



Capital Philately



Journal of the Philatelic Society of Canberra



The Philatelic Society of Canberra Incorporated
(founded 1932)

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EDITORIAL

The first major event of the year of the Society's Diamond Jubilee, the Seventh Philatelic National Convention, is now complete. The show, held over the Canberra Day long weekend, achieved its goals. Exhibitors, dealers and visitors all enjoyed three days of philatelic fun and fellowship. This issue of *Capital Philately* contains a detailed account of the competitive displays, the philatelic items and events and records the Society's thanks to the many individuals and organisations who helped make the show a success. The financial statement is not yet complete but it is clear that the Convention made a profit which will boost our funds and add some extra philatelic items to the library.

There was however, one disappointing feature - no junior (youth) entries were received.

The difficulty of attracting young collectors to our hobby is a constant source of concern in philatelic journals. Indeed, the minutes for the first year of the Society drew attention to the problem in 1932! It is necessary to define what is meant by 'juniors'. In times past, virtually every youngster collected stamps and I have no doubt that such youthful enthusiasm played an informal educative role in learning about far-off places and peoples. This interest, certainly for the under 12s, is still very real. Those who attended the junior auction, at the Convention on the afternoon of Canberra Day, will testify to the concentration and financial acumen of our youngsters. This is my favourite event of the whole show.

For over ten years a small stalwart band of Society members, supported by the Society, the ACT Philatelic Council and the APF organised and ran junior stamps clubs in Canberra. These met once a month in the community rooms at the libraries in Belconnen and, for a period, also at Woden. The paucity of new adult collectors to arrange and lead such meetings led, last year, to the abandonment of these clubs. While it may be premature, it now seems that there may be a new band of enthusiasts prepared to spend an occasional

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Saturday afternoon to re-open one or more of these clubs. When you read of problems with junior philately, ask yourself if you could do more to help youngsters share your hobby?

It is more difficult to retain the interests of the 'older' juniors, say over 12 years. Welcoming these rarities to club meetings is one way, asking them to assist with the junior clubs is another. Those who have helped with the under-12s will know of their keenness and interest in collecting.

The Society's record with the over 12s is not one of our success stories. However, I would draw your attention to the two club juniors who have recently, for the second time, achieved high awards at Youth Internationals. It is true that both are offspring of long-standing Society members but it is also true that both were members of our under-12 junior clubs in earlier years. Together they provided 40% of the Australian exhibitors at Montreal and are the equal of two-thirds of the total entries from the USA!

Let Peter Kunz (or any other member of the Council) know if you have an interest in helping to re-establish the junior stamp clubs in the ACT.

Dingle Smith.

CANADA 92 - WORLD PHILATELIC YOUTH EXHIBITION

World Youth exhibitions are held every two years, the eleventh such event was in Montreal from 25-29 March 1992. There were just under five hundred entries. These are grouped both by philatelic class and by the age of the exhibitor, ie into those from collectors aged 14-15, 16-17, 18-19 and 20-21 years. It is a pleasure to report on two entries from junior members of the Society.

Jenny Parker, *Mauritius: Queen Victoria to King George VI*. Large Silver (with Special Prize) in the 18-19 year class.

Jeremy Smith, *Trains, Tracks and Time*. Silver, in the 16-17 year class.

These successes at Montreal are, for both Jenny and Jeremy, a continuation of their initial entries at International Level in Dusseldorf in 1990. The Society offers them our special congratulations in keeping both the ACT and Australian flags flying high!

PHILEX 92

PHILEX 92, a mini-national exhibition, was held in Christchurch from March 13-15 1992. There was a single entry from members of the Society and were are delighted to report the following success.

Frank Wilkinson, *New Zealand King Edward VII*. Gold.

The exhibit was also received the Grand Award for PHILEX 92 and the prize for the Best Traditional Exhibit. The Society offers its warmest congratulations to Frank on these achievements.

CONVENTION PHILATELIC ITEMS

Many of the philatelic items, illustrated elsewhere in this issue of *Capital Philately*, that were on sale at the Convention in March are still available. Further details of availability and price can be obtained from June Canahan or by writing to Convention Orders, GPO Box 1840, Canberra 2601.

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THE SEVENTH NATIONAL PHILATELIC CONVENTION, MARCH 14-16 1992

Dingle Smith

The Philatelic Society of Canberra initiated, somewhat hesitatingly, the First National Philatelic Convention in October 1980. This was to gain experience for a larger show planned for 1982, the fiftieth anniversary of the Society. Those involved did not imagine that these biennial shows would continue and become the longest running series of society shows anywhere in Australia. The Seventh Convention was of special significance as it marked the sixtieth anniversary, the Diamond Jubilee, of the year of the Society's founding.

The date of publication of the November edition of Capital Philately will be timed to coincide with the sixtieth anniversary of the inaugural meeting of the Society - our birthday. That issue will be rich in history, this account will focus upon recording the events of the Seventh Convention. It includes lists of the exhibitors and awards, an outline of the philatelic items and some of the background that does not always find its way into print.



The Competitive Displays

First the facts - there was a total of fifty-two competitive entries. Thirty-three of these were at state level with the remainder at national level. The latter were the last of the regional exhibitions of national class displays which had been staged at state shows at various venues throughout 1991 and early 1992. The Canberra event included two such classes, Cinderellas (10) and Social Philately (9). A complete list of national class entries, awards and prizes is presented below.

Large Vermeil

R.Kelly (Vic) *Advertising by Post*. APF Prize for the Best National Class Exhibit.

Vermeil

J. & J. Grant (ACT) *Commercial Perfins of Australia*.

E.Gundersen (SA) *The Post Office & the Telegraph*. Cinderella Stamp Club of Australasia prize.

D.Pocock (WA) *The Railway Parcel Stamps of WA*. APF Prize for Best National Class Cinderella Exhibit.

Large Silver

A.Adams (Tas) *Indian Native Court Fees, Revenues and Seals*.

Y.Benson (NZ) *Whakairo - the Functional and Decorative Art and Craft of the Maori*.

R.Kelly (Vic) *Australian Decorative Greetings Telegrams*.

R.Peck (NSW) *Letters from the Loneliest Island in the World*

Silver

R.Kennedy (NSW) *USA Philatelic Exhibitions- the First 40 Years*.

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D.Pocock (WA) *Nicaragua - Not a Philatelic Blue Chip*.
A.Presgrave (SA) *South Australian Railway Parcel Stamps*.
M.Roland (SA) *Stationery of the Major Australian Comforts Funds*.
A.Wilson (WA) *Tasmanian Revenues from 1827*.

Silver-Bronze

J.Campbell (NZ) *Illustrating Wartime Mail*.
A.Presgrave (SA) *Railway Parcel Stamps of Australia*.

Certificate of Merit

R.Kennedy (NSW) *Life and Times of Robert Burns*.

Certificate of Participation

A.Davis (ACT) *1971 British Postal Strike*
R.Kennedy (NSW) *Hunting of the Snark*.
D.Pocock (WA) *The Stamps and Postal History of Wonderland*.

One of the joys of the Cinderella and Social Philately classes is the diversity of subject. There is little doubt that these classes contain many of the most popular exhibits for viewing by the general public and by the doyen of national philatelists. This is especially true for Social Philately. The Society, thanks to the imaginative mind of Ed Druce, can claim full credit for initiating this class. The first occasion it was offered was at AUSTAMP 90, which incorporated the Sixth National Philatelic Convention.

Social Philately has now found its way onto the syllabus of most Australian exhibitions and perhaps, at some future date, it may find its place in international exhibitions. Australia was one of first countries to include Cinderellas in national shows and was responsible for the FIP (the international governing body for philately) introducing Revenue Classes, as an experimental international class. The scope and definition of Social Philately is still at the developmental stage. However, it is clear that many of the nation's leading philatelists have taken the opportunity afforded by the new class to exhibit material that has been, often for many years, hidden away. The APF award for the best display in the national classes was for Ray Kelly's 'Advertising by Post'. This comprised five frames entirely composed of early Australian advertising covers. A wonderful example of years of collecting material that illustrates fascinating features of Australian social history. The key to success in this class is to combine the material within the framework of the social history with which it is associated. Mention must also be made of Richard Peck's contribution to this new field of collecting. His display of Tristan Da Cunha, 'Letters from the Loneliest Island in the World', together with his monograph on 'Social Philately' (submitted to the state level literature class) provide new vistas for Social Philately within the broader hobby of philately. The monograph is reviewed elsewhere in this issue of *Capital Philately*.

The state level exhibits were limited to two-frame displays and covered the complete gamut of collecting. The exhibitors, awards and prizes are given below.

Gold. J.Grant & J.Mathews (ACT)

Large Vermeil

J.Trowbridge (Vic)

Vermeil

D.Collyer (NSW), C.Dalton (ACT), D.Fuller (ACT), I. Himmelhoch (2) (Vic), E.Hyde (WA).

Large Silver

J.Campbell (NZ), N.Dufty (WA), E.Hyde (WA), H.Sorge (Germany), Y.Thompson (SA).

Silver

P.Breitkopf (ACT), J.Campbell (NZ), I. McMahon (ACT), K.Moore (NSW), J.Newman (NSW), R.Peck (NSW), Perfin Club of NZ & Australia

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Silver-Bronze

A.Davis (ACT), D.Dufty (WA), R.Hall (SA), D.Holmes (SA), B.Parker (ACT),
R.Thompson (SA), P.Xavier (NSW)

Bronze

J.Eldridge (NSW), P.Turner (NSW)

Certificate of Merit

J.Eldridge (NSW)

Certificate of Participation

B.Parker (ACT), W.Wanjura (ACT).

The number of entries in the state classes was smaller than for some of the earlier conventions. This was fortunate for the organising committee as space at the GPO was at a premium. The major disappointment was that no junior displays were entered, this is further discussed in the Editorial on p.49. The major innovation was, for the first time at a Canberra convention, the inclusion of a literature class. This attracted six entries, all of which were well presented and have the additional gain in that copies of each are now in the Society's library. Short reviews of these entries are provided on p.63-64 of this issue of *Capital Philately*.

The highlight was the monograph by John Grant and John Mathews, *Commercial Perfins of Australia*. A pre-publication copy of this was reviewed in *Capital Philately* v.10, n.2. The book was launched at a meeting of the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia, held at the Convention. There is no question that it fully merits the gold medal and special prize. Incidentally, this is only the fifth gold medal awarded to state level entries since the start of the National Philatelic Conventions in Canberra!

Thanks to all the exhibitors listed above and to Alan Salisbury for providing an only invited display. Special thanks is extended to the judges, of the thirteen judges involved, nine were members of the Society. We would especially wish to thank Wilson Ilbery and Bernie Doherty from New South Wales, Bernie Beston from Queensland and Barry Scott from New Zealand for travelling to Canberra to add their expertise to that of the local panel.



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Convention Items

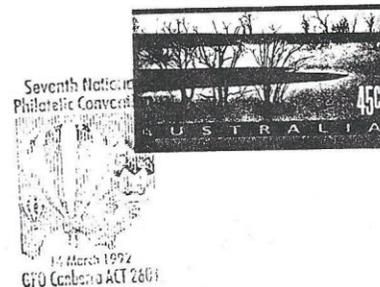
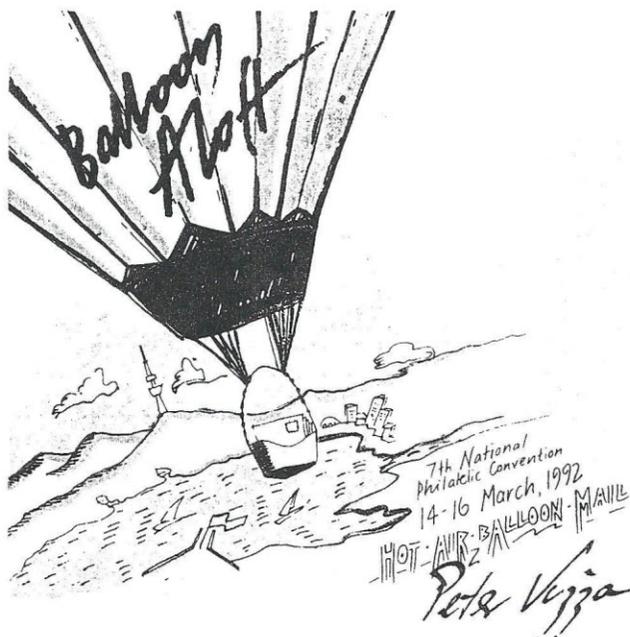
These fall into two categories, those provided by the Society and those from Australia Post. The Society items included two specially prepared envelopes, one bearing the coat of arms of the ACT and used for pre-convention publicity. The other was a cover designed for use with the Hot Air Balloon Mail Drop. There was also a special label for the balloon mail (also available in a miniature sheet of six) and tickets in differing colours for each of the three days of the Convention.

Australia Post produced a specially overprinted \$2.00 Wetlands and Waterways stamp booklet. The cover of which read '7th N.P.C.C. '92 Canberra 14-16 March 1992 (series 6)'. The overprint was in silver although it has been reported that a limited number of covers were overprinted in gold lettering and there may also be an even rarer red version. These latter items may well become of special interest to booklet specialists.

Australia Post also produced a 50c Emu frama label overprinted with '7th N.P.C.C. 1991', in red. This was dispensed from a portable machine at the Australia Post counter. We await to see if frama specialists can find any varieties.

At previous conventions Australia Post has provided a single commemorative postmarker with a changeable date stamp. On this occasion there were three distinct postmarkers, one for each of the three days. On March 14 the postmarker featured a hot air balloon, all impressions were in green. On November 15 the postmarker was of a radar dish, available only in black, and on March 16 (Canberra Day) the illustration was the coat of arms for the ACT, in red. The radar dish merits some explanation. The choice of this subject was because Australia Post had selected the week prior to the Convention for the launch of its International Space Year 1992 issue. As events unfolded the issue was postponed until March 19.

We would especially like to thank Australia Post for providing these special items which did much to enhance the philatelic appeal of the show.



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Balloon Mail - the truth

The philatelic press has published independent critiques of the show and the conclusion is a favourable one. From the viewpoint of the organisers things also went remarkably smoothly.

The Hot Air Balloon Mail Drop is an event which is both spectacular and unpredictable! The launch is early in the morning, with the briefing for the balloonists at 5.30am. If the winds are favourable the launch is an hour or so later. Conditions on Tuesday 10 March were suitable and twenty balloons took to the air. The aim is for each balloon to drop a mail bag, containing balloon mail covers, as close as possible to a ground target. The target was an Australia Post mail van with a distinctive cross on its roof. The meteorological gurus on site sent the mail van to Black Mountain Peninsula which should have been on the flight path for the contestants. Alas winds are fickle! After take-off the wind veered and the balloons were seen to be blowing anywhere but over the drop zone. Fortunately, the Society ground crew assessed the problem and the mail target was quickly moved to an oval at the Australian National University. This enabled some, at least, of the balloons to overfly the target. For those new to this form of activity, there is little scope to actually steer hot air balloons.

It was perhaps, a further stroke of irony that the winner of the event was the balloon sponsored by 'Delfast', the major commercial competitor to Australia Post.

Philatelic integrity requires that the Society admit that not all of the balloons were able to actually drop their mail. A similar event was held at the Convention in 1988 and on that occasion all balloonists dropped their mail, regardless of how near the target. This resulted in a widespread search of parts of suburban Canberra to retrieve the mail bags.

Nevertheless our sincere thanks to Balloon Aloft for their unstinting co-operation, and good humour, in including our event on their Festival program.

Thanks to...

The Society would wish to acknowledge organisations who helped to make the event a success. The ACT Government Special Events and Festival Grants Program provided financial assistance which allowed us to produce a substantial exhibition catalogue that was free to all visitors and exhibitors.

The Australian Philatelic Federation (APF) gave its full support to the Convention and provided the medals and the major prizes for the two national classes.

The largest bouquet is to Australia Post for its continuing support of the Canberra Conventions. The use of the GPO sorting room and the other facilities for the display and meeting areas is crucial. The success of previous shows has owed much to Ray Rodda, the postal manager until his retirement in late 1991. This co-operation continued with the 1992 show under the new manager, Ken Hocking. We would also like to record our thanks to Graham Jones, the Regional Manager, whose support over many years has been invaluable to the Society. We wish Graham and his wife all best wishes for a happy retirement. We would like to think he postponed his retirement date, March 27, so that the Seventh Convention could be completed under his management!

The Society ranks the 1992 Convention a success, continuing the fun and friendly atmosphere of previous Canberra shows. There is little doubt that 1994 philatelic calendar will include the Eighth National Philatelic Convention

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UNUSUAL TELEGRAPH FORMS

Hans Karman

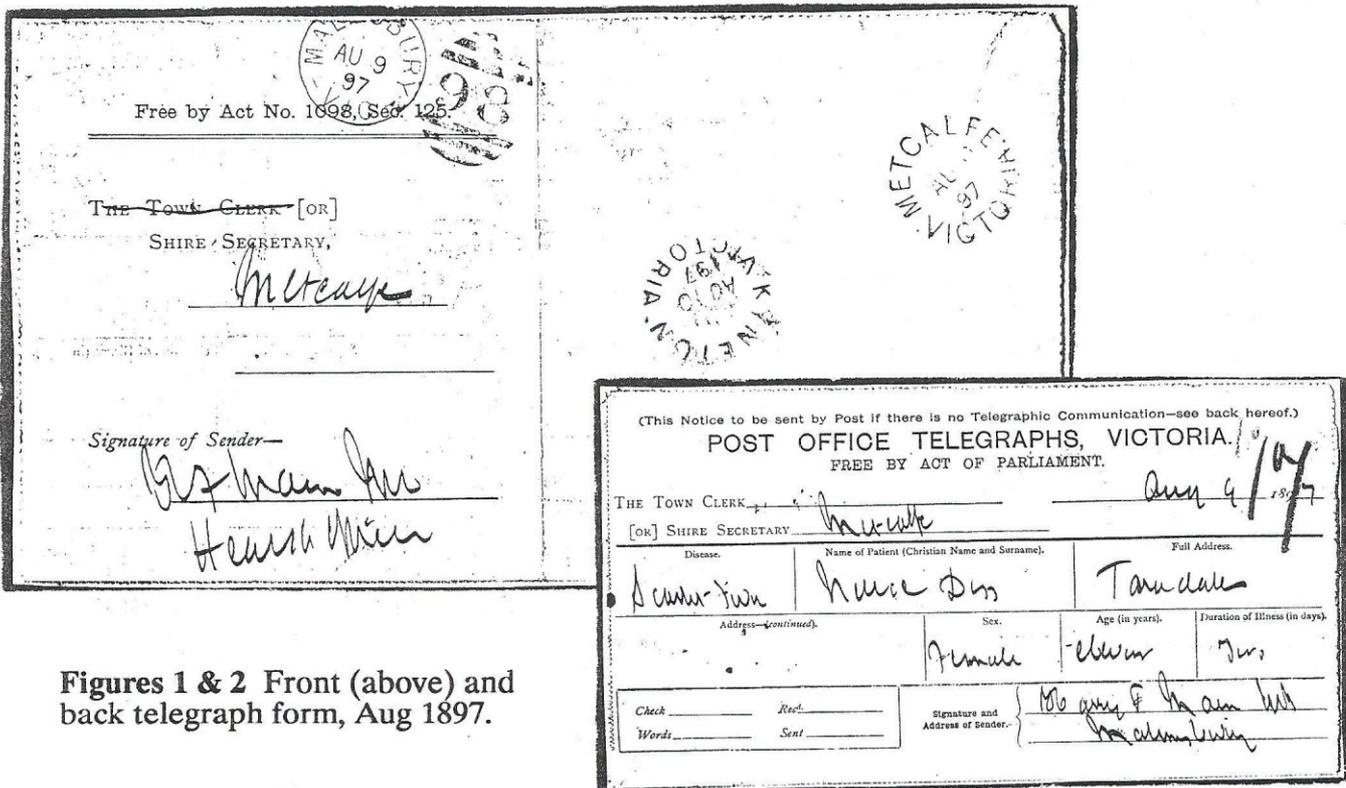
Figure 1 and 2 show the front and back of a telegram form. The paper is creamy and the printing is in orange-red. The form appears to have been torn from a perforated book of such forms, two or more to a page. The example shown was the lowest one and it was torn along the perforations to the left and along the top. It was also rouletted about a centimetre from the right hand edge. This was so that it could be folded over to seal the form when it was used through the post, as per the notice on the form.

This example was sent by mail from Malmsbury via Kyneton to the Shire Office at Metcalfe. It reported the death from scarlet fever of Nellie Din, of Taradale, female, 11 years old, two days sick. The doctor reporting was Harry F. Main, MD, Health Officer of Malmsbury.

Act No.1098 is 54 VIC No.1098, known as the Health Act 1890. Section 125 states:

'...whenever any place in or part of Victoria appears to be affected by any dangerous or contagious disease the Board may by notice published in the *Government Gazette* require all medical practitioners deputy registrars school teachers and members of the police force residing in such place or part and the occupier or person in charge of any house in which any case of such disease may occur to report such occurrence by telegraph, or in case there is no telegraphic communication by letter to the Board and council in such form as the Board shall in such notice prescribe, immediately on such occurrence coming to his or their knowledge, and all such reports shall be sent free of charge, and such letters shall be in covers open at all sides and shall bear the signature of the person sending the same'.

As can be seen the illustrated form complies exactly with the legislation.



Figures 1 & 2 Front (above) and back telegram form, Aug 1897.

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This Notice is to be sent immediately, both to the Central and Local Boards of Health, by telegraph, or (if no telegraphic communication) by post, and will be transmitted free, by virtue of Sec. 9 of Act 1011.

TO THE Local BOARD OF HEALTH, Metcalf

I give notice that a case of Diphtheria admitted to hospital has occurred as under:-

Name and Full Address Escher Johns
Harcourt

Sex _____ Age 9 yrs Duration of Illness 6 days

Dated at Mares

FREE BY ACT No. 1011, SEC. 9

CASTLEMAINE
MAY 13 1889
VICTORIA

Sign

The Local BOARD OF HEALTH,

Metcalf

Signature of Sender

Morehead M

Figures 3 & 4 Front (left) and back telegraph form, May 1889.

Section 125 was withdrawn by Act No.2126, Section 2. Act No.1098 in turn replaced Act No.1011, of 22 December 1888, in which Section 9 was almost identical to Section 125 quoted above. Apparently while this Act was in force special telegraph forms were not available, as shown by the earlier copy of a similar message (Figures 3 and 4), sent in 1889 under Act 1011, Section 9. This form refers to the Act and actually mentions that '...this Notice is to be sent immediately ... by telegraph', but it does not have the appearance of a telegraph form. Since it was intended for transmission via the telegraph it can be considered a 'forerunner' of the later telegraph form under Act No.1098. It is printed in black on a light grey paper and looks like it was from a book for forms printed one to a page.

The earlier form was sent by mail to Metcalfe from Castlemaine via Taradale. It is not clear why the later form went from Taradale to Metcalfe via Kyneton (which is to the south of Malmsbury). Probably it was carried by the doctor on his rounds to the most convenient post office, where the standard route was south to Kyneton, then north to Metcalfe. The other form was posted at Castlemaine and from there travelled south to Taradale and then east to Metcalfe.

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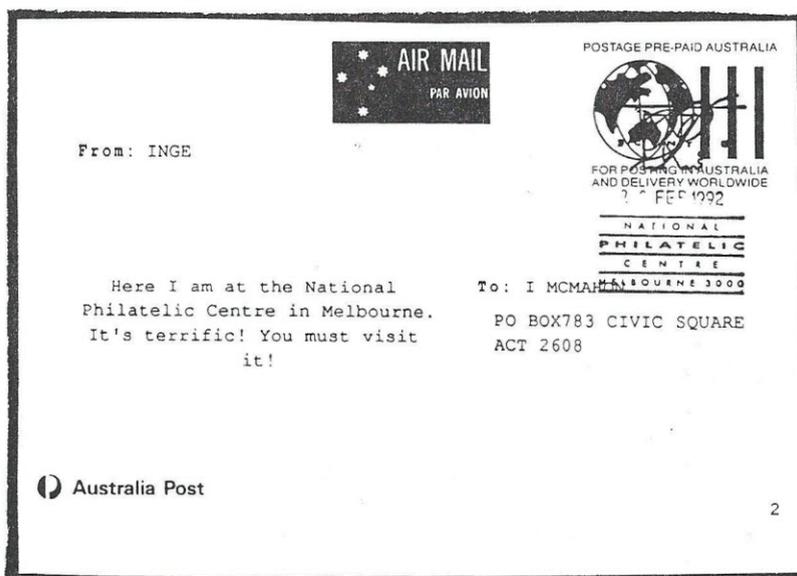
NATIONAL PHILATELIC CENTRE POSTCARDS

Ian McMahon

On 13 February 1991 Australia Post officially opened its National Philatelic Centre in Melbourne with the first public admission on 14 February. The Centre houses Australia Post's archival collection and features a display of post office artifacts including post office scales, a Cobb and Co coach and a working Pitney-Bowes slogan canceller where visitors can cancel their own mail. In addition the Centre houses the displays previously located in the Australia Post Philatelic Exhibition at the Canberra GPO.

At the associated post office, visitors can purchase National Philatelic Centre postcards with computer-generated messages. The cards are obtained by inserting a \$1.00 coin. The computer then provides instructions on how to add a message, the name of the sender, the addressee and the address to the card. These are done by selecting the appropriate command on the touch sensitive screen. For example, selection of the command 'sender' brings up a diagram of a keyboard on the screen which can then be used to enter the sender's name.

Two messages can be selected, 'Here I am at the National Philatelic Centre in Melbourne. It's terrific! You must visit it!' and 'Greetings from the National Philatelic Centre'. After the details have been entered, the computer enables the card to be previewed. Changes can then be made or the card printed. The cards can be printed without any messages or address details but will still receive a number in the lower right hand corner as the cards are numbered so the purchaser can ask at the post office counter for the cards they have prepared.



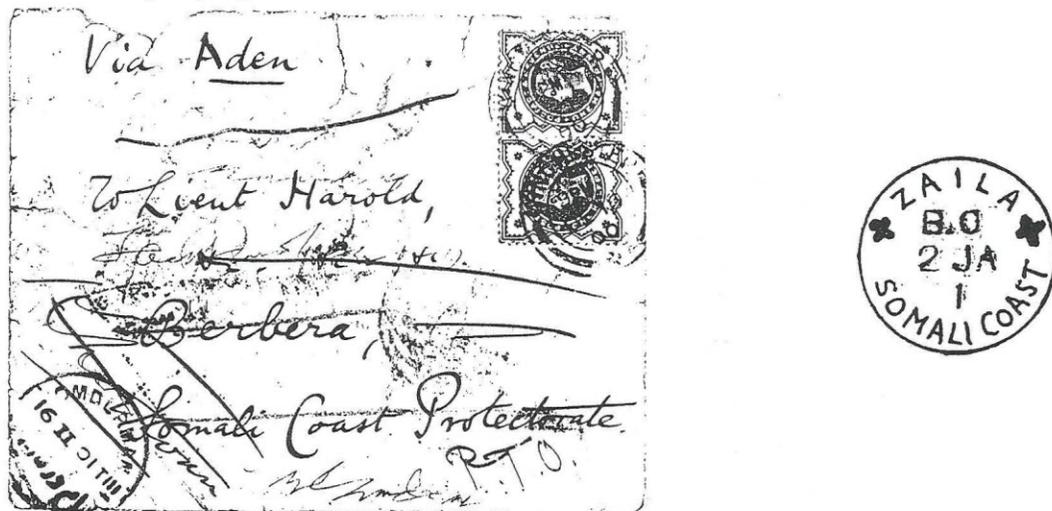
The reverse of the cards feature a full sheet of the 5/- green stamp, issued in 1932 to commemorate the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, the Centre's logo in gold, pink and black and the inscription 'National Philatelic Centre' in gold all on a green background. The card is non-denominated with the 'stamp' featuring the usual globe and three bars and the inscription 'POSTAGE PRE-PAID AUSTRALIA' and 'FOR POSTING IN AUSTRALIA AND DELIVERY WORLDWIDE'. While this the first occasion Australia has issued post cards of this nature, New Zealand has issued similar cards at philatelic exhibitions including New Zealand 90.

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WINCHESTER TO HOBART VIA ZAILA, OMDURMAN ET AL A FAVOURITE COVER

Ian Faber

Why is it, I've often wondered, that so many of the most interesting postal history covers are tatty, dog-eared and stained with partly decipherable markings? Just the sort of material that should not be included in an exhibit. The example described below, purchased from a dealer's box of miscellaneous material at the Albert Hall some years ago, is such a cover and is still a favourite of mine. The front and reverse of the envelope are shown in the accompanying illustrations.



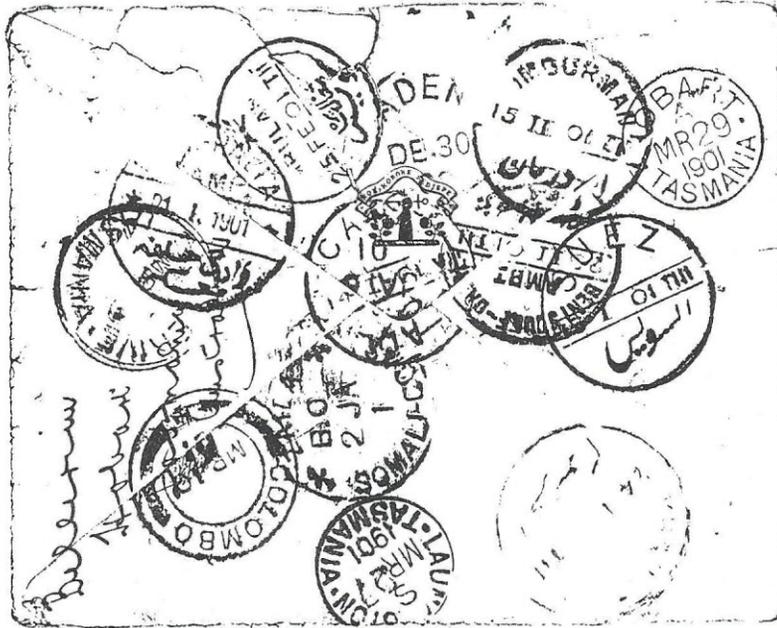
The cover was posted at Winchester on 10 December 1900, addressed to an army officer, Lt. Harold at Berbera, Somali Coast Protectorate, endorsed 'Via Aden' and franked with two halfpenny jubilee issue stamps. The crest on the flap of the envelope, surmounted by the motto 'Non robore, sed spe' ('not by strength but by hope'), has been traced to that of the Tippet family of Falmouth.

Lt. Harold's correspondent obviously thought that he was a member of an expedition mounted in 1901 against the 'Mad Mullah'. In 1899 the Imam Sayyid Mohammed Ibn Abdullah Hassan, the leader of a militant puritan sect, had proclaimed himself the Mahdi and rallied the inland pastoral tribes in a holy war against not only the British but the Ethiopians and Italian garrisons in the adjoining territories to the south and east of the British protectorate. This expedition against the Mahdi was the first of four undertaken between 1901 and 1904.

The cover arrived in Aden on 30 December 1900 and was received on 2 January 1901, not in Berbera as addressed but in Zaila, a town on the Gulf of Aden some twenty miles south of the French Somaliland port of Djibouti. Zaila post office has been established in 1887 as a sub-office to Aden but subsequently became a branch office to Berbera when that town became the chief office in the Protectorate. The cds applied is Vernon Type 16 having 'B.O.' beneath the name and 'Somali Coast' around the foot. The strike, separately illustrated, predates the examples known to Vernon in 1981; they ranged from 30.6.1901 to 17.7.1909. Lt. Harold was not found in Zaila as the address has been deleted in blue crayon and the cover redirected to 'c/o ? Cairo'. The cover was then returned to Aden and cancelled ? January 1901 before forwarding to Egypt. It was received at Suez on 15 January 1901.

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In 1896 a full scale campaign was mounted to recapture the Sudan from the Mahdi who had overrun the country in the 1880s. The military authorities administered the liberated parts of the country from 1896 until the formation of a civil administration in 1903. In anticipation of Lt. Harold being a member of the British forces stationed in the Sudan, the cover was forwarded to Wadi Halfa Camp where it was backstamped 21 January 1901 (Stagg, Type 25) at the post office opened to serve the base camp set up for the campaign against the Mahdist forces. The cover then proceeded to Khartoum where cds Stagg Type 24 (for Omdurman) was applied on both the 15 and 16 February 1901. Both these post offices had been reopened in 1898, a few day's after the town's recapture.



Again Lt. Harold was not found. It is likely that it was at Omdurman that a manuscript note, in red ink, was added that gave an address of Bellerive, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia and the cover was returned to Egypt. A most interesting marking applied on its journey north was that of Beni Souef-Cairo TPO for 25 February 1901. This marking (Smith Type 3A1B) was almost invariably only used as a backstamp in the sorting of letters collected from offices in Upper Egypt. Another TPO marking applied on the same day was for Cairo-Suez (Smith Type 2A1-3). Transit markings were applied at Colombo (10 March 1901), Launceston (27 March 1901) and Hobart (29 March 1901) before the letter arrived at Bellerive (and hopefully to Lt. Harold) later that day.

Unfortunately, additional manuscript markings on the front of the cover are indecipherable but possibly refer to the redirection from Cairo south to the Sudan. Lt. Harold's background and subsequent history have yet to be investigated.

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SPECIALIST PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Dingle Smith

Articles describing specialist societies have been a regular feature of *Capital Philately* for several years. The articles have enabled members to share the benefits of societies, to which they belong, with other philatelists. As it is not the intention to repeat or update earlier descriptions the series will draw to a close in the next few issues of *Capital Philately*. In this, and the next issue, short accounts will be given for a number of organisations that have not previously been featured. The information has been abstracted from the American Philatelic Society Handbook for the year 1990/91. There is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the descriptions but it is stressed that the details are not based on first hand experience.

The APS listing is an impressive A to Z of philatelic clubs from the Aerophilatelic Society of Canada to the Zeppelin Collectors Club. There are over 150 different organisations so that the material in this, and the next issue of *Capital Philately*, is only a selection of what is on offer.



The permission of the American Philatelic Society to reproduce this information is gratefully acknowledged.

AMERICAN AIR MAIL SOCIETY. A monthly journal, *The Airpost Journal*, with study groups, auctions and handbooks. Subscription \$US 12.00. Contact: S.Goldsticker, 70-C Fremont St. Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELIC EXHIBITORS. A quarterly journal, *The Philatelic Exhibitor*. Subscription \$US 20.00 (outside USA). Contact: S.J.Rod, PO Box 432, Troy St, Chicago, Il 60629.

SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIAN SPECIALISTS/OCEANIA. A quarterly journal, *The Informer*, auctions, handbooks, library. Subscription \$US 15.00 (outside USA). Contact: David Proctor, PO Box 82643, San Diego, CA 92138.

BERMUDA COLLECTORS SOCIETY. A quarterly journal, *Bermuda Post*, auctions. Subscription \$US 25.00 (outside USA). Contact: Thomas J.McMahon, 86,Nash Rd., Purdys, NY 10578.

BOOKLET COLLECTORS CLUB. Quarterly journal, *The Interleaf*. Subscription (outside USA) \$US 13.00. Contact: L. Rosenblum, 1016 East El Camino Rd., No. 107 Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

SOCIETY OF THE POSTAL HISTORY OF CANADA. Quarterly journal, *PHSC Journal*, library. Subscription \$US12.50. Contact: R.F.Narbonne, 216, Mailey Drive, Carleton Place, ONT. K7C 3X9, Canada.

Capital Philately

ERRORS, FREAKS AND ODDITIES CLUB. Bimonthly journal, *EFO Collector*, study groups, auctions. Subscription \$US 25.00 (outside USA). Contact: J.E.McDevitt, 1903, Village Rd. W., Norwood, MA 02062.

GERMANY PHILATELIC SOCIETY. Monthly journal, *The German Postal Specialist*, study groups, library, handbooks. Subscription \$US 19.00 (outside USA). Contact: Werner M. Bohne, PO Box 9156778, Longwood FL 32791.

SOCIETY FOR HUNGARIAN PHILATELY. Quarterly journal, *News of Hungarian Philately*, auctions, handbooks, translation, library. Subscription \$US 12.00 (outside north America). Contact: Thomas Phillips, PO Box 1162, Fairfield, CT 06432.

INDIA STUDY CIRCLE. Quarterly journal, *India Post*, auctions, handbooks, library. Subscription \$US 18.00 (outside USA). Contact: Mark Isaacs, PO Box 531, Chicago, IL 60690.

LATIN AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY. Quarterly journal. *Latin American Post*, auctions, library, expertising. Subscription \$12.00 (outside north America). Contact: Piet Steen, PO Box 6420, Hinton, AB T7V 1X7, Canada.

LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB. Quarterly journal, *LCC Philatelic Quarterly*, auctions, expertising. Subscription \$US 10.00. Contact: Roger S. Cichorz, 3925, Longwood Ave, Boulder, CO 803

MACHINE CANCEL SOCIETY. Quarterly journal, *Machine Cancel Forum*, handbooks, auctions, library. Subscription \$15.00 (outside USA). Contact: Arthur R.Hadley, 9635, E.Randall St., Columbus, IN 47203.

MARITIME POSTMARK SOCIETY. Bimonthly journal, *Seaposter*, auctions. Subscription \$US 10.00. Contact: Tom Hirschinger, 141, Gordon Ave, Wadsworth OH 44281.

MAXIMUM CARD STUDY UNIT. Quarterly journal, *Maximaphily*, auctions. Subscription \$12.00 (outside USA). Contact: Gary Denis, PO Box 11447, Norfolk, VA 23517.

METER STAMP SOCIETY. Quarterly journal, *Meter Stamp Society Bulletin*, auctions. Subscription \$US 10.00 (outside USA). Contact: Alexander J. Savakis, PO Box 609, Warren, OH 44482.

MODERN POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY. Quarterly journal, *Modern Postal History Journal*, auctions. Subscription \$US 8.00. Contact: Terence Hills, PO Box 629, Chappaqua, NY 10514.

NEPAL/TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE. Quarterly journal, *Postal Himal*, sales book circuits, auctions, library. Subscription 6.00 (outside USA). Contact: Roger D. Skinner, 1020, Covington Rd., Los Altos CA 94022.

**JUNE 4-8
1992**

NATIONAL STAMP SHOW '92

NEW BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY

The recent Convention included a literature class, an innovation for Canberra shows. A bonus is that single copies of each entry are added to the Society's library. There were four monographs and such is the standard and philatelic interest that is appropriate to present a short account of each of these. Members can either borrow the library copy or purchase their own. The literature gold medal entry, *Commercial Perfins of Australia*, by John Grant and John Mathews has already been reviewed, see *Capital Philately* v.10, n.2.

The Place of Stones: Mafeking/Mafikeng - The Siege Stamps and Banknotes. John Campbell, June 1991, 40p. Obtainable from J.Campbell, PO Box 15766, New Lynn, Auckland, NZ. Price NZ \$23.00, or A\$24.00 (SAL).

Mafeking is known for its siege, its special stamps (and banknotes), Baden-Powell and the forerunners of the scouting movement. John Campbell presents a most readable account of all of these and much else besides. The historic setting of the siege is described and intertwined with the history of the postal services. Native runners, at considerable risk to life, carried mail to places outside the siege perimeter. However, the 1d and 3d overprinted values, and the later bicycle and Baden-Powell issues, were mainly used for deliveries to and from the town and its outposts. None of which were more than four miles for the town centre.

There are separate sections on the production of the locally produced stamps that describe the designs, printing processes, paper, flaws and varieties. The 1d bicycle value, which featured Sgt Major Goodyear, was in fact a photograph of the rider and machine propped against a stone. This was necessary in order to simulate the riding of the cycle because available photographic techniques did not allow for short exposures. The Sgt Major was only 12 years old but the senior member of the Cadet Corps, a body later used by Baden-Powell as a model for the Boy Scouts. The book is illustrated with extracts for the 'Siege Mail Slip' (the siege editions of the Mafeking Mail), by photographs, maps and contemporary etchings. There are well chosen and produced, there is also an extensive bibliography. The adverts in the 'Siege Slip' make it very clear that the value of many of the stamps and flaws was appreciated before the siege ended on May 17 1900, or was it May 16 or May 18? An exciting, informative and enjoyable read.

Die R-Zettel von Australien. Hans Sorge, Sonderheft 1 1991, 107p. Obtainable from H.Sorge, Postfach 26 18 03, 2000 Hamburg 26, Germany. \$A15.00 sea mail, extra \$10.00 for airmail, Australian notes accepted.

This account of the registered (R) labels of Australia presents the best available account and listing of this very collectable facet of Australian philately. It covers the labels from their first use, in South Australia in 1908, to an account of the Security Post that replaced registered mail in October 1985. Prior to 1925 the descriptions of the labels are by state with the Commonwealth series beginning of 1925.

Variations in R-labels are many and detailed, these include colour, style and size of printing for both place name and state. The classification of these variations forms the basis for the listing. Separate sections are devoted to special events, many of which were for philatelic exhibitions, and for military use. The account is prolifically illustrated and includes a bibliography.

Capital Philately

The book will be widely welcomed by collectors of registered mail items and will bring order to a field that has previously appeared chaotic. The classification is usable by collectors who do not read German. The usefulness of this study to Australian philatelists would however, be very much enhanced if the author were able to produce an English version.

Social Philately - Letters from the Loneliest Island in the World. Richard Peck, 1991, 130p. Price \$20.00 (post free) from PO Box C323, Clarence St. NSW 2000.

The Philatelic Society of Canberra launched the new class of Social Philately onto the philatelic scene at AUSTAMP 90. Since that exhibition the class has been offered at several other state and national shows in Australia. There are few descriptions of 'what is social philately?'. The philosophy has been for the subject to evolve before the philatelic authorities produce more formal regulations.

The book by Richard Peck makes two valuable contributions to social philately. First, by providing a discussion of how the subject may be defined; this is of special interest to potential exhibitors. Secondly, in presenting a detailed presentation of his own social philately exhibit - *Letters from the Loneliest Island in the World*. This is a seven-frame exhibit of material from Tristan da Cunha. A very large numbers of letters and covers are included, together with a family tree for the inhabitants from 1816-1975 and a very detailed index.

Each frame of the display is shown, in a much reduced form, together with guide to the material included in the exhibit. This is an innovative approach which enables the exhibitor to present the background information which is impossible to show on the album sheets that make up the actual display. Readers can therefore, act as arm-chair judges of the exhibit. The book is therefore, a valuable contribution to the new field of Social Philately and an excellent in depth account of the philatelic and social history of Tristan da Cunha.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANBERRA - MONOGRAPH NO.1

The intention is that this is the first of an occasional series. The opportunity was taken to launch the Monograph at the *Convention Commonwealth of Australia Printed to Private Order Postal Stationery*, by Ian McMahon, is based upon a four-part series that appeared in *Capital Philately* during 1990 and 1991. It differs from the original articles in that the opportunity has been taken to add new finds and additional illustrations. The study is essentially a listing of known PTPOs on Commonwealth postal stationery by type of stationery, by denomination and die of the impressed stamps and by the enterprise requesting the production. Several hundred differing items are listed, the service ceased in 1978. Ian McMahon is to be congratulated on this piece of philatelic research. He would very much appreciate information on any additional examples.

The monograph is available to members of the Society at \$5.00, post free anywhere in Australia. For non-members the price is \$6.00 to an Australian address, the overseas price is \$10.00 airmail. It may be helpful for overseas purchasers to note that the Society is able to accept payment by Mastercard. An order form is included with this issue of *Capital Philately*.

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