

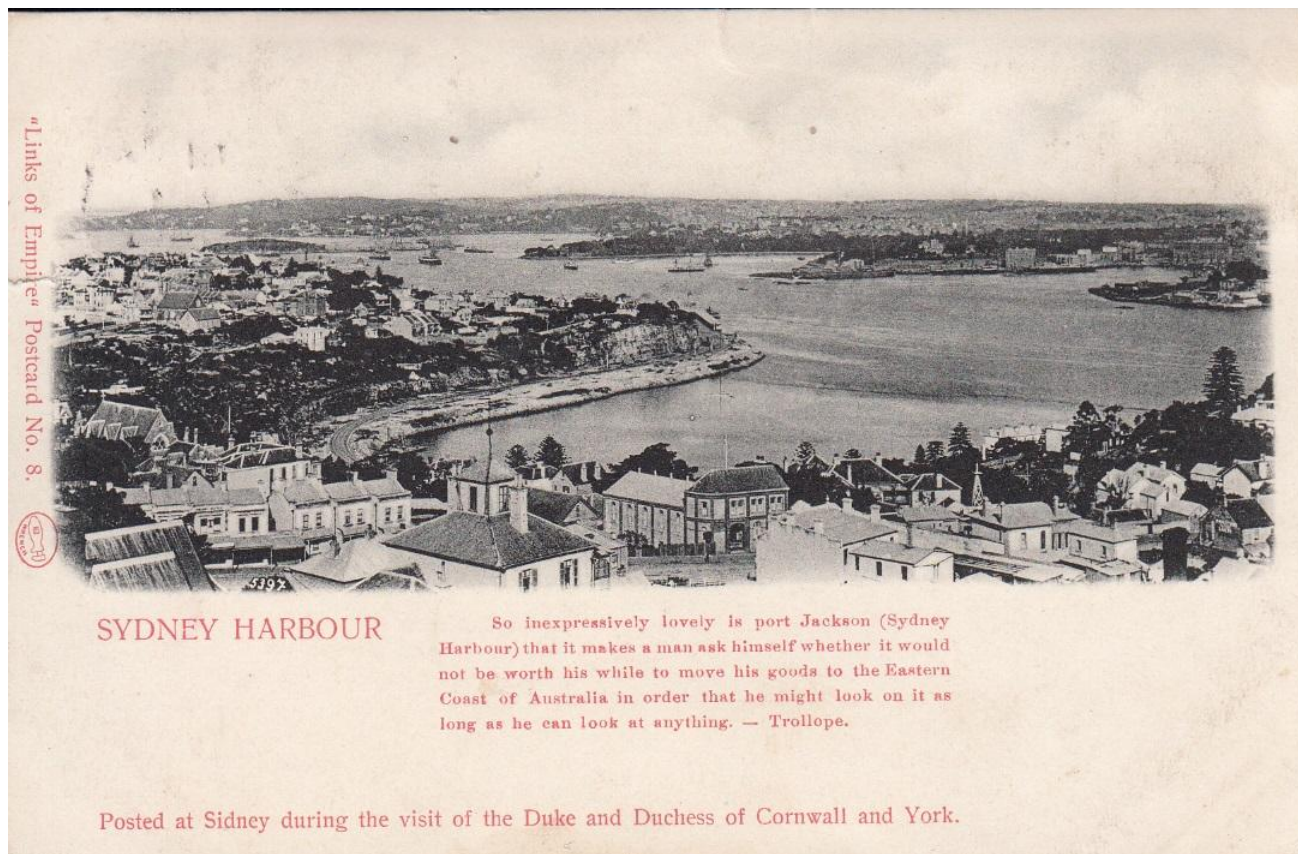
The Bulletin



The British Society of Australian Philately

Founded 1933

CONTENTS



EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION, ZOOM BSAP CHRISTMAS MEETING, MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS & EDITORIAL.....	188
THE HOLLOW S IN OS OVERPRINTS by Bert Wajer and Gordon Monk.....	191
CONTINUING RESEARCH ON THE GV 1D VARIETIES (Part 63) by Gordon Monk, Bert Wajer and the late Paull Kaigg.....	196
KGV THREE HALFPENCE DIE I - NEW DISCOVERIES, PLATINGS & DESCRIPTIONS by Bill Fiora.....	205
UK SUBSCRIPTION POSTCARD SERVICE. By Christine Earle.....	206
RESEARCH ON AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY LUGGAGE AND PARCEL LABELS Part 10 by Ian Spencer (999)	207
CENSUS OF USED LETTER SHEETS AND ENVELOPES BEARING EMBOSSSED STAMP Part 1 by Brian Peace FRPSL	209
PRINTING THE AUSTRALIAN STAMP ISSUE (from THE AGE NEWSPAPER 14 MAY 1932).....	218
EARLY DATE FOR TASMANIA 20/CTMS/T TAX MARK by Patrick Reid.....	222
BRITISH SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIAN PHILATELY – AGM MINUTES.....	223
POSTAL ROUTE-NR. MELBOURNE TO READING ...VIA COVENTRY in 2020!..	232
AUSTRALIAN PHILATELY IN PRINT #6 2020	232

SECRETARY'S LETTER & NOTICES, EDITORIAL OPEN LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY

Here we go again, but by the time that you read this the four-week lockdown will be nearly over. Who knows what joys await us on the other side? We shall see.

You may have expected a booking form for the 2021 Convention in this issue. However, in consultation with the Hon. Treasurer we decided that we would wait until the February issue. That will give us chance to gauge whether or not the rules might be relaxed sufficiently for us to go ahead with the event, or whether we shall be faced with another cancellation. We are, of course, hopeful.

Just to reinforce what our Programme Secretary has been forced to do, as the Royal Philatelic Society has closed the Abchurch Lane building for all physical meetings until at least the end of January 2021, I repeat the information that the planned meeting in London in January is cancelled.

I feel that the lack of meetings is leaving a gap that we ought to try to fill. I would invite any member who feels able to offer a short (no more than 30 minutes) Australian presentation over Zoom, using the screen-sharing facility to contact either Colin Mount or me, and we shall see what can be put together to keep the members entertained. Please remember that we may get extra attendees as we did for the AGM. The event would be entirely Covid-free!

Please be prompt in paying your Subscription this year, especially in light of the very generous "Two for One" offer that the Hon. Treasurer has made. See whether you can "phone a friend" and persuade them to join as well. If they want to get a flavour of what goes on, then point them towards the Society Facebook page, initiated by Huw Williams with discussions on all sorts of Australian topics.

Although it is a little early, I would like to wish all members a safe and enjoyable Christmas season, and a Happy and Healthy New Year when I look forward to seeing real people again.

PGER 6/11/20

PS

ZOOM BSAP CHRISTMAS MEETING – 12 December 9.30am / 5pm

Although physical meetings have had to take a rest until next year, Huw Williams, our Auction Secretary who runs the Facebook Group is organizing two Zoom meetings in the morning and late afternoon of 12 December. The morning one will start at 9.30am and the afternoon one will start at 5pm. (Members will be able to join the meetings from 15 minutes beforehand).

The morning meeting should provide an opportunity for members in Australia to join, and the afternoon one should work for American members. UK members are welcome to either or both. Whilst the format will be informal, members may like to show something, either by preparing a powerpoint slide or scan in advance, and sending it to Huw, or using the "Share Screen" facility. Such presentations may be 1 sheet or up to a 5-10 minute slot. Huw will also invite those in the Facebook Group (some of whom are not yet BSAP members). It may be sensible to advise Huw in advance if you have something to show.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Members will have received with this Bulletin, the 2021 Membership Renewal Form. Subscription rates remain at the same levels for a further year (with the usual discount for payment before 31 January). However, in recognition of the reduced scope of services provided during this COVID-19 period, Council has agreed that payment of your Membership Subscription for 2021 will also cover your membership for 2022. Effectively, two years for the price of one! Early payment discounts will remain in place so, as an example, UK Members taking the printed Bulletin and paying before the end of January 2021 will receive all membership benefits through to the end of December 2022 for a total of £26. New members joining the Society in 2021 will also benefit from (up to) two years for the price of one.

Finally, the membership secretary & treasurer makes his usual annual plea – all renewals as early as possible please! Many thanks.

MJP 24/09/2020

The editor adds that if you phone a friend, as the Secretary suggests, and they join before Christmas, their new (2+ year) membership will start immediately, and we'll make sure they get this Bulletin.

But, before you renew read the next article

BULLETIN ARCHIVE ON USB

Members may recall reading separately (or hearing about at a previous convention) of the extended exercise to prepare scanned files of all historic bulletins. For practical purposes (and linked to availability of original copies of The Bulletin) the scanning exercise has been split into three volumes.

VOLUME 1 Covers the copies of The Bulletin as issued by the BSAP predecessor – The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Society from Issue 1 of March 1933 to April 1951.

VOLUME 2 (will) Covers the copies of The Bulletin as issued by the British Society of Australian Philately from Vol 1, 1951 to Vol 24, 1970

VOLUME 3 Covers the copies of The Bulletin as issued by the British Society of Australian Philately from Vol. 25, April 1970 to Vol. 71, December 2016.

VOLUMES 1 and 3 have been completed and are loaded on the first USB Stick (*see below*).

VOLUME 2 has *not* yet been completed; the copies of The Bulletin are in the process of being scanned, but the exercise (which is being carried out by volunteers at the Royal Philatelic Society) has been effectively brought to a halt since March 2020 by COVID-19 restrictions. We do not yet have an indication of when this exercise will be completed but will keep members updated with progress through future issues of The Bulletin.

When Volume 2 is available it will be offered to all previous purchasers, provided they remain Society Members, at no additional charge. Also, when Volume 2 is completed, a fully consolidated set of the files will be made available – full details to follow at that time.

Members can now order the USB Stick with Volumes 1& 3 of The Bulletin Archive from the Membership Secretary at the following cost (valid until 31st January 2021):

UK Based Members - £15

All Other Members - £17 or Au\$33

(For US\$ prices and payment arrangements please contact the Membership Secretary)

Prices include post and packing

There are two options for ordering the USB Stick:

Option 1. (*Preferred*) Request a copy of the USB with your Membership Renewal adding the appropriate amount to your membership renewal payment, or

Option 2. Contact the Membership Secretary by email (bsapmjp@btinternet.com) who will provide details of payment options and mailing arrangements.

Membership Secretary - List of Changes to Membership Database – Notification 173 Period: 1 September 2020 to 31 October 2020

New members: 1861 S.S. Nair Spain 1862 W. Candy Minnesota USA

Deceased: 1336 S. Chilcraft Buckinghamshire

Changes & Corrections of address, Lapsed & Removed Members, Resigned & Reinstated:
None Advised

Note that due to my editing error, the new members recorded in October should have been under notification 172, and that new members were incorrectly shown; it should have been

New members: 1859 R. Benoist, London 1860 I. Culshaw, Western Australia
Apologies for any confusion to Dr. M Cohen (member 1858 whom we welcomed in August)

EDITORIAL

This Bulletin is a little earlier, as I realised that all our auctioneer advertisers had planned auctions between 22 November and 2 December (but one of these has now changed). By all accounts on-line bidding in auctions (whether those of our advertisers or platforms such as ebay) has seen a boom this year, as we have been largely confined to home, and the expectation is that this may continue in some way for a while, even when we return to “normality”. The issue is also of bumper length as it incorporates all the AGM reports within the minutes of that meeting. I think I am settling into the editorial role and have got a process in place; it’s a bit different to how Graham did things but I think is working for me. Thanks to those who have provided new articles; I have included quite a few in this edition, holding a few back for the February edition; more will be needed by April! A couple of new features are being planned for the Bulletin next year. Happy Christmas (when it comes)!

Alan Cross 10/11/20

2690. THE HOLLOW S IN OS OVERPRINTS (of the 1d GREEN) by Bert Wajer and Gordon Monk

The Australian Commonwealth Specialist Catalogue states that 6,372,000 stamps overprinted OS were issued. This represented 53,100 sheets of 120. The demand for OS perforated stamps had been steadily declining and did so for the overprinted issue. This is supported by the fact that the OS overprinted stamps were only issued for 111 months. (March 1932 to February 1933) after which they were withdrawn. The remaining blocks of each issue were disposed of mainly through the Post Office Philatelic outlets.

How did the “Hollow S” Occur?

We propose that the initial printing was of 2 formes of 120, the upper forme featuring the “Hollow S” and the lower forme being normal. The total printing format 240 up. The upper & lower formes were identical and therefore interchangeable. As stocks of the OS overprints were running low, further printings were made with a forme of 120 up. We propose there were, after the initial printing (s) of 240 up, three subsequent printings on single sheets (120 up). This allowed the “hollow S” to appear on Pane 8, and not on Panes 2 and 6. It is also possible that later printings were done with 240 up; hence Pane 8, but that implies Pane 2 does not have a “Hollow S”; the “hollow S” must appear on Pane 4. This seems unlikely, as after 16 years of searching we have not found or seen a “Hollow S” that can be plated to Pane 4. This strongly supports the later printings being done 120 up.

Pane 8



Research Paper

The “Hollow S” in OS overprints

Early in 2003 we obtained a block of 12 1d greens overprinted OS with full upper and right margins (illustrated on previous page). The Jubilee line at right and the clear margins at the top, together with the plate varieties, indicate that the block came from Pane 8. To our amazement we discovered that R17 featured the “Hollow S”! This was not recorded in the Australian Specialist Catalogue (at the time), which stated that the “Hollow S” only occurred on Panes 2 and 6. Our find was duly reported to Dr. Geoffrey Kellow to be included in the new catalogue, due in 2007.

In 2018-19 we obtained several thousand 1d green CofA stamps including lots of OS overprinted stamps many in pairs, strips and blocks of 4 and 6.

Block of 6

We plated this block to be from Pane 2 #'s 10, 11, 12, 16, 17 and 18. This block of 6 did not have the “Hollow S” on R17 and the block features the island flaws above the left wattle leaf together with all the known plate varieties.

Pane 2



10 RF. Compartment marks from top v-scroll to wattle stem.

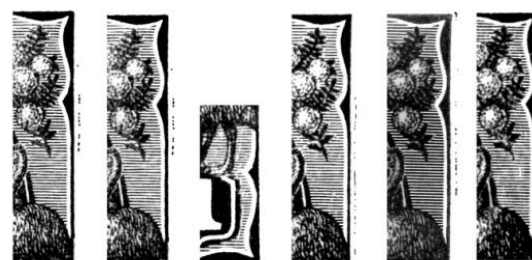
11 RF. Compartment marks from top v-scroll to wattle stem.

12 Shade Lines. Shade lines fail to touch right side of RVS.

16 RF. Compartment marks from top v-scroll to Emu's back.

17 RF. Compartment marks from Emu's head to top of Emu's back.

18 Shade Lines. Almost vertical scratch from 3rd to 7th line under right wattle stem.



10 # 11 # 12 # 16 # 17 # 18

Pane 4 # 46

Issued by article authors) May 2006. Revised Feb 2018 2b to 2m and 5th State added. There have been 22 clichés found that the compartment marks were reworked around Sep/Oct 1935.

1st State Proof – 7 July 1914 (1st half of 1st printing).

1st State - Normal

2nd State 28 July 1914 (2nd half of 1st printing) – Dec 1916

- 2a Right Frame. Early in the print run a compartment mark appears on frame between R54 and R56. As the run progresses more marks appear until they go from R24 to R89, variable.
- 2b Top Right Corner. Late in the print run a compartment dot appears close to TF in line with RF, inconstant.
- 2c Bottom Right Corner. In mid print run a compartment dot appears ½mm below BF in line with RF. Later more marks appear until it forms a backward L under the corner, variable.
- 2d Bottom Left Corner. In mid print run a compartment dot appears ½mm below BF and ½mm from LF. As the run progresses more marks appear until it forms an L around the corner, variable.
- 2e Left Frame. Early in the print run a compartment dot appears at L86 or L41 and L43 they do not appear at the same time. Later more marks appear until they go form a broken line from L39 to BLC, variable.
- 2f Top Left Corner. Early in the print run compartment dots appear ½mm from LF and from level with TF to 1mm above TF. Later they increase in size, variable.
- 2g Top Frame. In mid print run compartment dots appear ½mm above TF and 3½-4mm from TLC. As the run progresses more marks appear until they form a broken line from TLC to TRC, variable.
- 2h Bottom Frame. Early in the print run the BF is thinner and bent upwards under NE of ONE. As the run progresses in returns to normal, variable.
- 2j Top Frame. Abrupt curve on inside left of the right v-scroll found on 39% of sample, variable.
- 2k Crown. The top of the cross is slightly dished found on 43% of sample, variable.
- 2m Top Right Corner. As the run progresses the corner gradually extends to the right, variable.

3rd State Dec 1916 – January 1917

2a to 2m as before.

- 3a Right Frame and Shading beside Right Value Shield. White flaws affecting 5 shade lines at the top of RVS on the right side and the RF. The area covered by flaws is from 4-6mm from BRC, variable.

4th State January 1917 – C of A (Oct 1935?)

2a to 2m as before. 3a removed.

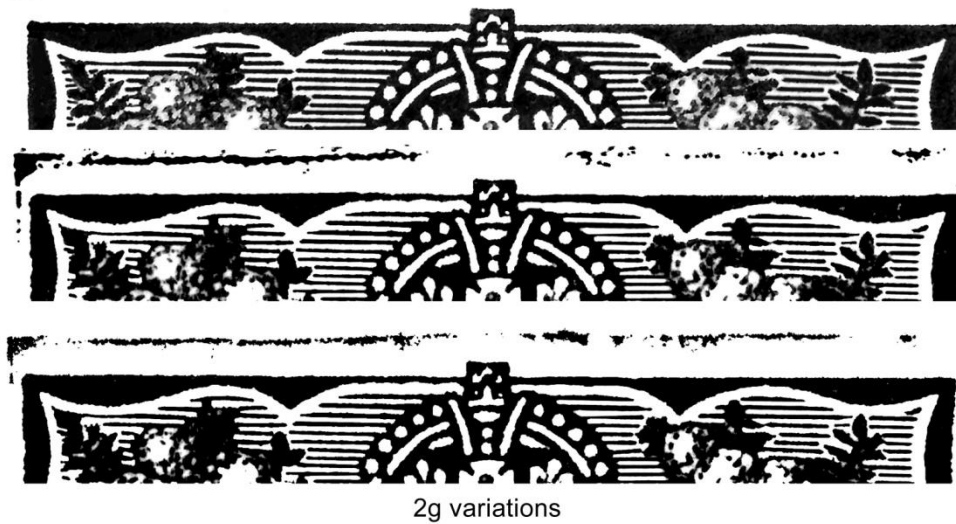
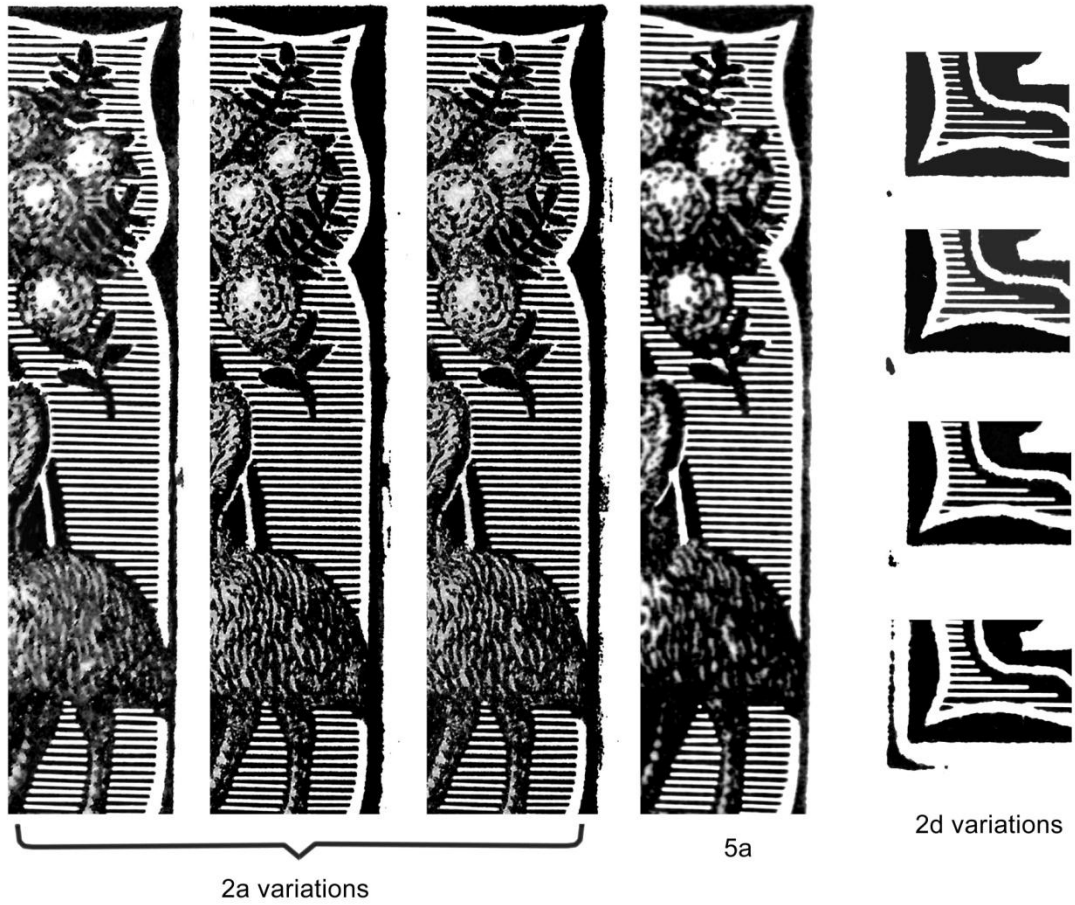
- 4a Right Frame. Very thin between 4 and 5mm from BRC.

5th State January C of A (Oct 1935?) – Final

2a to 2m removed 4a as before. Best collected in pairs with 4-40 or 4-47.

Note 3a is presumed to be a shallow Rust Flaw.

4-46 (New) Illustrations



have allowed the card to be posted at the 1d Printed Matter rate. It would save 5d on a full set, being around 14% of the purchase price.

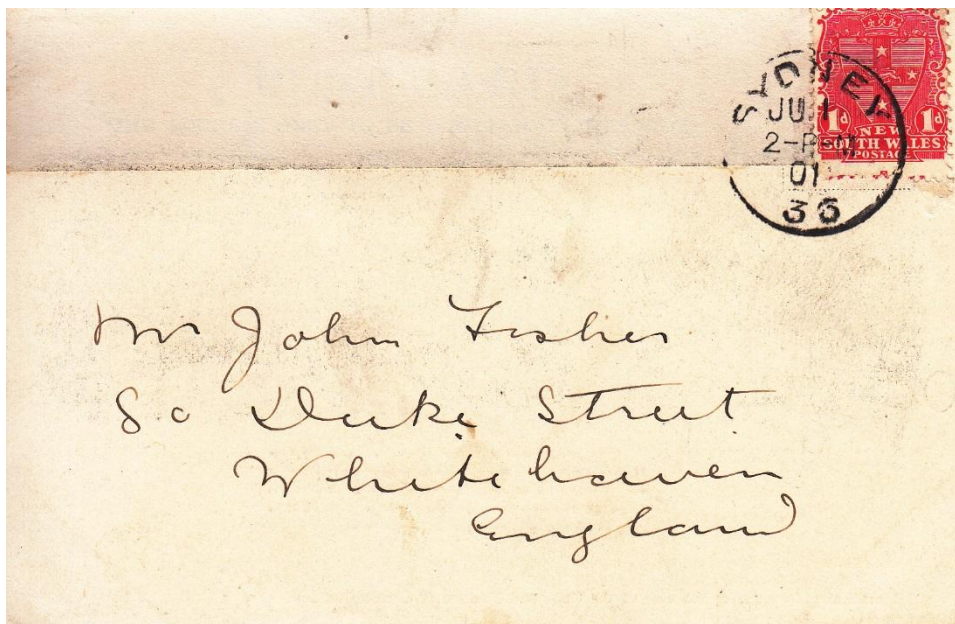


Fig. 2

Reference: Picture Postcards in Australia 1898 – 1920 by David Cook (1986).

2641. RESEARCH ON AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY LUGGAGE AND PARCEL LABELS Part 10 by Ian Spencer (999)

Editor's Note - Following some correspondence between our Secretary and the Author, this article is a short update to the final part of the Tasmania Section that appeared last month. The series will continue next year.

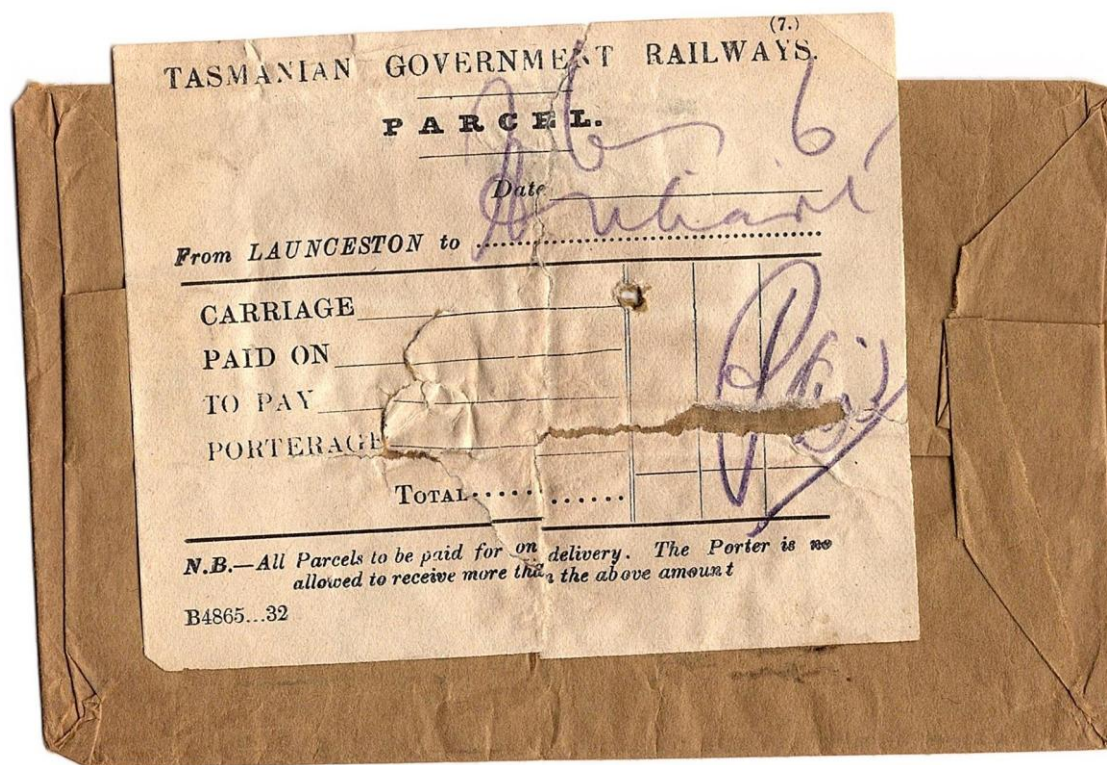
Part (6) Railway Parcel Labels

Railway parcel stamps are well documented, although many of the early types are elusive. Interestingly, the first parcel stamps of 1886 were inscribed "Passenger Ticket". To date, very few types of Tasmanian Railway Parcel labels have been found.

Type Q42 (*The illustration that appeared in the last Bulletin has not been reproduced*)

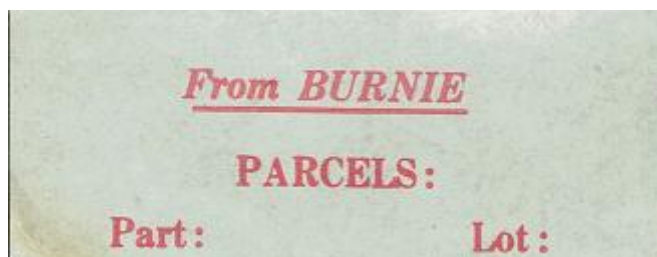
Size 107 x 82 mm. The previously illustrated label was sent from Deloraine to Hobart on the back of a letter addressed to "Tattersalls, c/o Mr Geo Adams, Hobart, Tasmania". The contents would have been lottery tickets, which could not be sent by post, as this was run by the Federal Government, who wanted to suppress the lottery. Sales of Tattersalls lottery tickets were vital to Tasmanian State funds. Most known examples come from this source. Additional information has been provided by Pat Reid. They are known with handstamped originating station: Devonport, Parattah Jn, Tunbridge; Deloraine (Large Font), Deloraine (Small font), Lemana Jcn, Bishopborne and Perth. These handstamps are in three different styles of text.

(New) Type Q43



Pat Reid has also provided details of a further type of these parcel labels – where the originating station was printed on the label. These are printed on cream paper – known only from Launceston and Hobart. The example shown is addressed to David Harvey, an undercover address for Tattersalls.

(Renamed) Type Q44



Size 111 x 44 mm. This unusual label is the only other type of Tasmanian parcel label seen to date. Used from Burnie, it was meant to accompany a batch of parcels, sent to other (unnamed) stations. It has no parallel for use in the mainland states.

Conclusions

A total of 44 different types of railway luggage and parcel labels have been found so far for Tasmania – more than for use within any mainland state. It is even more unusual in that only three of these relate to parcels. Apart from the large “Tourist” labels, none of the luggage labels have come from the two largest centres of population – Hobart and Launceston. Many of these examples will have come from remainders, either when a type became obsolete, or

from when passenger services ended. The reasons for use of different coloured papers are not known, sometimes even for a single type and for the same station. As they were printed in quantities of up to 20,000, the survival rate must be low – some printings were only 1000. More than half of the known examples have additional information at lower left. Patterns found on the examples seen have enabled some parts of this information to be decoded, but other parts are still a mystery.





Acknowledgement

The author would offer thanks to Pat Reid for expanding the final section on Tasmanian Parcel labels.

2693 CENSUS OF USED LETTER SHEETS AND ENVELOPES BEARING EMBOSSED STAMP Part 1 by Brian Peace FRPSL (395)

Last year in the May edition of the May 2019 London Philatelist, our Chairman provided a lengthy article relating to this census. They did not have space for the census, so I have published it here, and plan to run the article, for the benefit of non RPSL members next year. (Apologies for image sizes).

All examples are letter sheets and have a FREE date-stamp struck in red, unless otherwise stated

Date	Address	Time Stamp	Notes + Provenance	Paper	
1839Nov29	None: piece only	None	Piece only. Basset Hull p351. RL 19Apr72 L502. SGA 19Oct88 L333. SGPT Feb89. Siegel 8Nov95 L4001. ex Forster + Robson Lowe (1970 ANPEX catalogue p17). Bolaffi		
1840Oct20	W R Scott Esq, Sydney	None	RL 19Apr72 L503. Leslie Leon RL 14Mar78 L15. SGPT Feb89. Siegel 8Nov95 L4002. 4-page pamphlet. Michael Blinman ex Forster + Leslie Leon + Boucher. EARLIEST ENTIRE	Wove	
1842Jan04	J H Potts Esq, Surry Hills	None	OHMS Col Sec Office. Corinphila 18Nov15 L1126		
1842Jun25	Messrs Lyall Scott & Co, Church Hill	6 OCLOCK	EARLIEST TIME STAMP ON EMBOSSED. Michael Blinman	Wove	

THE BRITISH SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIAN PHILATELY – AGM MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held via ZOOM on 28th October 2020 starting at 11.00am. The meeting was held via ZOOM as a physical meeting was impossible under the current Covid-19 regulations.

Those Present via ZOOM: Patrick Reid; Huw Williams; Alan King; David Speer; Geoff Amos; Ian Greig; Lorraine Fitzwater; Brian Peace; Christine Earle; Colin Mount; Gordon Masson; Keith Hayes; Les Vincent; Robert Goldstein; Malcolm Price; Peter Clarkson; Laurence Kimpton; Alan Cross; Ian Spencer; Graham Keates:

Proxy forms had been received from the following: John Sims; Andrew Mortlock; Nicholas Stuart; Alan King; Brian Sullman; Ian Greig; Bill Whitaker; Graham Keates; Alan Cross; Sid Richards; Neville Carr; David King; Malcolm Price.

Note that five of these also attended the Zoom AGM.

NOTE: The proceedings varied from the Agenda in order to accommodate some items that would normally have taken place at Convention, but not within the AGM.

The President called the meeting to order at 11.00am. He began by requesting a short silence to remember the five members who had passed away since the last AGM in May 2019

William (Bill) Burt
Ray Chapman
Stephen Chilcraft
Roger Mace
Dudley Pusey

Reverting to the published Agenda.

1. Apologies for Absence.

These were received from Sandy Forbes.

2. Minutes of the 2019 AGM.

These were agreed as a true record. Acceptance was proposed by Huw Williams, seconded by Gordon Masson and carried unanimously. Brian Peace as Chairman will sign a copy and send to the Secretary for the record.

3. Matters Arising.

All are covered in the Agenda.

4. President's Address.

This had been published in the papers circulated for the meeting. It is reproduced here for the record.

This is my first report as President and is made in these strange times when Covid-19 has affected the whole of our lives for more than six months. The effect on philately in general has largely been to put it into hibernation which has, of course, included this Society. Since February all meetings of the Society have been cancelled / postponed until further notice including the A.G.M. which for the first time will be held on Zoom. My attempt to restart Wessex meetings also fell foul of the virus after just one meeting. I had been looking

forward to meeting some of our Australian members who were intending to attend Convention as well as London 2020 which was another casualty. Hopefully, you will all be able to join us when the World returns to some degree of normality. Technology is fast entering ever deeper into our philatelic lives and we now have a presence on Facebook thanks to Huw Williams. This has become a source of information and discussion and attracted wider attention from philatelists who have an interest in Australian philately.

On the face of it there has been little happening in the Society lately but I can assure you that there has been quite a lot of discussion going on between Council members to ensure that our draft rules, as published in the August edition of The Bulletin, enable us to operate efficiently under present conditions.

I should like to express my thanks to all Council members for their support during this difficult 'year', not only those in the more visible roles:- our Secretary, Pat Reid, whose guidance and experience is invaluable to the running of the Society; Malcolm Price, Treasurer / Membership Secretary, who keeps a firm but fair hold on the purse strings; Colin Mount, Programme Secretary who arranges the London and South West meetings; Huw Williams, Auction Manager and Publications Stockholder; Brian Peace who as Chairman keeps us in order at meetings; Editors of The Bulletin, Graham Keates who retired this year after several years in the post and Alan Cross who has succeeded him. Most of these take on other tasks which receive little attention and to whom I must add Albert Coles, Tom Gillespie, Brian Sullman, Ian Perry, David Plant, Steve Paice and Dag Rohjell who have all provided services to Society members during the year and in many cases, for some time past. On behalf of the members I should like to express thanks to you all for what you do for and on behalf of the Society.

In conclusion I should like to take this opportunity to wish good health to all members and their families and hope that we shall be able to meet up in the not too distant future.

Dave Speer

It was agreed that the Society Reports would be voted on en bloc at the end. All had been circulated prior to the meeting and are reproduced here for the record.

5. Report of Hon. Secretary.

This has been a very strange year. Everything normal, with regular meetings, both Society and Management, and Minutes and Reports to prepare. Then, in March, all of a sudden, nothing. Or if you prefer, the best opportunity for years to concentrate on sorting out and writing up your collection, preparing articles for the Bulletin and deciding what your next project will be.

I think that the most frustrating thing for me was planning events, then having to cancel or postpone them, then planning a new date, only to find that that date needed to be cancelled or postponed anyway. It has been an interesting experience having a "Management Meeting by Circulation", but it worked eventually, and we have a revised set of Society Rules to put before the Annual General Meeting. Even now, it is hard for me to decide when to organise a postponed meeting to have a fair chance of it taking place. Meanwhile the Society continues. Perhaps we have not been ambitious enough about preparing and recording ZOOM presentations to put on the website. It does not seem a good idea when we are busy redesigning and rebuilding the website, an activity which is definitely needed. It is very

important that we get a quorum for the ZOOM version of our Annual General Meeting. The software is easy to use and I have recently participated in two other Society AGMs conducted over Zoom. Please do try to join in. The great thing about them is that the reports can be distributed beforehand, so that the business can be moved forward quickly.

We have a new Bulletin Editor, and Alan Cross has settled in very quickly. Please support him by sending in those articles that you have written, so that his IN tray remains full. I also express my thanks to all other Committee members, especially our Treasurer who has been very supportive and Brian Peace who continues as Chairman. Colin Mount continues to try to arrange the Programme, but he has the same problems as I do. Brian Sullman soldiers on with the Packet and Tom Gillespie and Albert Coles keep the Libraries going.

Looking ahead, we have re-booked Salisbury for Convention, for 2021, subject to Government regulations making it possible. With the current situation, I feel that my auctioneering skills are beginning to calcify, as I am being replaced by Postal Auctions. A big thanks to Huw Williams who is keeping this revenue stream going for the Society.

I guess that it is time for another appeal. I hope that I shall be able to step down as Secretary in three years when I reach my 80th birthday (God willing). I hope that by then someone will feel able to volunteer and understudy me for a time before taking over.

Keep safe and well and hope to see you online for the AGM on 28th October.
P.G.E.R. 1/10/20

6. Report of Hon. Treasurer

Firstly, thanks are due to Ian Spencer as Honorary Financial Examiner for his assistance in completion of the accounts for 2019.

Society Finances

Regrettably, we are recording a deficit for the year 2019 of £723, a marginal improvement on the 2018 figures. There are several reasons for this shortfall. The 2019 Convention was budgeted to be flat but unfortunately failure of full sponsorship left us with a shortfall of £414. Though Income has shown a healthy improvement in 2019, total expenses also increased during the year with the second and final payment to the Royal Philatelic Society London with respect to scanning The Bulletin. Other notable expense variances to the previous year were in the publication and distribution of The Bulletin (principally postage costs) and Meeting Expenses. Returning to income, we received one substantial donation from a past member and the Auction commissions have shown a significant increase, having now returned to three auctions during the year. The opportunity has been taken to bring the end of year accounting date for the Exchange Packet to the 31st October so ensuring completion of figures prior to the end of year for the Society Accounts, therefore, 2019 figures reflect a 10 month year. Effective 2020 the reporting of Exchange Packet accounts will return to a 12-month period. As will be clear, Members continued support for the auctions and packet remain critical to the well-being of the Society.

As with last year, publications continue to be shown as a cost as we continue to write down slow moving stock.

The Society continues to support meetings in London (RPSL, City of London), the South West (Ringwood) and the South East (Epsom). Meetings of the Wessex Group (Exeter) start

in 2020, and it continues to be hoped that meetings in Scotland could be arranged in the future.

MJP 18 April 2020

7. Membership Secretary's Report

At the end of 2019, membership numbers stood at 182 (181 Collecting Members and 1 Business Member), 6 less than at the end of 2018. The number of new members joining the Society during 2019 was 5, together with 1 reinstatement, one less than that in 2018.

The membership movements during 2019 were as follows:

Opening number at 1 January 2019		188
Less membership losses:		
Resigned	5	
Deceased	7	
Non-renewal of subscriptions	0	(12)
Add membership gains:		
New members	5	
Reinstatements	1	6
Closing number at 31 December 2019		182
[Comprising 181 Collecting Members plus 1 Business Member]		

MJP 18 April 2020

So far during 2020 we have lost a further 7 from deceased, resignations and lapsed memberships, and gained 8 new members.

MJP 2 October 2020

8. Auction Organiser's Report

Since the last AGM there have been three Auctions. One in October 2019, February 2020 and the Convention Auction that became a postal one.

257 lots were on offer in October with a reserve of £4,683.25. 90 lots sold for £2,174.75, which equates to 35% selling and £217 going to the Society. Everyone who put in a bid, managed to get at least one item. (17 buyers).

The February 2020 auction had 193 lots with a reserve of £2,596. 100 lots sold for £1,676.25, ending in 51.81% of lots selling. The Society received £167.63. (There were 24 bidders).

Our Convention auction became a postal auction. We had 52 lots kindly donated by Michael Drury which featured in the first part of the auction. There were 370 lots to behold and 199 found new homes. Reserves were £9,783.50, sold £5,681.75, which netted the Society £2,088. 50 from the donated lots and £359.33 in commission. (35 bidders).

The latest postal auction is in circulation, with 240 lots on offer with reserves of £4809.

A big thank you to the vendors and buyers as well as Malcolm's assistance in making the auctions run smoothly. Stay safe and keep well