

Journal of the Philatelic Society of Canberra



The Philatelic Society of Canberra (Founded 1932)

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Capital Philately:
Editorial Committee

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Capital Philately

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Editorial

In the last issue of 'Capital Philately' I was lamenting the dearth of advanced collections of Commonwealth of Australia; while offering some thoughts on how collectors of more modern material can develop their philatelic skills.

However, I'm sure that it is not only collectors of modern issues who are wondering about how to expand their collections into new and perhaps uncharted fields. The collectors of Australia's first two issues, while having the challenge of finding all the specs and dots previously recorded by students of these issues have little or no other outlet. Or do they? One of the trends in traditional philately is the inclusion of covers. Now this is not just a response geared to the belief that covers are eye-catching or that they take up more space but because there is a growing awareness of the importance of understanding the purpose of issue.

Nowadays the purpose may be to commemorate the centenary of the invention of the knob on the end of a pin or even to ensure that the face value of annual issues reaches a predetermined level! However, in the early part of the century most issues, and the values thereof, were for a particular postal purpose. Therefore, there is considerable meaning and merit, in terms of traditional philately, in obtaining examples of correct usage to complete the philatelic story. It is also a considerable challenge - no more walking into a stamp shop and asking for a copy of SG182 mint unhinged and having the choice of a dozen or more copies. You'll have to go back into the Postal Guides and ascertain the various rates; in other words it would not be Stanley Gibbons list, it will be yours. And the dealer won't have the stock all neatly filed in the list order, you will have to hunt, and learn to be often disappointed but occasionally thrilled.

That's one way to expand one's collection and one's philatelic interest but also one should remember that stamps were often used for fiscal purposes, telegrams and so forth, radio licences, etc. While not allowable at international level, correctly presented as examples of sanctioned usage they could well improve your collection and even your national exhibit. Indeed following representations by Australia at the Stockholm 1986 and Copenhagen 1987 FIP Congresses, fiscal stamps and usages will form an experimental class at several forthcoming world exhibitions. Look out, Cinderella is on the move!

Another factor in Australian philately intrigues me. The non-existance of philately from 1901 to 1913. The Commonwealth of Australia was in existence and stamps were used. These must be classed as Commonwealth issues. What is more there were six different definitive stamp issues and later in the period each could be used everywhere else. Yet few collect this vital and important period of our philatelic history. It's too modern for most of the collectors of States stamps and Commonwealth collectors are led by their Stanley Gibbons inspired nose to only begin collecting at SG 1. Believe me there's a gold mine of philately out there and it's a lot more likely to yield reward than Lassetters Reef!

However, the real gold mine is in the States period, 1850-1900 (or even 1913) if your interested in stamps, a slightly shorter period if you want to start collecting stationery or a longer period if you fancy postal history. Undoubtedly there is an awakening interest in the stamps of the Australian States. This is manifest in the fact that more and more articles are appearing dealing with various aspects of our States' philately and I hope to continue to use some of the space in this journal to promote this neglected area of Australia's philatelic heritage.

QUEENSLAND RAILWAY STAMPED PARCEL RATES AND REGULATIONS 1885-1916

Ian McMahon

Introduction

In a previous article I described the introduction of the stamped parcel service by Queensland Railways and the rates and regulations that were applied at that time. In this article I extend the discussion to the rates and regulations applying to the stamped parcel service over the period 1885 to 1916. All of the details discussed in this article were taken from Queensland Government Gazettes over the same period.

Rates and Regulations, 1885

The rates applicable from 1 January 1884 were discussed in an earlier article in Capital Philately. In December 1885 a new table of rates for stamped parcels was announced. The new rates are given in Table 1. They represented a significant reduction over the 1884 rates. For parcels over 281bs in weight additional charges were levied for each extra pound. These charges ranged from 0.25d to 1.25d per pound. Stamps of denominations of less than 1d were not, however, required as the charge for each parcel was always rounded up to the nearest penny. Parcels of over 561bs could not be sent as stamped parcels.

Table 1

Queensland Stamped Parcel Rates, December 1885
Weight (1bs)

	Under 3		Unde	c 7	Under	14	Under	28	Over 28 (per				
Distance									add	3.1b)			
(miles)	s	đ	s	. d	s	đ	s	đ	s	đ			
1 to 25	0	3	0	6	0	9	1	Ö	0	0.25			
26 to 50	0	6	0	9	1	0	1	3	0	0.25			
51 to 100	0	9	1	0	1	3	1	6	0	0.5			
101 to 150	1	0	1	3	1	6	1	9	0	0.75			
151 to 200	1	3	1	6	1	9	2	0	0	1			
201 to 250	1	6	1	9	2	0	2	3	0	1.25			
251 to 300	1	9	2	0	2	3	2	6	0	1.5			
301 to 350	2	0	2	3	2	6	2	9	0	0.75			
351 to 400	2	3	2	6	2	9	3	0	0	2			
401 to 450	2	6	2	9	3	0	3	3	0	2.25			

Packages of fresh fish, fresh meat, ice and bread were charged at half the stamped parcel rates. Otherwise the regulations applying to stamped parcels were similar to those applying in 1884. Stamped parcels were carried solely at the risk of the sender and no receipt was given. Parcels had to be brought to the station at least five minutes before the departure of the train on which they were to be carried. However, the Railway Department made no guarantee to forward parcels by a particular train.

Changes to parcel rates, 1891

New stamped parcel rates came into effect on 1 January 1891 (Table 2). The new table of rates was less complicated than the 1885 table and included reductions in rates for lighter parcels but substantial increases for parcels over 141bs. One major change was that rates for the conveyance of parcels on the Mackay, Bowen and Cooktown Railways were 33 1/3% higher than the rates in Table 2 while those of the Cairns and Normanton Railways were 50% higher. Previous to this the rates were uniform throughout the Queensland railway system.

Table 2

Oueensland Stamped Parcel Rates, January 1891 Weight (lbs)

	Unde	er 3	Unde	er 7	Unde	er 14	Unde	er 28		er 28 per
Distance										id.1b)
(miles)	s	đ	s	đ	s	đ	s	đ	s	d
50 and under	0	3	0	6	0	9	1	0	0	0.25
51 to 100	0	6	0	9	1	3	1	6	Ō	0.5
101 to 200	1	0	1	3	1	9	2	6	0	1
201 to 300	1	6	1	9	2	3	3	6	0	1.5
301 to 400	1	9	2	3	2	9	4	6	0	1.75
401 to 500	2	0	2	9	3	3	5	6	0	2

Parcel rates, 1898

New rates and regulations were published in 1898. The new rates are given in Table 3 and included charges for parcels carried up to 1000 miles. Stamped parcels were still limited to 56 pounds in weight. The higher rates for the northern railways no longer applied.

Table 3

Queensland Stamped Parcel Rates, 1898 Weight (1bs)

	Uno	er 3	Unc	ler 7	Unde	r 14	Unde	r 28	Unde	r 56
Distance (miles)	s	đ	s	đ	s	đ	s	đ	s	đ
0 to 50 51 to 101 102 to 150 151 to 200 201 to 300 301 to 400 401 to 500 501 to 600 601 to 700 701 to 880 801 to 900	0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 2 2	3 3 6 9 0 3 6 9 0 3 6	0 0 0 1 1 1 2 2 2 3 3	3 6 9 0 4 8 0 4 8 0	0 0 1 1 1 2 2 3 3 4	6903939393	0 1 1 2 3 3 4 5 6	9 3 9 3 0 9 6 3 0 9	1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	09666666666
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Figure 1

The four stamps of the Third Series on issue from 1894 to 1901 overprinted CANCELLED for use as specimens

Rate Changes, 1901

On 1 April 1901 a new table of rates for stamped parcels (Table 4) came into effect. The earlier tables had specified charges for parcels up to 14 pounds in weight in three weight steps whereas the new table gave the rates for parcels in one pound steps up to 14 pounds. Unstamped parcels were charged an additional 25 per cent. Parcels over 561bs were now permitted as stamped parcels.

Rates,

Stamped

Queensland

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Table 5	Weight (1bs) Distance (miles)	25 or less	25 t	51 +	76 t	102	151	201	301	401	Weight (lbs)		Dist	25 c	26 t	51 t	76 t	102	151	201	301	401	501	601	701	801 to 900
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Rates and Regulations, 1902

The next change in rates occurred in 1902 and the new rates are presented in Table 5. As for the 1901 rates unstamped parcels were charged an additional 25 per cent. Bicycles, birds in cages, hat and bonnet boxes, opium, baskets, coffins, mirrors and other bulky items were charged at double rates. Newspapers were charged at half the parcel rate up to a maximum of 1d per pound with a minimum charge of 1d per parcel. Fresh meat, oysters, fruit, butter, vegetables, library books, cut flowers and bread were charged at half the parcel rate with a minimum charge of 3d. Ice was charged at 25 per cent of the parcel rate. Parcels carried on the Allora Branch were charged 3d for parcels 10 pounds and under and 6d for parcels 11 pounds and over in addition to the charge to or from Hendon. Parcels could now be carried at "special risk rates" which provided a form of insurance for parcels of over 10 pounds in value.















Figure 2

Stamps from the Fourth Series issued on 7 January 1901 and used in conjunction with the new 1901 rates

The regulations applying to stamped parcels at the time were:

- "Adhesive parcel stamps, similar to parcel stamps, will be issued from all railway stations.
- When a package such as fish, butter, eggs, milk, cream, fresh meat, etc, will not allow a stamp to properly adhere, a label must be secured to the package, on which the stamp can be properly affixed.

- . When the stamps affixed are not of full value for the weight or distance according to table of rates, and the sender omits or refuses to affix the additional stamps necessary, the stamp may either be cancelled and the parcel forwarded and surcharged at destination, or the Commissioner may refuse to forward same.
- . All stamped parcels except newspaper parcels must be booked."

Parcels arriving at stations in the Brisbane city area or stations at Ipswich, Toowoomba, Maryborough, Bundaberg and Rockhampton were delivered to the consignee's address and an additional charge of from 3d to 9d was made depending on the weight of the parcel. Parcels up to 11 pounds in weight intended for towns beyond the railway line were conveyed as far as possible by rail and then sent by coach to the nearest post office to be forwarded through the parcel post and the postage collected from the consignee.

Changes to Rates, 1910

The basic table of rates for stamped parcels in 1910 was virtually unchanged from the 1902 rates (Table 5). However, a new table of rates was introduced for parcels carried to or from Brisbane Central, Brunswick Street, Roma Street or South Brisbane stations and stations within a 25 mile radius of either Brisbane Central or South Brisbane (Table 6). In addition a cash on delivery parcel system was introduced.

Table 6
Parcel Rates for the Brisbane Area, 1910

	Ð	Miles f	rom Brisbane	Cen	ıtral	-
		or	South Brisb	ane		
Weight	1 to	14		15	to	25
lbs	s	đ		s	•	đ
up to 2	0	3		0		3
3 to 4	0	3		0		4
5 to 7	0	3		0		6
8 to 14	0	4		0		7
15 to 21	0	4		0		9
22 to 28	0	4		0	10	0
29 to 56	0	9		1	1	0
57 to 84	1	0		1		6
85 to 112	1	3		2	(0
each add 28 1bs	0	3		0		3







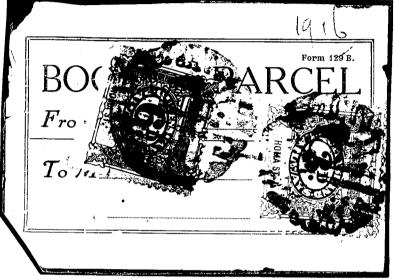


Figure 3

Stamps of the Fifth Series issued in 1915 in conjuction with the new rates. A booked parcel label shows stamps prepaying the ninepenny rate, probably a 21b parcel travelling over 75 miles

Rates, 1915

Table 7 presents the stamped parcel rates which came into effect in 1915.

Regulations for stationmasters, 1916

The following are some of the instructions issued to stationmasters regarding stamped parcels:

- A written consignment note was not necessary for each parcel.
- All concerned must see that parcel stamps are affixed by the sender and cancelled as soon as possible.

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Railway Stamped Parcel Rates 1915 (within Queensland except between stations in Brisbane area)

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- Parcels should be sent by the first through train to avoid unnecessary handling.
- The weights of parcels and the value of stamps affixed must be checked in order "to protect the revenue of the Department".
- "Diligence must be exercised in regard to parcel stamps affixed to labels on cream and milk cans. If stamps are very faintly obliterated, or not obliterated at all, there is nothing to prevent them being used a second time.

Stationmasters and all concerned are hereby instructed to properly cancel parcel stamps ...
Serious notice will be taken of any omission to comply with this regulation."

The rates for parcels carried within a 25 miles radius of Brisbane were also amended (Table 8).

Table 8

Parcel Rates for the Brisbane Area, 1915

Miles	from	Bris	sbane	Centra	al
	or So	uth I	3risba	ne	

Weight lbs	1 to 14 s d	15 s	to 25 d
up to 2	0 3	0	3
3 to 4	0 4	Ō	5
5 to 7	0 4	0	7
8 to 14	0,5	Õ	8
15 to 21	. 0 5	0	10
22 to 28	0 5	Ó	11
29 to 42	0 10	1	1
43 to 56	0 11	1	4
57 to 84	1 1	1	7
85 to 112	1 4	2	1
each add. 28 lbs	0 3	0	3

Interstate Parcels

Throughout the period 1884 to 1916 Queensland railway parcel stamps could not be used to prepay interstate parcels.

References

Queensland Government Gazettes 1885 to 1916.

Publications of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria

The Postal History of the Australian Army During World War 2 (P. Collas)	\$50.00
The Postal History of Internees and Prisoners of War in Australia During	
World War 2 (P. Collas)	\$15.00
Australian Numeral Cancellations. A Compendium (H.M. Campbell)	\$30.00
Queensland Cancellations & Other Postal Markings 1860-1913 (H.M. Campbell)	\$25.00
South Australia. The Long Stamps 1902-1912 (J.R.W. Purves)	\$25.00
The Pictorial Stamps of Tasmania 1899-1912 (K. Lancaster)	\$40.00
Tasmania: The Postal History & Postal Markings, Part 1 (Campbell, Purves &	
Viney). 1984 Reprint	\$30.00
The Postal History & Postal Markings, Part II (O. Ingles, Ed.)	\$30.00
Set of 2 ordered together	\$50.00
Victoria: The Postal History of the Port Phillip District (J.R.W. Purves)	\$15.00
The "Registered" and "Too Late" Stamps 1854-1858 (J.R.W. Purves)	\$20.00
The "Butterfly" and "Barred Oval" Cancellations 1850-1855 (J.R.W. Purves)	\$10.00
Western Australia: The 4d Lithograph 1854-1864 (B. Pope)	\$15.00
Commonwealth of Australia Cumulative Index to Source material (W.M. Holbeach	
J.R.W. Purves, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L. A Philatelic Bibliography (G.N. Kellow)	\$7.50
Philately from Australia Cumulative Index Vols. 1-XXX	\$10.00
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NSW POSTAL STATIONERY - SPECIMEN OVERPRINTS

D I Smith & E C Druce

The specimen overprints of the stamps and postal stationery of the Australian States are, in general, poorly described. There are several reasons for this. Earlier philatelic writers were generally not particularly interested in this philatelic byway and the bewildering variety of types and styles makes the task more difficult than for most other British colonies. Further, many of the Australian States produced specimen overprints for purposes other than for distribution to the UPU. These were initially provided in response to collecting interest, then produced for sale and in some cases for distribution for presentation purposes. The standard work on specimen stamps of the Crown Colonies, by Samuel (1976), basically describes specimen overprints for stamps printed in the United Kingdom and distributed by the Crown Agents. Since very few Australian states fall in this category this invaluable source is of little value. Strangely specimen overprints on postal stationery have never received the close attention given to the adhesives intended for postal purposes.

An exception is for the specimen postage stamps of New South Wales which were thoroughly described by Butler (1967) in a series of four articles in the London Philatelist. It would appear that this detailed and thorough study is little known in Australia. In addition to distinguishing some 19 differing types of specimen overprint Butler places them into a well-researched chronology and discusses the likely numbers produced and the varying usages, i.e. he describes the requirements for the distribution to the UPU as well as the stamps produced for sale and presentation. Many of these would be more appropriately overprinted as 'reprints' and Butler also deals with this aspect. The treatment of the NSW specimen overprints on stamps is particularly thorough and the authors have only found the most minor additions and modifications to the original listing. However, as a conclusion to his study on the postage stamps Butler provided a listing for specimen NSW postal stationery. He suggests that:

'... there are a few instances where specimens would be expected to exist but have not yet been seen or described'. He further notes that '... with one exception ... all the overprints [of postal stationery] so far seen have direct counterparts on the adhesive stamps and the type faces closely follow the date pattern established by the adhesives'. (Butler, p.117, 1967).

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It is clear that the Butler listing of specimen overprints for NSW postal stationery is incomplete and that a number of completely different forms of specimen overprint exist which are only seen on postal stationery.

Check of Specimen Postal Stationery

The major aim of the present study is to provide a check-list for the postal stationery specimen overprints of NSW. Except where specifically noted, all the items have been seen by the authors. In describing the form of overprint the notation initially used by Butler has been retained. Thus, where the stationery and adhesive styles are the same the reference is to the 'types' described and illustrated by Butler, this follows the earlier notation of Hutson (1960). Where new types are described these continue the numbering system of the postal adhesives which total nineteen, although a small number of sub-types are recognised.

In addition to the listing by Butler (1967), indications of the existence of overprints, but no detailed description of type, are given in Robson Lowe (1962) and by Higgins and Gage (see especially the issue for Ausipex 1984). The dates of issue and the reference number for each postal stationery item given in Table 1 also follow Higgins and Gage. In some cases there is a difficulty in separating small variations between types of overprint that are similar in size and printing styles. The last items of NSW postal stationery that are known overprinted 'specimen' are the illustrated cards issued in 1898.

A limited number of items are known with two types of overprint; this is frequently found for the postal adhesives. To date the known examples are wrapper E4 (types 4 and 21), registered envelope Cl (types 3a and 16), and official postcard D3 (types 4 and 16).

Dates of Issue and Type

Table 2 lists the ten types of specimen overprint found on the postage stamps that are also known on postal stationery. It also records the four new types of overprint that are restricted to postal stationery. The dates of use on postal adhesives are taken from Butler and are compared to the postal issue date for overprints on postal stationery. There is a general accord between the dates except for type 3a. This is due to the use of type 3a on the first set of envelopes issued in 1870. This anomaly may be due to type 3a being overprinted on these envelopes long after their initial issue, perhaps as a latter form of 'reprint' for delayed distribution to the UPU.

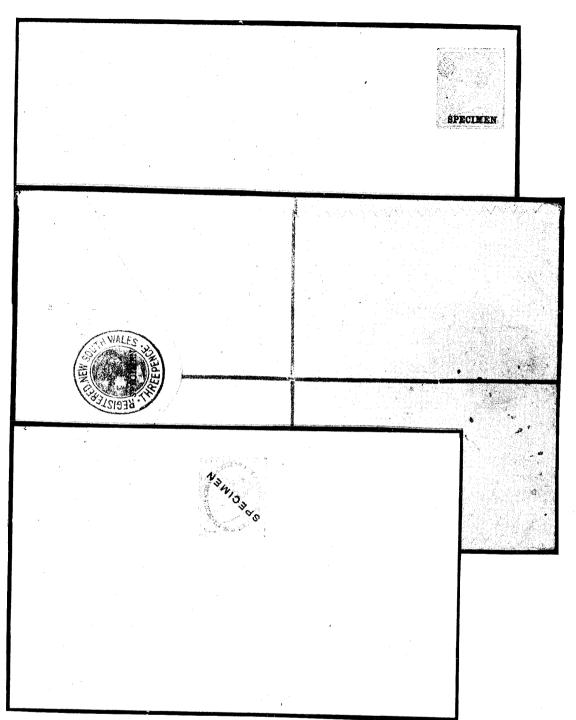
Table 1

Listing of NSW Postal Stationery Type of Specimen Overprint

		cimen it in H&G	Specimen & type, Butler	Specimen Type & Comment
Post Cards				
ld ld ld + ld	1877 HG3 1877 HG3a 1883 HG4	No Yes Yes	No Yes, type 14 No	Type 14 Type 14 New type, no.20
1d 1d 2d	1887 HG5 1888 HG6a 1889 HG7	Yes Yes Yes	No Yes, type 12a No	Type 17 No, except has
3d	1889 HG8	Yes	No	full stop No, except has
1d 2d	1890/92 HG9 1890/92 HG10	No Yes	Yes, type 4 No	full stop Not seen New type, no.20. Specimen diagonally across corner
3đ	1890/92 HG11	Yes	No	New type, no.22. Specimen diagonally across corner
ld + ld 1.5d	1891 HG12 1891/92 HG13	Yes No	Yes, type 4 No	Type 4
1.5d 1.5d +	1891/92 HG13a	Yes	Yes, type 4	Type 4
1.5d 1.5d 1d 1.5d 1d 1d+1d	1892 HG14 1895 HG16 1896 HG17 1896 HG187 1896 HG19 1897 HG20	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes	Yes, type 4 Yes, type 15 Yes, type 19 Yes, type 15 No Yes, type 19	Type 4 Type 15 Type 19 Type 15 Type 19 Type 19 Type 19

Note: Types 19b, c & 23a, b listed separately in Table 2

Official Post Cards



From top to bottom Types 3a, 4 and 7

ld	1888	HGD4	No	No		Туре 4
Note: Table 4	Official •	Post Cards	with	specimen	and oval	NSW or GPO in
Letter	Cards					
1.5d	1895	HG Al	Yes	Yes,	type 17	Type 17, with stop
1.5d	1894	HG A2	No	No		
1.5d	1895	HG A3	No		+rma 16	Type 17
1.5d	1896	HG A4			type 16	Type 17
1.5d	1897		Yes	No		Type 17
		HG A5	Yes		type 15	Type 15
1.5d	1897	HG A6	Yes	Yes,	type 19	Type 19
Envelop	<u>es</u>					
1d	1870	HG Bl	No	Yes,	type 7	Type 7, diagonal, on differing
lđ	1870	HG Blb	Mo	Ma		seals
ld	1870		No	No		Type 3a
ı.a	1670	HG B2a	No	No		Type 3a, size b
ld	1870	HG B2a	No	No.		Type , size a
1d	1888	HG B3	No		type 16	Type 16
ld	1888	HG B4	Yes		type 4	Type 10
1d	1888	HG B4	No	No	cype 4	Throat 21
2 d	1888	HG B5		_		Type 21
ld	1897	HG B7	Yes		type 4	Type 4
2d			Yes		type 19	Type 19
zu	1897	HG B8	Yes	Yes,	type 19	Type 19
Official Envelopes						
ld	1888	HC DD4	77			_
		HG DB4	Yes		type 4	Type 4
ld	1888	HG DB4a	Yes	No		Type 4, with malformed 's'
2 d	1888	HG DB5a	No	No		Type 4, on curved flap. HG only gives pointed
4 d	1891	HG DB13	Yes	Yes,	type 16	Type 16, with stop

Note: Offical Envelopes with specimen and oval NSW or GPO in Table 3.



From top to bottom Types 12a, 14, 15

Registered Envelopes							
40 40 40 40	3 3	1880 1880 1880 1885	HG C1 HG C1 HG Cla HG C2	No No No	No No No No		Type 3a Type 16 Type 3a Not seen, auction
36 36 36 36	1 1	1892 1894 1893 1894	HG C7 HG C8 HG C8a HG 10	No Yes No No	No No No		description Type 16 Type 4 Type 4 Type 4
Of	ficial Re	gister	<u>ed</u>				
5 d		1888/	91 HG DCla	Yes	No		Type 4, small
6d 6d			91 HG DC3 91 HG DC3a	Yes No	No No		Type 4
	ote : Offi able 3	cial	Registered	with	specimens	and oval	NSW or GPO in
Wr	appers						
10	1	1864	HG El	No	No		Not seen auction description
16	3	1865	HG E2	Yes	Yes,	type 4	Type 7, always diagonal and inverted
1ċ	3	1870		No	No		Wmk 'Kangaroo & Emu, AP Co' See Robson Lowe (1962,p.78 only known as 'specimen'
10 1. 10	5d	1889 1892 1897	HG E4 HG E6 HG E9	No Yes Yes		type 4 type 19	Type 21 Type 4 Type 19
Telegram Forms							
6 đ		1894	HG Hl	Yes	Yes,	type ,16a	Type 17, with stop
1ċ	1	1894	HG H2	Yes	Yes,	type 16a	

(to be continued)

EARLY NEW SOUTH WALES PAID MARKINGS AN UPDATE

E C Druce

In Capital Philately, Vol.5, No's 3 and 4, I described and tabulated what I knew of the early (pre 1851) paid markings of New South Wales. As is mostly the case (Murphy's Law of Philately), as soon as I had put pen to paper more information became available. Of course, the mere publishing of details prompts people to write and add missing information. In this regard, I am grateful to Bernie Doherty of Newcastle and Gary Watson of Melbourne. In the meantime, I have been able to examine the stock of Argyll Etkin, courtesy of James Grimwood-Taylor and have also added new items to my own collection. In the details appended below new information is in bold. The information on Warrnambool is taken from W. H. Ewers book 'Postmarks and Postal History of Warrnambool and District', W. I. A. E. Press, 1984.

I have also determined a new type, Type 9, (Figure 1) which is a crowned circular type with the name of the town. This is illustrated in The Postal History of the Port Phillip District 1835-1851 by J R W Purves at page 43 (Plate 9, lower right).

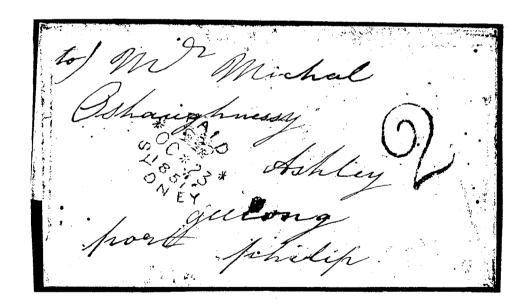


Figure 1

TOWN	NUMBER RECORDED	USAGE SIZ (mm	
Type 1 marks			
Bong Bong	1	18 36 35x	d17 Grey—black
Type la marks			
Newcastle	5	1843 –1850 35x	Red, Black
Type 2 marks			
Alberton (Vic) Armidale Boyd (town) Carcoar Geelong (Vic) Gundagai Gunning Hartley Wollombi Type 3a marks	1 4 1 2 7 2 1 4	1849 1844–1849 1845 34x 1850, 1862 30x 1841–1850 34x 1845–1847 34x 1846 1841–1845 34x 1850	Red, Black Red, Mauve Black Red
Port Macquarie	4	1838 -1851 30 x	16 Red
Type 4 marks			
The Glenelg (now Casterton)	2	1847-1848 43x	x13 Red-orange
Warnambool (sic) (Vic) 1	1850 35x	:16 Black
Type 9 marks			
Sydney	1	1851 Diam	24 Red
			·····

SPECIALIST PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

THE MAGYAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Judy Kennett

I was very happy when asked to contribute an article to this series on specialist philatelic societies. In my case, membership of an overseas specialist society is most important, for this is how I keep in touch with collectors with the same philatelic interests, as well as learning about new finds and recent research in my chosen country. This information is simply not available in popular philatelic magazines, either in the United Kingdom or in Australia.

It was in 1984 that I made contact with this specialist society through an advertisement in a British magazine. At that time I was in the very early stages of collecting but even then found the paucity of detailed and up-to-date information frustrating.

The Magyar Philatelic Society of Great Britain was founded in 1964 by a handful of enthusiasts. The objects of the Society are to promote the good name of Hungarian philatelic material, to further the study and collection of Hungarian philatelic material, and to bring together collectors of such material in mutual fellowship'.

In the most recent issue of its journal, the Society welcomed member No. 333. Members are now scattered world-wide - chiefly in the United Kingdom, but with a large contingent in the USA, in most European countries, including many of the leading identities in the specialty resident in Hungary, and sadly, only two in Australia! Each member receives a copy of the Society Membership Directory - computer produced, with addresses and with interests listed to help members to make contact with one another.

The Society is affiliated with the British Philatelic Federation, the Austrian Stamp Club of Great Britain, and the Society for Hungarian Philatelists (USA). As well, it maintains close contact with Czecho-Slovakian and Polish specialist societies in the United Kingdom, and these groups organise joint shows and gatherings.

With members spread so widely, a journal is necessary for communication and **Stamps of Hungary**, issued quarterly, serves this purpose excellently. Each issue is crammed with articles, notes,

Society notices, information about forthcoming auctions of Hungarian and related material, literature available through the Society plus questions and answers — a most popular section. Members' questions are published, then other members write in with the answers.

One of the founding members has donated a perpetual trophy for the most popular article published in **Stamps of Hungary** during the year. A voting slip is sent out with the December issue and members are encouraged to nominate their favourites, assigning numbers in order of preference.

Members resident in Hungary have their contributions translated by Hungarian-fluent members, and then published in the journal. The Society has established contact with the State-owned Hungarian publishing house and is able to acquire copies of philatelic texts which are offered to members at suitable prices. It also organises a postal auction each summer, where members may dispose of surplus material and acquire new material.

An excellent catalogue of the Society's library of Hungarian philatelic literature is produced, by computer, and sent to members. The articles and pamphlets are classified under subject headings; copies of books including classical texts on Hungarian philately are held, as well as illustrated auction catalogues. British members may borrow 'by post'.

Enquiries regarding membership should be sent to the Membership Secretary, Mr G N Capstick, 12 Arley Park, Cotham, Bristol, BS5 5PL, United Kingdom. Currently the annual membership subscription is seven pounds (nine pounds for the journal sent air mail to overseas members).

Editors Note: While our immediate Past President, Paul Barsdell initiated this column, he noted that he would be occasionally handing over the reins to others. It is fitting, therefore, that he firstly handed over to our new President, Judy Kennett. Members and subscribers are encouraged to submit details of specialist societies to which they belong.

February 1988

Jarrett Philatelic Service



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

With respect to the August [1987] issue of Capital Philately, I would like to make a couple of comments which are not necessarily for publication unless you consider it appropriate.

I was rather amused by Alan Tippett's article about his time as an office boy in Melbourne. However, perhaps Alan began working in Melbourne earlier than he remembers! He states that he began his employment in Melbourne in 1928 and that the documents about which he writes were posted at the Stock Exchange Post Office. However, the office of that name was down-graded to only a telegraph office in mid-1925. A new office called Collins Street was opened on 20th August 1925 and that probably coincides with the change of status of the Stock Exchange facility.

As was the case with the Stock Exchange office, Collins Street was allocated a late fee datestamp and it is probably this item to which Alan was referring.

On page 114 Alan illustrates a South Australian marking. It needs to be pointed out that this is unlike any of the other markings shown in that it has the indicator "in" in the dateline. Copies of this marking are very scarce and an irregular usage such as this on an adhesive is a particularly nice item.

In your own article commencing at page 119 you have made a blooper! twice!! The Glenelg PO was renamed Casterton, not Castlemaine without an 'e'!

Yours philatelically,

GARY WATSON

Editors Note: Letters to the Editor are few and far between. Thanks Gary for adding to our knowledge and correcting a mistake. Do other of our members have philatelic views? If so, why not write to the Editor now.

THE HASLUCK AWARD

Margaret Hamilton

Western Australia's most prestigious philatelic award is named in memory of the late E M Hasluck and his fellow officers who served in the Colonial Post Office of Western Australia during the gold rush days in the late nineteenth century.

It is administered by a five member Trust who select the annual recipient. One Trust member changes each year. The inaugural Trust members were elected by Council, but now the latest recipient takes the place of the longest serving member.

Nominees can be proposed from clubs, societies or individuals. The criteria for nomination is that the nominee be a person resident in Western Australia, who has given distinguished service to philately either past or present. Aspects considered include administrative service, length of involvement with philately, special contributions such as regular editing of journals, publishing, exhibiting major collections, judging at exhibitions and generally promoting the hobby in Western Australia. Most recipients have filled several categories.

Previous recipients:-

1983 1984	Myrna Hooker The late George E Owen
1985	
	Brian Pope
1986	Ross Duberal

The Right Honourable Sir Paul Hasluck, son of E M Hasluck, has so far been able to present the award each year. Sir Paul has early memories of the Post Office in Western Australia as he was born in 1905 (Mucking About, Melbourne University Press, 1977, Autobiography) and is always ready to reminisce on awards day. This year the recipient was Gordon Darge and the medal was presented at the Western Australian State Exhibition, Swampex '87, which was held on the weekend of 14/15 November 1987.

FIFTH NATIONAL PHILATELIC CONVENTION

19 - 21 MARCH 1988

Venue for this bicentennial event is the Canberra G.P.O. in Alinga Street, Civic Centre. The program includes:

- A competitive exhibition at State level with 75 exhibits from both A.C.T. and interstate philatelists. Among them are the new classes of "Modern Philately" and "Postal Stationery".
- Australia Post will attend with full mailing and philatelic facilities. Australia Post's new display "National Philatelic Exhibition" will feature themes of both the Bicentennial and Canberra's 75th Anniversary, as well as some archival material.
- . At least 20 local and interstate dealers.
- A major stamp auction to be conducted by Edlins of Canberra on 19 March at 5.00p.m. at the G.P.O.
- . A cinderella auction on 20 March at 3.00p.m. at the G.P.O.
- . Hot-air balloon mail will be carried, philatelically marked and sent to addressees through the Australia Post system.
- Guest speaker on "Paper preservation for philatelists".
- . Commemoration of the 75th anniversary of Canberra on 12 March 1988, with a special postmarker incorporating the Canberra Coat-of-Arms.

Junior collectors will have a Monday afternoon auction with a non-competitive display by local Junior Stamp Clubs.

Exhibit Awards will be presented at a social gathering on the Sunday evening.

All further information available from: The Philatelic Convention Publicity Officer G.P.O. Box 1840, Canberra City, A.C.T. 2601