

# PHILATELY

*from*

# AUSTRALIA



*Published Quarterly by*  
THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

---

---

Vol. XL, No. 4

December 1988

---

---

## CONTENTS

THOUGHTS ON SYDPEX AND EXHIBITING .....	79
THE LETTERCARDS OF QUEENSLAND .....	82
THE NEW TASMANIAN TAX MARKING .....	86
SOUTH AUSTRALIA 4D. "THICK POSTAGE" PERF. 11½-12½ .....	87
ST. LUCIA: THE UNISSUED PROVISIONALS.....	88
VICTORIA: THE V OVER CROWN WATERMARKED PAPERS, 1867-1896 .....	90
THE LOSS OF A PIN .....	101
REPORTS .....	101

# Philately from Australia

---

## SUBSCRIPTIONS RATES

- (a) From Australian and New Zealand residents: \$15.00 per annum.
- (b) From overseas residents: £8 sterling for British Commonwealth (except Canada) and US\$16.00 for United States and Canada

Most back issues are still available at \$5.00 per copy (Australian) £4.00 sterling (British Commonwealth); and \$5.50 (United States and Canada). All prices include postage.

Overseas residents are asked to make payment in Australian currency by bank draft on a Melbourne bank.

---

## ADVERTISING RATES

	Full Year	
	Single Insertion	Full Insertions
Covers	\$60.00	\$55.00
Full Page	\$50.00	\$45.00
Half Page	\$30.00	\$25.00
Quarter Page	\$20.00	\$17.50

Advertisements from non-dollar areas are at the sterling equivalent of the Australian currency.

These prices are for camera ready copy otherwise a setting up charge will be made.

---

ALL CORRESPONDENCE re the above should be addressed to the Business Manager, Box 2071, Melbourne 3001.



# CHRISTIE'S ROBSON LOWE

AUSTRALASIA  
7th February 1989

A sale including the **Gordon Kaye** collections of  
Australian States.

New Zealand featuring the fine collection formed by  
the late **Noel Turner** past president of the New  
Zealand Society of Great Britain.



NEW ZEALAND  
22nd February 1989

The "**Chalon**" collection of New Zealand  
A magnificent study of this classic design.

Illustrated catalogues £5 each

Mr. Ray Kelly, Suite 51, 5th Floor, Capitol House,  
113 Swanston Street, Melbourne 3000

Head Office:

8 King Street, St. James's, London, SW1Y 6QT  
Telephone: (01) 839 4034 Telex: 916429  
Facsimile: (01) 839 1611



**STANLEY  
GIBBONS  
AUSTRALIA**

(Inc. in N.S.W.)

***We Offer a  
Wide Range of Services  
to the Serious Collector***

**ALBUMS & ACCESSORIES** We hold an extensive stock and can supply all Stanley Gibbons products.

**PHILATELIC LITERATURE** We have the widest range available in Australia. Ask for our book list.

**"POSTAL BID SALES"** There is usually something for everyone in these popular sales, held every 3 months. Free catalogue available on request.

**SPECIALIST ITEMS** Regardless of what you are looking for it is worthwhile contacting us first. Besides our own stock of better material we have access to the extensive stocks of our associate offices in London and Johannesburg.

**BUYING** We are always interested to receive offers of suitable material. Please write in the first instance giving full details. We will travel to view important collections.

**STANLEY GIBBONS AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD.**

Suite 412/413 4th Floor, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria. 3000.  
Tel. 67 3332 (GPO Box No. 863J Melbourne, Victoria. 3001)

## PUBLIC STAMP AUCTION

Every Auction, on behalf of Vendors,  
we offer hundreds of lots of Australia, British Pacific Is. & various.  
Our rates on major consignments are only 7½ % commission

**We also buy outright for Spot Cash!**

Subscription to Stamp Auction Catalogue within Australia  
(inc. Prices Realised) to December 1988 \$20.00

Overseas rates on application

★ Sample Auction Catalogue forwarded on mention of this advertisement ★

### P. J. DOWNIE PTY. LTD.

359/363 LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA 3000

Established 1932 Public Auctioneers since 1963

Phone: 602 1811.

Telegrams & Cables: Downstamps, Melbourne.

Telex AA 37272

Member A.S.D.A. Melbourne

A.S.D.A. New York

P.T.S. London

---

## THE DEPARTMENTAL STAMPS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

By

A. R. BUTLER, RDP, FRPSL

Crown Quarto (9½ in x 7¼ in) with 188 pages, 4 plates in full colour and over 100 half-tone illustrations in the text. The book includes numerous diagrams and tabulations, giving for the first time details of the numbers issued of these official stamps, and there is a new, comprehensive listing of the known varieties each with an estimate of its relative rarity.

Bound in buckram, stamped in gold with four-colour book jacket.

**Price £18 (plus postage 45p)**

*Orders should be sent to:*

The Secretary

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON

41 Devonshire Place, London W1N 1PE

---



1896  
COOLGARDIE CYCLE  
EXPRESS COMPANY

30th June 1896 "Front"  
from Fielding, New  
Zealand, franked 2d and  
addressed to Mr. Oldhams,  
c/o Coolgardie, Western  
Australia and readdressed  
to Princess Alex (mine)  
Mt. Margaret per Healy's  
Cycle Express, with a 2/6  
Local stamp being added.

Our stocks cover all countries of the World.  
Are you on our Register of Specialists?  
We will be happy to send you photocopies and details of material on request.

**Argyll Etkin Limited**



48 CONDUIT STREET,  
NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W1R 9FB U.K.  
Tel.: 011 441 437 7800



## MACRAY STAMP SALES

**AUCTIONEERS and VALUERS**



Regular Public and Postal Auctions offering fine:

- STAMPS • POSTAL HISTORY • CINDERALLAS
- LITERATURE • POSTAL STATIONERY

Complimentary copy of catalogue upon request to

**Ray Kelly at MACRAY STAMP SALES**

Note our new address:

SUITE 51, 5TH FLOOR, CAPITOL HOUSE  
113 SWANSTON STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, 3000  
PHONE (03) 63 6332

# PHILATELY from AUSTRALIA

*Editor:* G. N. KELLOW

*Committee:* DR. RUSSELL JONES (*Chairman*), MESSRS H. M. CAMPBELL, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L., R. P. T. CHAPMAN, M.B.E., R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L., H. L. CHISHOLM, F.R.P.S.L., F.R.P.N.Z., R. J. KELLY AND M. L. WILLIAMSON.

*Business Manager:* Miss JOYCE BUCHANAN, F.R.P.S.L.

*Editorial Correspondence:* Box 2071, G.P.O., Melbourne, Victoria 3001

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

---

Vol. XL, No. 4

December 1988

---

## THOUGHTS ON SYDPEX AND EXHIBITING

This is not a report on Sydrex as an exhibition, either favourable or unfavourable—other people will give those. It is rather a collection of impressions that came to me as an exhibitor, and as a visitor interested in seeing what other people were showing. I admit that one of my first impressions was that the general standard was not as good as at Stampex '86, but this proved erroneous. Being a National Exhibition with no restrictions on entry, the standard varied considerably, but the good entries were there, as twenty Gold Medals and numerous Vermeil ones proved. With the exhibits spread over three buildings, one with two levels, it took several visits to see all that one wanted to see, or to gain a balanced impression of the exhibition as a whole. It was possible to gain the idea that the general public attending the exhibition were more interested in the dealers' stands, the selection from the Royal Collection in the Court of Honour, and what was provided by Australia Post, than in seeing the exhibits in the competitive classes, but the same comment has been made about the other exhibitions, both here and overseas. It was easy to see clusters of people round the dealers' stands, but a whole army could have been hidden amongst the competitive frames, even though one might see few people examining the frames within one's immediate purview.

From the exhibiting point of view, one could not but be impressed by how much both exhibitors (the wise ones) and judges have learned over the last few years about what constitutes an exhibit worthy of a high award. My own exhibiting experience falls into two distinct periods, so perhaps I can see the difference between the entries in the two periods more clearly than if I had been exhibiting continuously. Beginning with Anpex 1950, I exhibited in several National Exhibitions up to the early 1960's, and also in London 1950 and Mipex 1963; I also judged at some of the Nationals. Then came a time when for personal and family reasons I did no exhibiting, my philatelic activity being mainly confined to research and writing. Apart from a small exhibit at Anpex 1970, my next experience of exhibiting was at AUSIPEX 84. This was a salutary experience, as it showed me how much I had to learn about putting together an exhibit for an exhibition of today. I put in an exhibit in the Postal History class



of the National section, and also an entry in the Literature class. All I got for the Postal History exhibit was a Silver-Bronze, whereas the book, although I had drawn on other people's research as well as my own, gained a Large Silver. Although no judges' critiques were issued at AUSIPEX, I must have got some idea of what had to be done to gain a high award for a Postal History exhibit from soaking in the atmosphere of the other entries, as I started again from scratch for my next effort.

Gone are the days when one could merely pull out the pages containing the prize specimens in one's collection for one's exhibit and expect to get a high award. In earlier days the gaining of such depended on the number of "goodies" one had, and so to a certain extent on the depth of one's purse—and Postal History as such was a "no no". Nowadays an entry for an exhibition should tell a connected story; this is particularly so as far as Postal History and Thematic Philately exhibits are concerned, but it also applies to some extent to Traditional Philately and Postal Stationery. It has been said many times that philately is a hobby where one can please oneself what one collects. That is still true, but it is a different story when it comes to exhibiting, if one wants to achieve the best result. Here one must obey certain rules, and as our exhibitions are run under F.I.P. auspices, those rules are those laid down for the various classes by the F.I.P. There were probably some entrants at Sydplex who were disappointed with their award, but going around the frames, one could usually see why a particular exhibit obtained the award it did. The judges worked very hard indeed, and I think deserve high praise for their efforts. They wore out a lot more shoe-leather than we did when I was a judge, because nowadays the judging is in the frames.

One hard lesson the postal historian has to learn is that it is very difficult to gain a high award for a collection of postmarks, no matter how rare some of the pieces may be. This is because it is not easy to make a connected story out of such a collection. One has to find a new angle to which to connect one's story, and to work round that.

Some people may say: "It's all right for him, he got a good award." It is very true that I was pleased with my award, but I had to work up to it, and I can improve the exhibit still further. As I mentioned earlier, I started from scratch after AUSIPEX. It is possible that I was tiring of collecting Queensland numeral cancellations as such even as far back as that, as my new choice for an exhibition collection was Queensland Postal Rates, in which cancellations had only a minor role, and provided a subject that could be woven into a connected story. I gave part of this collection a trial run at Sunpex 1985, where it was awarded a Silver Medal. Encouraged by this, I entered an expanded version in both Stampex 1986 and Tarapex 1986, in both of which the award was Large Silver with Felicitations. Sydplex was my next exhibition, and I was delighted when my exhibit was awarded a Vermeil. Of course, my exhibit had been remounted and added to between exhibitions, but I am quite sure I could not have achieved this standard without the very helpful critiques issued after Sunpex and Stampex (there was no change at Tarapex, as the exhibit went there direct from Stampex). There was another helpful critique at Sydplex, telling me how I might improve the exhibit still further without spending a lot of money, so I am encouraged to try my luck at an International. They say that you cannot teach an old dog new tricks, but I seem to be learning nonetheless.

The moral of all this seems to be: read and obey the rules, and act on the suggestions in the critiques. I believe that at least some of the exhibitors who do not achieve what they hoped are their own worst enemies. Collect what you like, sure, but if you show just as you like, do not be disappointed with the result if you break all the rules.

H.M. CAMPBELL



## LIFE MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES

The first official act of Mr J.B. Trowbridge as 1988-89 President of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria was to present Life Membership Certificates to all surviving life members at the annual meeting.

He designed the certificates himself.

They are printed in dark blue, and beneath a representation of the Wyon head of Queen Victoria, as shown on the Penny Black, the wording is:

The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria

This certificate of  
LIFE MEMBERSHIP  
is presented to

---

IN RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE SOCIETY

(date of election in manuscript)

President Russell Jones (signed)

Secretary M. Farley (signed)

An ornamental surrounding border and the name of the recipient are in gold.

The Society introduced a Life Membership Certificate in 1926 and the last known certificate of this type is held by Mr C.G. Skewes, who is still a regular attender at Society meetings. It was presented in 1950. After that the custom of having certificates fell into disuse, but with the presentation of these certificates, with Council approval, it has been revived.

# THE LETTERCARDS OF QUEENSLAND

By WILLIAM C. WALTON

(Continued from September 1988, p. 64)

## G: Back "Queensland"

Here again, only two types have been found, as shown in Figure 6.

*Back "Queensland" Type 1*—This type shows the comma, and appears on H&G 2, 1, 1a, 2a, 2a"x", 4a and 4.

*Back "Queensland" Type 2*—This type has the comma removed, and is found on H&G 4b, 3a, 3a"x", 3, 5, 6 and 6 reply half.

Queensland,

Queensland

Type 1

Type 2

Fig. 3—Back "Queensland"

## H: 2d Stamp Dies

Three distinctly different 2d stamp dies were used, as shown in Figure 7. All three vary from one another in many respects throughout the design, and only some key points have been singled out for description.

*Die 1*—This is easily recognised by the thick "2's", and by the additional thin inner circular frame line. The diadem does not stand up prominently above the forehead. The knot of hair (the bun, or chignon) is coiled tightly, as in Die 2, with no dangling locks. The tail of the "Q", also as in Die 2, starts from inside of the letter. Die 1 is found on H&G 2, 1, 1a, 2a, 2a"x", 4a and 4.

*Die 2*—This die, like Die 1, still shows the chignon tightly coiled, and the tail of the "Q" starting inside the letter. Like Die 3, however, the extra inner circular frame line is gone, and the "2's" are thin. The diadem stands out clearly above the forehead. Die 2 occurs only on H&G 4b, and is another distinct point of identification for the card.

*Die 3*—This die has thin "2's" as in Die 2, but now shows the tail of the "Q" starting at the edge of the letter. The chignon clearly shows dangling locks. It appears on H&G 3a, 3a"x" and 3.



Die 1



Die 2



Die 3

Fig. 7—2d Stamp Dies

### RESULTS OF THE STUDY

The variables originally sequenced in Table 1 can now be expanded to include all of these findings, and test the original hypothesis. Table 2—which shows the additional varieties 2a"x" and 3a"x"—summarises the results. It also includes the authors own working numbers for each variety.

Several observations can be made about Table 2.

1. The two new card varieties (2a"x" and 3a"x") which the study yields, fit into the sequence/variable matrix very comfortably, without introducing any "back and forth" discontinuities.

2. In fact, none of the five additional variables show any inconsistencies in the matrix. The smooth progression of all these variables—their "fit" within the framework of the hypothesis—is a result unlikely to occur by chance, and one which suggests strong support for the sequence hypothesis.

3. Further, at least two of the five added variables provide independent support for the proposed new sequence. Back arms type 2 (though shifting in size from type 2A to type 2B) ties H&G 2a"x"—clearly a Colonial card—to H&G 4a and 4, clearly Commonwealth cards—and thus strengthens the fine dot address line tie of 2a"x" and 4a. At the same time, back arms type 3B strengthens the ties between H&G 3a, 3a"x" and 3, and the 1d Commonwealth cards. Stamp Die 1 also clearly seems to tie 4a and 4 to the Colonial cards.

Overall, from a research perspective, Table 2 represents an initial test result beyond reasonable expectations. However, while it clearly strengthens the proposed new sequence, it certainly does not validate it in any real sense.

### Dating the Issues

What has been constructed is actually a production sequence, but it seems reasonable to make the working assumption that it reflects the issue sequence. The proof of this particular pudding, though, is in the dating. In the absence of unequivocal contemporary Post Office or printing records, usage dates reported on the various issues will probably be necessary to validate or invalidate the Table 2 sequence.

In the four years since constructing Table 2, the author has acquired some additional used examples. Table 3 summarises dates.

None of the observed dates contradict the sequence, and in that limited sense begin

to validate it. Many more reports for most of the issues will be necessary for a real validation, however. The author would appreciate photocopies of used examples—unfolded to show both sides if possible—and will apprise all contributors of the results of new information. Ultimately, it may be feasible to publish a summary update.

### SUMMARY NOTES ON THE TWELVE ISSUES

#### 1. *First Issue (H&G 2)*

Collas reports the issue date of the first lettercard as 1 June 1895, but describes it as the greenish stock rather than the bluish white of this card; he further describes the bluish white stock as not issued until October 1895. This latter point is clearly wrong—the author has a copy postmarked 11 June 1895. Further, the *London Philatelist*, August 1895, has now been examined, and it carries a report from their “Australian correspondent” (probably Basset Hull) describing the first lettercard “on blue” with no mention as yet of greenish stock. The H&G date of 1897 is an obvious error.

#### 2. *Second Issue (H&G1)*

This card is identical to the previous one, except for the change to greenish stock (wove 2). Collas describes a copy postmarked 26 June 1895, which suggests if correct that the first issue may have seen an extremely short use.

#### 3. *Third Issue (H&G 1a)*

This card is identical to the previous one except for the introduction of the interrupted perforation. Collas states that these occur from October 1895. The earliest seen by the author is postmarked Feb. 1896.

#### 4. *Fourth Issue (H&G 2a)*

This card is distinguished by a return to the bluish white stock, this time wove 3. Although Collas suggests this card also came into use in October 1895, the actual date may ultimately prove to be 1896 at the earliest. The first postmark seen by the author is July 1897.

#### 5. *Fifth Issue (H&G 2a“x”)*

The only change in this card from the previous issue is the new back arms (type 2A). It will likely be found to have been issued in 1900 or 1901. The earliest seen is postmarked December 1901.

#### 6. *Sixth Issue (H&G 4a)*

This was the first Commonwealth issue, and the only one with fine dot address lines (type 1). It is found both with and without portions of watermark A. It has the back arms design of the preceding issue but in a larger size (type 2B). Collas indicates that the first Commonwealth issue was in August or September 1902, although he recognises it as H&G 3 rather than H&G 4a; he describes H&G 4a as issued sometime after 1903.

#### 7. *Seventh Issue (H&G 4)*

The only change from the previous card is the permanent change to short dash address lines (type 2). It also occurs both with and without watermark A. Collas describes this card as issued in 1903; the earliest the author has seen is postmarked September 1907, but this may prove to be a late usage.

#### 8. *Eighth Issue (H&G 4b)*

Similar to the previous issue but with new back arms (type 3A) and new stamp die (Die 2). The back comma has also been eliminated. The author's only example is narrower than the other 2d Commonwealth cards (140mm), and is unwatermarked. It would be interesting to learn why stamp die 2 was introduced on this issue and

then never used again—it is the only variable studied which is unique to one issue.

#### 9. Ninth Issue (H&G 3a)

This card is identical to the previous, except for several points. The back arms have been reduced in size (type 3B), the back advice note has been modified (type 2B), and the stamp die has been changed (Die 3). It is found both with and without portions of watermark B. Collas describes this card as issued in September or October 1902, based on his assumption that H&G 3 and 3a were the first Commonwealth cards. It was likely issued several years later.

#### 9a. Tenth issue (H&G 3a"x")

The only point distinguishing this from the previous issue is the change in paper stock from laid 1 to laid 2. Although only noted unwatermarked, it no doubt occurs with watermark C.

#### 10. Eleventh Issue (H&G 3)

This card differs from the previous only in the perforation, which is now perf. 10 instead of perf. 12 interrupted. It occurs with or without portions of watermark C. Although Collas takes this to be the first Commonwealth card, issued in August or September 1902, it now seems likelier to have been the last 2d card, and to have appeared sometime in the 1908-1910 period. The earliest noted by the author is post-marked October 1910.

#### 11 and 12. Twelfth Issue (H&G 5 and 6)

These two cards—the single and reply cards at the 1d rate—were the last issue. The stock (laid 3) has only been noted vertically laid on the 1d single card (the only vertically laid lettercard), and seems always to be horizontally laid on the 1d + 1d reply card. Portions of watermark D may or may not appear on either card. The perf. 10 gauge and 12-12½ gauge both occur on this issue. The author has noted the following varieties:

11. (H&G 5) 1d perf. 10 x 10 (noted watermarked and unwatermarked)

11a. same, perf. 12-12½ x 10 (noted watermarked and unwatermarked)

12. (H&G 6) 1d + 1d perf. 10 x 10 (noted watermarked only)

12a. same, perf. 12½ x 12½ (noted watermarked only)

It seems obvious that the single card may eventually be found to occur perf. 12½ x 12½, the reply card perf. 12½ x 10, and both cards perf. 10 x 12½—there is a good deal to look for here, for those interested in perforation varieties.

Although Collas notes the watermark on these cards as uncommon, this has not been the author's experience. In fact, no copy of the reply card has been seen by the author which does not show at least a small portion of the watermark—no doubt because the reply card offers almost twice the opportunity for it to appear at random.

Collas notes a c.t.o. strike on this issue of 26 July 1911, and the author has an apparently identical cancellation.

#### A Final Note

This study is surely far from the last word on Queensland's lettercards. Even assuming that enough usage data is eventually compiled to provide satisfactory validation of the proposed new sequence, there are very likely additional varieties to be found. For example—glancing at Table 2—it is conceivable that an earlier variety of No. 6 (H&G 4a) exists with back arms type 2A, or front arms type 1. Similarly, No. 7 (H&G 4) may occur with back arms type 3A, or with no comma, or with stamp die 2. Other possibilities also exist. Careful examination of these cards by collectors should bear some interesting fruit.

Please direct all photocopies or information to William C. Walton, 125 Turtleback Road, Califon, N.J., 07830, U.S.A.

## A NEW TASMANIAN TAX MARKING

By K.E. LANCASTER

I have unearthed a further unchronicled "LOOSE LETTER . . . . . TO PAY" postal marking from Tasmania. This particular marking appears on a postcard that was carried on the main railway service on 4 May 1909, corroborated by the T.M.L. Ry. No. 2 cancellation thereon.

The loose letter marking employed has an elliptical frame 45 x 22mm inside of which are the words "LOOSE LETTER" at the top and "TO PAY" at base, but unfortunately the impression has been so badly struck that some of the letters are indistinguishable, and their identity can only be assumed in accord with what would be anticipated from the legible evidence available.

It is quite likely that a dotted line occurred in the centre and possibly a "d", but there is a void in that section of the impression, although "1d" has been pencilled in presumably by the postal operator. My reconstruction of the full impression of the marking is as follows:



The card appears to have been addressed and composed either at a railway station or on the train as evidenced by the address "Railway" thereon. The addressee, Miss May Gutteridge, was probably the daughter of Mrs Emma Gutteridge, who kept the store and was postmistress at Lymington at that time and still resided in the district as late as 1928. The identity of Roy, the sender of the card, is unknown, but it may yet be possible to trace just where the card was posted and cancelled with further research.



## SOUTH AUSTRALIA 4D. "THICK POSTAGE" PERF. 11½-12½

By K. F. SCUDDER

This variety was recently discovered by the writer on the first Adelaide printing of the 4d "Thick POSTAGE" of 1906.

To the best of the writer's knowledge there is no record of the old Perkins Bacon single-line perforating machine having been used for postage stamps after the introduction, in 1903, of the new perf. 12 machine. Although there is no evidence to show that this machine was still available for use in 1906 or 1907 this seems quite possible since there would appear to be no reason for it to have been scrapped, even though it had been displaced by the perf. 12 machine. On the basis of the evidence which follows it is believed that the 11½-12½ perforations on the stamp in question are genuine.

In *South Australia. The Long Stamps 1904-12* the late J.R. Purves states on page 40 in relation to perforating machines that "only two machines were used for the Adelaide printings and as one supplanted the other — which then disappears from the story there is no difficulty." Again, on page 43, Purves quotes Blockey in the *Australian Philatelist* of 1.1.1906 — "the old single line machine, gauging 11½-12½ was superseded in November 1903 by a new treadle machine . . ." (the perf. 12 machine).

The first Adelaide printing of the 4d "Thick POSTAGE" value is normally perf. 12. It was printed in red-orange, from Plate 2, on the Detmold Crown over A watermarked paper. The stamp appears to have been printed around mid-1906 or a little later. Mr C.B. Donne, the Melbourne dealer, reported that he had received copies from the Adelaide Post Office on 10 September 1906 (*Australian Philatelist* of 1.10.1906), but Purves noted that none of his copies approached that date.

Now to the stamp itself. It is cancelled by a Rundle Street squared circle postmark dated JA 3 07. The horizontal perforations gauge 11.8. This is normal for the perf. 12, which consistently gauges 11.8 to 11.9. The vertical perforations gauge 11.5 for eleven holes down from the top on the left side, and for ten holes down on the right. The remaining thirteen and fourteen holes respectively, below these, gauge 12.5.

In the single line perforating machine supplied by Perkins, Bacon & Co. in 1867, the line of perforating pins measured 21¼ inches in all, of which 7¾ inches at the left end gauged 12½ and the remaining 13¾ inches at the right end gauged 11½.

Adding to the interest of this stamp is the fact that it has both a horizontal line watermark at the base and a vertical line watermark at the right. The horizontal line is 12mm from the base of the design and the vertical line is 3.5mm from the right side of the design. Bearing in mind that the watermarks of the printed sheet of 60 (six rows of ten) are grouped into two panes, side by side, and that each is surrounded by marginal lines, the vertical line at the right of the stamp places it in either vertical column 5 or 10, although, according to Purves, the outside vertical lines hardly ever appear on the oriented stamps. The horizontal line places it at the bottom of the sheet. Thus the stamp is from either position 55, or less probably 60. In Chapter XVII Purves describes the Plate 2 varieties. There is a note on the line watermarks and also a list-



ing of the "secondary" abnormalities for most sheet positions. From his description of watermark and the prominent flaw below "LIA" of "AUSTRALIA", my stamp is from position 55.

On page 200 of his book, Purves describes the manner in which the sheets of the 4d and 6d "Thin POSTAGE" stamps were hand-fed into the 11½-12½ perforating machine. Describing the eleven lines of vertical perforations of the sheet Purves says (1) the left side of the sheet was fed into the perforator so that it occupied a central position, about 5 inches from the left end of the holes; seven lines of perforation were produced in this position (sheet columns 1 to 6); (2) the sheet was then turned around and the right side fed into the perforator, again about 5 inches from the left end, and the remaining four lines of perforation were completed (sheet columns 7 to 10).

Although on occasions, and in different printings, variations of this perforating technique were used, this particular technique appears to have been used on the stamp in question. Being from column 5 it would have had the vertical perforations applied when feeding in from the left side of the sheet. This is consistent with the 12½ gauge perforations being to the bottom and the 11½ perforations to the top of the stamp. The only difference to the technique described above is that the sheet would have been fed into the perforating machine approximately 6 inches from the left end of the perforator, and not 5 inches.

This evidence lends credibility to the late use of the 11½-12½ machine. It would appear to have been used to perforate at least some, if not all, of the vertical lines of perforation on a sheet from which they had been missed on the perf. 12 machine.

## ST. LUCIA: THE UNISSUED PROVISIONALS

*By P. JAFFE*

The two provisionals "Half/pence" on De La Rue 6d green watermark Crown CC, both normal and reversed, and "Six/pence" on De La Rue 4d deep blue watermark Crown CC normal, could not have been issued before 1863, the provisional date used by the Stanley Gibbons catalogue. The latest date likely is 1883, following the admission of St. Lucia to the Universal Postal Union in 1881 and the introduction in August of overprint forms with values in accord with the U.P.U. regulations; the Scott catalogue has selected a late date.

The intermediate date may be close to 11 July 1876 when the Administrator of St. Lucia pointed out that De La Rue had, on 16 May, supplied 1/- stamps printed in yellow instead of orange-red. He also asked the cost of adding face values to prevent such mistakes. De La Rue replaced 49 sheets in orange-red on 13 September and suggested a change from the Perkins Bacon undenominated steel plate of 240, 12 x 20, to a letterpress keyplate form of 60.

An undenominated plate printed in different colours for different face values was selected by Perkins Bacon for economy in the cases of Ionian Islands and St. Lucia. The Colonial choice of red for the 1d (the colour from 1841 for Great Britain), blue for the 4d (this was the colour of the 4d Cape of Good Hope), and green for the 6d may have been selected rather than the unstable purple, which "changed" to slate.

For St. Lucia, De La Rue printed 42 sheets in red, 13 in blue and 23 in green

in January 1864. Was there an earlier printing on Crown CC paper in or soon after August 1863? If so, how many sheets?

Seemingly before the colour changes, including the 1d to black, were issued in November 1864, the first De La Rue colours were withdrawn. Assuming the Perkins Bacon supply was largely exhausted by the time of the first (?unrecorded) De La Rue printing, usage was:

1d (36 sheets)— $2\frac{1}{8}$  years at an annual rate of 13 sheets

4d (13 sheets)—3 years at an annual rate of 4.3 sheets

6d (17 sheets)—3 years at an annual rate of 5.7 sheets

Assuming both the De La Rue supplies were equal, then:

1d (84 sheets) supply could last  $6\frac{1}{2}$  years from 1863

4d (26 sheets) supply could last 6 years from 1863

6d (46 sheets) supply could last 8 years from 1863

However, if there was only one De La Rue printing in the original colours:

1d (42 sheets) supply could last 3 years from 1864

4d (13 sheets) supply could last 3 years from 1864

6d (23 sheets) supply could last  $3\frac{3}{4}$  years from 1864

A possible conclusion is that there were ten surplus sheets of the 6d green and two sheets of the 4d blue available for local surcharging.

The difficulty of surface form printing on a line-engraved base caused problems in London as late as 1893; in Castries, with unevenly worn type such difficulties would be more serious. The decision to raise the face value from 4d to 6d was not a good idea; it promotes fraud. And to change 6d to  $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 4d to 6d at one time might raise eyebrows in London, concerned at "unnecessary" provisional issues.

Since there is no recorded multiple of the 6d on 4d surcharge, and the largest recorded piece of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d on 6d is a block of 30, reconstruction of the formes is probably impossible. On one position of the blue surcharge the setter had substituted "Sex" for "Six". A record of the two major fresh entries on Nos. 205 and 240 may provide clues as to the numbers treated.

The "used" copies of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d on 6d are probably by favour, and are not evidence of issue or normal postal usage.

It seems likely that the Cullum Street, London gang of Benjamin and Sarpy prepared "essays" for Ferrary—one pair with numerals and the other with vertical lettering. These were better produced than the Castries prints.

## VICTORIA: THE V OVER CROWN WATERMARKED PAPERS, 1867-1896

By G. N. KELLOW

The writer's previous articles on the subject of the watermarked papers used in Victoria have dealt with the "Words of Value", "Single-lined Numerals of Value" and the borrowed Tasmanian "Double-lined Numerals of Value" papers. Although these, and particularly the single-lined numeral papers, are quite complex, in scope they are still relatively small subjects compared to that of the V over Crown watermarked papers. A knowledge of the V over Crown papers is basic to an understanding of Victorian stamps, but the story of its introduction and of the changes made during its life have never been presented in detail. The late J.R.W. Purves, in *Victoria: The V over Crown Watermarks* published by The Hawthorn Press in 1966, was more concerned with the distinguishing characteristics of the five types of V over Crown watermark, and the different watermark positions found on stamps and their significance.

The present study is based on the following sources:

1. The "Rundell" extracts of Victorian P.O. records now in the library of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. These extracts include not only correspondence but a number of different accountancy records, including the paper ledgers already quoted in previous articles. W.R. Rundell's own treatment of the subject, in the *Australian Stamp Journal*, May 1934, pages 72-73, dealt only with the first consignment of 1867.

2. The De La Rue Correspondence Books. The writer made transcripts of the relevant correspondence from the microfilm copy in Philas Library, Sydney. Other microfilm copies are now available at several Australian libraries, including the National Library of Australia, Canberra, and the State Library of Victoria. Correspondence prior to 1869 (which, so far as the Victorian watermarked paper is concerned, covers the first consignment) may not be complete, as those books were largely destroyed in the London Blitz. Up to 1869 orders from the Victorian Government to De La Rue were sent via the Agent-General for the Colonies, but in 1869 a Victorian Agent-General was established in London. A very brief resume of the De La Rue records appeared in *The De La Rue History of British, Colonial and Foreign Postage Stamps*, by J. Easton (1958).

3. The library of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria also has a draft chapter on the V over Crown papers written by the late J.R.W. Purves for an intended publication on the Laureated stamps. This has been drawn on extensively so far as philatelic inferences are concerned, and also includes quotes from various Treasury documents which had been extracted by David H. Hill. Some of these latter extracts do not appear to have come to the Society's library

## THE FIRST CONSIGNMENT

The adoption of a uniform watermark for all stamp denominations was a step that provided the obvious solution to the many difficulties that continually plagued the Victorian Stamp Printer in relation to postage stamp paper in the early 1860's. The use of a different watermark (at first words of value, and later figures of value) for each different denomination was considered a useful security measure, but the problem of maintaining adequate supplies of each from England had never been solved. The culprit may have been the Treasury, which never permitted the Post Office to purchase sufficiently large quantities at one time. When one type of paper ran out, recourse was had to an "unsuitable" paper — "unsuitable" meaning bearing a watermark intended for another stamp. These various emergency printings and their causes have been detailed in previous articles. A further necessity of the prevailing paper system was the need to maintain separate accountancy records for each type of water-marked paper, entailing bookkeeping which was cumbersome in the extreme.

The solution had been clear to certain central characters for some time. As early as 19 October 1863 the Stamp Printer, F.W. Robinson, during problems with the single-lined numeral paper, wrote "would it not be advisable to have extra water-marked paper available for any kind of stamp having thereon a Crown or other approved design?" The suggestion was ignored at the time but two years, and three emergencies, later the time had come when the introduction of uniform paper had become obvious commonsense. Taking advantage of what in itself was a relatively unimportant event — the proposed issues of a new 3d stamp in the Laureate design — the Inspector of Stamps, J.H. Gibbs, wrote a lengthy memorandum on 16 November 1865 to the Deputy Postmaster-General:

A Dandy-roller will be required for the manufacture of a fresh supply of threepenny watermarked paper. This being necessary, the following alterations are suggested, viz.:

1. That instead of the sheets being marked with the numeral "3" as at present, in future all paper bear the watermark in the form of a crown. This mark is used by the General Post Office London.

2. Such a roller would be answerable for all paper required of whatever denomination and would dispense with the present labourious mode of dealing with the paper under its respective divisions and of keeping a classified stock.

3. The roller being so marked would get rid of the liability of running short of any particular kind of paper and having to print upon that containing a watermark opposed to the value of the stamp manufactured. Again, from the amount of time consumed in counting the sheets for the printer and the liability of doing it correctly the following mode of preparing the paper is recommended.

First. That all sheets of paper be made as per pattern sheet herewith of an oblong shape with 240 water-marked impressions of a crown with a margin of plain paper at the upper, lower and outer margins of one inch in width; likewise a space of plain paper two inches wide in the centre.

Second. These oblong sheets to be bound up in books of 500 each with stiff paper covers similar to a cheque book and consecutively paged on the right hand top corner of each sheet and the paper being of an oblong form will allow room for binding and the sheets when cut from the book will be of the required size and shape, leaving a block as a check upon the issue to the printer and which can be counted at any time.

Should the above suggestions be carried out it will be necessary to purchase a guillotine paper cutting machine suitable for cutting the sheets from the books. Such a machine would cost about £50 and would be available for other purposes in connection with the manufacture of postage labels, and the number of sheets of paper, of 240 watermarks each, required for a full twelve months consumption will be 75,000 or 150 books of 500 sheets each.

The pattern sheets referred to and attached to the memorandum were two sheets of white paper watermarked "1", and sheets of blue, green and pink paper watermarked "1", "2" and "10" respectively. This memo was forwarded to the Stamp Printer on 17 November for comment, and Robinson's reply the next day suggests he had already had a considerable hand in drafting the original:

Mr. Gibbs' memorandum respecting the postage stamp paper embraces several ideas which have been the subject of conversation between us, and of the advantage of which we were both agreed.

The size and arrangement of the double sheet I suggested when it appeared certain that we were to have a printing machine equal to a sheet of 240 stamps, and I intended that at least the leading kinds—1d, 2d, 4d and 6d—should have double sets of dies for that purpose, which was one of the great results that would certainly follow the introduction of appliances equal to that object.

It would certainly be better now that it is found that supplies of each separate kind cannot be kept up, and consequently the anomaly of printing tenpenny stamps upon eightpenny paper, and the like, has to be resorted to, if an uniform watermark was adopted, whatever the design—say a kangaroo or other Colonial emblem—by which means full supply could be kept up with a much less quantity than with the diverse designs at present in use.

I believe also, as you will remember, that some slight binding of the sheets together would be a safer mode of keeping the paper than the present one, whilst the convenience of counting would be greatly facilitated by the clean cut edge of the guillotine paper cutting machines, which would leave the block as the best check as to the quantity issued.

The file is annotated by William Turner (Deputy P.M.G.) "Hold until it is decided what sort of machine shall be obtained." A printing of the 3d from the old Beaded Oval plate in maroon delayed the necessity of a decision on the paper for the 3d stamps, but the subject was again raised when on 28 February 1866 Gibbs sent a memorandum giving the quantities required of the various numeral papers for the next year. In commenting on these quantities Robinson added:

... We still require a watermarked paper for the threepenny stamp therefore if you should think it advisable to adopt an uniform design for all kinds it would now be a favourable opportunity. This plan coupled with the other suggestions embodied in a former memorandum on the same subject, would be productive of many advantages to which reference has been before made.

With the uniform design of watermark it would be well (as a means of variety and contrast) to order some other kinds of tinted paper.

At the request of the Deputy P.M.G., the P.O. Storekeeper, J.P. Atkinson, provided a summary of the proposals to be submitted to the Treasury:

*Memorandum of Mr. Robinson's recommendations*

1. That a uniform design for the watermarked paper be adopted.
2. That the paper be double the size of that now issued.
3. That it be bound in books of 500 sheets each—with butts—and both sheets and butts numbered.
4. That a cutting machine be purchased for the purpose of dividing the paper from the butts, and that the butts shall be preserved as a check on the issues of paper to the printer.
5. That the paper be obtained from De La Rue & Co. and be of the same quality as previously supplied by them.
6. That a straw coloured paper be ordered for the 3d (Threepenny) stamp.
7. In the event of separate denominations being continued in the watermark, a Dandy Roller for the Threepenny paper be ordered.

The last two recommendations were never adopted. On 8 March 1866 Robinson wrote to Atkinson indicating the various tinted papers that would be required:

With reference to the additional kinds of tinted papers to be ordered from Messrs. De La Rue & Co. I would suggest the following:

Pale Canary  
Deep Canary  
Light Brown  
Light Drab  
Pale Lavender

I have been unable to obtain samples of all the colours, but have appended each as I have at command. The samples, of course, merely refer to colour, and not to the required quality.



Meanwhile, Gibbs had written to the Deputy P.M.G. on 6 March giving revised estimates of paper requirements if proposed postal rate changes were implemented:

Should the present fourpenny rate of postage be reduced to twopence it will be necessary to substitute the following list of watermarked paper in lieu of that sent in on the 28th ulto.

40,000 sheets of 1d  
80,000 sheets of 2d  
1,000 sheets of 3d  
15,000 sheets of 4d  
15,000 sheets of 6d  
15,000 sheets of 8d  
1,000 sheets of 10d  
1,500 sheets of 1/-  
1,000 sheets of 2/-

What supply have we on hand now. Can we wait for a few weeks before sending for any more?

W.T(urner) 6/3/66

By the book kept in the store there is sufficient watermarked paper to last as follows:-

62,248 sheets of 1d will last 2 years  
33,000 sheets of 2d will last 2 years  
1,500 sheets of 3d will last 3 years  
55,750 sheets of 4d will last 1½ years  
26,750 sheets of 6d will last 2½ years  
14,750 sheets of 8d will last for several years  
9,499 sheets of 10d will last for several years  
9,499 sheets of 1/- will last for several years  
9,674 sheets of 2/- will last for several years

Although there is a large stock on hand I would state that the greater part of it is objectionable for use except in cases of emergency.

J.H. Gibbs 15/3/66

The "objectionable" paper to which Gibbs referred was that borrowed from Tasmania, i.e., the double-lined numeral paper.

On 16 March Atkinson forwarded his estimate for the cost of the new paper as £350. An order was drafted and sent to the Treasury on 23 March:

*Postage Stamp Watermarked Paper*

to be ordered from London of Messrs. De La Rue & CO., viz.:

20,000 sheets White  
5,000 sheets Pale Canary  
5,000 sheets Deep Canary  
5,000 sheets Light Brown  
5,000 sheets Light Drab  
5,000 sheets Pale Lavender

---

45,000 sheets size of pattern

The whole to be watermarked from one uniform design similar to the sketch in the margin. The butt to have the words "Victoria Postage" watermarked as indicated.

To be slightly bound in books of 500 each both sheets and butts numbered from 1 to 500 as indicated. Sample sheet annexed.

Paper to be of the same quality as sample sheet and to be supplied by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. Dandy Roller with Royal Crown and initial V to be provided.

The sketch of the watermark device in the margin was as follows (this is a copy of Rundell's copy of the original):



The order was despatched to the Colonial Agent-General in London on 26 March 1866. De La Rue's estimate, dated 20 July 1866, was for £320, comprising £95 for the dandy roll, and the paper at the rate of 100/-per 1,000 sheets.

The Colonial Agent-General wrote to the Treasury, Melbourne on 26 July regarding the order and enclosing the estimate:

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of 26th March enclosing a requisition for postage stamp paper, with a watermark according to the sketch forwarded by you. In reply I have to acquaint you that the order has as requested by you been placed in the hands of Messrs. De La Rue & Co. for execution. It appears that a slight modification must be made from the design, but at the same time the alteration will not materially differ from your sketch.

I enclose copy of the estimate received from Messrs De La Rue & Co., from which it will be seen that four months from this time will be occupied in complying with the demand; so soon however as a perfect sheet can be procured from the dandy roller it shall be sent to you.

You will observe in the estimate that an allowance of 20 per cent will be made for "Retrées". This term is applied to paper very slightly imperfect but which can be used for printing without any defect being seen. The Crown Agents have accepted the estimate in this form, saving an additional cost of 10/-per ream for the paper which would have been made had the Crown Agents declined to receive the "Retrée".

This retrée paper was accepted by the Victorian Post Office, both on this occasion and with most subsequent consignments. Retrée paper was not bound into books like the main supply. On 19 November 1866 the Colonial Agent-General wrote again to the Treasury, enclosing a rough sample sheet of the new paper, and stated "the whole supply, properly sized and finished, will be shipped early in December." The Under-Treasurer, E.S. Symonds, eventually forwarded this sample sheet to the Deputy P.M.G. on 14 January 1867.

On 14 December 1866 the Colonial Agent-General wrote to the Treasury to inform them that the paper had been shipped per the *Reigate*, and enclosed the invoice.

#### *The Arrival of the Paper*

After some months Under-Treasurer Symonds, not having heard anything of the new paper, sent a memorandum on the subject to the Inspector of Stores (F.F. Moore) on 11 March 1867. That gentleman eventually replied on 7 April 1867:

The 4 cases of Postage Stamp Paper have been duly received. As the paper is not immediately required, I have been requested to keep it at these stores until wanted. The cases are all in good condition and will remain here unopened to the order of the Deputy P.M.G.

This was probably written the day after the paper had arrived in Melbourne. The De La Rue invoice lists five cases, not four. The fifth case contained the dandy roll, which had been retained by the Colonial Agent-General in London. De La Rue's invoice, dated 6 December 1866, reads as follows:



(Size of paper 24¾ x 14—13lb.) 5 Packing Cases

4. 4. 0

One Dandy Roller with Royal Crown, and Initial V.

95. 0. 0

Making from the above Dandy Roller the following quantities of postage paper each sheet containing 240 Watermarks with the Marginal lettering and the whole bound in books of 500 Sheets and each book numbered one to 500 viz.

37 Rms.	190 sheets	white	= 18690 sheets
11 Rms.		Brown	= 5500 sheets
10 Rms.		Drab	= 5000 sheets
10 Rms.		Lavender	= 5000 sheets
10 Rms.		Deep Canary	= 5000 sheets
8 Rms.		Pale Canary	= 4000 sheets

---

86 Rms. 190 sheets 43190 @100/- p. 1000

215. 19. 0

37 Rms. 1000 sheets white

37 Rms. 141 sheets Brown

37 Rms. 201 sheets Drab

37 Rms. 84 sheets Lavender

37 Rms. 450 sheets Deep Canary

37 Rms. 179 sheets Pale Canary

37 Rms. —

37 Rms. 2055 sheets —20% less than perfect.

@80/-p. 1000

8. 4. 8

---

£323.7.8

---

The date of arrival of the paper in Melbourne is of considerable interest. It can be shown that the first printings on V over Crown paper were of 1d and 3d stamps on 30 July 1867, over three months after the paper's arrival. The earliest known date of use is for the 1d, 10 August 1867. The reason for the delay in its use must have been that a decision was made to continue the use of the single-line numeral papers to exhaustion. At the time of the arrival of the V over Crown paper, the "1" and "2" paper had been exhausted, and emergency printings of the 1d and 2d Laureates were in progress. These emergency printings were made on "4", "6" and "8" watermarked papers, and were continued until those were exhausted late in July 1867. One reason for this decision may have been that the quantity ordered of the white V over Crown paper was ridiculously small, and would not last more than four months! It might be noted that Rundell, in the *Australian Stamp Journal*, May 1934, page 73, stated that the first consignment of V over Crown paper arrived on board the *Bombay* on 10 July 1867. This he inferred from the first usage of the paper, but that is not correct. Rundell had no access to the Treasury memoranda quoted here.

### *The Smallness of the Order*

It is not possible to say why so little white paper was ordered. Gibbs, in November 1865, had suggested 75,000 sheets as the annual requirement. That, in fact, was an overstatement, but perhaps was a deliberate one in the light of previous experiences with the late arrival of orders. The total of both white and coloured papers was a sufficient quantity, but only if the coloured papers could be used for the most needed values of 1d, 2d and 4d. There is no evidence from the archives that this was ever intended. The lavender paper was eventually used for 2d stamps in the extreme emergency of 1868, but only after every variety of white watermarked paper had been exhausted. The other coloured papers were still in stock many years later, and it would seem that they were ordered without any notion of what use would be made of them. The error of quantity for the white paper must be attributed to the Post Office and not the Treasury, since the quantities ordered were those suggested by Atkinson.

The result was disaster. The white V over Crown paper was used up in a few months and a new round of emergency printings then began. These used up first the remaining Tasmanian double-lined "1" and "4" paper, moved on to the dregs of the words of value papers, and continued with the lavender V over Crown paper. At the time of the arrival of the second consignment of V over Crown paper in August 1868 there was literally not one sheet of white watermarked paper left!

### *Characteristics of the Paper*

The size of the sheet of watermarked paper was 14 inches x 24¾ inches. The marginal watermark "VICTORIA POSTAGE", in double-lined capitals, appeared at the top and bottom of each framed block of 120 watermarks. In the top margin of the upper block and the lower margin of the lower block there is a cross (+) between the two words.

The sheets were bound into books of 500 sheets each. Both the sheet, and the butt left in the book after guillotining, were numbered consecutively 1 to 500. This number appears on the sheet at the upper right corner. Since the sheet of 240 watermarks comprised two P.O. sheets of 120 normal-sized stamps, only every second sheet of printed stamps bore this page number. Up to 1872 the butt also bore a "VICTORIA POSTAGE" watermark.

This first consignment paper did not entirely escape criticism from the locals. On 15 August 1868, shortly after the first printings had been made, William Turner addressed the following memorandum to the Treasury:

Samples received. The paper has come to hand and been taken into stock. Some portion of the white has been printed but is found not to be sufficiently sized to bear the gum without disfiguring the printed label.

This complaint was no doubt being relayed from F.W. Robinson, the Stamp Printer, but Atkinson apparently did not consider it a serious one for, a few days earlier, he wrote that the defect could be corrected by "a very simple operation." This probably involved a mild "starching and ironing" of the back of the paper. Turner's observations were forwarded to the Colonial Agent-General in London, who passed them on to De La Rue on 14 October 1867, but the reply of the Company is not in evidence.

### *Usage*

This first consignment of V over Crown paper is the only one that can be treated in detail as a discrete order, since due to its smallness it was used up very quickly (so far as the white paper was concerned), well before the second consignment arrived. Consequently the printings on this first consignment paper are chronologically distinct from those on all the later consignments. This special status is recognised by the separate listing given in the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue.

It may be of some interest to summarise the usage of the first consignment white paper. This usage has been inferred from philatelic observations in conjunction with a study of the postage stamp ledger listing dates of delivery into stock. The paper ledger, which could give complete and accurate details of usage, is missing for the years 1864-1871. The quantities given here are based on the researches of the late J.R.W. Purves, and can be considered to supersede any figures published previously.

There were 39,380 sheets (counted as 120 watermarks, the total of both the bound books and the retriée paper) of white paper received, sufficient to print 4,725,600 normal-sized stamps. It was used as follows:

1d Laureate (July-August 1867)	390,000
2d Laureate (August 1867-January 1868, and August 1868)	3,761,640
3d Laureate (July 1867, and June 1868)	98,880
4d Laureate (October 1867)	60,000
6d Laureate (October 1867-March 1868)	282,000
5/-blue and red Laureate (April 1868)	5,000
Total	4,598,520

The 5,000 5/-Laureate stamps is the equivalent of 6,000 normal-sized stamps. It should be noted that this stamp was printed in April 1868, but not issued until October that year. It is not listed as a first consignment printing by the Stanley Gibbons catalogue but must be since it pre-dates the arrival of the second consignment.

This leaves 159 sheets unaccounted for. The only questionable figure is for the 2d Laureate, which may be underestimated. Otherwise these sheets may have been inferior or damaged and subsequently destroyed.

### THE SECOND CONSIGNMENT

Immediately after printing on the first consignment of V over Crown white paper began, Gibbs sent a memorandum on 2 August 1867 advising of the urgent need for a further quantity to be ordered:

The quantity of watermarked paper recently received from Messrs De La Rue & Co. of London being insufficient to meet demands it is submitted that one hundred books of five hundred sheets, each of two hundred and forty watermarks each sheet, and each book bound and paged as upon the last occasion be sent for by the next mail to England.

It is also submitted that some alteration be made either in the preparation or the quality of the future paper whichever may be deemed necessary in consequence of the large number of spoiled sheets of stamps that are now being delivered by the printer.

The quantity mentioned in above paragraph would last about twelve months.

Gibbs' complaint about the paper reiterates those already mentioned, and the remarks about spoilt sheets suggests the idea that a small quantity of the first consignment paper was never printed may be correct.

Just prior to the introduction of the V over Crown paper there had been a reorganisation in the Stamp Printing Branch with the retirement of F.W. Robinson on 21 May 1867. J.P. Atkinson was made Stamp Printer, assuming the office from 17 June 1867. On 12 August 1867 Atkinson was asked to provide specifications for the new order of paper, and in doing so made comment on the defects already referred to:

Annexed is a specification and pattern sheet of the paper required to be ordered from England.

The paper recently taken into stock is well adapted for printing though hardly sufficiently sized to bear the gum. This however can be remedied by a very simple operation after the stamps are printed. It is difficult to combine the two qualities of paper although in the specification I have provided for a good printing paper that will bear the gum. At the same time I would submit that the Agent General should be instructed to procure the same quality of paper used for the British Postage Stamps and if possible of the same maker.

The sheets of stamps referred to by Mr Gibbs were spoiled while he had charge of the Printing Office during my temporary absence from sickness.

The order was sent to the Treasury on 22 August 1867 and despatched from there to the Agent-General in London on 28 September. At this point disaster struck, as it seemed so often to do where the watermarked paper was concerned. It is not absolutely clear if De La Rue's correspondence book is complete for this period, but according to it this order was sent to them by the Agent-General only on 2 April 1868, more than six months after its despatch from Melbourne! In the meantime, the Victorian P.O. had urged the Treasury, on 12 December 1867, to try to expedite the order.

There is no suggestion in the Agent-General's letter to De La Rue on 2 April 1868 that the order enclosed was being delivered late, and De La Rue acknowledged it briefly two days later. The letter sent by the Treasury on 28 September 1867 would have reached London via the P. & O. service on 22 November, so it seems that it took over four months for the Agent-General to pass the order on to De La Rue, and that the blame lies clearly in his lap. This was to have far-reaching effects in the Colony.

With no sign of the paper almost ten months after it had been ordered, Atkinson on 17 June 1868 again asked that enquiries be made, and the Treasury sent another letter to the Agent-General on 30 June emphasising the urgent need. In fact, the paper was then on its way.

The invoice for the second consignment of V over Crown paper was dated 12 June 1868:

Victoria Postage Paper

Making from Victoria postage dandy roller 48,000 sheets of watermarked paper, each sheet containing 240 watermarks, with marginal lettering and bound in books of 500 sheets, each book numbered both on sheets and butts. No. 1 to 500 @ per 1000 sheets

100/-      240      -      -

6,500 sheets retrée, also bound as above and also numbered 1 to 500 in each book @

80/-      26      -      -

5 Cases lined tin

3      6      -  
£269      6      -

The paper was shipped on two vessels. One case, containing only 14 books, was on the P. & O. steamer *Travancore* which, connecting with the *Tanjore, China* and *Geelong*, arrived in Melbourne on 5 August 1868. A note from the Inspector of Stores states that "The case of postage stamp paper was delivered at the General Post Office on the 11th inst." The other four cases, comprising 95 books of paper, were despatched on the sailing vessel *True Briton*. This vessel did not reach Melbourne until 19 September 1868.

*The Borrowed New South Wales Paper*

Two factors — the inadequate quantity of white paper ordered with the first consignment of V over Crown paper, and the long delay in receiving the second consignment — combined to produce the worst stamp paper shortage in Victoria's philatelic history. The first consignment white paper lasted until early in 1868. Then began a series of emergency printings on whatever white watermarked paper was available:

- 1d, 2d, 3d and 6d Laureates on Tasmanian paper watermarked Double-lined 1
- 1d, 2d, 4d and 6d Laureates on Tasmanian paper watermarked Double-lined 4
- 1d and 6d Laureates on Saunders paper watermarked SIX PENCE
- 6d Laureate on Saunders paper watermarked THREE PENCE
- 6d Laureate on Saunders paper watermarked FOUR PENCE

The last two mentioned were certainly printed in the 1868 emergency period, although not issued until 1870. It also appears likely that the 6d Laureate errors of

watermark (single-line 4, double-line 2) were not really mistakes, but deliberate printings on a few sheets of stray paper. On 10 June 1868 Gibbs sent this memorandum to the Deputy P.M.G.:

At the present time there is in the hands of the Deputy Postmaster General and Mr Gibbs, about 12,000 sheets of watermarked paper (white) and at the present rate of consumption, namely, about 2,500 sheets per week, this quantity will only last between four and five weeks.

It is submitted for the purpose of preventing coloured watermarked or plain white paper from being brought into use, that the neighbouring colonies be applied to, asking them either to sell or lend what they can spare (if any) until such times as our paper on order arrives from England.

Write to P.M.G. N.S.W. and ask if he can spare us 20,000 sheets or even a smaller quantity of white watermarked paper.

H.P. B(ance) 18/6/68

Done. 22/6/68

The Secretary of the New South Wales P.O., S.F. Lambton, replied to this request on 17 July:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 22nd ultimo F.68/441 enquiring whether 20,000 sheets (or even a smaller quantity) of white watermarked paper could be spared for the use of your Department: and in reply I have to inform you that the Hon. the Colonial Treasurer, who has the control of the Stamp Department has directed twenty (20) reams of Duty Stamp Paper be supplied to you as a sale. This paper was forwarded through the Clerk of Stores to Melbourne, on Friday last per "City of Melbourne" and as soon as the invoices for the same have been furnished to this Department, they will be transmitted to you.

Mr Atkinson to note—We shall have to use this paper when the lavender coloured paper is finished.

H.P. B(ance) 22/7/68

The appended note is of some importance as the only archival reference which has been found relative to the use of the lavender tinted V over Crown paper. It indicates that all the white paper had been exhausted and, apparently a decision being reached not to utilise plain (i.e., unwatermarked) white paper, recourse was had to the lavender paper. Printings of the 2d Laureate on that paper were made in July-August 1868 and consumed all but 160 of the 5,000 sheets that had been supplied in 1867. The reason the lavender paper continued to be used rather than the New South Wales paper is evident from this Atkinson memorandum dated 20 July 1868:

One case containing 20 reams received from Inspector of Stores, and placed in Mr Gibbs custody. The size of the paper is however too small for our formes; and unless absolutely necessary to bring it into use, I would submit that it be held over for the present with a view to its being eventually returned.

The Post Office, however, was probably obliged to take this paper. According to the invoice dated 28 July, the "20 reams stamp paper specially and chemically prepared—inclusive of packing" cost £34.

This paper was in sheets of a pale greenish tinge measuring  $22\frac{3}{8} \times 10\frac{1}{4}$  inches, containing two panes of watermarks, each pane having the watermark "NSW" repeated 60 times (in ten rows of six) enclosed in a rectangular frame measuring  $8\frac{1}{8} \times 9\frac{3}{4}$  inches. On the top and bottom of each pane is the watermark "STAMP DUTY" and at the sides "NEW SOUTH WALES". The paper remained in stock until 1881 when it was used up for printing newspaper wrappers.

The 14 books from the second consignment of V over Crown paper (sufficient to print 1,680,000 stamps) that were delivered to the G.P.O. on 11 August 1868 were immediately pressed into use for printings of the 2d Laureate. The earliest known date for the 2d on second consignment paper is 26 August 1868. This paper was sufficient until the main supply arrived on 19 September. The total quantity of paper taken into stock in 1868 (i.e., the second consignment), according to Hill, was 108,944 sheets (of 120 watermarks).



A major calamity had been avoided, but only just. The situation improved from this point, and there was not another paper shortage in Victoria until 1878.

### THE THIRD CONSIGNMENT

The origin of the next paper order is a memorandum dated 21 November 1868 from Gibbs:

There being at present only eight months supply of white watermarked paper in stock, it is submitted that an order be sent by the first mail to Messrs De La Rue & Co. London for 120 Books, each book to contain 500 sheets, and each sheet 240 watermarks, amounting in the whole to 60,000 sheets, or about one years consumption. The books to be bound and paged as heretofore.

It is further submitted that Messrs De La Rue & Co. be requested to ship without fail either the whole or any portion of the paper, within three months after they receive the order.

On 9 January 1869 Atkinson submitted a firm order to the Acting Deputy P.M.G. (Captain Bance) in which the quantity was increased:

Submitted that an order be forwarded through the Honble. the Treasurer by the next overland mail for 100,000 (one hundred thousand) sheets postage stamp paper in accordance with the annexed specification and sample sheets (two).

It is also submitted that the Hon. the Treasurer be requested to make the necessary advance to meet amended account.

Immediate despatch of at least a portion of the paper should be urged, and by the speediest mode of conveyance.

The order was forwarded to the Treasury on 14 January 1869. This was the first postage stamp paper order to be handled by the newly-appointed Victorian Agent-General in London. It was sent by him to De La Rue on 23 March 1869.

Further details regarding this order are fragmentary, and in the absence of the invoice, even the exact quantity sent is not known. Letters from the De La Rue correspondence book include one of 17 April 1869 announcing that 3,000 sheets of paper had been sent, and one of 8 May from the Agent-General to De La Rue to say that the shippers had been informed the paper was ready. This would suggest shipment per P. & O. steamer *Pera* leaving on 15 May, and arriving at Melbourne per *Geelong* on 6 July. A note by David Hill in the *Australian Philatelist*, September 1895, page 191, states that nearly 200,000 sheets of white paper (reckoned as sheets of 120 watermarks) was taken into stock in October 1869. This is some time after our computed arrival date in Melbourne, but in the absence of any urgent need for the paper, it may have been held in Government Stores for some time prior to transfer to the G.P.O. A further manuscript note by Hill that has been seen states that 223,004 sheets (of 120 watermarks each) of watermarked paper were taken into stock in 1869. This must represent this third consignment since it was the only paper received in 1869, and the figure, I think, can be taken as accurate.

(to be continued)

## THE LOSS OF A PIN

By P. JAFFE

We know that for the loss of a nail, the battle was lost, but to a philatelist the loss of a perforation pin may provide useful information.

Consider the missing pin at the side(s) of the Antigua 6d watermark Cron CC (reversed) which occurs five pins up from the bottom in the 12.5 gauge line perforation. An example, cancelled A18 for English Harbour, shows the Sefi No. 1 reentry (mark in foot of "S" of "SIX"), being No. 59 on the sheet of 120. The line interpane watermark falls on the right.

A.W. Morley and F.G. Marshall (*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, January-March 1952) had noted the importance of the vertical line watermark to left in placing Sefi No. 2 reentry as No. 91 of 120. No comment is made on missing pins or reversed watermarks in this article on Antigua reentries on the 6d value. Seemingly the standard of philatelic scholarship and analysis has improved markedly in 35 years, partly because of J.R.W. Purves and P. Jaffé on De La Rue reversed watermarks for line engraved stamps. Morley and Marshall do not appear to have noted that while the Antigua 6d watermark Crown CC quite often has watermark reversed, the Crown CA never appears to have other than the normal position. The economy cutting of paper by De La Rue was a late development. Wastage was reduced by cutting the machine-made Crown CA paper from the roll in a manner which allows the inscribed borders between the four sheet panes to be utilised.

In the case of the Perkins Bacon 1875 1d Grenada, watermark Large Star, there is a missing perforation pin in the Somerset House 14 comb in the last column (about mid-stamp) on the right (by printed sheet), so that stamps can be placed in column 12 even if no marginal line watermark appears. No similar variety is recorded on the 1/-violet with its hand-set surcharge, nor in the companion fiscals, which may have been perforated on another Somerset House comb machine. Some at least of the comb machines may have had moveable side pieces (teeth) to enable stamps of varied width and height to be perforated.

Of De La Rue surface-printed stamps missing perforation pins have been noted on Ceylon (printed in rows of 12 with wing margins in centre) and Mauritius. In De La Rue line-engraved the St. Vincent 1882 1d drab, which comes with both normal and reversed Crown CA watermark, the missing pin occurs in column 7, but not always. There were two printings of this stamp.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

### *R.P.S.V. Luncheon at SYDPEX*

Thirty-eight members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria were at the Society's luncheon at Walker's Seafood Restaurant, Surry Hills, Sydney, for those attending SYDPEX 88.

Among those present were an American member, Mr Dale Forster, of Portland, Oregon,

and two New Zealand members, Mrs M.H.R. Horton and Mr Barry Scott, both of Auckland.

The President, Mr J.B. Trowbridge, presented Mr Hugh Campbell, R.D.P., with his Honorary Life Membership Certificate.



*Proud, Unexpected Honour*

A proud but surely unexpected honour for The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand is chronicled in the September issue of the *New Zealand Stamp Collector*.

The issue marks the centenary month of The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand and its first article is the Society's 100th annual report.

This records its pleasure that during the year two of its members had been invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists—Mr G.J. Elliott, of Auckland, and Mr P.H. Jensen, of Oslo.

Mr Elliott joined the Society in 1966 and Mr Jensen in 1980.

*Purves Firm Merger*

Purves and Purves, the law firm of the late J.R.W. Purves, and another long-established Melbourne commercial law firm, Clarke Richards, have merged.

Happily, the Purves name lives on. The new firm is Purves Clark Richards.

*R.P.S.V. Officers*

Officers of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria for 1988-89 are:

President, Mr J.B. Trowbridge

Vice-President, Mr D.R. Terrington

Immediate Past-President, Mr G. Russell Jones

Secretary, Miss Myra Farley, F.R.P.S.L.

Treasurer, Mr J. MacDonnell

Council, Messrs P.J. Barlow, J. Boykett, T.A. Carter, W.F. Roemer, F.R.P.S.L., J.A. Sinfield, M.B. Watson, G.J. Weeks, and G.T. White, F.R.P.S.L.

Librarian, Dr G.N. Kellow

Superintendent Exchange Branch, Mr H. Teltscher

Superintendent Sale Branch, Mr P.M. Stratton

Press Correspondent, Mr H.L. Chisholm, F.R.P.S.L.

## BOOK REVIEWS

*G.R.I.*, by Robert Gibbs. Published by Christie's-Robson Lowe, 39 Poole Hill, Bournemouth, England, BH2 5PX. 25 x 18.5cm. 275pp. Price, £60, plus postage.

Great philatelic books can live in spite of failures to reach perfection. Your reviewer criticised Kanai's *Mauritius*, mainly on postmarks, Purves' *Half-Lengths of Victoria*, because it demands the possession of Pack's earlier book, and Pierce, Messenger and Lowe's *St. Vincent* because it has some camel (designed by a committee) character. Collectors should be grateful for what they have received from authors, and accept the obligation to do more. *G.R.I.* must surely be almost complete, and it will be hard for any student to gather more of the rare material.

Of general interest to philatelists are terms such as setting. In an engraved plate it is usual to notice second states and fresh entries for individual positions. So should overprints and surcharges be classified as resettings (or respacings) rather than fresh settings, which should perhaps be restricted to demolishing, type redistribution and fresh setting in the forme. Only by precision can the actual course of events in the print shops be envisaged by non-technical readers.

Robson Lowe's foreword includes "if Bob has not plated a stamp it is unplateable". Since the number of collectors of one or more of the six Pacific or African ex-German territories which used *G.R.I.* or related overprints is nowhere near the 1,000 copies set for this handsome edition, the publishers clearly expect it to be of lasting value to the select and appreciative few and a source of

pleasure and instruction to a wider circle.

First, the book is well-produced, with 30 splendid colour plates and numerous other illustrations, a bibliography (which would have been improved by insertion of publication dates), and maps as end papers.

Secondly, the background to the issues is provided with contemporary record, even to disclosing perfide Albion in the matter of the Togo mark values, none of which went to the French. Of local interest is the court martial of a temporary gentleman who tried to corner overprints, unlike the pukka Britons who thought of their collector King. The picture of the then stamp trade ranges from students of overprinting to greedy merchants willing to bribe, and to denigrate the goods of competitors.

The reservations the reader should have cover the justification for the issues ("for one shilling cash I will surcharge your 3 marks stamp one shilling?"). The S.S.S.S. (Society for Suppression of Speculative Stamps) would not have approved, and the issue of OS stamps in New Guinea seems unnecessary.

Robert Gibbs, a good collector, is prepared to give a new discovery the benefit of the doubt—an attitude which conflicts with that of an expert committee, which should follow a harder line. And like any interesting writer, he is at liberty to include C.E.F., Mafia and Anglo-French Occupation of Togo with the Australian *G.R.I.* proper. Even Zanzibar items get a mention. He has ignored N.F., I.E.F., and the considerable South-West African campaigns fought without triumphant but largely postally unnecessary surcharges.

For the G.R.I. overprints the author describes in detail eleven settings of the low values, and provides a twelfth, still not reconstructed. He makes clear the difficulties of keeping "G.R.I.", and particularly "d." static while changing the values in the small stamps. Overprinting a line of 10 at a time was slow; the change at setting 6 to half-lines of 5 may have been to treat broken sheets and even single stamps. The seven settings of the shilling values, which have been studied in part from photographs, were printed in lines of 4. The sheets were surcharged from the bottom upwards. The size of the last three high value settings is unknown. In the registration labels, settings were of 5 (A, B, C, D, E and F) or 10 (G and H), but it seems that two line settings less than 5 across are the explanation for settings HA, HB and J.

Having looked at some of the unusual 2½d values other less charitable explanations may occur for these rare items. Misuse of genuine type has presented problems for experts for years, and the 3d registration labels were not even printed on a government issue base.

The full listing of New Guinea cancellations

(with a linking table to Powell's monograph) would have been more helpful if a comment such as "unknown on commercial mail" or "frequently backdated" had been added.

The complete absence of money valuations is delightful. However, estimates of totals which could exist may be as useful as numbers recorded, as 3K.

Looking forward, surely forgery is to be feared. Are there no German Colonial imitations, particularly of mark values? Should we not be told of differences between head plates and plate marks to position these? "Letraset" techniques enable the imitation of surcharges to be undertaken; who can guess what forgers will develop in the first quarter of the 21st century?

If Transvaal has a higher proportion of rare stamps than any other classic country, the six countries covered by Gibbs must surely have a claim for the 20th century.

So well done Robert Gibbs and all who assisted him.

P.JAFFE

## THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

### *Travelling Post Offices of Victoria*

The display at the meeting of 18 July was provided by Mr Roy Holland, who had travelled from England to attend Sydrex 1988. His exhibit of Australian T.P.O.'s at Sydrex was awarded a gold medal, and members were given the opportunity of inspecting the Victorian portion of this collection.

The sheets shown demonstrated the various T.P.O. routes that operated and the types of postmarks that were used.

Amongst the highlights were the T.P.O. 1 oval datestamp on a cover of 14 August 1865, the earliest known date. There was a manuscript "T.P.O. No. 11" on cover, and the spectacular, and unique, T.P.O. 17 mail bag seal used on a newspaper wrapper. The rare T.P.O. 10 Down Train small octagon datestamp was as shown on two postcards.

Also on display were the only two examples known of the Bruthen-Bendoc T.P.O. rubber handstamp.

There were no less than five covers postmarked with the "R.M.S.S. Hobson's Bay" datestamp, one of which in addition had the boxed "INSUFFICIENTLY PAID FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM VIA BRINDISI" handstamp. There were also a number of covers shown bearing French and German maritime markings.

The display was completed with a small selection of items from the other States. These included

an 1870 Marine P.O. cover from South Australia, and an 1887 cover from England to the Loyalty Is. with the very rare "B. M. Noumea-Sydney" transit marking.

### *Postal History of the Port Phillip District*

The display at the October meeting was given by Mr Ray Kelly, who showed the Postal History of the Port Phillip District, 1837-1851.

The earliest known marking, the circular "MELBOURNE N.S.W." was shown on an 1842 entire that also bore a boxed "PAID AT MELBOURNE".

Other "PAID" markings were shown for Alberton, Bunneryong, Burn Bank, Gisborne, Horsham, Kilmore, Ovens, Port Fairy, Seymour, The Glenelg, The Grange, and Warnambool. Another prepaid marking shown was the handstruck "1" of Geelong on entire, a much rarer marking than the companion handstruck "2".

"FREE" markings were shown from Mount Macedon and Seymour, and the manuscript "Munro's Inn" was on an 1849 entire.

There was a fine selection of the 2d Half-Length adhesive shown used from various country towns in conjunction with the "Port Phillip" datestamps. Examples were shown from Fiery Creek, Kilmore, Mount Macedon, Ovens, Port Fairy, and Timboon.

A fascinating item was an 1851 stampless entire which bore a Crowlands Victoria datestamp of 7 June 1851. This is by far the earliest known date for a "Victoria" datestamp, and in fact predates the official date of separation from New South Wales, 1 July 1851, when the name "Victoria" was officially adopted.

#### *Grenada*

The display at the meeting of 17 November was provided by Mr Russell Jones, who showed his award-winning collection of Grenada.

Mr Jones displayed a wide selection of 19th century material, beginning with early entires of 1772, 1776, 1783 and 1784 without Grenada markings. An 1800 entire to Scotland bore a straight line "GRENADA/12 APR 1800", while an entire of 1842 had a straight line "CARRIACOU" ("SHIP LETTERE" excised).

The first issue of 1861 included a 6d die proof

in black, and plate proofs. Issued stamps included the 1d bluish-green, and the 6d perf. 11-12. Of the 1/- surcharge of 1875, there was a die proof of the basic stamp, a rejoined pair overprinted "SPECIMEN", and used copies of the "SHLLIING", "O" omitted, and inverted "S" errors.

There was a comprehensive showing of the 1881 surcharges, with a used pair (the only known) and two used singles of the ½d wmk. upright, and a mint pair imperf. between of the 4d wmk. Broad Star.

There was a mint copy of the inverted "S" variety on the 1881 horizontal "POSTAGE" overprint, and unsevered pairs of the diagonal overprints.

The later numerous surcharges were well-covered, and included a fine selection of errors.

There was a miniature sheet of 12 essays, arranged tete-beche, for the 1882 1d definitive, and a 6d essay for the 1895 keyplate series with hand-painted value tablet.

## **Latin American Literature!**

### **Ecuador: Postal History & Prephilatelic Postmarks**

by L.J. Harris et al. (1985)

Spanish paper **\$25.00**      English-Spanish Hardbound **\$35.00**

### **Central America: Its Postal History & Prephilatelic Postmarks**

by L.J. Harris (1986)

**\$40.00**

### **Honduras: The Black Air Mail**

by I.I. Green (1962)

**\$3.75**

The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York, NY 10016-3806

Member 25% discount. Shipped postpaid if set of 3 titles purchased.

## COLLECT MODERN ISSUES . . .

Max Stern & Co. are leading specialists in worldwide new issues, acting as agents for:

- GREAT BRITAIN • USA • AUSTRIA • SWEDEN
- SINGAPORE • ISLE OF MAN • JERSEY • GUERNSEY
- AND • PAPUA NEW GUINEA

We provide the most comprehensive new issue service in Australia and cater for your thematic requirements.

Join our new issue service—for details, write to:

**MAX STERN & Co.**  
234 Flinders St., Melbourne P.O. Box 997H 3001

Mail to: GPO Box 997H, Melbourne 3001. Phone: (3) 654 6751

Hon. Life Member ASDA Australia

Member ASDA New York

PTS London

# *Australasia*

**Always the Unusual,  
Esoteric & Inimitable...**

We offer Mail Sales with extremely interesting material in the \$25 – \$150 range. In addition, our Public Auctions offer appropriately rare and specialized material.

We are always interested in buying specialized items or collections.

We will be glad to send you our Mail Sale and/or Public Auction catalogs. Please let us know which catalog you desire and include \$1.00 for each catalog requested to cover the cost of air mail.

**George  
Alevizos**

2800 28th Street, Suite 323  
Santa Monica, California 90405  
Telephone: 213/450-2543  
Cal. Auc. Lic. No. A1229

## "STAMP NEWS"

is an informative monthly magazine for philatelists with news stories from around Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific and the rest of the world. Each issue runs to least 96 pages with special features on Australian Commonwealth Philately, Postal Stationery, Investment, Cinderellas, Postcards, Collectibles and much more, brought to you by our worldwide network of informed contributors, and correspondents.

For a free sample copy of "Stamp News", without obligation, write to us, advising that you are a reader of "Philately from Australia".

## "STAMP NEWS"

P.O. Box 1410, Dubbo  
NSW 2830, Australia

# AUSTRALASIA

## Rodney A. Perry Specialists' Register

At last a **direct-sale service** designed exclusively for the collector with individuality! A vast experience in advanced Philately is now available for the benefit of a limited number only of enthusiastic, serious collectors of the categories below.

Register your collecting interests with me now and receive first offer of suitable material from your categories as it becomes available from my universal sources. Expect only non-standard material — of a type which will distinguish your collection from all others — priced from a few tens of dollars upwards.

**My criterion: I endorse only that material which I would proudly collect**

### I Buy also

Offers of material from the categories below are always welcome

<b>Aitutaki</b> <b>Cook Islands</b> <b>Niue</b> <b>Penrhyn Island</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs <input type="checkbox"/> Errors/Major varieties <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery <b>Antarctic</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History <input type="checkbox"/> King Edward VII Land <input type="checkbox"/> Victoria Land <b>Australian Commonwealth</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1901-1912 States Period <input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth Essays/Proofs <input type="checkbox"/> Kangaroos <input type="checkbox"/> King George V <input type="checkbox"/> KGV/QUEI <input type="checkbox"/> Decimal Errors/Major varieties <input type="checkbox"/> Postage Dues (incl NSW/Victoria Forerunners?) <input type="checkbox"/> Official Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Postal Stationery <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History <input type="checkbox"/> First Flight covers <input type="checkbox"/> BCOF/Military Mail <b>New South Wales</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Sydney Views <input type="checkbox"/> Laureates/Diads <input type="checkbox"/> Perforated Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Official Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery <b>Queensland</b> <input type="checkbox"/> NSW used in Queensland <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens	<input type="checkbox"/> Stamps from 1860-1912 <input type="checkbox"/> Postal Fiscals <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery <b>South Australia</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Imperforate stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Rouletted/Perforated Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Officials: Departmental/General <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery <b>Tasmania</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Imperforate Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Perforated Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Postal Fiscals <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery <b>Victoria</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Half-lengths <input type="checkbox"/> Queen-on-Throne <input type="checkbox"/> Woodblocks <input type="checkbox"/> Emblems <input type="checkbox"/> Beaded Ovals/Laureates <input type="checkbox"/> 1870-1900 <input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth Period <input type="checkbox"/> Postal Fiscals <input type="checkbox"/> Postage Dues <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery <b>Western Australia</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Imperforate/Rouletted Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Perforated Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Postal Fiscals <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Christmas Island</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Cocos Islands</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-stamp Postal History <input type="checkbox"/> Errors/Major varieties <b>Fiji</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> 19th-Century stamps <input type="checkbox"/> 20th-Century Errors/Major varieties <input type="checkbox"/> Postage Dues <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery <b>Gilbert &amp; Ellice Islands</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Errors/Major varieties <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History <b>Nauru</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Marshall Islands used in Nauru <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Errors/Major varieties <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History <b>New Guinea</b> <input type="checkbox"/> German New Guinea <input type="checkbox"/> "GRI" overprints <input type="checkbox"/> NW Pacific Islands <input type="checkbox"/> Specialised from 1925 <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery <b>New Hebrides</b> <input type="checkbox"/> NSW used in New Hebrides <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Errors/Major varieties <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History <b>New Zealand</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Chalon Head <input type="checkbox"/> Other 19th-Century Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> 20th-Century Errors/Major varieties <input type="checkbox"/> Postage Dues <input type="checkbox"/> Official Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Life Insurance Dept <input type="checkbox"/> Postal Fiscals <input type="checkbox"/> Postal Stationery <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History <b>Norfolk Island</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-stamp Postal History <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs <input type="checkbox"/> Errors/Major varieties <b>Papua</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Queensland used in Papua <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> British New Guinea (to SG46) <input type="checkbox"/> Specialised later Stamps	<input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery <b>Papua New Guinea</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Australia used in Territory <input type="checkbox"/> Proofs <input type="checkbox"/> Errors/Major varieties <b>Pitcairn Island</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Errors/Major varieties <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History <b>Samoa</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs <input type="checkbox"/> 19th-Century Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> German Samoa <input type="checkbox"/> "GRI" overprints <input type="checkbox"/> Errors/Major varieties <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery <b>Solomon Islands</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Errors/Major varieties <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History <b>Tokelau</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-stamp Postal History <b>Tonga</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Essays/Proofs/Specimens <input type="checkbox"/> Errors/Major varieties <input type="checkbox"/> Postal History/Stationery
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

### RODNEY A. PERRY SPECIALISTS' REGISTER:

Kindly register my specific collecting interests as indicated above. I understand that this information is confidential and places me under no obligation.

Name .....

Address .....

Visitors by appointment only — No stock on premises

Member: Australasian Stamp Dealers Assn. Philatelic Traders Society American Stamp Dealers Assn.

*Rodney A. Perry*

Suite 7, 10th Floor  
 422 Collins Street, Melbourne,  
 Victoria 3000, Australia  
 Phone (03) 497 2466



# THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

The Philatelic Society of Victoria which was founded in 1892, and which in 1946 had the privilege conferred upon it of the use of the prefix "ROYAL", is a Society to which you, as a collector, should belong. Among its many advantages are:

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

★ **MEETINGS** held on the third and fifth Thursday of the month at 7.45 pm in its own premises, 6 Avoca Street, South Yarra, Melbourne 3141.

★ **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.

★ **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: \$50.00; Annual Subscription: City and Metropolitan Members, \$40.00; Country, Interstate and Overseas, \$35.00.

★ **ALL COMMUNICATIONS** should be directed to Miss MYRA FARLEY F.R.P.S.L. (Secretary), Box 2071, GPO, 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 8 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month First Floor Meeting Room, Philas House, 17 Brisbane Street, Sydney.

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

★ **LIBRARY:** A library, comprising 1000 volumes, is available for use of members by arrangement with the Librarian.

★ The Australian States Study Circle publish a quarterly journal *Sydney Views*. Enquiries to P.O. Box C323, Clarence St., 2000, Australia.



★ **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, \$6.00; Country members, \$4.50.

★ **SUBSCRIPTIONS** are due 1 July yearly. There is no entrance fee payable.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to —

**Mrs Shirley Jones, Hon. Secretary — Box 1751 G.P.O. Sydney 2001**

# Publications of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria

The Postal History of the Australian Army During World War 2 (P. Collas)	\$50.00
The Postal History of Internees and Prisoners of War in Australia During World War 2 (P. Collas)	\$15.00
Australian Numeral Cancellations. A Compendium (H.M. Campbell)	\$30.00
Queensland Cancellations & Other Postal Markings 1860-1913 (H.M. Campbell)	\$25.00
South Australia. The Long Stamps 1902-1912 (J.R.W. Purves)	\$25.00
The Pictorial Stamps of Tasmania 1899-1912 (K. Lancaster)	\$40.00
Tasmania: The Postal History & Postal Markings, Part 1 (Campbell, Purves & Viney). 1984 Reprint	\$30.00
The Postal History & Postal Markings, Part II (O. Ingles, Ed.)	\$30.00
Set of 2 ordered together	\$50.00
Victoria: The Postal History of the Port Phillip District (J.R.W. Purves)	\$15.00
The "Registered" and "Too Late" Stamps 1854-1858 (J.R.W. Purves)	\$20.00
Western Australia: The 4d Lithograph 1854-1864 (B. Pope)	\$15.00
Commonwealth of Australia Cumulative Index to Source material (W.M. Holbeach)	\$7.50
J.R.W. Purves, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L. A Philatelic Bibliography (G.N. Kellow)	\$7.50
Philately from Australia Cumulative Index Vols. 1-XXX	\$10.00
(Back issues of Philately from Australia \$5.00 each)	

Postage & Packing \$4 extra per order. Orders over \$75 sent Post Free.

TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME

Please Address All Orders To:-



**STANLEY GIBBONS AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD.**

Suite 412/413 4th Floor, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria. 3000

Tel 670 0086 (GPO Box No. 863J Melbourne, Victoria. 3001.)



# PHILATELY *from* AUSTRALIA

## INDEX

Vol. 40, 1988

*A CHRONICLE OF AUSTRALASIAN STAMPS  
AND THEIR COLLECTORS*



*Editor:* **Dr. G. N. KELLOW**

*Committee:* DR. RUSSELL JONES (*Chairman*), MESSRS H. M. CAMPBELL,  
R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L., R. P. T. CHAPMAN, M.B.E., F.R.P.S.L., H. L. CHISHOLM,  
F.R.P.S.L., F.R.P.N.Z., R. J. KELLY AND M. L. WILLIAMSON.

*Business Manager:* Miss JOYCE BUCHANAN, F.R.P.S.L.

MELBOURNE  
The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria  
Box 2071, G.P.O. 3001.

Aeropex 88, Adelaide	50
Australia	
Australian Commonwealth Collectors' Sets (R.T.P. Chapman)	2
1914 1d King George V Surface-Printing Die, The (T.A. Carter)	74
<i>Postal Stationery</i>	
The Lost Card (B. Caillard)	20
Australian States	
Collard J. Stock of Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. (R. Lowe)	28
Building an Ideal Collection (P. Jaffe)	27
Chapman, J.E. New F.R.P.S.L.	24
Cooper, Sir Daniel, Bart.	49
Exhibitions	
Sydpex 88	24
Thoughts on Sydpex and Exhibiting (H.M. Campbell)	79
Great Britain	
<i>Postal History</i>	
London-Windsor 1911 Air Mail Pilots	49
<i>Postal Stationery</i>	
Unrecorded Ocean Penny Postage Envelope	50
Lloyd-Smith, R.L. Obituary	55
New Zealand	
Czech engraver of 1935 3d definitive	55
Obituaries	55
Perforations	
Loss of a Pin, The (P. Jaffe)	101
Philately from Australia, The Value of	1
Queensland	
<i>Postal Stationery</i>	
Lettercards of Queensland, The (W.C. Walton)	56, 82
New Item of Queensland Postal Stationery, A (L.C. Viney)	43
Roll of Distinguished Philatelists - New Signatories	102
Royal Philatelic Society, London, The	
New Fellows	24
Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, The	
Australian Commonwealth Study Group	34
Life Membership Certificates	81

Luncheon at Sydplex	101
Office Bearers	102
Publications Have Evoked Thoughts	49
Reports	24, 51, 76, 103
St. Vincent	
The Local Surcharges of 1890 and 1892 (P. Jaffe)	12, 48
South Australia	
4d Thick "Postage" Perf. 11½-12½ (K.F. Scudder)	87
South Australian Study Group	24
Sydpex 88, Sydney	24, 34, 79, 101
Tasmania	
Pictorial 1d Recess Plate Varieties (J.E. Orr)	66
<i>Postal Markings</i>	
Launceston Postmarks During the Pictorial Era (J.E. Orr)	35
New Tasmanian Tax Marking, A (K.E. Lancaster)	86
Victoria	
Tasmanian Double-Lined Numeral Watermarked Paper, 1863-1868, The (G.N. Kellow)	44
V over Crown Watermarked Paper, 1867-1896, The (G.N. Kellow)	90
Notes on Victorian Rarities (G.N. Kellow)	
10. 4d Emblems, Vertically Laid Paper, Perforated 12	23
Robinson's 1d Emblems Printing of 1859. An Omission (G.N. Kellow)	12
6d "Adapted" Design of Victoria, 1862-1866, The. A New Substitution (R. Jones)	31
1d Netted Corners. A Second "Cracked Electro" (R. Jones)	64
Robinson "Beaded Oval" and "Laureated" Issues, The (R. Jones)	
1. The 4d "Laureated"	15, 40
Western Australia	
<i>Postal Stationery</i>	
One Penny Handpainting Post Card of Western Australia, The (M. Juhl)	32
Western Samoa	
<i>Postal Markings</i>	
Frank Stamp	50

## CONTRIBUTORS

Caillard, B.	20	Kellow, G.N.	12, 23, 44, 64, 90
Campbell, H.M.	79	Lancaster, K.E.	86
Carter, T.A.	74	Lowe, R.	28
Chapman, R.T.P.	2	Orr, J.E.	35, 66
Jaffe, P.	12, 27, 48, 88, 101	Scudder, K.F.	6, 87
Jones, R.	15, 31, 40, 64	Viney, L.C.	43
Juhl, M.	32	Walton, W.C.	56, 82

## BOOK REVIEWS

<i>Christies-Robson Lowe Review, 1987</i>	50
<i>GRI</i> (T.M. Gibbs)	102
<i>Production of One Penny Post Cards for Western Australia</i> (B. Pope and P. Thomas)	22
<i>Philatelic Subject Index of Victoria, A</i> (G.N. Kellow)	54
<i>Postal History of Thursday Island, The</i> (J.W. Turnbull)	53
<i>South Australian Numeral Cancellations</i> (H.M. Campbell and Dr D.H. Pearce)	53