

POSTAL STATIONERY

COLLECTOR

Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia

Volume 3 No 1: Issue No 9

May 1997

BY AIR MAIL
航空郵件



HONG KONG
Hong Kong Postage Paid
香港郵政已付



HONG KONG

為紀念香港郵政於一九七二年一月十二日至十六日舉行的
香港 97 郵展而發行的第三號全息圖明信片。
Hong Kong Post Office Hologram Postcard Series No 3 to commemorate
HONG KONG 97 Stamp Exhibition from 12 to 16 February 1997

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE



香港中環海傍廣場二樓 郵政總局集郵局
Philatelic Bureau, Hong Kong Post Office
2 Cornsought Place, Central, Hong Kong

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. Subscription rate for 1996 has been set at \$20. 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

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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AUSTRALIAN STATES POSTAL STATIONERY CATALOGUE PROJECT

The PSSA's project to prepare catalogue listings for the Australian States is now underway. Malcolm Groom, our Tasmanian representative, is coordinating the project. Anyone interested in providing Malcolm with ideas as to the format of the catalogue listing including numbering systems and the amount of detail to be included in the listing should contact him at 26 Stoke St, Newtown Tas 7008. Similarly if you are interested in helping with the project or if you have information that should be included in the catalogue please contact Malcolm.

This issue of PSC includes an article by Carl Stieg on the printed to private order envelopes of New South Wales. If anyone has additional information on these envelopes, it would be helpful if they could contact Ed Druce or Dingle Smith, the coordinators of the New South Wales part of the project, care of the Editor of PSC.

NATSTAMP 98

The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc will be holding NATSTAMP 98, a full National Exhibition with the usual range of classes in Canberra on the weekend of 14-16 March 1998 at the National Convention Centre in the heart of Canberra's Civic Centre. The Exhibition will include a postal stationery class and PSSA members are encouraged to consider entering. For a copy of the prospectus please write to NATSTAMP 98 (Exhibition enquiries), PO Box 673 Jamison ACT 2614 (or fax (06) 251 1387).

MEETING AT NEWCASTLE 97

The Postal Stationery Society of Australia will hold a meeting at Newcastle 97, a half-national exhibition including a Postal Stationery class. The meeting will be at 10 am on Sunday 6 July in the meeting room. The Society has donated a prize to the Exhibition. All members and visitors are welcome and members are encouraged to enter the Postal Stationery class.

SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW OVERDUE!

Subscriptions are now overdue. This will be the last issue of PSC you receive unless your dues are paid. Dues are \$20 pa (Australia), \$30 (New Zealand) and \$40 (other countries). Please send subscriptions to the Treasurer, Postal Stationery Society of Australia, PO Box 2124, Ascot QLD 4007.

Contributions to the next issue of the Journal close with the editor on 30 June 1997.

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

FROM THE SECRETARY

Member's Interests

Please send details of your interests to the Secretary PSSA, either by mail to PO Box 260, Jamison ACT 2614 or by fax to (06) 251 1387.

Derek Pocock's postal stationery interests are Nicaragua, North Borneo, Luxembourg, Bangladesh

Peter Guerin's interests are world wide stationery before 1950.

Jerry Kasper is interested in aerogrammes (all aspects)

Welcome to new members

Since the last issue of the *Postal Stationery Collector* we have welcomed the following new members:

Muriel Hucker (Qld)
Peter Guerin (NSW)
Jerome (Jerry) Kasper (USA)

Resignation

We note with regret the resignation of Anton Grzesiak (USA)

Renewals for 1997

The renewal notices for 1997 went out in December 1996. If you have not already paid your subscription for this year, please send your renewal to the Treasurer, John Crowsley, as soon as possible.

POSTAL STATIONERY AT HONG KONG '97

There were seventeen postal stationery exhibits at *Hong Kong 97* including four entries from Australia and two entries from New Zealand:

John Dibiase received a large silver for *Western Australia Postal Stationery*, Nelson Eustis a Large Vermeil and special prize for *South Australia*, Darryl Fuller a Large Vermeil and Special Prize for *Leeward Islands* and John Sinfield Gold and a special prize for *Australia: Forty Years of Envelopes 1913-1953*, and Barry Scott a Vermeil for *Twenty-five Years of Australian Stationery Envelopes 1913-1938*.

QUEENSLAND PRINTED TO PRIVATE ORDER STATIONERY

Ian McMahon

Queensland permitted the printing to private order of envelopes from 25 September 1895. The service and the events leading up to its provision are discussed in Collas' book on Queensland Postal Stationery. Bernie Beston writing in *Capital Philately* (Vol 7 No 2 February 1989 p 36) provides a listing of Queensland PTPO stationery. In this listing the identified private users of PTPO stationery include B D Morehead & Co Brisbane, Mount Morgan Mining Company and the NZ Insurance Company.

Illustrated below is a PTPO letter sheet for Robert Harper & Co, Tea Importers and Blenders of Brisbane. The lettersheet has a folded size of 120 x 74 mm, and off white paper. Figure 1 illustrates the front of the lettersheet which is impressed with a 1d red stamp with numerals in the lower corners only. It was used in Townsville on 5 October 1897. The front is inscribed 'Advice Circular Only'. The inside of the lettersheet is depicted in Figure 2. It is printed with a delightful printed advertisement for Robert Harper & Co and has a notice advising of the forthcoming visit of one of their salesmen.



Figure 1

Figure 3 shows a second PTPO envelope (off-white laid paper) with a 2d blue stamp with no numerals used from Toowoomba on 19 January 1897. This envelope has *K S Kews & Co Stationers and Printers Brisbane* embossed under the flap.

PROPRIETORS OF
THE
CELEBRATED
"MARIWARI" "RUPEE" & "PIONEER"
BLENDED TEAS.

ROBERT HARPER & CO.
TEA
IMPORTERS & BLENDERS
MANUFACTURERS, MILLERS AND PACKERS OF
COFFEE, CHICORY,
COFFEE ESSENCE, COCOA,
OATMEAL, RICE, STARCH, SPICE, PEPPERS, AVENA, ARROWROOT
SAGO, TAPIOCA, PEARL BARLEY, PATENT GROATS, MAIZE MEAL
& WHEATMEAL, BAKING & CURRY POWDERS, CORDIALS
CULINARY ESSENCES, TABLE JELLIES, FRUIT JUICES &c.
Samples with list of prices on application.

Brisbane Oct 5th 1897
AND AT
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, ADELAIDE & FREMANTLE

Dear Sir

We beg to advise that our
Messrs A & Sharp will have the
pleasure of calling on you on or about the
5th Instant when the favour
of your orders will oblige

Robert Harper & Co.

Figure 2

Figure 4 shows another PTPO envelope. This envelope (blue paper) has a 1d stamp (no numerals) and has been used in South Brisbane on 31 December 1895 by the Clerk of Petty Sessions, South Brisbane. The cover bears purple 'OHMS' and Clerk of Petty Sessions stamps. The cover has apparently been used to circulate a notice of an annual registration court for revising the electoral lists for electorates in southern Brisbane (Figure 5).



Figure 3



Figure 4

ANNUAL REGISTRATION COURT.

A REGISTRATION COURT, for revising the Annual and Supplementary Annual Electoral Lists for the Electoral Districts of BRISBANE SOUTH, WOOLLOONGABRA, and the South Brisbane Divisions of BULIMBA, LOGAN, and OXLEY, will be held in the Courthouse, South Brisbane, on MONDAY, the Second day of November next, at 10 a.m.

WM. HARRIS,
Electoral Registrar,
Courthouse, South Brisbane,
3rd October, 1894.

Figure 5

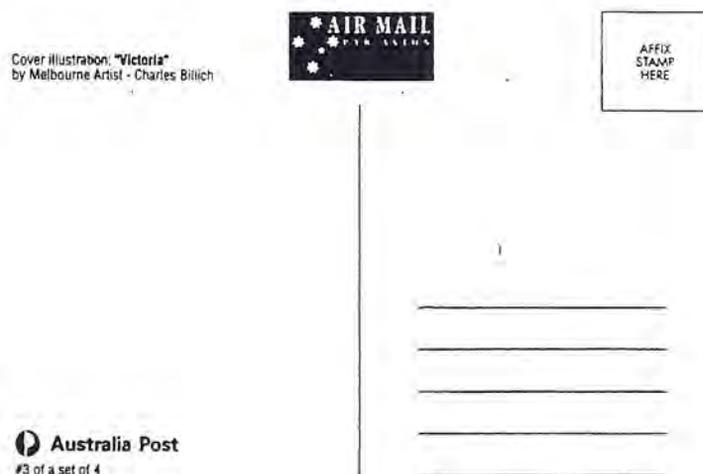
BICYCLE VICTORIA OVERPRINTED POSTCARDS AND SPRING RACING CARNIVAL FORMULA CARDS

Mark Diserio

One set of cards which have not been mentioned in the listing of Australian Non-Denominated Postal Stationery in *PSC* are the Barcelona 1992 maximum cards overprinted with the Bicycle Victoria logo and *Numurkah to Melbourne* for the 1992 Great Victorian Bike Ride. The front of one of these cards is illustrated below. They were available through the Philatelic Bureau.



Also of interest is that the 1993 'Billich' Spring Racing Carnival cards were also issued as formula cards without the pre-paid inscription. On each is a box and the words 'Affix Stamp here'. These cards were concurrently on issue at some Australia Post outlets eg the GPO Melbourne Post Shop. They cost 60c each plus 45c postage (i.e. \$1.05 as against \$1 for the prepaid postcards) so one can only speculate as to why they were issued in this format.



THE PRINTED-TO-PRIVATE-ORDER POST CARDS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Carl L Stieg

The woefully inadequate Higgins & Gage catalogue listing of these items reads:

1904 Fig 30 (1d shield and crown) with heading "POST CARD, PRIVATE POST CARD" or "ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL".

1. 1 penny carmine.....

The following nine varieties illustrated are in the collection of the author and it is probable that additional items exist:

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1897 | 1d lilac on cream, used by Briscoe, Drysdale & Co, Ltd. and headed 'SPECIAL/POST CARD' with coat of arms (Figure 1). |
| 1898 | 1d rose on cream, used by Citizens' Life Assurance, Co., Ltd. and headed 'PRIVATE, POST CARD' (Figure 4). |
| 1900 | 1d rose on cream, used by Briscoe, Drysdale & Co. and headed 'SPECIAL/POST CARD' and coat of arms (Figure 2). |
| 1900 | 1d rose on cream, used by Mercantile Fire Ins. Co., Ltd. and headed 'Private Post Card issued by authority of the Postmaster General.' (Figure 3) |
| 1900 | 1d rose on cream, used by Shell Transport & Trading Co., Ltd. and headed 'POST CARD' and coat of arms (Figure 5). |
| 1905 | 1d rose on cream. used by Anthony Horden & Sons and headed 'POST CARD' with a tree (Figure 6). |
| 1907 | 1d rose on white, used by University of Sydney and headed 'POST CARD' (Figure 7). |
| 1909 | 1d rose on buff, used by Australian Drug Co., Ltd. and headed ' <u>POST CARD</u> ' (Figure 8). |
| 1911 | 1d rose on white. used by Auld Jock Whiskey and headed 'Commonwealth of Australia/New South Wales/ POST CARD' with coat of arms (Figure 9, reverse Figure 10). |

A concerted effort is being made in Australia to produce up-to-date catalogues for the postal stationery of each of the Australian States. It is particularly important at this point in time that readers cooperate fully to provide additional pertinent information to any new articles that are produced. The author is responsible for producing the Victoria catalogue and is also participating in the preparation of the postcard section of the New South Wales catalogue.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

May 1997



Figure 4



Figure 5

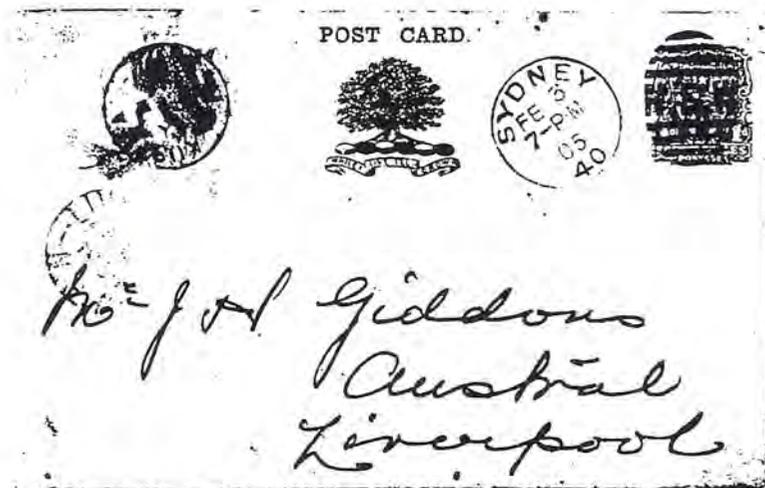


Figure 6

Figure 8

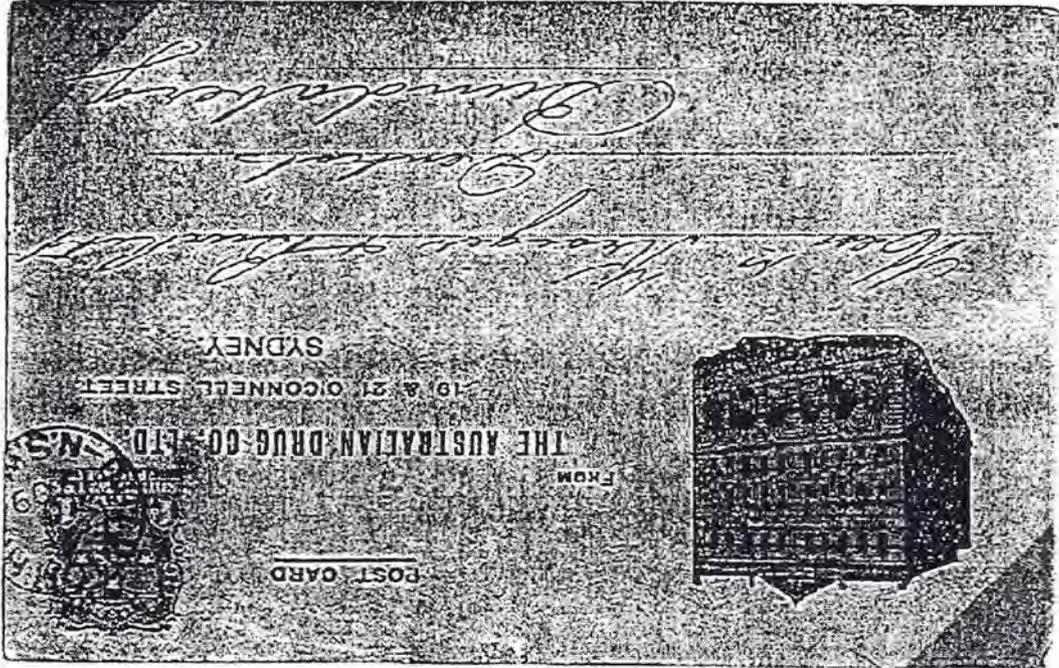


Figure 7

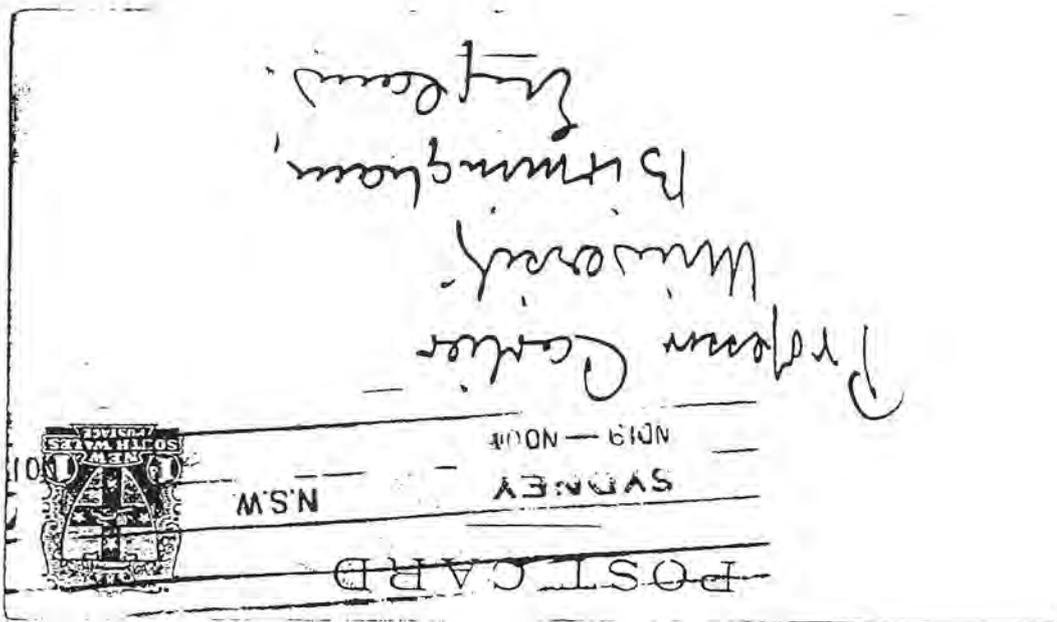


Figure 10

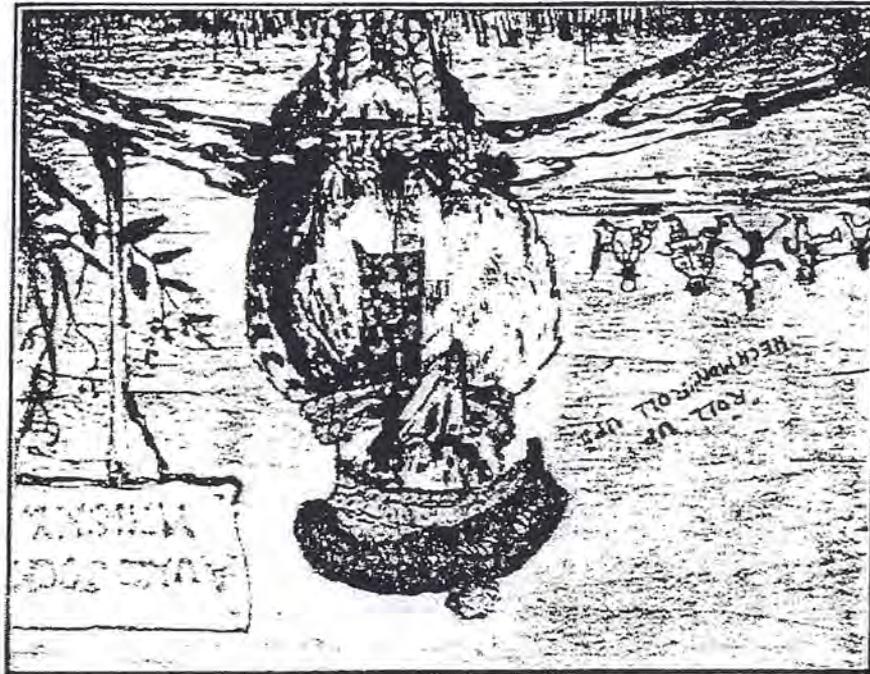
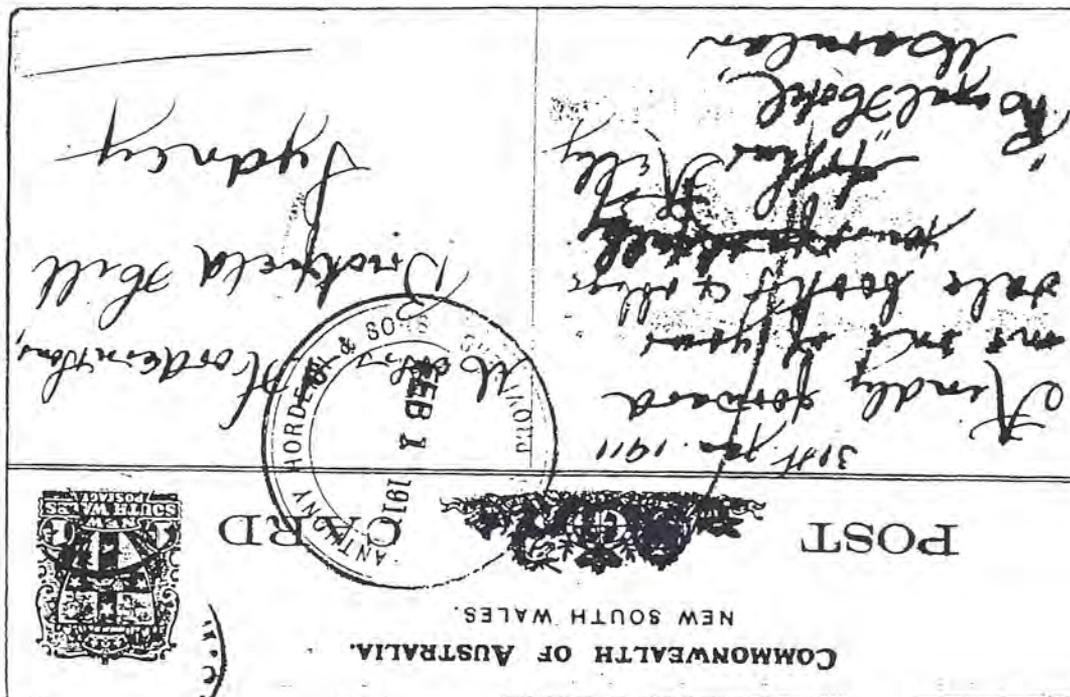


Figure 9



POSTAL STATIONERY OF ADEN (Part 6)

Edric Druce

Registered envelopes (continued)

As with other stationery, the registration envelopes were re-valued in East African currency in 1949 but were not issued until 1951. This means that for the 'G' size envelopes at least, there are different printers imprints. See Table 1 below. [The table shown below corrects the table given in Part 5 of this article in the last issue of the *PSC*, Editor.]

Type	Imprint	EKD	LKD
1	THOS DE LA RUE & Co LTD	2 October 1937 (H2)	8 February 1939
2	THOS DE LA RUE & CO	October 1937 (G)	?1939
3	THOS DE LA RUE & CO LTD	7 November 1938	1946
4	THOMAS DE LA RUE & COMPANY, LIMITED	5 June 1946	1963
5	McCORQUODALE & CO	June 1964	October 1964

Table 1: Varieties of imprint under flap of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II Registration Envelopes



Figure 1: Overprinted Registration Envelope, size G. Envelope used to England, apparently used by a person requiring an envelope but who did not wish to register it. Hence the text 'Registered Letter' crossed out in red crayon. The Aden post office accepted the item and the 30c registration stamp as paying the postage. However the British Post Office refused to accept it as other than a registered envelope and compulsorily registered it at no additional charge adding a registration label and stamping it 'Posted Out of Course'.

In most cases the different registration envelopes are distinguished by the changed imprints. In the case of the Queen Elizabeth G envelopes two separate issues can be distinguished by the very different 'FEE PAID'.

In about 1958 formula registration envelopes were issued. This may have been partially the change of supplier from De La Rue & Co Ltd to McCorquodale & Co and partially by the expectation that the status of the Territory would change to the South Arabian Federation.

When the variety of issues and printings are taken into account, there are very few of each of the Aden registration envelopes known. I have added the numbers to the lists (see tables in Part 5 of this article) but the numbers are less than actual because many of the items I know about in other collections cannot be assigned to a particular catalogue variety because I do not know the type of imprint.

The printing numbers show the rapid decline in use of registration envelopes in the Elizabethan period with only 2 700 of the 'K' type QEII envelope issued and 5 700 of the second 'G' envelope with a 26 mm 'FEE PAID'.

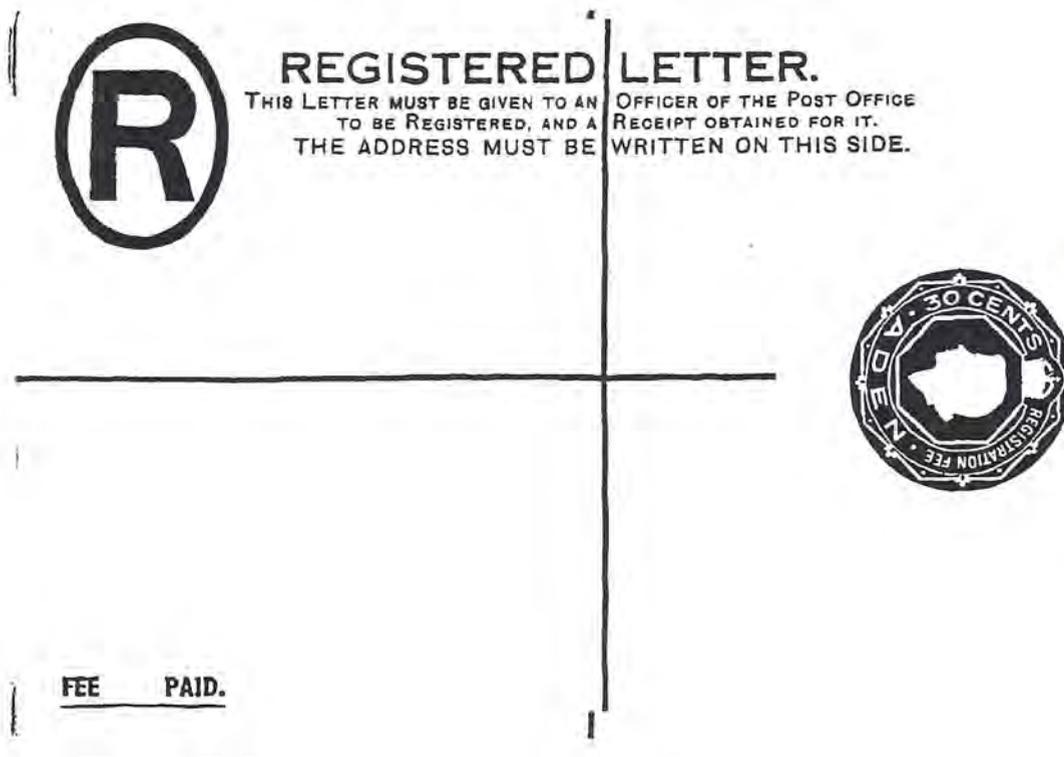


Figure 2: Queen Elizabeth II, first issue of registration envelopes.

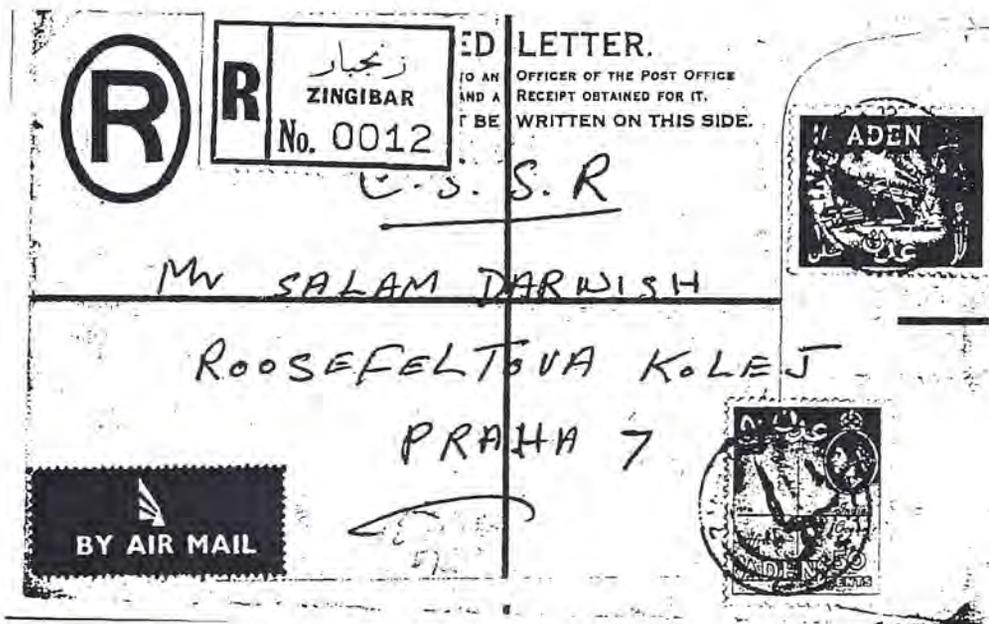


Figure 3: The McCorquodale formula registration envelopes.

HAVE YOU CORRECTLY PAID YOUR AEROGRAMME?

Ian McMahon

Most members will remember the cards Australia Post used to inform you of underpaid postal items. The card illustrated below is a case of the sender having used a 30c aerogramme after the rate had increased to 33c. What is interesting is that the Post Office has used a small purple 'AEROGRAMME' stamp to indicate that the rate being referred to was the aerogramme rate.

Dear Sender
 Mail posted by you to Mr G. Tucker UK
 did not have the correct amount of postage attached because:
 No postage was attached. Postage was paid for a lower ~~weight~~ rate **AEROGRAMME**
 It exceeds standard article size and should be paid at the higher non-standard rate.
 It is an airmail article, paid at surface mail rate.
 The postage paid was 30c. The correct amount is 33c
 The amount owing (including service fee) is 19c
 Rather than have the addressee pay the amount owing, or unduly delay the mail,
 we have forwarded the item as though correct postage had been paid.

Mr & Mrs J. P. Richards
21 Pacey Road,
Upper Brookfield 4069



Please pay the amount owing at your post office by presenting this card, or attach postage stamps (or a franked strip or impression) in the space provided on the other side of this card and post it in any street posting box.

Thank you, **Manager** 13 JAN 1981
 Australia Post **Central Mail Exchange**
Brisbane, Q. 4000
(Office and Date)

QUEENSLAND SPECIMEN STATIONERY

Ian McMahon

In Collas' work *Postal Stationery of Queensland*, he states that all three cards of the 1888 postcards (Figure 1) are known overprinted Specimen in blue with the overprint being 21 x 2.5 mm. The 1880-88 1d postcard is also known with a similar overprint (Figure 2).

Figure 3 shows a 1d postcard of the 1888 issue with quite a different overprint. This overprint is 42 mm x 4 mm and is black capitals with serifs.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

ITALIAN MILITARY POSTAL STATIONERY FROM WORLD WAR 2

Judy Kennett

One of my postal stationery collecting interests is the stationery of Romania, up to 1948. When looking through a dealer's boxes last year, at one of Canberra's monthly Stamp Markets, I found an Italian military postal card that could be identified as having been sent from Romania in 1941, when the writer's unit was in that country, on its way to the Eastern front in the then USSR.

This kindled my interest, and I went through the box the following month, finding three more cards from the same correspondent that had been written while the soldier was still in Romania. Later I bid successfully on a lot in UK auction which consisted of another military card, sent from Romania by another writer, and a military customs declaration form, which was used in February 1943. From the information I have available, I cannot say definitely whether it was sent from Romania or from USSR.

The military postal cards are listed in the Italian postal stationery catalogue, but the customs declaration form is not. It is shown at right. The original is 135mm x 265mm, and is printed on one side of pale grey unwatermarked paper. Does any member know where I could find a listing of these military forms, or more information about them?

REGIO ESERCITO ITALIANO
POSTA MILITARE
SERVIZIO DEI PACCHI POSTALI

DICHIARAZIONE DOGANALE

Pacco N. 929 Peso Kg. 1420 Proveniente da Posta Militare N. 112 Accettato il _____

Mittente: Trin P.
Cognome e nome
Grado Soldato
Reparto Comando Bers 38

Destinatario:
Cognome e nome M. Viaffianchi Vivaldo
Destinazione Roma
Provincia
Via e numero Rovereto 60

SPECIFICAZIONE PARTICOLAREGGIATA DEL CONTENUTO
(Descrizione oggetti, quantitativo, peso ecc.).

NB. - È vietata la spedizione di generi di monopolio, armi, munizioni, infiammabili, esplosivi, animali vivi, generi facilmente deperibili, valuta e titoli esteri, valute italiane, stampati e manoscritti in lingue estere, corrispondenze epistolari, oggetti di corredo militare e di quanto altro contemplato dalle vigenti leggi e dai regolamenti.

Giovanna Gialli

Firma del mittente Trin P.

BOFFA del Comandante
CORPO ITALIANO DI SPEDIZIONE IN RUSSIA
Viale del Comandante del Reparto
Magazzino Speciale d'Armata F.P.L.

UFFICIO SPROVVISORI
* OTTO *

BIBLIOTECA MILITARE

FROM THE JOURNALS

Judy Kennett

There's an interesting little piece in *The London Philatelist*, Jan-Feb 1997 about the first letter card of Albania. This letter card is listed in H&G as unused, with the statement 'a question as to whether used pieces exist, but they should be extremely rare if found'. A used example has now been found, and was illustrated. It was of additional interest because it bore a legitimately used 1920 postage due stamp.

**LISTING OF AUSTRALIAN NON-DENOMINATED POSTAL STATIONERY
(NEW ISSUES)**

Ian McMahon

Postcards		(\$1)	Austin Lancer
		(\$1)	Chrysler Valiant
6 January 1997	Lunar New Year		
(\$1)	Ox		
			Maximum cards
		(-)	Ford Coupe Utility
16 January 1997	Australia Day	(-)	Holden FX
	Maximum cards	(-)	Austin Lancer
(-)	<i>Landscape '74</i>	(-)	Chrysler Valiant
(-)	<i>The Balcony 2</i>		(Set price: \$4.00)
(-)	<i>Fire Haze at Gerringong</i>		
			Note: *sold only in booklet format for \$9.95, rouletted at left.
23 January 1997	Don Bradman		
(\$1)	Bradman at 22		
(\$1)	Bradman on way to a century in 1948		
			Envelopes
	Maximum cards		September 1996 City Bridges as previous issue but with four conditions on the reverse.
(-)	Bradman playing India at the Sydney Cricket Ground in 1947		
(-)	Bradman on the 1948 tour of England.		
(Set price: \$2.00)			
			Add:
		(55c)	Adelaide Bridge, (C6, window)
			6 January 1997 Lunar New Year
		(\$0.55)	Ox (internal rate)
		(\$1.35)	Ox (international rate)
			Express Post
			Late 1996 As previous issue but now with label with 7 numerals
29 January 1997	Roses	(\$3)	C5 envelope
(\$1)	roses	(\$4)	B4 envelope
(\$1)	maximum card	(\$5)	500g satchel
		(\$7.50)	3 kg satchel
27 February 1997	Classic Cars		Note: Code numbers seen include: CN, CG, CS, BN, BQ, MN, MQ, SN, SQ.
(-)*	Shopping Centre Rosebud, 1958		
(-)*	Holiday Picnic 1938		
(\$1)	Ford Coupe Utility		
(\$1)	Holden FX		

Late 1996 Issue with Olympic logo removed and other changes to the text.

(-)

C5 envelope

(\$3) C5 envelope

(\$4) B4 envelope

Note: Code numbers seen include: CG, CN (6 or 7 numerals), CQ, CS, CV, CW, BN, BQ, BW.

Registered Envelopes

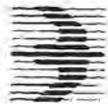
1997 International envelopes as previous issue but with labels with RR, nine digits plus the letters 'AU' for Australia.

(\$8) DL envelope

(\$14) B4 envelope

Private Order Express Post Envelopes

Envelope for use by QANTAS with Atlanta Olympics logo, Code No begins with DLQ.



Express Post
Guaranteed Next Day Delivery

For Letters and Documents only
Max Weight 500g
Max Thickness 20mm
Australia Post

NOT TO BE USED FOR THE CARRIAGE OF CASH GOLD, JEWELLERY, MEDICINE, SPORTS EQUIPMENT OR OTHER VALUABLES. AUSTRALIA POST ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY AND WILL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE TO SUCH ITEMS.



DLQ037065



SENDER TO KEEP
DLQ037065

POSTAGE IS PREPAID ONLY WHEN BARCODE STRIP IS INTACT

Guaranteed Next Day Delivery
Australia Post



Express Post

SENDER
QANTAS Express Ticket Centre
Locked Bag B767
MASCOT NSW 2020

HOW TO POST EXPRESS POST ENVELOPES
• There are no limits to the number of letters and documents.
• By 5.00 pm (later in Perth and some provincial centres) on the special Express Post GOLD stream, posting times, based on major business areas, or
• By close of business at most Post Offices in the places included in the Express Post network.
• Postage is prepaid only when the OFFICIAL USE ONLY barcode strip on the front is in place.
HOW TO OBTAIN EXPRESS POST ENVELOPES
• at most Post Offices
• Customers apply for their own letters.



GUARANTEED NEXT DAY DELIVERY
• The guarantee: Next business day delivery is guaranteed over specified routes, if your envelope is posted correctly by the posting time, Monday to Friday. If we do not deliver as promised, you will receive another Express Post envelope free. That's the guarantee! (Express Post envelopes posted incorrectly will be carried without guarantee.)
• Interstate Services: between the following capital cities: Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, Adelaide and Hobart (including most suburban areas) and also selected regional centres. (See Express Post brochure for postcode service.)
• Passports apply.

NOTE
The carriage of this envelope is subject to the General Postal Services Terms and Conditions. Dangerous goods prohibited from carriage by post must not be placed in the envelope.

From Ed Druce, the front and back of another QANTAS express post envelope

May 1997

LITERATURE

Ian McMahon

Il Nuovo Pertile Specialised Catalogue of Italian Postal Stationery 1996 by Italia and Antichi Stati

This specialised catalogue of Italian stationery is well produced, softbound, well illustrated with 256 pages and in Italian. It covers all Italian stationery from the early lettersheets from Sardinia to the present except for territory, occupation and military issues which are covered in volumes 2 and 3. It includes a table of postal rates.

Catalogue of Birds On Postal Stationery by Leif W. Rasmussen

Birds On Postal Stationery is an attempt to list all Postal Stationery issued worldwide depicting reasonably identifiable birds.

Birds may be shown in the imprinted stamp or elsewhere. Heraldic designs and stylistic drawings have not been included. Most items are from the author's own collection, and nothing has been listed unless it has been seen by him.

All items have been shown in size 45 percent of actual size unless otherwise stated. Many hundreds of details have been shown in actual or enlarged sizes. If a certain item has been issued with differences in design - even minor - they have all been shown, as an illustration shows more than many text-lines would often explain.

The catalogue lists more than 3.000 different items on more than 700 pages, but the author does not claim it to be complete. No such comprehensive listing has ever been made before, and "official" sources of information have been limited.

As it facilitates the insertion of future supplements, the catalogue has been printed on loose leaves. It is recommended that it is kept in plastic pockets. Supplement pages with new issues and possible corrections to previous editions are being produced currently, and will be offered for sale once a year and priced according to volume.

It is in the interest of all collectors to help complete the catalogue and the author requests that information about missing items, years of issue etc be sent to him. In particular he has asked for our assistance in completing the Australian section of the catalogue, especially with regard to PTPO items such as the Arnott's PTPO envelopes depicting a rosella.

The catalogue costs 150 German marks plus 35 DM for surface postage to Australia. It is available from the author: Leif Rasmussen, Rindsholmvej 102, DK - 8800 Viborg, Denmark.

Postal Stationery of the People's Republic of China 1949-1992

This small catalogue has 100 pages, is soft bound, and well illustrated in colour. While in Chinese it has the English title for each issue. It covers stamped envelopes, postcards, lettersheets and military issues. It is priced at 10 pounds and is available from Vera Trinder.

Web Sites

A new Web site of interest is Mike Sagar's page at <http://www.interchange.ubc.ca/townsley/poststat.html>. Besides including details of stationery he has for sale, the site will be developed to include links to other sites of interest to stationery collectors. Such links include stationery offers on the Stamp Traders' List (<http://www.pcug.org.au/~hkarman/s-25-0.htm>) and Joe Luft's philatelic resources (<http://www.execpc.com/~joeluft/resource.html>). (Joe Luft's page remains THE page for philatelic links.) Or see the 50c USA Thaddeus Lowe aerogramme at <http://www.realtime.net/~efdietz/stamps/lowe.htm> or the Vatican's 20th anniversary of the World Tourism aerogram at <http://www.intecs.it/eder/crofil/novita/vaticano/ukaero.htm>.

If you discover any interesting stationery Web sites please let me know.

From Our Contemporaries

The *New Zealand Stamp Collector* (December 1996) reports that a new style of Boxlink and Business Post Envelopes with a shaded area containing *POST PAID* and the New Zealand Post logo appeared in about October 1996. It also reports that a new set of scenic unpaid aerogrammes were issued in June 1996. The aerogrammes are produced by John Sands Products but have a NZ Post logo. A new range of plastic Courier Post envelopes ('Trackpak' brand) became available from July 1996.

The February issue of the AerogrammeR includes articles on:

- British Guiana 1944 12s aerogramme
- New Aerogramme Listings
- Ghana 1972
- Papua New Guinea, The Strange Story of the 9 c Aerogramme of 1966

In Die Ganssache (1/1997):

- Islands IBM Ganssache zur Nordia 91
- Die Ganssachen der Sowjetischen Besatzungszone Deutschlands mit dem Wertstempel 'Kopfe von Personallichkeiten
- Die Mulreadys
- Die Privat-Stadtpost 'Courier' Munchen

The February 1997 issue of *PS* (The Journal of the [UK] Postal Stationery Society) includes articles on:

- Query Corner, Auction Action, Very Late Usages
- What's on the back
- Aerogrammatrics

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

AUSTRALIAN RARITIES: 1923/24 1/2d OCTAGONAL RATE UPGRADES

John Sinfield

Following the 1918 war tax, the 1/2d postal rate became redundant except for rate upgrades. In November of that year Harrison uprated Post Office and private order 1d envelopes to 1 1/2d by embossing unsold stock with a second octagonal impression of 1/2d green. This became the only Australian doubly embossed envelope to be sold over the Post Office counter (other double impressions were later provided, but never embossed). Various stocks were uprated, with both Post Office and private order examples of 1d red + 1/2d green being relatively plentiful.

More obscure however, are 1/2d octagonal envelope upgrades following the October 1923 rate reduction. This article considers three such items, all of which are privately stamped to order, and of extreme rarity.

In October 1921, as a response to public complaint, the word "POSTAGE" was inserted into embossing dies in the form of 1 mm high lettering beneath the King's bust. Although there was little call for their use, the 1/2d dies were similarly amended. Their first subsequent use was late October/early November 1923 following the October rate reduction, and prior to the 9th November 1/2d colour change to orange.

First class domestic letter rate was now 1 1/2d, and the Melbourne firm Fiske, Read & Co held residual third rate (now second rate) 1d violet embossed envelopes, which they required uprated to 1 1/2d first class. These covers received a second embossed impression of 1/2d green octagonal with "POSTAGE".

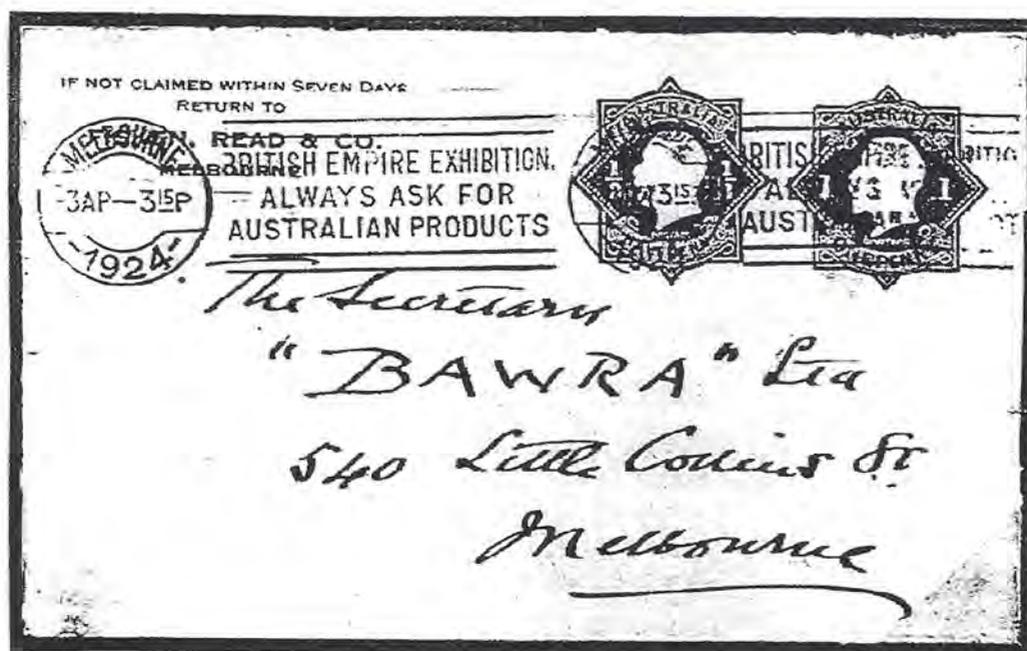


Figure 1: 1d violet + 1/2d green double embossing - both dies with "POSTAGE"

Fisken Read is the only user of this combination, and the illustration above appears the only surviving intact cover. MacRay Watson auctioned a torn front during 1995, which realised in excess of \$600.

From 9 November 1923, the colour of the ½d adhesive (and hence embossing) was altered from green to orange. The initial user of the ½d embossing in this colour was the Sydney hosiery manufacturer, Berlei Limited. This occurred after the 1d colour change to green on 1 May 1924, and Berlei wished to uprate their window-faced envelopes from 1d second class (unsealed printed matter) to 1½d first class. Double octagonal embossing of 1d green + 1/2d orange resulted, but Harrison inadvertently created an embossing error by using the superseded 1916 ½d die without "POSTAGE".



*Figure 2: 1d green (with "POSTAGE") + ½d orange (without "POSTAGE") for Berlei Limited.
Base message reads: "Be Australian! Buy Australian Goods "*

Six copies of this doubleton are recorded, all postally used during August/September 1924. Two different patriotic base messages are recorded (see Figures 2 and 3). Rodney Perry Auctions recently offered three such envelopes on separate occasions, the final sale realising \$1,210 including commission.



Figure 3: Berlei Ltd - message reads: "Australian Enterprise Counts on Australian Support"

The next, and seemingly only other user of the ½d orange embossing appears to be the Tasmanian Mt Lyell Mining & Railway CO of Queenstown. They required similar upgrade to Berlei, but on this occasion the correct revised ½d orange die with "POSTAGE" was employed.

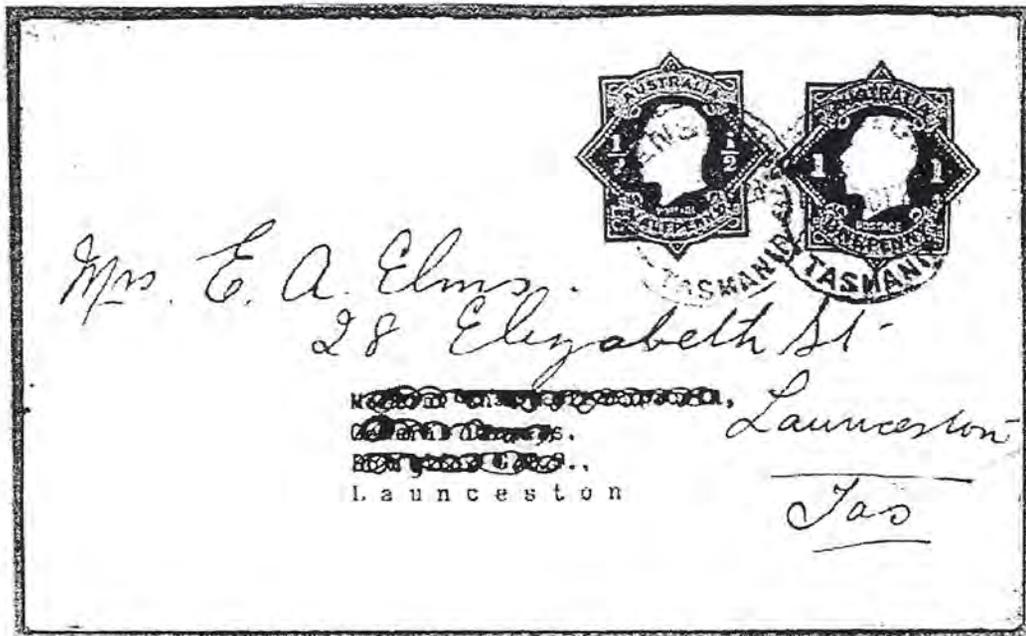


Figure 4: 1d green + ½d orange double embossing - both dies with "POSTAGE"

The only recorded example of this combination where both dies bear "POSTAGE" is shown in Figure 4. Queenstown use 10.12.1928, immediately prior to the introduction of KGV oval embossings.

WANTED

CHRISTMAS ISLAND STATIONERY

ASCRI-3 30c, 25c, 53c Registered Envelopes, FDC, USED and overprinted 'Specimen'
ASCA1 1971 10c aerogramme FDC

Please contact Donald Garniss, PO Box 276 Bullsbrook WA 6084

AEROGRAMME SOCIETY

The Aerogramme Society has been established by Jerry Kasper of the USA and Tom Adami of Canberra as a means of heightening the profile of aerogramme/airletter collecting among the philatelic community. They feel that this area of philately has been neglected for far too long. This Society aims to facilitate the exchange of ideas, information and even aerogrammes between members and intends to produce a world-class journal on the subject of aerogrammes and airletters.

The AerogrammeR

With the AerogrammeR, the Society hopes to produce a world-class publication. It is hoped to use the AerogrammeR as a vehicle for members to put forward their views on all matters 'aerogrammatic'. Some of the features of the AerogrammeR are listed below:

- New world-wide aerogramme issues
- Internet resources [for those who may have become addicted to surfing the web]
- Auction reviews and
- a feature aerogramme in each issue to remind us of the 'good old days' when design was a real artform.
- Guest writers will be featured on a regular basis as will sections on publications and catalogues, readers and members ads, and
- dealers ads, thematics [topicals], glossary of terms and a cumulative index for easy reference.

For more information about the Aerogramme Society please contact Tom Adami, PO Box 380, Mitchell ACT 2911 or E-mail toma@dynamite.com.au.

THE NEW FACE OF AUSTRALIA POST

Ian McMahon

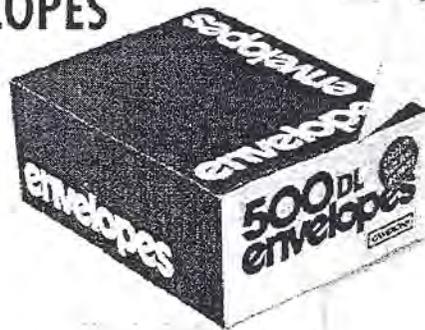
For anyone out there who has failed to notice the changes in Australia Post as it has been transforming itself from a staid Government Department into a modern business enterprise, I illustrate a recent advertising brochure offering free address corners on definitive DL, C6 or C5 stamped envelopes on orders of 1000 or more or a free portable cassette player with the purchase of \$250 or more of express post envelopes.



FREE
OVERPRINTING
ON 1,000 DL, C6
OR C5 ENVELOPES
see offer overleaf

DL ENVELOPES

Strong white business envelopes. Used for lightweight correspondence, suitable for A4 paper. Also available in packs of 25, trays of 100 and boxes of 500.



FROM
\$14.50

MIN. PURCHASE
6 BOXES

- 42593 DL Peel Seal Plain \$19.95 per Box 500 \$14.50 min. purchase 6 Boxes.
- 42595 DL Peel Seal Window \$19.95 per Box 500 \$16.95 min. purchase 6 Boxes.

EXPRESS POST

Reduce your courier costs! Available in DL window, C5 and B4 envelopes, 500g and 3kg satchels. Save up to 15% with bulk purchases.



BUY \$250* of Express Post and Postpak to get a **FREE AKAI** Portable Radio/Cassette Player.

*Minimum Postpak purchase \$75 (limited to the first 700 coupons received)

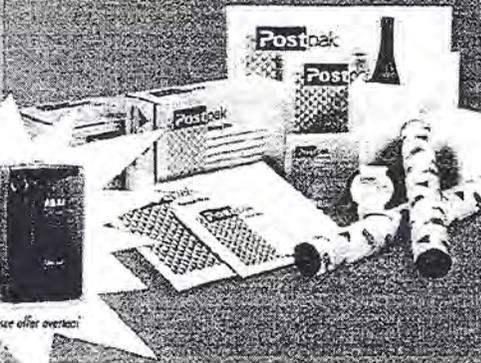
\$3.00
EACH

MINI - C5 Envelope



see offer overleaf

POSTPAK



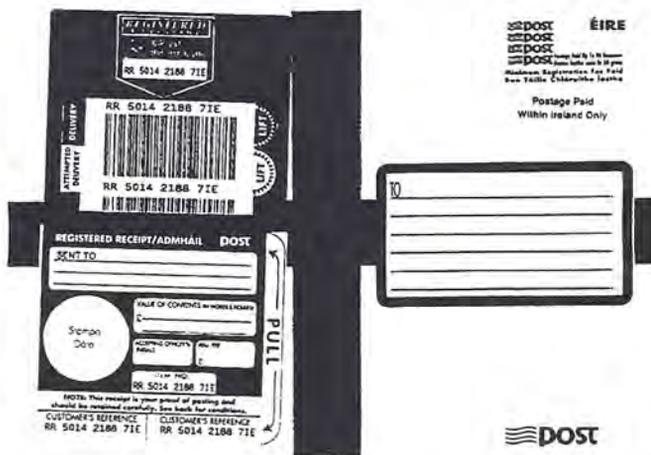
NEW ISSUES

Hong Kong

Hong Kong issued a set of five postcards for Hong Kong 97. The front of one of the cards is depicted on the cover. The reverse of the cards include a hologram of a Hong Kong adhesive stamp.

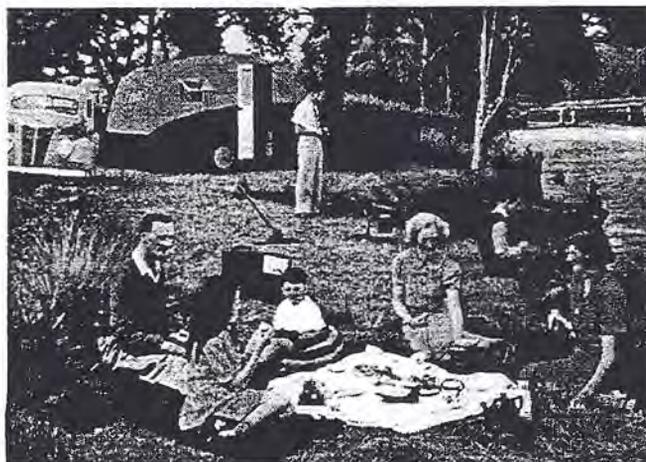
Ireland

A new registered envelope from Ireland is illustrated below. It is similar in appearance to the New Zealand registered envelope and is made of plastic.



Australia: Classic Cars

Besides the usual postcards, two additional cards were issued for this issue. The cards, with scenes on the reverse depicting a holiday picnic in 1938 and the Rosebud shopping centre in 1958, are bound into Australia's first prestige booklet. The cards are rouletted on the left and the booklet was sold for \$9.95.



New Zealand

New Zealand issued six pre-paid postcards on 19 March 1997 depicting vineyards. The cards were sold (as maximum cards) for \$7.95 a set and depicted vineyards from Central Otago, Hawke's Bay, Marlborough, Canterbury/Waipara, Gisborne and Auckland/Waiheke.

Australia: aerogrammes

Australia introduced new aerogramme rates on 3 March 1997 as part of a general revamping of international mail rates. The basic aerogramme rate is now 75c.

Australia: Express Post

In late 1996, Express Post envelopes began appearing with no Olympic logo and with a number of other minor changes to the text. These changes include 'Over specified routes/Conditions apply - see over for details' now in bold and the removal of the product number on the reverse. Codes reported include CN (some of which are in an orange shade rather than the usual yellow), BN, CQ, CG and CV. The CN envelopes occur with either 6 or 7 numbers in the barcode number.



**Express
Post**

For Letters and Documents only
Max Weight 500g
Max Thickness 20mm



**Guaranteed
Next Day Delivery***

Australia Post

CN1127799

 OFFICIAL USE ONLY

 CN1127799
 SENDER TO KEEP
 CN1127799
 POSTAGE IS PREPAID ONLY WHEN
 BARCODE STRIP IS INTACT

To: Company Name _____
 For urgent Attention of _____ Telephone () _____
 PO Box Number† or Street Address _____
 Suburb or Town _____ State _____
 † PO Box Addresses ensure early morning delivery.
 * Over specified routes. Conditions apply - see over for details. Postcode _____
WARNING! NOT TO BE USED FOR THE CARRIAGE OF CASH, GOLD, JEWELLERY, PRECIOUS STONES, NEGOTIABLE SECURITIES OR OTHER VALUABLES. AUSTRALIA POST ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY AND WILL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY LOSS OF, OR DAMAGE TO SUCH ITEMS.

Australia: Changes to Express Post and Registered Envelopes.

Both express post envelopes and satchels and registered envelopes have had recent changes to the numbering system on the labels. Express Post envelopes and satchels now have labels with seven numbers such as the 'CG0011122' example illustrated. I have seen examples of CG, CN, CQ, BN, BQ, MN, MQ, SN and SQ labels with this format.

Both sizes of international registered envelopes now have labels with RR, nine digits plus the letters 'AU' for Australia.



For Letters and Documents only
Max Weight 500g
Max Thickness 20mm

 Australia Post

Express Post

PLEASE PAY AT COUNTER BEFORE ADDRESSING

Guaranteed Next Day Delivery



CG0011122



OFFICIAL USE ONLY



CG0011122

SENDER TO KEEP

CG0011122

POSTAGE IS PREPAID ONLY WHEN BARCODE STRIP IS INTACT

To: Company Name _____

For urgent Attention of _____ Telephone () _____

PO Box Number* or Street Address _____

Suburb or Town _____ State _____ Postcode _____

*PO Box Addresses ensure early morning delivery
*Over specified routes.
Conditions apply - see over for details

WARNING: NOT TO BE USED FOR THE CARRIAGE OF CASH, GOLD, JEWELLERY, PRECIOUS STONES, NEGOTIABLE SECURITIES OR OTHER VALUABLES. AUSTRALIA POST ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY AND WILL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY LOSS OF, OR DAMAGE TO SUCH ITEMS.

Registered POST

International



POSTAGE PAID AUSTRALIA

Air Mail Par Avion
Recommandé

RR008163574AU



OFFICIAL USE ONLY



RR008163574AU

SENDER TO KEEP

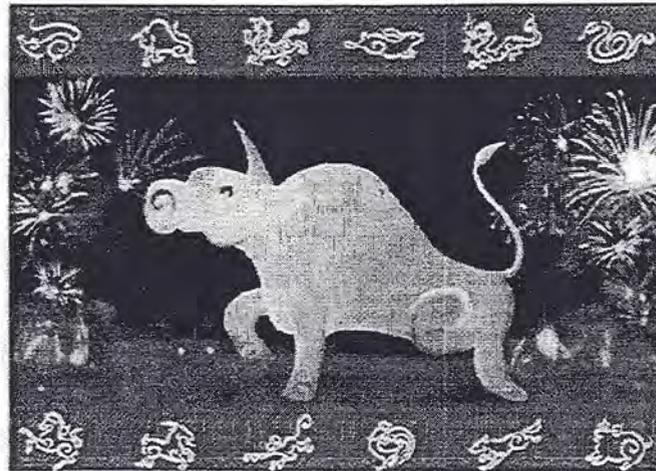
RR008163574AU

For letters and documents only
Max weight 500g

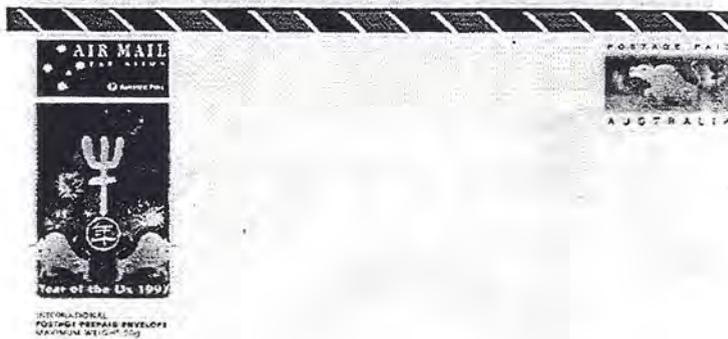
ENTER
STAMP

Australia: Lunar New Year

Australia issued three items of postal stationery on 6 January 1997 for the Lunar New Year. The non-denominated postcard (\$1), internal rate envelope (\$0.55) and international airmail rate envelope (\$1.35) commemorate the Year of the Ox which began on 7 February 1997. The stamp areas of the envelopes have a design depicting an ox similar to the one of the Christmas Island adhesive stamps issued on the same day. The reverse of the postcard is illustrated below.

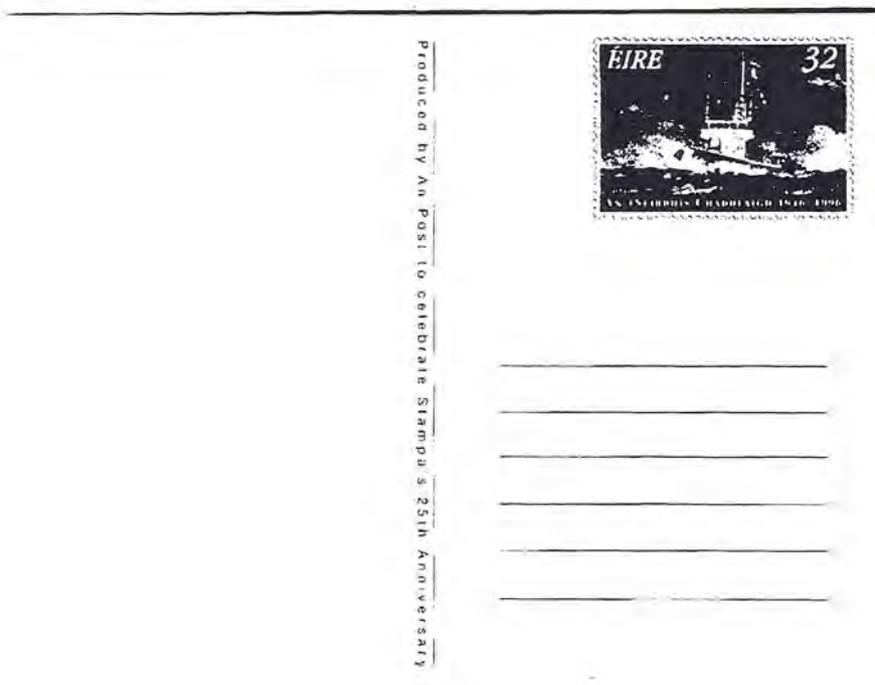
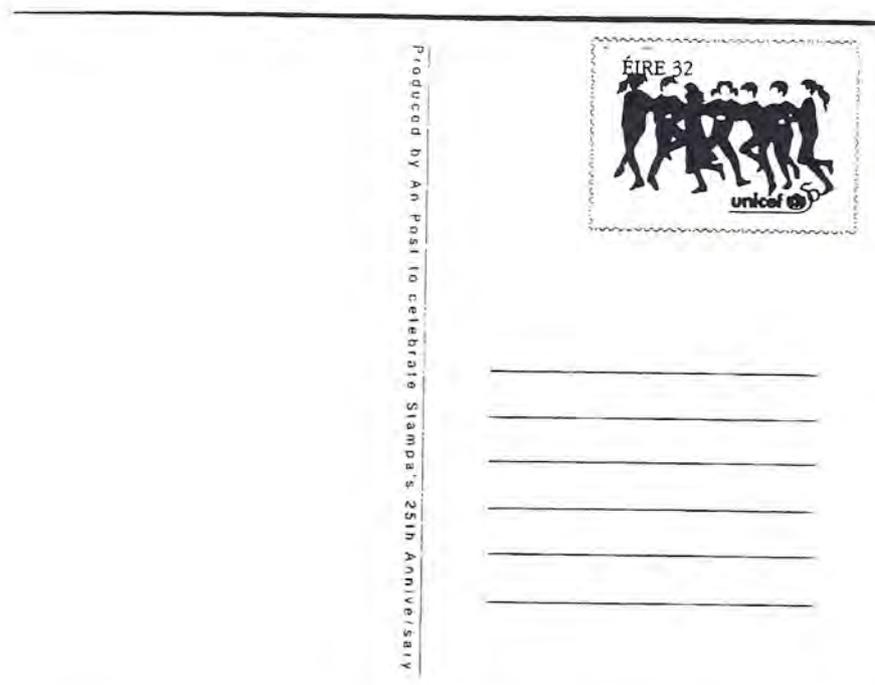


Reverse of postcard.



Ireland

Ireland has issued three 32p postcards to commemorate the 50th anniversary of UNICEF, 50 years of the Irish Naval Service and Stampa '96 Irish National Stamp Exhibition.



Marshall Islands

The Marshall Islands issued a 20c postal card for Christmas in late 1996. The stamp area of the card is illustrated below.

POSTAL CARD



POSTAL STATIONERY

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