

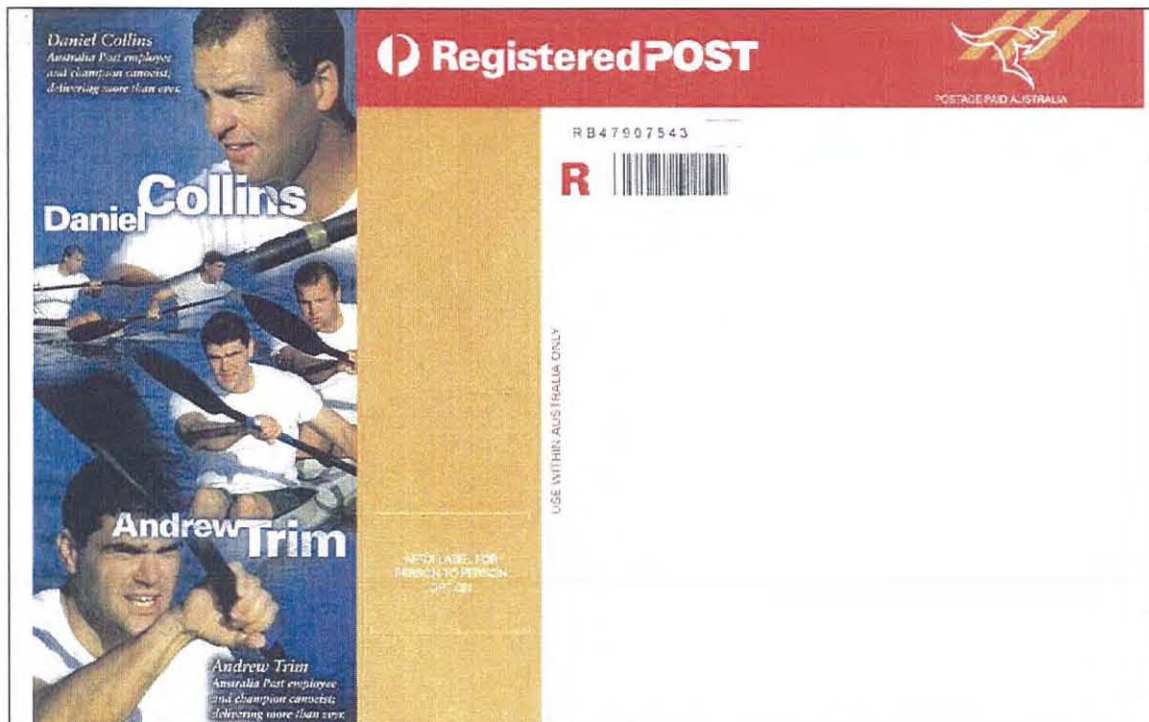
POSTAL STATIONERY

COLLECTOR

Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia

Volume 6 No 2: Issue No 22

August 2000



THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

The Postal Stationery Society of Australia has been established to encourage the collecting of postal stationery in Australia and New Zealand and to provide a forum for postal stationery collectors to maintain contact with other stationery collectors and to learn more about their hobby.

The Society is not based in any particular city or state and plans to hold meetings at national and state level exhibitions. Subscription rate for 1999 has been set at \$25 (Australia) and \$40 (Overseas excluding New Zealand which is \$30). For further information please contact the Convenor, Secretary or your State Coordinator. Membership enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary.

OFFICE BEARERS:

CONVENOR: Ian McMahon, PO Box 783, Civic Square ACT 2608
SECRETARY Judy Kennett, PO Box 40, Jamison ACT 2614
TREASURER John Crowsley, PO Box 2124, Ascot QLD 4007

STATE COORDINATORS

QLD Bernie Beston, PO Box 26, Redcliffe Qld 4020
SA Martin Walker, PO Box 247, Torrensville Plaza, SA 5031
WA Ray Todd, PO Box 158, Dunsborough, WA 6281
NSW Bernie Doherty, PO Box 18, Waratah NSW
TAS Malcolm Groom, 225 Warwick Street, West Hobart Tas
VIC John Sinfield, PO Box 6246 St Kilda Rd Central Vic 3004
ACT Ian McMahon, PO Box 783, Civic Square ACT 2608
NZ (North) Barry Scott, 123 Konini Rd, Titirangi, New Zealand
NZ (South) Robert Samuel, PO Box 394, Christchurch, New Zealand

Web page: <http://www.canberra.starway.net.au/~philatelic/pss.html>

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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FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of *PSC* contains the completion of John Sinfield's survey of the development of Commonwealth postcards from the issues of the Australian States, the next part of Martin Walker's article on Australia Post's unstamped postcards and further work from Bernie Beston on Queensland stationery. We welcome, for the first time, Gary Watson who has written an article on British stationery.

London Stampshow 2000

London Stampshow 2000 had a strong stationery class including over 30 exhibits with a wide range of material. The expected displays of British and British Commonwealth stationery were present ranging from Iain Stevenson's exhibit of UK Queen Victoria stationery to Kud Kimmel's Ceylon and Dingle Smith's Jamaica. In addition, however, there were many exhibits of European and Asian material. PSSA member, Steve Schumann, exhibited New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876 - 1936.

Australians who participated and their results are:

Eustis, Nelson	South Australian Postal Stationery	Gold
Sinfield, John	Australia : Forty Years Of Envelopes	Gold
Smith, Dingle	The Postal Stationery Of Jamaica	Large Vermeil

Giveaways

Each financial member should receive with this issue a free postal stationery item courtesy of Asia Pacific Philatelic Development Pty Ltd. Further free gifts are expected in future issues.

VICTORIA 2000 or GASC REVISITED

Don't forget *VICTORIA 2000* will be held at Melbourne Park [National Tennis Centre] from 20-22 October 2000 and will include a National Postal Stationery Class.

This will be the only opportunity to exhibit National Class Postal Stationery in Australia before October 2001. It is hoped that Postal Stationery collectors will avail themselves of this chance to exhibit this year.

Copies of the prospectus and entry form can be obtained from the Secretary, Victorian Philatelic Council, GPO Box 9800, Melbourne, Vic 3001, or contact John MacDonnell by e-mail at JohnMacDonnell@Bigpond.com for e-mailed copies. Entries close 31 August 2000. Please note that 15-sheet frames will be used at *VICTORIA 2000*. Frame fees are set at \$20 per frame.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Australia States Postal Stationery Catalogue

I have previously resisted the urge to become involved in the great debate about the projected catalogue of the Postal Stationery of the Australian Colonies. However, my resistance is down so I offer the following comments in the hope that they may prove useful.

Recently I have acquired a number of one-country postal stationery "catalogues" that make tired old *Higgins & Gage*, with its senseless prefixes and regrettable inconsistencies look like the most user-friendly work of them all.

In each of these modern cases, the authors have been more interested in proving how complicated their subjects are, or how obtuse they themselves can be, than in providing the occasional reader with a valuable, user-friendly resource. And in each case, the problems of the cataloguing are compounded by too much information.

From my perspective as a dealer, what I want is a catalogue that gives me the most pertinent facts in a concise and precise manner. I may be impressed by the lifetime of research that has gone into the study but I don't want to get bogged down in the minutiae of the subject. And the broader the field, the less research notes and background information the better.

A catalogue should be designed as a reference tool, not as an academic treatise. The purpose of a catalogue should be to list material (and preferably value it), not to win a gold medal. Those who contribute to or edit such works must always be conscious of the needs of their (widest possible) prospective audience and must strive to eliminate self-indulgence.

It's not a matter of being superficial. Rather it's a matter of being relevant. A catalogue listing does not need to be supported by reams of research notes to be relevant. The inclusion of such extraneous matter will render a catalogue cumbersome, and inevitably expensive. It will also deter the serious student from publishing the in-depth reference work and being appropriate, with felicitations.

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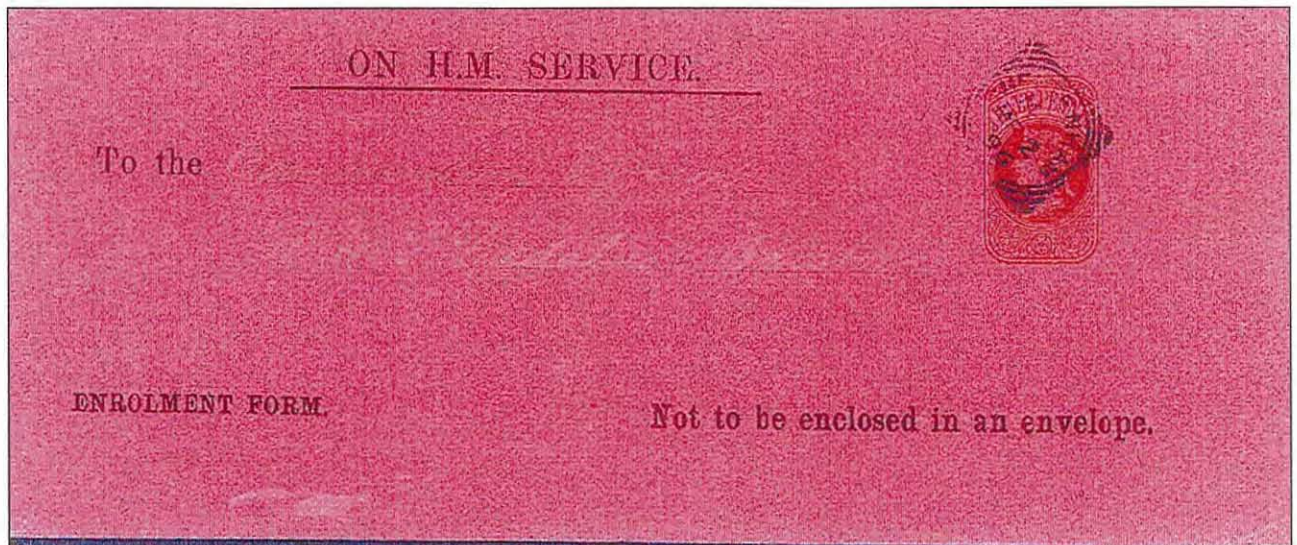
"THEY MUST BE IN HERE SOMEWHERE"

Gary Watson

Anyone who has attempted to locate non-standard items in the *Higgins & Gage* listing for Great Britain will appreciate how challenging a task it can be. A recent "find" demonstrates the point.

I had taken the time to view a small postal auction in Melbourne. This was a fortunate circumstance, as the rather unpromising catalogue description of a group of GB stationery would not have caused me to place a bid. However, I chanced to peep inside the lot envelope and was struck by a veritable rainbow of colour. Within were halfpenny lettersheets on six different coloured stocks. My immediate reaction was a comparison with the preposterous variety of Tasmanian Envelopes produced to the order of German stamp dealers late last century.

But these were clearly birds of a different feather. What now lie before me were six lettersheets of a type I had never seen in my 20 years of trading. All bore a ½d brown Queen Victoria stamp of the type more usually found on newspaper wrappers. And all were headed 'ON H. M. SERVICE'.



Each lettersheet bore a single line of instruction at the base of the address panel. On four of the six this read "ENROLMENT FORM. Not to be fastened, sealed, or enclosed in an envelope." On the remaining two the advice was "...Not to be enclosed in an envelope."

This latter duo were inscribed on another section 'Seal here' and this instruction had been dutifully followed, one of the two having never been unsealed.

I had absorbed enough to know that I should acquire the lot. Not having seen such emissions before, I submitted a healthy bid and hoped another bidder would not exceed my limit. It wasn't, and the lot duly arrived in the mail.

Now the fun began. Exactly what did we have here? I reached for my well-thumbed copy of *Higgins & Gage*, flipped to Great Britain and located Section K: Printed to Private Order.

My reasoning was that the stamp impressions were the same as those applied to forms such as would have been submitted by commercial users and they should thus properly be listed as

PTPO items. (Note that there is no 'OS' or similar device incorporated in or overprinted on the stamp design.)

I now roamed far and wide through the extensive PTPO section but, although the ½d stamp was illustrated under the sub-heading "Wrappers", nowhere did I encounter lettersheets.

However, under the sub-heading "Envelopes", was this statement: "The listing will include ALL embossed PTPO paper except those [*sic*] on thick card stock ... As the government [*sic*] printed only unfolded sheets they were used for all sorts of items to be cut and folded to form envelopes, newspaper wrappers, letter sheets, gummed labels, etc. They are listed as envelopes for convenience only."

The reader will doubtless share the frustration brought on from absorbing this ungrammatical and logically flawed pronouncement. What I had bought was undoubtedly lettersheets but *Higgins & Gage* wanted me to believe that they were really (or, to use a topical term, were "deemed" to be) envelopes!

But hang on: they weren't embossed. The ½d stamps were printed by letterpress. Consequently the lettersheets were excluded from the envelopes listing. As there is no *Higgins & Gage* listing for PTPO lettersheets, and as the ½d design is that employed for wrappers, perhaps my new acquisitions were to be treated as wrappers in lettersheets' clothing!

So back to the PTPO wrappers.

Now there was another challenge. Was the stamp impression Fig K-E2, used between 1872 and 1878, or K-E4, used between 1883 and 1901? Given that all my lettersheet/wrappers were used in 1896 I inclined towards the latter. But because the two illustrations in *Higgins & Gage* are to all intents and purposes the same, I lacked confidence in this conclusion.

What might have helped was the note appearing below Fig K-E2: "(with vertical lines in lower part of hair ribbon shading)". However, because all the lettersheets are postmarked, it is difficult to even see the hair ribbon, much less the shading thereon!

At this point I had a flash of inspiration. (I expect many readers have already anticipated my ah-hah moment.) Perhaps these apparently unwanted children had a home with the official issues, those emanating from government departments and their officers.

Now this shouldn't be the case because the cataloguing is supposed to be done by reference to the stamp impression and not to the other printing on the form. However, *Higgins & Gage* is nothing if not inconsistent. So off I went, to Section D - Official Issues. Lo and behold, all the stamp impressions were the same as for the PTPO issues. I felt like a bloodhound that had rediscovered the scent of a lost child.

When I came upon Sub-Section G, Letter Sheets, I knew there was light at the end of the tunnel. Here the forms were listed (in most cases) by reference to the department, or Ministry, of origin. All I had to do was determine the name of that department. Simple, except that there is no departmental designation on the lettersheets. However, all of them are addressed to the captain of the naval land station, *HMS Daedalus*, at Bristol. And all of them relate to sailors. At this point it was helpful to know that in Great Britain what we might call the Department of the Navy is, in fact, the Admiralty.

Eureka! Under a sub-heading 'Admiralty/Army' I encountered the following:

Various enrolment [sic] forms for different branches of services:

- AExecutive and Navigating [Class]
- BSick Berth [Class], and Miscellaneous
- CEngine Room [Class]
- DMarines
- EArtificer [Class]
- FCoast Guard

(I've added in the word "class" wherever that actually appears. I didn't know what an "artificer" was so I reached for my dictionary. Trust the bureaucrats to use such a word when "craftsman" would have sufficed.)

There was then an entry dated 1894 listing the following:

- 18. ½d brown on white (A)
- 19. same on blue (B)
- 20. same on yellow green (C)
 - a. same on blue green (C)
- 21. same on yellow (D)
- 22. same on dark pink (E)
- 23. same on pink (F)

Now I assembled the lettersheets in this same colour order, opened them out, and discovered that they conformed to this catalogue listing. Finally, I knew that I had acquired examples of HG DG18 (actually on a pale buff stock), 19, 20, 20a, 22 and 23, the last unfortunately vandalised.

What made this discovery all the more satisfying was learning that each of these lettersheets is unpriced, being quoted simply as 'R(are)' in the used column.

You might think I should be well satisfied, but I allowed my eye to drift downwards to a similar "set" issued in 1901 with the ½d stamp now in blue-green. Oh, if only I had fluked these babies. Each of them is quoted as 'RRRR' in the used column.

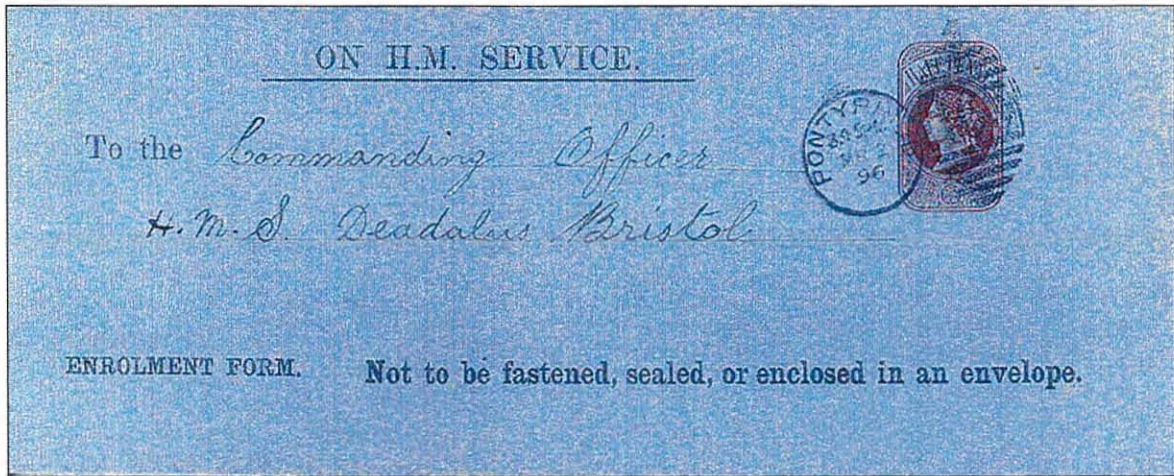
Anyway, I felt that the protracted search had been well worth the effort. I had confirmed my original assessment that these are highly desirable items.

I had also exposed a number of previously unseen deficiencies in the *Higgins & Gage* catalogue listing for Great Britain.

And what's the point of all this?

Glad am I in the confidence that the team working on the proposed catalogue of Australian Colonies Postal Stationery will strive to make their work more comprehensive, more accessible, and far more user-friendly than this Anglo-American relic.

Postal Stationery Collector



Engine Room Class. Pension or *1000 P.*
A.G. 11. Establishment No.

Surname *John*
Christian Name *William*

The particulars required to be inserted in this Form are to correspond with the similar information you furnish on the back of your Life Certificate.

At the time you forward your Life Certificate to the Admiralty, you are to detach this sheet and forward the same to the District Office where you state to be most convenient to your place of residence. Care is to be taken that it is properly addressed to the District Office in the space provided on the back hereof. His title and address are shown below and on the back of the Life Certificate.

This sheet is not to be enclosed in an envelope, and is to be merely folded and fastened as provided when addressed, and, being stamped, will not require any additional payment of postage.

Rank or Rating	Age last Birthday	Is your Rating for life or a temporary period?	Were you Possessed of long service or awarded for Merit?	State how many of the undermentioned District Offices you most convenient to your place of residence for you to attend to duty if required	If a Seaman, Gunner, or a Petty Officer, what was your former or temporary Rating?	Division to which you belong to be Seaman, Gunner, or Petty Officer?
<i>None</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Life</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

Signature *John William*

Address *111, High Street, Bristol*

Date *21* 189*6*

FOR SEAMEN.

District	District Office	District	District Office
London	Commanding Officer, R.S.M. Process, West India Dock	Swansea	Naval Barracks
West Coast Dock	Commanding Officer, R.S.M. Process, West India Dock	Dunfermline	Commodore-in-Chief, the services
Mersey River and Dock	Commanding Officer, R.S.M. Process, West India Dock	London	Commodore-in-Chief, the services
Bristol	Commanding Officer, R.S.M. Process, West India Dock	London	Commodore-in-Chief, the services
North Shields	Commanding Officer, R.S.M. Process, West India Dock	London	Commodore-in-Chief, the services
London	Commanding Officer, R.S.M. Process, West India Dock	London	Commodore-in-Chief, the services
London	Commanding Officer, R.S.M. Process, West India Dock	London	Commodore-in-Chief, the services
London	Commanding Officer, R.S.M. Process, West India Dock	London	Commodore-in-Chief, the services
London	Commanding Officer, R.S.M. Process, West India Dock	London	Commodore-in-Chief, the services
London	Commanding Officer, R.S.M. Process, West India Dock	London	Commodore-in-Chief, the services

Contributions to the next issue of the Journal close with the editor on 29 September 2000.

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

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QUEENSLAND 1910 POSTAL CARDS

Bernie Beston

In 1998, I received a request from an English Dealer to comment on the likely dates of issue of two variants of a Queensland Postal Card, and the relative scarcity of both items. When asked to respond to a question, it is remarkable how the human mind finds the time, and the scholarship, to respond. Respond, when such response or debate has never really occurred before.

The 1901-1915 Commonwealth stationery period is undoubtedly the most fascinating of all Australian philately. Here we have the issues of six postal authorities, each issuing their own stamps and stationery, coexisting with a National (or should that be Federal) postal regime.

Yet, very little has been written about this early period with respect to the use of stationery and its continuous need and requirement. Material is not always plentiful, but it is about. John Sinfield has delved into the Federal arena, but little is reported, except in Higgins and Gage and other early catalogues, on the state issues. I hope this article will encourage others to write about specific cards of the other states and to comment on the cards in this short article.

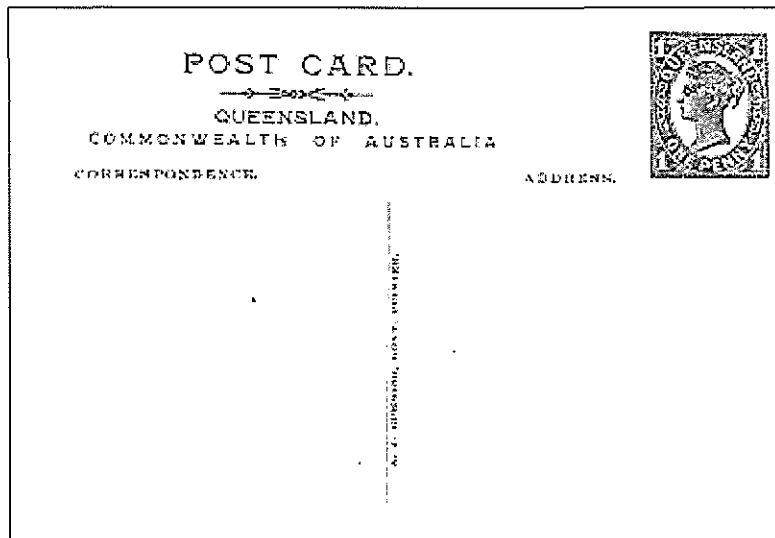


Figure 1

In 1910 the Queensland Postal Department issued a series of one penny postal cards with black and white views on the reverse. A total of 33 different views have been recorded (*PSC* May 2000). Collas proffered that these were issued at least as early as October or November 1910 (H&G19a). The volume of such cards on the market, either mint or used is small. The total quantity of cards discovered ranges from two cards of some views, to a minimum of fifty cards for other views. Again, Collas proffers the point, that they were unpopular because "the space provided for the written communication was wholly inadequate". One wonders as to the correctness of that opinion when it is considered that these cards offered no less a space for writing than that offered by picture postcards of which millions were sent around the World and which were highly popular.

The scenes on these cards were no less popular than the Tourist and Intelligence cards which received widespread usage and ran to well over five hundred different views. Ernie Goleby is currently working on a manuscript to upgrade our knowledge of these.

Postal Stationery Collector

In any event three new cards were produced in 1910. Higgins and Gage recorded them as follows:

1910	17 with address
1911	18 without address
1911	19 with imprint

It is interesting to note that Higgins and Gage recorded the view cards as issued in 1911. On the evidence of examples seen, this is clearly not correct. The range of usage dates seen by me ranges from 1910 to 1913. Collas stated that neither he nor Carl Steig had seen a copy of H&G19 (Figure 1). It is possible that this card is either an essay or one of the view cards which had escaped the printing of the view. In either case, it is the scarcest of all the 1910 cards.

Collas does however record H&G 18 (Figure 2), but lists its date of issue (based on a postmarked copy) at least by December, 1910. Type 18 cards are on a cream stock. The thickness of the card varies from 0.24 mm to 0.33 mm and the length of the card varies from 135 mm to 140 mm. The Queensland National Bank Limited used these cards extensively in their branch network. The wide postmarked usage (Gatton, Brisbane, Allora, Ipswich, Charters Towers) indicates a substantial printing of this card. One of the cards is known with an added halfpence George V stamp to uprate the card to the foreign penny halfpenny rate. As the Commonwealth did not issue a penny halfpenny card until 1920, it is doubtful if these were officially sold thus. All examples of the penny card, except the substantial volume used by the bank, are dated December, 1910.

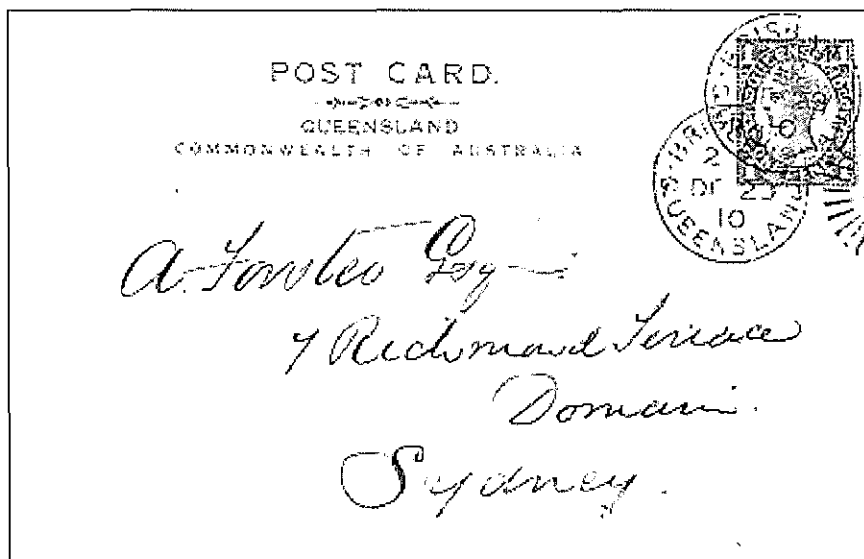


Figure 2

With respect to H&G17 (Figure 3), Collas repeats the error of Higgins and Gage by recording the date of issue as 1911. Collas divided the cards into three different types. He recorded these as:

- the "A" of "ADDRESS" is below the space between the "o" and "f" of "of" in the expression "Commonwealth of Australia".
- the "A" of "ADDRESS" is below the "f" of "of".
- shows the "A" of "ADDRESS" below the "o" of "of"

In addition to these variants, it should be noted that the space between the word "Address"

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and the words "Commonwealth of Australia" vary from between 3.5mm to 6.5 mm. The cards with the earlier postmarks (viz 1910) received the narrower settings (3.5 - 4.5 mm) and the later dated cards 1911 to 1912 recorded the wider settings (4 - 6.5 mm). Similarly, I have noticed that the 1910 card has a thickness ranging from 0.27 - 0.30 mm, whereas those cards used from 1911 to 1912 vary between 0.36mm and 0.41mm.

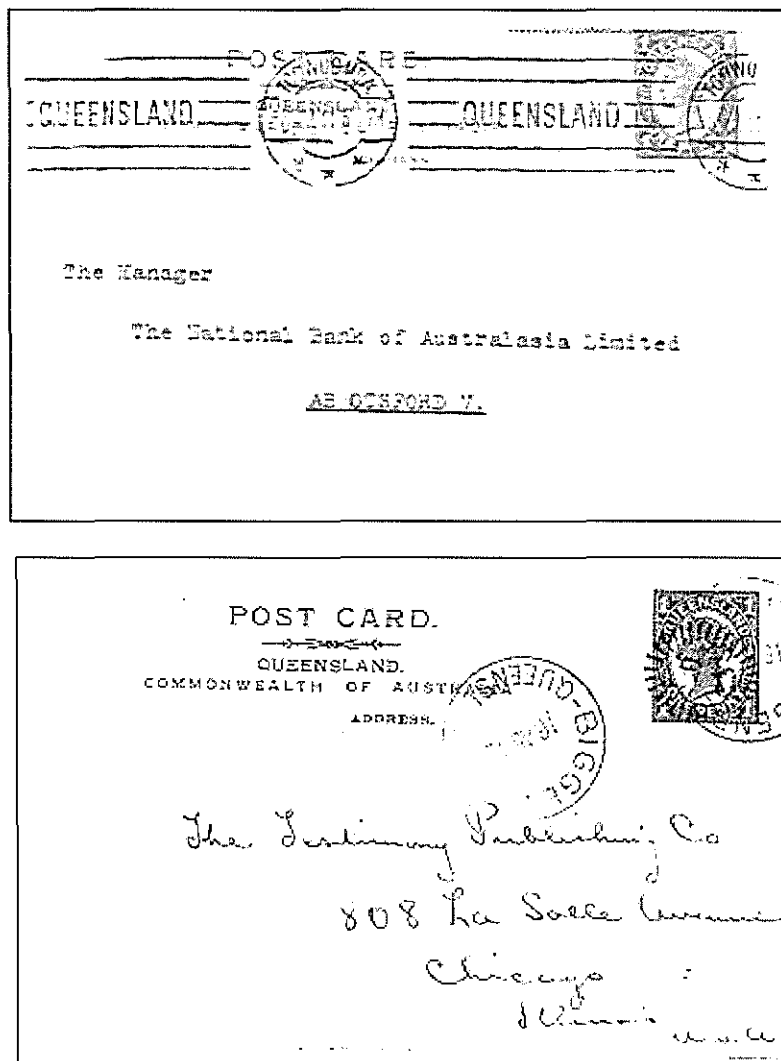


Figure 3

Cards of types (a) & (c) were found by Collas to have been printed on the reverse (privately) in Esperanto. Unless a separate printing was made for this purpose, the use of so many cards would have contributed to a shortage of the unoverprinted cards for public use. This may well account for their relative shortage.

I have an example of a thick card H & G 17, Collas type (a) uprated to penny halfpenny foreign rate to Germany, 20th August, 1910. Obviously, there was a need for a penny halfpenny card for a foreign use as the penny halfpenny rate had been introduced by the Commonwealth as early as 1 March, 1901. Whilst the view cards of 1910 either proved unpopular or unprofitable or were discontinued for political or unknown reasons, there is no doubt that there did exist a demand for foreign rate penny halfpenny cards.

It is interesting that both types of thick and thin card are recorded for types (a) & (b). The Commonwealth Postal Rates were standardised across Australia from 1 May, 1911. As the

first Commonwealth Cards were issued in this year, it is reasonable to presume that state administrations would only issue cards after 1910 in exceptional circumstances. H & G 17(b) is recorded used at Brisbane in 1912 with the stamp impression perforated "0.S".

One further card (Figure 4) may have been issued but only two mint copies have been recorded. It bears the words, in script: "The address only to be written on this side" underneath "Postcard". "Queensland - Commonwealth of Australia". Until a used copy is discovered, we can only assume this item to be a proof.

One further card was issued by the Postal Administration in 1910. Although similar to these cards, it was printed in the New South Wales card format and was printed in Sydney New South Wales by the New South Wales Government Printer. The word "Stamp" is printed where the stamp impression is then superimposed, this being performed by the Queensland Government Printer.

We know that Sydney printed a total of 75,000 cards, of which 26,000 were sent to Brisbane. Contrary to what Collas believed this card is quite common, even used. No doubt its issue, connected with such a unique and significant event as the visit of 16 American war ships at that time, plus the resultant publicity (and even the connection with similar or identical issues from all other states except Victoria) and of course its vivid colour, made it a popular and common purchase. Of course, the fact that it was once considered to be quite scarce, and its uniqueness may have pushed up the price. This in itself may have contributed to more supplies or stocks of the card coming onto the market than would otherwise have been the case. Non-collectors would have no qualms about destroying or discarding a creamy white card with no scene. This is not the case with a brightly coloured card commemorating a visit of a foreign war ship. I estimate that at least 100 copies have survived.

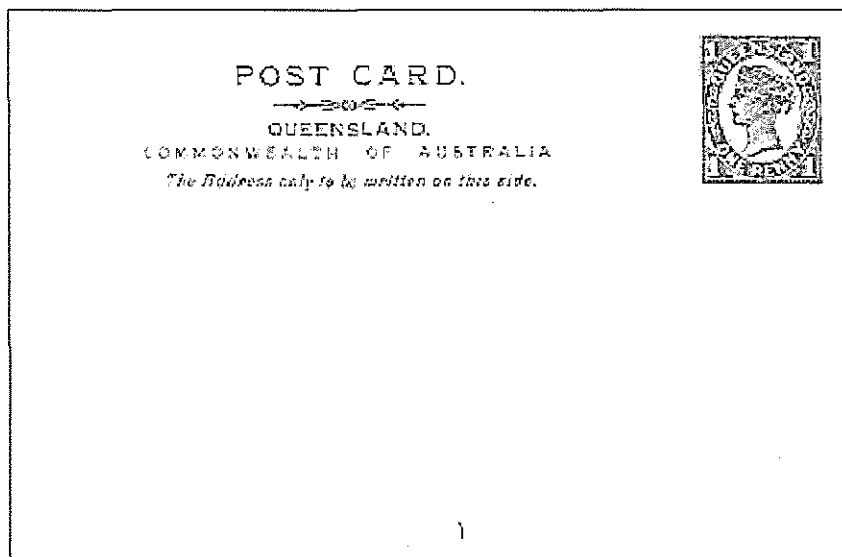


Figure 4

Also of interest are the reply cards shown in Figure 5. Although relatively common mint, these cards are difficult to find used. A PTPO card for Alfred Shaw and Co is shown in Figure 6. These cards are very scarce and this is the only copy known to me. The Official postcard shown in Figure 7 is perforated "OS" and was possibly printed for use by the Department of Public Lands.

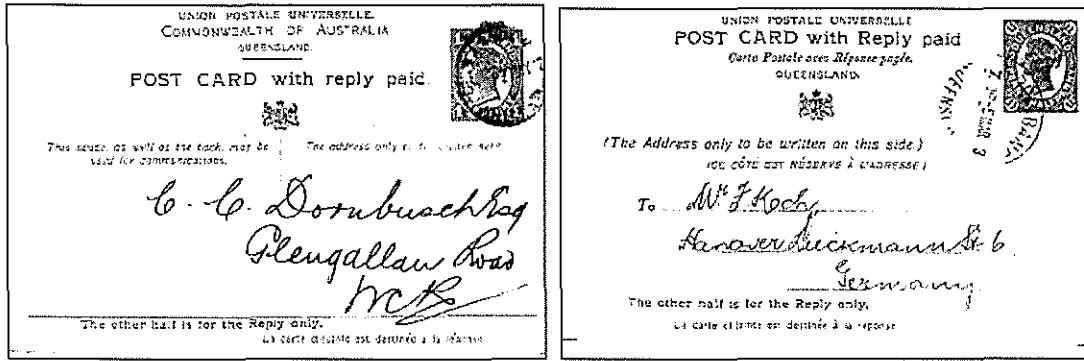


Figure 5

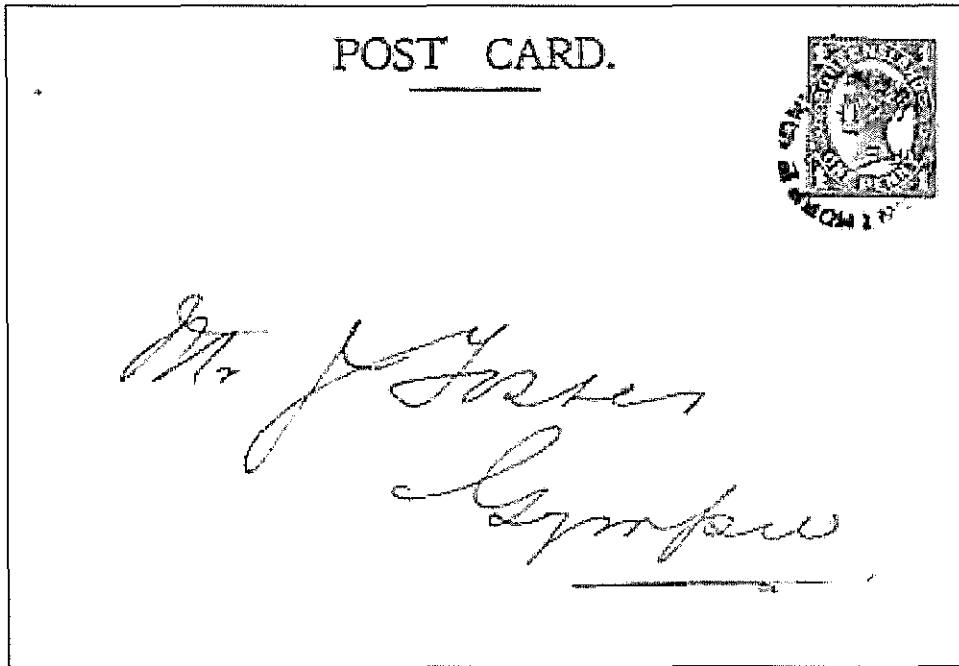


Figure 6

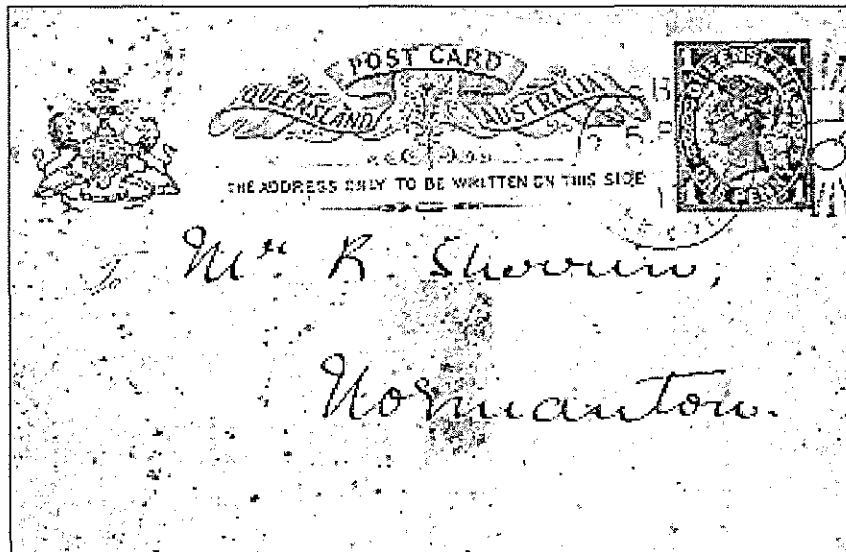


Figure 7

AUSTRALIAN POSTCARDS - FROM COLONIES TO COMMONWEALTH

John Sinfield

Commonwealth (1911 - 1917)

Meanwhile plans for uniform federated stamps and stationery continued. Meetings in Sydney in 1908-09 of politicians, postal officers and philatelists marginally progressed the issue. The 1908 Royal Commission into the Post Office recommended that postcards be given priority for Commonwealth issue so as to first relieve the stamp printers of their greatest workload. Following his Melbourne transfer Cooke resumed plans for a Commonwealth postcard issue with which all states, except for New South Wales and Queensland, were eager to comply.

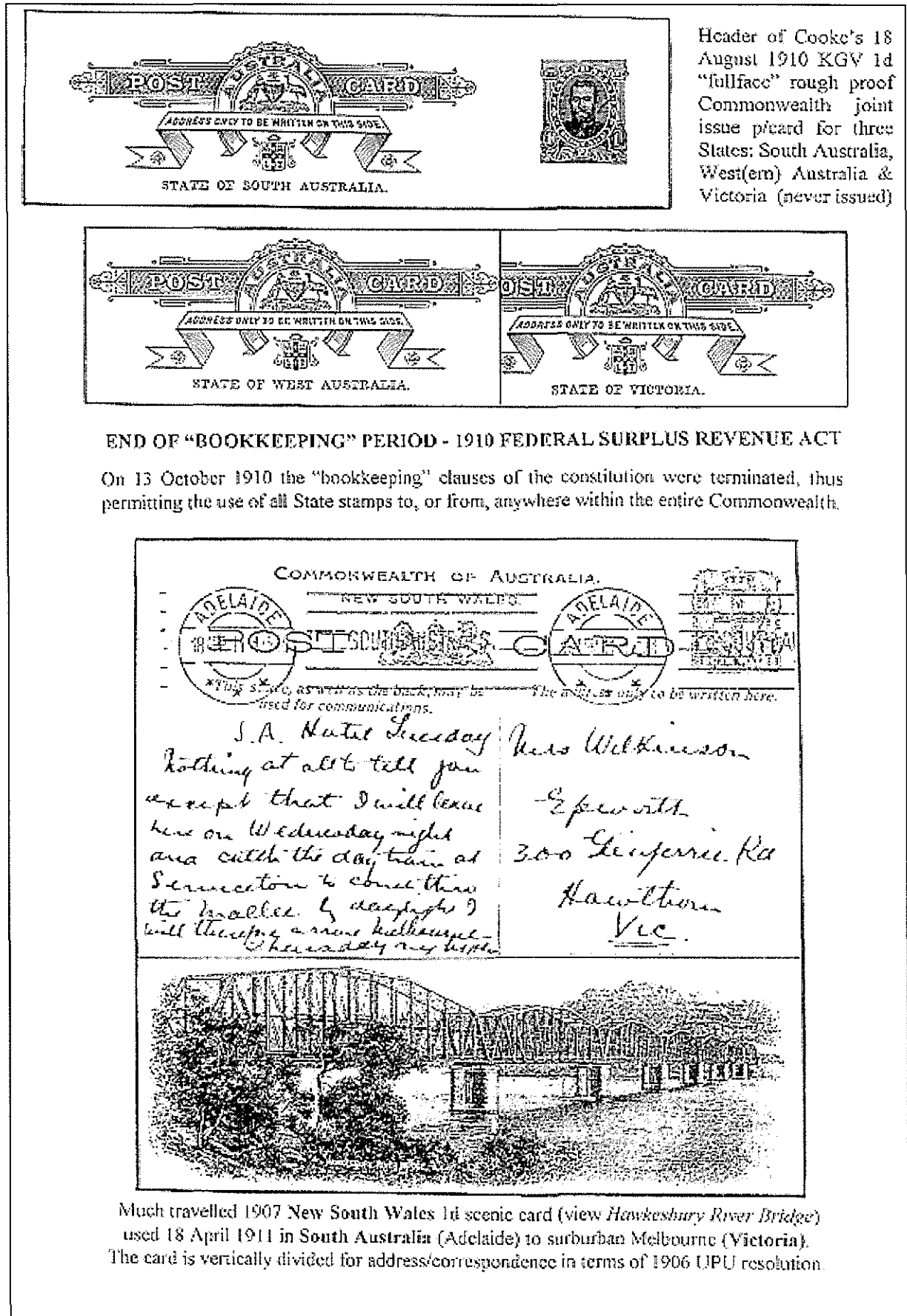
On 24 September 1909 he wrote to Treasury concerning a Victoria/South Australia/Western Australia joint card issue in which he stated *"if this is approved it will greatly simplify the printing of postcards seeing that only 32 electros will be required, whereas 96 (ie 3 States x 32 each) are in use at present."* On 3 November he received a negative Treasury response which blamed the "bookkeeping" clauses of the Constitution.

Undaunted, Cooke persevered and once again in February 1910, with modifications to the existing South Australian 1d postcard, he sought reconsideration of his uniform Victoria/South Australia/Western Australia joint postcard issue, this time with success. On 23 March 1910 Treasury approved his submission with the proviso that the name of each individual State of issue be shown. Realising that the Victorian King Edward £2 die would no longer be needed for stamps, Cooke next modified this into 1d use for his approved joint postcard, which was completed 6 May 1910 the exact day on which the King died.

By mid 1910 it was finally decided that the initial Commonwealth postage stamp would feature the new monarch, King George V. Die engraving was entrusted to Mr Samuel Reading of Lonsdale Street, Melbourne who in early August 1910, at a fee of £25, provided a 1d "fullface" impression of the king. The design was immediately and intensely disliked by both those in authority and the public in general. Much newspaper criticism occurred, amongst which perhaps the kindest words were that the engraver *"could not get the expression of His Majesty's eyes"*. The intended and long awaited 1d stamp issue was therefore assigned to postal stationery only, and the proposed ½d (printed matter) and 4d (registered) rates which are mentioned by Ascher did not proceed beyond essay stage.

At last Cooke had a Commonwealth stamp with which to work. Using a photographic modification of a zinco (zinc lined block) of the 1893 South Australian header in association with the new Reading 1d KGV stamp, on 18 August 1910 Cooke prepared rough proofs (Figure 1) of Commonwealth cards for three States each with the subheading "VICTORIA", "SOUTH AUSTRALIA" or "WEST AUSTRALIA" (even Cooke also abbreviated the State name), which were submitted to Treasury on 7 September. Finally official go ahead was granted on 4 November. Meanwhile on 13 October, in terms of the 1910 Federal Surplus Revenue Act, the "bookkeeping" clauses of the Constitution were at last repealed which made these individual State sub-headings now redundant.

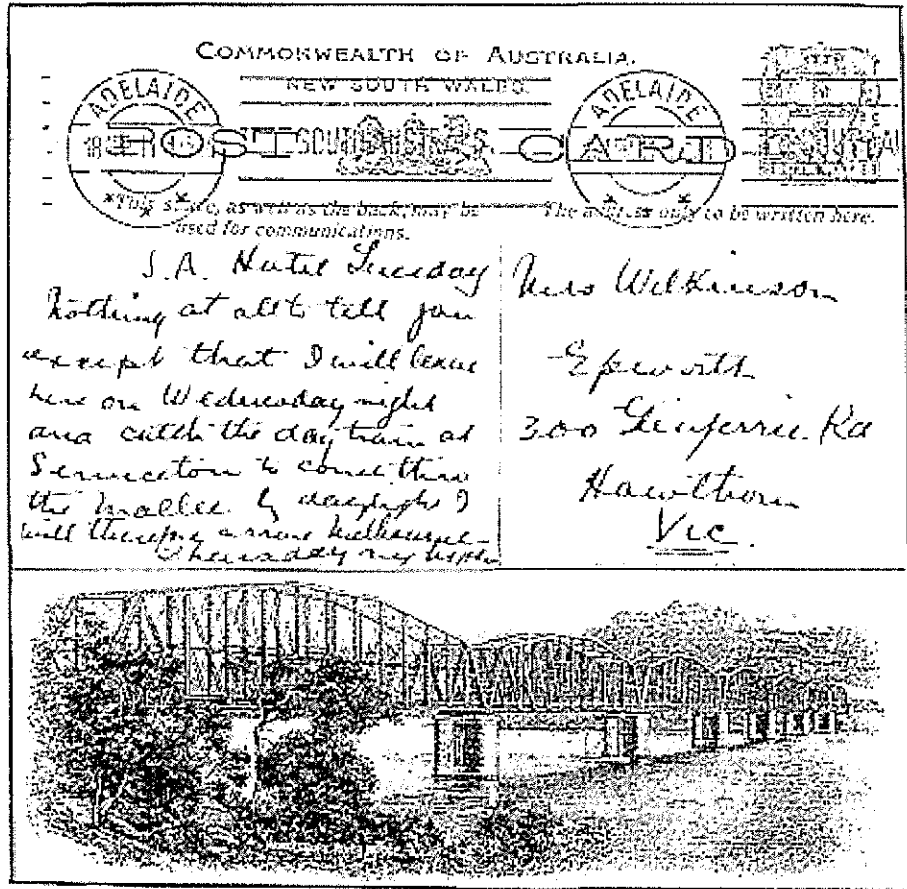
This termination of the "bookkeeping" clauses of the Constitution meant that henceforth cards (as well as stamps and other forms of stationery) issued by any one State could be mailed from anywhere throughout the Commonwealth, although such usage usually tended to be limited mainly to philatelists. This situation continued until imperial currency was demonetised in February 1967 following the 1966 introduction of decimal currency.



Header of Cooke's 18 August 1910 KGV 1d "fullface" rough proof Commonwealth joint issue p/card for three States: South Australia, West(ern) Australia & Victoria (never issued)

END OF "BOOKKEEPING" PERIOD - 1910 FEDERAL SURPLUS REVENUE ACT

On 13 October 1910 the "bookkeeping" clauses of the constitution were terminated, thus permitting the use of all State stamps to, or from, anywhere within the entire Commonwealth.

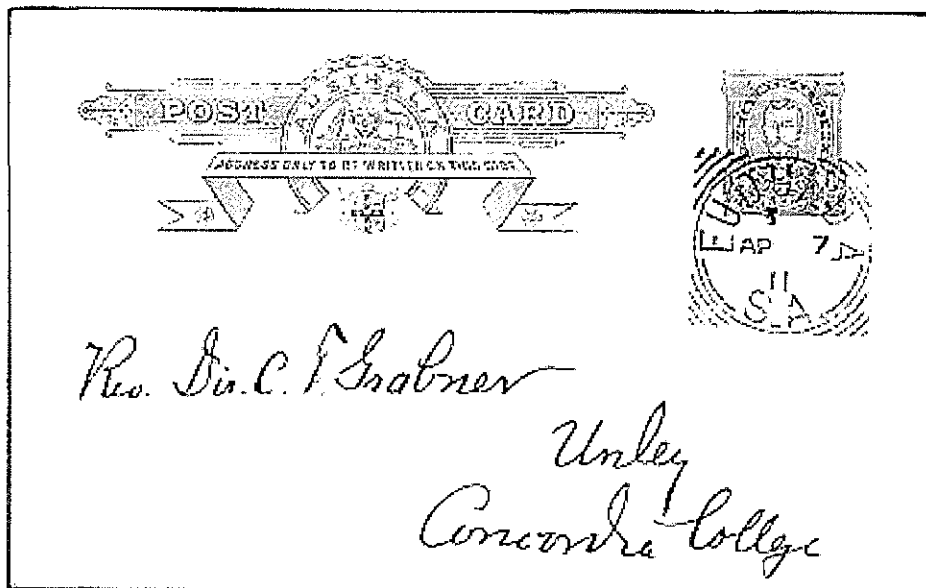


Much travelled 1907 New South Wales 1d scenic card (view Hawkesbury River Bridge) used 18 April 1911 in South Australia (Adelaide) to suburban Melbourne (Victoria). The card is vertically divided for address/correspondence in terms of 1906 UPU resolution.

Figure 1

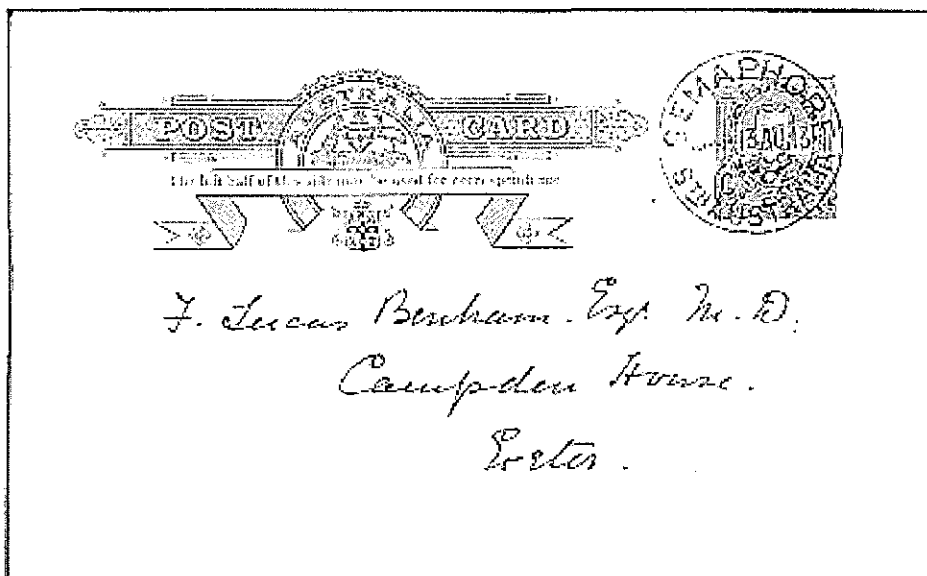
Postal Stationery Collector

Prepared March 1911 by Commonwealth modifications to 1893 South Australian postcard header. This was Australia's first Commonwealth issue, and used Reading's unpopular KGV 1d engraving.



? April 1911 (? possible day of issue) use Eudunda, SA
"Even's Weekly Stamp News" of 25 May 1911 (p244) states "the postcard was issued 7 April 1911, but is not yet in general use, as old (State) stock is being used up"

On 24 April 1911, Dr Lucas Benham, president of Philatelic Society of South Australia, advised the PMG that card instruction "Address only to be written on this side" contravened UPU postcard regulations. Corrected 14 July 1911 to "The left half of this side may be used for correspondence"



Revised address instruction addressed to Dr Benham. Both cards types remained on concurrent sale

Figure 2

A start could now be made on the long awaited Commonwealth definitive postcards (Figure 2) which were able to be issued and sold in all six States. But an intervening event attracted Cooke's attention, this being the planned 22 June 1911 coronation of King George. On 26 October 1910 Cooke proposed and on 26 November was granted permission to proceed with a colourful Commonwealth commemorative postcard series which would feature portraits of the King, Queen Mary, and Edward Duke of Cornwall (later King Edward VIII). The June 1911 issue date was to coincide with coronation festivities, so now Cooke became involved in two different Commonwealth postcard issues.

32 stamp electros were made from Reading's 1d master die, and locked into place with the heading electros. Printing was in red to align with UPU postcard colour indicator, although the actual shade was carmine rose, which varies from pale to deep. Size was 5½in x 3½in, being maximum dimensions permitted under Rule 3 of 1907 Postal Regulations governing postcards; board was white enamelled surfaced. Initial printing was 48,240 on 16 March 1911 and was supplemented over the ensuing days to meet average, Australia-wide monthly postcard use which then approximated 650,000 units.

Distribution to most States had occurred by the end of March but exact issue date is uncertain "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" p2441, 25.5-1911 quotes *"the postcard was issued 7 April 1911, but is not yet in general use, as old (State) stock is being used up"*. I have illustrated a card showing this exact date but cannot with all certainty claim this as the earliest usage date. A few days ago, at auction, Stanley Gibbons offered 12 April 1911 as day of issue, but this is obviously not correct. Cooke also believed he was required to follow State policy by issuing 1d+1d double Commonwealth reply cards. On 8 May he printed 13,440 such cards but these were never issued. 7,200 were later sent to Perth, where they remained in warehouse stock.

On 24 April after the issue of the new Commonwealth card, Dr. Lucas Benham, then President of the Philatelic Society of South Australia, wrote to the Postmaster General advising that the card's instruction *"Address only to be written on this side"* contravened 1906 Rome UPU Congress regulations, which from October 1907 permitted address merely on right half and correspondence on left half of postcard front.

On 19 June an alteration in the card wording was approved to *"The left half of this side may be used for correspondence"* and on 14 July Cooke changed each of the 32 individual electros by deleting original lettering and replacing with a new slug. The new text was far too long to be contained within the ribbon boundaries and protrudes through the ends, which were only roughly removed, so that remnants still remained on most of the 32 units. Despite the new instruction, the face of the card was not divided, and (except for the Victorian viewcard series) this did not routinely occur on Commonwealth cards until Thomas Harrison took over stamp printing in 1918. Both format cards remained on concurrent sale but the address amendment was never carried out on the reply cards.

While all this was in progress, the King's coronation had occurred on 22 June and from mid May all States had been supplied with 1d cards (Figure 3) to commemorate this event. These were issued from 23 May 1911 (earliest recorded date 27 May), and were monochrome printed in an extensive colour range. The left front pictured either the King, the Queen, or the Prince of Wales (Duke of Cornwall), printed from electros purchased from Garratt & Atkinson of Ealing, London. Although this card was issued with "address only" instruction, this was of little consequence as it would have been impractical (and most unpatriotic) to write over the royal portrait. I have separately published an extensive article on this issue, and for anyone interested I refer you to *"Philately from Australia"* June 1998.

May/June 1911 issue to commemorate King George's 22 June coronation. 32 royal portrait electros are identifiable on these cards. Printed in wide colour range to promote public appeal.

Queen Mary:
Sydney 1914 usage to Italy with card written in Esperanto. Extra 1/2d foreign postage added by W.A. adhesive.



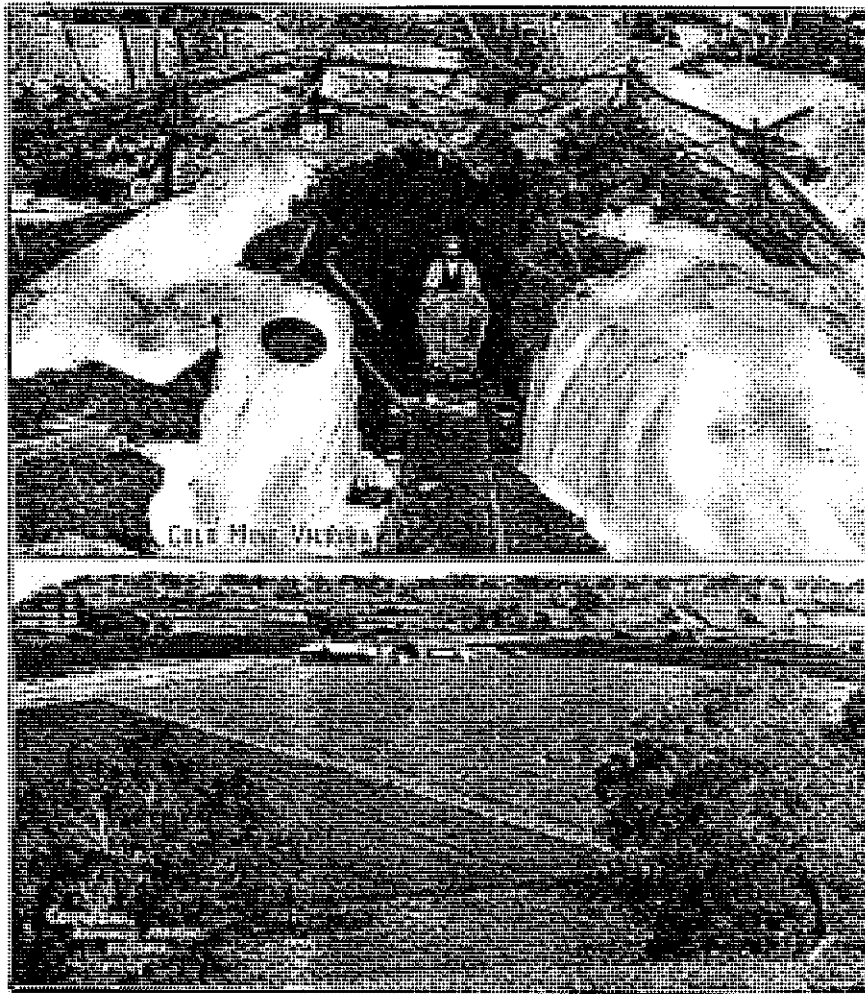
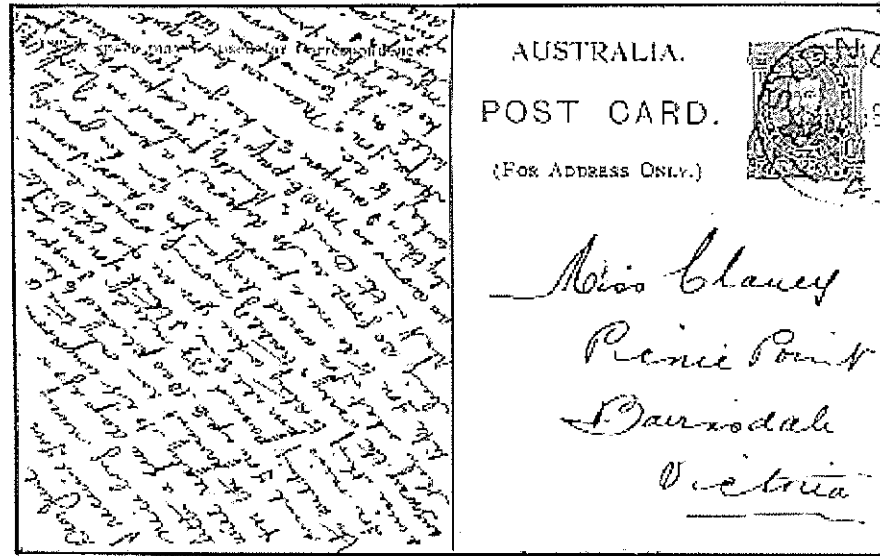
Prince Edward:
1912 Adelaide official use (for Survey Dept.) overprinted O.H.M.S.

King George:
Earliest recorded WA use - Fremantle to Vic, mailed 5 June 1911



Figure 3

September 1911 issue of Australian Commonwealth card showing 12 reverse side views of Victoria. Includes Reading KGV stamp. Available only at Victorian Post Offices, initially in packets of 12, price 1/-.



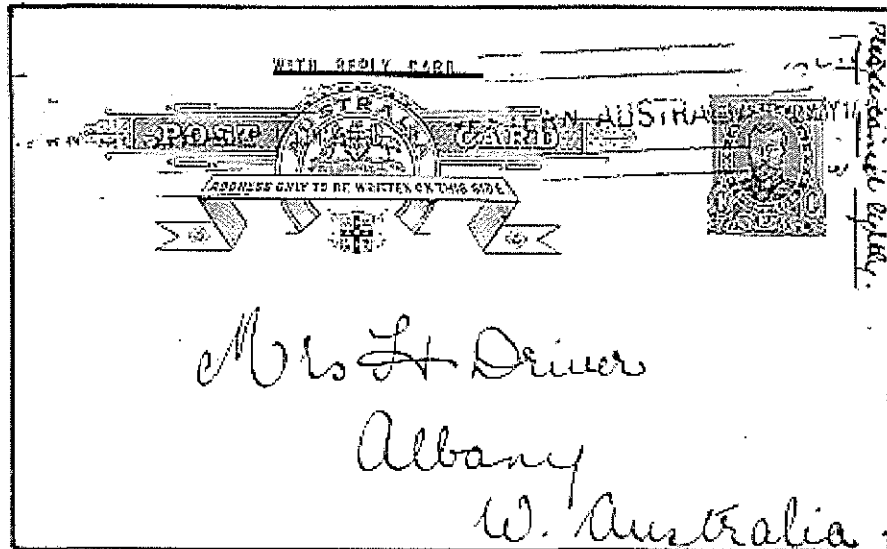
Above *Gilderoy Ranges* view mailed Sydney is rare use outside Victoria, and would have been carried interstate by correspondent.

- Melbourne Street Scenes:
- Bourke Street
(west from Parliament)
- Flinders Street
(south-west & railway)
- Spring Street
(south from Parliament)
- Swanston Street
(Princes Bridge to north)
- Rural Scenes
- Buffalo Mountains
(near Bright)
- Coimadai, Bacchus Marsh
- Gilderoy Ranges
(Mt Mirtala Guest House)
- Phantom Falls (Lorne)
- River Yarra (Warburton)
- Victorian Gold Mining
- Gold Diggers
(near Beechworth)
- Gold Dredging
(Buffalo Mountains)
- Gold Mine (Goodluck
Mine, Mt. St. Bernard)

Figure 4

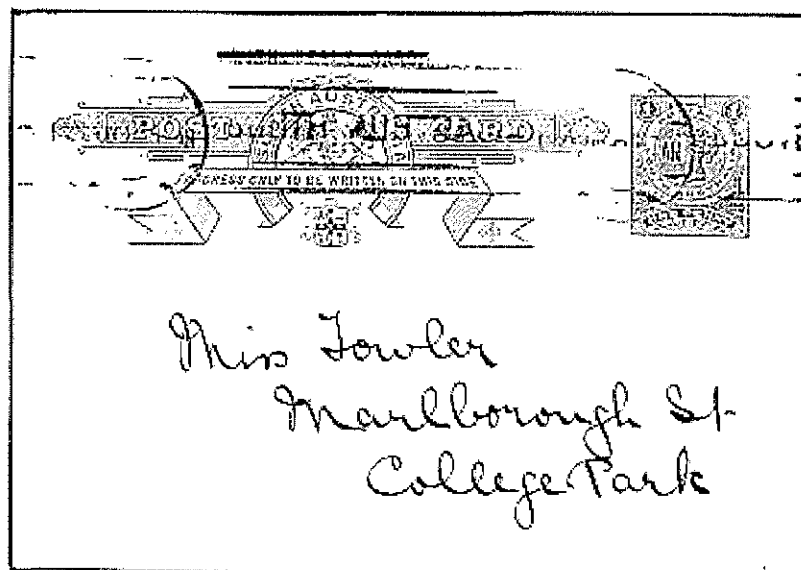
The 1917 stock shortage prompted Cooke to recall stockpiled State and Commonwealth reply cards. These were bisected, reply references obliterated, then reissued as single 1d cards in State of origin.

1911 COMMONWEALTH REPLY BARRED OUT



Outer reply card with 33mm red line obliteration of "WITH REPLY CARD". Perth use 10 May 1917 with reverse message in French. Correspondent requested "Please cancel lightly", which has been totally ignored since usual Perth roller cancellation was applied. Only recorded surviving copy.

1895 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN REPLY BARRED OUT



Identical 33mm red obliteration of "WITH REPLY CARD" on Cooke's South Australian card. Used Adelaide 26 June 1917 - one of two recorded copies. Note overall design similarities to card above.

Figure 5

New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland had all previously depicted State views on their postcards, and Tasmania had issued similar scenic envelopes and lettercards. Early in 1911, the Victorian Deputy Postmaster General, Mr C.E. Bright, planned that his State would also have a scenic card series, and this was approved 6 April for issue with the Victorian Naish "Postage" 1d stamp.

The Postmaster General decided that he would take over this State issue on behalf of the Commonwealth and Cooke printed 195,840 cards (Figure 4) with full reverse scenes of Victoria (16,230 of each view). Note the similar heading layout to the Coronation cards. Stamp impression became Reading's 1d Australian "fullface" design which classified this as a Commonwealth card issue valid for Australia-wide posting, although from 27 September 1911 these cards were only sold in Victoria. Usage in other States is very rare. Initially provided only in packets of one dozen, priced at 1/-, but it is interesting that they later remained available for single sale on demand at the Melbourne GPO until 1930, and hence bear the distinction of being Australia's longest postcard issue.

Also worthy of note is the strange printing plate arrangements. The intended Victorian state issue was only for 11 scenes but since proposed Commonwealth sale was in dozen packs, one extra view "*Coimadai, Bacchus Marsh*" was added to the series. Two plates were initially created both 22-on featuring, 2 x 11 original scenes and one 22 x 1 new "*Coimadai*" view. Ensuring identical print numbers for all 12 scenes became quite cumbersome, so the two plates, were scrapped to be replaced by a third, this now being 24-on, comprising two of each of the 12 scenes. This plate treatment explains printing format and stock differences on the "*Coimadai*" card, and such an arrangement was unique in Australian postcard printing history.

In the latter part of 1911 Cooke's Stamp Printing office was relocated from the Government Printing office in Gipps Street, East Melbourne to a separate City premises, named the King's Warehouse, in Flinders Street Extension behind the Spencer Street Railway Station. Some months later he was joined there by Thomas S. Harrison, the Note Printer and Engraver. Following this move the next Commonwealth postcard issue did not occur until early 1913 when the Kangaroo & Map stamp design was introduced for an extended range of Post Office and stamped to private order stationery including envelopes, lettercards and wrappers.

But the history of State postcards had not quite finished! Although Cooke had been able to rely on a few local postcard board suppliers the majority of his board originated from Europe. War hostilities prevented further import so that by year end 1916, Australian held board had been entirely consumed. Neither Treasury nor the Post Office could help out, so in desperation Cooke undertook a stocktake of superseded cards (plus other stationery forms) held by the Victorian Government Printer.

Supplies included small holdings of Commonwealth 1911 erroneous "address only" 1d single and double 1d+1d reply cards, Victorian 1901 and 1905 reply cards, 1902 WA reply cards and 1905 revalued Tasmanian reply cards. Brisbane stores also reported a small stock of unsold 1911 State reply cards. Cooke requisitioned for all these reply cards, bisected the double cards into separate units, obliterated reply references, and between February and April 1917 the now separate halves were distributed to the original State of issue to be sold as normal single 1d postcards (Figure 5). Although the majority of these bear State stamps, they are in effect, Commonwealth issues, and either mint or used are extremely rare - particularly for Queensland and South Australian reissues. No New South Wales reply obliterated card has been recorded, and it is doubtful if such was ever prepared.

FORMULAR POST CARDS OF AUSTRALIA POST

Martin Walker and Craig Chappell

The following listing is divided into the following sections –

1. Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix (published August 1999)
2. Postal Museums and Philatelic Exhibitions (published November 1999)
3. Bonus Cards (published May 2000)
4. Other Sporting Events (published May 2000)
5. Other Events
6. Miscellaneous Cards
7. Avant Card Productions
8. Maximum Cards

5. Other Events

Once you take out the philatelic and sports events, only a small number of other events have been marked by the issue of cards. We have recorded only four – the sailing of the replica of the ship *Bounty*; Expo '88; the Chrysanthemum Conference and the International Air Show.

The *Bounty* Replica was marked by the issue of four cards in Perth on 12 December 1987. The cards were printed by Imperial Print, Perth and were sold at 50¢ each. Three of these cards were overprinted for the Philex 87 exhibition in Singapore and are described in detail in part 2 of this article.



Crew Go aloft



Under full sail



At the Wheel



Rides at anchor.

The next series of cards emanating from Perth were issued for the Fifth International Chrysanthemum Council Conference held at Booragoon, W.A. during May 7-11 1990. A set of four cards, each featuring four types of chrysanthemum, were produced from photographs supplied by G. Freegard of "The Chrysie Place" – a Perth florist. There is some possibility that these cards were produced privately and sold by Australia Post but we have been unable to determine this for sure. The cards were sold at \$3.00 per set or \$5.00 per set postmarked with the Conference postmark. The authors have also seen the sets of cards contained in a special envelope. It is not known if they were sold in this manner or if the envelope was also sold at the Conference post office.



Card 1



Card 2



Card 3



Card 4

The Australian International Air Show was held at the Avalon Air Base in Victoria during October 1992. A set of six cards were produced – each featuring a type of aircraft prominent in Australia’s aviation history. The cards were available from the show, or from the nearest post office at Lara, for 50¢ each.



P40E Kittyhawk



FA-18 Hornet



MK 3 Harvard Trainer



DH82a Tiger Moth



Vampire M35 Trainer



Stinson Reliant SR9E

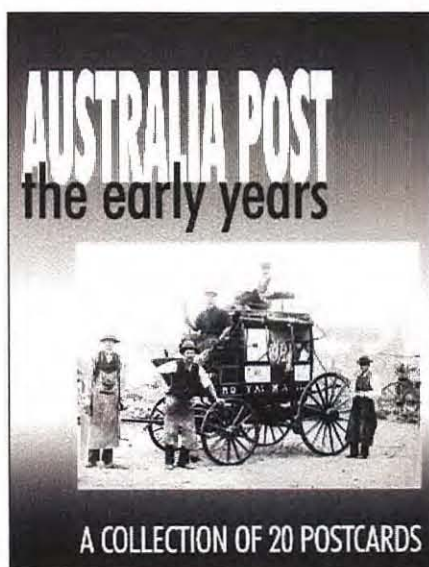
Expo 88 was held in Brisbane from April 30 to October 30 1988. Most readers will be familiar with two series of prepaid postcards issued on April 29 for this event. Two souvenir cards were issued for Expo 88 and these were quite unusual in their form and availability. Within the Australia Post Shop at the venue there was a computer into which people seeking pen friends could enter their details. These details would be printed on special two-part cards. The cards could then be collected by other visitors to Expo from the computer’s printer tray.

There are two types of card – one showing the koala design from the prepaid series and the other showing the kangaroo. Each part of the card had details of the hopeful pen friend. The top half, which formed the actual postcard had the address details of the pen friend filled in as well as the rate of the stamp to be placed on the card to prepay the postage to the particular address. Some collectors are trying to collect each card showing each of the five different rates for the five airmail zones – no mean effort considering how difficult just obtaining single examples of each is. Space was provided for the sender of the card to fill in their own name and address and a small message. The lower half of the card was not a postcard. It had printed upon it the details of the person to whom the postcard was addressed and details of their interests and age. The intention was that the lower part of the card was to be retained by the sender of the upper part. The number of these cards produced would be in the thousands. Given their intended purpose; limited distribution and unavailability through philatelic channels the cards are very scarce.



6. Miscellaneous Cards

A letter-writing campaign was conducted by Australia Post in early 1987. In February of that year a card featuring a young woman at a café reading a letter was distributed from post office counters and was also inserted in at least one national women's magazine. The cards bearing one of the campaign slogans, "If you really care you'll put it in writing", were given away.



First QANTAS Aerial Mail Service departs Charleville



Early postie in uniform, circa 1910



Victoria's first cast-iron posting box, 1858



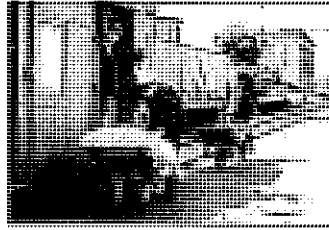
This train delivered mail to Powelltown.

"The Early Years" was a collection of 20 postcards bound into a book and sold during Australia Post's Christmas marketing promotion in 1995. Each page of the book consisted of four cards with perforations allowing the removal of each card. The printer was Southbank

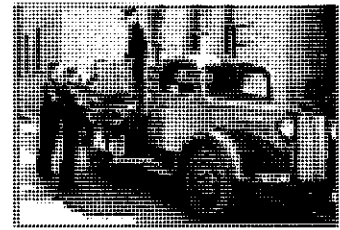
Book. The books were first put on sale on November 1, 1995 at a cost of \$9.95. Remainders were available at prices as low as \$2.50 in the "post-Christmas" and later sales. The cards are shown with the captions as printed on the address side of each card. There are at least two errors. Firstly, Wilcannia is in New South Wales and not South Australia and secondly the last card described as Royal Mail coach departing Sydney is actually a view of Adelaide. There may be other errors and the authors welcome details.



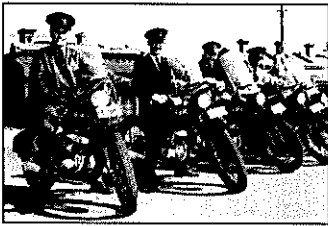
Motorcycle postie, circa 1950.



Loading the mail, Sydney, circa 1950



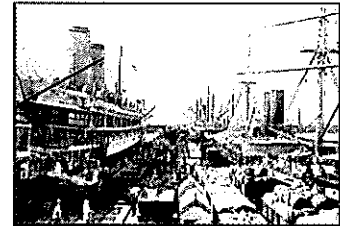
Delivery van, circa 1950



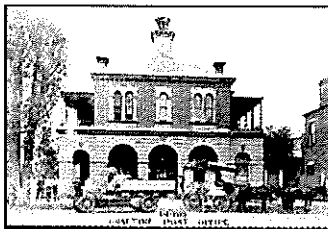
PMG Motorcycles, circa 1950



Sutton's Royal Mail van, Isisford, Qld, 1910



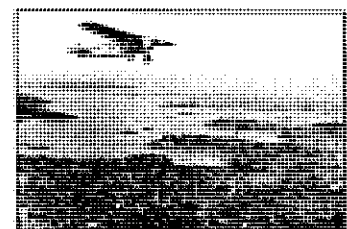
Loading the mail at the docks, circa 1930



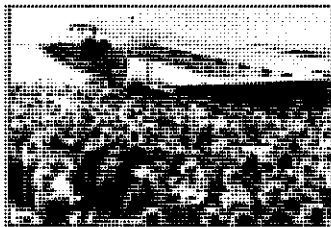
Last mail coach delivery, first motor vehicle delivery, Grafton



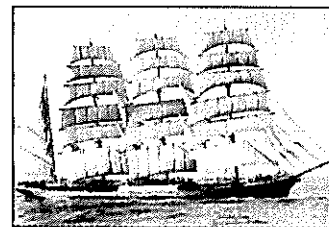
Delivering the mail by boat, date unknown



Early mail flight over Sydney, date unknown



First Ansett mail flight to Perth



Vessels such as this four masted barque carried mail in the 1890s



Adelaide Royal Mail Coach, circa 1900

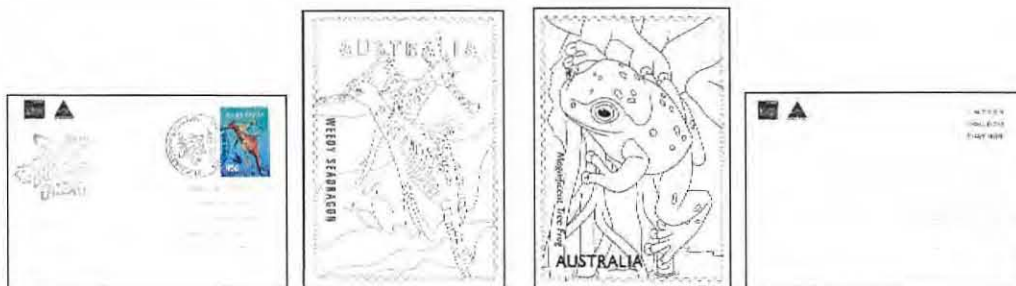
Postal Stationery Collector



*Mail coaches, Wilcannia, SA, Crawford and Co. coach crossing Royal Mail Coach departing
loading for White Cliffs and Bourke the Snowy Creek, circa 1900 Sydney, circa 1900*

Stamp Collecting Month

October is usually declared stamp collecting month by Australia Post and a novel topic is chosen each year to base a series of stamps around. Australia Post has always been very supportive of the development of collecting amongst school children. Sample bags containing pens, rulers, badges and other items related to the stamp topic are commonplace in these bags. Starting in 1998 the sample bags contained a plain card bearing a line drawing of one of the stamps issued for stamp collecting month. The intention is for children to colour in the drawing. The theme of stamp collecting month in 1998 was Planet Ocean and the line drawing was of the stamp featuring the Weedy Seadragon. In 1999 the theme was Small Pond and the card featured the stamp depicting the frog. The 1999 card also comes in two distinctive types. One is printed on a quality gloss card whereas the other is on thin matte card.



1998 Planet Ocean – colouring-in card. 1999 Small Pond – colouring-in card.

The final card in this miscellaneous group is a “Greetings from” card seemingly produced by the Victorian State administration of Australia Post. The card features five views of Melbourne including the General Post Office and the interior of a post office. The card dates from circa 1996. Requests for further details (and examples of the cards) from Australia Post staff in Victoria have failed to produce any results and should any of our Victorian readers have details or cards the authors will be grateful for either. Please excuse the quality of the illustration – it is taken from a photocopy. It may be that this card is an “official” issue and therefore outside the scope of this article. Only a sight of the address side of this card will answer that question.



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

Ian McMahon

Postcards

		24 July 2000	Victoria Cross
		Maximum cards	
11 May 2000	Nature and Nation	(-)	Victoria Cross
Maximum cards		(-)	Captain Neville
(-)	Australia and Globe		Howse
(-)	Kangaroo and Flag	(-)	Lt Arthur Cutler
(-)	Sand Sea Sky	(-)	Private Edward Kenna
(-)	Rainforest	(-)	Warrant Officer Keith
(-)	Daisy		Payne
(Set price: \$5.75)		(Set price: \$5.75)	

22 May 2000	Towards Federation	24 July 2000	Penguins
Maximum cards		Maximum cards	
(-)	Queen Victoria	(-)	Adelie Penguin
(-)	Taking the Vote	(-)	Emperor Penguin
(-)	Waiting for the Results	(Set price: \$2.30)	
(-)	The Fair New Nation		
(Set price: \$6.70)			

EMS International Courier Envelopes

20 June 2000	International Stamps	1 May 2000	EMS Prepaid Envelopes
(\$1.20)	Nandroya Falls	(\$29.00)	Asia-Pacific
(\$1.20)	Cradle Mountain	(\$39.00)	Worldwide
(\$1.20)	Pinnacles		
(\$1.20)	Flinders Ranges		
(\$1.20)	Twelve Apostles		
(\$1.20)	Devils Marbles		

Registered Envelopes

Maximum cards		May 2000	Olympic Issue
(-)	Sydney Opera House	(\$3.20)	Daniel Collins and Andrew Trim
(-)	Nandroya Falls		
(-)	Sydney Harbour Bridge		
(-)	Cradle Mountain		
(-)	Pinnacles		
(-)	Flinders Ranges		
(-)	Twelve Apostles		
(-)	Devils Marbles		
(Set price: \$33.10)			

GST Prices:

The introduction of the GST saw a number of price changes in non-denominated stationery. Some prices increased but other prices including aerogrammes went down.

Some examples of the new prices are:

Prepaid envelopes: \$0.54 (C6 and DL), \$1.19 (C5), \$2.37 (C4), \$2.70 (B4)
 International Prepaid Envelopes: \$1.60 (DL), \$3.35 (C5), \$6.00 (B4)
 Express Envelopes: \$3.50 (C5), \$4.60 (B4), \$5.80 (500g satchel), \$8.75 (3 kg satchel)
 Express Envelopes (International) \$9.70 (C5), \$14.65 (B4)
 Registered envelopes: \$2.38 (DL), \$3.45 (B4)
 Registered envelopes (International): \$7.91 (DL) \$13.82 (Large)
 EMS: \$29 (Asia-Pacific), \$39 (Worldwide)
 Signed Courier: \$10.95 (500g), \$15.35 (3 kg)
 Aerogramme: \$0.78c

Note: The two Sydney pre-paid postcards were apparently not issued. If anyone has seen them, please let me know.

4 July 2000	Paraolympics
Maximum cards	
(-)	Tennis
(-)	Track
(-)	Basketball
(-)	Cycling
(-)	Shot Put
(Set price: \$5.87)	

LITERATURE

Ian McMahon

From our contemporaries

Postal Stationery March-April 2000

The Postal Stationery Cinderellas of Gerald King

The Aerogrammes of Botswana

UPSS S7, The Damaged Plate Varieties, and their Precursors

The Escher Group - Philately in the 21th Century

PS February 2000

GB Proxy Voting Cards

Waste Not Want Not from India

Electronic Postal Stationery Tales of GB Stationery

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Monthly May 2000

Review of 1999 British Commonwealth postal stationery

Postal Stationery Notes April 2000

CNR Black View Title Errors

Canadian Express Co Cards (part 2)

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Monthly June 2000

Review of 1998-99 world postal stationery

Books

BNAPS Exhibit Series: Canadian Stationery Exhibits

Three of Horace Harrison's Postal Stationery Exhibits have been published by the British North America Philatelic Society as part of their exhibit series.

Newfoundland Postal Stationery 1873-1941

Shows virtually all known items both mint & used with Proofs and unusual usages. 126 pages, spiral bound. C\$18.95 plus postage.

The First Four Suppliers Of Canadian Postal Stationery And Its Usages 1860-1910. Covers the first fifty years of Canada Stationery. 138 pages, spiral bound. C\$18.95 plus postage.

Canadian Business Postal Cards Shows numerous ways firms used postal cards in the course of business beginning in December 1897 until the last card in 1982. 160 pages. C\$19.95 plus postage.

All are available from Saskatoon Stamp Centre, Box 1870, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3S2 Canada. Orders can be made from their website <http://www.saskatoonstamp.com/>

***Katalog der Aerogramme von Asien 2000* Werner Wiegand**

Werner Wiegand has released a new edition of the Asia part of his catalogue of aerogrammes of the world. This catalogue is the only reasonably up to date catalogue of world aerogrammes and is published in six parts. The Asia section of the Catalogue was last published in 1991 and the new edition includes many new items and revised prices. The catalogue is in German and is priced in German Marks. It is available from Wiegand and Haberer Burgstr. 8/2 D-71272 Renningen Germany for DM 34.50 plus postage.

Other sections of the Catalogue are still available: Europe (1993, DM40), Africa (1995, DM32.50), Australia and Oceania (1992, DM12.50), Canada, USA and UN (1994, DM 10) and Middle and South America (1991, DM16.50).

Great Britain: The Mulready Postal Stationery Colin Baker

This 32 page monograph is the second in the monograph series of the Postal Stationery Society [of the UK]. It tells the history of the production, use and subsequent failure of the world's second issue of postal stationery, the Mulready envelopes and lettersheets. It is available for £1.50 plus postage from Colin Baker, 4 Greenhill Gardens, Sutton Veny, Warminster, Wilts, BA12 7AY UK. The Society's first monograph, Great Britain - Victorian Private Stationery Impressed With Embossed Stamps is still available for £1.10.

Special Post Postal Stationery of Australia Post's Special Mail Services: From the Collection of Richard C Peck Richard Peck

Special Post Postal Stationery of Australia Post's Special Mail Services is based in part on Richard's Peck earlier publication *Fast Post* which was published in 1990. Since then Australia Post has instituted several additional services which use postage paid stationery and this book concentrates on the postal stationery rather than the services and their associated routes, markings and rates.

Richard has repeated information from *Fast Post* where relevant and updated it. Each group is now given a prefix and each variety a number. Illustrations are 25% (except Express Post DL and C5 envelopes which are 50%).

This book covers the stationery of Australia Post special services including:

- Super Satchel
- Flat Rate Envelope
- Australia Post Courier - One Rate Envelope
- Australia Post Express - envelope
- Australia Post Express - Courier
- Australian Air Express- satchels
- Signed Courier satchels
- International Priority Paid- envelopes/EMS International Courier satchels cardboard envelopes
- Express Post
- International Express Post
- E-Post
- Parcel Post
- Registered Post
- International Registered Post

The book includes details of the different printings of the stationery and illustrates examples. For the Express Post envelopes major types are identified including different printing settings, printing numbers until the flap and details of the postage label. The labels used for Express Post parcels are also listed and illustrated.

As expected from Richard, this book contains information on stationery which is often little known and little studied and as such deserves a place on the bookshelf of every collector of modern Australian material.

98 pages, spiral bound, colour cover, black and white illustrations. Available for \$15 (post paid in Australia) from Richard Peck PO Box 199 Drummoyne NSW 1470.

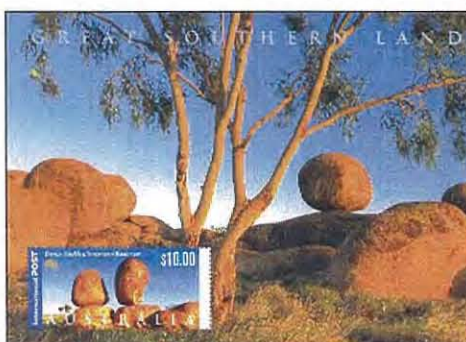
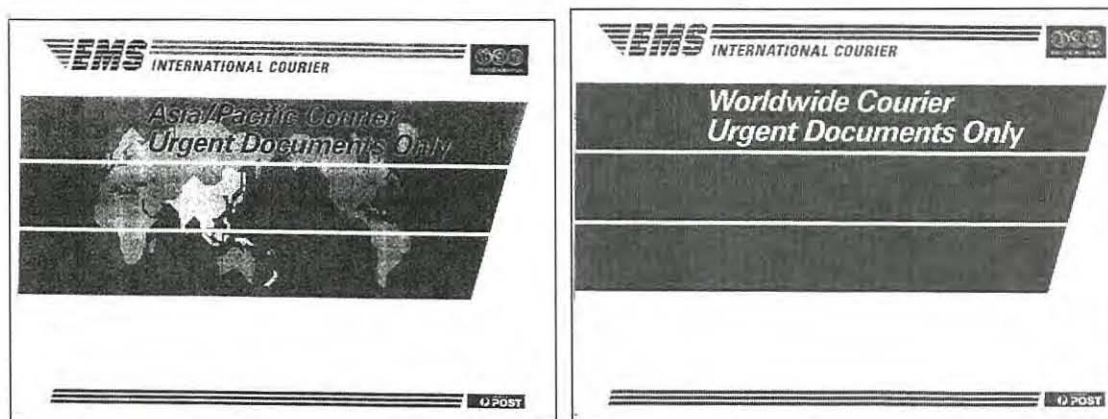
NEW ISSUES

International EMS Envelopes

On 1 May 2000 Australia issued two prepaid EMS International Courier envelopes.

EMS is described by Australia Post as *Australia Post's premium international express service. We despatch to over 180 countries and operate four pricing zones, with prices based on simple 500 gram weight steps. You can lodge your items at any Post Office or Business Centre or we can pick up items from your office if you are located within a metropolitan area. From the moment it is in our hands, it will receive full VIP treatment - including special customs clearance and priority handling in the destination country.*

The new envelopes prepay delivery to Asian countries at a cost of \$29 or to anywhere in the World for a cost of \$39. To promote their introduction customers were offered a \$4 discount when purchasing their first envelope.



Olympic Registered Envelope

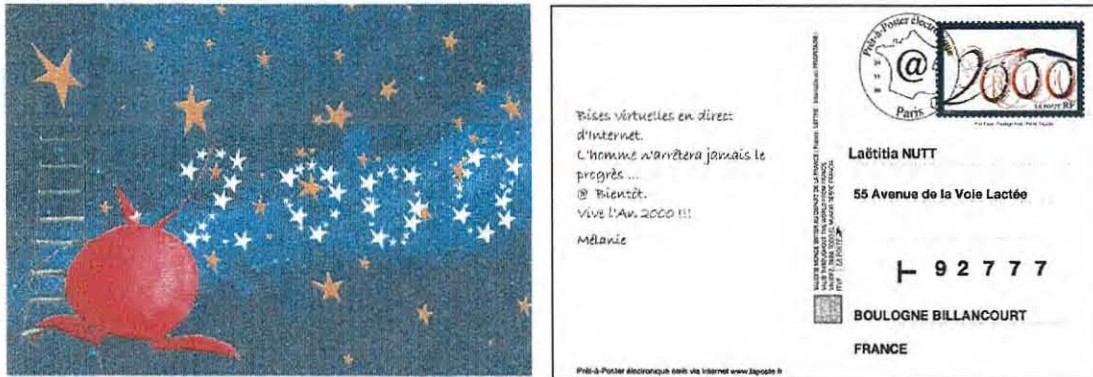
In May 2000 a large domestic rate registered envelope appeared depicting Daniel Collins and Andrew Trim of the Australian Olympic rowing team. This envelope is illustrated on the front cover of this issue of *PSC*.

France: Internet Postcards

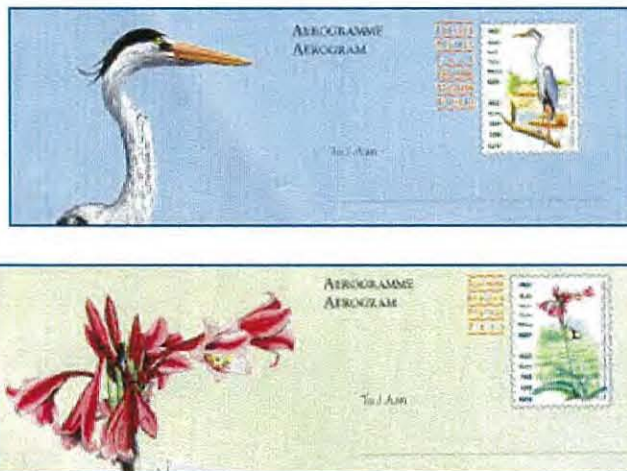
Beginning with Philex France in 1999, the French Post Office has introduced postcards which can be ordered over the internet by credit card. For 2000, a special 2000 card can be ordered from their internet site, <http://www.laposte.fr/>.

The site says: *With the greetings card Year 2000, wish a good year with your family, your*

friends. The Post office prints your message on the card and 2000 and France dispatches it towards the correspondent of your choice everywhere in the world.



South Africa: Aerogrammes



In early 2000 South Africa issued two new aerogrammes, one for foreign postage and one for Southern African postage. The Southern African destination aerogramme depicts the indigenous Orange River lily with an African monarch butterfly resting on its stem. A grey heron is featured on the foreign destination aerogramme. The aerogrammes are sold at R1.40 and R1.70.

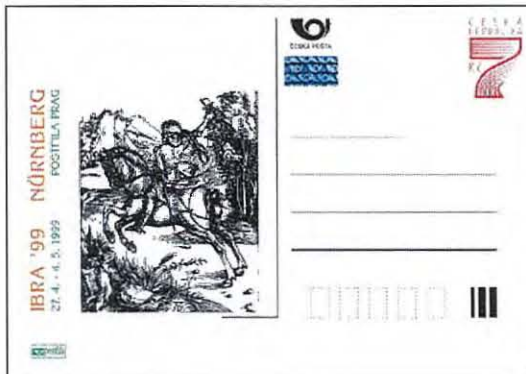
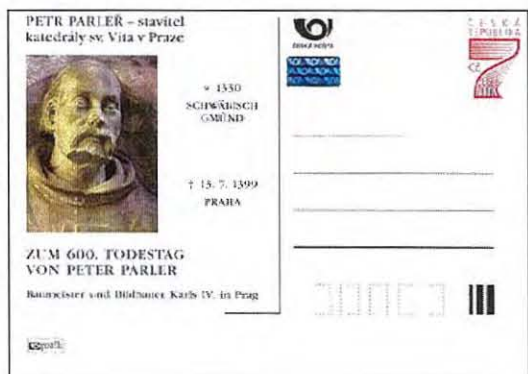
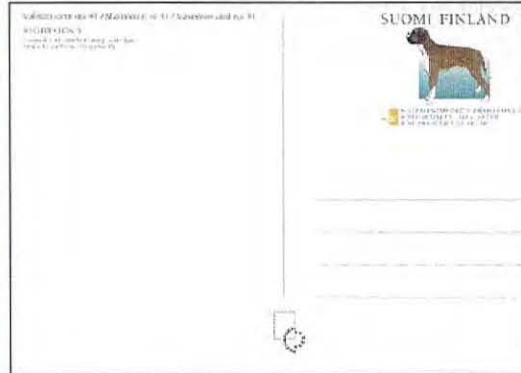
The Orange River lily is a beautiful indigenous lily with delicate pink petals and can usually be found in wet areas after the first spring rains. It is the provincial flower of the Free State and, as its name indicates, occurs abundantly in the Orange River area of this province. The African monarch, also known as the southern milkweed butterfly, is one of the most common butterfly species in Southern Africa. Due to their slow, relaxed flight they are relatively easy to catch and therefore often fall prey to many a young child's first attempts at putting together a butterfly collection or science project! They are easily identified by their distinctive orange/brown wings with black borders and bright white patches.

The Grey Heron is a large mid graceful waterbird is widespread throughout southern Africa. It has a distinctive yellow bill mid is distinguished from other herons by its white head and neck and a black eye-stripe which ends on the nape in a wispy black plume. Its habitat includes pans, dams, slow-flowing rivers, lagoons and estuaries.

Postal Stationery Collector

Finland, Czech and Moldavian Postcards

Courtesy of Ed Druce we depict a range of recent issues from Finland, the Czech Republic and Moldavia.



USA

On 11 May, the USA has issued a booklet of ten 20c postal cards with the theme of adopting a child. The stamp on the cards, and the picture on the reverse, are based on the recently issued Adoption adhesive stamp.

New Zealand

A set of 5 pre-paid cards were issued on 1 June 2000 and sold as maximum cards for \$10.80. The cards depict the following cars: Corolla, Honda, Mini, Zephyr, Beetle.



The July issue of the NZ Post philatelic Bulletin advises of the availability of the pack of 10 unstamped aerogrammes for the America's Cup (\$2.50) and the pack of 10 pictorial stamped envelopes for \$4.95. (Both were mentioned in the May issue of *PSC*).

Illustrated below is an NZ Post stationery envelope for use by businesses for domestic delivery, used in this case to Australia. Also illustrated is a new business post envelope intended for use to Australia.

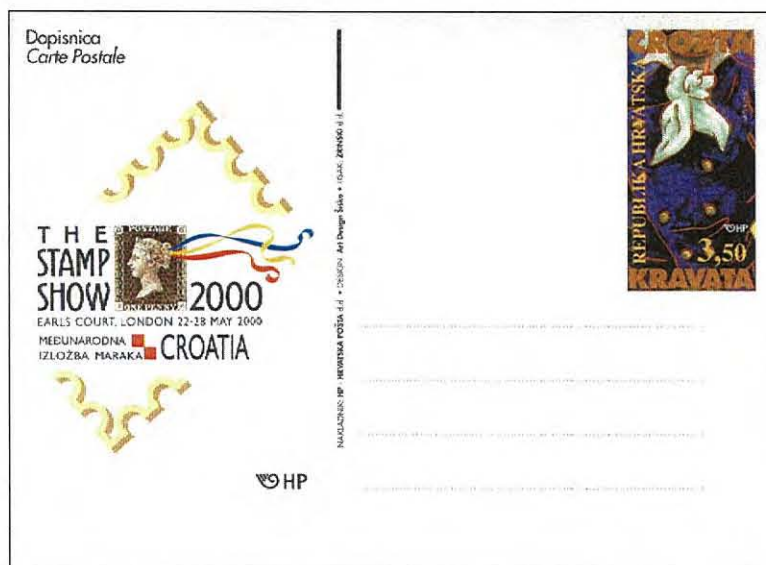


Postal Stationery Collector



Croatia

Illustrated below is a postcard from Croatia issued for Stampshow 2000, London.



Hong Kong

Illustrated below is a recent aerogramme from Hong Kong.

