



# Capital Philately



Journal of the Philatelic Society of Canberra

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The Philatelic Society of Canberra  
(Founded 1932)

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# Capital Philately

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## Editorial

In Philately, as in practically every aspect of life today, the proliferation of knowledge and the advancement of technology make it increasingly difficult for the ordinary person to become familiar with the overall picture. The vast numbers of new stamp issues, including ancillary items like postal stationery, stamp packs and adhesive labels, present a major problem to the collector, not only in regard to the cost of keeping his collection up-to-date, but also in relation to the time and effort required merely to keep informed as to what is going on.

The days of the world collector have long since disappeared, although many specialists are thankful to have been able to acquire parts of the accumulations of those pioneers who unwittingly helped to lay the foundations of some of the best collections today. But the modern practitioner faces tremendous difficulties in deciding what to collect. Whereas the original objective of a stamp-issuing authority was merely to provide a means of showing that the proper amount of postage had been paid on an article, and a single issue of stamps would satisfy reasonable requirements for many years, we see today the almost universal practice of providing new stamps (at ever-increasing denominations and at regular and shorter intervals) with the apparent objective of reaping larger amounts of revenue from those collectors whose interests require them to keep up with the flow.

The recent issue by Mongolia of a long series of miniature sheets associated with such diverse subjects as Space, foreign Philatelic Exhibitions and Art, each with a face value of the equivalent of something like four Australian dollars, does nothing to encourage collectors. The frequent stamp issues of Tuvalu have

caused concern, particularly since the Administration has had the idea (copying some countries of the West Indies) of providing separate issues for each of the various islands comprising the group, and, if this was not enough, printing the stamps in high-value se-tenant pairs, showing subjects which appear to have little connection with the life of the country itself. The effects of philatelic opinion on such activities will surely be felt. A country so philatelically stable as Australia, and so popular, needs to take note of these dangers, and it is open to anyone to wonder about the real need for many of the recent issues, which frequently appear in such rapid succession that the specialist has little time to study one stamp before it is superseded. Since the basic postal rate was increased to 30c in October 1983, the Australian public has had the choice of over thirty different postage stamps of that face value, not to mention eighteen stamped envelopes of the same denomination. It is claimed that the issues are popular, which is undoubtedly true, and that the face value and total cost over a full year bears some relationship to the progress of inflation, which is not quite so demonstrable, but there are clear signs of collector resistance in Australia, just as there is elsewhere. If the collector decides that, for reasons of the overall cost, he will cut out buying stamps of some countries and concentrate on Australia, the local effect may not be obvious, but when he reduces his expenditure on local issues, the repercussions will show sooner or later.

Any limitation of the area of philatelic activity carries with it the danger of reduction in interest and study. On the question of the total cost over any year, the minimum requirement is for a single mint copy of each stamp as it appears, so that the collector may tuck it away into the slots of a hinge-less album or stock book. This represents a reasonable outlay, and such activity is a legitimate part of the overall philatelic scene, and should not be denigrated. However, the vast majority of serious collectors will want to go beyond this. Any study of an issue will involve purchase, for instance, of blocks with selvedge and gutter markings to denote plate format, as well as a selection of other positional pieces, and the cost over an increasing flow of issues soon becomes excessive. As a result, many specialists are tending to limit their interests, and to concentrate on past issues. There is plenty of scope here, but this can only add to the difficulties of the future student, who will find a lack of contemporary specialised material on which to base his own researches. Today, we owe a great deal to our predecessors who had the foresight to acquire material which was current in their own era.

Genuine commemorative stamps, which relate to some event of national importance, are one thing, but there could well be room for serious consideration as to the real need for some of the special issues which have appeared, seemingly whenever the designers have thought of a new topic.

**WHY KILOWARE?  
(99% Patient Perserverance and 1% Jubilation)**

**K.P. Breitkopf**

To get involved with kiloware must surely be one of the most messy, time-consuming and boring methods of obtaining stamps. Why bother with it at all?

When recently confronted with this question, I was at a loss to provide a satisfactory reply, because kiloware is messy, takes a lot of time, can be boring, and may have doubtful rewards. I found it necessary, therefore, to re-examine my interest in the subject.

For the uninitiated, kiloware is a quantity of stamps, still on paper, usually unsorted, and offered in bulk lots by weight. Stamp journals carry advertisements offering kiloware of various descriptions and at a range of prices.

The basic objective of buying kiloware is to accumulate material at the least possible cost. This is a fine sentiment on its own, but a subsidiary question is for what purpose? The answer is the real crux of the matter, for if it can be answered satisfactorily, this will influence the attitude to kiloware.

The purpose of obtaining philatelic material is as varied as collecting itself, and it is doubtful if there is any set response. Three fundamental purposes have helped to define my kiloware objectives -

1. Overseas exchange partners invariably request Australian material. Kiloware provides an excellent source for this need.
2. Even the more recent and current issues still show flaws, variations, shades, etc. (see Alan Salisbury's column in "Stamp News"). To be able to identify these means looking at large numbers of copies of the same stamp. Kiloware is an excellent study source.
3. For a while I was dabbling in postmarks, cancellations and other oddities. Here again, kiloware provides a good source.

The resources required to process kiloware efficiently are all readily available, and should not require any additional costs, namely, some bowls, water, and newspapers.



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I have adopted the following process as being suitable for soaking the kiloware -

- (a) Commandeer the kitchen sink for some hours at a time. It is the ideal height, and if you have a bar stool, so much the better for your aching back;
- (b) Fill the bowls with water. Cold water is fine, but usually it is better to take off the chill;
- (c) Immerse the stamps in the water, and leave standing for about twenty minutes. Do not cram the items into the bowls to overflowing, as this will inhibit efficient removal of stamps;
- (d) Remove stamps from paper and place them in a rinsing bowl with cold water. Don't force the stamps from the paper, lest they be damaged. Let them soak until they separate easily from the paper;
- (e) Have newspaper sheets ready to take the stamps. Use at least six thicknesses of paper, and make sure that the top sheet is of the usual absorbent type, and not a glossy one;
- (f) Remove stamps from the rinsing bowl and place them face down, singly on the newspaper. This will avoid them gumming together, and assist speedy drying;
- (g) When a newspaper sheet is filled, carefully place it on the kitchen table or other suitable place such as a bed, and leave to dry;
- (h) Repeat the process -
  - until you tire of it or are absolutely sick of it;
  - until your spouse/companion screams at you to stop, because the sink is needed for other (more conventional) purposes;
  - until you have run out of kiloware.

There are a couple of preliminary steps I should mention prior to the soaking process, which will assist in the long run, and will also serve to provide some of that 1% jubilation -

1. Have a couple of boxes ready to sort the different categories of material, e.g., common definitives, commemoratives for sets, better value definitives, overseas, etc.,
2. Sort through every item of the kiloware and -
  - discard items not intended to be kept or soaked;
  - place items into their respective category receptacle. Watch out for paper types or inks which

may run in water, or damage other stamps. Remove them for processing separately. This is where use of bowls is a real advantage over bigger soaking receptacles, as the process is much speedier, and the scope for damage is minimised;

3. Drool over these items which are "finds" or otherwise create jubilation within you;
4. Don't be astounded if you have to discard about 30% to 40% of your initial kiloware, due to heavy cancels, damage, absolute boredom with 20c Grebes, or other reasons;
5. Feel an awesome sense of heavy slogging ahead for the soaking process not yet begun;
6. Feel relieved when you have finally found the last item in that particular batch of kiloware.

Let us examine the potential results from kiloware efforts. Once again, experience through many wasted efforts have channelled me into a useful track. Here are some useful and simple techniques which enable a good assessment of kiloware results, and the process may follow this pattern -

- (a) Put the dried stamps into a suitable receptacle (no, not the rubbish bin suggested by the spouse or companion);
- (b) Sort stamps into plastic envelopes in preferred order;
- (c) Process the stamps in each envelope to determine quality and use, and record numbers of items, for later analysis of kiloware results.

We have now come a long way down the kiloware track, but there are still some important aspects to look at. I have just talked about the results of the kiloware process, and these will of course be largely determined by the source from which the material is obtained. So let's cover source for a moment.

My ideal source would be to have some acquaintance in a business house or departmental registry, in charge of the mail room, and with sufficient time to extract the postal items from the incoming mail, without first filtering off the better material. Alas, utopia hasn't yet arrived, and I am left with more traditional sources, e.g., purchasing from dealers or auctions. The advertising pages of the philatelic journals list a number of these. Australian "unsorted" mixtures sell at around \$20 to \$25 per kilogramme. I have used such sources for regular purchases,

and also chanced upon a local identity who provides excellent material at a much cheaper rate (he should remain anonymous at this time).

In purely material terms, the following tables show an analysis of kiloware processed over the last year or so. Source X is the anonymous local identity, and source Y is a regular kiloware dealer who emphasises kiloware as part of his trade.

TABLE 1 - WASTAGE

SOURCE	X		Y	
	1	2	1	2
	%	%	%	%
Gross weight - kg	1.60 100	1.76 100	5.0 100	2.5 100
Stamps recovered - kg	0.24 14.8	0.18 10.1	0.74 14.7	0.41 16.3
Wastage (paper, damaged etc) - kg	1.36 85.2	1.58 89.9	4.26 85.3	2.09 83.7

TABLE 2 - QUANTITY

SOURCE	X		Y	
	1	2	1	2
Number of Stamps	2,860	2,145	9,481	5,563
Yield per kg	1,788	1,219	1,896	2,225

The above analysis indicates from Table 1 that 85% to 90% of the kiloware will be wastage, Table 2 demonstrates the potential yield of stamps per kilogramme, while Table 3 provides a quality assessment of the yield by using four different categories of the quality of items. The preponderance in categories 3 and 4 of Source Y will be noted, and this explains my reluctance to identify my local source, lest it become swamped with demands for material. The Table shows that the suggestion of 1% jubilation to 99% drudging perseverance tends to have some substance.

To round off this discourse, if you have become smitten with the kiloware bug, you will find after a while that you will accumulate a lot of stamps, and will wonder what to do with them. I used to throw them away, and keep only the items I intended actually to use. This was folly and wasteful, as there is in fact a market for kiloware. So now I -

Retain surplus items and eventually make them into bundles of 100 (usually with about 104 in each, for good measure);

Dispose of these bundles, together with any other surplus loose material, through auction or other sales, or by exchange with dealers for more kiloware.

Some concluding comments -

1. Kiloware is a lot of hard work;
2. Kiloware is not necessarily a cheap way to get stamps;
3. Kiloware is 90% rubbish, while the other 10% is not necessarily better, except for a very small portion;
4. The retention of items from kiloware is about 1%, so the other 99% will need to be disposed of;
5. The 1% represents the jubilation;
6. Kiloware is not everybody's cup of tea: usually only the hardiest survive the second and third rounds;
7. Good luck with your next bundle of kiloware!

TABLE 3 - QUALITY

SOURCE	X				Y			
	1		2		1		2	
SAMPLE	1		2		1		2	
	%		%		%		%	
1. Most useful - better commem. or definitives	141	4.9	82	3.8	24	0.3	45	0.8
2. Better quality, overseas, Aust \$1 and \$2	465	16.4	330	15.4	15	0.1	45	0.8
3. Useful	829	28.9	780	36.4	3,113	32.8	1,735	31.2
4. Ordinary Common	1,425	49.8	953	44.4	6,329	66.8	3,738	67.2
TOTAL	2,860	100	2,145	100	9,481	100	5,563	100

## THE POSTAL HISTORY COLUMN - SHIP MAILS

E.C. Druce

The recent magnificent set of stamps displaying clipper ships issued by Australia Post is a timely reminder that much of Australia's development relied entirely on sailing ships. This is true, not least for our postal services.

The story of ships and the mails is a fascinating one, and even with the advent of the aircraft, and the now ubiquitous airmail, ships still carry a significant percentage of mails, particularly parcels.

The introduction and growth of postal services in Europe in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries was closely connected with the development of trade, particularly in the Mediterranean. Thus it was the very ships which carried merchandise from and to Venice which also carried the orders, bills and receipts of the Venetian merchants. Many of these letters still exist and can occasionally be bought in auction.

However, it was the growth of the British Empire which really triggered the introduction of ship mails on a world-wide scale. Being an island, the need to take advantage of ships for mail services was vital. The Dover packet station was set up in the early 1600s and new packet stations were opened at Harwich and Falmouth within the century. The Falmouth Station grew in importance and became the base for services to the West Indies and Mediterranean.

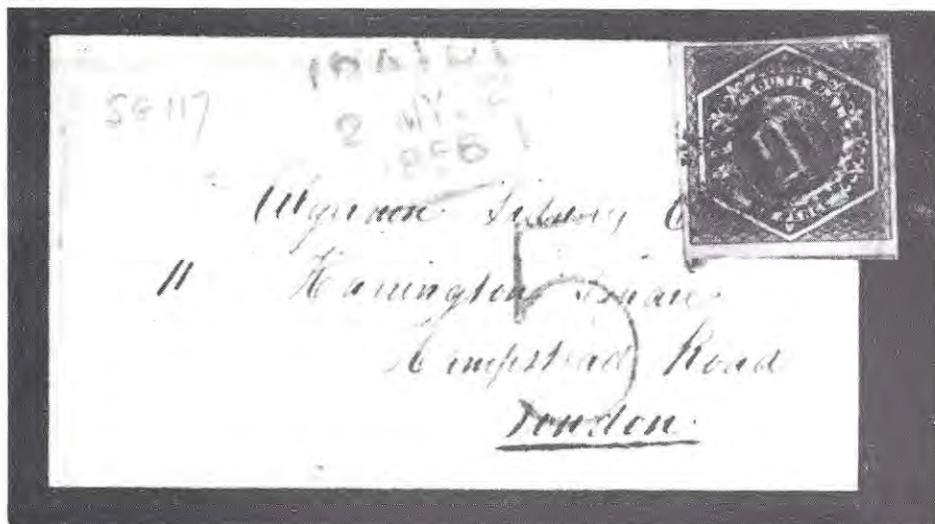
In addition to sending mail via packet boats which were scheduled mail-carrying services, the post office also made use of private vessels through the medium of ship letters. Captains of private ships could carry letters, provided they delivered them to the post office immediately on arrival in port. They received a gratuity of one penny up to 1799 and twopence thereafter. Indeed in 1815 it became compulsory for ships' captains to carry mails tendered to them by the Post Office.

While the mail packets to the West Indies grew in importance during the 1700s and the first half of the 1800s, packet services to Australia were slow and fitful in their development. Mail to Australia was generally carried by private ship or occasionally by naval vessel. Mail was often endorsed "per first ship", and the Post Office provided information through the newspapers of ships which would be carrying mails and their time-tables. The first packet service between Great Britain and Australia was inaugurated

in 1844, when the British Post Office let a contract to the Toulmin Brothers of London.

One of the major innovations connected with sea mail was the sorting of letters during the voyage. This idea was no doubt triggered by the success of travelling post offices on the railways, which were introduced (in a converted horse box!) on the Grand Junction Railway in the United Kingdom in 1838. However, it was twenty years later, in January 1858, that the experiment was first carried out. With the co-operation of the European and Australian Royal Mail Co., mail was first sorted on the packets "Teviot" and "Tamar" on the run home from Alexandria to Southampton. This service was taken over by the Peninsula and Orient Line in 1859, and was extended to other P&O segmentals, notably Singapore to Hong Kong. The Cunard line began a trans-Atlantic mail sorting service in 1859, and the Royal Mail Line introduced a similar service to the West Indies in 1867.

The development of a post office packet service between the Australian Colonies and the United Kingdom occurred in fits and starts. As early as 1844 the Toulmin Brothers of London gained a contract to operate such a service, but it folded by 1849 because of a paucity of mail and delays in sailings. A similar fate befell the next mail contractor, the Australia Royal Mail Steam Navigation Company, which was granted a mail contract in mid-1852, and within twelve months had lost it because of poor service caused by mechanical failures. Subsequently, a contract was let with the General Screw Steam Shipping Company in 1854, and this was suspended twelve months later when the ships were needed for the Crimean War. Eventually in 1859 a regular and permanent service was provided by the Peninsula and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.



Ship mails were also important in the carriage of inter-colonial mail, and indeed intra-colonial mail. Early rates were fourpence for all routes, plus the ship letter charge of threepence. Later rates were threepence plus, if any, inland rate. However, this seriously undercut the overland Sydney-Melbourne charge of one shilling and threepence, so for this particular sea route the charge was increased to one and threepence. However, the intra-colonial rate prior to 1850 of fourpence remained and thus often undercut the overland rate within the colony, which was based on mileage, for example, Geelong to Melbourne, fourpence by ship and eightpence by land.

The cover illustrated in this issue is an example of mail carried by contract mail ship in 1856. When the reciprocal sixpenny rate between the United Kingdom and New South Wales was introduced in 1854, it became necessary to determine which proportion of the sixpenny charge would be credited to the New South Wales Post Office and which to the British Post Office. The agreement was that where the mail ship was an Australian contract vessel, then one penny would be due to the British P.O. In cases where the mail was carried by private ship, then threepence would be due to the British P.O., and when a British contract vessel was used then fivepence would be credited. Thus, there came into use numeral handstamps signifying the amount due to the British P.O. I have only seen a 3 and a 5 but I assume that a 1 was also used. Can anyone help? This cover was carried by British mail packet, which in 1855-56 was provided by fast sailing clippers of the Black Ball and White Star Lines, returning to Great Britain by way of Cape Horn. Under the regulations the British Post Office was due for fivepence from the New South Wales Post Office, and hence the handstamp 5 in red. One hundred and thirty years later, your surface mail to Europe takes longer but that's the price we pay for progress.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr Ronald Pearson Hyeronimus, F.R.P.S.L., a former President of the Philatelic Society of Canberra, and one of its most senior members, died on 22nd September, after a long and painful illness. He was one of the leading collectors in this country and was the Society's first Honorary Life Member. He had travelled to Melbourne to visit AUSIPEX 84, but had to return urgently to Canberra for admission to hospital on the day before the Exhibition opened. Unfortunately he died before the judging at AUSIPEX was completed, too soon to learn that his collection had been awarded a Gold Medal.

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## THE OS PUNCTURED OFFICIALS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

D.W. Andersen

Editor's Note: The author lives in Meadowbank, N.S.W., and is a specialist researcher of the stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia which have been punctured for official use. A recent series of notes on the subject has appeared in the pages of "Stamp News", and Mr Andersen was asked to prepare an article for "Capital Philately" to set out the overall history of the punctured issues used by the New South Wales Government.

Between the OS/NSW and the G/NSW punctured officials, both of which are well-known, there were two other official perfins used by New South Wales Government Departments. Over the years information about them has become confused or lost.

The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue gives the following scheme of usage of initials as perfins by the New South Wales Government (1).

OS/NSW	1913-33
OS(S has 12 holes)	1933
G/NSW	1933 to date

This scheme is that accepted by most authorities, but it is not complete or correct. Although some work has been published including check-lists of issues, I have been unable to find an accurate summary of what occurred. Part of the reasons for this lack of information is probably due to the disrepute of perfined official stamps from 1931, when the Federal Government ceased their production in order to prevent various undesirable practices, forgery, theft and trafficking which were considered as being rife at that time. This paper has been written in the desire to set down some of the information which has been reported from various sources.

The scheme that I have been able to construct is:-

OS/NSW	1913-1928/early 1929
OS (Federal)	1929-1931
OS overprints	1931-February 1933
OS/NSW (as before)	February-mid April 1933
OS (S has 12 holes)	Mid April-mid May 1933
G/NSW	Mid May 1933 to date

As stamps may be used much later than when they were issued, it is the period over which they were punctured and issued which is of greater interest than the period over which they were used. The first date used is however a useful guide to the time a puncture was introduced.

## The Evidence

The New South Wales Government used two types of OS/NSW punctures from 1913 (Fig. 1), the larger on the King George V sideface issues and the smaller on the Kangaroo issues.(2) These punctures continued in use until 1928. It should be possible to determine the approximate date when these punctures were taken out of use from the first date of issue of the last stamp so treated. However, as the larger OS/NSW device was certainly reintroduced for a short period, this method is uncertain.

Several stamps were issued around this period and punctured OS/NSW. Issues dates are from the Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue.(3)

King George V	$\frac{1}{2}$ d small Mult. perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$	21/11/28
	4d - do -	-/4/29
	5d surcharged on $4\frac{1}{2}$ d	2/8/30
Kangaroo	1/- small mult.	12/6/29

The  $\frac{1}{2}$ d stamp above is probably the last punctured OS/NSW before this device was taken out of use. The remaining three stamps are all uncommon with OS/NSW, only a very few copies being so treated, so that I consider it likely that they were remainders of stock held and punctured in 1933 when the OS/NSW was reintroduced. Certainly there were stocks of the 4d value around as these were punctured with the later OS in April/May 1933.

In January 1930, D.S.M. Clark reported that the New South Wales Government changed over to using the Federal Government OS perfin about a year previously, which would place this change about December 1928 (4). Various covers have been reported or seen with the Federal OS perfin (Fig.2) used by New South Wales Government Departments, postmarked from 5th February 1929 to September 1931. On the basis of the statement by Clark and the other evidence, I would place the change in December 1928 or January 1929.

That the New South Wales Government was able to use the Federal OS perfin is not surprising, as other State Government Departments had been using them since 1913. Victoria, Western Australia, Queensland and South Australia had all been using the Federal OS punctured stamps (5), and indeed I would imagine in much greater numbers than used by Federal Government Departments.

An interesting entry in the Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue is to the King George V 2d on  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d punctured OS as being used by State Government Departments (6). This stamp was issued on 31st July 1930 and so probably would have been given the Federal OS perfin. Although first reported as a forgery (7),

it was later reported used by the N.S.W. Registrar of Births (8). It would appear that only a very small number of stamps were so punctured by the Federal Government and issued to the New South Wales Government. At present I have seen no reports of usage by other States or the Federal Government.

When the Federal Government substituted OS overprints for the punctured OS, these also were used in State Government Departments. In Western Australia it was reported that both punctured and over-printed stamps were issued from the State Treasury (9). During early 1933, New South Wales Government Departments were using overprinted OS, punctured OS/NSW and ordinary stamps at the same time (10, 11). It is clear that the overprinted OS issues were used by the New South Wales Government Departments (and, for a short time, ordinary stamps, presumably as overprinted and punctured stamps were not available.)

To replace the overprinted OS issues formerly available, the New South Wales Government reintroduced the OS/NSW puncture.

The 1d and 2d King George V side-face stamps with C of A watermark were punctured at this time, and possibly a few sheets of other values as earlier mentioned. The re-use of this device is first recorded on 1st March 1933(12), so it must have been reintroduced in February 1933.

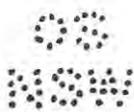


Fig. 1 - OS/NSW  
1913-28



Fig. 2 - OS (Federal)  
1929-31

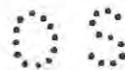


Fig. 3 - OS (NSW)  
Mid. Apr. - mid. May  
1933

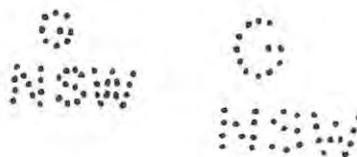


Fig. 4 - G/NSW  
Mid. May 1933 -

After a short period of time, the State OS puncture, S with 12 holes (Fig 3) appeared, and replaced the OS/NSW, the letters OS being the same as the OS in OS/NSW. The following stamps are known to have been so punctured:

King George V	4d small mult. perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$ x $12\frac{1}{2}$
	1d C OF A
	2d do
	4d do
Kookaburra	6d large (1932)

There is general agreement that all the above issues were so punctured, and indeed I have seen copies of all of them. However there are references to a number of other stamps with this puncture though at present I am doubtful that they exist. A.F. Watkin (13) records that A.G. Righi lists the 9d, 1/- and 2/- Kangaroo issues small mult. watermark with this device. G.E. Owen mentions that the 1932 1/- Lyre Bird may have been so punctured but he was unable to check it as it had been discarded (14).

Usage of this puncture started in mid-April 1933, the first date recorded being 21st April 1933 (15), and copies continued to be used until at least September 1933 as stocks were used up. Production of this pattern ceased in early May 1933.

Again after a short period, a change was made with the introduction of two G/NSW punctures (Fig 4), which were modifications of the previous OS/NSW type, made by removing the S and altering the O to a G. This change occurred in mid-May 1933, the earliest date recorded being 19th May 1933 (16).

From what I have written, I hope it is evident that a great deal more needs to be determined before the full story is known. I would encourage anybody with more information, such as earlier dates of usage, to publish it.

#### NOTES

1. Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue. 41st ed. Seven Seas Stamps, Dubbo. p.6.
2. A further type combining the OS from the Federal OS perfin and the NSW from the OS/NSW perfin has been recorded for 1917-1919, but I am uncertain of its status. (ref. A.S.M. February 1948, p.95).
3. Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue. p.30, 49, 87, 91.
4. D.S.M. Clark "A Plea for Punctured Officials" - Stamp Collecting, 4th Jan. 1930 p.401. (This article also mentioned in A.S.J. 12th March 1930, p.39).

5. Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue p.7.
6. Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue p.80.
7. "In our Commonwealth Corner" Australian Stamp Monthly, Sept. 1943 p.259.
8. "In our Commonwealth Corner" Australian Stamp Monthly, Oct. 1943, p.291.
9. S. Mitchell "Official Stamps for the State of Western Australia" Australian Stamp Monthly, August 1936, p.243.
10. "Commonwealth Notes" Australian Stamp Journal, 12th May 1933, p.68.
11. "Are OS Stamps Obsolete?" Australian Stamp Monthly, March 1933, p.101.
12. As for 11.
13. A.F. Watkins (N.S.W. Punctured Officials 1913-63) Australian Commonwealth Collectors Club of NSW Bulletin v.2, 1963, p.61. This article is the best list of NSW punctured officials yet published, on various pages of the above volume.
14. G.E. Owen "Replies 162" Australian Commonwealth Specialists Society of Great Britain Bulletin Sept. 1953, p.127.
15. As for 14.
16. "Official Postage. Passing of the O.S. Issues" Sydney Morning Herald 20th May 1933.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### AUSIPEX 84

"Capital Philately" was awarded a Silver-Bronze Medal in the Literature Section at AUSIPEX 84 in Melbourne, which places the journal in a high position in regard to its contribution to philately.

In addition, one member of the Society provided an entry in the Jury Class at the Exhibition and eleven other members secured the following awards:-

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Vermeil	2
Large Silver	3
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Bronze	2

Finally the handbook on Australian Postage Dues, written by the late Mr R.P. Hyeronimus, received a Silver-Bronze Medal.

\* \* \* \* \*



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## OVERSEAS NOTES - POSTAGE STAMPS AND WOMEN

P. S. C. Saxby

I noticed recently that Sir Thomas Blamey had been honoured by Australia Post and it occurred to me that military prowess was one path to philatelic fame. Some little research convinced me that there were other professions more honoured. These researches also demonstrated that affirmative action was not even a theory in the stamp world.

On the basis that Women form approximately fifty per cent of the population, one might expect that this would be reflected to some extent in the subjects of stamps. This is not so, and it may be of some interest to consider the extent to which particular women are commemorated in the stamps of European countries. Any conclusions to be drawn must be modified by the stamp-issuing policies of particular countries. Great Britain, for example, permitted only the representation of its sovereign on its stamps until, for practical purpose, 1947.

Accordingly, in the case of each country I have sought a woman commemorated for her personal achievement, by name, not as an anonymous dancer, agricultural worker or teacher.

Great Britain, which issued the first postage stamp, was also the first to honour a woman, Queen Victoria (S.G.1) who continued to decorate the stamps of that country for the next sixty years. The first non-royal woman to be portrayed was Emmerline Pankhurst (S.G. 768, 1968).

Portugal and Spain were also S.G. 1, Portugal with Queen Maria and Spain with Queen Isabella II. Apart from the interminable Ceres from 1912 onwards, the next women mentioned by Portugal were Teresa de Alberquerque (S.G. 646, 1925) and Phillipa de Vilhena (S.G. 679, 1926). I do not know if Teresa was a real person or a character in Branco's novels. Spain followed its initial feminist enthusiasm with Princesses Maria Christina and Beatriz (S.G. 394, 1926). Perhaps the Maja, though identifiable, (S.G. 567, 1930) should be regarded as a commemoration of Goya, rather than of womankind. Apart from innumerable madonnas other types of women represented were Queen Victoria (of England) (S.G. 641, 1930), Mother Rafuls (S.G. 985, 1940), St Maria Michaela (S.G. 1176, 1952) and Beatriz Galindo (S.G. 1922, 1968). Ms Galindo appeared to be the first secular nominee.

France has depictions of various stylised and idealised female figures. The first historical women are Joan of Arc (S.G. 469, 1929) and Sarah Bernhardt (S.G. 950, 1945).

Ireland produced Mother Mary Aikenhead (S.G. 174, 1958) the founder of the Irish Sister of Charity, and Countess Markievicz (S.G. 243, 1968) who was somewhat less charitably inclined toward her opponents.

The Netherlands after an early emphasis on royalty with Queen Wilhelmina (S.G. 148, 1891), Princess Juliana (S.G. 438, 1934) and the dowager Queen Emma (S.G. 442, 1934) quickly honoured the proletariat with Maria Tesselschade (S.G. 480, 1938). Belgium did not honour any woman for nearly eighty years, but realised the error of its ways with Queen Elisabeth (1927), Duchess Matilda (1938), Florence Nightingale (1939) and Mrs Rubens (1939). Mrs Rubens is presumably honoured as being the woman behind every great man.

The Scandinavian countries appear to ignore women reasonably successfully. Denmark has Queen Ingrid (S.G. 322, 1941). Its first commoner is Mathilde Fibiger (S.G. 526, 1971) who is, not surprisingly perhaps, a suffragette. Norway, in not dissimilar fashion, portrays Queen Maud (S.G. 267, 1939) and Camilla Collett, an author (S.G. 545, 1963). Sweden ignores royalty for its first woman (St Bridget; S.G. 255, 1941) and has its first commoner Anna Maria Lenngren (S.G. 345) in 1954. Greenland portrays only royalty (Queen Margrethe; S.G. 86, 1973). Iceland after Queen Aud (S.G. 166, 1930) passes to an abstract by Nina Tryggvottir (S.G. 541, 1975) and at last in 1978 passes to Briet Bjarrhodissdottir (S.G. 560). Finland, as befits a republic, ignores royalty completely, and the first woman honoured is Minna Canth, an author (S.G. 396, 1944).

German's record is deplorable. Apart from St Elizabeth (of Thuringia) (S.G. 365, 1924) and Isolde (S.G. 519, 1933), the rest is silence. Its successors deal more kindly with the subjects, the Federal German Republic with St Elizabeth of Thuringia (S.G. 1039, 1949) and Elsa Brandstrum (S.G. 1071, 1951) and West Berlin in slightly more leisurely fashion with St Hedwig (S.G. 130, 1955) and Uta Von Naumberg (S.G. 169, 1957) and Ella Heuss-Knapp (S.G. 174, 1957). The German Democratic Republic's first woman amongst many is Clara Zethin (S.G. 219, 1955). Austria recalls its glorious past with Maria Theresa (S.G. 190, 1908) its germanic myths with Kriemhild and Brunhild (S.G. 647, 1926) and presents its first commoner with Bertha Von Suttner (S.G. 1461, 1961). The minor principalities have little regard for women in other than their royal and holy manifestations. Monaco

progresses through Charlotte de Gramont (S.G. 202, 1939), St Devote (S.G. 293, 1944) and Princess Grace (S.G. 578, 1956) to Marie Curie (S.G. 893, 1967). Luxembourg displays even less of the common touch with Grand Duchess Adelaide (S.G. 174, 1914), Countess Ermesinde (S.G. 307, 1932), a madonna (S.G. 464, 1945) and St Ermina (S.G. 637, 1929). Liechtenstein is equally patrician with Princess Elsa (S.G. 94, 1929), a madonna (S.G. 200, 1941), Ginevra de Benci (S.G. 261, 1949) (a Da Vinci painting), St Anna (S.G. 486, 1967) and Maria Leopoldine von Estahozy (S.G. 738, 1980). San Marino recognises Avita Garibaldi (S.G. 391, 1949) whilst Andorra has representatives of various madonnas.

The Baltic republics almost completely ignore women. Mrs Petrivicvite appears in Lithuania's S.G. 129 (1921). Latvia is represented by a stylised "Latvia" (S.G. 250, 1934) and Estonia has nurses on stamps of 1921 (S.G. 31) and 1931 (S.G. 103).

Greece commences with a mythological Iris (S.G. 214, 1911) and continues with Queen Frederika Louise (S.G. 517, 1938) and Queen Victoria (of England) (S.G. 525, 1939). Italy commemorates Princess Marie Jose (S.G. 267, 1930), Anita Garibaldi (S.G. 338, 1932), St Catherine of Siena (S.G. 198, 1948) and Eleonora Duse (S.G. 983, 1958). Hungary, starting with Queen Zita (S.G. 267, 1916) continues with a madonna (S.G. 418, 1921), St Elizabeth of Hungary (S.G. 531, 1932), Stephen Horthy's widow (S.G. 723, 1946) and Elizabeth Szilogzi (S.G. 782, 144). Rumania has the doubtful honour of portraying its first non-royal woman at S.G. 2273, Madame Romanescu (1953). She is preceded by the Queen of Rumania spinning (S.G. 481, 1906), Queen Elizabeth (S.G. 517, 1906), and Maria Duamna (S.G. 1375, 1938).

Switzerland's first woman is Susanna Orelli (S.G. 3112, 1945), a Social reformer. Poland honours Modrzejewska, an actress about the same time (S.G. 585, 1947). Russia progresses from Catherine II (S.G. 132, 1913) to Pauline Osipenko, an aviatrix (S.G. 845, 1939). Albania is alphabetically the first of the European countries. Its feminine stamps commenced with Queen Geraldine (S.G. 273, 1938) and progressed through Valentina Tereshkova (S.G. 768, 1963) to Shkurte Vata (S.G. 1294, 1969). Ms Vata, or Shkurte, for the benefit of those even less familiar than I with Albanian history, is a railway worker and a contemporary hero (or heroine). Albania has thus demonstrated both its alphabetical and its democratic superiority. On the other hand I can find no representative of the hoi polloi in the stamps of the People's Democratic Republic of Yugoslavia. However, Queen Marie is portrayed on S.G. 341 (1936).

\* \* \* \* \*

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## READING ABOUT STAMPS - CINDERELLAS

Phil. Litt

Dear Readers,

Well, here's your old friend Phil. Litt again! And bursting with a new theme, now that I've had such a talk with Drusilla. So settle down readers, and let me tell you a little story.

Once upon a time (comfy, readers?) there was a poor nobleman who had three daughters; the two elder ones were very strong-willed and domineering, and they were quite rude and nasty to the youngest one, who got to be called Cinderella, because she had to stay in the dirty place by the kitchen fire. No-one else wanted her around.

Which is why, dear readers, some stamps that look like postage stamps but aren't really, get to be called "Cinderellas", because all of the real postage stamps are very uppity, saying they are the only proper stamps and that no-one wants those other bold-faced things - so that they get put into a corner of a very grubby stockbook (when they aren't thrown away) and sneered at by the proper postage stamps.

However, readers, some people who knew that Cinderella was really a very delightful little thing when you got to know her, have been taking an interest in these Cinderella stamps, even collecting them! And Drusilla is one of them. So when I thought I would find out what books there were on Cinderella stamps, I naturally thought "Drusilla!".

Actually, Drusilla makes me think of those elder sisters. (Now I didn't say they were ugly, did I! Just a wee bit forceful, you know). Drusilla's really a dear thing, - she just scares me a bit. But I took my courage in both hands and, clearing my throat, I ventured, "Er, excuse me, Miss Drusilla, but could we have a chat about C-Cinderella sustamps?" Her reply was the usual - "What's that, man? Speak up, can't you - oh, it's you, Phil! Cinderellas, yer say? Well, yes, they are my thing." She stubbed out her cigar, crossed her legs, and favoured me with a polite glare, "You collect?"

"Well, no, Miss Drusilla, What I want to find out is what literature there is, if any, about them. My dear readers, you know ...." "Don't call me Miss, dash it. Just Dru's fine. Whadda yer mean 'if any'?"

"Well Miss - er, well Dru, I've only had to do with books about real postage stamps, and I don't suppose there'd be much written about Cinderellas, would there? I mean, they're rubbish really, and no-one wants them enough to ..." "Cor strike me handsome!" says Drusilla, always one for an apt phrase. "Not much written?? Say, lissen, Phil boy, you ever heard of Robson Lowe? You take a dekko at his volume IV of 'Encyclopaedia of Empire stamps.' Here, look at my copy - there's seventy pages straight on things like proofs, perfins, telegraph and railway stamps, forgeries an' so on. And Robson Lowe is pretty main stream, surely? But he's only the tip of the ruddy iceberg. Not much written! Cor!!" Drusilla rubbed her moustache savagely.

"Oh, sorry, Drusilla," I says. "You must mean there's lots more. I wonder could you name some for my readers? They'd be glad to follow suggestions from you." Drusilla lit up another cigar, those thin ones you know that look like a brown stretched-out cigarette. Not very lady-like, dear readers, but then Drusilla - I mean, they fit her somehow. A puff of blue smoke. "Okay, Phil, let's start at the beginning. I meantersay, we can't just talk about Cinderellas - there's about as many different sorts of Cinderella stamps as there are what you (envoloping me in blue smoke) call 'real' stamps. Like now, we've got a couple of basic general introductory books here in the clubroom." Drusilla's casual wave indicated the well-lined shelves of the Philatelic Society of Canberra's library. "Look, there's the Williamses' 'Cinderella Stamps', and Bill Hornadge's 'Cinderella Stamps of Australasia.'" Hey, you look at the intro that Bill Hornadge's written, explaining what stuff he puts in and leaves out, and you'll get a feel for just how many of the flippin' things there are. But if yer wanna get serious, Phil, hoo - there's one mag your lovin' readers orter follow up. It's edited now by Williams and Phillips, "The Cinderella Philatelist". It started in 1960, costs five quid a year - put out by the Cinderella Stamp Club yer know."

"You mean there's a whole club of people that collect just them, Dru?" I bleated. "Maybe there's more in Cinderellas than I thought." "You betcher, Phil boy," says she, giving me another Drusilla glare. "What's more, that club has issued handbooks; their first one, put together by Tester, is just on "Literature of Cinderella Philately." An' since that was put together in 1982, there's mebbe dozens more written on the same subject. Also, Phil, let's not forget our own journals here in Aussie, like A.S.M., Stamp News, Philately from Australia, Posthorn, an' so on, all carrying pretty frequent articles on these Cinderellas. Hoo, Phil, there's a helluva lot." (I wasn't sure whether the "hoo" was a device for ejecting smoke, or whether it meant something. It worked rather well for smoke).

"Then Phil you gotter decide what sort of Cinderellas you want to get books on. Some of the so-called 'regular' philately areas spill over into non-postal or Cinderella stuff. Fer instance, any good study of postal history has to be supported by what is strictly not straight postal material. 'cos postal history looks at the whole world around the postal system. So books of Postal History have Cinderella interest. They gotta. Like, you might be into aerophilately, an' so Eustis's "The Australian Air Mail Catalogue" is a must, and a lot of his stuff is strictly speaking Cinderella material."

"But in areas that are purely Cinderella, Phil me boy, hoo, you gotter see that some things are well-defined. Like, mebbe you might go just for local posts, or mebbe just revenues, or mebbe railway stamps. That's three, and any one o' them is a major theme. Me, I got fer railway stamps meself; that's my thing."

"Well then Dru," I says, "could you give me something on each of those three you mentioned? I'm sure my readers would be interested - that, is, if you've got the time, Drusilla."

"Why sure Phil. Wait a bit an' I'll light up. Hoo. Well, say local posts fer a start. Depends on yer interest area. Like, yours might be a general collection, so that you'd find help in Hurt & Williams "Revised Catalogue of Local Postage Stamps " (1942-45, with supplement issued in 1948); also the book the same two put out that Billig published in 1948, "Handbook of the Private Local Posts". Then there's a beauty for foreign or non-British stuff; that's Byrum's "The Supplemental Stamp Catalogue (1973)" - an' I mean it Phil, this one is real hot stuff on way-out local post material. Or say you might wanta specialise in one local post area, so there's special books like say Gade's "The Postal History of Lundy", or Etherton and Barlow's "Lundy: the Tempestuous Isle". Though mine jew, Phil boy, there's some as will tell you local posts aren't really Cinderellas at all, just fringes of regular postal areas that mebbe sooner or later will be part of the real thing. Depends, Phil, on who's talking."

"Or revenues, Phil. Here yer interest is mebbe general, covering all fiscals and revenue stamps, or yer might go fer just one sort. Like me, I'm keen on beer."

"Er, you like beer, Miss Drusilla?" I'm afraid my voice squeaked a bit. "Well sure, thanks, Phil, yer a gentleman. But I meant I collect beer revenue stamps. But books, boy, we're talkin' books. You tell them dear readers that a good new book on general revenues is Banford & Hale "British Commonwealth Revenues". It

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lists beer and spirits, legal duties, swine and cattle stamps, the lot. So popular that they did a second edition this year. Or there's the old "Bulletin of the Fiscal Philatelic Society" that came out in 1908-28, that the Cinderella Stamp Club did a reprint of in 1980."

"Some new books for us Aussies just came out on revenues, Phil. You tell your readers," says Drusilla, "about Osborn, Craig and Orchard "The Revenue Stamps of N.S.W." (Hobart 1983), and Craig's "The Revenue Stamps of Queensland" (Hobart 1982). Good to see the Aussies comin' out strong, eh Phil boy? Real fascinating stuff they are too. Another book, Craig and Ingles on "The Revenue and Railway Stamps of Tasmania" (1980) deals part with this area and part with the next, my stuff, Phil, the railway stamps. Look Phil they call 'em Cinderellas, but railway parcels are about the same business as postal parcels, an' I reckon there's little to split 'em apart."

"Still, Dru, they aren't stamps on the same level as postage stamps, surely," I ventured. "Different approach to printing, not rigid in controls and so forth, eh?" - though I tell you, readers, I was being very brave to argue with Miss Drusilla! But for once she didn't blast me. "Guess yer right Phil. Well anyway, besides the Craig and Ingles I mentioned, there's that beauty by Ingles, Presgrave and Craig, "The Railway (and Other Parcel) stamps of Mainland Australia" (Tasmania 1980). But probably the best, Phil, hoo, used to be the periodical "Journal of the Railway Philatelic Group" that came out first in 1966. The early issues were good stuff, but later and current emphasis they have is rather railway travel itself, with philatelic interest only secondary. A shame, but still worth grabbing to pick up a few points now and then. Oh Phil, look at the time! I gotter be goin'. Hoo, mebbe that lot will keep those readers quiet for a spell."

"Well thanks loads, Dru," I says. "You've covered the areas you said you would. You really have been helpful." "Any time, Phil boy, any time! Well, must move." And off she strode.

Dear Readers, I must now in all honesty say thank you to our worthy member Ed Druce for the help and wisdom that backed this study. But please - any resemblance between him and Miss Drusilla - well! how dreadful of you to think of such a thing!

So, good Cinderellaring, dear readers, from your own

Phil Litt.

## Cinderellas (Phil Litt)

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