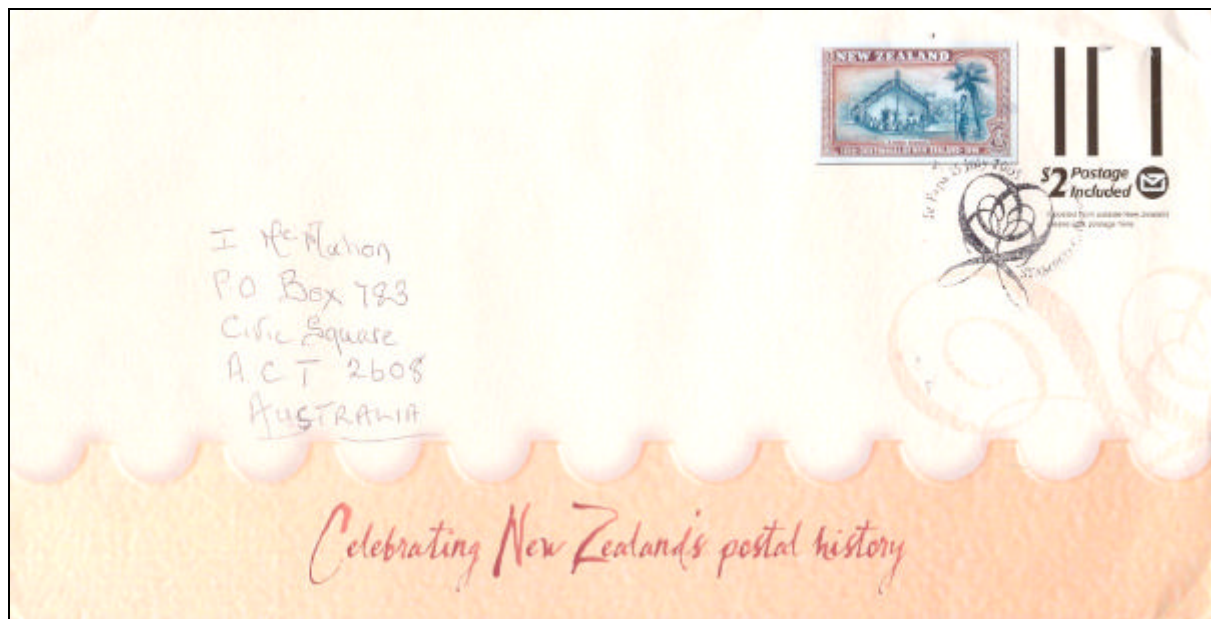


POSTAL STATIONERY

COLLECTOR

Volume 11 No 3: Issue No 43

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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 2003 has been set at \$35 (Australia) and \$50 (Overseas excluding New Zealand which is \$40). 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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FROM THE EDITOR

Taipei 2005

Congratulations to the following PSSA members on their results at the recent *Taipei 2005* FIAP exhibition.

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| John Sinfield | Scenic Lettercards of Australia | Gold [93] SP |
| Ross Wood | Czechoslovakia Postal Cards 1918-1938 | Large Silver [77] |



Bernie Beston sent in the photograph shown above of the 'My Photo' stand at the Exhibition where data was inserted for postcards. Bernie has promised further details for the next issue. Jenny Banfield provided examples of postcards issued at the Show each of which has the title of one of the talks at the Show, for example, 'History of the Electronic Postage Label' and 'Thematics from Gold to Large Gold'.



FEEDBACK

Ray Kelly has provided an illustration of a complete Queensland wrapper with added advertising for Hall & Co, illustrated in the August 1005 issue of *PSC*.



MESSRS. KIDERLEN & BICKEL - FRIENDS OR FOE

Bernie Beston F.R.P.S.L., FAP.

Continued from PSC August 2005

Bickel's dealings were similar to those of Kiderlen and equally proficient. It is probable that his modus operandi was identical to that of Kiderlen except that hand-written addresses were the norm for Bickel (Figure 8). One registered Cover (Figure 9) from Queensland in November 1892 may well have contained a stock of postal cards, either mint or cancelled. Figure 10 illustrates an 1882 San Marino postcard with New Year greetings sent by Bickel to Mr Menadue from Gympie in Queensland, a frequent addressee on Queensland stationery.



Figure 8 British Guiana postcard and envelope addressed to Bickel



Figure 9



Figure 10 San Marino postcard from Bickel to Mr Menadue, a stamp collector from Gympie, Qld in 1893

Bickel was honoured by San Marino in 1997 with a stamp as a part of the set of 4 stamps for the 120th Anniversary of the first San Marino Stamp (S.G.1618-21, Figure 11).



Figure 11

However, this was not the sole source of his stamp revenue. Due to a shortage of certain low values of stamps on sale at the San Marino Post Office, Bickel prevailed on the postal authorities to overprint high value stamps, of which there was an abundance, with lower values, viz. 5c and 10c. No doubt the volume of stamps used by Bickel contributed to the shortage. Overprinted by Tipografia Angeli and Company of Boirgo, they became known as “Bickel Provisionals”. Bickel promoted the stamps to collectors and dealers overseas.

He moved to Montenegro sometime late in 1893. A lettercard from Montenegro addressed to him in San Marino in the same year may indicate that he had already established a relationship with that country. Once in Montenegro, he either contrived the situation, or prevailed on the postal authority to overprint current high values stamp stock with lower values. A familiar story! Just why he left San Marino is unknown.

Of course again Bickel was the man to supply the trade and collectors worldwide with the stamps of Montenegro. A 1895 Montenegro Postal Card has a note to A. Krieger, stamp dealer in Eibenstock, Germany on the reverse of an 1888 Montenegro Postal Card (Figure 12). It is translated as follows:

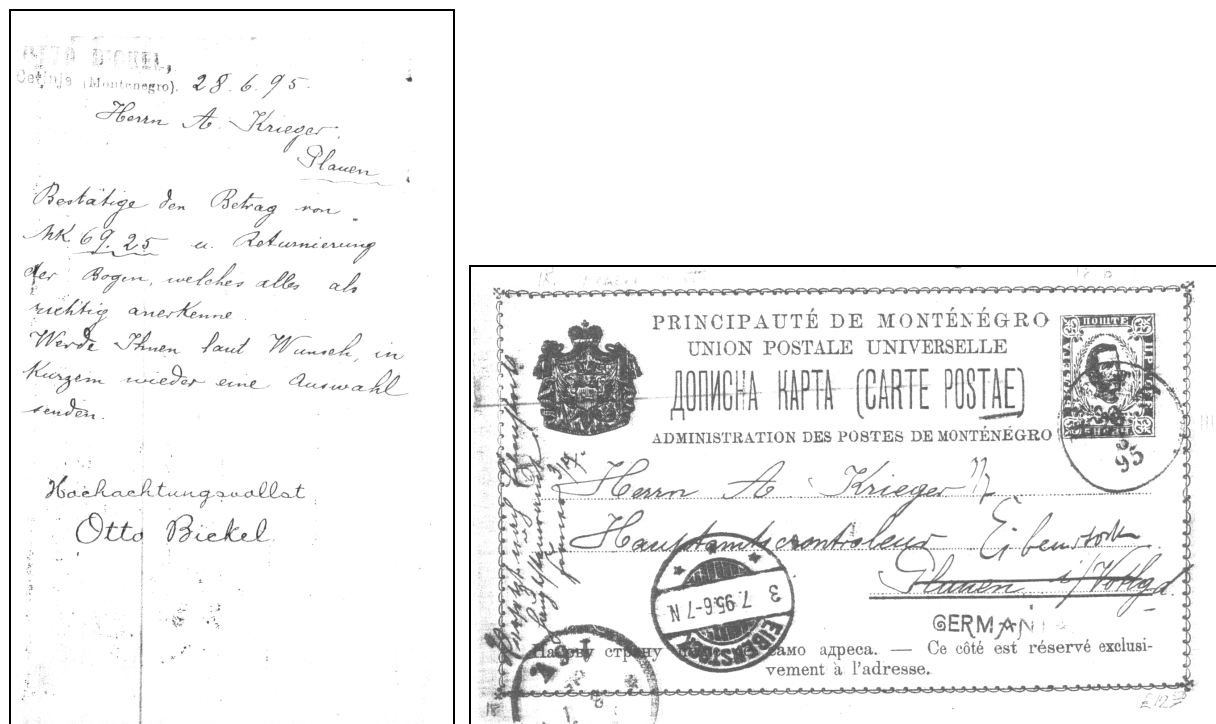


Figure 12

November 2005

28.6.95

Mr. A. *Krieger*
Glauen

I confirm the amount of hK 69.25 and return the sheet of paper, that I acknowledge as correct. Will you please send a selection again before long by request?

Yours sincerely,

Otto Bickel

Just what it is that Herr Bickel is buying we do not know.

It did not take long however for the Montenegrin Postal administration to catch on and they began to market their own issues thus cutting out Bickel, the middleman. Not to be outdone, he purchased 40,000 copies of the newly overprinted King Alexander 1 para stamp of 1903, which stamp he continued to supply to the trade for many years to come. He had cornered the market. An envelope from Bickel addressed to Senf indicates that there was at least a correspondence relationship between Bickel and the German postal stationery doyens of the era. Perhaps Bickel supplied stock to them for sale to their customers; and perhaps Kiderlen too was a supplier. Bickel also dealt in fossils and perhaps other collectibles. We do know that in his San Marino Journal, there are advertisement from stamp dealers from all over Europe, England, South Africa, Canada and the USA. J.E. Newell- Bull of Gunalda, Queensland even advertised his "Australian Stamp News" in the Journal. Little wonder then that in 1893, one "S.S." wrote to Bickel in San Marino on the reverse side of a 1½d New South Wales Postal Card (H & G 13a) (Figure 13).

Dear Sir,
I will be pleased to
receive specimens of the
"San Marino Philatelist", and
a few used stamps.

S.S.

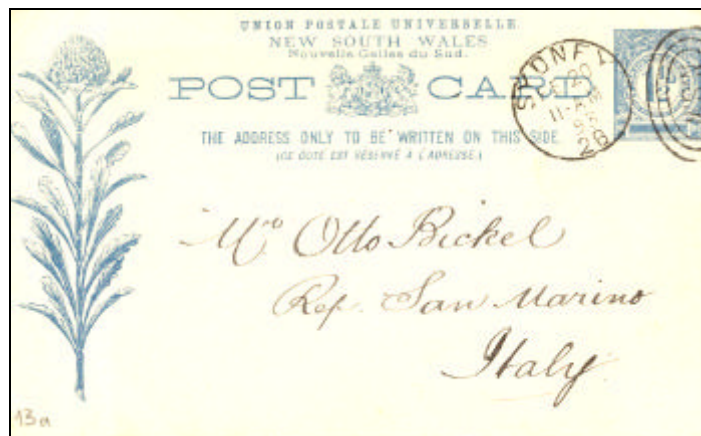


Figure 13

The late Varro E. Tyler was a frequent visitor to the APRL (American Philatelic Research Library), attending on a yearly basis to research stamps and especially forgeries for which specialty he enjoyed widespread respect, if not fame. He always asked for any references to Bickel, but apart from the San

Marino and Montenegro connection, found little data to publish.

I am told that Bickel had a girlfriend or de-facto wife [or perhaps she was just a business partner or even his wife using her maiden name?], Frau Leonie [or B] Berger. She even advertised in his Journal. Thus any covers or cards addressed to her are, in reality, Bickel concoctions (Figure 14). He moved back to Wolfratshausen, and then Munich, Bavaria, Germany some time after 1903, but probably continued trading in stamps and postal stationery (Figures 15-16).

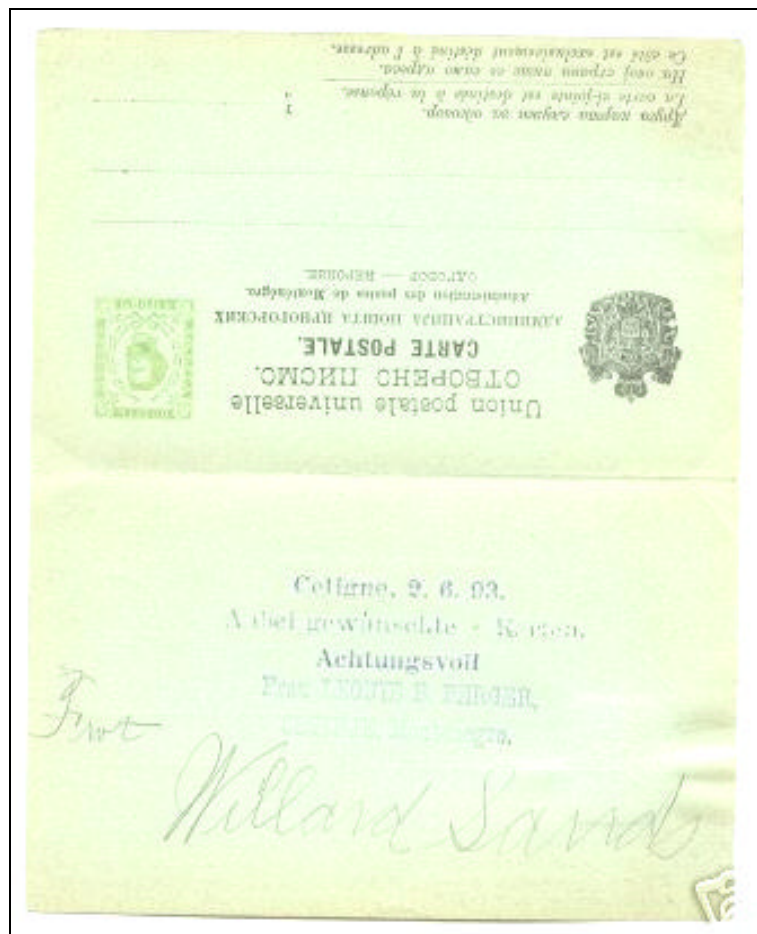
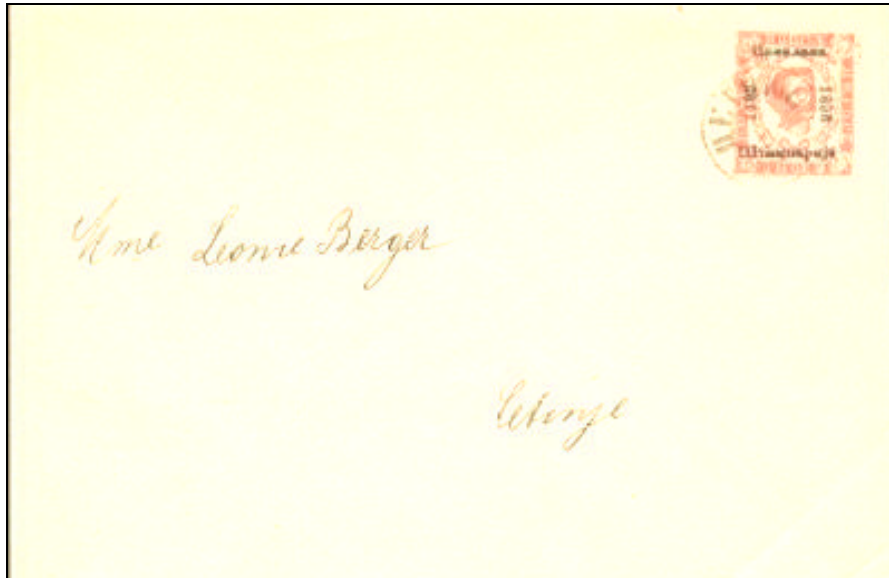


Figure 14



Halt!!! **Besitzen** Sie schon mein rotes, blaues, grünes und neuestes Engros-Spezial-Offert über Neuheiten etc. — mein Händler-Guam-Offert etc., wenn nicht, verlangen Sie es — **hochwichtig für jeden Händler.**

Otto Bickel, Zehlendorf bei Berlin.

Nur bestens empfohlen!

Figure 15



Figure 16

Vertrauliches Korrespondenz-Blatt
 philatelistischer Vereine.

XII. Jahrgang. Leitung: 1902.
 Verein für Briefmarkenkunde Kiel.

Vorstand:
 Dr. med. J. Künker, prakt. Arzt, Kiel, Ziegeltich 7.

Amtliches Organ des Bundes Deutscher und Oesterr. Philatelisten-Vereine,
 der Deutschen Philatelisten-Tage und der Deutschen Sammler-Tage.

Inhalt: Amtliches und Berichte des Bundes, anderer Verbände, Kongresse, Ausstellungen, etc. und der beteiligten 200 philatelistischen Vereine mit 11000 Mitgliedern. Ausführliche Warnungen vor Fälschungen (1880/1900 etc.), raresten Filatelisten (1880/1900 1441). Ca. 200 Adressen zur Prüfung und Besorgung von Postwertzeichen. Literatur-übersicht und Allgemeines. Bezug nur für Mitglieder 3 Mk., Ausland 3,50 Mk.

| | | | | | |
|----------|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Anzeigen | 1 | 1/2 | 1/3 | 1/4 | Seite |
| | 20 | 12 | 5 | 3 | Mk. |

Wiederholungen 3, 6, 9, 12 mal, 10, 15, 25, 33 1/3 % Nachlass.
 Kleine Anzeigen 1 Mk. — Prospekte postfrei.

Ich kaufe gegen Kasse
Briefmarken-Sammlungen

jeder Größe. In erster Linie liegt mir natürlich daran, möglichst hochwertige Objekte zu erwerben.

Jedoch kaufe ich auch, wenn preiswert.

~ Mischungen ~

von 4000, 5000, 6000 und mehr Verschiedenheiten.

Diese Mischungen dürfen aber **nur** aus **sauber erhaltenen, guten Marken** bestehen. — Neudrucke, Stempelmarken, Ausschnitte u. s. w. sind **ausgeschlossen**.

Auf preiswerte Angebote kaufe ich grössere Posten.

Philipp Kosack, Berlin C.
Burg-Strasse 8.

Mitglied des Internationalen Postwertzeichenhändler-Vereins.

Island. Provisorien 1902
 Königsmarken..
 Mauritius .. Provisorien
 und sonst alle besseren Neuheiten und ungebraucht laut Januar-Engros-Liste.

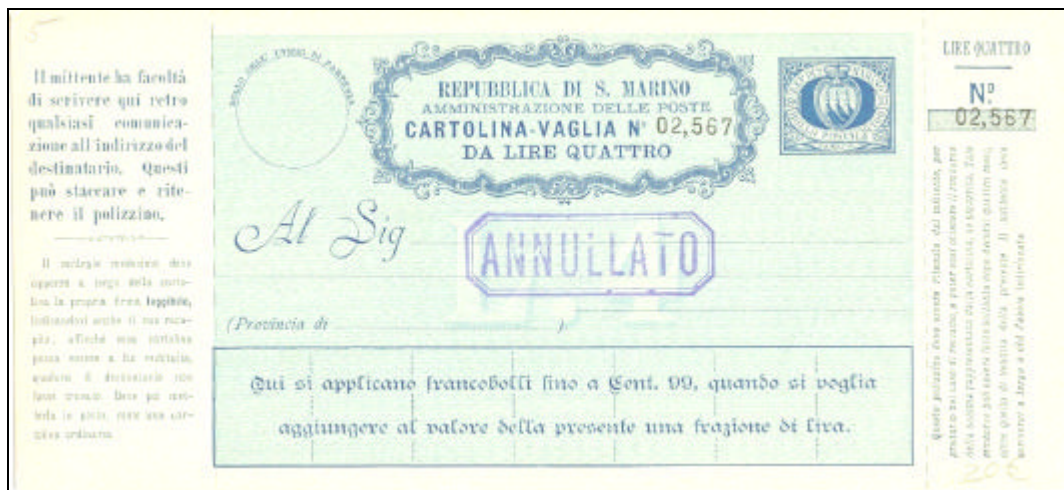
Sie schädigen sich, wenn Sie selbige nicht studiren!

Otto Bickel, Zehlendorf bei Berlin.

Decision Making

The question for postal stationery collectors is whether such material as produced by these and other dealers is so scarce that without it, usage in the Exhibit is deficient? Or are other commercially used examples of the item in question on the market, and available? Perhaps when using such items the exhibitor should record just how many commercially used examples are recorded. For those collectors who have passed up Kiderlen or Bickel covers, waiting for items of real postal use, just stop and think before you pass up the next card or envelope. There may be no genuine commercial use known today. Or only one or two, and they are locked up in other collections

I wish to record the valuable assistance given to me by Ellen Peachey & Gini Horn (American Philatelic Research Library); Robert Binner (Munich Philatelic Library); Dragon Udovicic (Euro-Yu Collecting), Yandina; Wayne Menuz (and his daughter for the translations); Steve Schumann; and the late Varro Tyler; in the preparation of this article. Without their help and assistance this article could not have been written.



A San Marino Money Order

SOURCES OF INFORMATION: "THE AUSTRALIAN POSTHORN"

Judy Kennett

In philately, as well as in other disciplines, it's sometimes useful to look back at what was published years before, to see what research was taking place at the time, and what can be learned from it. I recently had an opportunity to look through copies of early issues of *The Australian Posthorn*, and it proved to be an interesting exercise. It would be worthwhile, I felt, to write about the postal stationery articles in some of these early issues, to remind members about the existence of information, which may have become buried with the passing of the years. I hope to look at some other Australian philatelic journals later.

Background

In February 1976, a group of collectors met in Adelaide, South Australia to assess the feasibility of forming a club specializing in the collecting of philatelic material other than postage stamps, but still related to the postal service. The club was founded as the Postal Stationery and Postal History Society of Australia (PSPHSA), and it was decided to produce a quarterly journal that was called *The Australian Posthorn*.

The Australian Posthorn

The first issue of the journal appeared in September 1976, with an introduction on the foundation of the Society and ideas about the groups of collectors it hoped to attract. It contained a short article on 'Unlisted World War 1 lettercards', and contributions about aspects of postal history. In Issue No 2 the editors forecast the publication, in Issue No 3, of a listing of the Commonwealth scenic lettercards issued by the Australian post office between 1911 and 1924. This listing would be based on the pictorial aspects of the cards, rather than on the technical, ie stamp imprint, face values, perforations, dies, printing stocks and colour. It would 'list the different types of scenes known, and their distribution and types of presentation, spread over the different basic issues'. (1)

The project

The listing, with an introduction by K G Freebairn, was issued as Supplement No 1 to Issue No 3 March 1977 of *The Australian Posthorn*. It contained a listing of the titles of known views of the scenic lettercards, plus a listing of scenes on 1d + 1d reply lettercards, and a listing of the naval and military scenes on the lettercards prepared for World War 1. In total 142 different views, some with variations in their presentation, were listed. The Supplement also illustrated the current card designs used, and the shapes in which the scenes were presented, eg oval, rectangular, and vertical.

Issue No 3 stated the intention to continue the Supplement with full size reproductions of all the different known scenes on the lettercards, to be published over a period of time. The illustrations commenced with Issue No 4 Vol 1 June 1977. An extra page (sometimes two) of photographic quality paper was stapled to the back of each issue of the journal. This project seems to have ceased with Card No 37 in *The Australian Posthorn* Issue No 19 Vol 5 No 3 [1983]. I was able to examine Issues 1-59, and there was no sign that the project resumed later. However, I noted that in Issue No 30 Vol 8 No 1 March 1986, there was a contribution from Sydney dealer Alf Campe about the discovery of a previously undiscovered scene with the inscription 'Burrinjuck Dam'.

Later articles of interest

It has been observed that the early issues of the journal contained many articles of interest to postal stationery collectors, but the emphasis changed in later issues. In 1982 the Society produced a cumulative index to Volumes 1-4 Issues No 1-16, covering the period 1976 to 1981. This is a very useful document for locating articles of interest; under the heading 'Postal Stationery', there are specific references to articles about aerogrammes, envelopes, lettercards, parcel labels, postcards, printed-to-private-order stationery, registered envelopes, and newspaper wrappers. It has not been possible to establish if any later versions of the index were produced.

Using the index I found a number of articles on the 'unissued scenic postcards of 1976'. In Issue No 2 of December 1976, there is a report about an 'announcement of the imminent appearance of sets of coloured, officially issued picture postcards, depicting Australian scenes, with stamp imprint'. (2) Issues Nos 2 – No 6 pieced together the story of the 16 cards from the first printing of 36 scenic postcards that were found to be faulty after distribution was commenced. Issue No 3 March 1977 gives the series numbers and titles of these cards. A number of sets, perhaps about 2000, of sets of the first printing were distributed and sold before substitution of the faulty cards could be made.

A new printing appeared in post offices during May 1977. In Issue No 5 of September 1977 there are black and white illustrations of seven of the cards where it was found necessary to reprint in order to substitute the correct views. Nine other cards were replaced because of poor technical quality.

The index also indicated an article on the introduction of the 20c bird pre-stamped envelopes (Issue No 10 December 1978) and '20c definitive bird envelopes – research findings', by B M Wajer (Issue No 12 June 1979). The latter is a long article with comparisons of envelopes from different printings. There is also a listing of the titles of the 20c scenic postcards issued during October 1978, with a little technical information (Issue No 10 December 1978).

Lack of any later indices means that the Contents list on the front cover of each issue must be scanned to look for articles about postal stationery. However, I was able to find the following examples without too much trouble.

1. Issue No 17 Vol 5 No 1 – 'New format aerogrammes and consumer research'
2. Issue No 19 Vol 5 No 3 – 'Notes on unlisted 1d kangaroo postcard of 1913 surcharged 1½ d in black and 1956 3d QEII postcard revalued 4d [issued 1957]' by A Jansen
3. Issue No 23 Vol 6 No 2 – Postcards of the Electoral Department of South Australia [1883-1912] by M Walker
4. Issue No 24 Vol 6 No 3 [1984] – '1897 and 1902 issues of the New South Wales one penny postcard' C Steig
5. Issue No 25 Vol 6 No 4 – 'The first '5 centimes' postcard design of Belgium' M Roland
6. Issue No 31 Vol 8 No 2 – 'Queensland 'Esperanto' postcards' P Collas
7. Issue No 41 Vol 10 No 3 – 'The reply lettercards of Australia' Part 1 J Sinfield
8. Issue No 41 Vol 10 No 3 – 'Lettercards in South Australia' M Walker
9. Issue No 42 Vol 10 No 4 – 'The reply lettercards of Australia' Part 2 J Sinfield
10. Issue No 43 Vol 11 No 1 – 'The reply lettercards of Australia' Part 3 J Sinfield

As time went by, the contents of the journals shifted markedly towards the postal history element, reflecting perhaps changes in the interests of the membership. One or two issues each year contained a review of the postal stationery issued by Australia Post during that year, but that was the limit of the coverage. The present status is that although the Postal Stationery and Postal History Society of Australia still exists in South Australia, it no longer publishes *The Australian Posthorn*. The journal ceased with Issue No 97.

Conclusion

Copies of *The Australian Posthorn* should be available in many philatelic libraries, such as the Philatelic Association of NSW (Philas) Library, the Library of the Royal Philatelic Society Victoria and the Library of the Philatelic Society of Canberra. I have access to issues up to No 59; please contact me on jkennett@tpg.com.au if I can assist with questions about these journals or provide photocopies of shorter articles from early issues. Finally, because these articles are in a journal that is no longer published, there is no reason to assume that the information contained in them is not worth consulting. Remember that the last word is never written in philatelic research.

References

1. *The Australian Posthorn* Vol 1 No 2 December 1976 pages 19-20
2. *The Australian Posthorn* Vol 1 No 2 December 1976 pages

AUSTRALIAN STAMPLESS / FORMULAR AIR LETTERS AND AEROGRAMMES

Allan Gory

The acquisition and completion of a simplified collection of mint or used Australian definitive and commemorative aerogrammes is a relatively easy task. Start considering plate varieties, specimens, military, uprated, registered, taxed, first day usage, special flights and postmark cachets and this field of philately takes on a heightened interest.

Two other types of air letters and aerogrammes, official¹ and stampless are especially intriguing.

Stampless or formular airletters and aerogrammes without indicia or printed face value were produced and distributed by the Australian postal authorities. They were prepared for use in the dependencies and in other areas of the south-west Pacific including Christmas Islands, Nauru, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea, British Solomon Islands, Fiji, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, and New Hebrides where the appropriate endemic adhesive(s) was attached as prepayment for the prescribed postage rate. The introduction and transmission of these air letters was a direct consequence of the development of new air services and parallel air postage rates throughout the Pacific which resulted in the need for a light weight letter form.

Eight different and distinct stampless airletters and aerogrammes, designated by this author AS-1 to AS-8 can be identified, all exactly modeled on contemporaneous Australian definitive types. All were prepared and printed between 1945 and 1970 by the Australian Note Printing Branch in Melbourne as with their definitive counterparts.

All are scarce to rare or even non-existent in genuinely used non-philatelic condition. For each stampless type probably less than five properly used examples can be identified for each Australian territory or dependency of usage. No genuinely used or mint examples are known of the last three "decimal" stampless aerogrammes.

Table 1 provides a survey of types and usage of the territory formular aerogrammes (excluding private permit species).

The demise and discontinuance of the stampless species was the result of the introduction of the endemic aerogramme by variously defined postal authorities in the Pacific.

In the remainder of this article I illustrate and discuss three of the types of territory formular aerogrammes.

AS-8 (Stein AS-7) Stampless "AEROGRAMME"

Adaptation of the Australian 10-cent blue and orange definitive jet silhouette aerogramme (A-33), effected by removing the stamp impression. New three-line admonition, on back panel, with additional top line, "PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO ADDRESS THIS FORM", best defines this stampless species type and the corresponding Australian definitive.

Different settings known; distance between "AEROGRAMME" and "BY AIR MAIL . PAR AVION", varies: 3.5 mm, 5.5 mm or 6.0 mm (Christmas Island example). Other settings are possible. The definitive type exists with similar setting differences.

First day, unknown, possibly late 1969 or more likely 1970. Corresponding Australian definitive type issued 30 October 1969.

Only known cancelled-to-order; New Hebrides 15 October 1970 and Christmas Island 14 December 1970.

Christmas Island “usage”:

Christmas Island cancelled-to-order example with 10-cent 1968 fish definitive attached, paying the correct aerogramme rate and postmarked, 14 December 1970. Australia assumed full responsibility for all aspects of the Christmas Island Postal Service in 1969. First endemic Christmas Island aerogramme introduced on 17 May 1971.

Distance between “AEROGRAMME” and “BY AIR MAIL . PAR AVION” 6.0mm.

No other examples of this stampless type cancelled or commercially used in Christmas Island have been sighted by this author.

Philatelic CTO New Hebrides, all post offices, with both French and English annular postmarks, 15 October 1970 are extant.



AS-5 (ASC 80-AP5, Stein AS-6) Stampless “AEROGRAMME”

Adaptation of Australian 9 cent first decimal definitive (A-25) aerogramme with the flying-kangaroo motif and the indicium including jet tail/“AUSTRALIA”/ “9c” denomination removed. First day unknown, but during 1966.

New Hebrides usage:

Commercially used by Edouard Wagner from New Hebrides to Illinois, USA with August 1966 definitives attached (5 and 25 gold centimes), total 30 gc, aerogramme rate. Tied by annular cancellation: SANTO, NEW HEBRIDES, 12AUG.67-1.

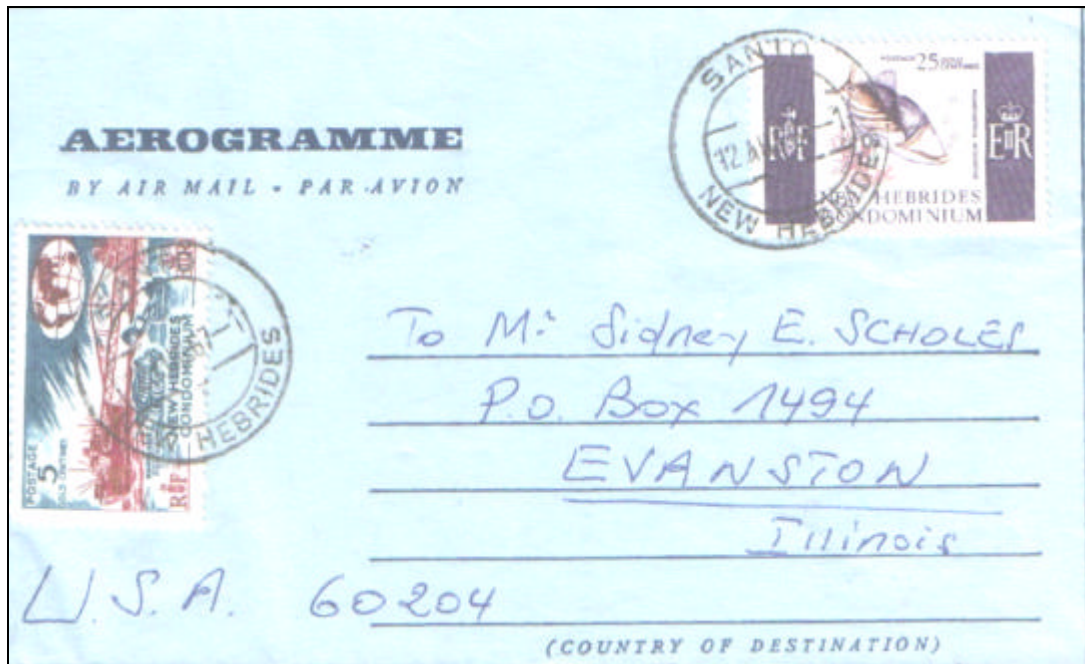
This stampless type (AS-5) not seen used in New Hebrides before.

An example used in Christmas Island and a philatelic form from Papua and New Guinea, 3 July 1967, with Amelia Earhart, postmark and legend². Norfolk Island usage 20-12-66³

Aerogramme rates for the New Hebrides are problematic, from December 1950 until 1970, a 25 gold centime rate is mainly encountered⁴ but a 30 gold centime franking to the USA is usual⁵. An endemic 35 gold centime aerogramme was introduced in July 1971 but circumstantial evidence suggests this rate may have been introduced late 1970.

Plate variety, spot before AVION.

November 2005



AS-2 (ASC 80-AP2, Stein AS-3) Stampless “AEROGRAMME” with bicoloured border lozenges.

Derived from the Australian definitive (bicolour) aerogramme (A-7) 10-pence plane on globe type with alternate red and blue rhombi border, red indicium removed leaving an outlined blank rectangle. Regular flap format, printed in blue and red ink, similar to the March 1954 Australian definitive issue. First day, 17 June 1954.

British Solomon Islands usage:

Honiara, Solomon Islands, aerogramme with KGVI 2d and 6d, definitives attached, postmarked 24 January 1955. The contents of this aerogramme to stamp dealer Miss Hodson, sheds new light on the genesis and usage of these stampless aerogramme forms:

- 1 This new type was initially available at Honiara, 17 June 1954, and precedes the use of this formula aerogramme in Norfolk Island⁶.
2. The forms were sold at the post office for 1d each.



Various formular Australian type aerogrammes were used in the Solomon Islands between 1954 and 1969, with different postal rates⁷ applicable over this period; from June 1954 to 1959 the rate was 8d and in January 1960 changed to 9d and from 14 February 1966, the inception of decimal currency, set at 8 cents. First endemic decimal aerogramme 8c, Night Fishing, issued, 3 October 1969.

Footnotes

¹ An excellent aerogramme website, author Jerome V. V. Kasper, <http://www.aerogramme.com/index.html> details a very fine exhibit titled, Australia's Official Aerogrammes.

² Stein, R., C. (1984), *The Aerogrammes of Australia and Its Dependencies*, The American Philatelic Society, p150,152

³ Gary Watson Sale No. 40, 14-9-1987. Lot #1022 (330AUD)

⁴ Destinations noted with 25 gc franking: USA (1962) France (1964), Australia (1966), and PNG (1968)

⁵ USA destination with 30 gc franking, 1950-1952 (philatelic), 1963 and 1967.

⁶ P. Collas and R. Breckon (1997), *Norfolk Island: A Postal & Philatelic History 1788-1969.*

⁷ The predecimal dates of the various aerogrammes rates are tentative and are based on dated air letters and aerogrammes seen by this author.

TABLE 1: SURVEY OF TYPES AND USAGE (EXCLUDING PRIVATE PERMIT SPECIES)

Legend:

A = Non philatelic, flown with message

B = Philatelic, flown no message

C = Cancelled-to-order with endemic adhesive(s)
Attached

D = Endemic adhesive(s) attached but not cancelled

If **A** is known to exist then **B**, **C**, or **D** are not listed etc.

All underlined in author's collection

(Only AS-1 to AS-5 are known in mint condition)

Notes:

¹ Stein subdivides this species into two categories, AS-1 on buff paper (1947-1950) and AS-2 on blue paper (1950-1954).

² Commercial usage, date not readable, noted on Ebay, most examples philatelic (**B**).

³ First day, British Solomon Islands, Honiara, 17 June 1954.

⁴ Christmas Island, 15 April 1967, Stein p152.

⁵ T.P.&N.G., 3 July 1967, Amelia Earhart special anniversary cachet and postmark, Stein p152 (p150, illustrated)

⁶ Previously unrecorded, postmarked Port Vila, New Hebrides, 16 December 1968. All printing in aqua cf. blue for AS-5.

⁷ Different post offices, all dated 15 October 1970.

References:

Stein R. (1984), *The Aerogrammes of Australia and Its Dependencies*, The American Philatelic Society. [ASC], *The Australasian Stamp Catalogue*, 20th edition.

| Stampless type (Stein)[ASC]* | Australian definitive aerogramme model ASC*/ Stein # (value) | Fiji | Nauru | Christmas Island | British Solomon Islands | New Hebrides | Norfolk Island | Gilbert & Ellice Islands | PNG |
|---|--|----------|-------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| AS-1¹ 1947 (AS-1,2)[AP1] | AIRLETTER KGVI portrait- Buff & blue paper A-2,3 (10d) | <u>A</u> | A | | A | A ² | A | A | |
| AS-2³ 1954 (AS-3)[AP2] | Plane on globe Red & blue rhombi A-7 (10d) | | A | | <u>A</u> | <u>D</u> | A | | |
| AS-3 1960 (AS-4)[AP3] | Plane in rectangle Red & blue arrows Red folding directions A-11 (10d) | | | A | <u>A</u> | <u>A</u> | A | | |
| AS-4 1961 (AS-5)[AP4] | Plane in rectangle Red & blue arrows "Overseas Service" added A-14 (10d) | | | | A | <u>B</u> | A | | |
| AS-5 1966 (AS-6)[AP5] | Jet tail & motif (blue) "IF ANYTHING ...THIS FORM" line length 120mm A-25 (9c) A-25 (9c) | | | A(?) ⁴ (?) ⁴ | | <u>A</u> | A | | B ⁵ |
| AS-6 1968 | Jet tail & motif (aqua) "IF ANYTHING ...THIS FORM" line length 116mm A-29 (10c) | | | | | <u>B</u> ⁶ | | | |
| AS-7 1969 | Jet silhouette 2-line admonition A-31 (10c) | | | | | <u>D</u> | | | |
| AS-8 1970 (AS-7) | Jet silhouette 3-line admonition A-33 (10c) | | | <u>C</u> | | <u>C</u> ⁷ | | | |

PROPRIETARY NEWSPAPERS NAMED ON NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS

Professor John K. Curtis
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It seems hardly necessary to state the obvious, namely that post office newspaper wrappers were issued for the mailing of newspapers. In the last 20 years of the 19th century there were literally millions of newspapers mailed within and between colonies and overseas (Oxenham, 1925). The Australian colonies printed many different newspapers in both capital cities and country regions alike. Although wrappers were used also to mail all manner of approved printed matter, their primary usage was to convey newspapers. One might reasonably expect to find proprietary newspapers named on wrappers as a matter of routine. However, the evidence suggests otherwise.

A review of 264 post office wrappers from the six Australian colonies revealed only 10 extant copies bearing the names of newspapers. This amount is less than 4% of the total. The paper illustrates and discusses the seven newspapers so represented. Three originated from Victoria: *St. Arnaud Mercury*, *Mornington Standard*, and *Pleasant Creek News & Stawell Chronicle*; two were from Tasmania: *Tasmanian Mail* and *The Mercury*; and one each from New South Wales: *The Tenterfield Star*, and South Australia: *The Advertiser*. Presumably there are other proprietary newspapers that were privately overprinted that can be brought to light by others.

Victoria

Ironically no long-run surviving Melbourne-based newspaper is represented such as *The Herald* or *The Argus*. A search of library archival material regarding Melbourne newspapers of the period revealed a list of about 20 daily or weeklies printed and distributed in Melbourne. In addition, just about every rural area with a reasonable population published their own newspaper. Hughes (2003) lists 199 Victorian country newspapers commencing from the gold rush era. With settlers originating from GB and elsewhere, many local newspapers must have found their way back to family and friends overseas. The scarcity of extant privately overprinted wrappers is inconsistent with the volume of newspapers sent within, between and from the colonies.

The St. Arnaud Mercury was published twice per week, Wednesday and Saturday. It commenced 13 Feb. 1864. St. Arnaud is located north-east of Stawell and is 255km from Melbourne's GPO. This wrapper shows the addition of a ½d cut-out beneath the indicium to pay the 1d newspaper rate to GB, both indicia tied with a 25mm third type duplex numeral cancel ST. ARNAUD A NO 4 96 & numeral 94 between two obliterator bars above and beneath (Freeman & White 2001). The addressee Clark, Son and Platt has been documented as an advertising agency that placed advertisements in country newspapers in the Australian colonies on behalf of GB clients (Curtis, 2004, 2003). This wrapper is shown as Figure 1.

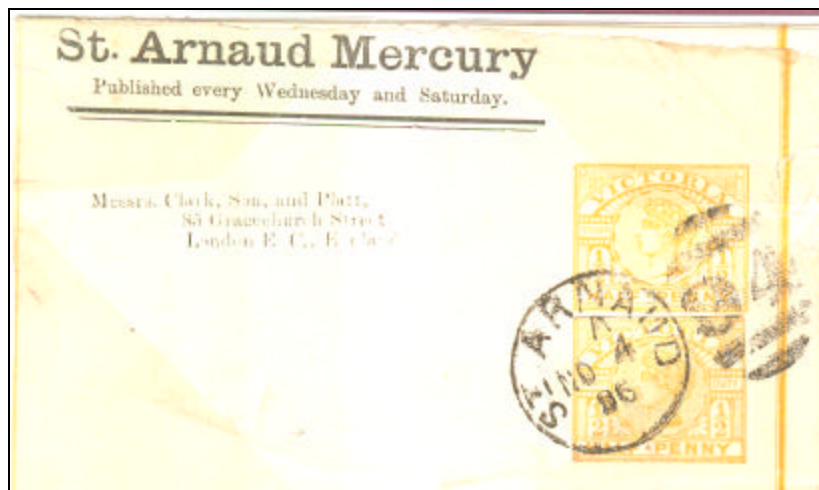


Figure 1: *St. Arnaud Mercury*

The Mornington Standard has already been illustrated and analysed as an example of a privately overprinted wrapper (Courtis, 2004b). The first issue of this newspaper was printed in Frankston 5 October 1889. It eventually grew into a flagship for a group of bay side newspapers in 1925. The wrapper illustrated in Figure 2 shows a numeral cancel 142, being a type 1B Frankston that was in use until 1899 (Freeman & White 2001). Frankston is located 31 km south-east of Melbourne's GPO on Port Philip Bay. Today it is an outer suburb. Gordon & Gotch are well-known newspaper and magazine distributors with a head office at the time at Temple Court, Collins Street, Melbourne.



Figure 2: *Mornington Standard*

The Pleasant Creek News and Stawell Chronicle was established 1868. Originally called the *Pleasant Creek News* it incorporated the smaller *Pleasant Creek Chronicle* and became *The Pleasant Creek News and Stawell Chronicle*. On 2 March 1895 it changed its name to *Stawell News and Pleasant Creek Chronicle*. Stawell is located north-west of Ararat and is 240km north-west of Melbourne's GPO. The third type open duplex numeral 265 within three bars above and below is cancelled STAWELL JU 8 93 VICTORIA. Another example of this wrapper is illustrated in Freeman & White (2001, p. 159)

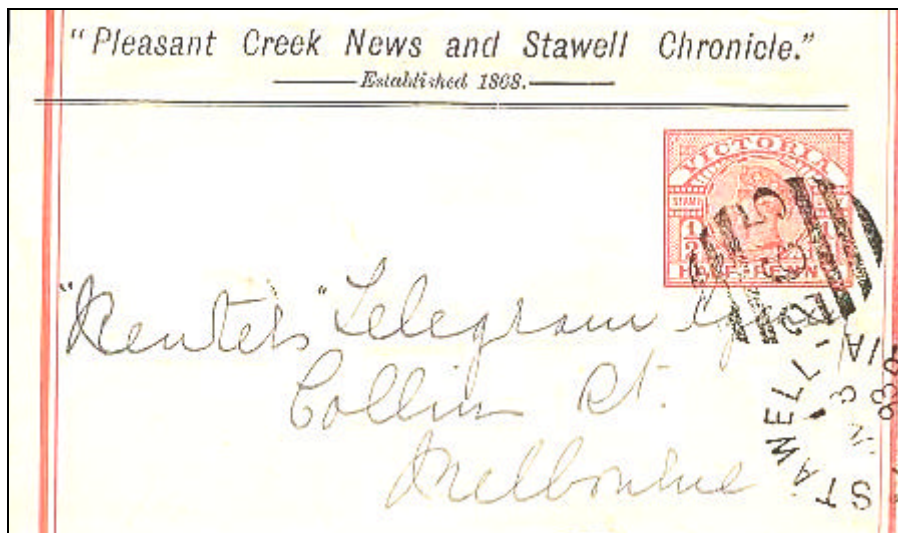


Figure 3: *Pleasant Creek News & Stawell Chronicle*

Tasmania

There are two types of embossed-to-order Mercury wrappers. *The Mercury* newspaper, based in Hobart was started 13 May 1867 as a daily for southern Tasmania. It is Tasmania's largest circulating daily newspaper with a present readership that reaches 68% of Hobart and region during the week and 82% on Saturdays. Figure 4a shows *The Mercury* followed by comma and Hobart beneath, with 6-bar obliterator and HOBART cancelling white side-faced QV within orange serrated oval.

Figure 4b shows *The Mercury* followed by a full stop followed by the two lines NEWSPAPER ONLY/

OFFICE: MACQUARIE STREET, HOBART, TASMANIA. The indicium is also a white side-face QV within an oval orange-brown. The cancellation is too badly smudged to determine, but is probably similar to that shown in Figure 4a.

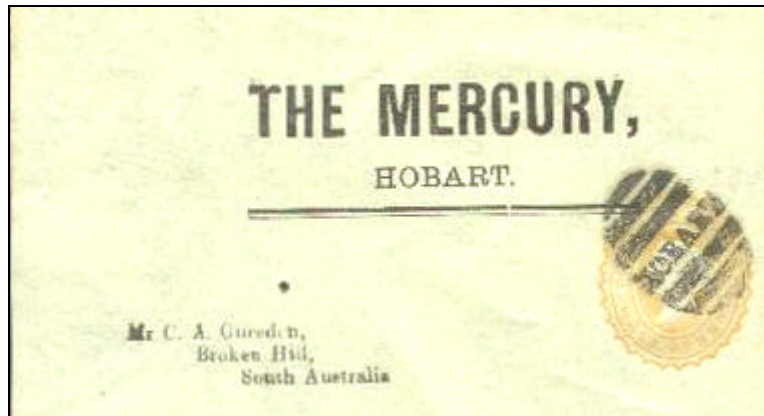


Figure 4a: The Mercury, Hobart



Figure 4b: The Mercury with additional address detail

There are also two types of combination embossed-to-order *Tasmanian Mail* newspaper wrappers, and these are shown respectively as Figures 5a and 5b. While the wording is identical, figure 5a shows inverted commas around the name, while Figure 5b is without commas but has stronger printing definition of the second underline beneath Hobart. Also based in Hobart, in July 1877 the weekly *Tasmanian Mail* was issued for the first time. Some 44 years later on 7 April 1921 the name was altered to *The Illustrated Tasmanian Mail*. The size of the pages became smaller but greater in number and was well illustrated with photographs and cartoons.



Figure 5a: Tasmanian Mail with inverted commas

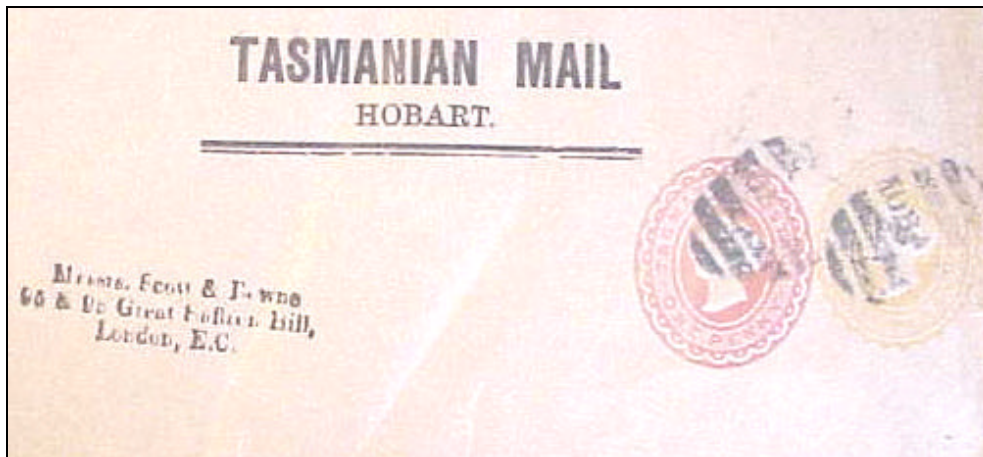
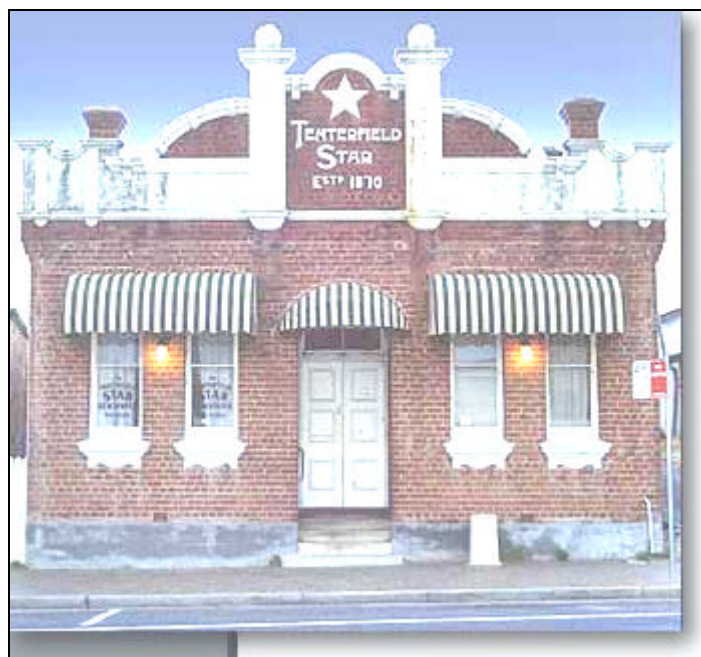


Figure 5b: Tasmanian Mail with defined double underlining

New South Wales

The Tenterfield Star Newspaper was established in 1870. Townspeople and those in the rural communities of Tenterfield, Stanthorpe and Severn buy the bi-weekly *Tenterfield Star* on a regular basis. It is the only local newspaper in the area, and many depend on its bi-weekly appearance for their local news and information. In many cases it is their only source of local news, as radio reception in many areas of the district is poor to non-existent.

The Tenterfield Star was purchased in the late 1890s and owned for 16 years by Major J F Thomas who earned worldwide fame at the South African Boer War for his defence of "Breaker Morant". As the local solicitor he occupied the building shown below and through his paper was able to advocate the cause of Australian Federation. Tenterfield is a town with tourist and historical interest, one of three recognized Federation towns in Australia. Sir Henry Parkes made his Federation speech in 1889 at the School of Arts, Banjo Patterson was married in the local Presbyterian Church in 1903 and Peter Allen's grandfather had his saddler's shop around the corner in Main Street, where it is now a tourist shop (National Trust website).



Original building of Tenterfield Star newspaper

The wrapper in Figure 6 shows a circular date cancel TENTERFIELD AP 28 94 NSW with side-turned three-ring oval numeral 34. The addressee is “The Week”, Brisbane. There does not appear to be any extant record of the existence of this periodical.

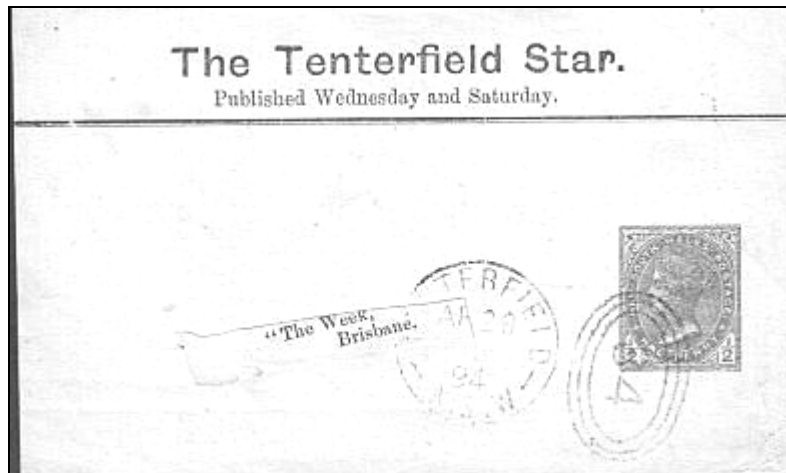


Figure 6: The Tenterfield Star

South Australia

The South Australian Advertiser was established 12 July 1858. The founder & first editor was Rev. John Henry Barrow, important in that it indicates the religious bias of this newspaper’s appearance in its early life. *The Advertiser* is a daily newspaper with a circulation within Adelaide and country regions of approximately 550,000 copies. It remains located at 121 King William Street. Volume 1 No. 1 commenced “...called into existence by the universal demand of the public for a new Daily and a new Weekly Journal, in harmony with the Spirit of the Age, of independent tone, of constitutional Liberalism, of catholic sentiment, unfettered by party obligations...” (Lord Peter 1983). The wrapper shown in Figure 7 was probably mailed to Christian World as evidence that the client’s advertisement had been printed. The addressee Christian World, 222 Pitt St., Sydney, today remains part of the Uniting Church.

The private overprint reads on two lines: *The Advertiser/ The Popular Daily*. The indicium is bordered top and bottom with the words South and Australia. The indistinct circular cancel is a void ADELAIDE GPO. Higgins & Gage refer to this wrapper as E6.



Figure 7: The Advertiser

Conclusion

That so few post office wrappers have been found from the Australian colonies with proprietary newspaper names is both unexpected and questionable. Given that many millions of newspapers and printed matter found their way within and between the colonies and to overseas destinations, it is perplexing that so few privately printed wrappers are extant. This is all the more surprising because there could have been 500 or more named newspapers from capital cities and rural communities during the period 1850-1900. The survey of 264 wrappers found only ten bearing printed newspaper names, with none from Queensland and Western Australia (and none from New Zealand). The evidence is that wrappers with printed proprietary newspaper names are scarce.

References

- Courtis John K. (2004a), Wrappers Signalling Advertising Evidence, *The Collectors' Club Philatelist*, Vol. 83 No. 4, July-August, pp. 226-228.
- Courtis John K. (2004b), Classifying Privately Overprinted, Stamped-to-Order, & Printed-to-Private-Order Victorian Colonial Newspaper Wrappers, *Postal Stationery Collector*, Vol. 10 No. 1, May, pp. 4-12.
- Courtis John K. (2003), Wrappers Bearing Evidence of Advertising, *Philately from Australia*, Vol. 11 No. 4, December, pp. 98-100.
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- Lord Peter (1983), *125 Years of The Advertiser*, Advertiser Newspapers Ltd., Adelaide, pp. 222.
- Oxenham J. (1925), Australian Post and Telegraph History to 1926, *Australian Encyclopedia*, pp. 316-323.
- Tenterfield National Trust Website www.nationaltrust.com.au/star

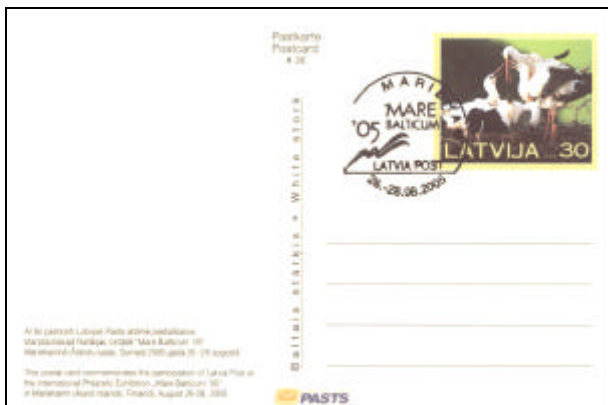
NEW POSTCARDS FROM LATVIA

Arturs Neboiss

The Latvia Post issued a stamped postcard ('Postcard No 36') to commemorate their participation at the International Philatelic Exhibition *Mare Balticum 05* held in Mariehamn, Aland Islands, Finland 26-28 August 2005. The stamp design of the postcard depicts a family of storks at their nest.

A special commemorative postmark was also available at the exhibition. The number of postcards issued is not yet available. The nominal '30' (santims) in Latvian currency is the postcard rate to non-European foreign countries.

Also illustrated is a formular card issued by Latvia Post to mark the Latvian IX School-children song and dance festival 2005 in Riga. The card has a special postmark and cachet '30.06- 03.07, 2005, Riga 47'. A total of 12000 cards were issued. Postcard tariffs: inland 10 santims; European countries 20 santims; other countries 30 santims.





PSSA FORUM

Postcards

Martin Walker has been busy sorting out duplicates amongst his prepaid postcards and spotted a second setting of the card depicting Parliament House with the aboriginal mosaic in the foreground. (APN 9312650124274):

On what I presume to be the first printing the space between the barcode and the stamps logo is 9mm whereas the space on the later printing is only 7mm. Also, the wording "Parliament House, Canberra" on the earlier card is printed in bold type (compared to the photograph credit line) whereas the later printing has the line in the same type and weight as the credit line.

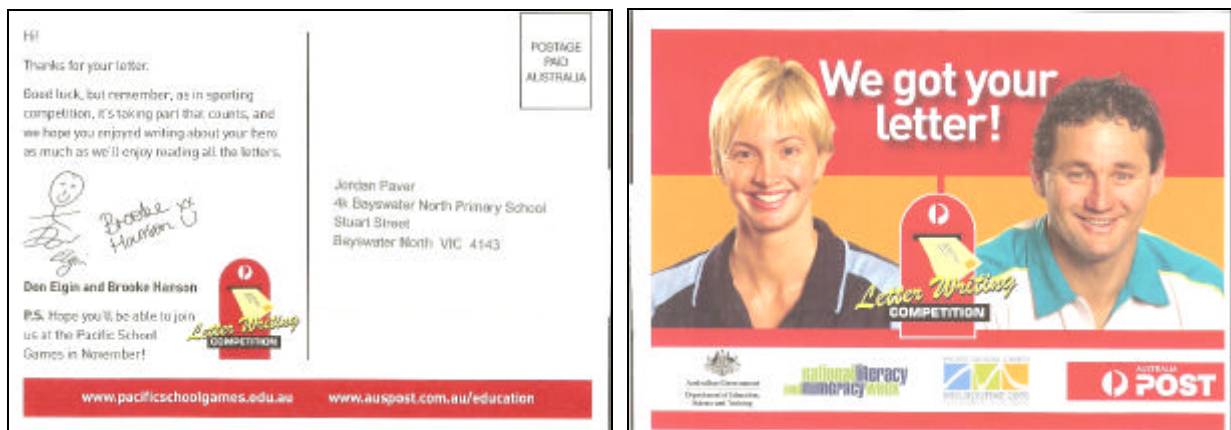
The earlier card has a 8mm space between the blue airmail logo and "POSTAGE PRE-PREPAID" whereas the space on the later card is only 3mm.

My presumption that the card I describe as the earlier card is based on one of my examples having the supposed FDI date of 1/8/1999.

There are sure to be many unreported printings and variations on the cards and I am sure Martin would appreciate hearing from anyone with unrecorded varieties.

Letter Writing Competition Postcard

Frank Pauer reports the use of a special postcard for the Australia Post sponsored Letter Writing Competition for school children.

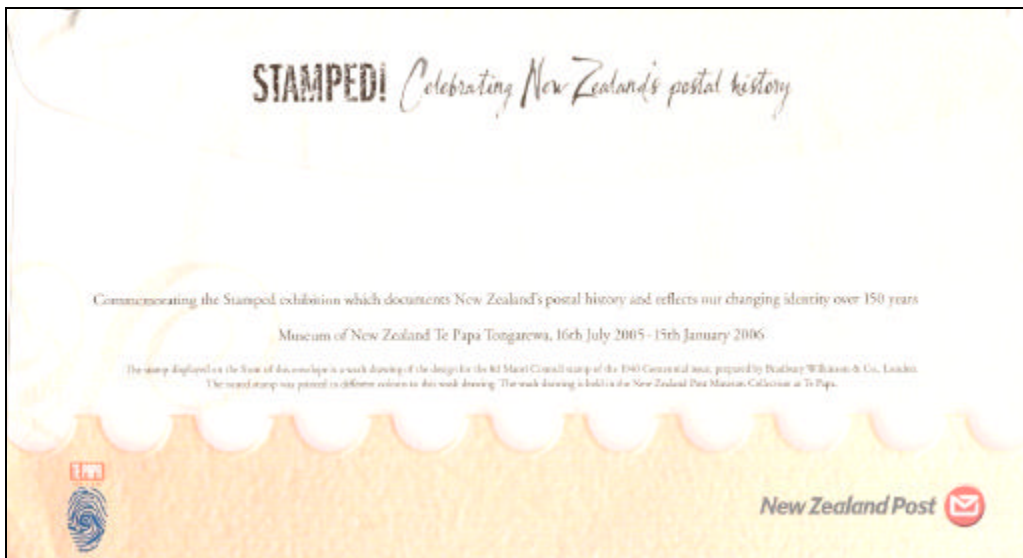
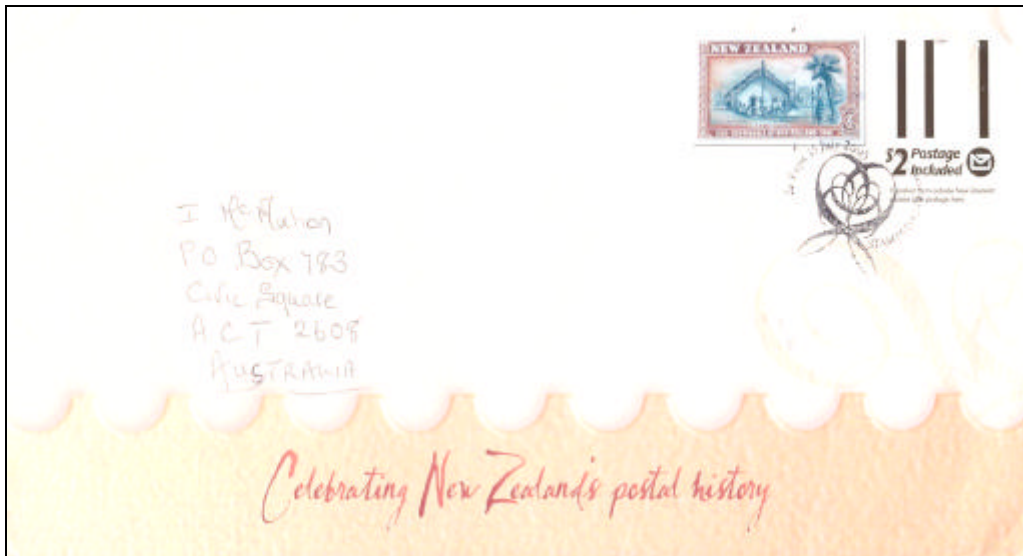


Celebrating New Zealand's Postal History

Jenny Banfield advises of a special \$2 stamped envelope issued by New Zealand in association with the exhibition, *STAMPED! Celebrating New Zealand's Postal History*, at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa Wellington.

The Exhibition runs from 16 July 2005 to 15 January 2006. *STAMPED! Celebrating New Zealand's Postal History* celebrates 150 years since New Zealand's first stamps were issued and includes selected items from the Queen's Collection.

The stamp design includes a depiction of the 8d New Zealand Centennial adhesive.



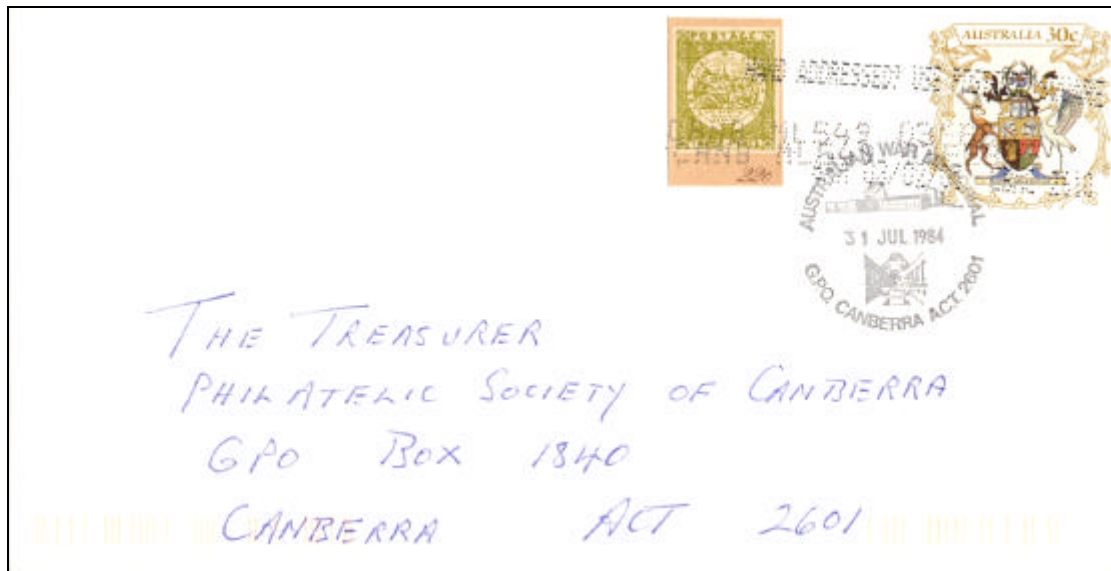
Express Post Envelopes

Express Post envelopes and satchels (including the two-way envelope) and the Express Post Platinum satchels have appeared with the addition of a boxed 'This item may be screened for Aviation Security purposes'.



Another stationery ‘cutout’usage

Illustrated below is a 30c Coat-of-arms PSE used with a 22c cutout from a Sydplex 80 envelope to pay the 50c letter rate. The 30c coat-of-arms stamp has been previously cancelled on the first day of issue. (The reuse of FDI canceled PSEs appears to be relatively common).



“200 Club”

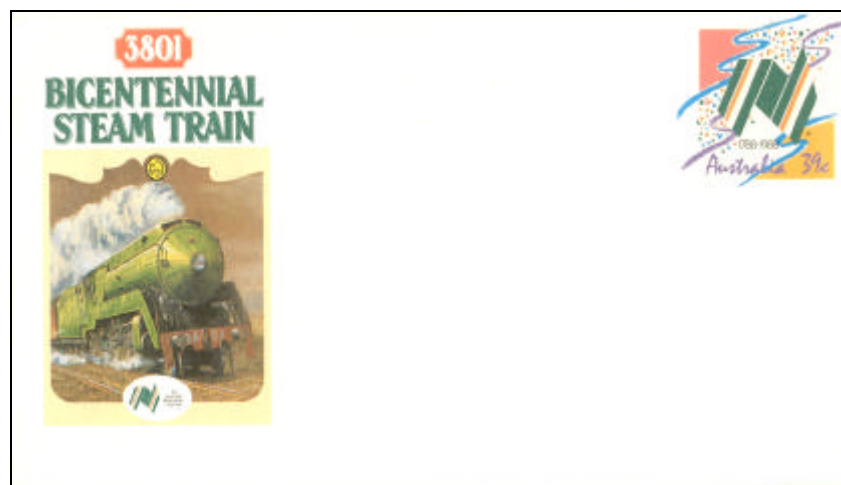
On 4 January 1988, Australia Post issued a 37c PSE depicting the Bicentennial Logo. Following a postage rate rise, the envelope was reissued on 28 September 1988 with a 39c denomination.

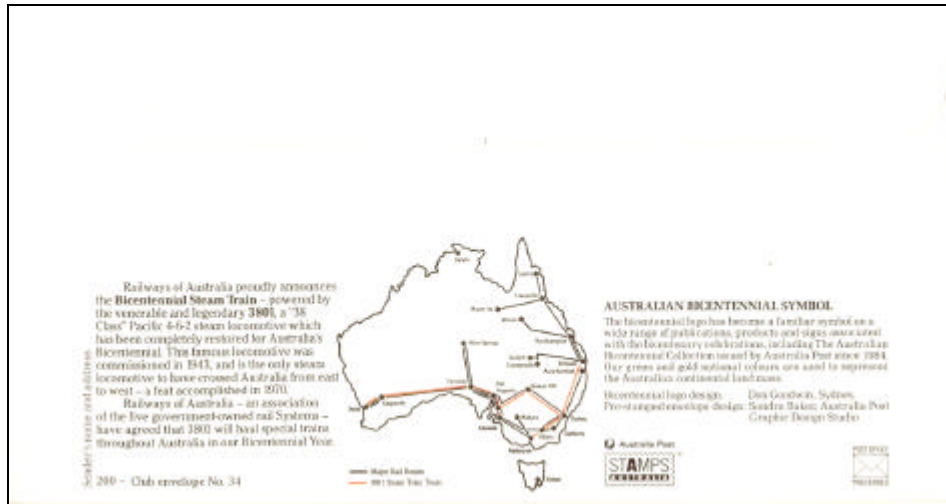
Australia Post produced private order envelopes of this design for customers willing to order a minimum of 1,000 envelopes. The private order envelopes had a commemorative design on the left hand side of the front of the envelope and additional text on the reverse. 1,000 sets of the envelopes were made available for sale through a Sydney dealer for \$102.50 (plus postage). In all 41 different envelopes were produced.

Many of the envelopes were produced for philatelic organizations, for example Sydpex 88 and Austamp 90. Others were produced for private commemorations.

Does anyone have a set?

| | |
|--|---|
| 08/2/88 14th Commonwealth Universities Congress | 18/07/88 Speak Up Australia |
| 08/2/88 Centenary Girls' Friendly Society | 30/07/88 Austamp 90 |
| 18/2/88 Wesley Cover Service -35 Years Production | 30/07/88 Sydpex '88 |
| 22/2/88 Australian Electoral Commission (no.1) | 21/08/88 26th Congress International Geographic Union |
| 29/2/88 Centenary Heidelberg School of Art | 28/08/88 XXIV International Congress of Psychology |
| 14/3/88 International Confederation of Free Trade Unions | 04/09/88 48th Congress Fed Inter. Pharmaceutique |
| 17/3/88 15th Anniversary Helicopter Rescue Service | 18/09/88 20 th Asian Racing Conference |
| 18/3/88 Bicentennial Interdominion Pacing Championship | 25/09/88 WOCO88 |
| 21/3/88 50th Anniversary Master Mariners | 03/10/88 Chiropractic Symposium Sydney |
| 05/4/88 75th Anniversary of HMAS Creswell | 20/01/88 15th Anniversary of the Sydney Opera House |
| 16/4/88 Steamfest 88 | 20/11/88 International Diabetics Fed. Congress |
| 21/4/88 International Optometric Conference | 14/11/88 IX CCITT Plenary Assembly (Melb) |
| 22/4/88 Geraldton – City Status | 22/10/88 Muscular Dystrophy Association |
| 30/4/88 50th Anniversary of E.SA Women International | 04/10/88 200 Years of Electoral History (no.2) |
| 01/5/88 Powerhouse museum | 14/10/88 3801 Bicentennial Steam Train |
| 08/5/88 50th Anniversary Royal College of physicians | 31/10/88 Aus-Steam 1988 (Railway) |
| 18/5/88 Epilepsy Symposium | 14/04/88 AAT Essen Stamp Exhibition |
| 22/5/88 International Real Estate Congress | 14/04/88 Australia Essen Stamp Exhibition |
| 21/6/88 Cent. Royal North Shore Hospital | 01/06/88 Finlandia '88 Stamp Exhibition |
| 04/7/88 Cent. Local Government | 30/07/88 Sydpex '88 Silver Logo overprint |
| 17/7/88 XVIII ISME 88 International Conference | |





'200 Club' 39c PSE for the Bicentennial Steam Train

New Zealand

Two examples of New Zealand 'Postage Included' envelopes, provided by David Collyer, are illustrated below: The first is an International Business Post envelope, valid for use anywhere in the world, and the second an internal envelope with a printed corner card for ME Master Electrician.



LISTING OF AUSTRALIAN NON-DENOMINATED POSTAL STATIONERY

Ian McMahon

Postcards

19 July 2005 Australian Wine

Maximum cards

- (-) Vineyards
- (-) Grapes
- (-) Harvesting
- (-) Wine Barrels
- (-) Glasses of Wine

(Set price: \$8.20)

8 August 2005 Native Trees

Maximum cards

- (-) Snow Gum
- (-) Wollemi Pine
- (-) Australian Boab
- (-) Karri
- (-) Moreton Bay Fig

(Set price: \$6.25)

6 September 2005 Marking the Occasion

Maximum cards

- (-) Christmas Tree
- (-) Australian

(Set price: \$2.45)

6 September 2005 Treasures from the Archives

Maximum cards

- \$5.75 20/- NSW Centennial stamp

6 September 2005 Aviation in the AAT

Maximum cards

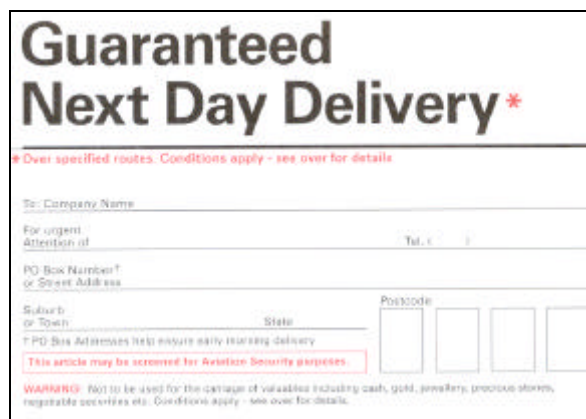
- (-) Hughes 500 Helicopter
- (-) De Havilland DHC2
- (-) Beaver
- (-) Pilatus PC6 Porter
- (-) Douglas DC3

(Set price: \$6.45)

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 4 October 2005 Down on the Farm | (\$11.90) | up to 500g satchel, Platinum satchel |
| Maximum cards | | |
| (-) Chloe the Chicken | (\$15.90) | up to 3 kg Platinum satchel |
| (-) Lucy the Lamb | | |
| (-) Harry the Horse | | |
| (-) Ralph the Dog | | Notes: Codes include: CN, BN, MN, SN, CV, BV, MV, SV, BT, ZV, MQ |
| (-) Abigail the Cow | | |
| (Set price: \$8.00) | | |

Express Post

| | |
|----------|---|
| 2005 | Issue with boxed 'This item may be screened for Aviation Security purposes' |
| (\$4.00) | C5 envelope |
| (\$4.00) | DL envelope |
| (\$5.00) | B5 envelope |
| (\$6.80) | up to 500g satchel |
| (\$9.70) | up to 3 kg satchel |
| (\$8.40) | Two-way envelope |



LITERATURE

Judy Kennett and Ian McMahon

From Our Contemporaries

The Postal Stationery Society Journal Vol 13 No 3 August 2005

- Ceylon Printed-to-Private-Order newspaper wrappers, by our member John K Courtis
- Aerogrammes and folded letter sheets from the Holy Land: part 3 Jordanian issues and United Nations Forces issues
- Classics at the Bath Postal museum No 6 Victorian telegraph forms
- Great Britain – some news items from the King George VI period

L'Entier Postal No 71 Juin 2005

- The unissued 'Buffon': a stamp before the stationery?
- A special envelope that wasn't issued?
- A postal card only just discovered
- The origin of a re-issued postage paid envelope
- The special 20 gram envelopes in C5 format
- The two types of cardboard envelopes of the Vice Chancellor of Dijon

Philatelic Literature Review Vol 54, 2nd Quarter 2005

The PLR is currently serializing 'Index of Literature in the English Language that describes postage stamp forgeries, fakes, reprints, fraudulent postal markings, and other obliterations', by Theodore M Tedesco. Part 1 deals with the USA, and countries Aden to Azerbaijan. For postal stationery collectors, the interest lies in pages 139-143, which list citations for phantoms, forgeries and reprints of US stamped envelopes and wrappers.

The Informer (Journal of the Society of Australian Specialists / Oceania) Vol 69 No 4

This issue contains a review of the 2004 issues of the *Australian Journal of Philately* (AJP). The September 2004 issue of the AJP was devoted to 'A survey of Australian Colonies' wrappers', by our member Professor John Courtis. The subject was an inventory of Australian colonies' postally used wrappers offered for sale on eBay during the twelve months April 2003 to April 2004.

Australian Journal of Philately No 93 September 2005

In this issue is an article 'Survival profile of Australian Colonies' wrappers', by our member Professor John Courtis. This builds on John's earlier survey, mentioned above in the item from *The Informer*. The additional analysis covers wrappers offered for sale on eBay during the period from mid-April 2004 to mid-March 2005. Once again, John uses eBay as a proxy of what is available on the international market.

Postal Stationery September-October 2005

- Post Card Libel
- Belgium Stop Smoking Cards
- A Mostly Illustrated Brief History of U.S. Postal Stationery
- Shoebox and Stationery Forum (Comments about locally surcharged U.S. postal cards; Comments about 1913 registration envelopes)
- Library Size Postal Cards Used as Forerunners to the Airmail Card of 1949
- Envelope Embossing Press

Postal Stationery July-August 2005

- U.S. Advertising Collars
- A Capsule History of the UPSS
- U.S. Postal Service Issues Letter Sheet
- Bands of Brothers, Part I
- Tin Can Canadian Card
- Republic of Trinidad & Tobago Postal Stationery
- UX12/S14 Postal Card Varieties
- More About 4th Nesbitt Series Advertising Specimens
- Shoebox and Stationery Forum (Fake Perf T Tasmania Stationery; UX48 Locally Surcharged to 9-Cents; Sweden Card with Second Albino Stamp; Tasmania 1912 Registration Envelope)
- S37/UX27 - A Neglected Postal Card
- Envelope Double Impressions
- British Embossed Stamp Collars

World of Antiques & Art August 05 - February 06

It is so unusual to see an article about postal stationery in a non-philatelic magazine that I cannot miss the opportunity of mentioning Gary Watson's article on Arabian Gulf Aerogrammes: A Political History of Postal Stationery.

Recent Reviews

***The London Philatelist* Vol 114 No 1327 July-August 2005**

'Prifix 2005 Specialised illustrated catalogue of the stamps of Luxembourg, with listings of postal stationery' 63rd edition, published by S. Ungeheuer Banque du Timbre Sarl, 17 Bvd Prince Henri, L-1724 Luxembourg. This catalogue covers issues up to the end of 2004, including postal stationery. It is in French and German.

Il Nuovo Pertile Manuale Catalogo Specializzato degli Interi Postali dell'Area Italiana [The new Pertile Compact Edition 2005 Italian Postal Stationery Specialised Catalogue], 13th edition, published 2005 by Edizioni Laser Invest, no ISBN, price and availability from the publisher, Via G. Chiassi 71, I-46100 Mantova MN Italy.

The headings and some explanatory paragraphs in this catalogue have been translated into English. It covers a wide range of postal stationery from the Italian States, through the two World Wars, and covering territories under Italian occupation in WW2. There is a very full index.

KPC-Korean Postage Stamp Catalogue 2005

This is an excellent one-country catalogue that primarily concentrates on the adhesive issues of South Korea but which also includes a listing of the postal stationery. The Stationery listing runs for over 90 pages and includes the postcards, lettersheets, commemorative postcards, the many New Year postcards and other New Year stationery, advertising postcards (over 900 listed), pictorial postcards and aerogrammes. The listings are illustrated in colour. The advertising and pictorial cards would be of interest to thematic collectors. Unfortunately many of the advertising cards are not illustrated. The listings are in Korean, with English headings. This is easy enough to follow except if you are interested in some of the specialised notes or details of the advertising cards. Prices are in won.

I Buoni-Risposta Internazionali by Vincenzo Altavilla L'Intero Postale Special Monograph No 1 2005

UPU International Reply Coupons were first approved at the UPU Conference in Rome in 1906, almost 100 years ago, to allow prepayment of a reply from a correspondent in another country. This monograph, published by the Unione Filatelisti Interofili, covers historical and technical information describing each of the five designs of UPU international reply-coupons approved at the UPU Conferences at Rome, London, Vienna, Lausanne and Pechino.

The monograph includes a catalogue of the Italian reply-coupons. Two appendices cover the international reply coupons of Italian territories and of San Marino. A third appendix provides a brief description of non-UPU reply-coupons including the British Imperial and Commonwealth reply coupons, the French colonial and French Union reply coupons and Spanish-American Union reply coupons.

The monograph appears comprehensive and well-researched and well illustrated throughout in black and white. 96 pp, softbound. In Italian.



BOOK REVIEW

Raymond Todd

The Pneumatic Post in Vienna, Volumes 1, 2 and 3 by Colin Tobitt and Andy Taylor published 1 March 2005 by The Austrian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, ISBN 0-900118-04-0. Comb bound and consisting of in all 160 pp together with in Volume 3, appendices, circulars and various charts and maps pertaining to the pneumatic post in Vienna. Price is 40 pounds plus p & p, available from Andy Taylor; his email is andy@kitzbuhel.demon.co.uk

It gave me much pleasure in reviewing this publication for as both a collector of the particular material and a postal stationery aficionado I can understand and appreciate the work that has gone in to this production.

The pneumatic posts of Vienna are covered thoroughly not only from a philatelic point of view but also from the technical one with the mysteries of the pneumatic posts easily understandable by the tyro. It is a credit to the authors that the subject has been so well covered.

However my main purpose of this review is from a postal stationery viewpoint and this is where the publication excels. All types of the various printings are listed as are all post offices from whence the service was available. The detail is comprehensive and provides for easy checking; the various postal markings are listed together with illustrations of the types.

I can thoroughly recommend this publication to all who are interested in pneumatic posts generally and to all postal stationery collectors of Austria.

AUCTION NEWS

Millenium Philatelic Auctions 2005 Rarities Sale 5 October 2005

This sale included three interesting stationery items; two 1920 2d KGV envelopes inscribed 'POSTAGE' colour trials, one with the stamp impression in deep vermilion and the other in carmine. Both were priced at \$1,107 each and a colourless die proof of the 1d King George V die on a piece of poor quality thin card (60 x 62mm). Ex Samuel Reading which sold for \$1,400.

Status International 16 September 2005

On 16 September 2005 Status International offered 53 lots of Australian postal stationery, chiefly from the 1950s and 1960s, that had been overprinted **SPECIMEN** by the UPU. There was a mixture of aerogrammes, envelopes, lettercards, military stationery, official postcards, registered envelopes and newspaper wrappers, including two PTPO examples.

The rate of clearance was good, only five lots remained unsold, but most of the prices realised were at the lower end of the estimate. Four sets of pre-stamped pictorial postcards (18c, 20c, 22c, and 27c), all in their original wallets, failed to sell, likewise a batch of three PTPO wrappers, KGVI oval 2 1/2d red on cream or buff paper. The best realisation was for a 1950 use of a KGVI oval 2 1/2d + 2 1/2d red doubleton on thin deep buff stock, sent to Brazil, that was illustrated in the auction catalogue. It sold for \$210, against an estimate of \$120 - \$180.

The Malcolm Groom Collection of Tasmanian Postal Stationery

This important collection of Tasmanian Postal Stationery is been offered for sale by Charles Leski on 26 October 2005. The Collection includes over 180 lots. Highlights include:

November 2005

A good selection of the 1880 Walch's Tasmanian Post Cards (est \$600), 1882 (H&G.1) card used and registered from New Norfolk to Rarotonga via Auckland Est \$1400; 1892 Three Halfpenny Reply Card De La Rue Essay Est \$2500, 1904 (H&G.8) 1d card printed by photolithography used in Launceston on February 16 1904 Est \$800, 1906 Edward VII postal card (H&G. 12) full plate proof of both upper and lower plates from the plates used for the final printings, 1917 1d overprinted Reply Card separated and reply half with message obliterated used from Pontville to Hobart on November 21 1917, and a 1900 De La Rue essay for the scenic letter card which they were commissioned to produce by the Tasmanian Government. This essay endorsed B and shows Great Lake, A Fisherman's Paradise caption pasted onto card. Scene is hand-painted in grey and proposed stamp area painted in lilac.



FROM THE SECRETARY

New member

We welcome as a new member Trish Readdy (Qld) whose special interest is Australian Commonwealth Printed-to-Private-Order (PTPO) stationery.

Future meetings of Postal Stationery Society of Australia

There will be two meetings of the Society at exhibitions in 2006. The first will be at Canberra Stampshow 2006 that will be held at the Hellenic Club, Woden ACT from Saturday 18 to Monday 20 March 2006. This will be a part-National exhibition. It will feature the Australasian Challenge 3, and in a separate section, the conclusion of the Middle East Collector Challenge in Australia (MECCA). There will not be a National level Postal Stationery Class there.

The PSSA will also meet at Adelaide Stampex 2006, which will be held at Wayville Showground, Adelaide, from 18-20 August 2006. This is a full National, with the usual exhibition classes. The PSSA prize will be awarded to the best Postal Stationery exhibit. Eligible postal stationery exhibits will be entered in the Contemporary Postal Stationery Competition (see below).

The dates and times of these meetings will be advertised in future issues of *Postal Stationery Collector*, and email meeting reminders will be sent out to members as well. Please plan to come along if you are going to attend one (or both) of these shows.

Contemporary Postal Stationery Competition

Members are reminded that the Competition will be offered at all National Exhibitions in Australia until 2008. For further information about the Competition, please contact the Convenor, David Collyer, PO Box 201, Gladesville NSW 1675, or by email at d_collyer30@hotmail.com. The Guidelines for the Competition were published in *Postal Stationery Collector*, Issue No 36 February 2004.

Plea from the Secretary

As postal rates increase, and time becomes more precious, email becomes a most important means for contacting Society members with meeting notices and general correspondence. Please make sure that any change in either your email or your postal address is sent to me at jkennett@tpg.com.au.

NEW ISSUES

The United Nations International Year of Microcredit PSE

Australia Post commemorated the United Nations International Year of Microcredit by the release of a PSE on 5 July 2005. Microcredit helps alleviate poverty by providing small collateral-free loans for self-employment to very poor people, especially women, throughout the world. Designer Lynette Traynor, Australia Post Design Studio; Printer Penfold Buscombe, Tasmania.



Belgium

Two recent Belgium postcards are illustrated below.



USA



USA issued a postcard booklet containing 20 stamped postcards and selling for \$9.75 on August 2005. The stamp design of the postcards depict American sports cars from the 1950s including a '53 Chevrolet Corvette, '54 Kaiser Darrin, '52 Nash-Healey, '53 Studebaker Starliner, and a '55 Ford Thunderbird.

