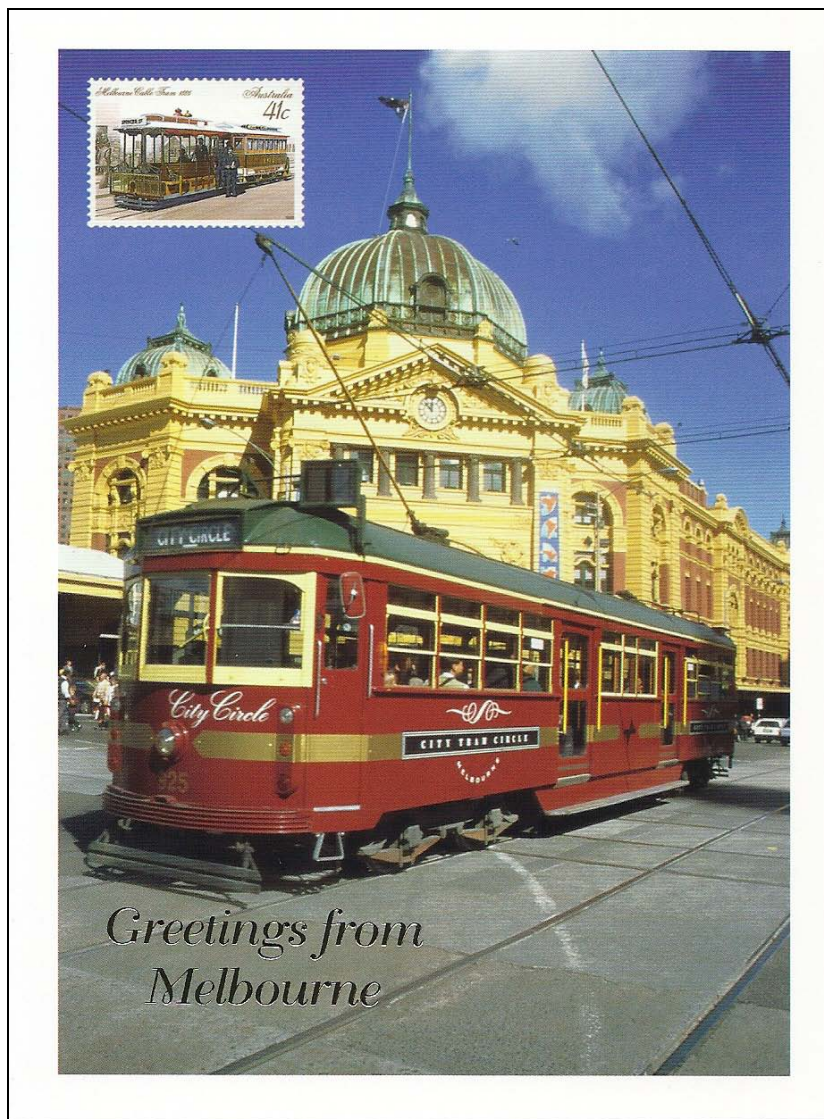


POSTAL STATIONERY

COLLECTOR

Volume 15 No 4: Issue No 60

February 2010



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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.

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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 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.

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POSTAL STATIONERY COLLECTOR: SALE OF BACK ISSUES

The Postal Stationery Society of Australia has been publishing its journal *Postal Stationery Collector* since May 1995. It is distributed to financial members four times each year, in February, May, August and November. The Society has always maintained a stock of back issues, which are for sale to both members and non-members.

Description

Issues 1- 9 were produced as photocopies in A4 format, with corner staples, and are available only in that form. They are for sale at \$4.00 each, which includes postage in Australia. Airmail postage to overseas countries is an additional charge.

Issues 10 - 45 are available as original copies, in A4 format and saddle stapled, at \$5 each. This includes postage in Australia, but airmail postage to overseas destinations is extra. Current issues No 46 onwards, are available as original copies, in A4 format and saddle stapled, at \$6 each. This includes postage in Australia, but airmail postage to overseas destinations is extra. Reductions will be available on orders of five (5) copies or more.

Payment

Payment is to be made to the Postal Stationery Society of Australia. In Australia, payment can be made either by cheque (made payable to the PSSA) or by credit card (Visa or Mastercard accepted). For overseas buyers, payment is by credit card. Where payment is by credit card, the transaction will be processed by the Queensland Philatelic Council.

Enquiries

Enquiries re price and availability are to be made either by mail to the Secretary at PO Box 16, Ulmarra NSW 2462 AUSTRALIA or enquire by email to jkennett@tpg.com.au

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the 60th issue of the Postal Stationery Collector and to 2010.

Launpex 2009

Launpex 2009 was held at the Max Fry Hall in Trevallyn, Launceston, from 30 October to 2 November, 2009. It was a National One-Frame Exhibition in conjunction with a multi frame State Class exhibition. The one-frame exhibits including the following postal stationery exhibits:

Ross Duberal	Western Australia Notification Post Cards 1880 - 1910	69 S
Martin Walker	Australia Post's Sponsorship Postcards	74 S
Don E Napier	Provisional Issues of Jamaican Postcards	77V
Derek A Pocock	The First Nicaraguan Postcard of 1878	73 S
Ian McMahon	St Pierre et Miquelon Postal Stationery	67 S

In addition there was the following exhibit in the one-frame class:

Bruce Henderson	Cochin pre-stamped postcards through six reigns	Sapphire
--------------------	---	----------

Timpex 2009

Timpex 2009, a New Zealand National Philatelic Exhibition, was held from 16 to 18 October 2009 at the SBS Events Centre, Aorangi Park, Timaru. The postal stationery class included the following exhibits:

Ross Wood	Czechoslovakia postal cards 1918-1938	Large Vermeil [76]
Max Watson	Franked official mail of Victoria	Large Vermeil [84]
Joan Orr	People's Republic of China New Year	Large Silver [73]
Malcolm Groom	Tasmanian embossed stationery 1883 to 1912, commerce & collectors	Gold [86] +SP
Ian McMahon	Queen Elizabeth II postal stationery of Canada	Large Silver [71]
Anthony Lyon	New Zealand Queen Victoria postal cards 1876-1901	Silver [68]
Len Jury	Queen Victoria to King George V 1876-1936	LS

FEEDBACK

I was re reading the last *PSC* and noticed the article on page 93 about Gary Brown's Australia Post promotional envelope.

A full explanation of these can be found in *The Catalogue of Australian Pre-stamped Envelopes* by Colin Parker, published by Philatelic Consulting Services, Dubbo 1981, at pages 6 to 8 inclusive. According to Parker, Gary's envelope was used in the 1973 campaign (Nov/Dec 1973). 350,000 envelopes were mailed to the USA, Canada and the UK in this campaign. The envelope was designed by J Larsen. This was the largest mail out of the three campaigns in 1971, 1973 and 1975.

Mark Diserio

February 2010

1910 QUEENSLAND 1d POST CARD

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

In the last Postal Stationery Journal the pending auction by Prestige Philatelic Auctions on 24 October 2009 of four Queensland 1910 proofs cards was disclosed. The four cards were identical except for the colour of the ink and the stamp indicia. Three of the cards had the stamps indicia of the 1910 View cards (Figure 1); and the fourth card had the same stamp as the other 1910-1914 period, namely SG 21 (Figure 2). This was the stamp indicia used in the issued card.

Prestige Philately's 24 October 2009 auction contains a number of remarkable stationery lots. Lots 270-273 are four newly discovered essays of Queensland postcards. The essays have headings similar to the Commonwealth period pictorial postcards. The lots are estimated at \$2,000 to \$2,500 each. Three have the 1d die similar to that used for the pictorial postcards (in black, red and brown) while the other has a 1d stamp with numerals in four corners.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Less than 10 of such issued cards have been recorded, and only one used card. Were it not for the discovery of the only known used copy (Figure 3) the few mint copies known would tend to the theory that the card was never issued. Why then has only one card been discovered, and it addressed to a well known New Zealand Stamp Dealer. The answer may well lie in the newly discovered card (Figure 4) offered in a bundle of generally tatty cards and wrappers in the Phoenix Auction Sale of 28 November 2009. It is an unpostmarked card (without any message on reverse) addressed to:

*A. Cupples Esq.
Colonial Mutual Life Society
28 Elizabeth Street
SYDNEY*

No name of the sender appears on the card. Could it be that a limited number of these cards were issued pending the takeover of the postal services by the Commonwealth, but a large quantity were purchased by the Brisbane Branch of the Colonial Mutual Life Society or by one of its Queensland Agents for communications to its Sydney office. If any member has another used copy of this card I would be pleased to hear from him/her. Better still, a card to the same Sydney address but with the stamp indicia cancelled.



Figure 3

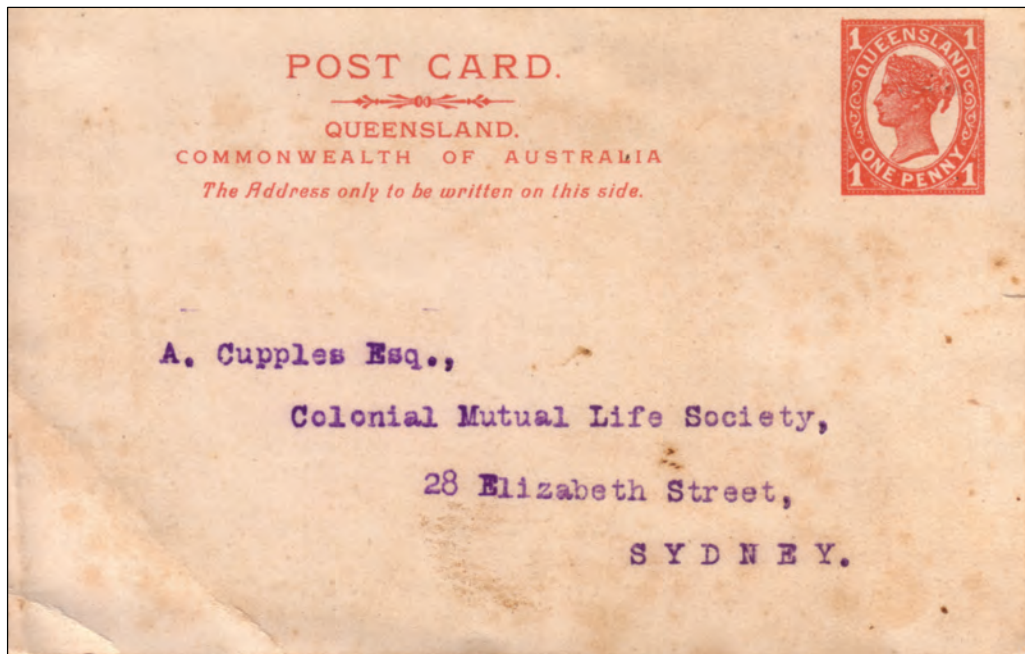


Figure 4

PRESTIGE PHILATELY 24 OCTOBER 2009 AUCTION RESULTS

Prestige Philately's 24 October 2009 auction contained the essays discussed above as Lots 270-273 which were estimated at \$2,000 to \$2,500 each. Three have the 1d die similar to that used for the pictorial postcards (in black, red and brown) while the other has a 1d stamp with numerals in four corners. The lots realized: Lot 270 \$4,200.00, Lot 271 \$2,400.00, Lot 272 \$3,800.00 and Lot 273 \$2,900.00.

February 2010

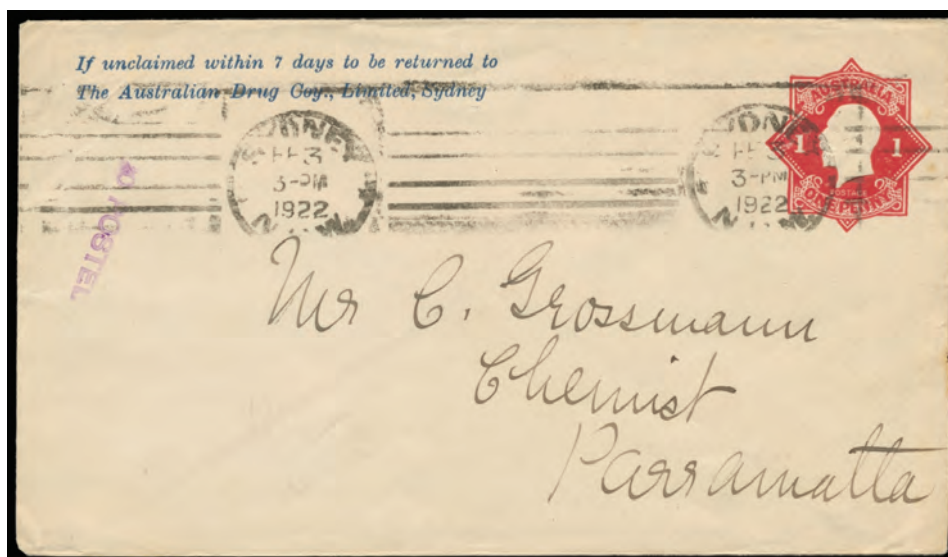
**A MAJOR AUSTRALIAN DISCOVERY!!
A NEW AUSTRALIAN "STAR" PTPO ENVELOPE**

Gary Watson

The title of this piece is actually a little misleading as the existence of the item under discussion here has actually been known of for some years. However, it has never previously been seen "in the flesh" in this country and, as it is an Australian item, the reader is asked to indulge the writer.

Anyone with an interest in Australian stationery will be familiar with the Embossed KGV designs commonly called "Octagonals". This is one of those "philatelic terms" that because it has enjoyed long currency is considered sacrosanct by traditionalists. The fact is, the so-called "octagonal" is nothing of the sort.

An octagon has eight sides. The device in question has eight points, sixteen sides, and some curved bits as well. It is simply not, however one looks at it, an octagon. What we have here is, in its simplest form, a square rotated through 45 degrees to appear as a regular diamond, superimposed on a vertical rectangle. For want of a better designation - and I am open to suggestions - I prefer to call this oddity, a "star". So, back to the matter in hand.



The embossed Stars exist in two basic sub-types: without 'POSTAGE' in the design; and with 'POSTAGE' added below the King's bust. The original style, based on a drawing by JE Wilby, the Victorian Government Lithographer, was introduced in 1916 for embossing envelopes. It exists in a number of values and die states, most of which are relatively common.

In September 1921, an administrative decision was made to incorporate the word 'POSTAGE' into the design and this was duly effected based on a proof submitted by TS Harrison, the Government Printer. Thereafter, all Star designs had the word 'POSTAGE' in small sans-serif upper-case type appearing between the base of the portrait and the value tablet.

By the time this design-feature was incorporated into the embossed dies, the basic letter rate was 2d. The 2d orange with 'POSTAGE' was delivered into stock on 29th September 1921, and the first distribution was on 4th October, to New South Wales. At around the same time, PTPO Envelopes were issued stamped with the same 2d orange 'POSTAGE' die.



A feature of the postal rates of the time was a concessional rate for printed matter such as leaflets, notices and advertising. In 1921 the printed matter rate was 1d, being half the letter rate.

PTPO Envelopes with Star No 'POSTAGE' 1d red embossings are common. So are those bearing the 1d violet with 'POSTAGE' that was issued in February 1922. However, the 'POSTAGE' designs were introduced in September 1921, at least four months before the 1d violet was issued. Any printed matter requisitions made in that four months period would have been embossed in red.

Research into the official records has identified five printings of 1d PTPO Envelopes in the relevant period. However, only the denomination of the embossings, and not the colours of the impressions, were recorded. It has therefore not been possible to state categorically how many were printed in red. However, it is almost certainly the case that the number is something more than 40,000.

On the basis of these numbers, one might expect PTPO Envelopes with the 1d red 'POSTAGE' die would be relatively common. However, the envelope illustrated here is the ONLY example recorded. Perhaps not surprisingly, the envelope bears the imprint of the *Australian Drug Company* of Sydney, one of the major users of PTPO Envelopes. It also bears a handstruck '20 POSTED' handstamp which was required to qualify for the printed matter rate. The continuous machine cancellation is dated FE3/1922. Thankfully, the envelope is in very fine condition.

As intimated at the outset, the experts in this field have been aware of the existence of this particular item for some time. However, it reposed in an American's collection. Sadly the owner is in poor health and has decided to sell his material. Fortunately, he accepted advice to consign his precious Aussie Envelope to an Australian firm.

The unique 1d red Star with 'POSTAGE' Envelope will therefore be offered by Prestige Philately on Saturday 5th December. The estimate is \$7500. However, given that Steve Schumann's 3d Kangaroo Envelope (of which one other example may exist) was sold for \$23,000 by Prestige in April 2006, it is anticipated that the realisation will exceed \$10,000.

Any reader who wishes to receive a complimentary copy of the auction catalogue is invited to request it from Prestige Philately, PO Box 126, Belgrave 3160; by phone to (03) 9754 7666; fax (03) 9754 7677; or by email to info@prestigephilately.com

The author wishes to acknowledge research by Richard Peck, Margaret Horton (New Zealand), John Sinfield and Mark Diserio. Also Dr Geoff Kellow RDP, editor of the "Australasian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue", soon to publish a comprehensive - and long-awaited - catalogue of Australian Postal Stationery that will, for the first time, list the 1d red Star with 'POSTAGE'.

February 2010

A NEW QUEENSLAND POSTAL CARD

Gary Watson

Recently, while trawling through a box of mullock from a deceased retail dealer's estate, I came across a postcard with a black & white photo captioned "A SUBURBAN SCHOOL". While this is a singularly unappealing view, I instantly recognised the format and caption as of the type used for the 1910 1d scenic Postal Cards of Queensland, and thought I had discovered a previously unrecorded view in that series.

Imagine my surprise, then, to flip over the card and be confronted by a beast I had not previously handled. My hunch that this was a Queensland item proved to be correct. However, the printed heading and text showed it to be a Printed to Private Order (PTPO) issue for that State's Department of Public Instruction (or Education Department).

I have since learned that Bernie Beston has hitherto recorded three similar cards but that the new discovery is, indeed, a previously unrecorded view. [See *PSC* May 2000 pages 4-8 Ed.]

This issue is remarkable for a number of factors. Firstly, neither the *Higgins & Gage Catalogue*, nor Phil Collas in his textbook on Queensland Postal Stationery, recorded **any** PTPO Postal Cards from Queensland.

Secondly, reminiscent of the 1908 American Fleet issues for all States except Victoria, the word 'STAMP' is printed on the card underneath the 1d red stamp impression.

Thirdly, and peculiarly, the partly printed message is on the right-hand two thirds of the face of the card, while the space for the address is at the left! This was contrary to the postal regulations.

The purpose of the card was to advise a correspondent of the receipt by the Education Department of his letter and of it being forwarded to the Works Department for attention. It is expected that many thousands of these cards would have been printed, and used.

However, to date only four examples have been identified. Clearly there was a series of cards with different views, but one can only speculate as to how many there were. (My guess is that there would have been at least a dozen.)

The year of issue is also unknown. The printed header indicates that they were in use by at least 1910. This example was used in 1912. Were there subsequent similar Kangaroo or KGV issues? Indeed, were there earlier Queensland issues?

This item poses more questions than it answers. But it proves that new postal stationery discoveries can still be made, even 100 or so years on, and that they can materialise in the most unlikely of places.

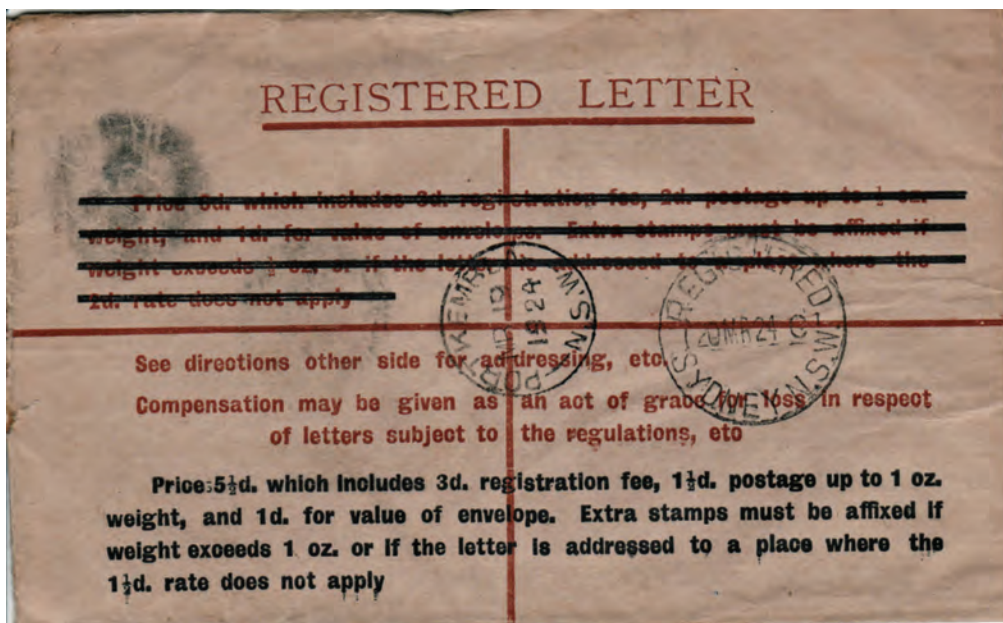
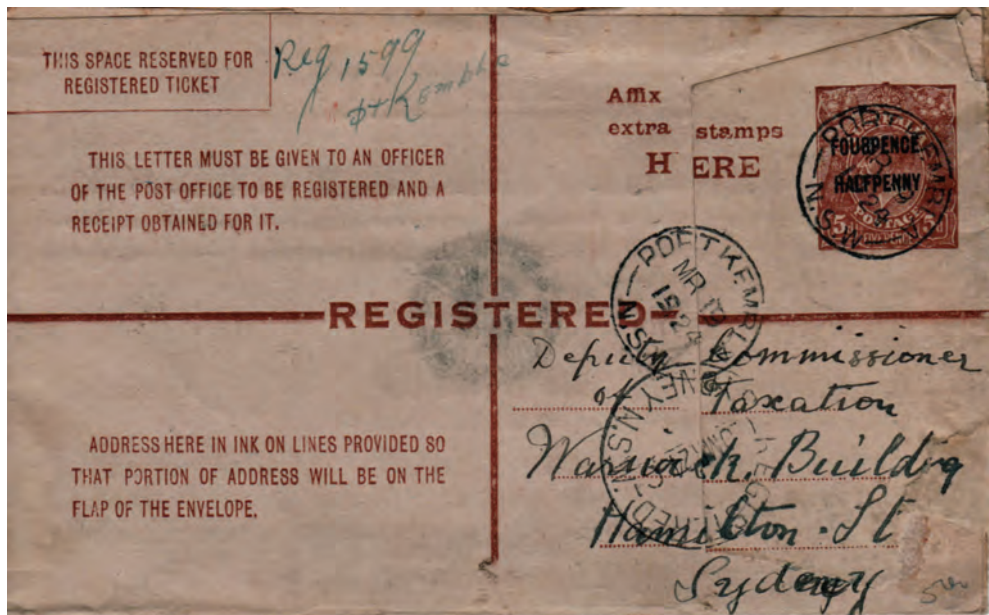
The card was offered at auction by Prestige Philately on 5th December 2009, with an estimate of \$1,500, a figure that reflects more the few blemishes than the undoubted rarity of this exciting new discovery. The card realized \$2,100.



NEW DISCOVERY OF AUSTRALIAN FOURPENCE HALFPENNY REGISTRATION ENVELOPE

Mark Diserio

Below are illustrations (front and back) of what superseded editions of *The Australasian Stamp Catalogue* (ASC) referred to as RE15a. That is, a RE 12 re-valued 4½d. This is the first example of a RE15a that appears to have been noted. In the more recent editions of the ASC (e.g. 26th Edition), it was not catalogued. Rather, R16 was now catalogued (i.e. R13 re-valued 4½d). This rarity was not catalogued in older editions of the ASC. The only 'Middows' envelope now not seen re-valued 4½d is R11 (with the last line of text on the back ending in 'etc' and the cost stated as '5½d'). Given the existence of each of the other kinds of 5d envelopes re-valued 4½d, there appears to be a strong presumption for its existence. It is now only a matter of time before the discovery of an example of R11 re-valued 4½d.



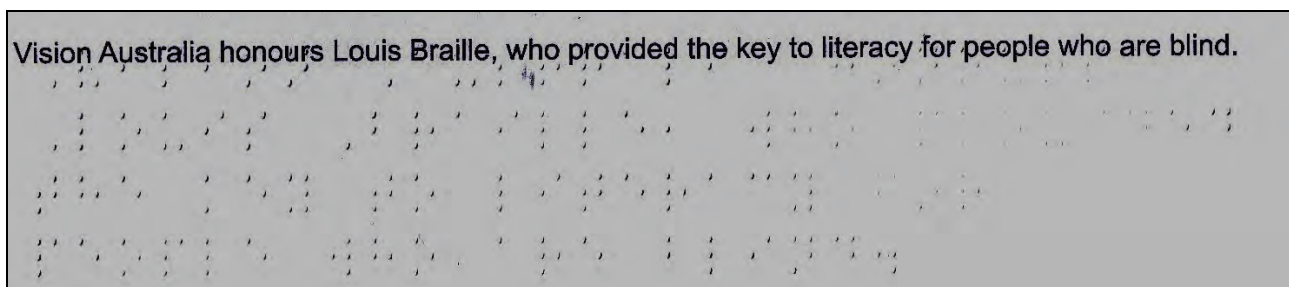
February 2010

VISION AUSTRALIA POSTAGE PAID ENVELOPE

Judy Kennett

This envelope was advertised in *Stamp Bulletin Australia* No 295 November – December 2008. The announcement says ‘This new postage paid envelope features colours that vision impaired people find easier to read. Another feature in the design is the use of the Braille print which has allowed those with a vision impairment to read. The Braille writing system was introduced by Louis Braille in 1824.’ (1)

As indicated by the announcement, the printed text on the envelope, both front and back, is repeated in the Braille system of raised dots on the paper. The colours that vision impaired people find easier to see are green and deep purple, and these are used by Vision Australia on its current postage paid envelope design.



The announcement does not say that the commemoration is for the bicentenary of the birth of the Frenchman Louis Braille (1809 – 52). He was blinded at about three years of age by an accident in his father’s factory. His early years were devoted to the invention and development of the Braille system, which is available for both reading and writing, using a typewriter. These days the keyboard is attached to a computer.

During 2009, countries all around the world issued commemorative stamps to honour Louis Braille for his contribution to improving the lives of people with impaired vision. As far as can be ascertained up to this time, Australia, through the efforts of Vision Australia, is the only country to issue a postal stationery envelope to commemorate his birth.

The envelope was announced and illustrated in *Postal Stationery Collector* February 2009, where it is stated that it was issued on 28 November 2008, and the purchase price was 65 cents. (2)

References

1. *Stamp Bulletin Australia*, No 295, November – December 2008, page 18.
2. *Postal Stationery Collector*, Vol 14 No 4, Issue No 56, February 2009, page 119.

ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES AS APPLIED TO NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS

Professor John K. Curtis, acapajc@cityu.edu.hk

The purposes of the paper are to consider definitions of errors, freaks and oddities (EFO) that *might* suffice for the postal stationery category of wrappers and to classify and illustrate the different types. This topic is poorly catalogued and the postal stationery literature does not appear to have examined EFOs in any depth especially with regard to newspaper wrappers. Hence, this is but a first approximation to encourage collectors to be on the lookout for examples, and to encourage collectors to debate whether the terms are explained appropriately for post office wrappers.

Errors Freaks & Oddities defined

Wayne Youngblood writing in the *American Philatelist* (2008) states that within the philatelic arena the term “error” has two specific meanings: (a) the stamp design has some misspellings, typos and incorrect factual or design information; and (b) there is one or more inadvertent, complete and consistent printing or production errors. With regard to the first type of error the entire press run is affected. The second category would include omitted, improper or inverted use of colour, improper paper, or overprints, wrong ink and wrong embossing die. To be a true error Youngblood argues that a production step must be completely missing or botched.

Youngblood argues that “freaks” are differentiated from an error because of its more random occurrence, or because it occurs inconsistently. It may involve one or more printing and/or production steps. Typical printing freaks include colour shifts, over or under inking, smears, blobs, nearly missing colours, and ink contamination. Typical examples would be miscut wrappers and set-offs which would have been destroyed as printer’s waste if noticed during production. Less typical freaks include pre-printing paper creases and gum skips.

An “oddy” is a term that is used as a catch-all to describe collectible items that do not fit comfortably into the other categories. Youngblood mentions that some examples could be plate varieties, odd or unusual cancels, counterfeits, colour changelings, local precancels, test items, and cinderellas. However, it needs to be investigated whether these matters are relevant to newspaper wrappers. Moreover, it must be remembered that Youngblood is talking about stamps and the relevance of his remarks to the postal stationery area is likely to require more discussion. There needs to be a clear understanding between an eligible candidate for an EFO category compared with a wrapper that is merely a legitimate variety.

Errors:

i) design reveals a misspelling.

There are at least two obvious examples that qualify as errors under this heading: Mexico E23 & E24 where the word FAJILLA has been printed as FAJILLLA (note, three Ls) – see Figure 1a, and Argentina E8b where REPUBLICA has been misspelled as REPUBILCA (LI switched to IL) –see Figure 1b. It is likely there will be other examples of misspelling given there are about 2,000 different post office issues of wrappers from about 125 postal entities, but these two examples will suffice.

ii) design reveals a consistent printing error

Mexico is again a candidate for this type of error. E7 shows a vertical white line through the mountain to the right of the eagle with outstretched wings and almost entirely eliminates the letter “I” in MEXICANOS. The other example occurs on E10a where POSTALMEXICANO appears as one word with no break between the L of POSTAL and the M of MEXICANO. These are both shown as Figure 2.



Figure 1a: Mexico E23 & E24 misspelled with additional L



Figure 1b: Argentina E8b misspelled REPUBILA



Figure 2: Mexico E7 vertical white line; E10a POSTALMEXICANO

iii) inverted indicium

There are two examples where the indicium has been inserted upside down into the printing frame relative to text. At least some part of the printing has reproduced this error. Queensland E2 and Mexico E26 are shown as Figure 3. The Queensland error has been mentioned in this Journal before and is arguably one of Australia's most spectacular and unique newspaper wrappers.



Figure 3: Queensland E2 & Mexico E26 inverted indicia

iv) overprint doubled

There are overprints to be found on the post office wrappers of Algeria, Austria, British Bechuanaland, Canada, Ceylon, China - Shanghai, Denmark, Far Eastern Republic, Germany Abroad, Gibraltar, Honduras, India used in Zanzibar, Iraq, Levant, Morocco Agencies, New South Wales, New Zealand, Persia, Romania, South Australia (OS), South West Africa, Sudan, Switzerland, Trinidad, Ukraine and Victoria. These 26 entities must be a fertile ground for examining overprint varieties. One example shown as Figure 4 is Barbados E3 where the ½d purple overprint has been conspicuously doubled. Another example was brought to my notice about a Victoria wrapper overprint that is double in two colours.

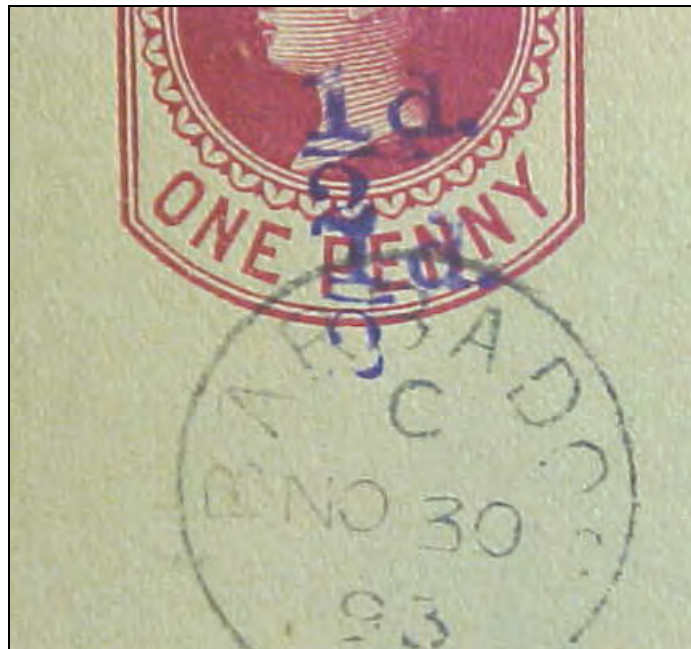


Figure 4: Barbados E3 with double purple overprint

Freaks

i) Missing vignettes

Two E5 wrappers from South Africa have been listed on eBay as rare and scarce errors. The first has omitted the printing of the ship in full sail in black, while the second is a remarkable double printing of the text and outer frame and omits also the ship in black. They are shown as Figure 5. The second example appears to be more in the nature of printer's waste. The seller would need to provide convincing information about the provenance of these kinds of freakish wrappers. Collectors of South Africa material may be able to shed additional light on these missing vignettes.

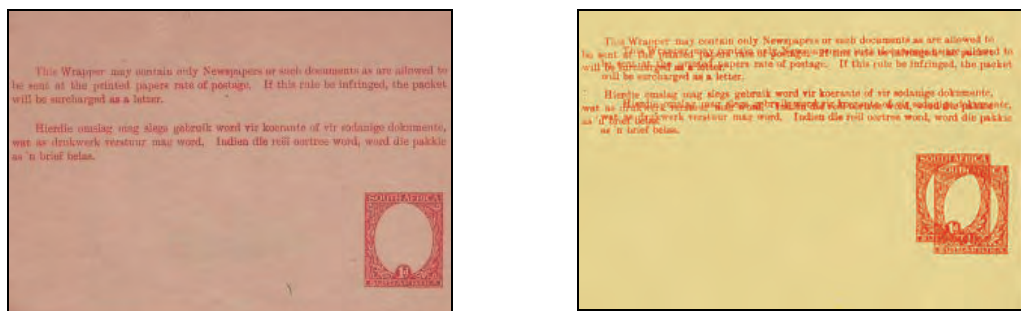
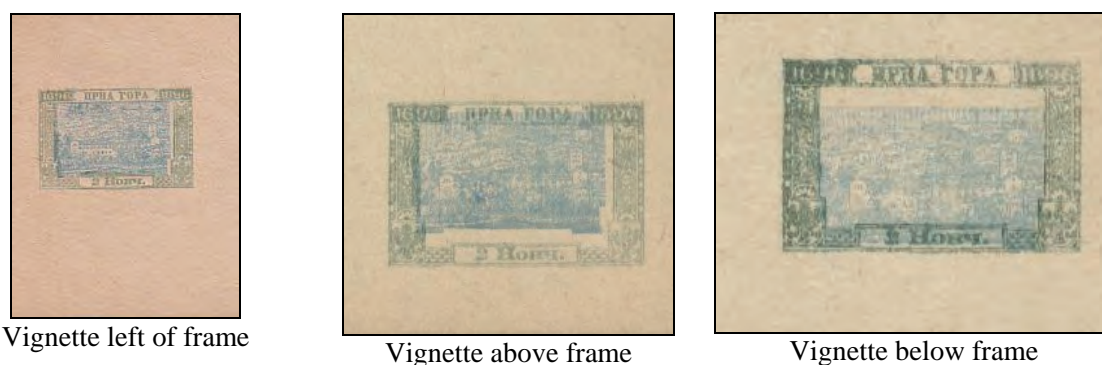


Figure 5: South Africa E5 missing vignettes and double print.

ii) shifts in indicium positioning

Indicium shifts appear to be “normal” for Montenegro E6, the green and blue jubilee issue. Either the green frame line has shifted or the blue vignette has not been positioned accurately for there are clear white gaps between the vignette and the frame and three juxtapositional varieties are shown in Figure 6.



Vignette left of frame

Vignette above frame

Vignette below frame

Figure 6: Montenegro E6 vignette printed left of frame

Mexico's E26 1895 issue was printed with a double border of arcs and wavy lines with the indicium printed within. Assuredly the intention would have been to center the indicium evenly within the box. One eBay listing claims that this indicium position shift is an error and is shown as Figure 7. While the misplaced positioning here is very careless, the four other images of this wrapper in the database reveal no instances where the centering is accurate. These types of position shifts appear to be commonplace and therefore not random.



Figure 7: Mexico E26 imperfect positioning of indicium within designated box

Oddities

i) paper creases in printing

An oddity is anything you want it to be that does not neatly fit into the errors and freaks categories. Argentina E9 has a pronounced paper crease that results in a space appearing in REPU BLICA between the U and B and this is shown as Figure 8. A close examination of this paper crease suggests that it might be printer's waste which would raise the question how it came to be in the hands of the philatelic market.



Figure 8: Argentina E9 paper crease affecting printing

ii) uncut multiples

Uncut multiples are easier to illustrate on the page horizontally and mint examples from Bavaria E4, Switzerland E4 and Wurttemberg E1 are shown as Figure 9a. There are several examples of multiple uncut used wrappers for Romania, of which two are shown in Figure 9b.



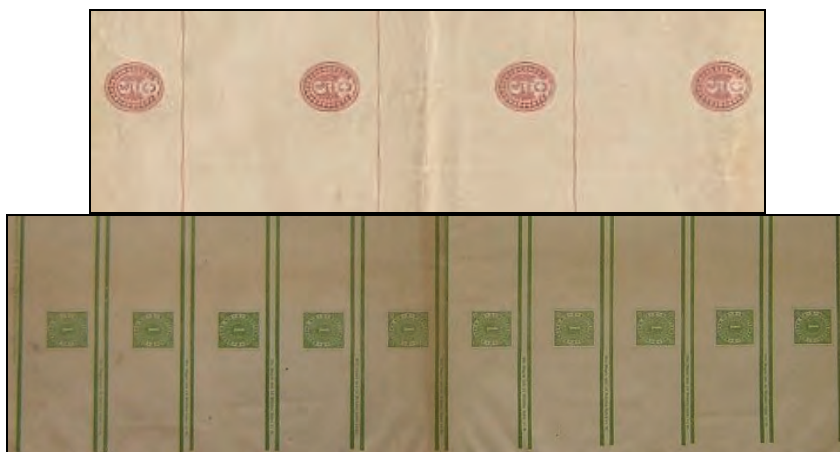


Figure 9a Bavaria, Switzerland & Wurttemberg multiple uncut wrappers



Figure 9b: Romania used uncut wrappers

iii) colour dot guiding guillotining

Guillotine lines on wrappers are not uncommon. For example, Queensland wrappers frequently show a guillotine line in the upper left hand section of the wrapper. Screw head marks are on some wrappers also, especially those issued by GB for the publishing firm W. H. Smith. Some collectors would include guillotine lines and screw head marks under this classification because of their “random” appearance. However, the appearance of a colour dot, noted on Canada’s 1896 E6 has not been explained, and this is shown as Figure 10. The seller was asked for a clarification which was met with the response that it was to guide the guillotining. If so, then does it appear on other wrappers?



Figure 10: Canada E6 colour dot

iv) die proofs

Very few die proofs are listed on eBay, no doubt because they are better suited for sale via the traditional auction houses, for they are normally quite expensive. Four die proofs are shown as Figure 11: Columbia E1, Costa Rica E2, Egypt E6 and GB E2.



Figure 11: Die proofs, Columbia E1, Costa Rica E2, Egypt E6, GB E2

Conclusion

Inevitably this paper has scratched the surface of the extant types of errors, freaks and oddities regarding post office newspaper wrappers. This paper can but explore the concepts with a few examples. Perfinned wrappers, albino embossed indicia, re-used wrappers and those miscut vis-à-vis normal have not been included. Noted printing errors have not been featured such as China - Chefoo's short R in NEWSPAPER and the hand redrawn "y" in the text of a Queensland wrapper. More research is needed especially for wrappers bearing overprints.

EFO's for post office newspaper wrappers do exist in all three categories and for collectors of this highly specialized material there are some interesting finds to be made. Collectors are invited to examine their holdings and share additional examples. A few wrappers have been noted with poems or advertising matter printed on the inside. Specialized catalogues will inevitably point to other qualifying varieties. Feedback about the classifications and the appropriateness of the Figures are welcome.

Reference

Youngblood Wayne (2008), EFOs – A Great Part of Philatelic Alphabet Soup; EFOs May Either Answer or Raise Questions, *American Philatelist*, Vol. 122, Jan. pp. 26-32 & Feb. pp. 120-124.

As usual, my sincere thanks to Allan Gory for his feedback on an earlier draft.

February 2010

CHRISTMAS ISLAND 12c AND 14c AEROGRAMMES

Ian McMahon

The first Christmas Island aerogramme was issued on 17 May 1971 and was of a plain design with the stamp area depicting the value and name of the territory (Christmas Island Indian Ocean) with an orange background. 7,000 were printed by the Note Printing Branch in Australia. As a result of the postal rate increase in 1 October 1971 the aerogramme had to have an additional 2c in postage added and an order was placed for a replacement 12c aerogramme.



On 22 October 1971, the Postmaster (R Stone) wrote to the Official Secretary at Government House requesting advice as to the expected arrival date of the new 12c aerogrammes so that he could advertise an issue date for the aerogramme. He noted that the Post Office had been unable to advertise an issue date for the 10c aerogramme and that many clients had been disappointed at being unable to obtain first day of issue cancellations on the aerogramme as a result.

He also suggested that the new aerogramme be advertised in the next newsletter, that the issue date be 5 June 1971 and that the new 53c registered envelope be issued on the same day. His memo also requested that as supplies of the 10c aerogramme might not last until the new aerogramme was issued that the Australian Post Office be requested to return any surplus 10c aerogrammes to Christmas Island.

The 12c aerogramme was duly advertised in the Christmas Island Post Office Newsletter of 19 February 1972 with an issue date of 5 June 1972 along with the 54c [sic] Registered Envelope (53c imprinted stamp, sold for 54c). The printed stamp on the registered envelope covered the registration fee and surface postage to Singapore and Malaysia, additional postage needed to be added if the envelope was used to other destinations. The first day postmarker was available for use on both the aerogramme and the registered envelope provided orders were received before the date of issue (it was not the practice at the time to back-date first day cancellations). The newsletter also advised that the 10c aerogramme and the 26c [sic] registered envelope (25c imprinted stamp) would be withdrawn on 4 June 1972. Both the aerogramme and the registered envelope were the same design as the earlier aerogramme and registered envelope, the registered envelope having an embossed portrait of Queen Elizabeth II.

Besides being sold at the Christmas Island Post Office, supplies were retained by the Australian Post Office for philatelic sales and some were also sent to the Crown Agents (200 mint and 20 FDC). By 4 September 1972 580 aerogrammes had been sold at the post office and 1,620 through philatelic sales.

On 21 February 1973 the Postmaster wrote to the Note Printing Branch advising that supplies of the 12c aerogramme were low and ordering a further 10,000 aerogrammes which were expected to last for two years. The Postmaster requested that the design remain the same.

On the same day he also wrote to Harrison and Sons (Harrison) in London who had written to the Post Office on 10 November 1971 advising that they were able to print aerogramme forms with a very simple stamp design or with decorative panels depicting varied facets of the Territory. The Postmaster indicated that Christmas Island had just made an order of additional aerogrammes to the Note Printing Branch due to the low stock levels of the 12c aerogrammes and because he didn't have an alternative design or quote. While he indicated to Harrison and Sons that he had ordered a supply from the Note Printing Branch and was not at this stage ordering aerogrammes from them, he asked them to prepare some designs and provide a quote for printing approximately 10,000 aerogrammes.

Harrison replied on 15 May 1973 with two rough designs for the aerogramme, two rough designs for the stamp and with a quote for £422.75 pounds for producing the finished artwork, three printing plates, paper and for printing 10,000 aerogrammes. Printing would be in three colours, by lithography, punched to shape 317 mm x 240 mm, with tropical gummed flaps on paper described as "S/o 45 G/M2".

Christmas Island was sufficiently impressed by the designs that the order with the Note Printing Branch was immediately cancelled. The cancellation was confirmed by the Department of Territories in a telegram dated on 8 June 1973 indicating that the cancellation was without charge, presumably because the Note Printing Branch had not yet commenced work. On 18 June 1973 the Administrator wrote to Harrison advising that they were impressed with the designs and that he had cancelled the order with the Note Printing Branch.

One of the two designs provided by Harrison was based on two Golden Bosun Birds (tropic-birds) in flight with a vertical stamp while the other depicted coconut trees with a horizontal stamp depicting an aircraft.

While the administrator (F Evatt) originally favoured the design featuring the bosun birds, the Postmaster was able to persuade him that the other design was preferable as the bosun bird 'had been over used in the past as a symbol for Christmas Island'.

The Administrator wrote to Harrison on 11 July 1973 advising that that Christmas Island had selected the design with the coconut trees and the horizontal stamp design provided a number of changes were made. These included changes to the positions of the instructional markings and the removal of a flower design on the middle fold as well as the use of a darker shade of blue. The letter also requested a copy of the amended design before the work proceeded and asked if an issue date of 4 February 1974 could be achieved. Harrison provided three photo-blocks of the amended design in a letter dated 1 October 1973 along with a sample of a Malaysian aerogramme recently produced by them as an example of the paper and gum to be used. They also advised that they could not guarantee supply of the aerogrammes by the proposed issue date.



A cable was duly sent to Harrison accepting the designs but advising that the postage rate needed to be changed to 14c due to a postage rate increase in October 1973. The administrator also asked that the Crown Agents approve the colour proofs before printing commenced and sought advice on when Harrison could guarantee delivery. The Post Office decided that the issue date would be set once they had advice from Harrison as to the

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date they could guarantee supply of the aerogrammes.

Harrison replied on 28 November 1973 with a copy of a proof of the aerogramme which was accepted by the Administration subject to the Crown Agent's response although one member of the Philatelic Committee commented "I can't say that I like the red washy sea and the round dome in the background. Could be an oasis in a desert". Harrison was advised of the acceptance on 28 December 1973 and asked to provide a further six proofs for publicity purposes. The Crown Agents wrote on 11 December 1973 advising that the design should be approved subject to the removal of the red on the wing of the aircraft and requesting 350 mint and 50 aerogrammes cancelled on the first day of issue. This recommendation was accepted by the administrator on 31 December 1973.

In a letter dated 2 January 1974 the Administrator confirmed the approval subject to the change suggested by the Crown Agents and asked that 350 aerogrammes be provided directly to the Crown Agents, 3,000 directly to the Australian Philatelic Bureau and 6,650 to the Island.

16 January 1974 Christmas Island issued a news release advising that a 14c aerogramme would be issued as a result of the October 1973 postal rates increase and should be available in 2-3 months. In addition it advised that the 12c aerogramme would be sold with additional 2c stamp until sold out which was expected to occur within the next 4 weeks.

In a letter dated 2 January 1974 Harrison confirmed that they had commenced work on printing the aerogrammes. This was followed by a letter dated 25 January 1974 confirming that the aerogrammes would be ready for dispatch by 1 March 1974 and asking whether the aerogrammes should be air freighted or should be sent by sea mail. Given that supplies of the 12c aerogramme were by this time almost exhausted and that the Postmaster was keen to have the new aerogrammes issued as soon as possible, Christmas Island replied requesting that the 3,000 aerogrammes for the Australian Philatelic Bureau be air-freighted to Melbourne and the 6,650 aerogrammes for the Island be air freighted to Singapore to the Australian High Commission with a request for forwarding to Christmas Island 6 February 1974. The issue date was then set at 16 April 1974.

The Administrator wrote to the Australian Postmaster General on 7 February 1974 advising of the issue of the new aerogramme, its issue date, that 3,000 aerogrammes would be sent by air freight directly to Melbourne and including a description "Blue is the overall colour of the aerogramme with black palm trees and a red sunset featured on the front page. The value is printed in stamp form containing a modern aircraft in flight and in the background is a global map." The letter also requested that the APO withdraw any stocks of the 12c aerogramme on 16 April 1974, destroy them and provide a certificate of destruction. In addition the 54 cent [sic] registered envelope was also to be withdrawn and any remaining stocks destroyed, noting that no further issues of registered envelopes were to be issued by Christmas Island.

The new aerogramme was announced in the Christmas Island Post Office's newsletter of 11 February 1974 which included details of the issue date, a description and details of how to obtain First Day cancellations (requests for first day cancellations were to be honoured up until 19 April 1974). It also advised of the withdrawal date of the 54c registered envelope (16 April 1974) and the expected exhaustion of supplies of the 12c aerogramme in March 1974. On 2 April 1974 the Australian Philatelic Bureau advised that the Christmas Island press statement had arrived too late to make Stamp Preview No 2 which contained details of the April issues.

On 19 February 1974 Harrison wrote enclosing the 6 proofs requested by Christmas Island with the aerogrammes arriving in Christmas Island on 3 April 1974. The packing slip indicated that 6,644 aerogrammes had been included. Harrison returned the artwork to Christmas Island on 5 April 1974 and the first design on 3 April 1974. On 2 April 1974 Christmas Island forwarded 1,000 CTO aerogrammes to the Australian Philatelic

Bureau while 30 were sent to the Crown Agents on 3 April 1975.

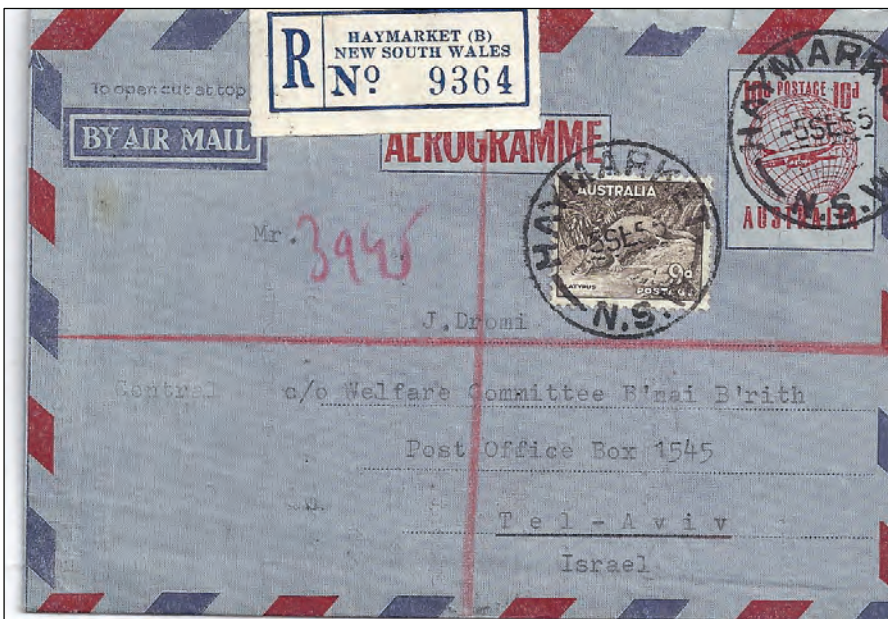
The genesis of the two aerogrammes demonstrate the difficulties imposed by the slow communications between the Island and the UK (email is so much quicker) and the tensions between philatelic and post office requirements. It is also interesting to note the scale of the philatelic sales of the aerogrammes.

References

National Archives of Australia N16 P1972/47 Christmas Island Aerogramme 12c 1972, 14c 1974

AUSTRALIAN REGISTERED AEROGRAMME

Ian McMahon



Registered aerogrammes are always uncommon. Illustrated above is an Australian 10d aerogramme sent registered mail from Haymarket in Sydney to Tel Aviv in Israel in 1955. A 9d Platypus stamp was used to pay the registration fee. The aerogramme is addressed to the Welfare Committee of B'nai B'rith International a Jewish welfare organisation engaged in a wide variety of community service and welfare activities, including assisting hospitals and victims of natural disasters, awarding scholarships to Jewish college students, and sponsoring low-income senior housing.

PSSA FORUM

New Issues

Australia Post issued a PSE for the Australian Pig Breeders Association on 30 May 2010. The Association began as a group of Berkshire breeders that formed the Pig Society in 1909 for the registration of their stud pigs and for the advancement of pig husbandry in Australia. The industry contributes significantly to the Australian economy and provides many jobs for workers in the agricultural sector. The envelope was designed by Sharon Rodziewicz and printed by GEON, Tasmania by Lithography.

The annual Christmas aerogramme was issued on 2 November 2009. The stamp area shows the Virgin Mary cradling her newborn son while the left panel depicts the three Magi or Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar offering precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to baby Jesus. The aerogramme was designed by Mike Heine and printed by Geon.



Greetings From Postcards

Australia Post's issuing of postcards has been the source of fun for a dedicated bunch of postal stationery cards for many years now. Issues have appeared regularly without warning and in many cases have been restricted to particular post offices or states. In order to track down issues we have had to rely on the awareness of collectors.

The latest example of this is currently unfolding. Back on 28 October 2009 I was in Melbourne planning to attend the RPSV's dinner for Geoff Kellow to celebrate his signing of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. Late in the afternoon I visited the GPO Melbourne and as I usually do browsed through the stationery on sale. The GPO had a number of postcards on sale overprinted 'Greetings From Melbourne'. At the Dinner I spoke with John Sinfield and Frank Pauer and neither of them had knowledge of the cards. Mark Diserio and Frank Pauer followed up with the GPO and it turned out that the GPO had 20 different cards overprinted:

Mark Diserio reported: *I thought you might like to know that when Ian McMahon was in Melbourne this week, he discovered four of the existing pre paid post cards over printed in gold "Greetings from Melbourne" in two lines at the lower left of the card. Frank Pauer alerted me to their existence and I ventured into the GPO yesterday to find them. It turns out after making enquiries there are 20 overprinted cards. These are 13 Melbourne scenes, 3 kangaroo cards, 2 koala cards, Penguins and Twelve apostles*

*[The GPO] said the cards became available on 26 October 2009 and others would be released, such as the tennis centre cards, probably around the time of the Australia Open. I returned to the GPO today on the off chance that the "missing koala" card exists and I might find one. [They] said on making further enquiries since yesterday, that the cards became available at the GPO on **Friday, 23 October 2009**. Also, the 20 cards would be the only ones issued. However, [they] seemed to agree that it was strange that if there were six fauna cards that only five were overprinted. Also, [they] shared my skepticism that there would be no more cards overprinted, especially the tennis centre ones. [They] .. had placed another order for the cards and that I should check with [them] in about a week's time. The twenty cards obtained are listed below:*

Stock number	Colloquial title of post card	Colour of border
9 312650 164904	Koala	White
9 312650 164935	Female koala with young	White
9 312650 165055	Young red kangaroo	White
9 312650 165383	Kangaroo	White
9 312650 167554	Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre	Black
9 312650 167561	Melbourne Aquarium	Black
9 312650 167592	Bolte Bridge	Black
9 312650 173234	"Green" tram	White
9 312650 173258	Puffing Billy	White
9 312650 173265	Twelve Apostles	White
9 312650 177546	Penguins at Phillip Island	White
9 312650 186968	Red kangaroo	White

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9 312650 340230	Melbourne Cricket Ground	Black
9 312650 340247	City view from St Kilda (boats)	White
9 312650 340254	City Circle tram passing Flinders Street station	White
9 312650 340278	Arts Centre	Black
9 312650 340285	Federation Square	Black
9 312650 340292	Melbourne City Skyline from Southbank (night scene)	Black
9 312650 340308	Yarra River & City Skyline	Black
9 312650 340957	Floral Clock	White
9 312650 360740	Luna Park (55c Luna Park stamp)	White

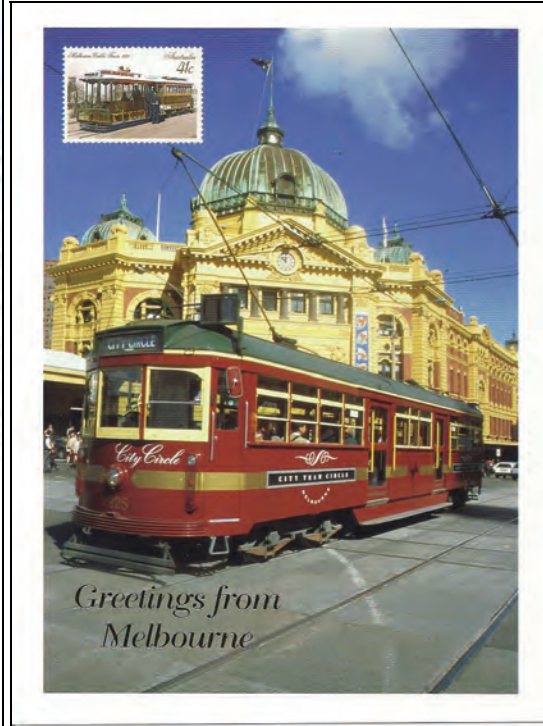
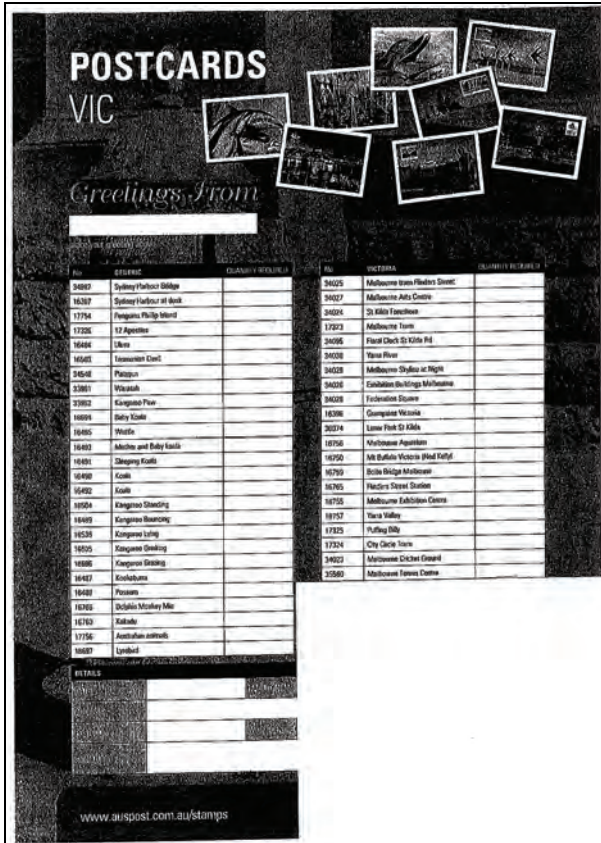


Further investigation produced an order form for postal managers in Victoria to use in ordering overprinted cards with almost 50 cards available for overprinting. Postal Managers could choose where the 'Greetings From' would originate.

Martin Walker and Bernie Beston then began investigating the possibility of similar cards in other states. Martin has identified cards from Hahndorf and Moonta in South Australia while Bernie Beston has identified that there were two LPOs in Queensland, six from New South Wales (Bourke, Dubbo West, Tambula, Toongabbie, Wyoming and the University of Sydney) and one from the ACT (Deakin). Further details of their investigations will be published in the next issue of PSC.

Before Christmas I visited Deakin following up on Bernie's advice that Dingle Smith had observed that they had three overprinted cards on display. Speaking with the staff revealed that they in fact had ordered a box of '500 mixed' cards overprinted 'Greetings From Australia'. In the end I identified some 19 different cards (listed below) with varying numbers of cards overprinted. When asked when they had received the cards they replied in September but were unclear on the date.

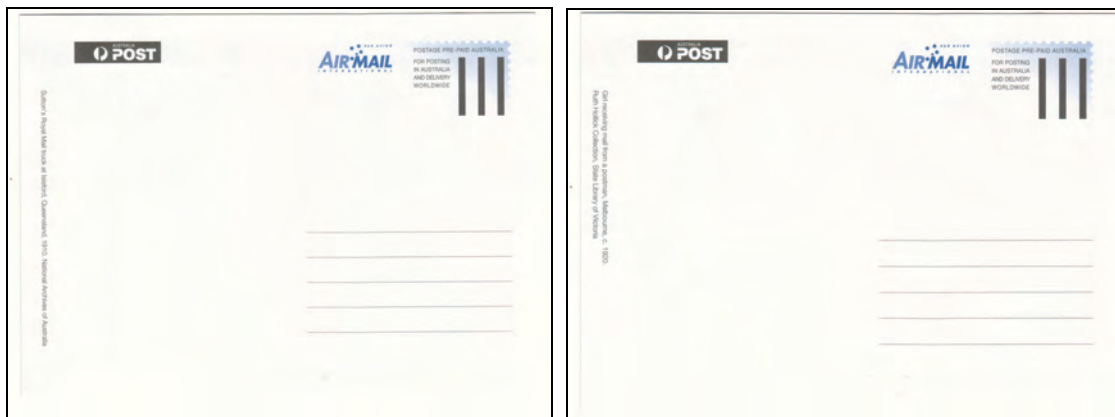
- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sleeping Koala | Eastern Grey Kangaroo | Waratah |
| Koala | Bottlenose dolphins | Big Guitar |
| Baby Koala | Kookaburra | Big Banana |
| Koala <i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> | Australian Animals | Sydney Harbour Bridge |
| Kangaroo | Penguins | Sydney Harbour Bridge at Dusk |
| Red Kangaroo | Dubbo Zoo | |
| Young Red Kangaroo | Kangaroo Paw | |



This is not the first time cards have been overprinted in this fashion. Similar cards were produced for a number of Queensland post offices (including Brisbane, Cairns, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, Great Barrier Reef and Townsville) back in 1995. Most of the Queensland cards, however, were distinct cards in that they were special printings with different barcode numbers to the original cards. Later Queensland cards (eg for Harvey Bay, Airlie Beach and Townsville Aquarium) were, however, overprinted cards without a change of barcode.

Australia Post 200th Anniversary Postcards at the PO Licensee's Conference

Martin Walker reported on two postcards with a 200th anniversary theme given to attendees at the 2009 post office licensee's conference. The cards are illustrated below:



UPU Reply Coupon

Illustrated below is a UPU Centenary reply coupon with a special silver postmark to mark the centenary. It was part of a pack prepared for presentation purposes.



ING Envelope

Martin Walker writes: *This envelope was shown to me last night by one of the people in Adelaide that collects kiloware from Adelaide businesses. Anyone know anything about it? I suspect it may be an example of an Australia Post service to design and produce customised stationery and it is the first I've seen with a specific 'stamp' design. I don't have any dealings with ING – does anyone amongst our group of stationery watchers?*



Solomon Islands PSEs

Illustrated below are used examples of the two Solomon Island PSEs issued in about 1992, one commemorating the 50th anniversary of the battle of Guadalcanal during World War II.



LISTING OF AUSTRALIAN NON-DENOMINATED POSTAL STATIONERY

Ian McMahon

Postcards

6 October 2009 Let's Get Active		(\$1.50)	Melbourne Cricket Ground
Maximum cards		(\$1.50)	City view from St Kilda (boats)
(-)	Australian Rules Football	(\$1.50)	City Circle tram passing Flinders Street station
(-)	Basketball	(\$1.50)	Arts Centre
(-)	Soccer	(\$1.50)	Federation Square
(-)	Netball	(\$1.50)	Melbourne City Skyline from Southbank
(-)	Cricket		
(-)	Tennis		night scene)
(Set price: \$7.80)		(\$1.50)	Yarra River & City Skyline
13 October 2009 Everyday People		(\$1.50)	Floral Clock
Maximum cards		(\$1.50)	Luna Park (55c Luna Park stamp)
(-)	Patricia Crabb	(\$1.50)	Sleeping Koala
(-)	Shirley Freeman	(\$1.50)	Baby Koala
(-)	'Vinko Romank' (Vinko Romanik)	(\$1.50)	Koala <i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>
(-)	Valda Knott	(\$1.50)	Red Kangaroo
(-)	Gordon Morgan	(\$1.50)	Eastern Grey Kangaroo
(-)	Vongpradith Phongsavan	(\$1.50)	Bottlenose dolphins
(-)	Norma Thomas	(\$1.50)	Kookaburra
(-)	John Marsh	(\$1.50)	Australian Animals
(-)	Anne Brun	(\$1.50)	Dubbo Zoo
(-)	Russell Price	(\$1.50)	Kangaroo Paw
(Set price: \$13.00)		(\$1.50)	Waratah
2 November 2009 Christmas 2009		(\$1.50)	Big Guitar
Maximum cards		(\$1.50)	Big Banana
(-)	Mary with Baby Jesus	(\$1.50)	Sydney Harbour Bridge
(-)	Three Wise Men	(\$1.50)	Sydney Harbour Bridge at Dusk
(Set price: \$3.25)			Note: Recorded so far with "Greetings From Melbourne" from GPO Melbourne and/or "Greetings From Australia" from Deakin ACT (see PSSA Forum). More cards are expected to be added to this listing once further information is obtained.
2 November 2009 Merry Christmas			2009 Australia Post 200 th Anniversary
Maximum cards		(-)	Girl receiving mail from a postman, Melbourne c 1920
(-)	Star	(-)	Sutton's Royal Mail Truck at Isisford Queensland, 1910
(-)	Christmas Tree		
(-)	Santa's Hat		
(-)	Christmas Bell		
(-)	Christmas Stocking		
(Set price: \$6.25)			Note: Distributed at the PO Licensee's Conference 2009
October 2009 <i>Greetings From</i> Cards			
(\$1.50)	Koala		
(\$1.50)	Female koala with young		
(\$1.50)	Young red kangaroo		
(\$1.50)	Kangaroo		
(\$1.50)	Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre		
(\$1.50)	Melbourne Aquarium		
(\$1.50)	Bolte Bridge		
(\$1.50)	"Green" tram		
(\$1.50)	Puffing Billy		
(\$1.50)	Twelve Apostles		
(\$1.50)	Penguins at Phillip Island		

Lettercards

Amendment: Moving Postcards
 "Note: Sold as a pack of 10 with two of each colour. "

Aerogrammes

2 November 2009 Christmas 2009
 (\$1.25) Mary with Baby Jesus

PTPO Envelopes

Late 2009 Private Order Envelope for ING
 (-) ING Direct

February 2010

FROM THE SECRETARY

Resignation

Foundation member Raymond (Ray) Kelly of Queensland has sent in his resignation. Ray has sold all his collections, and now has a new set of interests to absorb his time in his retirement. We send him our best wishes for the future, and thank him for his contributions to the journal over the years.

Meetings of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia in 2010

Our first meeting will be at Canberra Stampshow 2010, to be held at the Hellenic Club, Woden ACT from 12-14 March 2010. It is scheduled for Sunday 14 March at 12 noon. The Postal Stationery class at this exhibition will be at National level, and the PSSA prize will be awarded to the best exhibit in the class. An email reminder, with further information about the meeting, will be sent to Australian and New Zealand members about two weeks prior to the exhibition.

Adelaide Stampex 2010 will be held from 20-22 August at Torrens Parade Grounds, Adelaide. If the PSSA is meeting there, further information (time and venue) will appear in the May issue of this journal.

Australian Commonwealth Postal Stationery catalogue

Brusden-White of Sydney has scheduled the publication of a catalogue of Australian Commonwealth postal stationery for 2010. Dr Geoff Kellow is working on the catalogue. We hope to publish information about the planned date of publication in a future issue of PSC.

Back issues of *Postal Stationery Collector*

A price list for back issues of the journal appears elsewhere in this issue. It also appears on the Society website www.postalstationeryaustralia.com. We still hold spare copies of most previous issues, and enquiries to the Secretary about availability and purchase are welcome.

LITERATURE

Judy Kennett and Ian McMahon

From our contemporaries

The Postal Stationery Society Journal [UK] Vol 17 No 4 November 2009

- Minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting, held on 24 October 2009
- A new Queensland PTPO postal card (sent by Gary Watson)
- Strange uses of British Field Service postcards – an update
- A Victorian reply-paid postcard used from Denmark in 1896
- GB postal stationery news – new issues and new items reported
- Great Britain – Queen Victoria pre-stamped postcards sold below face value
- Illustrated and advertising stationery [Part 1] from Alfred Smith & Co, Stamp Dealer
- Illustrated and advertising postal stationery in the period up to the First World War – QV envelopes part 2

L'Entier Postal No 82 Novembre 2009

The journal is produced in full colour for the first time, and looks really beautiful. Congratulations to ACEP! This issue is devoted entirely to an article by M. Claude del Vitto 'La carte postale a 80 centimes "Défile de la victoire" – Tarifs, origines et destinations' [The 80 centime postal card titled 'The victory march' – rates, origins and destinations]. The stamp design of the card is derived from an adhesive issued in France on 11 November 1938 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Armistice that came at the end of World War 1.

This article traces usages of the card from 1939, through World War 2, with usage to foreign countries and

between the occupied and unoccupied parts of France during the war. It finishes with a late usage in 1946, and a miscut example.

We also have a copy of the report from the annual general meeting of ACEP, held on 21 March 2009.

L'Intero postale No 107 Estate – Autumno2009

- Vatican postal cards for Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in 1995: how to treat examples without the bar? (English text struck out on some examples)
- 1927 first dates, effective and provisional
- When postal stationery asks us to heed: the beauty of the designs, of the message and of the musical interpretations of some Christmas postal stationery
- Recent publications:
- Italian perfins (on postal stationery, as well as stamps)
- Catalogue of [Italian] advertising telegrams
- New issues in 2009 for the Italian area (includes the Nairobi design international reply coupon issued in July 2009)
- Meeting of collectors of IRCs 4 April 2009 (a souvenir card was issued)

The Asia Pacific Exhibitor Vol 22 No 4 Nov 2009

- Universal Postal Union – new international reply coupon (IRC) reprinted from Flash 107, 2009

Australian Journal of Philately No 110 December 2009

- Australian Colonies' Post Office Newspaper Wrappers: crude estimates of survival (by Professor John Courtis)

Australian Commonwealth Collector's Club Bulletin September 2009, December 2009

- Express Post Domestic Envelopes – An Update by Richard Peck

The Informer October 2009

- Cook Islands Postal Card to NSW – Postage Due

The Informer January 2010

- Tasmania's Embossed Platypus used as Postage: Stamp Duty? Or Curiosity? Or Postal Stationery? [Wrappers stamped with the embossed platypus 'Stamp Duty' die]

Sydney Views November 2009

- NSW Registered Envelopes: the 3d on 4d of 1891

Gibbons Stamp Monthly December 2009

- South Australian Newspaper Wrapper Essay, Australian George V tripleton PTPO envelope, measuring the thickness of postcards, USA new issues, GB cutouts illegally used.

The News of Hungarian Philately Vol 40 No 4 October - December 2009

CAPS, HYPHENS, DOTS and SLASHES: Hungarian post cards and their vicissitudes, 1869-1949 (a study of the changes in the headings of Hungarian post cards, including commercial cards)

Postal Stationery November-December 2009

- USA Envelope Die 88b (Cap On "2") - Another Look
- Indian Discoveries
- USA Card SA3 - Purple Lozenges and Reconstruction,
- U.S.A. 19th Century Column
- Liberian Airmail Envelopes
- U.S.A. 20th/21st Century Column
- Update to Catalog of 20th Century Stamped Envelopes of the USA
- P. R. of China Recalled Card
- U.S. Postal Card Updates, Responses and Other Stuff
- Lewis Bussey
- An Australian Discovery-Id Star Die PTPO Envelope
- USA Locally Revalued Card
- 19th Century Envelopes
- New Mercantile Die
- US Postal Notes
- Leavitt Cancel
- Postal Notes
- USA Soldier Use of Italian Card
- Another Swiss Typewriter Card
- Australia Registration Envelope Inverted Back
- Cuban Envelopes
- Italian Card with Inverted Back
- Discovery of Unused USA Card S44-19
- Identifying Aerogram Reversed Die Cuts
- Scotts Catalog Die Illustration Error
- U. S. Precanceled Postal Cards Revisited

Ganzsachensammler December 2009

- 1869, the first postcards
- The private stationery of Hans Emmenegger, Max Buri and Firma Fr Wagner
- St Galler stationery

Die Ganzsache 2/2009

- George Foure
- Private stationery
- 1939 Postcard for the 70th anniversary of the first postcard
- Chile UPU Postcards
- New Literature
- New Issues

Reviews

The London Philatelist Vol 118 No 1371 December 2009

Georges Foure, the history of a philatelic genius and forger, by Reinhard Metz, published by Phil*Creativ GmbH, Germany. Email : info@phil-creativ.de . Price and availability can be obtained from the publisher.

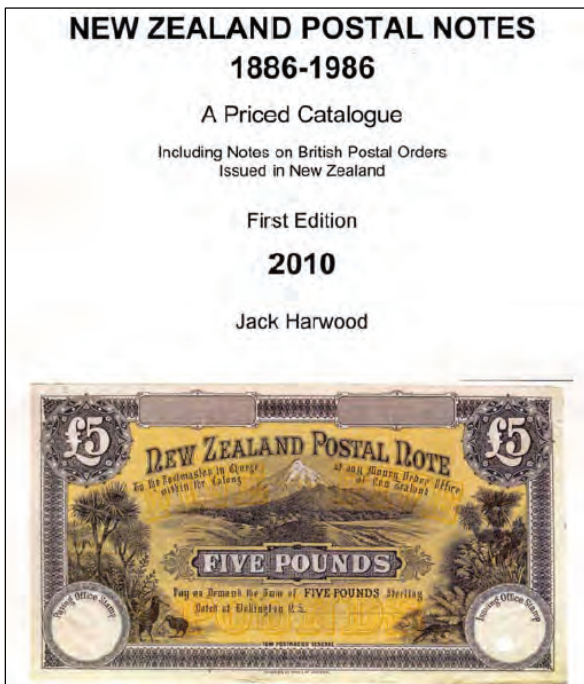
The subject was a leading Berlin stamp collector and dealer, who, unknown to his contemporaries, was also a brilliant and cunning forger of Prussian and other German State prepaid envelopes and cards. The book is well arranged and with good colour illustrations, mainly of 19th century German prepaid envelopes, and of Foure's forgeries. It is highly recommended by the reviewer.

Prestige Philately Auction 5th December 2009

The New Zealand PTPO envelope illustrated below realized \$380 at auction by Prestige Philately on 5th December 2009.



NEW ZEALAND POSTAL NOTES 1886-1986: A Priced Catalog Including notes on British Postal Orders Issued in New Zealand by Jack Harwood, FRPSL



For the first time, collectors have a reference work which details all Postal Note issues of New Zealand. This catalog presents the results of almost thirty years of collecting and research. Twenty-seven separate and distinct Postal Note types are identified, with most photographed in full color. Every variety and denomination is listed and priced. Counterfoil types are described and pictured, and watermarks are identified. Other sections include information on Post Office Training School usage, remaindered items, “star” notes, archival holdings at both Museum of New Zealand *Te Papa Tongarewa* and New Zealand Post, and extensive listings of British Postal Orders issued in New Zealand. A series of appendices include information on serial numbers for many issues, plus a group of Official Acts and documents relating to Postal Notes. This catalog should help both philatelists, who typically consider Postal Notes to be a form of postal stationery, and numismatists, who consider them a form of paper money. The catalog is easy to use, with a separate page devoted to each type and design. Several charts assist in locating items by year of issue and design characteristics. Order from Jack Harwood, 3241 Ringwood Mdws, Sarasota FL 34235-7005, USA email:

jharwood2@comcast.net Price: US\$45 + postage Payment via Paypal

NEW ISSUES

China

Illustrated below is a postcard sent by David Lu issued to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the first official Chinese airmail which was also marked by the exhibition Beijing Aeropex held 12-16 November 2009. The cover illustrated on the reverse of the card was sent from Peking to Tientsin and then forwarded to London on 7 May 1920. Also shown is an envelope for the Year of the Tiger.

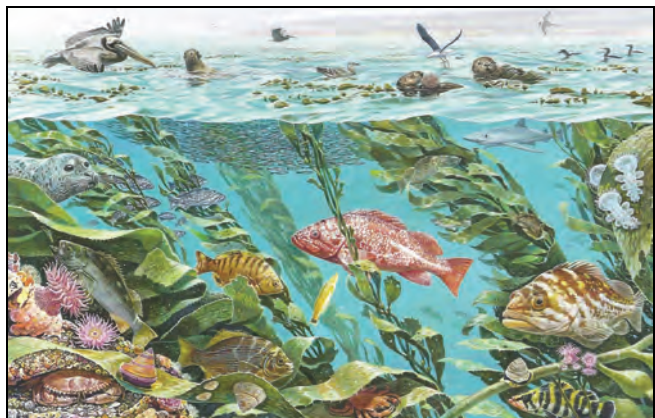
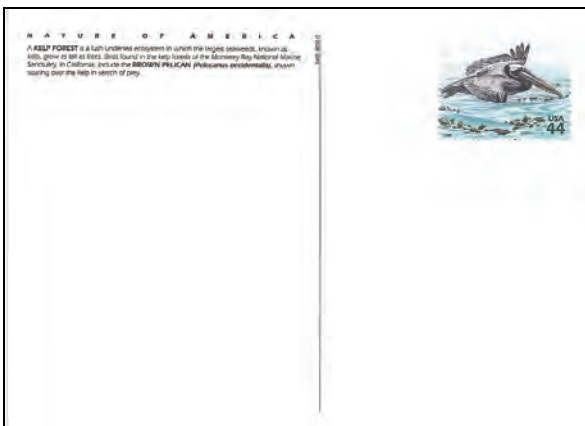


Sweden

A Swedish PSE is illustrated above.

USA

The USA issued 10 large-format 44c postcards depicting a Kelp Forest on 1 October 2009. The cards were sold in a pack of five joined pairs for \$8.95. The issue was part of the *Nature of America* series and features a kelp forest off the central California coast: *This is the 11th .. in an educational series focusing on the beauty and complexity of major plants and animal communities in the United States. To illustrate the biodiversity of a kelp forest, artist John D. Dawson of Hilo, Hawaii, depicted more than 27 different species in his colorful acrylic painting.*



Postal Stationery Collector

On 23 July 2009 the USA issued a \$14.95 postcard booklet of 20 28c postcards (in five designs) depicting lighthouses. In addition a set of 10 44-cent lettersheets (“Premium Stamped Stationery Sheets”)selling for \$15.95. The information on the lettersheets commented *How it works: Simply write your note on the inside, then fold and tuck the Lighthouse in and seal by removing the tape strip on the end, seal each side with clear tape, fill out the address and drop in the mail: the stationery is pre-stamped. Once your recipient gets your letter, it will open to reveal a lighthouse as if it were illuminating your message.*

