

Capital Philately

Incorporating PASTCARDS *and* Machinations.
Published by The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.

Inside this Issue:

Collecting Poland -
Balloon Mail

Perkins Bacon Proofs

Stampshow 2016

Postcards of British
Canals

and more.



*Perkins Bacon Queensland Government
Proof in Black*



The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.

(Founded 1932)

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CAPITAL PHILATELY

Volume 34, Number 1.

Capital Philately

Editorial	Andrew Alwast	1
Collecting Poland - Balloon Flown Mail	Andrew Alwast	2
Not Everything That Looks Like A Stamp Is A Stamp - Queensland Perkins Bacon Proofs	Ian McMahon	10
The 2016 Shakespeare Award Recipient: Ed Cummings		12
Patrick White – Almost a Philatelist	Michael Moore	13
Canberra Stampshow 2016	Ian McMahon	18
The Christchurch Stamp and Postcard Exhibition	Jeff Long	21
PASTCARDS		
Postcards of British Canals – Part Two	Miles Patterson	22
Machinations		
50th Year of Machin Stamps - 1967 to 2016	Jenni Creagh	28

July 2016 – Editorial

Dear fellow philatelists

I have taken over from Darryl Fuller as the new editor of ‘Capital Philately’. I will be working very closely with Jenni Creagh and I hope other members of the Society will join us in this venture. This next issue follows the format used in the past.

We all owe our thanks to Darryl for carrying this load for the past 13 years. His is going to be a hard act to follow.

My vision for future issues is to draw heavily on all your experiences and philatelic knowledge. In this context I am now and will repeatedly in future be appealing to all of you for contributions to “*Capital Philately*”.

I will welcome your contributions, whether they are comments on items in earlier issues of ‘CP’, on new developments in our hobby, on your exhibits, your observations on exhibitions you have attended and/or in which you have exhibited and generally on your collections. I intend to use photos wherever possible and will welcome your assistance here as well, as I believe they add much to any article. In this context my sincere thanks go to Ian for providing the photos we have used from Stampshow 2016.

Please address your contributions/comments to <andrewedcaphil@gmail.com>

Andrew Alwast

Collecting Poland – Balloon Flown Mail

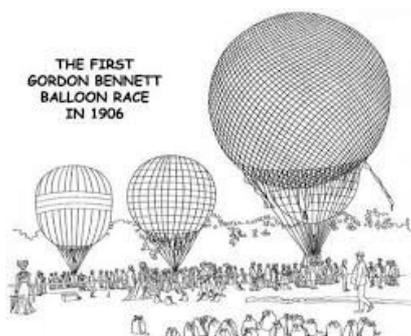
Andrew Alwast

Part I: International Balloon Competitions

One of my collecting interests has for many years now been Poland's Balloon flown mail. Invariably this extended to international balloon competitions and mail flown on participating balloons or on specially arranged balloon mail flights during or commemorating such competitions.

Background on Gordon Bennett International Balloon Competitions

The premier event of world ballooning was and still is today the 'Gordon Bennett International Trophy Balloon Race'. The first such race was launched in Paris in 1906 attracting 16 participating balloons and a crowd of 200,000 spectators. It was sponsored by James Gordon Bennett Jr. (*right*) a flamboyant millionaire sportsman and the then owner of the New York Herald newspaper. The race's objective was simple – to fly the furthest distance from the launch site. Competitions for the trophy were held annually from 1906 to 1914, they were interrupted by World War I but then continued from 1920 to 1938 with the exception of 1931. The trophy races were suspended in 1939, when the host nation, Poland, was invaded by Hitler's German armies at the start of World War II. The race was resurrected in 1979 in USA due to the initiative of an American, Tom Heinsheimer. It was held in each of the next three years though not under FAI patronage. It was officially reinstated by the 'Federation Aeronautique Internationale' (FAI) in 1983. It is the oldest race in the history of aviation.



Under amended rules, member nations of FAI are eligible to enter up to three teams provided the pilots are of the same nationality. Winning teams receive the 'Gordon Bennett trophy' on a provisional basis and the winning nation is expected to host the subsequent year's race. Initially this was the following year but the rules were changed to make it every two years. Rules were further changed to provide a host nation more time to prepare for the event by allowing it two years, hence Germany after winning in France in 2014 will be hosting the event in 2016 and the winner in 2015, Switzerland, will host the race in 2017. A nation winning the trophy in three consecutive years became its permanent owner with the option/obligation to offer a new trophy. Only three nations had won that right in 33 years of the race to 1939: they were the United States, Belgium and Poland.

With just two exceptions (1998 and 2007) the race has been held every year since its reinstatement in 1983, or if we count the non FAI races in USA since 1979. The history of the Gordon Bennett Competitions provided in the official FAI website (www.fai.org/gordon-bennett) makes truly interesting reading.



The 1908 launching from Berlin.

{Postcard from my collection}

The 60th Gordon Bennett Competitions will be held on 15 September 2016 in Gladbeck, Germany with 30 teams expected to participate including Australia.

Back of a Swiss 1958 Post Card.



Copy of photo from FAI Website showing balloons ready for takeoff at a Gordon Bennett race in early 1900s.



Several postcards showing balloon launches in Germany in early 1900s



Front of postcard showing launch of baloon in Munich in early 1900s.



Front of postcard showing military launch of balloon somewhere in Germany in early 1900s.

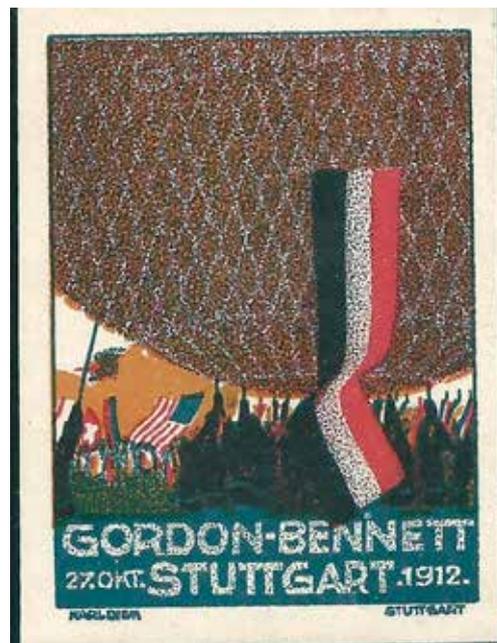


Front of postcard written in 1917 showing use of balloon during military operation.



Vignettes issued for use during the 1912 Gordon Bennett Trophy Competitions held in Stuttgart, Germany.

The winning team was from France in balloon 'La Picardie'.



Poland's first international balloon competition was organised in Poznan, in August 1929 in conjunction with the 'Poznan International Trade Fair'. Seven balloons participated with four balloons carrying 50 items of mail, a total of 200. All mail items had an affixed Vignette issued to publicise the Fair (see example below). Most of these had an overprint noting this fact. **Souvenirs from this event are difficult to find.**



Mint vignette issued to publicise Poznan Trade Fair which was also applied with an overprint to all mail flown on the balloons.

It is worth noting that much of the souvenir material issued before WWII was destroyed or confiscated by German occupation forces during the occupation and though it was known how many stamps, covers or vignettes were issued it is impossible to say today how many are still in existence.

A Polish team, consisting of F. Hynek and Z. Burzynski, won the 1933 Gordon Bennett Balloon Competitions, held in Chicago, USA, in balloon 'SP-ADS Kosciuszko' covering a distance of 1,361 Kms in 38.32 hrs. The team's win created quite a sensation in Poland and did much to popularise balloon competitions among philatelic collectors. As a consequence of the win the next year's Competitions were held in Poland.

The 1934 Gordon Bennett Balloon Trophy Competitions were launched from Warszawa on 23 September 1934. Sixteen balloons participated with crews from eight nations. The winning team, F. Hynek and W. Pomaski, was again from Poland covering a distance of 1,333 Kms. Although several of the participating balloons carried a few items of private mail, some 7,500 items of official mail were carried on two specially arranged commemorative balloon flights, on balloons 'Legjonowo' and 'Syrena', from Warszawa to Szczuczyn Bialostocki. These two balloons did not participate in the competition.

Both of the postcards shown on the next page have Polish Aeroclub publicity labels, commemorative competition postmarks and postmarks from place of landing.



Left: Postcard flown on balloon 'Legionowo' from Warszawa to Szczuczyn Białostocki.

Below: Postcard flown on balloon 'Syrena' from Warszawa to Szczuczyn Białostocki.

Poland being the winning nation, once again won the right to host the Gordon Bennett Competitions in 1935. This time 13 balloons participated with crews from seven nations. Balloons were launched on 16 September from Warszawa. As in previous years some of the participating balloon crews carried items of private mail but official mail was flown on a special commemorative flight of balloon 'Legionowo', which did not participate in the competitions, but flew from Warszawa to Sokolow Podlaski where all mail was postmarked on arrival.



The crew of balloon 'Belgica', which came third, carried 2,144 specially prepared flimsy cards which were franked in Brussels subsequently cancelled in Warszawa and franked again on landing in Russia. All cards were signed by the 'Belgica' crew captain, Ernest Demuyter, and once they were returned to Belgium were stamped with a red cachet which outlined the course of the flight and distance flown. Poland's crew in balloon 'Polonia II' (Z.Burzynski and W.Wysocki) succeeded in once again winning the Gordon Bennett Race Trophy for Poland, having flown a distance of 1,650 Kms.

This victory was widely celebrated in Poland as it meant that Poland, having won this most prestigious race for the third consecutive year, became the permanent holder of the Gordon Bennett Commemorative Trophy. It also meant that Poland would be the host country for the 1936 Gordon Bennett Balloon Race and was obliged to provide a new trophy.



Two covers flown on 1935 official commemorative flight of balloon 'Legjonowo' from Warszawa to Sokolow Podlaski. Covers had a boxed cachet 'carried on balloon' in Polish or French. The cover on the left was franked and sent by 'Express' post. The one below was inadequately franked and a stamp duty surcharge of 100Groszy imposed by postal authorities on delivery.

On this occasion, the number of mail items flown on Balloon 'Legjonowo' was not reported

Below: Flimsy card flown on balloon 'Belgica' which participated in the 1935 Gordon Bennett competitions. 'Belgica' carried 1144 specially prepared postcards. These were first franked in Brussels, Belgium then at Warszawa airport and subsequently at the place of landing 'Veschenske'

USSR. All cards were signed by 'Belgica's captain E. De Muyter. A purple cachet specifying the course and distance travelled by the balloon was applied on return to Belgium (see faint cachet at lower left)



The 24th 1936 International Gordon Bennett Balloon Competitions were also held in Poland. Only six nations represented by 11 balloon crews participated (several nations including the US decided to withdraw due to the tense political situation in Europe at the time). Participating balloons were once again launched from Warszawa. Official mail was flown on two specially arranged commemorative flights by balloons 'Legjonowo' and 'Syrena', which did not participate in the competitions.

The crew from the Belgian balloon 'Belgica' had on this occasion obtained permission to carry mail on its flight (the number of flimsy cards carried is not known though it was reported that some 4,000 cards were accidentally destroyed when the balloon landed in the USSR. Except for several personal items of mail carried by other crews 'Belgica' was effectively the only participating balloon in the race which carried mail.



On 15 August 1936 (15 days before the start of the competitions) Polish postal authorities issued two overprinted stamps from the 1935 set to commemorate the Race (Mint blocks of 30 Gr and 55 Gr values shown). The overprint read "Gordon-Bennett 30. VIII. 1936".



Examples of covers and postcards flown on special commemorative flights on balloons 'Legjonowo' and 'Syrena' during the 1936 International Gordon Bennett Balloon Competitions.



e-printed cover flown on balloon 'Legjonowo'



Express cover flown on balloon 'Legjonowo'



Cover with Poland's Aeroclub label flown on 'Legjonowo'



Heavily overfranked postcard flown on 'Legjonowo'

Balloon 'Legjonowo' flew from Warszawa to Peliszczce carrying 6,250 items of mail.



Cover and postcard flown on commemorative flight by balloon 'Syrena' during the 1936 competitions carrying 7,375 items of mail from Warszawa to Chotynicze.

Balloon 'Belgica' under Captain E. Demuyter, came first in this Race and carried several thousand specially prepared flimsy cards. The exact number is not known although it was reported that 4,000 were destroyed on landing. 'Belgica' flew a distance of 1,716 Kms from Warszawa to Archangielsk, USSR and was destroyed on landing.



All flimsy cards had been prepared by the crew and first postmarked either in Belgium or England, then with the special balloon mail postmarker in Warszawa and then finally on landing at Archangielsk, USSR. The crew took the surviving cards back with them to Belgium. The cards were then onforwarded to their final destinations from Brussels. (Some, but not all, of the cards had a diagonal band with colors of the Belgian flag)

Above: Card flown on balloon Belgica from Warszawa to Archangielsk, USSR and postmarked on landing. Card has Brussels postmark a special Gordon Bennett competitions from Warszawa and a red caption on reverse applied on teams return to Belgium (copy on right) providing details of course and distance flown.



Right: Card postmarked first in UK and then in Warszawa and Archangielsk on landing 6.9.1936. Also has red ink caption on reverse



Reverse of card first postmarked in UK showing additional postmarks and red ink caption

Five nations including Poland with a total of 12 balloons participated in the 1937 Gordon Bennett Balloon Competitions in Belgium. This Race was won by balloon ‘Belgica’ under Captain E. Detmeyer.

Poland also participated in the 1938 competitions in Belgium and its team in balloon ‘LOPP’ was victorious.

There are no reported Polish souvenirs from either of the above two Races.

With the win of the 1938 competitions in Belgium by the Polish crew in balloon ‘LOPPP’, the 1939 Gordon Bennett International Balloon Race was to have been staged in Lwow, Poland on 3 September. It was unfortunately cancelled due to the invasion of Poland by Hitler’s armies and the start of WWII two days before the scheduled start of the Race. Consequently, the 1936 Gordon Bennett Competition was the last international balloon Race organised in Poland before the start of World War II.

The one souvenir of the failed 1939 competitions was a cover issued by the crew of the Belgian balloon ‘Belgica’ which had arrived several days earlier ready to participate in the Race. In keeping with past practice this was a flimsy card prepared for the flight with three vignettes which in this instance were overprinted noting that the competitions were called off due to the war. 1,700 of these cards were circulated according to the Polish stamp catalogue.

Recent Acquisition

The earliest Balloon Mail item (which I came across only recently) is this Postcard actually sent from from the launch site in Munich in 1899.



References:

- Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI) official website including some images.
- 2010 Fischer Polish Stamp Catalogue.
- Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Not Everything That Looks Like A Stamp Is A Stamp - Queensland Perkins Bacon Proofs

Ian McMahon

Some years back I bought a small lot of Queensland Postal Stationery at auction. Included in the lot, but not described, were two proofs (Figures 1 and 2) showing a portrait of Queen Victoria surrounded by a circle inscribed QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT.



Figure 1: Perkins Bacon Queensland Government Proof in Black



Figure 2: Perkins Bacon Queensland Government Proof in Blue

They were mounted on an exhibition page and described as proofs for Queensland Government stationery produced by Perkins Bacon. Perkins Bacon printed the first Queensland stamps, the Chalon Heads of 1860.

At the time I asked around the philatelic community but no one knew what the designs had been used for. One other suggestion made at one point was that they were prepared for possible revenue use.

At Australia 2013 in a few spare moments I had a quick look at a glossy book titled Australian History through Banknotes being sold on a stand at the Show and as is my want I turned to the section on Queensland Government banknotes. There I found an illustration of the reverse of one of the Queensland Government banknotes showing clearly the same design but more complete than the proofs, answering the question of what the design had been used for.

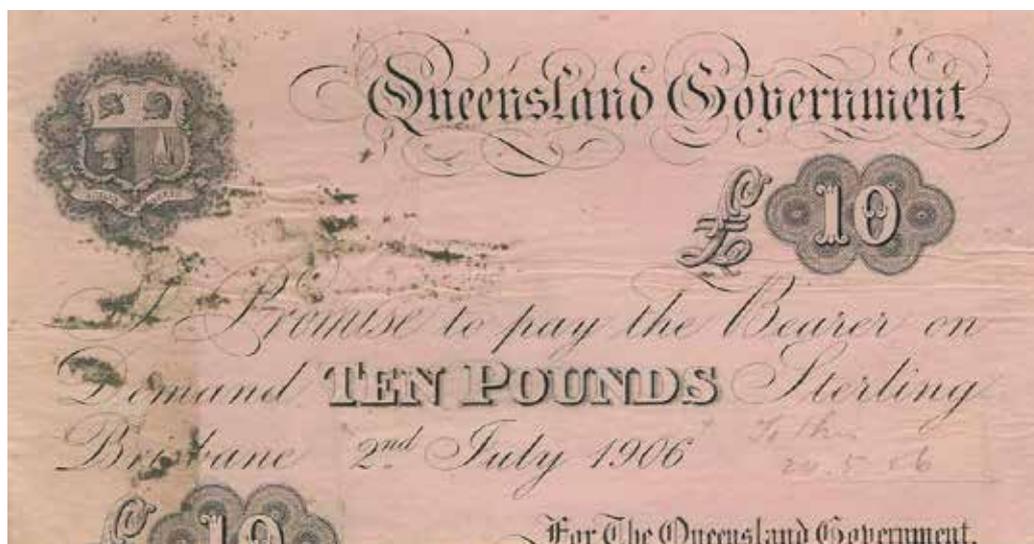


Figure 3 Queensland Government £10 'cut' Specimen Note

Following the 1893 depression in Queensland and the resulting banking failures, the Queensland Government amended the Stamp Duties Act to increase the duty charged on banknotes issued by private banks from 3% to 10% duty. The private banks were asked to recall their banknotes with the new rate of duty applying on those reissued. They had two years to withdraw notes already in circulation before the duty was charged. The

result was that the private banknotes were quickly withdrawn and the banks ceased issuing their own banknotes. The Queensland Government proceeded to issue its own banknotes, firstly by overprinting the banknotes of private banks such as the Bank of North Queensland, the Royal Bank of Queensland and the Queensland National Bank and then by having Perkins Bacon produce distinctive notes in 1894 (Figures 3 and 4).

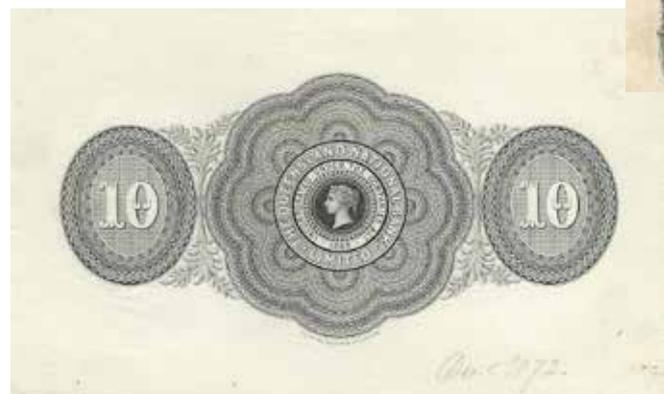
Queensland Government banknotes remained in circulation until 1911 with several changes in design when the Commonwealth Government started issuing banknotes, firstly by overprinting banknotes issued by private banks and those of the Queensland Government.

In another twist to the story the recent Grosvenor auction of the revenue stamps of the Kiddle Brothers, well known revenue and Cinderella stamp collectors, included only one item from Queensland, the proof shown in Figure 5, described as based on a drawing by Henry Corbould. This proof shows the same head as that used for the Queensland Government banknotes but has the inscription INCORPORATED UNDER THE



Figure 5: Perkins Bacon Proof 'Incorporated under the Companies Act 1863'

The moral of this story is that sometimes we need to remember that postage stamps were not the only material produced by security printers and remember that they often also printed banknotes, cheques, postal orders and revenue stamps.



Volume 34, No. 1.



Figure 4: Queensland Government Reverse of £1 Note

CORPORATION ACT 1863 in the circle around the portrait. Although coming from the collection of a well known revenue collector this design too was used for the reverse of a banknote, in this case the reverse of banknotes of the Queensland National Bank. Figure 6 shows the front of a note while Figure 7 shows a Perkins Bacon proof of the reverse of a £10 note dated Dec 1872. Many of the Queensland banks also had their banknotes printed by Perkins Bacon and the proof presumably predates the proofs inscribed Queensland Government as the banknotes of the Queensland National Banknotes were issued from about 1873.



Figure 6: Queensland National Bank £20 'cut' Specimen Note

Figure 7: Queensland National Bank £10 Perkins Bacon Proof date Dec 1872

The 2016 Shakespeare Award Recipient: Ed Cummings

The ACT Philatelic Council Inc awarded the 2016 Shakespeare Award to Ed Cummings at the awards dinner of Canberra Stampshow 2016 at the Hellenic Club, the eighteenth biennial stamp show held in Canberra since 1980.

The Shakespeare Award is awarded on the basis of services to organised philately, especially in the ACT; distinguished philatelic study and research; and the promotion of philately and public dissemination of philatelic knowledge. The Award can be made to people from any of the three branches of philately; stamp collectors (philatelists), stamp dealers and postal administration, such as Australia Post. The award has only been presented when the Council has identified a worthy recipient for it.

Ed Cummings has been a driving force in promoting philately in the Australian Capital Territory for a long time.

He has been a stamp dealer and auctioneer in Canberra for over 40 years, establishing his company Edlins in 1976. The Edlins Stamp Shop is now the only surviving stamp shop in Canberra. He is a long standing member of Australasian Philatelic Traders' Association Inc, and a member, representing stamp dealers, of the ACT Philatelic Council.

He has actively supported the exhibitions conducted by the Philatelic Society of Canberra since the early 1980s, assisting with publicity and dealer representation. He was deputy chairman of the organising committee of Austamp 90, a full national stamp exhibition held in Canberra at the AIS Arena in 1990. In addition, he held stamp auctions in conjunction with some stamp shows with a portion of the proceeds supporting those exhibitions.

For many years, he has supported stamp market days organised by the Society involving local and interstate dealers and, at times when the Society was not doing this, organised something similar himself.

The award is named after J W ('Bill') Shakespeare who was one of three brothers who were the sons of T M Shakespeare, the founder of The Canberra Times. He was a leading force in the founding of the Philatelic Society of Canberra and the Society's first Secretary/Treasurer/Exchange Superintendent and a former president of the Society.



Patrick White – Almost a Philatelist

Michael Moore

The following is an article I submitted to the Committee of ‘Australia 2013’, which I thought might be suitable for their Program, and of special interest to overseas visitors. The discussion of H L White’s First Day Covers for Australia’s first stamp (see below) was especially relevant to the theme of that Exhibition.

The Committee did not use the article and it has never been published. However, I think members may find it interesting, so I have offered it to your editor. It is almost as initially written; thus some of the text and the following heading are more appropriate to the original purpose.

Kangaroo Stamps and Patrick White – Two Centenaries

The centenary of Australia’s most distinguished writer, Patrick White, is 2012. The centenary of Australia’s first stamps is 2013. There is an interesting connection between these. That connection is through one of Australia’s most distinguished philatelists, H L White.

I do not know of any other account which links directly the philatelist, H L White, with the writer, Patrick White.

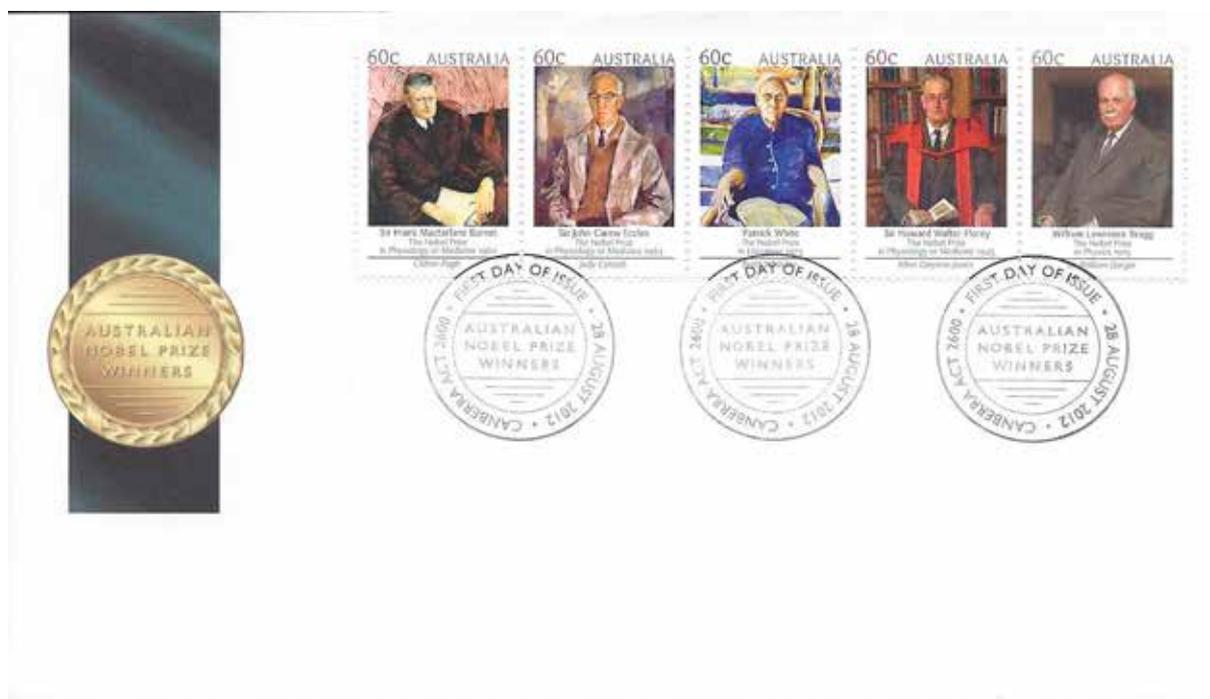


Figure 1 (above) shows the Australia Post FDC (courtesy of Frank Pauer) of five Australian Nobel Prize Laureates. The Patrick White stamp is in the centre. The image is from a portrait by Brett Whitely which now hangs in the NSW Parliament. It is typically strong, stern and critical. David Marr used it for the cover of his (approved) biography, and described it as ‘ironic’ and ‘basilisk’.

The First Australian ‘Whites’

James White, from a Somerset farming family, immigrated to Australia with some sheep and a little capital in 1826. As was usual for such immigrants, he was granted land (at Gundy, near Scone, NSW) and convicts to work it.

James, and his wife Sarah (Crossman), prospered through good stock management and shrewd land purchases. These included Edinglassie, of 35,000 acres just west of Muswellbrook, which they made their home. They had six sons and a daughter. The eldest son, James, took over the properties, at age only 14, on his father’s death.

This second Australian James White continued careful stock improvement and land purchases. In 1848, at age only 20, he leased Belltrees, near Gundy, about 30 km east of Scone. It had once been a property of the colony’s



Belltrees Homestead, Scone, New South Wales, ca. 1970

*From Wes Stacey archive of architectural photographs, 1968-1972.
National Library of Australia Digital Collection.*

best known resident, William Charles Wentworth. Changes in property laws soon made it easier to convert rural land to freehold and James bought Belltrees.

Many vast estates, granted by former Governors, came onto the market during the 1850s and 1860s. The end of convict labour and the departure of most free labourers to the goldfields made farming difficult for traditional colonial land holders. James and his five brothers bought many properties in the Upper Hunter, then onto the Liverpool Plains and into New England and beyond. By about 1870, the Whites boasted that they could ride from Edinglassie to the Queensland border and sleep on their own land every night.

James White, although married, had no children. He left work on the land to live in luxury in Sydney with a long career in public life, travel and breeding racehorses. He died in 1890.

Frank and Victor White

With James otherwise occupied, the next eldest son, Frank, took over the management of Edinglassie and leadership of the family's rural affairs. He married Mary Cobb of Maitland, a grazier's daughter, and they had, surviving infancy, six sons and a daughter. Frank (like his brother James) became a member of the NSW Parliament. However, he died in 1875.

Frank's six sons took over management of his various properties. Another James remained at Edinglassie. The oldest son (another Frank) took over Saumarez, near Armidale.

Three of the brothers married Ebsworth sisters: see the chart – *Patrick, his Uncles and Aunt (Father's Side)*. The Ebsworths were a woolbroking family of Bronte House (Bronte Beach, Waverley, East Sydney), Waverley's first grand house.

Our interest is in the next four sons – Henry Luke, Ernest, Arthur and Victor. These four moved to Belltrees. The eldest, Henry Luke, always known as 'H L', managed Belltrees almost as a feudal lord. Buying neighbouring properties extended it to 140,000 acres. He provided village facilities including a school for its 250 residents. David Marr recounts:

'Who made the world?' asked a clergyman visiting the Belltrees public school. "Please sir," answered a boy, 'Mr H. L. White.' (*Patrick White A Life*, p. 22)

H L also directed most of the business and social affairs of his brothers. Ernest never married and Arthur, although married, had no children.

The youngest of the four 'Belltrees Whites' was Victor Martindale White, always known as 'Dick', born 1867. Dick did not marry until 1910, aged 42. His wife was Ruth Withycombe of another grazier family from Piercefield near Edinglassie. Their only son was Patrick Victor Martindale White.

Patrick White

Patrick White, known until his 20's as 'Paddy' (although emphatically not Irish or Catholic) was born on 28 May 1912 in London. Paddy was a great disappointment to his parents, especially to his mother who dominated the marriage. He was a delicate, asthmatic child: 'I was this green, sickly boy, who saw and knew too much.' (*Flaws in the Glass*, p. 5) At times his mother wondered whether he was a changeling.

Nor did family opinion of him improve into his teens. He was uninterested in the Whites' main occupations of running sheep, acquiring property and making money. He was equally uninterested in their leisure pursuits of polo ponies, racehorses and cricket. He began to write 'difficult' verse and prose. Soon he also realised, quite unambiguously, that he was homosexual, so he had no interest in 'society' or making a sound marriage.

(As will be obvious, this is not a biography, however brief, of Patrick White. Such may be readily accessed elsewhere.)



Patrick White, by Brendan Hennessy, 1984

*National Library of Australia,
nla.pic-an7568636*

'H L' White: Collector and Philatelist



*Henry Luke White, by unknown
photographer, 1921*

*State Library of New South
Wales, GPO 1 - 13252*

Henry Luke, 'H L', White was a great collector and exhibitor of, and writer on, Australian ornithology, philately, zoology and horticulture.

In 1907/08 he built a huge new homestead at Belltrees, partly as a virtual museum to display his collections. An image of Belltrees Homestead is shown as Figure 2. This is reproduced by permission of the National Library of Australia. (Interested readers may see many other photographic studies of the house, taken by Wes Stacey about 1970, linked to the site shown in the References.)

H L built up large and magnificent collections of all the Australian colonial stamps, especially those of Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia. All of these he eventually donated to their State Libraries. He was variously a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, President of the Sydney Philatelic Club and a Member of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

When the Australian Commonwealth began producing national stamps, H L White became an immediate collector. Ray Chapman says of him:

His interest in Commonwealth Stamps went back to our first definitive issues of 1913 and I would say he was the first serious collector of Australian Commonwealth. ('Chapman Report', Stamp News, May 1986, p. 42)

H L White and Patrick White

Paddy did not get on with his uncles and myriad other relatives, except one:

*As I remember him my uncle Henry was a short man of fiery complexion, his eyes as cold as blue glass until they blazed with enthusiasm or anger ...he was the only White uncle I liked, and he seemed to reciprocate, perhaps sensing a fellow eccentric. He used to give me presents of stamps to encourage the philatelist in me. I tried to live up to his hopes, but my interest in stamps withered after a little. (Patrick White, *Flaws in the Glass*, p. 44)*

David Marr writes, 'A touching relationship grew up between the child and H. L., who frankly admired brains: Paddy had them ...H. L. tried to interest him in stamps.'

Marr records that H L wrote to his stamp dealer, Fred Hagen, in 1919:

I have a small nephew (Master P. White ...) who has taken to collecting postage stamps, and I wish to help him ... Please send on my account £1 worth of stamps; a set of unused of some particular country preferred: something that will increase in value ...(p. 42)

Kangaroo First Day Covers

As well as buying many sheets of early Commonwealth stamps, and hence examples of most printing varieties, H L White commissioned Fred Hagen to service and post to him, First Day Covers of most issues. Ray Chapman noted:

When viewing the Australian Commonwealth Section of the Royal Collection last year (i.e. 1985 – Author) in London, it was very noticeable that all the Kangaroo first day of issue covers were addressed to Mr H. L. White, 'Belltrees', Scone, and sent by his philatelic adviser, well known Sydney stamp dealer, Fred Hagen. ('Chapman Report', p.42)



Fred Hagen, Stamp Dealer and Philatelic Publisher

When it was sold (to J W R (Bill) Purves in 1928) H L's Australian Commonwealth collection included a First Day Cover of Australia's first stamp. Ray Chapman was involved in an earlier *Stamp News* discussion of exactly how and when it had been possible to place Australia's first stamp on sale, not only in Melbourne, but also in Sydney, on 2 January 1913. He wrote:

I have two covers with 1d Kangaroo in my collection which were posted by Fred Hagen ... on January 2, 1913 and described by him as first day covers, which was certainly correct. One has the time 5.30 pm in Sydney ... both were posted with his other first day covers. One I know of is addressed to Mr H. White of Scone, NSW, and is in the Royal Collection. ('Chapman Report', March 1986, p. 48)

Two Great Australians

H L White, grazier, collector, ornithologist and philatelist died at Belltrees in 1927.

Patrick White, writer, poet, essayist, playwright and (especially) novelist was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1973. He died at his home in Martin Road, Centennial Park, Sydney, in 1990.

Note

For some international (even some Australian) philatelists, this article may be their first encounter with Patrick White. His best known novels, partly because they have suffered the fate of being 'set' university and secondary texts, are *The Tree of Man* (1956) and *Voss* (1957).

Patrick White has declared himself disappointed in these two (as he has in most things!). He believes his best novels are *The Aunt's Story* (1948), *The Solid Mandala* (1966) and *The Twyborn Affair* (1979).

References

Ray Chapman, '(the) Chapman Report', *Stamp News*, March 1986, p. 42; May 1986, pp. 48 f.

David Marr, *Patrick White A Life*, Random House Australia, Sydney, 1991.

Wes (Wesley) Stacey, ca 1970, *Belltrees Homestead, Scone, New South Wales*, National Library of Australia, nla pic- vn5158418-v

Patrick White, *Flaws in the Glass A Self-Portrait*, Jonathan Cape, London, 1981.

1913 FDC from Fred Hagen to HL White at Scone.

1d Die I single & block of 4 tied by 'REGISTERED/2JA13/SYDNEY NSW' cds being the First Day of Issue, Sydney.

Sold by MossGreen in 2004

[ACSC notes that eight FDCs are recorded of which two are in the Australia Post Archival Collection and another is in the Royal Collection. This is the only registered item, the others bearing a single 1d only tied by a usually incomplete Sydney machine cancellation.]



Patrick – His Uncles and Aunt (Father's Side)

Forerunners

James White (1801-1842) m. Sarah Crossman, arrived NSW 1826; seven children including:

Francis ('Frank') White (1830-1875) m. Mary Cobb; ten children (three died as infants). Their adult children:

Uncles/Aunt

Francis John 'Frank' White (b. 1854) m. Margaret Fletcher. (Saumarez, Armidale).

James Cobb White (b. 1855) m. Emmeline Ebsworth. (Edinglassie, Muswellbrook).

Henry Luke White (b. 1860) m. Louisa 'Maude' Ebsworth. (Belltrees, Scone).

Mary Sarah White (b. 1862) m. Dr Robert Edward Grigson.

William 'Ernest' White (b. 1864).

Arthur George White (b. 1865) m. Milly Ebsworth.*

And (Immediate family):

Victor Martindale 'Dick' White (1867-1973) m. Ruth Withycombe (1877-1958); one son and one daughter:

Patrick Victor Martindale White (1912-1990) partner, Emanuel 'Manoly' Lascaris.

Suzanne (1915-1969) m. Geoffrey Peck.

*Had there been another Ebsworth daughter, Australia may well have been denied its only Nobel Laureate in Literature.

Canberra StampShow 2016

Ian McMahon

Canberra Stampshow 2016 was the 19th in a series of exhibitions organised every two years by the Philatelic Society of Canberra since 1980. The Exhibition was a half-national exhibition with National-level classes in Postal History, Postal Stationery, Topical, Open, First Day Covers and Youth including a re-run of the Great Australian Stationery Challenge (GASC) as well as state level classes.

There were some 73 exhibits from Australia and New Zealand as well as USA and the UAE. The Best in Show Award went to Paul D Allen for Victorian Outgoing Indian Mail to Great Britain, Europe and USA 1854-1876 while the runner-up was Edward Laveroni for Imperial Postmarks of the Trans-Siberian Railroad Chelyabinsk to Manchzhuria. The Ed Druce Memorial Prize for the best Social Exhibit went to Gary Diffen for Early Colonial and Australian Military Camps 1901-1918. Other major awards went to Nancy Gray The King George V Envelopes of Australia (best Postal Stationery exhibit) and Mossgreen for the Auction catalogue The Arthur Gray King George V Collection (Best State Exhibit). The Jury included 'exchange judges from the USA and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).



His Excellency Dr Pirotta, Deputy High Commissioner for Malta who opened the Exhibition talking with John Vassallo



Above: The extremely popular Australia Post Stand - which saw queues each morning as the daily limited number of souvenirs were released. Most popular among them were the three special sheetlets.

Exhibition Frames surrounded by Dealer Tables.

Right: Customers at the Pittwater Philatelic Service stand.

Below: Edlins of Canberra.



Stampshow 2016 Postmarks



Brisbane Stamps Stand



Stewart Robbins, BurStamp, speaking with Brian Jeffries, KJB Stamp Sales

the Exhibition logo, The SS Gange, 60th anniversary of decimal currency

The Exhibition included 28 dealers from around Australia and overseas. The dealers booths were well patronised.

One of the themes of Canberra Stampshow 2016 is the 100th Anniversary of the arrival in Australia of the SS Gange carrying over 200 Maltese immigrants. In conjunction with the Gozo Philatelic Society, The Philatelic Society of Canberra produced a commemorative postcard marking this anniversary. The Exhibition also marked the 50th anniversary of decimal currency.

The Society produced a range of souvenirs for the Exhibition. Details can be found at <http://canberrastamps.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Canberra-Stampshow-2016-Souvenir-information.pdf> . If you missed the souvenirs, some may still be available.



Results of Canberra-based exhibitors were:

Richard Gurevitch	Large Vermeil	78	Guatemala 1886 Railway Bond Issue	State - Traditional
Hans Karman	Large Vermeil	82	The Business of the Australian Electoral Office	National - Postal History 2C

As usual the results of the Judging were announced at the Palmares Dinner, with medals and prizes being awarded to Exhibitors and Judges. This was also the venue for the coveted auction of rare and unique philatelic souvenirs.

Gary Diffen receiving the Ed Druce Memorial Prize from Jury Chair Martin Walker.





Gary Watson receiving the prize for the Best State Exhibit on behalf of Mossgreen from Martin Walker, Jury Chair.



Martin Walker, Jury Chair presenting Nancy Gray with the prize for the best postal stationery exhibit.

A special thank you to all volunteers who helped with the Exhibition and to the Exhibition Committee.

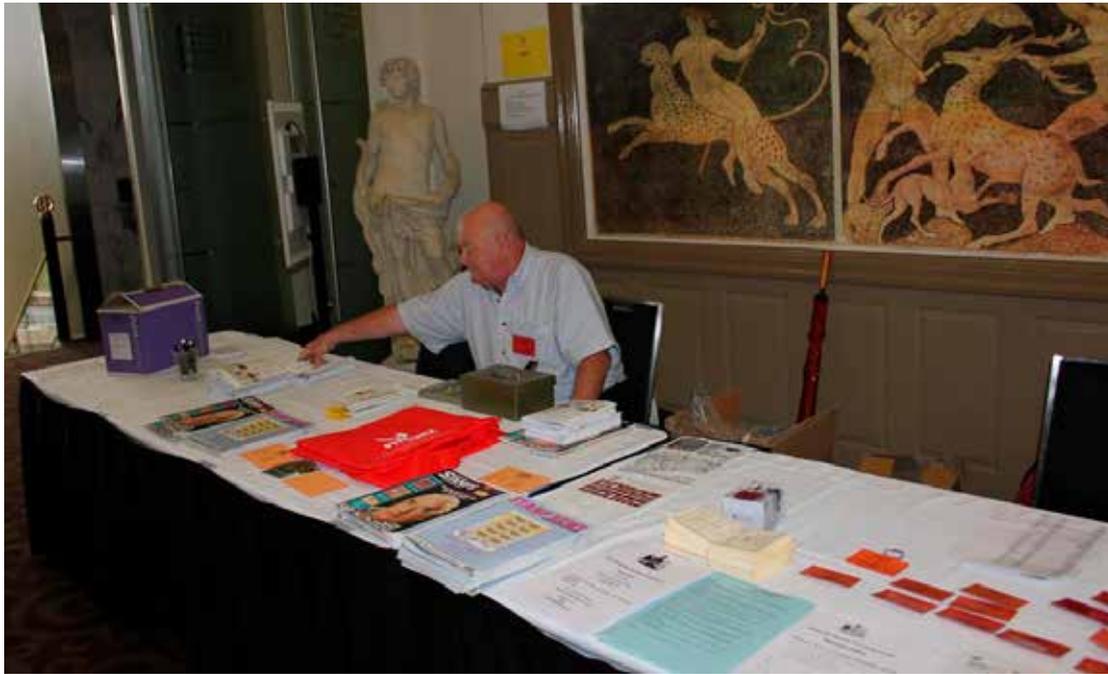
Planning will commence soon on Canberra Stampshow 2018 which will be our 20th Exhibition, held every second year since 1980. Ideas on how to mark our 20th Show would be appreciated.



Canberra Stampshow Jury

Front Row: Marilyn Gendek, Elspeth Bodley, Bruce Chatterton

Back: Philip Levine, Muhammad Javaid (UAE), Dingle Smith, Tim Beach (NZ), Ian McMahon (Secretary), Martin Walker (Chair), Ross Wood, Gert Ebing, John Dibiase, Akthem Al-Manaseer (USA), Paul Barsdell



Last, but by no means least, one of our amazing volunteers Ian Brown, without whom the exhibition would not have been possible. Again the Committee and the Council of the Philatelic Society of Canberra thanks all those who contributed to the success of the Show.

The Christchurch Stamp and Postcard Exhibition

Jeff Long

This exhibition is being held at Addington Racecourse in Christchurch, New Zealand, on November 18-20 this year. This is the same venue as the last Christchurch exhibition. The theme for this year's exhibition is a celebration of the centennial of the Canterbury Aviation Co by Sir Harry Wigram. For those of you interested in aero matters in this part of the world, you will recognize the importance of the Wigram airfield (now a major subdivision!). There will be a small number of suitable souvenirs, including a few CALs (customized advertising labels) with images of aircraft, as well as an airmail etiquette and a sheetlet of stamps produced by taking an image from a printing plate which resides in the Philatelic Foundation (Christchurch) archives collection. It is thought this was an unadopted design for the 1931 airmail stamps, but why the design got as far as producing a printing plate is a bit of a mystery. All of these souvenirs will be available by the time you read this note.

Apart from Literature, there will be the usual entry classes for stamps and postcards and, despite the very busy philatelic calendar this year, we hope to see a good range of material from our Australian friends. However, this national exhibition has something different. There are classes for coins and banknotes, ephemera and other collectibles. We expect this latter group will cater for collectors of cigarette and trade/trading cards. Ephemera exhibits can consist of any material on any subject you like to choose, as long as everything fits into the exhibition frames. These displays will be judged by members of the public, and will receive the same certificates as those entries submitted for judging. The advantage of entering in the classes referred to above is that the entry fee per frame is only \$NZ15. (regular frame fees are only \$NZ25) You can present the material as you like, although a storyline would obviously enhance interest in your display.

The organising committee has already published all the entry details, and a series of newsletters is continuing. You can access this information at www.cps.gen.nz Click on the tab at left of this page for ChCh 2016, and all the details will pop up for you. Entry forms and a copy of your first (title) page are required by the end of July. Entries must be submitted through the Australian Commissioner appointed for this exhibition, Ed Wolf. He will take care of all customs requirements etc. Ed can be contacted at eswolf@optusnet.com.au

PASTCARDS

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Postcards of British Canals – Part Two - The Kennet and Avon Canal

Miles Patterson

In part one, I showed some postcards showing features of a number of British canals. This time, I will concentrate on the the Kennet and Avon canal, which passes through Newbury, the town where I grew up.

Since Elizabethan times, proposals had been made to construct a waterway to connect the key port in South West England, Bristol, to London in the South East. In the West, the River Avon connected Bristol with the city of Bath (Figure 1), and in the East, the River Kennet (Figure 2) flowed from the market town of Newbury (which was roughly halfway between London and Bristol) to Reading which was on the River Thames, so a canal

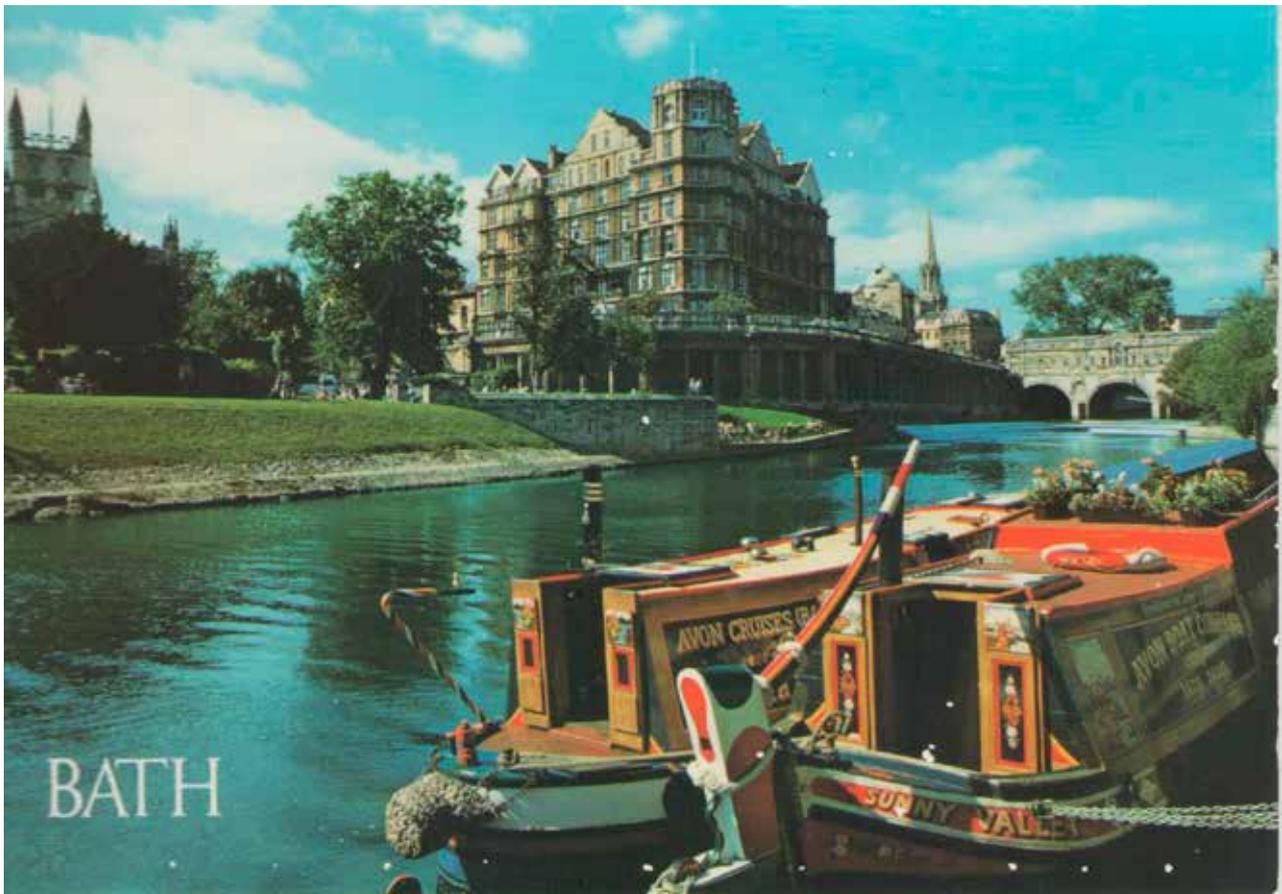


Figure 1: *Narrowboats on the River Avon at Bath*



Figure 2: *Woolhampton on the Kennet near the Thames. Tuck postcard No 7536, 1907*

between the Kennet at Newbury and the Avon at Bath was surveyed (Figure 3). Construction started in the 1790s and the 87 mile long canal was opened in 1810. One of the surveyors and engineers was the Scottish civil engineer, John Rennie, whose connection with the canal is still remembered (Figure 4).

Use of the canal declined in the 19th century after the Great Western Railway opened and by the mid 20th century parts of it were dry. However, local volunteers worked with the government's British Waterways Board to restore the canal. It was reopened in 1990 and is a popular tourist route.



Figure 3: *The Kennet and Avon Canal*



Figure 4: *Restaurant boat John Rennie on the K&A Canal near Bath*

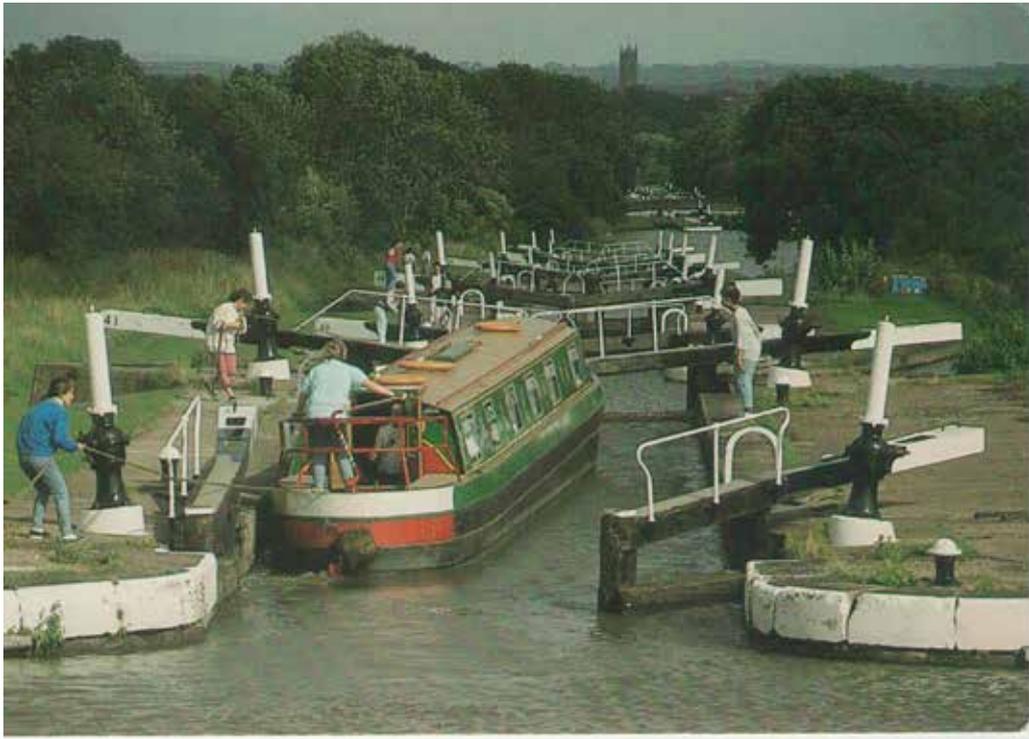


Figure 5: *Hatton Locks (flight of 21), Grand Union Canal*

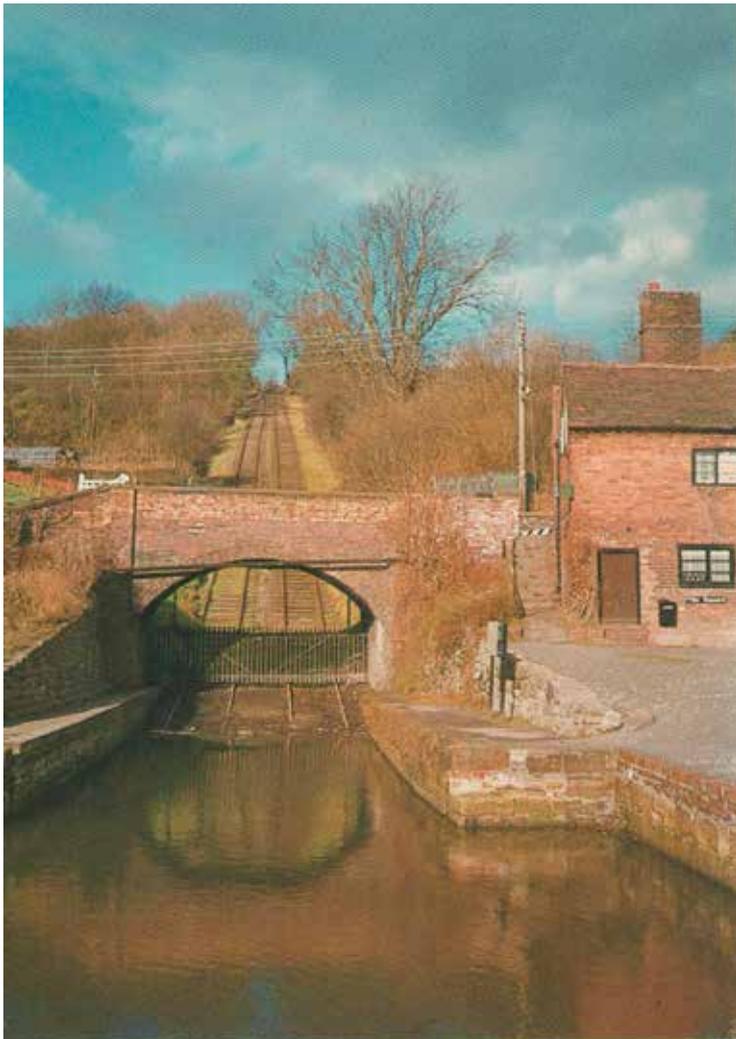


Figure 6: *Hay Inclined Plane, Coalport*

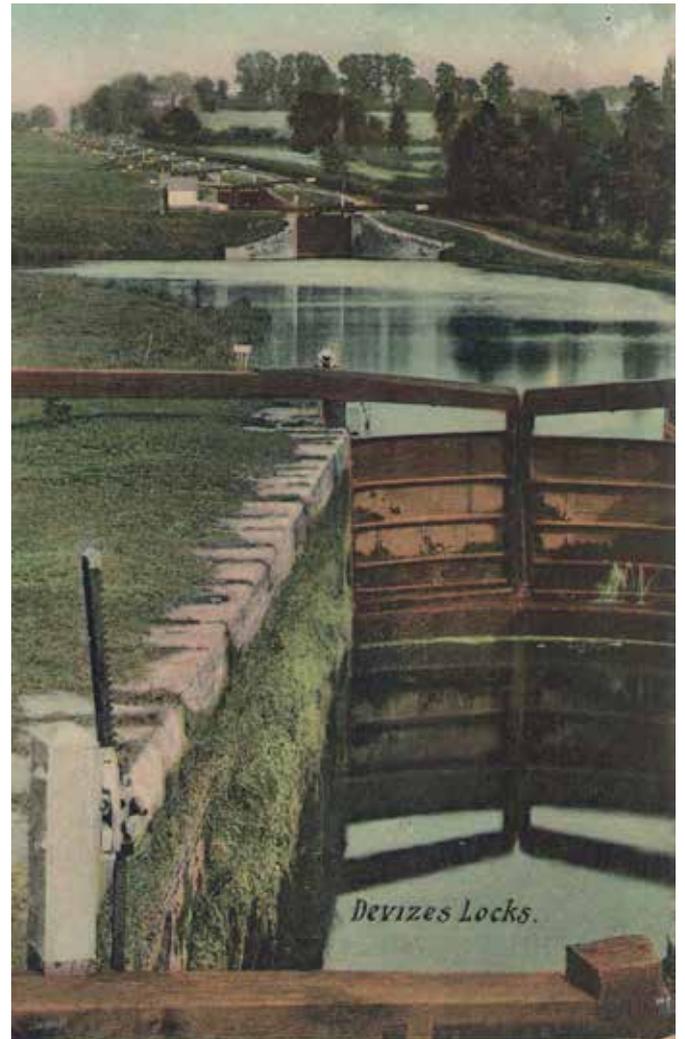


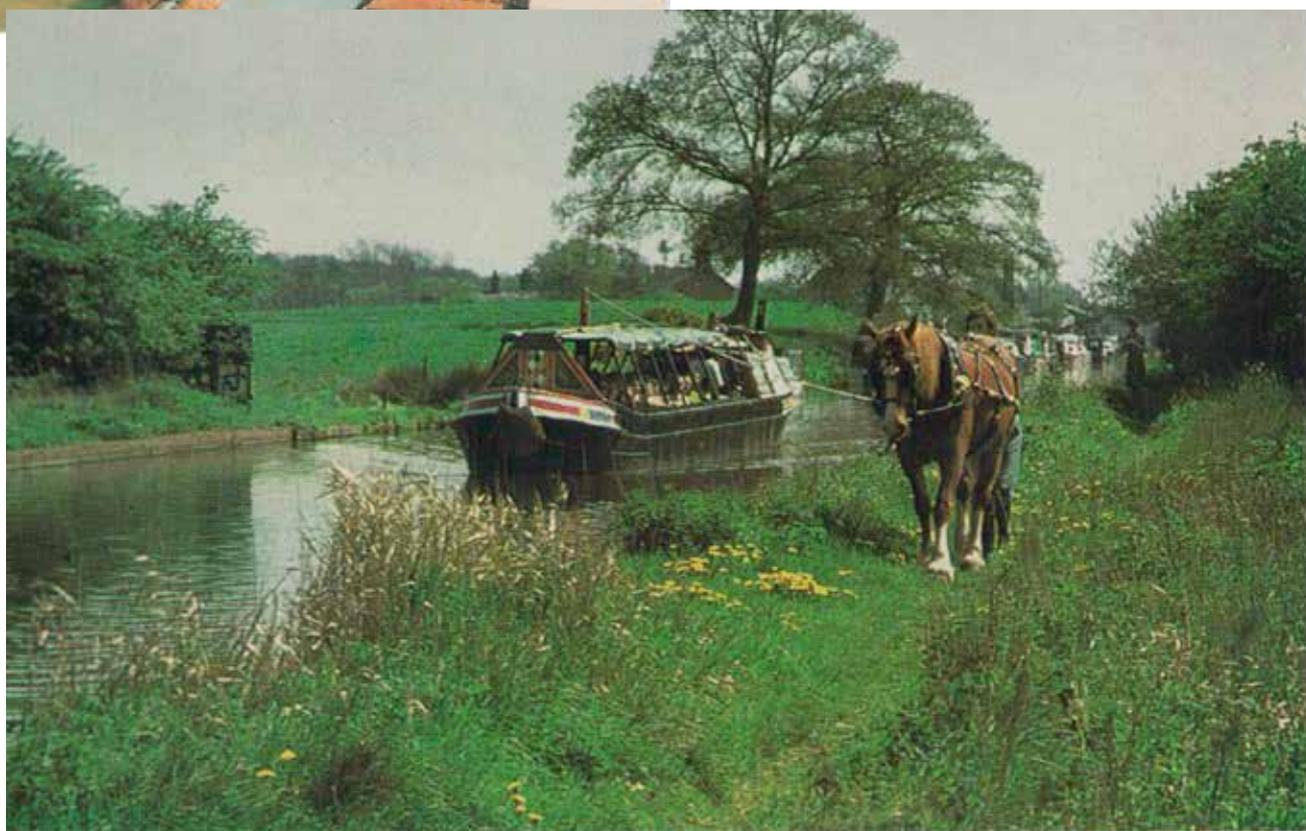
Figure 7: *The Caen Hill Lock, Devizes. R Wilkinson postcard early 1900s*

To supply water to the highest sections of the canal, pumping stations were built at Claverton, near Bath (Figure 5) and Crofton, near Marlborough (Figure 6). Both have been restored and can be seen in operation. The Crofton station has the oldest working beam engine still fulfilling its original purpose (an 1812 Boulton and Watt), supplying the summit of the canal. A flight of 29 locks was required to raise the canal up Caen Hill, Devizes (Figures 7 and 8). There are some small aqueducts (Figure 9) and one tunnel, which is 500 yards long (Figure 10).



Figure 8: *The Caen Hill locks, Devizes, showing the side ponds reservoirs*

Figure 9: *Horse-drawn boat, Shropshire Union Canal*



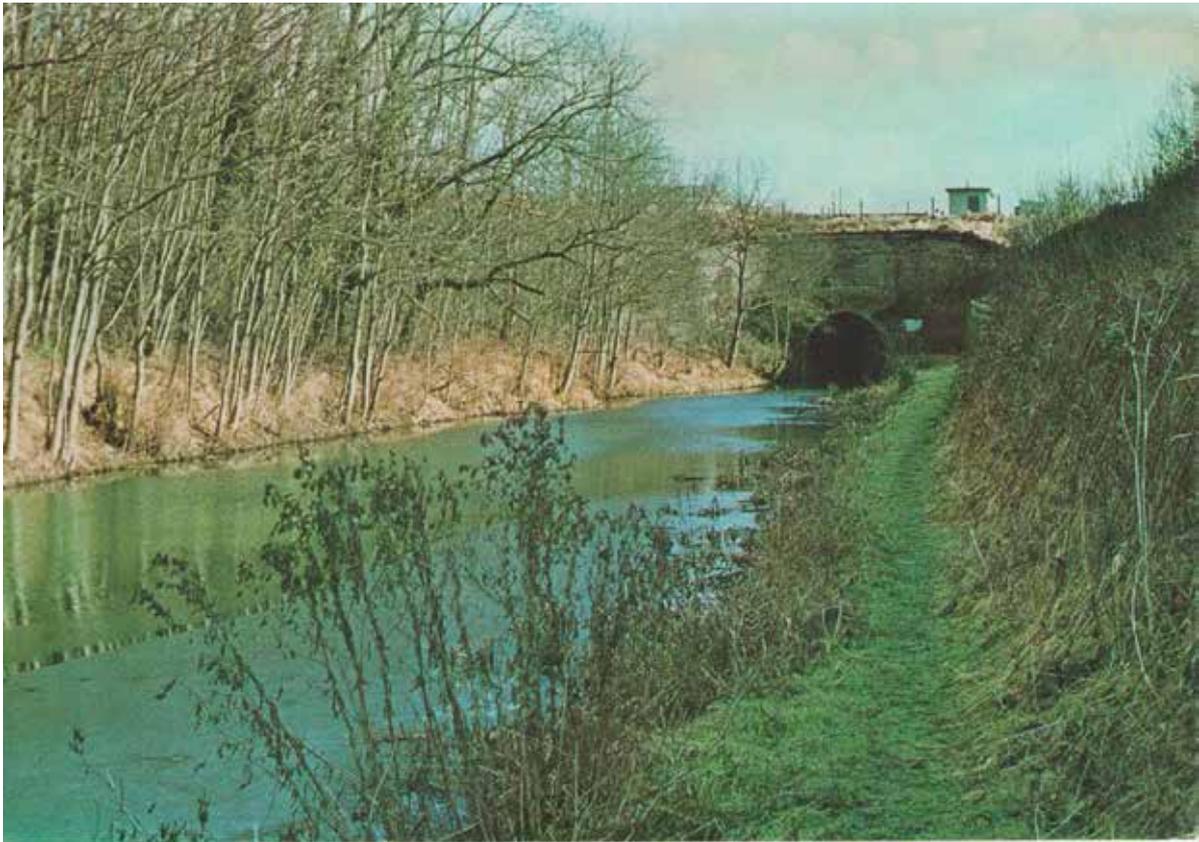


Figure 10: *Western entrance to the Bruce Tunnel*



Figure 11: *K&A Canal at Bathampton, Bath. Frith Postcard No. 57752, 1907*

The canal runs through picturesque countryside from Bath (Figure 11) to Newbury (Figure 12), with plenty of history on display on the way (Figure 13).



Figure 12: *Weavers Cottages at Newbury Tufnails Postcard, postally used 1905*



Figure 13: *Restored wooden crane at Burbage Warf, near Marlborough*

MACHINATIONS

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50th Year of Machin Stamps - 1967 to 2016

Jenni Creagh

It seems that while Machin stamps have been around now for 50 years, and their iconic style remains constant, their diversity of shade, value and treatment is quite large.



Over the years Machins have been produced by varying printing methods – gravure, lithography, recess printing and even embossing – they have been issued in a wide range of colours with several types of gum, on different types of paper and in vertical and horizontal formats of varying sizes. Specialist catalogues fill thousands of pages and even if you count basic types only, there are hundreds of different Machins to collect.’



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Capital Philately

Editorial	Andrew Alwast	1
Collecting Poland - Balloon Flown Mail	Andrew Alwast	2
Not Everything That Looks Like A Stamp Is A Stamp - Queensland Perkins Bacon Proofs	Ian McMahon	10
The 2016 Shakespeare Award Recipient: Ed Cummings		12
Patrick White – Almost a Philatelist	Michael Moore	13
Canberra Stampshow 2016	Ian McMahon	18
The Christchurch Stamp and Postcard Exhibition	Jeff Long	21

PASTCARDS

Postcards of British Canals – Part Two	Miles Patterson	22
--	-----------------	----

Machinations

50th Year of Machin Stamps - 1967 to 2016	Jenni Creagh	28
---	--------------	----