

Postal Stationery

This month I have a brief look at what is almost certainly the most complex issue of Australian postal stationery, the pre-paid Express Post envelopes and satchels.

Express Post Postal Stationery

On 1 October 1991, Australia Post introduced Express Post, a service offering overnight delivery between capital cities (excluding Darwin) and some provincial cities which replaced the priority paid service.

Special postal stationery was issued for use with the new service. Initially two prepaid envelopes were issued; a C5 (229mm x 162 mm) envelope which sold for \$2.80 (Figure 1) and a B4 envelope (353 mm x 250 mm) which sold for \$3.80. The envelopes prepaid the Express Post service with guaranteed next-day delivery within the Express Post Network if posted correctly. The Envelopes had a self-adhesive tab



Figure 1 Express Post envelope issued in 1991

with a barcode number on the front of the envelope which was removed by Australia Post to indicate that the envelope has been used. Removal of the tab reveals the text 'Postage Cancelled'. Envelopes were usually not cancelled by postmarks but did occasionally attract a range of instructional mark-

ings. Two plastic satchels for 500g and 3kg were issued in 1992 and DL sized envelopes in 1994.

Express Post stationery is Australia's most complex issue of postal stationery with, in the 1990s, five sizes of envelopes and satchels, frequent printings due to the quantity of express post stationery used, frequent changes to the text and design, and different versions of the stationery issued for each state. As Express Post postal stationery was not sold by the Philatelic Bureau the changes in the stationery were not publicised by Australia Post to the philatelic community.



Figure 2 State-specific Express Post Envelope for sale in Victoria

Ian McMahon



The initial C5 and B4 Express Post envelopes had barcodes commencing with the letters C and B respectively followed by a letter (A, B, C etc) and a 6 digit number. They also had an Olympic logo on the reverse as Australia Post was an official sponsor of the Olympic Team for the 1994 Olympics. The reverse of the envelopes had a general text on the Express Post network on the reverse. They were printed by Mercury-Walsh using lithography.

State-specific stationery was issued in 1992 (Figure 2). The state-specific express post stationery had specific details of the express post service for each state printed on the reverse as well as a state specific barcode. The barcode used commenced with a letter denoting the envelope or satchel size followed by a letter corresponding to the state. The envelope and satchel sizes were coded C (C5), B (B5) envelopes, M (500g satchel), S (3 kg satchel), and the codes for the states were N (New South Wales), Q (Queensland), S (South Australia), T

Figure 3 Express Post Envelope for sale in New South Wales with Sydney 2000 logo

(Tasmania), V (Victoria) and W (Western Australia). In addition 'general' issues continued usually with the code letter 'G' and a general Australia-wide text on the reverse. Thus a 500g satchel with Tasmanian specific text on the reverse had a barcode starting with 'MT'. The New South Wales envelopes of this period had the *Sydney 2000* logo on the front (Figure 3). While initially Tasmania used specific Tasmanian envelopes and satchels (Figures 4 and 5), in later years they used those prepared for Victoria.

What this meant was that there were seven different versions of many of the envelopes and satchels in this period, made more complex by minor changes to the envelopes such as the printing numbers (which appear under the envelope's flap as '10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1' for a first printing, '10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2' for the second printing etc), minor changes to the

Postal Stationery



Figure 4 Express Post envelope for sale in Tasmania with handstamp 'Posted Incorrectly or Too Late'

text and changes to the barcode label.

Clearly the number of different types of express post envelopes and satchels and their varieties is

very large!

The basic design of Express Post envelopes and satchels issued in 1991 continued with many minor changes until 2009 when a significant design change was made. The minor changes included addition and removal of Olympic and Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games logos, changes to the Australia Post logo, changes to the text and boxes on the front and reverse of the envelopes and satchels.

In March 1994 International express post envelopes were issued (Figure 6). This did not provide a full express service but rather only guaranteed the earliest possible flight out of Australia. Two cardboard envelopes were issued (C5 and B4).

In July 1994 a DL envelope was made available. This envelope was originally sold only in bulk quantities but was later sold singly. The DL size envelopes were not issued in state-specific text.

One interesting experiment was the issuing of a

<p>* GUARANTEED NEXT DAY DELIVERY The guarantee: Next business day delivery is guaranteed over the following specified routes, if your envelope is posted correctly on any business day Monday to Friday. If we do not deliver as promised, you will receive another C5 Express Post envelope free. That's the guarantee. (Express Post envelopes posted incorrectly will be carried without guarantee.)</p>		
INTERSTATE NETWORK	To and from:	Postcode Ranges
When posted in:	Canberra	2600-2639; 2900-2920
Hobart (7000-7019; 7050-7053; 7055)	Sydney	2000-2249; 2555-2574; 2740-2786
	Gosford	2250-2263
	Newcastle	2280-2300; 2302-2310
	Wollongong Areas	2500-2530
Launceston (7248-7331)	Tweed Heads/Murwillumbah	2484-2490
	Melbourne and Suburbs	3000-3210
	Geelong	3211-3220
	Brisbane	4000-4209
	Gold Coast	4210-4299
	Booval/Ipswich Areas	4300-4305
	Toowoomba	4350
	Strathpine/Caboolture	4500-4510
	Sunshine Coast Areas	4550-4601
	Maryborough	4650
	Hervey Bay	4655
	Bundaberg	4670
	Adelaide	5000-5199; 5942; 5950
	Perth (CBD only)	6000-6005; 6800-6899. Only from Perth CBD (6000-6005) to Hobart CBD (7000-7003) and Launceston (7248-7331)
TAS STATE NETWORK	To:	
When posted anywhere in Tasmania	All places in Tasmania†	
<p>* Conditions apply (see above) † Next business day delivery to roadside delivery addresses is not guaranteed.</p>		

Figure 5 Text on the reverse of an envelope for sale in Tasmania

Ian McMahon



Figure 6 Express Post International Envelope used to Tonga



Figure 7 'Two-Way' Express Post Envelope

'two-way envelope' (Figure 7) in 2001 which enabled a sender to prepay a reply by express post.

In 2002 Express Post Platinum satchels were issued for use in a courier service provided in conjunction with Australian Air Express. Also around 2002 5 kg and oversized 3 kg satchels were issued. They were initially only sold through business contracts and were not available from retail outlets until 2008.

A distinctive new design was issued in 2009 (Figure 8). This design had prominent boxes on the front showing the maximum allowable weight and thickness.

The design of the express post envelopes and satchels was changed in 2013 to the design currently in use (Figure 9). The new stationery removed the Express Post logo used since 1991 and included



Figure 8 Express Post design from 2009



Figure 9 Express Post envelope issued in 2013

small (DL), medium (C5) and large envelopes (B4) and small (500g), medium (3 kg) and large (5 kg) satchels.

The overnight delivery was only guaranteed between capital cities and certain provincial cities and if the envelopes are posted in express mail post boxes (or designated post offices) by 6 PM. Envelopes posted outside these conditions were sometimes stamped with instructional markings indicating that the delivery guarantee was void because the envelope had been posted incorrectly (Figure 10) or had labels affixed indicating that the envelope had been posted outside of the Express Post Network (Figure 11).

The envelopes often appear with post office shop security markings intended to restrict theft of the envelopes. Often there will be marking to indicate

Postal Stationery



Figure 10 Express Post envelope (C5) for sale in Victoria with two-part label with handstamp 'THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN DELAYED BY AIRLINE DISRUPTION'

sive labels have been reported as well as envelopes with missing yellow as have some cases of anomalous numbering, for example, SQ code numbers on New South Wales satchels (these were actually sold in Queensland).

Collecting Express Post postal stationery poses many challenges. As the envelopes and stationery were produced for postal use without collectors in mind they are utilitarian in design with many varieties and changes produced for operational reasons and are not well documented. They do, however, provide considerable scope for philatelic research and study.

the office where the envelope was sold, another to indicate that it had been paid for and sometimes a security tag as well.

Envelopes and satchels with missing self-adhe-



Figure 11 Express Post envelope for sale in Western Australia with 'Outside Next-Day Network' label

Postal Stationery



Fig. 1

This month's column looks at a new issue of stamped envelopes for the Centenaries of the Australian Flying Corps Squadrons, an unusual Adelaide Bridge prepaid envelope with obliterated address corner and the first of a series of articles on the literature of postal stationery.

Centenaries of the Australian Flying Corps Squadron Stamped Envelopes

Australia Post issued a set of four stamped envelopes on 1 November 2016 to mark the Centenaries of the Australian Flying Corps (AFC) Squadrons 1, 2, 3 and 4 (Figure 1). The four DL envelopes are inscribed 'Postage Paid' and sell for \$1.20 each. The stamp depicts the arms of the RAAF Association. The envelopes were designed by Sharon Rodziewicz of the Australia Post Design Studio and printed by A&G Envelopes. The cachets on the envelopes show paintings by Norman Clifford showing a ground party from No 1 Squadron inspecting a downed German Albatross near the Squadron's

aerodrome at Weli Sheikh Nuran (Palestine) in 1918, a flight of DH-5 fighters returning from close offensive patrol over the front line on the Western Front, Captain Reg Francis beside his RE-8, and three Sopwith Camels of No 4 Squadron led by Captain Harry Cobby.

Adelaide Bridge Prepaid Envelope With Obliterated Address Corner

A visit to the Wagga Wagga Post Office in the Riverina district of New South Wales in 1998 yielded something of a surprise. The Post Office had on sale single copies of the Adelaide Bridge C6 window prepaid envelopes. Included in the stock were a number of envelopes with address corners printed on them for Elder & Stuckey & Partners, Certified Practicing Accountants of PO Box 40 Tumut NSW 2720. The envelopes had this address corner overprinted with a black rectangle designed to obliterate the address (Figure 2). The counter staff indicated that a box of these envelopes had been returned to the Post Office, received the overprint and been placed on sale. The bulk of the envelopes had been sold. The counter staff also said that

Ian McMahon



Fig. 2

some customers had preferred to buy unover-printed envelopes in preference to those with the overprint. The envelopes were all from the 8th printing of the envelope (code 8 to 10) and the gum had aged resulting in poor adhesion of the self-adhesive flaps.

David Collyer commented on a possible explanation for the envelope. Someone he knew ordered 500 DL size envelopes with a printed address corner and received 500 C6. Elder and Stuckey and Partners are recorded in David's listings as using the Sydney Harbour Bridge window face stock. He suspected that the order was inadvertently printed on C6 window face stock instead of DL window face stock and that, when noted, the majority of the job was returned and then overprinted by the Wagga Post Office.

Postal Stationery Literature

While finding information on postal stationery can be more difficult than is the case for adhesive stamps, there is, however, an extensive and growing body of literature on postal stationery. All collectors are almost inevitably led to search for information about their collection. Initially that may be a basic catalogue but as their collecting progresses they will want to know when the items were issued, how to distinguish varieties, and why the postal administration issued them. They will soon find that they would like to know about differences in paper and card stock and various methods of printing.

The most recent world-wide catalogue of postal stationery is the *Higgins & Gage Priced Catalogue of Postal Stationery of The World* (H&G) published by Higgins and Gage between 1964 and 1986 (Figure 3). The H&G

Postal Stationery

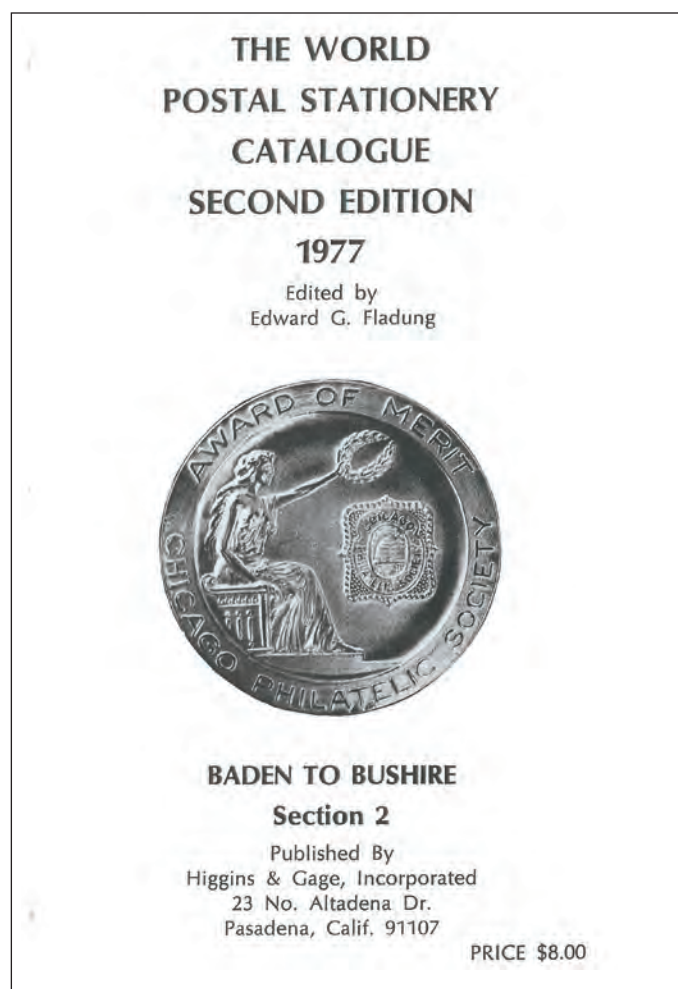


Fig. 3

catalogue comprises nineteen alphabetical volumes with supplements and price updates. The earlier volumes were edited by Edward Fladung who worked with Alexander Gage in the production of the catalogue. Although there has been no update of the Catalogue since the mid-1980s, the Catalogue and the *H&G* numbering system are still widely used by collectors and dealers although the prices given in the catalogue are out of date.

Before the publication of the *H&G* catalogue, the 'standard' catalogue of world-wide postal stationery was *Grosser Ganzsachen-Katalog* [Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the World] edited by Siegfried Ascher which was published in 1926-28. This catalogue was published in German. Although published about

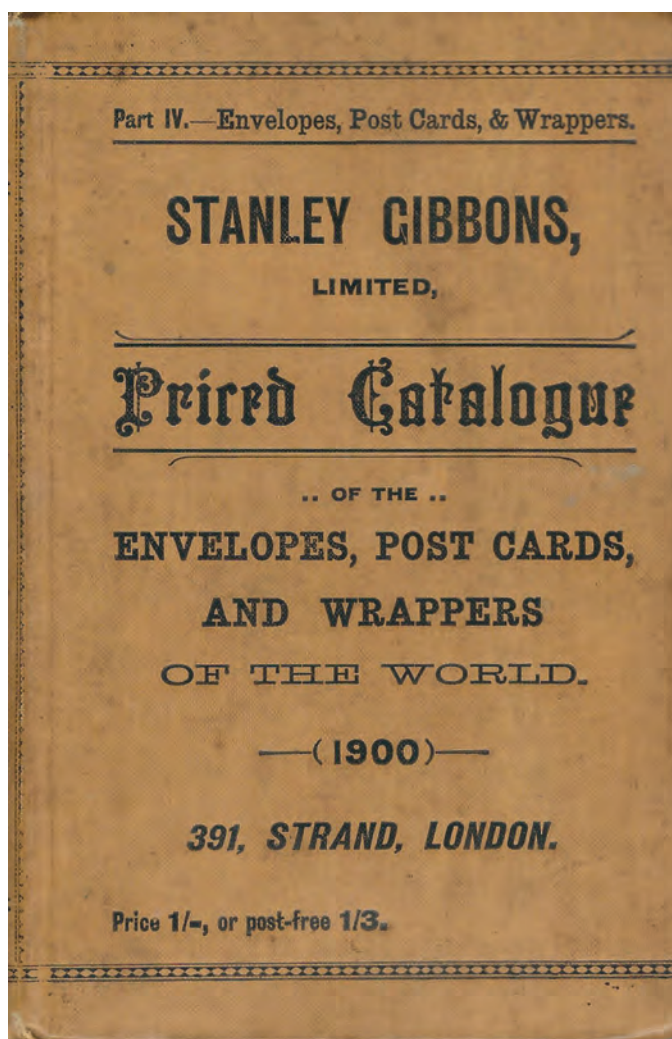


Fig. 4

90 years ago, the Catalogue is in some cases still worth consulting. It is interesting to note that until the early twentieth century Stanley Gibbons included postal stationery in its world-wide catalogues (Figure 4).

Other useful word-wide catalogues include the *Katalog der Aerogramme* (Catalogue of Aerogrammes) published by Werner Wiegard. This catalogue covering world-wide aerogrammes was published in six parts covering Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia and Oceania, South and Central America and Canada and the USA. Although in German it is easy to use, and in many cases is one of the few sources of information about aerogrammes of many countries. Although no longer being published, the

Ian McMahon



Fig. 5

sections on Africa and the Americas have been updated in catalogues edited by Klaus Muller and Norbert Sehler and published in 2012 and 2014 by the Berliner Ganzsachen-Sammler-Vereins (Berlin Postal Stationery Society) as part of their 'New Postal Stationery Catalogue' (Figure 5).

A more specialised listing of world-wide aerogrammes can be found in *Kessler's Catalog of Aerograms* edited by A Lewandowski. This Catalogue, published in three volumes in 1961-69, is still a valuable reference due to the level of information that is included.

European stationery is covered by the Michel Ganzsachen [postal stationery] catalogues (Figure 6), published in two volumes, issues before 1960 and issues after 1960. (Earlier editions of this catalogue were produced in two



Fig. 6

volumes for Europe West and Europe East). The Catalogues cover postal stationery from all countries of Europe except for Germany which is covered in a separate volume.

Many countries have specialised catalogues or handbooks. Germany and the USA are particularly well covered. For the USA listings of postal stationery are contained in the Scott USA Specialised Catalogue while specialised listings are provided in a series of catalogues published by the United Postal Stationery Society (UPSS) including *2015 United States Postal Card Catalog* (Figure 7), *U.S. 19th Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers*, and *U.S. 20th and 21st Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers*. The UPSS also publishes books on more specialised topics including proofs and essays as well as catalogues of postal stationery of Spanish Colonial Cuba, Philippines and Puerto

Postal Stationery

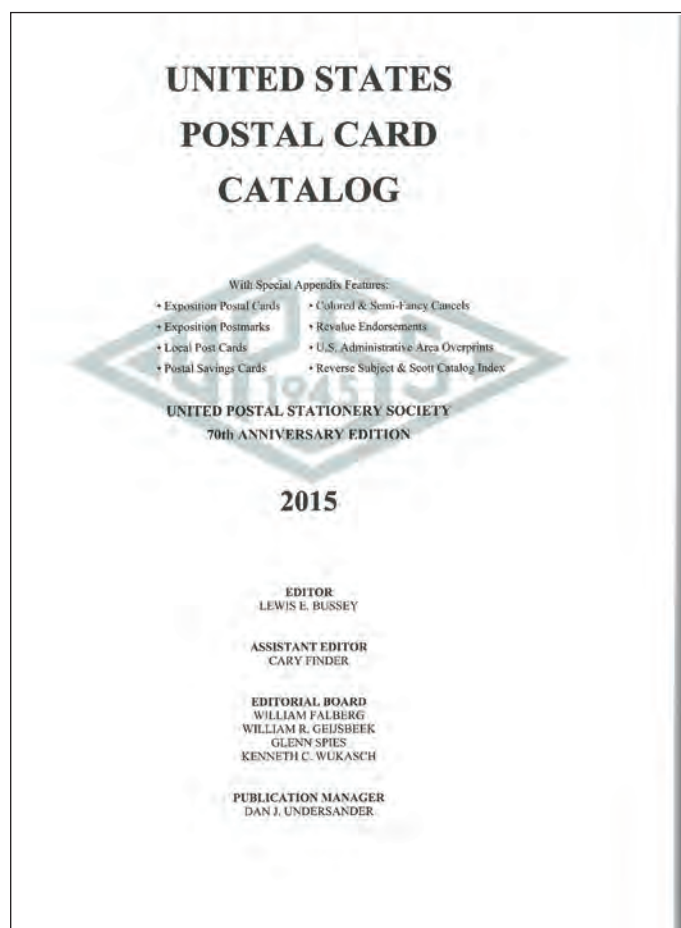


Fig. 7

Rico, the Canal Zone, Peru and the Cuban Republic. Further information on these publications can be found at <http://www.upss.org/code/publications.php>. Many of the UPSS publications can be purchased as ebooks which means that you do not need to pay the high postage rates from the USA.

Germany is well served by the Michel catalogue of German postal stationery and a series of more specialised publications published by the Berlin Postal Stationery Society (<http://www.bgsv.de/index-GB.php>).

There are many other specialised one country publications (Figure 8). A few examples include Les Entiers Postaux de Belgique [Postal Stationery of Belgium] published by the Belgian Postal Stationery Society, Webb's Postal Stationery Catalogue of Canada and Newfoundland (edited by Earle L. Covert and William C. Wal-



Fig. 8

ton), Die Ganzsachen Irlands [Postal Stationery of Ireland] edited by Otto Jung, Il Nuovo Pertile Manuale Catalogo Specializzato Degli Interi Postali Italia & Antichi Stati [The New Pertile Specialised Catalogue of Postal Stationery of Italy & Italian States] and Les Entiers Postaux de France et de Monaco [Postal Stationery of France and Monaco].

In future articles I will cover other aspects of postal stationery literature including the literature of Australia and New Zealand, postal stationery journals, on-line resources and more specialised publications.

Let me finish this article though by mentioning a recent publication, the *Aerogrammes of Nigeria 1948 to 2000* by Ray Harris (Figure 9), published by the West Africa Study Circle. In late 1948 stamp imprinted air letters were intro-

Ian McMahon

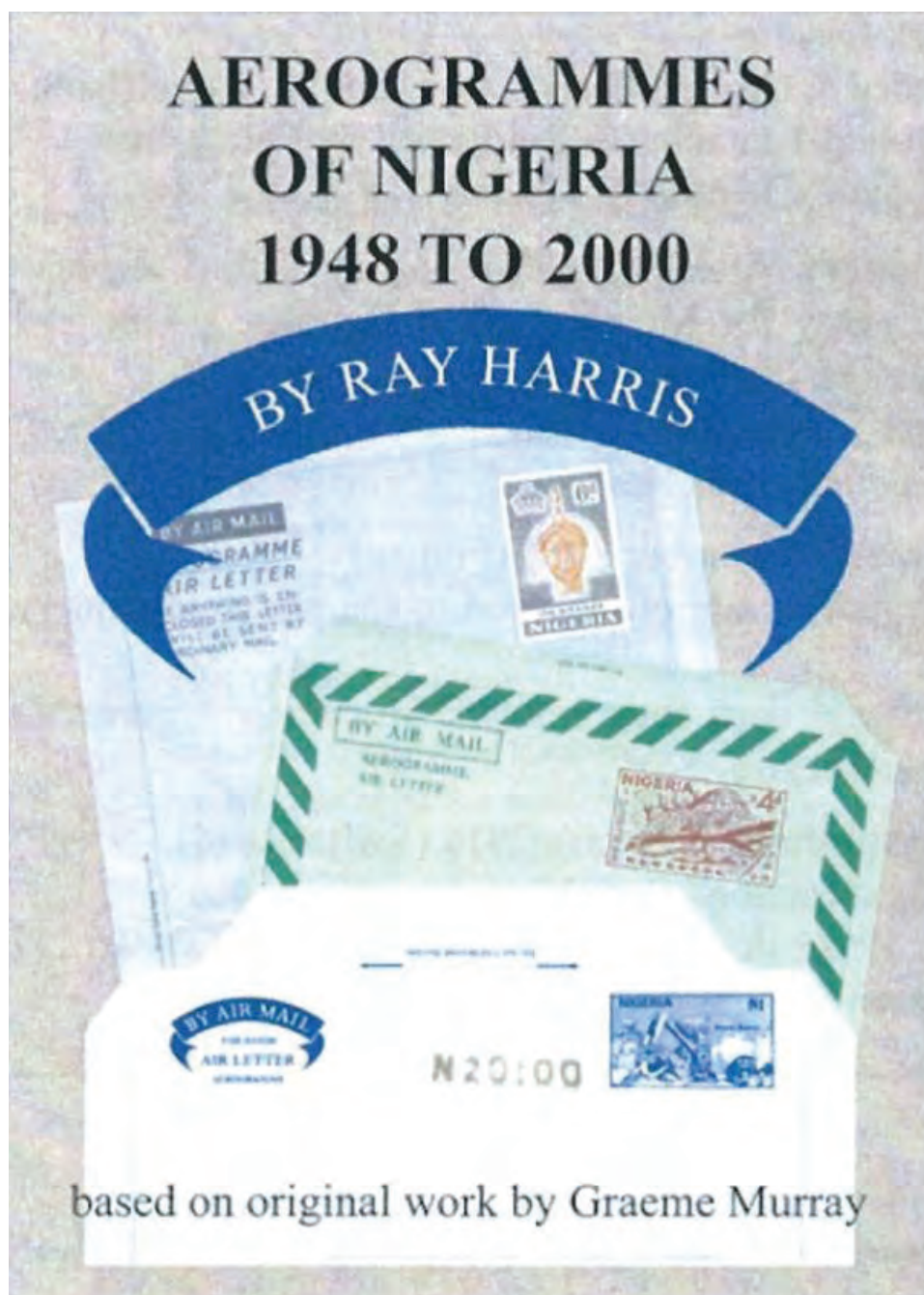


Fig. 9

duced in Nigeria for overseas mail, followed in 1949 by domestic air letters. The aerogrammes were redesigned from time to time to keep up with changing airmail rates and new designs of definitive stamps until the mid-1990s. In the early 1990s postage rates went up more quickly than aerogrammes were issued, so there are several types of surcharge. As much as possible

of what is known about Nigerian aerogrammes with imprinted stamps is included in this monograph, including some varieties and plate variations not previously listed, and notes of the known specimens and proofs. Three formula aerogrammes issued specifically for Nigeria are also included. Detailed measurements are provided in an appendix, and all items are illustrated. Scarcity is recorded based on the experience of the author and other WASC members. Available from the West Africa Study Circle at <http://www.wasc.org.uk/WASC4pubs.html> for £16.50, plus postage. The book is 72 pages with card covers, fully illustrated in colour, and was published in February 2016.

Melbourne 2017 Asian International Stamp Exhibition

The next major exhibition in Australia to include a postal stationery class will be Melbourne 2017 to be held 30 Mar - 2 Apr 2017. This exhibition is an Asian International stamp

exhibition and should include a strong postal stationery class with many exhibits from Australian exhibitors and of postal stationery from the Asian area representing a great opportunity to see some exciting postal stationery exhibits. Plan now to attend. Further information can be found at <http://melbourne2017.com.au>.

Postal Stationery

This month's column looks at the literature available on Australian Commonwealth postal stationery, Sprintpak's involvement with postal stationery, Papua New Guinea pre-paid postcards and new Australian registered envelopes.

Postal Stationery Literature: Australian Commonwealth Postal Stationery

Last month I wrote about a general overview of the literature of postal stationery. This month I specifically want to look at the references that are available to collectors of Australian Commonwealth postal stationery.

In 2013 Brusden and White published a volume on Commonwealth postal stationery as part of the Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue (ACSC). The collecting of Australian Common-

wealth stationery had been seriously handicapped by the lack of an up-to-date comprehensive catalogue. This was, at least for the pre-decimal issues, remedied by the publication of the catalogue, *Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue: Postal Stationery Including Australian Territories* (Figure 1), which was released at Australia 2013.

The Catalogue covers the pre-decimal issues from 1911 until 1965. The demand for the Catalogue was shown at Australia 2013 with the initial print run of 100 selling early at the Exhibition requiring a second print run.

As the title suggests this is a specialised catalogue. It has been thoroughly researched using archival records as well as with information provided from collectors of Australian postal stationery. The listings include information on the background to each issue, the postage rates, essays, proofs, specimens, quantities issued and major varieties. The listing for the first issue postcard, for example, includes information on essays for the issue, the background to the issue, the design and printing, quantity used, major varieties, and examples over-printed OHMS.

Some of the highlights of the Catalogue include:

- a detailed listing of the 1911 coronation postcards including the various sub-types.
- a detailed listing of the 1911-1925 lettercards with scenic views. This is a very complex group of lettercards with a number of stamp designs (George V full-face, Kangaroo and Map and George V sideface). The listing makes sense of this complex group and includes illustrations of all of the known views and a detailed listing of the various paper types.
- PTPO lettercards including the issues for Reid Brothers in Adelaide
- an array of PTPO lettersheets
- the envelope section covering post office issues, official issues and PTPO issues. The introductory notes cover a brief table of the basic letter rates, envelope stocks and sizes and indicia types. The listings include information on proofs, essays, stamp dies, paper types, and knives.
- an amazing variety of PTPO envelopes are

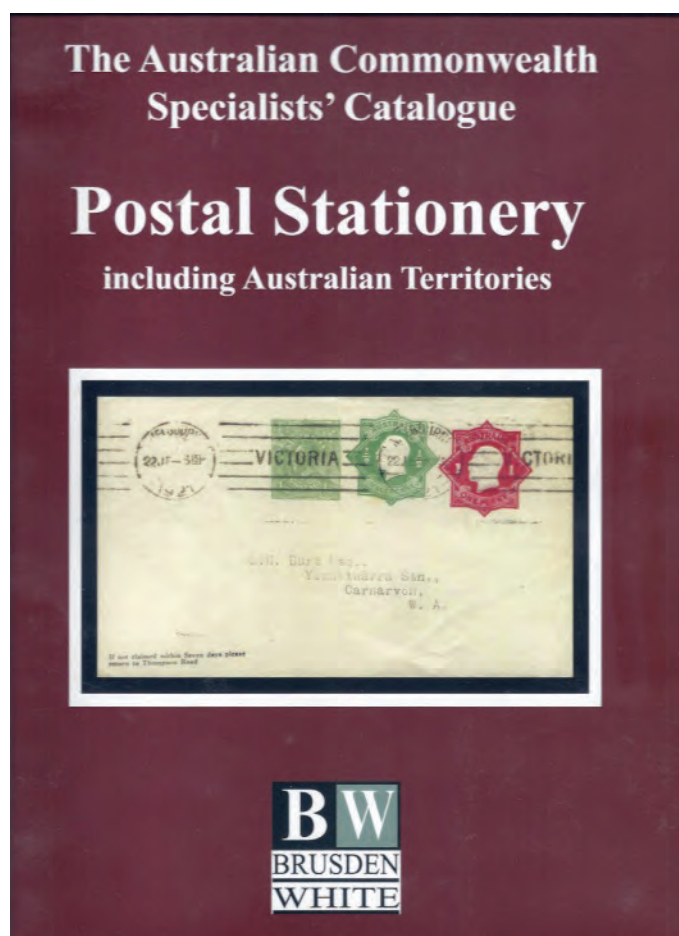


Figure 1 *Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue: Postal Stationery Including Australian Territories*

Ian McMahon



Figure 2 Nauru \$1 Sydney 2000 Torch Run Postcard

listed by stamp die

- listings of registered envelopes (including PTPO registered envelopes), parcel labels, wrappers and aerogrammes including specimen and official issues.

The pre-decimal issues of New Guinea (GRI overprints), Papua, Papua New Guinea and Christmas Island are covered. The formular stationery issued for use in the Australian territories and, in some cases, for the British Solomon Islands and New Hebrides, is covered in some detail.

The Catalogue has been carefully priced. No doubt as a result of the publication of the Catalogue dealers will re-price their stock, in many cases substantially upward but downwards in the case of some of the

more common items.

This catalogue is a tremendous work of scholarship on the part of the Editor, Geoff Kellow, as well as all of the contributors to the Catalogue. It highlights the breadth of Australian stationery which is not apparent from the previously available simplified listings and draws attention to the sheer variety of PTPO stationery as well as the complexity of the early stationery issues such as the lettercards. The Catalogue will serve as the handbook for pre-decimal Commonwealth stationery for many years to come.

For collectors after a more simplified listing of Commonwealth postal stationery, a useful reference is the *Australasian Stamp Catalogue* published by Seven Seas in two volumes (Volume 1 covers Australia, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island and the Australian Antarctica Territory while Volume 2 covers the other Australian territories.).

This catalogue includes listing of stamped post-



Figure 3 1992 Pre-paid Padded Bag

Postal Stationery

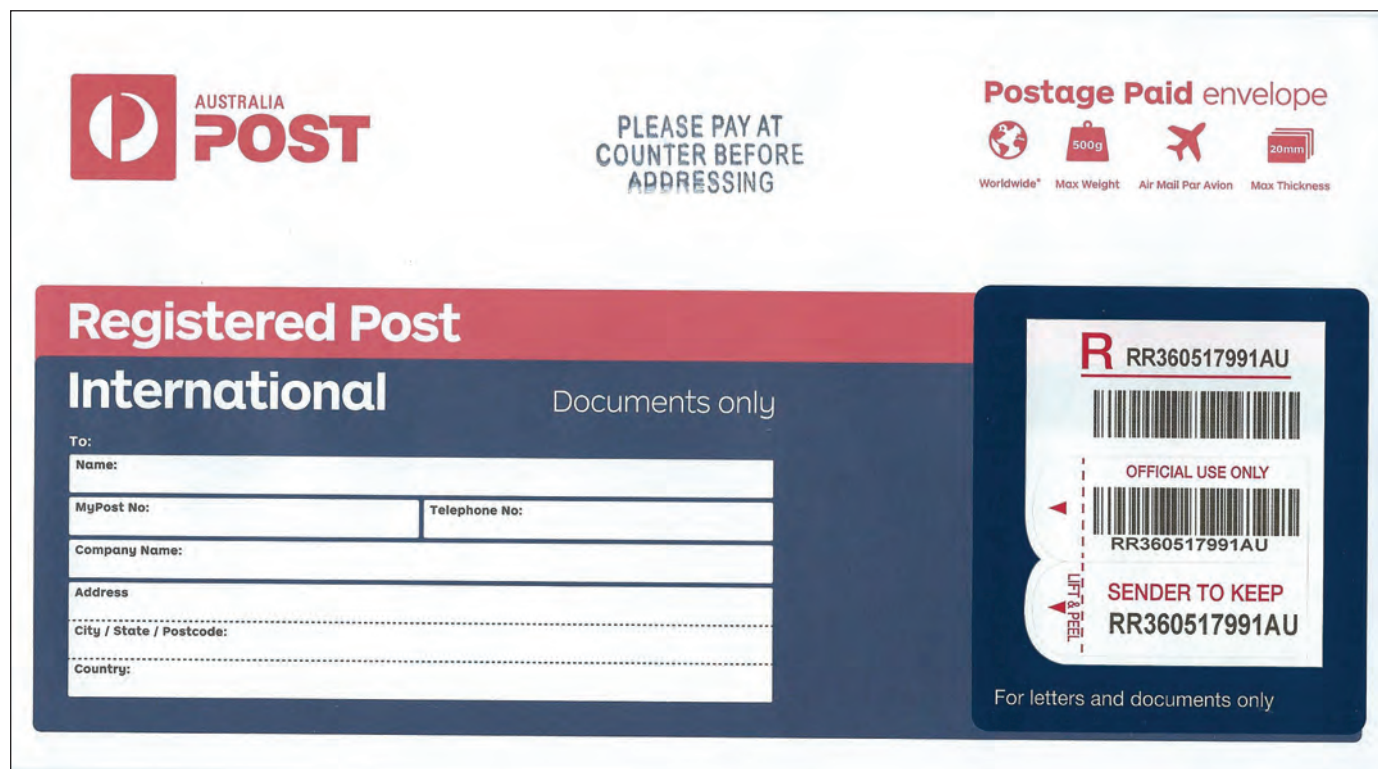


Figure 4 2016 Registered Envelope

cards, envelopes, lettercards, registered envelopes, lettersheets, aerogrammes and wrappers from the first issues of 1911 until 2010 (31st edition, although a new edition has been foreshadowed). The listings also cover wartime and official issues. Unlike the ACSC postal stationery catalogue, decimal postal stationery is listed and the listings are particularly useful to collectors of pre-stamped envelopes and aerogrammes. The postcard listing is comprehensive up to 1990 but less so from 1990 to 2010 while modern express post and parcel post stationery as well as modern registered envelopes are not included. These items of postal stationery, known as non-denominated postal stationery, usually do not have a denomination shown but are usually inscribed 'postage paid' with

an additional text indicating that the postal stationery



Figure 5 Packaging Express Post Envelopes at Sprintpak

Ian McMahon



Figure 6 Affixing Adhesive stamps on the Reverse of Postcards at Sprintpak

with glossy advertising brochures and advertisements in the public press but no mention at all in the *Philatelic Bulletin*. Following these issues, Australia Post experimented with a wide range of pre-paid products including prepaid boxes, padded envelopes, parcel labels, express post envelopes and satchels and courier satchels, many of which have now become a standard part of Australia Post's product range (Figure 3). The Listing covers these issues as well as non-denominated postcards, envelopes

nery pre-pays a particular service.

Volume 2 of the *Australasian Stamp Catalogue* includes listings of the postal stationery of Nauru (Figure 2), Norfolk Island and Papua New Guinea. This listing is particularly useful for collectors of the pre-stamped envelopes and aerogrammes of these territories.

Those interested in non-denominated postal stationery should consult the *Listing of The Non-Denominated Postal Stationery of Australia*. In 1986, Australia Post began experimenting with a range of unconventional postal stationery, many of which bore no indication of value, being inscribed 'Postage Paid'. The first was the 'Super Satchel' which prepaid the delivery of contents of any weight to any destination in Australia by airmail for a flat charge of \$1.50. This was followed in 1987 by the \$2.50 'Flat Rate' envelope which unlike its predecessor was inscribed with its value of \$2.50. This envelope was launched with considerable fanfare



Figure 7 Boxes of Uncut Postcards at Sprintpak

Postal Stationery

(PPEs) and similar postal stationery. The listings are based on the new issue listings published in the Postal Stationery Collector, the Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia. If you are interested in a pdf copy of the listing please email me at (ian.mcmahon4@bigpond.com). The *Postal Stationery Collector* is also a useful source of information on new issues, including many new issues which are not listed in the Philatelic Bulletin.

Collectors of Commonwealth decimal postal stationery should also consult listings produced by dealers of pre-stamped envelopes and other Commonwealth postal stationery. The book *The Aerogrammes of Australia and Its Dependencies, 1944-1980* by R Stein published by the American Philatelic Society in 1984 also remains a useful reference on Australian aerogrammes.

New Format International Registered Envelopes

Australia Post has issued international registered envelopes in a new design consistent with its other postal stationery. The registered envelopes (Figure

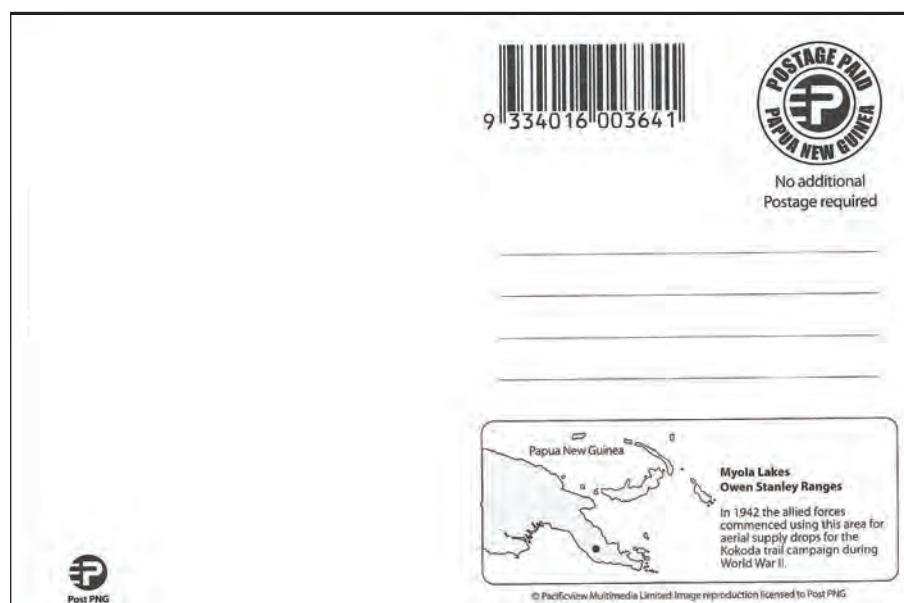


Figure 9 Papua New Guinea International Pre-Paid Postcard

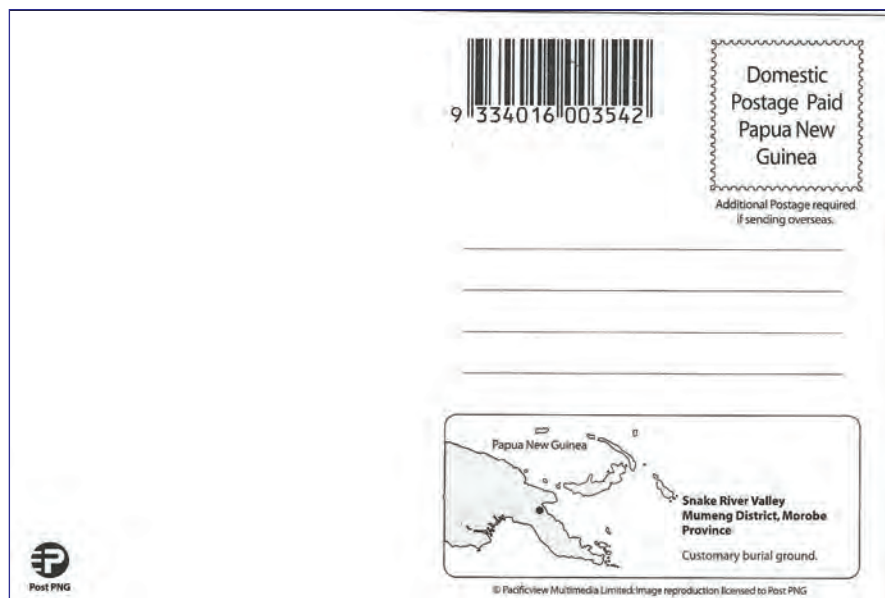


Figure 8 Papua New Guinea Domestic Pre-Paid Postcard

4) have been produced in two sizes, DL and B4 costing (at the time of writing) \$15.90 and \$23.37 respectively with discounts for bulk purchases.

Sprintpak and Postal Stationery

In April 2016 I was fortunate in being part of a visit to Sprintpak, a Division of Australia Post located in Rowville Melbourne Victoria. Sprintpak is responsible for managing the printing of stamps (distributing and accounting for stocks of stamp paper to printers), finishing the stamp production (including perforating stamps, cutting up sheets into the sheets and miniature sheets sold at post offices) and for the packaging and distribution of the finished product.

From a postal stationery perspective, some of the functions undertaken by Sprintpak which I observed on my visit include placing the barcode label on express post envelopes, packaging express post envelopes (Figure 5) and placing the adhesive stamps on the reverse of the stamped postcards sold as maximum cards (Figure 6). Figure 7 shows boxes of uncut postcards waiting for finishing by being cut into single postcards and

Ian McMahon



Figure 10 Lagatoi

having an adhesive stamped added on the reverse. Sprintpak is also responsible for distributing stocks of post office stationery such as envelopes used for official post office purposes.

Papua New Guinea Pre-paid Postcards

In 2004 Papua New Guinea issued sixteen pre-paid postcards with views of the country on the reverse. Thirteen of the postcards were pre-paid for domestic mail (Figure 8) and three were pre-paid for international mail (Figure 9). Some of the views on the reverse of the cards include Bird of Paradise, Owens Corner Memorial, Coastwatcher's Memorial Madang, Lagatoi (Figure 10), Myola Lakes, Port Moresby,

Bomana War Cemetery, Lae, Haus Tambaran, Snake River Valley, Male Child Wigman, Tavurvur Volcano, Mt Wilhelm and Parliament House.

One of the cards depicts the monument at what is described as Owens Corner (Figure 11). The late Ray Kelly commented that this description was incorrect and that the card should have been titled Owers Corner. He wrote at the time that: *The memorial at Owers Corner located at the southern (Port Moresby) end of the Kokoda Trail and access track, is a monument on the main road which branches to the left and heads to McDonalds Corner. The monument is an interesting wire sculpture of a soldier wearing a helmet and holding a bayonet fixed rifle. Many tourists have their photo taken here as their souvenir of having been at the start of the 'Trail'. A few miles further on, along a poor wet weather track, is the famous 'Owers Corner', the actual beginning of the Kokoda Trail. This corner is invariably referred to as Owens Corner, due to the fact that the trail crosses the Owen Stanley Range. The International Postcard is so incorrectly described. The corner is named after Captain N Owers of the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles Survey Corps, who had worked as a surveyor on the New Guinea goldfields before the war. In August 1942, with a small party, he tried to find a route for a jeep road to supply the men fighting on the Trail which was to begin at this corner. The project was impractical and in October it was abandoned.*



Figure 11 Memorial at Owens Corner (properly called Owers Corner)

Postal Stationery

This month's column looks at the literature available on Australian States postal stationery, Queensland 1910 pictorial postcards new Australian stamped postcards and the Postal Stationery Society of Australia meeting at Melbourne 2017 and its recent meetings.

Postal Stationery Literature: Australian States Postal Stationery

While collectors of the postal stationery of the Commonwealth of Australia postal stationery can now refer to the Brusden-White catalogue of pre-decimal postal stationery, collectors of Australian States postal stationery are not so well served. For some states the only listings available are those in the Higgins and Gage catalogue. These listings suffer from having been published over 30 years ago. The listings are in many cases relatively simplified and much new information has come to light since its publication.

Victoria is well served by the catalogue, *Victoria Postal Stationery, 1869-1917*, by Carl Stieg published by Triad Publications (USA) in 2001. This is a specialised catalogue and an essential reference for all collectors of the postal stationery of Victoria.

A Priced Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the Australian States: Western Australia (Figure 1) edited by Brian Pope and published in 2002 is the most recently published catalogue for Western Australia and another essential reference.

Collectors of New South Wales postal stationery are reliant on the Higgins and Gage listings. They should, however, also consult the articles by John Bell (formerly of Goulbourn in New South Wales), published in the *Sydney Views*, Journal of the Australian States Study Group, and elsewhere. John did considerable research on New South Wales postal stationery which is documented in these articles. There are people currently working on the writing of a New South Wales postal stationery catalogue and it is hoped that this will be come to fruition in the next couple of years.

For South Australia, collectors are reliant on the

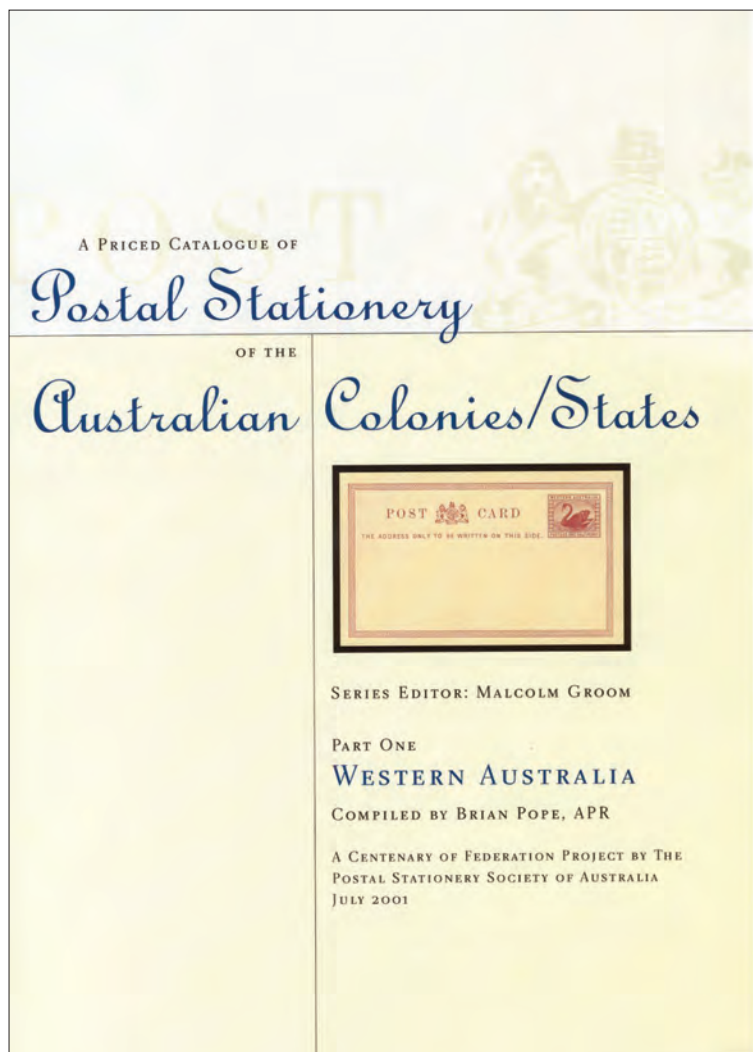


Figure 1 *A Priced Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the Australian States: Western Australia*

Higgins and Gage Catalogue.

While Tasmanian collectors no doubt still make use of the Higgins and Gage listings, they should also consult *Stamps and Postal History of Tasmania* by Walton Tinsley published in 1986 which includes an excellent chapter on Tasmanian Postal Stationery by Owen Ingles. In addition there are recent articles in the *Courier*, the Journal of the Philatelic Society of Tasmania, and that society's website which has an introduction to Tasmanian Postal Stationery at <http://www.tps.org.au/references-2/postal-stationery/> as well as an on-line forum.

Collectors of Queensland postal stationery have to continue to rely on the Higgins and Gage Catalogue. As already mentioned this catalogue is a simplified listing but more importantly for Queensland

Ian McMahon



Figure 2 Queensland 1910 Pictorial Postcard

it is missing many items and in many cases such as the lettercards the listing is misleading. Collectors of Queensland should also consult *Queensland Postal Stationery* by Phil Collas published in 1979. This handbook suffers greatly from the lack of illustrations but contains more detail than the Higgins and Gage listing and remains useful. It is, however, very much out of date. A listing of the lettercards can be found in Bill Walton's article, *The Letter cards of Queensland* published in *Philately from Australia* in 1989.

Queensland 1910 Pictorial Postcards

In 1910 Queensland issued a set of 1d pictorial postcards. The cards were stamped on the front with a 1d Queen Victoria Stamp (Figure 2) and had a black and white picture (Figure 3) on the reverse depicting scenes of Queensland. Collas in his book *Queensland Postal Stationery* listed ten different views occurring on these cards. As a good example of collaboration

between collectors, the *Postal Stationery Collector*, the Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia, extended this list to 37 different views following input from many different collectors of Queensland postal stationery. The 37 views are:

- A Dairy Herd, West Moreton, South Queensland
- A Duck Pond, Botanic Gardens, Brisbane
- Alice Street, Brisbane, Southern Australia
- At Cleveland, a favourite watering place, South Queensland
- Botanic Gardens, Brisbane, from Parliament House
- Brisbane River, showing shipping at South Brisbane wharves
- Bundaberg from the water tower, South Queensland
- Bush House, Botanic Gardens, Rockhampton, Central Queensland
- Country Road, North Queensland
- Hauling Timber, Neurum Creek, South

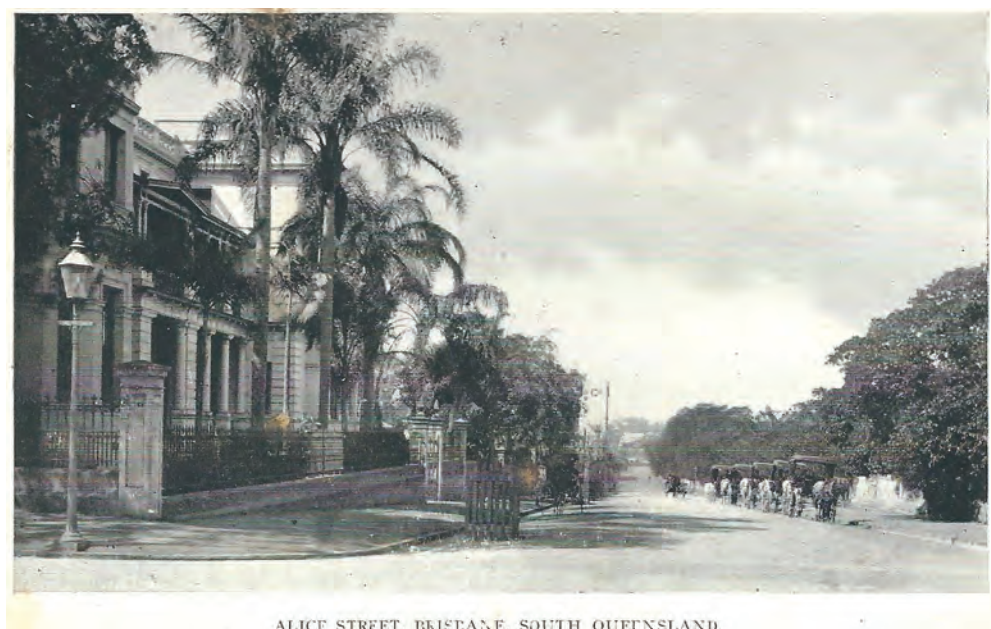


Figure 3 Alice Street, Brisbane, South Queensland

Postal Stationery

Queensland

- Interior of North Queensland Caves
- Irvine Bank: a thriving mining centre, North Queensland (Oxley Library)
- Isis Sugar Mills, near Childers, South Queensland
- Kamerunga State Nursery, near Cairns, North Queensland
- Main Avenue, Queensland University, Brisbane
- Mary River at Maryborough, North Coast Railway, South Queensland
- Neil Street, Toowoomba, Darling Downs, South Queensland
- On a Queensland Sheep Station
- Scene on the Maroochy River, South

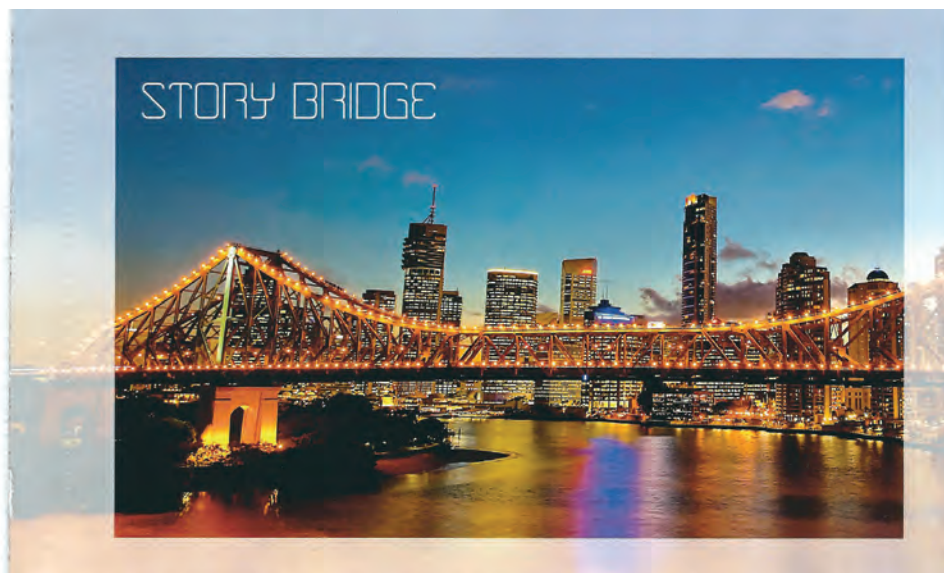


Figure 4 Story Bridge Postcard

Queensland

- Scene on the Upper Johnstone River, North Queensland
- Stoney Creek Falls, Cairns Railway, half flood
- Sugar-cane, near Bundaberg, South Queensland
- Surf Bathing, Emu Park, Central Queensland
- View of Gympie, North Coast Railway, South Queensland
- View on the Maroochy River, Southern Queensland
- Views of Cairns, North Queensland
- Views of Maryborough, South Queensland
- Views of Townsville, North Queensland
- Whitsunday Passage
- *The Barron Falls in flood (660ft high)*
- IN THE BOTANIC GARDENS, BRISBANE.
- Mount Morgan, Revenue for the last year £901,838; Expenditure £673,622.
- Barron Falls -Half Flood. Total height, 800ft.
- Horseshoe Bend, Gympie, North Coast Railway, South Queensland
- View from Cairns Range, Barron River in Foreground
- Hauling Cedar, Atherton- Cairns Railway
- Neurum Creek, near Woodford, Caboolture-Woodford Railway

(The cards showing the views of the Maroochy River while having similar titles show completely different views.)



Figure 5 ANZAC Day Program

Ian McMahon

The extension of the number of views known on these cards is a good example of the additional information that has become available on Australian states postal stationery since the publication of earlier handbooks and the Higgins and Gage Catalogue.

Bridges and ANZAC Day Program Stamped Postcards

On 7 November 2016 Australia Post issued a 'prestige booklet' titled *Span, a Tour of World Bridges*, which included three postcards; Story Bridge (Figure 4), Tasman Bridge and Gladesville Bridge. The booklet also included a number of adhesive stamps and sold for

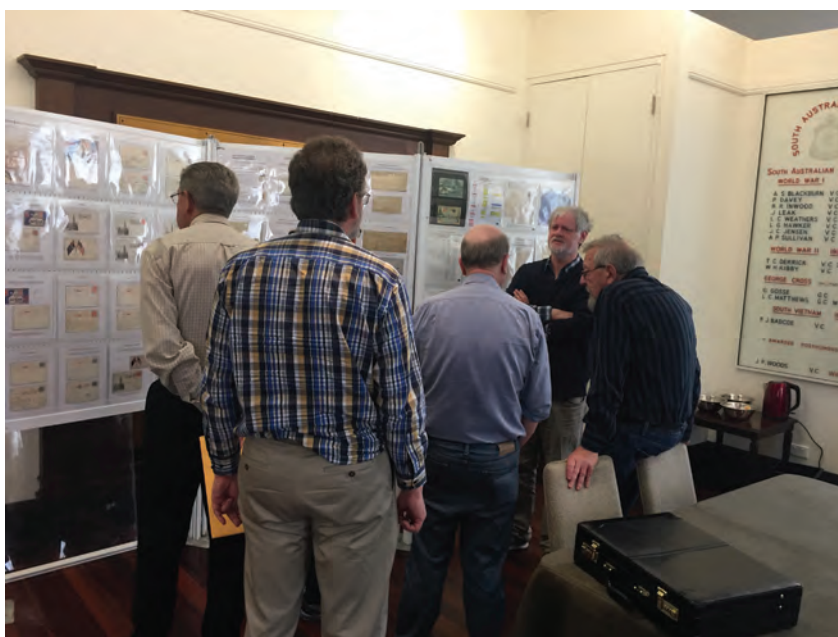


Figure 7 PSSA Meeting, Adelaide Stampex 2016



Figure 6 Darryl Fuller receiving the Grand Prix D'Honneur at China 2016

\$34.95.

On 7 November 2016, Australia Post issued a postcard showing a Program Cover from the Queensland ANZAC Day Commemoration in 1916 (Figure 5). The postcard was sold for \$249.95 as part of a WWI 1916 Album.

Postal Stationery Exhibit wins the Grand Prix D'Honneur at China 2016

Congratulations to Darryl Fuller who won the Grand Prix D'Honneur (Figure 6) for his exhibit Leeward Islands Postal Stationery at *China 2016, 33rd Asian International Stamp Exhibition* held in Nanning, China in December 2016. Australians also won three gold medals for postal stationery exhibits: Sweden Postal Stationery 1872-1897 (Ray Todd), Nicaragua Postal Stationery - The Seebeck Era 90 (Glen Stafford) and New Zealand Postal Stationery: Queen Victoria – King George V (Ian McMahon).

Royalpex 2017 24-26 November Hamilton, New Zealand.

As Australia will be hosting an Asian Exhibition next year there will be no National postal stationery competition but, due to the accord between the Australian and New Zealand Philatelic Federa-

Postal Stationery

tions, Australian postal stationery exhibitors will be able to enter the New Zealand national exhibition, *Royalpex 2017*, to be held 24-26 November in Hamilton, New Zealand.

Meetings of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia

Recent meetings of the Society held at Adelaide Stampex 2016, Mandurah 2016 and Hobart One-Frame National Exhibition 2016 focused on the postal stationery of the Australian states including



Figure 8 PSSA Meeting, Mandurah 2016

reports on research being undertaken on Tasmania and New South Wales and were well attended.

The meeting at Adelaide Stampex 2016 (Figure 7) was held on Sunday 9 October 2016 with Michael Blinman presenting a display on American Fleet Postcards and Dingle Smith showing New South Wales 'Specimen' overprints. Nineteen people attended the meeting which included a brief report on progress with the NSW Catalogue.

There were displays of Western Australian postal stationery and early Fiji from John Dibiase and Ross Duberal respectively at



Figure 9 PSSA Meeting, Hobart 2016

Ian McMahon



Figure 10 Melbourne 2017 Stamped Postcard and Season Ticket

the PSSA meeting at Mandurah 2016 (Figure 8) on Friday 4 November. Nineteen people attended the meeting which included brief reports on progress with the NSW Catalogue and the website.

The meeting at Hobart 2016 (Figure 9) on 20 November included a report on the research being undertaken by Allen Shatten on Tasmanian postal stationery and a display on Tasmanian PTPO envelopes by Malcolm Groom. Fifteen people attended the meeting including visiting UK judges, Christine Earle and Patrick Reid.

Postal Stationery Society of Australia Meeting Melbourne 2017, Asian International Stamp Exhibition

The Postal Stationery Society of Australia (PSSA) will hold a meeting at Melbourne 2017, an Asian International stamp exhibition to be held 30 March

to 2 April 2017 at the Caulfield racecourse in Melbourne. The PSSA meeting will be held 10.15 am to 12 pm on Saturday 1 April 2017 and will include a seminar on Judging Postal Stationery and a display. Everyone interested in postal stationery is encouraged to attend (please check the time and location of the meeting in the final Exhibition program).

Melbourne 2017 will include a strong postal stationery class with many exhibits from Australian exhibitors and of postal stationery from the Asian area representing a great opportunity to see some exciting postal stationery exhibits. Plan now to attend. Further information can be found at <http://melbourne2017.com.au>.

The entry tickets to Melbourne 2017 are also stamped postcards (Figure 10). Two postcards have been issued, a one-day ticket for \$10 and a season ticket for \$25. Once you have used the postcards for entry to Melbourne 2017 you can post them to your friends.

Postal Stationery

This month's column looks at New Zealand postal stationery and the literature available on the subject and the Marshall Island advertising postcards.

Postal Stationery Literature: New Zealand

Collectors of New Zealand postal stationery are well served by a comprehensive catalogue and handbook. The standard catalogue is the *New Zealand Postal Stationery Catalogue* (Figure 1) edited by Robert Samuel who was, at the time of the Catalogue's publication, recognised as the expert on



Figure 3 1876 1d Queen Victoria Postcard, New Zealand's First Postcard

New Zealand postal stationery. The Catalogue was published in five parts. Volume 1 (first published 1976, last edition 1988) covered postcards including official (Department of Education) and printed to private order (PTPO) postcards, Part

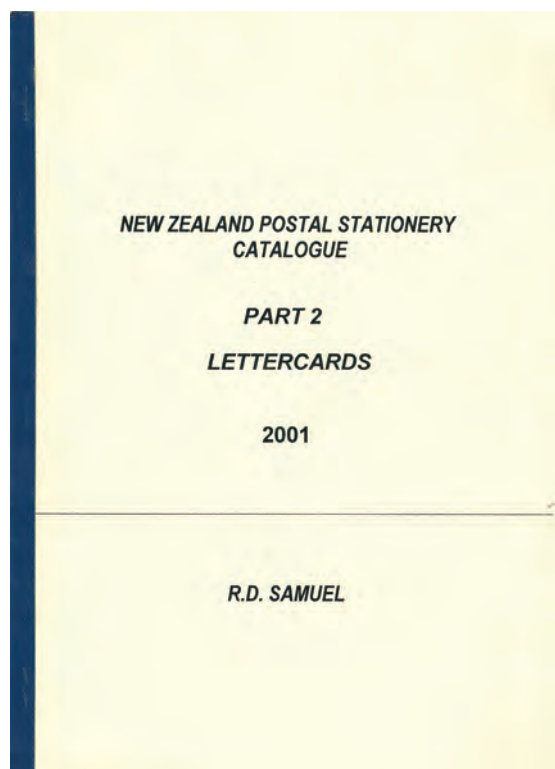


Figure 1 New Zealand Postal Stationery Catalogue Part 2



Figure 2 Postage Stamps of New Zealand Volume IX (Postal Stationery)

2 (first published 1989, last edition 2001) covered lettercards, Part 3 (1993) regular issue stamped envelopes, Part 4 (1992) registered envelopes, wrappers and prisoner of war (POW) aerogrammes and Part 5 (1993) PTPO and official (Department of Education) envelopes.

At the time of his untimely death Robert Samuel had largely completed work on a postal stationery volume to be

Ian McMahon



Figure 4 Reverse of 1897 Illustrated Postcard



Figure 5 1d Postcard with Boer War View



Figure 6 Auckland Exhibition Postcard

part of the *Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, a series of handbooks on New Zealand philately published by the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand. While earlier volumes in the series had included some information on New Zealand postal stationery, Robert Samuel's volume, completed under the editorship of Brian Vincent and which was published in 2007 as Volume IX (Figure 2) in the series, contained considerably more detail than the Catalogue as well as updating the earlier information and is an indispensable reference for collectors of New Zealand postal stationery.

It is the only comprehensive coverage in one volume of New Zealand's postal stationery. Chapters cover postcards, lettercards, registered envelopes, envelopes, newspaper wrappers, aerogrammes, government department printed franks, the 6d King Edward VII telegraph form, stamped adhesive labels (produced using the postal stationery dies), and postal notes. Coverage ranges from the first postcards of 1876 through 2003. Also covered are the various private stationery issued over the years, Department of Education postcards and envelopes and non-denominated stationery. There are two Appendices with illustrations of pictorial postcards and the advertisements on the reverse of lettercards and a comprehensive checklist.

In addition, Part IX also covers the postal stationery of Samoa, Cook Islands and Niue. Coverage of Samoa includes the German colonial issue, the occupation issues, New Zealand postal stationery overprinted 'SAMOA' and the modern aerogrammes. For Cook Islands the 1882-1884 postcards are listed while for Niue there is a single item, the \$1 airmail envelope

Postal Stationery

of 1994.

Further information on the many non-denominated issues which New Zealand issued from 1988 onwards can be found in Volume VIII of the *Postage Stamps of New Zealand* which includes coverage of Easipost envelopes and satchels, pre-paid Handibags and prepaid Courier Post satchels.

An update to Volume IX can be found in Volume X of *Postage Stamps of New Zealand* published in 2013 and which includes new issues to 2009 as well as new discoveries on earlier issues. The listing includes non-denominated stationery as well as the pre-stamped envelopes and stamped postcards issued during this period.

New Zealand Postal Stationery

New Zealand did not issue postal stationery until 1876 when it issued stamped postcards depicting Queen Victoria on 1 November 1876 (Figure 3). Stamped postcards were then issued continuously until 30 September 1980 when the postcards depicting Queen Elizabeth II were withdrawn due to declining use. In addition to the regular single blank postcards, New Zealand briefly issued reply postcards from 1886 to 1907. In December 1897 post-



Figure 7 1d Admiral postcard with inverted 'HALFPENNY' Overprint

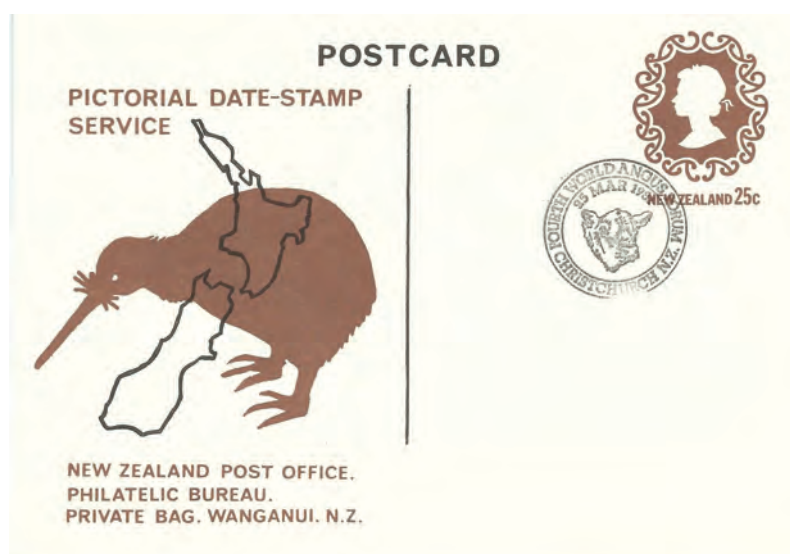
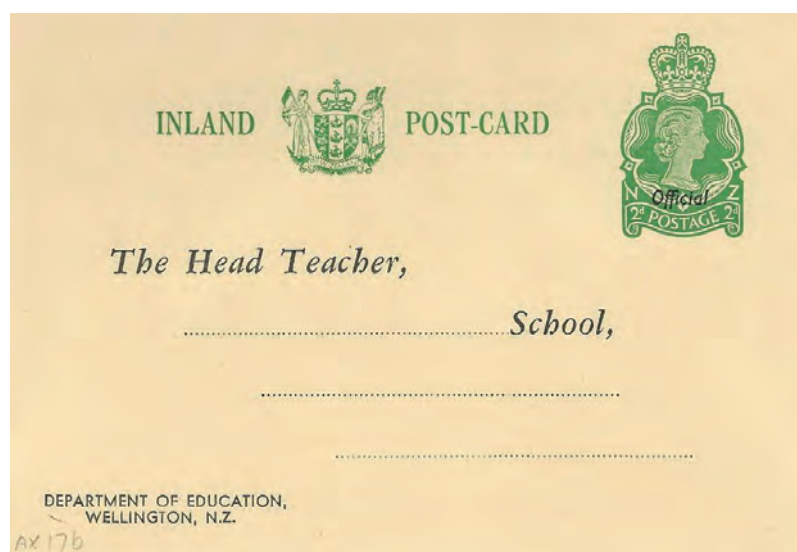


Figure 8 25c Datestamp Postcard



cards were issued with attractive coloured views on the reverse showing Waikite Geyser, Mount Cook, Mt Egmont and the Otira Gorge (Figure 4). From 1899 until 1901 three sets of postcards were issued with views in the bottom left hand corner including a set showing Boer War views (Figure 5). In 1913 a set of postcards showing views of Auckland on the reverse (Figure 6) were issued for sale at the Auckland Exhibition held that year.

Figure 9 2d Department of Education Postcard with 'Official' overprint

Ian McMahon



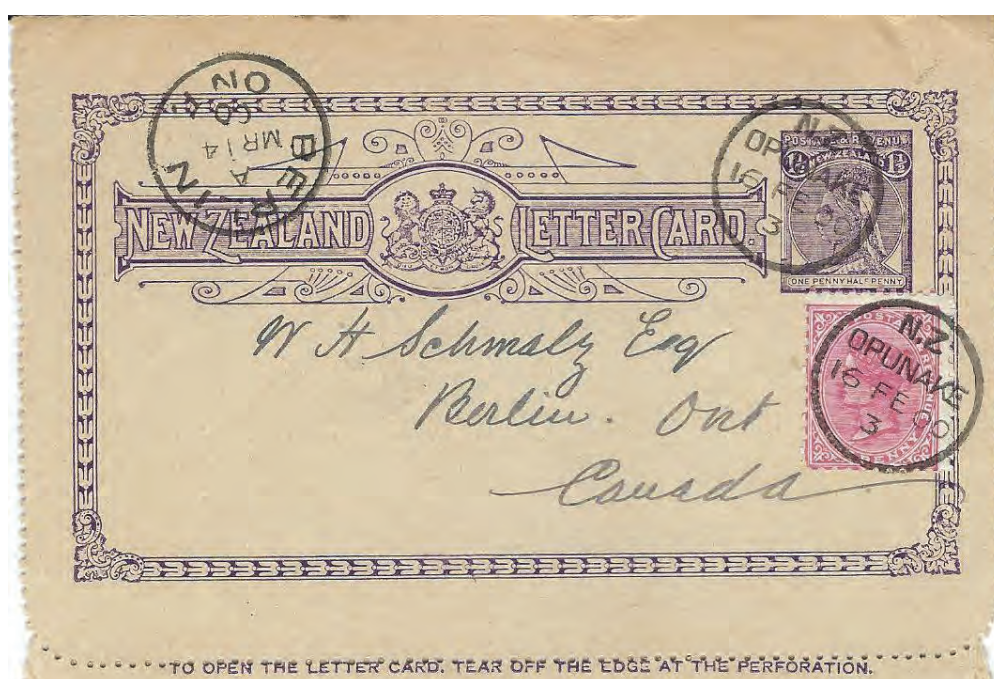
Figure 10 Austin Walsh PTPO Postcard



Figure 11 \$1.50 Frodo postcard from the Lord of the Rings series

One interesting feature of New Zealand postal stationery is the effect of three postal rate reductions. For postcards this was from 1½d to 1d on 1 February 1923, from 1d to ½d on 1 October 1923 and (after the rate increased back to 1d) from 1d to ½d on 1 June 1932. The 1932 postage rate reduction resulted in many new items of postal stationery with existing

Figure 12 1895 First lettercard used to Berlin (now Kitchener) in Canada



stocks of postcards revalued by handstamps (Figure 7). The handstamps were applied to both post office stocks as well as stocks held by private businesses. Not surprisingly the handstamp was applied to current and former issues of postcards and was applied in red, black or blue with a range of handstamp errors including double and inverted overprints.

Postcards were also issued for special services including a printed matter postcards and from 1976 a series of postcards (Figure 8) for a pictorial datstamp service with the postcard paying for the cost

of the service. Special postcards were produced for the Department of education postcards from 1927 until 1976. Until 1965 the postcards were overprinted 'Official' (Figure 9). The cards were used by schools to request student progress reports from the student's previous school. A PTPO service was provided for postcards. One of the best known is the Austin Walsh postcard included in packets of Atlas cigarettes (Figure 10). This postcard was the size of a cigarette card and included space on the reverse to enable the sender to enter a contest and write their name and address.

Although the regular plain single postcards were withdrawn in 1980,

Postal Stationery



Figure 13 Illustration on the Reverse of King Edward VII Lettercard

commemorative postcards have been issued since then including a 'Nuclear Free' postcard in 1990

and stamped postcards depicting Lord of the Rings characters (Figure 11).



Figure 14 Advertising for the Telegram Service on the Reverse of a Lettercard

Lettercards were first issued in 1895 and remained in use until the Queen Elizabeth II lettercards were withdrawn on 1 July 1990. The first lettercards (Figure 12) were notable because they were subject to high demand by the stamp collectors of the day. The PMG noted that *such was the demand Largely for stamp collectors'*

Ian McMahon

purposes that it was impossible to keep pace with the sale for a time. The stock of the selected colour [paper] becoming exhausted a variety of different coloured card had to be used and as a result of this becoming known the demand for the different colours was nearly as keen as it was for the original card stamp collector and agents purchasing freely.

As a result, the lettercards can be found with many variations from the different printings and with card on a great range of colours including cream, blue, pink and yellow. Until 1907, the reverse of the lettercards showed a pictorial design showing Mt Cook, Milford Sound, Lake Taupo, Sutherland Falls and a Kiwi on the Queen Victoria cards or Milford Sound, Mount Cook, Wanganui River, Whakarewarewa Geyser, kowhai flowers, native flax and a pair of the now extinct huias (Figure 13) on the King Edward VII lettercards. From 1926 until 1964, the New Zealand Post Office used the reverse of the lettercards for post office advertising (Figure

14) encouraging people to make use of other post office services including telegrams and telephones.

In a future column, I will look at the other issues of New Zealand postal stationery.

Marshall Islands Postal Stationery with Advertising

The Marshall Islands Postal Service uses its postal stationery postcards and lettercards for official business with advertising printed on the front of the stationery mostly to US addresses. Figure 15 shows the 20c Elvis postcard advertising a Marshall Island stamp and coin issue commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Heartbreak Hotel becoming No 1. A list of known postcards and lettercards and the advertisements can also be found at [http://www.zirinskystamps.com/Publications/web publications/ Marshall Islands Stationery.pdf](http://www.zirinskystamps.com/Publications/web%20publications/Marshall%20Islands%20Stationery.pdf).

Republic of the Marshall Islands
Postal Service • Majuro
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

ELVIS! This stunning Commemorative Coin and First Day Cover honor the King's Number One single of 1956 . . . *Heartbreak Hotel*

On May 5, 1996 — the exact 40th Anniversary of the day Elvis Presley's® *Heartbreak Hotel* became the Number One single on *Billboard's* top 100 for 1956 — a new commemorative coin and stamp were issued by the Republic of the Marshall Islands honoring this memorable event. Now you can acquire the 1996 Elvis Presley \$5 Commemorative Coin at Face Value . . . as well as the stunning First Edition of the stamp!

1996 Elvis Presley Commemorative Coin, \$5 (\$1), Total \$6 each . . . \$ _____

Official First Day Cover, \$1.32 (75¢), Total \$2.07 . . . \$ _____

Total Order . . . \$ _____


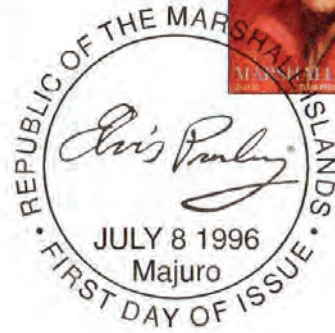
© 1996 RMI BJPB-PC01

Use your credit card and order now!
Call Toll Free 1-800-443-3232

7am-10pm Monday-Friday • 8am-5pm Saturday
10am-4pm Sunday • Mountain Time

Or enter your selections on this card and mail it with your check or money order to:
**Stamps and Philatelic Center
of the Republic of the Marshall Islands
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82008-0021.**

©1996 Marshall Islands Postal Service
Elvis and Elvis Presley are registered trademarks of Elvis Presley Enterprises, Inc.
©1996 Elvis Presley Enterprises, Inc.

BJPB-99M1-W669077
Mr. George M. Baka
3521 Saint Francis Drive
Wilmington, NC 28409-6944

Figure 15 20c Marshall Island Elvis postcard Used Officially with Advertising Added

Postal Stationery

This month's column continues the review of New Zealand postal stationery and the literature of postal stationery as well as recording some new postal stationery issues.

New Zealand Postal Stationery

New Zealand's first stamped envelopes were not issued until 1899. Three values were issued on 4 December 1899 in the pictorial designs used for the 1900 pictorial adhesive stamps. The ½d brown-lilac envelope featured Mt Cook (Figure 1), 1d rose-carmine The Terraces, Rotomahana and 2d red Pembroke Peak, Milford Sound.

In 1900, the pictorial series were replaced by envelopes with an embossed stamp depicting Queen Victoria. Envelopes with a portrait of the monarch continued to be issued until 1988 and show considerable variety in die types, envelope sizes and knives and in the address lines and the senders name and address offering considerable scope for detailed study. The King George V 1d carmine envelopes

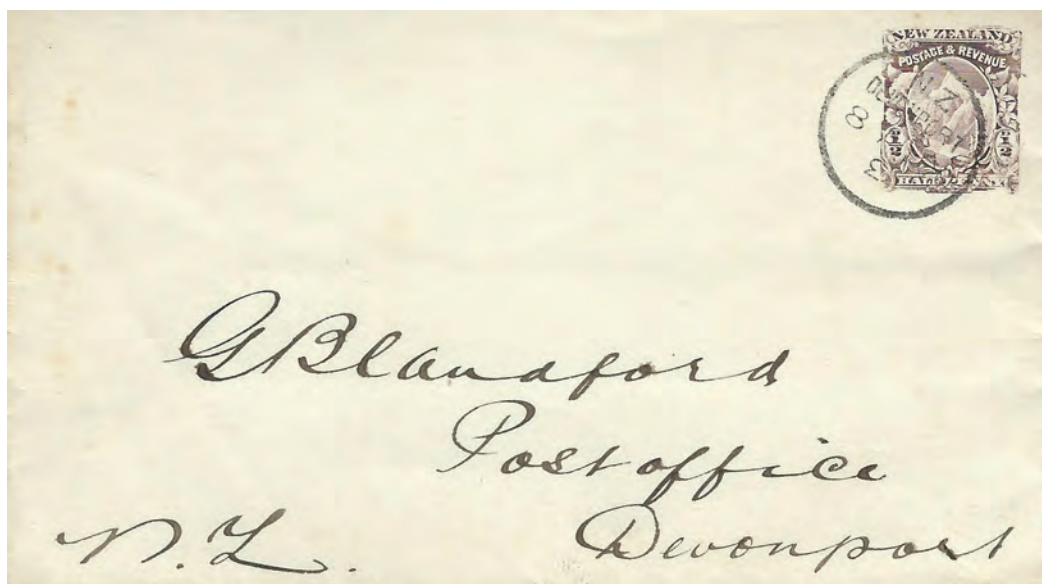


Figure 1 1899 ½d Mt Cook Envelope

have been extensively studied with many die types identified.

As with the other classes of postal stationery, the reduction of postal rates on 1 June 1932 resulted in the revaluing of a range of the 1d King George V envelopes with an additional 1d adhesive stamp attached. The reduction of 1932 had followed an increase in rates on 1 March 1931 from 1d to 2d. 2d King George V embossed envelopes had been prepared for use with the new postage rate but had not been issued by the time of the postal rate reduction. All stocks were overprinted 'ONE PENNY', however, a small number were issued without the overprint (Figure 2). The 1936 King George V issue is of note because they were printed by the Note Printing Branch in Melbourne. They have a similar oval design to the Australian embossed envelopes of the time.

Stamped envelopes bearing the portrait of queen Elizabeth II continued to be issued until 31 July 1990, with most issues embossed until about 1971. From the 4c envelope issued in 1971 the more expensive embossed process was discontinued.

In 1988 envelopes depicting floral designs, Kahikatea berries and the Kowhai flower, were issued.



Figure 2 2d King George V envelope without 'ONE PENNY' overprint

Ian McMahon



Figure 3 PTPO ENVELOPE FOR Hancock and Co, Auckland

Thereafter New Zealand issued a range of pictorial definitive and commemorative stamped envelopes. The first commemorative envelope was for the Centenary of the Royal New Zealand Foundation for the blind, issued on 19 April 1989. Others have included the 75th Anniversary of the Landing at Gallipoli, the Centenary of the New Zealand Rugby Football Union and the New Millennium (2001).

PTPO envelopes were issued from 1900 onwards. Figure 3 shows a PTPO envelope for Hancock and Company Auckland with a 1d Queen Victoria Embossed stamp. Special envelopes (Figure 4) were issued for the Department of Education from 1927. The envelopes were used by schools to send student progress reports to other schools and were issued until about 1976.

New Zealand issued a small number of airmail envelopes on light weight paper, a printed airmail label and with red and blue bars around the border. The first was for the 4c rate in 1969 and the last for the 17c rate in 1979. A telegram form stamped with a 6d King Edward VII stamp was issued in 1908.

New Zealand first issued formular registered envelopes in 1884. These envelopes were printed by McCorquodale & Co and required adhesive stamps to be affixed. The first stamped registration envelopes were issued in 1898 with a 3d Queen Victoria sideface stamp printed on the envelopes to pay the registration fee. An adhesive stamp needed to be added to pay postage. Registration envelopes stamped with a portrait of the monarch continued to be sold un-

til withdrawn from sale in 30 September 1980. One exception was the 1935 registration envelope which was stamped with the 4d Mitre Peak stamp. As with the other forms of stationery the 1932 postage reduction resulted in numerous issued revalued by handstamp including the 6d envelope revalued to 4d (Figure 5) and the earlier 3d and 4d envelopes with additional adhesive stamps revalued to 4d. New

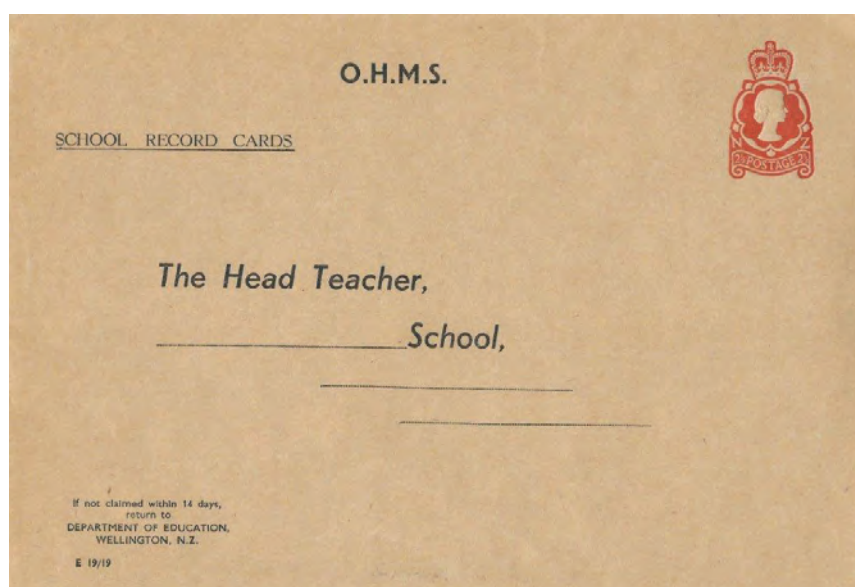


Figure 4 2½c Queen Elizabeth II Envelope for the Department of Education

Postal Stationery

Zealand continues to issue registration envelopes. Like the current Australian registered envelopes they are non-denominated envelopes and were first issued in 1992.

Newspaper wrappers were first issued on 1 April 1878 and bore an imprinted ½d newspaper stamp (Figure 6) depicting Queen Victoria. They were printed on paper watermarked with a three-line watermark with a crown between two stars on the first line ONE HALF-PENNY on the second line and NEW ZEALAND ON THE THIRD LINE. Wrappers were issued stamped with a

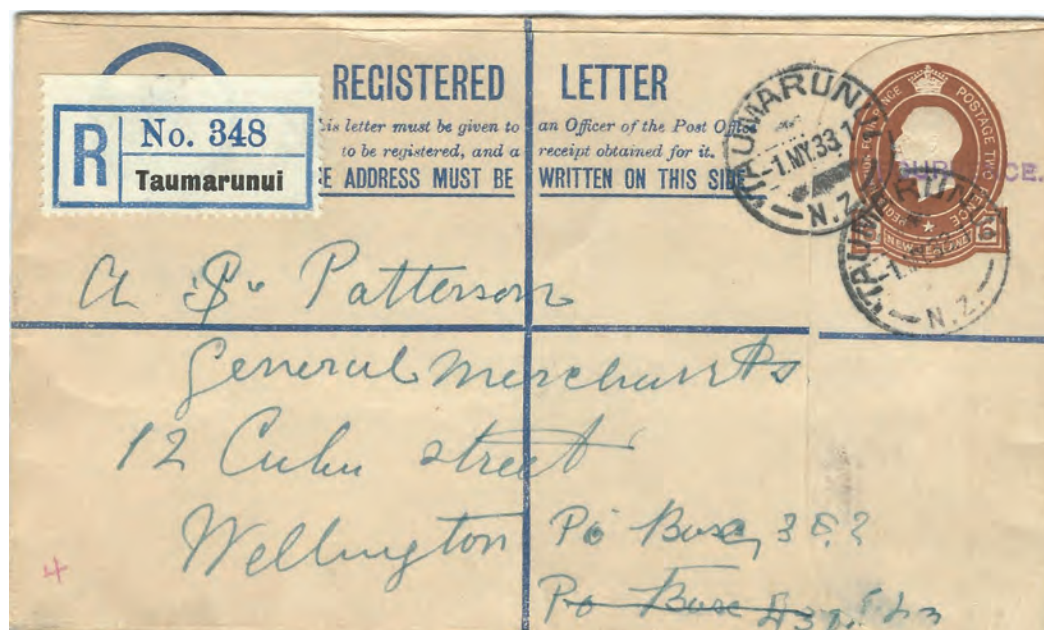


Figure 5 6d King George V registered Envelope overprinted 'FOURPENCE'

portrait of the monarch until 1980 with the exception of the 1935 wrappers which were stamped with

the ½d Fantail and 1d Kiwi pictorial stamps (Figure 7). As a result of the 1920 increase in postage rates, the ½d King Edward VII wrapper was revalued by the addition of another (but different) ½d King Edward VII stamp (Figure 8). The last stamped wrappers were the 7c Queen Elizabeth II wrapper which was printed on yellow paper and withdrawn from post offices on 30 September 1980.

New Zealand is unusual in its issuance of aerogrammes. Like most countries New Zealand began by issuing formular aerogrammes (variously called 'Air Mail Letter Cards', airletters or aerogrammes) in 1943 spurred on by the needs of correspondence to and from



Figure 6 ½d Queen Victoria Newspaper Wrapper

Ian McMahon

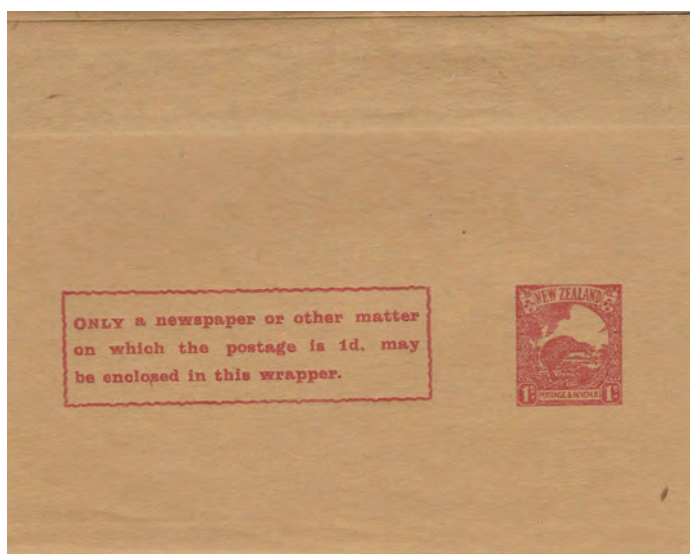


Figure 7 1d Kiwi Newspaper Wrapper

the armed forces overseas. Unlike other countries, New Zealand did not issue stamped aerogrammes until 1993. Instead, the Post Office sold formular aerogrammes (Figure 9) which required the addition of adhesive postage stamps. From 1968 Christmas aerogrammes (Figure 10) were issued while in later years pictorial designs were introduced. The first stamped aerogramme was issued on 1 April 1993 and depicted Mahinapua Beach. A stamped Christmas aerogramme was issued in 2000 and a set of stamped pictorial aerogrammes in 2001. A range of PTPO aerogrammes often found in dealers' boxes were produced for the New Zealand stamp dealer,



Figure 9 Formular aerogramme used with 8d adhesive stamp



Figure 8 1/2d + 1d King Edward VII Newspaper Wrapper

Stirling and Co of Christchurch and for New Zealand stamp exhibitions.

Stamped aerogrammes were, however, issued in 1941 for use to New Zealand Prisoners of War (POW) held in Europe. The first POW aerogramme was stamped with an eighteen pence King George VI stamp (Figure 11). The value of the aerogramme was later reduced to one shilling and then 6d. The POW aerogrammes are scarce, particularly used as prisoners receiving them made use of the paper often to roll cigarettes.

New PSE and Pictorial Postcards

A \$1 DL pre-stamped envelope (Figure 12) commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the bombing of Darwin was issued on 17 February 2017. The envelope, sold for \$1.25, was designed by Sharon Rodziewicz and printed by RA Printing using offset



Figure 10 Christmas aerogramme Issued 1973

Postal Stationery

lithography. An envelope cancelled with a First Day of Issue cancel was also produced. This envelope differs from the mint envelopes by having a different barcode.

Two postcards were issued on 21 February 2017 showing Shelley Beach Jetty, Portsea (Figure 13) and Bus-selton Jetty, Western Australia.

Five stamped post-cards featuring LOO-NEY TUNES™ were issued on 14 March 2017. The postcards were titled:

- Bugs Bunny and Taz hiking, Wilsons Promon-tory, Victoria
- Daffy Duck mountain biking Kosciuszko Na-tional Park NSW
- Road Runner and Wile. E. Coyote surfing in WA
- Tweety roller skating Glenelg Beach, SA
- Bugs Bunny windsurfing, Noosa National Park Queensland
- Sylvester and Tweety rock climbing Um-brawarra Gorge (Figure 14)

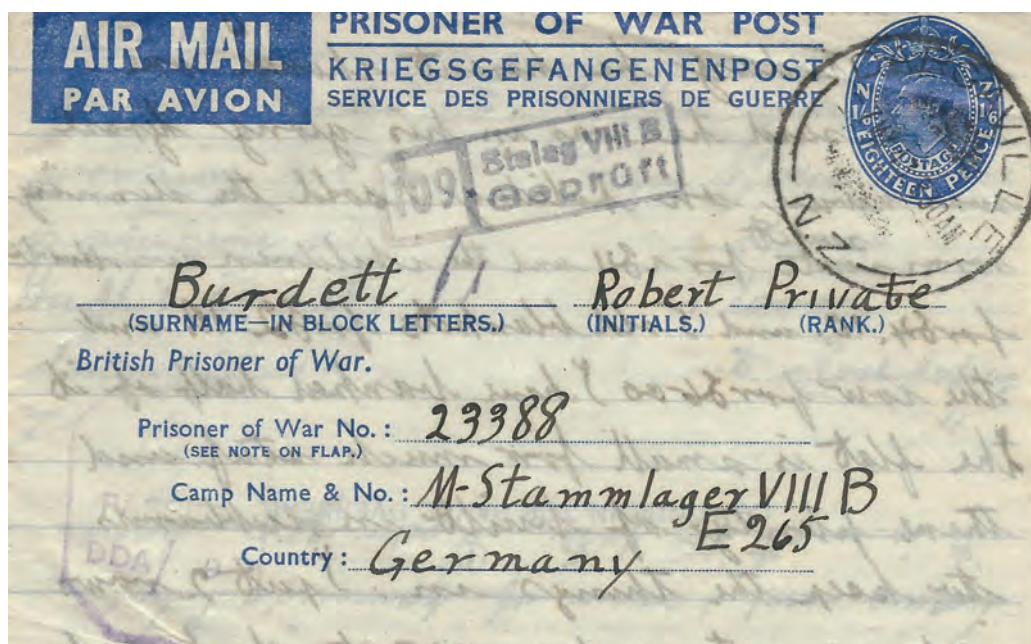


Figure 11 18d POW Aerogramme used to Stalag VIIIB

New pictorial postcards continue to be reported. Some recently issued cards include:

- Sunset at Blue Mountains
- Floriade
- All Saints winery
- Carillon
- Story Bridge (Figure 15)
- Captain Cook Memorial

Postal Stationery Literature: Specialist Society Journals

A useful source of information on postal stationery are the various specialised journals published by postal stationery societies around the world. Besides the *Postal Stationery Collector* published by the Postal Stationery Society of Australia some other journals are:

- Canada: *Postal Stationery Notes* published by Postal Stationery Study Group, British North



Figure 12 75th Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin PSE

Ian McMahon



Figure 13 Shelley Beach Jetty, Portsea

America Philatelic Society

- France: *L'Entier Postal* published by l'Association des Collectionneurs d'Entiers Postaux
- Germany: *Die Ganssache* which includes a new issue listing published by Berliner Ganzsachen-Sammler-Verein [Berlin Postal Stationery Society]
- Italy: *L'Intero Postale* published by the Unione Filatelisti Interofili
- Netherlands: *De Postzak* published by Nederlandse Vereniging van Poststukken en Posttempelverzamelaars
- Switzerland: *Der Ganzsachensammler* (Figure 16) published by Schweizerischer Ganzsachen-Sammler-Vereins



Figure 15 Story Bridge at Night, Brisbane Stamped Postcard



Figure 14 Umbrawarra Gorge, Northern Territory Stamped Postcard

- United Kingdom: *PS*, the Journal of The Postal Stationery Society
- Unites States: *Postal Stationery* published by the United Postal Stationery Society.

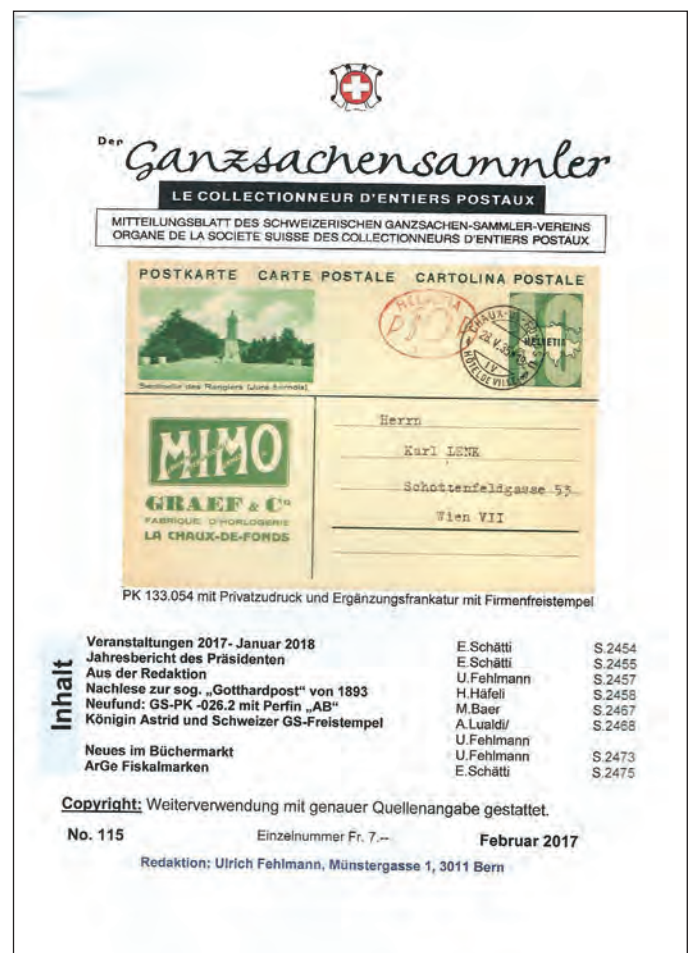


Figure 16 Der Ganzsachensammler

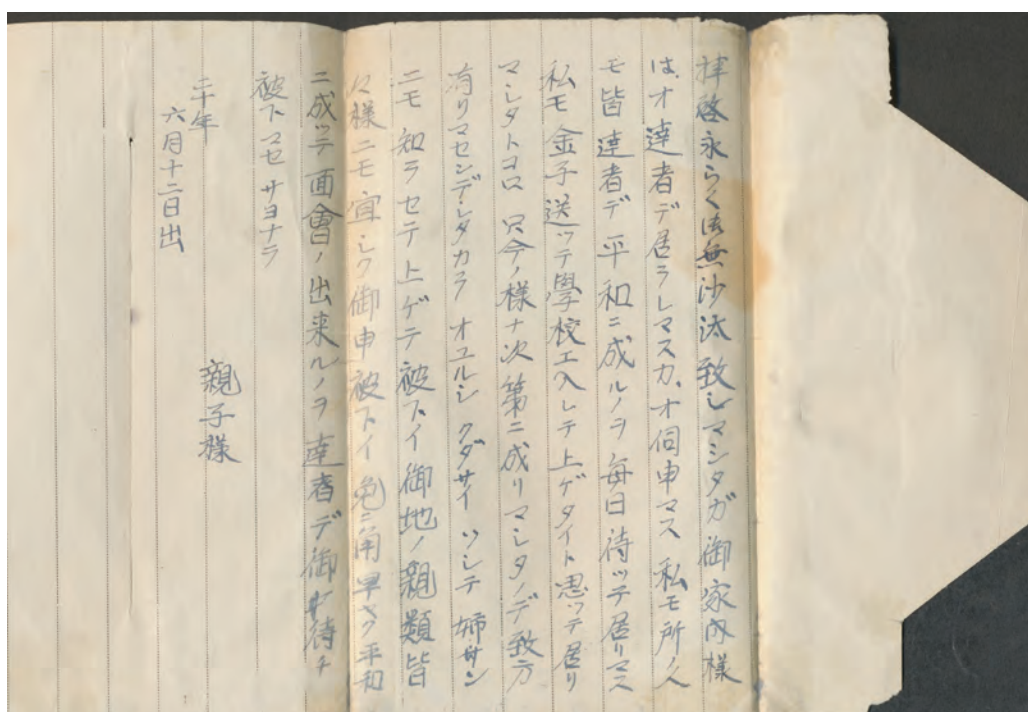
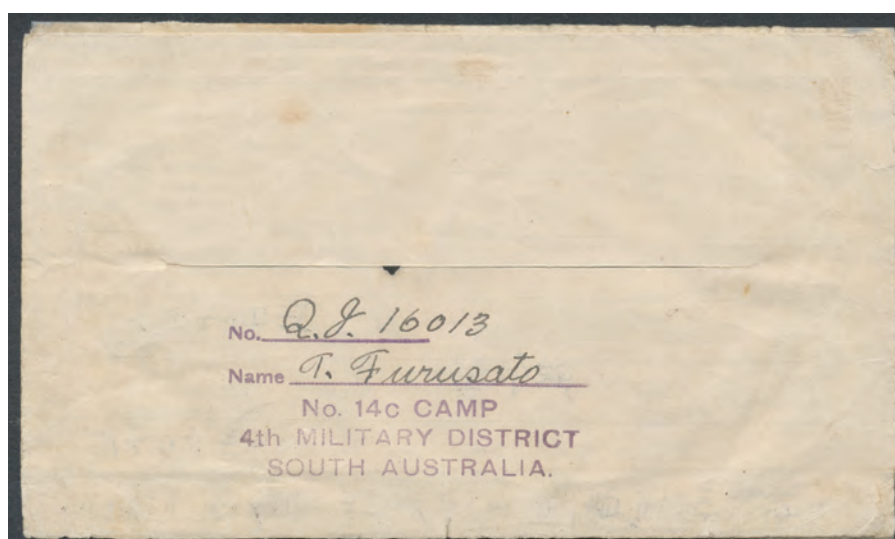
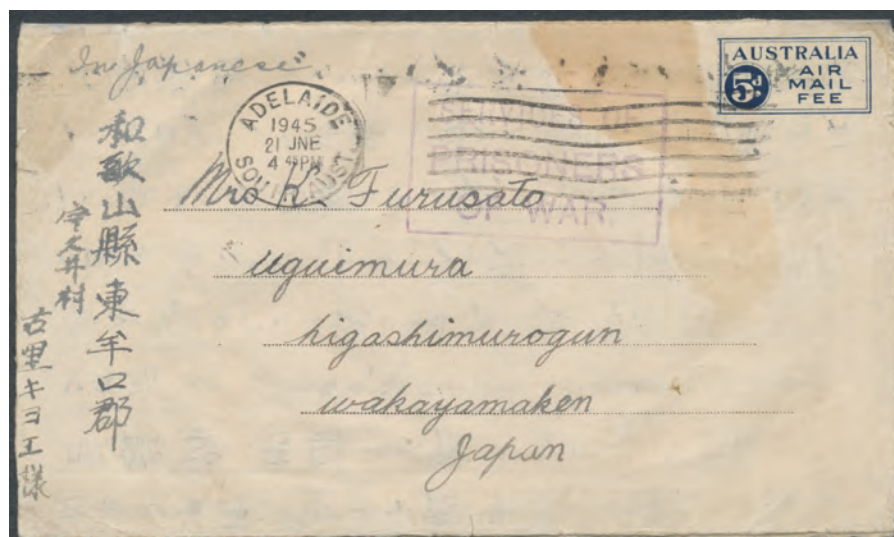
Postal Stationery

This month's column looks at the postal stationery exhibits and activities at Melbourne 2017, the 5d POW airmail lettersheet and new postal stationery issues from Australia and Samoa.

Australia 5d POW Airmail Lettersheet

Australia issued two POW airmail lettersheets during World War II (and a 6d airmail postcard). The 1/- lettersheet was intended for use by German and Italian POWs while the 5d lettersheet was intended for use by Japanese POWs. The 5d lettersheet is catalogued by the *Australia Commonwealth Specialist Catalogue* (ACSC) as ACSC POW3 with a catalogue value of \$10,000 and is probably the scarcest of Australia's airletters/aerogrammes. Use of this aerogramme was minimal because of the Japanese belief that it was a great loss of honour to be captured. The copy of this lettersheet postmarked in Adelaide on 21 June 1945 that is illustrated in the ACSC is being offered by Moss-green in its auction at the end of June. The lettersheet was sent by the Japanese POW Furusato from No 14c Camp 4th Military District, South Australia. Figure 1 shows the front of the lettersheet while Figures 2 and 3 show the reverse and the letter from the Japanese POW.

Figure 1, 2 & 3
5d POW Airmail Lettersheet



Ian McMahon



Figure 4 Postal Stationery Jury Critique, Melbourne 2017

Melbourne 2017 Asian International Stamp Exhibition

Melbourne 2017 was held 30 March - 2 April 2017

and provided visitors with the opportunity to see some great postal stationery exhibits. Two exhibits were included in the Championship Class, Steve Schumann's *New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876-1940* and John Sinfield's *Panama Republic Postal Stationery till 1940* with the Panama exhibit being one of the nominations for the Grand Prix. Michael Blinman received a Large Gold medal for his exhibit of *New South Wales Postal Stationery* and Mark Diserio received a Gold medal for *Australian Registered Letter Envelopes 1912-1962*. There were also strong exhibits showing postal stationery from Japan, Sweden (Raymond Todd), China, Honduras, Indonesia, Nepal

and German Post Offices in China. The exhibit *Republic Indonesia - Java Postal Cards 1945-1949* included elements from the original printing plates.



Figure 5 Postal Stationery Commission Seminar, Melbourne 2017

Postal Stationery

Figure 4 shows a postal stationery jury critique at Melbourne 2017.

Postal Stationery activities at Melbourne 2017 included a FIP Postal Stationery Seminar (Figure 5) presented by Ian McMahon (Secretary of the FIP Postal Stationery Commission) and a meeting of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia.

A stamped postcard depicting the Caulfield Racecourse was available from the Australia Post stand at the Exhibition. An unstamped version of this postcard overprinted with the Melbourne 2017 logo (Figure 6) was available from the Melbourne 2017 Committee.



Figure 6 Reverse of Caulfield Racecourse Postcard

New Zealand Postal Stationery Rarities

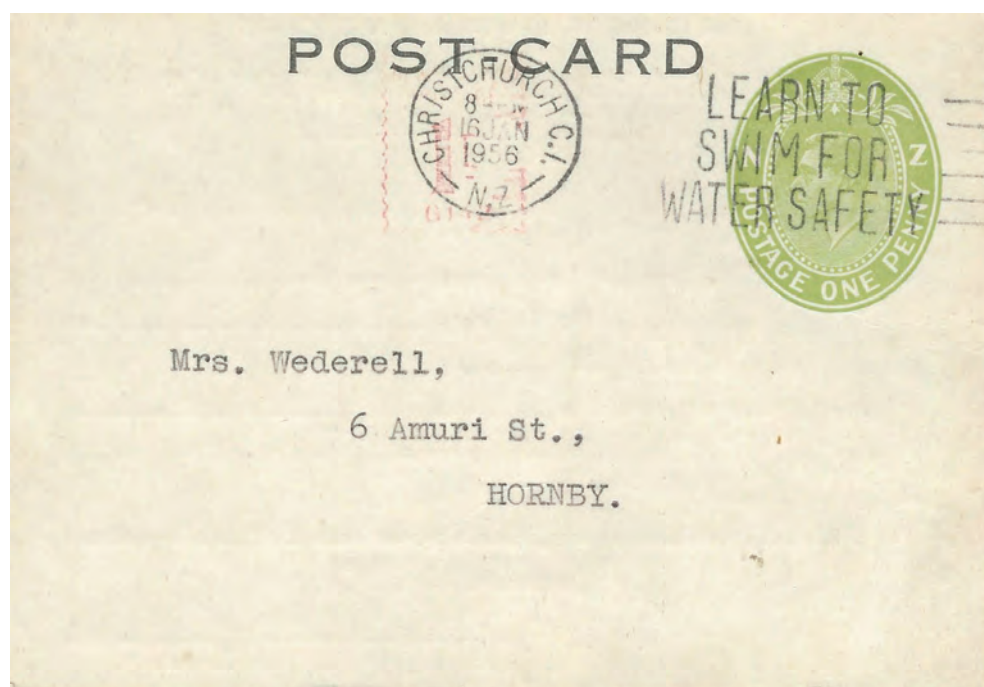


Figure 7 1d King George VI PTPO Postcard for the New Zealand Federation of Health Camps

If you attended Melbourne 2017 you would have had the opportunity to see what is currently the best exhibit of New Zealand Postal Stationery displayed by Steve Schumann from the USA. The Exhibit was entered in the Championship Class and has previously received Large Gold medals at international exhibitions. The Exhibit includes many of the rarities of New Zealand postal stationery including many of the PTPO envelopes and postcards and the die proofs of the various issues. Figure 7 shows a PTPO postcard for the New Zealand Federation of

Ian McMahon

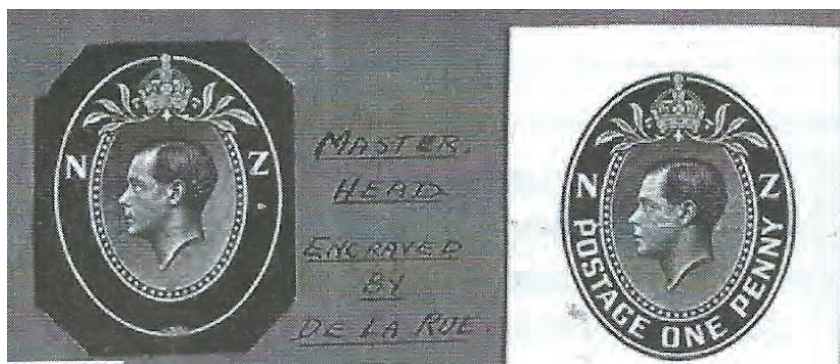


Figure 8 New Zealand King Edward VIII Postal Stationery Essays

Health Camps. New Zealand did not issue postal stationery depicting King Edward VIII but dies for the proposed postal stationery were prepared. The exhibit included three essays of the King Edward VIII design, one from the master die of the head

and frame and the others 1d values (Figure 8) as well as die proofs of the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II postal stationery. Steve was present at the Exhibition and spoke at the meeting of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia on New Zealand PTPO postal stationery and Ceylon aerogrammes (Figure 9).

Postal Stationery Literature: Recent Articles

The May issue of the *Postal Stationery Collector* included articles on new discoveries of Australian Commonwealth postal stationery since the publication of the ACSC, wrappers of Victoria, and a listing of new issues of Australian Non-Denominated Postal Stationery as well as a round-

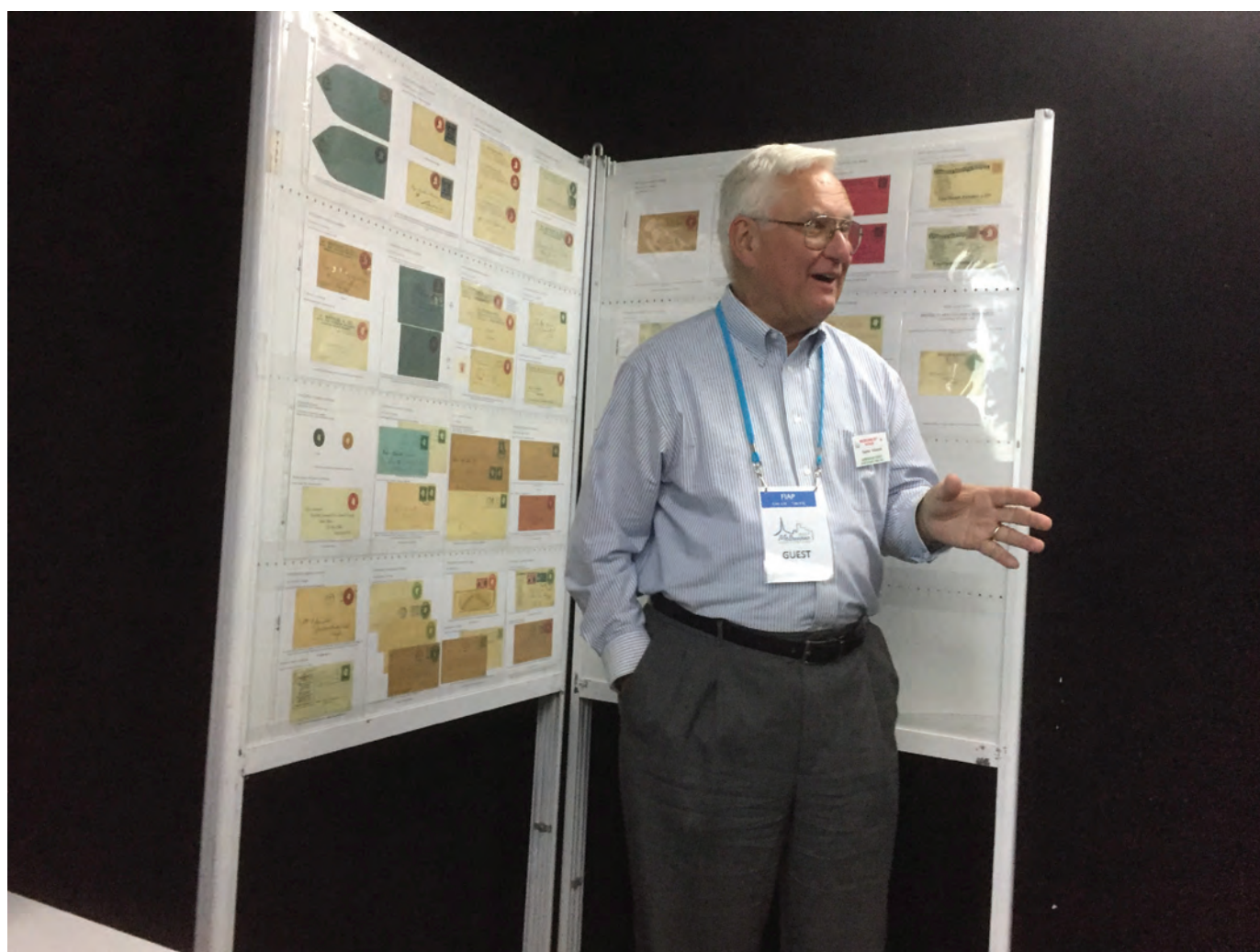


Figure 9 Steve Schumann Speaking at the Postal Stationery Society of Australia Meeting, Melbourne 2017

Postal Stationery

up of recent articles on postal stationery.

The February issue of the [UK] Stationery Society Journal included articles on the UK Illustrated and Advertising postal stationery from the reigns of KGV and KGVII and on postal stationery issued for German and Italian POWs in Australia during World War II while the January-February issue of *Postal Stationery*, Journal of the United Postal Stationery Society [USA], included articles on the 1918-1921 Panama and Canal Zone Registration Envelopes, Bahamas Stationery and Registration Envelope Varieties, Biafra Airmail Envelope and British 1840 Official Envelopes.

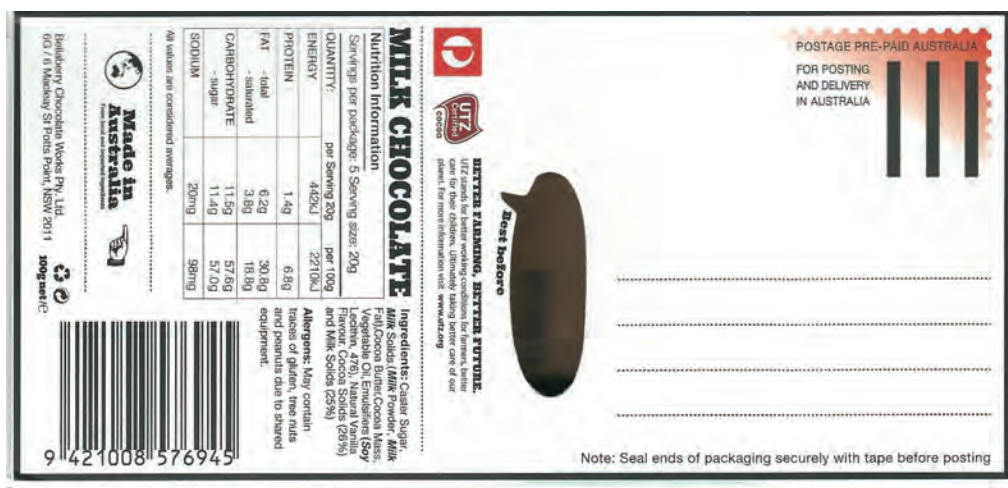


Figure 10 & 11 Pre-paid Chocolate Box with Collage of Modern Stamps



Pre-Paid Chocolate Boxes

One surprise at Melbourne 2017 was a set of six chocolate boxes (Figure 10) which were sold for \$8.99 each. The boxes are prepaid for postage within Australia and were sold with a bar of chocolate. The boxes each have a hole cut in the box to allow the expiry date

*Figure 12 2nd Light
Horse Brigade Pre-paid
Postcard*

Ian McMahon



ANZAC Biscuit Tin Postcards 2017

As in recent years Australia Post have included postcards in an ANZAC biscuit tin gift pack which sold for \$24.99. The postcards included this year were two copies of the 2nd Light Horse Brigade at Esdud (Figure 12) despite a picture of a postcard showing the Western Front Belgium on the packaging.

Samoa Postcards

Samoa issued three postcards on 9 December 2016 depicting butterflies (Figure 13). Each is comprised of two butterfly stamp images (including the value) that were previously used as adhesive stamps (Figure 14). The value of each postcard equals one of the three overseas postcard rates.

70c Aerogramme with Doubled Black Printing

Illustrated in Figure 15 is the front of a 70c aerogramme with a clear double printing of the dark blue inscriptions. The 70c aerogramme showing a river frontage was one of a set of four issued in 1992. The inscriptions "SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS", "BY AIR MAIL PAR AVION", "AEROGRAMME" and "AUSTRALIA 70c" are clearly doubled.



Figure 13 & 14 Samoa \$2.60 Butterfly Stamped Postcard

of the chocolate to be seen. The six boxes are:

- Milk Chocolate Collage of Modern Stamps (Figure 11)
- A Girl's Best Friend
- Love Blooms
- Milk Chocolate Kangaroo & Map Stamps
- You had me at chocolate
- Milk Chocolate Perf ... ection



Figure 15 70c 1992 Aerogramme with Doubled Dark Blue Printing

Postal Stationery

This month's column looks at perforations and rouletting on postal stationery, Caves pre-paid postcards and a newly published study on Tasmanian letter-cards.

Perforations on Postal Stationery

Like adhesive stamps, the study of postal stationery can include perforations, water-marks, paper varieties, stamp dies, flaws and even phosphor bands.

Perforations and rouletting can be found on a number of types of postal stationery. Lettercards are one type of postal stationery which invariably has a perforated margin around the card. While post-cards proved popular once they were introduced, they suffered the disadvantage that the sender's message could be read by the postman, by casual observers and by other family members. The let-

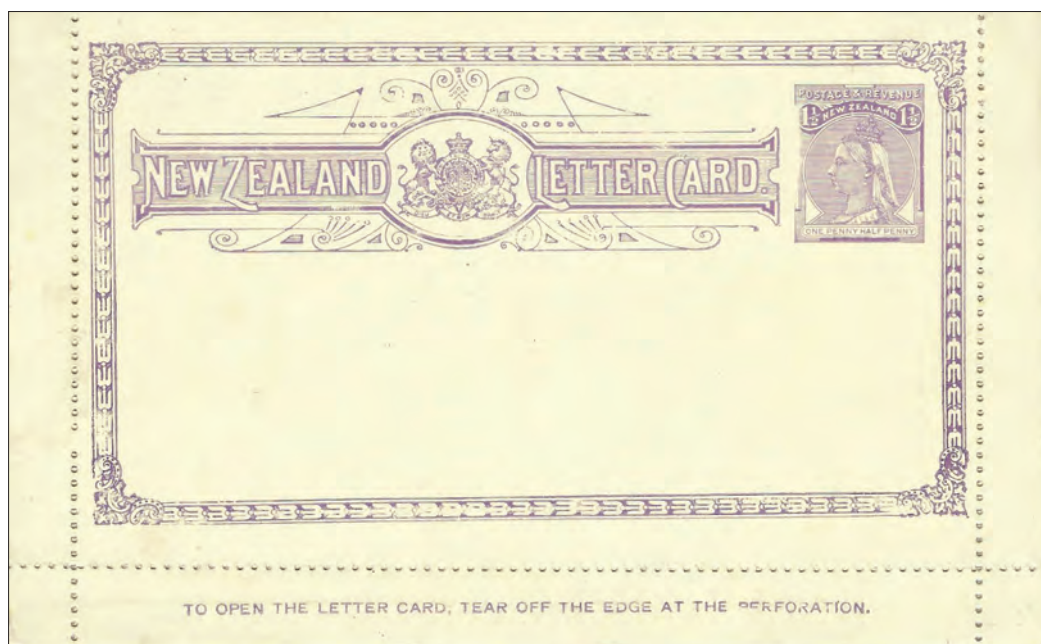


Figure 1 New Zealand 1½ d lettercard, perf 10.

tercard, a double card folded in half with a gummed edge, provided a solution to the problem, as well as providing twice the area for the message. To view the message written on the lettercard the addressee removed the perforated margin.

Lettercards were first issued by Belgium in 1882 and are said to have been first conceived by a Hungarian, Akin Karoly. 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.

As is the case with adhesive stamps, the perforations on lettercards vary in gauge and can be measured using the familiar perforation gauges. The first lettercards of New Zealand are a



Figure 2 New Zealand 1½ d lettercard, perf with rounded corners.

Ian McMahon

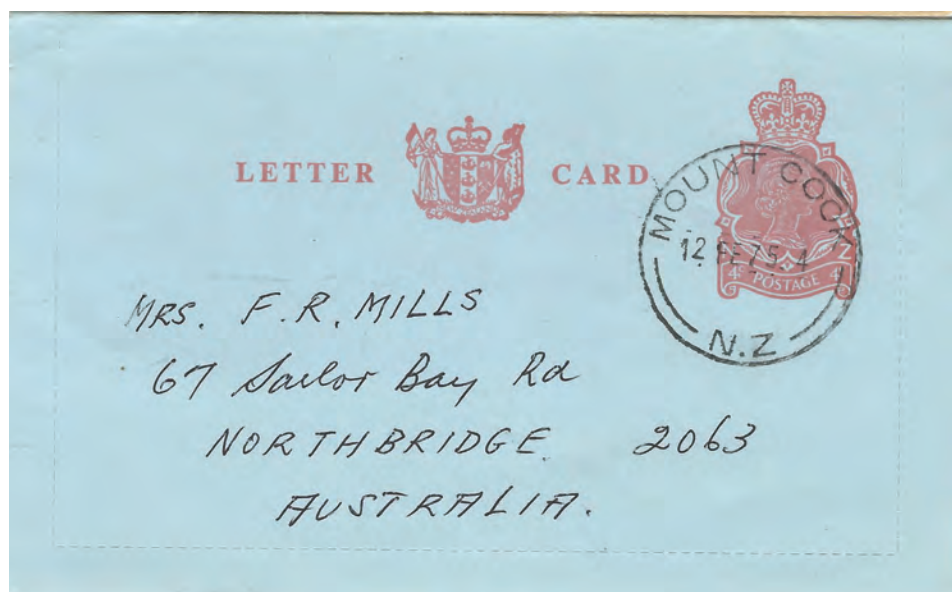


Figure 3 New Zealand 4c Queen Elizabeth II lettercard with rouletted selvage.



Figure 4 Queensland 1911 reply lettercard perf 10.

good example of variation in perforations. First issued in 1895, four different perforating machines were used to perforate the lettercards. The first printings of the lettercards were perforated with a rotary machine gauged 10 (Figure 1). Later printings were perforated using a perf 11 rotary machine and a line perf 12½. Lettercards with compound perforations have been reported. Perforating lettercards on these machines required more than one pass through the perforating machine and the perforations extended to the edge of the lettercards. In 1896, a new

perforating machine was introduced which enabled the cards to be perforated in one operation. The lines of perforation (perf 10) are rounded at the lower corners of the lettercards and do not extend to the edge (Figure 2). New Zealand used this perforation on its lettercards until 1974. Later lettercards were rouletted as with the Queen Elizabeth II lettercard from New Zealand shown in Figure 3. New Zealand used rouletting on its lettercards from 1974 until the last issue in 1987.

Another example of lettercards with perforation variations is the 1911 Queensland 1d + 1d reply lettercards which exist in a variety of perforations, perf 10, 10½ and 12½. Figure 4 shows an example perf 10. Figure 5 shows the attached reply lettercard. The perforation of the message lettercard is slight askew so that part of the selvage of the reply lettercard is perforated twice.

Another class of postal stationery which can include perforations or rouletting are reply postcards where

Postal Stationery

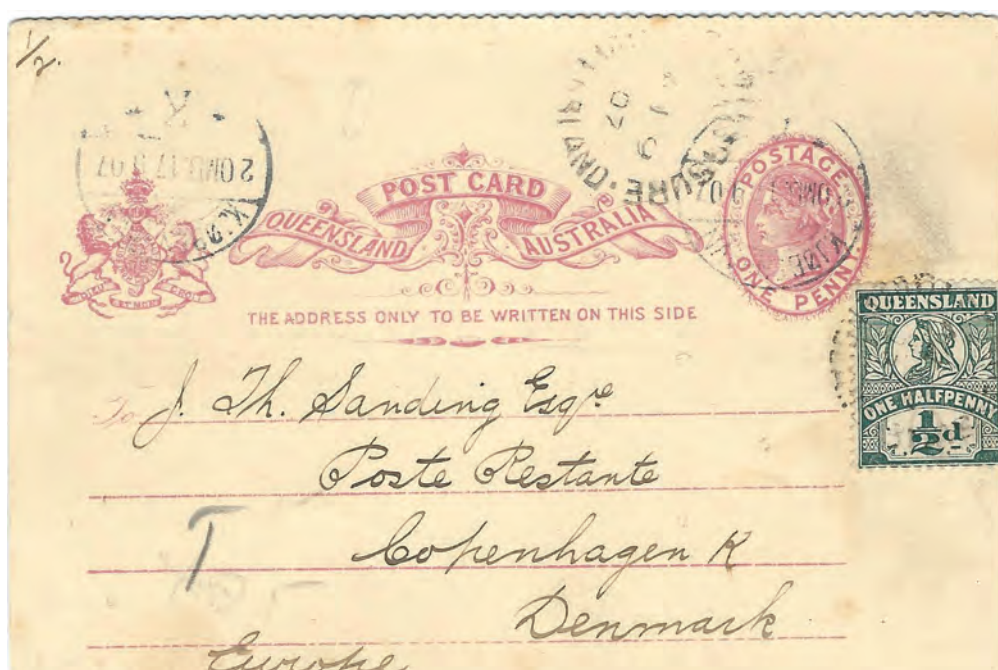
the two portions are sometimes perforated or rouletted to enable easy separation. A good example is the Queensland 1d + 1d sideface reply postcard which was first issued in 1889 which can be found perf 6, perf 10 or perf 12. Figure 6 shows an example perf 12.

Postal stationery collectors often make use of the world-wide postal stationery catalogue, Higgins and Gage. While perforation gauges are normally quoted in philately as the number of holes per 2 cm, the Higgins and Gage catalogue quotes perforations on reply postcards as the gauge per 3 cm, meaning that perf 18 mentioned in the catalogue listings is actual perf 12 when measured in the usual manner. While this is clearly stated in the Catalogue's general notes it can cause confusion to people using the Catalogue if they are not aware of it, especially as perforations in the lettercard listings (where given) are listed per 2 cm.

From the early 1930s to the early 1970s, Canada issued postcards in strips of three (Figure 7) separated by rouletting for use by users to add printed addresses or messages on the reverse. From the 1930s to 1970s, these postcards were printed on soft porous card stock designed

Figure 5 (above) Queensland 1911 reply portion of letter-card showing double perforated margin.

Figure 6 (right) Message portion of Queensland 1d + 1d reply card, perf 12, used to Denmark.



Ian McMahon

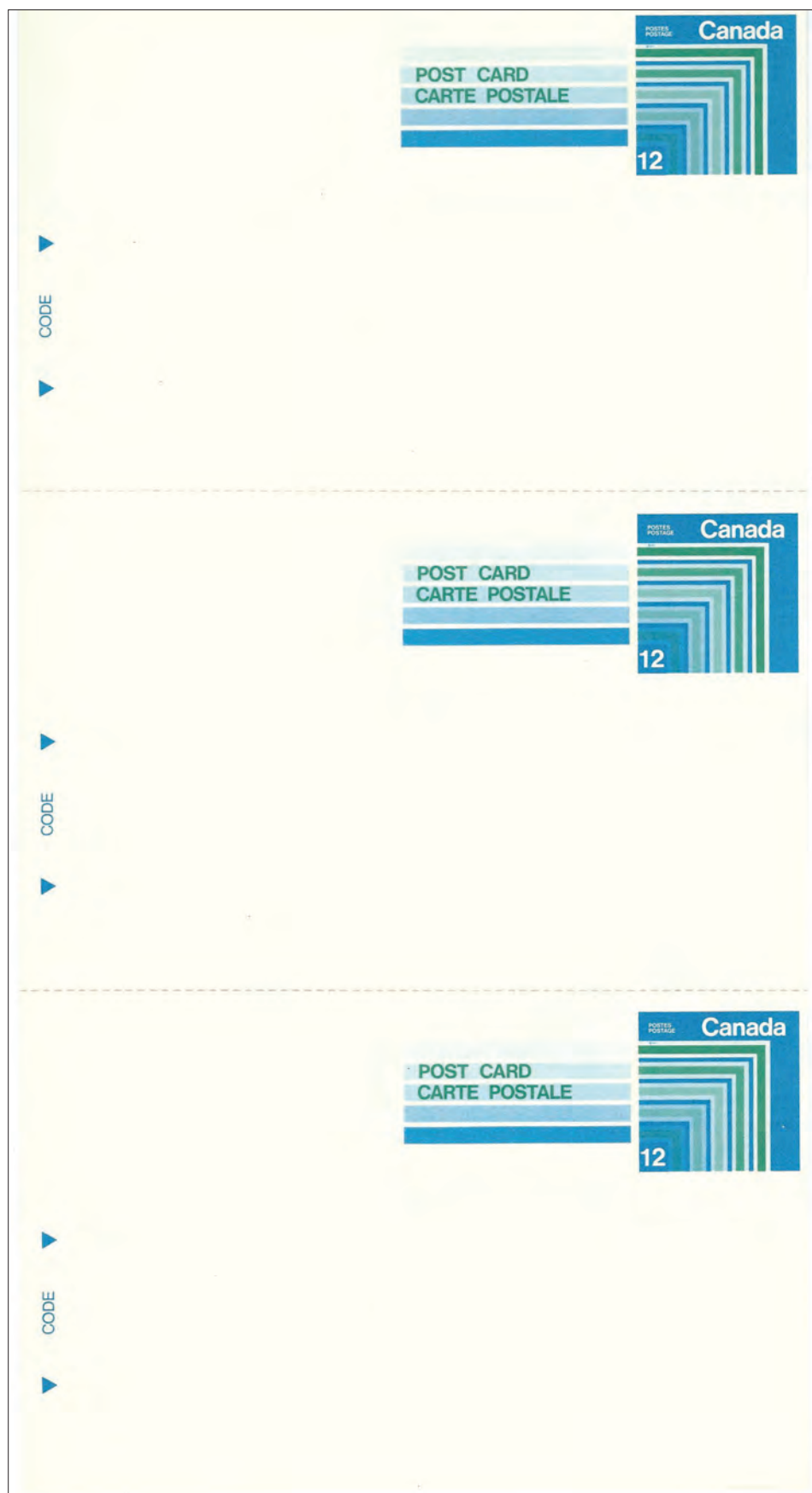


Figure 7 Canada 12c rouletted strip of three postcards

to be used in mimeograph machines. (For the younger generation, mimeograph machines that worked by forcing ink through a stencil onto paper and spirit duplicators were an inexpensive means of small scale printing such as printing addresses and advertisements on postcards before the advent of photocopiers and computer printers).

Sometimes perforations or rouletting can be added privately by users of postal stationery. An example of a Canadian King George V postcard with a rouletted tab for the addressee to keep is shown in Figure 8.

Perforations can also appear on private order postal stationery where a large user of postal stationery will order postal stationery to their own specifications. Figure 9 shows an example of a private order postcard for Canadian Pacific with the postcard forming part of a 'carbon-set' form. (Again for the younger generation, before the advent of photocopiers carbon paper was used to enable a copy of a letter to be made at the time of writing the original letter.)

Study on Tasmanian "Lake Views" Lettercards

A detailed study of the Tasmanian "Lake Views" lettercards has been published in March-April 2017 *Postal Stationery* [the Journal of the United Postal Stationery Society], Fig-

Postal Stationery

ure 10. The study, by Roger Kinns, builds on an earlier article published in *The Courier* [Journal of the Tasmanian Philatelic Society] and earlier work by Allen Shatten, Owen Ingles, W Tinsley and others.

Tasmania issued pictorial lettercards from 1898 to 1911. The lettercards were either stamped with Queen Victoria sideface stamp or the 2d Tasmanian pictorial stamp. The study by Kinns covers the 1907 issue which show views of mountains and lakes on the reverse: Mount Ida and Lake St Clair; Lake Agnew and Cradle Mountain; Lake George and Mount King William; Mount Olympus and Lake St Clair; and Barn Bluff from Lake Windermere. The study includes the 1911 lettercards surcharged 'ONE PENNY' and seeks to understand the various printings of the "Lake Views" lettercards by undertaking a census of the lettercards held by collectors.

The study is one of a number of studies on Tasmanian postal stationery which have been undertaken by collectors of this area, many of which have been published in *The Courier*. It is

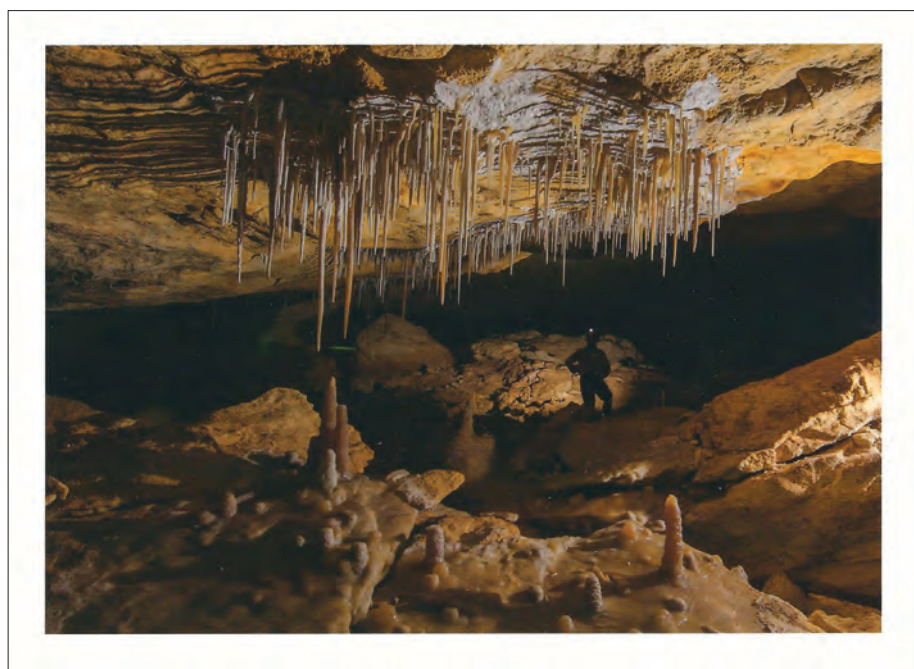
Figure 8 (top right) Canada 1c King George VI postcard with privately added rouletted tab.

Figure 9 (middle right) Private order rouletted postcard for Canadian Pacific.

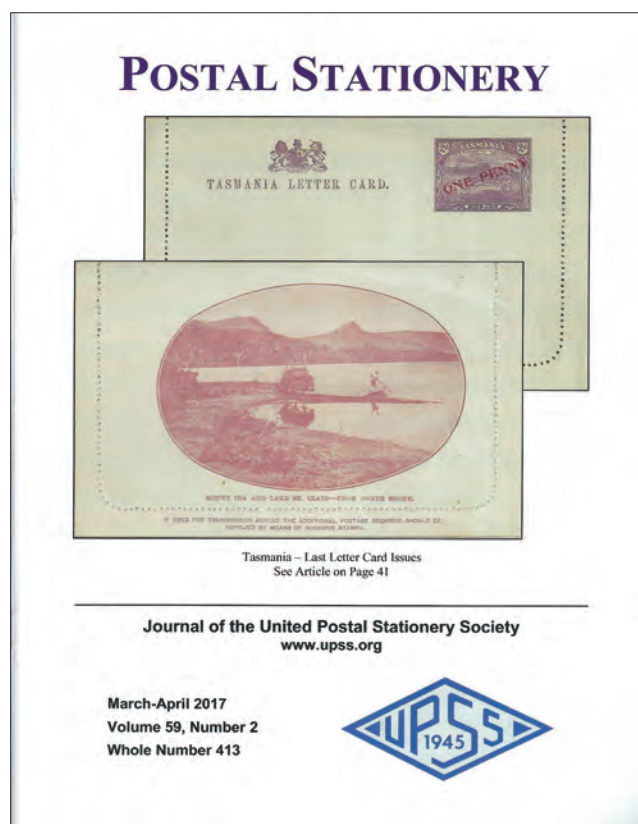
Figure 11 (right) Naracoorte Cave prepaid postcard.



OFFICE		BUREAU	PROV.
ON HAND NO.		NO EN COURS	DATE
PLEASE NOTICE THAT YOUR SHIPMENT MADE TO: VEUILLEZ NOTER QUE VOTRE ENVOI AU NOM DE:			
NAME		NOM	
ADDRESS		ADRESSE	
DATE			
ARTICLE		WAYBILL NO. NO. DE BORDEREAU	
C.O.D. AMOUNT	MONTANT P.S.L.	EXP. CHGS. - FRAIS DE MESSAGERIES	
STORAGE CHARGES FRAIS D'ENTREPOSAGE			
REMAINS UNDELIVERED IN THIS OFFICE FOR THE REASON THAT THE CONSIGNEE			



Ian McMahon



also worth visiting the Tasmanian Philatelic Society website which includes an introduction to Tasmanian Postal Stationery by Allen Shatten which can be found at <http://www.tps.org.au/references-2/postal-stationery/> as well as a postal stationery forum which can be found at <http://www.tps.org.au/bb/viewforum.php?f=12>.

Cave Pre-Paid Postcards

Australia released four pre-paid postcards on 2 May 2017 on the theme of Caves (Figure 11). The caves shown on the reverse of the cards are Jenolan Caves (photograph: Owen Wilson Photography), Capricorn Caves (photograph: Owen Wilson Photography), Naracoorte Cave (photograph: Liz Rodgers Photography) and Lake Cave (photograph: debashitistalukdar.com).

Figure 10 Postal Stationery March-April 2017 Issue with article on Tasmanian Lettercards.

COINS • STAMPS • BANKNOTES
SUPER FAIR
PETERSHAM TOWN HALL
Sunday 30th July, 2017 9.30 am to 4.00 pm
107 Crystal Street Petersham (Near Station)
★ 28 Dealers Buying & Selling ★
COINS – Australian & World, Royal Australian Mint Coins, Perth Mint Silver and Gold Coins, Ancient Coins, Tokens, Australian and World Banknotes, Medals and Medallions **STAMPS** – Australian, World & British Commonwealth, Thematics, First Day Covers, Cinderellas, Postal History, Postcards and Ephemera, catalogues & accessories.
BARGAINS GALORE!!! DON'T MISS OUT
Adult Admission \$2 • \$250 in Lucky Door Prizes!!
Find out more: visit the SCDA Website: www.scdaa.com.au



Postal Stationery

This month's column looks at watermarks on postal stationery and at the literature on USA postal stationery.

Watermarks on Postal Stationery

Watermarks are not as common on postal stationery as they are on adhesive stamps, however, they do occur and the larger size of postal stationery means that the watermarks can be larger and easier to see.

Watermarks can either be an intentional security device or a papermaker's watermark which occurs because of the paper chosen to produce the stationery. Watermarks occur most frequently on stamped envelopes, wrappers and aero-



Figure 1 Watermark found on New Zealand 1/2d Queen Victoria Wrapper

grammes but examples can be found on postcards, lettercards and other types of postal stationery. As with adhesive stamps, some postal stationery can be found with different watermarks and with watermark variations.

The 1/2d 1878 Queen Victoria wrappers of New Zealand were originally issued without watermark



Figure 2 New Zealand 1/2d Queen Victoria Wrapper

Ian McMahon

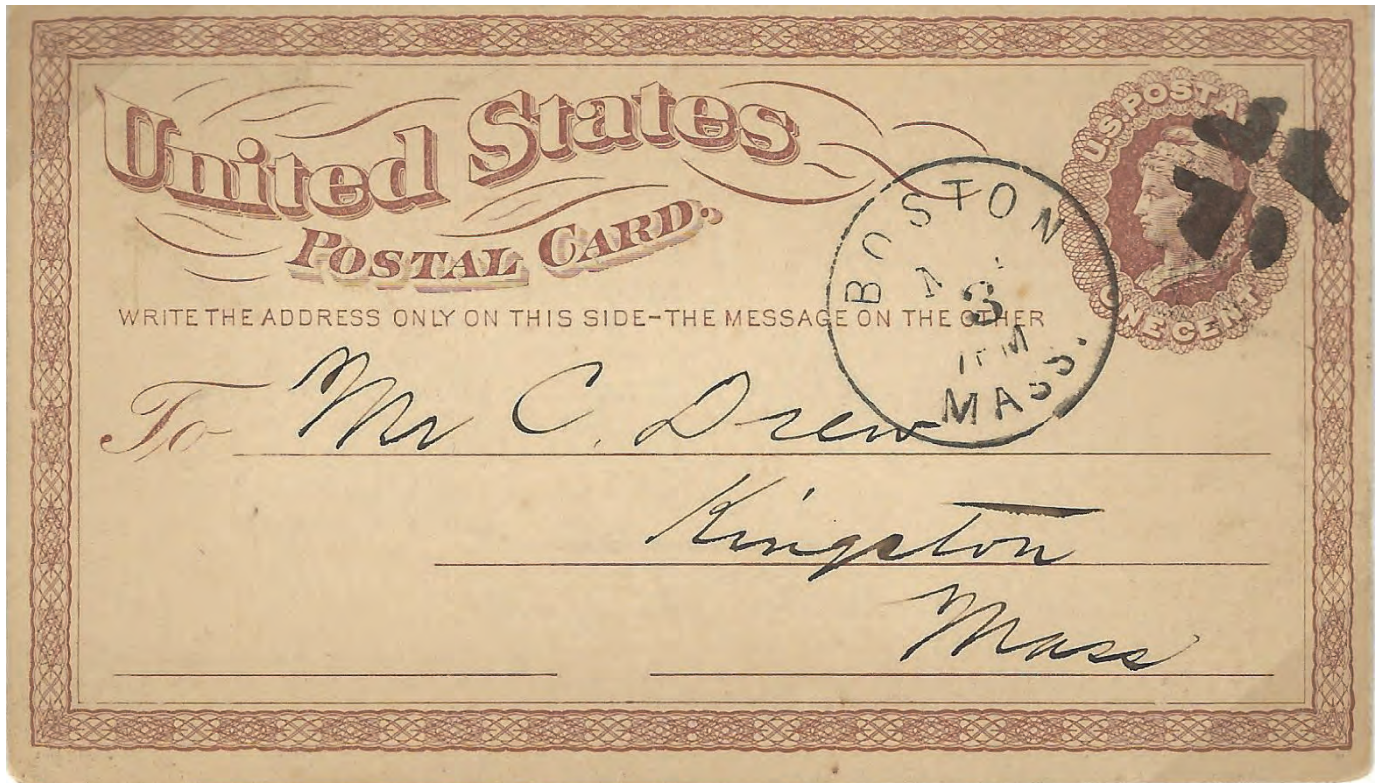


Figure 3 USA 1873 1c Postcard with watermark 'USPOD'.

but were later issued with a watermark showing a crown, two stars and 'ONE HALFPENNY NEW ZEALAND' (Figure 1). The watermark is sideways on the wrapper and easily seen. Examples have been found with a reversed watermark.

Watermarked paper continued to be used for

New Zealand wrappers (Figure 2) until the 1940s with the last watermarked wrapper being a rather scarce ½d yellow brown King George VI wrapper issued in 1942. Later printings of this wrapper were on unwatermarked paper. While the watermarks on wrappers over this period was usually sideways, on

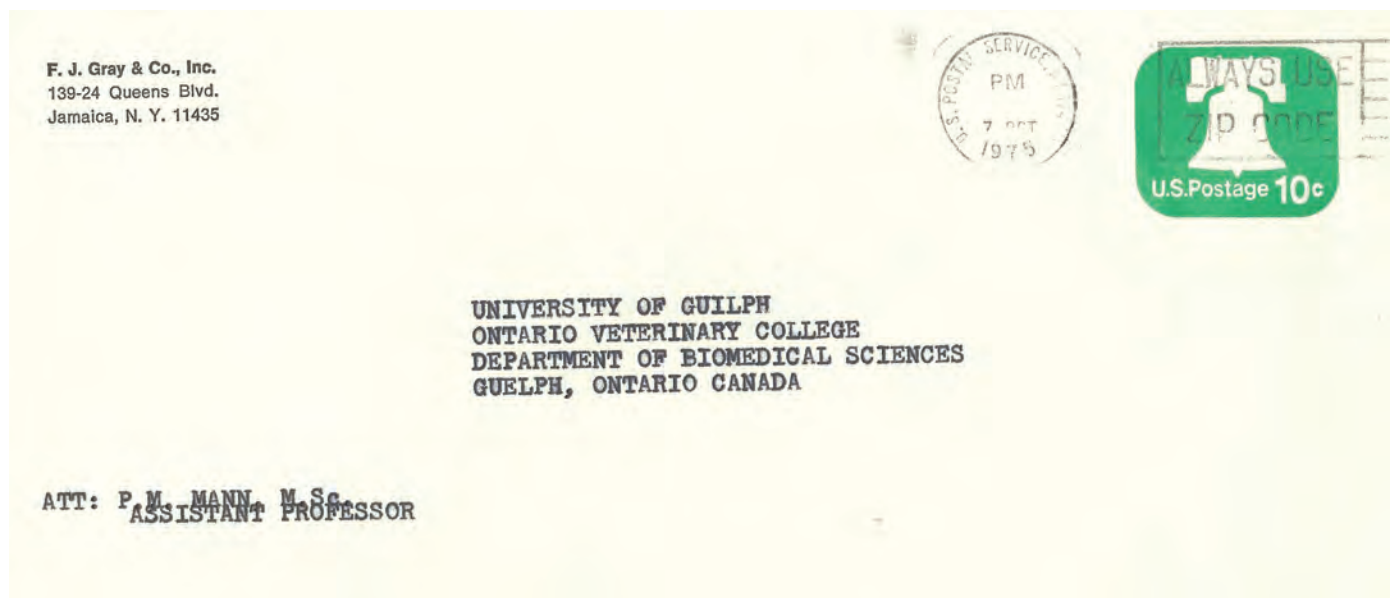


Figure 3 USA 1873 1c Postcard with watermark 'USPOD'.

Postal Stationery

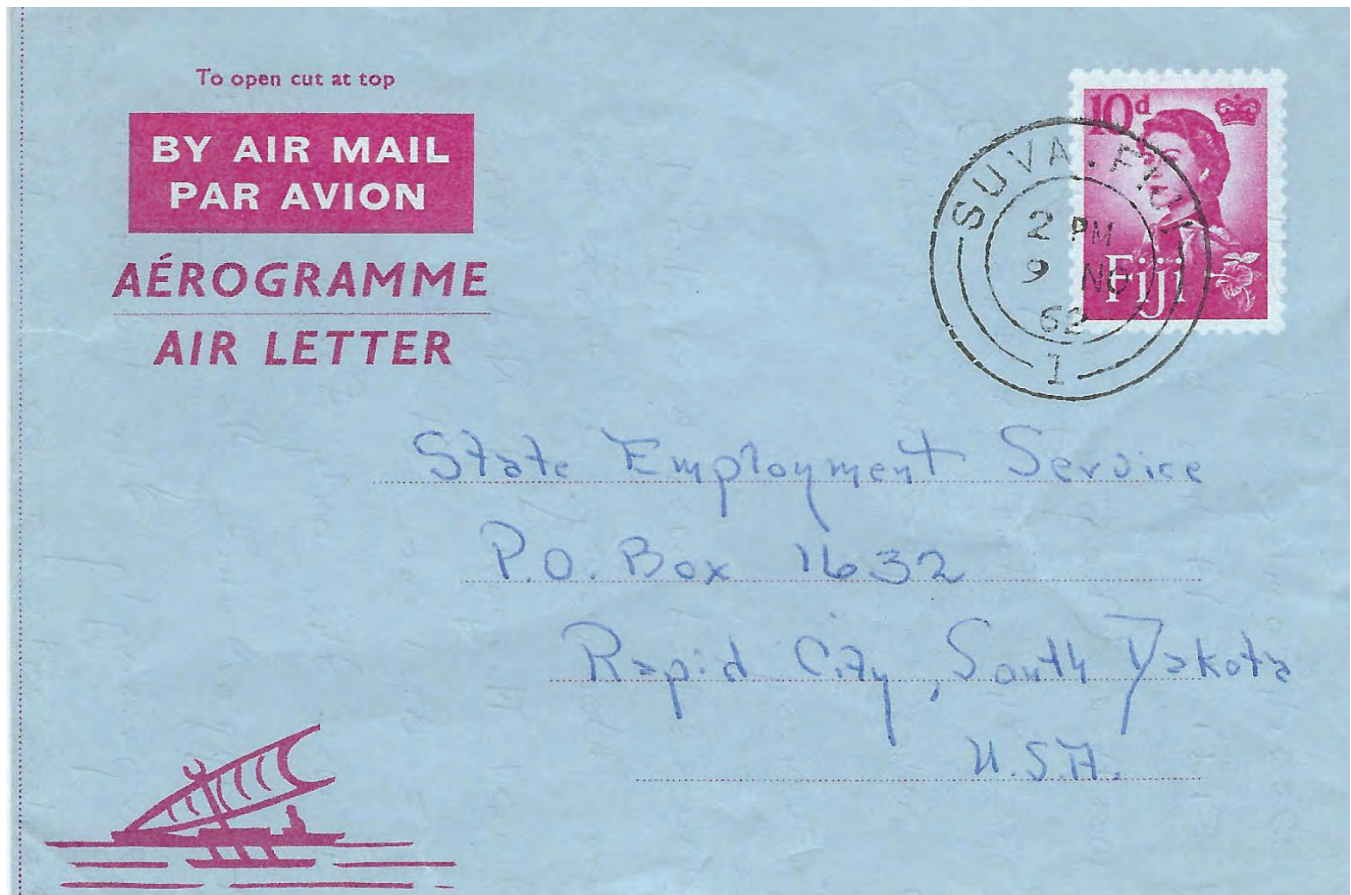


Figure 5 10d Fiji Queen Elizabeth II Aerogramme



Figure 6 Queensland 1½d Lettercard

Ian McMahon

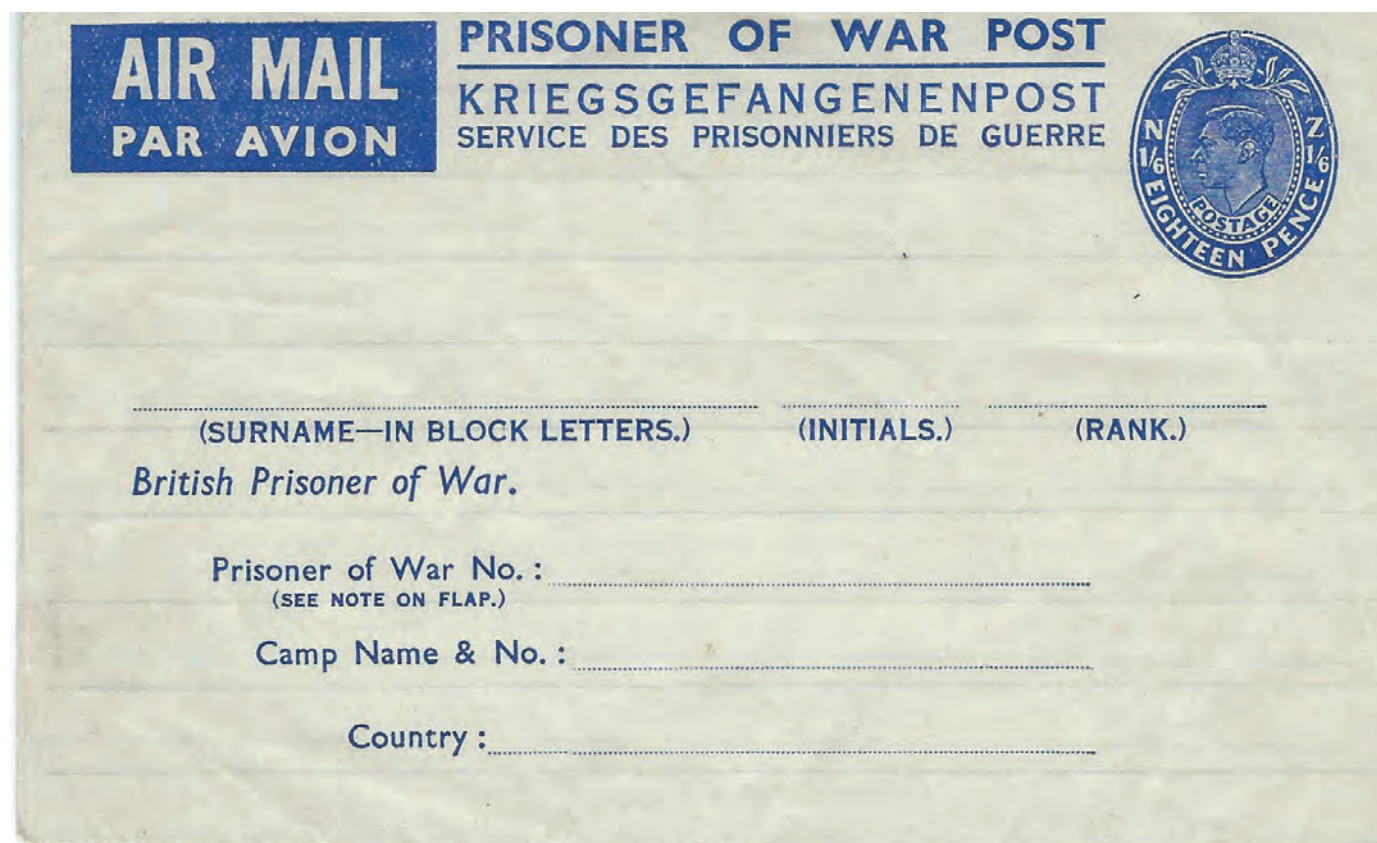


Figure 7 New Zealand Eighteen Pence (1/6) Prisoner of War Aerogramme

some wrappers it occurs upright and on occasion reversed.

One example of a watermark on postcards occurs with the first issue of USA stamped postcards. The 1873 1c postcard (Figure 3) printed with a stamp showing a stylised 'Liberty', was issued watermarked "USPOD" in monogram. The watermark can be found in two sizes, either 90 mm high or 53 mm high. The second issue of stamped post cards issued in 1875 was also watermarked.

From the first issues of 1853, the stamped envelopes issued by the USA (Figure 4) were routinely issued on paper watermarked 'US' or 'USPOD'. Watermarks changed with each new envelope issue and from 1911 until about 1933 two envelope paper suppliers were used each with a distinctive watermark. From 1903 to 1911, the watermarks consisted of the letters 'US' and 'POD' with the date below. From 1915 until 1954, all watermarks consisted of the letters 'US' with the date superimposed. Issues from the 1960s to the 1990s were watermarked with 'USA' and a star. Use of watermarked paper ceased with the introduction of recycled paper. US stamped

envelopes with many die, knife and paper varieties represent very complex issues with much interest for the specialist. Watermark varieties add to the complexity of the issues. Lettersheets were also issued watermarked.

Earlier aerogrammes were often issued with watermarks. Some Fiji Queen Elizabeth II aerogrammes (Figure 5), for example, are watermarked 'Imperial Air Mail' and a letter, for example, 'L', 'M', 'S', 'T', 'V' or 'Z', identifying the printing. Canadian King George VI aerogrammes were issued watermarked 'Rolland Croydon Air Mail Canada'. Canadian aerogrammes were issued on watermarked paper until 1959.

Many Queensland lettercards (Figure 6) can be found with a printer manufacturer's watermark while Queensland postal notes were watermarked 'ELECTORS RIGHT QUEENSLAND' or 'QUEENSLAND POSTAL NOTE'.

An example of a paper maker's watermark occurs on the first issue of the 1/6 (inscribed 'EIGHTEEN PENCE') King George VI prisoner of war aerogramme (Figure 7) with the watermark 'LAT-

Postal Stationery

IMER BOND GREAT BRITAIN'.

Literature on USA Postal Stationery

While I have commented in this column previously on the paucity of literature on postal stationery for many countries, there are some countries that are extremely well catered for with philatelic literature. One such country is the USA.

A basic listing of the stamped envelopes can be found in the Scott Catalog (Part 1). Detailed listings of US postal stationery can be found in the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers*. The Catalogue covers stamped envelopes, wrappers (included in the listing with the envelopes but with a 'W' prefix) and lettersheets (also included in the envelope listing) as well as stamped postcards, aerogrammes and official postal stationery. One unusual feature of the listing of stamped envelopes is that it lists and prices 'cut-squares', a practice that continues amongst postal stationery collectors in the USA but is frowned on by postal stationery collectors from other countries.

For the specialist, the United Postal Stationery Society (UPSS) publishes a series of highly specialized catalogues. There are two catalogues which provide highly specialized listings of the stamped envelopes, including details of dies, paper, knives, size and watermarks: *U.S. 19th Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers* (2012) Editor Dan Undersander and *U.S. 20th and 21st Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers* (2017) Editor Dan Undersander (Figure 8). These catalogues are comple-

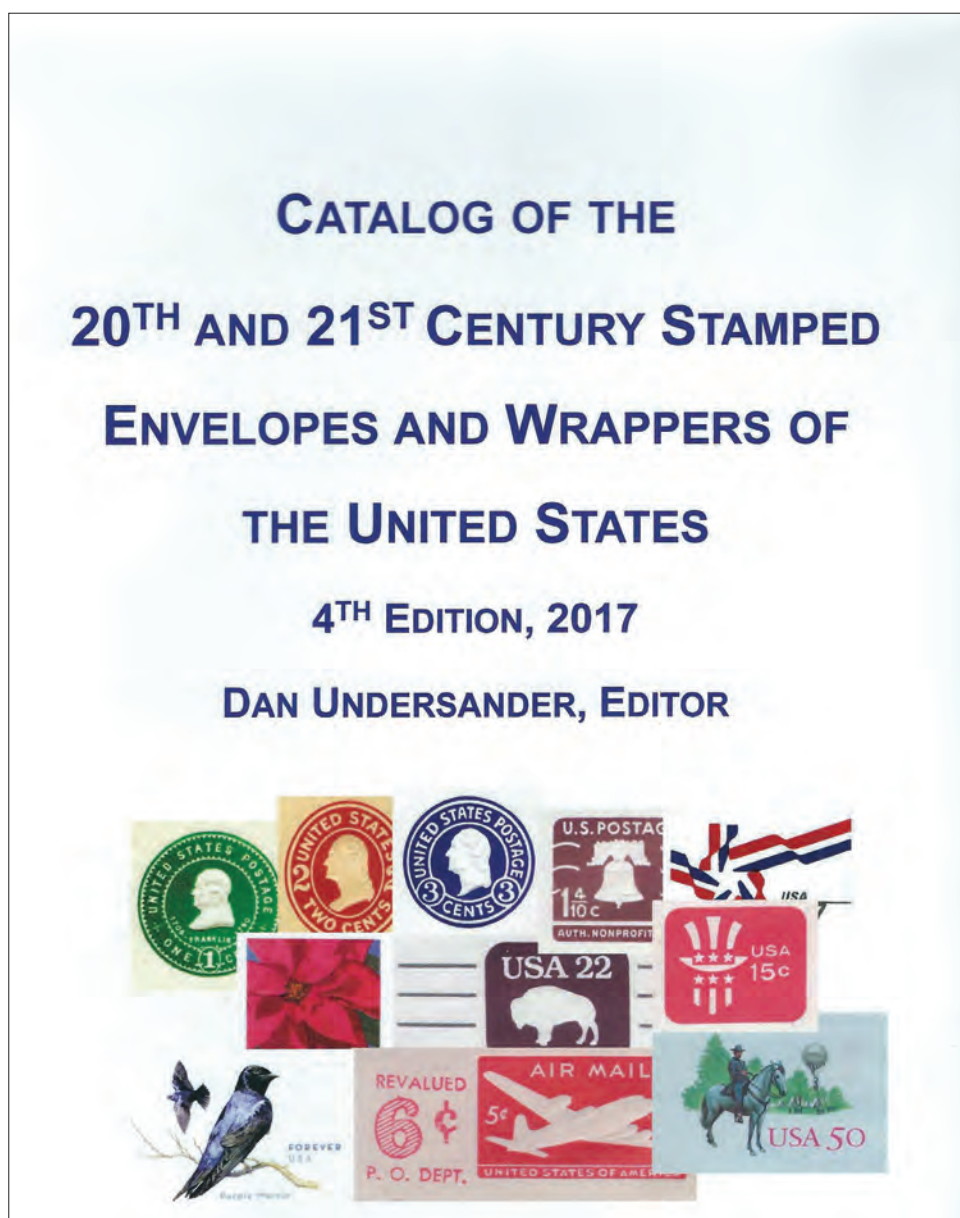


Figure 8 Catalog of the U.S. 20th and 21st Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers

mented by books such as *Actual Size Illustrations (Stamped Envelope) Cutting Knives Handbook* (2010), *United States Stamped Envelopes Essays and Proofs* (2003) Dan Undersander and the *Penalty Overprinted Stamped Envelopes, Wrappers and Postal Cards of the United States and Possessions* by Thomas Galloway and Robert Derrick (2016). Penalty overprinted postal stationery refers to postal stationery which has been overprinted with a warning that the envelope can only be used for official purposes and details of the penalty for private use.

Postcards (Figure 9) are covered in great detail

Postal Stationery

This month's column looks at Fijian postal stationery and where to find information on postal stationery new issues.

Collecting Fiji Postal Stationery

Many Australian collectors collect the stamps of Pacific Island countries such as Fiji. Fiji has issued a relatively modest amount of postal stationery but with enough variety to provide an interesting collecting area. It is also served by an excellent handbook *The Postal Stationery of Fiji* by Ross Duberal published by The Pacific Islands Study Circle of Great Britain in 1998.

Fiji did not issue postal stationery until May 1895. The impetus for Fiji issuing postal stationery

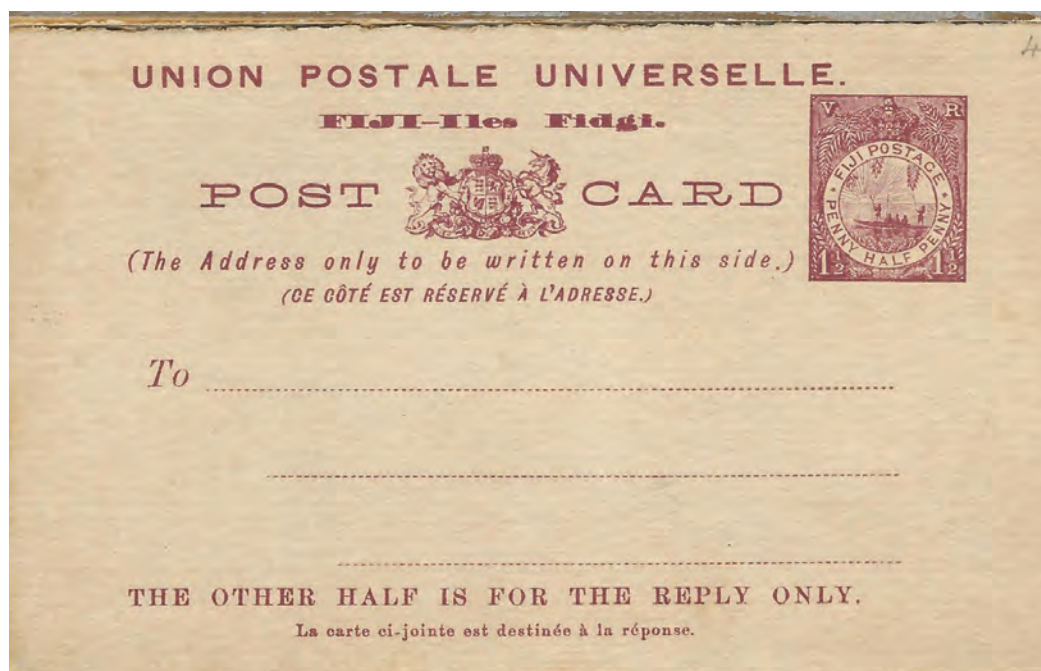


Figure 1 1½d + 1½d canoe and palms reply postcard

was its joining the UPU, which it did as one of the British Australasian colonies on 1 October 1891. UPU regulations provided for members issuing postcards, reply postcards and lettercards. The imprinted stamp of the first issue had a design showing a canoe and palms (Figure 1). 1d single and reply postcards for domestic use, 1½d single and reply

postcards for use to UPU countries and 1d lettercards (Figure 2) were ordered from the New South Wales Government Printer and first used in Fiji on 24 May 1895.

Postcard rates were reduced to ½d within Fiji and to 1d elsewhere in 1903 and as a result the 1895 1d and 1½d postcards were surcharged 'HALF PENNY'



Figure 2 1½d 1895 lettercard

Ian McMahon

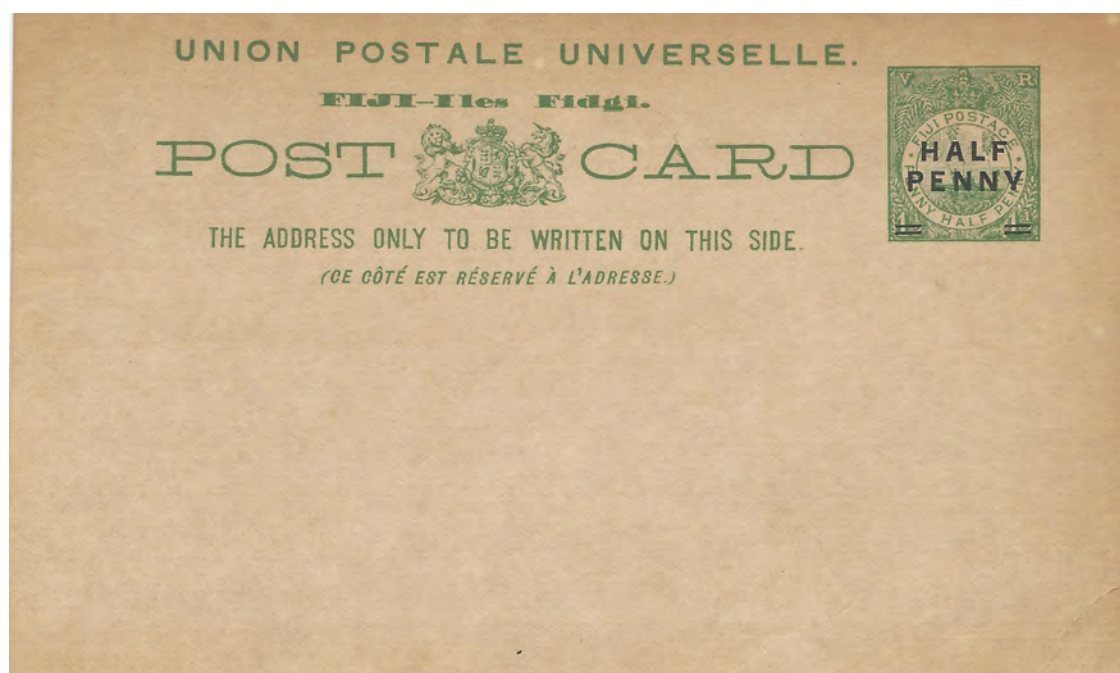


Figure 3 ½ d on 1½d 1903 postcard

(Figure 3).

The surcharged postcards were replaced by ½d single and reply and 1½d single and reply postcards depicting King Edward VII (Figure 4) in early 1904. The cards were produced by De La Rue, and as was common practice for British colonies at the time, a small number of the postcards were overprinted 'SPECIMEN' for distribution to members of the UPU. The reply postcards were not used to any great extent and were separated and sold as single cards. No King Edward VII lettercards were issued by Fiji.

The King Edward VII postcards remained on sale for some time with King George V 1½d postcards (Figure 5) being issued in 1927 following the increase in the UPU

postcard rate to 1½d. No 1½d reply or ½d King George V postcards were issued. A 2d King George V lettercard was issued in 1928.

Fiji did not issue stamped envelopes until 1912 when 1d embossed King George V envelopes (Figure 6) printed by De La Rue were issued. The envelopes were issued in three different sizes and with

a number of knife and paper variations. As with the postcards and lettercards, a small number were overprinted 'SPECIMEN' for distribution to members of the UPU. De La Rue also produced a ¼d King George V wrapper which was issued in 1917.

Following an increase in the postage rate to



Figure 4 1d King Edward VII postcard overprinted 'SPECIMEN'

Postal Stationery



Figure 5 1½ King George V postcard overprinted 'SPECIMEN'



Figure 9 2d + 3d King George VI registered envelopes



Figure 6 1d embossed King George V envelope

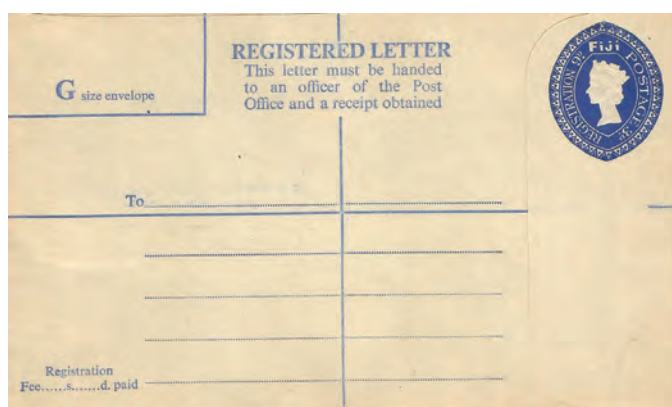


Figure 11 3d + 9d Queen Elizabeth II registered envelopes



Figure 7 3d Queen Elizabeth II envelope

2d, 2d embossed envelopes were issued in 1921. These were used until about 1941 with no further stamped envelopes being issued until 1963 when 3d red Queen Elizabeth II stamped envelopes (Figure 7) were issued. This envelope and the other

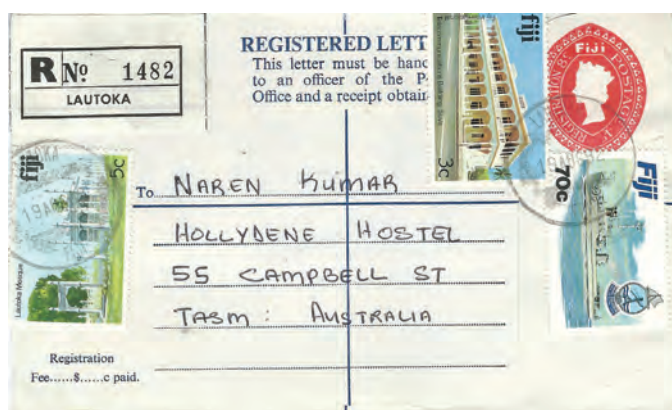


Figure 12 8c + 4c registered envelope used to Australia

Queen Elizabeth II envelopes were produced by McCorquodale & Co. This was followed by a 2c green envelope in 1969 following the introduction of decimal currency and 3c and 4c envelopes in 1973 and 1977 as a result of postage rate increases. These envelopes show some knife and gum varieties and variations in the shades of the imprinted

Ian McMahon

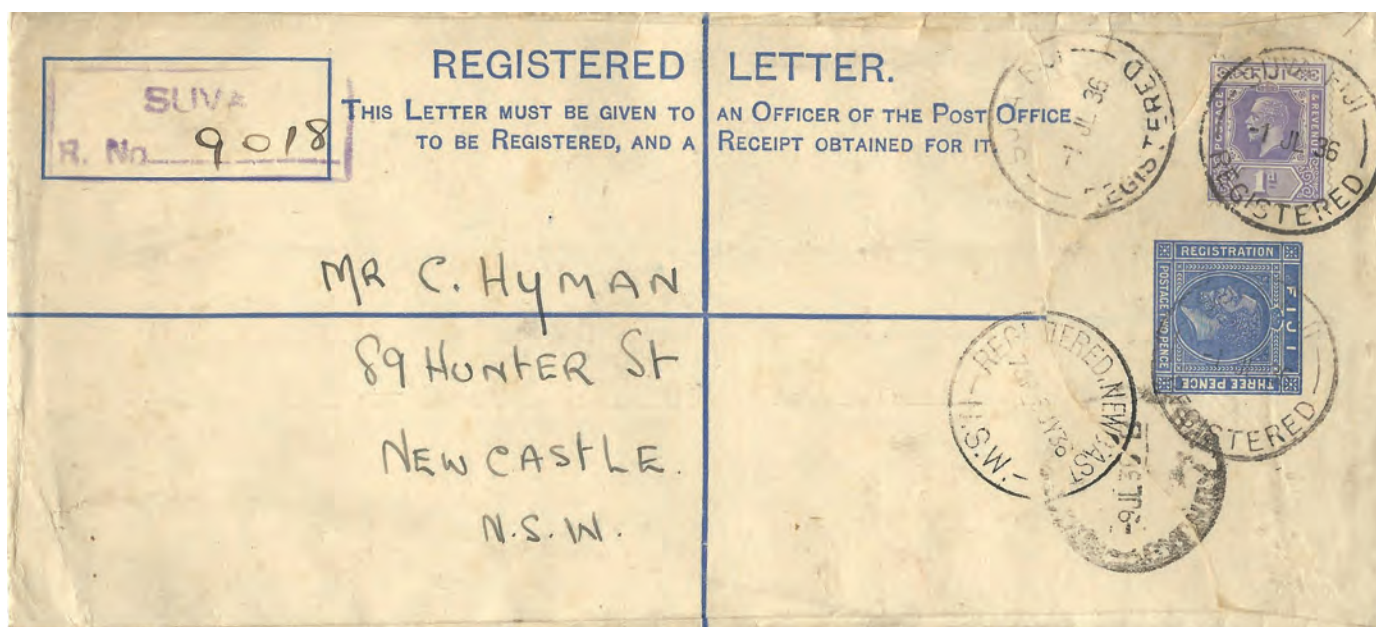


Figure 8 2d + 3d King George V registered envelopes.

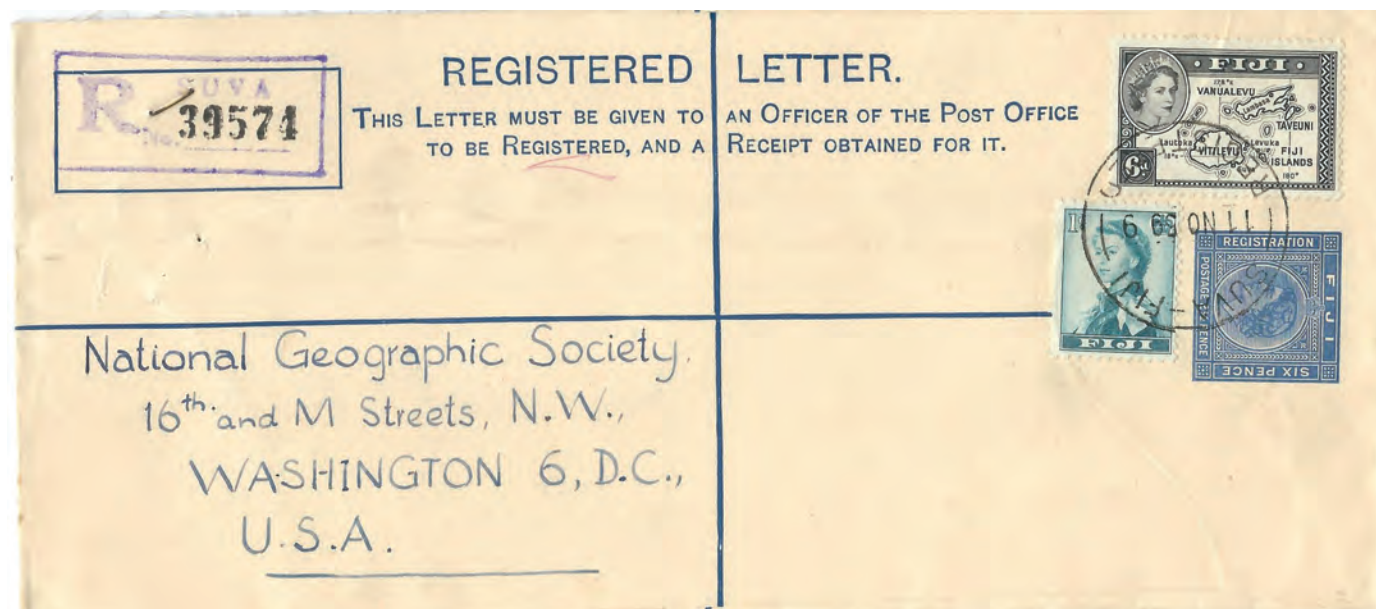


Figure 10 2½d + 6d Queen Elizabeth II registered envelopes

stamp. No further stamped envelopes were issued for many years.

While Fiji has issued relatively few postcards, lettercards, wrappers and stamped envelopes, registered envelopes proved more popular.

The first registered envelopes were issued in Fiji about 1911. These envelopes depicted King Edward VII and were denominated 1d + 3d (1d postage and 3d for the registration fee), produced by De La Rue and produced in three sizes. 1d + 3d King

George V registered envelopes were issued in 1914, again in three sizes. Following the reduction in the registration fee to 2d, a 1d + 2d registered envelope was issued in 1923 in two sizes. 2d + 2d and 2d + 3d (Figure 8) registered envelopes were issued in 1926 and 1928 respectively following postage rate changes. 2d + 3d King George VI registered envelopes (Figure 9) appeared in 1944 (again in two sizes) with 2d+4d registered envelopes being issued in 1952. 2½d + 6d Queen Elizabeth II registered

Postal Stationery

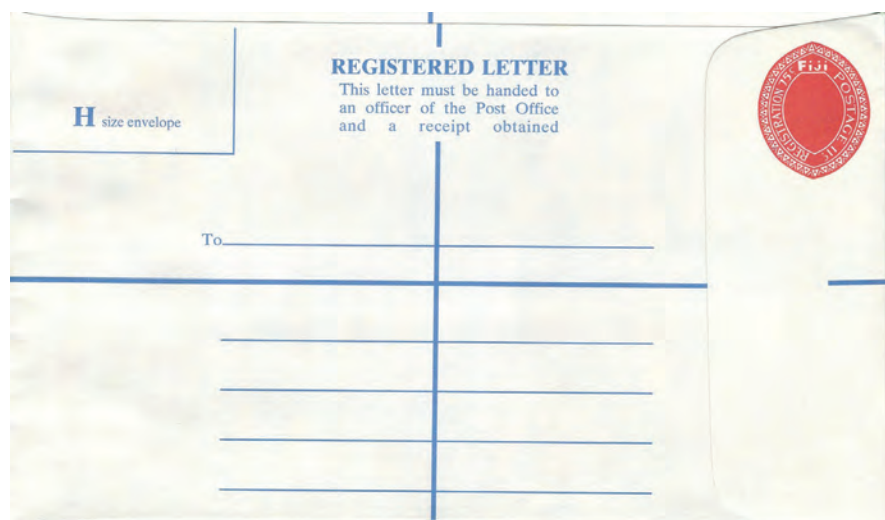


Figure 13 11c + 75c registered envelope with Queen's portrait removed

envelopes (Figure 10) were issued in 1955-1959.

In 1962, the contract for producing registered envelopes passed to McCorquodale who produced 3d + 9d Queen Elizabeth II registered envelopes in a new design (Figure 11). Registered envelopes of this design (Figure 12) continued to be issued (in two sizes) with frequent changes for postage rate increases until 1992 with the last issue being the 9c + 60c value. In 1992 an 11c + 75c registered envelope (Figure 13) was issued with the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II removed.

Information on New Issues of Postal Stationery

Finding information on new issues of postal stationery can be a challenge. For Australia, the Philatelic Bulletin, and the Australia Post website, provide details of some new issues including many new pre-stamped envelopes, aerogrammes and some prepaid postcards (Figure 14). Generally, however, Australia Post does not report on new issues of express post, registered mail and parcel post postal stationery nor does it report new issues of many pre-paid postcards.



Figure 14 Greetings from Christmas Island postcard.

Information on many of these issues can be found in the *Postal Stationery Collector*, Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia.

While it can be frustrating, many collectors enjoy collecting material where they have to chase new issues by frequently visiting post offices and working through a network of like minded collectors. You never know when a trip to a post office will turn up

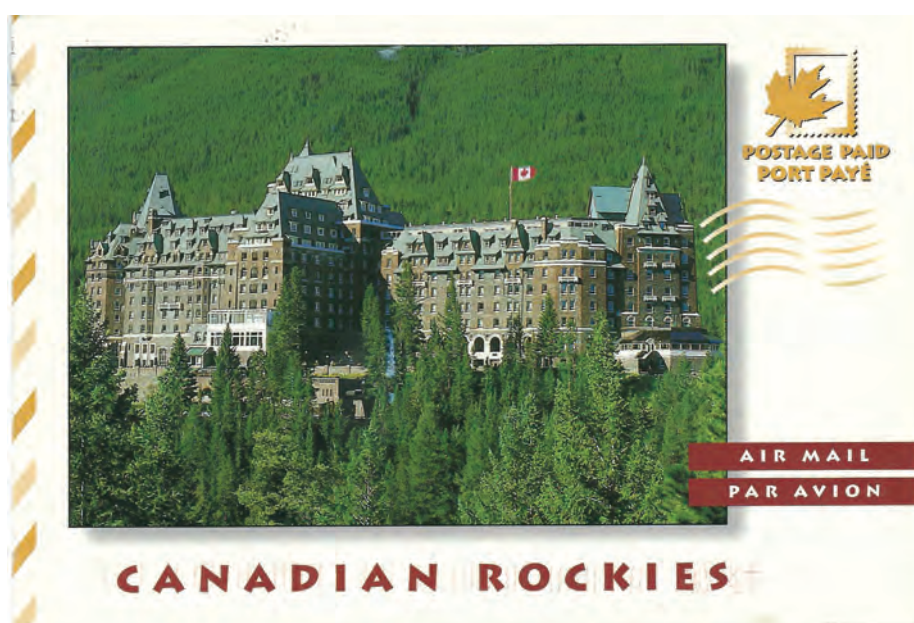


Figure 15 Canada prepaid postcard showing the Banff Hotel

Ian McMahon

a new issue and as the material sold by each post office varies so much, you need to visit as many different post offices as you can. There have been examples where a pre-paid postcard has been only known from sales from a single post office. How many of you have Australia Post prepaid postcards with the overprint *Greetings from Nimbin*? How many postal stationery items have been issued and gone unnoticed and unrecorded?

A similar situation applies in other countries including Canada and New Zealand. In Canada, an arrangement with a card manufacturer, The Postcard Factory, has meant that prepaid postcards (Figures 15-16) are sold at post offices and postal agencies as well as greeting card shops and even newsagents, all selling different stock. Many of the postcards are sold only in the city or province depicted on the reverse. A complete collection of these cards would be almost an impossibility. To keep track of all of the new issues you would need to visit as many outlets as possible across the country or cooperate with a network of collectors. Information on these cards is monitored by the [Canadian] Postal Stationery Study Group. Collecting these cards in Australia poses special problems as they are not sold by the philatelic bureau and you can't easily visit Canadian post offices. To do so would require a reliable contact (or contacts) in Canada.

Finding information on new issues in other countries is also a challenge and requires access to philatelic bulletins, specialised journals and a reliable contact (preferably another collector of postal stationery) of the country you are interested in collecting.

Gibbons Stamp Monthly does publish a worldwide survey of Commonwealth and Foreign postal stationery each year in 3-4 parts. The survey of 2016 postal stationery can be found in the May to August issues. The German postal stationery society (*Berliner Ganzsachen-Sammler-Verein*), publishes a new issue review in its journal, *Die Ganzsache*.

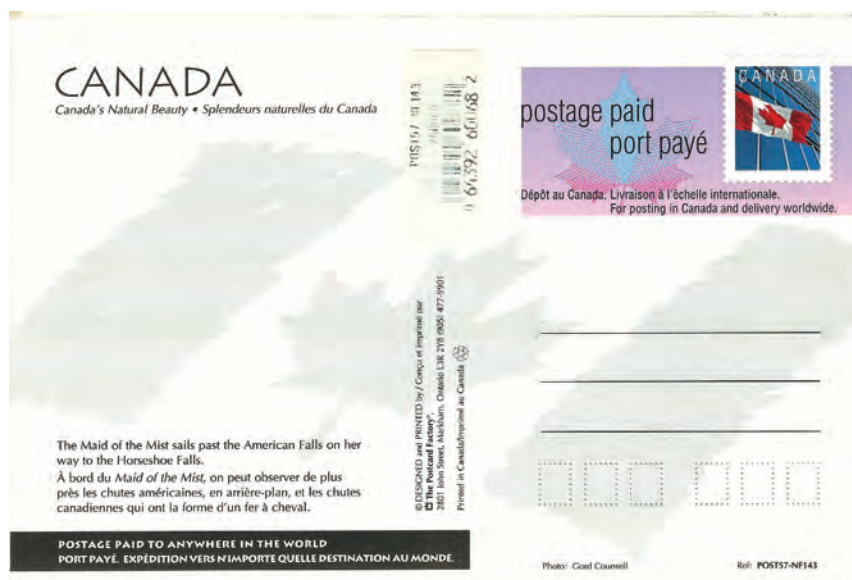


Figure 16 Canada Postcard Factory prepaid postcard.

**2017
BRISBANE
STAMP &
COIN SHOW**

**25+ Quality Dealers
from
Queensland,
Interstate and
Overseas**

STAMPS
British Commonwealth & World,
Australia Post Limited Editions,
FDCs, Cinderellas, Postal History,
Postcards, Thematics & Ephemera

COINS
British Commonwealth & World, RAM
& Perth Mint - Gold & Silver Coins,
Ancient Coins, Tokens, PNCS,
Banknotes, Medals and Medallions

11 & 12 NOV

Dealers Showcase Saturday 10am - 6pm
Also Local Collectors Bourse Sunday 10am - 4pm
Held at QSAC Kessels Rd, Nathan

Show Special DAY 1 & 2 Different PNCs Ltd 250
 and 1 Mini Sheet Ltd 250
 For each day, a 1911 Sovereign will be raffled

**FREE ENTRY, FREE PARKING,
Kids Activities, Food and Drink Available**

Visit for more Information
brisbanestampandcoinshow.com
facebook.com/2017BSCS
 Contact BSCS Communication Liaison
 Troy Sequeira (Brisbane Stamps)
 0403593792