermark large crown, the 20 ore 1875 in its seven printings, which also only exist with this perforation and watermark, and the 50 ore shown in the six printings 1875, -1895, perf. 14 x 13½, watermark large crown, the four printings 1895-1902, perf. 12¾, watermark large crown and the four printings 1903-1905, perf. 12¾, watermark new crown.

Attention was especially drawn to the 5 ore,

first printing, on a remarkable cover to France in combination with a block of 14 of the 16 ore, sixth printing, and to a block of 15 of the 50 ore, second printing. This printing was made with thick frames all inverted, except No. 56 normal and the block covers the sheet positions No. 46-50, 56-60 and 66-70.

The freshness of the original colours was the purpose of showing a mint selection of bi-coloured stamps in their various printings, issued for use in the former Colony Danish West-Indies (sold to the US 1917).

Also featured were four covers flown over Denmark in 1912 by the Zeppelin Hansa.

### *Zeppelin Mails*

The society had its first display of Zeppelin Mails at the first November meeting when Mr A. W. Bunn exhibited a part of his collection.

The display opened with a Darmstat card from the 1912 Fortnight of Aviation with semi-official stamps and special postmark the ZR-3 Germany-U.S.A. flight of 1924, and a cover from its 1925 trip U.S.A.-Bermuda as the Los Angeles.

The Graf Zeppelin's flights and South American services were widely covered. The Pan American flight was shown with the three U.S.A. stamps on covers and mint; the Polar flight with covers bearing the Russian set imperf; and the Chicago Flight of 1933 with the German and American stamps and a cover from the Century of Progress Exposition with the special stamp and cachet.

Another Pan-American flight item was a cover from the parachute mail to Seville.

Interesting Covers from the Orient flight (to Egypt), 1929, showed the differences between the metal and rubber cachets used.

A cover from the second South America flight of 1931 bore the scarce red cachet stating that the airship waited four days for an answer.

There were Graf Zeppelin and Hindenburg covers addressed to Australia, too, and acceptances from Liechtenstein, Switzerland, San Marino and Hungary.

Finally, there was a cover from LZ-130, the second Graf Zeppelin on its Sudetenland flight.

An interesting feature of the display was the neat reproductions of pictorial and other back-stamps with the respective covers.

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

★ **THE SALES 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 and one other night monthly or by arrangement with the Librarian. Also 12.30 on first Wednesdays.

★ **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 collections 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: \$10.50; Annual Subscription: City and Metropolitan Members, \$8.50; Country and Interstate \$5.00; Overseas, \$5.50.

★ **ALL COMMUNICATIONS** SHOULD be directed to Mr DONALD NAPIER (Hon. Sec.), Box 222, G.P.O., Melbourne 3001.

## THE ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

FOUNDED 1890

★ **OFFICIAL ORGAN:** *Philately from Australia* is available to members at special subscription rate.

★ **MEETING ROOM:** The Club meets at 7.30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the No. 1 Hall, 7th Floor, G.U.O.O.F. Building, 149 Castlereagh 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.



★ **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, while lectures and Discussions help to further the philatelic knowledge of members. The advice of members, experts in most branches of philately, is always available when requested.

★ **THE CLUB'S FEES** are: City members, \$5.50; Country members, \$3.50.

Subscriptions are due 1 July yearly. There is no entrance fee payable.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to -

**Mr Frederick Daniell, Hon. Secretary - Box 1751 G.P.O. Sydney 2001**

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