

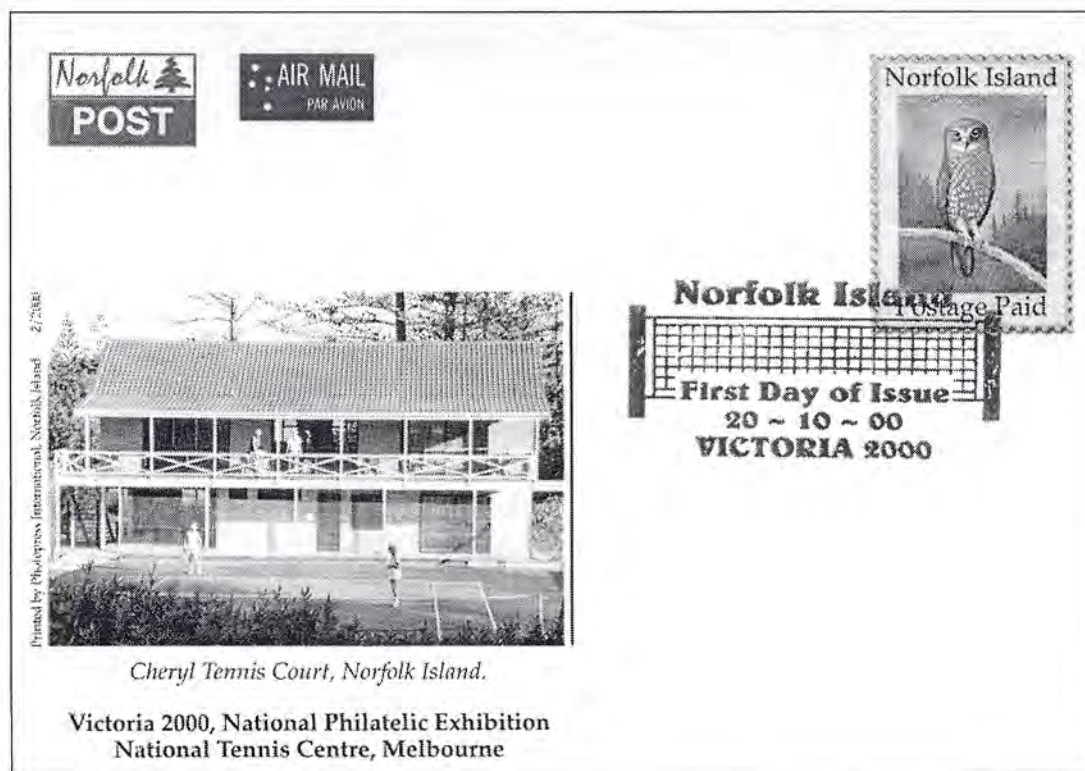
POSTAL STATIONERY

COLLECTOR

Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia

Volume 6 No 4: Issue No 24

February 2001



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.

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Postal Stationery Collector

Editor: Ian McMahon

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

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ISSN 1324-2105

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EXHIBITIONS

Canpex 2000 5-8 October 2000, Christchurch

Canpex 2000, a New Zealand National Exhibition, included a small postal stationery class with only three stationery exhibits, all from Australian exhibitors. Members' results were:

- Bernie Beston Fiji Vermeil
- Ian McMahan Queensland Large Silver

The *PSC* was entered into Canpex 2000 and received a silver medal.

Victoria 2000

Victoria 2000 was held at the National Tennis Centre, Melbourne Park from 20-22 November 2000. The Exhibition included a National Postal Stationery Class which attracted 13 entires including a small number of former GASC entries. The Australia Post prize for the best of the Class was won by Ed Druce's Uruguay. The PSSA's Prize was awarded to Malcolm Groom as runner-up in the Class for his Tasmania.

Gold

Druce, Edric Uruguay

Large Vermeil

Groom, Malcolm Tasmania
Druce, Edric Pakistan 1947-61

Vermeil

Roland, Michel Belgium 1871 - 1912 - The Reign of King Leopold
McMahon, Ian Postal Stationery of Canada Issued During the
Reign of King George VI
Collyer, David Australian Customised Sports Postal Stationery
Duberal, Ross Honduras 1882 - 1902

Large Silver

Goron, Hubert Ryukyu Islands 1948-1971
McMahon, Ian Belgium from 1944
Orr, Joan Peoples' Republic of China New Year Stationery

Silver

Pocock, Derek Bangladesh

Silver-Bronze

Druce, Deryn Dominica 1879-1939
Noboiss, Arturs Latvia - Prestamped Envelopes 1990-1992

Indepex Asiana 2000 Calcutta

Kelly, Raymond Denmark - Postcards & Reply-Paid Postcards 1871-1926 Gold

Contributions to the next issue of the Journal close with the editor on 30 March 2001.
PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH POSTCARDS WITH OS NSW PERFIN

Peter Guerin

I have acquired a number of these cards over the last few years and would be interested to hear from members of other types and the Departments that used them.

The types I have are:

Sydney Harbour Trust

- 1d red Kangaroo ASC P7
- 1d red KGV ASC P8
- 1d green KGV ASC P31

Main Roads Board

- 1d green KGV ASC P31

Department of Lands

- 1d green KGV ASC P31

Government Printing Office

- 1½d brown KGV ASC P34
- 1½d maroon KG6 ASC P36
- 2d purple KGV ASC P38

Also of interest is that six of these cards have missing perforation holes due to missing perforating pins.

I have also seen others in auction catalogues including ASC P31 for the New South Wales Government Railways and the New South Wales State cards, 1d red arms H&G 30 and 1½d blue H&G 31 both (if I remember correctly) for the Sydney Harbour Trust.

I also note that Kangaroo cards and wrappers exist with OHMS printed above the stamp imprint. An example for use in SA was illustrated in John Sinfield's article in *PSC* on Australian postcards.



QUEENSLAND QUERY

Bernie Beston and Ian McMahon

The illustrations below show examples of essays apparently prepared by Perkins Bacon and Co, in black or blue and printed on card. The essays have been described variously as seals for the Queensland Government, essays of revenues or essays of official envelopes for the Queensland Government. Can anyone shed any further light on these items?



A CHARGE FOR IMPRESSING STAMPS ON PRIVATE LETTERCARDS

Ian McMahon

Until 1917, the Post Office had no fee for impressing stamps on private lettercards. While the demand for this service was no doubt limited, Cooke, The Commonwealth Stamp Printer, felt sufficiently moved to write to the PMG's Department on 22 January 1917 (Figure 1) suggesting that the fee applying to the stamping of private envelopes, wrappers and postcards ie 2/- per thousand or part thereof be extended to lettercards. Cooke's suggestion was accepted by the PMG's Department with the Secretary of the Department writing to him on 8 February 1917 to advise him that the regulations would be amended.



Figure 1



Figure 2.

BUSTE LETTERE POSTALI OF ITALY : 1921 - 1923

Colin Pilkington (with modifications by John Sinfield)

This article written by Colin Pilkington of UK, was extracted from the newsletter of the Italy and Colonies Study Circle. It is reproduced here with kind permission of both. It was submitted, and marginally modified by John Sinfield to emphasise the stationery forms per se, rather than the forgery and concessionary aspects of the stamps themselves.

Origins

After the First World War there were numerous schemes in Italy for giving aid to wounded ex-servicemen. A great number of assistance committees were set up which in 1920, were formed into a National Federation known as the Federazione dei Comitati d'Assistenza ai Militari, Ciechi, Storpi e Mutilati. Among the government departments the National Federation approached for aid, was the Post Office, which had already shown itself ready to help charitable causes by the special issue of stamps bearing charity surcharges, and by the 1919 issue of postal stationery cards carrying advertisements on behalf of the Italian Red Cross. For the National Federation, rather than a special issue of stamps, the Post Office favoured a scheme something like the latter.

The intention was to issue advertising lettercards with an adhesive stamp attached, and with the special nature of the stamp indicated in some way. To encourage sales, the cards would be sold at a price below the face value of the affixed stamp. Revenue for the National Federation would come from advertisers whose messages appeared on the cards. At first it was intended that the stamp's special nature should be indicated by perfins but, on the advice of a philatelist, Arturo Fiecchi, it was decided that stamp overprinting was preferable to perforation.

The issue of the stamps was authorised by Royal Decree No. 1678 on 29 October, 1920. The main purpose of the decree was to allow a body outside the postal monopoly to sell postage stamps, and to sell them at a price lower than face value. The concession granted was effective from 1 December 1920, and was to last for nine years. The permitted reduction in face value was 5 centesimi. The stamps themselves were supplied by the Post Office whose responsibility ended there, apart from the need to supervise their overprinting. The Federation had the right to choose which stamps should be overprinted and the numbers to be so treated.

The Post Office therefore delegated some part of its monopoly powers to the Federation, but nevertheless ensured it did not lose on the deal. Despite Gibbons' mention of concessionary rates, stamps were sold to the Federation at the full rate paid by tobacconists and others who normally sold postage stamps. Stamp overprinting, affixing to lettercards and the sale of the cards, were all at the care and charge of the Federation who had to recover all these costs plus its own profit from sale of advertising space.

The Lettercards

The distinction between a busta lettera postale and a biglietto postale is with the former, the sender's message was not written on the lettercard itself, but on a separate sheet which was enclosed within the lettercard when folded and gummed. There was indeed no room for messages on the card, all four pages of which were covered with advertisements, which were also on portion of the enclosed correspondence sheet.

As illustrated, the card's front page has a decorative frame. Within this and across the top of the card in fancy lettering is the heading BUSTA LETTERA POSTALE. Below, in smaller capital letters, the

Italian for "For the benefit of the Federation of Assistance Committees for blind, crippled and wounded soldiers". Then, in still smaller type, "By a special government concession it is being sold at 5c below the face value of the stamp attached; the said stamp is not valid if used for other correspondence (R.D. 29.X.1920)". The rest of this page is divided into two, the right half being for the address, and the left being occupied by one large advertisement. On some cards, advertisements also appear in the left and right hand perforated margins. Edge to edge perforations on three sides, gauge 14. Internally gummed on the three perforated sides of front page only.



The stamp itself was affixed to the top right hand corner of the front. At first it was intended that the overprinted stamp should pay the entire cost of postage, but the cards had the misfortune to be issued at a time when Italian inflation was raging, and it soon became impossible to keep pace with postal rates. On 20 March 1921 when postal rates were increased, the authorities also gave permission for extra stamps to be added to the B.L.P.s to make up the correct postal rate. From 21 April 1921 when external rates were increased, a similar right was granted for supplementary stamps to be attached to B.L.P. forms sent abroad. Thus combinations exist of overprinted stamps used with normal definitive or commemorative stamps.

Three-quarters of the second half of the lettersheet formed a reply-card which postal regulations permitted to be returned by the recipient at printed paper rate. Although these reply cards regularly passed through the post, they are now very rare indeed and are valued at over \$600 in the current Sassone catalogue.

There were four distinctive B.L.P. card header types used, differences being in degree of ornamentation of banner lettering, or inclusion of Coat-of-Arms. Header was printed either in brown, red/brown, black, salmon, green or violet. Card colour also varies, being ivory, buff, off-white, grey/blue or pale blue.

Cards were issued in different series which were named and numbered as follows:-

Regionali A1, B1; Nazionali 1-10, 11-20, 21-30, 31-47; Speciali 1-2/3

Several others were limited to specific Italian regions :-

*Campania 1/4; Lazio 1/24; Liguria 1; Lombardia 1/5; Piemonte 1/4; Puglia 1/2;
Sicilia 1/5; Toscana 1/4; Veneto 1; Venezia Giulia 1.*

The series name and number is printed in the bottom margin to the right, the printer's name being to the left, beneath advertisement. (eg. above illustrated card with Sunlight Soap advertisement is printed by Stabilimento, Roma, being "Serie Nazionale 21 - 30"). Overall, there were 113 different cards prepared, of which two were never issued. Various advertisers participated, including Navigazione Generale Italiana, Caramelle Giusti, Sapone Sunlight, Lux, Moet e Chandon, Lloyd Triestino, Chianti Giannozzi, Vini Calissano, Lampo, Banco di Napoli, and many others. Readers interested in combinations of the entire 113 listing may refer to *Catalogo Enciclopedico Italiano*, 1998.

The Stamps - First Issue (Type I lithographed)

The first stamps overprinted B.L.P. made their appearance in January 1921. They were the 10c Leoni (SG76 over-printed in blue) and the 25c Michetti (SG182 overprinted in red). Overprinting was executed lithographically and was carried out at the Stabilimento Consort in Rome. Later, the National Federation stated that the current 15c (SG104) and 60c (SG108) stamps had also been overprinted at the same time, the 15c in blue and the 60c in black. These however were for the private use of the Federation and were not sold to the public. If this is the case, it must be stated that examples of these two values with Type I overprint are not known to be in existence, and they are no longer quoted in catalogues.

The 40c brown Michetti (SG78) appeared in February with a blue overprint although it is also known in blue-black, violet and wine-red. The fourth stamp to be on offer to the public was the 20c orange-brown (SG178) which appeared in July with overprint in blue.

There are a number of overprint varieties on all the stamps but, since the 40c was by far the commonest of the four values, it is only natural that it is this value which has most varieties, including the overprint colour varieties listed above. Both the 25c and 40c are known with the overprint placed high on the stamp; the 10c and 25c have double overprint; the 40c alone has the overprint inverted and also examples of partial overprints, eg. B.L. or L.P.

Second Issue (Type II lithographed)

In September 1922 the 20c and 40c re-appeared, still with a litho overprint carried out by the Consorti company, but with a new type of overprint. The letters are smaller and fatter than in Type I, the overall measurements being more like 13½ mm x 3½ mm instead of 11½ mm x 4 mm. The printing is also cleaner and more clear-cut with the shading of the letters more clearly distinguished. Both the first two values were over-printed in blue. Later in 1922 the 15c overprinted in blue and the 60c carmine overprinted in black were added. The series was completed in 1923 with the issue of 10c (SG76), 25c (SG77), 50c (SG79), and L1 (SG71) stamps all overprinted in black.

As with the first series, the number printed is not known except for the 60c of which 1,200 examples were issued and the L1 of which 1,000 examples were issued according to official sources, although the Sassone catalogue has always given the print order for the latter as 700. In 1923 500 of the 20c and 1,000 of the 40c were re-issued with black overprints. Strangely enough Sassone makes no differentiation in price between blue and black overprints although the latter are much scarcer than the first.

Two somewhat dubious colour varieties in this second series are a dark blue overprint on the 50c of

which only a very few examples are known, and a black overprint on the 15c. The latter is only known unused and the experts have been undecided for some time as to whether this is a genuine variety resulting from a reprint as with the 20c and 40c, or whether these were the product of a private speculative venture. The fact that none has yet been found on cover or without gum seems to suggest the latter.

Other varieties include double overprints on the 10c and 20c; inverted overprints on the 20c and 40c (with black overprints) and on the L1; pairs, one of which is without overprint, of the 40c and L1; and overprints on the reverse 25c, 40c and L1. Partial over-prints are mostly restricted to the 40c and L1, both values being known with the overprint L.P. and B.L. Both plus the 50c are known with simply the letter P; while the L1 alone is known with the letter B. All the overprint varieties are extremely rare; the L1 with the letter B for example being known only on two examples. The least rare variety is the inverted overprint examples which are known on cover for all three values, and is a variety that ironically the catalogues price more cheaply than the normal stamp.

Third Issue (Type II typographed):

During 1923 six values, the 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, and 85c, were issued with the Type II overprint but this time executed typographically. The 10c has overprints in black, blue and grey-black or brown; the 15c overprint is orange-red, as is that on the 25c; the others are all overprinted in black.

In distinguishing between the second litho issue and the third typo issue, the problem only arises for the 10c and 20c, the others either not being duplicated in both issues or having overprints of quite distinct colours. To distinguish the two varieties that are capable of being confused is however, virtually impossible unless the examples are mint off cover in which case the typo examples will show the pressure of the overprint in relief on the reverse. The problem in distinguishing the types in any other situation is such that Gibbons (for one) refuses to list the 10c with typo overprint on the grounds that it is indistinguishable from the 10c with Type II litho overprint. This issue is singular in having one overprint variety that is common to all values and all shades both of stamp and overprint, being reasonably common without full stop after the 'P'.

The Stamps - The Concessionary Issues (condensed down from Colin Pilkington's original extract).

Although, legally, the B.L.P. stamps were valid for a nine-year period, the issuing organisation did not function for more than three years, and the issuing office was finally closed in October 1923. Before that happened there was already a storm of public controversy blowing around the B.L.P. issues which were the subject of a lively debate in the 10th Italian Philatelic Congress held in June 1923.

Many of the stamp issues of Italy during the twenties were of a highly dubious and speculative nature, and it would seem that the Ufficio Emissione of the B.L.P. was no less willing to join in the speculation than was the Post Office itself, or any of the other bodies that became involved at the time. The storm at the Philatelic Congress was due to the issuing office selling considerable quantities of B.L.P. overprinted stamps to a dealer for sale to collectors. This was during the time of the stamps' validity and was a clear breach of the government agreement, which stated that no stamps would be sold unless previously affixed to a lettersheet. The purchaser claimed that he was authorised to do so by the Post Office but, even if the Post Office tolerated such an action with the laxity it regularly showed in this period, there is no doubt that it was still, strictly speaking, an illegal act.

Before that storm had quite died away, the issuing office closed and proceeded to sell off all

remaining stocks of overprinted stamps to a further dealer for sale to collectors. It is from these so-called 'concessionary' issues that mint, off-cover examples of these stamps derive. It was an unpopular move at the time and there is valid reason to suppose that several of the apparent 'concessionary' stamps are in fact posthumous reprints.

And a word about stamp forgeries. Since a great many values are scarce and priced very highly in the catalogues it is natural with the basic stamp so cheap and readily available that many forgeries are in existence. Since it would take an expert with considerable knowledge of the overprints to tell good from bad the only advice possible is to buy only from respectable dealers with, if possible, some certificate of expertisation.

Alternatively, when it comes to the more regular issues there is no doubt that the purist would say that they should only be collected when affixed to the lettercards since this is the condition in which they were supposed to be sold 'to the public'. The franked lettercards are to be found either unused (stamps and cards) or used but, whereas the unused cards are not that much more valuable than the individual stamps, it is worth a warning that used lettercards are catalogued very highly indeed. Single stamps that have been removed from cards may be found either used or unused without gum, the latter being the more usual form in which unused stamps will be found. Mint stamps with complete gum come from the 'concessionary issues' and as such, coupled with their extremely high valuation, might be thought of as beyond the pale for the more discriminating collector.

BELGIUM ILLUSTRATED POSTCARDS

PSSA member, Edgard Pockele-Denis, reports that Belgium issued a set of 6 illustrated postcards on 21 October. The cards were issued on Saturday 21 October 2000 at selected philatelic events and at regular post offices on 23 October. The usual number of the cards were supplied to post offices but no account was taken of the fact that the issue comprised six different designs. As a result the cards sold out quickly at most post offices, with Deurne selling out on Monday morning. The views of Brussels depicted are:

- Brussels Marché aux Poissons
- Cathédrale Saint-Michel
- Avenue de la Toison d'Or
- Mont-des-Arts
- Place Royale
- Place de Monnaies

Edgard bemoans the difficulty of keeping up with all the modern issues of non-denominated stationery, for example, those of France.



NEW NATIONAL PHOTOS PRIVATE ORDER ENVELOPE

Ian McMahon

National Photos is a mail order photographic developing company. As previously reported in the *PSC*, the Company makes extensive use of private order C5 stamped envelopes to return developed photographs to their customers. Following the Company's move from Southport on the Gold Coast to Moorebank in New South Wales, it is now using a new private order envelope. The earlier envelope (with an Aboriginal Art indicium) was precancelled with a Gold Coast Mail Centre undated cancel. It also had (Figure 1) a Southport return address and an advertisement 'Now your Photos on Disk'. The new envelope (Figure 2) is no longer precancelled, has a Moorebank, NSW return address and a new advertisement on the reverse.



Figure 1



Figure 2

AUCTION NEWS

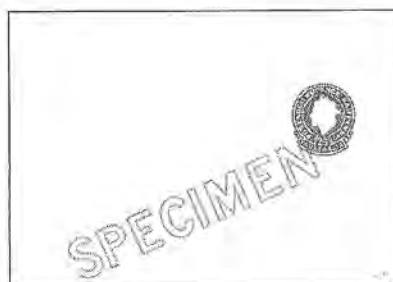
Judy Kennett

In the Status International Auction 194 on 13 December 2000 were two items that are of interest to collectors of Commonwealth of Australia postal stationery, one a rare item, the other a rare usage. Both were illustrated in colour in the catalogue. They are:

'Lot 648 Newspaper wrapper. 1950s 2½ d deep blue embossed QEII PTPO wrapper, overprinted Specimen in red. Unlisted in H&G. Very fine. Rare.' Estimated \$150-\$200, realised \$200 plus commission.

'Lot 670 Lettercard 1953. Express use of 3½d KGVI lettercard uprated with 4½d red KGVI pr with red express label and 'clock' backstamp. (Note: also 'Express delivery in ms). Rare usage of this elusive stamp on cover.' Estimated \$100-\$200, realised \$190 plus commission.

I send my thanks to our member Peter Guerin for supplying the information about realisations. Peter has offered to help members who have inquiries about postal stationery lots offered in Status International Auctions. You are very welcome to inquire either by fax or by phone, but be sure to ask to speak to Peter.



ADDITIONAL PTPO STATIONERY

Peter Guerin

The following PTPO users are additional to those listed in the Supplement to *PSC* August 1996 and the update in *PSC* February 1997.

ENVELOPES

Kangaroo and Map

1d red
The Central Agency Ltd, Sydney

George V Sideface

1d red
Abbotsford Brewery, Abbotsford
Irrigation Commission

George V embossed octagonal die, no "postage" in design

1d red
Department of Mines, Sydney
Farmer & Co Ltd Sydney
J M McCarthy & Co
Resch's
Shire of Dunmunkle
S Cooke, Melbourne

2d Orange
James Marshall & Co Ltd, Adelaide
Shire of Bulla
Shire Of Heidelberg

2d Violet
Singer Sewing Machine Co
NSW Irrigation Commission

1d carmine
Roberts & Co Ltd Auctioneer

1½d brown
Barnet Glass Sydney
Buzacott & Co Ltd Sydney
Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewage
Sydney

2d violet
Crown Lands Office, Sydney

George V embossed octagonal die, with "postage" in design

1d green
Alfred Lawrence and Co Ltd
Box 1591 GPO Sydney
British Australian Wool Realisation Assn Ltd
City of Brighton
The Texas Company (Australasia) Ltd,
Melbourne
Ernest O Thomas Ltd, Adelaide

1½d red
Anthony Hordern and Sons Ltd Sydney
City Surveyors Office Geelong
Edward Dyason and Co Melbourne
James Marshall & Co Ltd, Adelaide
Farmer & Co, Sydney
Leeds Bros Ltd, Orange

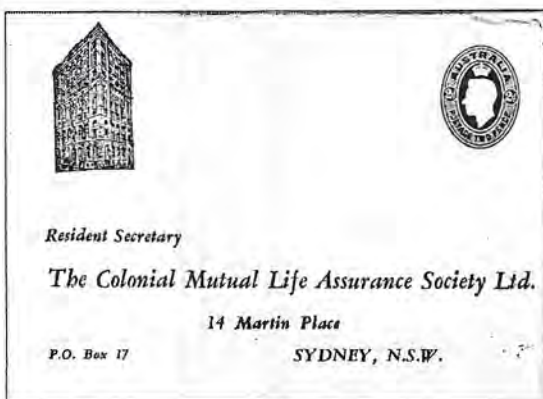
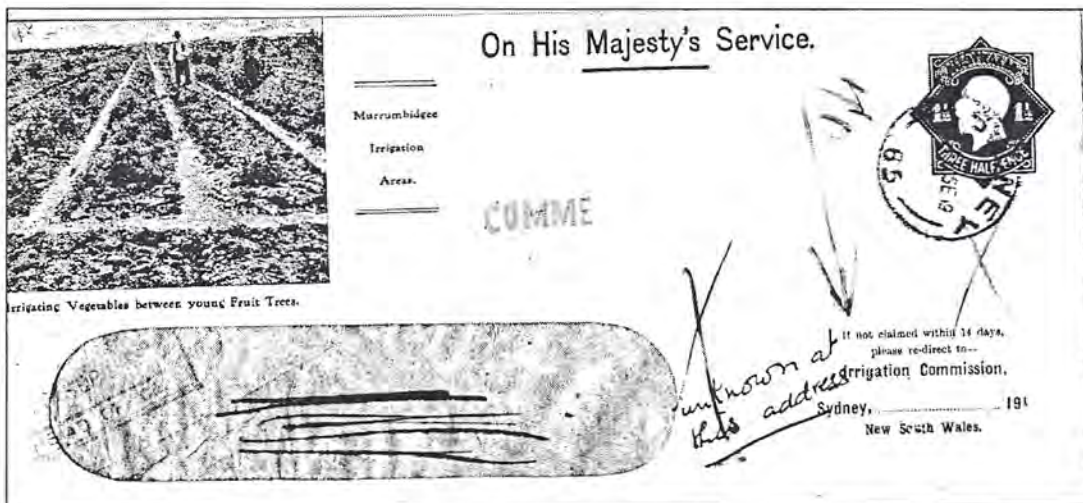
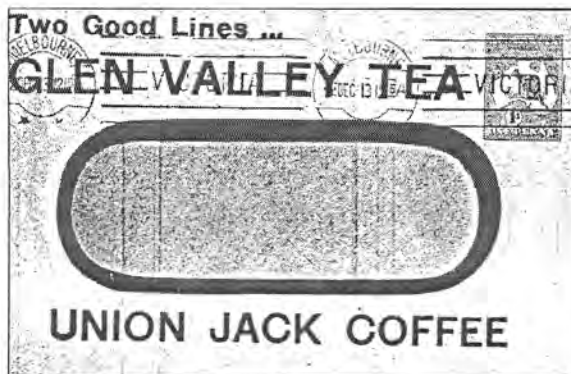
1½d green
Australian Glass Manufacturers, Melbourne

2d red
James Marshall & Co Adelaide

King George V Oval

1d green
Box 783J Elizabeth St Melbourne
Box 2556E GPO Sydney
City of Geelong
C O R, Port Melbourne
Seppelts
Shire of Dunmunkle
Thorne & Dean
Adelaide Co-op Society Ltd
Jantzen (Aust) Ltd, Lidcombe
Hosiery by Prestige
Glover and Goode, Melbourne

1½d red
Edward Dyason & Co Ltd Melbourne



2d red
Brunton & Co Ltd
Dept of Treasury, Canberra
Shire of Dunmunkle
Brooke's Lemos Ltd Melbourne
Seppelt's Wines
Beard Watson & Co Ltd, Sydney
Shire of Donald

2d green
H J Heinz

2½d red
GPO Box 387 D Melbourne
Education Department, Melbourne

2d on 1½d red
Moran & Cato Pty Ltd, Fitzroy

King George VI Oval

1d green
State Electricity Commission of Victoria
Kennard Bros, Broadway

1½d green
Gerrard Wire Tying Machines Co Pty Ltd
Glover and Goode, Melbourne
Fuller, King & Co Melbourne
M Donaghy & Sons Pty Ltd Melbourne
Frederick Stearns & Co, Sydney
Onkaparinga Woolen Co Ltd, Adelaide
Metropolitan Meat Industry Commissioner
Homebush Bay
The Water Conservation and Irrigation
Commission, Sydney

2d red
D'Arcy Shelley Pty Ltd Sydney
The Texas Company (Australasia) Ltd
Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society Ltd

2d green
H J Heinz Co Pty Ltd Adelaide
Shire of Avon
Warbuton Franki, Melbourne

2½d red
Box 1271L GPO Melbourne
Flack & Flack, Melbourne
State Electricity Commission of Victoria

The Paragon Katoomba
Kennard Bros
Department of Treasury, Canberra

3d red
Alex Cowan & Sons Ltd, Melbourne

King George VI round die

3d green
Shire of Orbost
Warburton Franki, Melbourne
Harrison Ramsey Pty Ltd, Sydney
Vacuum Oil
Wallace, Buck and Goodes, Sydney
Wright & Co Sydney
Peters, Redfern
G Arnold, Sydney
Box 2777 GPO Sydney

3½d red
Shire of Bannockburn
Alex Cowan
A W Sandford, Adelaide

Queen Elizabeth II round die

3d green
David Jones, Sydney
Box 22 Redfern
Box 40004 Sydney
Exide
Rosella
Shell Co
TF Stewart & Co
Sydney University Union

3½d red
Box 1 Waterloo
Box 196 Newcastle
Box 4004 Sydney
Box 4301 Melbourne
Henry Berry & Co Melbourne
Farmers
Shell Co

Queen Elizabeth II Large Die

3½d orange
Rosella Foods
A W Anderson, Sydney

Box 1 Waterloo
Box 145 Dandenong
Exide

Queen Elizabeth II small die

3½d orange
Moffat Virtue Ltd
S Cooke (Qld) Pty Ltd
Cyclone Co
Box 135 Sydney
Ford Sherington

4d plum
89-105 Exhibition St, Melbourne
Box 1 Waterloo

5d dark blue
Box 1 Waterloo
Cortex of Sydney
Henry Berry
Alfred Lawrence, Sydney
Moffat Virtue Ltd
Noyes Bros

5d Light Blue
A W Anderson Pty Ltd Sydney

POSTCARDS

King George V Sideface

½d green
Alexander Fergusson

George V embossed octagonal die, with "postage" in design

1d green
Kangaroo Cement

Box 22 Redfern
Box 4308, Melbourne
British Patent Perforated Paper Co Redfern
Cortex of Sydney
Fibre Containers Ltd, Matraville
Henry Berry
Shell Co
Turrell Industries Pty Ltd
NSW Police Dept
K-M serves the building industry, Richmond

5d red
Box 22 Redfern
Camden Art Centre, Melbourne

4c red
Alfred Lawrence
Anderson Processed Foods

5c orange
Cyclone

6c red
F&T Carpets, Melbourne

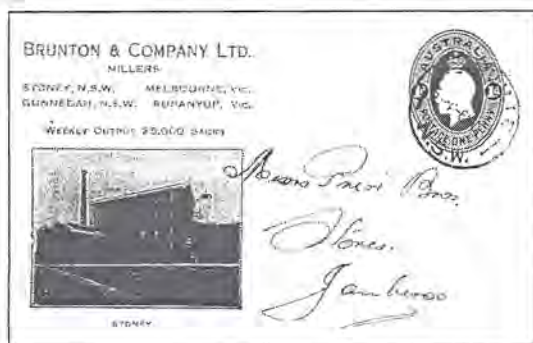
7c Purple
Prince and Martin, Granville

King George V oval

1d green
Bruntons & Co Ltd
Kitchen & Sons
Love & Co
South Clifton Colliery

King George VI oval

Australian Papers Manufacturers
Blue Mountains City Council

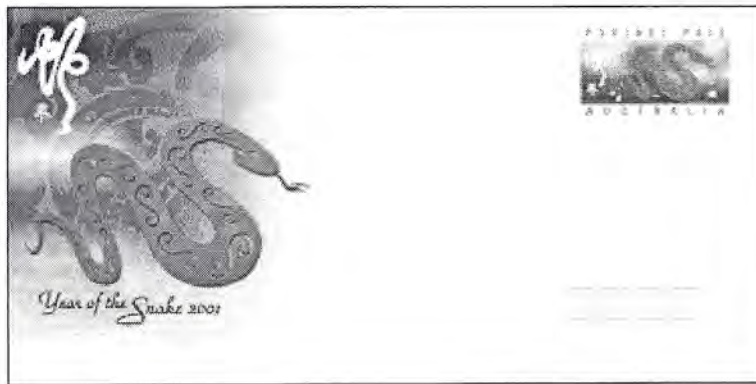


YEAR OF THE SNAKE

As is now almost a tradition, Australia Post issued stationery for the Chinese New Year, on 8 January 2001. The issues commemorate the Year of the Snake. A stamped postcard, a domestic rate envelope and an international envelope were issued.



The stamp design on the envelopes, designed by Luis Chiang, feature a snake and the Chinese characters for Year of the Snake. The design is non-denominated with the inscription 'Postage Paid Australia'. The picture side of the postcard illustrates a popular Chinese folk-tale in which White Snake changes herself into a beautiful young woman who meets and marries a young man. Their happiness is interrupted by a wicked monk who convinces the man that his wife is evil and his life is in danger. The Monk and the White Snake (together with her ally the Green Snake) engage in battle and trickery. The White Snake eventually triumphs and is reunited with her husband.



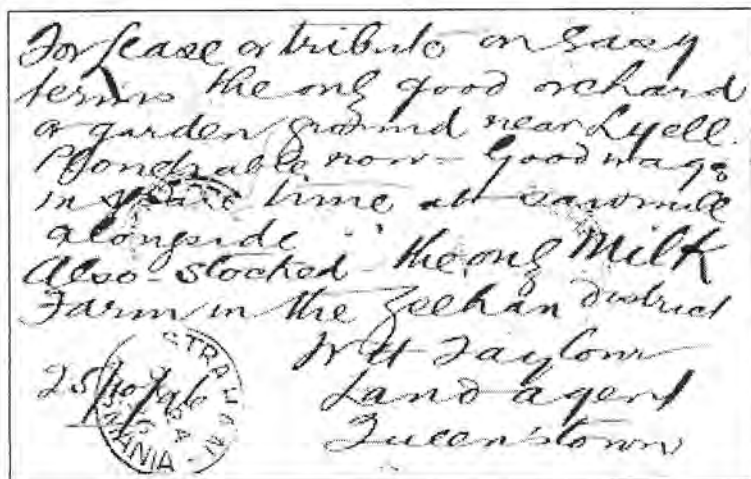
A FAVOURITE PIECE OF TASMANIAN POSTAL STATIONERY

Malcolm Groom

Perhaps having spent too much time collecting postal history I am attracted more to items that have an interesting marking or usage attaching to them. This may not please the stationery purist but hopefully will be of interest with respect to the interesting events that affect stationery.

The postal card illustrated was posted at Penghana Post Office on October 24 1896. The additional 1d paid the late fee. The addressee was 'For exhibition at the Post Office New Norfolk' which indicates an interesting service available whereby advertisements written on the reverse of a postal card could be placed into a Post Office for general display. It was tempting to surmise that the additional 1d fee was to cover this service but unfortunately no such Regulation has been found and the late fee explanation has to be the correct one. The message on the reverse reads 'For lease or tribute on easy terms the only good orchard or garden ground near Lyell ploughable now. - good wages in spare time at sawmill alongside. Also stocked - the only milk farm in the Zeehan district'. Penghana was the forerunner office of Queenstown on the Tasmanian West Coast and as visitors to Queenstown would note that it is now an unlikely place to grow vegetables or run dairy cows.

The card was cancelled with the crown seal of Penghana, which is rare and normally used to seal the mailbags emanating from an office. It was passed to the Strahan post office for carriage by coastal steamer to Hobart from where it arrived at New Norfolk on October 27 1896. Another interesting aspect of the card is that Penghana office was destroyed by a bushfire three weeks later adding a further note of interest to the item.



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

Ian McMahon

Postcards

18 October 2000 Paralympics
Maximum cards
(-)
(-)
(Set price: \$2.30)

8 January 2001 Year of the Snake
(\$1.20) Year of the Snake

Note: The price of maximum cards was increased on 1 January 2001 to face value of stamps plus \$0.75c.

Envelopes

October 2000 Australia Post Paralympic Athletes
(-)
(-)
(-)

October 2000 Aboriginal Art. Reprints
With recycled paper
symbol
C4

8 January 2001 Year of the Snake
(\$0.54) Domestic rate envelope
(\$1.58) International envelope

Note: These cards were issued for promotional purposes and were not sold at Post Offices.

Late 2000 Letter Link 2000
(-)
(-)

Private order Envelopes

Mid 2000 Aboriginal Art Envelope
for National Photos

Note: These cards were used by Olympic athletes to reply to mail from fans.

(-) C5

Note: Differs from earlier reported envelope in that it is not precancelled, shows the return address as Moorebank instead of Southport and has a different advertisement on the reverse.

1 November 2000 Christmas
Maximum cards
(-)
(-)
(-)
(Set price: \$3.75)

Aerogrammes

1 November 2000 Christmas
(\$0.78) Silent Night

1 January 2001 Centenary of Federation
Maximum cards
(-)
(-)
(-)
(-)
(Set price: \$7.98)

Christmas Aerogramme

Australia released its annual Christmas aerogramme on 1 November 2000. The aerogramme celebrates the anniversary of the birth of Christ with a scene inspired by the ever popular Christmas Carol, *Silent Night*. The aerogramme sells for 78c.

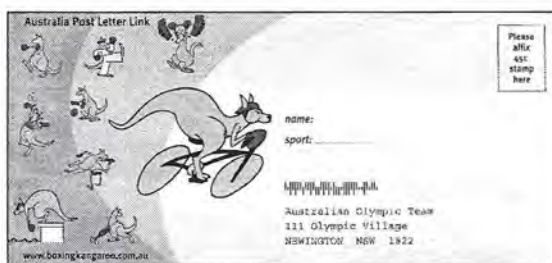


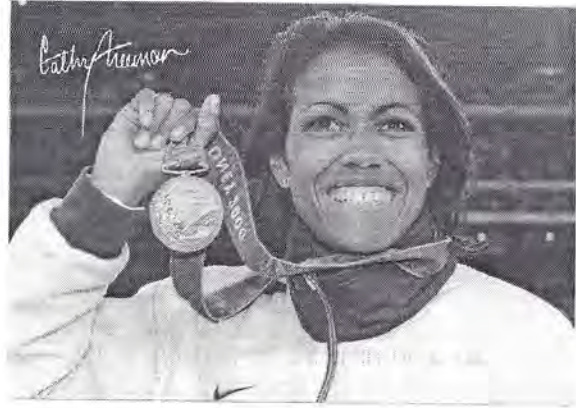
PARALYMPIC 2000 AND LETTER LINK 2000 POSTCARDS

Continuing their series of promotional pre-paid postcards, Australia Post issued three cards depicting Paralympic Athletes employed by Australia Post: Alex Hadley, John Eden and Don Elgin.



In conjunction with their *Letter Link* promotion, encouraging children and other members of the public to write to Olympic athletes, Australia Post distributed a pre-addressed (but unstamped) envelope to school children. They also issued a pre-paid *Letter Link 2000* postcard depicting the Boxing Kangaroo for use by Olympic athletes to reply to mail from fans while a new Cathy Freeman card was issued for responses to her fans.

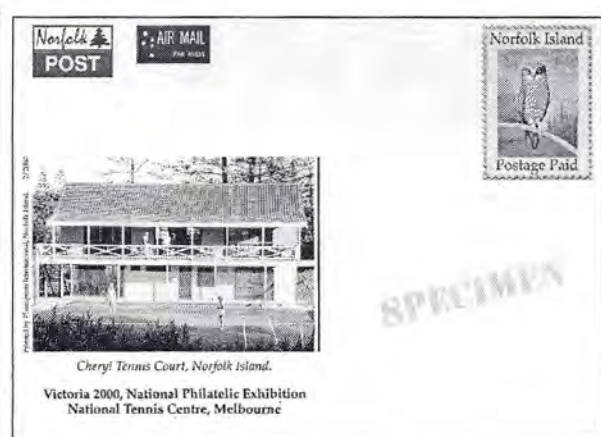
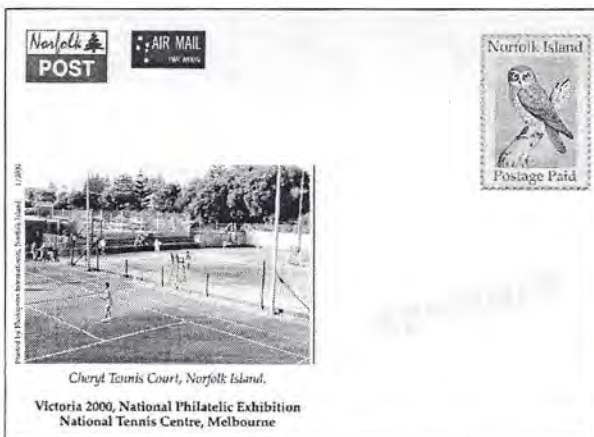
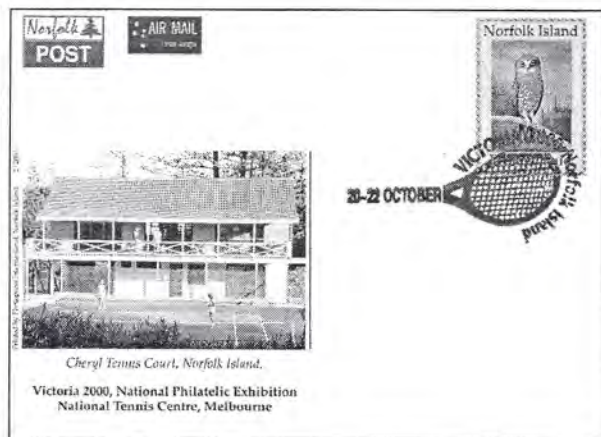
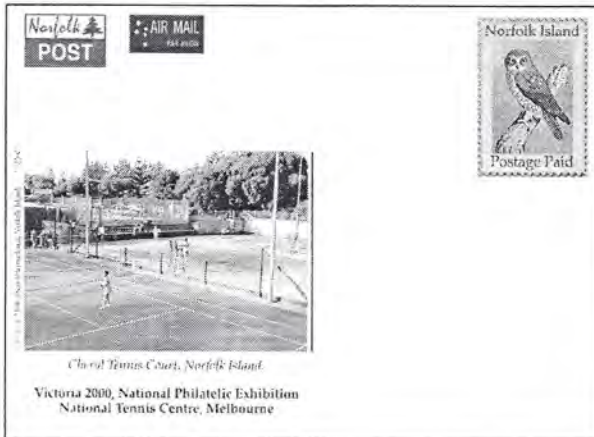




NORFOLK ISLAND'S FIRST POSTAL CARDS

Ian McMahon

Norfolk Island issued its first postal cards on 20 November 2000 in conjunction with Victoria 2000. In keeping with the venue (the National Tennis Centre, Melbourne Park, home of the Australian Open) the postcards depict the club house and tennis court of the Cheryl Tennis Courts on Norfolk Island. The stamp area depicts the Norfolk Island Boobook Owl, a subspecies of the same Boobook Owl found on mainland Australia. The cards were available at the exhibition mint, specimen or cancelled with one of two show cancellations with a tennis theme.



LITERATURE

Ian McMahon

From Our Contemporaries

- Postal Stationery* July-August 2000
Post Office Advertisement for Envelopes
A Personalised 1 Cent Canadian Postal Card
Comments on Statements Made About the Overprinted Dutch Postal Card - Ascher No. 118
A UX3 Pseudo Multiple Advertising Postal Card
Advertising Overprinted on Trans-Mississippi Exposition Postal Card
A Postscript to the 'Postal Stationery Cinderellas of Wonderland'
The Preparatory Work for the First Italian Postal Cards
- Gibbons Stamp Monthly* October 2000
Postal Stationery Matters (Report on London 2000 Stationery Class, Norway and NSW 1838 envelopes).
Problems With Paying Postage On Parcels (includes a discussion of private order parcel labels of Great Britain)
New GB aerogramme (now inscribed 'Airletter'; has the UPU removed the requirement to use 'aerogramme'?)
- Gibbons Stamp Monthly* November 2000
Harry Dagnell discusses British Post Office regulations for impressing stamps on coloured envelopes.
- Philately From Australia* September 2000
Variations of the 1911 Fullface Lettercards by PSSA member, John Sinfield
- The Courier* November 2000
Another New Tasmanian PTPO Envelope
- Postal Stationery Notes* November 2000
William Briggs Advertising Cards
Xpresspost private envelopes and festive packaging
Railway Express Cards
- Craig Chappell Public Auction 24 November 2000*
Craig Chappell's 24 November 2000 public auction catalogue included 1987-88 Stamp Advisory Council photo essays for the 37c Stockman Hall of Fame PSE showing three unaccepted designs, with the final essay being very close to the issued envelope. In addition there was a miscut 'Tarcoola' PSE with the 'Sender's Name and Address' on the front of the envelope.

New Books and Journals

Catalogue Spécialisé des Entiers Postaux des Colonies Françaises 2000 [Specialised Catalogue of the French Colonies] Editors J-P Cachera, G Rykner

The 2000 edition of the Specialised Catalogue of the French Colonies is the first revision of this catalogue for ten years. As well as the stationery of individual Colonies, the Catalogue includes the general issues, issues of France which were issued for use in particular colonies and issues for overseas post offices and occupied territories. In addition the issues of the colonies since independence (eg Vietnam, Cambodia, Algeria and Vanuatu) are included. This is particularly useful as listings for many of these countries are not otherwise available.

The listings in the catalogue are unpriced but prices (in euros) are given in a separate supplement. The catalogue is published by the Association des Collectionneurs D'Entiers Postaux (ACEP) and is available in either hardback or loose leaf formats. The loose leaf version costs 280 FFR plus postage from ACEP, M A de Kervern, 16, rue liege 75009 Paris France.

United States Postal Card Catalog 2000

The 2000 edition of the United States Postal Card Catalog is now available. Published every five years by the United Postal Stationery Society, this edition has over 1350 price changes from the 1995 edition. At 480 pages, there are almost 70 pages of new listings. The section on Exposition cards has undergone substantial revisions with almost 200 price changes in this section alone. The Catalogue is priced at \$US40.00, plus shipping from UPSS Central Office, PO BOX 1116, Thousand Oaks, CA 91358 USA. Non-domestic shipping is \$US5.00. A loose leaf version is available at \$US30.00 plus shipping. (UPSS members receive a discount).

Robert Samuel's Postal Stationery Newsletter

After an interval of five years, Robert Samuel has resumed the publication of his newsletter on New Zealand stationery. The newsletter provides information on new discoveries and new issues of New Zealand stationery. The November 2000 issue covers a 1d 1899 'Specimen' Envelope, a Prisoner of War Postcard, 1932 Lettercard advertisements and a number of other new discoveries. The December 2000 issue comprises four A4 pages and includes the discovery of a double print on a 1d King George V envelope, the issue of a new 60s aerogramme from Samoa, a second example of the 1d 1899 social envelope, new discoveries of 1932 provisional stationery including the first reported revalued wrappers and the 1999 80c prepaid envelope. If you are interested in subscribing to the newsletter please contact PSSA member, Robert Samuel, at PO Box 394 Christchurch, New Zealand.

Michel Ganzsachen Katalog Europa West 2000-01 [Postal Stationery of Europe West]

Michel has released the 2000-01 edition of their catalogue of Western European postal stationery. This edition is the first revision of the Catalogue since 1996-97 and has 908 pages compared with about 800 pages for the previous edition with Macedonia appearing for the first time. Prices are given in Euros for the first time. Of particular note is the increase in non-denominated stationery, especially of the United Kingdom and France. The Catalogue is a useful one-volume catalogue of Western European issues covering all countries of Western Europe excluding Germany. Yugoslavia, the former Yugoslavian republics, Cyprus and Malta are included as well as overseas post office issues and general colonial issues (but not those of individual colonies). The Catalogue is in German but is well illustrated. For those who have not used the Catalogue (or its companion volumes for Eastern Europe and Germany) before, the principal arrangement of stationery is by 'stamp' type. That means that all stationery types (eg postcards, lettercards and envelopes) with the same stamp type are listed together. For those familiar with the traditional listings organised by stationery type this does take some getting used to, but the catalogue does include an index of stamp types. Softbound. Available from all dealers who sell Michel Catalogues or from Vera Trinder at £54 plus postage.

Korean Postal Stationery and Maxicard Catalogue (1948-1998)

North Korean Postal Stationery is relatively unknown. This well-produced 104 page softbound colour catalogue serves to change that situation. The catalogue covers postcards (over 450 listed), lettersheets, pictorial envelopes, aerogrammes, military issues and maximum cards of North Korea issued after 1948. Each item is illustrated in colour. The catalogue would be of particular interest to thematicists as many of the postcards and envelopes are of thematic interest. Others are clearly propaganda in nature. Details of the date of issue, denomination, size and colour of each item are recorded together with the catalogue value in \$US. The catalogue is published by the Korea Stamp Corporation, Pyongyang, North Korea and is available for £10 plus postage from Vera Trinder.

FEEDBACK

Australian Postal Notes: Postal Order News

Bernie Doherty has provided details of an article entitled Commonwealth of Australia Postal Notes "The Uniform Series" by Ross Pratley in Postal Order News, Journal of the Postal Order Society. This article covers Australian postal notes from the 1912 'uniform issue' until the first Decimal

Currency issue. The article also refers to an earlier article *The First Postal Notes of New South Wales* in a 1993 issue of the Society's Journal. Ross Pratley has written a series of other articles for the Journal, with the October 1997 issue including an article entitled *Postal Notes from Down Under Part X* which covers Victorian Postal Notes.

Australian Postal Notes: Auctions

Two postal notes recently offered for auction include a Tasmanian postal note offered in the Launceston's Philatelic Society auction of 19 November 2000 and a Commonwealth postal note from the 1940s recently offered on Ebay.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Flow Report

01/11/99 Through 31/10/00 (in \$s)

INFLOWS	
2000 Membership	2,898.10
Advertising	100.00
Bank Interest	3.43
Journal Grant	400.00
PSSA Journal Sales	375.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	3,911.53
OUTFLOWS	
Entry fees	17.00
Govt. Tax	7.30
Postage-Mailout	698.39
Print Journal	2,051.80
Prize	70.00
Service Charge	23.05
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	2,867.54
OVERALL TOTAL	1,043.99

Net Worth Report

As of 31/10/00 (in Aus. Dollars)

Acct	Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
PSSA	3,572.29
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	3,572.29
TOTAL ASSETS	3,572.29
LIABILITIES	0.00
OVERALL TOTAL	3,572.29

PUBLICATIONS FROM OUR CONTEMPORARIES

Judy Kennett

Recently we have received further publications from L'Association des Collectionneurs d'Entiers Postaux (ACEP) from France, and from L'Unione Filatelisti Interofili (UFI) from Italy. We also have another copy of *Der Ganzsachensammler*, the journal of the Swiss Postal Stationery Collectors' Society (Der Schweizerischen Ganzsachen-Sammler-Vereins / La Societe des Collectionneurs d'Entiers Postaux (bilingual title).

L'Entier Postal 55, Octobre 2000

The contents of this issue include:

Editorial – a word from the Vice-President;

Father Christmas Envelopes;

Greetings from La Poste for the Year 2000;

Chronopost (see note below);

Discovery of an unrecorded advertisement card;

Trial of the Pre-paid Registered Envelope of the Rectorat of Dijon;

Modern Ready-to-Post Reply Envelopes;

New Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the French Colonies (see note on p 92 of PSC November 2000)

Postal Stationery Autographs – messages from famous French men and women on postal stationery items.

The Vice-President wrote in the Editorial of one of the problems common to philatelic societies, stamp clubs, call them what you wish, throughout the world. The Committee of ACEP had made great efforts to operate at least cost, and to reduce the costs of rent for meeting rooms. With the cooperation of another club, the Committee eventually found rooms that would be comfortable and convenient for members attending, would have space for material to be displayed in frames, yet would not cost an excessive amount in rental. The savings expected from the change would be sufficient in a year to cover the cost of producing one whole issue of 'L'Entier Postal'.

Chronopost is an option offered by La Poste for Saturday morning delivery in Metropolitan France of letters posted on Friday. All the sender has to do is place the 'S A Livraison Samedi' etiquette beside the recipient's address. The option is stated to be free!

This issue of the journal concludes with a listing of available ACEP publications. They include the Catalogue of [Postal Stationery] of France and Monaco, and various supplements, and the new Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the French Colonies, as well as directions for obtaining back issues of L'Entier Postal. All publications are sent postage paid by surface mail for France and foreign countries. (Please contact Secretary Judy Kennett re costs of these publications and arrangements for payment).

We have also received from ACEP a copy of 'La Lettre de L'ACEP, No 45, November 2000'. This is a newsletter publication with Society business matters, information about new issues, and an extensive listing of modern French reply envelopes.

L'Intero Postale, No 74 July 2000

This is a special number of the journal, consisting entirely of the second part of 'Catalogo degli Interi

Postali Italiani con Sovrastampe Private Celebrative e Commemorative', by Piero Franco Stracchi. (This translates as 'Catalogue of Italian Postal Stationery with private special and commemorative overprints'). Reference is made to the first part of the Catalogue, which appeared in L'Intero Postale, No 72 January 2000. Each entry in the Catalogue is assigned a unique number, and entries are by the dates of the events. Information such as the full name of the event being commemorated, and the colour and monetary value of the postal stationery item overprinted, is included.

Der Ganzsachensammler, No 69 September 2000

The journal is in A5 format, with card covers in colour. This issue has 28 pages, which includes the covers, with illustrations in the text in black and white. The Contents List is given on the front cover, and the envelope illustrated there refers to the main article in the journal. Some headings are bilingual. Three pages in this issue are devoted to advertising of a philatelic nature. The contents of this issue include:

Notices – Society business matters;

Private Postal Stationery with Stamp Design 'Helvetia with Sword' with different coloured Underprint. This is a major research article, which includes figures for the numbers of envelopes produced for different firms;

United Nations Organisation Stationery with Post Office Permit Text;

Postal Stationery of Telegraph Offices;

BEPHILA 2001 and GABRA IV: Two Jubilee Postal Stationery Exhibitions in 2001;

Zuruck / Zur Frankatur. This article deals with regulations which allowed postcards to be sent free by family members to Swiss citizens serving in certain foreign armies.

Our Members' Results at Exhibitions – includes International and National levels;

Report on the General Assembly 2000.

Acknowledgment

My thanks to Derek Brennan for his efforts in translating and interpreting these foreign language journals.

Any members who have inquiries about articles or publications mentioned in these journals are very welcome to contact me by email on jvkennet@pcug.org.au, or at my postal address. I can arrange photocopies, and can give help with translating articles if necessary.

FROM THE SECRETARY

New Member

We welcome as a new member of the PSSA Ross Wood (WA). Ross's current interests in postal stationery collecting are Czechoslovakia (now the Czech Republic), and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

PSSA Subscriptions for 2001

Subscriptions for 2001 are due, and reminders went out with the November issue of PSC. If you have already paid, thank you – your receipt should be included in this issue. If you haven't, please forward your payment as soon as possible to Treasurer John Crowsley, whose postal address is inside the front cover of this journal.

Payment can be made either by cheque (made payable to the 'Postal Stationery Society of Australia'), or by credit card. The Society can accept payments by bankcard, VISA or Mastercard. The

Queensland Philatelic Council will process all card payments, and that name will appear in the transaction details on your monthly credit card statement. If you have any queries about subscription payments, please contact John directly. You can reach him by email on j.crowsley@uq.net.au.

Congratulations

In 'The London Philatelist' December 2000 are awards at gold medal level and above for the International Exhibition Espana 2000, which was held in Madrid 6-14 October 2000. One of the gold medals winners was our member Steve Schumann, for his exhibit 'New Zealand Postal Stationery, 1876-1936'. Congratulations from us all, Steve!

Publicity for the PSSA

I have just received Issue 3-4/2000 of 'Die Ganssache', the major German language journal devoted to the collection and study of postal stationery. They have very kindly published an article that I prepared about the history and aims of the PSSA. My sincere thanks to our member Norbert Sehler, who is the Secretary of the Berliner Ganssachen-Sammler-Vereins (BGSV), for translating my text and arranging for its publication in the journal.

The BGSV celebrated its centenary on the weekend 8-11 February 2001, as part of the Berliner Briefmarkentage International BEPHILA 2001. The 'Postal Stationery Collector' was entered in the Literature class of the Exhibition. In addition to the exhibition, there were special displays of postal stationery provided by collectors' groups in Germany, and the BGSV also invited postal stationery collectors' groups from Belgium, France, Italy, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Australia to contribute. The PSSA was invited to send material, and was represented by Dingle Smith's 'The Specimen Postal Stationery of New South Wales' and John Sinfield's 'Australia - 1911 King George "Fullface" Id Scenic Lettercards'.

It was a great honour to be asked to participate in this event, a very important one for Postal Stationery collectors worldwide.

Literature Notes

I noticed the following publications listed by Vera Trinder Ltd in October 2000:

1. 'The Silver Key to the Golden Treasure of Indian Philately', by M Jain and S Kothari. This is a comprehensive study of all aspects of Indian philately, and includes postal stationery.
2. 'Encyclopaedia of Indian Postal Stationery' by M Jain. 168 pages, many illustrations.

In the Vera Trinder listing for November 2000 I note the following specialised country catalogues which include postal stationery:

1. 'Indonesia 2000 Specialised' stamps and postal stationery, includes issues for Netherlands East Indies (1864-1949) and the Japanese Occupation of Indonesia 1942-45.
2. 'Korea Postal Stationery and Maximum Card Catalogue (1948-1998), illustrated, full colour.
3. 'Korea KCP 2001', includes postal stationery, English headings.

In addition, 'The London Philatelist' October 2000 contained a review of 'St Pierre et Miquelon: Specialized Stamp Catalog', by James R Taylor. It was published in Calgary, Canada in December 1998. Postal stationery is included by date at appropriate points in the catalogue. The book is obtainable directly from the publishers (their address is given in the review).

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 (published August 2000)
6. Miscellaneous Cards (published August 2000)
7. Avant Card Productions
8. Maximum Cards

7. Avant Card Productions

This part extends our listing of postcards and will probably exceed the limits of the purist's definition of formular postal stationery. Avant Card is a private company producing postcards for free distribution from cafes, universities, libraries, exhibition centres etc. The company was founded in 1992 by Pat Meckle, who brought the idea back from Europe. Avant Card have produced more than 5,200 different designs and now distribute about one million free postcards per week from more than 1,000 venues across Australia and New Zealand. Avant Card's productions have numerous fans and there is already a large number of collectors of these cards. Cards may also be sent by email and a large number of designs may be seen on their website – www.avantcard.com.au.

To our knowledge Australia Post has used the services of Avant Card to produce promotional cards on eleven occasions between 1994 and 1998. Ten of these were produced to promote exhibitions at the Philatelic or Postmaster Galleries at the National Philatelic Centre in Melbourne. These cards have only been produced during the tenure of Paul Fox as curator. Six of the cards are of philatelic interest as they depict stamps (4), final artwork (1) or an unadopted design (1). The eleventh card promoted the 1998 Melbourne Festival and an Express Post competition.

The "Think Design" exhibition opened at the Philatelic Gallery during Stamp Collecting Month (October) 1994. The exhibition gained a rave review in the Melbourne Age and the poster, depicted on the card, won the 1995 Melbourne Art Directors Competition for Best Graphic Design. Avant Card number 263 was produced to promote this exhibition. "Holiday Stories" was an exhibition of children's book illustrations. This exhibition ran from 17 December 1994 to 18 March 1995. This exhibition featured sessions by guest illustrators. One of these was Elizabeth Honey designer of the Aussie Kids stamp issue. The postcard promoting this exhibition features an unadopted design by Elizabeth Honey from the Australia Post Collection. Given this information and the cricket theme this card already commands a good price (up to \$25 each!) from the card dealers. The card is number 310 in the Avant Card range.



The "Think Design" and "Holiday Stories" exhibition cards.

“Little Horrors” was an exhibition of horror in Australian cinema and on stamps from around the world. It was held at the Philatelic Gallery from 28 June to 22 August 1995. The exhibition coincided with the centenary of cinema stamp issue. The promotional card depicted an Austrian stamp of 1973 and is Avant Card number 456. The “Sight Seeing” exhibition ran from 22 September to 26 November 1995. This exhibition explored the clash of cultures resulting from the impact of travellers around the world. The exhibition featured postcards and stamps from around the world and the promotional card produced by Avant Card reproduced an early card depicting postmen of Natal. It is card number 521.



The “Little Horrors” and “Sight Seeing” exhibition cards.

“Beam Me Up Spotty” was an exhibition of the imagery of space as depicted on stamps from around the world. This exhibition was held in the Postmaster Gallery from 2 December 1995 to 10 March 1996. The promotional card depicted the 1962 Albanian stamp featuring *Laika* - the first dog in space. It is Avant Card number 643. A souvenir cover and special postmark also accompanied this exhibition. “Stamp Fictions” was an exhibition exploring modern novels, authors and postage stamps. This was held at the Postmaster Gallery from 14 October to 1 December 1996. Avant Card number 1106 promoted this exhibition. It featured a 1985 French stamp honouring Jean Paul Sartre.



The “Beam Me Up Spotty” and “Stamp Fictions” exhibition cards.

“National Postures” was an exhibition of images of the kangaroo. It was described as “a whimsical look at the kangaroo in a variety of postures on stamps, artwork and television.” The exhibition ran from 7 December 1996 to 9 February 1997 at the Postmaster Gallery. It was promoted by Avant Card number 1227. “From Charity to Coralie” was an exhibition of women on Australian stamps. This exhibition was held at the Postmaster Gallery from 16 February to 27 April 1997. Avant Card number 1320 promoted this exhibition.



The "National Postures" and "From Charity to Coralie" exhibition cards.

"Polish Posters" was an exhibition of contemporary Polish Art curated by Geoff Wallis of the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery. The exhibition appeared at the Postmaster Gallery from 1 May to 8 June 1997. Avant Card number 1428 promoted this exhibition and depicted a poster by Waldemar Swierzy for a circus. This exhibition was shown at other venues under the name "Outside Art Inside". The final Avant Card promoting an Australia Post exhibition was released in association with "Design Process." This exhibition featured the design process of stamps by Douglas Annand, Garry Emery and Kim Roberts. It ran from 13 June until 14 September 1997 at the Postmaster Gallery. This card is interesting as it depicts the finished artwork of the "fruit" stamp from the 1972 primary industries issue by Douglas Annand. This was Avant Card number 1553. This was the last exhibition curated by Paul Fox. After this period the exhibition galleries were closed and refurbished. The next exhibition, "The Millionth Migrant", opened in January 1998 and was curated by Elizabeth Gertzakis. This, and subsequent, exhibitions have been accompanied by catalogues and have not been promoted through the medium of Avant Card productions.



The "Polish Posters" and "Design Process" exhibition cards.

Australia Post were one of the sponsors of the 1998 Melbourne Festival. Avant Card 2576 promoted the festival and depicted performers from four of the festival's events. The performers, clockwise from top, are *The Bekova Sisters*, *Leah Purcell*, *Ballet Preljocaj* and *Andrea Marcovicci*. The card also promoted a competition offering a trip to the 1999 Edinburgh Festival.



"Melbourne Festival" post card.

Although not strictly a card produced for Australia Post there is one other Avant Card production that is worthy of mention. This was produced for the National Archives of Australia and promoted a travelling exhibition "Signed, Sealed, Delivered" that featured many of the National Archives' vast collection of postal records. The exhibition has been to Bendigo, Canberra, Melbourne and Brisbane. Avant Card 2293 promotes the exhibition at Canberra. I believe that similar cards promoting the exhibition at Bendigo and Brisbane have also been produced. A postage prepaid card was distributed from the exhibition when it was at the National Philatelic Centre late in 1999.



"Signed, Sealed, Delivered" exhibition card.

We have quoted the Avant Card numbers for each of these issues. According to the collectors of these cards the first 500 are the most difficult to obtain as they were distributed before the collectors got onto them. Cards 501 to 1,000 are the next in difficulty. After number 1,000 the cards are more easily obtained as collectors became more organised and supplies were gathered up by collectors and postcard dealers alike. I have been fortunate in obtaining just enough of some of the designs to allow every subscriber to Postal Stationery Collector to receive a free card.

Considering the method of distribution of these cards it is possible that other Australia Post events, services or competitions have been promoted by the medium of the Avant Card. The authors will be pleased to learn of any other Avant Card productions associated with Australia Post.

CHRISTMAS MAXIMUM CARDS

Joan Orr

I don't usually buy these cards but thought I would send some to overseas friends this year so I picked up a few packs. The interesting thing is that the 80¢ Season's Greetings card features the current International Air Mail etiquette whereas the other two cards which bear the domestic stamps (40¢ and 45¢) have the old style etiquette even though both are valid "for posting in Australia and delivery worldwide".



NEW ISSUES

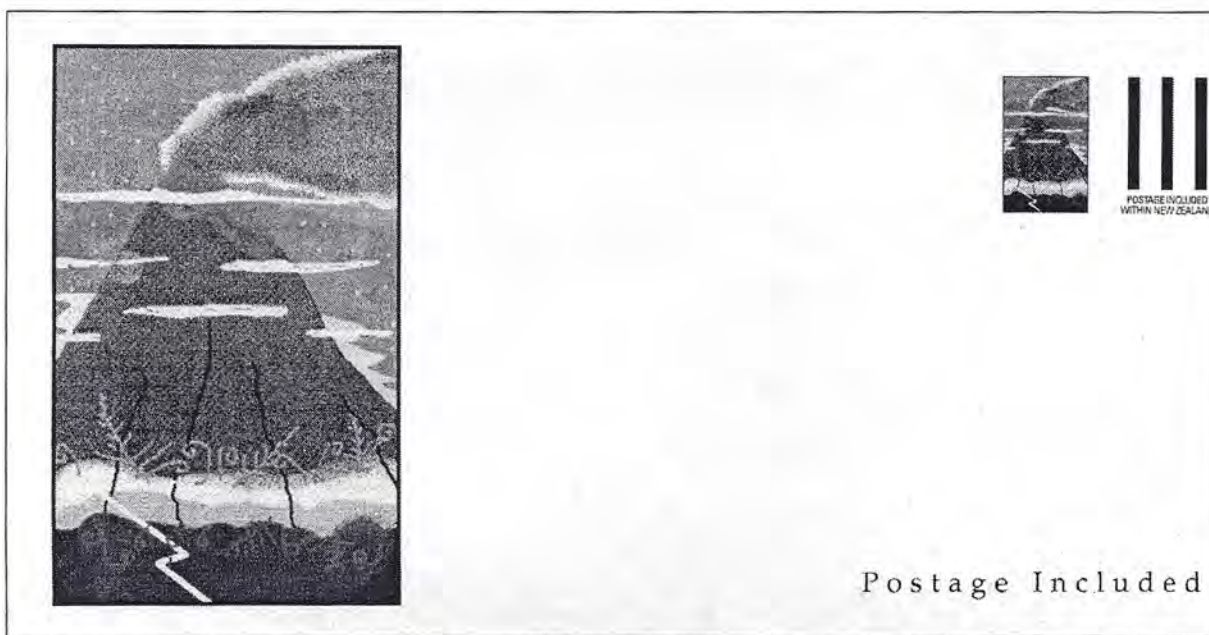
New Zealand

On 4 November 2000, New Zealand Post issued a set of seven pre-paid postcards (sold as maximum cards for \$12.60) depicting threatened birds. The birds depicted were:

- Black stilt
- Orange-Fronted Parakeet
- Okarito Brown Kiwi
- North Island Weka
- Kakapo
- Lesser Kestrel
- Stewart Island Fernbird



On 2 August 2000 a stamped envelope in the Aotearoa Landscape Series was issued with a cachet entitled *Night Time Blast*.



The envelope was designed by Gwilyn Lloyd, age 10. The envelope is sold in packs of ten for \$4.95.

Belgium

From Edgard Pockele-Denis, a recent Belgium postcard for the 50th anniversary of Barelli, a Belgian cartoon character.



Nauru

In addition to the stamped envelope for the Olympic Torch Relay reported in the last issue of *PSC*, a postcard was also issued for the same event on 25 October 2000 and sold at \$1.10.

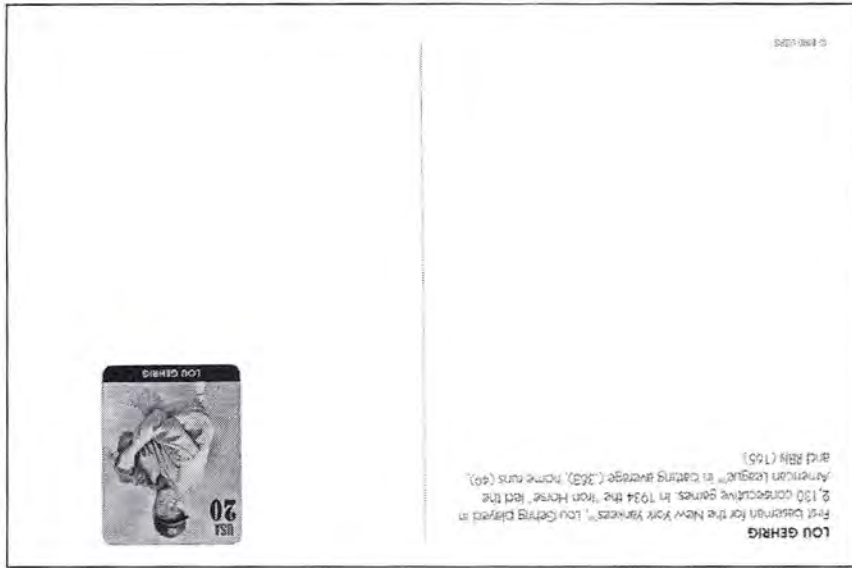
Canada

About mid-2000, Canadian pictorial cards began to appear with bar-code stickers affixed. This is presumably a prelude to their issue with printed barcodes.

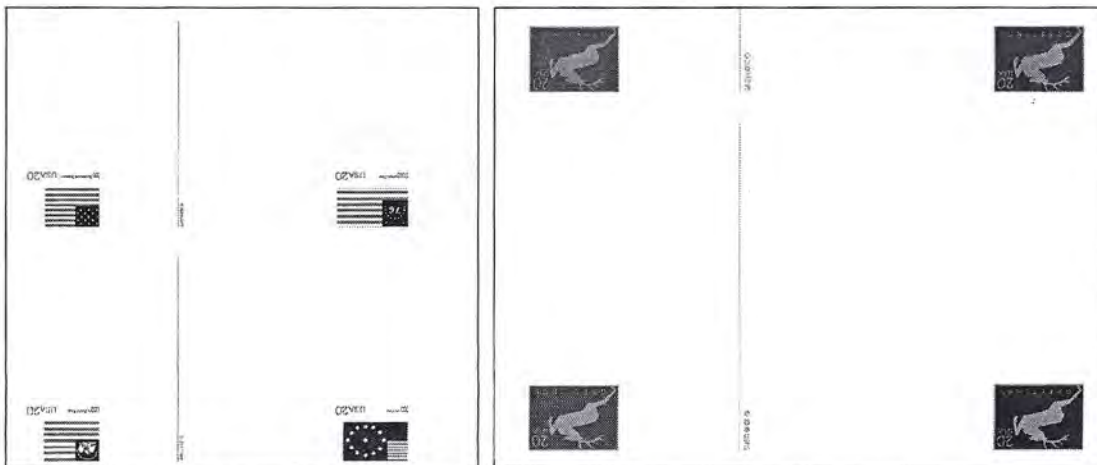


USA

Recent postcard issues have included a postcard booklet of 20 postcards depicting baseball legends, a set of four seasons greetings cards, issued in sheets of four and sold in packs of 20 and a set of four showing old US flags, issued in sheets of four.



Baseball Postcard Booklet Cover



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Protectors 290mm x 218mm <i>400gms</i>	per 50	\$18.00		
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290mm x 260mm side opening <i>200gms</i>	per 10	\$16.00		
290mm x 220mm side opening <i>190gms</i>	per 10	\$16.00		
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* POSTAGE & PACKAGING: Please add \$7.00 for the first kilo and \$3.00 for each additional kilo or part thereof. Shipping weights per pack are shown above.

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