

Postal Stationery

Welcome to the first of a regular column on Postal Stationery. In these columns I hope to cover a range of postal stationery topics including looking at what is meant by the term postal stationery, the types of postal stationery, collecting and exhibiting postal stationery and how to find information about postal stationery as well as introducing you to the wide variety of postal stationery that has been issued by Australia and countries around the world including new issues.

Perhaps the place to start is to look at what is meant by the term 'postal stationery'.

What is Postal Stationery?

In phlately, Postal Stationery refers specifically

Figure 2



Figure 1



to stationery which has been issued by the post office with an impressed postage stamp. The most familiar postal stationery are stamped envelopes, stamped postcards (sometimes called postal cards) and stamped aerogrammes. Other major types include stamped lettersheets, stamped lettercards, stamped registered envelopes and stamped wrappers. The first postal stationery issued in Australia were the

Sydney lettersheets issued by New South Wales in 1838, two years before the first adhesive postage stamps were issued by the United Kingdom. In the early Nineteenth century envelopes were relatively uncommon with people folding their writing paper into the shape of an envelope and writing the addressee details

on the back of the writing paper which was often sealed by a wax impression. To some extent this was due to how postage was calculated with the postage charge based in part on the number of sheets so that an envelope was regarded as a 'sheet' and doubled the postage cost of sending a letter. It is not surprising then that stamped lettersheets were an

Ian McMahon

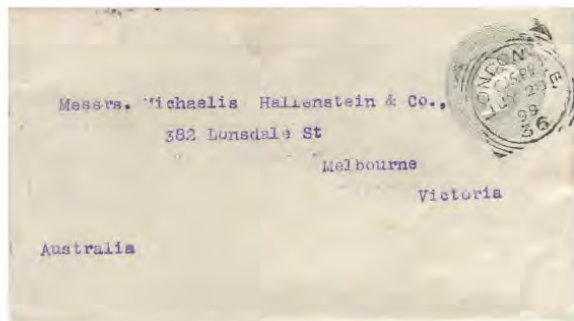


Figure 3 1892 2½d envelope

early form of postal stationery including the first postal stationery issued in Australia and the United Kingdom.

The New South Wales lettersheets prepaid the postage for local delivery in the Sydney area and were embossed

with the Postmaster General's Official Seal which depicted the Coat of Arms of King William IV of the United Kingdom (Figure 1), even though he had died and been succeeded by Queen Victoria in 1837.

They were sold for 1½d each or 1/3 per dozen representing a reduction on the standard 2d rate. Subsequently the public were able to have their own envelopes and lettersheets embossed. Despite the cheaper postage rate the embossed stationery

Figure 4



Postal Stationery

Ian McMahon



Figure 6 WA Black Swan design

Figure 5 1888 'centennial' issue



Figure 7

did not prove popular as they could only be obtained from the GPO, the embossing process was slow and lettersheets had to be folded carefully to ensure that the embossed stamp was visible to avoid additional postage being charged.

The Mulready lettersheets (and envelopes) of the United Kingdom (Figure 2) were issued in 1840 to accompany the 1d 'penny black' and the 2d blue adhesive stamps. Rowland Hill felt

that the lettersheets would be more popular than the adhesive stamps. This provided however not

Figure 8



Postal Stationery

Ian McMahon



Figure 9 (Above)

to be the case. The Mulreadays had a printed allegorical design which provided unpopular and subject to ridicule and the production of many caricatures.

The most well-known form of postal stationery is probably the stamped envelopes. While many issues today can include colourful designs, most early stamped envelopes were usually of a utilitarian design of a plain envelope with an imprinted postage stamp, often of a design similar



Figure 10 (Below)



Figure 11

to the adhesive definitive stamps of the day or of an embossed stamp design. The Mulreadays, for example, were replaced in 1841 by envelopes stamped with embossed 1d pink and 2d blue stamps depicting Queen Victoria. Figure 3 shows a 2½d grey stamped envelope issued by the UK in 1892 used to Melbourne.

All of the Australian states and New Zealand (except for Queensland) sold stamped envelopes over the post office counter. The chief attraction of the envelopes was that the envelope and stamp were bought at the same time over the post office counter so that the customer did not need to have pre-purchased envelopes elsewhere. In addition no glue or licking of stamps were required. No further stamped lettersheets, however, were issued for sale by Australasian post offices until the Commonwealth issues in the middle of the 20th century (Figure 4).

The first stamped envelopes issued by New South Wales after the 1838 issues were 1d and 2d envelopes issued in 1870 and depicting Queen Victoria. The imprinted stamps are of similar

designs to the adhesive stamps of the day or of an embossed stamp design. The Mulreadays, for example, were replaced in 1841 by envelopes stamped with embossed 1d pink and 2d blue stamps depicting Queen Victoria. Figure 3 shows a 2½d grey stamped envelope issued by the UK in 1892 used to Melbourne.

All of the Australian states and New Zealand (except for Queensland) sold stamped envelopes over the post office counter. The chief attraction of the envelopes was that the envelope and stamp were bought at the same time over the post office counter so that the customer did not need to have pre-purchased envelopes elsewhere. In addition no glue or licking of stamps were required. No further stamped lettersheets, however, were issued for sale by Australasian post offices until the Commonwealth issues in the middle of the 20th century (Figure 4).

Postal Stationery

Ian McMahon

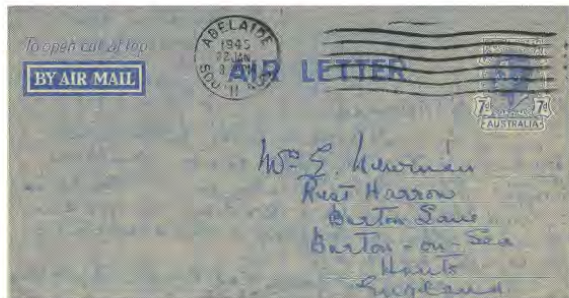


Figure 12

The first Commonwealth of Australia stamped envelopes were imprinted with a 1d Kangaroo and Map stamp, of the same design (and from the same dies) as the Kangaroo and Map adhesive stamps.

Both Australia and New Zealand have continued to issue stamped envelopes to this day, although many of the more modern issues have colourful designs.

Another long-lived version of postal stationery has been the stamped postcard (also known as postal cards). These were first issued by Austria in 1869 followed by the United Kingdom in 1870 and usually paid a reduced rate of postage. For this latter reason they were enormously popular for many decades and in some ways in earlier years when postal deliveries were more frequent formed the function that an email might today, for example, to let your correspondent know you would be visiting later in the day, arriving on the 4 pm train or too sick to come to work. Stamped postcards were issued by all the Australian states and New Zealand with the first being issued by New South Wales (1875), followed by Victoria and New Zealand (1876), South Australia (1877), Western Australia (1879), Queensland (1880)

and Tasmania (1882). Figure 6 shows a Western Australian postcard stamped with its Black Swan design. The Commonwealth of Australia issued its first stamped postcards in 1911 imprinted with 1d King George V 'full-face' stamp, two years before its first issue of adhesive postage stamps (Figure 7).

Stamped postcards are still issued by Australia today although they are much more colourful in design than earlier issues with many aimed at the tourist and popular market with colourful illustrations on the reverse of the postcard.

One early development of the postcard was the stamped reply postcard. These are effectively a double postcard with an impressed stamp on both halves of the card. The cards are folded and one portion (the 'message portion') is completed and sent to a correspondent who uses the other half of the card to reply (the 'reply portion'). Reply postcards were first issued by the North German Confederation and Bavaria in 1871. While many countries made much use of these cards (and some like the United States still issue them), they did not provide particularly popular in Australia and New Zealand although most Australian states and New Zealand did issue reply cards in the late 19th and

early 20th centuries.

Although usually less expensive to post, one disadvantage of stamped postcards is that the message can be read by the postman and by casual observers. To overcome this complaint a number of countries introduced lettercards, a card made of stiff paper or card, folded in half with gummed edges and perforations around the edges. Lettercards were first introduced in 1882 by Belgium. All of the Australian states (except for South Australia) and New Zealand issued lettercards commencing with Victoria (1889) followed by New Zealand, New South Wales and Queensland in 1895, Tasmania in 1898 and Western Australia in 1902. Examples of Belgian and New South Wales lettercards are shown in Figures 8 and 9. The first lettercards issued by the Commonwealth of Australia were issued in 1911 imprinted with 1d King George V 'full-face' stamp, two years before its first issue of adhesive postage stamps. One feature of these lettercards was the range of pictorial scenes printed on the reverse of the lettercards. Australia and New Zealand both continued issuing lettercards well into the Decimal Currency period but they are no longer issued.

Stamped newspaper wrappers (sometimes known as post bands) are wrappers used to send newspapers usually at a reduced printed matter or newspaper rate. They were first issued by the USA in 1861 with New South Wales following suite in 1864. All

of the other Australian states and New Zealand later issued wrappers, although Queensland did not do so until 1892 as from 1851 newspapers published in the colony were carried free if posted within 7 days of publication, no doubt at great expense to the colony. Newspaper wrappers are invariably utilitarian in design with imprinted stamps similar in design to the adhesive stamp issues of the time. An example from South Australia is shown in Figure 10.

Stamped registered envelopes were first issued by New South Wales in 1880 followed by New Zealand, Victoria and Tasmania with Western Australia, Queensland and South Australia issuing registered envelopes after Federation. Registered envelopes (Figure 11) were usually made of a thick paper to protect the contents and were imprinted either with a stamp paying the registration fee only, requiring adhesive stamps to be added to pay postage or with a stamp paying the registration fee and the basic postage rate. Both Australia and New Zealand still issue stamped registered envelopes.

Stamped aerogrammes (also known as airmail lettersheets, air letters and occasionally as airmail lettercards) were developed as light weight stationery intended to make the full use of limited payload in the early years of aviation. Aerogrammes (Figure 12) were first issued by Australia in 1944 and are still issued in Australia, although their use has been severely contained in recent years due to the proliferation of email and their use has been discontinued in many countries.

www.robinklinke.com.au

Australasia and South Pacific

6000+ items, new stock listed every month

PO Box 378 Rockingham
Western Australia 6968

Phone: +61 8 9592 4913
Email: robin@robinklinke.com.au

Member PTS(UK) ASDA APS(UA)

Postal Stationery

This month's column looks at Australia's change of address lettercards, the FIP Postal Stationery Commission, UPU Specimen postal stationery and stamped postcards from Sao Tome and Principe.

Australia Change of Address Lettercards

Without much fanfare, Australia issued a set of five stamped lettercards (Figure 1) each in a different colour, on 1 December 2006. The five colours used were green, brown, blue, pink and purple. The lettercards were sold in a pack of ten (two of each colour) labelled 'moving postcards' for \$12.90. The front of the cards has a pre-paid indicium inscribed 'For delivery within Australia Only'. Although marketed as 'postcards' they are in fact lettercards and are the last issue of stamped postcards sold by Australia Post, appearing some twenty-one years after the previous lettercard issue, the 33c Sooty Owl lettercard issued



Figure 1 Australia 2006 Change of Address Lettercard

in 1985.

The inside of the letter card (Figure 2) is printed with a form providing provision for the new address and reads *moving on // to my new home, luxury pad, sharehouse, apartment and continues And now that you're been updated with my new details I look forward to receiving house, warming gifts, birthday presents, gig/theatre tickets, invitations, food parcels, Christmas cards.*

FIP Postal Stationery Commission

Have you ever wondered who sets the rules for the judging of postal stationery exhibits in Australia and internationally? In Australia we use the rules formulated by the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP), Figure 3, an international body of stamp collectors of which Australia is a member. The FIP rules for exhibiting postal stationery are managed by the FIP Postal Stationery Commission which is



Figure 2 Inside of the Change of Address Lettercard

Ian McMahon



Figure 3 Postcard issued by Taiwan to mark the 90th Anniversary of the founding of FIP

responsible for the development of the rules and their promulgation as well as encouraging postal stationery exhibiting and developing postal stationery judges.

The Commission is comprised of delegates from each of the members of FIP with a committee of management known as the Bureau. The current membership of the Postal Stationery Commission Bureau is Lars Engelbrecht from Denmark (President), Ian McMahon (Secretary), Mike Smith (UK), Ross Towle (USA), Chen Yu An (Chinese Taipei), Juan Reinoso (Costa Rica) and Igor Piric (Slovenia).

Activities of the Commission include holding meetings, often in conjunction with an international stamp exhibition, which usually include a seminar on a postal stationery topic, running seminars and workshops for exhibitors and judges, maintaining a website and producing two newsletters a year.

The Commission met recently at Philat Taipei 2016

World Stamp Championship Exhibition held in Taipei from 21- 26 October 2016. The Postal Stationery Commission meeting was held on 24 October and included a Presentation on *China Postal Stationery* by Chen Yu An (Figure 4), the election of the 2016-2020 Postal Stationery Commission Bureau and a workshop on the next four years work of the Postal Stationery Commission. Other seminars given at recent meetings include *Hong Kong Aerogrammes*, *Postal Stationery of the Federated Malay States and Researching Postal Stationery*. At the meeting a number of new projects were proposed for 2016-2020 including using social media like Facebook and YouTube for promoting postal stationery collecting.

The Postal Stationery Commission maintains a very useful website on www.postalstationery.org which provides details of the membership of the Commission, reports on Commission meetings, information on exhibiting stationery, stationery exhibits

Postal Stationery

Ian McMahon



Figure 4 hen Yu-An from Taiwan presenting at the FIP Postal Stationery Commission Meeting at PhilaTaipei 2016

as well as reports, presentations and links. It also includes a listing of FIP postal stationery judges, an exhibit database, a section on "what is postal stationery", a section on the various societies devoted to postal stationery, a working list of journals and books devoted to postal stationery, back issues of the Commission newsletter, presentations and articles can be found on the Commission's website <http://www.postalstationery.org/html/guidelines.html>.

The FIP Postal Stationery Commission produces a regular newsletter every six months which can be viewed on the Commission's website <http://www.postalstationery.org/html/newsletter.html> or alternatively I am happy to email you a copy. The contents of recent newsletters have included details of Commission meetings and activities, news from delegates,

postal stationery exhibit results, information on Commission Delegates and FIP Jurors and Team Leaders, literature reviews and a range of articles with recent examples including the American Bank Note Co as a printer of postal stationery, The First Envelope of Argentina and the First Romanian Postal Cards.

The Commission holds postal stationery judging seminars which



Figure 5 Lars Engelbrecht RDP, President FIP Postal Stationery Commission



Figure 6 Queensland 1911, 1/2d reply card, HG21, sent to UPU, Brisbane CTO, and receiving mark for Madagascar.

are a requirement for people wishing to become postal stationery judges with seminars held recently in conjunction with exhibitions in Korea, Singapore and New York. A copy of the basic presentation used in these seminars including a number of examples of what can be exhibited and what cannot be exhibited as postal stationery can be found on the Commission's website.

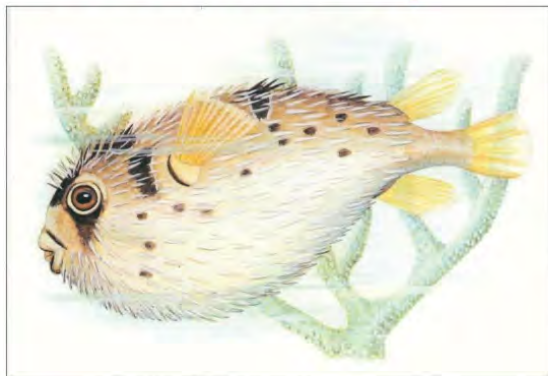
The website also includes a list in pdf format of the results of postal stationery exhibits at FIP, FIAP, FIAF and FEPA exhibitions from 1999 to 2016.

The Postal Stationery Chairman, Lars Engelbrecht (Figure 5), has recently been elected to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. His citation read *Lars has researched the postal stationery of Denmark in depth and written a considerable number of articles about this in both national and international journals. He has attained FIP Large Gold medals for the Postal Stationery exhibit: Denmark - The Bicoloured Issue of 1871-1905 and FIP Gold for Danish Postal Stationery Essays. He is an FIP juror and team leader, has been Chairman of the FIP Postal Stationery Commission since 2012, and editor of the FIP Postal Stationery Commission newsletter since 2008. He has given numerous seminars on exhibiting and judging, and took the initiative for FIP jury team leader training in 2015.*

UPU Specimen Postal Stationery

The United Postal Stationery Society (UPSS), which is the largest postal stationery society in the USA, has a detailed listing of worldwide specimen stationery sent by countries to the UPU on its website <http://upss.org/upuspecimens/index.php>. This listing is derived from that created by James Bendon who is the author of the book *UPU Specimen Stamps 1878-1961* which primarily covers adhesive stamps. The listing only includes those items of postal stationery that a UPU member country sent as specimens (either with a specimen

Postal Stationery



Ian McMahan



Figure 9 Front of 20 DB postcard from Sao Tome and Principe

overprint or other form of cancellation), to the UPU in Berne, Switzerland, for distribution to other UPU members. Countries are listed in alphabetic order. Most stationery sent to the UPU was in normal, mint condition, and are not included as they are indistinguishable from issued items. General information on the UPU procedures is included.

An article on the specimen postal stationery of the Australian States has recently appeared in the *Postal Stationery Collector*, the Journal of the Australian Postal Stationery Society of Australia. This article, by Dingle Smith, covers both specimens intended to be sent to the UPU as well as specimens produced for presentation purposes. Figure 6 shows a Queensland postcard which has been sent to the UPU

Facing page:
Figure 7 Porcupine fish on the Reverse of a Sao Tome and Principe Stamped Postcard

Figure 8 Sunbird on the Reverse of a Sao Tome and Principe Stamped Postcard

in 1911. The postcard has been CTO and has the receiving handstamp of the Madagascar post office.

Sao Tome and Principe (St Thomas and Prince) Stamped Postcards

Perhaps not a common collecting country for collectors of postal stationery, but Sao Tome and Principe (St Thomas and Prince) has a current issue of stamped postcards showing birds and sea life (Figure 7 and 8). The reverse of the postcards show illustrations similar to those depicted on adhesive stamp issues depicting birds and fish issued in 1979 and 1983. The postcards are imprinted with a Db 16 or Db 20 stamp (Figure 9) depicting the coat of arms of Sao Tome and Principe which displays a shield supported by a falcon on the left and a grey parrot on the right. Sao Tome and Principe is a Portuguese-speaking island nation in the Gulf of Guinea, off coast of Gabon. With both the reverse of the cards and the stamp depicting birds or marine life the postcards would be attractive to thematic or topical collectors.

Postal Stationery

This month's column looks at the centenary of the Australian Commonwealth's first embossed envelopes, a new 'biscuit tin stamped postcard and Hong Kong Lunar New Year lettercards. In addition, I continue the article on exhibiting postal stationery, this month looking at how postal stationery exhibits are judged.

Centenary of the First Commonwealth Embossed Envelopes

This year marks the centenary of the issue of the 'star' or 'octagonal' King George V embossed stamped envelopes which were first issued in May 1916. The envelopes were the first embossed stamped envelopes issued by the Commonwealth and replaced the King George V sideface stamped envelopes. They are also known as the 'Wilby' envelopes after the designer, J.E. Wilby of the Victorian Government Printing Office.

While some of the Australian states had used embossed stamps on their stamped envelopes, the first Commonwealth issues had Kangaroo and Map stamps printed on the envelopes. These were followed by the King George V sideface stamped envelopes.

Following the discovery of forged Kangaroo and Map stamps, the stamp printer, Cooke, was concerned about the security of the envelope stamps and felt that the use of embossed stamps on envelopes was essential to protect against forger. Unlike the adhesive stamps the paper used for



Figure 1 1d King George V 'Star' Embossed Stamped Envelope

the envelopes was unwatermarked. Furthermore the Post Office provided a service whereby private uses could have their own stationery imprinted with stamps meaning that the imprinted stamps could appear on a wide range of paper types making the detection of forgeries more difficult. Many other countries including New Zealand and the United Kingdom used embossed stamps on their envelopes and Cooke proposed that Australia follow suite.

Although there was some resistance due to cost, concern at finding a suitable engraver in Australia and discussion about the design, the first embossed stamped envelopes appeared in May 1916 using the 'star' design shown in Figure 1. The original design did not have 'POSTAGE' in the design, but this was added in 1921 (Figure 2). The 'star' design was replaced by a design of the portrait of King George V in an oval (Figure 3) in 1928.

The 'Star' envelopes are a popular collecting area of



Figure 2 2d King George V 'Star' Stamp With 'POSTAGE'

Ian McMahan



Figure 3 Cut-out with King George V 'Star' Stamps 1d With 'POSTAGE' + 2d orange Without 'POSTAGE'

Australian postal stationery due to changes of value and colour of the stamps, changes in design and the range of interesting official and PTPO postal stationery. The story of the development of these envelopes, including the involvement of the stamp

printer Cooke and the note printer Harrison, can be found in an article by Mark Diserio with appears in the November issue of the *Postal Stationery Collector*, the Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia.

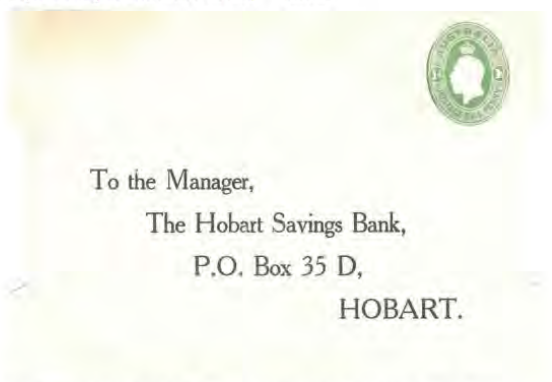


Figure 4 1d King George V 'Oval' Stamped Envelope PTPO for the Hobart Savings Bank

Postal Stationery

Exhibiting Postal Stationery – How stationery exhibits are judged.

Postal Stationery exhibits are judged using the following points breakdown:

- Treatment (20) and Philatelic Importance (10) 30
- Philatelic and related Knowledge, Personal Study and Research 35
- Condition (10) and Rarity (20) 30
- Presentation 5
- Total 100

Treatment of the exhibit reflects the degree to which the exhibitor is able to create a balanced exhibit characteristic of the chosen subject. A logical progression that is easy to follow and a clear concise write up will help the jurors (Figure 4) to appreciate the exhibit. In assessing treatment jurors will check that the statements made in the introduction and plan are adequately represented in the display. The exhibit is evaluated on whether:

- The completeness of the material shown in relation to the scope of the exhibit
- The subject has been chosen to enable a properly balanced exhibit to be shown in the space available
- The primary focus is the stationery itself and secondarily the usage
- The content reflects the title, purpose, scope and plan
- There is a logical flow in the exhibit
- The headlines of each page support the understanding of the treatment
- There is a good balance between the different parts of the exhibit
- There is a natural start and ending point of the exhibit
- There is no duplicated material (For instance: Two similar items postmarked in two different cities are in a postal stationery exhibit duplication)

The Introduction Page is evaluated on whether it:

- Introduces the purpose of the exhibit
- Defines the scope of the exhibit
- Explains the structure of the exhibit
- Has a plan of the exhibit
- Mentions the most important literature/references

The selection of material for a postal stationery

exhibit involves a compromise between the many pages of material the exhibitor may wish to show and the number of pages that will fit in the frames allotted by the exhibition management. This selection is an important factor not only in assessing treatment, but also knowledge. Providing a clear indication is given, the exhibitor may omit material that is of lesser significance. In general, the common items of an issue may be represented by a token showing, while the better material of the same issue should be shown in depth. The judges will appreciate that this treatment shows the exhibitor's knowledge of the material.

The "importance" of an exhibit is determined by both the significance of the actual exhibit in relation to the subject chosen and the overall significance of that subject. In assessing the importance of the exhibit consideration is given to:

- How difficult is the selected area?
- What is the significance of the selected area relative to world philately?
- What is the significance of the selected area relative to the national philately of the country?
- What is the significance of the material shown in the exhibit relative to the selected area?

Philatelic and related knowledge is demonstrated by the items chosen for display and their related comments.

Philatelic and related knowledge is demonstrated by the choice of items that reflects knowledge of the chosen area, whether the exhibit demonstrates a full and accurate appreciation of the subject chosen, whether the existing literature within the area has been used and whether items are well described. Personal study is demonstrated by the proper analysis of the items chosen for display. Personal research is presentation of new facts related to the chosen subject. Personal study is demonstrated by the inclusion of descriptions of:

- The postal stationery type, name and location of printer, issuing date, earliest recorded use and numbers printed (where known)
- Watermarks, paper, perforations etc. of the postal stationery
- Postal stationery printings and varieties
- Rates and usage
- Rarer added stamps to a postal stationery item



Figure 5 Postal Stationery Judges at Work, Thailand 2016

- Scarce destinations and unusual routes
 - Distinctive cancellations and/or added markings affecting the rate and those not affecting the rate
- Personal research includes research carried out by the exhibitor. Research and new discoveries should be given full coverage in accordance with their importance. Where appropriate, references should be given to the exhibitor's own or other

Ian McMahon

previously published information. Where the exhibitor has extended such information a reference can be placed either in the introductory statement or on the exhibition page to which the research refers. It is unrealistic to require a collector to develop new findings in a heavily studied and researched area. For this reason, such exhibits will not be penalised for a lack of personal research, but will be given additional consideration if, in spite of previous research that has taken place, the exhibitor has managed to come up with new findings.

The proper evaluation of philatelic and related knowledge, personal study, and research will be based on the relevant description of each philatelic object shown. A well thought-out plan may avoid otherwise lengthy descriptions later in the exhibit.

If rarity statements ("One of X recorded") are used it is important to mention the source of this recording. Do not use expressions like "Unique" or "Very rare".

Only the knowledge, study and research documented by the items in the exhibit can be judged. Furthermore exhibitors should bear in mind that the information given should not overwhelm the philatelic material shown.

The postal stationery items should be in the best possible condition. The condition of the items is evaluated as if they were stamps: No tears, no missing corners, no bends, no stains, no missing perforation (if present) etc. Exhibitors are encouraged to show unique or very rare material that does not occur in fine condition, but are cautioned from including other items in a condition that may reduce the perceived overall condition of the exhibit. The condition of common material should be impeccable.

It is important to remember that the actual condition obtainable will vary according to the country and period. Commercially used items are to be preferred to philatelic produced ones. Additional

Postal Stationery

Ian McMahon

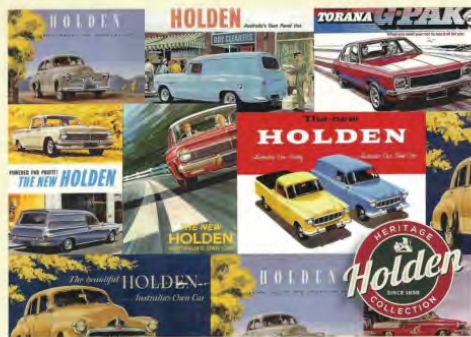


Figure 6 Holden Stamped Postcard

franking should also be in best possible quality and postmarks should be as clear as possible with all essential wording complete. If an item has been restored or manipulated it must be described as such.

Unless a postal stationery item is of extreme rarity, it is unknown as entire, or the exhibit is primarily concerned with variations in the stamp impression only, only entries be shown, that is, cut-outs of postal stationery stamps should not normally be included.

Rarity is directly related to the philatelic items shown and to the relative scarcity of this material (however, not the value). The jurors will primarily be looking for:

- The rarities (postal stationery types) within the area
- Essays, proofs (approved and rejected) and specimens
- Unused items, items used at intended rate and with additional franking (express, registered etc)
- The difficulty of obtaining relevant and inter-

esting postal stationery material for the exhibit.

- How easy it will be to duplicate the exhibit
- If there is philatelic produced material in the exhibit

The jurors will also be looking for scarce stamps used as additional franking on a postal stationery item and scarce postmarks, markings, rates, routes and destinations.

The method of presentation should show the material to the best effect and in a balanced way. With postal stationery, it is important to avoid unduly uniform arrangements, and variation in mounting is therefore preferred. The exhibit is evaluated on:

- Good balance in the frames and the individual pages
- Good use of the page - with not too much white space on the pages
- The write-up is clear, concise and relevant to the material shown and to the subject chosen for the exhibit
- Sufficient write-up - but not too much text

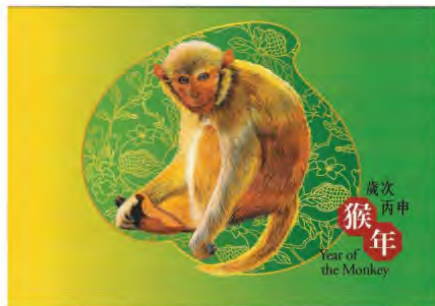


Figure 7 Front of Hong Kong Year of the Monkey Lettercard

- Illustrations are not too dominating. Any photocopies must be a minimum of 25% different in size from the original
- Careful mounting

Overlapping of items is accepted but obscuring important features should be avoided. No advantage or disadvantage is applied as to whether the text is handwritten, typewritten or printed. Brightly coloured inks and coloured album pages should be avoided.

Holden Biscuit Tin Postcard

Australia Post has issued a 'Holden' stamped postcard (Figure 5). The postcard is sold as part of a Holden gift pack with a tin of shortbread biscuits in a 'collectible' Holden-themed tin with a mug selling for \$24.95. The gift pack is similar to that issued earlier in the year which was sold with World War I stamped postcards.

Year of the Monkey Lettercards

The Lunar New Year is a popular theme for post offices issuing postal stationery with countries like Australia and China producing Lunar New Year postal stationery every year. Lettercards, once a popular form of postal stationery, are now issued by only a very few countries. Hong Kong, however, is still issuing lettercards with a set of four lettercards being issued for the Year of the Monkey (Figures 6 and 7). The letter-

cards, described by the Hong Kong Post as 'Postage Prepaid Lunar New Year Greeting Cards', were issued on 16 January 2016. Hong Kong has issued stamped lettercards for the Lunar New Year each year since 2008.



Figure 8 Back of Hong Kong Year of the Monkey Lettercard

Postal Stationery

Ian McMahon

This month's column looks at stamped postcards from Canada marking the 50th anniversary of Star Trek as well as Star Wars postal stationery from Australia and the USA. In addition I continue the article on exhibiting postal stationery, this month looking at how to structure and what to include in a postal stationery exhibit.

Star Trek and Star Wars Postal Stationery

On 5 May 2016, Canada Post issued a set of five postcards to mark the 50th Anniversary of Star Trek. The reverse of the cards show scenes from Star Trek (Figure 1) while the stamp areas depict four of the best known characters. Three Canadian actors appear on these postcards: William Shatner as Captain Kirk (Figure 2), James Doohan as "Scotty", and John Colicos as Commander Kor. American actors Leonard Nimoy (Figure 3) and DeForest Kelley complete the cast of the main characters. The postcards were sold in a pack for \$12.50.

While on a science fiction theme, Australia issued two Star Wars stamped postcards in 2012. The two prepaid postcards were issued in the "Star Wars Episode 1 The Phantom Menace" Set for \$19.95. The set included a souvenir stamp sheet and a collector's wallet. According to the Philatelic Bureau, these cards were issued on 30 July 2012 and there was no special cancel for them. One card shows Qui-Gon Jinn, Padmé Amidala and Anakin Skywalker et al ("the good guys", Figure 4) and the other Senator Palpatine, Darth Maul and the clones ("the bad guys"). The cards are 3D laminated lenticular (hence the blurred images in the illustration).

The USA has also issued Star Wars themed postal stationery. It issued a postcard booklet of fifteen different 26c stamped postcards (Figure 5) depicting Star Wars characters including Luke Skywalker, Darth Vader and C-3PO on 25 May 2007. The booklet sold for \$12.95. In addition the USA issued three \$16.25 Express Mail Flat-Rate Envelopes (Figure 6) on 6 May 6 2007 with special designs depicting Star Wars characters (Luke Skywalker, Master Yoda and Darth Vader) for the 30th-anniversary of Star Wars. The enve-



Figure 1 Reverse of Canada Star Trek Postcard



Figure 2 Captain Kirk from Star Trek on a Canadian Stamped Postcard



Figure 3 Commander Spock from Star Trek on a Canadian Stamped Postcard



Figure 4 Reverse of Star Wars Episode 1 Stamped Postcard from Australia

lopes had a \$16.25 'Marine One' stamp printed on the envelopes.

Exhibiting Postal Stationery

While collectors of postal stationery can collect and write-up their collections any way they choose, once you start exhibiting postal stationery at National exhibitions you need to abide by the guidelines for exhibiting adopted by the Australian Philatelic Federation. These rules can be found at <http://www.apf.org.au/Postal-Stationery-Regs/SREVGPLPS2013a.pdf>.

A postal stationery exhibit should comprise a logical and coherent display of postal stationery, that is, stationery bearing an officially authorised pre-printed stamp or device or inscription indicating that a specific face value rate of postage has been pre-paid.

It should seek to illustrate the issues of a particular country or associated group, the issues of a particular chronological period, the issues of a



Figure 5 USA 26c Postcard depicting the Star Wars Character C-3PO



Figure 6 USA Express Envelope depicting the Star Wars Character, Master Yoda

particular class of postal stationery, the issues of a particular type of postal or associated service or the issues relating to a particular physical form of the stationery.

In a postal stationery exhibit, the exhibitor tells a story with the exhibit. Normally it is the story about the development of the postal stationery items themselves. It can begin with the reason why the postal stationery was issued followed by essays and/or proofs. It can then describe the development

Postal Stationery

of the items, different printings, colours, perforations, papers, errors etc. The usage of the items, the rates, routes, cancellations and other aspects are a secondary part of the story and should not be a dominant part of the exhibit. The exhibits may be planned chronologically, geographically (e.g. by local national districts), by mode of transport/service, or by any other way that the exhibitor may feel appropriate to employ. The subject chosen needs to be appropriate in scope for both the initial and also the potential size of the exhibit.

Exhibits can be organised by the availability and usage of the postal stationery, the physical



Figure 7 King George V Official Postcard for the Victorian Education Department



Figure 8 Italy 1950 100 L Parcel Card

form of the stationery or by the post-

Ian McMahon



Figure 9 UPU International Reply Coupon for the 100th Anniversary of International Reply Coupons

tration approval and with specified regulations to the order of private individuals or organisations. Imprinted stamps may cover a wider range of denominations and hence designs to those found on post office issues. It is important to distinguish within the stamped to order class between those items which were produced for genuine postal usage and those produced for philatelic purposes.

- Local post issues: Stamped stationery produced by private postal agencies with varying degrees of Postal Administration recognition or support.

The physical form of the stationery on which the stamps have been printed can be sub-divided into Letter sheets including Aerogrammes, Envelopes including registration envelopes, Post Cards, Letter Cards, Wrappers, and Printed Forms of various kinds. The physical form of the paper or card on which the stamp has been printed depends upon the specific purpose for which a particular item of postal stationery is intended. The earliest stamped items of postal stationery were usually letter sheets (termed covers) and envelopes. The other forms of postal stationery commonly include postcards, wrappers (newspaper bands), registration envelopes, certificates of posting, letter cards, and air letter sheets (aerogrammes), but other types of documents bearing impressions of postage stamp designs have been produced by a number of countries.

It is also possible to classify postal stationery according to the type of postal or associated service for which it is intended. Postal Stationery has been produced for a variety of postal and associated services including:

- Postage: Surface/airmail - local, inland, for-

at or associated service for which it is intended.

Postal stationery can be grouped into the following classes according to the manner of its availability and usage:

- Post office issues: Stamped stationery prepared to the specification of and issued by Postal Administrations for public use. It is important to distinguish the unofficial private modifications of normal Post Office issues made for philatelic or private purposes
- Official service issues: Stamped stationery produced for the use of Government Departments only (Figure 7). Imprinted stamps may be similar to those found on Post Office issues or of a special design. Alternatively, Post Office issues may be adapted for Official Service by overprinting etc.
- Forces (military) issues: Stamped stationery produced for the use of members of the armed forces. Imprinted stamps may be similar to those found on Post Office issues of special design.
- Stamped to order/printed to private order issues: Stamped stationery bearing stamps of post office design applied with postal admini-

Postal Stationery

Ian McMahon



Figure 10 International Express Post Satchel

sign, - letters, post cards, parcels, newspapers, etc.

- Registration: Inland, foreign.
- Telegraph: Inland, foreign, etc.
- Receipt: Receipt of posting - letters, parcels (Figure 8).
- Miscellaneous fees: Postal orders, money orders, other documents bearing impressions of stamp designs etc.
- Other accepted forms of Postal Stationery

The FIP Postal Stationery Commission definition of postal stationery is *Postal Stationery* comprises:

postal matter which either bears an officially authorised pre-printed stamp or device or inscription indicating that a specific face value of postage or related service has been prepaid. Essays and proofs whether of adopted or rejected designs can also be included.

Although not strictly falling within the definition of Postal Stationery above the

following are also accepted forms of Postal Stationery:

- Formular stationery. A number of countries issued so called "formular" items which were sold to the public bearing adhesive stamps, as fore-runners to the issue of postal stationery items with impressed stamps. These formular items can be included in postal stationery exhibits.
- Non-value indicators. More recently a growing number of Postal Administrations have intro-

duced postal stationery which, while sold to the public at a specific price, merely indicates that a particular service/postage rate has been prepaid without indication of value - termed "non-value indicators" (NVI) or non-denominated stationery. Such material is of course appropriately included in exhibits of postal stationery.

- Telegraph Forms can be exhibited as postal stationery.
- Money Orders/Postal Orders/Postal Notes can be exhibited as either postal stationery or re-



Figure 11 International Parcel Post Satchel

International Reply Coupons have traditionally been accepted as part of postal stationery and can be exhibited in this class (Figure 9). The following items are not postal stationery and should not be included in a postal stationery exhibit; unstamped formula items (others than those mentioned above), unstamped military stationery, unstamped postal administration stationery, official franks, meter post impressions and privately generated 'Postage Paid Impressions' are all considered outside the definition and should not be exhibited in the postal stationery class.

Postal stationery exhibits should normally be of entire items. Where certain items are very rare in entire form or are only known to exist in cut-down (cut square) form they would be acceptable as part of an exhibit, as would a study for example of variations in the imprinted stamp dies used or those with rare cancellations etc. The use of postal stationery imprinted stamps as adhesives would also properly form part of an exhibit of postal stationery.

A One Frame exhibit of postal stationery is intended to be an exhibit within the categories mentioned in 2.1 with a very narrow theme that fits into one frame. If a theme can be shown in more than one frame, it is not suitable as a theme for a one frame exhibit. A selection of items from a multi-frame exhibit may be suitable only if the selection can completely treat a natural sub-theme of the exhibit within one frame.



Figure 12 International Courier Post Satchel

An extract of a multi-frame exhibit showing only the best items ("cherry picking") from a multi-frame exhibit is not appropriate as a one frame exhibit. As with multi-frame exhibits One Frame Exhibits should have primary focus on the postal stationery itself. Exhibits with a heavy emphasis of usage are unlikely to succeed.

All postal stationery exhibits must include an introductory page. This introductory page should help the viewer follow and understand the exhibit. It should consist of:

- The title of the exhibit
- Short, precise and relevant general information on the subject
- A description of the purpose of the exhibit
- A description of the scope of the exhibit (What is included in the exhibit and what is omitted)
- A plan of the structure of the exhibit - chapters or sections etc. - rather than a "frame by frame" or "page by page" description
- A list of personal research by the exhibitor within the subject (with references to articles or literature)
- A list of the most important literature references

International Post Formular Envelopes and Satchels

On 1 April 2016 Australia Post issued a new range of formular international envelopes and satchels and boxes were issued. The new stationery replaced the

existing range of formular express and courier envelopes, satchels and boxes as well as the postal stationery express post envelopes. The new stationery were provided for 'standard' air mail (Figure 10), express (EMS) (Figure 11) and courier delivery (Figure 12). A post office counter label has to be purchased and fixed to the stationery before they were valid for postage. The cost depends on the destination.

Postal Stationery

This month's column looks at the stamped postcards issued by Australia Post with Norfolk Island views on the reverse, errors on postal stationery and exhibiting postal stationery.

Norfolk Island Stamped Postcards

On 1 July 2016 Australia Post took over the running of the Norfolk Island Post Office. Australia Post plans to issue adhesive stamps for Norfolk Island with a similar arrangement to that which applies for Christmas Island and the Cocos



Figure 1 Quality Row, Norfolk Island

(Keeling) Island with the new stamps for Norfolk Island also being valid for use in Australia. At the time of writing the first adhesive stamps under the new arrangements had not been issued. However, Australia Post has issued a set of four stamped postcards depicting Norfolk Island Views. The six postcards which sell for \$2.20 prepaying postage anywhere in the world. The views on the reverse of the postcards (Figure 1) are based on photographs taken by Brett Kytola and show Cemetery Bay, Emily Bay, Kingston, Quality Row, Royal Engineers Office and St Barnabas Chapel.



Figure 2 West Island, Cocos(Keeling) Islands



Figure 3 Bosunbird [Golden TropicBird], Christmas Island

Similar postcards have been issued previously for Cocos (Keeling) Islands in 2014 and Christmas Island in 2013. The Cocos (Keeling) Island postcard views (Figure 2) are; Malay Jukung, Prison Island, Nek Angklik Island and West Island Crab. The Christmas Island views are: Golden Bosunbird, Great Frigatebird, Pink Anemonefish, Christmas Island Reef Crab, Christmas Island Reef, Crab near a waterfall, Christmas Island Red Crabs, Ethel Beach and the Migration of Christmas Island Crabs. Some of the Christmas Island postcards were later issued with the overprint *Greetings From Christmas Island* (Figure 3).

Above Right: Figure 6 Normal Canada 30c aerogramme
Right: Figure 7 Reverse of Normal Canada 30c aerogramme

Ian McMahan



Figure 4 Canada 30c aerogramme with missing blue colour



Figure 5 Reverse of Canada 30c aerogramme with missing blue colour



Postal Stationery



Figure 8 New Zealand 80c Kowhai stamped envelope

Postal Stationery Errors

Collectors of Postal Stationery, like collectors of adhesive stamps, collect errors. Errors on postal stationery can include missing colours that are also found on adhesive stamps, but in addition can



Figure 9 80c Kowhai stamped envelope with missing black, blue and yellow.

include errors associated with the manufacture of the stationery itself.

Colour errors on stationery can be quite spectacular. The Canadian 1978 30c aerogramme shown in Figure 4 (front) and Figure 5 (reverse) has the blue colour omitted. The resulting aerogramme is missing 'Canada 30' and the address lines while on the reverse the illustration of Quebec farmland is very red compared with the normal aerogramme (Figures 6 and 7).

In 1999 New Zealand issued an 80c stamped envelope showing the Kowhai flower (Figure 8). Figure 9 shows the stamp with missing black, blue and yellow.

One of the



Figure 10 New Zealand 1d King George V 'albino' stamped envelope



Figure 11 New Zealand 1d King George V offset

common errors of embossed envelopes is an 'albino' where the stamp impression is embossed but the printed image is missing. An example of a 1d New Zealand King George V envelope postally used is shown in Figure 10. The envelope has a manuscript notation 'sold in error'.

Figure 11 shows an offset of a 1d George V New Zealand embossed stamp while a horizontal partial print of a similar stamp on the reverse of the embossed stamp impression is shown in Figure 12.

A New Zealand 3d/2d embossed envelope with an inverted stamp (and overprint) in the lower left hand corner is shown in Figure 13. These envelopes were embossed on the envelopes after the envelope had been manufactured, as evidenced by the embossing showing on the flap on the reverse of the envelope, Figure 14, (this may be hard to see on the illustration).



Figure 12 New Zealand 1d King George V partial print of stamp on reverse of 1d stamp

Ian McMahan

Exhibiting Postal Stationery

Because of the unique and colourful character of much Postal Stationery, it often attracts more attention in stamp exhibits than other philatelic material. Exhibitors have the pleasure of showing their collections to an interested audience, as well as matching their skill in the selection, mounting, and explanations of their material with other collectors.

Exhibiting introduces rules that govern and guide what you display and how it should be done. These rules are necessary to ensure that all exhibitors are on the same playing field, and to guide the judges so that all similar exhibits are judged equally. These rules govern the types of material which may be included, how it is to be presented, how it is to be judged, and the conduct of the judges in the judging process.

Exhibiting is competitive, but it is not a case of selecting first, second and third. Each exhibit is judged on its own merits and the person you are competing against is yourself. There are additional benefits arising from exhibiting such as receiving constructive criticism about your exhibit from other collectors, meeting other exhibitors with similar collecting interests, requiring you to

Postal Stationery



Figure 12 New Zealand 1d King George V partial print of stamp on reverse of 1d stamp

research and study your material, and identifying weaknesses in the exhibit where additional or replacement material is needed. Personally, I have found the discipline of exhibiting has encouraged me to study my material and very much added to my enjoyment of collecting postal stationery.

It is by no means necessary to have a collec-

tion of rare and unusual items to have a winning exhibit. While rarity is one factor with the judges in most shows, there are many other things which are equally important, such as: skill in presentation, clarity of explanations, and ingenuity in the conception and organization of the exhibit.

The presenta-

tion of Postal Stationery in an exhibit presents special problems; but these offer an interesting challenge, and they are by no means insurmountable. The art of mounting stationery, with its larger pieces than adhesives, and of writing it up is one that can be learned only by practice, and by studying exhibits of other collectors.

Before exhibiting it can be helpful to have a look at other people's exhibits to give yourself ideas as to how you might prepare your own exhibit. Take a look at the layout of the material and the first page of each exhibit which usually describes what the exhibitor is aiming to do in the



Figure 14 Reverse of New Zealand 3d/2d King George VI envelope

exhibit and how they have organised the display. The exhibits can give you ideas as to how to present material, ideas on what can be included in your exhibit and ideas on your exhibiting topic. You can find exhibits at stamp exhibitions which are held each year in Australia.

There are now a number of websites which have exhibits which can be viewed on-line. One is called Exponet, Virtual Philatelic Exhibition, which can be found at <http://www.exponet.info>. This site has over 1,000 exhibits on many philatelic topics. Almost a hundred of these exhibits are of postal stationery.

A collector may collect what they like and is free to set their own goals and limitations. However, when it comes to exhibiting competitively, like any other competition, certain rules and regulations have to be framed for the guidance of exhibitors as well as to provide a uniform base for comparative assessment of the exhibits. The rules used at Australian Exhibitions are those that have been developed by the Federation Internationale

de Philatelie (FIP). These regulations with the appropriate modifications and moderations are also used for our State and National level exhibitions. If you are planning to exhibit postal stationery you should familiarise yourself and follow these regulations and guidelines which can be found at www.apf.org.au.

Once you begin exhibiting you will be continually improving your exhibit with exhibit changing many times. These changes will generally occur over a period of a few years. You must also be prepared to be disappointed and criticised. When you prepare an exhibit your expectations are generally high. It is somewhat deflating when a judge identifies weaknesses in your exhibit, and then proceeds to point out many ways in which it can be improved. To be successful these circumstances must be accepted and used as stepping stones in the development of your exhibit.

In a future column I will look at the rules of exhibiting postal stationery at national exhibitions.

Ian McMahon

Three Puffins on Lundy London Cancel

The World Cinderella Congress will be held in London 16-18 September 2016 at the Royal Philatelic Society.

The Lundy Postal Service has been in existence since 1929 and it is the world's oldest privately operated local post linking the island in the Bristol Channel with the British mainland. During the Congress, the Lundy Postal Service will have a mailing facility available for visitors. The cards and covers will be taken from London to Lundy where they will be serviced by the local postmaster before be-

ing sent to the mainland and the Royal Mail for delivery.

Current issues of Lundy stamps will be available at the Congress and a special cancel will be used on all mail. The postmark features three puffins. It is believed that the island's name of Lundy is old Norse which can be translated as "Puffin Island."

On September 18th the Lundy Collectors' Society will hold an afternoon meeting as part of the Congress.

Christer Brunström



Postal Stationery

This month's column looks at the Postal Stationery Class at New York 2016 World Stamp Exhibition, new issues of postal stationery from Australia, a newly reported 2½ d Kangaroo & Map PTPO envelope and Papua New Guinea Philatelic Bureau Christmas envelopes.

Postal Stationery at New York 2016 World Stamp Exhibition

New York 2016 World Stamp Exhibition was held in New York City at the Javits Center, New York from 28 May to 4 June 2016.

The exhibition was one of the largest ever philatelic exhibitions with over 4,000 frames of exhibits, over 200 dealers and postal administrations and a full program of society meetings and other events. For the postal stationery collector the exhibition provided a feast of postal stationery exhibits as well as meetings of postal stationery societies and of the FIP Postal Stationery Commission.

There were 35 multi-frame postal stationery exhibits in addition to five one-frame exhibits and two youth exhibits. The exhibits covered a broad range of subjects from Europe, North and South America, Australasia and Asia. The Postal Stationery exhibits were particularly strong with 3 Large Gold and six Gold medals being awarded. All three Large Gold medals went to exhibits from Australian exhibitors with John Sinfield receiving a Large Gold for his exhibit *Panama Republic Postal Stationery to 1940*, Darryl Fuller for *Leeward Islands Postal Stationery* and Michael Blinman for *New South Wales Postal Stationery*. The two other Australian exhibits received Gold and Large Vermeil medals respectively: Philip Levine for *Gold Coast Postal Stationery* and Ian McMahon for *Envelopes and Postcards of Canada* respectively. The best one-frame postal stationery exhibit



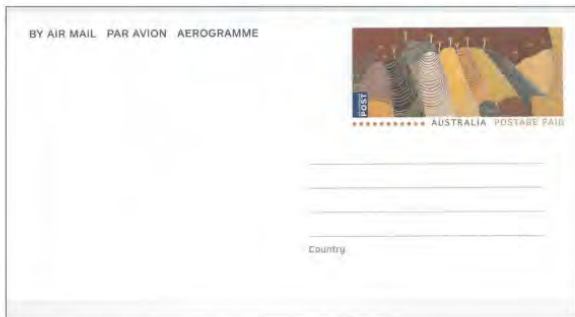
Figure 1 Postal Stationery Jury Critique New York 2016

was *The 10 cent US Envelopes of 1870-1874* while the best Youth postal stationery exhibit was *Postal Stationery of Mexico Serie Multas* by a Spanish exhibitor which received a Large Vermeil.

Unusually a postal stationery exhibit was nominated for the Grand Prix, the top award of the exhibition. This exhibit was Steve Schumann's *New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876-1940*.

A number of books on postal stationery were included in the literature class at the exhibition including *The Mulready Postal Stationery* by Holyoake and Alan Huggins, which received a gold medal, the *Romanian Postal Stationery Specialized Catalog 1870-1927* by Emanoil-Alexandru Savoiu and *Advertising postal cards of the Russian Empire*

Ian McMahon



(2nd edition) by Valery Krepostov.

The Mulready Postal Stationery tells the story of the Mulreadys, starting with the design and development of the Mulready postal stationery and covering the Treasury Competition entries, essays, proofs and issued items. The book presents an outline account of the genesis of the Mulready design and the

Figure 2 Indigenous Art, Gawarrw, Aerogramme

production, issue and usage of the actual stationery, and brings together for the first time in one place illustrations of many of the iconic items existing today. This overview is complemented by the second



Figure 3 Indigenous Art, Ngaturn Tingari, DL International Stamped Envelope

Postal Stationery

Ian McMahon



Figure 4 \$1 stamped envelope for the 50th Anniversary of the Parachute Riggers

section, which demonstrates how this story can be presented through the medium of an exhibit, to provide a visual insight into the role of the Mulready stationery in the introduction of the historic reforms, which were fundamental to the creation and operation of the Uniform Penny Postage system. This is an excellent book and recommended to all postal stationery collectors.

Society journals included in the literature class were *Postal Stationery and Postal History: Almanac No. 20, 21* (2015), *Journal of the Union of Philatelists of Russia and the Postal Stationery Collector*, *Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia*, which was awarded a Large Silver.

One of the highlights of US exhibitions is the range of society meetings. For the postal stationery collector, the United Postal Stationery Society had two meetings at the exhibition including a talk on aspects of British West Indian stationery while the Postal Stationery



Figure 5 Soldier "Carrying On" With His Correspondence Stamped Postcard



Figure 6 Queen Elizabeth II 90th Birthday Stamped Postcard

Study Group of the British North American Philatelic Society held a meeting including a talk on private order stationery of Canada. In addition the FIP Postal Stationery Commission held a seminar on postal stationery exhibiting and judging and a talk on postal stationery research.

Aboriginal Art Aerogrammes and International stamped envelopes

Australia issued two new aerogrammes and two international stamped envelopes on 5 April 2016 with designs based on indigenous art held in the Art Gallery of Western Australia. The aerogrammes, which sell for \$2.30, feature the paintings *Gawarrne* by Patrick Mung Mung (Figure 2) and *Kirriwirri* by Jan Billycan. The DL (Figure 3) and C4 international stamped envelopes depict *Ngaturn Tungari [Wati] Tjukurpa* by Tommy Mitchell, Peter Lewis, Clifford Mitchell and Valerie Mitchell and *Pirini* country by Jimmy Pike respectively. The envelopes sell for \$3.05 (DL) and \$8.05 (C4). The aerogrammes

and envelopes were printed by A&G envelopes and designed by Jo Mure from the Australia Post Design Studio.

Parachute Ringer Stamped Envelope

Australia issued a \$1 stamped envelope (Figure 4) on 12 April 2016 to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Parachute Riggers, a section of the Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps. The envelope sold for \$1.20, was printed by A&G Envelopes and designed by Sonia Young. The issued envelope and envelopes cancelled First Day of Issue have different barcodes - Mint is 9312650516529 and FDI is 9312650516536.

Biscuit Tin Postcards

Australia Post has continued its practice of selling stamped postcards in conjunction with tins of biscuits. In April Australia Post issued two stamped

Postal Stationery



Figure 7 2013 K1.30 Papua New Guinea Christmas Envelope

maximum cards released with that issue. The cards were also sold as part of a gift pack containing a tin of ANZAC biscuits, a tin mug and the two cards for \$24.99.

A stamped postcard was issued in May 2016 to mark the 90th Birthday of Queen Elizabeth II (Figure 6). The postcard was sold by Australia Post in tins of shortbread from Walkers for \$24.99.

Papua New Guinea Christmas Envelopes

In recent years Papua New Guinea Philatelic

postcards (Figure 5): Soldier "carrying on" with his correspondence and Australian machine gunners return from the frontline near Pozieres. The cards were included in a tin of ANZAC biscuits which sold for \$14.99. The issue of the postcards was related to the release of the adhesive stamp issue for the Centenary of World War I: 1916 and they were a similar design to the two of the



Figure 8 2015 K6.60 Papua New Guinea Christmas Envelope

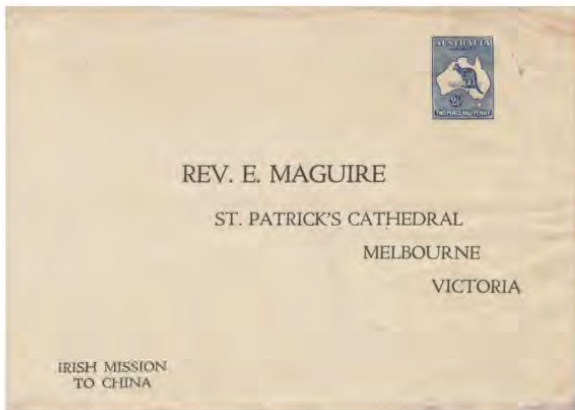


Figure 9 2½d Kangaroo & Map Envelope for the Irish Mission to China. Additional images in separate email

Bureau has produced stamped envelopes for use with Christmas cards sent to clients. The envelopes have either a domestic or international rate imprinted stamp. The K1.30 envelope shown in Figure 7 appears to be from 2013. While they apparently intended primarily for the use of the Philatelic Bureau, collectors have in some instance obtained mint copies and used them for postage. In 2015 two envelopes were issued, a K1.45 domestic rate envelope and a K6.60 international rate envelope. Figure 8 shows the international rate envelope used to the USA.

New 2½d Kangaroo and Map PTPO Envelope

Gary Watson from Mossgreen has recorded the ex-

istence of a second 2½d Kangaroo and Map PTPO Envelope (Figure 9). The "Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue: Postal Stationery" records that 2½d Kangaroo PTPO envelopes were issued in 1919 and 1920, and that there were 14 orders for a total of only 12,152 envelopes. To date only one example from one of these orders has been found, an envelope for the *South British Insurance Company Ltd.* The newly-reported 2½d Envelope has the pre-printed Melbourne address and imprint of the *Irish Mission to China* and is in the unusual size 180x128mm on cream wove stock, with the sealing flap at right. The *Irish Mission to China* envelope was due to be offered in Mossgreen's auction scheduled for 29 June 2016, with an estimate of \$5,000.

Postal Stationery



Figure 1

This month's column looks at the post office service of printing names and addresses on post office issued stamped envelopes as well as the

2016 National Postal Stationery competition held in Canberra in March and the Postal Stationery Society of Australia.

Figure 2



Ian McMahan



Figures 2 & 3 (below)

'Address Corners' or 'Corner Cards' on Stamped Envelopes

It has long been the custom of users of stamped envelopes to add their personal information such as their name and return address on stamped envelopes

and other items of postal stationery, usually in the upper left hand corner of the envelope. This was often done by arranging for a commercial printer to print the 'address corners' or 'corner card' on the stamped envelopes.

An alternative in many countries has been a service provided by the post office whereby, for a fee and usually with a minimum purchase of stamped envelopes, the post office has arranged for the print-



Postal Stationery



Figures 4 & 5 (below)

ing of address corners on stamped envelopes (and other stationery). The US Postal Service (USPS) has, for example, provided such a service since 1865 (Figures 1 and 2, on facing page). Currently the service is promoted as 'personalized stamped envelopes'. The USPS will print the name, address and short messages or slogans in up to four lines of text (small envelopes) or seven lines of text (large envelopes) on the left hand corner of their standard range of stamped envelopes. The service is available for a minimum order of a box of 50 envelopes plus a small fee. The printing of logos can also be arranged for orders of 100,000 envelopes or more. The service is promoted by stating that 'with Personalized Stamped Envelopes, the return address and postage appear on every envelope, eliminating the need for return address labels, stamps or postage meters'. A variety of fonts, font sizes and envelope types is available.

This service is very popular in the US with personalized stamped envelopes, sold with the return address imprinted, accounting for \$16.4 million of the total of \$26 million of sales of stamped envelopes in 2015.

Australia Post introduced a similar service in late 1989-1990 with the introduction of the first 'postage pre-paid' (PPE) stamped envelopes, the National Parks issue. From this issue the defini-

tive stamped envelopes were inscribed 'postage paid' rather than having a state value. The service proved reasonably popular in the 1990s. Four examples are shown in Figures 3-6. The Australia Post Office still seems to offer the service, however, it does not appear to be popular, in contrast to the service offered by the USPS. One reason for this could be the small minimum number (a box of 50) of stamped envelopes that can be ordered from the USPS.

Telling the difference between address corners printed by the post office and those privately printed can be difficult. In Australia the addresses arranged by the Post Office was printed by typography or lithography until 2003 after which the method of printing was being changed to Digital Printing similar to that used by photocopiers.

Postal Stationery Competition, Canberra Stampshow 2016

This year's National level Postal Stationery Competition was held at Canberra Stampshow 2016, a Half-National Exhibition held in Canberra from 18-20 March 2016. There were 13 national-level exhibits as well as a Youth postal stationery exhibit and a State-level postal stationery exhibit.

Entries on display included Persia - Nassereddin Shah Qajar Postal Stationery issued 1876-1893, Nicaraguan Postal Stationery - The Seebeck Era, The King George V Envelopes of Australia, U.S. 1907-1919 2c Oval Die-stamped Envelopes,



Kellow Parbery
& Associates Pty Limited
ACN 118 119 119
P.O. BOX 131 BERGA 2816
AUSTRALIA & NZ OFFICES



Ian McMahon



Figure 7 Nancy Gray receiving the Award for the Best Postal Stationery Exhibit, Canberra Stampshow 2016

Thailand Postcard Postal Stationery, Pre-decimal Australian Airletters and Aerogrammes and Air Letters to Aerogrammes. The Award for the Best Postal Stationery was awarded to the exhibit of King George V envelopes (Figure 7).

The competition included a rerun of the Great Australasian Stationery Challenge (GASC) for entries of postal stationery issued post-war with seven GASC entries. The entries displayed the post-war stationery of Guyana, Fiji, and Bangladesh as well as the aerogrammes of Sierra Leone and Eastern Arabia and the New Year cards of the People's Republic of China. The Postal Stationery Society of Australia provided the prize for the best GASC entry which was won by Ross Duberal for his exhibit of Fiji. There was also a National Youth entry on Australian Animals on Prestamped Envelopes and a state-level entry on Fiji airletters and aerogrammes.

Postal Stationery Society of Australia

The Postal Stationery Society of Australia (PSSA) was set up in October 1995 to encourage the study and collection of postal stationery, a field which had often tended to be neglected in Australia.

The Society aims to enable collectors to share information and assist each other with forming their collections and keeping in touch with current trends, particularly in new types of postal stationery.

It encourages all collectors of postal stationery to become members. Membership is not limited to collectors and researchers of either Australian Colonies or Commonwealth of Australia postal stationery, nor is membership limited to residents of Australia. The Society is not based in a particular Australian city. Opportunities are taken to meet

Postal Stationery

regularly at National exhibitions and similar occasions. Office bearers come from different States, and there is a Coordinator for each state and one for New Zealand.

The Society's most recent meeting (Figure 8) took place at Canberra Stampshow 2016 and included displays of aerogrammes from Norway, Burma, Afghanistan and Singapore and of Queen Victoria prestamp envelopes of the Cape of Good Hope.

The Society produces a journal *Postal Stationery Collector* four times each year. It aims to serve as a means of communication between members, and to facilitate the exchange of ideas, news and information about postal stationery, primarily that of Australia. It has developed into an important source of up-to-date information about postal stationery recently issued by Australia Post, particularly No Value Indicated (NVI) stationery.

Members are strongly encouraged to contribute to the journal, and all manner of contributions are sought. It is a vehicle for the research of members, and also features reviews of and notes about

newly-published catalogues and handbooks on the postal stationery of many countries. Back issues of the journal in paper format are available from the Society.

The Society's webpage can be found at www.postalstationeryaustralia.com. It features issues of *Postal Stationery Collector*, and a link to the online *Listing of Australian non-denominated and flat rate postal stationery December 2016*. There is also a link to information about the FIP Postal Stationery Commission, and links to postal stationery collectors' groups in other countries with which the Society exchanges journals.

For more information, please contact the Secretary, Ms Judy Kennett, either by post or by email. Postal address: PO Box 16, Ulmarra NSW 2462. Email: jkennett@tpg.com.au

Figure 8 Postal Stationery Society of Australia's meeting at Canberra Stampshow 2016



Tony Buckingham 1945-2016

The stamp world lost one of its great characters and the cover world its undisputed King, with the passing on 12 May of Tony Buckingham, the founder of the two pre-eminent names in cover collecting in the UK: Benham and Buckingham Covers.

Tony's stamp dealing instincts can be traced back to his school days, when he used the proceeds of his sales to fund his own collection, but like many others of his age, in the end the stamps had to go in order to fund another even greater interest – girls! – or in Tony's case one particular girl, who was, in due course to become his wife and business partner for almost 50 years, Cath.

Cath and Tony were both training to become teachers, and when Tony made the mistake of including his interest in stamps in his CV at one school to which he applied for a job, straight out of training college, he was told that part of his new post would involve running the school stamp club. One aspect of this would be to organise first day covers for commemorative stamp issues and Tony decided he could do better than those then available and with a fellow cricketer (cricket being the third great passion of his life) he set up Benham Covers – and the rest was history!

The very first Benham cover, featuring a woodcut illustration by Cath's father, was for the 1967 Christmas issue and for the next two years Tony and Cath would buy each new issue on the stroke of midnight on the day of issue and spend the early hours applying the stamps to the covers and delivering them to the post office of choice, and then rushing back to be in front of their respective classrooms for the day ahead.

In 1969 they were able to set up a trade account with the Philatelic Bureau and although this gave them longer to stick the stamps on the covers, it was clearly difficult to maintain the growing business alongside their teaching careers and in 1970 they decided to run the business on a wholesale basis, selling to other dealers.

It was at this time that they had a stroke of luck; while making up 1970 Churches covers they realised that one sheet of the 3d. value had the gold Queen's head omitted and were happy to sell the majority of them for £5 each. (Today the stamp is



listed as SG 904a and catalogued at £250 each – but the few covers they had made up before they discovered the error can fetch even more).

Still keen to advance his teaching career, in 1972 Tony took up the deputy headmastership of a school in Hythe, Kent. They were already attending regional stamp fairs to dispose of excess stock and, once established in Hythe, opened a stall in the local Saturday market and thus began the return to the retail business. In 1975 he finally retired from teaching in order to devote all his attentions to the Benham business, opening a stamp shop in Hythe and later the Folkestone Stamp Shop.

In 1978 Benhams took over fellow cover producers, Pilgrim Philatelic, and with it their stand at Stampex. The business was transferred from the family home to offices in Hythe High Street,

continued on page 67

Postal Stationery

In this month's column I do a brief survey of Australian aerogrammes and briefly mention two new issues of Australian stamped envelopes.

Collecting Australian Aerogrammes

Stamped aerogrammes are a popular postal stationery collecting area. Although there were some early issues such as the airmail lettercard issued by Iraq in 1933, aerogrammes came into their own during the second world as a form of communications with members of the armed forces overseas. The lightweight airmail letter-cards (variously known as airletters, airmail letter cards or aerogrammes) were provided to military personal for use to write home. For Australia, most of these

early airletters were unstamped (known as 'formula' airletters). Examples are shown in Figures 1 and 2.

Australia issued its first stamped airletter on 11 September 1944. The 7d King George VI airletter (Figure 3) was originally intended for use by members of the public to overseas military personnel as shown by the inscription on the airletter which read "For letters to members of the Forces Overseas". Before the airletter was issued, however, it was decided to make the airletter available for general use and as a result it saw both civilian and military use, with and without the inscription being crossed out. On 11 October 1944 a 7d airletter without the inscription was issued and latter reissued with 'airletter'



Figure 1 Military Formula Airmail Lettercard



Figure 2 1d 'Postage Paid' Airmail Lettercard

Ian McMahon

The Comet featured on the 10d aerogrammes from 1959 until replaced by a design showing a jet tail in 1965. The 1959 aerogrammes also had a border of red and blue lozenges (Figure 6). The aerogramme rate was increased to 9c on 14 February 1966, 10d aerogrammes used after the introduction of decimal currency required the addition of a 1c stamp as 10d was converted to 8c (Figure 7).

A variety of changes were made in the aerogramme formats culminating in aerogrammes which fold to approximate a DL envelope in size in 1971 (Figures 8 and 9). From 1981 aerogrammes were issued with pictorial panels with the 33c aerogramme issued in 1981 showing a rural scene of a mob of sheep (Figure 10). From the issue of the National Park



Figure 3 7d King George VI Air Letter with inscription 'For letters to Members of Forces Overseas'

as one word (Figure 4). The aerogramme rate was increased to 10d in 1952.

The post-war period was also a period of the development of airmail services and aerogrammes were convenient for being used as first flight covers such as the use of the first stamped aerogramme by QANTAS with a special cachet in red for the first Australian civilian airmail on the 11 September 1944 flight from Sydney to London (Figure 5).

The name aerogramme was adopted by the UPU as the 'official' name for airmail lettersheets at its Congress in Brussels in 1952 and recommended that the term should be used on all airmail lettersheets from 30 June 1953. As a result Australia issued a form inscribed AEROGramme and with a 10d 'plane over globe' imprinted stamp on 29 July 1953.

Definitive aerogrammes continued to be issued with utilitarian stamp designs of aircraft or aircraft tails.



Figure 4 7d King George VI aerogramme used to Jamaica

Postal Stationery

Ian McMahon



Figure 5 Australia's First Stamped Aerogramme used as a first flight cover of the resumption of QANTAS Services to London

aerogrammes on 4 February 1993, all aerogrammes were issued without a face value but were inscribed 'Postage Paid'. One exception was the 70c aerogramme issued in 1993 for Aeropex 94 and the 50th anniversary of the first Australian stamped aerogramme.

The first Commemorative aerogramme was issued to mark the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games and was issued on 12 November 1956. Other early commemorative aerogrammes include 12th International Congress of Scientific Management (1959), 40th anniversary of QANTAS (1960), 1962 Perth Commonwealth Games, and the 50th anniversary of QANTAS.

Christmas aerogrammes were first issued by Australia in 1961 and were then issued for most years until the last Christmas aerogramme was issued in 2012 (Figure 11). In many years the design of the imprinted

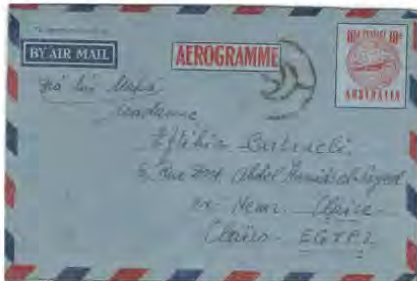


Figure 6 10d Plane and Globe Aerogramme used to Egypt

stamp was an adaptation of the adhesive Christmas stamp issued in the same year or the theme of the aerogrammes was related to the adhesive stamp issue. The 1968 aerogramme was an exception with the aerogramme having the plane silhouette of the definitive issue but with a decorative panel and the inscription Christmas Greetings from in the letter area. No Christmas aerogrammes were issued in 1969 or 1970.

The Post Office used a range of official aerogrammes for their own use. While unstamped they are of interest to aerogramme collectors and were in the same format as the general issues in use at the time they were issued and either inscribed 'Postage Paid' (Figure 12) or OHMS (Figure 13). Some of the issues were overprinted 'SPECIMEN' for sale to



Figure 7 10d Aerogramme uprated with 1d adhesive to pay the 9c decimal currency rate



Figure 9 14c Large Format Aerogramme, posted after the aerogramme rate had risen to 25c and returned for additional postage.



Figure 11 2012 Christmas Aerogramme - Australia's last Christmas aerogramme

collectors.

Many of the Australian aerogrammes were overprinted 'SPECIMEN' for distribution to the UPU. Inclusion of these aerogrammes will add interest to a collection.

A 5d Queen Elizabeth II aerogramme was issued for use by the Defence Forces in 1967 (Figure 14). The aerogramme was mainly used by Australian



Figure 8 12c Large Format Aerogramme sent by registered mail



Figure 10 33c Pictorial Aerogramme uprated for Express Post to Israel



Figure 12 Official Aerogramme inscribed Postage Paid

forces in Vietnam with 5d paying the concessional military rate. A 1/- aerogramme was issued in 1943 for use by prisoners of war held in Australia (Figure 15). They are most commonly seen to German and Italian addresses. A 5d aerogramme was also issued for use by POWs to Japan in 1945 but is extremely



Figure 13 1961 Official Aerogramme



Figure 14 Sc Aerogramme intended for military use in Vietnam

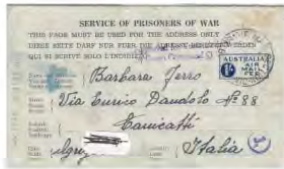


Figure 15 1/- POW Aerogramme used to Italy



Figure 16 Australian unstamped aerogramme used in New Hebrides



Figure 17 Private Airlitter Form used to Canada, PMG Approval No 9



Figure 17 Private Airlitter Form used to Canada, PMG Approval No 9

scarce.

Unstamped ("formular") aerogrammes were produced by the post office for sale in Australian territories including Papua New Guinea, Nauru and Norfolk Island (Figure 16). The stampless forms were similar in design to the stamped definitive aerogrammes issued at the time. Some of the

stampless aerogrammes were also used in the British Solomon Island and the New Hebrides. Commercially used stampless aerogrammes used from the territories are generally quite scarce although pilatelically used are more common.

Although not postal stationery, as they have no imprinted stamp, privately produced aerogrammes are also interesting to collect. In order to pass at the

YEAR OF THE MONKEY 2016



Figure 19 Year of the Monkey Stamped Envelope

aerogramme rate, privately produced aerogramme forms had to be approved by the Post Office which required that a sample of the aerogramme be sent to them for approval and that the private form meet the aerogramme requirements as to size and the weight and colour of paper. The privately produced aerogrammes had similar headings to the post office aerogrammes of the time. They required the addition of adhesive stamps to pay postage (Figure 17). On approval the aerogrammes were allocated an approval number which had to be printed on the aerogramme. The forms were produced in substantially numbers mainly by stationery companies (for on selling) and by larger companies. They were extensively used by banks, universities and other larger users.

The aerogramme rate represented a real discount on the cost of an airmail letter, especially to Europe. For example, the 10d rate valid until the change to decimal currency compared with an airmail letter rate to Europe of 2/3 effective from 14 July 1958. As a result aerogrammes were a popular form of communications. While the aerogramme rate still represents a discount on an air mail letter to Europe or North America (\$2.30 compared with \$2.75) it does not represent a discount on letters to New Zealand (\$1.85) or Asian/Pacific countries (\$1.95). The role of the aerogramme has largely been taken over

by email and cheaper phone rates. While Australia still issues aerogrammes, the number used must have declined in recent years and many other countries have discontinued issuing aerogrammes. The most recent aerogramme issue will be on 5 April 2016 and features Western Australian indigenous art by Patrick Mung Mung and Jan Billycan.

Stamped Envelopes Issued in 2016

Two new issues of stamped envelopes appeared in January 2016. The first was an issue titled 'Terra Australia' showing a map of Australia (Figure 18) have been issued on 4 January 2016. The envelopes were designed by Sharon Rodziewicz of the Australia Post Design Studio and printed by A & G Envelopes by Offset lithography. Five envelopes were issued (DL, DL window, C5, C4 and B4)

The second issue was the annual Lunar New Year envelopes (Figure 19) which were issued on 3 February 2016. Two envelopes were issued, one for the domestic rate and one for international use, for the Year of the Monkey. They are based on the stamp designs of Dani Poon with product design by Sharon Rodziewicz. In addition a prepaid postcard was also issued.



Postal Stationery

In the Postal Stationery column in the March 2016 issue of *Australian Stamp News* I discussed printed to private order (PTPO) postal stationery. In that column, I briefly mentioned the existence of modern private order postal stationery, that is, postal stationery issued to meet the requirements of large customers and that differs in some way from that issued by Australia Post over post office counters. In this month's column I have a look at some of these relatively unknown issues. In this column I don't discuss the service offered by Australia Post whereby large purchasers of stamped envelopes can have Australia Post print their address details and/or logo on the front of envelopes but which otherwise are the same as envelopes sold over post office counters. These will be covered in a future column.

Private Order Envelopes

One group of major users of private order stamped



Figs. 1 & 2 1999 Aboriginal Art envelope for National Photos. The reverse is shown below.

envelopes were photo developers who obtained C5 window stamped envelopes from Australia Post. The regular post office sold C5 stamped envelopes were without a 'window'. In addition the envelopes have advertising and address details for the companies and other differences from envelopes sold over post office counters, for example, no address lines on the reverse for the senders address, no instructions or details of the design and no barcode.

The C5 envelopes were the perfect size for sending a set of photographs printed from a roll of film and placed in the standard envelopes with space for negatives used by film developers for many years (I hope most of my readers will remember silver-based film which has now been replaced almost entirely by digital photography).

Companies using the envelopes included Photosavers (Sydney), National Photos (Southport, Gold Coast Queensland) and Extrafilm (Gold Coast Queensland).



Fig. 3 Sunset over the Hills on an envelope for Extrafilm

The stamped envelopes produced include C5 envelopes from the 1995 Capital Bridges (Tasman Bridge, Derwent River, Hobart), 1997 Aboriginal Art, 1999 Aboriginal Art, 2001 Indigenous Art exchange (Sunset over the Hills), 2003 Torres Strait Art (James Eseli Crocodile dance headdress), 2005 Cityscape (Sydney) and 2007 Heritage Post Offices (Kiama) issues. Some of the envelopes are cancelled with an undated Gold Coast Mail Centre cancel and in some cases there are a number of design variations in the envelopes.

Figure 1 shows the 1999 Aboriginal Art envelope for National Photos on the Gold Coast while Figure 2 shows the reverse of the envelope. As mentioned, besides the advertising and address details for National Photos the envelope differs from the regular post office envelope in being a window envelope and in lacking the description of the envelope, the conditions of use of the envelope, lines for the sender's address and barcode on the reverse of the envelope. In addition the envelope has a printed undated Gold Coast Mail Centre postmark.

Figure 3 shows a private order stamped envelope

from the 2001 Indigenous Art Exchange issue showing *Sunset over the Hills* for Extrafilm while Figure 4 shows an envelope from the 2007 Historic Post Office issues showing the Kiama post office for Extrafilm.

Other users of private order envelopes include James Hardie and Co (National Parks issue), DNG Direct and Vision Australia. The Vision Australia envelope is similar to the envelope issued on 28 November 2008 to mark 200 Years of Braille but differs in having a printed address for Vision Australia instead of space for the senders address. Figure 5 shows the front of this envelope and Figure 6 shows the reverse of the envelope.

Private Order Express Post Envelopes

Large users of Australia Post's Express Post service

Postal Stationery

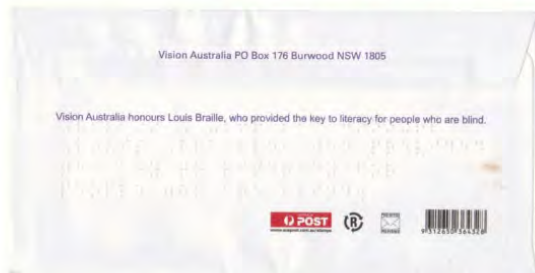


Fig. 4 2007 Historic Post Office issues showing the Kiama PO for Extrafilm.

Fig. 5 & 6 Vision Australia envelope with 200 years of Braille issue, Reverse shown opposite



Ian McMahon



Figs 7 & 8 Front and reverse of QANTAS private order envelope

Postal Stationery



Fig 9 & 10 Front and reverse of American Express envelope

Fig 11 Westpac window Express Post envelope

9 and 10 show the front and reverse of an envelope for American Express. The envelope differs from those sold in post offices by having no space for the sender's name and address but rather a printed address for American Express.

In 2011 a C5 window express post envelope was reported for Westpac (the C5 envelopes sold over the post office counter were not window envelopes). This envelope is shown in Figure 11.

No doubt other private order stamped envelopes and express post envelopes exist. If you know of any please contact me on ian.mcmahon4@bigpond.com.

have also used private order postal stationery.

One major user was QANTAS. The DL size express post envelope was the perfect envelope to take airline tickets (I assume that most readers will remember paper airline tickets now almost entirely replaced by electronic tickets). The express post service, with its next day delivery guarantee within the express post network, was also important in ensuring the rapid delivery of the airline tickets at a time when the tickets had to be sent through the mail.

The first QANTAS envelopes appeared in about 1996. The DL window envelopes differed from those sold at post offices in that they have a QANTAS address printed on the reverse rather than address lines for the addressee. In addition the barcode on the tab on the front of the envelope begins with 'QA' rather than 'DL'.

In the following years a number of different varieties of the QANTAS envelopes were produced with variations in line with the DL envelopes sold by the post office. These included the addition of the Atlanta Olympics logo, new Australia Post logo and a bar code beginning DLQ.

Figures 7 and 8 show the front and reverse of a QANTAS private order envelope showing the 'QA' numbered barcode on the front and the printed QANTAS address on the reverse.

Other reported users of private express post envelopes include American Express and BHP. Figures



AAT fully IMPERFORATE Miniature Sheets issued by Australia Post!



In November 2013, Australia Post released 250 x IMPERFORATE panes of 15 mini sheets of stamps. The "1913 Discovery & Boldness" issue, for the Centenary of the Australasian Antarctic Expedition (AAE) of 1911-14. The AAE left Hobart in December 1911 commanded by Douglas Mawson and returned in February 1914. Mawson was knighted for his achievements, and is regarded as one of the greatest figures of all Antarctic exploration.

You needed to phone the PO "800" number, or order online. Cost was well above face value, and the maximum order was ONE sheet a person. Sold out in super fast time, as you'd expect - within hours I am advised. There will be more in the secondary market, as collectors who got very lucky, will not be sellers - at any price. I'd guess there are only 20,000 known global collectors of AAE, but only 250 of these sheets to go around.

If 200 buyers held on to their sheets for their collections, that leaves just 750 left to service those 20,000 collectors worldwide. 99% of AAE collectors do not right now realize this IMPERF issue even exists! In the 56 years since AAE first issued stamps in 1957, I can't recall any other "AAE" imperforates sold by the PB. Each sheet is hand numbered in top left margin, and also comes with a Certificate of Guarantee card from head of AP, confirming that only 250 panes in TOTAL were sold - globally. This is an Official Australia Post Australian Antarctic Territory issue.

I am offering these as follows: SUBJECT UNSOLD - please use correct stock code!

- A. Fully imperforate MNH or CTO AAT Mini Sheet - \$460 a sheet. (Stock code 629K)
- B. An uncut MNH and/or CTO imperf pair of 2 of the Mini Sheets \$480 (Stock code 629K)
- C. PAIR of imperf panes from top LH, hand numbered "XXX/250" in margin, AND the matching AP card, \$4115 (Stock code 629KM)
- D. Normal perforated M/S & IMPERF sheet used on 23x32cm air cover to you \$470 post free Global! (Stock Code 629K)

Many more choices, inc. covers, and all photos are here - www.tinyurl.com/imperfAAT order online: www.tinyurl.com/GlenOrder

Cheques, money orders, cash, all credit cards, Amer, PayPal, and bank transfer accepted at ZERO extra fee. Rapidly Packed Post is S44 in Australia (Add \$5 for Registered, if needed), or \$40 Foreign Air (Add \$A12 Registered if needed).



GLEN STEPHENS

PO Box 4007, Castlecrag, NSW, 2068, Australia. - Phone (02) 9958 1333 - e-mail me: glen@glenstephens.com - www.glenstephens.com/rarity.html

Life Member: American Stamp Dealers Association (New York); Philatelic Trader's Society; (London)



Postal Stationery

utilised by most of the Australian colonies. Figures 1 and 2 show the front and reverse of a Queensland PTPO lettersheet stamped with a 1d Queen Victoria stamp for Harper and Co. The Australian Post Office continued the practice with the first stamp being used being the Kangaroo and Map stamp. Figure 3 shows an envelope provided by Vacuum Oil stamped with the 1d Kangaroo and Map stamp while Figure 4 shows another envelope from the same company stamped with the 1d King George V sideface stamp.

Many PTPO envelopes can be readily identified as privately provided stationery because they differ from Post Office issued envelopes in some way such as size, shape, paper colour, 'knife' or because they are window envelopes. If the customer used the same (or very similar) envelope stock to that used for Post



Figure 5 1d King George V postcard for Bennett and Fisher, Adelaide

Office issued postal stationery than it can be difficult to tell the envelopes apart. In identifying PTPO stationery, it should be remembered that many firms bought regular post office issues and printed their own address details and advertising on the stationery after purchase. These are not PTPO postal stationery.

While most PTPO envelopes are stamped with the basic letter rate and the stamp is the same as that used for regular post office issues, in some case envelopes were stamped with stamp denominations for other rates such as a printed matter rate, second



Figure 6 Lettercard for Reid Bros stamped with 1d red King George V sideface



Figure 7 5d Queen Elizabeth II wrapper for the Sydney Stock Exchange



Figure 8 4c Queen Elizabeth II lettersheet for the Education Department, Melbourne

or higher weight rate or a registration rate. Examples include the wool sample envelopes stamped with 6d Kangaroo and Map stamps on envelopes used for sending wool samples to The United Kingdom and registration envelopes stamped for the Hobart Savings Bank.

Envelopes were the most common private stationery submitted to the post office for stamping with many hundreds of users submitting envelopes for stamping. Letterscards, lettersheets, wrappers and postcards were also submitted for stamping. Many of these types of stationery are easily identified as PTPO as, except for the Kangaroo and Map and King George V stamps, PTPO letterscards, lettersheets and postcards were stamped from the envelope dies which from 1916 were distinctively dif-

Ian McMahon



Figure 9 1d Kangaroo and Map lettersheet of Roberts & Co, Hobart

ferent from those used for regular post office issued postcards and letterscards. Wrappers were stamped with the envelope dies from about 1947.

An example of private postcards PTPO is the 1d Green King George V postcard for Bennett and Fisher, Adelaide shown in Figure 5. Figure 6 shows a lettercard stamped with the 1d 'star' stamp on stationery provided by Reid Bros Adelaide. The Sydney Stock Exchange was a prolific user of PTPO wrappers in sending out its Gazette such as the 5d PTPO wrapper shown in Figure 7.

PTPO lettersheets are not common but were produced from 1913 onwards while post office issued stamped lettersheets were only issued for a short period from 1961 to 1967. They were often used for advertising purposes or were used for forms. Figure 8 shows a 4c Queen Elizabeth II lettersheet stamped for the [Victorian] Department of Education while Figure 9 shows a 1d Kangaroo and Map lettersheet for Roberts and Co Ltd, Hobart.

Another category of PTPO stationery were parcel labels. The best known embossed stamp



Figure 10 20c Queen Elizabeth II embossed stamp

Postal Stationery

were the 3/7 and 5/10^{1/2} parcel labels stamped for Myers and other companies sending food parcels to the United Kingdom.

Collecting Commonwealth PTPO postal stationery is interesting but challenging. Many of Australia's scarcest postal stationery items are PTPO. Besides a few (mainly Queen Elizabeth II era) PTPO items produced for philatelic purposes, PTPO postal stationery were produced for private firms and not sold to the public. The survival rate was often very low.

The practice of allowing customers to submit their own stationery for stamping ceased when use of the 20c Queen Elizabeth II embossed stamp (Figure 10) was ceased following the issue of pictorial stamped envelopes (PSEs) showing Australian birds in 1978. Since then Australia Post has at various times provided alternative services of either printing addresses or advertising on regular envelopes for large users (known as 'address corners' by postal stationery collectors) or by producing envelopes



Figure 11 Stamped postcard from the AFL Ultimate Collection

specifically for customers' needs. These will form the basis of future articles.

NRL and APF 'Ultimate Collection' Postcards

Further examples of stamped postcards being sold as part of a 'collection' have appeared. Australia Post issued two stamped postcards as a component of the Australian Football League (AFL) and National Rugby

League (NRL) 'Ultimate Collections' marketed by the Royal Australian Mint (RAM) for \$129. The two prepaid postcards are illustrated in Figures 11 and 12, and one for the NRL Collection and one for the AFL Collection. The postcards have an adhesive stamp attached on the reverse cancelled by either a black or a gold cancellation. Cards with gold cancellations are found in 1 in 10 collections.

If you have information on new issues of postal stationery, new discoveries or stationery of interest please contact me on iam.mcmahon4@bigpond.com.



Figure 12 Stamped postcard from the NRL Ultimate Collection

AAT fully IMPERFORATE Miniature Sheets issued by Australia Post!



In November 2013, Australia Post released 250 x IMPERFORATE panes of 15 mini sheets of stamps. The '1911 Ekisler & Iselin' issue, for the Centenary of the Australian Antarctic Expedition (AAE) of 1911-14. The AAE left Hobart in December 1911 commanded by Douglas Mawson and returned in February 1914. Mawson was knighted for his achievements, and is regarded as one of the greatest figures of all Antarctic exploration.

You needed to phone the PO 800 number, or order online. Cost was well above face value, and the maximum order was ONE sheet a person. Sold out in super-fast time, as you'd expect - within hours I am advised. There will be near none in the secondary market, as collectors who got very lucky will not be sellers - at any price. I'd guess there are only 20,000 known global collectors of AAE, but only 250 of these sheets to go around.

If 200 buyers held on to their sheets for their collections, that leaves just 50 to service those 20,000 collectors worldwide. 99% of AAE collectors do not right now realize this IMPERF issue even exists! In the 56 years since AAE first issued stamps in 1957, I can't recall any other 'AAE' imperforates sold by the PB. Each sheet is hand numbered in top left margin, and also comes with a Certificate of Guarantee card from head of AP, confirming that only 250 panes in TOTAL were sold - globally. This is an Official Australia Post Australian Antarctic Territory issue.

I am offering these as follows: **SUBJECT UNSOLD - please use correct stock code!**

A. Fully imperforate MNH or CTO AAT Mini Sheet - \$460 a sheet. (Stock code 629KE)

B. An uncut MNH and/or CTO imper pair of 2 of the Mini Sheets \$480 (Stock code 629KD)

C. PAIR of imper panes from top LH, hand numbered 'XXX/250' in margin, AND the matching AP card, \$A115 (Stock code 629KN)

G. Normal perforated M/S & IMPERF sheet used on 23x32cm air cover to you \$A70 post free Global! (Stock Code 629KD)

Many more choices, inc. covers, and all photos are here - www.tinyurl.com/imperSAAT order online: www.tinyurl.com/GlenOrder

Cheques, money orders, cash, all credit cards, Amex, PayPal, and bank transfer accepted at ZERO extra fee. Regularly Packed Post is \$44 in Australia (Add \$5 for Registered, if needed), or \$49 Foreign Air (Add \$A12 Registered if needed).



GLEN STEPHENS

PO Box 4007, Castlecrag, NSW, 2068, Australia. - Phone (02) 9958 1333 - e-mail me: glen@glenstephens.com - www.glenstephens.com/rarity.html

Life Member: American Stamp Dealers Association (New York), Philatelic Trader's Society, (London)



Postal Stationery

In this month's column I look at collecting King George V Post Office issued envelopes, a withdrawn postcard error from Canada and a new 'limited' edition' stamped postcard from Australia.

Collecting Australian King George V Post Office Stamped Envelopes

Collecting Australian stamped envelopes poses many of the same challenges as adhesive stamps including die types, paper types, varieties, essays proofs and specimens. In addition the envelopes often come in different sizes and knives. (The envelope knife refers to how the envelope is cut and the different shapes and sizes of the envelope flaps.)

The Commonwealth of Australia first issued stamped envelopes in 1913. The stamp or indicia on the envelopes was the 1d Kangaroo and Map stamp (Figure 1). The stamp was the same design as that used for the adhesive stamps issued about the same time and was printed by letterpress



Figure 1 1d Kangaroo and Map Envelope

the Commonwealth stamp Printer, J B Cooke. Three die states have been identified and details of these can be found in the postal stationery volume of *The Australian Specialists Catalogue (ASSC)*.

The first distribution of the 1d Kangaroo and Map envelopes was on 6 January 1915 to New South Wales, followed by distributions to the other states over the period January-July 1913. The envelopes were sold to the public over Post Office counters and were initially sold in packs of 25 for 2/3.

The 1d Kangaroo and Map envelope was replaced in 1915 with an envelope stamped with a 1d red King George V sideface stamp (Figure 2). The envelopes were also printed by letterpress by the Commonwealth stamp printer and as the case with the adhesive stamps, envelopes occur stamped with Die II which has a white spur in the left value tablet.



Figure 2 1d King George V Sideface Envelope

Ian McMahan



Figure 3 1d King George V 'Star' Envelope

For security reasons many other countries, including the United Kingdom, New Zealand and some of the Australian states, used embossed dies to stamp envelopes. The Commonwealth Stamp Printer also felt that an embossed design should be used as a security measure. As a result stamped envelopes bearing an embossed stamp with a 'star' shaped frame and a portrait of King George V were issued in 1916 (Figure 3). 1d red envelopes were sold over Post Office counters at 5½d for five envelopes. The ASSC recognises five die states as well as at least five paper types providing considerable scope for specialised studies of this envelope.

The introduction of a war tax of ½d in October 1918 required the issue of a 1½d embossed stamped envelope. A 1½d black-brown envelope was released in November 1918 in the same design. The ASSC recognises three dies of this envelope



Fig 5

which was sold for 5d for three envelopes. In addition some of the 1d embossed envelope were revalued by the addition of a ½d embossed stamp added to the left of the 1d stamp (Figure 4). The ASSC records that envelopes from three of the recognised die states were revalued.

The 1½d black-brown envelope was short-lived. The dark colour of the stamp meant that postmarks on the envelopes were often difficult to read. As a result the envelopes were replaced by envelopes stamped with a 1½d stamp in a much lighter brown colour from March 1919. ASSC



Figure 4 1d + ½d King George V 'Star' Envelope

Postal Stationery



Figure 7 'TWO PENCE' on 1½d King George V 'Star' stamp with 'POSTAGE'



Figure 8 2d red oval Envelope

red envelope is recorded on both laid and wove paper.

A decrease in the letter rate to 1½d on 1 October 1923 required the issue of a 1½d envelope. As considerable stocks of 2d envelopes remained, the Commonwealth Stamp Printed surcharged stocks of the 2d envelopes with 'THREE HALF PENCE' in black. Most of the overprinted envelopes were the 2d red envelopes with 'POSTAGE' under the King's head. However a small number (about 50) of the 2d orange without 'POSTAGE' (Figure 6) were also over-

recognises two dies, two knives and two paper types for this envelope.

As a result of the increase in the letter rate to 2d on 1 October 1920, 2d orange stamped envelopes were issued in November 1920 and sold for 6½d for three. The envelopes were in the same embossed design as the 1½d brown envelope. This envelope was short-lived however as a decision was made to include the word 'POSTAGE' in the design under the head of King George V (Figure 5). Envelopes stamped with the new design were issued in October 1921. This envelope had an even shorter life with a further change occurring in January 1922 when the stamp colour was changed to red to confirm with the colour scheme adopted by the UPU. The 2d

printed. In addition three copies are known of the 2d orange with 'POSTAGE', making it one of the significant rarities of Australian postal stationery. A 1½d green envelope was subsequently issued in October 1923 to be replaced by a 1½d envelope in May 1924.

In 1928 1½d stamped envelopes were is-



Figure 6 'THREE HALF PENCE' on 2d orange 'Star' Envelope without 'POSTAGE'



Figure 9 Hill 60 Postcard

sued in a new design (Figure 7). The new design was embossed and had the head of King George V in an oval stamp rather than a star. These envelopes were replaced by 2d red envelope in August 1930 following the increase in the postage rate to 2d. In addition stocks of both the 1½d star (Figure 8) and 1½d oval envelopes were surcharged 'TWO PENCE'. The 2d red envelopes were in use for about 7 years until replaced by envelopes stamped with a King George VI design. As a result they form a complex issue with the ASSC recognising two dies, 6 knives two envelope sizes and envelopes with and without a patterned security lining. For the specialist there are also 'SPECIMEN' overprints, die proofs and other varieties.



Figure 10 Reverse of the Hill 60 Postcard

Hill 60 Stamped Postcard

One of the challenges of collecting modern postal stationery is the practice of some postal adminis-

Postal Stationery

trations of making some stationery items only available by purchasing a pack or a collection of other products.

One recent example of this has been Australia Post's inclusion of the 'Hill 60' stamped postcard (Figures 9 and 10) as an exclusive product in its *Remembering WWI: 1915 The Great War Collection 1915*. The Collection, advertised in Australia Post's 2015 Impression's catalogue sold for \$249.95 in a limited edition of 250. Hill 60 was the last major allied offensive operation on the Gallipoli Peninsula and was conducted 21-29 August 1915.

Another recent example was the inclusion of two stamped postcards in a tin of ANZAC biscuits which sold for \$14.99. The illustrations on the reverse of the postcards were the *Gallipoli Field Post Office, Gallipoli Peninsula 1915* (Figure 11) and the *1st Divisional HQ staff come ashore at ANZAC Cove*. This was the second time Australia Post had included stamped postcards with a biscuit tin, the first time being a biscuit tin released in conjunction with the international stamp exhibition, Australia 2013. The reverse of the postcard showed a collage of Kangaroo and Map stamps.

Other countries have also used this practice with Canada, for example, including a 'Millennium' postcard in its Millennium collection in 2000.

The Saga of the Canadian Dinosaur Provincial Park Postcard

Canada issued a set of five stamped postcards showing UNESCO World Heritage Sites on 3 July



Figure 11 Gallipoli Field Post Office

2015; Red Bay Basque Whaling Station, Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, Wood Buffalo National Park, Dinosaur Provincial Park and Kluge/Wrangell-St Elias Glacier Bay. The stamp on the cards was the same design as that on the reverse of the postcard.

On 6 July, in response to many complaints, Canada Post withdrew the Dinosaur Provincial Park postcard from sale. The complaints highlighted the fact that the image on the back of the postcard and on the indicia was of a geological feature not found in Dinosaur Provincial Park. The card shows a rock formation, known as hoodoos, located at East Coulee Alberta about a hundred kilometres from the Dinosaur Provincial Park. The postcards were withdrawn from post offices and from sale on the Canada Post website. In addition packs containing sets of the five postcards were withdrawn.

A replacement postcard with a correct view was issued on August 2015. It is unclear how many of the 'error' postcards were issued with probably only a few being sold at post offices and some standing orders being met before the withdrawal.

The Stamp News Quiz No. 10

by David Keane

1. Why was the German stamp of Audrey Hepburn withdrawn from sale?
2. Which Asian country issued 'phonograph record stamps' which played the National Anthem?
3. Which European country claims to have the most valuable stamp?
4. Which Territory is the home address of Santa Claus for Australians?
5. In TV's Heartbeat, what was Oscar Blaketon's occupation before running a post office?
6. In which year saw Australia introducing post codes?
7. What was Wilber's first name in the Mr Ed series?
8. Which country had the lowest denomination stamp, with 150, million million pengo equalling one British pence, was it: a) Hungary, b) Zimbabwe or c) Haiti?
9. Which country has the Roman name 'Helvetia' on its stamps?
10. Which country is known as the 'Oriental Republic'?

The first six (6) all correct entries drawn will win a prize. Only one entry per household, please. Entries must be received by March 1, 2016

This month the prize will be 6 different nicely used Australian Kangaroo Stamps, with face values 2d, 3d, 6d, 9d, 1/- & 2/-, retail value \$35
Prizewinners for Quiz 8 are Paul Stark, Balmain, NSW & Barry Knight, Five Dock NSW. Congratulations!

Please send your entries to
Stamp News Quiz February 2016
PO Box PO Box 1290, Upwey, Vic, 3158, Australia
Don't forget to include your name & address!

Answers for Quiz 9

Answers: 1) Tom Kruse 2) Pre-stamped envelope 3) Email 4) Denmark 5) St James's Palace 6) Cats 7) William Shakespeare 8) India 9) Namibia 10) 1928 (blue kookaburra)



Welcome to the first postal stationery column for 2018. I wish all readers a happy and prosperous year. Certainly, for postal stationery collectors there will be many occasions to view postal stationery exhibits in 2018, including 2018 Newcastle Stamp & Coin Expo 25-27 May 2018, Armistice Stamp Show 2018 at Dunedin 9-11 November 2018 and internationally at Macao 2018 in September and Thailand 2018 at Bangkok in late November. This month's column looks at New Year postal stationery, recent and forthcoming meetings of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia and new issues from Australia Post.

New Year Postal Stationery

Postal Stationery issued to mark New Year has a long history, especially here in Australia.

New Year prepaid postcards with views on the reverse were issued by New South Wales in November-December 1898. 1d (Figure 1) and 1½d (for overseas use) postcards were issued with fifteen different views used on the 1d value and ten different views used on the 1½d postcards. The views of this issue were inscribed for use to convey either Christmas or New Year greetings. The New Year greeting cards were inscribed *With New Year Greetings* (Figure 2).

Japan has issued New Year postcards for every new year since 1950. The Japanese send New Year postcards which are sent to arrive on 1 January to their friends and relatives similar to our custom of sending Christmas cards. The Post Of-



Figure 1 New South Wales 1898 1d Postcard



Figure 2 Reverse of New South Wales Postcard with View of the GPO Sydney and New Year Greetings



Figure 3 Australia 2009 Lunar New Year International Stamped Envelope for the Year of the Ox



Figure 4 Japanese New Year Postcard for the 1950 New Year



Figure 5 Japanese New Year Postcard for 2018



Figure 6 Reverse of Australia 2009 Lunar New Year Prepaid Postcard for the Year of the Ox

ice holds the cards and delivers them on 1 January. The first New Year postcards were issued in November 1949 for use for the 1950 New Year in denominations of 2 yen and 2 + 1 yen. The stamp designs featured a stylised stork (Figure 3). Figure 4 shows a Japanese New Year card for 2018. The stamped postcards also double as lottery tickets with the winning numbers being announced in January. Prizes in 2015 included ¥10,000 (1st prize, last 5 numbers), local goods (2nd prize, last 4 numbers) and

Postal Stationery

commemorative stamps (3rd prize, last two numbers).

Many countries, including Australia, issue postal stationery to mark the Lunar New Year. Australia has issued three postal stationery items each year since 1995, a prepaid postcard and two stamped envelopes, one for domestic use and one for overseas use. The 1995 postcard and envelopes had designs marking the Year of the Ox (Figure 5 and 6) and later issues also reflected the Chinese calendar with 2017 being the Year of the Rooster.

Canada has issued prepaid postcards for the Lunar New Year since 2004 when two prepaid postcards, one for domestic use and one for international use, were issued to mark the Year of the Monkey. Figure 7 shows a postcard for 2016 Year of the Monkey.

Lunar new year cards have also been issued by countries such as China and Hong Kong. Figure 8 shows a postcard issued by Hong Kong in 2002 for the Year of the Horse. China has issued New Year stamped postcards since 1982 with many of these cards also serving as lottery tickets. Figure 9 shows a postcard for the 2004 Year of the Monkey with an attached tab with a lottery number while Figure 10 shows a New Year stamped envelope for the year of the Pig in 2007. Some cards have been produced in unusual shapes such as the postcards shown in Figures 11 and 12 for the 2005 Year of the Rooster.

Information on the Chinese New Year postcards can be found in *The Postal Stationery Catalogue of New China* (2015) while information on the Japan

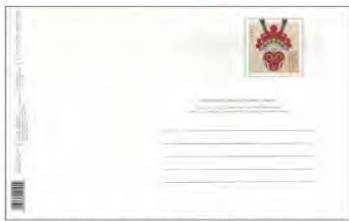


Figure 7 Canada 2016 Prepaid Postcard for the Year of the Monkey



Figure 8 Hong Kong 2002 Prepaid Postcard for the Year of the Horse



Figure 9 China 2004 Prepaid Postcard for the Year of the Monkey



Figure 10 China 2007 Stamped Envelope for the Year of the Pig



Figure 11 China Reverse of Caterpillar Shaped Postcard for the Year of the Rooster 2005



Figure 12 China Reverse of Rooster Shaped Postcard for the Year of the Rooster 2005

Ian McMahon

New Year postcards can be found in *Visual Japan Stamp Catalog Volume 3* (2014).

Postal Stationery Competition at Royalpex 2017

The 2017 national postal stationery competition for Australia and New Zealand took place at Royalpex 2017, a New Zealand Specialised National Stamp Exhibition held from 24 – 26 November 2017 at the Distinction Hotel, Te Rapa, Hamilton, New Zealand. There were nine exhibits in the competition with three exhibits receiving Large Gold medals; *New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876-1940* (Steve Schumann), *British Guiana* (Bernard Beston) and *Postal Stationery of Natal* (Gary Brown), and one exhibit receiving a receiving a Gold medal; *Post Bands and Wrappers of Canada* (Ian McMahon). Other exhibits included *Postal and Lettercard Development in the Austro-Hungarian Empire* (Tony Griffin), *Department of Education postcards of New Zealand* (Lionel Savins), *Great Britain Registered Postal Stationery 1778-1923* (Alistair Gow) and *Stam & Postal Cards* (Glen Stafford) all of which received a Large Vermeil medal as well as *India: Asoka Stationery* which received a Vermeil medal. There was also a postal stationery exhibit, *Australian 7c Magenta Pre-Stamped Envelope Usage* (Peter Tozer), in the Adult Development Class.

The Postal Stationery Society of Australia (PSSA) held a meeting at Royalpex 2017 (Figures 13 and 14) which was attended by about

Postal Stationery



Figure 13 Lindsay Chitty introducing his Display at the Postal Stationery Society of Australia Meeting at Royalpex 2017



Figure 14 Viewing the Display at the Postal Stationery Society of Australia Meeting at Royalpex 2017



Figure 15 New Zealand 3d King George V Size F registration envelope



Figure 16 Australian Recycling Label (ARL) on an Express Post Satchel

twenty people. Lindsay Chitty displayed his New Zealand Prisoner of War airmail lettercards and postcards while Norman Banfield gave a presentation on Australian King George VI postal stationery.

Steve Schumann gave a presentation at the Exhibition on *How I started collecting New Zealand Postal Stationery and a few interesting items: I have found along the way.* Items shown included an essay and plate proof of New Zealand's first postcard, the Dr Russell Queen Victoria PTPO envelopes, a double struck 1d Queen Victoria PTPO envelope for T H Hall & Co, PTPO ½ d Fantail envelopes for Alliance Finance Co and the 3d King George V Size F registration envelope. Steve's exhibit was also

on display full of New Zealand postal stationery rarities including the King Edward VIII die proof. Figure 15 shows a used copy of the 3d King George V Size F registration envelope of which only three used examples are known.

Postal Stationery Society of Australia Meeting at Canberra Stampshow 2018

The next meeting of PPSA will take place at 12 pm on Sunday 18 March 2018 at Canberra Stampshow 2018, a half-national exhibition which will be held at the Hellenic Club, Woden from 16-18 March 2018. Everyone interested in

postal stationery is welcome to attend. More information on the exhibition can be found at www.canberra stamps.org.

Recycling Logo and Satchels

Australia Post has adopted Planet Ark's Australian Recycling Label (ARL) on its plastic Parcel Post and Express Post satchels (Figure 16). Reprints of the satchels with the ARL logo have now been issued. The ARL logo indicates the satchel's recyclability with satchels being able to be recycled using a special shipping label. Australia Post states that: *The logo will make it easier for all Australians to recycle our range of packaging, regardless of their location and kerbside recycling processes, helping to increase the correct disposal of packaging material and optimising the recycling of product that might otherwise go to landfill.* Further information can be found at <http://planetark.org/recyclinglabel/australiapost.cfm>.

25th Anniversary of the International Day of People with Disability Stamped Envelope

A postage paid envelope (selling for \$1.25) was issued on 14 November 2017 to recognise the 25th Anniversary of the International Day of People with Disability (Figure 17). A version of this envelope was issued as a postal numismatic cover with a 20c coin produced by the Royal Australian Mint and sold cancelled for \$17.95 (Figure 18). This envelope differed in being a 'lick and stick' envelope as well having different text on the reverse and a hole for the coin. It was not issued mint.



Figure 17 25th Anniversary of the International Day of People with Disability Stamped Envelope



Figure 18 25th Anniversary of the International Day of People with Disability Philatelic Numismatic Cover