# POSTAL STATIONERY COLLECTOR 

Volume 19 No 4: Issue No 76
November 2013


## 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 2013 has been set at $\$ 40$ (Australia) and $\$ 55$ (Overseas excluding New Zealand which is $\$ 45$ ). 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

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Contributions to the Postal Stationery Collector should be sent to the Editor or one of the SubEditors. Articles on any postal stationery topic are welcomed and should be submitted electronically. Email the Editor at for instructions. Illustrations should be good quality scans. Book reviews, news items, information on new issues and member's classifieds are also welcome. Letters to the Editor and comments on articles published are encouraged.

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## INDEX TO POSTAL STATIONERY COLLECTOR

The Index to Postal Stationery collector has been updated to the end of Volume 19, 2013 and is now ready for publication. It runs to about 120 A4 pages.

It will be published in two formats:

1. Paper copies. These will not be bound, but will be issued as loose sheets in plastic wrapping. Members will then have to choose how to house their copy.
2. Electronic copies on CD.

It is expected that costs for the paper and CD versions will be:

1. Paper copies - $\$ 20$ each in Australia, which includes packing and postage (Overseas postage extra)
2. Electronic (CD) copies - \$8 each in Australia, which includes packing and postage (Overseas postage extra)

Ordering copies:
Pre-publication orders are now being taken. Please contact the Secretary, Judy Kennett, stating clearly whether you want paper or electronic copy. Email: jkennett@tpg.com.au Post: PO Box 16, Ulmarra NSW 2462 AUSTRALIA. Members who have already contacted the Secretary need not re-apply. Your requirements have been noted.

Postal Stationery Collector

## FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the final issue of the Postal Stationery Collector for 2013. This issue includes articles on the 4d Kangaroo registration envelopes and the embossed envelope dies of New South Wales.

## Exhibition Results

Thailand 2013 World Stamp Exhibition was held in Bangkok from 2-8 August 2013. It included a large postal stationery class with 31 entries. The Australian results were:

| Ross Wood | Czechoslovakia Postal Cards 1918-1938 | 77 | LS |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ian McMahon | Postal Stationery of Canada Issued During the Reign KGVI | 90 | G |
| Glen Stafford | Nicaragua Postal Stationery - The Seebeck Era | 83 | V |
|  | Postal Stationery Collector | 77 | LS |

The New Zealand National, Upper Hutt 2013, had no postal stationery class but did include an interesting exhibit of post office stationery. The exhibit by Dave Elsmore was of Queensland money order advice forms used by the issuing post office to notify the paying post office of the money order and its value.

The National one frame exhibition, Queensland Stamp Show 2013, was held 21 - 22 September 2013 in Brisbane. There were six postal stationery exhibits:

| Bernard Beston | Zimbabwe - The formula registered envelopes | 78 | Vermeil |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Michael Blinman | Australian Fleet Cards | 85 | Gold SP |
| Michel Roland | Belgian Aerogrammes - The first design (1948-57) | 85 | Gold |
| Philip Levine | Gold Coast Airletters | 82 | Vermeil |
| Ross Duberal | Postal Stationery Envelopes of Fiji | 85 | Gold |
| Roger Eggleton | Italy's earliest parcel stamps and parcel cards | 74 | Silver |

There was another postal stationery exhibit (in the Youth class) at Australia 2013 in addition to those mentioned in the last issue: Alexandra Parry Australian Animals Pre-Stamped Envelopes
Rocupex 2013 (Taiwan) included an Australian entry: Bernie Beston Ecuador

70 Silver
90 Gold

## Update of FIP Postal Stationery Guidelines

The FIP Postal Stationery Commission has over the last few years been working on an update of the guidelines for exhibiting postal stationery. The rules related to postal stationery exhibiting comes in two parts: The regulations that set the general regulations and the guidelines that explain jurors and exhibitors more in depth how the regulations are interpreted with concrete guidelines for exhibiting.
The new guidelines were presented for the first time in 2009 in the postal stationery commission newsletter that was sent out to all delegates and FIP Members. Since then the guidelines have been discussed at the commission meeting in 2010 in Portugal, and the final version again presented in the commission newsletter in January 2012 before being submitted to the commission meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia, June 2012, where it was unanimously approved by the commission delegates and formally approved by the FIP Board in Melbourne May 2013.

There are no major changes in the guidelines, but the revision should make it easier for the exhibitors to get guidance in exhibiting and for jurors to be consistent in their judging. The changes in the guidelines are:

- More detailed description of which items can be exhibited in the postal stationery class
- Description of one-frame postal stationery exhibit requirements
- Description of what should be in a title page
- A more detailed description of how postal stationery exhibits are evaluated regarding treatment, importance, knowledge, condition, rarity and presentation
The new guidelines apply from now on. We strongly suggest that all exhibitors and jurors of postal stationery
 read the new guidelines. See the Postal Stationery Commission website (www.postalstationery.org ) for the new guidelines and much other information on postal stationery exhibiting. If you have any questions, please contact me.


## Alexander S Ilyushin

Alexander S Ilyushin, a well known postal stationery collector and FIP postal stationery judge, signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists on 28 June 2013 during the 95th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain. Left: Alexander S Ilyushin (centre) with Chris King and Francis Kiddle at the RDP ceremony

## Postal Stationery Display at the Philatelic Society of South Australia Tuesday July 16

Martin Walker arranged a post stationery night at the Philatelic Society of South Australia meeting on 16 July which included displays from Bernie Beston (Ecuador), Martin Walker (Hong Kong Aerogrammes, Australia Post Sponsorship Postcards, South Australian Postal Notes), Michael Blinman (Australia Fleet Postcards) and Barbara Bartsch (Use of Postal Stationery in Open \& Thematic Collections).


After a general introduction on postal stationery and its collection, study and exhibiting Martin gave a brief outline on the PSSA and its goals and publications. He brought a few examples of recent issues and in a well timed move the latest issue arrived in yesterday's mail so that was shown as well. Copies of the PSSA publicity handout were given to all attendees. Michael Blinman’s display was brand new - all the American Fleet cards including the formular card and a Melbourne programme which originally contained one of the formular cards. He also had the OS NSW perfin example and one of the Victorian $11 / 2$ cards used by a US sailor! Of particular interest was his write-up - all sourced from contemporary newspaper reports of the issue of the cards.

## Martin Walker

## VALE ANDREW (ANDY) JANSEN.

Andy was born in Warsaw in 1930. Following the Second World War he came to Australia as a Displaced Person and worked on a farm. He later learned the electrical trade whilst working at Kelvinator and went to night school to improve his skills. Andy always yearned to control his own destiny and operated a number of small businesses ranging from electrical stores, where he met his future family, to delicatessens to bookshops to stamp dealer to stamp album manufacturer. The Stamp Nook grew from a corner in the delicatessen run by Andy and his wife Sophie. Sadly, after a long illness, Andy passed away on 27 June 2013 - his 83rd birthday.

Andy is best remembered in Adelaide as one of the founders of the Postal Stationery and Postal History Society of Australia. Along with Keith Freebairn he championed the collecting, recording and cataloguing of postal stationery in the modern era. I worked with Andy for many years as assistant editor, or co-editor, of the Society's journal, The Australian Posthorn. The first article I ever wrote was under Andy's tutelage and more than thirty years later it is refreshing to see it has stood the test of time. A lot of this I owe to Andy's fastidiousness. In a time when society journals were produced with stencils and gestetner machines, when illustrations were produced by photography and screened bromides and when printing, collating and distribution was all done by hand, by volunteers, as a labour of love it is amazing that all the journals produced by Andy still have such a quality about them. Andy's perfectionist nature never waivered in the many years that I knew him, regardless of whether the target audience was 10 or 50 or 200 or 5,000 readers and frequently regardless of deadlines. His efforts for the Society were rewarded by the according of a life membership.
Following a move of house in the 1980s Andy was instrumental in the establishment of the Enfield Philatelic Society. Once again he involved himself with a well produced society journal and carried on that tradition when the society changed into the Printed Collectables Club. That Club also saw fit to grant Andy with a life membership. He was also involved with many other societies including the Postal Stationery Society of Australia and The Australian Airmail Society. He formed a substantial collection of Australian Commonwealth stationery.
To say Andy was a perfectionist would be an understatement. Perfectionists can both inspire and irritate. I believe Andy's influence has made my researches and writings much better than they might have been without it. Then again, I often feel his presence looking over my shoulder, correcting my spelling and fixing my grammar.
Martin Walker

# THE 4d KANGAROO REGISTRATION ENVELOPES OF AUSTRALIA 

Geoff Kellow

This is the first of an occasional series of articles that is intended to provide more detailed background information on the basis of the listings in the new Brusden-White Postal Stationery catalogue. This should enable interested students to make further informed comments on the subject, and on occasion it is likely to reveal errors that the writer himself has made in constructing the catalogue listings! This first installment deals with the 4d Kangaroo registration envelopes. It is necessary first to supply the relevant archival records. It should be emphasised that for all Australian Commonwealth stamp printing there is rarely an actual printing record as such, but the gap is filled by records of printing instrument movements and stock records. In many instances for postal stationery, there is a daily record of the issue of paper (i.e. sheets for postcards or lettercards, or envelope blanks) but no such record is available for registration envelopes in the period under review.
Archival records relating to the introduction of the 4 d Kangaroo registration envelopes have not been seen by the writer. Several Post Office Departmental files survive which deal with the development of the registration envelopes or briefly mention an aspect of them. These are Series MP273, G1920/11300 (registration envelopes 1910-1929), MP 79 and MP 341. There was also a relevant Treasury file CRS A571, Item 14/3804, but this has since been destroyed. Some years ago each of these files was viewed by Mark Diserio, and some notes made, and Mark has kindly made these available for use here. From this source it is also clear that the supplier of the registration envelope blanks used for all the Kangaroo printings was William Detmold Ltd. of Melbourne.
The 4d Kangaroo registration envelopes were printed using single electrotypes derived from the Kangaroo steel master die. These have been discussed by the writer in Postal Stationery Collector, May 2013, pages 35-44. RBA File NP-IS-2 indicates that twelve electros were delivered into the strongroom on 8 February 1913, and these must be Die 2. A further 20 electros were delivered into the strongroom on 29 October 1913, and these must be Die 2A. These electros were destroyed in three batches - 10 on 2 July 1913, 5 on 30 June 1914, and 17 on 14 August 1917. The use of these electros for printing is to be found in RBA File NP-IS-1, which lists the dates on which electros were issued from the strongroom, and the dates of their return:

| Issue from Strongroom |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 13 February 1913 | 1 electro |
| 14 October 1913 | 1 electro (registration envelope) |
| 21 November 1913 | 1 electro (registration envelope) |
| 30 March 1914 | 1 electro (envelope) |
| 7 April 1914 | 1 electro (registration envelope) |
| 5 August 1914 | 1 electro (envelope) |
| 2 October 1914 | 1 electro |
| 27 January 1915 | 1 electro (envelope) |

## Return to Strongroom

17 April 1913
17 October 1913
24 February 1914
31 March 1914
18 June 1914
14 August 1914
3 December 1914
27 January 1915

Certain of the entries are annotated as for 'registration envelopes' and others are not, but the only 4 d stationery printed was for registration envelopes, so all the entries should be for this purpose. It must be emphasised, however, that just because an electro has been issued from the strongroom is no proof that a printing has been undertaken. Entires after 1915 have not been included as all of these must refer to the George V Sideface electros. The final entry listed above for January 1915 is also believed to be for the George V Sideface electro.
RBA File NP-S-9 provides a daily record of Finished Stock, listing the dates on which quantities of registration envelopes were placed into stock, and dates of despatch from stock to the various State Distributors of Stamps. It is apparent from this listing that (as was the case with many other stamps or stationery for which demand was limited) quantities were delivered into stock only as demanded by orders received, or otherwise in 'slow' periods between manufacture of 1d postage stamps. The following tabulation lists only the small ( $53 / 4 \times 31 / 2$ inch and $6 \times 31 / 2$ inch ) envelopes. The disproportionate use of registration envelopes in New South Wales should be noted. There is no obvious reason for this, but it may be because New South Wales sold the envelopes for the face value of the stamp, and charged no premium for the envelope.


| Deliveries into Stock |  |  | Issues from Stock |  |  |  | Balance |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date |  | Quantity | Date |  | Quantity | To |  |
| December | 23 | 6720 | November | 22 | 3840 | New South Wales | 18240 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 24960 |
|  |  |  |  | 24 | 2880 | New South Wales | 22080 |
|  |  |  |  | 29 | 3840 | New South Wales | 18240 |
|  |  |  |  | 13 | 1920 | Queensland | 16320 |
|  |  |  |  | 25 | 960 | Victoria | 15360 |
|  |  |  |  | 25 | 2880 | South Australia | 12480 |
|  |  |  | December | 2 | 960 | Victoria | 11520 |
|  |  |  |  | 5 | 960 | Victoria | 19560 |
|  |  |  |  | 9 | 2880 | New South Wales | 7680 |
|  |  |  |  | 17 | 3840 | New South Wales | 3840 |
|  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 30 \\ & 31 \end{aligned}$ | 3840 | New South Wales | 0 |
|  | 29 | 6720 |  |  |  |  | 6720 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 960 | Victoria | 5760 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 4800 | Western Australia | 960 |
| 1914 <br> January | 5 | 9600 | 1914 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 10560 |
|  |  |  | January | 7 | 3840 | New South Wales | 6720 |
|  | 10 | 11520 |  | 14 | 2880 | New South Wales | 18240 |
|  |  |  |  | 22 | 960 | Queensland | 17280 |
|  |  | 4800 |  | 27 | 2880 | New South Wales | 14400 |
| February | 7 |  | February |  |  |  | 18240 |
|  |  |  |  | 10 | 960 | Tasmania | 15360 |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 14 \\ & 18 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | 11 | 2880 | New South Wales | 14400 |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 8640 \\ & 4800 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  | 23040 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 27840 |
|  |  |  | March | 20 | 960 | Victoria | 24960 |
|  |  |  |  | 4 | 2880 | New South Wales | 22080 |
|  |  |  |  | 11 | 2880 | New South Wales | 19200 |
|  |  |  |  | 18 | 2880 | New South Wales | 18240 |
|  |  |  |  | 19 | 960 | Queensland | 15360 |
|  |  |  |  | 25 | 2880 | New South Wales | 14400 |
|  |  |  |  | 31 | 960 | Victoria | 11520 |
|  |  |  | April | 1 | 2880 | New South Wales | 8640 |
|  |  |  |  | 7 | 2880 | New South Wales | 4800 |
| April | 15 | 21120 |  | 15 | 3840 | New South Wales | 24960 |
|  |  |  |  | 16 | 960 | Queensland | 24000 |
|  | 20 | 3840 |  |  |  |  | 27840 |
|  |  |  |  | 28 | 960 | Victoria | 23040 |
|  |  |  |  | 29 | 4800 | Western Australia | 19200 |
|  |  |  | May | 6 | 3840 | New South Wales | 18240 |
| May | 12 | 11520 |  | 12 | 960 | South Australia | 28800 |
|  | 14 | 4800 |  |  |  |  | 33600 |
|  | 16 | 2880 |  |  |  |  | 36480 |
|  |  |  |  | 21 | 960 | Queensland | 35520 |
|  | 23 | 12480 |  |  |  |  | 48000 |
|  |  |  |  | 26 | 960 | Victoria | 43200 |
|  |  |  | June | 11 | 4800 | New South Wales | 38400 |
|  |  |  |  | 16 | 4800 | New South Wales | 33600 |
|  |  |  |  | 30 | 4800 | New South Wales | 28800 |
|  |  |  | July | 1 | 4800 | Western Australia | 26800 |
|  |  |  |  | 9 | 1920 | Queensland | 25920 |
|  |  |  |  | 10 | 960 | Victoria | 21120 |
|  |  |  |  | 14 | 4800 | New South Wales | 20160 |
|  |  |  |  | 22 | 960 | South Australia | 15360 |
|  |  |  | August | 4 | 4800 | New South Wales | 14400 |
|  |  |  |  | 7 | 960 | Victoria | 9600 |
| August | 13 | 20160 |  |  |  |  | 29760 |
|  |  |  |  | 18 | 4800 | New South Wales | 28800 |
|  |  |  |  | 20 | 960 | Queensland | 24000 |
|  |  |  | September | 1 | 4800 | New South Wales | 19200 |



Destruction of spoilt stock is covered by RBA File NP-S-5. The following entries are recorded for the small registration envelopes:

| Sent to Spoilt Stock | Quantity | Date of Destruction |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 26 May 1913 | 400 | 27 June 1913 |
| 7 February 1914 | 1920 | 18 July 1914 |
| 26 June 1914 | 2219 | 18 July 1914 |
| 2 September 1915 | 960 | 6 July 1916 |

## 1913 4d with boxed 'REGISTERED' (Die 2) (No. RE1)

A suggestion was made by the Acting Deputy Postmaster-General in Brisbane on 3 June 1912 that registration envelopes should be impressed with a 4 d stamp instead of a 3d stamp as was then current, to cover one rate of postage in addition to the registration fee. This was eventually approved and Treasury was informed on 8 January 1913, but the PMG’s Department had still not made a final decision on the selling price or wording to be placed on registration envelopes. The first issue was therefore a provisional one to provide a uniform registration envelope for issue in all States. It was of slightly smaller size ( $53 / 4$ " x $31 / 2$ ") than that approved by the PMG's Department ( 6 " x $33 / 4$ "). The wording and layout followed that of the Victorian South Australian and Western Australian registration envelopes being printed by Cooke in Melbourne. This cost of this envelope differed between the States depending on their current practice.


No RE1 - the two types of U.P.U. cto cancellation.
A single 4d electro was issued from the strongroom between 13 February and 17 April 1913. There was then no further issue of a 4d electro until October 1913. This must mean that all registration envelopes printed up to October 1913 bear the impression of this single electro, which must be Die 2. It shows no apparent identifying flaws other than a slightly thickened lower left corner. Since the first delivery into stock was on 14 February 1913, printing must have occurred immediately after the issue of the electro. It is likely that only a single printing was made. The shade varies from orange to yellow-orange.


The electro used for printing No. RE1
It is difficult to determine the actual numbers printed of this issue, since it is depends on when printing of the approved registration envelope (No. RE3) began. The arguments are discussed under that heading, and it is considered most likely that the first delivery into stock of No. RE3 was 900 envelopes on 5 May 1913. On 8 May a further 100 envelopes were delivered, which it is suggested was a final residual delivery of No. RE1. All subsequent deliveries beginning on 12 May must be No. RE3.

There is archival evidence that the 900 RE3 envelopes delivered on 5 May were despatched to Melbourne the following day. The additional 100 envelopes delivered on 8 May then left 6,000 RE1
envelopes in stock, all of which were sent to Queensland on 9 May.
On this basis, the total quantity of No. RE1 delivered into stock (between 14 February and 8 May 1913) was 59,400 envelopes. The catalogue gives the number issued as 68,400 which is incorrect (due to an error when transcribing the records). A total of 59,000 were issued ( 400 were sent to spoilt stock). South Australia and Victoria received no stock at all, and the distributions were as follows:

| New South Wales | 48,900 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Queensland | 7,800 |
| Tasmania | 1,000 |
| Western Australia | 900 |
| PMG's Department | 400 |
| Spoiled Stock | 400 |

The 400 registration envelopes sent to the PMG's Department (Central Office in Melbourne) on 25 May 1913 were for distribution to members of the Universal Postal Union. (On the same day similar quantities of other stationery as well as the $1 / 2 \mathrm{~d}-£ 2$ stamps) were also sent). These envelopes can be found with both types of datestamp which were also used on the adhesives - 'MELBOURNE' at top with blank base dated AP 24 13, or 'MELBOURNE/VICTORIA' numbered '24' dated AP 2513.
The actual quantity printed must take into account spoils. The 400 envelopes sent to Spoilt Stock on 3 May 1913 must be RE1 (recorded in the Spoilt Stock record under date of 26 May), but it is possible there may also be some RE1 spoils in the further 1,920 envelopes sent on 7 February 1914.
Not noted at the time that the catalogue was written is that there are two settings of the stamp indicium relative to the inscription. This was first pointed out by Rod Buchko on www.Stampboards.com.:


Setting 1 :
Stamp indicium to right of 'Office’


Setting 2:
Stamp indicium under 'e' of 'Office'.

The text and crossed lines were set up in type, clamped together with the stamp electro. All examples of the envelope examined show the same flaws in the type-set text (the most obvious being a thinning of the horizontal dividing line in line with the left frame of the boxed 'REGISTERED') so only one printing forme was used. Although it has been suggested here that a single printing was made, this could have occurred over a period of a number of days, and the variation in the placement of the stamp indicium may be due to partial dismantling of the forme for cleaning. All seven examples of cto envelopes that have been seen are Setting 2.

## 1913 4d with 'REGISTERED LETTER’ (Dies 2 and 2A) (No. RE3)

The suggestion made by the Acting Deputy Postmaster-General in Brisbane on 3 June 1912 that registration envelopes should be impressed with a 4d stamp instead of a 3d stamp as was then current, to cover one rate of postage in addition to the registration fee was eventually approved. The Treasury was informed on 8 January 1913 and were also told that the pattern of the current British envelope was to be followed for the new issue, and that the Commonwealth Stamp Printer (J.B. Cooke) should proceed on that basis.
On 3 February Cooke advised that he had asked both Sands \& MacDougall and William Detmold for tenders to supply the envelopes, and he recommended the acceptance of Detmold's offer of 30/- per 1,000 envelopes. The essay listed in the catalogue as No. RE3(E)1 is on the Sands \& MacDougall stock; it largely follows the British pattern and is dated in Cooke's hand '26/2/13', although
subsequent modifications were made. This essay and presumably a similar one on Detmold stock (which has not survived) were attached to this letter. Both have impressed 1d Kangaroo stamps, which Cooke explained 'In the proof submitted, the one penny stamp block is not ready for use, but it will be ready in time to be used for the envelopes when approved.' This is consistent with the strongroom record that the first 4d electros were not placed into the strongroom until 8 February. No. RE3(P)1 is a proof of the adopted registration envelope in grey using a 4d electro (apparently that held in the printing room that had been used for printing No. RE1); this proof is unfortunately undated.
The reason for the delay in printing this permanent pattern of envelope seems to have been in large part a delay in determining the selling price of the registration envelope. This had differed in earlier years, with some States charging $1 / 2$ d for the envelope, and others only charging the face value of the stamp. File P23/2796 (Series MP 79) contains information on this envelope that is somewhat confusing. On 7 April 1913 the Acting Deputy Postmaster-General wrote relative to registration envelopes bearing 4 d stamps that he had not yet received a supply. (This was correct, according to the analysis of the finished Stock Record relative to No. RE1 already given). A note on the file dated 23 April indicates 'New stock will be ordered next week' which may be an indication of the order to print a supply of envelopes with the approved text (No. RE3), and this would be consistent with the first delivery of RE3 into stock being on 9 May. On 20 May the Deputy Postmaster-General in Melbourne advised that he had received a stock of envelopes in bundles of 30 and asked at what price they were to be sold; this delivery would seem to be that of 900 envelopes sent to Victoria on 6 May. It was finally determined that the selling price would be $41 / 2 \mathrm{~d}$, including $1 / 2 \mathrm{~d}$ for the envelope, and this decision was notified to all Deputy Postmasters-General on 13 June 1913.

Printings of this envelope continued up to mid-1914. In June that year continuing confusion regarding the selling price of registration envelopes led to the PMG’s Department instructing the Stamp Printer to add the price of the envelope under 'REGISTERED LETTER'. On this basis, a study of the stock records would indicate that all deliveries into stock between 5 May 1913 and 23 May 1914 must be No. RE3.


Since only a single electro had been issued from the strongroom up to October 1913, it follows that the first printing of RE3 was made using the same electro (Die 2) as had been used for RE1. Based on the information from the Strongroom Register and the Finished Stock Register, it has been deduced that the following printings were made:
Printing 1: 63,960 envelopes delivered into stock between 5 May and 15 September 1913. Printed using the electro issued from the strongroom between 13 February and 17 April 1913 (thus all the printing was completed by mid-April).
Printing 2: 27,840 envelopes delivered into stock between 18 and 23 October 1913. Printed using the single electro issued from the strongroom between 14 and 17 October 1913.
Printing 3. 46,080 envelopes delivered into stock between 29 December 1913 and 18 February 1914. Printed using the single electro issued from the strongroom between 21 November 1913 and 24 February 1914. (It is possible that Printings 2 and 3 are actually a single printing for which two electros were used).
Printing 4: 56,640 envelopes delivered into stock between 15 April and 23 May 1913. Printed using
the electro issued from the strongroom between 7 April and 18 June 1913.
The total quantity of No. RE3 delivered into stock is therefore 194,520. The catalogue currently gives this figure as 193,620 . Assuming that the stock of RE3 was exhausted prior to the commencement of issuing No. RE4, this would have occurred at the beginning of September 1914. Destructions of 1,920 and 2,219 envelopes recorded in the Spoilt Stock Record refer to this envelope.
The catalogue lists No. RE3 as occurring only with Die 2 electro. This was based on the examination of a number of examples, and of having no advice to the contrary. However, shortly after the catalogue was published, a report appeared on www.Stampboards.com from Rod Buchko of Canada that he had No. RE3 with Die 2A electro. Since then others have been seen. This is not surprising, since the Die 2A electro would have been available for use from October 1913. Printing 1 was certainly made from a Die 2 electro, but Printings 2 , 3 and 4 could be made from either Die 2 or Die 2A. It should be noted that the Strongroom Register does not differentiate the individual electros, so it is not possible to know (except from a philatelic examination of the issued envelopes) whether the electros used for the four printings represent four different electros, or if the same electro was used for two or more printings. There was certainly more than enough 4d electros held in the strongroom to choose from.


Die 2A electro used for printing No. RE3
It should be noted that there is one entry in the Strongroom Register that is not included in the discussion above. This was a single electro issued from the strongroom between 30 and 31 March 1914. This was not for the printing of Post Office registration envelopes. The Finished Stock Record shows that on 1 April 1914 an order for 1,000 stamped-to-order envelopes was despatched to Tasmania, and there is no doubt that it was for this stamping that the electro was issued.. These were almost certainly for the Hobart Savings Bank, for use as registration envelopes. However, no example of this envelope has been recorded, so no more can be said.

THE ALDRESS MUST BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

Normal 'T' in 'MUST'

THE ADDRESS MUST BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

Large 'T' in 'MUST'

> No. RE3 - two settings of text

Two distinct varieties of the text can be found on No. RE3. In the inscription 'THE ADDRESS MUST BE/WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE' the 'T' of 'MUST' can be found either normal, or in larger type. Other minor differences exist in the two type-set formes. Since these two types are found in the following issue (No. RE4) as well as in the first King George V 4d registration envelope, they must represent two different typeset formes which were left standing pending future printings. However, since only one 4d electro was issued for each printing, it is assumed that only one of the two formes is used for any one printing.

## 1914 4d with price added below 'REGISTERED LETTER' (Die 2A) (No. RE4)



Following the PMG Department decision in June 1914 to include the price of the envelope is the text, this alteration was made for the next printing, which was made in August 1914. This envelope is found only with 4d Die 2A electros. Based on the information from the Strongroom Register and the Finished Stock Register, it has been deduced that the following printings were made:
Printing 1: 24,960 envelopes delivered into stock on 13 August and 29 September 1914. Printed using the electro issued from the strongroom between 5 and 14 August 1914.
Printing 2: 52,800 envelopes delivered into stock between 5 and 29 October 1914. Printed using the single electro issued from the strongroom between 2 October and 3 December 1914.
The total quantity of No. RE4 delivered into stock is therefore 77,760. The catalogue figure of 78,720 is incorrect due to an error in transcribing the records. The Spoilt Stock Record shows no destructions during the currency of the issue; presumably there were some spoils which are included in the next entry of 960 envelopes sent to spoils on 21 September 1915.
The two printing forms used for No. RE3 (showing either normal or large ' T ' in 'MUST') are also found for No. RE4. The words 'Price, Fourpence Half-penny, Including Cost of Envelope' were added below 'REGISTERED LETTER'. These two formes differ in several other respects:


Forme 1: Normal ' $T$ ' and vertical line through 'ny Forme 2: Large ' $T$ ' and vertical line through ' $y$ ', with associated electro with associated electro

1. On the normal ' T ' forme, the vertical orange dividing line passes through ' $n y$ ' of 'penny'. The 4 d electro shows a more prominent Die 2A break than that on the Die 2A electro seen for No. RE3; there is also a colour flaw below the ' $O$ ' of 'FOUR'. The shade of envelopes printed from this forme is orange-yellow.
2. On the large ' $T$ ' forme the dividing line passes through the ' y ' of 'penny'. The 4 d electro used shows a similar prominent Die 2A break, but the flaw below the ' $O$ ' of 'FOUR' is absent, indicating this is a different electro. The shade of envelopes printed from this forme is bright orange. It seems likely that these represent the two printings of No. RE4, although it is not possible to say which came
first - a dated example prior to the second printing will be needed to determine this.
On 2 February 1915 4,800 envelopes were sent to New South Wales, leaving 30,160 still in stock. Beginning 3 February and up to 9 March a further 60,480 registration envelopes were delivered into stock. These must be the first printing of the 4 d George V Sideface envelopes (No. RE5). On 25 September 191412 further single electros had been manufactured and placed into the strongroom; these must be George V electros. The 4 d George V printing plates were not placed into the strongroom until 17 December 1914, and the first printing from these plates was in the same month; these stamps were first issued on 6 January 1915, replacing the 4d Kangaroo. It is believed that once the new adhesive was issued, the Stamp Printer also adopted the same design for the next stationery printing. The Finished Stock Record strongly indicates that the initial delivery of 960 George V 4d registration envelopes on 3 February 1915 was sent to Victoria nine days later. However, general distribution of the George V registration envelopes may not have occurred until the remaining stock of Kangaroo envelopes had been distributed. Certainly, it was not standard practice to withdraw and dispose of the envelopes of the old design, and this is confirmed by the Spoilt Stock Record, which shows no such destruction. The distributions are shown in the Finished Stock Record reproduced here are shown up to 1 June 1915, by which time virtually all of the 4d Kangaroo registration envelopes would have been distributed. This fits well with the contemporary literature which records the issue of the 4d George V registration envelope by July 1915 (see Australian Philatelist, July 1915, page 163).

## 1913 4d Large Envelope 9" x 4" (Die 2) (No. RE2)

Large registration envelopes ( $9 \times 4$ inches) had been used in New South Wales, Tasmania and Western Australia, and this size also approved for the uniform issue. The archival records relating to this envelope have been published in The Postal Stationery Collector, November 2008, pages 67-68. Those figures agree with the ones extracted by this writer, so will not be repeated in detail here. However, a few additional notes can be added. A proof exists of this envelope which is not listed in the catalogue as it is held in archives, but the opportunity is taken to illustrate it here. It is printed in black in the adopted format and is inscribed 'Revised Proof of Registration Envelope' and dated ' 1916 ' (the significance of this date is not known). It is held in the Reserve Bank of Australia archives (File NP-a4-32).


Proof in black of the large registration envelope.
A total of 49,320 envelopes were placed into finished stock between 28 April and 20 August 1913. Destruction of spoilt stock is covered by RBA File NP-S-5. The following entries are recorded for the large registration envelopes:
Sent to Spoilt Stock
3 June 1913
7 February 1914

Quantity
113
384

Date of Destruction
27 June 1913
18 July 1914

The total quantity printed was therefore 49,817 envelopes. There were 30,120 envelopes distributed, the last ones issued being 480 to Queensland on 19 March 1923. Poor sales led to a decision to dispose of the stock remaining at the Note Printing Branch, and on 8 August 1920 19,200 envelopes were destroyed by fire.

There was only one printing of the envelope, and the 4 d electro used must be that which was on issue from the strongroom between 13 February and 17 April 1913. This was the same electro that was used for printing No. RE1 and the first printing of No. RE3. Examples of the large envelope show the thickened lower left corner characteristic of this envelope; it is also apparent on the black proof.
Acknowledgement. The writer must thank Mark Diserio for providing extracts from Post Office and Treasury files, and for suggestions to improve this article.

# WHY THE KGV "FULL FACE" DESIGN WAS NOT ADOPTED AS AUSTRALIA'S FIRST POSTAGE STAMP 

Mark Diserio

I have been moved to write this article after viewing the Court of Honour at Australia 2013 (see for example, "The steps Towards The Kangaroo \& Map Issue" by Arthur Gray, Exhibition Catalogue, page 49), where again is perpetuated the myth that the Reading die, although rejected for adhesive stamps, was adopted for the first Commonwealth postal stationery issued in April 1911.

Also, I have subsequently "rediscovered" an article I had previously misplaced and was not able to reference in my earlier article entitled "...And the penny dropped!" (see Postal Stationery Collector, Volume 17, Number 1, Issue 65, May 2011, at page 16), where the reason is given for the nonadoption of the Reading die as a postage stamp, after previously being initially developed only for post cards.
It is easy to be misled in the quest for the truth. Especially so, when an article in the Australian Stamp Journal (which appears to be one of the first sources for the myth) is contemporary and apparently based on information obtained from J B Cooke on a private visit to Sydney, earlier in 1911.
The following appeared in the Australian Stamp Journal (Volume II Number 1, November 10, 1911 at page 7):

It was stated in the daily press a few weeks back that finality regarding the decision of the Commonwealth stamp would be made in a week or two, and that in all probability the portrait of His Majesty King George V, would be substituted by something typical of Australia. We understand that should this decision be arrived at, it would not be intended as discourteous to the King, but rather because the portrait as it would appear on the stamp, might not do His Majesty justice.
An attempt was made a year ago to have a portrait of His Majesty engraved, stamp size, but it was a miserable failure. Rather than discard the die altogether, it was used on the Coronation post-cards. Those who purchased these can readily understand the wisdom of the postal authorities in not adopting such a "botch" for our postage stamps. We have been informed that the person who was entrusted with the engraving of the portrait did his utmost to get a satisfactory result, but the more he tried to get the expression of His Majesty's eyes, the greater the difficulty he experienced, until at last, he abandoned the task as hopeless.

It is through publication that such myths persist as "gospel". This is a nice story and appears to fit the conventionally known facts. However, as was explained in the earlier PSC article, it is not the true explanation, as it is not consistent with the facts as we now know them to be, having had the benefit of access to the official records which still exist, which previous students did not.
"Botch" may seem unduly harsh but doesn't come close to the words of the Rev H W Lane, the retiring president of the Philatelic Society of Victoria (before it became "Royal"), who at its annual meeting on 27 July 1911 said:

I certainly am not referring to the recent issue of post and letter cards. Perhaps the least said about their existence the better. We are glad to see the loyalty of the Postal Department remains untarnished, but the officer responsible for the likeness of H M King George V ought to be executed for their execution. (See Australian Stamp Journal, Volume 1, Number 11, September 11, 1911, p 165).

# THE "DIADEM" EMBOSSED ENVELOPE DIES OF NEW SOUTH WALES 

Mark Diserio with assistance from Michael Blinman

## Synopsis

This article examines the "Diadem" embossed envelope dies (and their use) which were produced after 1838 and before the surface printed 1d envelopes which were issued at the GPO Sydney on 1 January $1870 .{ }^{1}$ I have borrowed the term "Diadem" to describe the embossed designs from the corresponding adhesive issues which are generally known to philatelists as the "Diadems," because the Queen's head is surmounted by a diadem instead of being wreathed with laurel. This distinguishing feature is common to the two oval designs as well as to the hexagon and octagon designs.

## Introduction

On the suggestion of the Inspector of Stamps (RP Raymond), approval for 1d, 2d, 6d and 1/- stamped envelopes was given on 30 June 1855. The values suggested appear to coincide with the respective rates in 1855 for $1 / 2$ ounce letters for

1d local postage;
2d inland rate;
6d single rate to Southampton; and
1/- double rate to Southampton. ${ }^{2}$
The reason for their non-issuance is not yet properly understood.
Bassett Hull's writing on the subject ${ }^{3}$ differs in some details from that of Houison. ${ }^{4}$ Neither can take the story beyond the point where approval was given for the purchase from England of machinery, dies and paper for the manufacture of the envelopes. ${ }^{5}$ While not specifically mentioned in the philatelic literature, use of the metal dies was accompanied by the need for a "force", which acted as a mate to the die and assisted in forcing or distorting the paper upward into the die. Forces were generally made of leather during the relevant period. Dies were also used with a "collar". ${ }^{6}$

One explanation (source currently unknown) for the non-issuance of the envelopes was that the machinery, dies and paper for the manufacture of the envelopes were lost in a shipwreck en route to Sydney. This explanation does not accord with Houison's report of the existence of the dies in the Government Printing Office in $1890^{7}$ or of Bassett Hull's report of their destruction in $1898^{8}$ and of the destruction of the forces and collars. ${ }^{9}$

## Manufacture of the dies

It seems clear that at the very least, two of the original dies were manufactured in Sydney by J C Thornthwaite ${ }^{10}$ (who was also renowned for the production of dies in the relevant period for trades'

[^0]tokens). ${ }^{11}$ The Government records, which were researched by both Houison and Bassett Hull, when referring to the acquisition of dies from England, may have been referring to "working dies". Unlike the practice in England, where the "working" dies used for embossing were derived from one or more master dies, some "Australian" stationery embossings were struck directly from the "original" die. The use of secondary dies derived from a "master die" is also consistent with the manufacture of coins and tokens of which Thornthwaite would have had much familiarity (as referred to earlier). The existence of working dies also supposes the existence of a master and is also inconsistent with the loss of relevant components of the embossing equipment at sea.

## The designs

The designs for the 6 d and $1 /-$ values were taken from the corresponding adhesive stamps issued in February 1854, but with parts of the design outside the hexagon and octagon respectively being omitted. The designs for the 6d and 1/- adhesive designs were from original sketches made in NSW by Mr. T. W. Levinge. The finished drawings were made in London by Mr. Edward Henry Corbould, drawing-master to the Royal Family. ${ }^{12}$ It is not clear if the dies for the 6 d and $1 /-$ values for envelopes were produced by Thornthwaite or were obtained in England. However, there is no reason to think that Thornthwaite didn't manufacture them and Bassett Hull states that he was "convinced that the dies were not obtained from England as there is no mention of them whatever in the Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co's papers." ${ }^{13}$

The original drawings in pen and ink on pieces of white laid paper by Thornthwaite for the 1d and 2d values are held in the Tapling Collection at the British Library.

The following values are recorded by Bassett Hull ${ }^{14}$ embossed on a small piece of stout wove paper -

> 1d - pale rose
> 2 d - pale blue
> 6d - pale rose
> 6 d - pale blue
> 1 s - pale rose

As will be observed below, other colours exist. Notably a 6 d in pale green and a 1/- in pale rose, both on a highly glazed card.


1d (die 2) very pale rose (with particularly deep embossing) on stout wove paper.

[^1]

1d (die2) orange-vermilion on laid paper wrapper of 1864.


1d (die 1) bright orange vermilion on piece of thin white laid paper (probably cut from the second type envelope).

Bassett Hull notes 2 types of stamped envelopes. The first comprises 1d, 2d, 6d and 1/- in orangevermilion, deep blue, chocolate and rose respectively on envelopes $134 \times 77 \mathrm{~mm}$ of thin white wove paper with ungummed pointed flaps.

The second comprises only the 2d, 6 d and $1 /-$ values in blue, purple and pale rose respectively, on envelopes of white laid paper measuring $133 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm}$ with ungummed rounded flaps.

Both types of envelope are noted with and without "Specimen" in an italic font. ${ }^{16}$
Modern students of the subject draw a more fundamental distinction than the size of the envelope and whether the paper is wove or laid. Some of the embossings are made onto an already manufactured envelope. This means the impression of the embossing will show on the back of the envelope. Whereas a number of the envelopes were embossed onto the pre-cut envelope paper and then afterwards made into an envelope. These envelopes show no embossing on the back and probably explain why the sealing flap of the envelope was not gummed.

The 1 d value also exists on the second type of envelope, as the illustration below attests.


1d (die 1) red-vermilion on subsequently made up envelope $133 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm}$ of white laid paper with an ungummed round flap.


2d pale blue on piece of thin white laid paper (probably cut from the second type envelope).


2d pale rose (with particularly deep embossing) on stout wove paper.

[^2]

2d pale blue on subsequently made up envelope 133 $x 75 \mathrm{~mm}$ of white laid paper with an ungummed round flap.


2d cobalt blue on an already made envelope $137 \times 76$ mm of white wove paper with a gummed round flap with tress.


Back of 2d envelope showing the tress and embossing through to the back. ${ }^{17}$


6d pale green on glazed white card.


6d pale rose on glazed white card.


6d black-purple on subsequently made up envelope $133 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm}$ of white laid paper with an ungummed round flap.

[^3]

1/- pale orange on highly glazed white card.


1/- bright rose on piece of thin white laid paper (probably cut from the second type envelope).


## 1/- red-pale rose on subsequently made up envelope $133 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm}$ of white laid paper with an ungummed round flap.

Housion noted that "copies of the envelopes may be seen in the very best collections" ${ }^{18}$ Michael Blinman's Gold medal winning entry of New South Wales postal stationery at Australia 2013 contained several of the embossings on glazed white card and a set of the envelopes (ex Carl Steig, ex "Alvarado" and ex Ron Butler).

## Use of dies on wrappers and registered envelopes -

## Wrappers

Bassett Hull notes that the 1d die was used in 1864 for embossing newspaper wrappers and the 2d die was used in 1880 for an essay for a 4d registration envelope, being twice impressed on the flap. ${ }^{19}$
Bassett Hull states that "It is well known that the oval embossing dies engraved by Thorthwaithe for impressing One penny envelopes in 1855, but never used for that purpose, were adopted for the wrappers. There were four of these dies, each differing from the other in a slight degree."20 This is the first mention of more than one die of the One Penny value having been manufactured.
Bassett Hull states that "the differences in type of the dies are principally distinguishable by examining the relative positions of the top and bottom stars and the lettering of the inscriptions. At least three of these dies were used for impressing the wrappers, but only one variety is found on each sheet of eight stamps. It is probable that separate dies were used at different times or on different stamping machines." ${ }^{21}$
According to Bassett Hull ${ }^{22}$ 1,146,416 wrappers (364,872 on old paper - ie white wove and 780,080 on new paper - ie white laid) (or 143,302 sheets of 8 wrappers per sheet) were embossed. With such a large number of embossings it is likely that more than one die was used. Given the differences in the dies used which exist and are described by Bassett Hull, it is unlikely that working dies were manufactured from one master die. It is likely that one die existed for the Queen's effigy and possibly others for other elements of the design. The different locations of the stars in the finished design make it unlikely they existed on the same master die with the Queen's effigy.

[^4]From our own observations of the various 1d embossings which exist as essays, proofs or wrappers, there would seem to be at least 2 easily distinguishable 1d dies. They can be seen in the philatelic material which pre dates the production of wrappers as well as between the wrappers embossed on laid paper and those embossed on wove paper.
The 1d die used on the wove paper wrappers and laid paper envelopes is designated die $\mathbf{1}$. It is distinguishable from die 2 in two major respects. The first being the bottom star is directly above the " T " in "SOUTH". The second is that the inside of the outer edge of the oval is not "roped" as for die 2.

Die 2 has a very perceptible "rope" design on the inside of the outer edge of the oval and the bottom star is between the "U" and "T" of "SOUTH".

Given the manufacture of the envelope essays preceded the production of wrappers, the 1 d die which was used on the envelopes is designated die 1.
We have only seen die 1 embossed on wrappers of wove paper and die 2 on wrappers of laid paper.

## Registered envelopes

Bassett Hull differs from Houison in his description of the use of the 2d dies on registration envelopes. Bassett Hull states that "An essay was made by impressing bag-shaped envelopes, similar to those subsequently adopted, with the Two Pence envelope die engraved by Thornthwaite in 1855. The die was struck twice on the flap in blue.,23 Bassett Hull noted that the Tapling Collection had size F and G McCorquodale \& Co envelopes embossed respectively with two of the 2d dies in ultramarine and in black.


McCorquodale \& Co envelope size F with embossings in blue


McCorquodale \& Co envelope size $F$ with embossings in black

Bassett Hull also records pairs of the 2d values in black, orange-red and purple on white wove paper as well as singly in dull blue. Printer's waste has also been seen with multiple 2d values in black and in rose. Bassett Hull also records a size F envelope where the embossings are in lilac. ${ }^{24}$
Houison states that "The Two-penny die was used for Registered Envelopes, embossed in pairs, in blue, on the flap."25 Later Houison specifically states that "It may be mentioned here, that the die for the stamp to be used on these envelopes was not ready on [6 March 1880]; it was, therefore, decided to issue the provisional envelope mentioned above, with the Two-penny die, twice embossed on the flap in blue. They were only in use for a very short time, and, when the permanent issue was ready, the whole of the provisional copies on hand were returned to the Government Printing Office, and there destroyed." ${ }^{26}$

## Conclusion

The existence of these envelopes is enigmatic. We still await the authenticated reason why they were never issued, who produced the essays, for whom and why. With John Bell's passing we have lost the opportunity for an additional contribution to help solve the mystery of the Diadem Embossed Envelope Dies and their use. We would welcome further views and information about these issues from readers. These may be directed to mvdis@ozemail.com.au

[^5]
# AUSTRALIAN PRE-DECIMAL AEROGRAMMES VIS-A-VIS THE BRUSDEN WHITE POSTAL STATIONERY CATALOGUE 

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Over all surveys of Australian airletters and aerogrammes include Clayton and Challen (1968), Australian Stamp Catalogue (1976, Nita M. Wilson) and Stein (1984). The Brusden White Catalogue (2013) is a long overdue addition to Australian philately. All the classes of postal stationery including 'Aerogrammes' have been treated comprehensively with every item illustrated.

New and important data extracted from the Note Printing Branch archives, for the number of aerogrammes distributed annually and the number of electros manufactured, is presented for each aerogramme type.
I have attempted to give a more nuanced view of Australian aerogramme collecting. I have only presented a small, eclectic, selection of facts and observations about these forms. Much satisfaction can be attained by adding a postal history element to collecting aerogrammes.

## BW A1 1944 7d King George VI ‘AIR LETTER’ with Forces admonition

The BW catalogue correctly restores this 'AIR LETTER' as numero uno, as it was not exclusively a military type despite the 'Forces' legend. As with the following 'AIR LETTER' there are two subformats, 'First Fold Here' flaps c. 60 and c.70mm. The knife of this Forces 'AIR LETTER' differs slightly from the subsequent 'AIR LETTER' with straight, diagonal sealing flap sides compared to quarter circle, concave sides.


BW A3 1945-50 7d King George VI 'AIRLETTER'
The alleged first day of issue, 5 December 1945 is not supported by contemporary sources and this 'AIRLETTER' was phased in after stocks of the previous 'AIR LETTER' became exhausted. This 'first' day date is chronicled by BW but there is no listing/price for 'first' day issued 'AIRLETTER's. Examples are scarce. There was no example in the Stein collection. (Prestige Auction 129, July 2007).
Australian airletters were used in Papua New Guinea and I suspect that only the 7d, portrait Head of King George V1, AIRLETTER (BW A3 and A-4) was sold from Papua New Guinea post offices. (‘3000 Air Letters’ were forwarded to Port Moresby in June 1947). 'AIR LETTER’ forms (BW A1 and A-2), were available to Australian servicemen serving in PNG. There is no BW reference to Australian air letters used in PNG.


Plate cracks are found on these air letters and exist on other aerogramme types. This comes as no
surprise as nearly 40 million BW A3 air letters were issued, utilizing up to 118 electros. One could surmise that new electros were substituted for damaged, overworked electros from time to time.

## BW A4 1950-1952 7d King George VI 'AIRLETTER’ on bluish paper

BW A4 the missing 'TEN PENCE' surcharge has always intrigued me. The catalogue explains this 'variety' well. A special flight, example is shown here.

## BW A7 1953-1954 10d Monochrome Plane on Globe

Cocos Island usage; the Australian P. O. arranged for a triangular cachet in violet to be stamped on all mail despatched from the Cocos (Keeling) Islands when Australia assumed responsibility for postal administration from 23 November 1955. Covers 'bearing Australian postage stamps' were 'conveyed by air to and from the Islands'. Special airmail rates were applicable for one day only, including aerogrammes 'Addressed to any country' $1 / 4$. This aerogramme and subsequent bicolour Plane on Globe type (BW A8) were used on this special 'flight'. (Brusden White states that the stampless form of BW A8 [BW FA3] was used on this flight/date. This is an error.) This usage is difficult to classify, flight cover, curiosity, philatelic or overseas usage? Australian aerogrammes used commercially from Cocos Islands are recorded.


## BW A8 1954-1959 10d Red and Blue Plane on Globe

BW A8 Bicolour 'Plane on Globe' design has been sighted with punctured, 'OS / NSW', 22 October 1959.

There is a well documented, major constant plate variety that is not chronicled in BW, that is, a curved scratch, almost 40 mm long, between the top left blue rhombi but is not found in the wide flap 1957 re-issue BW A8C. This variety is also extant in the stampless aerogramme of the same design (BW FA3)

## BW A9 1956 10d Olympic Games

Fifty two special pictorial postmarks for use mainly at sporting venue points are known on this Olympic aerogramme. These are not mentioned in the BW Catalogue but later similar 1962 Commonwealth Games postmarks are referred to in a footnote. Aesthetic comparisons can be made with subsequent 1962 and 1982 Commonwealth Games cancellations prepared especially for these international Games.

## BW A10, 11, 12 and 13 1959-1964 10d Jet design

The consecutive number, BW catalogue listing for the chronological variations of the 'Jet in Rectangle' definitive aerogramme is logical and sensible. Advance information of changes and modifications to the 'Jet in Rectangle' aerogramme (BW A10) did not appear in the press nor in P.O. bulletins. Hence examples of BW A11, 12 and 13 postmarked with first day, Sydney cancellations are scarce.
BW-A13 Jet design with ‘Overseas Service’ added has been sighted with punctured, 'G / NSW', 19 November 1963.
BW A11 with new red printed folding directions, 'FOLD FLAPS...' in upper corner of writing flap was issued 21 October 1959. No 'first day cancel' listing/price is given for the chronicled first day of issue.


For BW A12 there was a new, two-line closely spaced, rear, admonition ('IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED...') was issued 28 July 1960. No 'first day cancel’ listing/price is given for the chronicled first day of issue.

## BW A23 10d 1965 V Jet Design definitive

After the introduction of decimal currency from 14 February 1966, obsolete Sterling currency, stamps and stationery, were permitted for postal purposes for two years. 10d aerogrammes required an additional one cent uprate to meet the new 9c postage rate as 10 d was equivalent to 8 cents. 10d denominated aerogrammes were the only pre-stamped postal stationery that required uprating after decimal currency was introduced.


## BW AO1, 2 and 3 Postmaster's-General Department Official Aerogrammes

Jerome V. V. Kasper online exhibit of 'Australia's Official Aerogrammes' is excellent. (http://www.aerogramme.com/exhibits/ausofcl/overview.html)
BW FA5 Formular / Stampless, Red and Blue Arrows Border with 'Overseas Service’ added Adaptation of the 1960, 10d Jet design with 'Overseas Service' definitive (BW A13) Known used British Solomon Islands, New Hebrides and Norfolk Island.

(BW FA6) Formular Stampless Blue 'AEROGRAMME', Length front panel address lines 66 mm .
Not listed Brusden White. Adaptation of the 1965, 10d 'V Jet' design definitive (BW A23). Known used New Hebrides.

Brusden-White would have benefitted by publishing this catalogue in e-form. The dynamic nature of philately today combined with current technology would have then allowed for instant corrections and rectifications of errors or omissions in this catalogue. Readers with more information or concerns related to Australian or Pacific, aerogrammes or air letters, are welcome to email me.

## NEW ZEALAND 1993 POSTAGE PAID AEROGRAMME

## Ian McMahon

New Zealand’s first stamped aerogramme was issued on 1 April 1993 and depicted a view of Mahinapua Bay on the front and a view of Hawke Bay on the reverse. The aerogramme was designed by Chris Burton and printed by Mercury Walch of Hobart. They were sold in packs of five for $\$ 6.50$. Illustrated below are two essays for this aerogramme. The first has no blue overlay on the front. Both have no 'New Zealand' in the stamp area and the picture on the reverse covers the whole of the back panel. Illustrated below them is the issued aerogramme which has a smaller picture of Hawke Bay on the reverse. Also shown is a pack of five of the aerogrammes with band used to hold them.


Two examples of registered stationery - an Australian aerogramme registered at Perth and a Queensland reply card used to Germany and registered.


# 10,000 WRAPPER SALE TRANSACTIONS: AN ANALYSIS 

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Continued from the August 2013 issue of PSC
Appendix: 10,000 Transactions by Type, Average Price \& Sale Frequencies

| Postal Entity | Sales per H\&G Catalogue Number | Total Sales | Sales <br> Value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Algeria | E1 8.80-1; E3 18.52-2; E5 5.75-2; E6 7.46-2; E7 15.50-1 | 8 | 88 |
| Antigua | E1 6.02-4; E2 11.50-4 | 8 | 70 |
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| Tasmania | E12 36.95-1; E13 15.79-2; KE1 45.51-8; KE3 51.58-8; KE4 48.00-1; KE6 101.15-2; Official 11.27-2 | 24 | 1118 |
| Transvaal | E1 29.92-3; E2 22.93-5; E3 33.26-4; E4 42.20-6; E9 25.46-14; E10 9.62-5 | 37 | 996 |
| Trinidad | E1 4.93-37; E2 4.89-15; E4 4.57-37; E5 14.99-1 | 90 | 440 |
| Trinidad \& Tobago | E1 3.22-9; E2 3.41-9; E3 5.00-2; E4 9.00-1; E6 37.75-2; E7 7.00-1 | 24 | 161 |
| Turkey | E1 13.65-2; E2 21.86-2; E3 15.00-3; E4 16.72-5; E5 82.43-3; E6 52.75-1; E7 32.85-10; E8 39.76-14 | 40 | 1385 |
| Uruguay | E2 6.86-10; E3 7.66-9 | 19 | 138 |
| USA | E1 44.75-6; E6 57.47-11; E8 25.91-7; E10 1.69-1; E11 24.98-4; E12 27.74-3; E13 22.7569; E14 41.76-8; E15 16.38-1; E16 11.09-1; E19 9.50-1; E20 15.13-8; E21 17.16-1; E22 18.33-2; E23 17.54-11; E24 9.82-10; E25 4.50-1; E26 12.50-1; E27 16.38-13; E28 12.20209; E29 37.68-8; E30 13.45-34; E31 13.48-48; E32 25.63-5; E33 51.12-4; E34 15.66-55; E35 9.15-21; E36 23.67-3; E37 11.87-2; E38 10.46-5; E39 27.29-5; E40 10.42-6; E41 35.20-31; E42 13.40-16; E43 10.54-13; E44 2.94-21; Official 24.81-22 | 712 | 11984 |
| Victoria | E2 15.35-1; E4 15.52-3; E5 11.75-3; E7 28.50-2; E8 49.99-1; E11 16.53-10; E12 14.11-4; E13 12.80-2; E14 3.00-1; E15 11.10-83; E16 8.38-5; E17 9.72-82; E18 15.41-12; E19 34.10-15; E20 8.99-4; E21 8.5-7; E23b 10.90-12; E24 21.20-5; E25 13.31-13; E26 12.30-5; E27 0.99-1 | 271 | 3480 |
| Western Aust. | E1 152.50-1; E2 97.71-2; E3 161-2 | 5 | 670 |
| Wurttemberg | $\begin{aligned} & \text { E1 5.00-1; E2 1.66-1; E3 4.67-2; E4 8.50-1; E7 3.08-3; KE1 10.89-26; KE25.79-1; KE3 } \\ & 9.57-10 \end{aligned}$ | 45 | 419 |
| Zanzibar | E3 9.07-7; E4 8.64-29; E5 10.25-8; E6 7.00-14; E7 43.00-1; E8 26.00-1; E9 4.95-1; E10 21.12-4; E11 64.00-1; E13 39.99-1 | 67 | 757 |
|  | Coding errors making assigning H\&G E/KE or Huggins \& Baker ESC catalogue numbers impossible | 378 | 140873 |

## PSSA FORUM

Ian McMahon (with assistance from other PSSA members)

## Doha Design International Reply Coupon

The Universal Postal Union (UPU) has introduced a new International Reply Coupon (IRC), the Doha IRCs, so named for the 25th Universal Postal Congress that took place in Doha, Qatar in October 2012, replaces the Nairobi design. The new IRC went on sale internationally on 1 July 2013. It is valid for exchange it until the end of 2017. The Nairobi model, first issued on July 1, 2009, remains valid until 31 December 2013. IRCs are exchangeable in every UPU member country for stamps representing the minimum postage for an ordinary priority letter-post item or airmail letter sent abroad for a reply. According to the UPU, 120 postal systems around the world worldwide had issued more than four million Nairobi IRCs with a total value of approximately $\$ 5$ million as of October 31, 2012. The US Postal Service no longer sells IRCs but it is mandated to redeem them. The Czech Republic won the UPU's contest to design the new IRC, beating out 13 other countries with Czech artist and graphic designer Michal Sindelar designing the new IRC, whose design illustrates the theme "Water for Life." This theme reflects the United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation in 2013. The new IRC was placed on sale in Australia on Monday, 2 September, and the old IRC (Nairobi) was immediately withdrawn.


## Birth of Prince George

A pre-paid post card was issued to mark the birth of the first child of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. An adhesive stamp was issued in conjunction with the postcard which was issued in the form of a maximum card.


## Other items

Shown above is the front of a postcard from a postcard booklet, separated and sold singly (note the label with the item number). This practice seems quite common at some post offices. Below is an example of the Botanic Gardens stamped envelope with post office added corner card and an NZM stamped envelope overprinted "SAMPLE'. NZM is one of the New Zealand private mail operators.


LISTING OF AUSTRALIAN NON-DENOMINATED POSTAL STATIONERY
Ian McMahon

## Postcards

2 July 2013 Road Trip Australia II
Maximum cards

| $(-)$ | Sydney |
| :--- | :--- |
| $(-)$ | Melbourne |
| $(-)$ | Gold Coast |
| $(-)$ | Adelaide |
| $(-)$ | Canberra |

(Set price: \$6.75)
9 July 2013 Indigenous Leaders
(-) Neville Bonner
$(-) \quad$ Eddie Mabo
$(-) \quad$ Oodgeroo Noonuccal
$(-) \quad$ Charles Perkins
(-) Shirley Smith
(Set price: \$6.75)
22 July 2013 Royal Baby
(\$1.50)
Duke and Duchess of Cambridge with baby
23 July 2013 Headline News

| $(-)$ | Peace - WWII over |
| :--- | :--- |
| $(-)$ | A Small Step |
| $(-)$ | Tracey Destroys Darwin |
| $(-)$ | Sailing into History |

(Set price: \$5.40)
13 August 2013 Carnivorous Plants

| $(-)$ | Drosera lowriei |
| :--- | :--- |
| $(-)$ | Drosera rupicola |
| $(-)$ | Nepenthes rowanae |
| $(-)$ | Ceohalotus follicularis |

(Set price: \$5.40)

20 August 2013 Carnivorous Plants
(-) Ningaloo Reef (aerial)
$(-) \quad$ Great Barrier Reef (aerial)
(-) Ningaloo Reef (underwater)
(-) Great Barrier Reef
(underwater)
(Set price: \$6.60)
3 September 2013 Australian Poultry Breeds
(-) Australian Game
(-) Australian Pit Game
(-) Australorp
(Set price: \$4.05)
10 September 2013 Centenary of the AAE
$(-) \quad$ Walter Hannam
(-) Frank Wild
(-) Extreme Weather
(-) Scientific Work
(-) Antarctic Wildlife
(Set price: \$7.95)
24 September 2013 Dinosaurs
(-) Koolasuchus
(-) Timimus
(-) Dimantinasaurus
(-) Australovenator
(-) Qantassaurus
(-)
(Set price: \$8.10)

Serendipaceratops

Postal Stationery Collector

## FROM THE SECRETARY

## PSSA meeting at Canberra Stampshow 2014

Canberra Stampshow 2014 ( $18^{\text {th }}$ National Philatelic Convention) will be held at the Hellenic Club of Canberra, Matilda Street, Woden ACT from 14-16 March 2014. It will be a Half National exhibition, with State level classes, and a National Military Championship. For further information about the exhibition, please see the website www.canberrastamps.org or the APF website www.apf.org.au .
The PSSA will be meeting at the show on Sunday 16 March from 12 noon to 1.15 pm . There will be more information about the meeting in the February 2014 issue of the journal.

In 2014, the National level Postal Stationery class will be offered at Stampex 2014, to be held in Adelaide on 10-12 October 2014. Contact for information is David Figg, whose email is david.figg@internode.on.net .

## Index to Postal Stationery Collector

The Index will be updated to the end of Vol 19, 2013 before it is published. An advertisement with information for ordering personal copies appears elsewhere in this issue of PSC. Members are urged to respond as soon as possible so we will have an accurate count of the numbers of copies needed in the two formats. Please contact the Secretary either by email on jkennett@tpg.com.au , or by mail to PO Box 16, Ulmarra NSW 2462.

## Advertising in PSC

It would assist with containing the costs associated with PSC if more advertising could be found. This would involve contacting Australian dealers and asking if they are interested in advertising their stocks and services to the membership. Auction houses might like to publicise the sale of an important collection of postal stationery. This would not be an onerous task, and it would not be necessary for an Advertising Officer to live in a particular location. The Coordinator and the Secretary would always be happy to help with advice and contact information for Australian and overseas dealers. Would any member who is interested in assisting the Society in this regard please contact the Secretary on jkennett@tpg.com.au .

## PSSA subscriptions for 2014

Inside this issue of PSC you will find your subscription notice for 2014. New Zealand and overseas members will find that their rates have increased. Recent rises in International postage charges have made this necessary.

This has been a big year for philately in Australia, with the Centenary of the Kangaroo and Map issue, and the resounding success of Australia 2013 in May. Best wishes to all our members for the rest of this year, and for 2014, which will soon be upon us.

Judy Kennett

## LITERATURE

Judy Kennett and Ian McMahon

## From our contemporaries

## The Postal Stationery Society Journal [UK] Vol 21 No 3 August 2013

- Secretary's notes - August 2013
- SWINPEX report (Society meeting with displays)
- Postal Stationery 'Uncovered’ (display given at the Royal Philatelic Society, London on 23 May 2013)
- The postal stationery of East Africa [Part 2] East Africa and Uganda
- GB postal stationery news - new items reported
- Special delivery plastic envelopes
- Special Delivery Safebox now available


## L'Entier Postal [France] No 93 Juin 2013

- Pneumatic postal stationery of Paris, First Part: 1879-1901 (detailed article, well illustrated)


## The Informer Vol 77 No 4 Whole No 682 October 2013

- Fun with aerogrammes (queries about a New Zealand official aerogramme, and various Australian aerogrammes) by our member Bob Shoemaker
Gibbons Stamp Monthly October 2013
- An Introduction to the Postal Stationery of the Orange Free State
- Queen Victoria Embossed Penny Pink Envelopes
- $50^{\text {th }}$ Anniversary of Great Britain’s First Pictorial Air Letters 1963-2013


## Gibbons Stamp Monthly September 2013

This issue includes an article on our deceased member, John Bell, in the 'Postal Stationery Matters' column

- Tourist Publicity [Postal stationery] cards
- Postal Stationery Matters including H L'Estrange Ewen Catalogue of the Unadhesive Postage Stamps of the UK, POW cards, John Bell
Postal Stationery Vol. 55, No. 4 July-August 2013
- USA 19th Century Envelopes, etc. Column
- USA $20^{\text {th }}$ Century Envelopes, Aerograms, etc. Column
- USA 21st Century Envelopes, etc. Column
- USA Postal Cards Column
- Col. Michael L. Woods and the U. S_Sealed Postal Card Company
- The 4d British Bechuanaland Registration Envelope Die
- 19th Century Envelopes, The 5c Taylor
- 21st Century Envelopes, Purple Martin Numbering, Liberty Bell Windows, RedBrown Circular 2c Die?, New Folk Art Eagle Envelope
- Postal Cards, Fluorescent Postal Card Papers


## Postal Stationery Notes July 2013

- New Issues
- Ontario Hydro Card Misprints
- Printed Corners on Wrappers
- Are USA Mailgram Envelopes Postal Stationery
- US Card UY14r R23 Surcharged on Back
- Charity Seal on Turkish Card
- Cuban Convertible Card Article Correction
- USA UX9 S8i Postal Cards
- US Continental Printing Envelopes?
- US Envelope U468 with Inverted Surcharge
- Envelope Night at Collectors Club New York
- Building Shown on Back Cover, Rare
- Colombian Exposition Card Literary Source
- Hyderabad 19th Century Envelopes, Part 4
- Indian Postal Stationery Used in Zanzibar
- 1877-1895, George Krieger Cuban Airmail Convertible -Peso Postal Cards, (part 2)
Postal Stationery Notes August 2013
- Queen Victoria Private Order Envelopes
- Ontario Hydro Card Misprints
- Printed Corners on Wrappers


Phoenix Auctions 7 September 2013

- 1896 Design Entry for South Australian Newspaper Wrapper


Eur-Seree Collecting Co Bangkok 3-4 August 2013

- Thai 1921 Scout Fund postcards

Velvet Collectibles 7 September 2013

- Essay for Olympics for Melbourne 1996 aerogramme

Prestige Auctions 8 November 2013
In their 8 November auction, Prestige Philately is selling a wonderful array of Australian postcards, wrappers and aerogrammes including the Commonwealth postcard collection of PSSA member John Sinfield and the newspaper wrappers of PSSA member Mark Diserio. The auction contains many rare and key items of Commonwealth stationery. Not to be missed!


Reviews: The London Philatelist Vol 122, No 1407, July-August 2013: Hellas: Postal Stationery 1, 1876-
2012, Volume 5 by A Karamitsos, published 2012, 325p, colour ill, price and availability from the publisher. Email: info@karamitsos.gr . Website: www.karamitsos.gr
In preparing for this new catalogue, there has been extensive research comprising information sent out by the Post Office and articles in the philatelic press as well as several collectors' private studies. The first part of the catalogue gives details of all issues of the Greek Post, and the second part lists all the official postal stationery. All these are described and priced in both Greek and English as are the articles and notes.

## NEW ISSUES

## Canada

Canadian rock groups, motorcycles and Stela feature on recent postcards.


## Interesting items

Shown below are a band for 10 registered envelopes (can you identify the country?) and a Canadian envelope which has been cut down and used as a newspaper wrapper.


## Singapore and China

Two postcards advertising Singapore 2015 are illustrated below along with a stamped envelope from China.


## ADVERTISING IN THE POSTAL STATIONERY COLLECTOR

Advertising in the PSC is welcome. Advertising rates are:
Full Page \$150 a page
Half Page \$80
Quarter page \$50
Please contact the Editor ian.mcmahon4@bigpond.com .

## 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 published four times each year, in February, May, August and November. The Society maintains 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 including postage in Australia (overseas postage 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

In Australia, payment can be made either by cheque (made payable to the PSSA) or by credit card (Visa or Mastercard). 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 to the Secretary at PO Box 16, Ulmarra NSW 2462 AUSTRALIA Email jkennett@tpg.com.au

## AUSTRALIAN POSTAL STATIONERY MAJOR PUBLIC AUCTION

The Grand Prix exhibit of Postal Cards formed by John Sinfield, and the Large Vermeil exhibit of Wrappers formed by Mark Diserio, will be sold at Public Auction in Melbourne on 8th November 2013


Only recorded usage on Queensland card


1917 Re-Issue of Australian \& States Reply Cards

'OS'-in-the-Die Official Issues


Exceptional postal history usages


Rare Stamped to Order Issues

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+61397626009 \text { Sax }+61397624009
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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Dr S Ascher, Grosser Ganzsachen-Katalog (Ascher), Umschlage No 1; Robson Lowe The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps - Vol 4, The Empire in Australasia, EP1; Higgins \& Gage B1.
    ${ }^{2}$ See White and others, The Postal History of New South Wales 1788-1901 (White) at pp 145, 149 and 330.
    ${ }^{3}$ AF Bassett Hull The Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Wrappers, Post Cards and Telegraph Stamps of New South Wales, London 1911 (Bassett Hull)
    ${ }^{4}$ A Houison History of the Post Office and the Issue of Postage Stamps in New South Wales in 1890, Sydney 1890 (Houison), at p
    ${ }^{5}$ Houison at p 85; Bassett Hull at p 354.
    ${ }^{6}$ See Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal, October 1999, pp 85 and 87.
    ${ }^{7}$, Houison at p 85.
    ${ }^{8}$ Bassett Hull at p 354.
    ${ }^{9}$ See footnote 6.
    ${ }^{10}$ Bassett Hull at p 354 says as much for at least the 1d and 2d values.

[^1]:    ${ }^{11}$ See for example, A Andrews, Australasian Tokens and Coins, Sydney 1921 (reprinted in facsimile 1963), at pp 6, 10, 12, 26, 94, 112 and 113 and DH Skinner, Renniks Australian Coin and Banknote Values, $15^{\text {th }}$ Edition (1989), pages 330 to 331. See also White at p 446.
    ${ }^{12}$ G Ginger, "NSW Third Issue of Stamps", The London Philatelist, 1930 Vol 39, pp 177-182.
    ${ }^{13}$ Bassett Hull at p 364.
    ${ }^{14}$ Bassett Hull at p 354.
    ${ }^{15}$ Tapling Collection, see Bassett Hull at p 356.

[^2]:    ${ }^{16}$ Bassett Hull at p 354.

[^3]:    ${ }^{17}$ Ascher tress Type A

[^4]:    ${ }^{18}$ Houison at p 85.
    ${ }^{19}$ Bassett Hull at p 353.
    ${ }^{20}$ Bassett Hull at pp 363 and 364.
    ${ }^{21}$ Bassett Hull at pp 363 and 364.
    ${ }^{22}$ Bassett Hull at p 364.

[^5]:    ${ }^{23}$ Bassett Hull at p 356.
    ${ }^{24}$ Bassett Hull at p 356.
    ${ }^{25}$ Houison at p 85.
    ${ }^{26}$ Houison at p 86 .

