POSTAL STATIONERY

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FROM THE EDITOR

Stampshow Melbourne 2002

Stampshow Melbourne 2002 was held from 4-6 October 2002 at the Function Centre, Melbourne Park. There were seven entries in the Postal Stationery class with Alan Huggins' Great Britain – The First Embossed Postal Stationery receiving a Gold medal and special prize. The results were:

Alan Huggins	Great Britain - The First Embossed Postal Stationery	Gold and Special Prize
Michael Blinman	New South Wales Postal Stationery	Large Vermeil and Special Prize
Alistair Gow	Great Britain Registered Postal Stationery	Silver
Hans Karman	Postcards of the Netherlands: The Years after World War II	Large Silver
Ross Duberal	Fiji to 1954	Large Vermeil
Clyde Ziegeler	Bohemia and Moravia	Large Silver
Ian McMahon	Queen Elizabeth II Postal Stationery of Canada	Large Silver

The PSSA prize was a 19th Century etching of Melbourne Landmarks and was awarded to Michael Blinman. The exhibition also had two stationery souvenirs: the two Melbourne Park cards with a Melbourne Stampshow 2002 overprint.

Swanpex 2002

Swanpex 2002 featured a National one-frame class which included a pleasing number of stationery exhibits. The results were:

John Sinfield	Australia WWI Forces Lettercards	Diamond
John Sinfield	UPU Membership - It's Effect on Victoria's Postcards	Diamond
David Lu	The International Aerogrammes of China (1948-49)	Ruby
Michel Roland	Postal Stationery of the Occupied Belgium 1914-1916	Ruby
Bernard Doherty	From Postcard to Postal Card and Back	Ruby
Ross Wood	Turks and Caicos Islands Postal Stationery	Emerald
Ian McMahon	Lettercards of Canada	Emerald
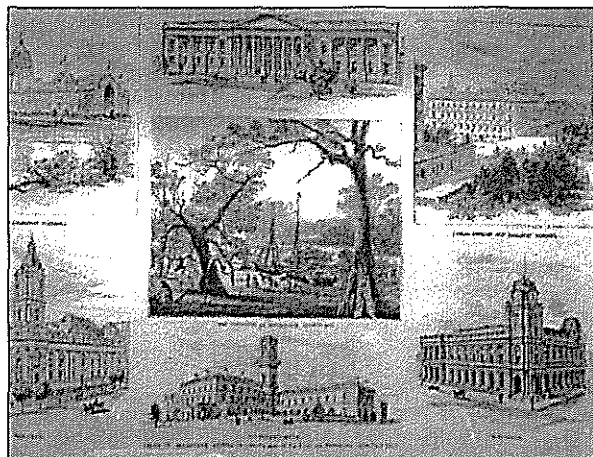
ARCHIVAL RECORDS OF
AUSTRALIAN AEROGRAMMES, 1944-1965

Geoff Kellow

I. THE PRINTING INSTRUMENT REQISITIONS

This is the first of several articles intended to place on record the available archival records relating to Australian aerogrammes up to decimal currency. All aerogrammes in this period were produced by the Note Printing Branch in Melbourne, and such records as still survive are held by the Reserve Bank of Australia in Sydney.

The present article deals with the ordering and production of printing instruments for aerogrammes. All aerogrammes in the period under review, with one exception were printed from letterpress plates. The exception was the 1962 Commonwealth Games aerogramme, which was photogravure-printed. The technique used to prepare aerogrammes was to produce a large-size, accurate pen-and-ink drawing (one for each colour in the case of two-colour aerogrammes) which acted as a master for reproduction. The drawing was photographed and reduced to actual size and an image transferred to a sensitised copper plate, which was then etched with the design. This copper plate the master and was used to strike moulds (in lead or possibly wax), which in turn were placed in an electrolytic bath to "grow" nickel electros which constituted the printing blocks.

All these various instruments used for the manufacture of printing plates, or for the actual printing itself, were produced under the strictest security. In order to create a new instrument, a Requisition Form had to be filled out. There are two series of these forms held at the Reserve Bank archives - the NP-IR series (covering the period 1913 to 1961) and the P-4 series from 1961 onwards (at least to 1966, the latest year available at present for public examination).

These Requisition Forms represent the authority to produce each printing instrument. Each time a new printing instrument was required, the General Manager of the Note Printing Branch was required to apply to the Governor of the Commonwealth Bank (later Reserve Bank). Following approval, the NP-IR form was filled out, with date of requisition and signed by the General Manager. (At a later date, it was decided that the authority of the General Manager was sufficient, and countersigning by the Governor of the Bank was discontinued). This form gave permission for the production of the specific instrument listed, including permission to take from the strongroom any other instrument required for the production of that instrument (e.g., a steel die needed for rolling in a master plate). The time and date on which production commenced and terminated is noted, and signed by the Head of the Department concerned, and the specific workman charged with the task of producing the instrument is nominated. Finally, the date the instrument was placed into stock (i.e., into the strongroom for the first time) was given.

There are four series of NP-IR Requisition Books:
> For Copper and Steel Plates (and Dies)
> For Steel Cylinders
> For Nickel Plates
> For Electrotypes and Process Blocks (containing all aerogramme entries)

In the case of the first three series, the Requisition Forms were numbered in sequence, and the number of the form became the official instrument number. In the case of requisitions for electrotypes and process blocks, duplicate items were often required in large numbers, and it would have been tedious and time-consuming to fill in a separate form for each instrument. In this case, the requisition number became an order number, and a separate series of numbers were filled in on the Requisition form which represented the official instrument numbers for each instrument covered by that form. These official numbers began N1 in 1941 (the earliest date for which any forms have survived) and

continued through to N10000 in 1951. Then began a P1-10000 series (1951-1960), and a Q1-10000 series (1961 onwards). These official instrument numbers would have been inscribed somewhere on the printing instruments, but in a position such that the number does not appear on the finished printed product.

Aerogrammes form only a very small proportion of the entries in the requestion book series covering Electrotypes and Process Blocks. These books also include items such as booklet covers, postage due values, various letterpress-printed revenue stamps, or letterpress portions of other revenue stamps, and the books were also used for ordering many different types of experimental instruments. However, by far the largest proportion of the entires refer to the non-intaglio tints used for printing bank notes, for which very large numbers of plates were required.

Some books (as judged by gaps in the numerical sequence) are missing. It seems unlikely that these books now exist.

The entries presented here are largely self-explanatory, but several points need to be made:

1. The entries have been extracted by the author, who apologises for any transcriptional errors that may have occurred. The data presented here is restricted to the date of requisition, the instrument ordered, which has in many cases been paraphrased to create some consistency of expression and help with philatelic identifications, the official instrument numbers, and the date of placement into stock.

2. Aside from the matter of the missing requisition books, the entries must be complete for the period covered. The security system put into place for the creation of printing instruments meant that, without a requisition form, no instrument could be made. The researcher therefore must think very carefully before deciding to "invent" any new printing plate to satisfy their observations, because other than those listed here, none can exist. So far as the gaps are concerned, there are some other sources, to be published in due course, which will help fill some of these.

3. This listing is merely a requisition of printing instruments, with, in cases were a date into stock is recorded, proof that the instrument was created. The existence of any printing instrument does not mean, however, that it was ever actually used. That is a matter of separate record.

4. The numbers of printing electros manufactured is clearly an indication of the size of the printing plates, but care must be taken in using the requisition records for this purpose, since quite often spares were made. The size of the printing plates is better derived from the strongroom record of issues of printing instruments, which will be the subject of a separate article.

Date of Requisition	Instrument	Instrument No.	Date into Stock
NP-IR-44 (Orders 401-500)			
19.6.1944	Copper original for 7d air letter form with stamp	N821	29.6.1944
28.6.1944	Copper original for 7d air letter form with stamp	N823	23.8.1944
28.6.1944	Electros for 7d air letter form (x16)	N824-N839	10.7.1944
10.7.1944	Electros for 7d air letter folders (x6)	N949-N954	18.8.1944
NP-IR-45 (Orders 501-600)			
17.8.1944	Copper original for 7d air letter form with stamp	N1082	28.8.1944
17.8.1944	Electros for 7d air letter folders (x16)	N1091-N1106	28.8.1944
22.5.1945	Copper original for 7d air letter form	N2103	10.8.1945

| 29.6.1945 | Electros for 7d air letters (x16) | N2286-N2301 | 10.8.1945 |

NP-IR-46 (Orders 601-700)

17.9.1945	Copper original for 7d air letter (new design)	N2518	4.10.1945
19.9.1945	Electros for 7d air letter (new design) (x16)	N2519-N2534	4.10.1945
10.10.1945	Electros for air letter form (no denomination) (x4)	N2553-6	18.10.1945
17.5.1946	Electros for 7d air letter (x18)	N2979-N2996	29.5.1946

NP-IR-47 (Orders 701-800)

22.11.1946	Electros for 7d air letter (x12)	N3504-N3515	20.5.1947
22.10.1947	Copper original 7d air letter (new design)	N5174	23.3.1949
25.2.1948	Electros for 7d air letter (x12)	N5400-N5411	6.4.1948

NP-IR-48 (Orders 801-900)

4.6.1948	Copper original for 7d air letter (x16)	N5643-N5658	5.8.1948
22.7.1948	Electros for 7d air letters (x16) (endorsed "Not Required")	N5813-N5828	
24.5.1949	Electros for 7d air letter (x16)	N7239-N7254	20.6.1949
14.7.1949	Copper original for air letter (no denomination)	N7288	
14.7.1949	Copper original for 7d stamp (for air letters) (endorsed "For Proofs 2 Colour Airletters")	N7289	13.7.1953
10.8.1949	Electros for 7d air letters (x12)	N7502-N7513	21.10.1949
23.8.1949	Electros for 7d air letters (x16)	N7543-N7558	26.10.1949

NP-IR-49 (Orders 901-1000)

| 22.9.1950 | Electros for 7d air letters (x16) | N9476-N9491 | 17.10.1950 |
| 20.10.1950 | Electros for 7d air letters (x16) | N9610-N9625 | 12.12.1950 |

NP-IR-50 (Orders 1001-1100)

| 24.1.1951 | Electros for 7d air letters (x12) | N9727-N9738 | 28.2.1951 |
| 2.11.1951 | Electros for 7d air letters (x16) | P570-P585 | 29-30.11.1951 |

NP-IR-51 (Orders 1101-1200)

18.4.1952	Electros for 7d air letters (x12)	P1140-P1151	29.5.1952
23.7.1952	Copper original for 10d air letter	P1322	13.7.1953
27.8.1952	Electros for 10d air letters (x16)	P1361-P1376	29.8-11.9.1952
28.11.1952	Electros for 10d air letters (x24)	P1571-P1594	17.12.1952

Orders 1201-1300 - missing

NP-IR-52 (Orders 1301-1400)

21.8.1953	Electros for 10d aerogramme (x12)	P2825-P2836	27.10.1953
27.10.1953	Electros for 10d aerogramme (x18) (endorsed "Cancelled")	P3001-P3018	
12.11.1953	Copper block for 10d aerogramme (two colour - red only)	P3101	5.1.1956
27.11.1953	Electros for 10d aerogramme (new design – two colour) - Red (x30)	P3150-P3179	28.6.1954
	Electros for 10d aerogramme (new design – two colour) - Blue (x30)	P3180-P3209	28.6.1954
10.3.1954	Electros for aerogramme (no stamp) - Red (x4)	P3566-P3569	13.4.1954

(There is clearly a gap here, although the numerical sequence of order numbers continues without break)

NP-IR-59 (Orders 1401-1500)

19.5.1955	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Red (x16)	P5023-P5028	6.6.1955
8.7.1955	Copper block for 10d aerogramme - Blue (for flat plates)	P5238	28.8.1956
12.7.1955	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Red (x12) (for flat plates)	P5265-P5276	22-25.7.1955
25.7.1955	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Red (x12) (for flat plates)	P5277-P5288	15.8.1955
26.8.1955	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Red (x12) (for flat plates)	P5406-P5417	-

(? not made, no delivery into stock)

30.11.1955	Copper block for 10d Olympic aerogramme	P5979	14.12.1956
7.12.1955	Electros for Olympic aerogramme experimental (x2 - in red and in blue)	P5985-5986	4.7.1957

NP-IR-68 (Orders 1501-1600)

|			
13.2.1956	Electros for 10d Olympic aerogramme - Red (x18)	P6213-P6230	11.4.1956
9.4.1956	Copper blocks for experimental two-colour 10d aerogramme (x2)	P6305-P6306	7.4.1957
1.5.1956	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Red (x18)	P6330-P6347	4.5.1956
4.5.1956	Proving electros for experimental 10d aerogramme (x2)	P6390-P6391	26.8.1957
12.9.1956	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Red (x16)	P6576-P6591	21.9.1956
12.9.1956	Electros for 10d Olympic aerogramme – Red (x12)	P6592-P6603	9.10.1956

NP-IR-69 (Orders 1601-1700)

29.10.1956	Proving die for 10d stamp	P6775	27.5.1957
25.1.1957	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Red (x12)	P7236-P7347	26.3.1957

NP-IR-87 (Orders 1701-1800)

29.8.1957	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Red (x12)	P7588-P7599	12.9.1957
10.2.1958	Copper block for 10d aerogramme (flat plate, new design with double flaps)	P7913	6.8.1958
	Copper block for 10d aerogramme (curved plate for Timson, new design with double flaps)	P7914	6.8.1958
13.3.1958	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (flat plates, new design)	P7941-P7960	23.10.1958 -13.2.1959
	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (curved plates, new design)	P7961-P7964	14.9.1960
18.3.1958	Copper block for 10d aerogramme - Red forme only (curved plate, new design)	P7967	6.8.1958

Orders 1801-1900 - missing
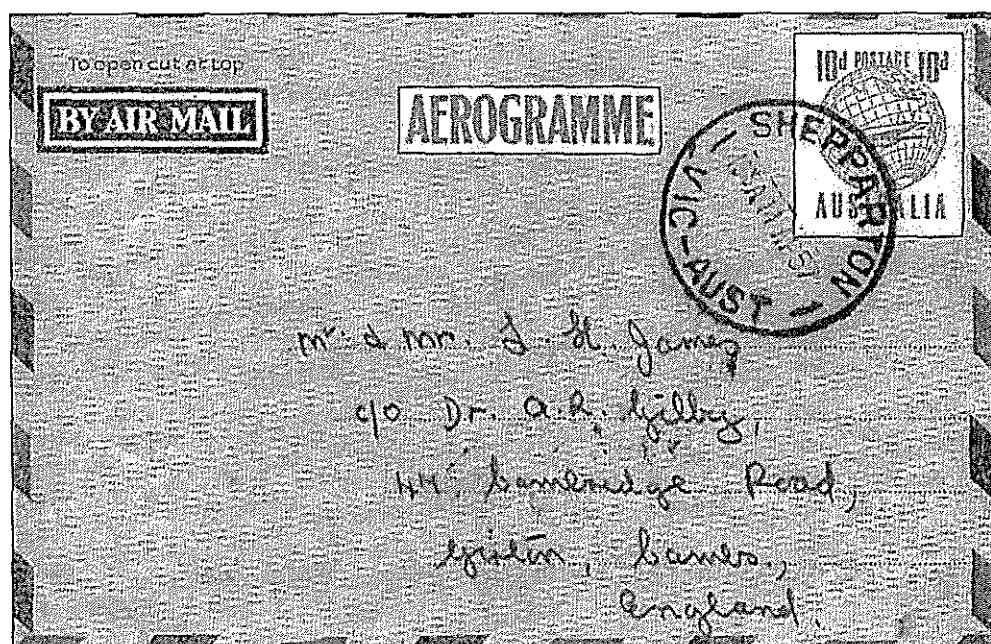
NP-IR-88 (Orders 1901-2000)

4.6.1958	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Red (flat plates) (x16)	P8206-8221	9.7.1958
15.8.1958	Letterpress steel die experimental stamp for aerogramme (double flaps, value omitted) (engraved by D. Cameron)	P8386	19.3.1959

12.2.1959	Copper block for special aerogramme (Scientific Management) (Red and Blue)	P8666	11.6.1959

NP-IR-89 (Orders 2001-2100)

17.3.1959	Proving electro for 10d aerogramme - Blue (Scientific Management)	P8722	25.8.1960
13.4.1959	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (x20)	P8775-P8794	5.5.1959
24.4.1959	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (Scientific Management) (x12)	P8811-8822	15.5.1959
26.8.1959	Copper block for OHMS stamp for aerogramme	P9383	1.8.1960
	Electros for OHMS stamp for aerogrammes (x12)	P9384-P9395	16.9.1959
14.9.1959	Copper block for line for aerogramme ("Fold flap before moistening adhesive)	P9485	25.1.1960

NP-IR-90 (Orders 2101-2200)

25.1.1960	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (including stamp) (x20)	P9754-P9773	25.2.1960
27.2.1960	Copper block for OHMS aerogramme for internal use	P9954	14.2.1961
29.3.1960	Electros for OHMS aerogramme (x10)	Q129-Q138	17.6.1960
27.4.1960	Copper block for OHMS aerogramme - Red	Q166	14.2.1961
	Copper block for 10d aerogramme - Blue	Q167	4.8.1961
	Copper block for 10d aerogramme - Red (amended design)	Q168	4.8.1961

NP-IR-91 (Orders 2201-2300)

23.5.1960	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (with new inscription) (x20)	Q187-Q206	24.6.1960
2.6.1960	Copper block for 10d Qantas aerogramme - Red	Q344	13.10.1960
	Copper block for 10d Qantas aerogramme - Blue	Q345	13.10.1960
15.6.1960	Proving electro for 10d Qantas aerogramme - Blue	Q359	7.9.1960
27.6.1960	Electros for 10d Qantas aerogramme - Blue (x12)	Q360-Q371	5.7.1960
25.1.1961	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (x8)	Q1044-Q1051	28.2.1961

NP-IR-92 (Orders 2301-2400)

12.5.1961	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (x12)	Q1351-Q1362	7.6.1961
6.9.1961	Copper block for 10d Christmas aerogramme stamp	Q1876	31.10.1961
21.9.1961	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (x16)	Q1880-Q1895	22-24.11.1961
10.10.1961	Electros for 10d Christmas aerogramme stamp (x10)	Q1926-Q1937	30.10.1961
13.10.1961	Copper block for 10d Christmas aerogramme stamp (amended design)	Q1938	12.1.1962

P-4-129 (Orders 2401-2500)

20.3.1962	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (x20)	Q2096-Q2115	2.7.1962
23.5.1962	Copper block for 10d Power Conference aerogramme - Red	Q2125	30.10.1962
	Copper block for 10d Power Conference aerogramme - Yellow	Q2126	30.10.1962
	Proving electro for 10d Power Conference aerogramme - Red	Q2127	5.1.1965
	Proving electro for 10d Power Conference aerogramme - Yellow	Q2128	5.1.1965
12.6.1962	Electros for 10d Power Conference aerogramme (x12)	Q2181-Q2192	24.7.1962
5.7.1962	Copper block for 10d Christmas aerogramme	Q2193	9.4.1963
	Electros for 10d Christmas aerogramme (x12)	Q2196-2207	5.2.1963
22.8.1962	Electros for 10d Christmas aerogramme (x12)	Q2374-2385	31.10.1962
3.10.1962	Photogravure cylinder for 10d Commonwealth Games aerogramme	AG1	29.5.1963
4.10.1962	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (x20)	Q2443-Q2462	13.12.1962
11.10.1962	Copper block for 10d Royal Visit aerogramme	Q2463	10.10.1963

1.11.1962	Copper block for 10d Royal Visit aerogramme	Q2472	9.4.1963
	Electros for 10d Royal Visit aerogramme (x8)	Q2473-2480	24.5.1963

P-4-130 (Orders 2501-2600)

28.11.1962	Electros for 10d Royal Visit aerogramme (x12)	Q2497-Q2508	17.12.1962
21.3.1963	Copper blocks for experimental aerogrammes (two colour) (x6)	Q2721-Q2726	10.6.1964
	Proving electros for experimental aerogrammes (two colour) (x6)	Q2727-Q2732	21-23.7.1965
5.6.1963	Copper block for experimental aerogramme	Q2872	10.6.1964
	Electro for experimental aerogramme (for proofs)	Q2873	6.1.1965

P-4-131 (Orders 2601-2700) – Nil

P-4-132 (Orders 2701-2800)

27.8.1963	Copper block for letterpress stamp for 10d Christmas aerogramme (experimental)	Q3120	10.10.1963
12.9.1963	Copper block for 10d Christmas aerogramme	Q3151	17.2.1964
	Proving electros for 10d Christmas aerogramme (x2)	Q3152-Q3153	5-6.1.1965
23.9.1963	Electros for 10d Christmas aerogramme (x12)	Q3154-Q3165	9.10-25.11.1963
30.9.1963	Copper block for 10d aerogramme - Red and Blue (new design, experimental)	Q3166	10.6.1964
	Proving electro for 10d aerogramme - Red (new design, experimental)	Q3167	23.7.1965
	Proving electro for 10d aerogramme - Blue (new design, experimental)	Q3168	23.7.1965
4.2.1964	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (x12)	Q3309-Q3320	17.2.1964
8.5.1964	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (x12)	Q3468-Q3479	23.6.1964
10.7.1964	Copper block for 10d aerogramme - Red No. 1 design (proposed new design)	Q3546	13.4.1965
	Copper block for 10d aerogramme - Black No. 1 design (proposed new design)	Q3547	13.4.1965
	Copper block for 10d aerogramme - Red No. 2 design (proposed new design)	Q3548	13.4.1965
	Copper block for 10d aerogramme - Black No. 2 design (proposed new design)	Q3549	13.4.1965
	Electro for 10d aerogramme – Black No. 1 design (proposed new design)	Q3550	19.8.1965
	Electro for 10d aerogramme – Red No. 2 design (proposed new design)	Q3550	19.8.1965
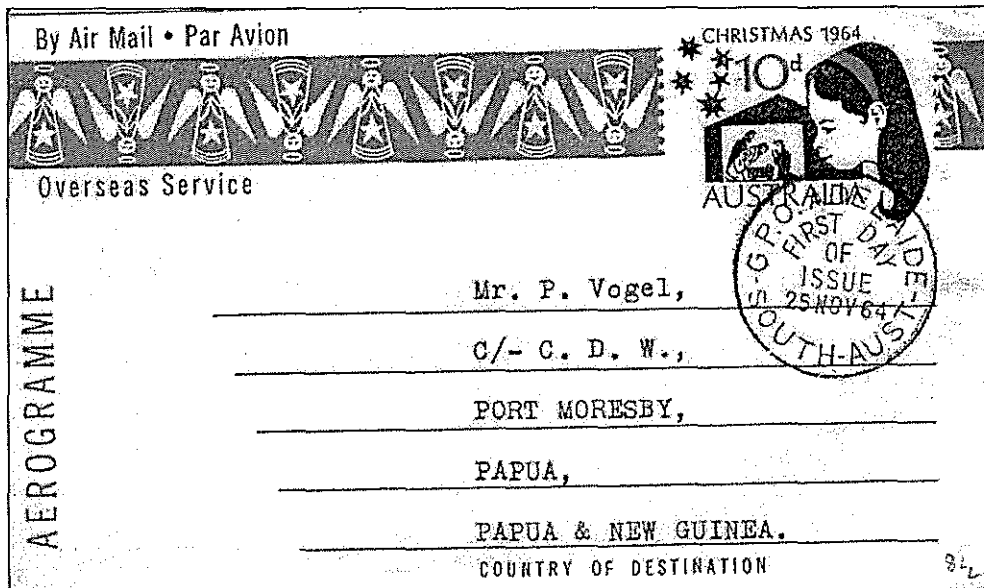
P-4-133 (Orders 2801-2900)

27.8.1963	Copper block for 10d Christmas aerogramme	Q3656	13.4.1965
	Electros for 10d Christmas aerogramme - Red (x12)	Q3657-Q3668	22.9.1964
	Electros for 10d Christmas aerogramme - Blue (x12)	Q3669-Q3680	22.9.1964
3.9.1964	Copper block for 10d Christmas aerogramme - Red	Q3681	13.4.1965
	Proving electro for 10d Christmas aerogramme - Red	Q3682	5.1.1965
	Proving electro for 10d Christmas aerogramme - Blue	Q3683	5.1.1965
23.12.1964	Copper block for 10d aerogramme (new design)	Q3790	14.5.1965
	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (new design) (x12)	Q3791-Q3802	18.3.1965
30.3.1965	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (new design) (x12)	Q3898-Q3909	3.5.1965
6.4.1965	Copper original for 10d aerogramme (new design)	Q3977	4.1.1966

P-4-134 (Orders 2901-3000)

30.4.1965	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Blue (x12)	Q4125-Q4136	17.5.1965
	Electros for 10d aerogramme - Red (x24) Endorsed "Cancelled"	Q4137-Q4160	
30.5.1965	Copper block for aerogramme insert (Law Conference)	Q4179	25.8.1965
26.5.1965	Proving electro for 10d Law conference aerogramme	Q4229	15.7.1965
4.6.1965	Electros for 10d Law conference aerogramme (x12)	Q4266-Q4277	16.6.1965

P-4-135 (Orders 3001-3100)

30.7.1965	Copper blocks for 10d Christmas aerogramme (x2)	Q4734-Q4735	21.12.1965
	Electros for 10d Christmas aerogramme - Grey (x12)	Q4736-Q4747	30.8.1965

POSTAL STATIONERY – ITEMS OF CHARACTER

Bernie Beston
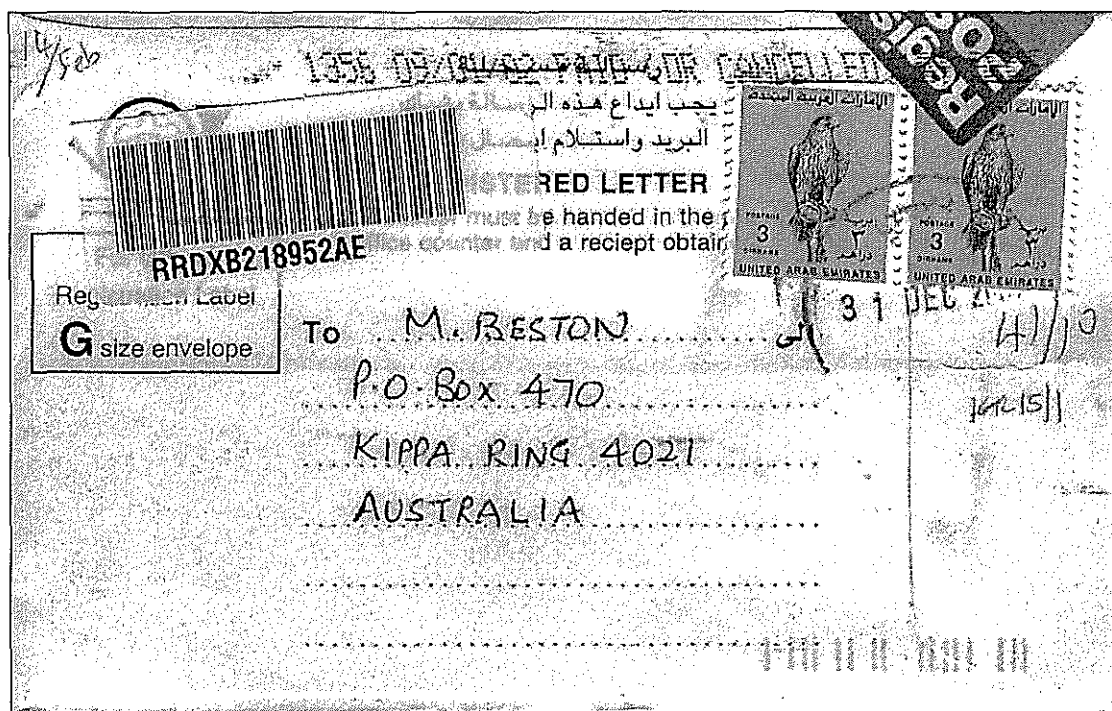
This is the UAR equivalent of a Registered Postal Stationery Envelope, Size G, obtainable only from the official Post Office. The format is familiar to all collectors of British Colonial Registered Envelopes. But like its counterparts from Palestine and East Africa, it has no stamp indicia.

Would you include it in your exhibit of Postal Stationery in Melbourne 2005? Used to Australia in September 2001. As is usually the case, the Australia Post Registered Label covers the stamps. This may save the removal of the stamps?

CEYLON POSTCARD – H&G 34

Norman Banfield

The illustration below shows an unused card, a Specimen and a card handstamped 'NOT GENUINE'. Can anyone enlighten me about the purpose of the words 'NOT GENUINE'

Comments:
- Unused card: The card itself is in a much lighter shade than the other two but the printing appears to be in the same shade as the Specimen card.
- Specimen card: The card colour is closer to the "Not Genuine' card.
- Not Genuine: The printing is of a lighter colour than the other two. The 'stamp' design as well as the wording appear to be the same as the other two cards in respect of design, line lengths and characters. The card has been previously stuck down but the back does not appear to have had any printing on it.
- Used card (not shown): The card colour seems to be somewhere between the unused card and the other two.

I would be grateful for any information on the purpose of the 'NOT GENUINE' handstamp, by whom it was applied and when. The only thought I have is that it is a sample card used in relation to the printing of Eck Brothers address.
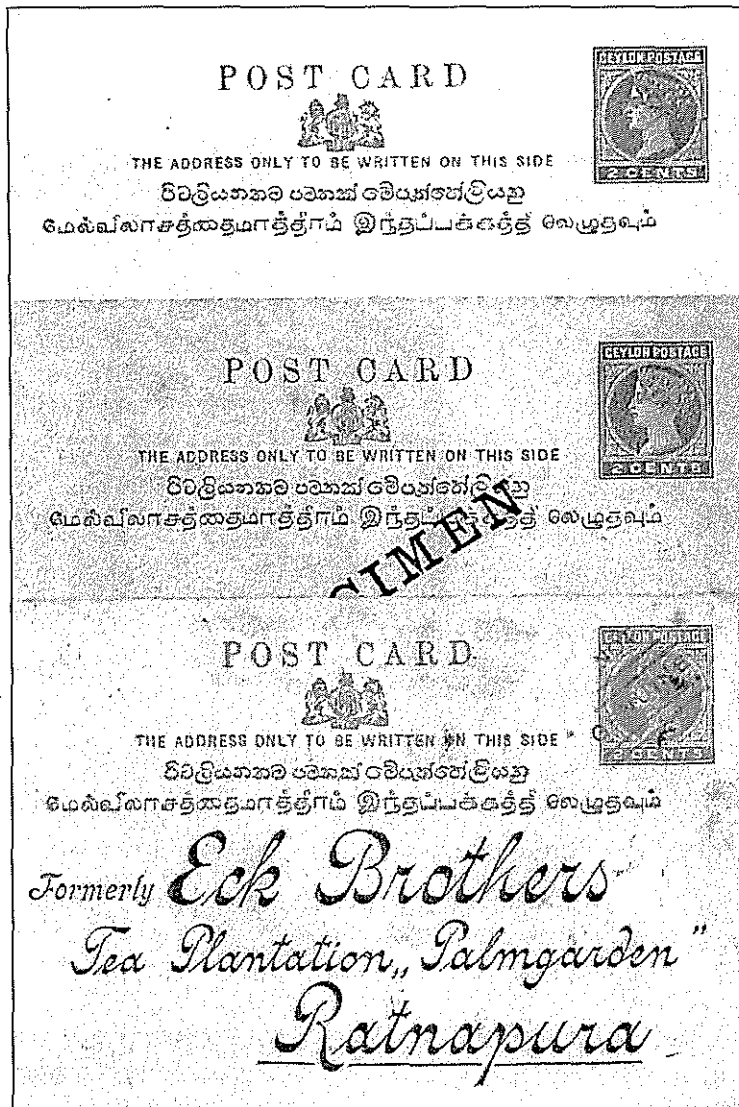
THE AUSTRALIAN LETTER SHEETS

Bernie Beston

Letter-sheets were first released in 1929 for Official use only. There was only one value of 1½d, and the design was King George V (Figure 1). This was replaced the following year when the Sheet was revalued 2d with the words 'TWO PENCE' surcharged in black.

Figure 1

No further Sheets were issued until 18 January 1961, when a 5d Letter Sheet for public use was released (Figure 2). The sale price was 6d. It was printed on thin paper in orange and green. A variant of this was issued in 1964 in a pale green colour.

The introduction of Decimal currency in 1966 saw the issue of a new 4 cents Letter Sheet. The date of issue was 14 February 1966 (Figure 3) [the date of the introduction of decimal currency] and the sale price was five cents. Not long after, sometime in the year 1967 the rate was increased to 5 cents, and a new Letter Sheet released (Figure 4). The sale price was now 6 cents. No fixed date of issue was fixed, but the Letter Sheet was released either on the 29 September 1967, the date of the increase in postal rates, or early in October of that year.
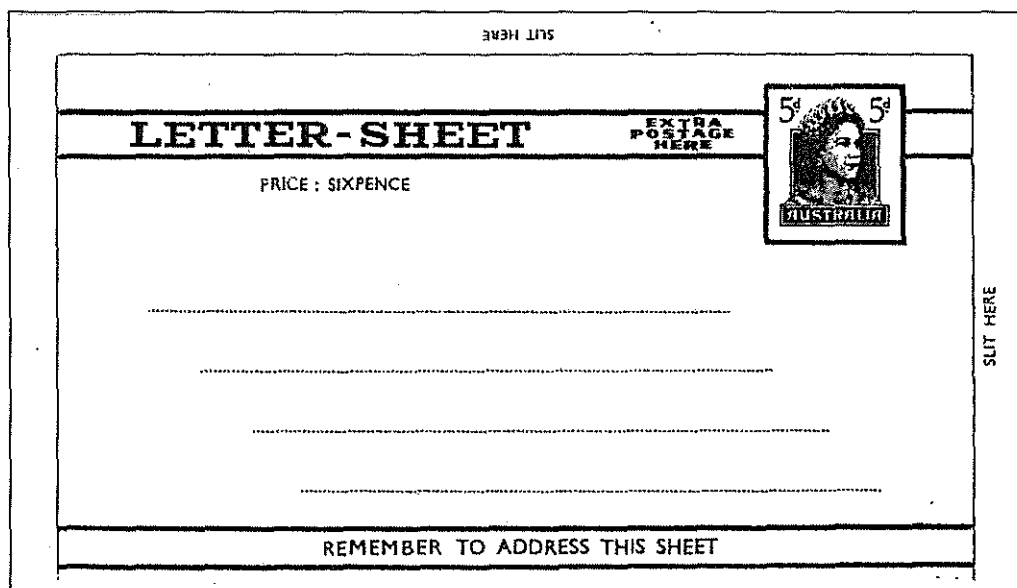
Figure2 1961 5d Letter Sheet

The Letter Sheet was intended for correspondence within Australia for 5d. The Australia Post Collectors Bulletin of the time had this to say about the Stationery.

> *The Lettersheet will be the same size and format as the current aerogramme but will be printed on heavier paper. The lettersheet will have a writing area three time greater than that available with the present lettercard and will be sold for 6d. The lettersheet will be available*

for transmission by airmail within Australia without additional payment. If the weight limitation is exceeded by the insertion of additional sheets of correspondence within the lettersheet itself, then additional postage will be required to be affixed. Additional postage will also need to be affixed when a lettersheet is posted to overseas countries to which the charge of 5d for one ounce does not apply. The lettersheet cannot be used in substitution for an aerogramme and, if sent by air mail to overseas addresses, the appropriate air mail letter postage is required.
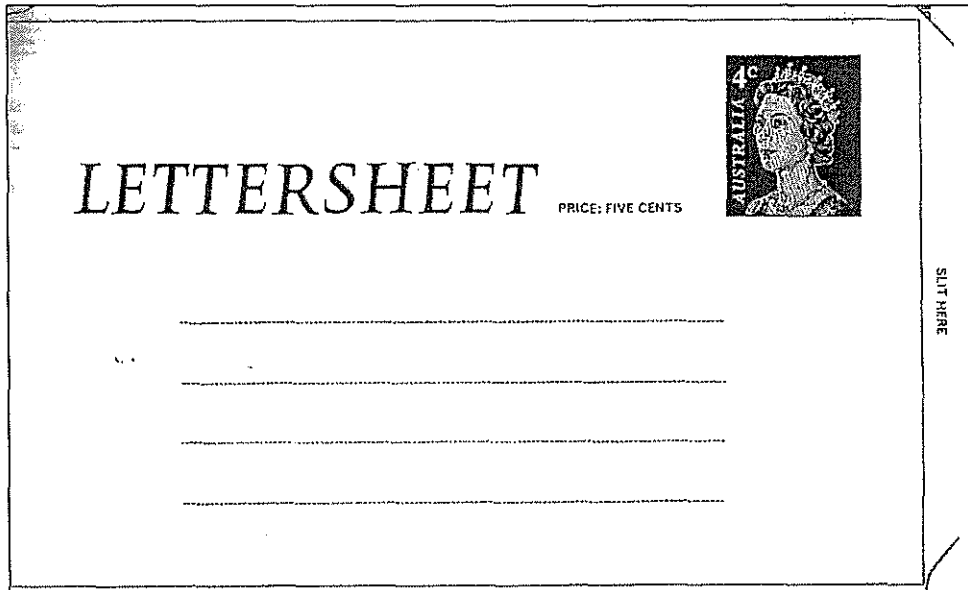
Figure 3 1966 Decimal 4 cents value
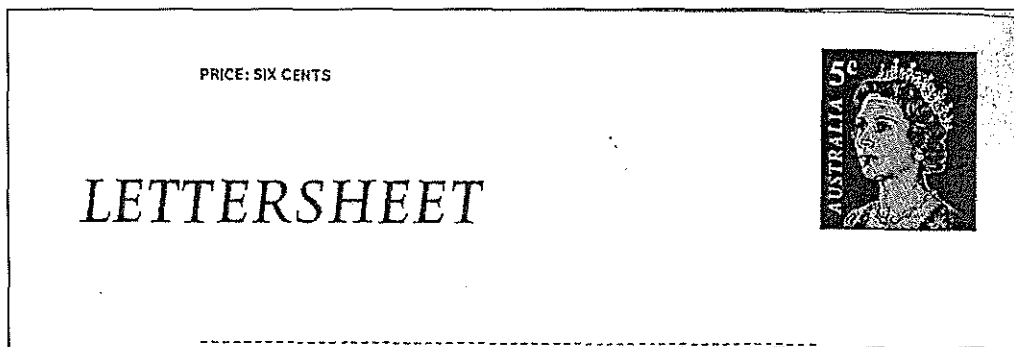
Figure 4 1967 5 cents value

Figure 5(a)

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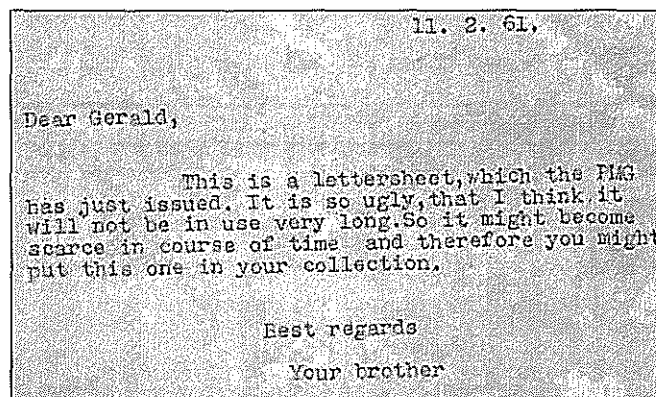
An Australian collector recently came across a 1961 5d sheet used from Sydney to Johannesburg, South Africa (Figure 5). These Letter Sheets, being intended for internal use only, were not valid for foreign addresses without the addition of extra postage to increase the postage paid to the normal Air Mail letter rate. In 1961, the air mail letter rate for one ounce to South Africa was 2/3.
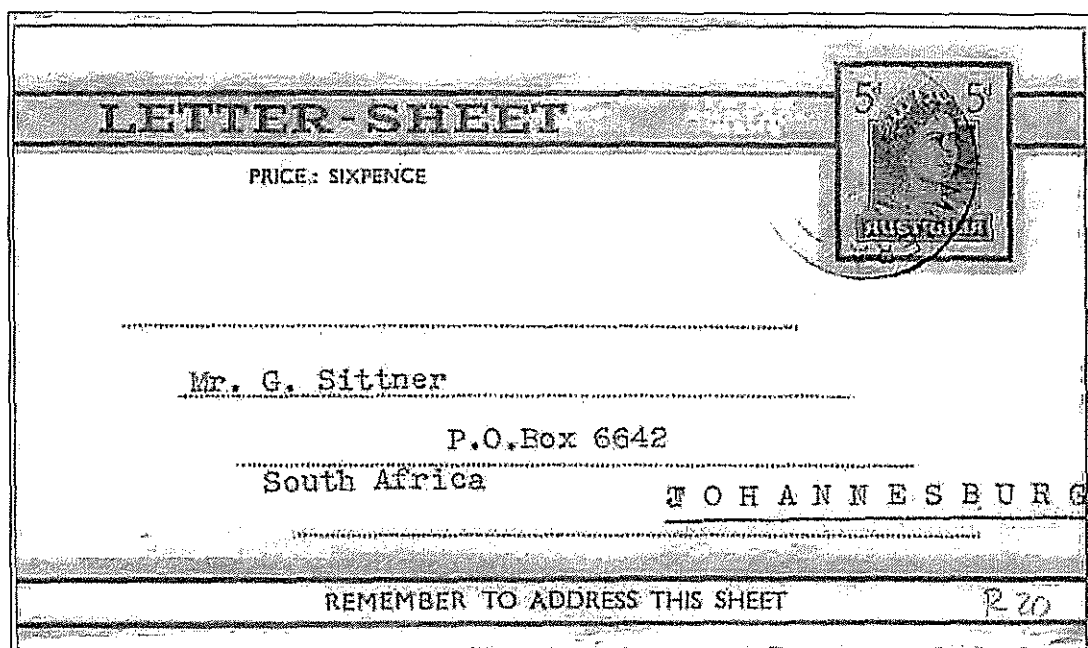

Figure 5(b) 1961 Letter Sheet to South Africa, without being taxed or fined.

Mr Sittner's comments to his brother Gerald, Figure 5(a), were in reality quite prophetic. I do not however agree with his comment on the ugliness of the design. For its day, it was in fact reasonably attractive.

These items are not commonly found used, although they are very common in mint condition. They are listed in the 1989 Seven Seas Catalogue (26th Edition) but their listing had been dropped at least by the 1999 Edition. Even then, these Catalogues only record the modern Letter Sheets, and ignored the 1929 and 1930 George V Official designs. These are listed in Higgins and Gage. The Letter Sheets was first inscribed in the 1961 issue as **LETTER-SHEET**, but was later inscribed as **LETTERSHEET** on the Decimal Letter Sheets, which is also the wording used in all official Press Releases.

The prophesy of Mr Sittner was well placed. The records show the sale of Letter Sheets was dismal compared to other comparable Postal stationery products.

STATIONERY	1964	1967
Letter Sheets	230,500	405,500
Registered Envelopes	536,640	977,510
Large Envelopes	619,200	1,833,050
Wrappers	943,200	2,420,500
Letter Cards	2,044,800	3,172,500
Small Envelopes	8,701,920	13,976,500
Aerogrammes	19,835,400	34,912,600

When sales of Wrappers and Letter Cards, generally considered to be poor sellers, exceeded the sale of Letter Sheets then there is little wonder that the product was discontinued. This last Letter Sheet had a extremely short shelf life, being withdrawn from sale in November 1968.

## *AUSTRALIAN NEW ISSUES*

Ian McMahon

Christmas 2002 Aerogramme
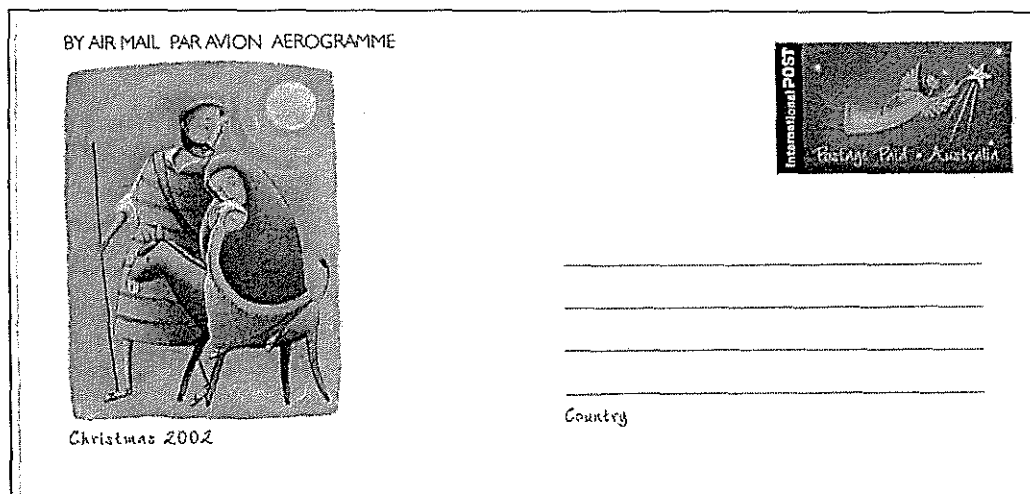
The annual Christmas aerogramme was issued on 1 November 2002. The cachet depicts Mary and Joseph's flight into Egypt with the baby Jesus while the stamp area depicts an angel. The aerogramme was designed by Tracie Grimwood, Melbourne and printed by PMP Tasmania and sells for $0.85.

Native Wildlife Postcards

A set of 10 native animal prepaid postcards depicting koalas, kangaroos, brushtail possums and the kookaburra was issued in mid-November 2002. The cards appeared to have first become available in Melbourne. The cards are in the new format with white border except that the Brushtail Possum card has a black border.
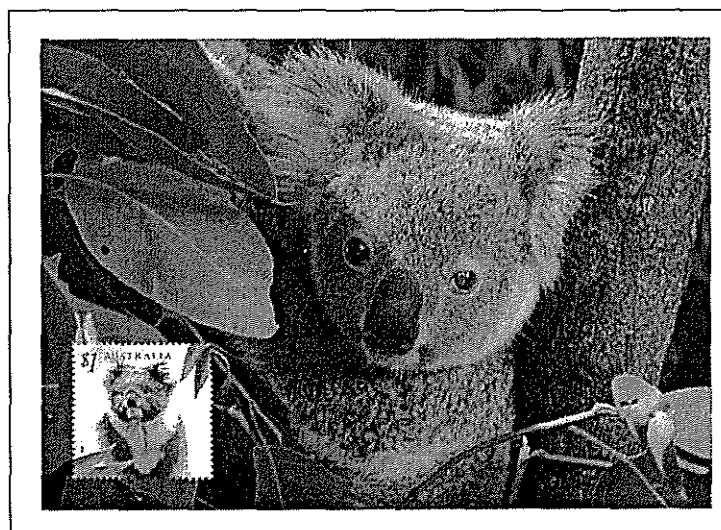
Sydney Opera House Postcard

A prepaid postcard depicting the Sydney Opera House has also been issued in the new format. The card was reported from Sydney in late October.
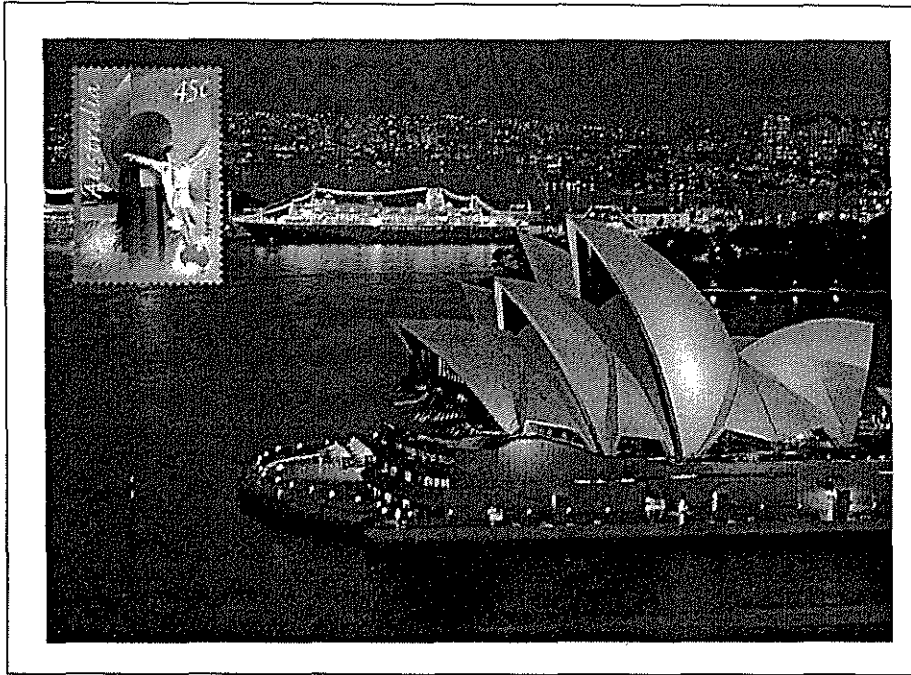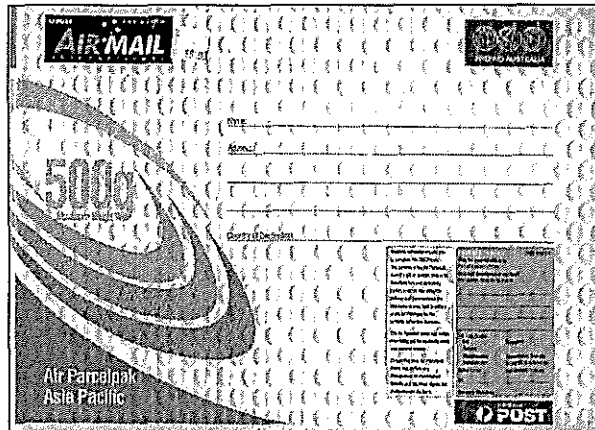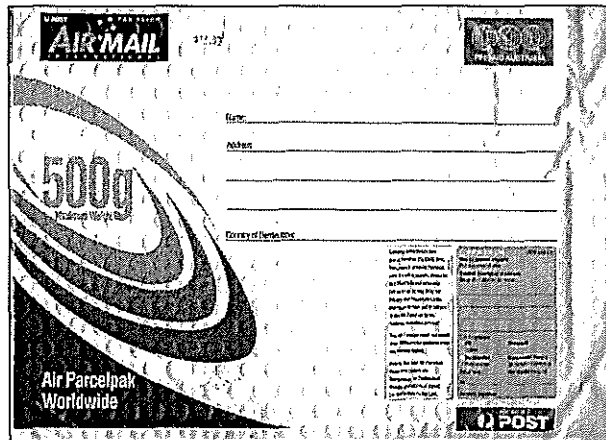
Prepaid International Airmail Padded Bags

From about 25 November 2002, Australia Post began selling a range of prepaid international airmail padded envelopes. Four envelopes are available:

- 500g satchel Asia Pacific ($8)   500g satchel Worldwide ($12)
- 2 kg satchel Asia Pacific ($25)   2 kg satchel Worldwide ($40)

The envelopes were advertised in the national press on 1 December 2002 with the publicity text reading:

> *Next time you're sending gifts or merchandise* overseas, don't get into a flap. Use Australia Post's convenient new prepaid Air Parcelpaks. Available at your local post office, these affordable plastic packs are suitable for items up to 2kg and come with prepaid postage, a protective bubble lining, Air Mail sticker, and simple customs declaration. Just put your gift inside the Air Parcelpak, complete the documentation and lodge it over the counter or post it in a red street posting box. It's as simple as that.*

University of Sydney PSE

The University of Sydney PSE was reported in the last issue, however, a copy with a First Day cancel from the University of Sydney Post Office is illustrated below.


112
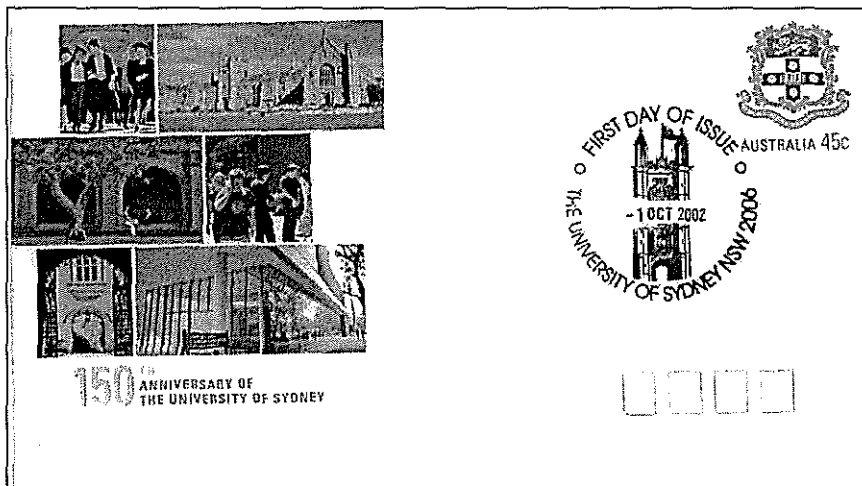
TAIWAN - CHINESE NEW YEAR 2003

Betty van Tenac

The Year of the Sheep

The Directorate General of Posts, Taiwan issued a set of Domestic Postal Cards for New Year's Greeting on December 2, 2002. This set consists of twelve NT$2.50 denomination postal cards. Each postal card bears an indicium of the New Year' s Greeting Postage Stamps in the upper left-hand corner.

On the back of the twelve different postal cards are twelve representations of sheep, chosen from the competition for the design of the New Year's Greeting Postage stamps by twelve artists. The postal cards will be sold individually for $2.50 each or NT$30 a set. A specimen card and one of the 12 designs featured on the reverse of the card is shown below.
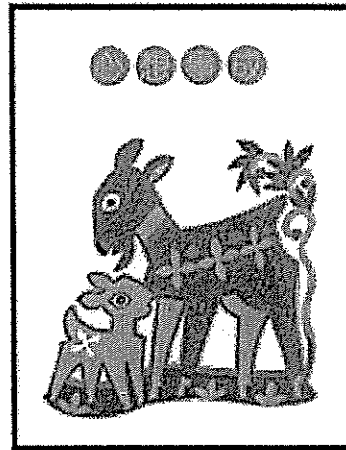
MANCHESTER COMMONWEALTH GAMES UNSTAMPED POSTCARD

Martin Walker has kindly provided an illustration of an unstamped postcard given by Australia Post to Australian Atheletes at the Manchester Commonwealth Games to reply to letters from fans. Has anyone seen a postage prepaid version?

113
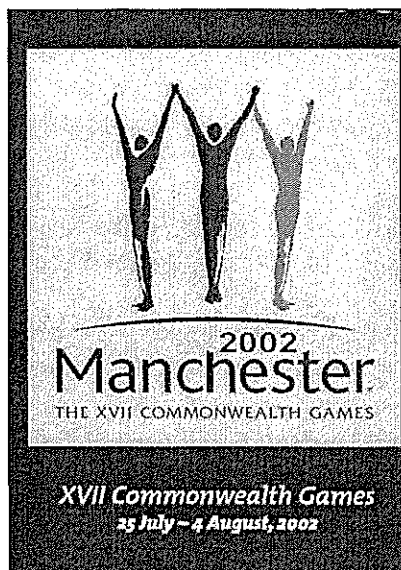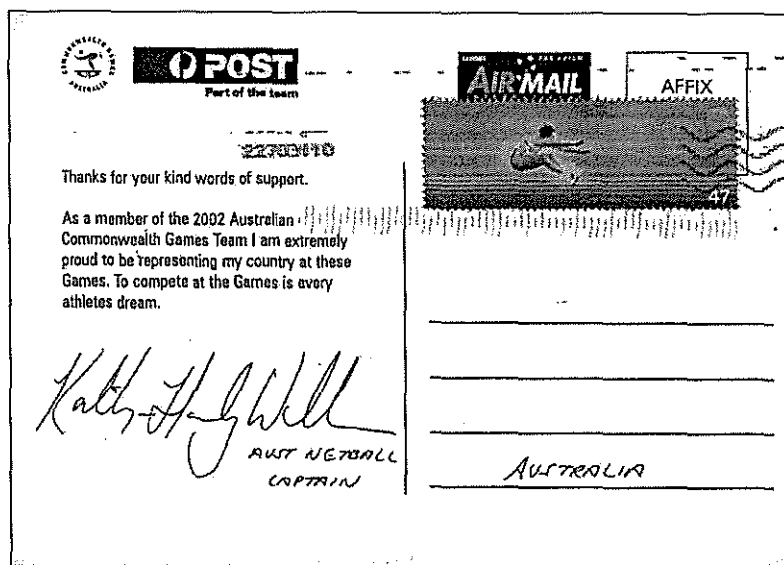
QUEENSLAND FORMULAR REGISTERED ENVELOPE

Bernie Beston and Ian McMahon

On the 14 September 2002, one of three known Queensland Formular Registered envelopes Size G (see the May 2002 issue of *PSC*) was sold at a Melbourne Auction for $7,000 plus buyer's premium. At this time, it was not only the highest price paid for a piece of Queensland Postal Stationery, but evidenced the rarity of the piece and its provenance as being the first such used item publicly recorded. Another Formular Registered envelopes, in size H2, sold at the same Auction for $9,000, plus buyer's premium. Both came from the collection of the late Hugh Campbell, however, the H2 envelope cannot be regarded as a Queensland issue, as it was not sold by the Post Office. Likely both registered envelopes were sold to off shore collectors.

Now, less than two months after that event, a truly remarkable situation has occurred. Two more Size G Formular Registered envelopes have come onto the market. Fortunately, both copies have been acquired by Australian collectors, and returned to this country from foreign hands.

The first is used to Sierra Leone on 12 June 1889. It is the earliest known item of Postal History and the first item of Postal Stationery recorded to that destination from Queensland [Figure 1]. It is also the latest recorded use of the envelope. The Envelope was posted from Bundaberg, at the 7d postage rate and 6d for registration. It appears to have been sent via Torres Strait and the direct route to the United Kingdom, and thence to Freetown receiving backstamps at Plymouth (28 July 1889), Liverpool (registered oval 29 July 1889) and Freetown (14 August 1889). This is consistent with the envelope having been carried on the Queensland Royal Mail Steamer, *Merkara*, which left Brisbane on 12 June 1889 and unloaded its mail in England on 28 July 1889.

The second is used to Austria on 23 November 1888. It has the earliest known recorded use on cover of the 1882 2/6 high value [Figure2] plus a 1d adhesive. Again this cover is used from Bundaberg.

This means that of the five used envelopes now recorded; three were used at Bundaberg and two at Townsville. As the issue was officially withdrawn from sale sometime in 1884, their late use from these two official Post Offices would indicate that some stock was not returned to the Distributor of stamps but kept in stock at the office and sold later. No records exist as to the policy or directions of the Postmaster General [or the Post Master at the Brisbane G.P.O.] as to stock returns, if any, at this time. Both of the new discoveries came from different sources, one from Germany and the other from England.
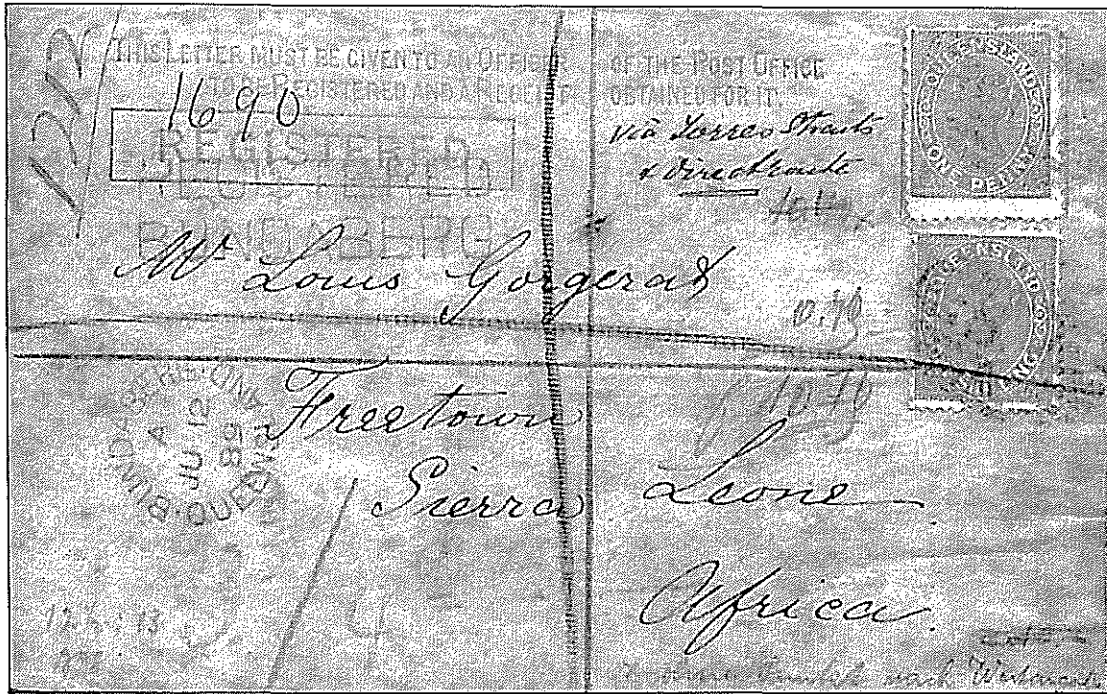
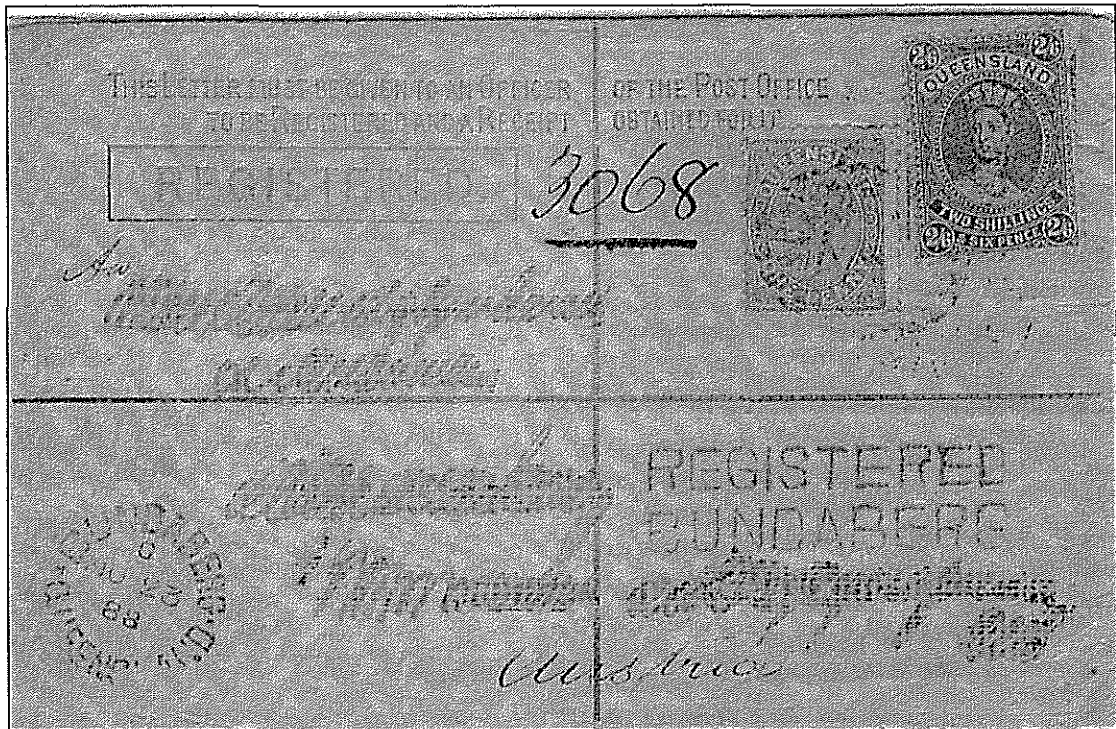*Figure 1 Bundaberg to Sierra Leone 12 June 1889*

Figure 2 Bundaberg to Austria 23 November 1888.

ITEMS OF CHARACTER – THE WHOLE STORY

Judy Kennett

Introduction

I was interested to read Bernie Beston's note 'Postal Stationery: items of character' in *PSC* August 2002 p 42, concerning the illustrated Romanian postal card, Michel P 124 and H&G 105, that had 'come to the end of the line'. This particular design had an interesting life, through some turbulent times. It was first issued in 1942, in limited numbers, and intended for international use. Romania was already involved in WW2 in the Axis sphere of influence. The end of the war came on 12 September 1944 when King Michael signed a peace treaty with the Russians, but these cards continued in use, even after the abdication of the King on 30 December 1947.

At the time of the King's 'departure', new designs of stamps and stationery for the Romanian Peoples' Republic were not ready. It was decided that material already in post offices should be left as it was. Stamp stocks held in the State Printing Works were overprinted to meet the changed political climate. Current definitives (the design shown on Bernie's card) were overprinted with 'RPR' over the King's portrait. It seems that current stationery in stock was not overprinted, but users were 'encouraged' to put adhesives over the King's portrait in the stamp design.

Back to the beginning

In 1942, when this card was issued, the current rate for what is called an 'illustrated postal card' sent to a foreign country was 12 lei. The fact that the authority of the UPU is cited in the heading, and that the language of the heading is French, indicates that the card was intended for international use. I show a mint example of the card at Figure 1, then some examples from my collection of used cards that illustrate points about usage during and after the war.
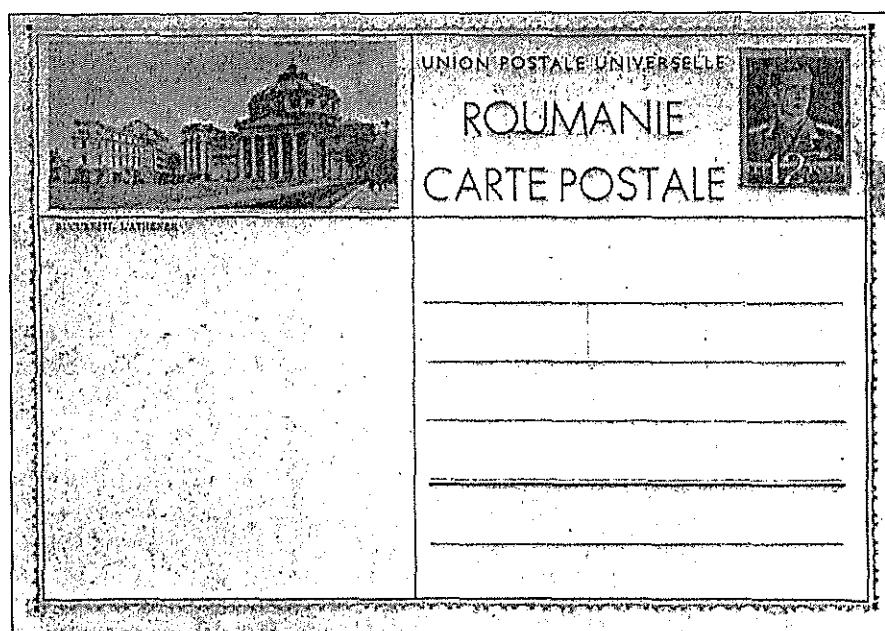
Figure 1 Mint card of 1942

The example in Figure 2 shows an uprated card sent to Lyon, France, and posted on 21 Sept 1943. The adhesives to the value of 34 lei pay for airmail (14 lei) and registration (20 lei). The airmail component is indicated by the PRIN AVION label, but the registration is not indicated (a hand stamp was customarily used). Presumably, one of the manuscript numbers is the registration number.

The card was censored by both the Romanian authorities (boxed CENZURAT 3 marking) and by the German (circle with an apron, in red). For a final touch, there is a chemical wipe, a blue arc through the written message. This was a test used to detect secret writing. Of course, France was by that time in the German sphere of influence.
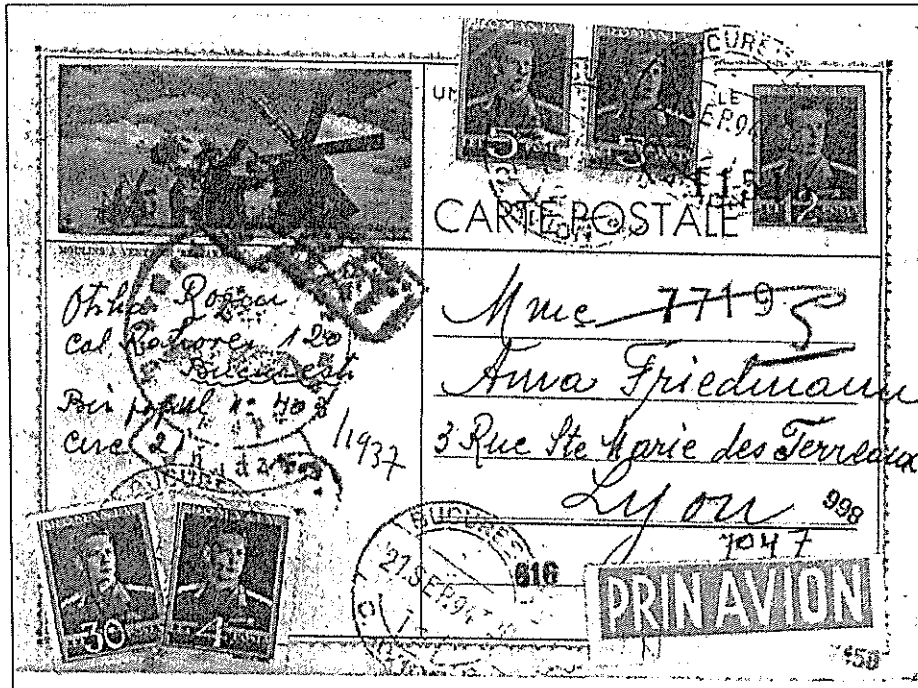
Figure 2 Card to France Sept 1943

The card in Figure 3 has not yet had its method of delivery completely explained. According to the tables of rates for the delivery of Romanian external mails from 1941-1945, it was possible to send mail only to countries in the German sphere of influence. Sweden was a neutral during WW2, but I have been told that examples of mails from German occupied countries have been found there. However, they were usually censored by the German High Command. This card bears no such censor

marking.

There are some points of interest on this card. It was posted in Bucuresti on 16 March 1944, and was registered, and passed by a Romanian censor. It's franked with an additional 10 lei adhesive, when registration cost 20 lei at the time, but there's no tax mark. Note that the sender's details – name and address (at a prominent Bucuresti hotel), also his Norwegian passport number, are carefully recorded. Whether this card travelled to Sweden through the Romanian external mail system, or by some diplomatic channel, I don't know, but it arrived in Stockholm on 31 March 1944.
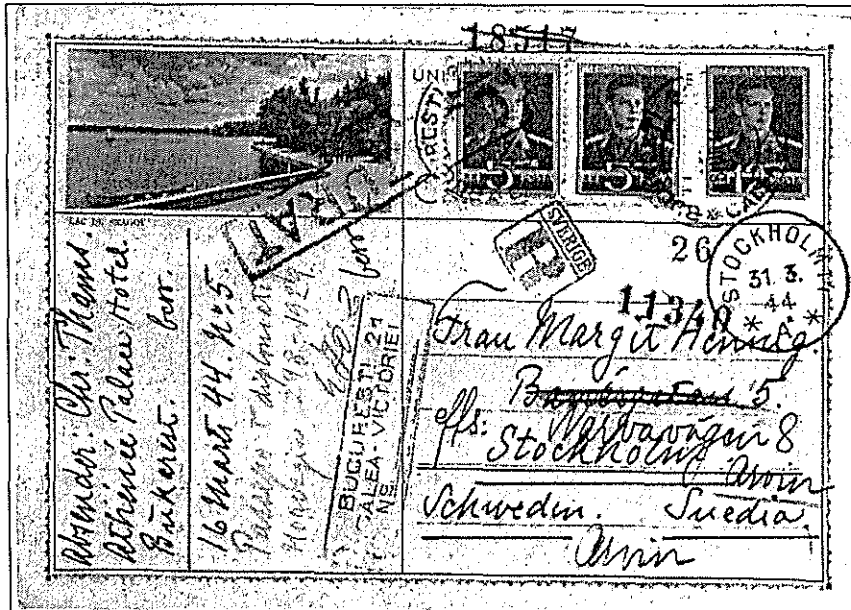

Figure 3 Card to Sweden March 1944

King Michael signed a peace treaty with the Russians on 12 September 1944, and henceforth Romania was an occupied country. It was not until 1 May 1945 that mail services to many European countries were restored. It is claimed that inflation had begun to affect prices, including postal rates, as early as mid-1942. From 1945 postal rates rose approximately every six months as inflation devalued the country's currency. The remaining examples illustrate the course of the inflation.

Figure 4 shows a card sent to London. It was posted in Arad on 15 May 1946. By this time the external rate had risen to 200 lei and the 12-lei value of the card was disregarded when selecting adhesives to be used. The card seems over franked, but that may have been due to a shortage of the correct adhesives at Arad. A machine cancel on the back shows that the card reached London on 30 May 1946.

The next example (Figure 5) was posted on 30 November 1946 at Liebling, which is probably a small town in the country, to the US Zone of occupied Germany. By now the external card rate was 900 lei, and once again the value of the card was disregarded. The date on the Munich civil censorship machine cancel is not readable.

The final example (Figure 6) shows the card now adopted for internal usage in 1947. The rate for a postal card is now 1000 lei. It was posted at Campulung Moldovenesc on 18 April 1947, and its use thus falls within a period of 45 days between 15 March and 28 April 1947, one of the shortest lived postal rates in Romanian history. Once again, the value of the card was disregarded because of the difficulty in making up the necessary amount with adhesives available in the post office. The card was received in Bucuresti on 21 April 1947.
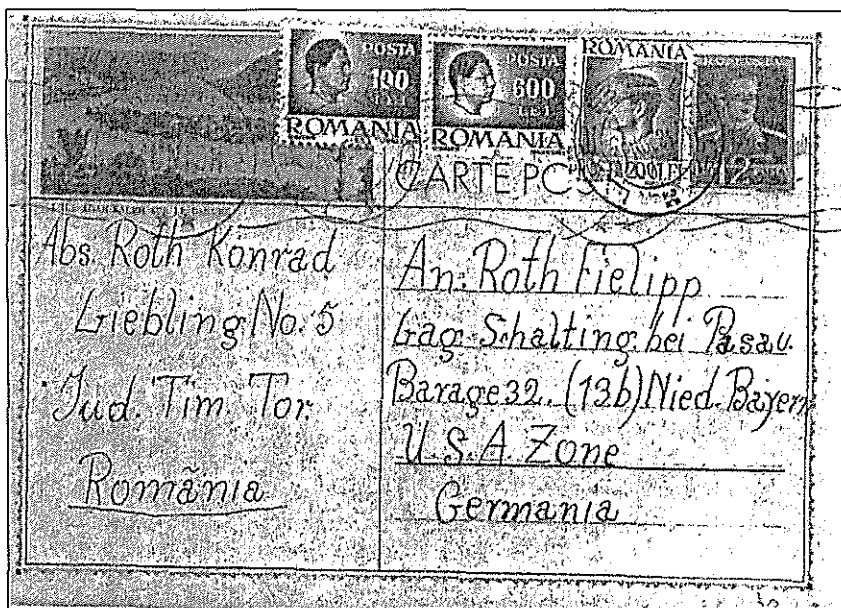
Figure 4 Card to UK May 1946

Figure 5 Card to Germany Nov 1946

On 28 April the rate for internal postage of cards rose to 7000 lei, and the external rate at that time was 11000 lei. On 15 August 1947 monetary reform was introduced which reduced the postal rates for cards to 7.50 lei (internal) and 8 lei (external). These were the applicable rates when King Michael was forced to abdicate on 30 December 1947. They remained current for about 12 months.

Now look again at Bernie Beston's card. It was posted at Arad on what appears to be 11 February 1948, and was addressed to Switzerland. It bears two adhesives from the King Michael definitive issue of 15 August 1947, both without the 'RPR' overprint over the King's portrait. However, they have been placed over the stamp design of the card.

Between December 1947 and December 1948 the Romanian communist government had issued a special charity stamp (IOVR), with the declared purpose of raising funds to help invalids, orphans

and widows of the war. This was mandatory on all correspondence sent abroad and within Romania. A 1-leu example is shown here. Finally, we have the three-line propaganda marking. The translation is 'Long live the Romanian Peoples' Republic'. This was one of a series applied to mail in this period, designed to arouse popular enthusiasm for the new republic.

Figure 6 Card to Bucuresti April 1947

Conclusion

This article was fun to research and write, probably because the card design was available during 'interesting times'. We have a world war, invasion by a foreign power, installation of a 'virtual' communist government, the end of the monarchy, the declaration of the peoples' republic, with the attendant political changes, and then nationalisation of all privately owned property. The cards discussed have reflected some of these social and political changes.

For the information used to produce the article, I made extensive use of the book and articles cited below, and my thanks go to ing Calin Marinescu of Bucuresti Romania, and to Dinu Matei of Toronto Canada for their work.

References

1. Marinescu, ing Calin 'Evolutia tarifelor postale si a taxelor pentru obiectele de corespondenta in Romania 1852-1992', ['Development of postal rates and taxes for correspondence in Romania, 1852-1992'], Bucuresti 1993.

2. Matei, Dinu ' Postal rates for post cards mailed during the 1945-1947 inflation period', Romanian Postal History Bulletin Vol 12 No 3 (Whole No 36) December 2001.

3. Matei, Dinu 'Transition from capitalism to communism reflected in Romanian postal history between 1948-1950', Romanian Postal History Bulletin Vol 12 No 1 (Whole No 34) April 2001.

FROM THE SECRETARY

New Members
Welcome to the following new members, who have joined since the last issue of the journal. They are (with a short description of their postal stationery collecting interests, where supplied):
Gerard Carlin (NZ) – NZ King George VI stationery;
Robert (Bob) Shoemaker (USA) – the South Pacific region;
Graham Murray (Vic) – the Australian colonies.

Meeting at Melbourne 2002
Reports from the Secretary and the Treasurer were presented, and appear in this issue, together with the minutes of the meeting. My thanks to Mark Diserio, who took them in my absence.

Subscriptions for 2003
A statement was sent to each financial member with the November issue of the *Postal Stationery Collector*. This indicates whether you have already paid for 2003, or need to forward a subscription to the Treasurer. Members who have paid will find their receipts in this issue of the journal.

Congratulations
I see from the December 2002 issue of the *Australian Journal of Philately* that our member Frank Pauer was elected president of the Australian Philatelic Society late last year. Congratulations Frank.

Review of *Postal Stationery Collector*
In the Fall 2002 issue of *The Informer* is a brief review of *Postal Stationery Collector* written by David McNamee, one of our US members. He comments on the content of the journal, particularly the variety of countries covered, and on the mix of original research and the listing of new issues, plus information on current postal services. Two regular features that he particularly mentions are the 'Listing of Australian Non-Denominated Postal Stationery', and the literature section, both reviews and the listings of articles from the general philatelic press and from postal stationery journals. Thank you, David, for your comments.

From Our Contemporaries

L'Entier Postal No 63 Decembre 2002
Some items of note in this issue:
* An appeal for help, for information on certain French aerogrammes. The editors of the catalogue know that these items have been announced, but have not seen copies;
* A survey of varieties found on modern 'Pret-a- Poster' (ready to post) stationery;
* The study of the interzone cards Type 'Iris' (non-denominated);
* The re-evaluation of the selling price of used foreign reply paid coupons.

L'Intero Postale No 81 Autunno 2002
In this issue we have articles on the following:
* Return to Somalia Afis – new information on the 60 centesimi aerogramme;
* More about Suchard – a series of postal cards, from the chocolate maker Suchard;
* A note from the market – La Repubblica Sociale Italiana at its peak. The article examines the prices of postal stationery material from this period.

American Philatelist December 2002
In this issue, we find the author, geographical and subject indices for article published in the journal during 2002. Under the heading 'Postal Stationery' in the subject index are citations for articles on advertising cards, letter sheets, and postal cards.

Vale: John Howard Beachboard 1925-2002, **Leroy Collins**
John H. (Jack) Beachboard, who served the United Postal Stationery Society as editor of five editions of the *United States Postal Card Catalog,* died December 16, 2002 at his home in Alexandria, Virginia. As editor of the USPCC from the fifth edition through 2000, Jack developed the catalogue to a volume of 470 pages, a 60-page increase over 1995's edition alone, with the catalogue becoming an all-inclusive reference to include international card rate tables, descriptions of modern postal card papers and exposition postal cards and cancels. An honorary life member of the UPSS, Jack contributed 27 articles on postal cards to Postal Stationery over a 16-year period and served on the journal's editorial board as Associate Editor, U.S. Postal Cards from 1991 to 2000. In August 2002 he was inducted into the Writer's Hall of Fame by Writers Unit 30 of the American Philatelic Society. A native of Aberdeen, Maryland, USA and an electrical engineering graduate of the University of Maryland, Jack was a civilian engineer working on rocketry for the Army's Ballistic Missile Agency under Wernher Von Braun. He was part of the rocketry team that was eventually incorporated into the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He retired from NASA in 1980.

Minutes of PSSA Melbourne Meeting, **Mark Diserio**
Minutes of the Meeting of PSSA held in the Bronze Room at *Stampshow Melbourne 2002* on Sunday, 6 October 2002, 2:00 to 3:30. Ian McMahon presided. Apologies were received from Judy Kennett, John Crowsley and Brian Pope. In attendance were Hans Karman, John Wilkins, Neville Solly, Philip Levine, Joan Orr, Wayne Menuz, John Rennie (visitor), Ross Wood, Ray Todd, Norman Banfield, Mark Diserio, Chris Smith, Malcolm Groom and Darryl Fuller.

Ian circulated the Treasurer's Report. Discussion ensued prompted by Bernie Beston's suggestion that the Treasurer's recommendation that the subscription be increased by $5.00 per year was not enough and that it should be increased by $10.00 per year. A motion that the Society's subscription be increased by $10.00 per year was moved by John Wilkins and seconded by Malcolm Groom and was carried on a show of hands. Ian McMahon circulated the Secretary's Report. Particular notice was taken of the current membership of 94 and there was discussion about 120 members being a more sustainable number, although no particular action was noted. Ian advised that work on the Index by Derek Brennan is continuing. The success of the Journal exchange program was also noted. This provided an opportunity to warmly welcome member Wayne Menuz from California and acknowledge the broader content of *Postal Stationery,* the journal of the United Postal Stationery Society, since he assumed editorship.

Malcolm Groom then reported on the Catalogue Series. He reported that 120 Western Australia catalogues had been printed, most which had now been sold. The kind support of Australia Post in the catalogue's graphic design and production was warmly acknowledged. This assistance was likely to continue for the next catalogue. Acknowledgement was also given to Arthur Woo for making colour illustrations of items from his Western Australia collection available to the Editor. Malcolm also reported that the expected production schedule of forthcoming catalogues was Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania. The great effort involved in the compilation of the New South Wales and Victoria parts was noted. Some progress is being made through the individual efforts of particular members. There was a brief discussion about publishing corrections, updates and new discoveries relating to the catalogues. Suggestions included publishing them as part of the *Postal Stationery Collector,* as a supplement to the journal and even including them in the next section to be published to encourage further sales of that catalogue. No final decision was taken. Malcolm Groom invited suggestions for improvement in forthcoming productions and some ideas were noted from the discussion, including inviting 'scans' from the membership of items still required.

There being no further items of business to be transacted, Ian McMahon introduced John Wilkins to talk about his display of three frames of Afghanistan postal stationery. John mentioned that he was in the process of producing a comprehensive catalogue of Afghanistan with three other collectors from Australia, the United States and Scotland. This would include postal stationery. John offered to allow the Society to serialise the stationery section in the *Postal Stationery Collector* in due course if the Society wished. John made particular reference to the country's first stationery issues in 1903 and in 1906, which was an interim issue consisting of an envelope specially "post marked" which could be purchased from the Amir Habibullah Khan's post office at Peshawar. John also made special remarks about the "Agency Period" from 1960 to 1964 when a New York company sold Afghanistan's postal emanations on behalf of the country. To give official status to these issues, the government in Afghanistan would apparently place the issue on sale in Afghanistan at an unannounced post office at an unannounced time for twenty minutes. John also gave a word of caution about the status of some stationery varieties often found on the philatelic market. Many of these were said to have followed the decision of the King to abolish the Agency arrangement and were possibly created at the initiative of officials in the

Philatelic Bureau to enhance their own personal wealth now that they had the opportunity. The meeting was also treated to one frame of Canadian letter cards courtesy of Ian McMahon. The meeting ended with much discussion between attendees who were either refreshing old friendships or making new ones.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2001-02

Meetings
The Society last met at Brisbane StampShow 2001 on 27 October 2001. An informal gathering took place in March of this year at Canberra Stampshow 2002.

Membership
This currently stands at 94 financial members in Australia, New Zealand, and a number of overseas countries. We lost a few members at the end of last year, but have gained a batch of new ones through referrals, the publicity generated by the sale of the Western Australia postal stationery catalogue, and through the link to the Philatelic Society of Canberra website.

Postal Stationery Collector
The journal continues to flourish, through the efforts of the contributors and of the Editor, Ian McMahon. It is not possible to over-emphasise the value of the work he has put into the journal since 1995. There is still concern at times at the drying-up of contributions from members. We still need short pieces, long articles, notes, letters, comments and interesting items from all our members, to help maintain the variety of content and the quality of the journal. Contributions from non-members are always welcome too. The *Postal Stationery Collector* continues to receive meritorious awards in international exhibitions, and the latest are:

      Hong Kong 2001   Silver   Philanippon 2001   Silver.

Journal – Index Volumes 1-5
Because of other commitments, the compiler has not been able to continue with work on the index. WE apologise for the delay, and hope for completion early in 2003.

Journal – Exchanges
Our system of exchanging the journal for the publications of other collectors' groups is continuing. We have recently commenced another exchange, this time with the Society of Australasian Specialists / Oceania, which is based in the USA. The total number of exchange arrangements is now eight, which includes the deposit copy sent to the National Library of Australia, and the copies sent to the American Philatelic Research Library and the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Publicity for the Society
An article about the aims of the Society, and our publishing project, the Postal Stationery of the Australian Colonies / States was prepared by the Secretary in May, and was published in the July-August issue of *Postal Stationery*, the journal of the United Postal Stationery Society. A review of Part 1 of the catalogue appeared in the same issue. This resulted in both new members and additional sales of the catalogue.

The Catalogue of the Postal Stationery of the Australian Colonies / States
Part 1 of the project, the postal stationery of Western Australia, has now been published, and sales, to both members and non-members, have been very satisfactory. The response from dealers has been pleasing, indicating that they feel there is an audience for the publication. Malcolm Groom, the Series Coordinator, will report during the meeting on the progress of forthcoming parts of the series. It was found necessary to produce an amendment list for the Western Australia part, and this will be distributed with the next issue of the *Postal Stationery Collector*.

This has been a busy year for the Society, and it has been an honour to have an active role in its running.

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

Ian McMahon

Copies of a consolidated version of this listing up to the end of 2002 are now available from the Editor. Please see the Literature section for details.

Postcards

1 November 2002   Christmas
Maximum cards
    (-)   Nativity Scene
    (-)   Wise Man
(Set price: $2.35)

November 2002   Native Animals
    ($1.20)   Brushtail Possum
    ($1.20)   Kookaburra
    ($1.20)   Female Koala with Young
    ($1.20)   Koala
    ($1.20)   Sleeping Koala
    ($1.20)   Baby Koala
    ($1.20)   Kangaroo
    ($1.20)   Female Kangaroo with Joey
    ($1.20)   Young Red Kangaroo
    ($1.20)   Eastern Grey Kangaroo

The Brushtail Possum card has a black border, the other cards have white borders.

2002   Postcards new format with white borders
    ($1.20)   Penguins, Philip Island
    ($1.20)   Sydney Opera House

7 January 2003   Celebration and Nation
Maximum cards
    (-)   Roses
    (-)   Teddy
    (-)   Flag
    (-)   Happy Birthday
(Set price: $5.00)

7 January 2003   Lunar New Year
    ($1.20)   Year of the Goat

Aerogrammes

1 November 2002   Christmas 2002
    ($0.85)   Christmas

Envelopes

7 January 2003   Lunar New Year
    (0.60)   Year of the Goat
    ($1.80)   International envelope

Express Post

(?)   Very large satchel
(-)   3 kg very large satchel

Note: Similar to the 5kg satchel previously reported. It is much larger than the 'normal' 3 kg satchels and has the weight limit stated as '3 kg' in large type in the same manner as the 5 kg satchel. Australia Post advises that both these satchels were a trial in Queensland. They will not be introduced in the rest of Australia until the outcome of the trial is known.

Padded Envelopes

November 2002   International Airmail
Padded Envelopes
    ($8)   500g satchel Asia Pacific
    ($12)   500g satchel Worldwide
    ($25)   2 kg satchel Asia Pacific
    ($40)   2 kg satchel Worldwide

LITERATURE

Ian McMahon

FROM OUR CONTEMPORIES

Postal Stationery **November-December 2002**

Newly Recognized Single Card Copies of [USA] M23 & R23 with 1952 Tickometer Surcharges
The Puzzling Side of Catalog Pricing
The Smith Counterfeit S17 USA Cards

The Definitive Postal Stationery of the Italian Social Republic.
The Handling/Mishandling of Two U.S. International Airmail Cards

Philately from Australia September 2002
Victorian Education Department Cards Part 1
This article by PSSA member John Sinfield begins a comprehensive account of these cards.

Postal Stationery Notes November 2002

Illustrated Cards
Prepaid parcel labels
Postcard Factory Issues: Some Order Out of Apparent Chaos

Further Varieties of Government of Ontario and Carleton University Xpresspost envelopes

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Monthly December 2002
Proxy Voting Stationery [UK]
Airgraphs
Countries to Collect: Switzerland

Journal of the Postal Stationery Society [UK] October 2002

GB PS of King GV
British Bechuanaland
Journal on an Aerogramme

Natal – Postcards and Reply-paid cards at the 1d rate
Liechtenstein 1918-1940

LISTING OF AUSTRALIAN NON-DENOMINATED POSTAL STATIONERY

In its first issue, *PSC* included the first instalment of a listing of Australian non-denominated stationery. Once the original listing was completed, almost every issue of the *PSC* has included an update to the listing. To facilitate use of the listing, a consolidated listing, up until the end of 2002, is available from the Society. The listing runs to 44 pages and is stapled with some illustrations and is available from Ian McMahon, PO Box 783 Civic Square ACT 2608 Australia for $10, postage paid within Australia (add $2.50 for postage overseas). Cheques should be made payable to the Society.

BOOKS

The Postal Stationery of Iran by F N Farahbakhsh
Detailing the postage prepaid postcards, envelopes, newspaper wrappers, picture postcards, aerogrammes and insurance envelopes of Iran, this book is in both English and Arabic. It is profusely illustrated in colour and is available from Vera Trinder 38 Bedford St Strand London WC2E 9EU UK for £18 pounds.

Die Postkartenheftchen der Schweizer Post 1912-1992 by Ernst Jaeger
Booklet postcards of Switzerland. 142 pages, softbound, Illustrated. Published by the SwissPostal Stationery Society (18 euros).

NEW ISSUES

Belgium

Edgard Pockele-Denis provides an example of a publicity card issued to announce a new two-level postage tariff in Belgium: a 'slow' inland rate of 0.41 euros and priority (guaranteeing delivery next day if posted before the last pillar box collection) of 0.49 euros. Each household received one publicity card. The Flemish version is shown; they also exist in French and German versions which were distributed in the French and German speaking parts of the country. The 'slow' and priority rates for Europe are 0.52 and 0.59 euros and for the rest of the world 0.57 and 0.85 euros respectively.
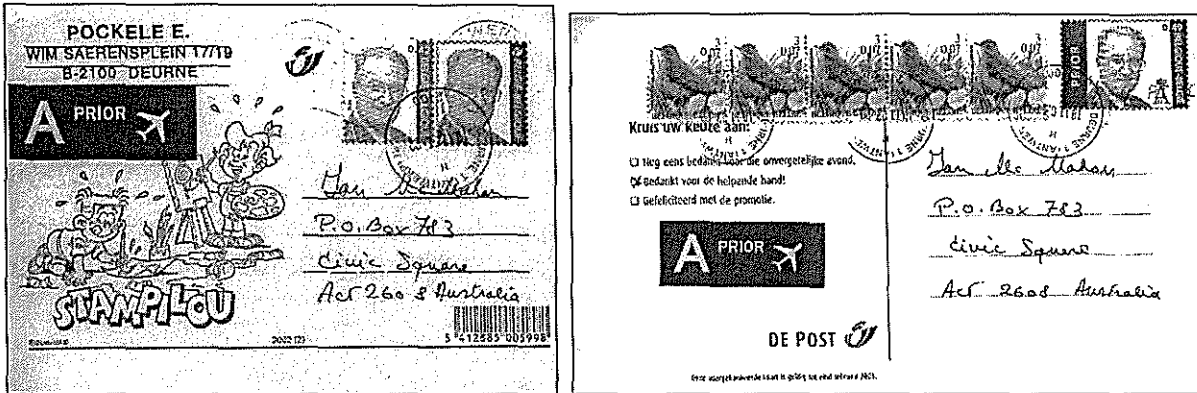
Hong Kong

Hong Kong has recently issued a series of postcards depicting the 'rocks of Hong Kong".
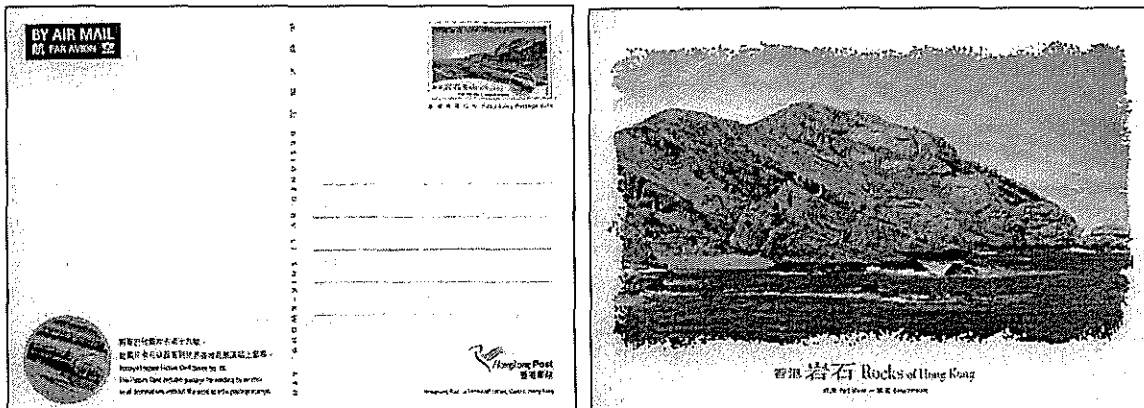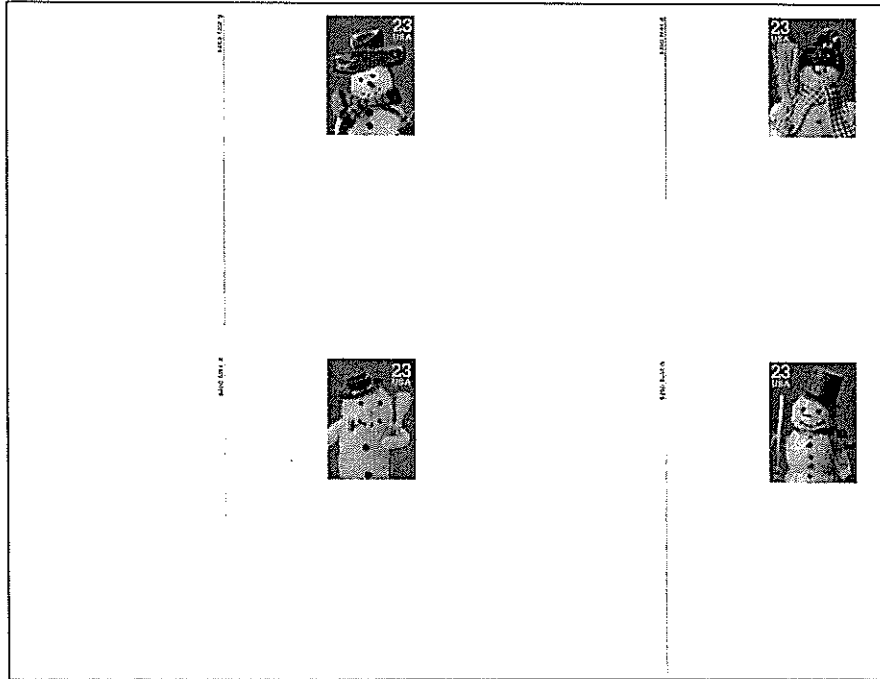

New Caledonia

Recent stamped envelopes commemorate the 'Fete du Café 2002', the 25th anniversary of the Agricultural Show and the Grimimi Chateau.
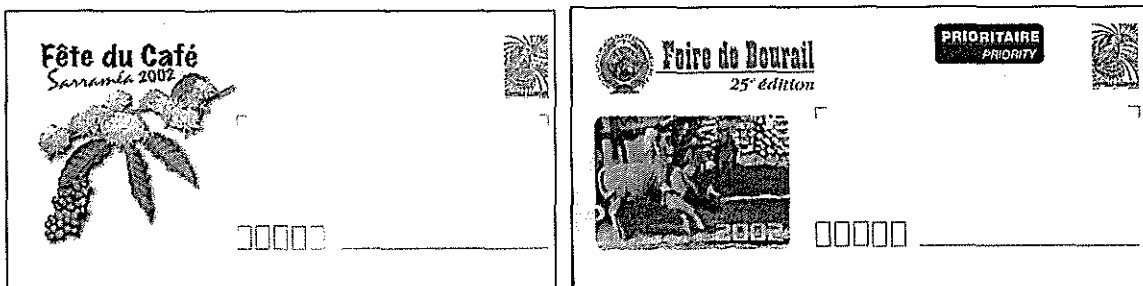
USA

USA issued four 23c Christmas postcards for 2002 depicting snowmen. The cards were issued in sheets of four.
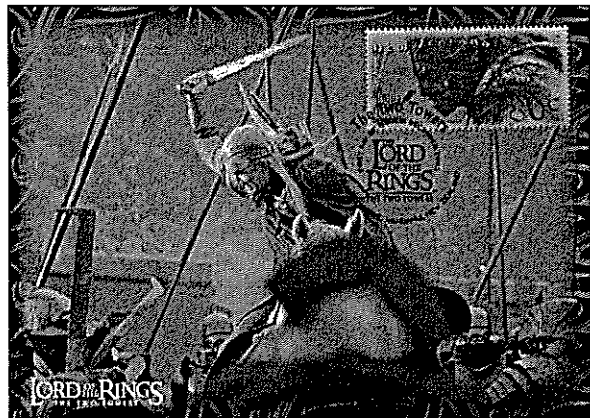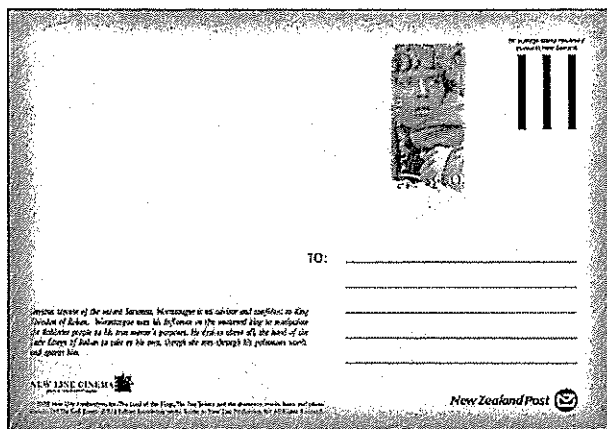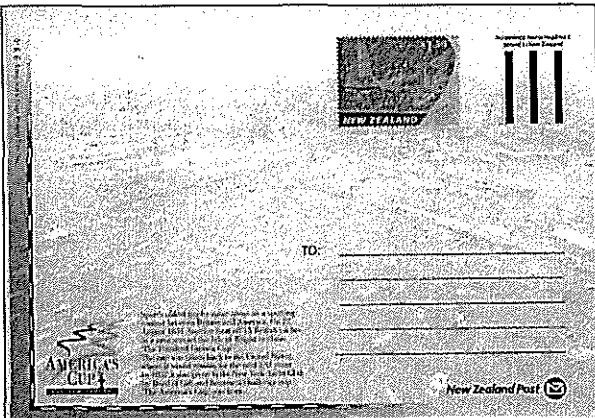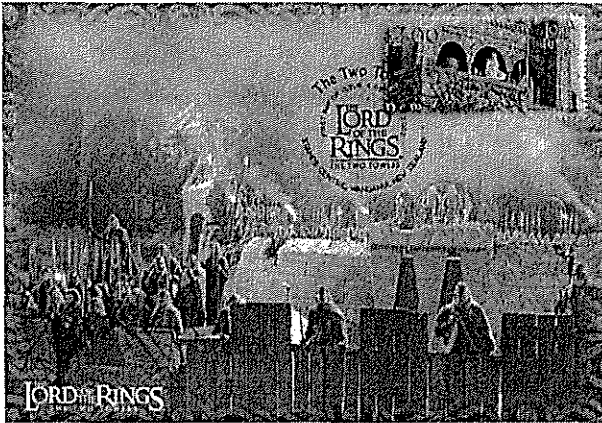

New Zealand

New Zealand issued six $1.50 postcards on 4 December 2002 to mark the release of the second film in the Lord of the Rings Trilogy, The Two Towers:
- Aragorn
- Legolas
- Wormtongue and Saruman
- Gandalf the White
- Samwise and Frodo
- King Théoden

The set was sold for $12. Also shown is the front of one of the $1.50 postcards for the America's Cup described in the last issue.

UK

The Welsh version of the 2002 UK Christmas aerogramme is illustrated below.