




POSTAL STATIONERY

COLLECTOR

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THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

The Postal Stationery Society of Australia has been established to encourage the collecting of postal stationery in Australia and New Zealand and to provide a forum for postal stationery collectors to maintain contact with other stationery collectors and to learn more about their hobby. The Society is not based in any particular city or state and plans to hold meetings at national and state level exhibitions. Subscription rate for 2011 has been set at \$35 (Australia) and \$50 (Overseas excluding New Zealand which is \$40). For further information please contact the Convenor, Secretary or your State Coordinator. Membership enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary.

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Postal Stationery Collector

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POSTAL STATIONERY COLLECTOR: SALE OF BACK ISSUES

The Postal Stationery Society of Australia has been publishing its journal *Postal Stationery Collector* since May 1995. It is distributed to financial members four times each year, in February, May, August and November. The Society has always maintained a stock of back issues, which are for sale to both members and non-members.

Description

Issues 1- 9 were produced as photocopies in A4 format, with corner staples, and are available only in that form. They are for sale at \$4.00 each, which includes postage in Australia. Airmail postage to overseas countries is an additional charge.

Issues 10 - 45 are available as original copies, in A4 format and saddle stapled, at \$5 each. This includes postage in Australia, but airmail postage to overseas destinations is extra. Current issues No 46 onwards, are available as original copies, in A4 format and saddle stapled, at \$6 each. This includes postage in Australia, but airmail postage to overseas destinations is extra. Reductions will be available on orders of five (5) copies or more.

Payment

Payment is to be made to the Postal Stationery Society of Australia. In Australia, payment can be made either by cheque (made payable to the PSSA) or by credit card (Visa or Mastercard accepted). For overseas buyers, payment is by credit card. Where payment is by credit card, the transaction will be processed by the Queensland Philatelic Council.

Enquiries

Enquiries re price and availability are to be made either by mail to the Secretary at PO Box 16, Ulmarra NSW 2462 AUSTRALIA or enquire by email to jkennett@tpg.com.au

FROM THE EDITOR

Ray Todd RDF

Congratulations to founding PSSA member, Ray Todd, who has been honoured by signing the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and is now an RDP.



Ray has also won the United Postal Stationery Society's (UPSS) Marcus White Showcase 2010. He is shown above receiving the award from Dan Undersander of the UPSS. The Marcus White Showcase competition includes the best postal stationery exhibits from major US national exhibitions in a given year.

Christmas Island Registered Envelope, Romania and USA

Illustrated below are a commercially used example of the 30c Christmas Island registered envelope used to Tattersall's, a greeting card envelope from Romania and an advertisement for personalised stamped envelopes from the US Postal Service.



AUSTRALIA 1d GEORGE V FULL-FACE STATIONERY

Geoff Kellow

The following are some comments upon the excellent articles that appeared in the last issue of *The Postal Stationery Collector* on the first Full-face stationery issued by the Australian Commonwealth.

1911 1d + 1d Reply Postcard

Wayne Menz has dealt with this subject very well, and John Sinfield had also previously written on the same item (*Postal Stationery Collector*, No. 14, August 1998). However, the figures they give of the numbers printed and issued differ somewhat from those that have been identified when researching for the forthcoming Commonwealth stationery catalogue and it might be worthwhile to lay out all the information that has been uncovered. All the archival references are from Note Printing Branch registers held at the Reserve Bank of Australia, Sydney.

NP-M-5 is a 'Register of Production of Stamps etc.' which runs from 1904 to 1912, and provides a summary of orders for stamps and stationery, with the date on which production commenced, and the quantity required. In late years this register is not complete, but under date 1 April 1911 for Western Australia appears the following:

1d + 1d Reply Card 816 sheets 16-on 2oz. Anti-carmine

The other Full-face stationery is headed for Australia, so this order was apparently specifically for Western Australia. The total printing of 816 sheets 16-on is equivalent to 13,056 cards. (16-on for the reply cards was of course equivalent to the usual 32-on plate for single postcards). The '2oz. Anti-carmine' is a reference to the amount of ink required for printing. The use of carmine ink is proof that we are dealing with the 1d Full-face design and not the Western Australia 1d Swan, printed in blue on postcards.

The conclusion is that when a new order was received from Perth for 1d reply postcards, the Stamp Printer chose to set up a new plate using the 1d Full-face design, presumably considering the Swan design now obsolete. No other printings were made of this reply card simply because none of the other States for whom J.B. Cooke printed the stationery (Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania) ordered any supplies.

There is no actual record of the printing of the cards, as no records for the printing of postcards have been found prior to late 1911. The stock record is however available. It should be noted that the stock record (NP-S-8) was maintained separately for each State up to the end of 1912, even though identical stationery was being produced for all of them.

Under Western Australia, there are three entries for dispatch of 1d + 1d reply cards:

<i>Into Stock</i>		<i>Issue from Stock</i>
25 May 1911	4,440	27 June 1911
27 June 1911	1,080	28 June 1911
8 February 1912	1,680	19 June 1912

(On 19 June 1912 there was in fact 1,878 reply cards dispatched, but this included 198 which had been in stock since the beginning of 1911, which must be of the old Swan design).

The total quantity delivered into stock, and dispatched to Perth was thus 7,200. Register NP-S-5 is a record of the destruction of spoiled stock. Under date 8 February 1912 there were 5,856 Western Australia 1d + 1d reply cards consigned for destruction. This was the same date the last reply cards were delivered into stock and represented a 'cleaning up' of the printing. It seems doubtful that this large quantity could have been spoils and may in fact have represented an unwanted surplus of this unpopular stationery. The total of deliveries plus spoils (7,200 + 5,856) is 13,056, the total quantity printed.

The story in Perth must remain a mystery unless some local records are discovered. However, since

only 1,989 whole reply cards were returned from Perth in 1917 for conversion into single cards, 5,211 reply cards must have been previously disposed of in some way. Wayne Menuz would seem to be right in saying that the reply card was never issued and that all known copies may derive from the Australia Post archives. I currently know of five examples, one of which has the reply half cancelled to order with a Perth c.d.s., 23 DE 12. There are in addition still four reply cards held in the National Philatelic Collection.

Full-face Electros

In dealing with the introduction of the Full-face stationery, Mark Diserio makes reference to the Note Printing Branch records of the production of the electros as first published by Richard Peck in 1984. All these records have now been carefully checked and a number of transcriptional errors identified, and together with other records a fairly complete picture of the Full-face electros manufactured and used is available, although a complete analysis is not yet possible. These records will, I think, deal a death-blow to any suggestion that ½d and 4d Full-face stationery could exist.

File NP-IS-2 is an inventory of the manufacture of printing instruments, recording the date on which these were first placed into the strongroom. These dates, it must be emphasised, are no more than that, and should not be interpreted as necessarily being close to the actual date of manufacture. The Full-face printing instruments are the first to be listed under the heading 'Commonwealth' and are as follows:

10 January 1911	1d Steel Die (K. Head Cut by Mr S. Reading intended for postcards)
16 January 1911	½d 40 electros
	1d 40 electros
	(both these entries are crossed through)
12 January 1911	1d 2 electros
15 March 1911	1d 48 electros for wrappers, cards etc.
	(crossed through and reduced to 44)
8 May 1911	1d 8 electros “
10 May 1911	1d 2 electros “
12 May 1911	1d 10 electros “
21 May 1912	1d 14 electros “

A number of these dates differ from those of Richard Peck, and he gives the entry of 12 May 1911 as 12 March 1911 (sic) and as 4d electros rather than 1d. However, I repeat that all these entries have been carefully checked and are complete and correct. The next entry is on 26 July 1912 when 24 1d electros are entered; these are specifically identified as Kangaroo electros. It can be demonstrated that all subsequent 1d electros were also Kangaroos and that no further Full-face electros were manufactured.

On the same page is a list of destructions, as follows:

6 June 1912	1d 120 + 16 electros
	2d 120 electros
2 July 1913	½d 4 electros
	1d Steel Die
	1d 260 electros
	4d 10 electros

These are also recorded on separate pages under 'destructions' and the 1d Steel Die there is specifically identified as the Reading die, and is unquestionably the Full-face stationery die. There is sufficient evidence (which will not be provided here) to prove that the 120 electros of 1d and 2d destroyed on 6 June 1912 were the Die I Postage Due plates.

We are therefore left with the destruction of a total of 276 1d electros, 40 ½d electros and 10 4d electros. Turning to the list of electros manufactured as given above, the first entries of 16 January 1911 for 40 electros each of the ½d and 1d are crossed through. The explanation for this entry turns out to be quite simple - it was an error. In the same register, under 'Papua' is an entry for the placement into the strongroom of 40 electros each of ½d and 1d electros under date 10 January 1911

(these were the monocolour Lakatoi plates). It is apparent that a few days later these same electros were incorrectly entered again under 'Commonwealth' and when the error was realised the entries were crossed through. There were thus no ½d Full-face electros were ever manufactured, and as noted previously, Richard Peck's entry for 4d Full-face electros was an error for 1d. Ignoring the 16 January 1911 entry, there were 84 1d electros manufactured, whereas the destruction record lists 276 electros destroyed. The difference of 192 electros I believe to be Kangaroo electros. The destructions of ½d and 4d electros on 2 July 1913 can also be demonstrated to be Kangaroo electros, further emphasising the non-existence of ½d and 4d full-face electros. (There were 28 ½d electros entered on 6 December 1912, manuscript reduced to 24; and 12 4d electros entered on 8 February 1913, manuscript reduced to 2).

File NP-IS-1 is a register recording the movement of electros into and out of the strongroom, which identifies when printings must have been made. The relevant entries for 1d Full-face stationery are given below, with an additional column identifying the purpose for which the electros were used, according to this writer's analysis (some are actually indicated in the entry):

<i>Issued from Strongroom</i>		<i>Returned to Strongroom</i>		<i>Purpose</i>
31 January 1911	2 electros	8 February 1911		? proofs
10 March 1911	Original steel die	5 July 1911		manufacture of
	electros			
10 March 1911	1 electro	13 April 1911		? proofs
13 April 1911	9 electros	16 May 1911		lettercards
25 April 1911	3 electros	16 May 1911		lettercards
8 May 1911	8 electros (Coronation postcards)	25 July 1911		Coronation
	postcards			
10 May 1911	2 electros (Coronation postcards)	25 July 1911		Coronation
	postcards			
12 May 1911	12 electros	17 August 1911		lettercard
26 May 1911	2 electros	19 June 1911		? proofs
9 August 1911	6 electros	25 September 1911		lettercard (?)
	substitutions)			
16 August 1911	11 electros	26 August 1911		postcard (Victorian
	scenes)			
16 September 1911	12 electros	11 October 1911		lettercard
20 September 1911	2 electros	25 September 1911		postcard (Victorian
	scenes)			
13 November 1911	32 electros	30 November 1911		postcard
1 December 1911	12 electros	12 December 1911		lettercard
16 December 1911	11 electros	20 December 1911		lettercard
18 December 1911	2 electros	29 December 1911		lettercard
3 January 1912	3 electros	4 January 1912		lettercard (?)
	substitutions)			
27 February 1912	12 electros (lettercard)	3 April 1912		lettercard
2 March 1912	9 electros	6 March 1912		lettercard (?)
	substitutions)			
8 May 1912	Original die	12 June 1912		Kangaroo
17 May 1912	1 electro	17 May 1912		?
24 June 1912	12 electros (lettercard)	20 July 1912		lettercard
4 September 1912	12 electros (lettercard)	30 September 1912		lettercard
18 November 1912	12 electros (lettercard)	6 December 1912		lettercard
29 November 1912	1 electro	11 December 1912		? Kangaroo

A full analysis of this list is beyond the intended scope of this article, but a few points may be made. The Reading steel die is out of the strongroom between March and July for the purpose of manufacturing electros. It must have been used earlier (before being first placed in the strongroom) to make the two electros issued on 31 January 1911. There is also the issue of a die in May-June 1912 which, if the dates are correct, cannot be the Full-face die; it can be shown that it is in fact the Kangaroo die being issued for the manufacture of the first Kangaroo electros.

The first printings of postcards is not represented in this list. This is because a printing forme 32-on was prepared and the printing undertaken, and then those 32 electros, along with the others manufactured (totalling 48) were placed into the strongroom on 15 March 1911. At the same time as the first single postcard printing was made, there was also the printing of the 1d + 1d reply card (probably using the same electros re-arranged). Similar situations of printings being made from freshly manufactured electros prior to their first placement into the strongroom are frequently found in these records.

The printing of the Coronation postcards do present a problem. The above list shows two issues of electros specifically for this purpose, of eight and two electros. However, it has been well-established that the cards were printed 32-on. The situation is complicated because the Manufacture Book (NP-M-5) does show that there was a printing of 13,440 sheets 8-on, and one of 29,760 sheets 32-on. This writer believes that the 8-on printing was unsatisfactory and destroyed in its entirety. The destruction records are consistent with this view but John Sinfield, I think, believes he has now identified types which do not fit into the recognised 32, and are presumably from this 8-on printing. This will require further research. The problem remains, however, of identifying the 32 electros used for the main printing, which do not appear in the list. The answer may be a recording error, and that the two electros listed for Coronation postcards should read 32 (or possibly 24 to join the other eight).

All the other entries regarding lettercards are correctly identified, each issue of 12 electros corresponding to a lettercard printing as identified from paper and stock records. The occasional issue of odd numbers of electros have been tentatively identified as substitutions in the lettercard formes, which of course accounts for the introduction of new lettercard views. It is presumed it was generally easier to substitute a whole unit (electro + heading + view) rather than to insert a view on its own.

AN UNUSUAL TYPE OF ERROR - INSIDE OUT POSTAL STATIONERY?

David Smitham

Philatelic errors

In philately there are various types of error; whilst some are truly spectacular types of error (such as the New Zealand 8c John Dory fish with background colour omitted) other similar error types may be difficult to recognise (such as the 12c New Zealand 1978 telephone centenary missing yellow). Both examples are missing colour errors and this type of error applies equally to stamps as well as to postal stationery – as it is possible for some items of postal stationery to be issued in error with a colour missing.

One error type; viz. printed on the gummed side (such as the New Zealand 4d Queen Elizabeth II official) relates solely to stamps. Another error type; viz. printed on the reverse side is known to affect both stamps (where one finds reversed watermarked stamps) as well as to postal stationery (a few years ago some New Zealand Post pictorial date stamp postcards were observed with the indicia etc. printed on the unsurfaced or matt side and not on the glossy side).

Another type of error: viz. double perforations or indeed perforations omitted are known to affect both stamps and postal stationery. In the latter case this is more than likely to affect letter cards as they are the main type of postal stationery item to be perforated.

Misguillotined types of errors are known to affect both stamps and postal stationery items; viz. 1965 New Zealand 3d health miniature sheets with a gutter (selvedge) separating stamps on either side as well as 1d King George VI new paper wrappers where part of the indicium appears at one side and part at the other side.

Perhaps, one type of error is only applicable to stamps; viz imperforate or part imperforate sheets? Perhaps, one type of error is only applicable to postal stationery; viz. *incorrectly assembled*?

Recently this writer, at Mowbray Collectables, came across such an unusual item of postal stationery that it had to be either deliberately contrived, or simply incorrectly assembled – which is indeed an

unusual type of error!

A deliberately contrived error

Take an envelope with printing or writing on the address side, then carefully separate the sealed flaps which results in a completely opened out envelope. Then fold the flaps backwards on themselves and the result is a deliberately contrived inside out envelope –with obvious signs of glue around the edges (depending upon the make up of the envelope) of one or more flaps, and the printed/written address side is now on the inside.

An incorrectly assembled error

On 30 April 1980 Australia Post issued an attractive series of 22c pictorial postal stationery envelopes featuring wild animals. PSE number 019 featured a *Hopping Mouse* and at least one example of a remarkable incorrectly assembled error is known.



Figure 1 Incorrectly assembled Australian 22c Hopping Mouse PSE 019.

The *Hopping Mouse* error PSE looks to all intents and purposes to be an example of a deliberately contrived inside out envelope – but it is not! One can clearly see the gummed strip on the upper flap being on the inside of the flap. If the envelope was turned inside out the gummed strip would be on the outside of the flap!

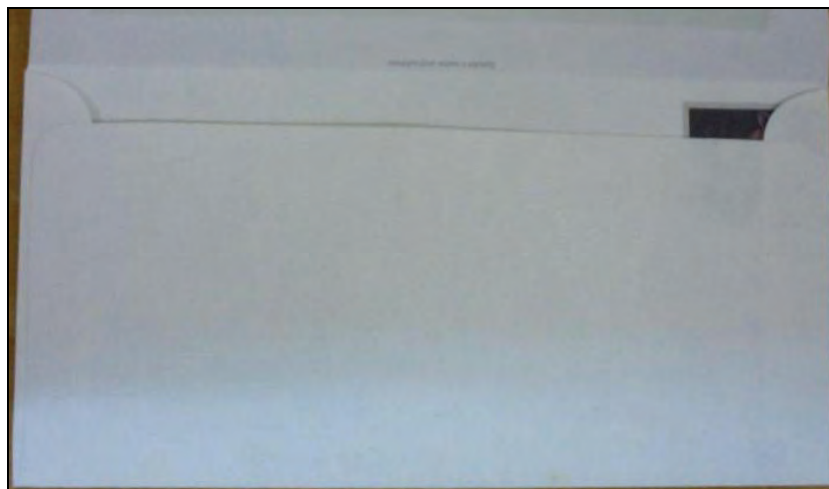


Figure 2 PSE 019 clearly showing gum strip on inside of flap.

As mentioned, at least one such error is now known. It is likely that the PSEs were printed six-up or perhaps eight-up on a press sheet(s) before being guillotined, folded and gummed. There is of course no guarantee that any of the others survive. A correspondent mentioned that similar *incorrectly assembled* postal stationery envelopes are known from Canada, and that this may be a first recorded from Australia. To the best of this writer's knowledge no such *incorrectly assembled* postal stationery envelopes are known from New Zealand.

IS IT POSTAL STATIONERY?

Wayne Menuz

In the May 2011 issue of *Postal Stationery Collector*, Gary Brown raised a question regarding the FIP's definition of postal stationery. He showed several of the British East Africa Command's airgraphs that are franked with a red 30¢ or 25¢ indicium taken from a meter machine. The FIP excludes "meter post impressions" from the class of postal stationery, and Mr. Brown stated the stamped airgraphs should be included.

A "meter post impression", following the pioneer 1920's era, always consists of two parts: the denomination, and the location and date. It often optionally includes the meter manufacture's name, the city/state/country, and/or advertising. Shown in Figure 1 is an envelope with a typical meter impression. The date of impression is used to alert a post office of any anomaly or forgery, as meter franked mail is supposed to be deposited at the local post office shortly after being stamped. Meter mail is not required to be cancelled, as it is a "one-time" product. The denomination of the meter impression does not represent a value that can be used at any future time at any post office. That fact is what precludes it from being considered postal stationery.



Figure 1. Typical two-element meter post impression from the British Solomon Islands. The denomination is in the rectangular box, and the city & state, with the date, is in the circle at left.

The airgraphs shown by Gary Brown were augmented by provisional aerogrammes. The basic form was printed by the Directorate of Printing and Stationery, South African Union Defence Forces located in Nairobi, Kenya in October 1942. Most of the 695,000 forms were issued as formulars, and service personnel had to affix an adhesive stamp. However, to address the needs of the many small, isolated military units scattered around south-east Africa, it was decided to provide prefranked forms to them because of the difficulty of stocking adhesive stamps. However, there were no suitable printing facilities or dies readily available in Nairobi, so an expedient was initially utilized. The Remington Typewriter Agency in Nairobi supplied a meter machine with a modified stamping slug. The modification was the removal of the round location/date portion normally located to the left of the denomination rectangle. See Figure 2. This is the same device used to stamp the airgraphs. The aerogrammes, stamped or formular, were rationed at one per week to each soldier.

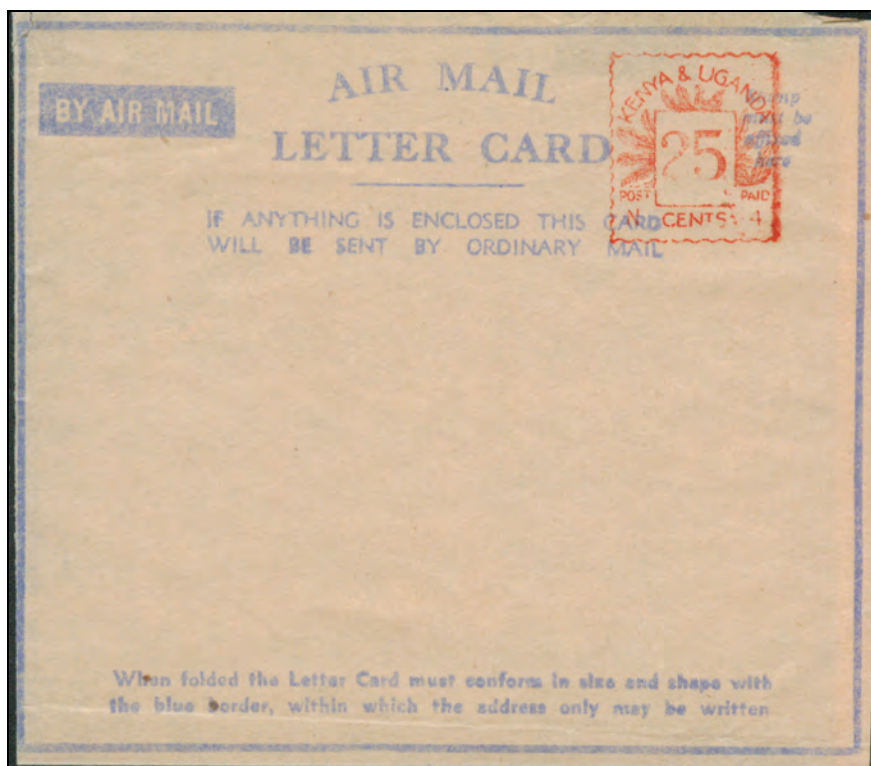


Figure 2. Provisional aerogram for East Africa Command forces. The red stamp indicium was printed over the text at upper right "Stamp must be affixed here."

Postal stationery can have many types of stamp indicia. The two most common are a separate embossed die, or a "stamp" die that is part of the overall printing (most commonly used with post cards, letter cards, etc.) Sometimes, a separate press run is made to just imprint the stamp onto a formular, such as the early aerogrammes of many countries. There is no FIP rule as the type of printing press used to imprint the stamp onto postal stationery. Whether embossed, intaglio from line-engraved, letter-press, lithographed, mimeographed, or any other method, the key question is whether the "stamp" represents a value that, in use, is cancelled to remove that value. A "stamp" created from a portion of a meter machine slug is just a different method of printing. The fact it derived from a meter that, if whole, would not be considered postal stationery, should have no bearing on the question.

This point is brought home by the May, 1943 issue to replace the provisional issue. The Government printer in Pretoria, South Africa was provided with a sample of the provisional, and printed definitive aerogrammes that copied the provisional in all details, including the "meter" stamp. Their copy was so complete it even included the original meter's license number "N 4" in the bottom corners! There is, of course, no question that this definitive issue fits the FIP's criteria as being postal stationery, even though the "stamp" is actually derived from a meter design. The only difference between the provisional and the definitive aerogrammes is the method (and color) of printing the stamp.

The H&G catalog omitted these items by mistake. But the Kessler *Catalogue of Aerograms* did not, and it lists eight different types of provisionals with the red meter imprint, and four different with the integral blue meter imprint. Figure 1 is Kessler #2, and Figure 3 is Kessler #6.



Figure 3. Definitive aerogram, utilizing the same “meter” stamp design as used for the provisionals.

In summary, the airgraphs and similar aerogrammes with the modified meter slug are postal stationery, as they no longer remained postage meters after the removal of the location/date portion of the printing slug. It might be noted that the Netherlands catalog has now listed as postal stationery the Lux Soap advertising post cards that utilized a similarly modified meter from the Dutch Indies. One card was included in each package of Lux soap.

THE OTHER SIDE: SOCIAL HISTORY THROUGH POSTAL STATIONERY

Pieter Koster



This used Victorian post card is listed in Stieg’s Catalogue as P6, issued on 26 March 1883. It was

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engraved by Charles Naish and printed from electrotypes in sheets of nine by the Government Stamp Printing Office.

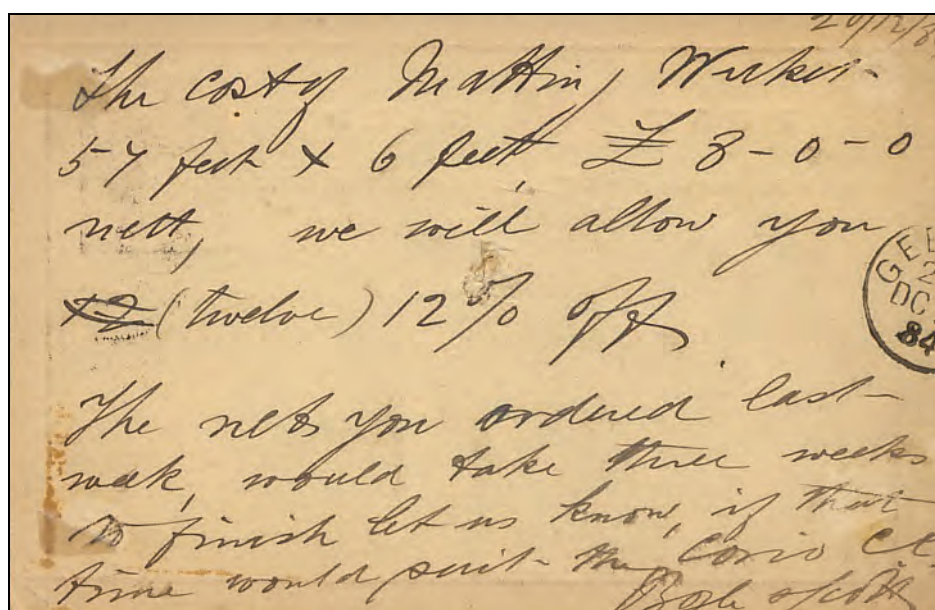
As an item of postal stationery it has little philatelic value or interest. It is used, has a hole through the middle of it, and is quite grubby, though it is by no means the grubbiest in my collection. If it has any of the eight identified printing flaws it is obscured by the heavy cancel, which at least has the merit of being clearly legible.

About two and a half million of these cards were printed between March 1883 and January 1885. It's a common item in poor, even damaged condition. So why what significance does it have that merits publication in Postal Stationery collector? It's not even addressed to a significant personage. Of course, as soon as we begin to pay any attention at all to the addressee, or to the sender, or to the content of the message on the reverse, we have strayed to the 'other side', which attempts to answer questions like:

- Who used these two and a half million cards?
- To whom did they send them?
- What did they use them for?
- What sort of world did they inhabit?
- What were their personal circumstances?
- How was their world different from ours?

In other words, the 'other side' contemplates the significance of these items to the people who used them and affords a window into the times in which they lived.

And here is the other side of one of those two and a half million cards:



The reverse tells us little of philatelic significance except that it was cancelled in Geelong in December 1884. Were the entire date visible on the cancellation we could determine how long the card took to travel from Melbourne to Geelong, but even this morsel is denied us.

The text reads as follows:

20/12/84

The cost of matting wicket 57 feet by 6 feet, £8.0.0 nett, we will allow you 12 (twelve) 12% off. The nets you ordered last week would take three weeks to finish let us know if that time would suit the Corio C[ricket]C[lub]. Boyle [and] Scott.

With some further research a social philatelist might identify the card thus:

A post card addressed to Mr Claus Kohn, a Geelong tobacconist and owner of the Cigar Divan in Malop Street, Geelong, sent on 20th December 1884 by Boyle and Scott Cricket Football and Sporting Warehouse in Borke Street, Melbourne. It responds to a request relating to matting and nets for use by the Corio Cricket Club, giving a price (including retailer's discount) for the matting and asking about the timing for delivery of already ordered nets.

Putting together a description even as brief as this demands considerable research. It took some time, for example, to discover that 'Bob Scott' was but a figment of poor orthographic imagination, and that Kohn had actually established something called a 'Cigar Divan' in the main street of Geelong. Using a variety of research techniques and resources it is possible to extrapolate a great deal more from this card. Digitised newspapers, genealogical records, local histories, government records and archival material can be used to good effect. In this particular instance the card has led us to the following:

- A shrinking island
- A gold-field wedding in a pub at Maryborough (Victoria)
- Thomas Wentworth Wills, the 'father' of Australian Rules football
- Fred Spofforth, the 'demon bowler'
- Mortgages and insolvency in pre-Federation Australia
- Freemasonry
- The birth of The Ashes
- The 1891 Women's Suffrage Petition
- Fox terrier racing
- An accident on the goldfields, another on the road, and a third on a railway platform
- An Australian cricket captain deposed on his way to England
- The Huntsman's Inn at Meredith, Victoria
- A bizarre court case with a judgment like that of Solomon
- Underarm bowling when it was the norm
- A man with an amazing memory
- Forged stamps and postal stationery
- Cigar divans

I'm sure you'll agree that this is a startlingly diverse array of places, events and topics! Here are a few words on each:

A shrinking island

Helgoland is a small island off the coast of Germany and not far from Denmark. Claus Kohn was born there in 1831, which surprisingly means that he was born a British subject, England having seized control of the island from the Danish in 1807 during the Napoleonic Wars. British Governors included John Hindmarsh (1840-56), formerly governor of South Australia. The Helgolandians were an independent race related to the Friesians of Holland. They survived mostly by fishing. At some points in its history it was an important trading centre.

During the time it was a British colony, Helgoland was described as having "few trees, no running water, no romantic ruins, but an extraordinary width of sea-view . . . no horses or carts and only six cows. The streets are very narrow but clean. All the houses were painted red, white and green, the national colours of Helgoland, representing the red rocks, the green land and the white sand." Helgoland is very small and becoming smaller. In the year 800 the island boasted several villages on its twenty four square miles. A thousand years later the island, made of soft red sandstone, is only one quarter of one square mile in extent. The sea has gradually taken the rest.

The island became a popular British tourist destination during the summer months, but in 1890 Britain, anxious to pursue its interests in East Africa, traded Helgoland to Germany in exchange for Zanzibar and other East African possessions, and the island has been German ever since.

It is now a holiday resort enjoying a tax-exempt status, and consequently much of the economy is founded on sales of cigarettes, alcoholic beverages and perfumes to tourists. A small sandy island off the spit has become a popular naturist camping area. The population of Helgoland in December 2007 was 1300.

A gold-field wedding

Claus migrated to Australia, arriving in Sydney on the ship *Australia* in September 1849. When gold was discovered in Victoria Claus made his way there and became a hotel keeper at Maryborough, where gold had been discovered in 1853. He took out a publican's licence in 1860. By then he had already married Agnes Renton, ten years his junior at eighteen years old, and the daughter of farmers William and Eliza Renton in the Bull and Mouth Hotel. That was in June 1859.

Thomas Wentworth Wills

Wills was a controversial cricketer and the 'father' of Australian Rules football, one of the founders of the Melbourne Football Club, who became an alcoholic and committed suicide by stabbing himself with a pair of scissors in 1880. He frequently played for the Corio Cricket Club. He also played for Victoria against NSW in 1872, on the same team as Harry Boyle, the Boyle part of Boyle and Scott, who sent the post card to Kohn.

Fred Spofforth, the 'demon bowler'

Harry Boyle was for some years the bowling partner of Fred Spofforth in Australian teams that toured England in the early 1880s. They were a fearsome couple. Spofforth was known as the demon for his pace, and was the more successful of the two, and Boyle was known as the devil for his wily medium pace round-arm bowling with leg and off breaks.

Mortgages and insolvency

In 1872 Claus and Eliza Kohn bought a house in Corio Street, Geelong at a cost of £125 and spent a further £125 to make improvements. To finance this, Claus mortgaged his house to his employer, borrowing £250 at 10% interest. Meanwhile, his family grew at the rate of one new child every second year, until there were no fewer than eleven surviving children. At that time the local Geelong Advertiser referred to Claus as "the well-known tobacconist at Mr Sander's establishment in Moorabool Street."

Unfortunately, Mr Sanders decided to leave the colony and foreclosed on the mortgage, forcing Claus into insolvency early in 1884. Claus had to remove his family from their home in Corio Street, which Sanders had sold for £100. For a time the family lived in a house at 30 Alexandra Ave (then called Corio Street South), which had been built in the 1850s for Peter Mason, one of Geelong's early landholders and hotelkeepers. This house still stands and has been identified as being of local interest.

Insolvency differed from bankruptcy in that it did not necessarily entail a forced sale of all one's belongings, often at great loss, but was an arrangement between the debtor and his creditors to pay each of them an agreed amount as a full discharge of the debt. Insolvency was a frequent occurrence for many small traders and businessmen. Claus Kohn had already been insolvent once before, and it would happen a third time some years later. It was common practice for the insolvent to apply for a release from insolvency about six months later, and this occurred in Claus Kohn's case as well, enabling him to set up in business on his own.

Freemasonry

Kohn was a Freemason, being invested as a Senior Warden of the Freemasons, in the Lodge number 545, the Lodge of Unity and Prudence in 1886. The Senior Warden “is the second officer in a Symbolic Lodge, and governs the Craft in the hours of labour. In the absence of the Master he presides over the Lodge. His jewel is a level, a Symbol of the equality which exists among the Craft while at labour in the Lodge. His seat is in the West, and he represents the column of Strength. He has placed before him, and carries in all processions, a column, which is the representative of the right-hand pillar that stood at the porch of King Solomon's Temple. The Junior Warden has a similar column, which represents the left-hand pillar.” In the normal course of events, Claus Kohn would be the Worshipful Master of his lodge the following year.

The Birth of the Ashes

The Ashes were born in 1882 after the first ever victory of an Australian team over a full-strength English team in England. The man who removed the last two English batsmen in the final innings, when the English required just eight runs to win the match, was none other than Harry Boyle, the wily medium pacer and Scott's partner in the Cricket Football and Sporting Warehouse in Bourke Street, Melbourne. It was after this match that the famous notice about the ashes being sent to Australia appeared in the *Sporting Times*. It was Boyle who put the last nail in the coffin.

The 1891 Women's Suffrage Petition

This historic document was the result of an extraordinary effort to gain the right to vote for all Victorian women. A handful of dedicated women took to the streets in 1891 to collect signatures for a petition to present to the Parliament of Victoria.

The result was an impressive collection of close to 30,000 signatures from women from all walks of life. Tabled in Parliament in September 1891, with the support of the Premier James Munro, the petition sought that 'Women should Vote on Equal terms with Men'.

Now one of the State's archival treasures, the Women's Suffrage Petition reflects the dedicated work of those women who went from door to door across Victoria to collect the signatures. Its tremendous length earned it the name of the 'Monster Petition'.

Several interesting signatures adorn the top of the petition, including:

- *Margaret McLean* (as Mrs William McLean head of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and campaigner for women's rights and the vote)
- *Jane Munro* (as Mrs James Munro), wife of the Premier who presented the petition to Parliament
- *Margaret Higinbotham*, wife of George Higinbotham who was a controversial politician and lawyer
- *Bessie Lee*, a working-class woman who became famous as a temperance campaigner and author.

The original petition is approximately 260 metres long and 200mm wide and is made of paper pasted to cotton or linen fabric backing, rolled onto a cardboard spindle which rests on a Perspex stand. It takes three people three hours to unroll the petition from one spool to another – a slow and careful process. The approximately 30,000 signatures vary in quality and colour inks, even pencil.

Dora Henkel, Claus Kohn's daughter, who had married a local jeweller, signed this petition.

Fox Terrier racing

This was a very popular pastime in the 1880s and large purses were on offer. Claus' son Hans owned a dog said to be valued at fifty pounds, a considerable sum. Wire-haired fox terriers were raced using a tin rat as quarry. Typically, four dogs would run twice around a circular track, making a total distance of about 150 yards (about 140 metres). The dogs could apparently run at about twenty-five kilometres per hour.

Three accidents

One: In January 1861 Claus Kohn was involved in a serious accident while mining on the gold-fields near Maryborough. Early one morning he and his partner had put a charge in a drilled hole but it had not detonated. Later in the day they returned and drilled into the same hole, intending to put down another charge. Naturally, the first charge then detonated, causing severe laceration to Claus' partner's arms, legs and face, though not breaking any bones. Kohn escaped serious injury.

Two: In March 1883, Claus was not so fortunate. This time he broke his left leg and sprained his right ankle in a fall from a buggy being driven by his nephew Henry. The accident occurred as the buggy was crossing Dwyer's Creek, on the road from Casterton to Merino in Victoria's western districts. Both men were thrown from the buggy when the pole strap broke. Kohn was laid up for some time, which he later claimed was the cause of his inability to keep up payments on his mortgage, leading to his insolvency.

Three: In May 1910 Claus was fined, at the age of 80, for attempting to board a train while it was in motion on the Brighton platform of Flinders Street Station. The Victorian Railways charged him because they were afraid that he would otherwise sue them, since he strenuously maintained that the train was not yet in motion. Witnesses, however, did not agree and said that he was knocked back by an open carriage door and was fortunate to escape serious injury. The judge fined him five shillings and ordered him to pay two shillings and sixpence in costs.

Australian cricket captain deposed

Harry Boyle, officially Henry Frederick Boyle, was chosen to captain the Australian touring party in England in 1880. However, on board the ship, as it sailed through the Suez Canal, a team meeting decided to replace him with the more gregarious William Murdoch. Murdoch and Boyle share a strange coincidence. Boyle was born in Sydney but grew up in Bendigo after his parents moved there when he was three year old. Murdoch, on the other hand, was born in Bendigo, but grew up in Sydney after his parents moved there when Murdoch was three years old. Boyle, by all accounts, accepted the decision to depose him and remained firm friends and a staunch ally of the new captain.

The Huntsman's Inn

Kohn held the licence for this inn in Meredith near Geelong for a few years in the 1890s, before retiring to South Yarra in Melbourne. The hotel stood near the railway station but no remnant of it remains today.

A bizarre court case

Claus Kohn's son Hans was a member of the Geelong Fox Terrier Club. In October 1886 he was sued by William Walker, a railway employee, for unlawful detention of a prize fox terrier dog, said to be worth fifty pounds, being the Champion of the Colony. Members of the Geelong Fox Terrier Club, as well as Claus himself, testified for Hans. The magistrate, noticing that the dog did not seem to recognise Walker, decided for Hans.

Underarm bowling

We all remember the Greg Chappell incident, when he instructed his brother Trevor to bowl underarm in a one-day match against New Zealand, but such bowling was once the norm. Bowlers would roll the ball along the ground and batsmen would try to whack it with a stick that more closely resembled a hockey stick than a cricket bat. When bowlers started to pitch the ball, still with an under-arm action, bats changed to their more recognisable current shape. Bowlers countered by inventing side-arm bowling, which was at first no-balled but legalised in 1835, although it was definitely a no-ball to raise the arm above the shoulder. Over-arm bowling was legalised by the MCC in 1864. This completely changed the nature of the game and was still controversial in Australia in the 1880s.

A man with an amazing memory

The Scott part of Boyle and Scott was David Scott, who was the businessman of the firm. He was an ironmonger and hardware salesman before establishing the firm with Harry Boyle, whom he had known in Bendigo. Boyle would choose equipment on his sporting trips to England (he toured six times, including one time as manager) while Scott ran the business in Melbourne. Their shop in Bourke Street became the regular meeting place for all cricketers, and they promoted the game by establishing the Boyle and Scott's Cup for junior cricket. They sold and repaired all kinds of sporting equipment, and also sold tobacco products. Scott was known as 'The Almanac' because of his extraordinary memory for cricket records and statistics. He died in 1922, fifteen years after his partner Harry Boyle. Scott's sister Margaret was Harry Boyle's wife.

Stamp and Postal Stationery forgeries



Heligoland issued its own stamps between 1867 and 1879, and these stamps are now scarce. Unofficial printings and forgeries, however, are far from rare, and may be obtained quite cheaply from ebay traders. Here are some that were offered recently. I purchased the post card for just a couple of dollars. Note that Heligoland was at that time known as Heligoland.



Cigar Divans

Cigar divans were a popular Victorian institution, and several still exist. According to one commentator:

“In Victorian days any gentleman who couldn't face the tedium of an afternoon's journey from his office in the City to his club in St. James's would stroll down to the Strand to a Cigar Divan. This was not a piece of furniture, but a mixture of tobacconist and lounge, where the chaps would congregate to select and smoke a cigar. They would while away a pleasant hour or so before returning home to their wives and family in the comfort of Kensington or the splendour of Sloane Street. Among the earliest and most famous of these divans was Simpson's in the Strand, established in 1828 to serve coffee and cigars. Today it is one of the last truly English restaurants where its origins are not forgotten and the smoking of good cigars is still encouraged”.

The Geelong Advertiser described Kohn's Cigar Divan in glowing terms: “the establishment is roomy, well-ventilated and lighted and being nicely fitted up will no doubt prove attractive to the lovers of the fragrant weed.” It goes on to assert that the cigars, pipes, and snuffs, and the availability of daily and weekly newspapers will make the divan a place of rest. On the premises, but in a separate room, Mr H Kohn of Melbourne was opening a hairdressing saloon, complete with an American elevating chair which had “an ingenious contrivance allowing the hairdresser to elevate and lower his client to a convenient position”. Mr H Kohn was Claus' son Hans, just eighteen years old at the time, who later added bookmaking to his hairdressing business. The cigar divan was several doors east of the Bank of New South Wales, near the now extinct Kardinia Street opposite Market Square, and the site is now part of Westfield Shopping Centre.

When Kohn sold his divan, being insolvent yet again, the value of sporting goods for sale was as great as the value of the tobacco and its associated accoutrements. The relationship between sport and tobacco was of long standing. Add alcohol (Kohn's alternative profession as an hotelier) and gambling (his son became a bookmaker) and we see all the elements that made up the leisure part of 'a man's world' in the Victorian era.

It's drawing together such diverse threads as the above to reconstruct aspects of eras long gone that makes research into the 'other side' of an item of postal stationery so immensely engaging. The thrill of the chase is always there, since one never knows what is going to occur as the context and significance of the item are slowly built from the evidence that is garnered from a wide variety of sources. The social philately of postal stationery taps into popular interest in matters historical, including genealogy and television programmes that uncover or recreate the past. It provides a complementary avenue of research to those whose curiosity has been stimulated by the names and messages written on the postal stationery we love to collect.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL NUMBERS ON NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS: CONTROL MARKS, WEIGHT MESSAGES, RATE TABLES, DATES INTEGRAL TO THE DESIGN, & OTHER

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Fly-speck analysis is popular with philatelists seeking previously unrecorded varieties and many classical stamps have been the subject of detailed attention. At one time I bought a “Thirkell” position finder so that I too could read the language of those who report the position of flaws, retouches, re-entries, and other printing and inking abnormalities. Akin to fly-specking is the search for design flaws and engraver’s marks that are sometimes cleverly buried in curls, swirls and shading lines (see Irvine & Seshold, 1979). I know of no systematic fly-speck analysis of the indicia of post office newspaper wrappers. This is a neglected area of philately.

As a first small step in this direction the present paper examines non-denomination numbers printed on wrappers, or more specifically dates that are an integral part of the design of the indicia, control marks that appear on the wrapper, use of numbers within rate boxes and weight messages, and other numbers the presence of which requires explanation [1]. I will start in reverse order because a typewritten “9” that appeared above the indicium of a KE4 GB wrapper first piqued my interest in this topic. The wrapper in question is shown as Figure One. The “9” is black and not part of the brown private printing that appears elsewhere. The inside of the wrapper reveals indentation in the paper from the pressure of the struck typewriter key. The wrapper is postmarked 4-9-88 and the typewriter was most likely an early Remington that made a dominant presence in the industry from 1873.



Figure 1: Typewritten “9” above indicium

The question that has intrigued me is what is the purpose of this “9”? I sent a scan and request for information to the GB Postal Stationery Society but no-one was able to help. Why would an office secretary be required to insert the wrapper into a typewriter in order to type this number but then not type the address details? The ‘9’ is located exactly on a vertical plane with the right-hand side of the indicium and exactly mid-point on a horizontal plane of the last line of text and therefore its location appears to be deliberate and clear of any other writing or printing. It can be observed clearly and is likely to be a signal or code in connection with either the contents to be included or the route to be used. It can be ruled out as being a catalogue number, dealer mark, addressee street number, registration mark or tax mark.

Newspaper wrappers of this period addressed to Germany were commonplace and unlikely to require any special directive at the mailing window. In any event, route markings usually show up as handstamped numbers within circles or rectangles and appear beneath or to the left of the address. A more likely explanation is that the addressee has been matched with the subscription to either ‘Belgravia’ or ‘The Gentleman’s Magazine’ and that ‘9’ represents one or the other of these publications. Both publications together would likely have exceeded the basic ½d printed matter rate for up to 4 oz. However, this does raise another question as to whether the numerals 1-8 and 10 and above were used? Hence the mystery of this number 9 remains. This is the only observed example of

such a numeral after examining scans of over two thousand GB post office wrappers.

Control Marks

Control or margin numbers appear on some of the wrappers of Denmark, France, Persia and Mexico. A control mark within the context of newspaper wrappers comprises letters and/or numbers and is included by the printer at the same time as the printing of the indicium and border lines. They are a further security device but are different in concept to the control marks that appear on the selvage of stamp issues. These latter control marks have more to do with identification of accounting periods, identification of plates that are not worn and identification of different printers. They are not normally an integral part of the plate itself but are impressed by a piece of type clamped to the plate.

At least 19 of the 46 wrapper types of Denmark show control marks printed on the left hand side, parallel to and facing the inside border line, positioned on the same plane as the center of the indicium and printed in the same colour. There are several control marks and a summary of these appears as Table One. A caveat is that these small marks on Internet images are not always clearly readable and some of these numbers need corroboration. The complete listing of wrapper types of Denmark can be found in Curtis (2010).

Table One: Control Marks on Wrappers of Denmark

H& G 'E' Number	Description of Issued Wrapper Type	Control Marks
14	1918, 3 ore grey	None recorded in data base
15	1918, 4 ore blue	22-C; 23-C
16	1918, 5 ore green Christian X	22-C; 23-C; 24-C; 26-C
17	1918, 7 ore orange Christian	24-C; 25-I
19a	1919, blue 5 overprinted on 3 ore grey	22-C
20a	1919, blue 5 overprint on 4 ore blue	23-C
21	1920, 10 ore red Christian X	24-L; 32-J
22	1921, 7 & 1 ore orange & orange	21-I; 23-L; 30-K; 31-K; 36-E
23a	1921, 5 on 3 & 3 ore grey & grey	23-C
24a	1921, 5 on 4 & 3 ore blue & grey	22-C; 22-K
25a	1921, 5 & 5 ore green Christian X	29-H; 32-H
26	1921, 8 ore grey	23-Z; 32-H; 36-H; 41-J; 43-J
27	1921, 10 ore green	33-Z; 34-M; 37-Z; 41-A; 41-O
28	1922, 5 ore brown	31-W; 33-W; 36-M; 38-H; 42-J; 43-Z; 46-Z; 49-N
29	1926, 7 ore yellow green	45-M; 47-I; 48-Z
30	1926, black 7 on 8 ore grey	43-J; 48-O
31	1926, black 7 on 10 ore green	42-O; 44-M
32	1930, 4 ore blue	55*-Z; 60-H
33	1930, 5 ore yellow green	54-I; 55-I; 56-H; 59-H; 60-H; 61-H

If these control marks have been identified accurately there are 28 different number-letter combinations with the following numbers used: 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 41, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 54, 55, 56, 59, 60 and, 61. The gaps in this sequence are: 25, 27, 28, 35, 38, 39, 40, 50, 51, 52, 53, 57 and 58. Other collectors will need to check their holdings to corroborate the numbers identified and determine whether any of the gaps exist. There were 13 letters of the alphabet identified: A, C, E, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, W and Z. This raises the questions whether any other letters exist and why the eight letter sequence H-O were used but then followed by a seven letter gap P-V. These are mysteries requiring solutions.

Located 20mm to the right of the indicium is the printed number 005 in black on France E1. It is printed at exactly mid-point on a horizontal plane through the indicium and reads down vertically. Normal practice when mailing wrappers is to fold them close to the right side of the indicium. As a result it is not possible to examine all but a few wrappers from Internet images at the area where the mark would appear. Nonetheless, a search of the data base revealed other numbers: 161 on E1a; 028 on E2a; 003 on E4; 224, 652, 847, 926, 938 on E5; 456 on E6; 137 on E7 and 529 on E10. Apart from E1, these numbers are located close to the edge of and facing away from the sealing flap and can be read downward vertically. Although difficult to reproduce, some of these numbers are shown in Figure Two in order to direct other collectors as to where to look from their own holdings. Although only eleven different numbers were identified from studying Internet images, there is enough evidence to indicate that the appearance of control marks on the post office wrappers of France is systematic for at least some of the issued types. Control marks may appear also on the wrappers of French Colonies.

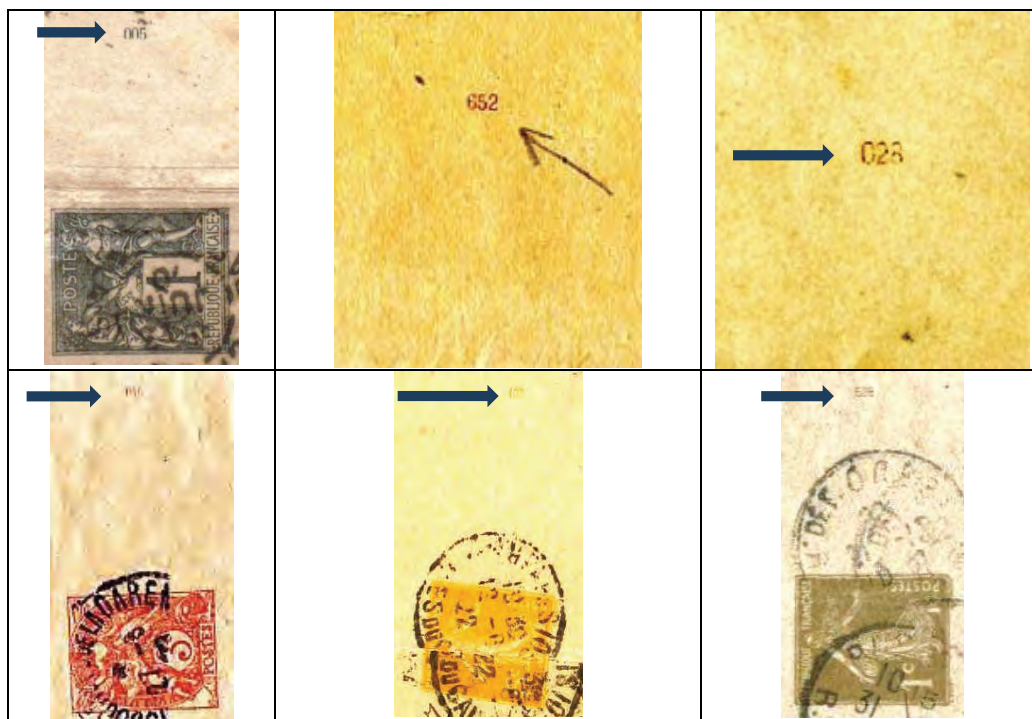


Figure Two: Examples of Control Marks on Wrappers of France

More difficult to detect are the control marks of Persia which exist in purple to the left of the indicium on E2a, E3a, E4a and E5a. Their appearance is similar to a handstamped backward sloping rough 6. Except for E2a (which has no example in the data base) these are shown as Figure Three. Collectors of this postal entity can contribute further information.



Figure Three: Control Marks of Persia

Control marks can be found on the wrappers of E27-E32 of Mexico located beneath and to the left of the address lines. Four numbers appear to have been used: MC15 on E27, MC14 on E28 on 1895 issues, MC12 on E29, no information is available for E30, both MC12 and MC13 on E31 on the 1897 issues and MC15 on E32 of the 1898 issue. Three of these numbers are shown in Figure Four.

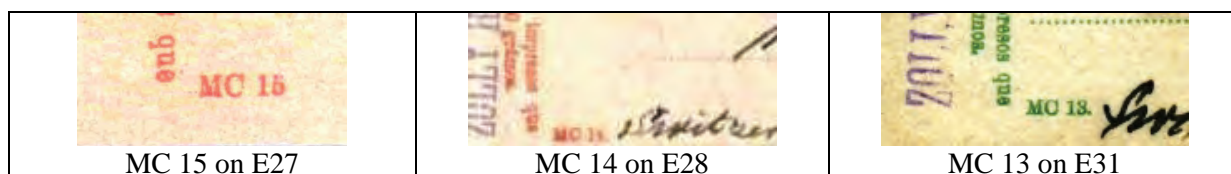


Figure Four: Control Marks Used on Mexico 1895 & 1897 issues

Weight Text & Rate Tables

Numbers can be found also within the text regarding weight restrictions on the wrappers of early Mexico as well as within the rate boxes of Argentina. Printed vertically and on two lines at the left side of the wrapper can be found the text: *Esta fajilla sirve para impresos cuyo peso no exceda de 60 gramos*. The 60 gramos message appears on E1, E2, E3, E4a, E5, E7, E9, E10b, E11, E13, E14a and E19. The 120 gramos message appears on E3a, E4, E6, E8, E10, E10a, E12, E13a, E14 and E20. The carrying weight was raised to 100 and 200 gramos with the 1895 issues: 100 gramos on E23, E23b, E26, E27 and E30, and 200 gramos on E24, E25, E28 and E29. The carrying weight was printed incorrectly as 50 gramos on E31 and E32 in 1897. Weight messages ended with the 1897 issues. The several weight messages are shown in Figure Five.



Figure Five: Weight Messages on Mexico Wrappers

Rate tables first appeared on the wrappers of Argentina in 1939 and continued until 1951. These tables are often differentiated according to the layout of the top line in the center column, namely, \$0,03 cada 100 gramos o fracción, 3 centavos cada 100 gra-//mos o fracción or 3 centavos cada 100 gramos// o fracción . These three basic rate tables are shown in Figure Six.

There are several other differences, especially the “Interno” changes from \$0,03 to 3 centavos, \$0,0½ por ejemplar to ½ centavo por ejemplar, \$0,0½ cada 65 gramos to ½ centavo cada 65 and the “Internacionales” changes from \$0,04 cada to 4 centavos and the \$0.02 cada to 2 centavos and the corresponding changes in the “Nota”. The third type has a number of heading and layout changes, a change from 65 to 100 gramos, and three notes instead of one. Type I was used on E66-E70, Type II on E71-E76a, E77a, E79, E79a and Type III on E77, E78 and E80.

TARIFA DE IMPRESOS			TARIFA DE IMPRESOS		
	INTERNOS	INTERNACIONALES		INTERNOS	INTERNACIONALES
Ordinarios	\$ 0,03 cada 100 gramos o fracción	\$ 0,04 cada 50 gramos o fracción	Ordinarios	3 centavos cada 100 gramos o fracción	4 centavos cada 50 gramos o fracción
Impresos de interés general: Diarios sueltos	\$ 0,0½ por ejemplar		Impresos de interés general: Diarios sueltos	½ centavo por ejemplar	
Revistas, periódicos u otras publicaciones y diarios en paquetes	\$ 0,0½ cada 65 gramos o fracción	\$ 0,02 cada 50 gramos o fracción	Revistas, periódicos u otras publicaciones y diarios en paquetes	½ centavo cada 65 gramos o fracción	2 centavos cada 50 gramos o fracción
NOTA: Los impresos de "interés general" para países de la Unión Postal Américo-Española, pagan tarifa interna, y los comunes \$ 0,03 cada 50 gramos o fracción.			NOTA: Los impresos de "interés general" para países de la Unión Postal Américo-Española, pagan tarifa interna y los comunes 3 centavos cada 50 gramos o fracción.		
«Además del valor del timbre se cobrará un gravamen de DOS CENTAVOS moneda nacional por cada diez fajas».			«Además del valor del timbre se cobrará un gravamen de DOS CENTAVOS moneda nacional por cada diez fajas».		

TARIFA DE IMPRESOS		
CLASE	INTERNOS (1)	INTERNACIONALES (2)
Ordinarios	3 centavos cada 100 gramos o fracción	4 centavos cada 50 gramos o fracción
De interés general: Diarios sueltos	½ centavo cada ejemplar	
Diarios en paquetes y revistas, periódicos u otras publicaciones sueltas o en paquete	½ centavo cada 100 gramos o fracción	2 centavos cada 50 gramos o fracción (3)
(1) La tarifa interna se aplica también a los impresos destinados a los países de la Unión Postal de las Américas y España.		
(2) Aplicable a los demás países de la Unión Postal Universal.		
(3) Para la aplicación de esta tarifa consúltese la nómina de los países que la admiten, inserta en el Cuadro de Tarifas Internacionales que se exhibe en todas las dependencias o infórmese en la ventanilla.		
Además del valor del timbre, se cobrará un gravamen de DOS CENTAVOS moneda nacional por cada diez fajas		

Figure Six: Types of Rate Tables on Wrappers of Argentina

Dates within Indicia

Dates can be found in the design of post office wrappers of Austria, Canada, Cyprus, Guatemala, Great Britain [2], Honduras, Philippines, Nicaragua, Salvador, Switzerland and USA. Dates may be integral to the design or “hidden” in corners as if they were secret marks. Two of the earliest dates integrated into the basic design of the indicia are the first post office newspaper issues of Great Britain and Switzerland and these are shown as Figure Seven.



Figure Seven: Early issues of Great Britain and Switzerland

The first post office issue of Great Britain took place on 1 October 1870 and 1 10 70 are inserted in the lower circles, to be replaced a few months later with florets. They were included initially because this was the standard security practice of Somerset House in printing Queen Victoria embossed wrappers for private customers. The second GB figure is a Vaccination Certificate with the dates 16 March 1872 and is included here as a reminder that it is a lettersheet. The 16 3 72 were replaced with florets in later printings. The first post office issue of Switzerland occurred on 20 March 1871 and the date 20 3 71 appears within the ribbon.

For convenience of exposition the remaining countries are grouped: (a) Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Salvador; (b) USA and Philippines, and (c) other – Canada, Austria and Cyprus. For the first group, Guatemala shows the 1897 year of issue on E3 and E4 for the Central American Exhibition. Honduras has the year of issue on all 16 types: 1890 on E1-E4; 1891 on E5-E8; 1892 on E9-E12; and 1893 on E13-E16. Nicaragua shows the year of issue 1890 on E1-E3; 1891 on E4-E6; 1892 on E7-E9; 1893 on E10-E12; 1894 on E13- E15; 1895 on E16-E18; 1896 on E19-E21 and 1897

on E22-E24. There were no issues in 1898 but when new issues did resume dates were not included in the design for the years 1899 and 1900. Salvador shows the year of issue 1890 on E1-E4; 1891 on E5-E8; 1892 on E9-E12; 1893 on E13-16; 1894 on E17-E20; 1895 on E21-E24; (no issue in 1896); and 1897 on E25-E28. Note that only representative examples have been included in Figure Eight and that some deterioration in quality must be expected when Internet images are being used.



Figure Eight: Dates embodied within the Design

USA E34 and E35 and Philippines E2 and E3 have almost identical indicia with “1706-Franklin-1790” identical dates within the indicium of E34 and E2 and “1732 Washington 1799” within the indicium of E35 and E3 and these are shown in Figure Nine.



Figure Nine: Common Dates in USA & Philippine Indicia

While the position of annual dates is obvious in the USA and Philippines example, those that appear on the post bands/wrappers of Canada are far more difficult to detect. Tiny dates that appear in the bottom corners could almost qualify as secret marks. They appear on King George V E25 (1938), King George VI E33, E34, E34a (1938) and E35 (1943) – perhaps they appear on other issues too. More conspicuous are the dates on Queen Elizabeth II issues E37, E38, E38a and E39 (1953) and E40, E41 and E41a (1960). Some of these small date markings are shown in Figure Ten.

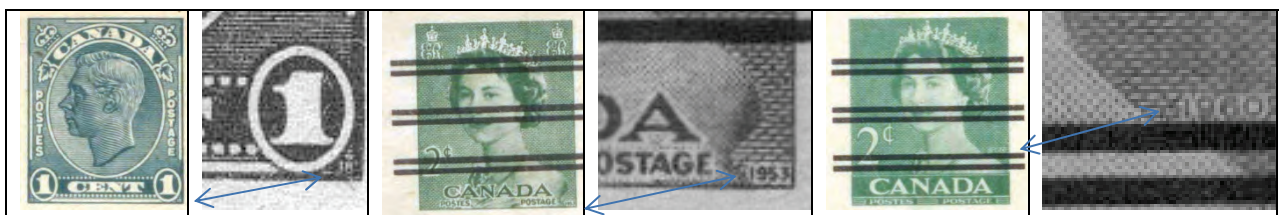


Figure Ten: Small date marks of Canada

The year 1908 shows on Austria E8, E48 and E49 as well as on KE26, KE27, KE31 and KE32 on the privately-printed counterparts. This date is inscribed in white in the upper left of the indicium on the

inside corner “IS” of KAISERLICHE. The Cyprus issue date 1960 appears on E21, E22, E23, E24 and E24a at the base of the shield beneath an open winged dove. These examples are shown as Figure Eleven.



Figure Eleven: Austria (1908) and Cyprus (1960) dates

Conclusion

The identification of control marks, weight messages, rate tables, and dates on the indicia of post office newspaper wrappers does not exactly qualify as “fly-specking” except perhaps for the tiny dates found on some Canadian post bands/wrappers. However, especially in the case of the control marks of Denmark and France, collectors have an added interest in obtaining examples of each. Dates that appear within some of the indicia of 11 postal entities indicate collector knowledge of the wrappers in album and exhibit write-ups and may be helpful for thematic collectors. Moreover, dates incorporated into the design assist in identifying the issue dates of Honduras, Nicaragua and Salvador. Numbers in the rate boxes of Argentina and the weight messages of Mexico aid in wrapper differentiation and identification of catalogue numbers.

References

Courtis, John K. (2010), Newspaper Wrappers of Denmark & Finland, *The Posthorn*, Vol. 67, No. 1, May, pp. 6-12.
Huggins, Alan & Baker, Colin (2007), *Collect British Postal Stationery*, G.B. Philatelic Publications, pp. 150.
Irvine, D. E. G. & Seshold, M. (1979), *Errors in Postage Stamp Design*, National Philatelic Society, London, see p. 167 in particular.

Endnotes

1. Transit handstamp marks are not considered because they are not printed as part of the indicium.
2. For the purposes of this paper the Somerset House embossed issues that used dated dies as security measures have not been considered. Interested readers should consult Huggins & Baker (2007).
3. My apologies but I was unable to use my Digital Zoom to search for dates; previously collected images of these dates of Canada were lost when my previous computer became corrupted.

A TRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF COL. CARL STIEG

Judy Kennett

Introduction

Colonel Carl L Stieg of San Rafael, California USA passed away in January 2010. His life’s work in study and research in Australian colonies and states postal stationery was briefly described in *Postal Stationery Collector* May 2010 (1). In *Postal Stationery Collector* August 2010, it was suggested that, as a tribute to Col Stieg, listings of references to some of his articles on the postal stationery of the colonies and states be published in future issues of the journal.

Part 1

This is the first contribution to the project, containing references from issues of two US philatelic journals. The first journal is *Australian Commonwealth Chit Chat*, later known as *Australian Chit Chat*, and later still as *Postmarked Oceania*. It was published by the Australian Commonwealth Collectors’ Circle Inc, which existed from 1965 to the end of 1977. Col Stieg was a member of this society, and a great deal of his research was published in this journal.

The second journal is *The Australasian Informer*, which was published by the Society of Australasian Specialists Inc. It was first published in 1936 and is still going! The two societies merged in January 1978, and the first combined issue was published as *The Australasian Informer / Postmarked Oceania*. On 18 July 1978 the journal title became *The Informer*. After the societies merged, Col Stieg continued to write on Australian philately, particularly the postal stationery of New South Wales and Victoria, and his articles were published in *The Informer*.

He wrote and published articles in both journals on other aspects of Australian philately, such as perfins, registration labels, slogans and special cancellations, some with other researchers. Only the articles on postal stationery are listed in this article.

AUSTRALIAN CHIT CHAT / POSTMARKED OCEANIA Published by the Australian Commonwealth Collectors' Circle Inc

- 'Thumbnail biography – Carl Stieg', Vol 2, No 8, 15 November 1967, p. 107.
'The postcards of Victoria', Vol 2, No 9, 15 December 1967, pp 109-113.
'The post cards of Victoria', Vol 2, No 10, 15 January 1968, pp 124-127.
'Unlisted N.S.W. post card found', Vol 4, No 5, 15 August 1969, pp 55-57.
'N.S.W. wrappers', Vol 4, No 8, 15 November 1969, pp 89-101.
'5d light blue envelope 1960, 4d red on cream manila envelope 1966, 5c deep orange on cream manila envelope 1967, and 2 ½ d letter card 1949', Vol 7, No 5, Whole No 70; August 1972, pp 31-34.
'The postal stationery of New South Wales – introduction and postcards', Vol 7, No 6, Whole No 71; October 1972, pp 39-43.
'The postal stationery of New South Wales – Envelopes', Vol 7, No 7, Whole No 72; November 1972, pp 49-51.
'The postal stationery of New South Wales – registered envelopes and wrappers', Vol 7, No 9, Whole No 74; January 1973, pp 65-72.
'Australia – 1d envelope 1916', Vol 7, No 10, Whole No 75; February 1973, pp 79-80.
'Australia – ½ d green envelope 1916', Vol 7, No 11, Whole No 76; March 1973, pp 88-89.
'A bibliography for the Australian States', Vol 8, No 1, Whole No 77; April 1973, p 93.
'Unlisted Queensland registered envelope discovered', Vol 8, No 3, Whole No 79; June 1973, pp 15-16.
'The postal stationery of Queensland – postcards [Part 1]', Vol 8, No 4, Whole No 80; July 1973, pp 23-27.
'The postal stationery of Queensland – postcards [Part 2]', Vol 8, No 5, Whole No 81; August 1973, pp 36-37.
'The postal stationery of Queensland – registered envelopes', Vol 8, No 7, Whole No 83; October 1973, p 52.
'The postal stationery of Queensland – letter cards', Vol 8, No 8, Whole No 84; November 1973, p 61.
'The postal stationery of Queensland – wrappers', Vol 8, No 11, Whole No 87; February 1974, pp 75-76.
'The postal stationery of Queensland – envelopes printed to private order', Vol 8, No 12, Whole No 88; March 1974, pp 85-86.
'South Australia postal stationery – postcards', Vol 9, No 1, Whole No 89; April 1974, pp 9-11.
'South Australia postal stationery – official postcards', Vol 9, No 2, Whole No 90; May 1974, p 26.
'South Australia postal stationery – wrappers', Vol 9, No 3, Whole No 91; June 1974, pp 33-35.
'South Australia postal stationery – official wrappers', Vol 9, No 4, Whole No 92; July 1974, pp 49-50.
'South Australia postal stationery – envelopes', Vol 9, No 6, Whole No 94; Oct. 1974, pp 80
'The postal stationery of Victoria – postcards and official postcards', Vol 10, No 2, Whole No 100; May 1975, pp 21-24.
With Whole No 101, the title of the journal became **Postmarked Oceania**.
'The postal stationery of Victoria – letter cards', Vol 10, No 3, Whole No 101; June 1975, p 36.
'The postal stationery of Victoria – registered envelopes', Vol 10, No 4, Whole No 102; July 1975, pp 41-47.
'The postal stationery of Victoria – envelopes', Vol 10, No 7, Whole No 105; November 1975, pp 84-86.
'The postal stationery of Victoria – envelopes printed to private order', Vol 10, No 9, Whole No 107; February 1976, pp 105-110.
'The postal stationery of Victoria – official envelopes', Vol 10, No 10, Whole No 108; March 1976, pp 123-124.
'The postal stationery of Victoria – semi-official envelopes', Vol 11, No 1, Whole No 109; April 1976, pp 13-14.
'New South Wales registered envelope of 1892 – Size F', Vol 11, No 4, Whole No 112; July 1976, p 50.
'The postal stationery of Victoria – registered envelopes', Vol 11, No 6, Whole No 114; November 1976, pp 72-73.
'Victoria postal card issue of November 1885', Vol 11, No 8, Whole No 116; January 1977, pp 101-102.
'The postal stationery of Victoria – wrappers', Vol 12, No 1, Whole No 117; June 1977, pp 3-11.

THE INFORMER Published by Society of Australasian Specialists / Oceania

- 'Australian States' (a bibliography?), Vol 44, No 10; November 1980, p 104
'Victoria Post Card No 1', Vol 45, No 7, Whole No 507; July-August 1981, pp 82-83.
'Unlisted NSW official postcards', Vol 45, No 9, Whole No 509; Oct 1981, pp 97-98.
'Australian 'Active Service' envelopes' [WW2], Vol 45, No 10, Whole No 510; November 1981, pp 112-114 (the type that were franked with adhesives)
'1953 Australia registered envelope QE II 1 shilling 1/2d', Vol 46, No 2, Whole No 513; February 1982, pp 13-14.
'Australian aerogramme of 1970', Vol 46, No 6, Whole No 517; June 1982, p 61
'Australian aerogramme of 1976', Vol 46, No 11, Whole No 522; December 1982, p 121
'The official perforated postcards of New South Wales', Vol 47, No 2, Whole No 524; February 1983, pp 13-15
'The New South Wales reply card of 1883', Vol 47, No 9, Whole No 531; October 1983, pp 97& 103
'The Queensland View Cards of 1898-1908', Vol 48, No 8; September 1984, p 85
'The Australian aerogramme of 1970', Vol 48, No 9; October 1984, p 104
'The Australian envelopes of 1918 and 1919', Vol 48, No 10; November 1984, p 109
'The View Cards of New South Wales', Vol 49, No 2; February 1985, p 16
'The 1875 postcards of New South Wales', Vol 49, No 8; September 1985, p 85
'The Printed to Private Order cards of NSW', Vol 49, No 10; November 1985, p 110
'The Queensland view cards of 1906', Vol 50, No 5; May 1986, p 49
'The New South Wales 5d green official registered envelopes', Vol 50, No 9; October 1986, p 106
'The official postal cards of Victoria', Vol 50, No 10; November 1986, p 116
'The unlisted official post cards of New South Wales', Vol 51, No 9; October 1987, p 98
'The 1908 visit of the Great White Fleet to Australia', Vol 54, No 1; January 1990, p 2
'Victoria wrappers of 1895', Vol 54, No 3; March 1990, p 36
'New varieties – New South Wales official envelope', Vol 54, No 3; March 1990, p 39
'New South Wales one penny official envelopes of 1888', Vol 54, No 4; April 1990, p 7
'Victoria reply cards of 20 October 1891', Vol 55, No 2; February 1991, p 6
'One penny red crown and shield single postcards of New South Wales', Vol 55, No 2; February 1991, p 10
'One penny red crown and shield single postcards of New South Wales', Vol 55, No 4; April 1991, p 5
'Victoria half-penny wrapper of 1903', Vol 56, No 1; January 1992, p 7
'Victoria postal stationery specimens', Vol 56, No 1; January 1992, p 11
'Listing errors of the Victoria one penny envelope', Vol 56, No 2; February 1992, p 11
'A little known Victoria postcard', Vol 57, No 4, Whole No 602; 4th quarter 1993, p 18
'Victorian wrapper that shouldn't exist', Vol 58, No 2, Whole No 604; 2nd quarter 1994, p 28
'Postal stationery with private perfin', Vol 58, No 2, Whole No 604, 2nd quarter 1994, p 29
'Victoria: advertising collar on 1886 postal stationery', Vol 58, No 3, Whole No 605; 3rd quarter 1994, p 54
'Victoria's official wrappers', Vol 59, No 2; 2nd quarter 1995, p 37
'Victoria's official stationery', Vol 59, No 4; 4th quarter 1995, p 79
'The official postcards of Victoria', Vol 60, No 3; 3rd quarter 1996, p 61
'Selected items from Col Carl Stieg's Gold Medal exhibit of Victoria newspaper wrappers, 1869-1901', Vol 62, No 2; 2nd quarter 1998, p 37

Finding these journals in Australian philatelic libraries

Copies of these journals should be held in our major philatelic libraries, particularly PHILAS Library (Sydney) and the library of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria (Melbourne). Readers in other states may find these journals difficult to access; please contact the writer on jkennett@tpg.com.au if there are any problems.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Derek Brennan for access to the copies of **Australian Chit Chat**. Thank you to David McNamee, the Editor of **The Informer**, for providing a complete listing of articles by Col Stieg published in that journal, and for advice on the history of the two journals cited in this article.

PSSA FORUM

Santa Pak

In October 2001 Australia Post released in Western Australia a 5 kg parcel satchel called a Santa Pack. PSSA member Chris de Haer advises that the Santa Pack was released in 2002 with minor differences. The 2001 satchel states at the bottom that the Christmas offer is available until '22 December 2001' while the 2002 version gives '23 December' without a year. The printing dates are 8/01 and 9/02 respectively. Chris has written about the Santa Packs in The Fremantle Mail (Journal of the Fremantle and Districts Philatelic Society) November 2001 (page 14) and November 2002 (page 12).

Solomon Islands Aerogrammes

From Steve Zirinsky comes information of a range of Solomon Islands aerogrammes and envelopes. Steve's website <http://www.zirinskystamps.com/Publications.html> is worth a visit as it includes a range of articles on postal stationery including "Post Fiji Postage Prepaid Envelopes" by John Ray, a member of the Pacific Islands Study Circle.



LISTING OF AUSTRALIAN NON-DENOMINATED POSTAL STATIONERY

Ian McMahon

Postcards

4 April 2011 Lake Eyre

Maximum cards

- (-) The Dry
- (-) In Flood
- (-) New Growth
- (-) Bird Life

(Set price: \$10.50)

12 April 2011 Royal Wedding

Maximum cards

- (-) Informal portrait, domestic rate stamp
- (-) Formal portrait, International stamp

(Set price: \$4.35)

10 May 2011 Dame Nellie Melba

Maximum cards

- (\$1.35) Dame Nellie Melba

17 May 2011 Farming Australia: Native Plants

Maximum cards

- (-) Eucalyptus Oil
- (-) Australian Honey
- (-) Macadamia Nuts
- (-) Tea Tree Oil

(Set price: \$5.40)

7 June 2011 Icebergs

Maximum cards

- (-) Striated Jade Iceberg
- (-) Enoded Iceberg
- (-) Jade Iceberg
- (-) Blue Iceberg

(Set price: \$5.40)

14 June 2011 Royal Australian Navy Centenary

Maximum cards

- (-) HMAS Australia
- (-) HMAS Sydney IV

(Set price: \$2.70)

1 July 2011 Bush Babies

Maximum cards

- (-) The Bilby
- (-) The Dingo
- (-) The Kangaroo
- (-) The Koala
- (-) The Sugar Glider

(Set price: \$14.65)

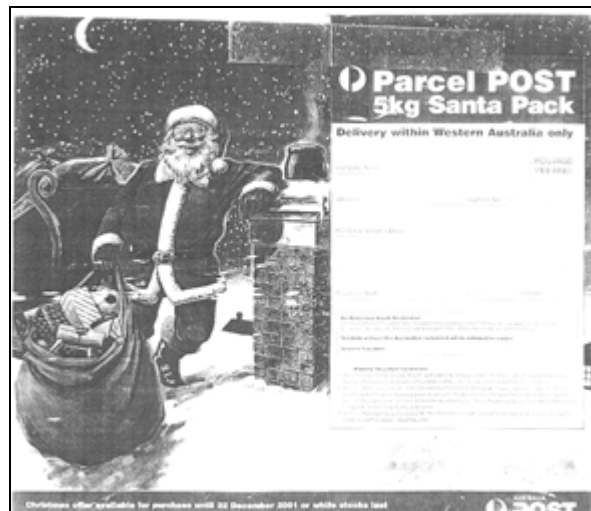
POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Updated Online Listing of Australian non-denominated and flat rate postal stationery

The Society's online catalogue is located on the PSSA website www.postalstationeryaustralia.com and brings together the listings from the various issues of the PSC and has now been updated covering issues until November 2010.

Parcel Satchels

Santa Pack



Replace the previous entry with:

October 2001 WA Santa Pack. Paying surface parcel rate within WA
(\$11.50) 5kg satchel

October 2002 WA Santa Pack. Paying surface parcel rate within WA
(\$11.50) 5kg satchel

Note: The 2001 satchel states at the bottom that the Christmas offer is available until '22 December 2001' while the 2002 version gives '23 December' without a year. The printing dates are 8/01 and 9/02 respectively.

FROM THE SECRETARY

New members

We welcome as new members Andrew Fischer (South Africa) and David Walker (Qld). Andrew's postal stationery collecting interests are the Rhodesias, Nyasaland and Mozambique, and David's are the Commonwealth of Australia and the States.

Meeting of the PSSA at Canberra Stampshow 2012

Canberra Stampshow 2012 will be held at the Hellenic Club, Woden ACT on 16-18 March 2012. It will consist of the Australasian Challenge, the National Polar Class, and a new Experimental Modern Traditional Class, as well as a full range of classes at State level. The PSSA has been allocated a meeting slot at the event, and it is 12pm on Sunday 18 March 2012.

Sale of back issues of Postal Stationery Collector

A price list for back issues of the journal appears elsewhere in this issue. It also appears on the Society website www.postalstationeryaustralia.com. We still hold spare copies of most issues, and enquiries to the Secretary about availability are most welcome.

Memorial to Col Carl Stieg

An article which contains listings of references to articles by Col Stieg that were published in two US philatelic journals appears in this issue of *Postal Stationery Collector*. These listings cover chiefly his writings on the postal stationery of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia. He had wide collecting interests; there are also short articles on some Commonwealth of Australia postal stationery. Another collection was of the postal stationery of Ceylon (now Sri Lanka).

These listings cover the major part of his writings, but he did contribute a few articles to some Australian philatelic journals. Those I have been able to find will be dealt with in future issues of PSC. However, I would appreciate contributions from members about articles or notes that they have found in Australian journals.

LITERATURE

Judy Kennett and Ian McMahon

From our contemporaries

The Postal Stationery Society Journal [UK] Vol 19 No 2 May 2011

- Meeting report – Saturday 9 April 2011
- Postal stationery for a purpose – transmission beneath the surface – pneumatic mail
- Whitfield King – embossed envelopes stamped to order
- GB postal stationery news – new items reported, STO envelopes and wrappers
- Printing of postage stamps on customers' own material (Post Office Notices from 1972)
- Great Britain UPU specimen postal stationery (author James Bendon)

L'Entier Postal No 87 Mars 2011

- This isn't postal stationery - 'products' intended for postal use (author Edy Pockele)
- Cancelled postal stationery : a gold mine for searchers (stationery and postal tariffs)
- Some newly issued ready to post stationery

L'Intero postale No 109 /110 2010

- The birth of UFI forty years ago
- 37th general meeting at Venezia, 24 April 2010
- 2nd meeting of Collectors of International Italian Reply Coupons, May 2010
- An exhibit 'Tariffs, usages and destinations of Italian lettercards sent overseas (1889-1950)

Australian Journal of Philately No 115 March 2011

- Belgium 1946 international reply coupon with – 10% surcharge

Capital Philately Vol 29 No 1 December 2010

- The growing interest in Leeward Islands postal stationery (author Darryl Fuller)

The Informer Vol 75 No 3 Whole No 673 July 2011

- New postal stationery from PNG (postage paid cards for domestic and international use, with images of important cultural sites throughout the country)
- New aerogrammes from the Solomon Islands [both items from member Steve Zirinsky]

The Ganzsachensammler June 2011

- In Memory of Max Schlo
- A French Prisoner of War Letter
- Discoveries
- Private Postcards of a food processing company 'de Saxon'
- Postcard to commemorate the entrance of the Canton of Geneva into the Swiss Confederation

Postal Stationery Notes April 2011

- The Elusive Webb P271
- Printer to Private Order Flag Envelopes
- Canadian Stationery with Francophone Advertising
- Canada Post Ads on Illustrated Stationery
- New Official Postcards

Gibbon Stamp Monthly June, July 2011

- Foreign Postal Stationery 2009-10 A-F, G-N
- Royal Mail Postcards, Puzzle from Victoria, Rival GB lettercard, demise of the British aerogramme

Postal Stationery May-June 2011

- "I'll Be Seeing You" - A Revue of Salesmen's Postal Cards
- U.S.A. 19th Century Envelope Column
- U.S.A. Postal Card Column
- U.S.A. 20th & 21st Century Envelope Column
- Grant Letter Cards
- Grant Letter Cards
- Puerto Rico Fake Overprints
- ERP Info on Wikipedia
- Mariana Islands Precancelled Postal Card
- Identification of a Peruvian Card
- Multiple Ad Card?
- Nordia Exhibition
- Cards with New York Exchange Office Marks
- Website with Canadian Stationery
- New 20th and 21st Century Catalog
- Unlisted British STO Post Cards
- CANCELLED USA Postal Cards
- Great Britain Sample Aerogram
- USA Postal Cards S44-19, S110a, etc
- New Zealand Double Embossed Envelope
- Australian Sample Aerogram
- Some Australia P. O. Issued Cards
- LITERATURE REVIEWS Die Bildpostkarten der Schweiz 1924-1964 Motivhanduch ; Sierra Leone Registration, Catalogo de Enteros Postales de Mexico, Selected British Forces Aerograms from the Thomas A. Matthews Collection, Part 13 (Conclusion)

Reviews

London Philatelist Vol 120 No 1384 April 2011

Gli aerogramme del Giro Aereo Internazionale di Sicilia 1950-2009 [International Air Giro Aerogrammes of Sicily; a review of the 60 editions of the Air Tours of Sicily], by Nino Aquila, published 2010 by Unione Filatelica Siciliana, 256 p, colour illus, price and availability from the author at Viale della Liberta 66, I-90143 Palermo, Sicily.

This is a chronicle of the events, and the aerogrammes issued in connection with them. It's suggested that the book might give aerophilatelists ideas for a collection of modern (post-1945) aerophilately.

The Informer Vol 75 No 3 July 2011

Treasured letters: New Zealand prisoner-of-war air letter cards 1941-1945, by Barry J E Scott and Robin M Startup, 146 p, colour illus, appendix, bibliography, card cover, published by Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Wellington, 2011. Price NZ\$110, plus packing & postage. Order directly from RPSNZ website <http://rpsnz.org.nz> where p&p charges are available.

The authors have brought their combined experience in aerophilately and military postal history together to produce a most comprehensive volume full of instructive tables and charts and with large full colour illustrations. The material discussed is scarce, and the authors acknowledge the contributions of a score of collectors. The reviewer's conclusion is that the book will be a delight to anyone interested in military postal history, postal stationery or New Zealand philately. Barry Scott is a long standing member of PSSA.

United States 20th and 21st Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers Catalog 2011

The 2011 edition of the *Catalog of the 20th and 21st Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers of the United States* has been released. The 390-page edition, by Editor Dan Undersander and supported by a nine-member editorial board, brings about a number of major changes from previous editions of the catalog:

- The first color catalog for U.S. envelopes by UPSS;
- Much better descriptions of how paper and envelopes are made and changes in envelope manufacture over the years;
- Much more detailed definitions of terms and explanations to facilitate understanding UPSS number listings;
- Inclusion of a color sheet to help differentiate paper types;
- New images of all dies and better descriptions of die types;
- Much better procedure for identifying Mercantile, circular and oval dies;
- Improved information on revaluation types;
- Improved listings of first day covers.

As an added bonus, included are over 25 images of postal history usages of Hartford, Mercantile and circular die issues.

Hard cover version is \$55.20 for UPSS members or \$69.00 for non-members; loose leaf \$47.20 members or \$59.00 non-members (all prices is US dollars). The loose leaf pages are 8 1/2x11 size, punched for a standard 3-ring binder (not included).

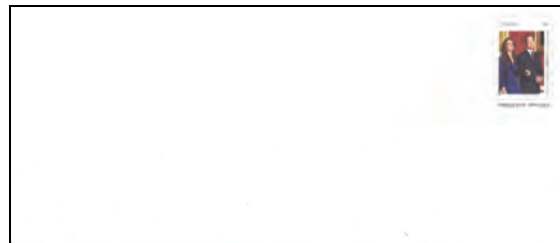
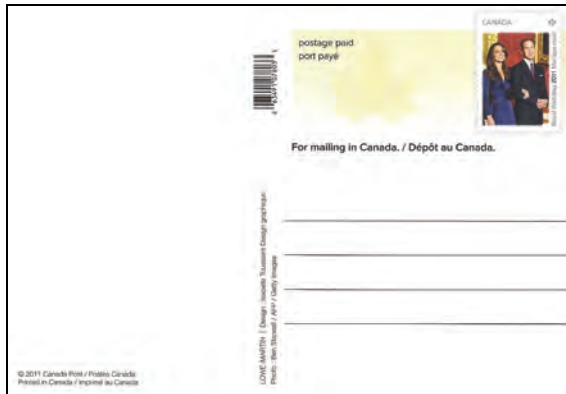
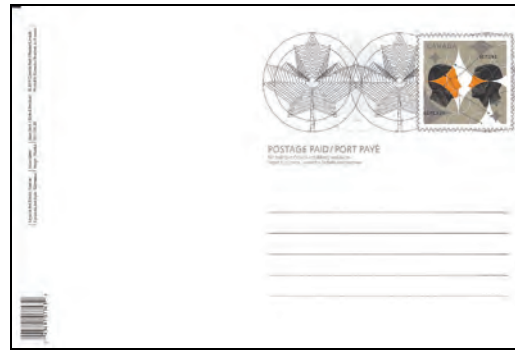
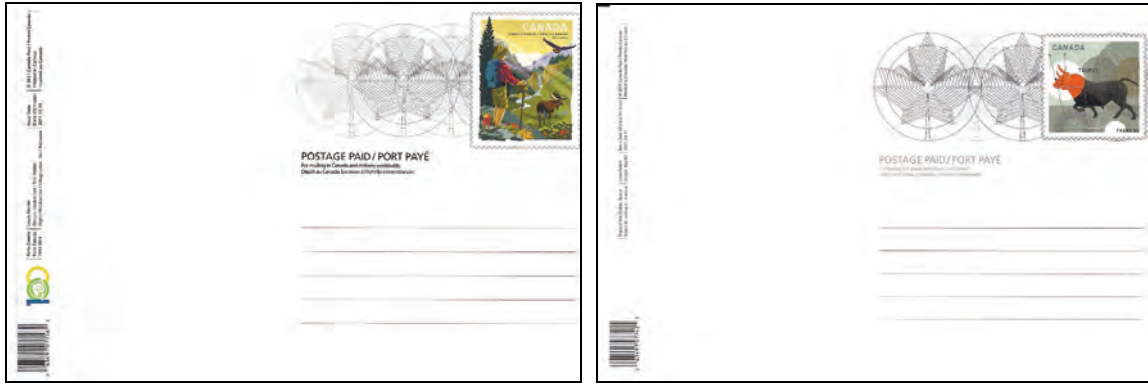
These new publications are available from the UPSS Publications Office, P.O. Box 3982, Chester, VA 23831 or from the UPSS web site (www.upss.org). International orders add \$12 per individual book – contact the UPSS for specific rates for two or more publications.

Many additional references on United States and foreign postal stationery, corner mounts and six sizes of plastic sleeves are also available from UPSS. Society information, the current society auction offerings, and the complete publications and supplies listing may be viewed on the Web site www.upss.org with option for ordering through the Publications Office or by PayPal (payment to poststat@gmail.com). There are no additional charges for PayPal payments.

NEW ISSUES

Canada

Canada has issued a number of new postcards including further cards in its astrological sign series which are being issued each month in 2011 and a card for the centenary of Parks Canada.



Canada Post issued a postcard and a stamped envelope for the Royal Wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton.

Hong Kong and USA

Hong Kong issued a set of four cards for the Year of the Rabbit and the USA issued 29c single and reply postcards showing two common terns on 7 April 2011.

