

# ***POSTAL STATIONERY***

## ***COLLECTOR***

**Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia**

**Issue No 1**

**May 1995**



*New South Wales: 1855 unissued envelope with specimen overprint.*

## ***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 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. The initial subscription has been set at \$10. For further information please contact the Secretary/Treasurer or your state coordinator.

### **INITIAL OFFICE BEARERS:**

CONVENOR: Ian McMahon, PO Box 783 Civic Square ACT 2608  
SECRETARY/  
TREASURER: Judy Kennett, PO Box 260, Jamison ACT 2614

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### ***Postal Stationery Collector***

Interim Editor: Ian McMahon

Contributions to the Postal Stationery Collector should be sent to Ian McMahon, PO Box 783 Civic Square ACT 2608. Articles on any postal stationery topic are welcomed and, if possible should also be submitted on 3.5 inch MSDOS disks in any word processing format (Word for Windows preferred). Illustrations should be good quality photocopies. Book reviews, news items, information on new issues and members classifieds are also welcome. Letters to the Editor and comments on articles published are encouraged.

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### **EDITORIAL**

Postal stationery collecting has often tended to be the cinderella of philately in Australia and, despite the revival of interest in recent years, there has until now been present no national society catering for collectors interested in this field.

As a consequence the opportunity has been taken to form a Society which can cater to the needs of Stationery collectors. The aim is for a fairly informal Society that will enable collectors to share information and assist each other with forming their collections and keeping abreast of new developments. Because the aim is to involve collectors nationwide there will not be regular meetings in a given city, rather the opportunity will be taken to meet at national/state exhibitions and similar occasions. In addition I hope that the officer bearers will come from different states and at any rate I hope that we will have at least a coordinator from each state and the ACT. In a Society like ours we all have to make a special effort to keep in contact, to participate and to share our ideas and knowledge with each other.

## *Postal Stationery Collector*

I have asked the organisers of the National exhibition in Sydney in October if we can have a meeting at the exhibition and if so that will be the Society's first meeting. At that meeting we could take the opportunity to discuss where we see the Society heading and whether the Society should undertake other activities such as postal sales or a sales circuit. (At some stage in the future, we may even be in a position to sponsor an award for a postal stationery class at an Australian exhibition! How about it?)

The *Postal Stationery Collector* is intended as a medium for the exchange of ideas, news and information about stationery between Society members. As such its success depends entirely on the contributions from members.

Contributions can take many forms. Items of news, information on new issues (particularly from the more 'difficult' countries), articles on any postal stationery topic. Articles could be anything from a one page article describing an interesting item of stationery from your collection, articles on the stationery of the country you collect, research articles, book reviews and on topics which assist other members in collecting or exhibiting postal stationery. In addition comments on and additional information relating to the articles and information published in the Journal are welcomed. I hope that the next issue of the Journal will appear in October and would appreciate receiving material for that issue by 31 August.

As discussed in Dingle Smith's article, one of the major benefit of membership of a society such as ours is the sharing of common interests with others. One way of doing this is through members cooperating on research topics of common interest and for the maximum benefit, publication of the information should occur in the Society's journal.

### ***WANTED***

Post-war Belgium postal stationery: Please send list and price required to:

Ian McMahan PO Box 783 CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608.

Members classifieds (non-trade) are welcome!!! Please send your classifieds to the Editor.

## **FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER**

### **Improving communication amongst ourselves**

To increase and improve communication among members of the Society, I suggest that we create and maintain a directory of members' names, addresses, fields of interest in postal stationery, and telephone and fax numbers. We can then draw one another's attention to relevant material that we find with dealers, or to lots that are offered in auction catalogues.

I am willing to compile an early version of this directory, and hold it on my computer. Would members like to notify me of their telephone and fax numbers, and interests? Details should be sent to me: Secretary/Treasurer PSSA, PO Box 260, Jamison ACT 2614, or put on a fax to (06) 251 1387. [Please note that any contact information provided will be made available only to other members of the Society and will not be published in the Journal. I do, however, hope to be able to publish details of members' stationery interests' in a forthcoming issue.]

### **Encouraging Australian dealers to stock postal stationery**

Now that there is an active special postal stationery society in Australia, we are in a position to encourage dealers to increase and improve their stocks of postal stationery, both Australian, British Commonwealth and foreign. I suggest we do this by:

- sending a note to ASDA for publication in their monthly newsletter, which is sent to all dealer members;
- inviting interested dealers to become members of PSSA; and
- patronising dealers who regularly stock postal stationery, whether they are members or not!

### **Literature**

We should make a point of letting the Editor know of any new handbooks or catalogues about postal stationery that we find. Eventually, we may be able to compile bibliographies. Similarly, we should let the Editor know of any articles about postal stationery that appear in the philatelic journals that we receive personally. These could then be edited into a regular column.

### **Foundation Members Of The Society**

At the time of preparing this issue, the Society had seventeen foundation members. The list of foundation members will be closed off on 31 July 1995. The current membership list is:

Noel Almeida	Bernie Beston
Derek Brennan	John Crowsley
Mark Diserio	Bernie Doherty
Ed Druce	Ross Duberal
Ian Faber	Malcolm Groom
Barry Jarrett	Mark Jurisich
Imad Hert	Ken Humphreys
Ray Kelly	Judy Kennett
Margaret Hamilton	Ian McMahan
Michael Organ	Joan Orr
Derek Pocock	Dingle Smith
Ray Todd	Martin Walker
Betty Van Tenac	

**RESEARCH TASKS FOR THE SOCIETY**

**Dingle Smith**

The major benefit of membership of a society is to share common interests with others. In Australia, for specialist societies this is inevitably linked to long distance communication rather than face to face contact. My experience of similar philatelic societies overseas is that a successful sharing of knowledge on a common theme is the most satisfying way to proceed. Correspondence with individual members is rewarding but for maximum benefit publication in a society's journal is the best way to proceed.

My views on this are based on some twenty-five years membership of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG). The membership of the BCPSG is mainly from north America and the United Kingdom, the common band that unites the members is the Society's quarterly journal the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* (BCPJ). Meetings of the BCPSG are infrequent and usually associated with national shows in the USA, I have yet to attend a such a meeting but I have gained immense satisfaction from my membership. The key to this has been the publication in the BCPJ of research articles that have as their aim sharing knowledge among members. Such articles included a mammoth project that listed details of every date stamp ever used by any postal agency in Jamaica from the late eighteenth century to the 1960s. This gave earliest and last known dates of use, variations in the colour of the ink etc. for every datestamp. The series was in alphabetical order for the post towns and ran over some six years! Similar, less ambitious projects, listed all forms of registered markings and another tax markings. With all of these articles the aim was for a member to provide information from their collection and for other members to send in their additions, changes and corrections. These were subsequently published as updated versions of the lists. Over many years I opened the new arrived BCPJ with a real sense of excitement to see what Jamaican topics were included (my area of interest) and then searched through my own collection to see if I could add any extra information. Sometimes there was the thrill of an undescribed marking, on other occasions the minutiae of extending an earliest known date by a couple of days.

My suggestions for the *Postal Stationery Collector* and the Postal Stationery Society of Australia are to adopt similar projects in order to involve as many members as possible and also to further research into Australian postal stationery. There are two extra benefits from this approach. One is that the editor, with luck, has an assured supply of copy and the second, and more important, is that such listings are an ideal ways to attract new members and library subscriptions!

There is no shortage of subjects for such research, but in order to illustrate these in more detail I will expand on two possible topic. Both suggestions relate to stationery from the Australian States prior to the issue of Commonwealth material, this reflects my own interests. The topics are:

- specimen overprints on Australian States postal stationery
- updating Higgins and Gage for the Australian States and the provision of a reliable rarity guide.

**Specimen Overprints**

I would immediately expand the subject matter to include all forms of reprints. Specimen and reprints on State postal stationery have, in general, been poorly researched. The major exception is Western Australia for which detail of specimens was presented in *Western Australia - the postal stationery to 1914* by Brian Pope and Phil Thomas in 1982. However, the range and number of such overprints is limited in comparison to most of the other States. Ed Druce and I attempted a first listing of New South Wales specimen postal

Figure 1. New South Wales 1877 postcards with two distinct types of specimen overprints.

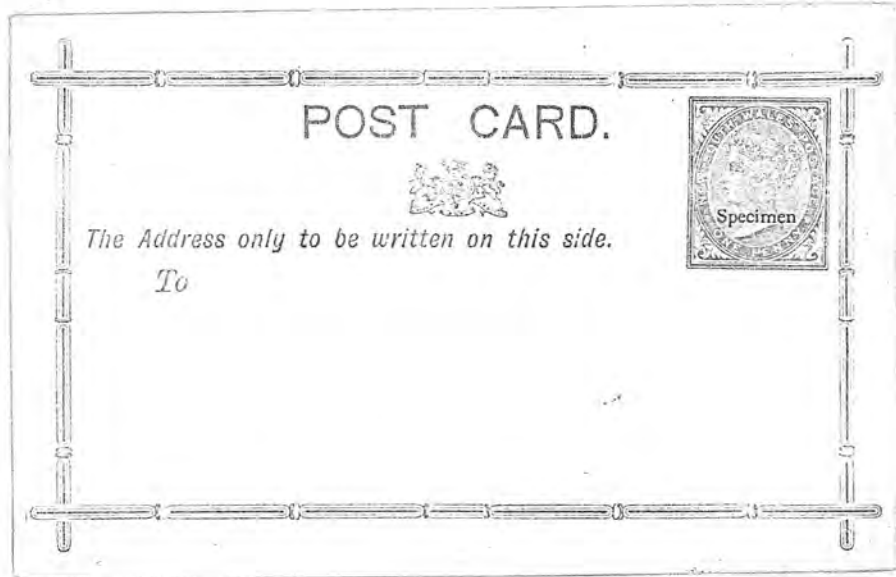


Figure 2. New South Wales 1888 envelopes with two distinct types of specimen overprints.



stationery in two articles in *Capital Philately* (vol. 6, nos. 2 and 3, 1988). The types of overprint are numerous and, in some cases, individual cards are known with two different styles of overprint. Examples for the 1d postcard of 1877 (HG 3) and for the 1888 envelopes (HG B4) are illustrated in Figure 1 and Figure 2 respectively. Minor changes in the format of cards resulted in a new issue of specimens.

The 1988 listing is due for revision and the wider circulation to Australian postal stationery specialists would enhance this. As far as I am aware, specimen types for the other States have only been subject to limited description. A first attempt to do this for Victoria, aimed to stimulate discussion, appeared in *Capital Philately* (vol. 9, no. 3, 1991). An interesting byway is to compare the types of specimen overprint on postal stationery to the contemporary specimen overprints on the postage stamps, and for some States, revenue adhesives. Such research has a special relevance for Australia as, almost alone among the British colonies of the time, many issues were produced by the States and not in the United Kingdom. Certainly the bible for British Colony specimen overprints on postage stamps, *Specimen stamps of the Crown Colonies 1857-1948* by Samuel, published in 1976, is of little assistance.

The specimen overprint (illustrated on the front cover), on an unadopted essay for a New South Wales envelope, is the first specimen used in Australia for postal stationery. Does it predate use for adhesive stamps for the Australian States? Further background to the issue is given in *Capital Philately* (vol. 7, no. 1, 1988).

It would be interesting to hear if fellow inaugural members of the Society would be interested in the task of producing improved listings for Australian States postal stationery. If there is such interest, the next stage is for the *Postal Stationery Collector* to publish a draft listing for one State to see how we go. Victoria may be a useful starter as I am aware of collectors engaged in this task. While my own very provisional listing for Victoria is little more than an outline I would be happy for this to act as a starting point - but I would prefer others to produce a listing that extends this initial draft.

### **Up-dating Higgins and Gage**

I have had limited correspondence with collectors in the UK who have considered such a project, for the Australian States, in association with the Postal Stationery Society. I see no problem in joining forces with our British counterparts if that seems appropriate. What I would like to see is an up-dating that gives a much better idea of rarity. Personally I do not think that the use of monetary values is the most useful method to do this. My own collecting interests are limited but his project, more demanding than for specimens, could involve a much wider group of collectors. At a simple level asking the opinion of collectors on the relative rarity of used items of postal stationery would be of interest. There is of course, the need to list specimen postal stationery items in an up-dated version of Higgins and Gage!

I am sure that the Editor would be delighted to receive correspondence on this subject. Personally I have no doubt that joint projects of this kind sharing expertise among the Society's members with the results published in the *Postal Stationery Collector* is the way for us to go. There are undoubtedly other projects that could be undertaken, specimens and up-grading available listings are those that appeal to me.



May 1995

## COLLECTING SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Derek A. Pocock

Postal Stationery is itself different to start with. It is also new - even if it is really a reawakening of an old enthusiasm - to the extent that the exhibition class for it dates only from the 1980's. Postal Stationery is an area for the serious philatelist. Whilst stamps and even some covers (with or without emphasis on their postmarks) are the general way for stamp collectors, we have to go back to the earlier part of this century to find any enthusiasm for postal stationery in the collector market. Perhaps in those days there was a perceived shortage of stamps to acquire; that led collectors to embrace postal stationery (along with revenues, other fiscals and even railway parcel stamps) and thus enlarge their albums - albeit often in the form of "cut-outs".

In those days the comprehensive catalogue by Ascher was the bible only superseded later by Higgins and Gage, which was itself a labour of love rather than satisfying any collector demand or market.

Currently we have seen postal stationery enjoy a resurgence of interest. Perhaps others can suggest a reason for this but it may well be a reaction against modern stamps coupled with the need for a challenge when the other classic fields are either too expensive or too played out to satisfy the serious student.

Surprisingly some countries' postal stationery is well researched and has good coverage by quality literature. Australia and the States would come into this class probably with Great Britain, and most of Europe. But for the enthusiast the pleasures of an off-beat country have much to recommend them. My own choice has been Nicaragua for reasons that need no amplification - suffice to say that it was serendipity.

There is no shortage of material to collect for most of the Central and South American countries when it comes to the field of postal stationery. Aside from the general popularity of the material to the public at the end of the 19th and at the beginning of the twentieth century, (after all it was cheap to use and no other field of communication was yet available), many countries in this region were the victims of a profiteering motive by the production of excess issues for sale to collectors. (There is nothing new under the sun!)

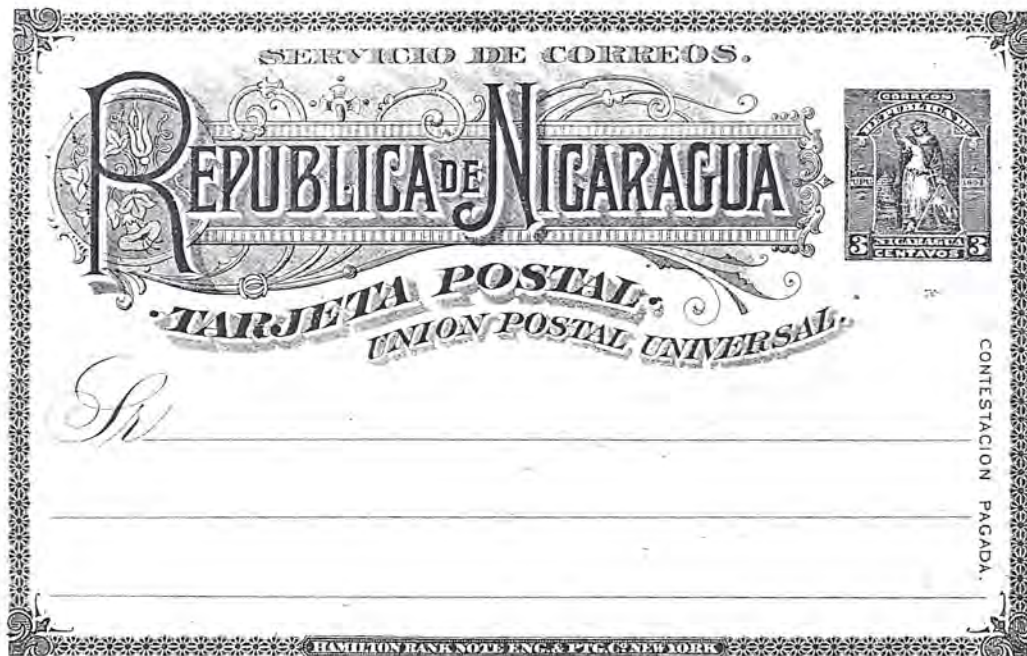
Mr. Seebeck played a major part in this activity by contracting to produce, at no charge, all the stamps and postal stationery each year for any country - but with the proviso that he could reprint at a later time, from the original plates, for non postally valid sales.

Prior to accepting the Seebeck blandishments in 1890, Nicaragua already had postal stationery in the form of cards, reply cards and envelopes (registered envelopes were never produced). These issues had valid use to a wide public such that most items are not rare today. Yet the period is poorly studied and now research is showing flaws to indicate an original plating study, as well as different printings on to card or paper of varying types throughout their period of use. An occasional error or surcharge is seen giving an air of true probity to this period of Nicaragua's postal history, vis-a-vis postal stationery at least. Rates both internal and external remained constant from the first issue in 1878 through to 1890.

Then occurs the period of the Seebeck issues with their new designs each year and an increase in denominations together with the introduction of newspaper/magazine wrappers. Naturally many of the denominations had little or no demand and have thus become rarities in a postally used form. But, remembering that Mr. Seebeck's rights to reprint after each issue was replaced on December 31st, much of this material between the years of the contract from 1890-1899, is of course common to find today in mint condition.

Postal Stationery Collector

Examples of Nicaraguan postal stationery



*May 1995*

However even Mr. Seebeck reduced his output towards the end of the decade. Nicaragua was the only country to honour the contract for the full 10 years but the later years saw fewer denominations. For the last year the wrappers were not produced.

Much of the interest in the Seebeck era - aside from the postal usage - lies in the differentiation between the genuine and the reprints either by shade or paper or by the knife cutting of the envelopes.

The last period of Nicaragua's postal stationery is that which persists through to the 1920's. Here the issues are characterised by the results of a flawed national economy. Various printers were used when old bills could not be met and at times any old stock was called in for emergency use. Surcharges and varieties are numerous as the economy staggered through crises both political and sometimes climatic. [We should remember that the Panama Canal would have been the Nicaragua Canal had not a wily US Senator left copies of the 1900 stamps and postal stationery - showing the design of an erupting volcano - on the desks of all his colleagues prior to the Senate voting on the location of the canal to be financed by the US Treasury.]

This period gives much opportunity for serious study as material is not common: indeed if not totally non-existent since neither Ascher nor Higgins and Gage is not completely reliable. Much needs to be written and hopefully the keen members of the Central American Study Group (based in the United Kingdom) and 'Nicaro' (based in the United States of America) will co-operate to produce a publication on Nicaragua that will be as comprehensive as, for example, the book by Pope & Thomas on the postal stationery of Western Australia.

The exhibiting of postal stationery falls between two (or even three) stools. The question is whether to write up as a Traditional collection by papers, colours, printing etc., or as Postal History with emphasis on rates, routes and markings, or even with references perhaps as a thematic display, for example, by designs and comparative geography. The marking guidelines give rewards for the wide variety of destinations to which the material has been addressed. For Nicaragua most correspondence was naturally to the United States of America but also to Germany, France and to Great Britain. Yet much locally used material is found as well as items sent to other Central American countries. Sadly nothing is found from Nicaragua for Australia or New Zealand nor for that matter to any parts of Eastern Asia.

Another general matter is the techniques of exhibiting postal stationery. Overlapping - particularly mint material is almost mandatory to avoid large, empty areas on the pages and skilful use of this technique can also be employed for used items perhaps even masking a defect in a card or cover. Naturally proofs, essays and specimens will enhance any exhibit but the old, prolific cut-outs from our grandfathers era are not to be encouraged. Their presence can, however, show features such as varieties and die types, but they must be used here with great discretion.

I do recommend trying an off-beat country for a Postal Stationery collection where research and the need for a challenge are a paramount aspect to the serious philatelist. Most of Africa, South and Central America and Asia beckon anyone whose bent is no longer satisfied by the well trodden paths of Australia or States Postal Stationery.

**LISTING OF AUSTRALIAN NON-DENOMINATED POSTAL STATIONERY (PART 1)**

**Ian McMahon**

In recent years Australia Post has issued a wide range of non-denominated postal stationery. Much of it has attracted relatively little attention from collectors. Although some have been reported in the philatelic press or the *Philatelic Bulletin*, there has been no one reference for this material and much has not been reported at all.

The following is an attempt to list these items in a systematic way at a semi-specialised level. For completeness some of the forerunners such as the flat rate envelope are included even though they do bear a denomination.

**Parcel Labels**

- 1987 Tasmanian Christmas parcel label, prepaying parcels up to 10 kg from Tasmania to New South Wales and Victoria, sold with *Postpak* box.  
\$7.00 green (Figure 1)
- 28 November 1988 Christmas Santapak parcel labels, prepaying parcels up to 10 kg surface mail, sold with *postpak* box  
(\$7.00) Statepak (for delivery in the state of posting) (Figure 2)  
(\$9.50) Aussiepak (for surface mail within the eastern states and South Australia)  
(\$19.00) Aussiepak (for air mail within the eastern states and South Australia)

**Parcel Boxes**

- 1 November 1989 Prepaid parcel box, prepaying surface mail parcel of up to 5 kg anywhere in Australia  
(\$7.50) Giftbox, red, 320 mm x 23 mm x 10.5 mm, (Figure 3)
- 26 February 1990 Prepaid parcel box, prepaying surface mail parcel of up to 5 kg anywhere in Australia  
(\$7.50) Businessbox,, brown, 320 mm x 23 mm x 10.5 mm, (Figure 4)
- 1 October 1991 Prepaid 'Postpak' Boxes, red cardboard boxes prepaying surface mail postage  
(\$3.50) prepaying up to 500g anywhere in Australia (165 mm x 105 mm x 75 mm) (Figure 5)  
(\$5.50) prepaying up to 2 kg in the state of posting (220 mm x 160 mm x 75 mm)  
(\$7.50) prepaying up to 2 kg interstate (220 mm x 160 mm x 75 mm)  
(\$6.50) prepaying up to 5 kg in the state of posting (310 mm x 235 mm x 100 mm)  
(\$9.50) prepaying up to 5 kg interstate (310 mm x 235 mm x 100 mm)

Figure 1 Tasmanian Parcel Label



Figure 2 Santapak parcel label

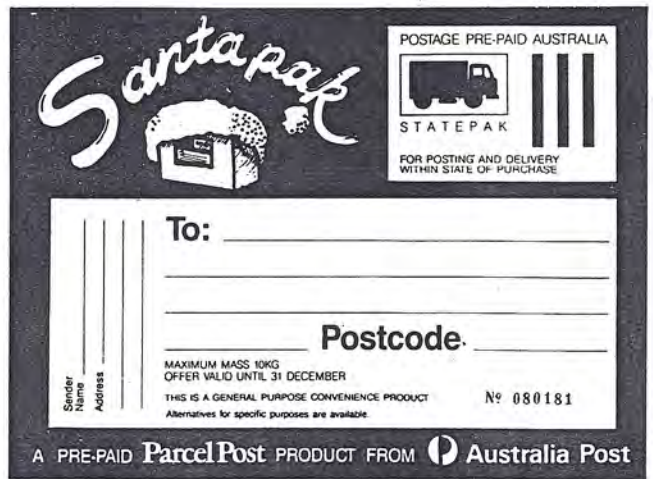


Figure 3 Giftbox



Figure 4 Businesspak

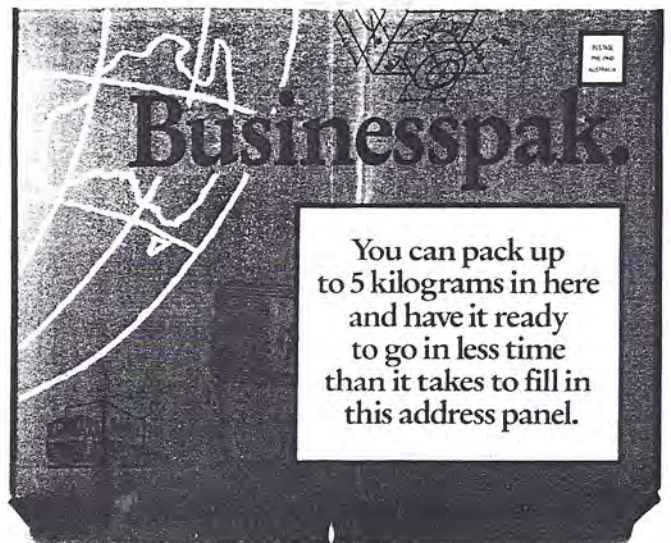


Figure 6 Talking Letters padded envelope



Figure 7 Postpak padded envelope

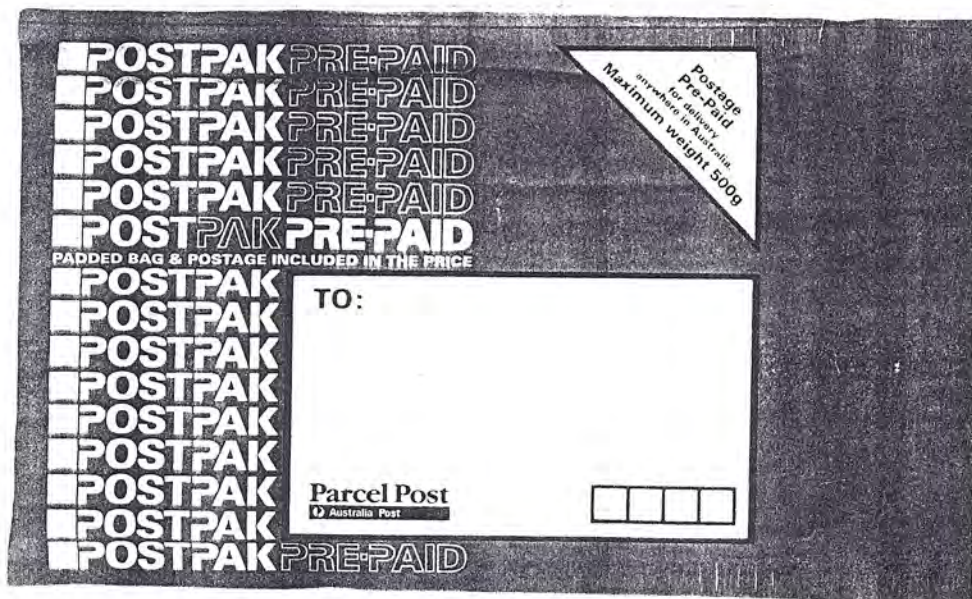


Figure 8 Prepaid courier satchel



Figure 9 Australia Post/Australian Air Express prepaid satchel



**AUSTRALIA POST GRAPHIC DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS FOR PRE STAMPED ENVELOPES**

**Ian McMahon**

Recently Derek Brennan showed me a copy of an Australia Post Graphic Design Specification manual. This manual, dating from around 1979, contained the design specifications for packs, first day covers, overhead projection materials, copy proof reversal paper, sheet stamps, stamp bulletin, postmarkers and point of sale posters. Included in the manual were the specifications for the following postal stationery items:

- small pre-stamped definitive envelopes
- large definitive pre-stamped envelopes
- commemorative pre-stamped envelopes
- stamp area of pre-stamped envelopes.

The specifications are given in Figures 1 to 4 below.

*Figure 1 Specification for the stamp area of pre-stamped envelopes*

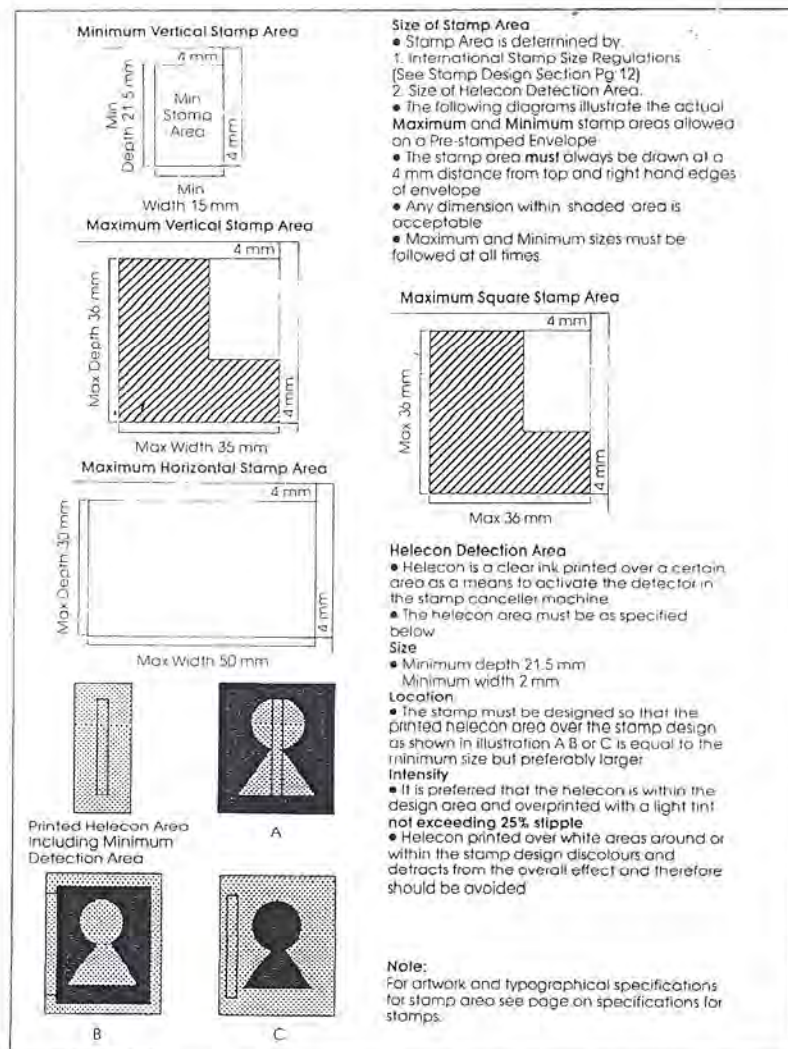








Figure 4 Specification for commemorative pre-stamped envelope

# PHILATELIC SPECIFICATION SHEETS COMMEMORATIVE PRE-STAMPED ENVELOPE

**Face size:** 103 mm x 190 mm (Folded)  
**Printed:** Offset, up to 5 colours, line or 4 colour process plus 1 other colour  
**Stock:** Glacier white offset 105 gsm  
**Coloured envelopes:** Totally coloured envelopes are prohibited if the colour is likely to impede mail processing (See note below)

**Face Illustration area**

- Must be a minimum of 15 mm from bottom fold
- May bleed on left (2 mm bleed) and top (2 mm bleed)
- Must not cover more than half of the face but may be less

**Stamp area**

- Must be 4 mm from top and side fold
- Lower edge of the stamp must not be more than 40 mm from top fold
- Refer to stamp specification sheet No10

**Back**

**Bottom flap**

- Type style for text as selected by designer, 7pt or, 8pt, range left ragged right x 15½ ems positioned as illustrated
- Australia Post logo to be supplied and positioned as illustrated
- Post Office Preferred symbol to be supplied and positioned as illustrated

**Top flap**

- 'Sender's name and address' same size and type style as selected for text positioned as illustrated

**Artwork**

**Keyline art**

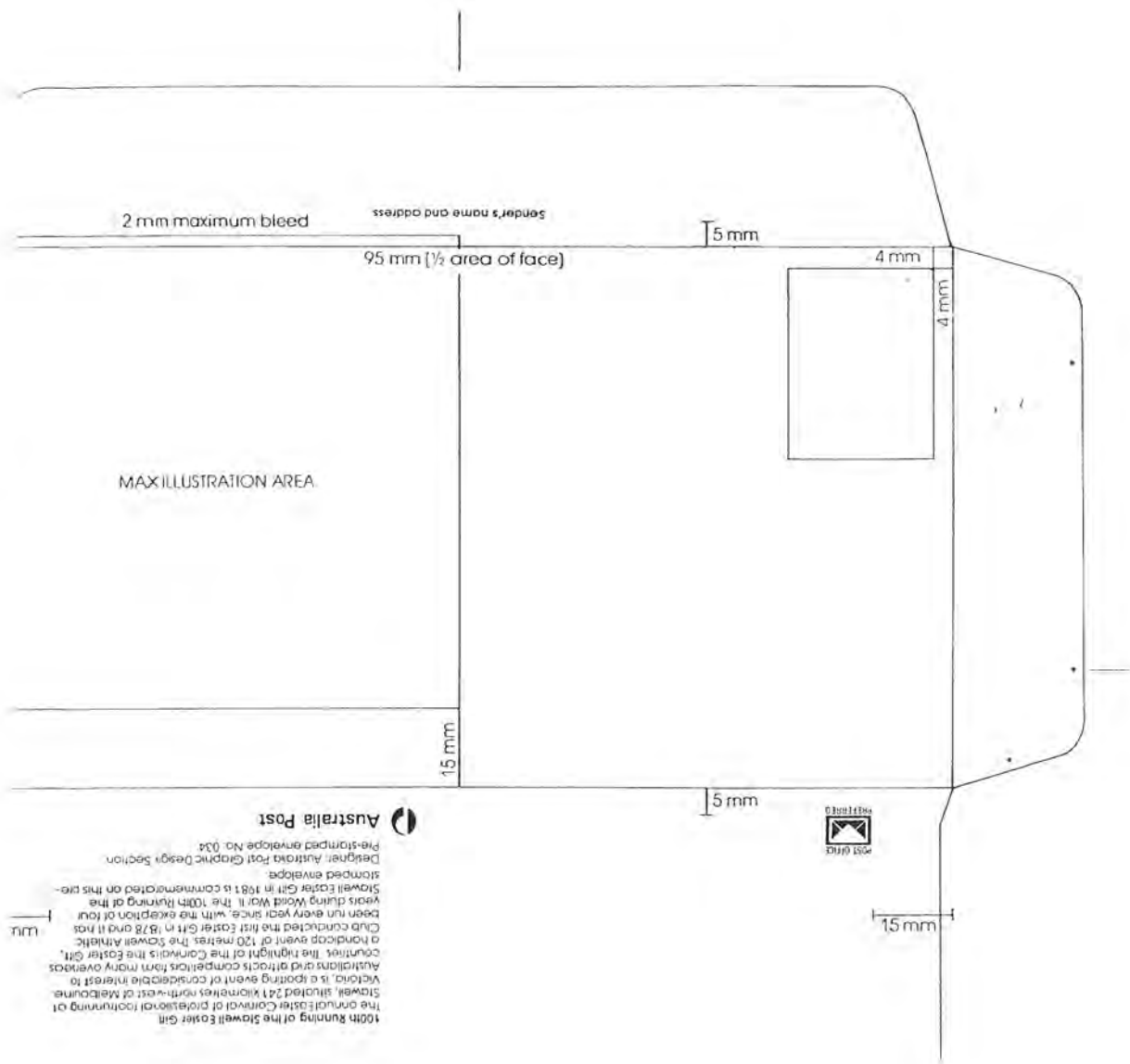
- Use s/s base art laydown sheet supplied
- Mount laydown sheet on firm backing
- Ink in black centre lines and registration dots shown on diecut
- On an overlay show keyline for Helecon

**4 Colour art**

- Art must be on flexible board to wrap around scanner drum
- Art must be no larger than 299 mm x 248 mm to fit scanner drum

**Coloured envelopes**

- Totally coloured envelopes are prohibited if the colour is likely to impede mail processing. Blue, green, red, orange and orange-yellow, when in solid colours are typical examples of unacceptable colours
- White envelopes are recommended, but



**Australia Post**  
 Pre-stamped envelope No. 034  
 Designer: Australia Post Graphic Design Section  
 Stamped envelope  
 The annual Easter Gilt in Melbourne, Victoria, is a sporting event of considerable interest to Australians and attracts competitors from many overseas countries. The height of the Cornish the Easter Gilt, Stowell, situated 241 kilometres north-west of Melbourne, has been run every year since, with the exception of four years during World War II. The 100th Running of the Stowell Easter Gilt in 1981 is commemorated on this pre-stamped envelope.

May 1995

**BOOKS**

**Ian McMahon**

***The Comprehensive India States Postal Stationery Listing* by Edward F Deschl**

In this book Edward Deschl aims to list every known major type of Indian States postal stationery, with most major varieties listed and with many minor sub-varieties noted in the text, and aims to provide a uniform listing of stationery for each of the Indian States. The book was self-published in May 1994 in the United States of America. It is hard bound and comprises 323 pages.

The book covers all of the Indian States including both the feudatory and convention states. The native states are treated first in alphabetical order, followed by the convention states. The listings are comprehensive and well-illustrated with the convention states' section including a section illustrating the overprints used for each state. Where possible the various envelope knives and stamp dies are illustrated. The extensive historical and geographical notes provided for each state help the reader understand the complexities of the issues.

The listings cover all types of stationery. For each state postcards are covered first followed by envelopes, registered envelopes, lettersheets, lettercards, military stationery, official stationery and wrappers. The listings include printed to private order stationery, essays, proofs and notes on forgeries and bogus issues such as those of the state of Idar. The bogus Idar issues have designs based on the adhesive stamps but no postal stationery items were ever issued by Idar. Deschl comments that they have been prepared by dealers in India. Private and local post issues are also covered. The listings are priced in US dollars and there is an extensive bibliography.

All in all this is an excellent and comprehensive coverage of the stationery of a very difficult and at times complex area and is recommended. It is available from Vera Trinder at a recommended retail price of 50 pounds.

***Ganzsachen Deutsche Kolonien (Schriften zur Deutschen Kolonialphilatelie und Kolonialgeschichte. Band 1)* by Bearbeitet von Ernst Einfeldt**

*Ganzsachen Deutsche Kolonien* is a detailed illustrated listing of the postal stationery of the German Colonies including the stationery of the German Post Offices in China, Morocco and Turkey as well as that of German New Guinea, German East Africa, South West Africa, the Camerouns, the Caroline Islands, the Marshall Islands, Togo, Samoa and other German colonies, and issues for the German seaposts.

The listing is in German but is well illustrated and covers the full range of stationery of these colonies. It is published as the first volume of a series on German colonial philately with 114 pages, softcover. It is available from Vera Trinder at a recommended retail price of 25 pounds.

**Please send book reviews/information on new books about stationery to the Editor for inclusion in the Journal.**

**NEW ISSUES**

**NORFOLK ISLAND**

To reduce wastage and to facilitate the posting of phonecards ('Foenkaads'), one of the current Norfolk Island Education pre-stamped envelopes (the 'science' envelope) has been surcharged \$3.45 in green and the name and return address of the Foenkaad Bureau added. The value of \$3.45 covers the receipted delivery charge and postage to destinations on mainland Australia. Mint copies are available from the Norfolk Island Philatelic Bureau for \$3.45 and come complete with a receipted delivery sticker.



If unclaimed:- Foenkaad Bureau  
P.O. Box 95  
Norfolk Island 2899



**Norfolk Island**  
EDUCATION · SCIENCE



**AUSTRALIA**

**Express Post**

A new series of express post envelopes and satchels have appeared in 1995. These have an Olympic symbol publicising Australia's Post's involvement with sponsoring the team to the 1996 Olympics at Atlanta. In addition a warning not to use the envelopes and satchels for gold, jewellery and other valuables has been added on the front.



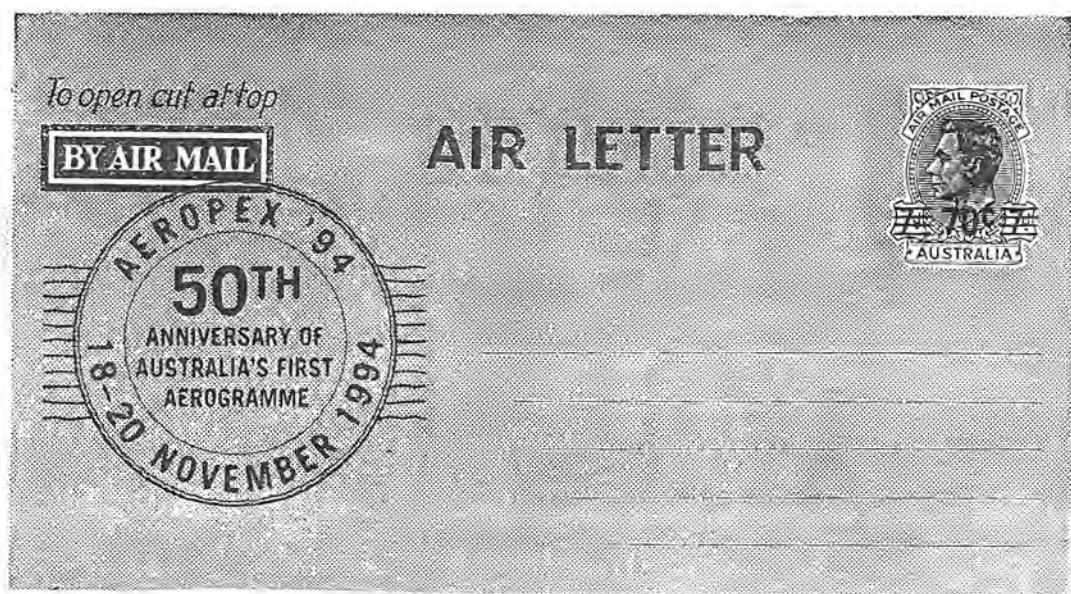
Part of the Team

### Lunar New Year Envelopes

Australia issued two Chinese New Year prepaid envelopes on 12 January 1995. These envelopes were issued in conjunction with Christmas Island stamps and a miniature sheet to mark the commencement of the Chinese Year of the Pig. The envelopes were also sold in a pack which included a New Year card. One envelope sold for 55c and paid domestic postage while the other sold for \$1.35 and prepaid international airmail postage. Both envelopes featured a stylised pig in the stamp area, a design featuring New Year revellers on the left hand side of the envelope and are non-denominated inscribed 'Postage Paid Australia'.

### Aeropex 94 aerogramme

Australia issued a 70c aerogramme on 18 November 1994 in conjunction with the international aerophilately exhibition, Aeropex '94, which was held in Adelaide on 18-20 November 1994. The aerogramme also commemorated the 50th anniversary of Australia's first civilian aerogramme which was issued in October 1944 and featured a facsimile of that aerogramme, but with the stamp 'surcharged' 70c in red and with commemorative inscription added on the left.



### National Trust and Opal Postcards

The usual stamped 'maximum card' postcards were issued in conjunction with these issues but the stamped postcards with the printed image of the stamp on the reverse (instead of space for the adhesive stamp) were not issued, apparently due to 'technical difficulties'.

### NEW ZEALAND

#### Postcards

Following Australia's example, New Zealand has issued sets of postal cards with the wild animals issue of 16 August 1994, the night lights issue of 22 February 1995 and the Maori Language issue of 3 May. All were available mint or used as maximum cards with the appropriate cancelled stamp on the reverse. They were non-denominated and paid postage to anywhere in the world at the postcard rate. The 'stamp area' is inscribed 'POST PAID' and 'No postage stamp required if posted in New Zealand'.

### FIJI AEROGRAMME

Fiji issued a new aerogramme on 21 March 1995. This aerogramme features a stamp with a redesigned version of the flying fish stamp which has been in use on Fijian aerogrammes for many years. The stamp is in yellow and blue. The aerogramme also features a beach scene with fringing coconut palms on the left in blue, yellow and green.

### PAPUA NEW GUINEA: NEW AEROGRAMME AND PRE-STAMPED ENVELOPE

The berrypecker aerogramme was reissued with a 50t denomination in April as was a 21t Sandarin Province Pre-stamped envelope featuring Scott's Tree Kangaroo on the left.

### AUSTRALIA: EXPO 88 COURIER SACHEL

Mark Diserio has drawn my attention to the Expo 88 Australia Post Express Courier Satchel illustrated below. While not postal stationery, it is nevertheless a very interesting item.

