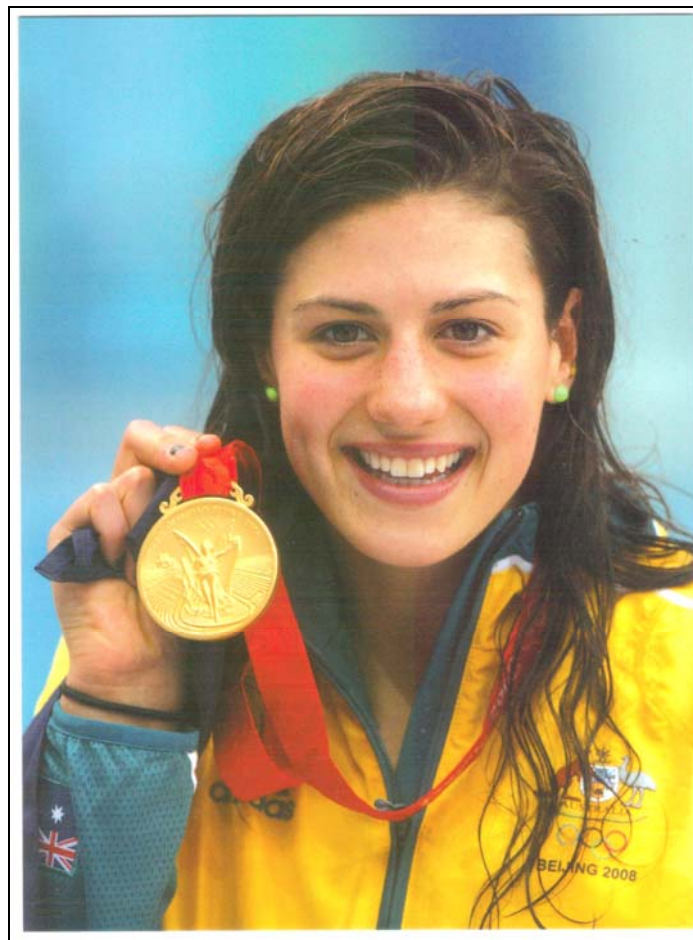


POSTAL STATIONERY

COLLECTOR

Volume 15 No 1: Issue No 57

May 2009



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 2009 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.

OFFICE BEARERS:

CONVENOR: Ian McMahon, PO Box 783, Civic Square ACT 2608
SECRETARY: Judy Kennett, PO Box 16, Ulmarra NSW 2462.
Email: jkennett@tpg.com.au
TREASURER: John Crowsley, PO Box 2296 Keperra Qld 4054 .
Email: j.crowsley@uq.net.au

STATE COORDINATORS

QLD Joan Orr, 7 Mizzen St, Manly West Qld 4179
SA Martin Walker, PO Box 247, Torrensville Plaza, SA 5031
WA Ray Todd, PO Box 158, Dunsborough, WA 6281
NSW Bernie Doherty, PO Box 18, Waratah NSW
TAS Malcolm Groom, 225 Warwick Street, West Hobart Tas
VIC John Sinfield, PO Box 548, Heathmont, Vic 3135.
ACT Ian McMahon, PO Box 783, Civic Square ACT 2608
NZ Norman Banfield, 14 Rata Rd, Raumati Beach Wellington New Zealand

Web page: <http://www.postalstationeryaustralia.com/>

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 be submitted electronically. Email the Editor at i_mcmahon@yahoo.com for instructions. Illustrations should be good quality scans. 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.

COPYRIGHT: The copyright of the contents of the Postal Stationery Collector is held by the Postal Stationery Society of Australia. Items may be reproduced only with the written consent of the Editor.

ISSN 1324-2105

CONTENTS

	Page
<i>From the Editor</i>	2
<i>Notes On A French Postal Stationery Envelope</i> Judy Kennett	3
<i>Official Government Wrappers of The Antipodes</i> Professor John K. Courtis	4
<i>Thailand Philatelic Handbook Volume 6 Thai Postal Stationery Catalog 2009</i>	11
<i>The 1961 QEII Lettersheets of Australia – Official Use.</i> Joan Orr & Andy Jansen	13
<i>Feedback</i>	16
<i>PSSA Forum</i>	17
<i>Listing of Australian Non-Denominated Postal Stationery</i> Ian McMahan	23
<i>From the Secretary</i>	24
<i>Literature</i> Judy Kennett and Ian McMahan	24
<i>New Issues</i>	27

RECENT COMMERCIALY USED POSTAL STATIONERY FROM AUSTRALIA TO UNUSUAL DESTINATIONS

Also available from the Pacific Islands and New Zealand.

Earlier material available as well.

Steven Zirinsky, PO Box 49, Ansonia Station, NY, NY 10023 USA. email: szirinsky@cs.com. fax 718 706 0619.

Payment can be made by cheque in any currency.

**Collector is looking for old and new Telegrams, all countries. If you have duplicates, please write to:
Jean-Louis Emmenegger, PO Box 110, 1009 Pully, Switzerland. Email: jemm@hispeed.ch**

John Kirke from Mandurah WA.

My interests are QEII postal stationary 1953 - 1980, especially postal used & overseas mail.

I am desperate for background & historical information.

e-mail: l.h.kirke@bigpond.com

Postal address: 292/106 Oakleigh Drive, Erskine WA 6210

FROM THE EDITOR

Postal Stationery Judging Session at Melbourne 2009

The APF is planning to hold a Postal Stationery Judging Seminar at Melbourne 2009. If you are attending Melbourne 2009 watch the Exhibition timetable for details.

Postal Stationery Commission News

The FIP Postal Stationery Commission has produced its January 2009 Newsletter edited by Lars Engelbrecht.

The newsletter includes a brief summary of the postal stationery exhibits and judges in member countries. For Australia the entry reads

Australia has 20 Postal Stationery exhibits which have been exhibited at FIP exhibitions and received a Large Silver medal or higher including 5 which have received a Gold medal. The exhibits are frequently exhibited with five Australian exhibits being shown at FIP and FIAP exhibitions in 2008 receiving 1 Gold and 3 large vermeil medals.

Australian National Judges must be accredited specifically in postal stationery. There are 16 accredited Australian National Postal Stationery judges. Six Australians are internationally accredited postal stationery judges, two accredited at FIAP level and four accredited by FIP.

Australia has a specialised postal stationery journal, the Postal Stationery Collector, which is published four times a year by the Postal Stationery Society of Australia. The Journal covers general postal stationery topics as well as articles on Australian and New Zealand stationery. The Society is continuing to work on the production of catalogues of the postal stationery of the Australian States.

One-frame exhibits are now allowed in the FIP postal stationery class although one-frame competitions at National level will continue to be held at a separate Exhibition (eg Launceston 2009). The Newsletter included the FIP one-frame rules as well as articles on Judging Treatment in Postal Stationery, The Commission Website (www.postalstationery.org), The Role of the Postal Stationery Delegate, New Powerpoint Presentation Exhibiting and Judging Postal Stationery, Book Reviews, FIP Accredited Jurors, and Postal Stationery Society Websites (including PSSA).

If you would like a copy please email me.

May 2009

NOTES ON A FRENCH POSTAL STATIONERY ENVELOPE

Judy Kennett

For some years now, the PSSA has had regular contact with L'Association des Collectionneurs d'Entiers Postaux (ACEP), the French society for postal stationery collectors. They send us their journal *L'Entier Postal* and reports of their meetings in postal stationery envelopes produced by the French postal service, La Poste. Some of these envelopes have been illustrated in previous issues of *Postal Stationery Collector*.

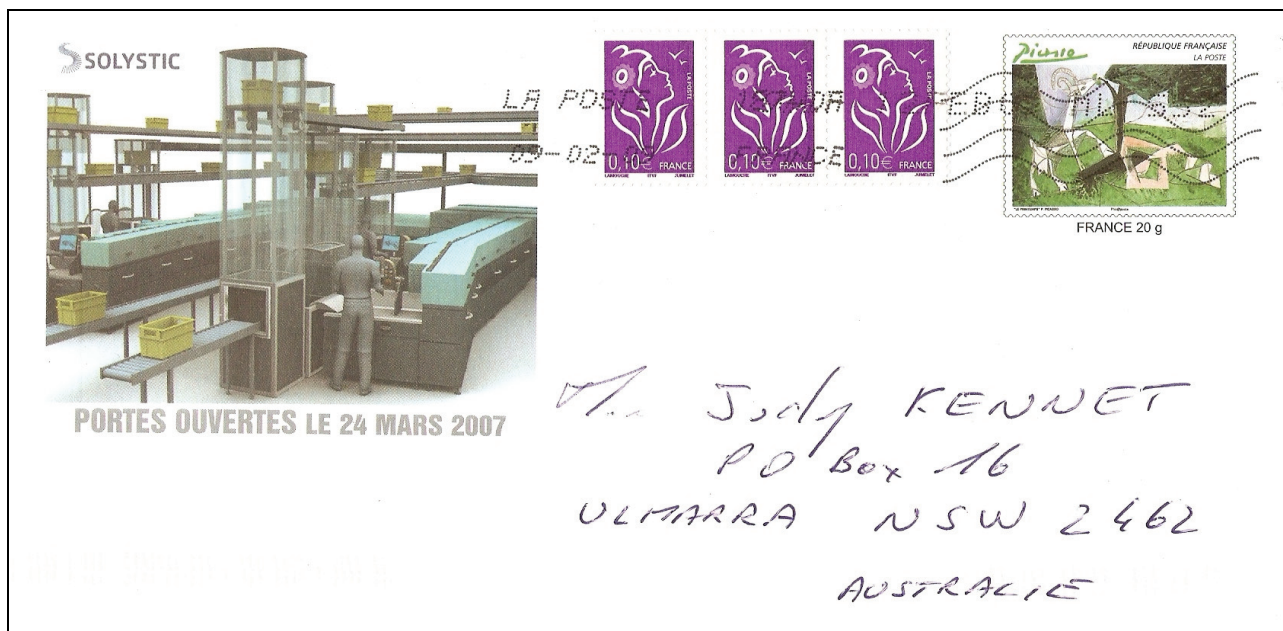
La Poste produces a large range of envelopes to meet the postal needs of its customers, and we receive a range of them. They consist chiefly of postage paid stationery, called by the French 'PAP', from the initials of the words 'pret-a-poster' which literally mean 'ready to post'. The PAP shown here, sent to us recently, deserves a few words of explanation.

PAP uprated for transmission to Australia

In the French catalogue the stamp design on an item of postal stationery is called a 'vignette'. This vignette 'Le Printemps' (Spring) by Picasso was first issued in May 2004 on a plain envelope, and also on an envelope with a window, both in format 110 x 220 mm. The inscription 'La Lettre 20 g' appeared under the vignette. In May 2005 it was issued again in the same formats, this time with the inscription 'FRANCE 20 g' under the vignette. Then in January 2007 it was issued again in the two formats, this time with 'Phil@poste' under the vignette but within its frame. It is this issue of the envelope that is illustrated here.

On 24 March 2007 a group of ACEP members and their families were given a guided tour of the Solystic facility at Bourg les Valence, Department of Drome. Solystic is an automated mail processing system that was being installed by La Poste at that time. To commemorate the event, each visitor was given a small packet of souvenir items, including a copy of this postal stationery item. Because Solystic had opened its doors that day, an image of the system and the caption 'Portes ouvertes le 24 Mars 2007' were printed on the envelopes. This private printing on official postal stationery is called in France 'Repiquage'.

Sincere thanks to M. Jacques Hontebeyrie of ACEP for his very helpful advice about the production of this special envelope. I hope I have correctly interpreted what he sent by email. For more information about the SOLYSTIC system, which has been installed by both La Poste (France) and Royal Mail (UK), readers can go to <http://www.solystic.com>. There are also some interesting references to SOLYSTIC on Google.



Reference

ENTIERS POSTAUX: Pret-a-poster emis en France depuis 1994, [Pret-a-poster issued in France since 1994] Edition 2007/2008. Published by ACEP.

OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT WRAPPERS OF THE ANTIPODES

Professor John K. Courtis, acapjajc@cityu.edu.hk

One of my mentors in Hong Kong sent me a paper entitled *Czechoslovakia Double Postcards in Postal Use from 1918 to 1939* (Smith, Karman & McMahon). He asked me to read and think about this paper, which is essentially a critique of an Exponent exhibition, in order to help me better understand the essential difference between a postal stationery exhibit and a postal history exhibit. There is an overlapping of these two categories especially with regard to the usages of newspaper wrappers. Nonetheless, after several thoughtful readings of this paper I decided that the key focus of a postal history exhibit is on postal rates and routes. The key focus of a postal stationery exhibit is on a chronological development of issued items in mint, used and uprated condition together with ex-archival material such as proofs and UPU specimens. In both cases a coherent story-line from beginning to end is important. This simplistic differentiation helps me orientate my thinking.

A new dimension has entered the debate between postal history and postal stationery classification for exhibiting purposes with the publication of *Franked! The Official Mail of Victoria 1864-1902* (Stieg & Watson). In the Foreword of that book Geoff Kellow states: "There has been recent discussion as to the status of frank stamps for exhibiting purposes, but the fact that the franks were either handstruck or printed prior to use, and required cancellation once these entered the mail system, leaves this writer in no doubt as to their status as postal stationery". Wayne Menuz, first vice-president of the United Postal Stationery Society took a contrasting but traditional viewpoint by arguing that postal stationery "should remain devoted to items that are issued with a stated or implied postal denomination, and that retain their monetary value until cancelled". Wayne goes on to say that "the 'cancellation' on free frank stationery is not to cancel any monetary value, but a datestamp to show the origin and date".

These opposite viewpoints have left me confused with regard to how Government Official wrappers should be classified. If we accept Wayne's critical ingredient that for an item to be included as legitimate postal stationery it must bear a stated or implied postal denomination, many official (OHMS) wrappers should not be classified as postal stationery.

The concept of an official postal wrapper has changed over time. Initially it was a sheet of paper used to wrap or enclose a letter, invoice, statement, receipt or some other advice. The address was written on this outer sheet which frequently bore the manuscript O.H.M.S. and it was hand stamped with a free frank until 1840 or a paid handstamp thereafter. Parallel with this wrapper usage was the lettersheet, containing some printing and/or handwriting but folded and handstamped similarly to that of an outer sheet containing an enclosure. Indeed it is not always self evident which is which until the outer sheet is opened and inspected, especially in the case of handwritten letters which are often not otherwise identifiable. A quite radical change occurred in the physical appearance of a wrapper from circa 1870 onwards. With a reduction in the rate for commercial printed matter the postal requirement was that this category of mail must not be enclosed so as to allow postal inspection. The modern open-ended wrapper was thereby borne and OHMS wrappers took on this open-ended appearance. Therefore, when we refer to official wrappers we need to differentiate between those that were used prior to and after the period 1840 and those that comply with the modern concept of an open-ended postal sleeve wrapped around a newspaper or printed matter. The former type has no stated denomination, although philosophically it could be argued that it has an implied postal denomination, namely free (i.e., none) or non-free (i.e., one penny). The latter type can be found open-ended with or without a stated or implied postal denomination. These differences in physical appearance and implied or actual denomination create doubts as to how best to classify official wrappers. The collector/exhibitor would benefit from a formal F.I.P. definition.

There is very little written about government wrappers per se, so in one sense we approach this exercise with a clean slate. Brightmore's *Official Mail of Mainland Britain* treats the free frank, crowned circle paid stamps and official paid stamps in a comprehensive manner and provides a long list of users of official mail. However, Brightmore does not enter explicitly into the postal stationery/postal history debate but implies that all official mail is postal history. Similarly Wiseman (1990) discusses the official franking used by Great Britain government departments from a postal history perspective. The exposition of what literature that does exist on franking is more persuasively presented in the vein of postal history (see, for example,

Scott (1983), Bottomley (1988) and Lovegrove (1989)).

The purpose of this paper is to identify official government wrappers issued in various postal entities of the Antipodes with a view to better understand the nature and purpose of these wrappers and thereby gain insights as to how best to deal with the classification issue. The Kellow-Menez schools of thought do not refer explicitly to government wrappers, but I have borrowed their points of view to develop the argument.

Australian Government Wrappers

The Melbourne Department of Defence used two denominated registered wrappers to deliver Second World War medals to recipients (or their families). The nomenclature 'wrapper' in this particular instance is historic rather than pertaining to the meaning of wrapper as specifically defined by the U.P.U. Nevertheless they are included in this discussion because they are denominated. These wrappers are not open-ended in the traditional sense of the word wrapper but sheets used to wrap around a small box containing the medal(s) and then sealed with the abhorrent adhesive Selotape.

Both wrappers were printed with a boxed Postage Paid Melbourne, one for 4½d, the other for a heavier weight scale of 5½d. According to the Menez approach, both of these wrappers, shown as Figure 1, bear explicit postal denominations and are therefore legitimately included within postal stationery even though there does not appear to have been any attempt to cancel the wrappers. Figure 1 shows fronts only – at the base of the wrapper there is the wording spread over four lines: "If not delivered in Seven days, Return to// ARMY MEDAL SECTION,// Victoria Barracks,// Melbourne, Australia".

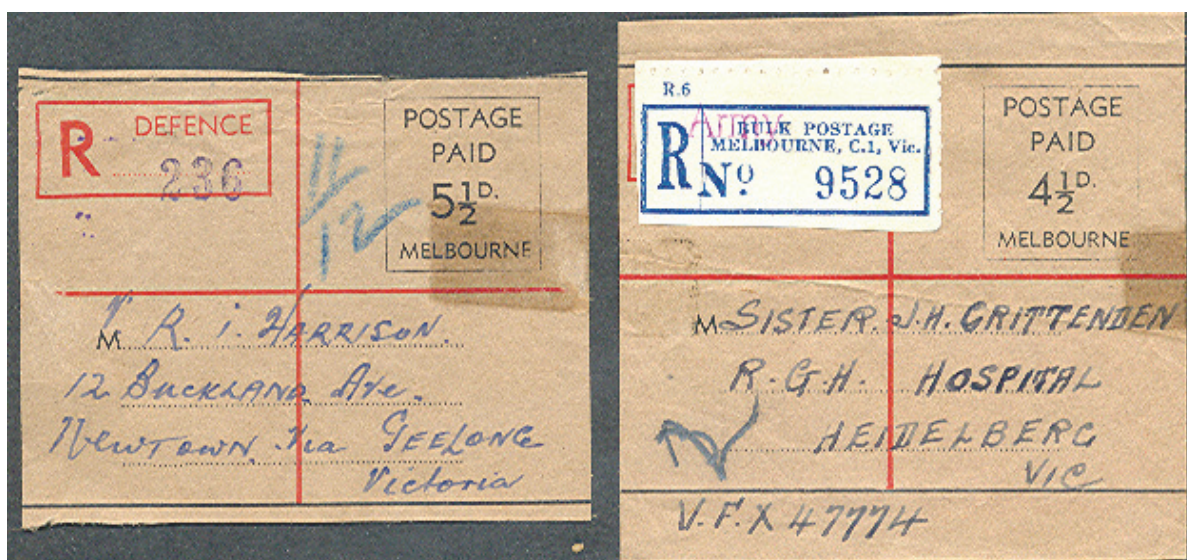


Figure 1: Denominated Australian War Medal Wrappers

The Education Department, Melbourne issued two types of On His Majesty's Service wrappers addressed to the Attendance Officer and to the Secretary, Education Department. Both types were issued with an indicium, one with H&G's E18 bearing King George VI 1½d green, and the other with a King George VI 3d green. These are illustrated in Figure 2 and are taken from internet scans with some deterioration in quality. Both types fit Wayne's explicit postal denomination criterion bearing either the post office issued indicium or a printed to private order indicium.

The wrappers illustrated in Figure 2a should be contrasted to the two illustrated in Figure 2b which do not bear any official denomination. Both wrappers appear to emanate from the Post Office, one bearing the abbreviated O.H.M.S., the other *APO News* with a boxed indicium stating the two lines Official Mail but no denomination or cancellation.

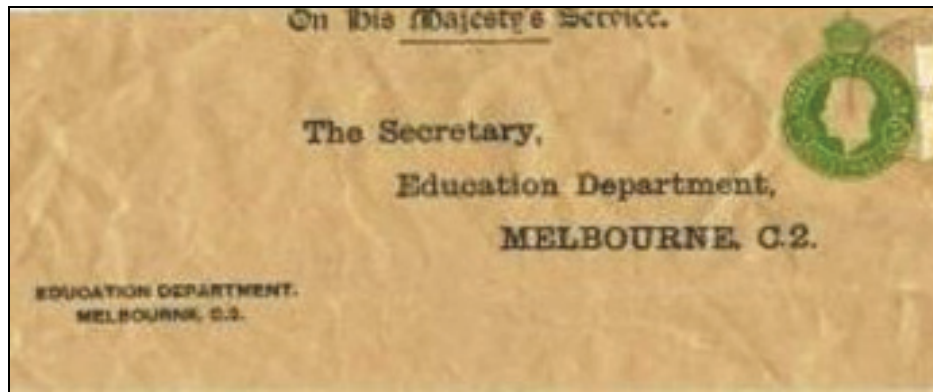
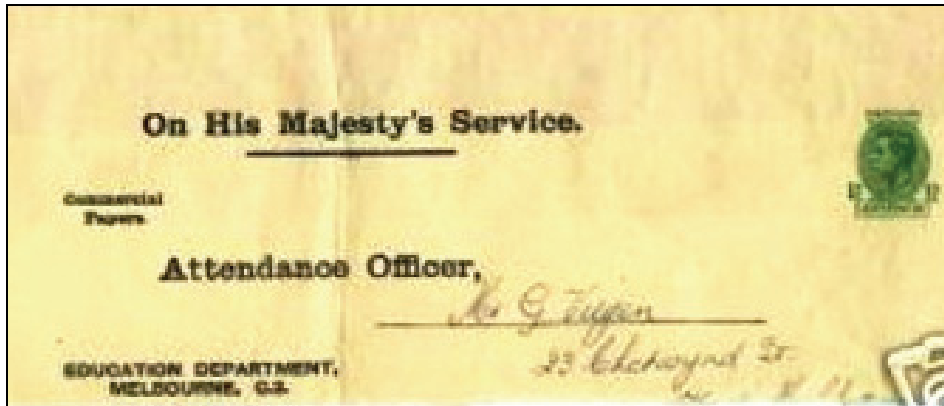


Figure 2a: Education Department Melbourne OHMS wrappers

The paradox before us is whether the wrappers in Figure 2b should be included within postal stationery even though they do not bear official denomination. I hope some collectors will be stimulated to enter into this debate with their thoughts.

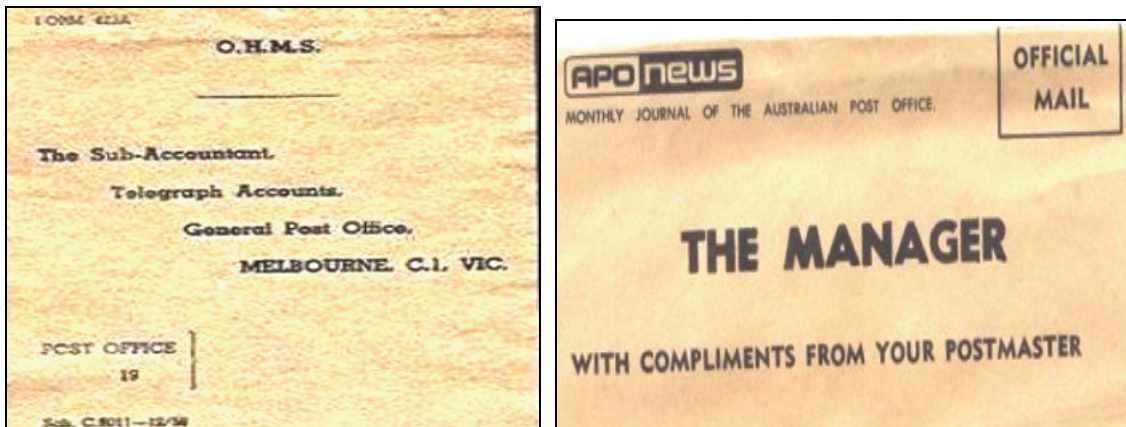


Figure 2b: Australian Post Office official non-denominated wrappers

Additional Victorian OHMS wrappers were very kindly supplied by Mark Diserio and I have included them here because the more examples that can be illustrated the richer the opportunity for intellectual debate on this topic. The first illustration in Figure 3 shows an unused example of On His Majesty's Service with the circular CHIEF SECRETARY VICTORIA & FRANK STAMP bordering the coat of arms within. The second illustration shows ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE (Printed matter only) and Department of Mines and Water Supply, Melbourne, and is addressed to The Editor of the Academy, London, England. This wrapper bears a blue circular cachet reading MINISTRY OF WATER & MINES VICTORIA with FREE FRANK within. This frank is cancelled with a black duplex MELBOURNE NO 30 84(?) & VICTORIA within 6-bars. The certifying initial WC is shown on the right hand side of the wrapper.

Figure 4 shows two examples of the cachet on official wrappers bearing the wording GOVERNMENT PRINTER JOHN FERRES (both examples are cut-outs). The first example is a duplex dated MELBOURNE JA 20 1877 & VICTORIA within 6-bars and addressed to Mr. Morres, Assistant Surveyor, Sandhurst. The second example is franked in blue with the wording MINISTER OF JUSTICE FRANK STAMP.

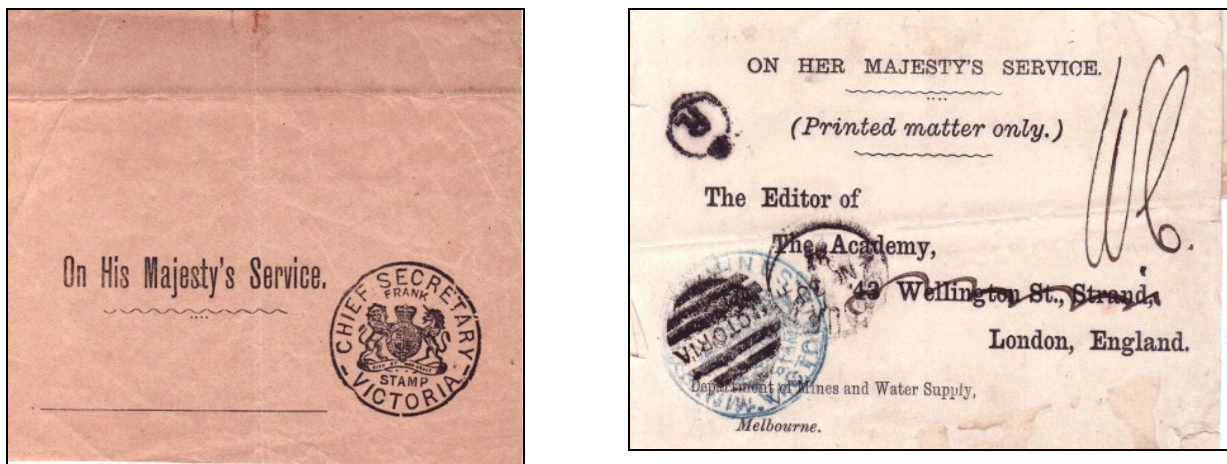


Figure 3: Dept. Of Mines & Water Supply; Chief Secretary Victoria

Steig & Watson (2008) identify categories of special correspondence exempt from postal charges and specifically note that the Government Gazette open at both ends, and bearing the imprint of the Government Printer (i.e., John Ferres) is to be exempt from postage. The question is thereby raised again whether the explicit mention of exempt postage is an implicit endorsement of this class of wrapper bearing a zero value and thereby categorized as postal stationery. On the other hand, the absence of a printed exemption would more legitimately categorize it to postal history according to the Menuz logic.



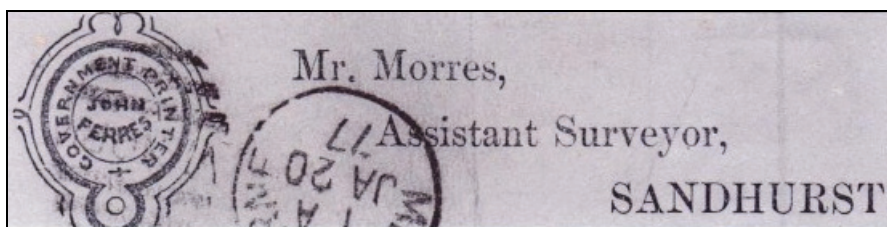


Figure 4: John Ferres Government Printer & Free Frank (Cutouts)

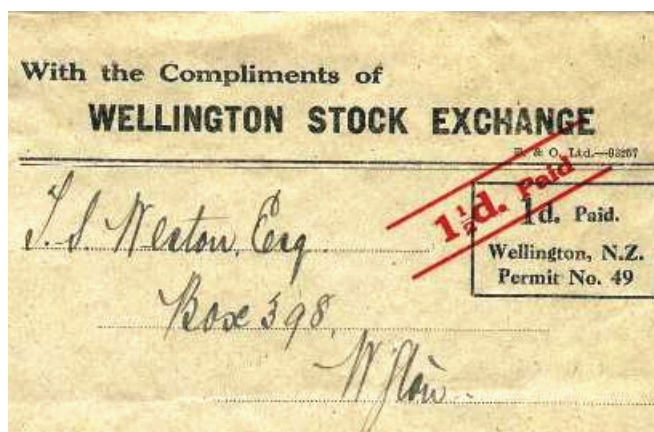
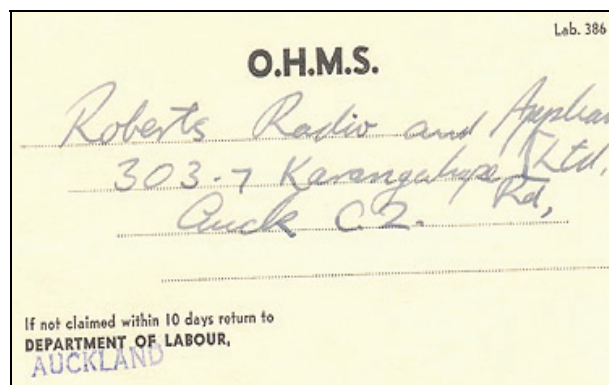


Figure 5: New Zealand Government Official wrappers

New Zealand Government Wrappers

There are at least five New Zealand official wrappers in my database: two inscribed ON PUBLIC SERVICE ONLY and containing New Zealand Parliamentary Debates, one ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE and containing New Zealand Parliamentary Debates also, one O.H.M.S. from the Department of Labour, and one from the Wellington Stock Exchange bearing an overprinted denomination box. Using Wayne's guideline

three of these wrappers would be classified as postal history; while the fourth would be classified as postal stationery. These five wrappers are shown as Figure 5 and all merit some observation and discussion.

Wrappers one and two both bear underlined wording that they are exempt from postage. Wrapper 2 has a certifying signature, an extra horizontal line and additional wording beneath. An interesting philosophical question is whether the wording “exempt from postage” is a form of expressing a zero denomination, for if so, they then qualify on Wayne’s criterion as postal stationery. Wrapper three has a circular Official Paid to the right of the coat of arms. This is an implied postal denomination and this wrapper falls under the umbrella of postal stationery also. Wrapper four shows no indicium and no wording to exempt it from postage. In fact this wrapper was paid by a meter mark (not shown) and would more appropriately fall into the postal history camp. Wrapper five, assuming the Wellington Stock Exchange is a quasi-government department, bears a three line boxed *1d Paid// Wellington, N.Z.// Permit No. 49* and overprinted in red with an upward reading diagonal *1½d paid* within double lines. This wrapper clearly shows the postal denomination (twice) and is classified as postal stationery. Hence, for New Zealand, we have one clear case of postal history, two clear cases of postal stationery, and two arguable cases of postal stationery. Such a mix demonstrates the need for formal clarification to place these items within the proper context.

Fiji Government Wrapper

Two types of official government wrappers have been issued, both O.H.M.S., but with Government Printer initially abbreviated and then reissued with inscription in full. These types are shown in Figure 6. The boxed indicium contains five lines: *By Authority// Government// FRANK// Post Office// Fiji*. I have seen only one example of type I in the past five years or so and this wrapper shows no cancellation even though it was used to deliver the *Fiji Gazette* to His Honor The chief Justice and opened roughly across the base. There is a manuscript dating of 5/9/1884. However, all ten of type II in the database bears cancellation marks, one with a blue crayon X, while each of the others has a sunburst cancel. Presumably Government or Official FRANK means Free Frank which means no denomination required, or a zero or nil denomination, and therefore acceptable to Wayne as postal stationery. Or is it? The pillared rectangle is not a denominated indicium but is cancelled thereby giving it a defacto status while at the same time introducing a postal history connection. Does this make these wrappers postal history or postal stationery?

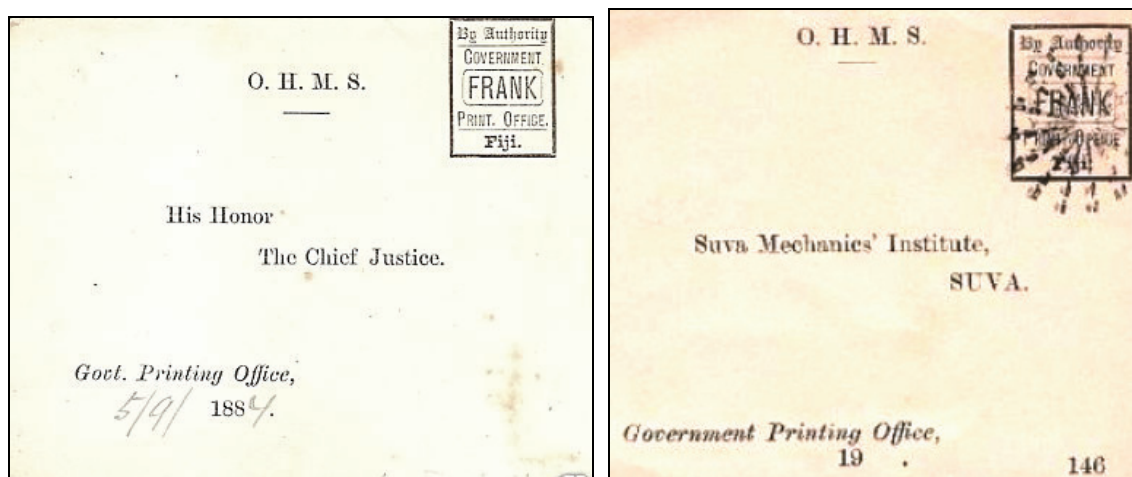


Figure 6: Fiji Government Official wrappers

Papua & New Guinea wrappers

Two types of Papua and New Guinea “*Government Gazette*” wrappers have been printed differing in wording only by the omission of ‘and’ between Papua and New Guinea. They are inscribed Government Printing Office, Port Moresby, Papua but there is no evidence to indicate that they are official government wrappers. However, they are included here to complete the Antipodes and to add further interest to the discussion. Neither bears an indicium. The wrapper shown first in Figure 7 bears a single rim circular date stamp *POSTAGE PAID AT PORT MORESBY P. AND N.G.* with horizontal dating (*25 APR 57*). The second wrapper illustrated (with some deterioration in quality) bears two Australian adhesives paying the

1½d overseas newspaper rate to America. Given the lack of any stated or implied denomination printed on these wrappers, they would be classified more appropriately as postal history.

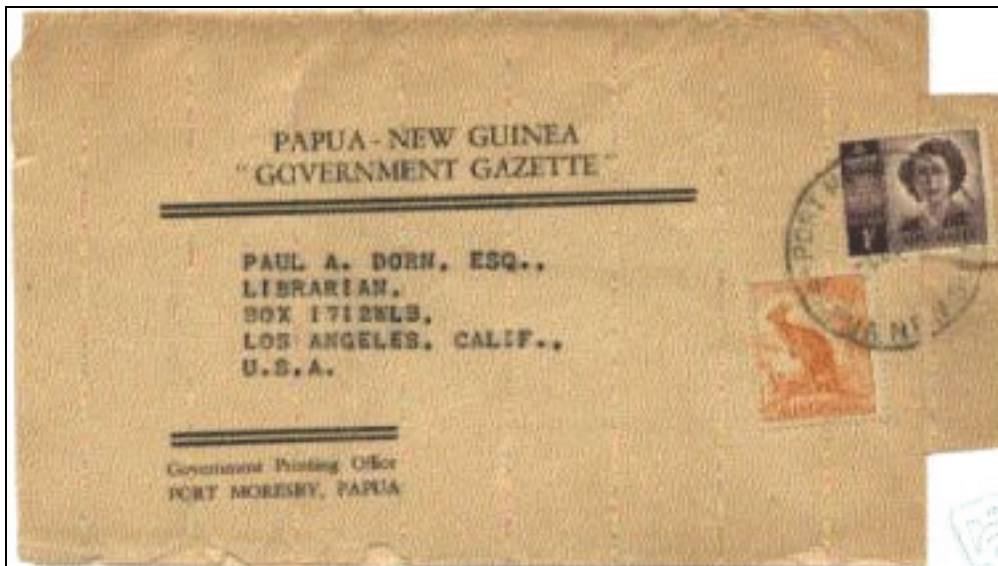
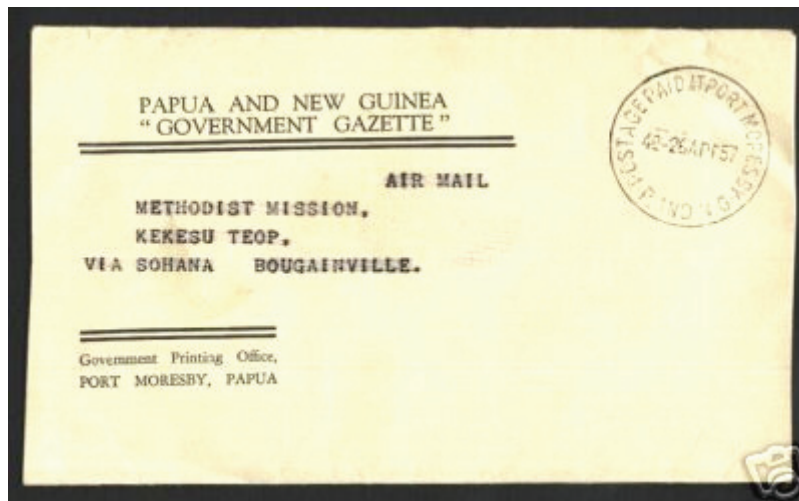


Figure 7: Papua New Guinea "Government Gazette" wrappers

Conclusion

The classification distinction between postal stationery and postal history is still not clear-cut with regard to government wrappers. Based on the Menuz criterion (which was aimed at the issue of franking and not at government wrappers per se), when a wrapper bears a stated or implied postal denomination and retains its monetary value until cancelled it should be classified as postal stationery.

More consideration and discussion needs to be centered on what is the most appropriate interpretation of "implied postal denomination". Can a wrapper bearing no indication of denomination be interpreted as bearing an implied denomination of zero to pay if no adhesive stamp is attached as payment? I suspect that at the end of the day the F.I.P. will need to make an arbitrary ruling about the classification of government wrappers (and other government postal stationery) to settle these ambiguities.

References

- Bottomley, Frank (1988), *The Franking System in the Post Office 1652-1840*, The Society of Postal Historians, pp. 195.
Brightmore T. (undated), *Official Mail of Mainland Britain*, self published, pp. 130.

May 2009

- Lovegrove J. W. (1989), "*Herewith my Frank...*", 2nd Edition, self published, Bournemouth, pp. 140.
- Menuz, Wayne (2008), Editor's Notes, *Postal Stationery*, Journal of the United Postal Stationery Society, Vol. 50 No. 5, # 362, Sept.-Oct., p. 126.
- Scott J. G. S. (1983), *Official Franking 1800-1840*, The Postal History Society, No. 36, London, pp. 21 + Appendices A-H.
- Smith, Dingle, Karman, Hans & McMahon, Ian (2007), Czechoslovakia Double Postcards in Postal Use from 1918 to 1939, *The Asia Pacific Exhibitor*, Vol. 20 No. 4, # 74, pp. 199-209.
- Steig C. L. & Watson M. B. (2008), *Franked! The Official Mail of Victoria 1864-1902*, The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, pp. 180 + x.
- Wiseman W. A. (1990), *Great Britain: The De La Rue Years 1878-1910*, Stanley Gibbons Publications, London, Vol. 2, pp. 516.

**THAILAND PHILATELIC HANDBOOK VOLUME 6 THAI POSTAL STATIONERY CATALOG 2009
BY H. R. (RICHARD) BLAKENEY: BOOK REVIEW**

Glen Stafford.

I am relatively new to collecting and exhibiting postal stationery items. In the past several years, I have begun collecting and developing exhibits on Singapore postal stationery 1948 to modern era, Nicaragua the Seebeck period and Siam/Thailand postal cards.

One thing I have discovered very quickly is that there is a very limited amount of reference books or catalogues for postal stationery. You quickly become familiar with Higgins and Gage's 'world postal stationery catalogue' (the bible). Dealers and collectors often quote H&G numbers when looking for specific postal stationery items. This appears to be a very good starting point in working out what is available to collect in your country of interest. Also, I have more recently discovered Kessler's catalogue of Aerograms. However, both of these catalogues are very limited in research information to help develop a comprehensive collection or exhibit.

So begins my journey of tracking down other publications. I have been able to photocopy articles from various journals held at the library of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. At the library, I found some articles by Peter C. Preuss on Siamese Philately, so I wrote to him and obtained his 2 CDs *Siamese Philately Handbook, V02 for "Bangkok 2003"* for 50 years of the Thai Postal Society, UK 2008. In this publication, he makes many references to H. R. (Richard) Blakeney. I googled the name and found that Blakeney had won various international medals for philatelic literature (Washington 2006, Philatelic Literature large silver).

I have tried to contact the Society for Thai Philately via email, to buy a copy of the book, but have had no response. Nonetheless, I learned that a good friend of mine, David Figg, had purchased a copy of Blakeney's book during a visit to the Djakarta 2008 stamp exhibition. David was able to give me Richard Blakeney's email address from the book, so I was able to contact Blakeney directly and purchase a copy of the book from him.

The *Thailand Philatelic Handbook Volume 6* is the first effort in many years to compile a comprehensive listing of postal stationery issued by Siam/Thailand. Blakeney states that it is based on prior works, but he has added much new material, including the newest issues.

This is the third edition and the second one printed in colour. While the colour is not top quality, it is very good in helping identify various reprints, flaws, etc. Throughout the catalogue, cross-reference has been made with Higgins & Gage, Henry Lineman's PS of Siam, Thai Philately, Thai Times and many more philatelic magazines.



The *Thai Postal Stationery Catalogue 2009* is produced as a letter size (8.5 x 11 inches), printed in full colour and contains 212 pages. It is hardbound red with gold writing. The price is 2,000 Thai Baht (or \$57.75 USD). I was able to pay for it by PayPal and the price included surface mail to Australia.

It attempts to present an illustrated listing of all postal stationery items that have been issued by Siam/Thailand. Part 1 is Postal Cards, Part 2 is Letter Cards and Sheets, Part 3 is Envelopes, Part 4 is Aerograms, and Part 5 is International Reply Coupons. Part 6 is a twelve-section Appendix, dealing with commercially printed post cards and the reasons why they are not included in the main section of the catalogue; Part 7 is the bibliography.

This catalogue does not attempt to price any of the items. However, an enclosure lists suggested retail prices for mint postal stationery, based on prices realised on ebay. No attempt has been made to price commercial used items.

Each item is classified by the following: date of issue, dimensions, printing method, printer, designer, quantity - printed/issued, colour of the stamp and colour of the paper/card. Specific flaws and errors are also mentioned in remarks. Where an extensive study has been published, it has been included in the appendix. Finally, to my delight, Blakeney has included spaces for the reader to mark down whether they own a mint, used or variety of each item.

I would strongly recommend that anyone who collects or has interests in this area of Postal Stationery purchases a copy of the book. Apart from the intrinsic value, it would encourage Blakeney to keep his work updated. Well done H.R. (Richard) Blakeney, ISBN 974-91278-1-7 *Thailand Philatelic Handbook Volume 6 Thai Postal Stationery Catalog 2009*.

THAILAND PHILATELIC HANDBOOK - VOLUME 6								
THAI POSTAL STATIONERY CATALOG - PART 1								
On 1 Oct. 1925 the foreign postcard rate was again reduced from 15 Satang to 10 Satang. The card below was produced for this new rate.								
PC-0058								
SERIES: Rama VI - Seventh Series - 15 Satang card (PC-0057) revalued 10 Satang								
DATE OF ISSUE: 1 Feb 1926 *	DIMENSIONS: 139 x 89 mm	PRINTING METHOD:	PRINTER: K. Oyama & Co., Bangkok					
QUANTITY - PRINTED / ISSUED Unknown	COLOR OF STAMP: Red	COLOR OF CARD: Lt. Rose or Dark Tan	SURCHARGE COLOR Blue					
NOTE: There is a colorless embossed "N" in the upper left corner.								
								
* Royal Gazette, Vol. 42, pages 3396-3397								
CATALOG NUMBER	PM	HSL	H&G	VALUE	VARIETY	MINT	USED	
PC-0058	v7#8p35	104	52	10 Stg on 15 S.			✓	
PC-0058a					Double Surch.			

Example page

May 2009

THE 1961 QEII LETTERSHEET OF AUSTRALIA – OFFICIAL USE.

Joan Orr & Andy Jansen

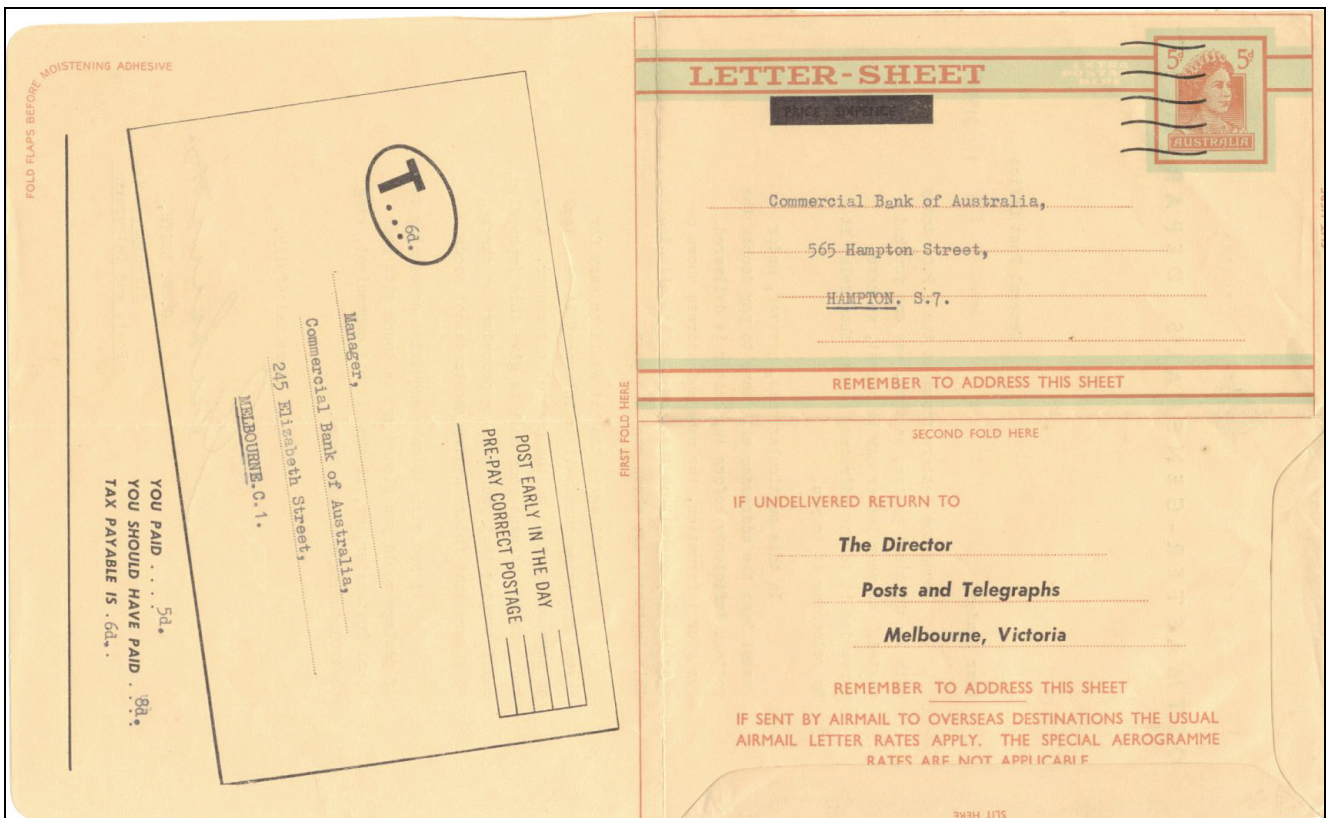
Some time ago Andy Jansen and I had distant ‘talks’ on the use of this lettersheet as an official, courteous request for payment of deficient postage on under franked letters forwarded to the addressee without delay by the Australian Post Office during the years 1961 and 1962. These ‘talks’ followed on from my previous articles in the *PSC*, especially in Vol.4 No.4 issue No.16 Feb. 1999.

As no record of the rarity or otherwise of these items existed, we set about trying to obtain a census of those held in noted Stationery Collectors’ hands. Many did not collect the QEII era or those who did merely skimmed the surface. However a few did have one or more of these items in their possession and our thanks go to Mark Diserio and Ian McMahon for their contribution to this article.

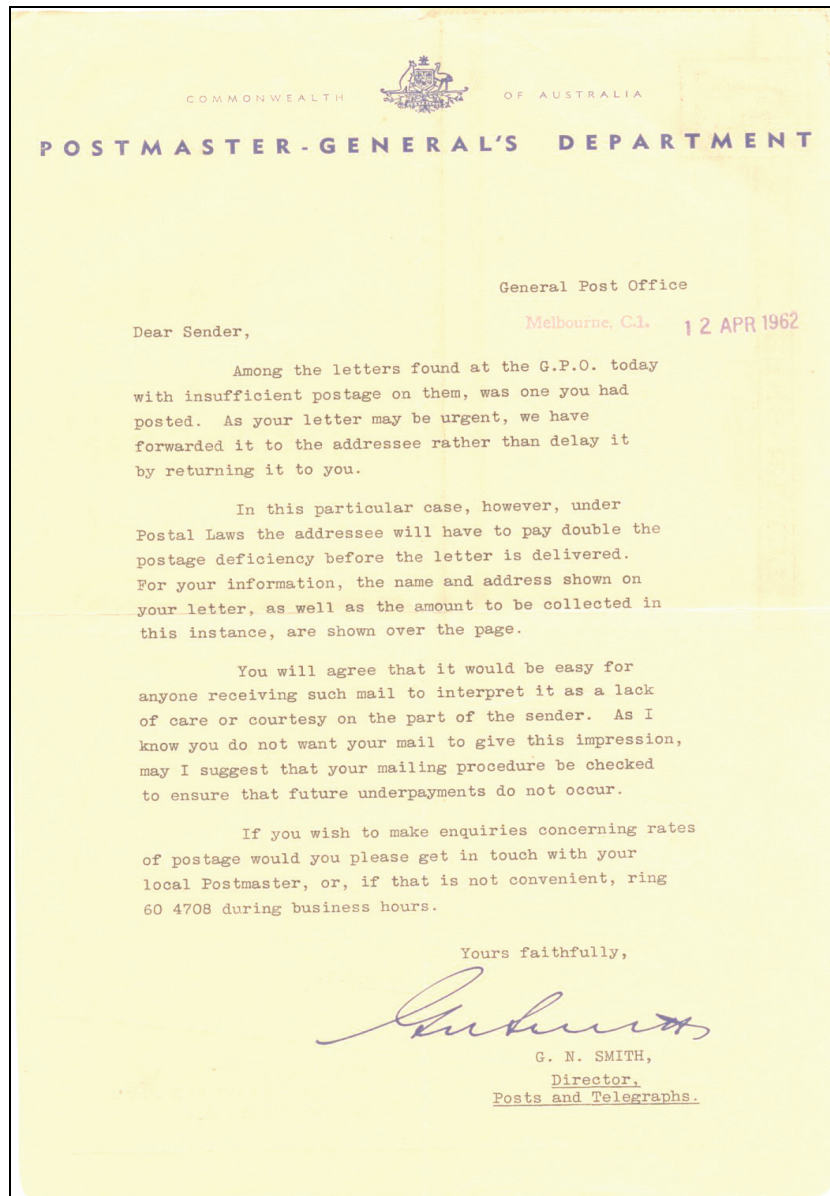
The lettersheets were suitably overprinted with a return address for the relevant State Director of Posts on the reverse and a *forme* letter printed inside advising the sender of this procedure.

Standard text was used with facsimile signatures of the various state Directors. Provision for details of the insufficiently franked item with a slogan re prepaying correct postage, and the amount of the shortage, were provided on the left panel of the opened out form.

Copies show the majority were used in the Capital Cities with a small number being used from large towns in the relevant state.



Postal Stationery Collector



Two basic forms were used:

Type (a):

Price on address side blacked out and simulated cancellation printed over the stamp indicium. The heading on the message side refers to the "*Postmaster General's Department*" with the final paragraph advising sender to enquire of a specific person or the postmaster via a phone number re rates of postage.

Type (b):

Standard form as issued, the heading on the message side now refers to "*Australian Post Office*" and an extra paragraph has been added "To assist you, I have enclosed a postage rate card, and extra copies of these are available on request.....".

The amount of Tax sought varied from 6d. to 3/- on the items viewed. Condition of items poor to fine.

These were:

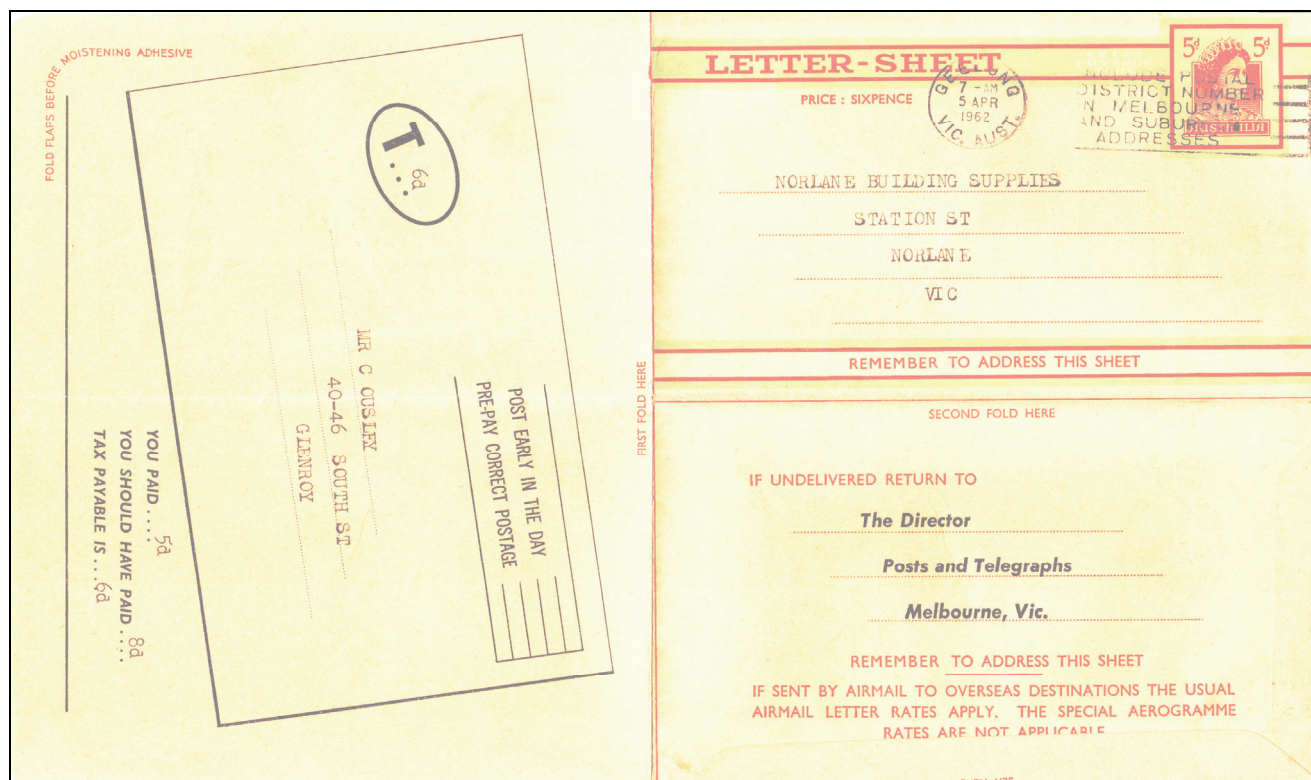
May 2009

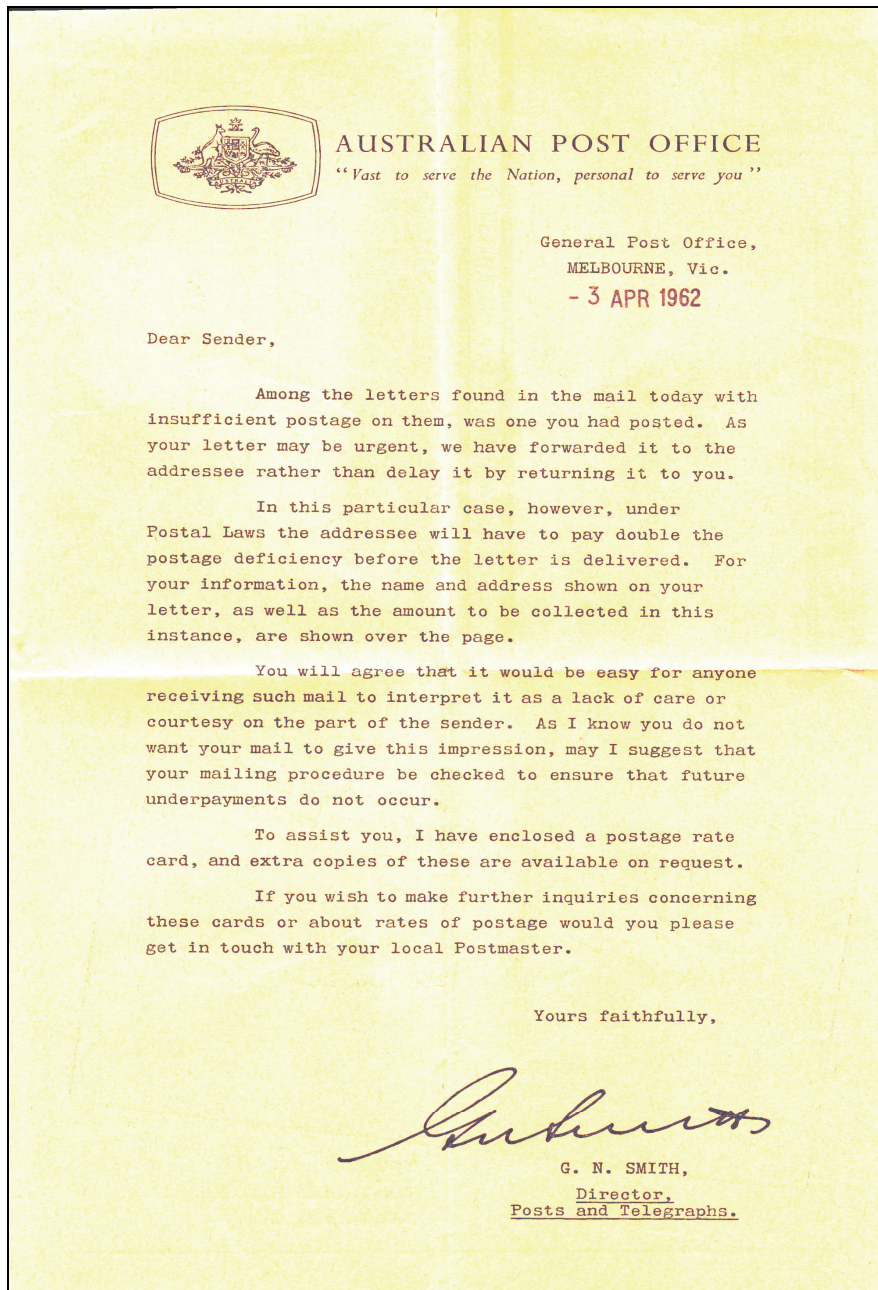
Type	Office of use		Date used	Total
(a)	Brisbane	Unused (2)	16.5.61 (1)	3
(a)	Hobart	Unused (1)		1
(a)	Melbourne		10.5.61; 9.5.61; PSC No.8 no date	3
(a)	Melbourne		11.4.62; 12.4.62 (late use)	2
(a)	Perth		15.5.61	1
(a)	Sydney		15.5.61; 17.5.61	2
(b)	Brisbane		1.4.62	1
(b)	Hobart		2.4.62; 3.4.62; 6.4.62; 9.4.62	4
(b)	Melbourne	Unused (1)	4.4.62	2
(b)	Sydney	Unused (2)	3.4.62;	3

Total: 22 known at this time.

It is surprising that there is none held from Adelaide or Canberra when all other capital cities are represented.

On reading this article if you find that you have one of these officially overprinted lettersheets in your possession a scan or photocopy of your item sent to the Editor would be appreciated.





FEEDBACK

Martin Frischauf comments:

Today I received the latest edition of the PSC [February 2009]. It was a great surprise to see an item in the PSC which I described for auction - it was the Queensland wrapper with inverted cliché. It was offered at Christoph Gaertner 8th auction as lot 2842 and was sent to us unknown in a lot. I found it and described it with a very moderate estimate of 150 euro - it realised 700 euro + commission! I think the owner was happy about the result. It was a great surprise for me to find this item as I always thought that the wrappers were made in one printing due to same colour but it seems that there were pre-printed formulars and the cliché was printed later?

I enclose a scan from my collection - it shows a more dramatic piece of official stationery cutouts - crazy what some people have done at this time.



PSSA FORUM

There has been quite a lot of interest in the last few months. My thanks to Martin Walker, Richard Peck, Express Post

Express Post envelopes without the Olympic team logo have now started appearing.



Express Post Platinum Satchels

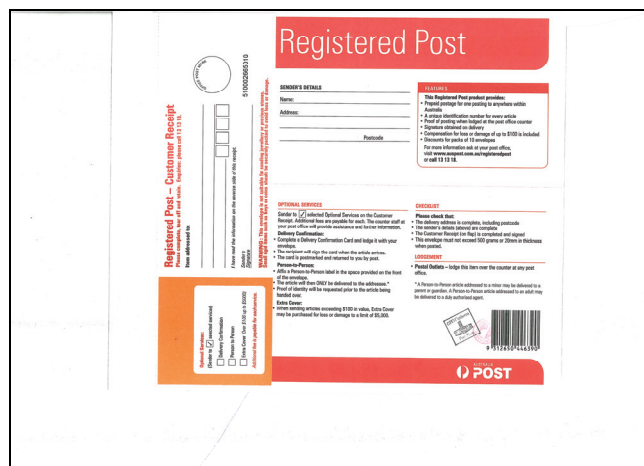
A new version of the Express Post Satchels has appeared with the maximum allowable weight displayed more prominently and other format changes.



Postal Stationery Collector

Registered Post

Richard Peck and Martin Walker have observed the arrival of new format registered envelopes in February. The format changes are similar to those observed for Parcel Post and Express Post Platinum. Both small and large size domestic envelopes have appeared in the new format (the large size envelopes appearing in Canberra Post Shops during March 2009).



Millenium auction No 43 included an example of an international registered envelope with “Bar code and registration number and details omitted”. Realised \$65.



Olympic Athlete Postcards

Martin Walker reported in February three new ‘Olympic Athlete’ postcards for Libby Trickett, Grant Hackett and Stephanie Rice.



Image courtesy of the Herald & Weekly Times Photographic Collection

AUSTRALIA POST AIR MAIL POSTAGE PRE-PAID AUSTRALIA FOR POSTING IN AUSTRALIA AND DELIVERY WORLDWIDE

*I was so happy to receive your message.
Thank you for all of your support.*

Take care and best wishes,

Libby Trickett

Libby Trickett won two gold medals, one silver medal and one bronze medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

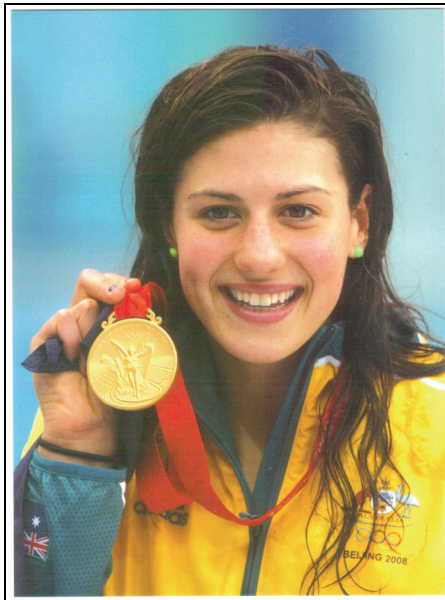


Image courtesy of the Herald & Weekly Times Photographic Collection

AUSTRALIA POST AIR MAIL POSTAGE PRE-PAID AUSTRALIA FOR POSTING IN AUSTRALIA AND DELIVERY WORLDWIDE

*I was so happy to receive your message.
Thank you for all of your support.*

Take care and best wishes,

Steph Rice

Stephanie Rice won three gold medals at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

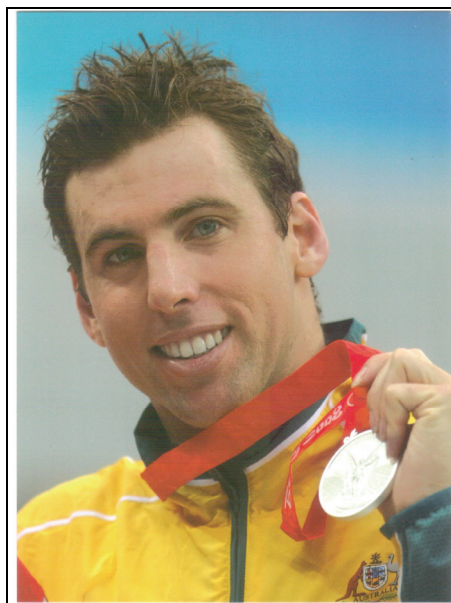


Image courtesy of the Herald & Weekly Times Photographic Collection

AUSTRALIA POST AIR MAIL POSTAGE PRE-PAID AUSTRALIA FOR POSTING IN AUSTRALIA AND DELIVERY WORLDWIDE

*Thanks for your kind message.
I really appreciated your support and encouragement.*

Best wishes,

Grant Hackett

Grant Hackett won one silver medal and one bronze medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

Postcards from Santa

Australia Post has for sometime now accepted mail from children addressed to Santa in special boxes at many post offices in the lead up to Christmas. In reply a range of postcards have been used to reply to the children. A range of these cards is illustrated below courtesy of Barbara Bartsch.

NO NO NO... NI!

Thank you for your letter. Rudolph and I love this time of year. Every night we sit in my workshop and open lots and lots of letters written by girls and boys from all over the world. Christmas is cool!

Every one of my helpers has been busy preparing all the presents for Rudolph and I to deliver at Christmas. Rudolph has spent time polishing his nose so that it glows extra brightly this year.


Over the deserts and over the seas, over the ice and over the trees we will travel. My new super sleigh is going to have us zipping around the world in no time at all!

Rudolph and I and all of my helpers hope that your Christmas day is lots of fun.

LOVE FROM SANTA

P.S. Place the red letters in order (from left to right and top to bottom) to read my secret message!

If undeliverable, please return to Locked Bag 3300 Melbourne VIC 3001




Santa and Rudolph need to make a quick landing because a dust storm is about to hit. Where will they land?

Go to the Australia Post website www.auspost.com.au/education Play Santa's Memory Game to check out where Santa lands.

Turn over for Santa's message. POST

Go to the Australia Post website www.auspost.com.au/education. Click on Santa's Puzzle. Then complete the fantastic interactive jigsaw puzzle and watch Rudolph get a big surprise. You will also see where Santa's computer mouse has been hidden.



□ □ □ □




HI THERE!

It's that wonderful time of the year again. Rudolph and all my other helpers are as excited as can be.

Rudolph has personally handed me every letter mailed to me by children in Australia. I love reading all the letters.

Rain, hail, snow or sunshine, Rudolph and my team will be out there on Christmas Eve delivering presents to children all around the world.

I hope Rudolph behaves himself. He's been a bit cheeky lately, but I'm sure it's just that he is excited about the fun that Christmas brings.

Rudolph and I hope that this Christmas will be fantastic. Now, to read my hidden Christmas message, just place all the red letters in order.

Love from Santa


P.S. I can't seem to find my computer mouse. I am a bit suspicious that Rudolph may have hidden it. Can you find my mouse in the picture?



TO _____

OFFICIAL MAIL

|||




Hello!

Thank you for your letter - it was jolly good to hear from you.

It has been another very busy year but it is all worth it. I love to make people smile and be happy. I am not always able to bring you exactly what you have asked for but I know you will understand. Love and happiness is the most important gift in the world.

Merry Christmas
Love from Santa

P.S. Please make sure you are in bed early on Christmas Eve



AUSTRALIA POST
POSTAGE PAID

HO! HO! HO! Merry Christmas.

All the elves have been very busy getting ready for Christmas and Rudolph and the other reindeer are so excited.

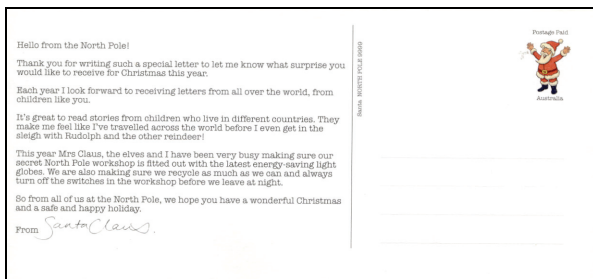
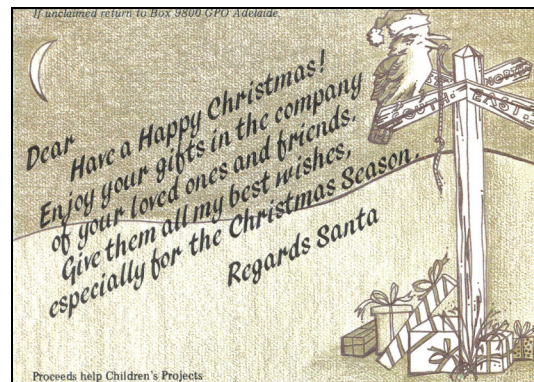
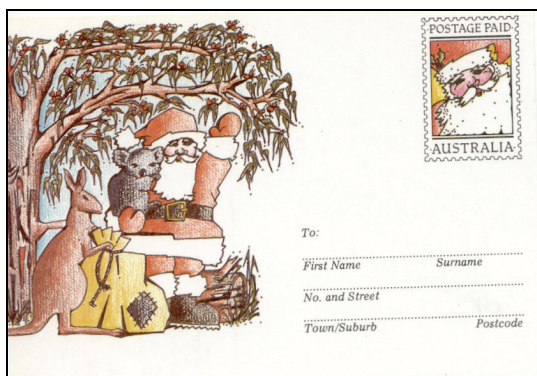
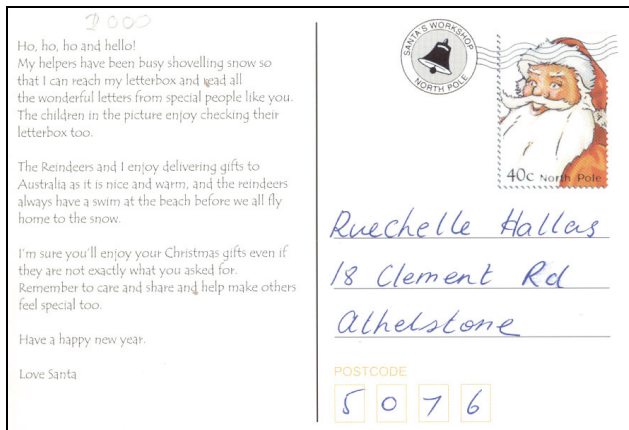
I have been making lists and checking them twice and getting ready to visit all of you. Don't forget that Christmas reminds us to be nice to everyone and to share with your family and friends.

Children from all over the world write to me asking for presents, so I hope I can get most of the things you wanted.

Thanks for your letter, I hope you have a fun Christmas,

love Santa





New Zealand

New Zealand Post continues to use an extensive range of pre-paid parcel and courier satchels and envelopes. As well as pre-paid registered envelopes. Since I last reported the designs of most of these have changed and I illustrate below a range of the current designs. Also illustrated below is a souvenir sheet produced in conjunction with Tarapex 2008. The design of the sheet is based on a Queen Victoria New Zealand postal card.



LISTING OF AUSTRALIAN NON-DENOMINATED POSTAL STATIONERY

Ian McMahon

Postcards

3 February 2009 With Love

Maximum cards

- (-) Roses
- (-) Heart
- (-) Heart Flowers

(Set price: \$3.90)

22 January 2009 Legends of the Screen

Maximum cards

- (-) Nicole Kidman
- (-) Russell Crowe
- (-) Geoffrey Rush
- (-) Cate Blanchet

(Set price: \$5.20)

19 February 2009 Inventive Australia

Maximum cards

- (-) Esky/Wine Cask
- (-) Hills Hoist
- (-) Speedos/Zinc Cream
- (-) Ute/B&D Roll-A-Door
- (-) Victa mower

(Set price: \$6.50)

February 2009 Olympic Athletes

- (-) Stephanie Rice
- (-) Grant Hackett
- (-) Libby Tricket

4 March 2009 Poles and Glaciers

Maximum cards

- (-) Snow Petrel
- (-) Jade Iceberg

(Set price: \$4.10)

11 March 2009 Earth Hour

Maximum cards

- (-) Possum
- (-) Owl
- (-) Monkey

(Set price: \$5.40)

25 March 2009 Australia Post 200 Years

Maximum cards

- (-) First Postmaster
- (-) Early Post Office
- (-) News From Home
- (-) Early Airmail
- (-) Home Delivery
- (-) Post-war Immigration
- (-) Retail Postshop
- (-) Express Post
- (-) Part of Every Day
- (-) Early Postbox

(Set price: \$13)

1 April 2009 Indigenous Culture

Maximum cards

- (-) Marnu
- (-) All the Jilia
- (-) Mina Mina
- (-) Untitled (Mission series)
- (-) Natjula

(Set price: \$8.85)

15 April 2009 Queen's Birthday

Maximum cards

- (-) Queen Riding
- (-) Queen and Prince Philip in carriage

(Set price: \$4.10)

Express Post

March 2009 Express Post envelopes reissued with no Olympic Team logo

- (\$4.40) C5 envelope
- (\$5.50) B4 envelope

Note: Codes seek CN, BN, CV

March 2009 Express platinum Satchels – new design with weight limit in white in a blue box

- (\$11.90) 500 g
- (\$15.90) 3 kg

Registered Post

February-March 2009 Domestic Registered Envelopes issued in new format with 'AP Article ID' on front

- (\$3.30) Small envelope
- (\$4.40) Large envelope

Society meeting at Melbourne 09

Melbourne 09, a full National exhibition, will be held at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre from 23-26 July 2009. All classes will be at National level, and the PSSA Prize for the best postal stationery exhibit will be offered. We have asked for a slot to hold a meeting, but do not have any information about the date and the time at present. Members will be advised by an email notice when this becomes available. Please see the exhibition website www.melbournestampshow2009.com for more details.

Request from Spain

In February 2009 I received an email request from a collector in Spain, who specialises in the work of the master engraver Slania. He wishes to purchase examples of two Australian postal stationery issues with stamp designs that were engraved by Slania. They are the International postage paid envelopes issued on 18 August 1994 with designs featuring aviation pioneers (E319, E320 and E321 in the Australasian Stamp Catalogue), and the prepaid postcards issued on 29 August 1994 (listed in ASC as APMX072).

An email notice sent out by the Executive Officer of APTA has so far not found a set of the postcards available for sale, but did bring in a notice of a set of the envelopes available at a postal auction in March. Can any members assist by notifying me if they have any of this material available for sale? Please contact me by email at jkennett@tpg.com.au, or write to me at the address inside the cover of this journal if you can help this collector.

LITERATURE

Judy Kennett and Ian McMahon

From our contemporaries

The Postal Stationery Society Journal [UK] Vol 17 No 1 February 2009

- Upcoming regional meetings for 2009
- Evolution of German view cards – the Hindenburg Medallion Head
- GB postal stationery news
- Printed to private order – the Elizabethan postal stationery of Frederick Bofos
- Notes from the Editor's desk (includes a note about Carlo Ponzi and his infamous scheme for making money out of the supposed sale of International Reply Coupons). Our Canadian member Owen White last year sent me a copy of an article from a Toronto newspaper about this same speculator.

Capital Philately Vol 26 No 4 September 2008

- Perpetuation of mistakes [in] Sarawak postal stationery

Author Paul Barsdell, one of our members, compares information about dates of issue of three Sarawak postal cards, as given in the Higgins & Gage catalogue and the Standard Catalogue of Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei with dates given in the book by Neville Watterson *Sarawak: the De La Rue Story*. This was published in 2000, but there have so far been no amendments to the dates of issue given in the catalogues.

Ganzsachensammler February 2009

- Editorial Albrik S. Wiederkehr
- 08 Annual Report of the President
- Exhibition successes
- Changes 2008

Postal Stationery Notes March 2009

- Peter Zariwny
- PCF Corner
- What's New [Canadian New Issues]
- 2008-09 Canada Post Freestyle Team XPRESSPOST Stationery
- Shopper's Drugmart Xpresspost
- Unusual PS usage
- New private order Eaton's card (1964)

Postal Stationery March-April 2009

- Br. E. Africa Reg. Letter Envelope with Protectorate Handstamp- a New Discovery
- Persia Official Envelope
- U.S.A. 19th Century Column
- U.S.A. 20th/21st Century Column
- U.S. Postal Card Catalog Update
- Elizabethan-era Election Envelopes of Canada,
- USA Airmail Card SAJ -Purple Lozenges and Reconstructions
- Jefferson's Vision on S17
- Digital Philately
- Unique Swiss Postal Card Essay
- S8 -Missing Leaf Variety
- S22 variety?
- Unlisted Mauritius Envelope?
- USA U198 & U199
- Canal Zone/Panama Registration Env.
- Brazil Essay?
- A New Member's Questions
- Indian Money Order Essay,
- New Zealand PTPO Envelope
- Leavitt Postmark
- Gibraltar Registration Envelope
- USPS Stationery Issue Dates
- Folded Swiss Typewriter Card
- USPS Charge for Stationery Paper
- PRC PTPO Stationery
- Canadian "Lobster" Card
- Dubai and Yemen Fakes?
- Algeria Card Error
- Selected British Forces Aerograms from the Thomas A. Matthews Collection, Part 5

Gibbons Stamp Monthly March 2009

- Peter van Gelder reports on 'Publibels', more Irish 'Blottoes' and some rare aerogrammes from Anguilla

Sydney Views February 2009

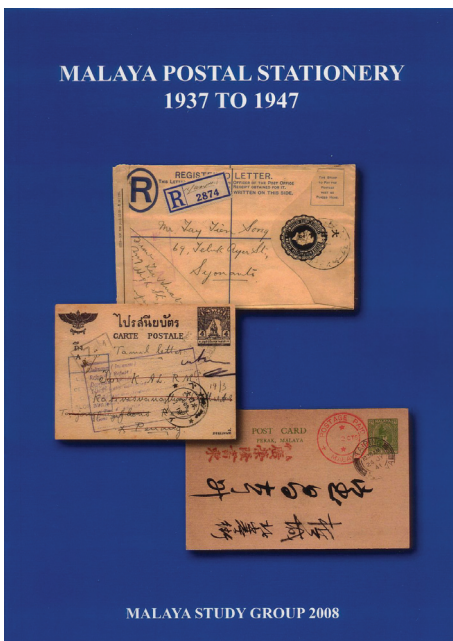
- NSW Official Envelopes inscribed 'Crop Reports'
- NSW Penny Halfpenny Postcards and Reply Cards

Reviews

The London Philatelist Vol 118 No 1363 March 2009

Rodrigo's illustrated full colour catalogue of postal stationery air mail letter sheets, airgraphs and aerogrammes of Ceylon / Sri Lanka by Dr Chandra Rodrigo, published 2008 by the author. 68 pages, softbound.

This book consists of two listings, first of airgraphs, and secondly of aerogrammes. Airgraphs are divided into those for Service personnel and those for civilians. There are full explanations of use, descriptions of the airgraphs and aerogrammes, including the mention of errors, illustrations in full colour, and suggested valuations. Airmail letter sheets without a pre-printed stamp or device to indicate prepayment are excluded from the listings. Available from the author: email rodrigo@hkucc.hku.hk.



Malaya Postal Stationery 1937 To 1947

This new book is published by the Malaya Study Group, 93 pages of text and illustrations plus the introductions and preface, with Scarcity Guide on all items. The scope is: Stationery in use in 1937, the 1941 provisional upratings, Imperial Forces in Malaya, Japanese Occupation and British Military Administration. It is the result of many years work by the Malaya Study Group, with information from members around the world, and is highly recommended to Postal Stationery enthusiasts, King George VI specialists and anyone interested in the philately of Malaya. £18 + p&p.

A4 size perfect bound in full colour. Contact the Chairman Peter Cockburn <pcockburn@aol.com> for details of P+P for Australia. The MSG website is www.m-s-g.org.uk

A Postal History of the Arabian Gulf Post Offices: volume 4 Aerogrammes Part 1 1942 to 1966 by T E Jones. Third Edition 2009

The introduction to this book states: "This is a revised edition of the book first published under the same title in 1995. Aerogrammes are an integral part of the postal history of the Gulf This volume records aerogrammes used during the Agency years from 1942-1966. Between 1942 and 1952 the only aerogrammes available were formula sheets headed 'Air Mail Letter Card' or 'Air Letter'. These were issued to troops on active service and later by post offices for civilian use. ... The first aerogramme designated for Gulf use went on sale in 1952 at the British Postal Agencies post offices in Bahrain, Qatar (Doha), Dubai, Kuwait and Muscat. This issue was produced by overprinting the current British GVI Air Letter with a 6 annas surcharge. Bahrain and Kuwait received sheets additionally overprinted with their state names but these were accepted at all agency post offices and there are many examples of cross usage. From 1960 onwards the Postal Agencies gradually introduced aerogrammes printed with stamps of local design. These replaced but did not invalidate the previous overprinted issues."

57 pages, A5, soft bound. Colour and black and white Illustrations. £11 from Vera Trinder.

May 2009

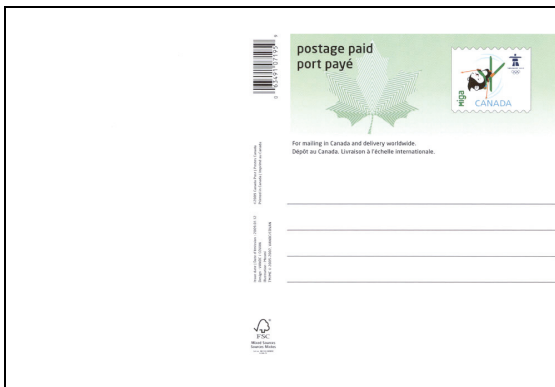
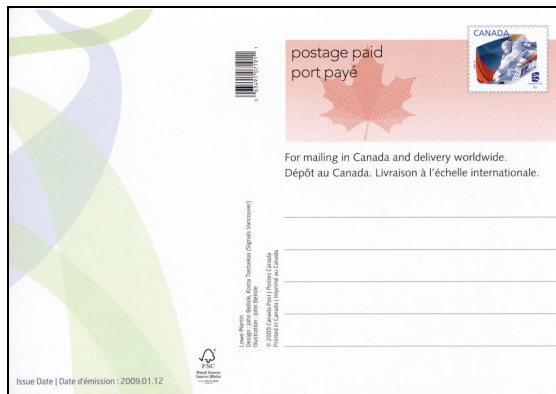
NEW ISSUES

Canada

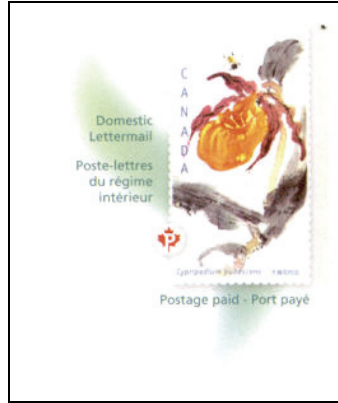
Canada has started 2009 off with the production of a wide range of new stationery. Postcard issues include:

- 5 cards for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympic Games depicting athletes and three depicting Games mascots.
- 2 cards depicting Rhododendrons
- 2 cards for the Chinese New Year: Year of the Ox

A new range of pre-stamped envelopes have been issued. A set of 10 depicting fishing flies (in both #8 and #10 sizes) and a set of 8 showing flowers and garden sizes (in #8 and #10 sizes)/



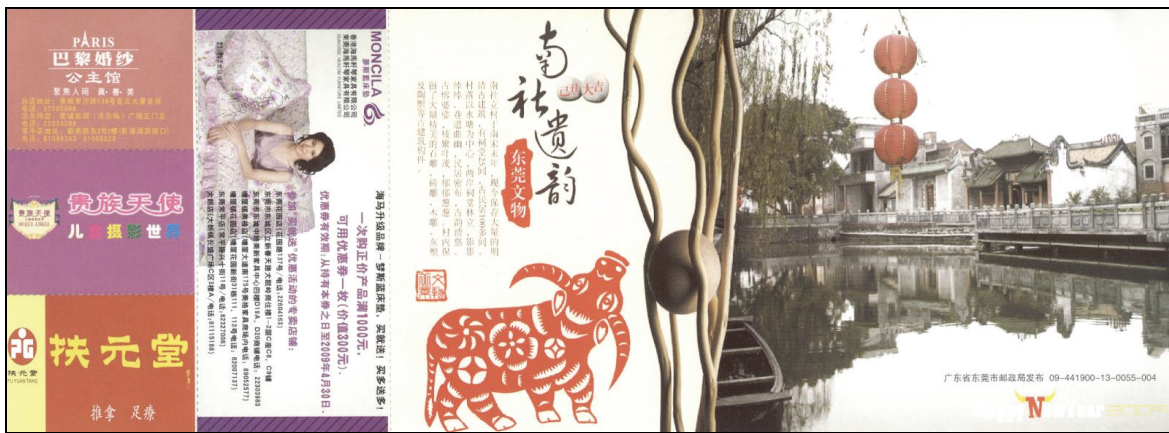
Postal Stationery Collector

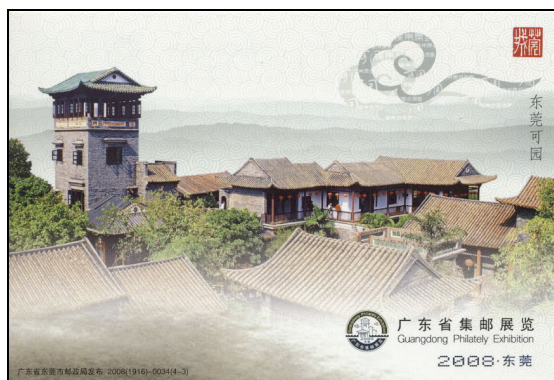
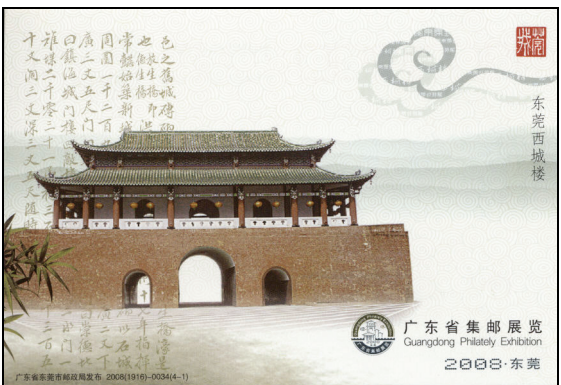


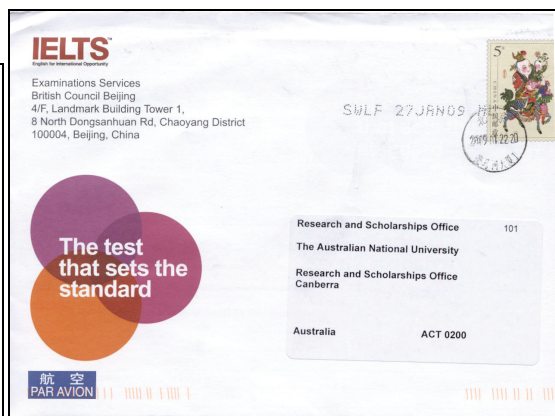
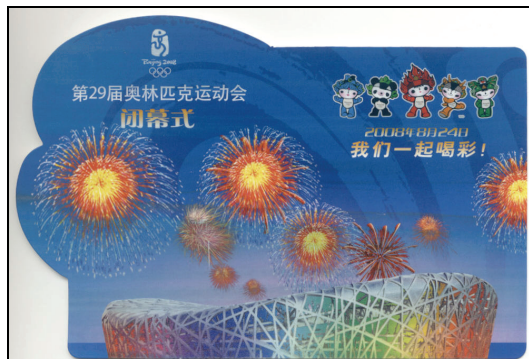
China

Illustrated above is a stamped envelope with private printing for IELTS. Courtesy of Gary Brown, illustrated below is a range of the extensive postal stationery available in China. Included are:

- The front and reverse of a new year lottery postcard including private advertising
- A range of postcards with 'cartoon' characters on the reverse
- A set of postcards for the Guangdong Philatelic Exhibition
- A postcard issued with a blank back intended for private printing – in this case printed with a design showing a cricket match
- A set of postcards marking China's first astronauts
- Postcards from an exquisitely produced postcard booklet for Team China 2008 Basketball.
- Beijing 2008 Postcard







Hong Kong, India, Nepal, USA, New Caledonia and France

Illustrated below are a New Year's Greeting lettercard from Hong Kong, two Indian 'Meghdoot' postcards, two used postcards from India and Nepal, a New Caledonian stamped envelope for the 1st Francophone Forum of the Pacific and a US postcard for the centenary of Miami University.

