

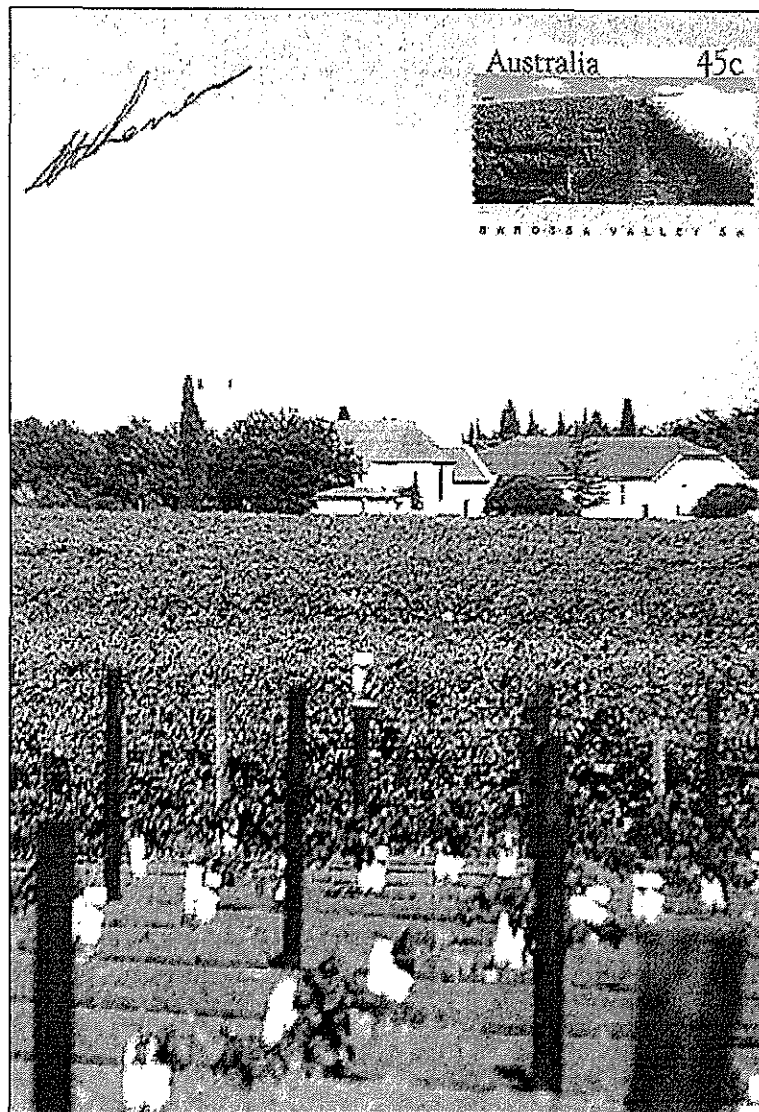
POSTAL STATIONERY

COLLECTOR

Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia

Volume 4 No 4: Issue No 16

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FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the sixteenth issue of the *Postal Stationery Collector* and the last of Volume 4. After all the excitement over modern issues in Issue Number 15, we revert in this issue, for the most part, to traditional stationery with articles on Australian rarities, Danish essays and exhibiting stationery.

As always the editor is interested in articles for future issues on any aspects of postal stationery.

PSSA Meeting at AUSTRALIA 99

PSSA will meet at Australia 99 at 10 am on Sunday 21 March 1999 in Meeting Room 3 at the Exhibition. (The meeting rooms will be located on Level 2 at the Clarendon St end of the Melbourne Exhibition Centre).

Members and visitors are welcome to attend. The meeting will included a short business session as well as a display and a discussion of the Australian States Catalogue Project.

Australia 99 will provide members with the opportunity of viewing an extensive international level stationery class as well as other stationery activities. I urge all members to try and attend. For further details please read the Secretary's column.

PSC Success at ITALIA 98 and ILSAPEX 98

The *PSC* was entered into both *Italia 98* and *Ilsapex 98* (Johannesburg 20-25 October 1998). It achieved a silver medal (73 points at *Italia 98*) at both exhibitions. My thanks to all contributors to the *Journal* for without your support this result could not have been achieved.

Members Results at Ilsapex 98

The results of stationery exhibits from members at *Ilsapex 98* were:

Bernie Doherty	South African Pictorial Postcards 1941-6	Large Silver
Ian McMahan	New Zealand Postcards and Lettercards	Large Silver
Ed Druce	New South Wales	Gold
	Basutoland	Vermeil
Robert Samuel	Embossed Stationery of New Zealand 1900-1952	Gold

Contributions to the next issue of the Journal close with the editor on 15 March 1998.

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

NEW AUSTRALIAN DISCOVERY: 1917 2d KANGAROO "OS" ELECTRO

John Sinfield

Recently meeting with Melbourne member, John Steward, he informed me that he had come by a bundle of Australian stationery cut-outs and asked whether I would like these for further study. Naturally I was pleased to accept his offer, and some days later these arrived by mail.

The parcel contained mainly "OS" stationery cut-outs with many quite scarce dual combination printings (Weep! Weep! What a calamity!). However, to my utter amazement, this little hoard included two cut-outs of a previously unseen and unrecorded 2d grey die 2A Kangaroo "OS" impression. RBA archival records advise that in 1913 Cooke created six 2d electros for postal stationery printing. One of these was drilled with "OS" holes, and just one printing occurred, being on 13 July 1917 when a stamping request for 1,500 double weight envelopes was submitted (presumably by the Victorian Education Department, Melbourne - but this is not yet confirmed). No surviving entires are known, but the illustrated "OS" cut-outs now prove this one-off small printing.

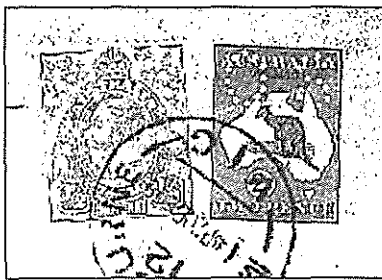


Figure 1

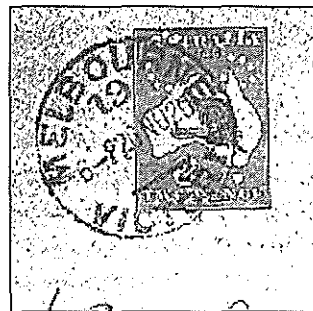


Figure 2

Stock is unsurfaced grey wove paper, identical to other recorded Education Department envelopes of the period. Both bear Melbourne GPO CDS cancellations with Figure 1 mailed 20.12.1919 at 2d double weight 1oz rate + ½d adhesive for war tax. Fig 2 was used later, on 26.11.1920, then at base 2d per ½ oz domestic letter rate following 1 October 1920 increase.

ADELAIDE BRIDGE PREPAID ENVELOPE

I have checked my PTPO listing for the Bridges issue and feel that the Adelaide Bridge PPE described in the November 1998 issue of *PSC* can be explained. Basically it is the same as what happened to Geoffrey Lewis, he ordered 500 DL size and got 500 C6. From the copy of the 'E' part of the listing Elder and Stuckey and Partners are recorded using the Sydney Harbour Bridge window face stock. I suspect that the order was inadvertently printed on C6 window face stock instead of DL window face stock and that, when noted, the majority of the job was returned and then overprinted by the Wagga Post Office. I have never previously thought of what happened to returned stock but your example gives one answer.

David Collyer

DENMARK: THE POSTCARD ESSAYS OF 1871

Ray Kelly

The acknowledged world reference for all Denmark Postal Stationery is that written by Sigge Ringstrom RDP of Trelleborg, Sweden, although a more 'user-friendly', fully illustrated handbook is that by Oluf Pedersen of Denmark.

Pedersen only acknowledges the existence of essays, while Ringstrom does list various essay types of the 1871 Series, the first Postal Cards of Denmark, and, from exhaustive searching, is the only reference found.

This article is prompted by the recent acquisition of 25 essays comprising pieces from the Ringstrom Museum, most of which are the basis of listing in his reference book, plus pieces ex Friedl stock, all apparently unknown to Ringstrom when his book was first published in 1968 and still absent in the 1985 Edition.

The composite tabulation of these essays provides a clear picture of the progressive concept used by printer, H H Thiele, in obtaining his final, and subsequently approved, postcard format.

A Post Office 'Act' of 7th January 1871 authorised the introduction of postal cards for local post and inland use, to become effective from 1st April 1871.

The existing stamp printer-contractor, H H Thiele of Copenhagen, was instructed to prepare essays, the designated values being Local Post = 2 Skilling and Inland Post = 4 Skilling.

There were no specific requirements for colour or card size, but one would assume the size to be controlled by efficient use of overall sheet size appropriate to the letter-press machine, on which Thiele would print the cards.

The printed components were very similar to those of current postcard issuing countries and comprised the coat of arms of the reigning Monarch, the word Brevkort (Postcard), an 'Address' instruction, an ornamental border and an indicium identical to the current adhesive postage stamp of appropriate rate.

The ornate border was taken from basic printer-ready kits of which identical or very similar borders are found on the postal cards of many countries, and exist in general letterpress job-printing today.

Thiele subsequently prepared a series of essays using the 2 Sk local post value stereo, in numerous colours plus minor differences in text and an eventual alteration in card size.

Five distinct essays are identified, but as issue dates are not recorded, the correct printing sequence is uncertain, although a logical progression can be assumed from the printed components. The essays known and listed by Ringstrom follow the issued cards, but would have been prepared between 7th January and 1st April 1871.

Details of the five known Types are as follows:

- Type 1 BREVKORT one word, block type capitals 6mm high
'Star Dot' border Card size = 126mm x 93mm
Address instruction = 64 mm; *Til* in script type
Quantity - A single card! Dull blue and unrecorded by Ringstrom.
- Type 2 BREV-KORT with hyphen. Address instruction = 47mm. *Til* in Italics. Stock -
Various from white, cream to yellow brown.
Quantity - Fourteen (14) comprising the 13 listed by Ringstrom plus an
additional unrecorded essay in blue.
Card size and border design identical to Type 1.
- Type 3 BREV-KORT with hyphen, Classic Roman lettering 7mm high
Card size and other printed components identical to Type 2. Quantity - Five (5)
comprising 4 listed by Ringstrom plus an additional unrecorded essay in brown.
Address instruction = 58mm. A stylized 1521 border design
- Type 4 BREV-KORT with hyphen. Modern Roman lettering 4.5mm high. Size and all
other printed components identical to Type 2.
Quantity - Seven (7) comprising 5 listed by Ringstrom plus 2 unrecorded essays
in green and lilac
- Type 5 This Essay contained printed components from both Types 3 and 4; the
noticeable difference is in the size = 142mm x 74mm.
The border design is that of Type 3, while all other components are of Type 4,
other than 'brackets' surrounding the Address instruction.
Quantity - Two (2) comprising one in blue listed by Ringstrom and an
unrecorded essay in red. (NB These were to be the chosen colours for two rates
authorised issued cards).

Issued Cards

These comprised 2 Sk Local Post (blue) and 4 Sk Inland Post (red). The size and most printed components were identical to Type 5, the interesting difference was an ornate border different to either of the previous essays.

Post Office supplies of 2 Sk card were received on 28th March 1871 while supply of 4 Sk was made on 3rd April 1871.

There is a distinct similarity of many European postcards of this period with some ornamental border designs of Serbia, Austria, Mexico, Hong Kong, Iceland, Great Britain and Venezuela either identical to, or very similar to, those used in the various Denmark essays and Cards.

Most essays are signed on the reverse either by Ringstrom (including the handstamp of his private Museum) or by R Friedl, a most significant dealer in Europe at the turn of the Century.

1. LAMOR RINGSTRÖMS
MUSEUM FÖR FILATELI
G. Ringström
S. RINGSTRÖM TÄLEBOHN



Til

Type 1



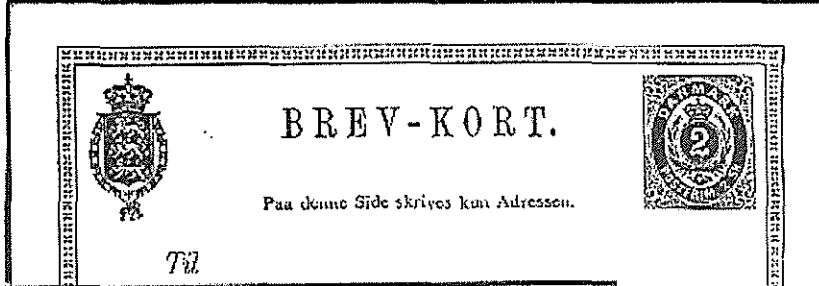
Til

Type 2



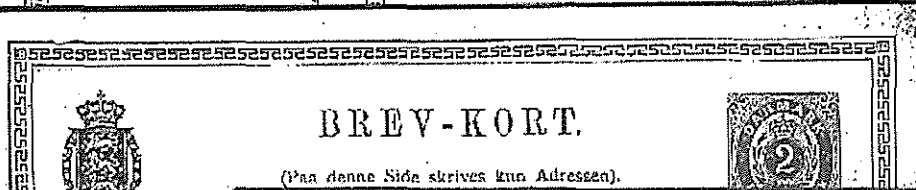
Til

Type 3



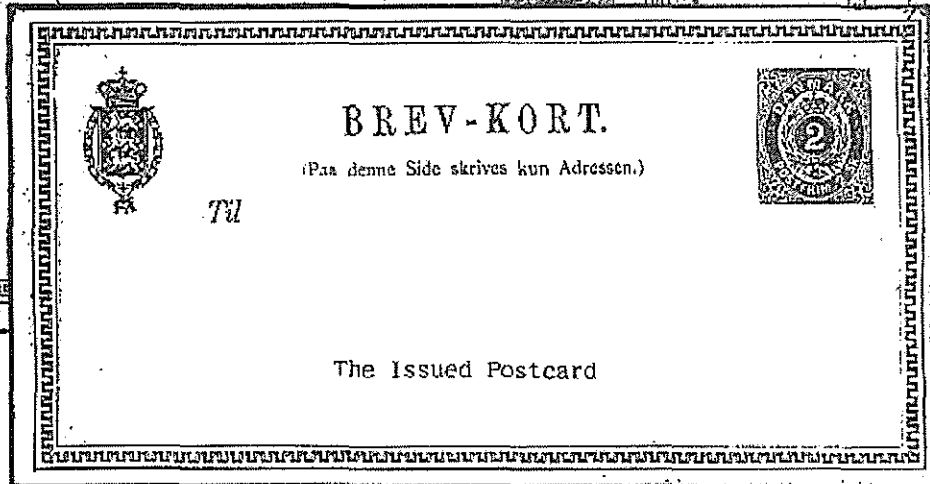
Til

Type 4



Til

Type 5



Til

The Issued Postcard

*4/20/01
R. Frindell*

AUSTRALIAN RARITIES: HARRISON'S INITIAL 1918 1d POSTCARD

John Sinfield

After assuming the dual task of Australian note and stamp printing in May 1918, the previous Note Printer and Engraver, Thomas Harrison set about completely redesigning John Cooke's original 1910, and now outdated, Commonwealth postcard header. The Coat-of-Arms was adopted from the 6d coin, and larger shadowed lettering was employed. Although Cooke's 1916 rate admonition remained, this was re-positioned at base of card, which was now bisected to ease left half correspondence in terms of 1906 UPU regulations.

During this period overall Post Office postcard consumption was slow, and was more popular for foreign transmission since card cost was then only 1½d against 2½d for letters. Domestic 1d card rate also applied for letters and lettercards, both of which permitted sealing of messages, and attractive private picture postcard alternatives were plentiful and cheap. The previous card printing by the Stamp Printing Office had occurred in July 1916 (with re-issue of State reply barred out cards, early 1917), yet still by mid 1918 there was several months' old stock still on hand. It was not until 6 September 1918 that Harrison began a print run of his new card design. Between then, and 14 September, 34,410 sheets (1,101,120 cards - less spoils, if any) were stockpiled pending depletion of residual copies of Cooke's 1916 printing.

However, without prior warning, and providing only two days' notice, government legislation introduced a ½d per article war tax on all domestic and foreign mail (except newspaper wrappers) from 28 October 1918. Although the war was within two weeks of ending, this levy was intended to assist post-war economic recovery and repatriation. Since 380,000,000 mail articles were carried each year, an anticipated £790,000pa would be raised from such a source.

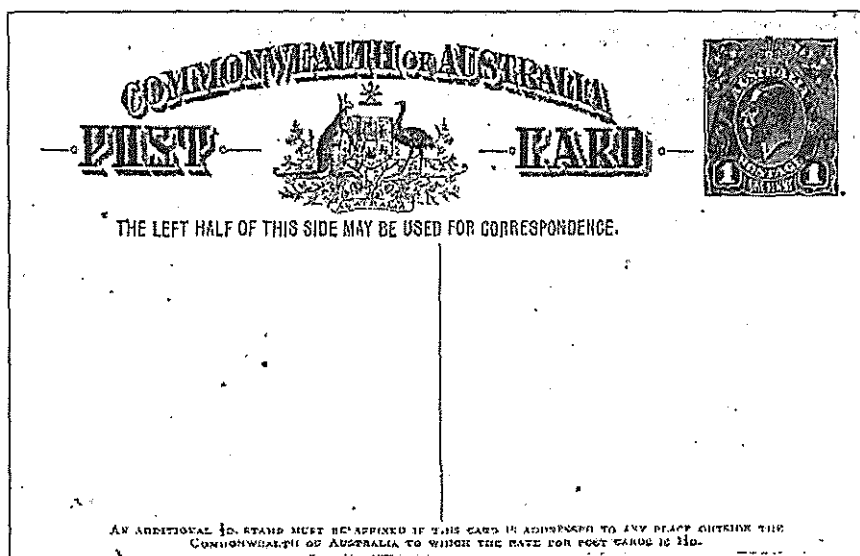


Figure 1 The unused card, with Harrison's written comment "Specimen Card (to be kept with file)" on reverse.

The war tax meant postcard rate now increased to 1½d domestically and to USA (which received special postcard, but not letter rate, concession), and to British Empire destinations. Foreign rate became 2d per card. What to do with over one million stockpile of the new and

as yet unissued 1d cards? These were letterpress overprinted in black with two line revaluation: "THREE HALFPENCE" and became generally available in Post Offices from 28 November. These are far from rare! Although I cannot confirm the number of overprinted 1d cards (which also extended to Cooke's 1916 KGV card as well as a few 1915 Kangaroo cards), there was sufficient available revalued stock to last until the initial 1½d card printing in June/July 1919.

What is rare however, is Harrison's first 1d red card without revaluation overprint. Have you ever come across a copy? In my many years collecting, I have seen just two - one mint, and one postally used. These are illustrated (Figures 1-2). The unused copy is undoubtedly from archival sources with filing hole and Harrison's own manuscript reverse endorsement "*Specimen Card (to be kept with file)*". The used copy poses a conundrum. It was locally mailed 20 October 1919 in Adelaide, with additional ½d "OS" adhesive, and has been backprinted by Government Printing Office, Adelaide. Since Harrison's 1d card was never issued from Post Offices, two alternative theories evolve about this card:

- (a) late September/early October 1918, after the Harrison printing, but prior to war tax announcement, the SA Government Printer directly requisitioned new card supply from the Stamp Printer, or more likely from Government Stores in Melbourne, or
- (b) the card was routinely issued, but is an error, with "THREE HALFPENCE" surcharge omitted.

In either case, the card may well be a unique postally used example. This is probably the Commonwealth's rarest Post Office postcard, since apparently it was never officially issued without surcharge overprint. Although widely listed in stationery catalogues, it is most certainly undervalued. It looks common, and may go unnoticed by the uninitiated - so keep a lookout in all those dealers' junkboxes. You could just discover quite a gem!

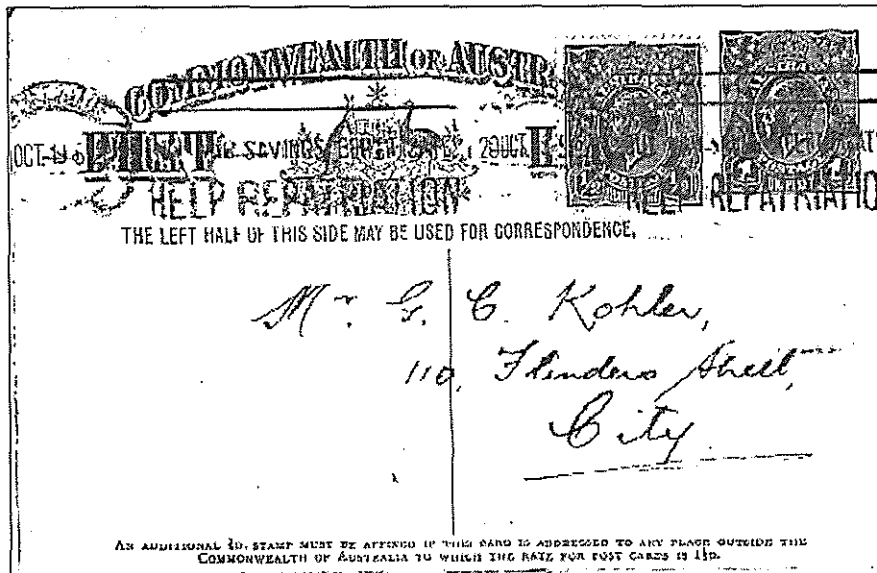


Figure 2 is the only recorded postally used example, with reverse printed account reminder on behalf of Cashier, Government Printing Office, Adelaide. It was locally mailed 20.10.1919 with ½d "OS" stamp added to prepay war tax.

February 1999

1918 1d POSTCARD: HARRISON'S CORRESPONDENCE

Ian McMahon

Some clarification of the development of the 1918 1d postcard is provided by correspondence between Harrison and the Postmaster-General.

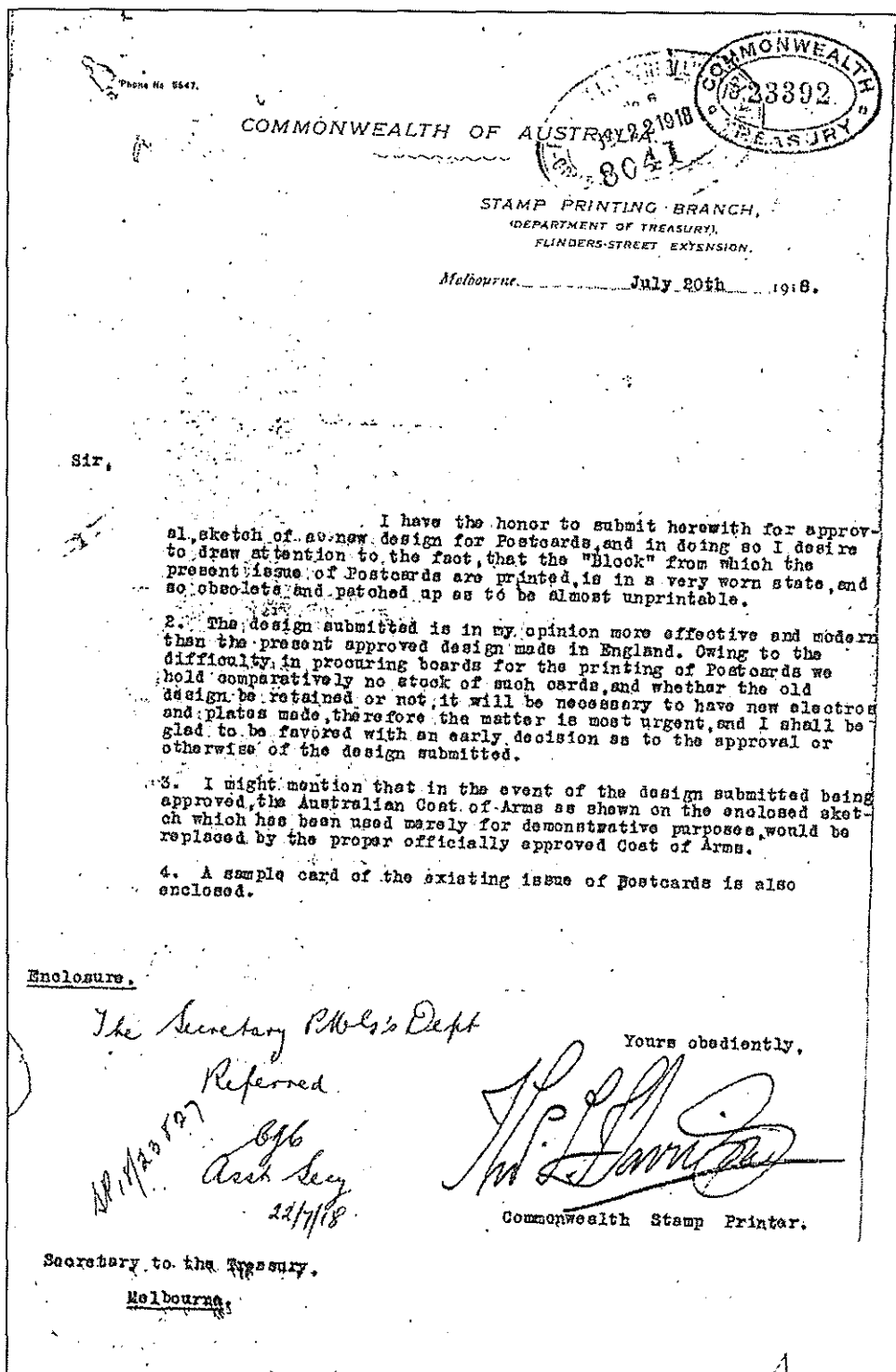


Figure 1

In a memorandum sent from Harrison to the Postmaster's General's Department (Figure 1), dated 20 July 1918, he states:

I have the honor to submit herewith for approval sketch of a new design for postcards, and ... draw attention to the fact, that the 'Block' from which the present issue of Postcards are printed is in a very worn state and so obsolete and patched up as to be almost unprintable.

The design submitted is in my opinion more effective and modern than the present approved design made in England. Owing to the difficulty in procuring boards for the printing of Postcards we hold comparatively no stock of such cards, and whether the old design be retained or not it will be necessary to have new electros and plates made, therefore the matter is most urgent,

I might mention that in the event of the design submitted being approved, the Australian Coat of Arms as shown on the enclosed sketch which has been used merely for demonstrative purposes would be replaced by the proper officially approved Coat of Arms.

A sample card of the existing issue of Postcards is also enclosed. [Figure 2]

The reply (Figure 3) from Justinian Oxenham (Secretary of the Postmaster General's Department), dated 24 July 1918, approved the design subject to the addition of a vertical line on the face to separate the address from the correspondence and requested 7 specimens (one for the official file and six for distribution to the states).

Harrison replied (Figure 4) on 14 September 1918 enclosing seven samples (one of which may be John Sinfield's mint example) and commenting that while the board from the Australian Paper Manufacturing Co did not quite give the result he desired it was preferable to use Australian stock wherever possible.

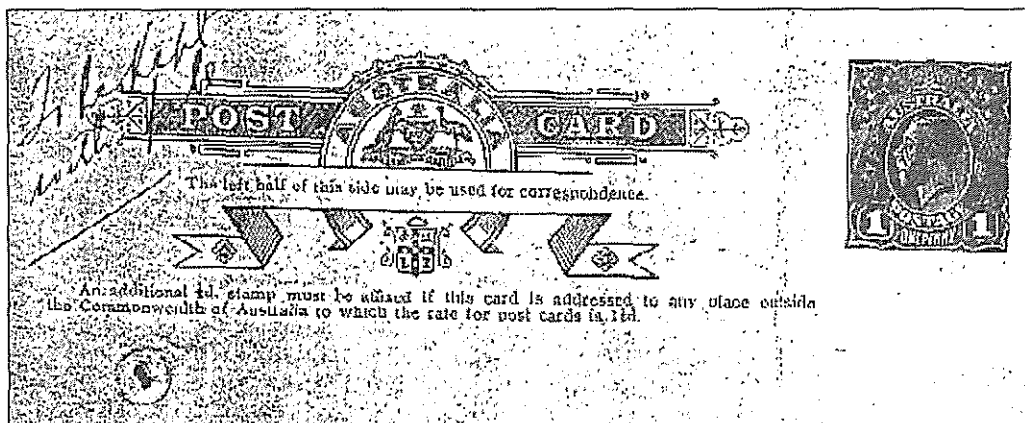


Figure 2

February 1999

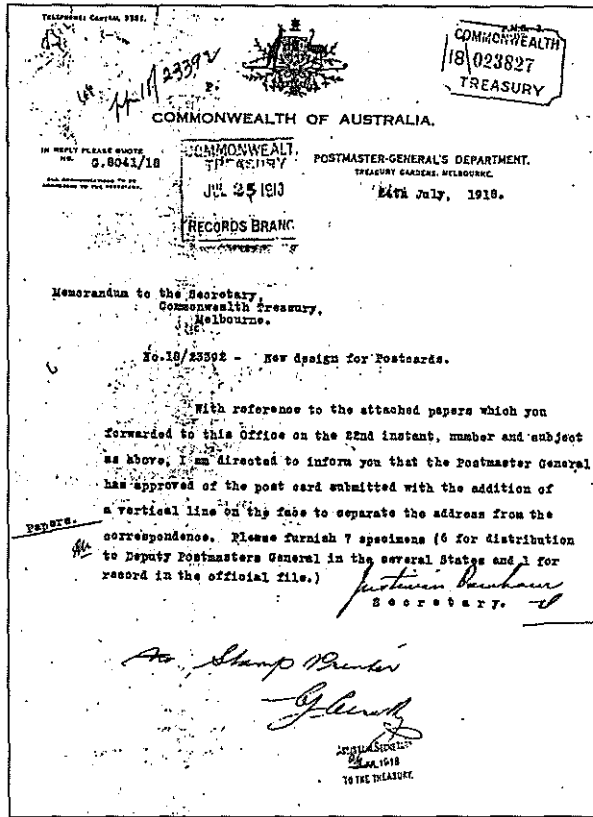


Figure 3

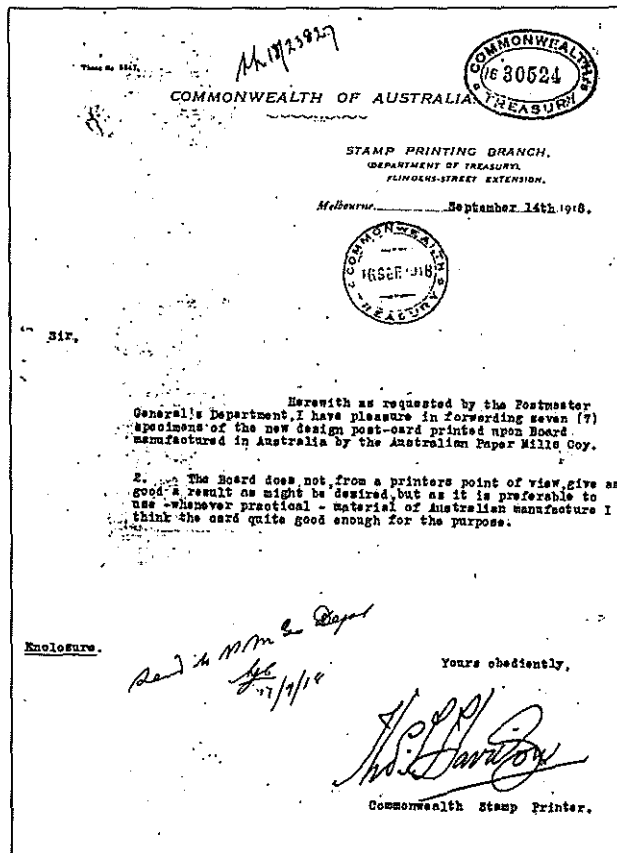


Figure 4

QUEENSLAND POSTAL NOTES: FURTHER INFORMATION

Craig Chappell

Further to my article in the last issue of *PSC*, Bernie Beston has kindly permitted me to view his Queensland Postal Notes so that more information may be obtained about this scarcely researched area of Queensland postal stationery. The following additional information is derived from observation of those Notes, and the illustrations are from Bernie's collection.

1880 "Small Chalon" Design

Watermark: Some of the examples from Position 1 at the top of the 4 on printed sheet show a few letters at the top of the watermark. The letters in the right arc obviously make up the word "QUEENSLAND". From the left arc the letters "ELECTOR ----GHT" are now known, which definitely can't be "ELECTORAL ROLL" as theorised previously. It is also apparent from this stock that the watermark is repeated at horizontal intervals of 142 mm.



Figure 1 Partial Watermark

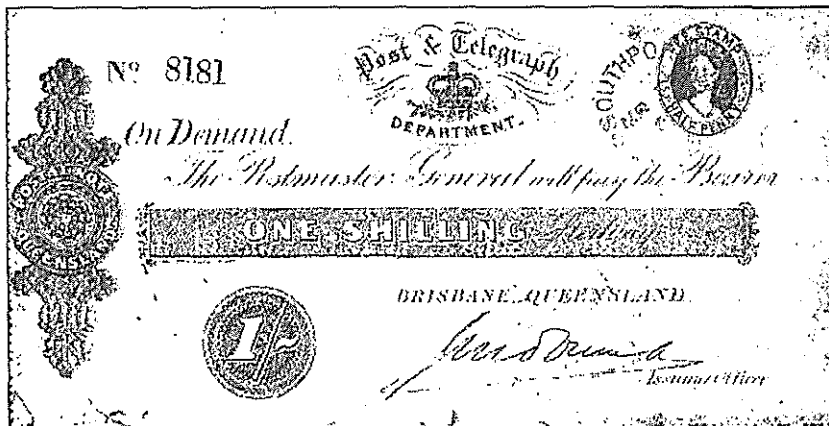


Figure 2 1/- Green (sans butt) Watermark Inverted Sheet Position 1 Issued - No. "8181" CDS "SOUTHPORT 1 MR 30 83" The "Issuing Officer" must have been an employee as the signature doesn't correspond with that of "W Hanlon", PM 01 Nov 1879 to 26 Aug 1883. (Joan Frew, "Queensland Post & Receiving Offices")

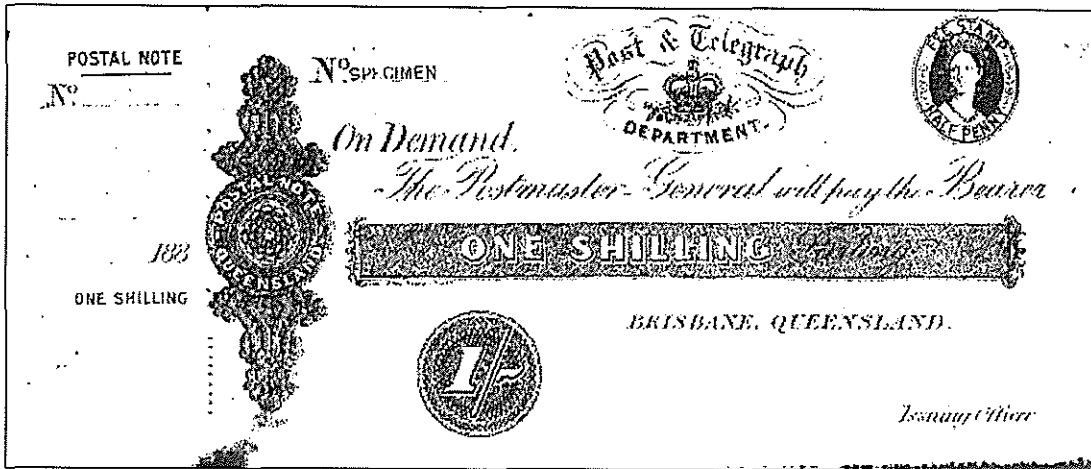


Figure 3 1/- green, watermark inverted, sheet position 1. 'Specimen' handstruck in rose, 15 mm.



Figure 4 1/- green, sheet position 3. 'Specimen' handstruck in violet, 75 mm.

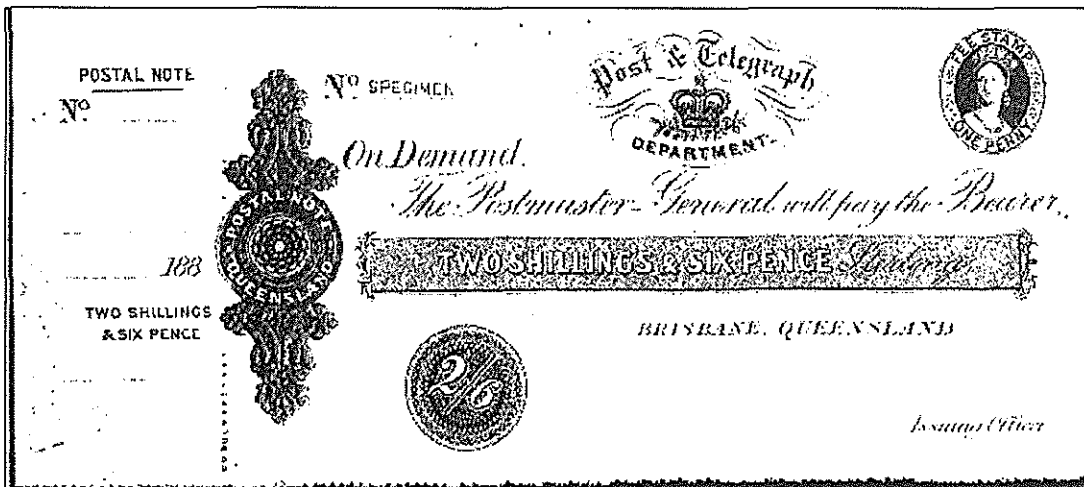


Figure 5 2/6 rose, watermark reversed, sheet position 1. 'Specimen' handstruck in rose, 15 mm.

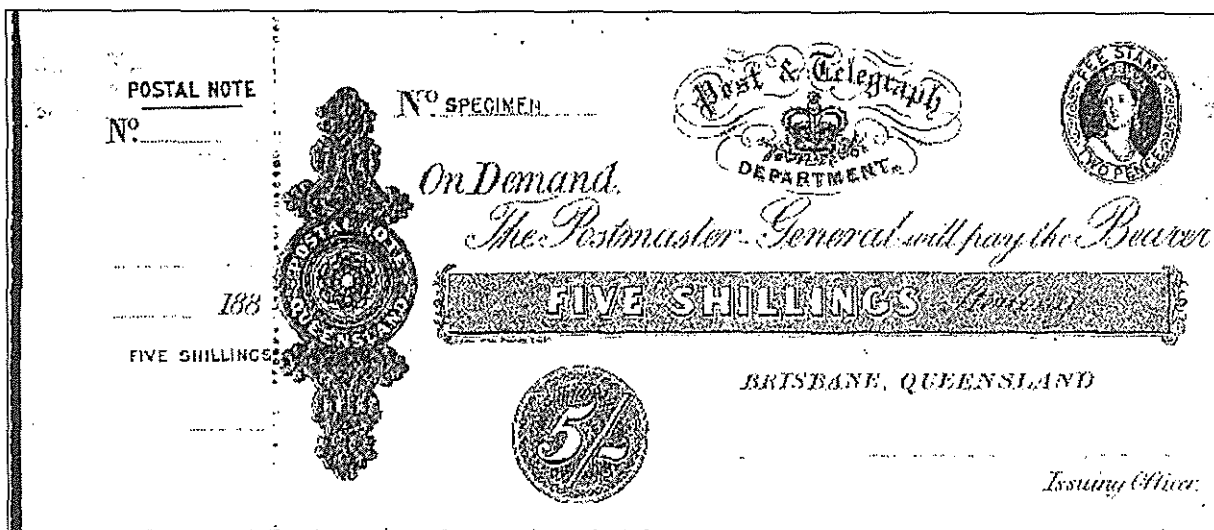


Figure 6 5/- blue, watermark reversed, sheet position 1. 'Specimen' handstruck in rose, 15 mm.

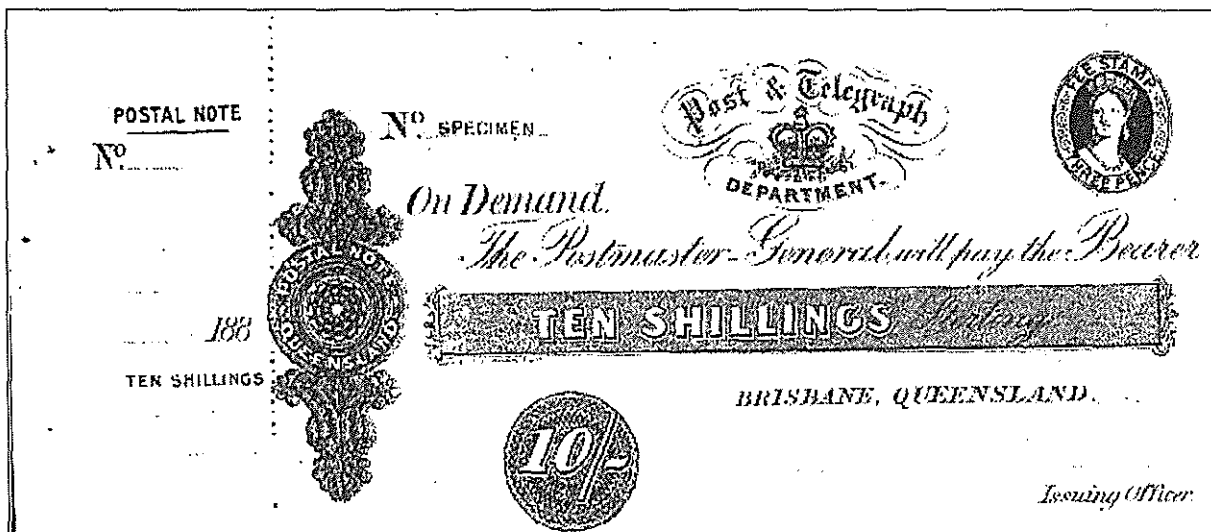


Figure 7 10/- violet, sheet position 1. 'Specimen' handstruck in rose, 15 mm.

QUEENSLAND POSTAL NOTES

Ken Scudder

Further to the very interesting article by Craig Chappell on this subject, *Postal Stationery Collector*, November 1999, the Report of the Post and Telegraph Department of Queensland for the Year 1891 would appear to give the missing information with regard to the second issue of these Postal Notes, the "Sideface" Design. The relevant paragraph from the Report, page 13, reads:

The new Post and Telegraph Act provides for regulations as to the issue of postal notes, under which alterations have been made in order to assimilate the Queensland issue to those in the other Australasian colonies where the system is in operation and

the United Kingdom, and the values, instead of being limited to 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s., have been extended since 1st January, 1891, to 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s., 2s. 6d., 3s., 3s. 6d., 4s., 4s. 6d., 5s., 7s. 6d., 10s., 10s. 6d., 15s., 20s., and the amounts have been so arranged that any sum of shillings and sixpences up to one pound can be remitted by not more than two of these notes.

Thus, we may see that not only should the two values which Craig Chappell suggested probably existed, but so should four others. This new range of values was agreed to at the Intercolonial Postal Conference held in Sydney, January 1888, but the issue could not be made until the necessary legislation had been passed.

Also of interest are the other three paragraphs in this section of the 1891 Report: -

Arrangements were made with the colonies of Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania, to pay reciprocally the notes of each colony on the payee attaching to the note stamps of the paying colony equal to the proper poundage.

The London Post Office was invited on the 21st November last to interchange postal notes, but objected, principally on the ground that the distance greatly increased the difficulty of guarding against forgery and fraud, and that there was not a very large demand for means of remitting money beyond that afforded by the money order system, and under the circumstances it was not deemed expedient to adopt the suggestion to reciprocate.

Attention was directed, in reply, to the fact that English postal notes have been frequently presented for payment, and in the absence of any arrangement they have to be refused, also that in several cases these notes have been cashed by dealers in foreign money at half-price.

For the first few years the increase in the use of Postal Notes was slow, but during 1885 the increase over the previous year reached just over 15%. Two paragraphs in the Report for 1885 may be of interest:

These figures go far to show that although the public of Queensland may be slow in taking advantage of a system which has made such rapid strides in the United Kingdom, where it was established some time after Queensland had taken the lead, yet, when the convenience and facilities afforded by the Postal Note System for the transmission of small sums become better known, this mode of Permitting money will be more largely appreciated.

It will be necessary, under any new Postage Act, to increase the operation of the system by obtaining power to issue postal notes for additional sums up to 20s., with a slight reduction in the fees payable.

It is nice to see another instance where an Australasian Colony was ahead of the United Kingdom.

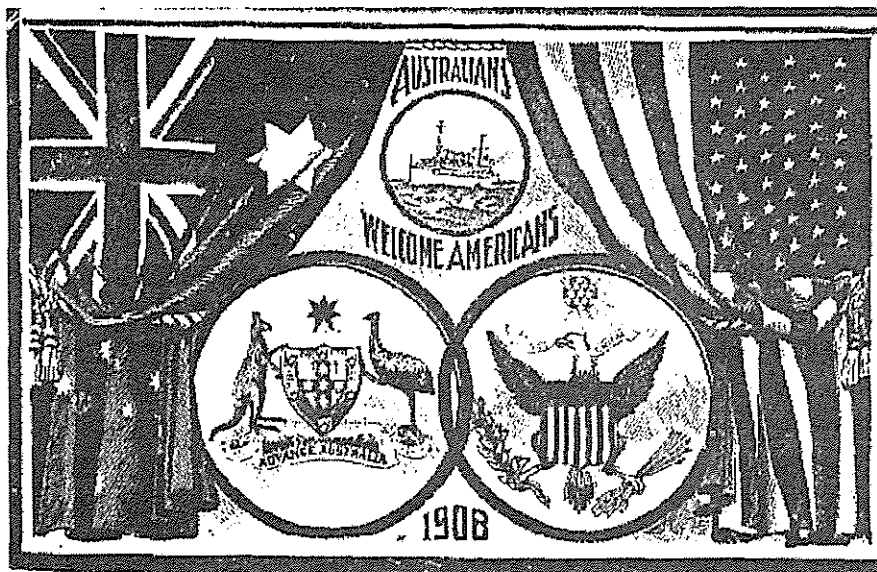
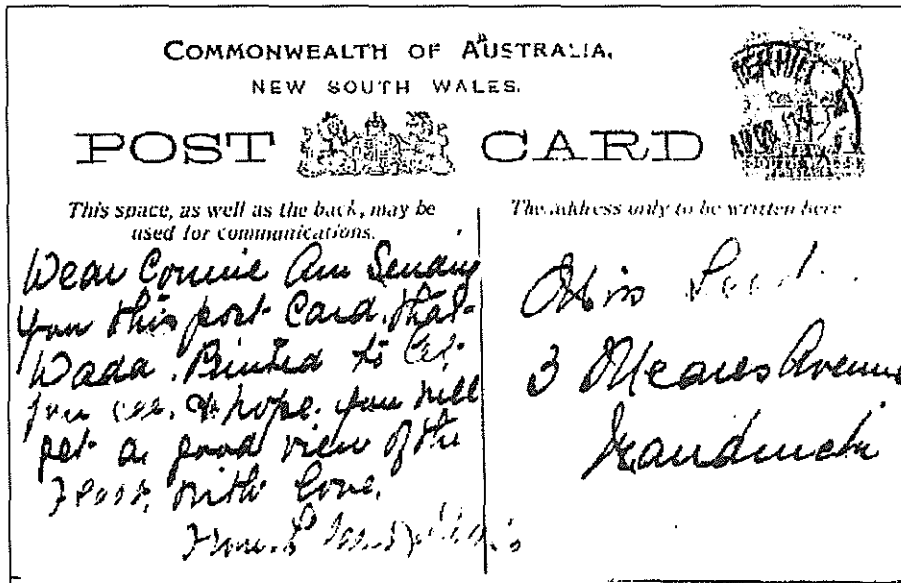
AN INTERESTING NSW FLEET CARD

Peter Guerin

An interesting item I purchased as part of an auction lot a year or so ago is this NSW Fleet card cancelled Summer Hill August 1908. The postcard was addressed to Miss Leeder (?) 3 Meares Ave Randwick. The message reads:

Dear Connie. Am sending you this postcard that Dada printed to let you see. I hope you will get a good view of the Fleet. With love from Eileen and Sadie

This must surely be a unique tie-in, referring to both the printer of the card and viewing of the Fleet. Is the 'Dada' referred to the actual NSW Government Printer at the time, or maybe one of the actual workers of the presses? The women must be his wife and/or daughter.



COLLECTING AND EXHIBITING POSTAL STATIONERY (Part 1)

John Sinfield

This article is the general text of a lecture given by me to the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria in 1996. Minor modifications have been made to delete now irrelevant aspects.

My interest in Postal Stationery dates back over thirty years, when this form of philately was out of favour and most items were comparatively cheap. Prior to Australian currency decimalisation, I can recall picking up our scenic lettercards for 9d or 1/-, but nowadays these probably cost around \$100 or more. It sometimes pays to collect against the tide of popularity, for now that stationery collecting has once more returned to vogue, to attempt to put all my collections together these days would require a budget much greater than I could cope with. I was introduced to stationery by the late Julie Resch of Melbourne. She had a very fine assembly of Australia, and it was her enthusiasm for this collecting area that extended my interests from mere adhesive stamps.

What is Stationery?

The FIP defines Postal Stationery as *“comprising postal matter which either bears an officially authorized pre-printed stamp or device or inscription, indicating that a specific face value or related service has been prepaid.”* Bear in mind however, that some departure from this definition can occur as some countries issue, or have issued, stationery without a stamped impression or indication of face value. When considering this discipline of philately, perhaps I should start with a summary of the two broad physical types of forms we normally encounter. The first could be deemed **“enclosing”** forms and embrace such items as envelopes, wrappers and, of more modern vintage, posting boxes. The second type of stationery is **“message”** forms which are printed or written on, such as lettersheets, postcards, lettercards, labels, telegrams, postal notes, etc. Before I get into the various types of stationery and their description, perhaps a few “firsts” could be of interest, since some items are not a new phenomenon, and in fact several predate the adhesive stamp as we know it.

The First Issues

The very first prepaid stationery form may be deemed an 1818 sheet of Sardinia which was sold there by post offices and tobacconists from November of that year. Officially termed *“carta postale bollata”* (or stamped postal sheets), these were available in three values 15¢, 25¢ and 50¢ showing a hornblowing postman on horseback, and hence are known as *“Cavallini”* or “little horsemen”. Some controversy surrounds this issue as far as its actually being a piece of postage prepaid stationery. In effect, the horseman impression applied regardless of whether the form was mailed and the imprint was really just an indication that appropriate fiscal tax had been paid on the paper per se, rather than for the postage. I therefore discount the Cavallini as postal stationery, which places much closer to home the first prestamped sheets intended specifically for postage transmission, and which date from 1838 bearing the embossed seal of the colony of New South Wales. These were sold for 1d to prepay correspondence around Sydney, and were still available in 1850 when postage stamps were introduced into the Colony.

Postal Stationery Collector

Other countries also put more early faith in stationery than in stamps, and an interesting chronological comparison of first stationery versus stamp issues comes from:

	<u>First Stationery</u>	<u>First Stamp</u>
Russia	1845	1858
Finland	1845	1856
Thurn & Taxis	1846	1852
Hanover (Germany)	1849	1850
Poland	1858	1860

Britain's first envelopes and lettersheets were the well known 1d & 2d 1840 Mulready, but these were predated some 3½ months by parliamentarian's official envelopes. Other stationery "firsts" include:

Newspaper Wrappers	USA	1857
Postcards	Austria	1869
Reply Postcards	Bavaria	1872
Registered Envelopes	Britain	1871
Lettercards	Belgium	1882
Reply Lettercards	Portugal	1910
Airmail Stationery	France	1870 (for siege of Paris)
Airmail Envelopes	Newfoundland	1922
Air Lettersheets	Colombia	1923
Aerogrammes	Iraq	1933
Military Stationery	Germany	1870
Charity Envelopes	Prussia	1867
Commemorative Stationery	USA	1876 (Philadelphia Cent.)



Specimen overprint of the first aerogramme – 1933 for BME Forces, Iraq

Rebirth of Stationery Collecting

Postal Stationery as a form of philately has been through several peaks and troughs as far as popularity with collectors. The class was first separately and officially introduced for FIP exhibiting only as recently as 1974. Since then guidelines have unified standards worldwide, and we have seen a tremendous increase in the number of internationally exhibited stationery collections, and an overall improvement in the standard of these collections. The culmination of this was probably at Finlandia in 1995, where 128 stationery exhibits filled 737 frames - 44 of these receiving Large Vermeil or better, including six out of 15 entries from Australia.

Stationery has always been a particularly interesting collecting field for the Germans, and it is thanks to the early Australian settlers from that country that much of our own Australian, and our Colonial/State stationery now survives. The USA has also been long interested in this form of philately, but one area for which we definitely should not be grateful to them, was their early stamp albums which made provision only for cutout impressions from the forms. Consequently, many rare early items now survive only in this manner. Until the FIP made separate provision for stationery exhibitions, interest in this field has peaked and waned several times. Many collectors now recognize that stationery virtually bridges the gap between the adhesive stamp and postal history, and partly because of this, and also because it is now considered an independent class of philately, stationery has again become an extremely popular collecting discipline. This was not always the case - we find that because of its wide popularity up to and around the turn of the 20th century, much material from this early period still survives. Popularity had waned by about 1915, and from then until the mid 1950s, not much material was put aside by either dealers or collectors. The late KGV, KGVI and early QE reigns can be quite difficult periods from which to now find material and with the possible exception of Germany and some Asian regions, this scarcity tends to apply to stationery of a majority of countries. When we consider this in combination with the actual issued number of items compared to stamps, survival rate of some stationery can be very small indeed.

Types of Stationery

Expanding on the various types of stationery, we can have diverse material comprising parcel labels, postcards (commemorative and definitive), lettercards, lettersheets (private and post office), envelopes (mint and used), registered envelopes, wrappers and aerogrammes (used and specimen). Variation to the basic form can be added by additional adhesives, registered or airmail usage, either letterpress or embossed stamp impression in single or compound format, addition of private advertising and UPU or printer's specimen items, and printing errors eg. albino embossings or reverse side offset, miscuts, etc.

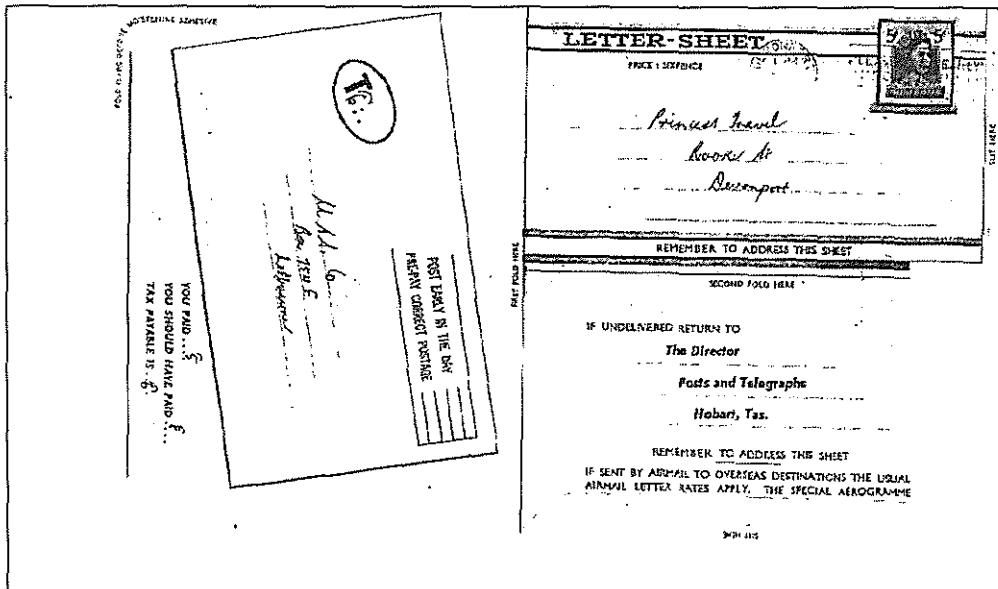
Postal stationery can also be divided into classes according to the specific issuing authority and its manner of availability and usage. Broadly these are:

- (a) Post Office Issues: these forms are prepared to postal authority specification and issued for public use. They can be modified for philatelic or business purposes, and as such are called "*répiquages*".
- (b) Official Service Issues: stamped stationery for use only by governmental instrumentalities. Stamps may be identical to Post Office issues, or may be of special design or overprint. In Australia, up to 1933, OHMS forms bore a stamp bearing the letters "OS" = official service.
- (c) Forces/Military Issues: for use by members of the armed forces. Stamp impression may be varied as for abovementioned official issues, or may even be entirely absent.
- (d) Stamped to Order Private Issues: A few countries, Australia included, but probably no more than a dozen or so in all, permitted private stationery to be printed with post office stamp impressions. This was particularly prevalent in the days prior to franking machines, but usually invoked a small printing charge by the authority. Such issues, referred to as STO, PTO or PTPO (or similar), tend to cover a far wider range of stamp impressions than postal authority issues. This is most certainly the case for Australia. An interesting private variation to Post Office issues is the addition, usually after purchase, of advertising collars around the stamp impression.
- (e) Local Post Issues: stamped stationery produced by private postal agencies, which carry varying degrees of post office recognition or support.
- (f) Caricatures, Bogus and Forged: Take care here that any additions of this sort in your exhibit are clearly labelled as such. Penalty points will be deducted if this is not clearly carried out. Caricatures are acceptable, but preference is for them to be postally used, or in a separate display of their own.

ANOTHER OFFICIAL LETTERSHEET

Joan Orr

PSC (Issue No 6 August 1996 and Issue No 8 February 1997) show officially overprinted Australian lettersheets for use by the Post Office for collecting postage due. The lettersheets shown were for use in New South Wales and Victoria. Article 2701 in the *Bulletin of the Australian Commonwealth Collectors Club of New South Wales* (No 5 Vol 34 (whole No.251), October 1995) shows a mint copy from Queensland. In his article Ivars Mastins said *Owing to the sudden transfer of the Director of Posts and Telegraphs of Queensland, Mr.E.C.A (Ekka) Brown in November 1961, who was the signatory of the Lettersheet, the plan could not be implemented. All stocks of the Lettersheet were destroyed.*



At a recent stamp fair, I acquired a copy of a similar item used in Tasmania. This lettersheet differs from the other three in that the 'Price sixpence' is not obliterated and there is no facsimile postmark, but a slogan cancel of Devonport Tasmania 1 pm 3 April 1962. The return address and details of tax payable is in a slightly different typeface and the *If undelivered* return address is for Hobart.

The inside of the lettersheet is different from the New South Wales sheet with the contents differing in paragraphs 1 while paragraph 4 has been divided into two and the signatory is R Gibson (in blue). As there is no inside photocopy of the Melbourne sheet no comparison can be made. The overprinted lettersheet is LC1 in *The Australasian Stamp Catalogue* (26th Edition), and as Ivars article quotes the year 1961 and the Sydney sheet is dated 17 May 1961, this is likely to also be the year of the Tasmanian issue. (No date is shown for the Melbourne sheet.)

This points to the use of this lettersheet as an Official item for tax collection during 1961-2 (and later?). Therefore three questions arise:

1. Does any reader have a legitimately used sheet from Queensland?
2. Were they used, in all other States? If so are there other variations?
3. How long did this system last?

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

Ian McMahon

Postcards

14 January 1999
(\$1) Australia Citizenship
Maximum card

Addenda: The actual issue date of the Barossa
Valley Card was 12 October 1998.

14 January 1999
(\$1) Chinese New Year
Year of the Rabbit

1 October 1998 Planet Earth
(\$1) Southern Right Whale
(\$1) Bottlenosed Dolphin
(\$1) Weedy Seahorse
(\$1) Fiery Squid
(\$1) Manta Ray
(\$1) White Pointer Shark

Envelopes

26 September 1998 Adelaide Crows' victory
in the AFL. DL
Aboriginal Art envelope
overprinted.
Adelaide Crows

Maximum cards (-)
(-) Southern Right Whale
(-) Bottlenosed Dolphin
(-) Weedy Seahorse
(-) Fiery Squid
(-) Manta Ray
(-) White Pointer Shark
(Set price: \$5.50)

(-) 1997 City Bridges
(55c) DL Sydney Harbour
Bridge

Note: The Sydney Harbour Bridge envelope was
first issued as a window envelope. This reprint is a
normal DL envelope. Does anyone know the
background to this issue?

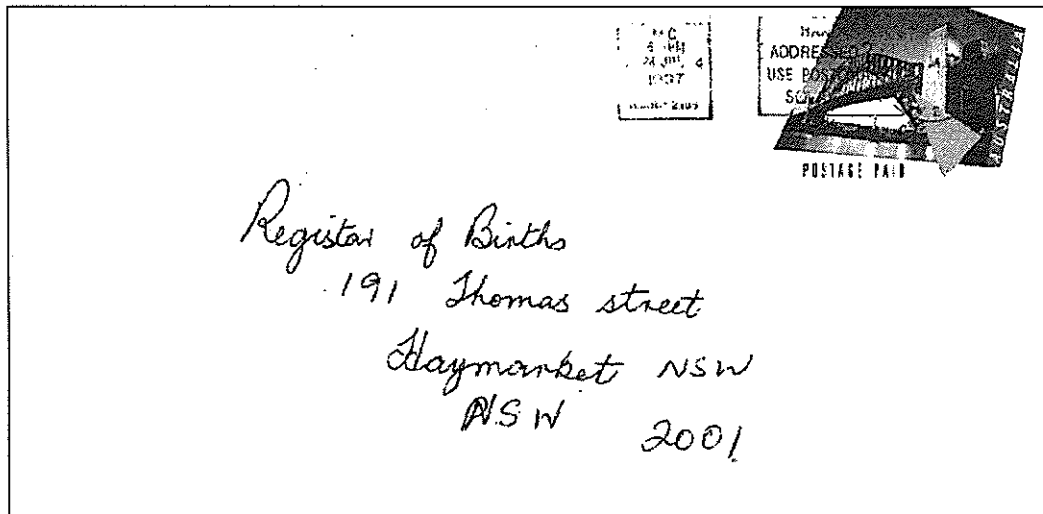
22 October 1998 United Nations Universal
Declaration
(\$1) Maximum card

14 January 1999 Chinese New Year
(55c) DL Internal
(\$1.35) DL International

2 November 1998 Christmas
Maximum cards (-)
(-) Nativity Scene
(-) Three Kings
(-) Mary and Joseph

Aerogrammes

2 November 1998 Christmas
(75c) Star of Bethlehem



February 1999

LITERATURE

Ian McMahon

From our contemporaries

Australasian Stamps (October 1998) includes an article by Richard Breckon on the *NSW Embossed Stationery of 1838*, the World's first postal stationery. The Congress Book 1998 (64th American philatelic Congress) has an article on *Chilean Postal Stationery: The French Connection*. The *NSW Philatelist* (September 1998) includes an article on *Pneumatic Posts of Paris* by Paul Storm with some good illustrations of some of the stationery while recent *Stanley Gibbons Stamp Monthly* includes articles on *Postal Stationery Matters* and *Henry Hechler* (who produced a range of bogus official overprints on Canadian stationery).

The contents of recent issues of postal stationery journals are given below:

Die Ganzsache 1-2/1998

- *Deutsches Reich 1921*
- *Reply Coupons of the Type Lausanne*
- *Swiss Change of Address Cards*
- *A double-printed Brazilian postcard*
- *New Issues*

- Specimen Type 36, 36A
- More Specimen Additions And Notes
- Specimen Forms And Specimen Codes
- An Unnecessary Confusion!
- Canadian Postal Stationery Pot Pourri
- Uncommon Aerogrammes
- An Israeli Booklet

PS

- *To advertise or Not to Advertise*
- *Postal Stationery Proxy Cards*
- *The Legal Background*
- *Aerogramatics*

AerogrammeR (November, 1998)

- Pictorial Aerogrammes Best Kept Secret & Design that Counts pt. 1 by Bill Mayo
- Uncommon Aerogrammes - Sierra Leone
- Aerogramme Bands & Wrappers - Part 5
- Caught in the 'Net' Austrian Aerogrammes
- Swiss & French aerogrammes
- Sir John Mason Manuscript Collection
- Formular Aerogrammes [Australian Private Issues Continued]
- British Antarctica aerogramme
- Cuba error aerogramme
- Norfolk Island Aerogrammes Pt.3

Postal Stationery

- New Discovery! Three Goldsmith Artist Essay Designs Reported
- An Interesting Foreign Destination
- The Great 'G-rate' Postal Card Saga
- S22 Card 'Held For Postage'
- More on S8 Plate Flaws and Paper Varieties
- The 1945 Revalued Air Mail Envelopes
- A small size No.1 Official envelope

New Books

Printed to Private Order Stationery Tasmania 1933 to 1974 by AE Orchard. Available from Magpie Publications PO Box 3427 Weston Creek ACT 2601 for \$25 (postpaid in Australia), \$28 (overseas surface mail). 90 pages softcover.

This book includes an extract from a ledger maintained in Hobart of client orders for stamping private stationery. A chronological list of orders is included with details of the date paid, the name and address of the applicant, the type of articles (ie envelopes, postcards etc), the quantity to be stamped, the stamp denomination and the date received from the printer.

In addition a listing of Tasmanian firms using PTPO stationery during the period is provided which lists firms included on the ledger and summaries the denominations and quantities of

stationery provided for stamping. Such users include the Hobart Savings Bank, J Walch and Sons, Davies Bros, Medhurst and Sons, H Jones and Roberts and Co. Illustrations of many of the items are also included.

This is the first time a register of this type has been extracted and the listing includes many users of PTPO stationery not mentioned in the various listings of PTPO stationery published in *PSC*. As such it gives us an insight into the sheer number of users of such stationery.

The introduction to the book includes useful notes on the embossing machine in the Hobart GPO, the regulations and charges for stamping private items to order, on identifying users, and rarity as well as references.

The author is to be commended on this work which adds considerably to the knowledge of these items. What is needed now is for similar ledgers to be located for other states!

Joan Orr has provided information on *Les Entiers Postaux à vue Congo Belge en Ruanda-Urundi* (The Prepaid Postcards of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi). Available from Dochez-Verkammen, Terkamerenpad 3, B-1800 Vilvoorde Belgium for BEF 840. In Flemish. Illustrates 222 views with the views described in Flemish, French, English and German.

LITERATURE ABOUT POSTAL STATIONERY

Judy Kennett

Reviews in *The London Philatelist*

Some members may be aware that we were approached to exchange our journal 'The Postal Stationery Collector' for *The London Philatelist*, and that we have been receiving copies regularly for two years. There are few articles in this journal about postal stationery, but it is an excellent source of literature reviews of publications on all aspects of philately. I have just finished examining the issues of 1998 for reviews of handbooks and catalogues on postal stationery, and this article is the result. The writers who produce these reviews are to be commended for endeavouring, wherever possible, to provide a source from which to obtain the books, and the price.

In the issue for January-February 1998 were reviews for two books. The first was 'Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Philately: Vol 1 Postage Stamps to 1935, including postal history and postcards', edited by D Sutcliffe and S Jarvis, published late 1997 and available from the British West Indies Study Circle. This is Volume 1 of a proposed 11-volume Encyclopaedia, which is to be issued over time, in loose-leaf format. There is no indication whether the postcards were treated in this volume.

The second book reviewed was 'Les Entiers Postaux de France et de Monaco (The Postal Stationery of France and Monaco)' by Dr J Storch and R Francon, 6th ed, 1997 and available from the publishers in Paris. The reviewer describes the book as 'for a long time renowned as the most useful work covering French, and now Monaco also, postal stationery'. He notes that the valuations given are generally those for perfect items that collectors would sell for when dealing with other collectors, and that this approach has been much appreciated. He

comments also on the range of material covered by the publication, which includes postal stationery from the World Wars and respective occupation periods, and a section on material which links to the world of Cinderella items. The catalogue is highly commended.

In the issue for March 1998 was a review of 'Catalogue of North Korean postal stationery 1947-1961' by G C G Todd, no date given, available from the publishers in the UK. It is apparently a record of items seen by the author in many years as a stamp and postal history dealer. North Korean postal stationery is described as 'very rare', and the prices given apparently underline this fact. The treatment and the illustrations are praised, and the author is congratulated on publishing a book on such an unknown material from such a remote country. We are told that a 'collection' of fifty items of North Korean postal stationery is considered 'exceptional'!

An article in the issue for September 1998 dealt with LORCA: World Literature Exhibition, held in Granada Spain on 5-11 June 1998. The reviewer had been particularly involved with judging the media exhibits, and was very impressed by 'Postal Stationery of Chile 1871-1996' by Ross Towle, which was presented to the jury in CDROM format. He described it as extremely easy to use; it answered questions put to it in both pictures and text. It was considered a model of its kind, and was awarded a Gold medal plus special prize. No information was provided in the article about the availability of the catalogue, or the price!

A review of 'British India Postal Stationery' by Derek Lang was included in the October 1998 issue. It is available from the Stuart Rossiter Trust in the UK, which has a wide-ranging publishing program in philatelic topics. The reviewer comments that this is 'a shining example of how a potentially dull topic can be made exciting', and forecasts that it will prove to be an excellent specialised catalogue. He gave it a glowing report on four aspects – presentation, content, research and knowledge.

Members are welcome to contact me if they want further information from these reviews. Some of the books will be difficult to obtain in Australia, so we then become involved with writing overseas and with the pain of dealing with other currencies. An enquiry to Vera Trinder Ltd is often worthwhile, for her organisation ferrets out some of the most obscure philatelic publications imaginable! Contact details are Vera Trinder Ltd 38 Bedford Street London WC2E 9EU UNITED KINGDOM Tel: +44 171 836 2366 (Ansa-phone) Fax: +44 171 836 0873. Alternatively, contact our member Derek Brennan at: C/o Post Office Tucabia NSW 2462 Tel: (02) 6644 8066 (evenings only).

New Romanian postal stationery catalogue

I have news from the 'grapevine' that a handbook on Romanian postal stationery has been published in the country. At this time, I have no further information, but will be writing to a contact there to find out more about the publication. A specialized handbook will be welcomed by collectors of Romanian postal stationery. Previously the main sources of information have been *Priced Catalogue Of Postal Stationery Of The World*, published by Higgins & Gage, *Ganzsachen-Katalog Europa Ost* (Postal Stationery Catalogue Eastern Europe) published by Michel and *Grosser Ganzsachen Katalog* (literally Great Postal Stationery Catalogue) by Dr Ascher. For more information about the latter, see my review in Issue No 6 August 1996 of *PSC*.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Meeting at Australia 99

Ian has reminded us elsewhere in the journal that the Society will be meeting at Australia 99, the World Philatelic Specialised Exhibition that will be held in Melbourne from 19-24 March 1999. We are to gather at 10 am on Sunday 21 March 1999 in Meeting Room 3 at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre. There will be a short business session as well as a display and discussion about the Australian States Catalogue Project. Members are urged to attend, and visitors are most welcome. We look forward to making contact with postal stationery collectors from both Australia and overseas, who are visiting Melbourne for this important Exhibition.

Features of Australia 99

Postal Stationery is one of the classes being offered at Australia 99. I talked with John Macdonnell, the Secretary of the Exhibition, about the class, and he told me that sixty-six exhibits have been accepted, making a total of four hundred and twenty-six frames (16-sheet frames). The first exhibit in the island devoted to postal stationery is a Court of Honour display from Dr Alan Huggins, the international postal stationery judge and eminent collector, and the author of the handbook on UK postal stationery. Dr Huggins will be attending Australia 99, and will be conducting an FIP Postal Stationery seminar, which will be held from 10am – 1pm on Tuesday 23 March 1999, in Meeting Rooms 2 and 3. This promises to be an event well worth attending by anyone with an interest in postal stationery.

Reminder about 1999 subscriptions

Just a reminder that subscriptions for 1999 are due with Treasurer John Crowsley. The rates for this year are: Australian members - \$25; New Zealand members - \$30 and overseas (UK, Europe and USA) - \$40. All subscriptions are payable in Australian currency.

Articles in current journals

In the January 1999 issue of 'Stamp News', Ray Chapman discusses some items of Australian postal stationery which gained places in 'The Chapman Collection'. These were selected issues of newspaper wrappers, the prepaid embossed lettersheets and envelopes of NSW issued in 1838, and selected early Commonwealth postal cards.

Updating member's contact information

Please send any changes in your contact information (address, telephone numbers, or fax numbers) to the Society, either to the Treasurer when you send your subscription renewal, or directly to me. There have been many changes in telephone numbers in Australia during 1997-98, and not all of them are immediately obvious. So please let us know of any changes resulting from the addition of the eighth digit. You can write to me at PO Box 40, Jamison ACT 2614 AUSTRALIA, OR telephone (02) 6251-6997 OR send a fax message to INT+ 61 2 6251-1387. Don't forget to let us know your email address. (We understand that some members may prefer not to advertise work email addresses.

NEW ISSUES

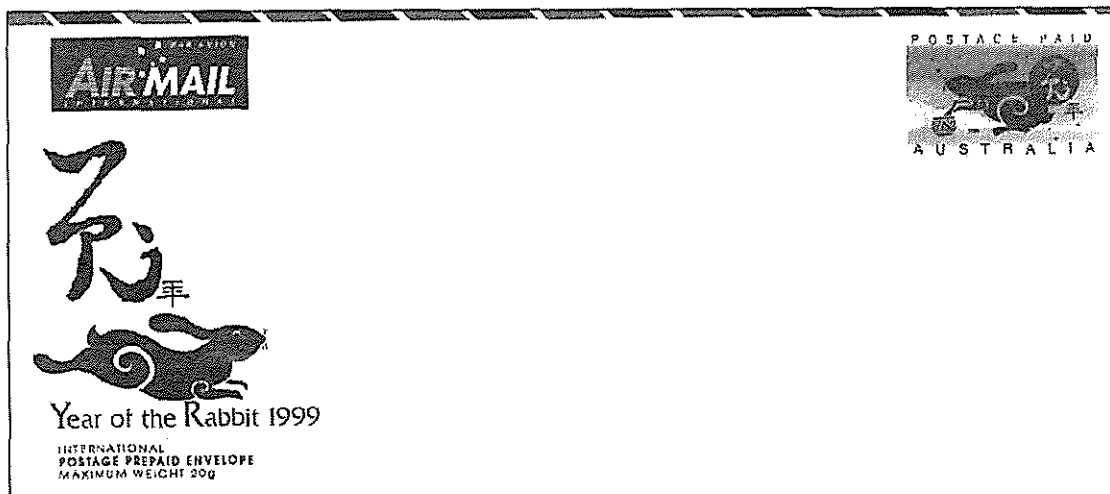
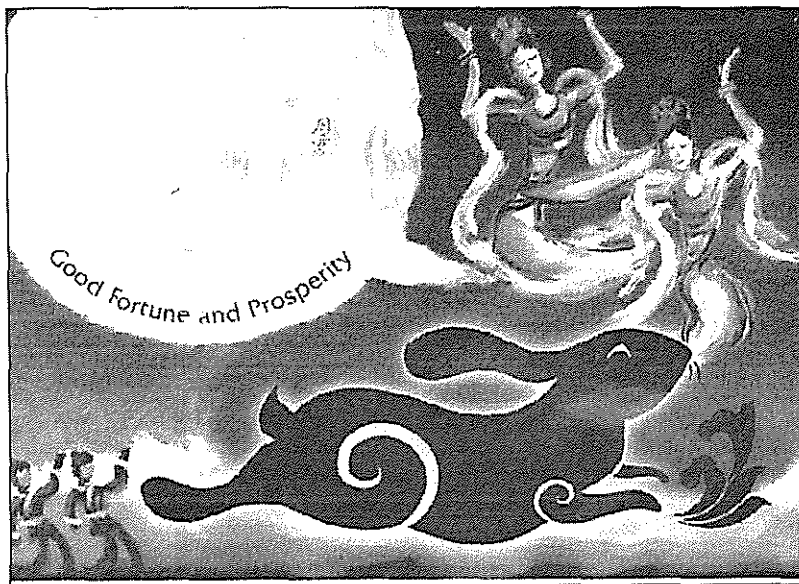
AUSTRALIA

Barossa Valley Postcard

Martin Walker has provided details of the Barossa Valley postcard (see front cover). The card was issued on 12 October 1998. The reverse of the card depicts vines with winery buildings in the background as well as a stamp inset of the 45c Vineyard Regions (Barossa Valley) adhesive stamp. The card was organised by the postmaster at Nuriootpa PO, and the photograph was supplied by Shane Whenan, the postmaster's son.

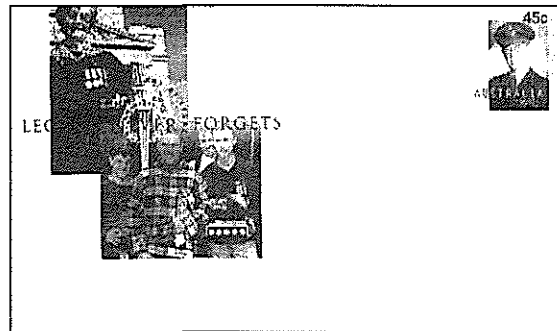
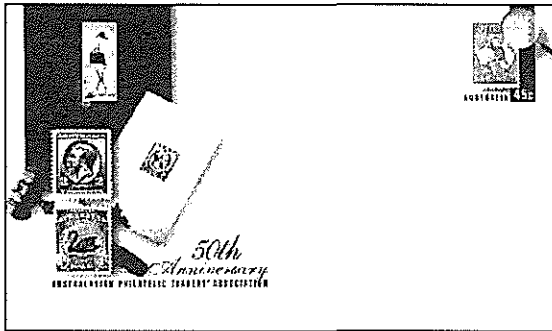
Chinese New Year

In what now seem to have become a tradition, Australia Post issued a pre-paid postcard, a DL stamped envelope and a DL international pre-paid envelope on 14 January to mark the Chinese New Year, the year of the rabbit. The design of the stationery matches the adhesive stamps issued by Australia Post for Christmas Island.



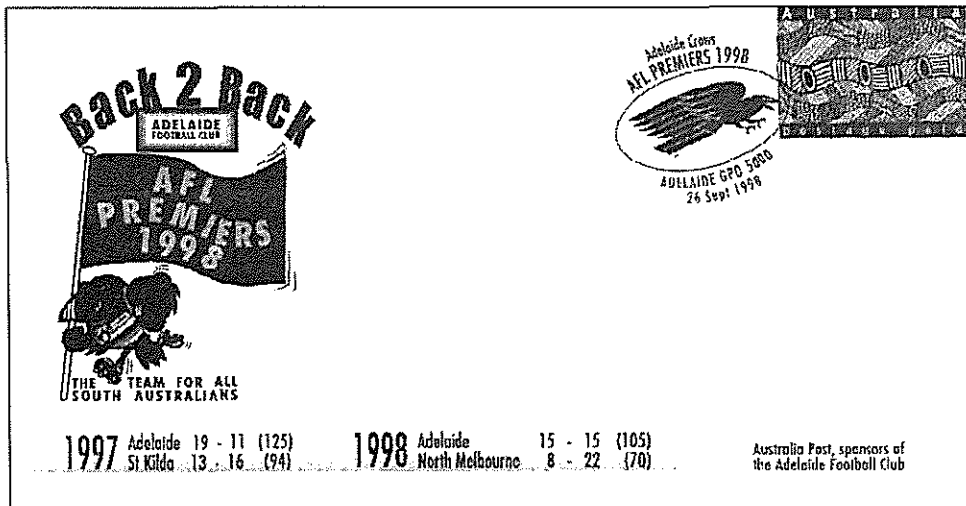
New PSEs

A stamped envelope was issued on 8 October 1998 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Australasian Philatelic Trader's Association (until recently known as the Australasian Stamp Dealer's Association). The 45c envelope has an attractive design depicting a 2/- 1913 Kangaroo and Map stamp, the Commonwealth of Australia's first adhesive postage stamp issue. Another envelope was issued on 24 September 1998 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Legacy, an organisation that provides support for veterans' dependants.



Advice on the Crows and Leunig

Martin Walker provides further details on the Crows overprinted envelopes released by the South Australian branch of Australia Post. They overprinted one of the aboriginal art definitive DL stamped envelopes to commemorate the victory of the Adelaide Crows in the Australian Football League. He advises that of the 1997 PSE overprint, 50,000 were printed and 10,025 sold with the remainder destroyed. For the 1998 envelope 20,000 were planned to be overprinted. He also advised that Australia Post did a contra deal with The Age for the Leunig card! The Age got free post cards and Australia Post got free advertising.



Envelope reprints

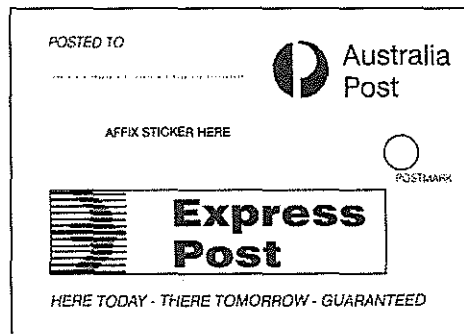
A quick inspection of my local Australia Post shop revealed the following Aboriginal Art and National Park envelope reprints:

- C6 reprint 5
- DL Window reprint 3
- DL reprint 5
- DL international airmail reprint 3
- C5 reprint 4 (has reverted back to self adhesive rather than peel and stick)
- C4 reprint 3

Express Post Envelope

From 5 October new prices came into force for the Express Post envelopes: C5 \$3.20 B4 \$4.20.

Kevin Simkus reports an Express Post self adhesive label from a post office in Victoria. He advises that the white numbered tab from the prepaid envelope is affixed (roughly centre left) to the label which is date stamped adjacent on the right. The size is 105mm x75mm. The text is all in red.



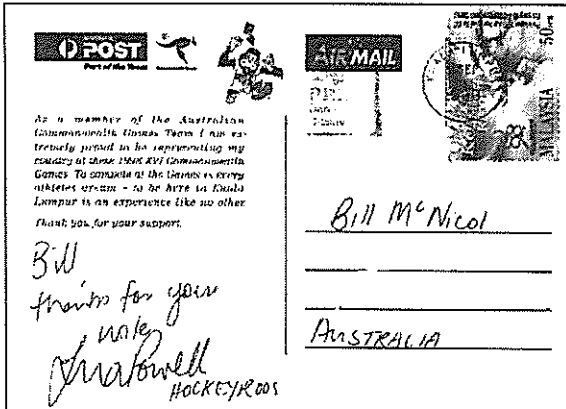
Bernie Beston provided details of an express post advertising campaign by Australia Post using the envelopes depicted below. Does anyone have copies?



Athletes Postcards

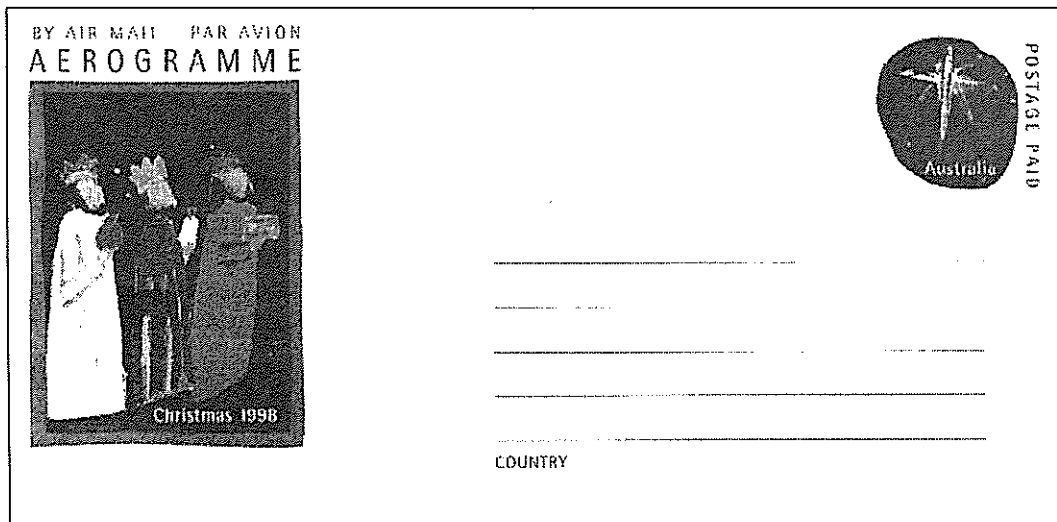
The next card in Australia Post's Athletes issues appeared shortly after the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur. The cards are not prepaid, but like the first 'Wily' card used in

Atlanta, these cards were provided to athletes to send messages back from Kuala Lumpur using Malaysian adhesives. The card (illustrated below) was sent by Lisa Powell and depicts the Commonwealth Games Team's logo on the reverse. Has anyone seen any additional pre-paid cards?



Christmas Aerogramme

Australia issued its annual Christmas aerogramme designed by Ken Done on 2 November 1998. The aerogramme depicts a star in the stamp area and three kings in a cachet on the left. It is inscribed 'postage paid' and sells for 75c.

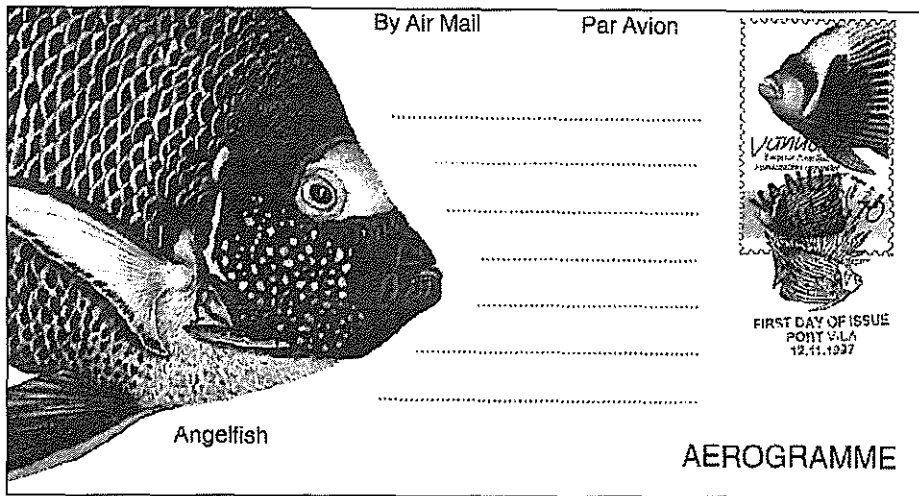


New Zealand

On 7 October 1998 New Zealand issued a set of seven postal cards depicting marine life, sold as a set for \$10.60. Eagle Ray, Yellowfin Tuna, Moonfish, Giant Squid, Mako Shark, Striped Marlin, Sandager's Wrasse, Porcupine Fish.

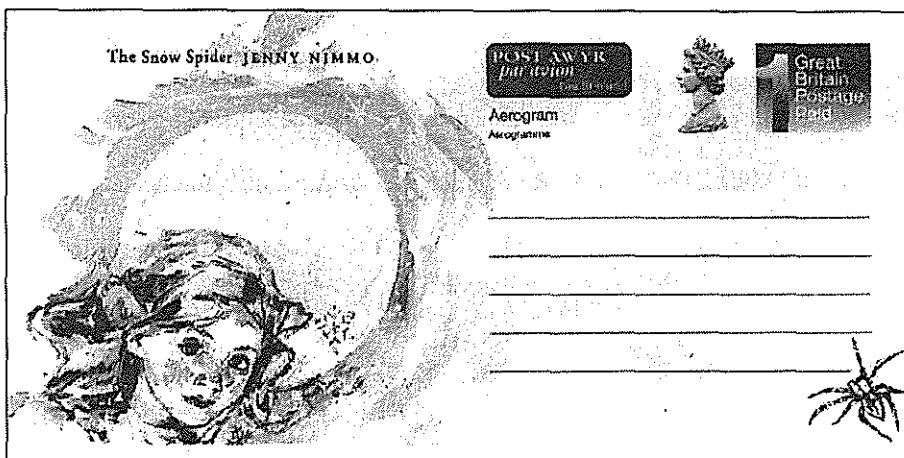
Vanuatu

Vanuatu issued an aerogramme depicting the Emperor Angelfish on 12 November 1997.



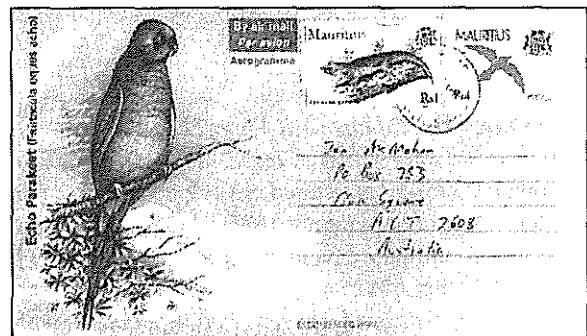
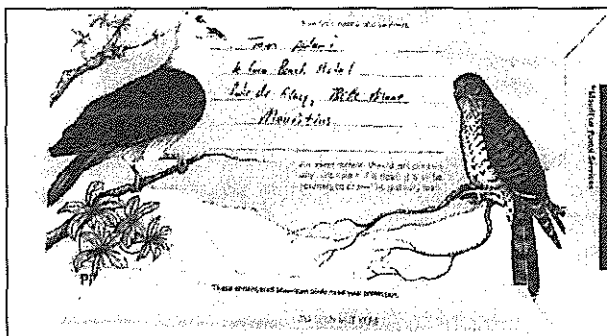
United Kingdom

The United Kingdom has issued a set of aerogrammes depicting children's stories including the *Snow Spider*, *Northern Lights* and *the Boggart*. The Snow spider aerogramme is inscribed in English and Welsh.



Mauritius

Tom Adami was recently fortunate enough to visit Mauritius from where he sent the aerogramme depicted below. The 4 rupees aerogramme has an error obliterated on the one of the flaps.



POSTAL STATIONERY AUCTION REVIEW

Tom Adami

Robin Linke

181 Jersey Street Wembley WA 6014 Tel: +61 8 9387 5327 E-mail: linke@inf.net.au

Closed - Monday, 20 July 1998

- 1008 - 1941 Air Mail letter card AIF field PO / No. 17 [Seremban] with h/s 'Postage Paid 12cents / Johore' in red AIF 'passed by censor' boxed h/s. Est - \$250 sold for \$420
- 1190 - 1911 1d + 1d reply lettercard Giant red gum Vic., Queen's Gardens Perth, rouletted purple and cream L4 Est - \$100 sold for \$95
- 1206 - 1918 "Three half pence" lettercard on 1d purple brown "Sydney Harbour / NSW" CTO Melbourne L15 Est - \$175 sold for \$170
- 1211 - 1923 Lettercard "three half pence" on 2d red 'Zoo Adelaide' [flamingos] Est - \$225 sold for \$220
- 1248 - Wrapper 1942 1 1/2 d green KGVI unfolded [rare] Est - \$200 sold for \$240
- 1252 - Wrapper C1938 2d red KGVI + 1d green QM printed to private order wrapper. Melbourne 26 cds to WA [27/10/38]. A rare doublet used by pharmaceutical company to send small boxes of samples to medical doctors. Est - \$200 sold for \$270
- 1255 - 1944 airletter / aerogramme 7d KGVI blue on yellow fine folded. Est - \$130 sold for \$135
- 1459 - Western Australia 1902 lettercard 1d red swan on greenish grey stock [1d rate incorrect and withdrawn after a few months] fine and rare. Est - \$800 sold for \$750

Macray Watson Auctions

PO Box 211 Fitzroy Victoria 3065 Tel: +61 3 9419 5342

Closed - Tuesday, 11 August 1998

- 84 - WWI & WWII POW mail from GB [include 2 1/2d POW aerogramme] Germany, Canada, USA, France, Belgium and Russia. Noted two different Russian zone postal cards [one to Middle East] [37 items] Est - \$200 sold for \$280
- 328 - 1944 [Sep 11] 7d 'AIR LETTER' with 'Re-opening Flight / Australia - England/...' opt in red #978 very fine Est - \$200 did not sell.
- 426 - 1919 4d 'Registered letter' & 'registered' only on reverse R8 [formerly RE6, not listed in H&G] with 1 1/2d red brown tied by Sydney cds of 17JA20 red regn label. Est - \$750 sold for \$850
- 465 - 1908 1 1/2 d postcard for visit of US fleet HG35 [only 2320 sold] Est - \$600 did not sell
- 550 - Victoria wrapper 1873[c.June] 1/2d on 1d essay for the overprint struck twice in red [the adopted colour] & once in black, folded once only. Est - \$180 sold for \$240
- 580 - Western Australia telegraph form c.1875 1/- pink complete form with [detached] counterfoil [unlisted by H&G or P&T] Est - \$250 sold for \$260
- 762 - Fiji formular aerogrammes used to NZ in 1954 7d HG FG1 commercially used [small fault] 3d FG2 & philatelically used [2] & 7d FG4 est \$80 sold for \$60

Premier Philatelic Auctions

PO Box 126 Belgrave Victoria 3160 Tel: +61 3 5968 3488

Postal Bid Sale No.20 Closed - 20 August 1998

- 14 - Canal Zone 'Balboa/MY4/2 2/1965/Canal Zone - Paquebot' machine on GB 6d aerogramme commercially used to Vic ex 'SS Oriana' Est \$5 sold for \$14
- 3188 - Australian Territories aerogramme used from Munda Airfield 'Munda/27JUL58 British Solomon Islands Est - \$25 sold for \$33

Camberwell Stamps

PO Box 1305 Camberwell Victoria 3124 Tel: +61 3 9882 6477

Postal Bid Sale No.10 Closed - 18 September 1998

- 160 - Victorian registered envelope 18..? four pence lilac Error of colour. Rated RRRR HG c6 mint Est \$400
- 163 - Victorian wrapper 1885 1d green with Stamp duty o/p HG E10 Rated RR mint Est - \$65
- 541 1916 military envelope with printed 1d red 9 printed lines of text 8th line reads Australian Imperial Force HG 1B3 Est - \$125
- 543 1906 telegram form sent from Spencer St with boxed Melbourne hs to Bendigo with fair strike of Telegraph Office Bendigo [30 Jan 1906] est - \$25