



# Capital Philately



Journal of the Philatelic Society of Canberra



**The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.**

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## EDITORIAL

I must start this editorial with an apology for the delay in producing *Capital Philately* for February. As I am writing this it is April and the issue will be two months late. Unfortunately this delay was the result of a combination of Canberra Stampshow 2000 and a lack of material for publication at an appropriate time. In the end, Stampshow had to win as I was Chair of the Organising Committee and the show was more important to the Society than a delayed journal. My apologies to anyone who looks forward to the journal and has wondered what happened to it. To overcome this problem I intend to get the next issue ready for the end of June, which means it will be about a month late, and to issue the other at the end of August, which puts it back on schedule. This is assuming I can get enough material for publication. It doesn't take much to write about a cover or write something about your favourite country, so please send in the material.

I must also apologise for the last issue having the wrong issue number on it. It should have read Volume 18 Number 1, as on the footer on each page. I believe that this mistake occurred at the printer, but I am not absolutely sure it wasn't me. I usually mock up the front cover and the printer makes changes to the master they have.

Canberra Stampshow 2000 was a month ago as I write this and once again the Philatelic Society of Canberra has put on another great show. I have had a lot of positive feedback on the exhibition and I must congratulate my committee on a job well done. The show was successful both financially and in terms of attracting new members. We attracted 22 new members, more than a ten percent increase on our current membership base, and this was a great result. The Philatelic Society committee must now work at attracting some of the hundreds of other visitors to the show to become members of the Society. It was obvious from the show that philately remains strong, with many dealers reporting excellent sales. The main complaint about the show was the weather but unfortunately the unseasonal heat and humidity was beyond my control. I still think the highlight was the opening with the Noumean dance troupe. It was a spectacular way to start the show. There will be a full write-up of the show with pictures in the next issue.

The one low point of the exhibition was that few children attended the show. Whilst this is a perennial problem, to my mind it was far worse this time than in previous years. I believe that the only solution is to target schools to get children interested and to work more with adults who are returning to collecting. The more adults we have in organised philately the more mentors we have to children and grandchildren who are interested in collecting. A lot of collecting is about history and I can think of no better way to get the generations talking than by using stamp collecting as a focal

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point. So all you grandparents out there, encourage your grandchildren to collect. They may not all become philatelists but I can guarantee you will get a little closer to your grandchildren. They will begin to appreciate what you have lived through and you may just begin to appreciate the world they live in.

This issue of *Capital Philately* is very eclectic mixture of material. I always welcome new contributors and Sheryl Oswald's piece on a net trek of the Pacific was most welcome. If you have access to the internet take the trek. The internet can be a confusing place and the advantage of articles like Sheryl's is that she has done all the hard work for you. Take a look at some of these sites they contain a wealth of information. I don't think you could get a more eclectic mix of material than patents about stamps, Danish "Gebyr" stamps, an Australian horse and buggy cover from the 1940s combined with two most unusual books being reviewed. Please enjoy the journal and if you don't like what you read then write something for me.

### APOLOGY

In the last issue of *Capital Philately*, in Ian McMahan's library series on New Zealand, there was a reference to Fred Wilkinson. This should have been Frank Wilkinson and I apologise for the mistake. It was an error in Ian's original draft, which he asked me to correct and I subsequently did not. Hopefully members realised my mistake as Frank is well known to most members.

### MEMBERS' EXHIBITION RESULTS

#### PHILEX FRANCE - PARIS 2-11 JULY 1999

Edric Druce                      Aden Postal Stationery                      Vermeil (84)

#### CHINA 99 - BEIJING 21-30 AUGUST 1999

Tom Frommer                      Australia's Contribution to the Development of World Airmails 1914-1934  
(Invited exhibit shown in the Court of Honour)

Tom Frommer                      Airmails of Papua New Guinea 1926-42                      Large Vermeil

#### PALMPEX 99 - PALMERSTON NORTH NZ 1-3 OCTOBER 1999

David Ingle Smith                      Jamaica Postcards 1877-1966                      Large Vermeil (80)

Ian McMahan                      Canadian Stationery During Reign of George VI                      Large Silver (72)

#### ADELAIDE STAMPEX 99 - 5-7 NOVEMBER 1999

Darryl Fuller                      Leeward Islands Postal Stationery QV to KGVII                      Large Gold (92)  
(Grand Prix International)

Tom Frommer                      Famous Pilots and Famous Flights                      Gold (87) (SP)

Andrew Alwast                      Kingdom of Poland Pre-stamp Letters                      Large Vermeil (80)

David Ingle Smith                      Australian Tax Stamps - Depression to Federal Income Tax                      Vermeil (78)

Andrew Alwast                      Poland's 1946 Airmail Stamps                      Vermeil (77)

Darryl Fuller                      Jusqu'a Airmail Markings                      Vermeil (75) (SP)

Postal Stationery Society of Australia                      Postal Stationery Collector                      Large Silver (74)

Hans Karman                      Dutch Postal Stationery 1945-85                      Silver (69)

Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.                      Capital Philately                      Silver (69)

Hubert Goron                      New Hebrides (Post Cards)                      Silver (67)

Hans Karman                      Windmills (Post Cards)                      Silver (65)

Albert Farrugia                      "Machinations"                      Silver-Bronze (61)

David Ingle Smith                      Water - The Resource and its Use                      Silver-Bronze (60)

## NET TREK – THE PACIFIC

**Sheryl Oswald**

Imagine it! The sun, the sea, sandy beaches, coconut palms, tropical islands close to home and far away. Would you like to visit all these places and lose yourself for hours at a time? Well, don't phone the travel agent. Just hop onto the computer and surf the 'net!

This trek will take you all over the Pacific, not necessarily by the shortest physical distance, but by the most available links!

The best place to start is the Pacific Island Study Circle of Great Britain (<http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/jray/pisc.html>), commonly known as PISC. Here you can get your "sea legs", then click on "More information" and work out where you want to go.

Why not start with a trip to Tuvalu ([http://members.xoom.com/\\_XMCM/tuvaluonline/](http://members.xoom.com/_XMCM/tuvaluonline/)), nine islands in the central Pacific? This is a friendly, lively place. You will find the latest news (stamp and otherwise) and you can even learn the Tuvaluan language! The country was once part of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, a former British colony, until independence in 1978. Don't forget to take a look at the Pacific Links page, where you can try side trips to places like Fiji and French Polynesia.

Or, you might want to take a step back in time to the New Hebrides (<http://www.ro-klinger.de/NH/>). Known as Vanuatu from 1980, this archipelago has a fascinating postal history. The decision by Britain and France to rule it jointly as a condominium in 1906 resulted in a range of different stamp issues, in both British and French currency, causing it to be popularly known as the "pandemonium"! You can spend "plante taem" looking at the many stamps and covers.

While you're there, make sure you take a side trip to the New Zealand Dependencies (<http://home.prcn.org/~pauld/>) using the handy link at the end. You can have a quiet time enjoying the stamps and postal history of the Cook Islands, Niue, Western Samoa and various smaller islands and Antarctic territories, right up to the Elizabethan era. Paul den Ouden will be glad to answer any questions. Just give him an email.

Go back to the New Hebrides and use the link at the front to get you back to PISC. Then you're ready for the second leg of your trek.

The link to the Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania (<http://members.aol.com/stampsho/saso.html>), is another good spot to catch your breath. It will even get you back to Australia if you're feeling homesick. But let's move on.

Tonga is the only Pacific country never brought under foreign rule, and is controlled by the last remaining Polynesian monarchy. The Tonga & Tin Can Mail Study Circle ([http://members.aol.com/\\_ht\\_a/TongaJan/ttcmssc.html](http://members.aol.com/_ht_a/TongaJan/ttcmssc.html)) is the place to go to learn more about Tonga's postal history. You will find out about the many and varied early surcharges and the famous gold foil stamps of 1963. This issue was the forerunner of many more self-adhesives, in the shape of maps and oil derricks, not to mention bananas and coconuts! These well withstood the tropical climate, but received mixed reviews from philatelists. Don't forget to check out the unique Tin Can Mail (<http://hometown.aol.com/TongaJan/tcm.html>) while you're there.

Our last stopover is Samoa, which gained independence from New Zealand in 1962. Four of the nine islands are inhabited. The Fellowship of Samoan Specialists ([http://members.aol.com/\\_ht\\_a/TongaJan/foss.html](http://members.aol.com/_ht_a/TongaJan/foss.html)) describes its postal history, which is nicely complemented with a selection of stamps. A comprehensive set of links gives you the chance to further your education and enjoyment.

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It's time to take a break from travelling now. Return to PISC if you like, but there's no need. You have experienced only a taste of what is out there. There are sure to be many places that you didn't drop in on during this first trek, such as New Zealand, Pitcairn Island, Micronesia or even Bikini Atoll! But what the heck, you can go there tomorrow now that you can navigate your way around the Pacific!

### The Great Pacific Challenge

CANPEX 2000 - Christchurch, NZ

3-8 October, 2000

#### Why not exhibit YOUR Pacific interest at Christchurch this October?

Entries can be on a narrow (one frame of sixteen pages) or broader (3-8 frames national) topic, but topics connected only with Australia or New Zealand are excluded from the Challenge but may of course be entered in the normal range of classes.

It is open to all members of philatelic societies or stamps clubs affiliated with the New Zealand or Australian Philatelic Federations – that means YOU! Entries close at the end of April. You can find out more from Ian McMahon (Ph. 6249 1042 - AH). This is an opportunity not to be missed!

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## **PATENTS AND THE POSTAGE STAMP**

**Graeme Broxam**

A very important, but invariably overlooked source on information on postal technology is the patent system. Most innovations in the delivery of mail, and indeed all types of information delivery, have been the subject of monopoly protection by patent. In this article I will give a brief introduction to the patent system and patent searching, which will give readers some idea of what it is all about, what they may expect to find in the patents data bases, and how to search them for technological developments in the postal industry.

### **What is a Patent?**

Patents are a monopoly granted on an invention by a country for a set period of time – usually 20 years – in return for comprehensive details on how the invention works, which become free to the public to use after the term of the patent expires. In all cases they are made on a country-by-country basis – at this point in time there is no such thing as a ‘World Patent,’ despite the efforts of many in the Intellectual Property business.

There are, however, a number of treaties between participating countries that simplify the process so that actions made in one country are deemed to have also taken place in any other nominated country, on the filing of appropriate documents within statutory time limits, and the payment of required fees. Under the Paris Convention, an application for a patent made in one country to also be considered as having been applied for on the same date in any other Convention country, so long as an application is filed there within twelve months of the first application in the home country (the ‘priority document’). These dates are very important as a patent is not valid if it is for the same invention as has been disclosed in another document before its date of original filing, or ‘priority date.’

The Patent Cooperation Treaty allows an application in any one country to be accepted as having been applied for in any signatory countries the applicant nominates, and the Geneva-based International Bureau organises all the filings deemed to have been made within the time limits of the Paris Convention. The result is an ‘International Application’ (WO number), a World APPLICATION for a patent, but not a granted patent in itself. Many Australian inventions are filed as International Applications to save both money and the complications of running completely separate patent applications in a number of different countries.

Some regional systems, such as the European patent Office, allow the complete operation of application, examination and grant to take place in a central authority and the result accepted in any nominated country which accepts that authority. It is no doubt upon this model that any World Patent, should it ever come into existence, will be modelled.

In structure, a granted patent is a legal document called a ‘complete specification’ which contain two essential parts:

- a detailed **description** of the invention, including a ‘best method performance’ that set outs how the invention may be performed by a so-called ‘person skilled in the art,’ if necessary with drawings; and
- **claims**, a statement of the features that define the invention as described.

### **Patent Examination and Searching**

In most major countries, the Patent Application is examined to determine whether it complies with the law of the country concerned – in the case of Australia, the Patents Act 1990. Although beyond the scope of a brief introduction, essentially the examiner determines whether the description fully describes an invention, the claims fully define the same invention as described, and whether the

claims are new in the light of published knowledge of the art. The examiner of patents does not spend his day admiring real perpetual motion machines, despite the popular view derived from that movie classic *Young Einstein*, although he or she may see them on paper!

For practical purposes, the 'newness' aspects of examination are determined by comparing the claimed invention with documents found by searching one or more available data bases of earlier patent applications. These may be in the form of files kept within the office itself or electronic data bases maintained by various private and official bodies. The former almost invariably can only be accessed by paying substantial fees, although a notable exception is the data base of United States, European, Japanese and International patent applications made available by the IBM Corporation on its Internet web site [www.patents.com](http://www.patents.com). The best of the official sites is that of the European Patents Office, [www.esp@ce.org](http://www.esp@ce.org), which provides keyword searchable patent abstracts and high quality text images of most major country patents from the 1970s (in some cases back to the 1930s) free of cost. The US Patent and Trade Marks Office's Internet site allows electronic searching of full text versions of US patents back to the early 1970s, not just abstracts.

A patent search therefore can be conducted in many ways, but most often by

- visually scanning electronic or paper abstracts, full-text printed copies of all the applications in a particular patent classification (an indexing system very much like a library catalogue system),
- electronic word searching of abstracts, claims or for some countries the full texts of patent documents, or (most likely)
- a combination of the two.

Unfortunately early patent applications made during the pioneer phase of stamp design and production are difficult to locate, especially in Australia. The Australian Patent Office's holding of almost all material pre-1920 is now held in the National Archives, Canberra, and would no doubt make a wonderful study for someone with the time and patience. Until recently very little pre-1975 patent material was available electronically, although through the efforts of the European Patents Office in particular this situation is now changing rapidly. I have therefore concentrated on the post 1975-period as it the most accessible to people with Internet access.

**A quick search of the European Patent Office site for the keywords "postage stamp" and "postal stamp" reveals about 200 patent applications, although some of these are 'equivalents,' the same application made in a number of countries. The accompanying table lists some of the more interesting patents applied for over the past 25 years or so from that source. I have limited the list to applications dealing with postage stamp design and production, although an enormous number of other patents exist for related technologies such as postal sorting (independent of the stamp), postal stationery and printing in general.**

## **Patent Classification**

In the days before electronic data base searching became possible, patent applicants were searched by keeping extensive files of patent documents categorised by a 'classification mark,' somewhat akin to a library cataloguing system. Every country had its own system. In the late 1960s, however, an International agreement led to the development of a single International Patent Classification (IPC) system. Most countries now use this systems although some, the USA being the most significant example, still insist on using their own classification system for internal workings, although they give IPC marks (not always reliable) on their published documents.

The structure of an IPC mark is designed to give increasing levels of detail from a broad general area of technology at the left, e.g.

B = methods and apparatus for performing operations in general  
B41 = printing

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B41M = printing methods (B41F = printing machines or presses)  
B41M 1/06 = lithographic printing processes

Some IPC marks relevant to the postal system, if not necessarily philately, are:

A45C 11/14	Pocket Holders for Postage Stamps
A47B	Letter racks
A47G 29/12 or 14	Household collection boxes for parcels
B07C	Postal sorting
B41F	Printing machines
B41M	Printing processes
B42	Filing letters
B42D 15/00	Postcards
B42D 15/02	Postal Orders
B43M 9/00	Letter weights
B65G 51/00	Pneumatic and related letter delivery systems.
B65D 91/00	Letter Boxes
B65G	Chutes in buildings for letters
G09F 3/00	Postage Stamps
G09F 23/00	Advertising on Letters

### Some Examples

Australia is a world leader in postage stamp technology, abstracts of three Australian inventions of major international significance being reproduced.<sup>1</sup> I'm sure you will recognise them.

In the following table (on pages 32-33), patents are identified as follows:

AU = Australian Patent Application  
EP = European Patent Application  
GB = Great Britain Granted Patent.  
US = United States Granted Patent.  
WO = International Patent Application.

The 'details' are my own summaries derived from the abstracts printed off the European Patent Office ('Esp@ce') Internet site.

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### CANBERRA PICTURE POSTCARD COLLECTORS

Open to anyone in Canberra not just members of the Philatelic Society of Canberra.

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<sup>1</sup> Note: In bold in table.

PATENT	PUBLISHED	APPLICANT	DETAILS
US 3833990	10 September 1974	BOCCARD, Madelaine	Embossed precious metal stamp.
US 3995741	7 December 1976	HENDERSON, Joseph	Postage stamps with design for specific destination, readable by sorting machine.
US 4201339	6 May 1980	GUNN, Damon	Stamp has bingo-game-like numbered grid, sender fills in detail eg. postcode.
US 4281243	28 July 1981	HUDLER, Heinz	Automated stamp locating system for sorting machine.
US 4625893	2 December 1986	GENEARL AERO PRODUCTS CO.	Postage stamp booklet vending machine.
US 4685994	11 August 1987	WODNICKI, Tomasz	Simplified stamp vending machine that pre-wets vended stamps.
US 4793070	27 December 1988	HOHNER, Horst	Tactile perforation gauge.
US 4876000	24 October 1989	MIKHAIL, Ameer	Two-part postage stamp with a non-design part for the sender to fill in postcode and other details for automatic sorting
WO 90/01764	22 February 1990	ENAGY LIMITED	Soluble protective layer on postage stamp adhesive surface
US 4921747	1 May 1990	STUDLEY, Ben	Self-adhesive stamp hinge.
<b>WO 91/18378</b>	<b>28 November 1991</b>	<b>AUSTRALIA POST</b>	<b>Self Adhesive postage stamp with simulated perforations.</b>
<b>GB 2257112</b>	<b>6 January 1993</b>	<b>LEIGH-MARDON PTY. LTD.</b>	<b>Peel and Stick Stamp Booklet.</b>
WO 93/21620	28 October 1993	SPRITPAK PTY LTD and PRINTSET CAMBEC PTY. LTD.	Postage stamp with patterned luminescent coating: cancellation ink soaks non-coated areas, coated areas remain clear of ink for luminescent detection in sorting machine.
WO 94/01852	20 January 1994	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	Self-adhesive stamp strip for ATM dispensing.
US 5296279	22 March 1994	AVERY DENNISON CORPORATION	Self adhesive stamps in sheet of two panels separated by a transverse peel strip.
US 5307423	26 April 1994	GUPTA, Om et. al.	Electronic mail sorting system which recognises handwritten characters in pre-defined squares.
US 5313404	17 May 1994	WU, Sheng	Automatic postal teller machine.
GB 2275668	7 September 1994	EDIWIRIRA, Gananth	Stamp with embedded data chip.
GB 2278824	14 December 1994	LEIGH-MARDON PTY. LTD.	Method of producing postage stamp with UV cured luminescent varnish over design.

PATENT	PUBLISHED	APPLICANT	DETAILS
US 5415341	16 May 1995	DIAMOND, Elliott	Multi-use postal stationery business envelope with address and postage fields either exposed or covered with removable flaps.
US 5423573	13 June 1995	CANADA POST	Two part self-adhesive stamp, with separate decorative design to be stuck on part with indicia.
EP 659576	28 June 1995	PALMA, John	Disposable frank stamp machine.
US 5461187	24 October 1995	DUDLEY, Roger	Musical envelope plays tune that is appropriate to stamp design.
US 5503436	2 April 1996	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	Self-adhesive stamps on bank-note sized sheet, two panes separated by central strip, for automatic teller machine. (very similar to US 5296279 above)
US 5505132	9 April 1996	WARREN, David et. al.	Weather-resistant field postage stamp cancellation apparatus.
GB 2306125	30 April 1997	HAWKINS, Richard	Postage stamp mount with discontinuous adhesive on both sides.
US 5667249	16 September 1997	CRITELLI, Michael	Magnetic 'switch' in stamp paper activated in passing through sorting machine renders stamp non re-useable.
US 5848810	15 December 1998	MOORE BUSINESS FORMS, INC.	Self-Adhesive Bulk Rate Postage labels.
US 5863384	26 January 1999	REDDY, Surender	Dispenser for self-adhesive stamps.
US 5873605	23 February 1999	KAPLAN, Kenneth	Personalised vending-machine postage stamp with preprinted indicia and space for image of purchaser from the vending machine.
US 5923405	13 July 1999	PITNEY BOWES INC.	Vending machine for personalised stamps.
US 5943432	24 August 1999	GILMORE, Jack	Postage stamp with bar coded indicia.
US 5988252	23 November 1999	CARROL, William	Vending machine for self-adhesive stamps on strips.
WO 99/60551	25 November 1999	AUSTRALIA POST	<b>Personalised stamps with photograph on tab attached to pre-printed postage stamp.</b>

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
International Bureau



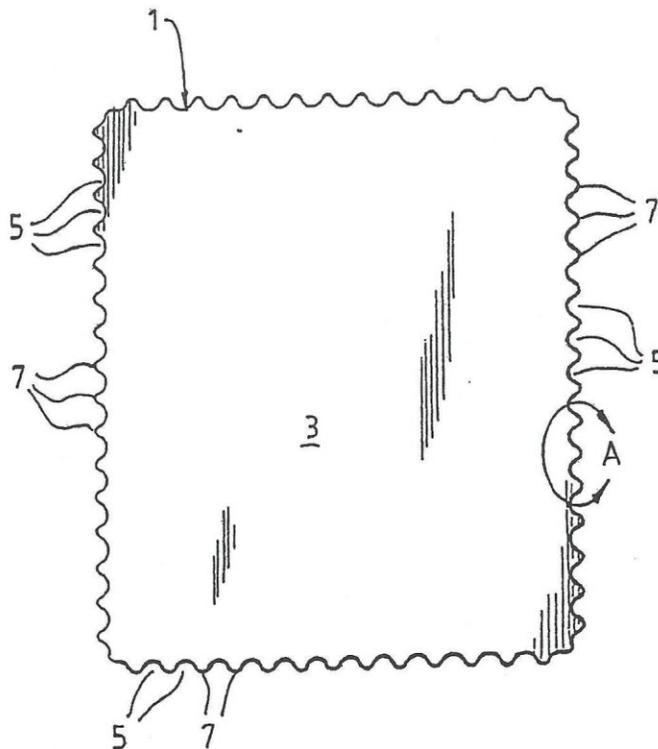
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>5</sup> : G09F 3/10, 3/02, B26F 1/44 B31D 1/02</p>	<p>A1</p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 91/18378</b> (43) International Publication Date: 28 November 1991 (28.11.91)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU91/00200 (22) International Filing Date: 13 May 1991 (13.05.91)  (30) Priority data: PK 0143 15 May 1990 (15.05.90) AU PK 2751 10 October 1990 (10.10.90) AU 70870/91 8 February 1991 (08.02.91) AU  (71) Applicant: AUSTRALIAN POSTAL CORPORATION trading as AUSTRALIA POST [AU/AU]; 321 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (AU).  (72) Inventors: POWER, John, Rodney ; Australian Postal Corporation, 321 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (AU). GRAY, Robert ; 40 Oakbank Road, Mornington, VIC 3931 (AU). AVERY, Kerry ; Pemara Labels, 278 Ferntree Gully Road, Notting Hill, VIC 3168 (AU). SMITH, H. ; Rotra Engravers, 32 Cromwell Street, Colingwood, VIC 3066 (AU).</p>	<p>(74) Agent: BRETT, Noel, Thomas; Griffith Hack &amp; Co., 601 St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, VIC 3004 (AU).  (81) Designated States: AT (European patent), AU, BE (European patent), BR, CA, CH (European patent), DE (European patent), DK (European patent), ES (European patent), FR (European patent), GB (European patent), GR (European patent), IT (European patent), JP, LU (European patent), NL (European patent), SE (European patent).  Published With international search report.</p>	

(54) Title: STAMPS

(57) Abstract

An improved stamp is disclosed which has the appearance of a conventional perforated edge stamp. The stamp has simulated edge perforations (1) produced by cutting a series of concave portions (5) and series of convex portions (7). The concave portions (5) smoothly terminate with the concave portions (7). The stamps can be produced on an elongate web (3) and be carried on a backing web (17) by a peel and stick adhesive (9). By cutting the simulated perforations (1) with the smoothly terminating concave, convex portions (5, 7) it is possible to strip unwanted skeleton material on which the stamp is printed from the backing web (17), thereby leaving the stamps in spaced apart separate relation on the backing web (17) for subsequent individual peeling therefrom. A method for producing the stamps and a cutting die for cutting the stamps is also disclosed.



(12) **UK Patent Application** (19) **GB** (11) **2 257 112 A**  
 (43) Date of A publication 06.01.1993

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<p>(71) Applicant                  Leigh-Mardon Pty Limited                  (Incorporated in Australia - Victoria)                  1144 Nepean Highway, Highett 3190,                  Victoria, Australia</p> <p>(72) Inventor                  Nigel Taylor</p> <p>(74) Agent and/or Address for Service                  Lloyd Wise, Tregear &amp; Co                  Norman House, 105-109 Strand,                  London, WC2R 0AE, United Kingdom</p>	

(54) Arrays of postage stamps

(57) A composite article 1 comprises a first sheet of material having postage stamps 32 printed on one side thereof and a pressure sensitive material on the other side thereof; and a second sheet of material having a surface which is releasably secured to said pressure sensitive adhesive and wherein the postage stamps are arranged in columns and/or rows and wherein two adjacent stamps are separated from one another by a single die cut line 33 simulating the perforations of a conventional postage stamp. The die cut line defines alternating projections and recesses and may be generally sinusoidal or comprise a number of arcs, e.g. of a circle. The composite article may be folded about a fold line 43 to form a booklet of stamps.

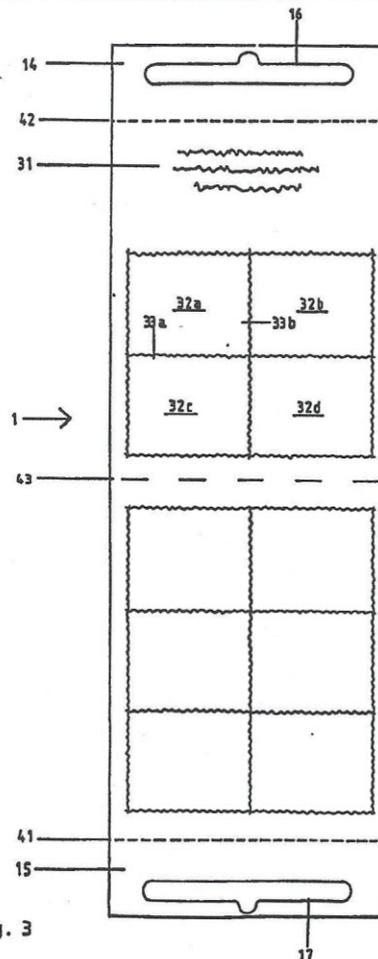


Fig. 3

At least one drawing originally filed was informal and the print reproduced here is taken from a later filed formal copy.

GB 2 257 112 A



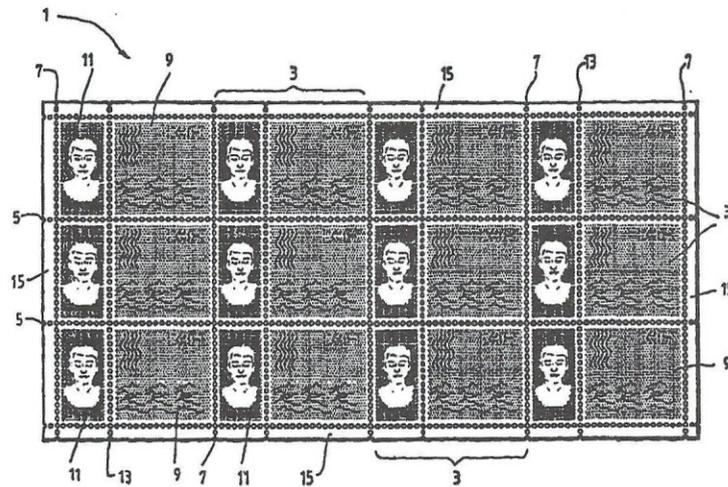
PCT

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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU99/00346                  (22) International Filing Date: 7 May 1999 (07.05.99)                  (30) Priority Data:                  PP 3517 14 May 1998 (14.05.98) AU                  PP 8831 24 February 1999 (24.02.99) AU                  (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): AUSTRALIAN POSTAL CORPORATION trading as AUSTRALIA POST [AU/AU]; 321 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (AU).                  (72) Inventors; and                  (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BRAMSTEDT, Gary, Charles [AU/AU]; 18 Oтира Road, Knoxfield, VIC 3180 (AU). MCDUGALL, Ross [AU/AU]; 27 Indra Road, Blackburn South, VIC 3130 (AU).                  (74) Agent: GRIFFITH HACK PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK ATTORNEYS; G.P.O. Box 1285K, Melbourne, VIC 3001 (AU).</p>	<p>(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published With international search report.</p>	

(54) Title: PERSONALISED STAMPS



(57) Abstract

Postage stamps (3) are produced which enable individual personalisation with an image chosen by a person wishing to use the postage stamp (3). Each stamp has a primary area (9) on which an official stamp image required for postal validation is applied. Each stamp (3) also has a secondary area (11) where a personalising image can be applied. The personalising image can be any image and in one example can comprise the face of a person applying the stamp (3) to a postal article. The personalising image in the secondary area (11) is applied as a second printing process to the stamp (3). Each stamp (3) is produced in a sheet of stamps and can be separated from the sheet for applying to the postal article so that the stamp contains both the primary area (9) and the secondary area (11).

## AN INTERESTING COVER: BY HORSE AND BUGGY TO NORMANTON

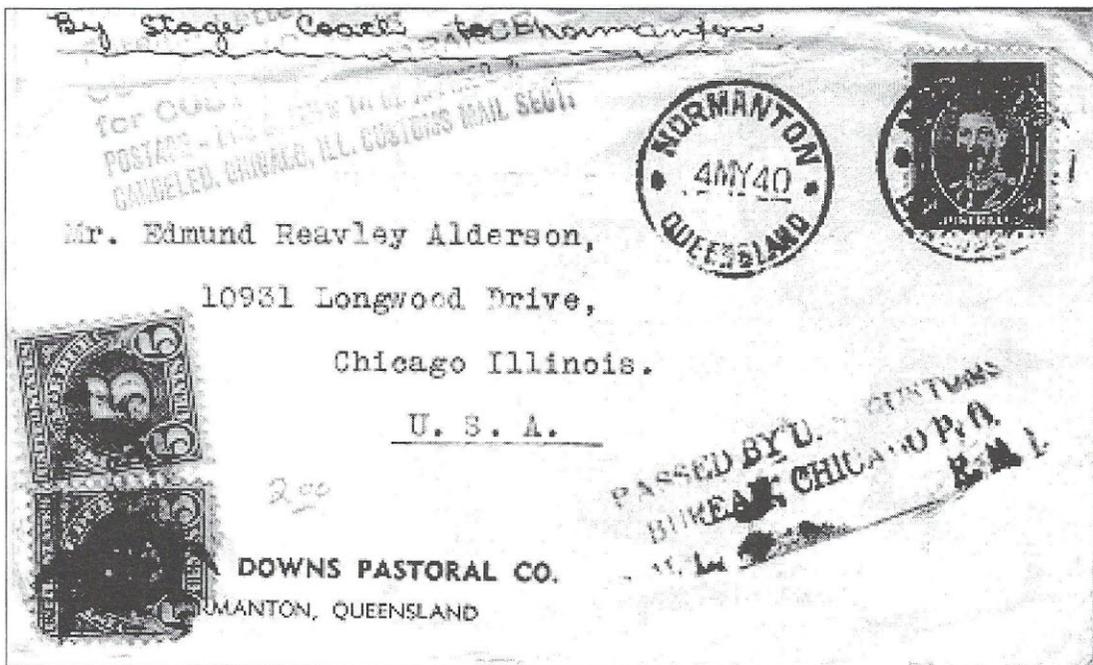
Ian McMahon

I recently obtained, along with a range of other material, a cover posted from Normanton (in the Gulf Country in North Queensland) to the USA on 4 May 1940. The cover has the annotation 'By Stage Coach to Normanton' in the upper left hand corner and was franked by a 3d King George VI definitive paying the surface mail rate to the USA. It has a return address from the Miranda Downs Pastoral Company, Normanton and has been opened by US Customs and bearing the handstamps:

*FOREIGN LETTER POSTAGE  
COLLECT 10 CENTS  
FOR CUSTOMS CLEARANCE  
POSTAGE DUE STAMP TO BE AFFIXED &  
CANCELED. CHICAGO ILL CUSTOMS MAIL SECT.*

and

*PASSED BY US CUSTOMS  
BUREAU CHICAGO PO*



From 1 October 1925, the UPU allowed the passage of dutiable material through the letter mail system and provided for a 10c duty to be charged. The letter, being from a company and most likely containing Australian stamps, was opened by US Customs and charged the 10c fee which was duly paid by two 5c US postage due stamps.

Of particular interest was the letter in the envelope, which was from a T M Campbell, Post Mistress, who wrote from the Miranda Downs Pastoral Company, Normanton on 29 April 1940 to Edmund Alderson of Chicago:

*I have this day received your letter dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> March for which I thank you.*

*I am pleased that you were thrilled about Mr. Twyford's letter in the magazine about the Stage Coach Mail.*

## Capital Philately

*I will give you the information about the Stage Coach Route and will also enclose you some stamps which I hope will be what you require.*

*Now with reference to this mail route this is run by a buggy and horses to the different properties, the mailman leaves Normanton (this being our nearest post town 75 miles from "Miranda") after collecting all mails for the various Stations, he leaves this town on Thursday afternoon and comes that night to a place known as "Maggieville" owned by the "Delta Downs" Pastoral Company. Then he goes to "Glencoe" this is owned by William Ballard, then he proceeds to "Stirling" this is owned by the "Vanrook" Pastoral Coy Pty Ltd. From here he comes to "Miranda" then across to "Vanrook" owned by the same Coy as "Stirling" then he goes on to "Lotus Vale" this is owned by Mr. R. Tones, then he makes his last call at "Clarendon" this being owned by Bell & Doxling. Now he is on his return trip to Normanton, and a very weary old journey it is too, you can imagine, now each Station has its own mail bag these being sealed by the-Postmaster at Normanton before leaving that town and after receiving mail we seal all bags then same are handed to the Post Office in Normanton by our mailman.*

*From about the first of January we do not receive mail from this service sometimes for about from eight to ten weeks as all the roads are too boggy and Rivers and Creeks are in very flood, at times the mailman can boat across these Rivers but not often as the roads are not trafficable if the rivers are not passable, so you can see that he has a very weary journey.*

*The one man has been running this service for about ten years now and a few years back he met with an accident and this resulted in him losing his arm, so he since then runs this service with the assistance of an Aboriginal. He runs to his time table when the roads are trafficable and of course all look forward to his weekly visit.*

*During the wet months of this year we had our mail landed at the Station by plane, at times, the weather was not even suitable for flying so we were once this year eight weeks with out a mail as we had a tremendous flood.*

*Would you like snaps of different things in Australia or would you like to know any thing more about Australia? If you do I will be very pleased to hear from you and also hope that the information that I have given will be what you require.*

---

### **Machin Interest Group**

of the

### **Philatelic Society of Canberra**

Collectors interested in the Machin series should join. The group's newsletter *Machinations* is issued bi-monthly and contains a wealth of useful information for the Machin collector.

For more information contact Albert Farrugia on 02 6295 7487  
or look in the internet at <http://www.tip.net.au/~albfar/mig.htm>

## The Danish "GEBYR" stamps

By H P Burgman

Translated from an article in *Het Noorderlicht*, June 1999.

(translation by Hans Karman)

It seems there are collectors of Danish stamps who don't know what purpose the *Gebyr* stamps was, what that charge was and how it worked and what its purpose was. We are talking about "was" because the use of *Gebyr* stamps was abolished in 1962.

F. Form. Nr. 48 (1/7 1919)

**Attest**  
for  
**Indkøb af Frigørelsesmidler**

D. D. er her indkøbt følgende Frigørelsesmidler:  
4/25      1/10

.....  
.....

hvorfor er betalt ..... 60 Kr. Øre  
samt for denne Attest ..... 5 Øre

Kolding Post 02-02-1920  
(Underskrift)

Som Køber er opgivet:  
Kolding

**Figure 1:** "Attest" of a proof of purchase of stamps, value 60 Kr. An attest was issued by the Danish Post Office to assist the book keeping of companies, at a fee of 5 øre. This attest was written at KOLDING, 02-02-1920. The stamps was cancelled with an oval office stamp (KOLDING).

If we look up the Danish word *Gebyr* in a dictionary we will find as translation "levy of charges". In the English literature I consulted one talks about "Late Fee stamps". The English word *fee* is a close approximation. The simplest is to use the word *surcharge*, but to avoid confusion with the surcharges applied to some stamps for charity purposes, I personally would prefer to use the term *service surcharge*. However the most appropriate and correct word is, I think, *expenses*.

Well, what did these *expenses* consist of, how were they calculated and how were they paid? (see Figure 1)

Let us start with what the FACIT catalogue writes about it, translated loosely: "Fee paid for a special service, used from 1923 to 1962. Before 1923 this fee was paid in cash, or was charged by means of ordinary stamps". There is also an additional note: "Prices of covers apply also to cut-outs of address cards, receipts, etc".(see Figure 2)

That doesn't get us anywhere.

The AFA reports as follows, again translated loosely: "Until 1923 various services of the post office, such as sealing of letters, filling in of

forms, etc., had to be paid in cash by placing postage stamps on the item. From April 1923 special *Gebyrmærke* were issued which were to be placed on serviced items and cancelled. In 1962 the Danish Post Office stopped the use of these special stamps and in their place ordinary current postage stamps were to be used. There was no last day of use stipulated. The post offices had to finish their supply of *gebyr* stamps before they started to use ordinary stamps.

The same is written in the book *The Postage Stamps of Denmark 1851-1951*, by J Schmidt-Andersen. He adds the comment "... Cancelled, often with a special handstamp." He also mentions: "Fee

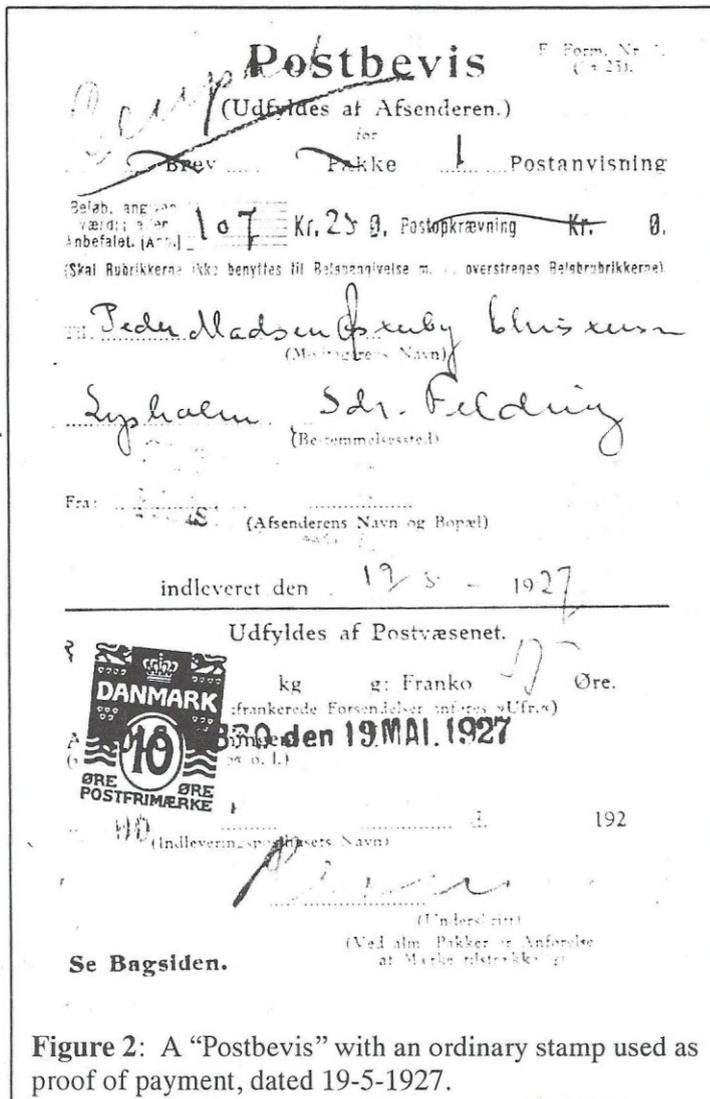


Figure 2: A "Postbevis" with an ordinary stamp used as proof of payment, dated 19-5-1927.

stamps are also used at certain postal offices as receipts for the special charges made for registered letters, etc., handed in outside normal office hours. At some of the smaller postal offices ordinary stamps endorsed with the word *gebyr* (fee), either in manuscript or by means of a rubber stamp, have been used instead of proper Fee Stamps".

In the first part of *Danske Breve* we find the same story, however it adds that it was possible to present letters not only after closing time but also before post office opening hours. In that case the *gebyr* was also payable. (see Figure 3)

All things considered, a surcharge was payable for defined actions on postal articles, mostly extra services offered outside normal opening times. That applied to the presentation of sendings with extra services, such as registered or express letters, insured letters, postal orders, parcels and the like. Issuing a receipt for bookkeeping purposes, for instance for the purchase of stamps, also attracted the surcharge.

When receipts were issued the stamps had to be stuck into the receipt book which was issued with the stamps. When parcels were sent the stamps were attached to the "adressekort". If a parcel was handed in at a post office and it was not packed in accordance with the postal acts and a post office clerk had to repack it then a *gebyr* was levied. That was not just for the effort of packing a parcel, but also for the supply of packing materials such as paper and string.

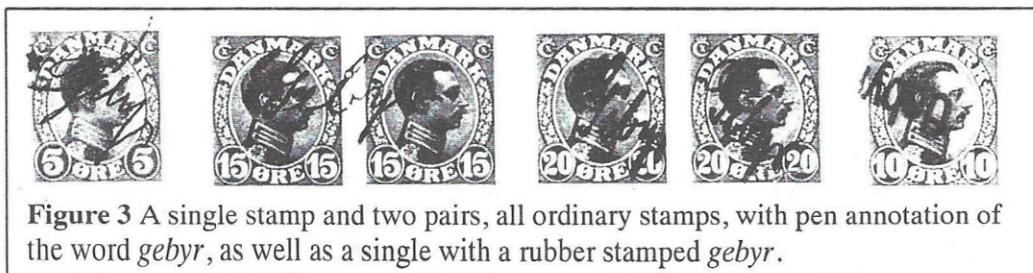
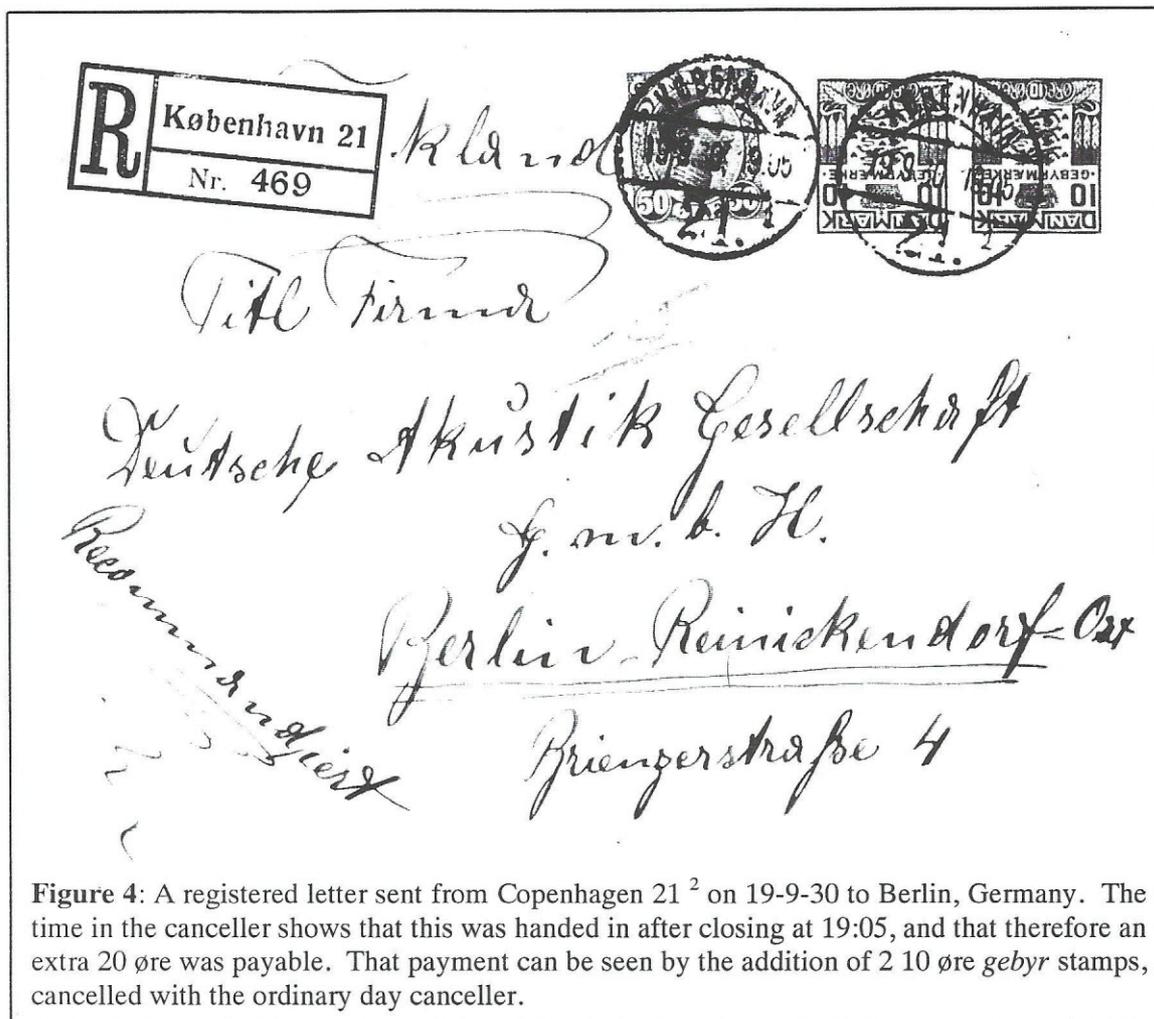


Figure 3 A single stamp and two pairs, all ordinary stamps, with pen annotation of the word *gebyr*, as well as a single with a rubber stamped *gebyr*.

*Gebyr* also had to be paid if the counter clerks had to perform any extra actions, or if they had to use any of the materials available at the post office had to be used. When sending cash the sender had to pay not only for counting the money, but also for sealing the letter, for the use of the sealing wax an extra 10 øre was payable. If the postal clerk did all these things the service would cost also 10 øre *gebyr*. The stamps used to account for these services, whether provisional or proper *gebyr* stamps, were attached to the item and cancelled with the standard canceller together with the stamps. (see Figure 4)



**Figure 4:** A registered letter sent from Copenhagen 21<sup>2</sup> on 19-9-30 to Berlin, Germany. The time in the canceller shows that this was handed in after closing at 19:05, and that therefore an extra 20 øre was payable. That payment can be seen by the addition of 2 10 øre *gebyr* stamps, cancelled with the ordinary day canceller.

I can report some of the tariffs that applied at the time. After this *gebyr* was established, sometime in 1919, until 30-6-1920 inclusive, the tariff for postal services was 10 øre. From 1-7-1920 the tariff was increased to 20 øre.

The tariff for the issue of receipts for the purchase of stamps and other goods issued by the post office was first 5 øre and 10 øre after 1-7-1920. (see Figure 5 over page)

### Customs Duty

Someone asked me what function these stamps had in the payment of customs duty. I have to say honestly that all enquiries and research on my part have achieved nothing. Use of these stamps for customs purposes is not only unknown to me but also unknown to all the Danish “experts” I contacted.

In the Yvert & Tellier catalogue it is reported: “They were used also for customs declarations”. But I suspect that the Yvert & Tellier catalogue translated a note out of some Danish catalogue or other wrongly, or rather misinterpreted such a note, and interpreted the word *gebyr* as “tax”. That would be reinforced by the fact that the Copenhagen 21 post office was, and still is, located in the Central Station. In this office was a Customs office was also located. At this Customs counter one could not only pay for import duties on goods arriving by train, but could also carry out the postal services needed, by oneself or by the postal clerks.

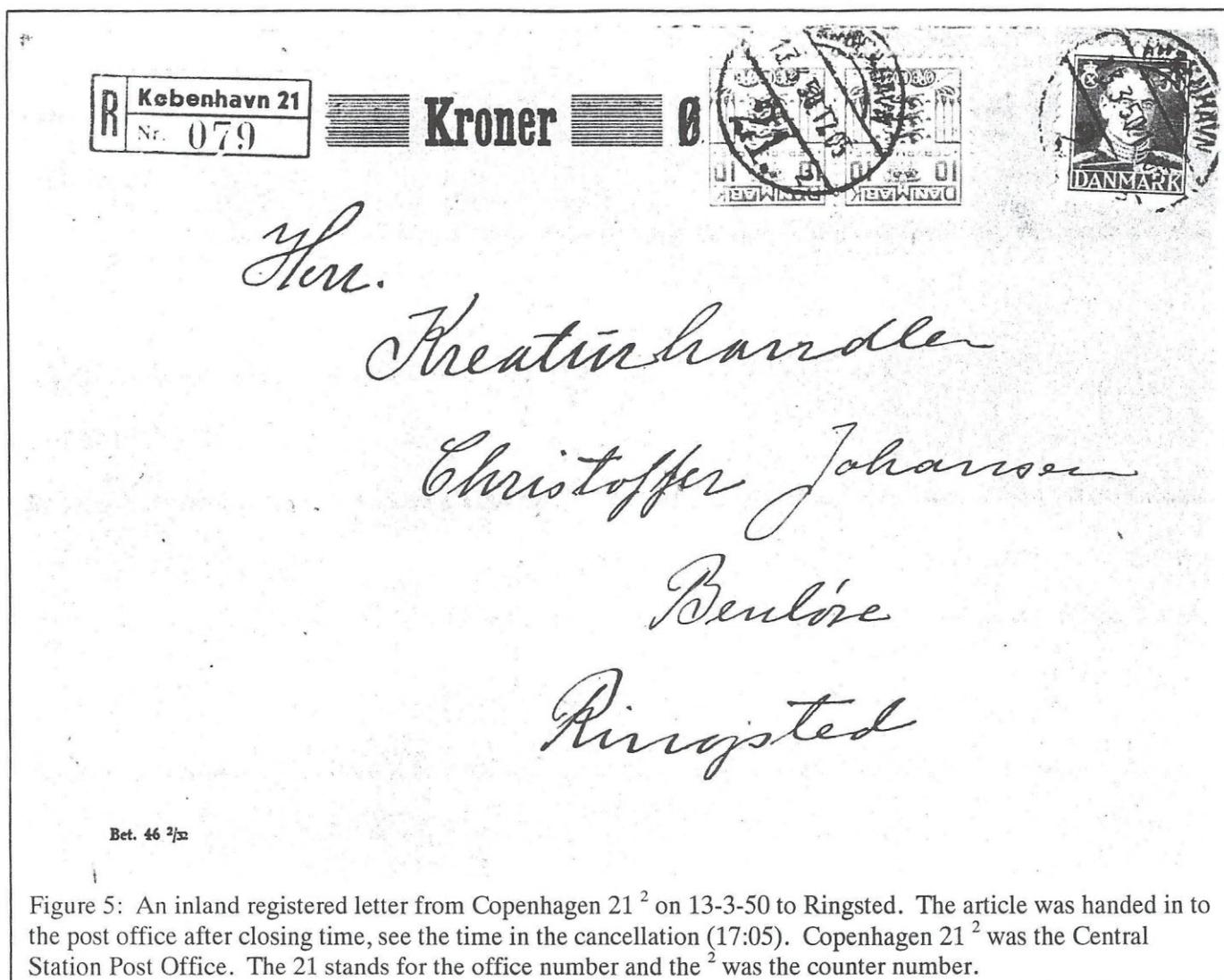


Figure 5: An inland registered letter from Copenhagen 21<sup>2</sup> on 13-3-50 to Ringsted. The article was handed in to the post office after closing time, see the time in the cancellation (17:05). Copenhagen 21<sup>2</sup> was the Central Station Post Office. The 21 stands for the office number and the <sup>2</sup> was the counter number.

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## **THE CHALON HEADS - A BROCK AND KOLLA MYSTERY**

**by Barry Maitland.**

**Published in 1999 by Allen and Unwin, Australia. Paperback ,326 pages. RRP \$22.95.**

Sammy Starling is a British millionaire who acquired his fortune in a rather dubious manner. His two joys in life are his collection of Chalon Heads and his young wife, Eva, who bears more than a passing resemblance to the young Queen Victoria.

His world is shattered however when his wife is kidnapped. The kidnappers ransom notes come with a copy of a Van Dieman's Land 1d carmine Chalon Head issued in 1855 stuck on the letter and mutilated in a way to indicate what would happen to Sammy's wife if he didn't pay the ransom.

Two further letters arrive with 2d green and 4d blue Van Dieman's Land Chalon Heads. The ransom is Lot no 15 in a prominent stamp dealer's forthcoming auction. The cover, bearing a unique copy of a Canadian Chalon Head, is estimated at 450 000 pounds but is expected to go much higher.

The job falls to Detective Inspector David Brock and Detective Sergeant Kathy Kolla to solve the mystery. The reader is immediately thrown into the sordid world of stamp collecting; the obsessive behavior of collectors and their unusual habits, reputable and seedy dealers and the world of counterfeiters and their products.

Who is the kidnapper and what becomes of poor Eva? Was it the jealous stamp collecting neighbor, the master counterfeiter, the seedy stamp dealer or someone from Sammy's murky past bend on revenge. To find out you will need to read the book, either by buying a copy from your favourite good bookshop or by borrowing the copy in the Library. You can recognise the book by the Grenada 1d Chalon Heads on the cover.

Ian McMahon

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## **SELL MORE STAMPS; APPLYING PSYCHOLOGY TO PHILATELIC DEALING**

**By Robert J. Gregory**

Most philatelic monographs focus on detailed study of a country or a topic. *Sell more stamps* does not fit that mould and despite its title, is not a marketing handbook for stamp traders. The author Robert Gregory is a lecturer and researcher at the School of Psychology at Massey University in North Island of New Zealand. The foreword outlines his dreams, as a life-long stamp collector, of becoming a stamp dealer and also of being part-time writer. He combined these aspirations by contributing articles to *The Stamp Wholesaler*, these commenced in 1991 and still continue. *Selling more stamps* reprints many of these articles together with additional new material. The book is divided the seventy chapters, many of which are only two or three pages in length, into five sections. These are:

- Stamps
- Selling
- Marketing
- Customers
- Future opportunities

The attraction of the book is the easy-to-read style. It is a model of effective and interesting writing for effective communication and most of the chapters are accompanied by delightful anecdotes. Many of the contributions discuss the links between psychological theory and collecting and dealing.

## Capital Philately

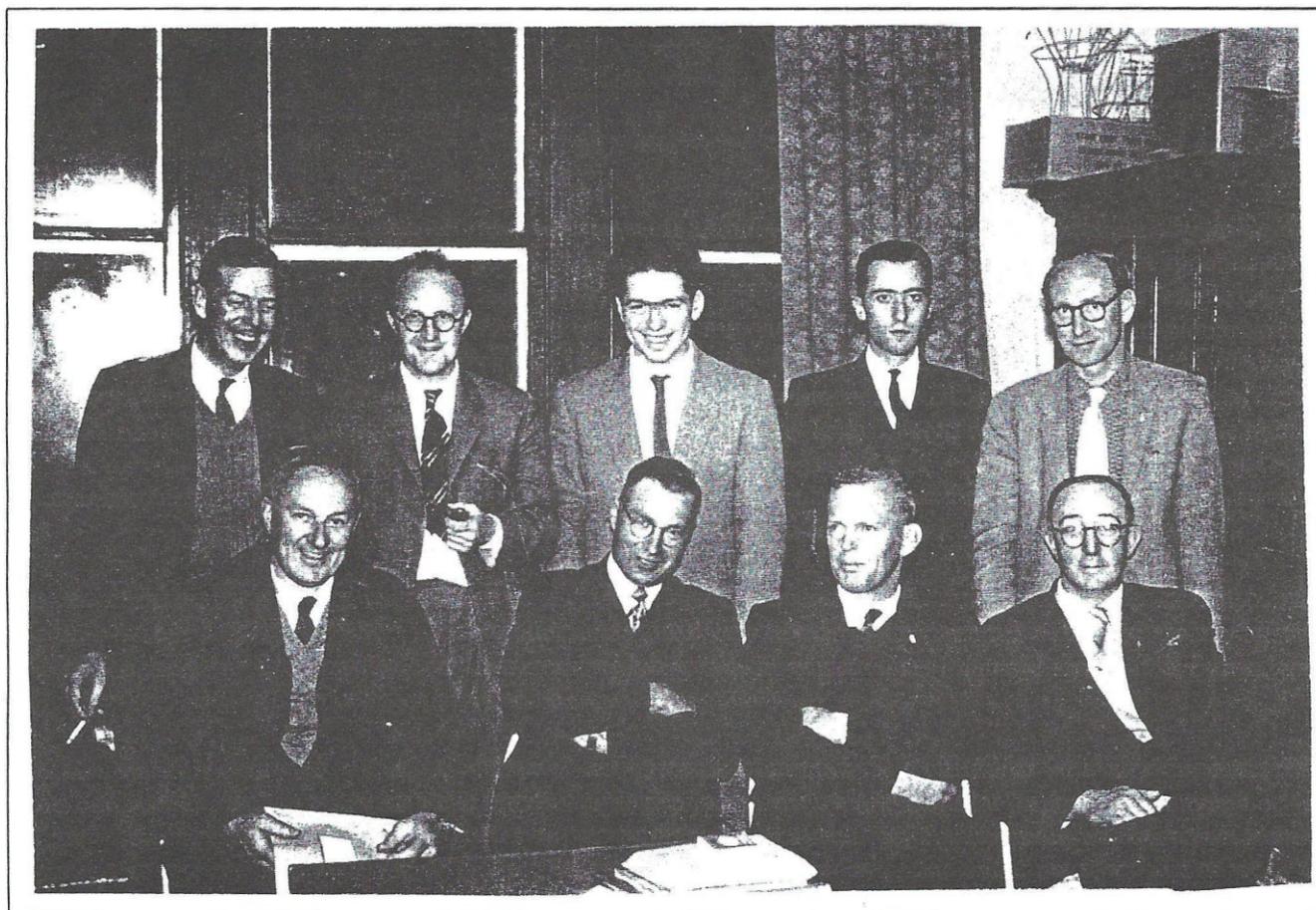
This sounds like heavy stuff but in reality, it provides a most enjoyable read. Each of the chapters has its own fascination and there are some thoughtful contributions on the attraction of stamp collecting for the physically disabled and its role in rehabilitation.

The book has a thin card cover with an attractive design and comprises 167 pages. It would make a marvellous Christmas or birthday present for any collector (or dealer!). It is obtainable from Paul A. Eaton, Calder Publications, 168 Rangiora Rd, Otaki New Zealand, the price is \$NZ29.95 including postage and packing to Australian addresses, for other international destinations the price is \$NZ34.95. It was entered in Canberra Stampshow 2000 and was awarded a Vermeil in the State Literature Class. One of the copies submitted for judging is in the Society's library. I was impressed enough to buy my own copy!

Dingle Smith

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### FOUND IN THE ARCHIVES



Back Row **Cliff de Goede, Doug Ross, Tom Frommer, George Peterson, David Haldane**  
Front Row **Jim Gregory, Ron Hyeronimus, Laurie Higginson, Arthur Hart**

This is an enlargement of a photograph found by one of our members, Doug Ross, in his own archives. The photograph is from a meeting of the Philatelic Society of Canberra from 1960 or 1961. The majority of the members will probably not recognise more than two or three in this photograph. However, a younger Doug Ross and a very young Tom Frommer are well known to current members. All the rest are deceased but it is interesting to note that there were no female members and that the meeting had only these nine members present. It is also interesting to note that two members were smoking, something that is hard to imagine at a meeting today.

*(Ed. If any other members have photographs which they think may be of interest to other Society members please let me have a copy and I will publish it.)*



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