

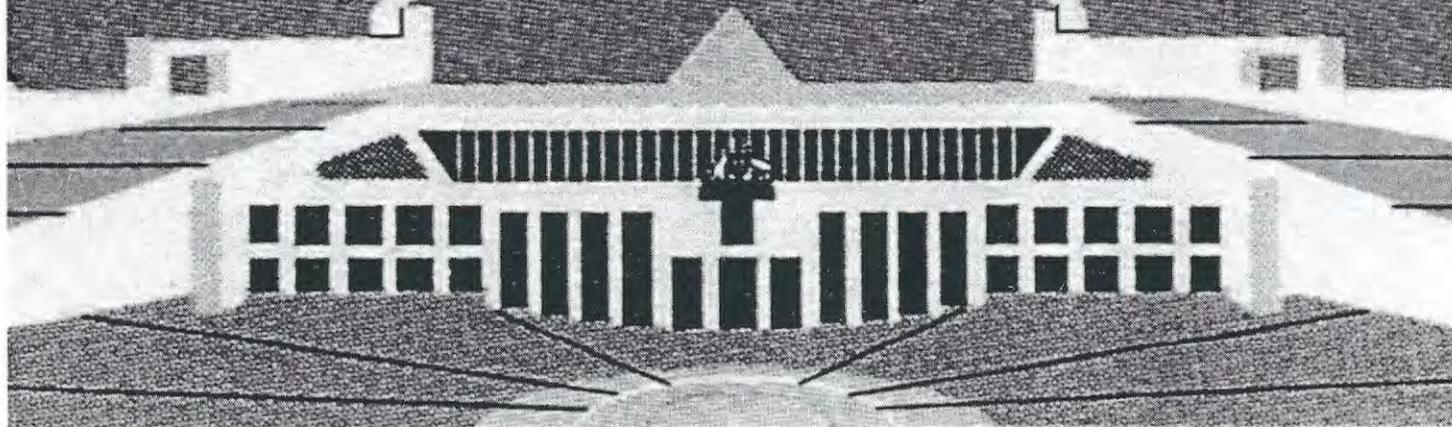
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February 2002



# Capital Philately

*incorporating 'Postcards'  
and 'Machinations'*

Published by the Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.



## CANBERRA STAMPSHOW 2002 EDITION

Inside: What's new in exhibiting, From NSW to England in 1840, Organised Philately, Maltese Postmen's Personal Handstamps and The Philatelic Detective—Getting Around A War Zone.



**The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.**

(Founded 1932)  
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### EDITORIAL

Most of you may now know that Darryl Fuller, the previous editor, of *Capital Philately*, has resigned as he is moving to Norfolk Island. We wish him well in his new and historic environment. As President it is my task to rearrange things to ensure continuity of publication at the efficient level of content and presentation that has been established by previous editors. Editing a journal is one of the tasks that becomes familiar to those of us with a journalistic or senior academic background, so for this issue I am guest editor. It is my wish to see future issues being overseen by various guest editors in conjunction with a regular Editorial Board approach. The work involved in creating a journal has changed its character markedly since the introduction of electronic printing and publishing, and the diversity of skills that go to creating pleasing and informative content, layout and production are now rarely skills found in the hands of one person. Collaboration is imperative, without any of us needing to be reminded that a camel is a horse designed by a committee.

I want to reflect on an aspect of philately that is sometimes treated as almost indecent to discuss. The late Ed Druce wisely introduced the notion of frugal philately as a competition category, but we all know that some of the great collections which get gold medals involve very large expense, and even the help of others to produce layouts and information support that convey an image of erudition and quality. This situation is of course paralleled in any collecting hobby, from buying impressionist art to vintage cars and yacht sailing. Philately is perhaps the marked exception in that with a bit of shrewdness it can be done satisfyingly and frugally.

As I write this the Euro has been introduced to twelve nation states in Europe as the common currency, and despite the efforts of some of the media to poormouth anything, the transition has gone well. Philatelists will have noticed some of the lengthy preparation involved; countries like France, Italy and Germany have already had dual currency on their definitive stamps. That is, the stamps which do the bulk of real postal work. But it is not just the twelve countries that now will have definitives with a sole denomination in Euros on each stamp, it is the tiny administrations of Andorra, the Vatican, San Marino, and some of the smaller Balkan countries who have been recently using the Deutschmark as their working currency who have to produce their new definitives. There is a rich field for philatelic study in this handover; postage due charges on the use of obsolete denominations will, I assume, happen eventually. Consider the case of Andorra, which due to strange historical reasons has had stamps in two currencies, French and Spanish, for a long while since it began having its own stamps in the 1920s. Now it has only one currency to contend with. As it is

definitive stamps that are most impacted by this economic coalescence, it should be an area for frugal philately if one gets in early and focusses in part on postal history.

Many collectors collect backwards. This to say, they find some contemporary issues interesting, and then fill in backwards to the earliest issues they can afford. There is a growing interest, at least in Europe, in the issues of the independent republics that were formed following the break up of the Soviet Union. Some of these, such as Ukraine, Armenia, or Georgia had briefly issued their own stamps during a transient epoch of independence following the collapse of the Tsarist Empire. For years these stamps were in the doldrums, except for a small handful of enthusiasts, now elderly, who had collected the stamps when they were around in relatively small quantities. Now the catalogue values of these issues are meaningless and the auction prices have in some cases gone through the roof, as people try to collect backwards to get historical depth to their collections. There are fashions in philately, as in any other human endeavour that involves exchange of goods, but it is wise to look at what is happening now if you want a collection that is interesting and rich in unusual but ephemeral material.

Enjoy Stamp Show, and think what is likely to emerge as collectable themes in future shows in the light of what I have remarked on. This special issue of Capital Philately has been constructed with collaboration to give valuable background information about philately in the ACT and in Australia, and to present articles that inform in an historical and social perspective about postal history that many of us now collect. Our regular and continuing features will appear again in the next issue. The Editorial Board is looking towards the future of philatelic publishing, as our society has an embryo web page, which could begin to carry colour illustrations to parallel the monochrome ones in this journal. We hope that we can help to stimulate and sustain your interest and enjoyment in our hobby.



Prof. R. A. M. Gregson,  
19 Weir Place,  
Christchurch 2,  
New Zealand

*New Zealand and Antarctica 1977*

*"Welcome to our New Zealand Visitors for Canberra Stampshow 2002."*

## WHAT'S NEW IN EXHIBITING?

**Dingle Smith**

In Australia there are many thousands of stamp collectors, several hundred of whom enter competitive stamps exhibitions. Exhibits are subject to rules and regulations and the judging criteria follow those of the Fédération Internationale Philatélique (FIP), the controlling international body. Basic to exhibiting and judging is the selection of the 'class' of the exhibit. Competitive philately has the image of being the prerogative of experts and wealthy collectors and that it is a static and straight-jacketed pursuit. All of these perceptions are wrong!

Organised philately with a systematic approach to exhibiting only commenced in Australia in the early 1980s. The series of annual national exhibitions (in which competitive displays are the key); State and regional shows are relatively new. The number of competitive classes was limited with an emphasis on Traditional, Postal History, Postal Stationery and Aerophilately. This restricted the kinds of material that could be shown. Bluntly, many potential exhibitors were effectively debarred because their exhibits did not fit the existing rules.

Notable additions to the classes of exhibits offered at Australian exhibitions over the last twenty years include Revenues, First Day Covers, Polar, Social and Frugal Philately. Indeed, the Australian Philatelic Federation (APF) has been instrumental in the FIP extending its approved classes to include Revenues and Social Philately at international exhibitions.

### **The Role of the Society**

The role of The Philatelic Society of Canberra in introducing and promoting new classes has been outstanding. The now universally popular Social Philately class was first offered at AUSTAMP 90 held at the Bruce Indoor Stadium in March 1990. The late Ed Druce was the motivating force in designing the original rules – he also won the first gold medal in the class! The popularity of Social Philately has been such that it was offered experimentally at AUSTAMP 98, the international exhibition held in Melbourne and is now firmly established on the international philatelic scene.

Frugal Philately, for which no frame must have a commercial value in excess of \$150.00, was also a Canberra innovation. It first appeared at Canberra Stampshow 1996. This class was designed to appeal to the less affluent collector and although it has not enjoyed the success of Social philately it has made regular appearance at shows in Australia, and will be included in Stampshow 2002.

### **Canberra Stampshow 2002**

Building on this earlier record, Canberra Stampshow 2002 incorporates two further innovations. These are:

- As You Like It
- The Australasian Challenge

### **As You Like It (ASYL)**

This new class can be regarded as the ultimate in allowing exhibitors a full choice of what they show and how they show it. It has no rules!

This of course, is an anathema to judges, and the class will be assessed by the viewing public. Engraved exhibition medals will not be awarded, (this helps to keep the entry fee to a minimum!) but all exhibitors will receive a certificate and the winner a suitable prize. Above all the ASYL exhibits are designed to be fun – do view the exhibits and vote (only once please!).

### The Australasian Challenge

Stamp exhibiting has traditionally been an individual pursuit; the aim of the Australasian Challenge is to create a team competition. Interestingly, the first moves in this direction were from the FIP with an experimental Nation's Cup in Europe in 2000.

The Philatelic Council of the ACT issued the Challenge to all Australian States. The competition as initially called the 'Inter-State Challenge' but the name was change to accommodate the entry of additional teams from the North and South Islands of New Zealand.

Each team is required to enter six exhibits; five of these are from adult exhibitors and one from a youth exhibitor. The adult entries must each be from a different exhibiting class recognised by the APF and consist of five frames. One of the adult entries must from a novice, defined as someone who has not previously entered a National level exhibition. The novice entry is in the range of three to five frames, the size of the Youth entry depends on the age category of the exhibitor with no restrictions on the topic.

All the Australian States and North and South Islands of New Zealand have accepted the Challenge and entered Stampshow 2002. The ACT has not entered a team as it is the host and will supply the majority of the Jury. Each entry will be marked out of a total score of 100 points in accordance with FIP/APF judging criteria. The team with the highest aggregate mark for its six exhibits will be declared the winner.

As a tribute to the late Ed Druce, undoubtedly the Society's most outstanding member and among the world's leading philatelists, the winning team will receive the Ed Druce Memorial Trophy. This incorporates a marquetry representation of the Royal Bluebell the floral emblem of the ACT, in recognition of Ed's abiding love of the Australian bush. The winning team will receive the Ed Druce Memorial trophy at the Awards Dinner to be held on the evening of Saturday 18 March. Why not buy a ticket and come?

The success of the inaugural Australasian Challenge will be a major factor in a decision to continue the Challenge as a regular biennial event on the Australasian philatelic calendar. Certainly it represents a major innovation in exhibiting in Australia, one of which the Society is justifiably proud.

So come along and view the Challenge entries that include many of the outstanding exhibits philatelic exhibits in Australia and New Zealand, use your own judging skills to vote for the best As You Like It entry. In addition to these two new and exciting classes, there are a range of State entries that encompass the full range of established exhibiting classes.

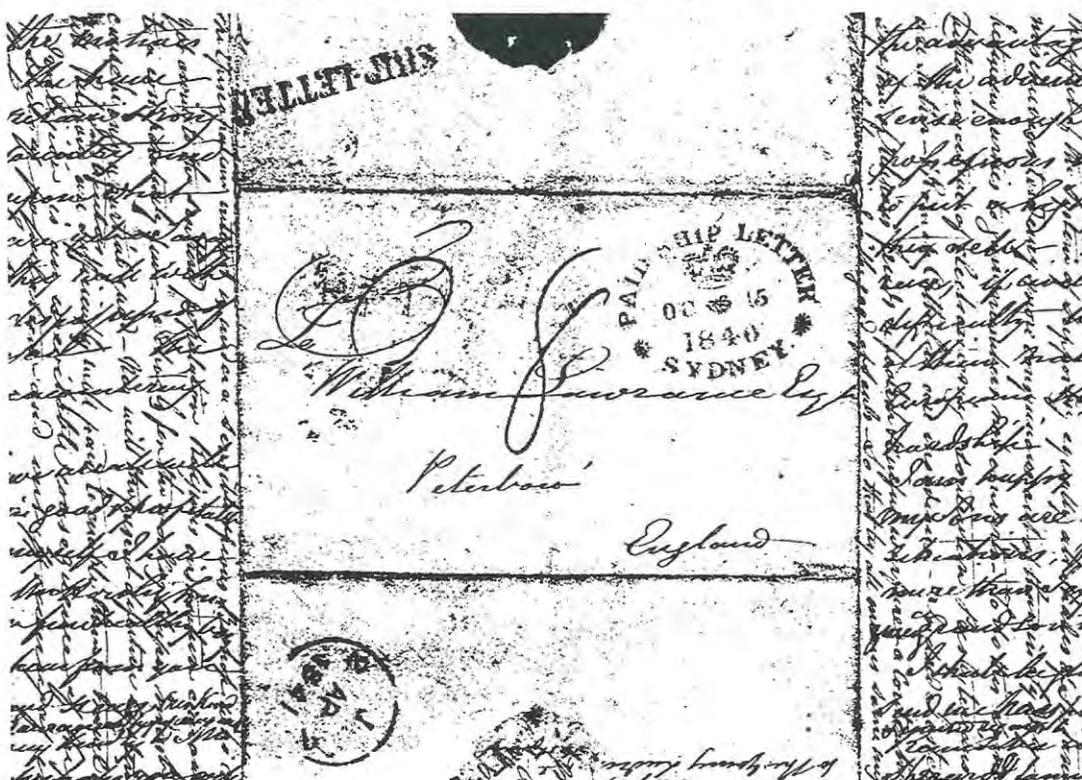


*A postage stamp featuring the ACT floral emblem  
**Wahlenbergia gloriosa**  
was issued on 25 August 1986,  
designed by Betty Conabere.*

## FROM NEW SOUTH WALES TO ENGLAND IN 1840

Robert A. M. Gregson

Most collectors know that the first postage stamps were issued in Britain in May 1840, though it is less well known that New South Wales had a stamped letter sheet even before that. Stamps were not necessarily required to be used on international mail until a few years later, but pre-paid mail was widespread in European countries. It is interesting to see how things were done in 1840 when a settler wrote back home; there were no stamps to fix to the letter but there were special postmarks that can tell us about rates and routes. Unsurprisingly posting things cost more out of average income then than they do today, and to save weight, and hence postage per ounce, letters were often cross-written, first the handwriting goes across the sheet, and then at right angles down the sheet. This makes deciphering of an old and worn letter a task that demands patience, a knowledge of spelling usage then, and even a magnifying glass. Diana Gregson has kindly done this for us on the example here; it gives us some insights into what were the experiences and concerns of settlers in the formative years of the colony.



The letter was written at Paterson (about 21 km north of Maitland), in September 1840, and postmarked in Sydney with the oval red mark PAID SHIP LETTER SYDNEY OC 15 1840. There is a circular red arrival mark dated April 1840 and a black one-line marking SHIP LETTER. It is addressed to William Lawrence Esq. Peterboro England, and was written by a Mr Jennings Smith. So the journey took about seven months. The references to New Zealand are topical; the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in February 1840, and thereafter temporarily New Zealand was administratively part of New South Wales until the Crown Colony was proclaimed in 1841. Note that natives of New Zealand get a mention, but not named as Maori, while Aborigines apparently just do not exist.

The text is reasonably clear until the final paragraph of good wishes etc., which are cramped and in places illegible because of the wax seal that closed the letter sheet. The spellings 'labor' and 'labour' are both there as transcribed. There are some sentences where the grammatical construction changes part way through. Most of these changes occur after the end of a line; it is very possible that Mr Smith paused to trim his quill pen (one of those exorbitantly expensive trifles, no doubt) and so lost track of his sentence.

There is a great use of dashes – which appear in many places to be equivalent to a full stop and are followed by capitals as for a new sentence. Conversely there do not appear to be many commas, but this may be because they were lightly marked and are lost under the crossed script.

**“Paterson, New South Wales, Sept. 1840**

My dear Sir,

Soon after my arrival in this Colony I wrote you an account of ourselves and a little description of the place in which we are located. As however there seems to be some degree of uncertainty in the transit of letters, I shall now devote a little time to your friendly request to hear from and of us – Nor do I forget your half-expressed inclination to visit this Colony if you could easily discharge all the engagements your profession has in the course of practice involved you.

A residence of some months in the Colony, and an intercourse with the Settlers, some enterprising and some indolent but all speculative have given me an acquaintance with the state of things which could not easily if at all have been furnished by books – The statements of which are partial and prejudiced and even at best where candour alone tells the tale whether colloquial or published – it must be received with caution. Every one praises the bridge that carries him over, every one deprecates all that has contributed to his downfall – Few trace adversity to its proper cause and generally blame everything but the real source of disappointment. Every prosperous speculator says there is no country in the world where fortunes are so easily and rapidly made as in this Colony. This is also the admission of many unfortunates who have played away the sunshine of their day, and have retired either twilight or dark night after unavailing efforts to retrieve lost opportunity. The facilities for acquiring wealth are certainly singularly great it is said (perhaps with truth) greater than in any other country, this applies to wholesale business (merchandise) retail shops, farming, grazing and the professions, i.e. Law and physic. The markets (except for cattle and grain) are always unsteady – the supplies being from other countries – the price therefore depends on the demand and stock in hand – where the demand on the supply has been for some time steady invoices will pass thro several hands before the merchandise is seen – yielding to every one a good profit. In this way a small capitalist with good and active abilities will realise large profits much in the way Stockjobbing as home is a successful means upon commodities when the demand exceeds the supply. This extends to the merest trifles and will often give 2 or 3 hundred pcent – The Cargoes on which all this depends are chiefly sold by Invoice or public auction and seldom by persons to whom consigned. The shopkeeper is generally guided by similar circumstances and retails at profits proportioned to the supply and demand the profits are always large. Then the scarcity of labor makes all manufactured articles bear a high price – Professions are well paid I dined with a Gentleman a short time ago whose legal practice gives him 2 to 3000 peran. He keeps only two clerks – no stamps to pay for. Barristers rise into notice and profitable practice much easier than in England – Moderate talent and immoderate confidence bring Briefs and create wealth. At present I think there is not much talent at the Bar & not much more than par on the Bench. Physicians and practising surgeons may acquire may acquire fortunes easily, everything of that kind is well paid. While all or any of these faculties & trades are going on in the Capital the parties may have grazing stock under the care of superintendents on a profitable scale. The highest functionaries & humblest shopkeepers are thus engaged – If on the other hand you prefer Grazing Stock to trade, you may reasonably expect to realise 30 to 35 p cent. Capital is invested in Stock or horned cattle. These are located in the interior over from one to seven 00 miles of ground called a Station They increase are brought to market and are generally a profitable speculation. Arable produce in most cases reward industry, during the last five years all produce has paid well. The land seldom requires manure it is generally tilled by bullocks reared on the estate and with the old settlers forced labor, i.e. convicts assigned to the Settler is the labour most employed.

This was more particularly so formerly during a kind of golden age – now the case is altered. Convict labour is difficult to obtain. Another class of persons is the official clerk, I consider all offices ill-supplied for want of ability in the employed – of consequence situations abound – yet there are hundreds not employed lazy inefficient young men, No one’s money in no country. There are no rates to go on – Banks and Merchants pay clerks better than the government. Then everything is expensive

house rent dearer than any part of England. Houses are generally let on short terms. Large shops in good streets by the week Houses of consequence by the year – Ground let for 7 or 10 years to build on to show an uncertain unsettled state of things. Money is here really Money the object of anxiety & the reward of exertion – Yet it is almost only a nominal thing. There are many Banks and more branches of Banks. All issue their own notes – In the interior these notes & private orders on Banks Storekeepers or others is the negotiating medium – There is not much specie therefore money so called is of small value. Banks discount at 10 or 12 p cent loans at from 8 to 25 pc according to the character of the security –hence large nominal sums are acquired. From the whole it must be seen that the state of things is so different to all European states that to bring its political economy into unison with them there must be a panic in order to give intrinsic worth to things and to give this colony a firm position on the scale of nations. Then under the auspices of a sensible and dignified Government the State will invigorate and show a natural store of wealth not inferior to Europe. In the meantime integrity industry and ability are certain to meet reward proportioned to exercise – I fear I have spun out my subject to a length beyond your patience. On this subject I will only add that this is a fine field for a young man. We have made great exertions by our emigration but our children are doing well enough to repay our sacrifice and we are satisfied.

I will not close my letter without a short account of the moral and religious character of the colony – the Government appears to have greatly erred in the attempt to level the different Faiths and religious persuasions. It is truly said what is everybody's business is nobody's business – and that anything is nothing. The effect of the system of supporting all shades of Sectarians has a mischievous tendency more conspicuous out of than in Sydney – It is a race between parties to gain numbers not converts - To do this some descend to the bitter invective of electioneering contention. Presbyterians in particular are bitter – Roman Catholics are insidious. Indeed I esteem the present system of religious funds a foolish and sinful warfare - a contention for presidency and not a labour for the good of souls so that by all means some might be saved. The Episcopalian interest is under a sensible and pious Bishop who regulates well yet owing to the scattered population Religious instruction can only be dispensed to a comparatively few. Schools for the working classes must from the same cause be only a partial good – Nor will the present defective system be improved till Religious Instructors are sufficiently well paid to enable them to travel over the Colony. Irreligion is an inevitable consequence of the present state of population and insufficiency of instruction.”

[There follows here a long section on conflicts between different faiths, particularly Episcopalians and Catholics, and the need for more religious instruction. He then concludes]

“We want but this to give effect to the lenient measures of Government in their treatment of the convicts, and hundreds would be reclaimed and become better characters than they ever were, and whatever improves the moral state of this colony must give it importance in the scale and in all her vast resources doubly beneficial. This measure would supercede the necessity of sending convicts to Norfolk Island, a place replete with ill effects to ill conditioned men.

There is now much division of opinion respecting the New Zealand Scheme. If you are a speculator be careful how you possess shares – there is very general disappointment in the country, its produce, its tenure. The natives are shrewd without judgment, therefore overrate the advantages & the motives of the adventurers. They have sense enough to retain strong possessions in the country and to put a high price upon what they sell – They are yet a savage race, if civilised they will with difficulty be dispossessed of their natural soil. The Europeans there are encountering hardship.

I am happy to say we are all well my sons are in good and profitable situations, for myself I have more than I expected. Mrs Hardy has given a grandson to us, a fine healthy boy. I shall be glad to hear from you, send me newspaper and news. Our kind regards to Mrs Lawrence I hope she is well [...] Remember us all very kindly to Mr [...] and family.

I hope you will allow them to read this – the young men may do well here. Please [...] and accept our [...] regards & believe me my dear Sir yrs faithfully I. Jennings Smith.

Pray name us with every expression of kindness and good feeling to my late pupil John William. It would give me pleasure to hear of his well doing and from his of its happy [...] send love to the young Ladies.”

## **STATE, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISED PHILATELY**

Ian McMahon

Most readers of *Capital Philately* will be aware of the existence of the ACT Philatelic Council and the equivalent bodies in other states and may also be aware of the Australian Philatelic Federation. Many people may not be aware, however, of the roles of these bodies and the contributions they make to philately. This article seeks to give a brief outline of the roles of collectors' organization at the state, national and international levels.

### **State Councils.**

Each state in Australia, as well as the ACT, has a state philatelic council (or in the case of New South Wales and Tasmania, a 'stamp council'). The seven Councils are:

- ACT Philatelic Council
- New South Wales Stamp Council.
- Queensland Philatelic Council
- South Australian Philatelic Council
- Western Australian Philatelic Council
- Tasmanian Stamp Council
- Victorian Philatelic Council

The state councils are the 'peak' bodies for philately in their state. (In addition, New South Wales has another 'peak' body for stamp collectors, PHILAS). They have as their members the clubs and societies in their states. In the larger states there may be 20-40 clubs which are members of the state council. The ACT is in the unique position of having only one society.

The state councils seek to promote philately, in all its forms, in their state. Their activities may include:

- Supporting youth philately;
- Supporting and encouraging the formation and development of stamp clubs and philatelic societies in their states;
- Representing the mutual interests of stamp collectors and the stamp trade;
- Accredite, promote and hold philatelic exhibitions;
- Co-operate with Australia Post and other organisations involved in the promotion of philately;
- Represent the state in the Australian Philatelic Federation (APF); and
- Train and accredit judges for state exhibitions and maintain a State Judges Register.

The executive of the state councils usually include representatives from the clubs and societies in the state, representatives of the stamp trade and an observer from Australia Post (often the state philatelic officer).

### **ACT Philatelic Council**

The ACT Philatelic Council's executive comprises six members nominated by the Philatelic Society of Canberra, which is currently the only philatelic society in the ACT, up to two stamp dealers, other members 'co-opted' by the Council and an Australia Post observer.

The Council seeks to promote philately in the ACT, and by agreement with the NSW Stamp Council, in the surrounding areas of New South Wales.

The ACT Council is a member of the APF. It sends a delegate to the APF's annual general meeting, to the annual Youth Forum and to the State Council Forum. It acts as the conduit between the philatelic community in the ACT and the APF, making nominations for the APF Philatelic Order, Research and other national awards, and for national judging courses and commissioners to National Exhibitions.

In liaising with the APF, the ACT Council seeks grant funding from the APF for the promotion of philately in the ACT (and the surrounding regions of New South Wales), for the support of journals published in the ACT and for the promotion of youth philately in the ACT.

Grants have been provided by the APF to assist in the establishment of a credit card facility, in the circulation of exchange books to clubs on the South Coast of New South Wales, with promotional mail outs and in bringing speakers to provide displays at club meetings.

The Council has a Youth Officer who is responsible for promoting youth philately in the ACT and for liaising with the APF's youth officer and those of other state councils. Grants provided by the APF are used to help support the Junior Club and to promote youth philately.

The Shakespeare Award was introduced by the Council to recognise people who have made outstanding contributions to philately in the ACT. Alan Salisbury was the inaugural winner of the award, which has also been made to Ed Druce and Elspeth Bodley.

The Council provides state accreditation to the state-level exhibitions held in Canberra by the Philatelic Society of Canberra. It also maintains the ACT judges list. The Council periodically conducts Judges Training Courses. People successful on the course are eligible to do an apprenticeship at a state level exhibition. On satisfactory completion of the apprenticeship, the Council will accredit them as ACT state level judges.

It also seeks APF approval for National philatelic exhibitions held in Canberra (eg Natstamp 98 and the interstate challenge held as part of Canberra 2002) and approval of the National-level judges at these exhibitions.

### **The Australian Philatelic Federation**

The Australian Philatelic Federation is a national body representing philatelists. It has as its members the State Philatelic (or Stamp) Councils. The APF seeks to promote philately, in all its forms, at the national level in Australia. Its activities include:

- Supporting youth philately;
- Supporting the development of adult collectors;
- Representing the mutual interests of stamp collectors;
- Accrediting philatelic exhibitions;
- Co-operating with Australia Post, APTA and other organisations involved in the promotion of philately;
- Representing Australia as a member of Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP)
- Training and accrediting judges for national exhibitions and maintaining a National Judges Register

It seeks to promote philately in Australia through:

- Regular communication with Australia Post.
- Promotion of the hobby in the Australian philatelic media.
- Holding a State Council Forum

## *Capital Philately*

- Close liaison with APTA (Australasian Philatelic Traders Association).
- Maintaining representation on APPMAC (Australia Post's stamp design committee)
- Supporting National Philatelic Exhibitions
- Supporting National Stamp Month.
- Facilitating international exhibitions in Australia
- Maintaining the APF website.
- Publishing *APF News*.
- The Australian Philatelic Order and SPAN (*Services to Philately at a National Level*) Award

The APF has an Adult Development Program which seeks to increase the level of informed, skilled and satisfied collectors. This program includes:

- Reinforcing structures to develop 'best practice' philatelists
- Publication of 'classic collections'
- Publication of brochures on collecting.
- A 'One-Up' program designed to provide international exhibitors with guidance aimed at achieving an improved medal level.
- Providing support for new philatelic journals
- Providing Research Grants
- Encouraging membership of philatelic societies

It is active in promoting Youth Philately. Its activities in this area include:

- Developing and producing resources for youth-leaders and clubs.
- Providing training and promoting youth philatelic exhibiting.
- Conducting annual State Youth officers' and leaders conference and training.
- Publishing the APF Youth Magazine
- A mentoring scheme for young collectors
- The Youth site on the APF's web site.

The APF maintains the National Judges register, conducts Judges' training courses on a biennial basis to maintain a broad and extensive pool of qualified national judges, ensures the quality of judging through an assessment scheme and refresher courses and conducts commissioner courses.

Its international activities include:

- Maintaining representation on FIP Commissions (see below)
- Nominating Australians to serve on FIPA and FIAP committees, exhibition juries and as commissioners to international exhibitions.
- Encouraging Australian exhibitors to participate in international exhibitions
- Accords with New Zealand, US, Canada, South Africa and UK

Further information about the APF and its activities is available from <http://www.apf.org.au/>.

**Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP)**

The international body of philatelists is the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP) which was founded in Paris in 1926. It has a secretariat based in Switzerland.

The FIP:

- Promotes philately and stamp collecting, in all its aspects, on the international level.
- Maintains close co-operation among philatelists and stamp collectors throughout the world, with the aim of promoting peace and friendship among all people.
- Promulgates regulations governing its various activities.
- Maintain close contact with partners in the philatelic field and with national and international organisations.
- Support philatelic events of all kinds organised by its Members

Membership of FIP is open to country federations or national philatelic clubs (eg the American Philatelic Society). The Australian Philatelic Federation represents Australia. FIP also has close ties with the three 'continental federations' representing the countries of Europe, the Americas and Asia. Australia is currently a member of FIAP, the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately.

FIP holds a Congress every two years, usually at a World exhibition, which approves its activities including changes to exhibiting regulations. The next Congress will be held in Seoul later this year. It has a Board of Directors comprising a President, three Vice Presidents and three Directors (the late Ed Druce was a member of the FIP Board).

FIP accredits world philatelic exhibitions, maintains an international judges register and develops the guidelines for conducting world exhibitions and the regulations for judging exhibits at the world level. The last World Exhibition in Australia was Australia 99.

The judging of exhibits is based on the General Regulations of the FIP for the Evaluation of Competitive Exhibits at FIP Exhibitions (GREV) and the Special Regulations (SREVs) for the Evaluation of Exhibits of the various exhibition classes (Traditional, Thematic, Postal History, Youth, Postal Stationery, Aerophilately, Astrophilately, Literature, Maximaphily and Revenues). The SREVs are developed by the technical committees of the FIP known as the Commissions, which meet at the time of the FIP Congress. The ongoing work of the Commissions is conducted by the Commission Bureau, the members of which are elected at the Congress. (Australia is represented on a number of the Bureau, for example, Michael Blake is currently President of the Traditional Bureau and Dingle Smith is a member of the Bureau of the Revenue Commission).

Further information on the FIP is available from its web site <http://www.f-i-p.ch/>.

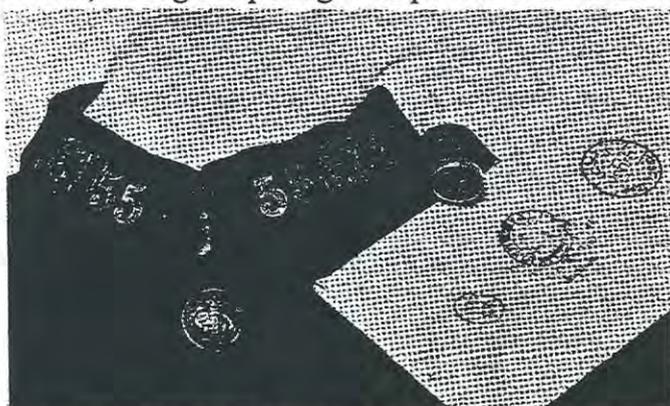
## The Postman's Chop - Maltese Postmen's Personal Handstamps

Albert Farrugia

*"With a view of readily identifying individuals who may commit a misdelivery, a "numerical stamp" has been supplied to each Letter Carrier who is bound to impress therewith as near as possible to the Receipt Stamp every article of his 'charge' before leaving the Duty Room. On the misdelivery being brought to the knowledge of the office, the 'numerical stamp' will at once discover the officer in fault. To make sure that due attention is paid to this Regulation, the Chief Sorter before dispatching the letter Carriers to their beats, takes at random one or two charges and examines whether each article bears the number of the 'Personal Stamp'. I have seen it adopted in all the Italian Post Offices. It has been in operation in this Department since the 14<sup>th</sup> of August last (1889) and has had the beneficial effect of reducing misdeliveries to one instance only during the remaining portion of the year."*

From the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Post Office for the year 1889, page 51 (National Archives of Malta)

The above citation describes the origin of the personal handstamps assigned to Maltese postmen from their inception in the late 1890's to the late 1940's. As cited, these handstamps were introduced for the traditional public service desire to be able to identify someone to blame when things went wrong ie to be able, through requiring each postie to frank the mail entrusted to him with his own stamp, to track

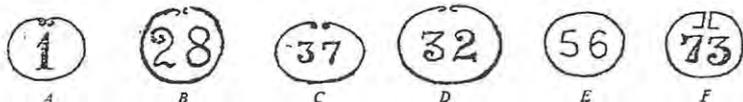


Postman's uniform showing his personal number (55) on the collar. His handstamp is also shown, a strike of which appears on the back of the envelope backstamped VALLETTA AP 6 38.

to the responsible individual any misdelivery or similar incident. As mentioned by this source, these handstamps were used in at least a dozen countries; the author has examples from Italy, Greece and Turkey.

The handstamps consisted of small numbered ovals struck in black ink on the backs of mail delivered to addresses in the Maltese Islands. The number of the handstamp was the official number of the postman using it and also appeared on his uniform. They were issued to the postmen upon their appointment and were

retained by the same postmen, generally, until they retired, irrespective of the area that they served. Although they were supposed to stamp all the mail entrusted to them for delivery, the application of the handstamp appears to have been rather spasmodic and studies so far indicate that 25% to 30 % of the mail prior to 1914 received these strikes. Thereafter it was even less.



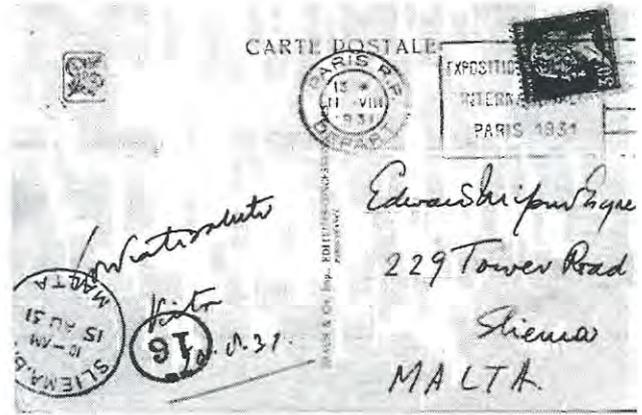
The Malta Study Circle has allocated six different types to the handstamps. As handstamps were worn out or lost, replacements with different types were

also introduced, leading to different types for the same handstamp. In the 1980 edition of the Malta Study Circle *Handbook* the numbers 1 to 74 are identified as having been used, indicating a total of 74 postmen active through the 60 years or so that handstamps were employed. Proud's *Postal History of Malta* also identifies 1 to 74 but with subtypes a total of 107 different strikes are recorded.

However, it is known that some subtypes characterised by Proud are not true new types but are simply strikes using worn versions of the handstamp, giving rise to variations.



*Proud's versions A & E of Handstamp 2 are considered to be the same by collectors*



Subtypes of Handstamp 16, both used in Sliema



PC67F (5.12.39)-(8.7.46)  
Used on the Migiarro-Nadur  
-Caccia round

As of 1980 the *MSC Handbook* was still recording no examples of 51 and 67, although all numbers have now been recorded. The last example to be found is the Number 67, of which a total of five examples are known.

The challenge to the postal historian is to assemble as complete a collection of handstamps as possible and use it to illustrate the different rounds which individual postmen were assigned.



As some of these areas were extremely small and with relatively little correspondence – many of the inhabitants were illiterate – some of the handstamps are exquisitely rare. While handstamps used in the main towns of Valletta and Sliema are not particularly difficult to come by, especially from the early years, examples from the small rural towns – the Casals – are much harder to encounter.





MALTA AND GOZO

1 INCH = 5 MILES APPROX



45

54

35

65

62

43

34

41

42

73

52

Handstamps associated with some of the Casals

Capital Philately

## THE PHILATELIC DETECTIVE: GETTING ROUND A WAR ZONE

Robert A. M. Gregson

When a war is in progress, countries have either participant or neutral status de jure, and may de facto be supporters of one combatant. This is reflected in the way that mail is routed, and the extent to which it may be censored en route. To illustrate these practices, surviving letters that have been sent as registered or insured may offer more evidence of what actually took place than simpler mail categories with surface or airmail transmission. This is because mail that requires recording at each point where it is transferred from one postal authority to another can acquire backstamps, and the path, and duration of each stage in the progression from source to ultimate destination, can be read from the postmarks if they themselves are not actually in a censored form.

The Second World War is usually treated as starting on September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1939 when Germany ignored an ultimatum from Great Britain. Immediately mail between Germany and Britain could be subject to interception or rejection by sender or recipient, but various other countries, such as Rumania and Italy did not formally enter the side of the Axis Powers until mid 1940. The period between late 1939 and mid 1940 is sometimes referred to as the 'phoney war'. The Soviet Union did not enter on the Allied side until Operation Barbarossa was launched by Germany in 1941. The United States entered after Pearl Harbour.

European countries that remained neutral included Sweden, Switzerland, Spain and Portugal. Each kept up mail contact, except for broken periods, with both combatant sides in the war, in many cases using circuitous routes not followed in peace time. The situation from mail between Sweden and Britain (and later Sweden and Australia) is particularly interesting for the postal historian because of the establishment of an airmail service between Stockholm and Prestwick in Scotland which was sometimes shot down by German anti-aircraft guns stationed in occupied Norway. This mail service was at some periods the only link for ongoing mail from Sweden to the USA, surface mail between Sweden and the British Isles had stopped. Mail between Sweden and Germany, and hence ongoing to the Axis powers, was censored by military censors on entry to Germany, or to Denmark, or to Norway, both then under German occupation.

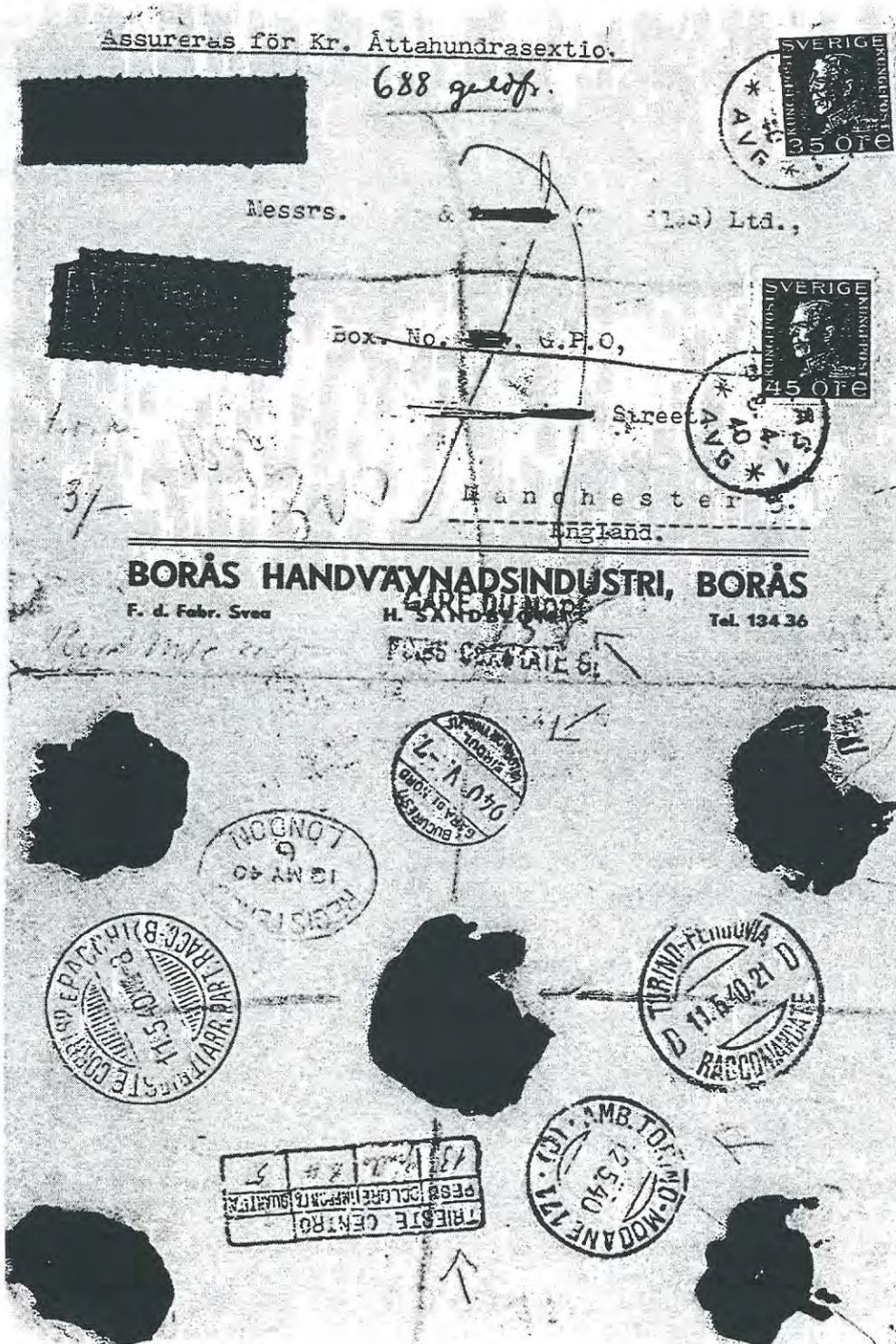
Three examples of letters From Sweden to England are illustrated here. The first was posted in Borås on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1940 and eventually arrived without ever being censored in Manchester, transiting London on 18<sup>th</sup> May. This period was about the last time that a letter could have been sent by the route taken, which was to Bucharest in Rumania, then to Trieste in Italy, and on to Turin, then to Paris, and so to England. A month later German troops had entered Paris, and this route had become impossible.

It is of interest that at the time of this letter mail between Italy and France was between a nominally neutral and a combatant country. A few months later it was between territories under the control of the Axis powers, so mail could again move freely for different political reasons.

There are six backstamps; they were applied because the letter was insured (not the same thing as registered in Europe). Insured mail corresponds to what in British Commonwealth postal administrations would be called Registered, and Registered mail then corresponded to our Certificate of Posting. The etiquette labels for Registered have usually a large R on them, the one on this letter has a V, which stands for Värde (meaning something of value), earlier such labels used W for Wårde until there was spelling reform in Sweden around the time of the First World War. The letter was insured for eight hundred and sixty Kronor, by the sender, the Borås hand weaving industry. There is a handwritten annotation of '688 gold francs', which presumably refers to the notional working currency of the UPU also employed for calculating postage due internationally. The additional red label saying Insured in English is unusual; it is not clear exactly who applied it; I suppose that it is a rare use from Sweden solely for international mail.

Capital Philately

There is no indication what the letter contained, but most probably a remittance by bank draft. The postage (surface mail) for the first weight limit was then 30 öre and the insurance tariff was 50 öre; it appears that the weight of the sealing wax, required for insured mail, did not put the object over a weight limit. It is worth commenting that these labels for special categories of mail, of which a diversity exist in use in various countries, are obviously more rare than the stamps which accompany them; the relative frequencies of mail for ordinary transmission, registered, insured, postage due, bulky, fragile and express (or combinations of such categories) are not well known and worth study. The scratching out of part of the address is not censorship, but is often found on older letters done by some who will only part with mail to collectors or stamp dealers after hiding their own identity. It is a futile and messy practice. Unsurprisingly in Manchester the addressees were a textile company.



The front postmarks are as follows:

- at Böras: Böras 1 AVG (meaning departing mail) 8 4 40
- at Paris: rectangular unframed GARE DU NORD (about the 13<sup>th</sup> May)

The backstamps are:

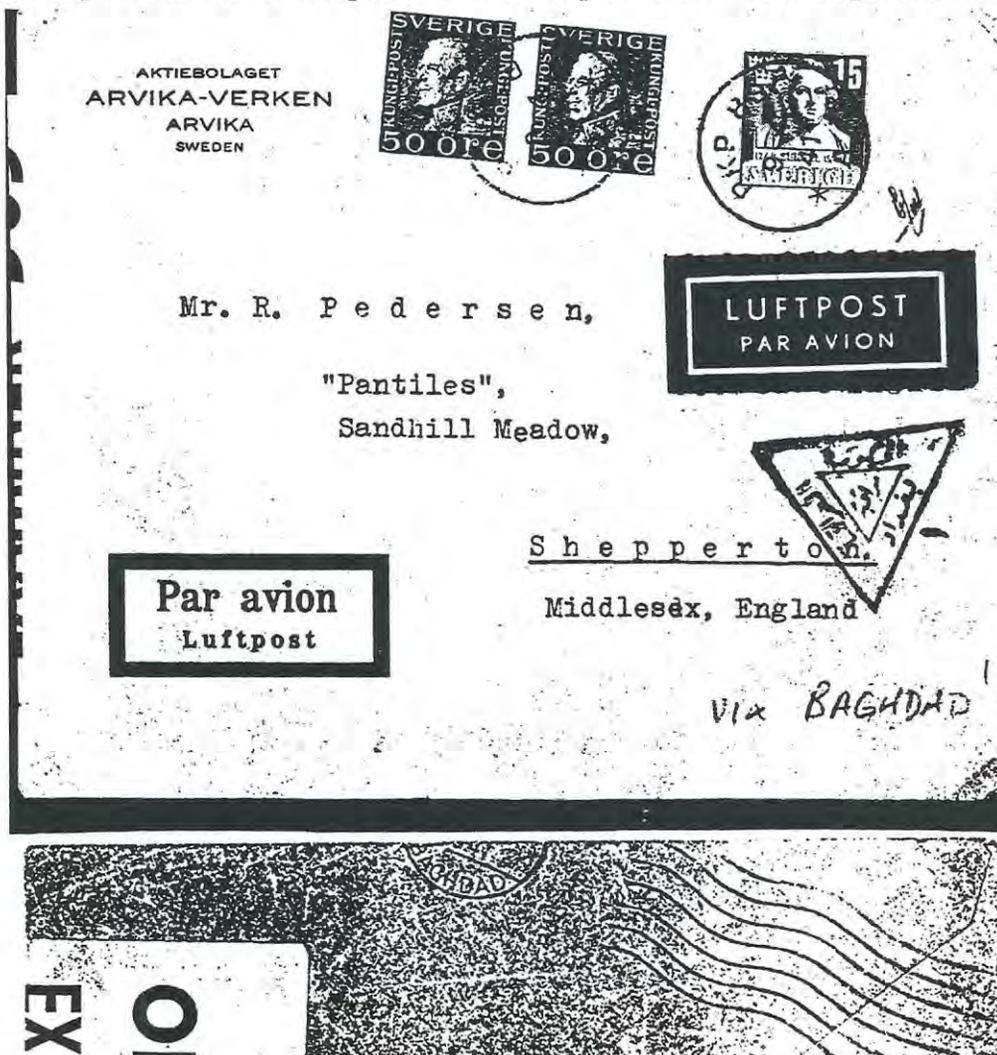
- at Bucharest: BUCURESTI GARA DE NORD SIROUL 940 V -7
- at Trieste: rectangular TRIESTE CENTRO Peso (etc)
- and circular TRIESTE CORRISP. E PACCHI (ARR.. PART. RACC.-B) 11. 5. 40
- at Turin: TORINO FERROVIA D RACCOMANDATE 11 5 40,
- and AMB Torino-Modane 171 (rail t.p.o) 12 5 40
- at London: oval REGISTERED 6 LONDON 18 My 40

It arrived eventually at Manchester on 20th May, but it was not postmarked there.

Note that the very long component of the journey was from Borås to Bucharest, how much was travel time and how much waiting for transport is not indicated.

The second cover is from Arvika to Shepperton, Middlesex, posted 9<sup>th</sup> April 1941. This circuitous route from Sweden to England by air through Baghdad was in use until June 1941, that is up to about the German invasion of Russia. Arvika is in the province of Värmland, and the letter started its journey on the railway travelling post office PKP 89, which ran on the Charlottenberg (in Värmland) - Stockholm route. The ABA airline ran a service from Stockholm to Riga and on to Moscow. Riga was by then in Soviet occupation. The subsequent route was to Baghdad, Cairo, Lagos in Sierra Leone

(then a British colony) and finally to the UK. The red triangular mark (apparently censorship) was applied in Baghdad, together with a roller cancellation on the back, and British censorship later by examiner 505 using the standard PC 90 resealing form. There are no indications of how long the journey took. A letter from Sweden to Australia about the same time could have gone to Baghdad or Cairo and there been transhipped to the airmail route from Britain to Australia. I have such an example but there are no markings to indicate its route.



The third cover is from the later period when the Allies were getting the upper hand, and the Germans decided after negotiation that they would no longer try to shoot down mail flights between Stockholm and Scotland, which sometimes they had done. Safe conduct having been agreed between Sweden, Britain and Germany the airmail service was restored in March 1944. It was first between Stockholm and Aberdeen and then on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1944 switched to the destination of Prestwick. Two Flying Fortresses that had been converted by SAAB were used. The total mail sent by the Swedish post office on that route during 1944 was 12168 kg. It appears from the very generous franking that philatelists were exchanging mail again; the sender's address on the back was in Göteborg; one wonders what he got in exchange? It is a first day cover on 13 10 1944, using the Swedish Navy commemorative issue and with the special cancellation of the maritime maps exhibition then held in Göteborg. British censorship by examiner 757, but no backstamp on arrival, even though it is registered mail. The valutakontroll label indicates that the letter was checked for meeting foreign exchange regulations; all international mail from Sweden at that time was checked in that way.



In all three of these examples it would be nice for mail in the reverse direction on the same routes to be recorded, but for the first two such covers are indeed scarce.

## **RUSSIAN FEDERATION - ILLEGAL ISSUES OF POSTAGE STAMPS**

Berne, 14 January 2002

International Bureau Circular 15

The postal administration of the RUSSIAN FEDERATION asks me to inform you of the following:

“As a member of the Universal Postal Union, the postal administration of the Russian Federation issues postage stamps in accordance with the provisions of the Universal Postal Convention and the Letter Post Regulations.

However, there has recently appeared on world philatelic markets a large number of illicit stamp issues distributed on behalf of official territorial entities of the Russian Federation. These issues feature 'fashionable' subjects such as political figures, sports celebrities, Hollywood movie stars, etc.

The postal administration of the Russian Federation draws your attention to the fact that the regions on whose behalf these stamps have been issued form an integral part of the Russian Federation and that, according to the provisions of the UPU Regulations and Russian Federation legislation, they are not authorized to issue postage stamps independently (the list of these regions appears in the annex). All stamps issued on behalf of official territorial entities of the Russian Federation must therefore be regarded as illegal. They have no connection with the Post and cannot be used as an official means of indicating prepayment of postage.

These forged stamps are being issued by anonymous private companies operating outside Russia and have no direct connection with the official territorial entities of the Russian Federation.

The distribution of illegal postage stamps does serious moral and economic harm to the Russian Federation, discredits the Russian postal service in the eyes of the world philatelic community and encourages collectors to avoid buying not only illegal but also perfectly legal stamp issues.”

K J S McKEOWN

Director of Communications and Postal Markets

List of regions of the Russian Federation on whose behalf illegal stamps have been issued

Altai Region	Republic of Bashkortostan
Amurskaya Province	Republic of Buryatia
Antarctic Regions of the Russian Federation	Republic of Dagestan
Jewish Autonomous Region	Republic of Ingushetia
Franz Josef Land	Republic of Ishkeria
Autonomous Region of Evenkia	Republic of Kalmykia
Republic of Kabard-Balkaria	Republic of Karelia Komi
Kamchatka Region	Republic Mari-El Republic
Republic of Karachay-Cherkessia	Republic of Mordovia
Autonomous Region of Koriakia	Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)
Kuril islands	Republic of North Ossetia
Novosibirsk islands	Republic of Tatarstan
Kolguev Island	Republic of Tuva Khakass
Kunashir Island	Republic Sakhalin Region
Novaya Zemla	Republic of Udmurtia
Spitsbergen Island	Chechen Republic
Republic of Adygea	Republic of Chuvashia

# MACHINATIONS

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## EDITORIAL

A belated, but nevertheless, happy and prosperous New Year to all our readers! And, in the absence of our usual editor, the indefatigable Albert Farrugia (overseas working he tells us), a change in editorial style, perhaps.

Like many of you, I guess, the continuing dearth of new 'standard' Machin issues gives us time to take a deep breath, fill up the gaps (if you can find what you are missing and not go broke at the same time) and think about reorganising collections. If in Great Britain, like Australia, the annual inflation rate is minuscule, compared with what it was in the not too distant past, the prospects of new Machin values appearing regularly is probably remote; the prospects of competition is also likely to play a factor in decisions to charge more for postage. Consequently we collectors will have to change our diet – a prospect that does not enamour me. Certainly the change to self-adhesives is not to my liking (more difficult to mount if they're mint and more difficult to remove from paper if they're used). No, I think a 'Save our Machin' pressure group is not only called for, but warranted! If you agree, go forth and multiply. Australia will provide the vanguard, and our absent editor, the generalship.

To more serious issues. Like any bulletin on specialist topics, it is important that we continue to receive articles for publishing. Constructive articles that will make people think are especially welcome, but as an editor I am not interested in getting involved in litigious matters, particularly as this is a part-time hobby! So put your thoughts on paper and let's hear what you think. And, of course, in the meantime – Good Hunting.

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<i>Self Adhesive booklets</i>	5 - 6
<i>Specialist feature; -the 15p, 15½p and the 16p</i>	7 -
<i>Album pages:- 15p, 15½p and 16p</i>	9 - 11

## The Commemorative Label Booklets



**Fig 1: DP219 - The Tercentenary of the Bank of England**

On 27 July 1994, the Royal Mail officially issued the first of its Commemorative Label Booklets. These booklets consist of a commemorative label of about the size of a se-tenant pane of six stamps arranged 3 x 2, plus a pane of four of the flame coloured 1<sup>st</sup> NVI definitive Machins. The first booklet in the series celebrated the Tercentenary of the Bank of England.

During the year 2000 Royal Mail released the so-called "Millennium Machin". This stamp had an olive-brown head on a white background. The Millennium Machin replaced the flame coloured 1<sup>st</sup> NVI definitive Machins in booklets for the year 2000 only.

The Great Britain Decimal Stamp Book Study Circle (GBDSBSC) has allocated series number 23 (DB23) to this type of booklet. To date, the series DB23 consists of 10 booklets and with the advent of self-adhesive booklets, looks set to remain at that number. The latest of the commemorative label booklets, issued to commemorate the centenary of the death of Queen Victoria, has been included in the self-adhesive series SB1. The Queen Victoria Booklet also has six 1<sup>st</sup> class NVI definitives instead of the four, which had previously been the standard.

The commemorative label is se-tenant with the stamp pane and except for the Bank of England Booklet (Fig 1), the panes are folded between the label and the block of 4 stamps. This is because in the first issue, the label is to the left of the stamp pane, while it has been shifted to the right for subsequent issues in the series. The Queen Victoria self-adhesive booklet has seen the label moved back to the left hand side. This has been possible, as the self-adhesive booklets do not require the label and stamps to be held in the booklet by use of a selvage. All booklets have elliptical perforations, as do the labels, except for the Queen Victoria label.

Unfolded panes were also available from the Philatelic Bureau. It was possible to obtain examples of both the booklets and unfolded panes with or without plate numbers.

### **DB23(1) – Tercentenary of the Bank of England, issued 27 July 1994**

This was the first booklet in the series. This booklet differed from the other issues as it had the label at left closest to the selvage. The top and bottom of the label is also imperforate while the left and right hand sides are perforated. The pane is coded DP219 by the GBDSBSC. The pane is also known missing phosphor. The outside cover is also notably different from

subsequent booklets in the series, as it has a single facsimile of the 1<sup>st</sup> NVI definitive on the front cover. Subsequent issues all have the multiple facsimile on the covers. The stamps have two AY phosphor bands and are printed in lithography by Questa on the Heidelberg Speedmaster press. The stamps are coded DG N1.13.6 (positions 1 & 3) and DG N1.13.7 (positions 2 & 4) by Deegam. The booklet was sold for £1.00 at the date of issue. Known plate numbers are:  
Q1 Q1 Q1 Q1 Q1 Q1 Q1 (Q1)  
Q1 Q1 Q1 Q1 Q1 Q1 Q1 (-)

### **DB23(2) – Centenary of the birth of R J Mitchell, issued 16 May 1995**

This booklet was issued to commemorate the birth centenary of R J Mitchell, the designer of the Spitfire aeroplane. This is the first issue where the label is to the right of the block of 4 stamps. Both the stamps and the label are perforated on all four sides. The pane is coded DP 228. The stamps have two AY phosphor bands and are printed in lithography by Walsall on the Roland Favorit press. The stamps are coded DG N1.12.2 (positions 1 & 3) and DG N1.12.3 (positions 2 & 4). The booklet was sold for £1.00 at the date of issue. Known plate numbers are:  
W25 W33 W33  
W27 W35 W35

### **DB23(3) – 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday of HM The Queen, issued 16 April 1996**

The booklet was issued to commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> birthday of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. The pane is coded DP 236. The stamps have two AB phosphor bands and are printed in lithography by Walsall on the Roland Favorit press. The stamps are coded DG N1.17.2 (positions 1 & 3) and DG N1.17.3 (positions 2 & 4). The booklet was sold for £1.00 at the date of issue but was increased to £1.04 when the first class postage rate was increased to 26p. Known plate numbers are:  
W37 W45 W48  
W38 W45 W48  
W38 W45 W49

W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 (W1)

**DB23(4) - Hong Kong '97, issued 12 February 1997**

The booklet commemorated the Hong Kong '97 International Stamp Exhibition, held from 12 – 16 February 1997. The pane is coded DP 248. The stamps have two A2B phosphor bands and are printed in lithography by Walsall on the Roland Favorit press. The stamps are coded DG N1.19.2 (positions 1 & 3) and DG N1.19.3 (positions 2 & 4). The booklet was sold for £1.04 at the date of issue. Known plate numbers are:  
W49 W52 W61

**DB23(5) – CHOGM, issued 21 October 1997**

The booklet commemorated the holding of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Edinburgh from 24 - 27 October 1997. The pane is coded DP 259. The stamps have two A2B phosphor bands and are printed in lithography by Walsall on the Roland Favorit press. The stamps are coded DG N1.19.2 (positions 1 & 3) and DG N1.19.3 (positions 2 & 4). The booklet was sold for £1.04 at the date of issue. Known plate numbers are:  
W56 W59 W69

**DB23(6) – 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday of HRH The Prince of Wales, issued 14 November 1998**

The booklet commemorated the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of Prince Charles. The label features one of his paintings, of the mountain Ben Arkle. The same design was used on the 25p stamp commemorating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his investiture as Prince of Wales on 1 March 1994. The pane is coded DP 274. The stamps have two A2B phosphor bands and are printed in lithography by Walsall on the Roland Favorit press. The stamps are coded DG N1.19.2 (positions 1 & 3) and DG N1.19.3 (positions 2 & 4). The booklet was sold for £1.04 at the date of issue. Known plate numbers are:  
W56 W59 W69

**DB23(7) – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the Berlin Airlift, issued 12 May 1999**

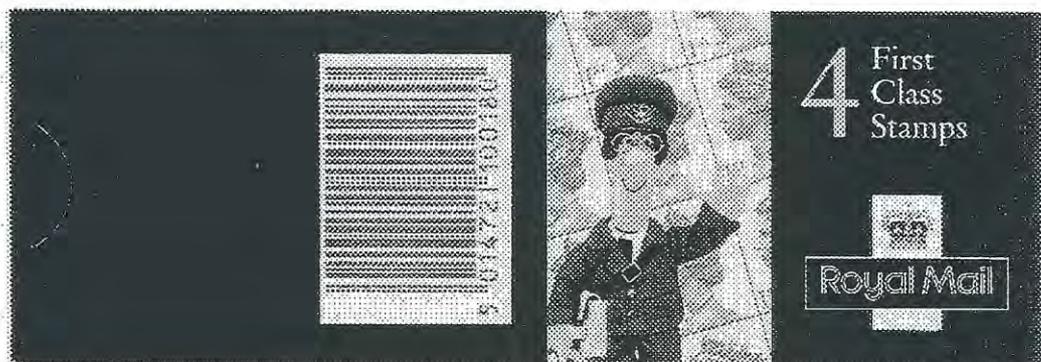
The booklet commemorated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the Berlin Airlift. The pane is coded DP 289 and is the first to be printed in gravure. The stamps have two A2B phosphor bands and are printed in gravure by Walsall on the Chestnut press. The stamps are coded DG N1.25.3 (positions 1 & 3) and DG N1.25.4 (positions 2 & 4). The booklet was sold for £1.04 at the date of issue. Known plate numbers are:

**DB23(8) - Rugby World Cup, issued 1 October 1999**

The booklet commemorated the staging of the Rugby World Cup hosted by Wales in 1999. The label has inscriptions in both Welsh and English. The pane is coded DP 298. The stamps have two A2B phosphor bands and are printed in gravure by Walsall on the Chestnut press. The stamps are coded DG N1.25.1. The booklet was sold for £1.04 at the date of issue. Known plate numbers are:  
W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 (W1)

**DB23 (9) - Postman Pat, issued 21 March 2000**

The booklet commemorated The Stamp Show 2000 held at Earls Court London from 22 – 28 May 2000, where the popular children's character Postman Pat made a guest



**Fig 2: DB 23(9) - Postman Pat**

appearance. The stamp pane contains the Millenium Machins for the first time in this series. The cover also has some interesting features (Fig 2). The image of Postman Pat is superimposed over the stamp facsimiles on the front cover and The Stamp Show 2000 logo is included on the back cover. The pane is coded DP 307. The stamps have two A2B phosphor bands and are printed in gravure by Walsall on the Chestnut press. The stamps are coded DG N1.34.7 (positions 1 & 3) and DG N1.34.8 (positions 2 & 4). The booklet was sold for £1.04 at the date of issue, but this increased to £1.08 in line with an increase in the first class postage rate to 27p on 27 April 2000. Known plate numbers are:  
W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 (W1)

**DB23(10) - National Botanic Garden of Wales, issued 4 April 2000**

The booklet commemorated the opening of The National Botanic Garden of Wales, in April 2000. The label has inscriptions in both Welsh and English. The pane is coded DP 308 and again contains the Millenium Machins. The stamps have two A2B phosphor bands and are printed in

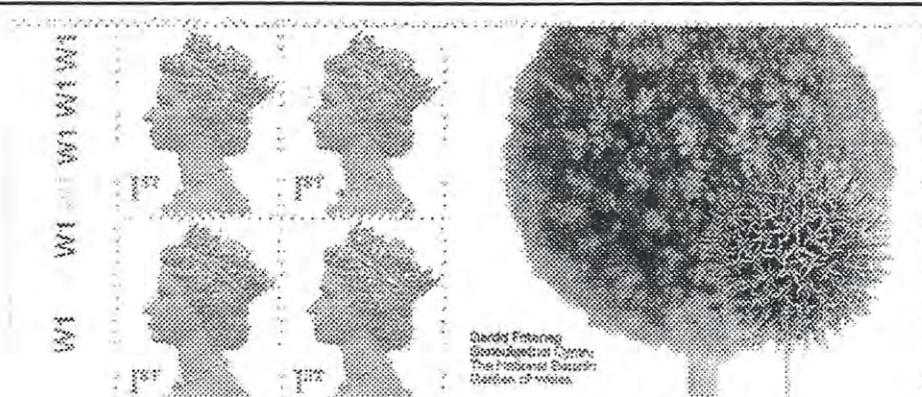


Fig 3: DP 308 - National Botanic Garden of Wales

**References:**

- The Bookmark Catalogue, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*
- The Bookmark Journal*
- The Complete Deegam Machin Handbook, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*
- Stanley Gibbons Concise Stamp Catalogue 2001 Edition*

gravure by Walsall on the Chestnut press. The stamps are coded DG N1.34.7 (positions 1 & 3) and DG N1.34.8 (positions 2 & 4). The booklet was sold for £1.04 at the date of issue, but this increased to £1.08 in line with an increase in the first class postage rate to 27p on 27 April 2000. Known plate numbers are:

W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 (W1)

**SB1(3) – Centenary of the death of Queen Victoria, issued 29 January 2001**

The booklet commemorated the Centenary of the death of Queen Victoria in 1901. The label occupies half the area of the booklet, it has been shifted back to the left hand side and unlike its predecessors, does not have elliptical perforations, which are kiss die-cut. The stamps have reverted to the flame coloured 1<sup>st</sup> NVI definitives, but in a block of six. The pane is coded DP 328. The stamps have two A2B phosphor bands and are printed in gravure by Walsall on the Chestnut press. The stamps are coded DG N1.38.1. The booklet was sold for £1.62 at the date of issue. Known plate numbers are:

W1 W1 W1 W1 (W1)

Although there have been no more label booklets like the ones described above released since January 2001, there has been a new type of booklet which contains a mixture of definitives and commemoratives. These are unique because they contain self-adhesive versions of commemorative sheet stamps. This is the only way of obtaining such issues. These could present a new area of collecting for those who want to collect a subset of the Machin or specialise in the commemorative issues.

The DB, SB and DP numbering systems for booklets and panes used throughout this article are copyright and are used with the kind permission of the Great Britain Decimal Stamp Book Study Circle.

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*Article prepared by Tony Luckhurst (2 February 2002)*

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# Self Adhesive Booklets

By Danny Howard



Fig 1: SB1(1) - 20 x 1st Self Adhesive Booklet

Those who are relatively new to the joys of collecting Great Britain Decimal Booklets might be forgiven for thinking that the issue of eight self-adhesive stamp booklets on 29 January 2001 was a first for this format from the Royal Mail. In fact, this is not the case, with the first self adhesive stamp booklet having been issued some 7 years earlier on 19 October 1993.

This first booklet contained 20 flame coloured 1<sup>st</sup> class NVI definitives. The booklet was initially made available in the Tyne Tees TV area as part of a field trial, as well as being made available to collectors through philatelic outlets.

These stamps were unusual for several reasons. Firstly, they were self-adhesives and attached to the booklet by their gum onto a backing sheet from which they were easily removed. Secondly, as a consequence of being self adhesive, they are not perforated in the usual manner and are kiss die-cut, including the now familiar ellipses on each vertical edge. Thirdly, they were printed in a horizontal format. This was done, according to the British Philatelic Bulletin of October 1993 ".....to enable the stamps to be recognised during the trial and their use monitored.". The booklet was eventually withdrawn from sale on 28 April 1995.

This booklet presented a number of problems in assessing exactly where it fits into a specialised Machin collection. The Great Britain Decimal Stamp Book Study Circle (GBDSBSC) recognised that it was not a 'book' in the conventional sense, despite Royal Mail calling it one. The booklet was rouletted and folded in such a way as to give three panes, two each of nine and one of two to make up 20 stamps. Because the stamps are affixed into the booklet using the cover as a backing sheet, there is no capacity to include in the booklet the usual range of

information concerning postal rates, postcodes etc with which we have all become familiar. Nevertheless the GBDSBSC recognised it as a booklet and allocated series 22 to it and its expected successors. It was catalogued as DB22(1) and because of the rouletting of the cover, the pane/s it contained were allocated individual numbers DP202, DP202A and DP203. The stamps have two AY phosphor bars and were printed by Walsall on the Roland Favorit press. They are catalogued as DG N1.14.1. The booklets are known missing phosphor and with the phosphor bars printed twice.

While experiments with self-adhesive stamps continued with the issue of coil stamps, again in a horizontal format, on 18 March 1997, booklets did not reappear until 29 January 2001.

On 29 January 2001, a total of eight new self-adhesive booklets were issued as follows:

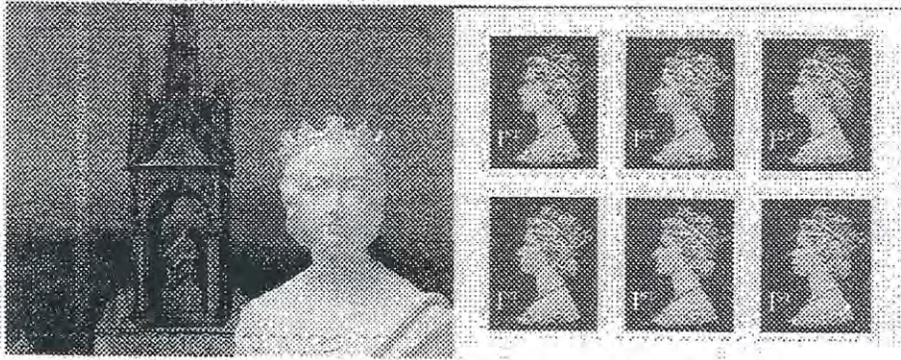
Walsall 6 x 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Questa 10 x 2<sup>nd</sup>

Questa 12 x 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Walsall 6 x 1<sup>st</sup>  
Walsall 6 x 1<sup>st</sup> plus Queen Victoria Label  
Questa 10 x 1<sup>st</sup>  
Questa 12 x 1<sup>st</sup>  
Walsall 12 x 1<sup>st</sup>

The change from booklets of 4 and 10 stamps is supposedly a result of market research that indicated that consumers preferred more stamps in their booklets. This sounds to me very much like the story about the marketer who came up with the idea to make the hole in toothpaste tubes larger in order to sell more toothpaste. The booklets of 10 are retained for use in a number of vending machines that require them to be made that way. While I am not familiar with these machines, the dimensions of the booklets of 10 and 12 are identical, so I can only guess it is the cost and the capacity of the machines to accept small change that creates this need.

The issue of these booklets created some angst for the GBDSBSC, who initially considered the inclusion of all self-adhesive 'products' in their cataloguing system, but have eventually decided against this. The debate about what constitutes a booklet still goes on however. This arises in part for the need to roulette the booklets to enable them to be folded, because of the way they have to be constructed.

The GBDSBSC still grapples with the problem, but it is interesting to note that the recent Christmas issue self-adhesives will not be recognised as a booklet by the GBDSBSC. I think that anyone who has seen these 'products' would agree that these are definitely closer to miniature sheets than to booklets and their exclusion is warranted on this basis.



**Fig 2: SB1(3) - Centenary of the Death of Queen Victoria**

A similar issue arose in relation to the 'Cats & Dogs' products issued on 13 February 2001. One 'product' consisting of 10 Cats & Dogs special issue stamps was sold unfolded (but still rouletted) in packs. The other consisted of 10 Cats & Dogs special issue stamps, plus 2 flame coloured 1<sup>st</sup> NVI definitives. How could the second one be a booklet and the first not? Sensibly (again) in my view, both are considered to be booklets.

The decision not to include all self-adhesive products in The Bookmark cataloguing system has seen a change in the numbering system initially adopted by the GBDSBSC in The Bookmark Journal, Volume 30, No.4, which included all these products. I suspect the inclusion of the sheets of 100 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps in the listings might have had a bit to do with this change of heart. The new numbering system was revised and reported in The Bookmark Journal, Volume 31, No.1 of July 2001.

While the DB numbering system has been replaced by the SB numbering system for self-adhesive booklets, the GBDSBSC has decided to retain the DP numbering system for the panes. It should be noted that in doing so they have decided not to regard the rouletted sections of the booklets as separate panes as they originally did with the 1993 booklet.

A divergence in the numbering system to be used by Douglas Myall in the Deegam Handbook has also resulted. Douglas indicated in DGR 41 that he would no longer use the DP numbering system to identify the source of stamps from self-adhesive booklets. Douglas indicated his intention to stay with his previously announced system which used SAP for panes, SAC for coils and SAS for sheets to identify the source of self-adhesive stamps.

However, in DGR 43 Douglas has also succumbed to the inherent difficulties of developing workable criteria for determining whether a particular product is a sheet/sheetlet or booklet or even both! He announced in that report his decision to adopt the SAP prefix for all self-adhesive 'products'. This approach is understandable given that Douglas' Handbook deals with Machin stamps from all three sources and will help collectors immediately identify that a stamp is a self adhesive, which the continued use of the DP system would not.

These decisions have resulted in the 1993 booklet being renumbered by the GBDSBSC as SB1(1) and the pane to be numbered DP202. Reference to panes DP202A and DP203 has been deleted.

Perhaps the solution, at present, is to look to the covers. Those self-adhesive 'products' considered to be booklets by the GBDSBSC, have to date have, when folded, an external cover, currently similar to the covers of booklets containing conventionally gummed

stamps.

The Christmas sheet/lets do not. They have a panel at the top, in common with the sheets of 100 self-adhesive stamps issued previously.

The GBDSBSC has allocated the following series for self-adhesive booklets:

**SB1** - books containing only definitives for the 1<sup>st</sup> class inland rate

**SB2** - books containing only definitives for the 2nd class inland rate

**SB3** - books containing special issues, with or without definitives

**SB4** - books containing stamps for overseas rates

Series SB3 and SB4 are interesting. Several booklets, including the Cats & Dogs booklets mentioned earlier fall into the ambit of SB3. The matter of particular interest is that these booklets are likely to be the only source of self-adhesive versions of the special stamps they contain, until of course Royal Mail moves entirely away from conventionally gummed sheet stamps as we know them to self-adhesive sheets. There have been no booklets issued to date in series SB4, although Royal Mail had announced the first issue was to have taken place in April 2001. We await their appearance with baited breath.

In the mean time, the £1 and £2 machine vended booklets and Prestige Booklets continue to be produced using gummed panes.

The DB, SB and DP numbering systems for booklets and panes used throughout this article are copyright and are used with the kind permission of the Great Britain Decimal Stamp Book Study Circle.

The DG numbering system for individual stamps is copyright and is used with the kind permission of D G A Myall.

#### References:

*The Bookmark Catalogue, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*

*The Complete Deegam Machin Handbook, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*

*The Bookmark Journal*

## Specialist Feature John Oliver

### An Introduction to the 16½p pale chestnut, the 17p pastel green, the 17p blue grey and the 17p dark blue Machins

#### The 16½p pale chestnut

The 16½ p pale chestnut was issued on 27 January 1982, it was used for the second weight step for the second class inland letters. It was printed by Harrisons in photogravure in sheets only. It was printed on PC paper and there is only one value type. Early printings on PCP1 and PCP2 are perforated with the Kampf machine, Late printings (1983) were perforated on the APS machine. There is only one value type.

This issue was withdrawn on 9 March 1984

#### The 17p pastel green

The 17p pastel green was issued on 30 January 1980, and was used for the second weight step for the first class letter rate. It was printed by Harrisons in photogravure in sheets only. It was printed on PC paper, types PCP1 and PCP2 are known. There is only one value type.

There are examples of this stamp which have the Fluorescent Brightener Omitted (FBO).

This issue was withdrawn on 14 August 1981.

#### The 17p blue grey

The 17p blue grey was issued on 30 March 1983 in a colour variously described as blue grey or grey blue, but it exhibits a wide range of shades from the printings of sheets, coils and booklets, so in describing the colours your guess is as good as mine. It was used for paying the 1<sup>st</sup> class letter rate.

The issue was printed on three types of paper.

Phosphor coated paper (PCP1) was used for the

printing of sheets, coils and booklets.

- A vertical coil LL

There are six booklet panes

- DP69 with selvedge on the left
- DP69A with selvedge on the right

Both these panes comprise 10 x 17p in two rows of five from a £1.70 counter booklet.

- DP69B with selvedge on the left
- DP69C with selvedge on the right

Both these panes comprise 10 x 17p in two rows of five but with each stamp having a blue D printed under the gum. The booklets were sold at a discount price of £1.55.

- DP91 comprising 6 x 17p stamps and were from a £1 booklet from a vending machine, hence discounted 2p. The stamps had no marking to indicate the discount.
- DP82B comprising 3 x 17p stamps and a 'please use the code' label in a 50p machine vended booklet printed in error with 2 phosphor bands. The stamp below the label has the two bands short at the top.

**Advanced Coated Paper** was used in sheets and booklets

- The sheets were printed from cylinders 7, 10, 11, 13 and 15. Those from cylinder 7 have a different value type.
- DP72 is a pane of 6 x 17p in three rows of two from the booklet 'The Story of our Christian Heritage'
- DP77 is a pane of 6 x 17p in three rows of two from the booklet 'Story of the Times'
- DP80 is a pane of 9 x 17p in three rows from the Prestige booklet 'The Story of the Times'
- DP86 is a pane of 6 x 17p in three rows of two from the Prestige booklet 'The Story of British Rail.'
- DP89 is a pane of 6 x 17p in three rows of two from the Prestige booklet 'The Story of British Rail.'

**Fluorescent Coated Paper** was used in booklets

- DP71 contains 5 x 17p two of which are short band right and two short band left in the top row and 1 x 17p with 4 x 13p stamps on the bottom row with the selvedge on the

left.

- **DP71A** has the same composition but with the selvedge on the right.
- **DP71B/C** have the same composition and orientation as **DP71A**, but an unsynchronised phosphor cylinder produced a top row with 1 x 17p 2B, 2 x 17p LB and 2 x 17p RB and 1 x 17p with 4 x 13p stamps on the bottom row. All these **DP 71** panes are from a £1.70 counter booklets.
- **DP74** contains nine stamps, 2 x 17p 2B and 1 x 17p 2B with the left band short at the bottom, in the top row, 1 x 10p 2B, 1 x 17p 2B and 1 x 13p LB in the second row and 2 x 17p 2B and 1 x 17p 2B with the left band short at the top, in the bottom row. This pane is found in the £4 Christian Heritage Prestige Booklet.
- **DP79** This pane is to be found in the Prestige booklet 'The Story of the Times'. There are nine stamps, the top row comprises 1 x 13p RB, 1 x 7p 2B and 1 x 13p LB. The second row is 1 x 4p RB, 1 x 34p 2B and 1 x 4p LB. The bottom row comprises 1 x 13p RB, 1 x 7p 2B and 1 x 13p LB.  
**DP74** and **DP79** are known missing phosphor.
- **DP82** is found in a 50p machine vended booklet and contains 3 x 17p stamps with a label 'please use the Post Code' and printed on starred paper. The stamp adjacent to the label has the left phosphor band inset leaving the perforations clear of phosphor and the band narrower than the right hand band. Stamps with missing phosphor can be found in this pane and with short phosphor bands at the top.
- **DP82A** is the same as the above but without the star but is not known with the phosphor missing.

This colour was withdrawn on 18 October 1986.

## The 17p Dark blue

This value was re-issued on 4 September 1990 printed on FC paper in sheets and booklets by

## Harrison by photogravure

- a UL coil
- Sheets printed from **cylinders 17 and 19** both cylinder produced examples of screened values.
- **DP162** is found in a 50p machine vended booklet and contains 3 x 17p stamps with a label 'please use the Post Code' The top row has the label and 1 x 17p left hand band stamp with the band inset leaving the perforations clear of phosphor. The second row has 2 x 17p stamps, the left hand stamp has a RB short at the top and the right hand stamp has a LB. Missing phosphors can be found from this pane.
- **DP163** is from a £1 machine vended booklet. The first **column** consists of two 'please use the Post Code' labels and 2 x 17p RB stamps imperforate along the left edge. The second column consists of one 'please use the Post Code' and 3 x 22p stamps
- **DP163A** is the same as above except the phosphor band on the 22p stamps is wider. Missing phosphors are known from both these panes.

## Questa by lithography

- **DP167** is a pane of 6 x 17p in three rows of two from the £6 'Alias Agatha Christie' Prestige Booklet.
- **DP170** this pane has the same content and layout as pane **DP167**. This pane is known with missing phosphor.

## Bibliography

Alan B, The Connoisseur Catalogue of Machin Stamps 10<sup>th</sup> Ed 1995

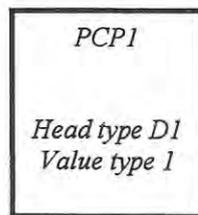
Philpott M, Machin Collectors Club Catalogue 1<sup>st</sup> Ed 1996

Myall DGA, The complete Deegam Machin Handbook 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed 1999

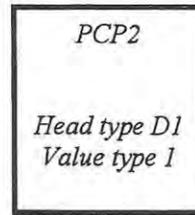
**We gratefully acknowledge the kind permission of the Great Britain Decimal Stamp Book Study Circle for the use of their DP and DB notation**

*Value Face 16½p  
Colour Pale chestnut*

*Printed by Harrison in Photogravure*



*Issued 27.1.82*

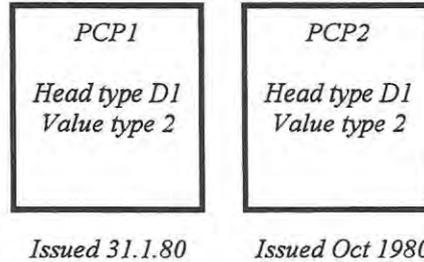


*Issued Feb 1982*

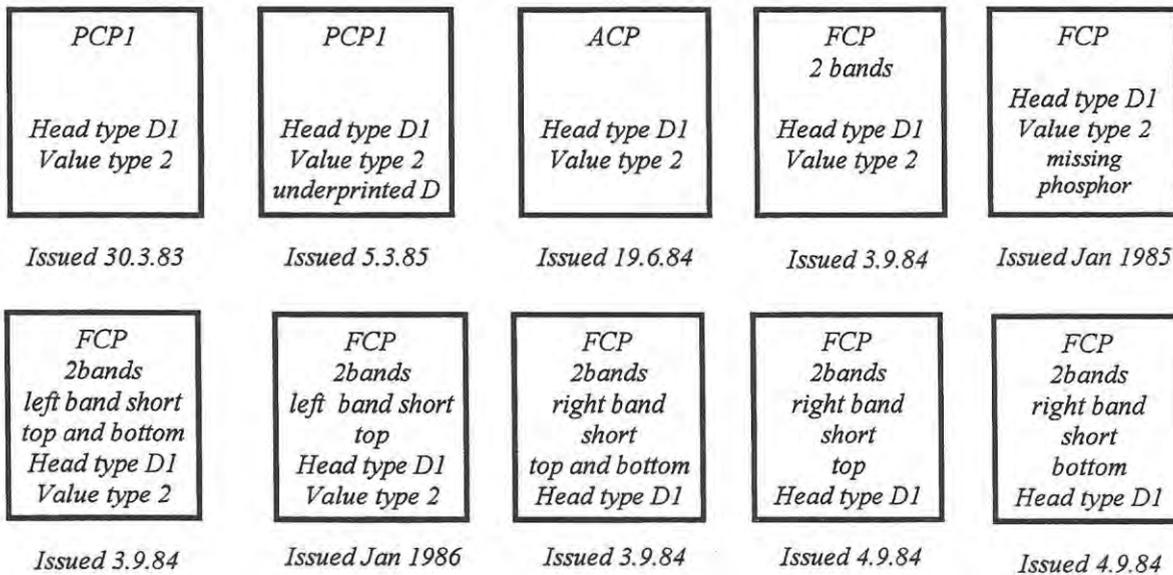
*The 16½p value was issued on 27 January 1982 to meet an increase in tariff.  
It was the second weight step for second class inland letters.  
The value was withdrawn on 9 March 1984*

*Face Value 17p  
Colour Pastel Green*

*Printed by Harrison in Photogravure*



*Colour Blue grey*



*The Pastel green value was issued on 30 January 1980 for the second weight step for 1st class letters as from 1st February 1980.*

*The stamp was withdrawn on 14 August 1981*

*Face Value 17p  
Colour Blue grey*

*Printed by Harrison in Photogravure*

*FCP  
2 bands  
Head type D1  
Value type 2a  
second star*

*Issued 4.11.85*

*FCP  
2 bands  
short top  
Head type D1  
Value type 2a  
second star*

*4.11.85*

*FCP  
2 bands  
short top  
Head type D1  
Value type 2a*

*Issued 31.1.80*

*FCP  
Head type D1  
Value type 2a  
missing  
phosphor*

*Issued May 1986*

*Colour Dark Blue*

*FCP  
centre band  
Head type B1  
Value type 2a*

*Issued 4.9.90*

*FCP  
right band  
short top  
Head type B1  
Value type 2a  
PPPP*

*Issued 4.9.90*

*FCP  
Head type B1  
Value type 2a  
missing  
phosphor*

*Issued Sept 90*

*FCP  
right band  
short top  
Head type B1  
Value type 2a  
PPPI*

*Issued 4.9.90*

*FCP  
Head type B1  
Value type 2a  
missing  
phosphor*

*Issued Sept 90*

*FCP  
left band  
Head type B1  
Value type 2a*

*Issued 4.9.90*

*FCP  
Head type B1  
Value type 2a  
missing  
phosphor*

*Issued Sept 90*

*Printed by Questa in Lithography*

*FCP  
centre band  
Head type A2  
Value type 2a*

*Issued 19.3.91*

*FCP  
Head type A2  
Value type 2a  
missing  
phosphor*

*Issued 19.3.91*

*The Dark blue version of this value was issued on the 4 September 1990 in time for the increase in the second class basic letter rate on the 17 September 1990.  
The stamp was withdrawn on the 14 September 1991*



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283 x 216mm	500g	Per 50	\$11.00
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285mm x 240mm-top open	400g	Per 50	\$21.00
285mm x 240mm-top open	400g	Per 50	\$21.00
285mm x 252mm-side open	400g	Per 50	\$16.00

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285mm x 240mm-topopen	200g	Per 10	\$16.00

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Number 37-6d Kookaburra	Each	\$5.00
Number 38-Centenary 1st South Australian stamp	Each	\$5.00

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overprinted	Pair	\$3.50
First Day covers of the above (2)	Each	\$5.00

Australia 99 Cover carried on the Doepel ship

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# PASTCARDS

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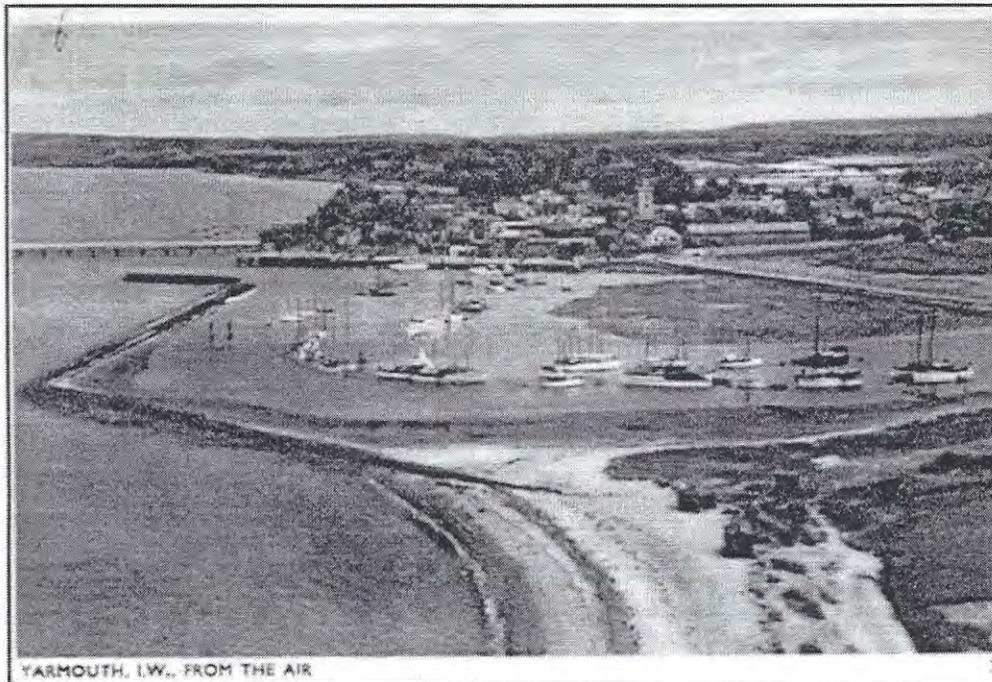
Vol. 5 No. 4

No. 46, March 2002

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## **The Isle of Wight**

**From the collection of Bernard Van Der Meer**



### **Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, from the air.**

Sepia tone photolithograph "Solograph" series De Luxe Photogravue E. A. Sweetman & Sons, Ltd., Tunbridge Wells, PU 3 June 1952.

The ancient port of Yarmouth (originally Eremouth) was burnt by the French in 1377 and 1521, after which Henry VIII built Yarmouth Castle to bolster local defences. In 1878 a successful scheme to place a dyke across the Yar opened some 650 acres of lowlands to agriculture.

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Price: \$ 5.00

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ISSN 1326-9941

## Canberra Picture Postcard Collectors

Canberra Picture Postcards Collectors is a branch of the Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc., and membership is open to anyone interested in the collection and study of any aspects of the design, production and subject matter of picture postcards. The annual subscription for 2002 is \$28 for local and Australian members, and \$38 overseas. All members receive the combined journals *Capital Philately*, *Machinations* and **PASTCARDS**. We do accept Credit Cards payments.

Canberra Picture Postcards Collectors meets on the second Tuesday every month in Room 5, upstairs at the Griffin Centre, Bunda St., Civic. The main topic of each meeting is listed on the program below, but everyone is invited to bring along any other items of interest.

Canberra Picture Postcards Collectors normally holds two auctions each year. Anyone is entitled to bid in our auctions, but must be a member of Canberra Picture Postcard Collectors to submit lots for sale.

Canberra Picture Postcards Collectors also holds a small but expanding collection of books and journals relating to Picture Postcards held in the library of the Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc., which is in the clubroom opposite Room 5 in the Griffin Centre. Members can see and borrow books before and after Picture Postcard Collectors Meetings or at the Philatelic Society's Stamp markets held at the Griffin Centre every month on the second Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For any further information about Canberra Picture Postcard Collectors, please contact Mrs. Elspeth Bodley at P. O. Box 341, Dickson ACT 2602.

### 2002 Meetings

Date	Presenter	Topic of Display
January 8	Joint Display	<i>Members' Night</i>
February 12	Joint Display	<i>Royalty</i>
March 12	David Wardell	<i>Murray River Engineering</i>
April 9	Tony Antoniou	<i>Cyprus</i>
May 14	Graeme Broxam	<i>A Tasmanian Miscellany</i>
June 11	Joint Display	<i>Grus Aus Cards</i>
July 9	Joint Display	<i>Annual Paper Ephemera Extravaganza</i>
August 12	Joint Display	<i>Humour Cards</i>
September 10	John Besemers	<i>Russia</i>
October 8	Bruce and Jenni Parker	<i>A Parker Family Pot Pouri</i>
November 12	Ian MacMahon	<i>Australian Picture Postal Stationery</i>
December 12	Elspeth Bodley	<i>Scotland</i>

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Meetings commence at 7.45 p.m. and usually finish between 9.30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Anyone interested is invited to attend, and don't forget to bring along anything else of interest, especially your own examples of cards of the topics of the main displays.

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# PASTCARDS

CANBERRA PICTURE POSTCARD COLLECTORS

Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc. ISSN 1326-9941 P. O. Box 341 Dickson ACT 2602  
Vol. 5 (4) No. 46 March 2002

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## Editorial

This edition of **PASTCARDS** coincides with Canberra Stampshow 2002, which we hope will inspire many visitors to join our Society and enjoy our journals. As usual we have two articles this issue by our members. Paul Griffiths is working on an extensive article on the Canberra photographer Strangman that we hope will take up an entire issue of **PASTCARDS** later in the year. We also have an article on Singapore/Malaya in the pipeline, but as usual we are very short of copy and anyone who can write an article based around some of their cards will be greatly appreciated.

## Contents

52. *The Australian War Memorial Series 1 & 2 Printed Postcards*, by Paul Griffiths  
57. *The Isle of Wight* from the collection of Bernard Van der Meer, text by Graeme Broxam



### Coronation of King George VI, 12 May 1937

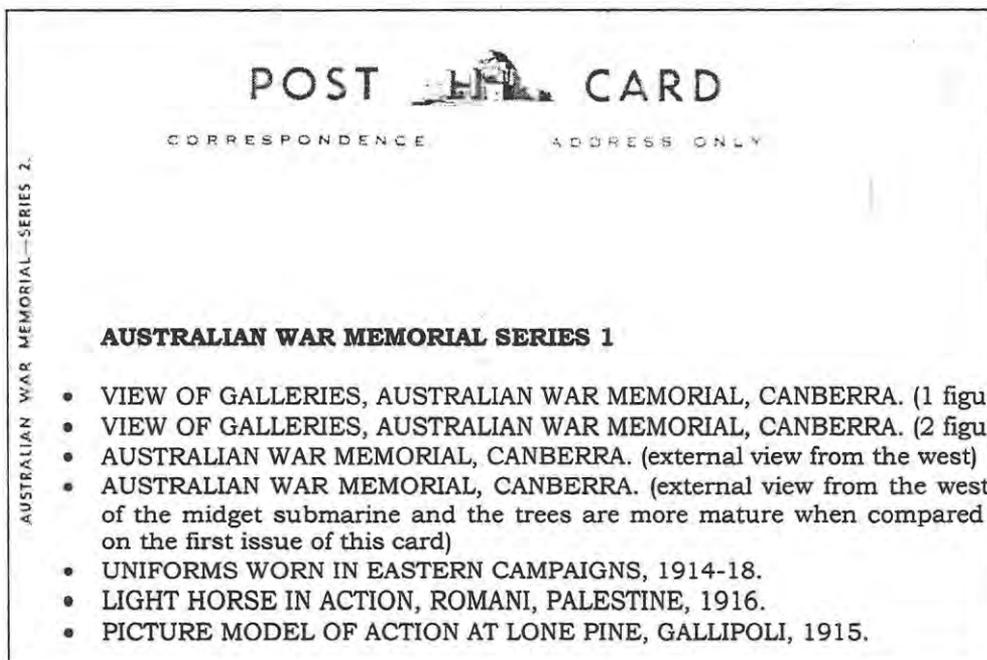
Multicoloured (linotype/lithograph) on b/w letterpress, Tuck's Oilette No. 5317

To commemorate the Fiftieth Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne, the Picture Postcard Group held a joint display on cards depicting royalty for its 12 February meeting. Illustrated is part of Your Editor's humble contribution.

## The Australian War Memorial Series 1 & 2 printed postcards

Paul Griffiths

The Australian War Memorial Series 1 & 2 postcards were released for sale concurrently on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 1954. The postcards were commissioned by the Australian War Memorial (AWM), Canberra and printed on one-sided art board by Star Printery Pty. Ltd. 433 Kent Street, Sydney under subcontract to Halstead Press Pty. Ltd. of 9-19 Nickson Street, Sydney. Halstead's engraving department produced the four colour printing blocks. The captions on the front and series title on the reverse were type set. The AWM initially provided Halstead with twelve transparencies, which had been selected from photographs believed to have been taken by Department of Information photographers. Mr. Davis, Halstead's artist and photographer, was pleased with their quality. The first set of trial colour blocks made were for a post card depicting the exterior of the War Memorial. Mr. Davis favoured a design for the postcards where the subjects bled off the top and the two sides, with a white margin across the bottom. His recommendation was accepted and the cards reflect this decision. There are five cards in each set, and each set was sold packaged in an envelope. The size of the postcards is 5 ½ by 3 ½ inches. They are printed in four colours on the front and one colour on the reverse. The initial print run was 20,000 of each card (200,000 in total) and 40,000 envelopes. By June 1955, 3,217 sets of Series 1 and 2,865 sets of Series 2 cards had been sold. During 1957 Halstead moved to 18 Forrester Street, Kingsgrove, and in December of that year the replacement of two cards in Series 1 was discussed. In April 1958 a mark was noticed on one of the newly produced colour blocks, which was attributed to a faulty transparency. The mark appeared on the left side of the card, which depicted the interior of one of the galleries. The AWM was prepared to accept the flaw but asked Halstead to reduce it as much as possible. Halstead were able to make a significant improvement on the flaw, apparently a scratch, but it is still faintly visible on the door frame in the picture. Eighty-thousand sets of these popular postcards had been sold by June 1963 but sales had declined due to demand for concertina type view folders which visitors deemed to be better value for money.

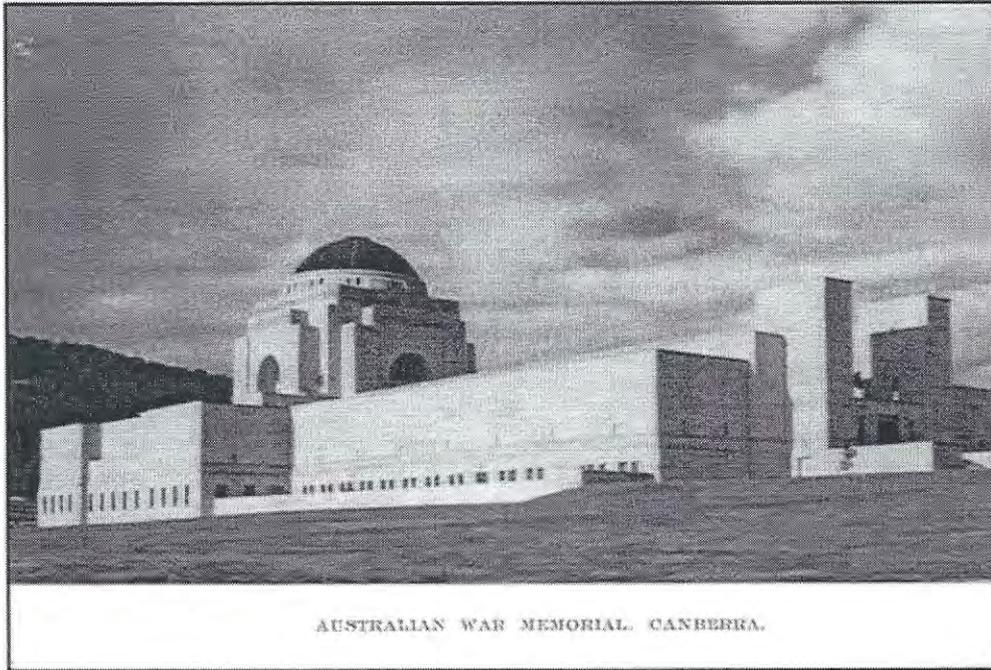


**The back of  
the Card**

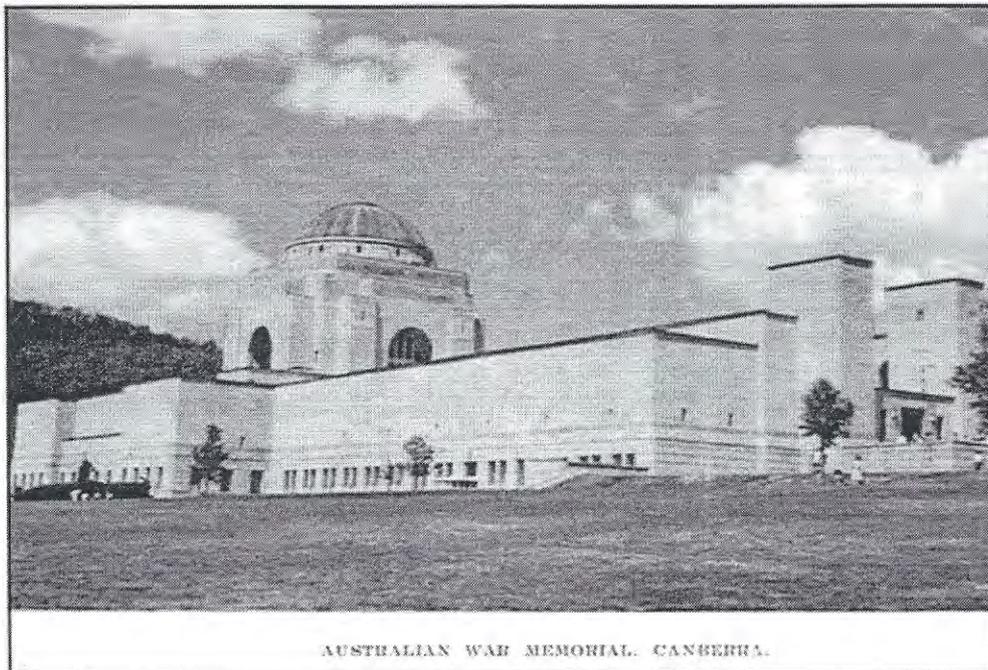
### **AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL SERIES 2**

- COURTYARD, CLOISTERS & HALL OF MEMORY / AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL CANBERRA.
- UNIFORMS WORN IN WESTERN CAMPAIGNS, 1914-18.
- VIEW OF FRANCE-BELGIUM GALLERY, AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL, CANBERRA.
- MODEL DEPICTING ATTACK ON MONT ST. QUENTIN, FRANCE, 1918.
- MODEL SHOWING INFANTRY ACTION, DERNANCOURT, FRANCE, 1918.

**The Australia War Memorial Canberra  
Or, Spot The Differences ?**

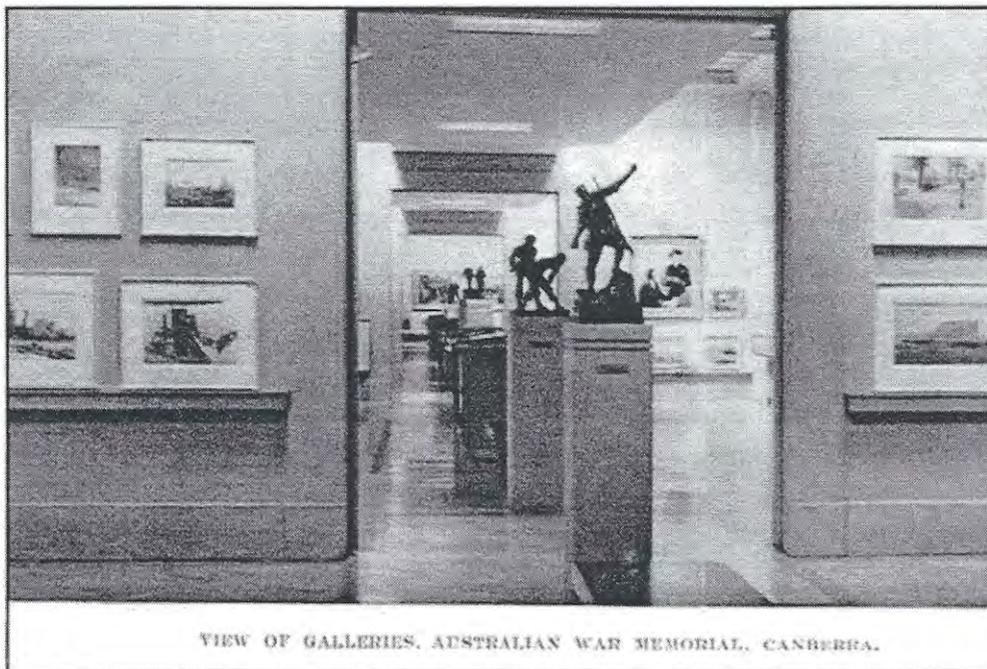


The original printing shows the very sparse surroundings of the Memorial in the early 1950s.



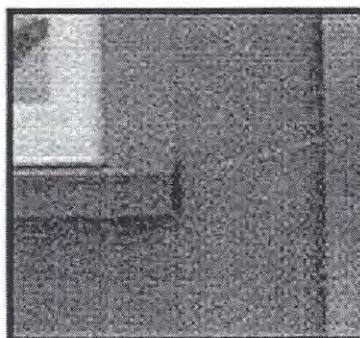
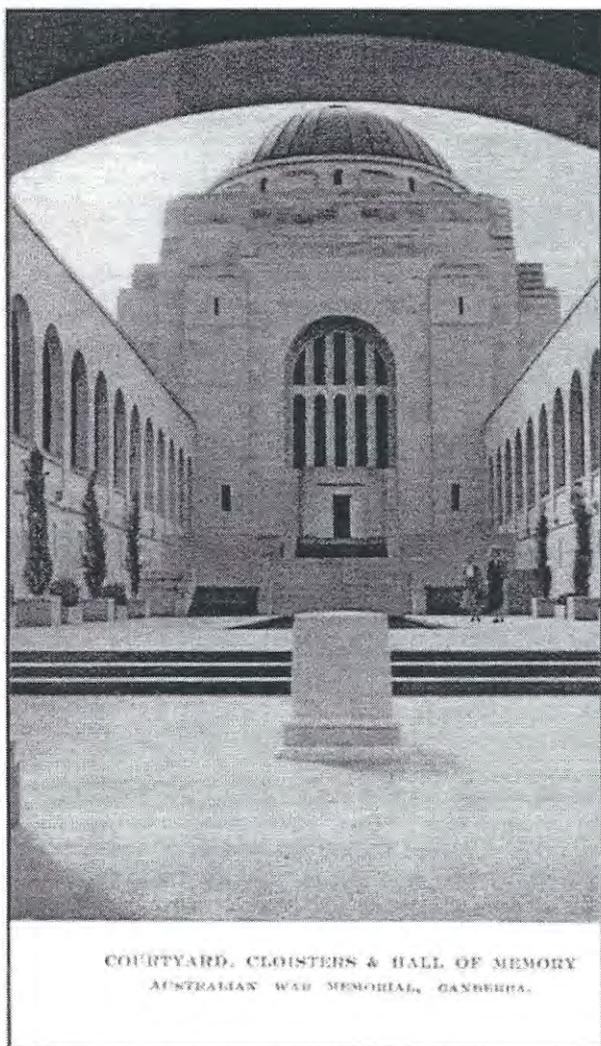
Although still labelled "Series 1" the second printing of the Memorial used a later view of the building showing considerable changes over time. These include the growth of trees, removing an enclosed courtyard in the front half of the side, and the placement of the 'restored' Japanese midget submarine (actually a rough reassembly of the relatively undamaged forward and rear sections of the two vessels recovered from Sydney Harbour after the famous 1942 raid) at the rear of the building.

**The Offending Scratch**



**ABOVE: View of the Galleries**

Despite being hard to find even when pointed out on the original card, a tiny green streak across the left-hand side of the door frame, evidently caused by a scratch on the original negative, resulted in the entire image being rejected in time for a later reprint. A new photograph was taken from almost exactly the same spot, but from a slightly different angle making the card easy to distinguish. The above image is of the corrected card, with arrows pointing the position of the flaw on the original version (see enlargement below - it probably won't reproduce well).

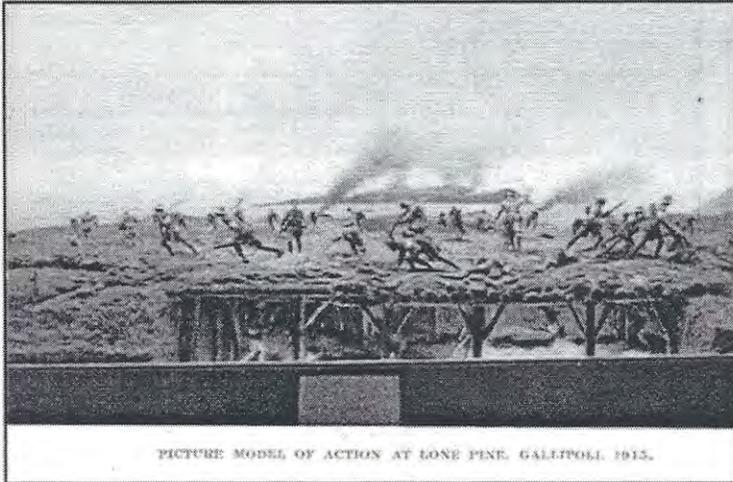


**LEFT: The Courtyard, Cloisters and Hall of Memory**

Looking towards the rear of the memorial building from the front entrance.

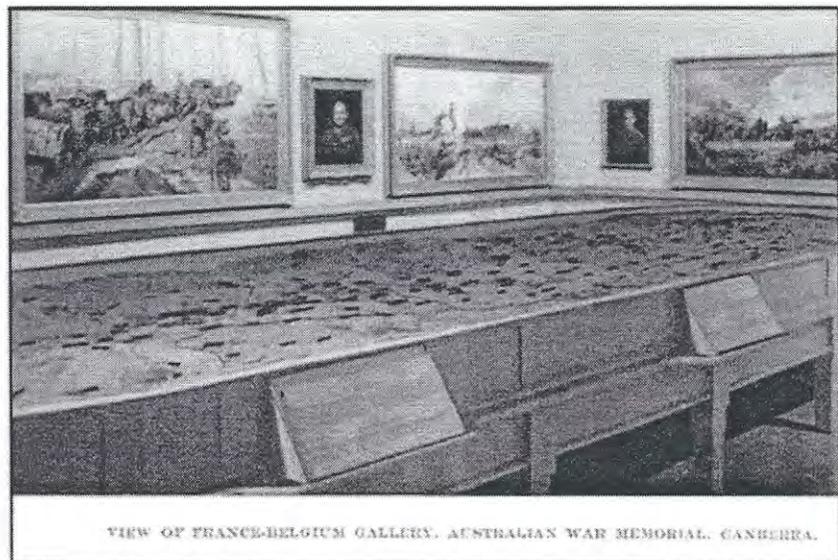
**BATTLE SCENES**

At the time these postcards were produced, the greater emphasis of the Memorial's exhibits were still reconstructions of battle scenes of the First World War. Even though somewhat lacking compared to modern standards of model making, these exhibits are now historic impressions in their own right, and the gallery has had to be extensively enlarged to accommodate not only the Second World war and later conflicts, but also larger exhibits such as its unique aircraft collection, now housed in an extension at the rear of the original building.



Model of the Action at Lone Pine, Gallipoli, 1915.

The France-Belgium Gallery.



VIEW OF FRANCE-BELGIUM GALLERY, AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL, CANBERRA.



The Light Horse in action at Romani, Palestine in 1916.

LIGHT HORSE IN ACTION, ROMANI, PALESTINE, 1916.

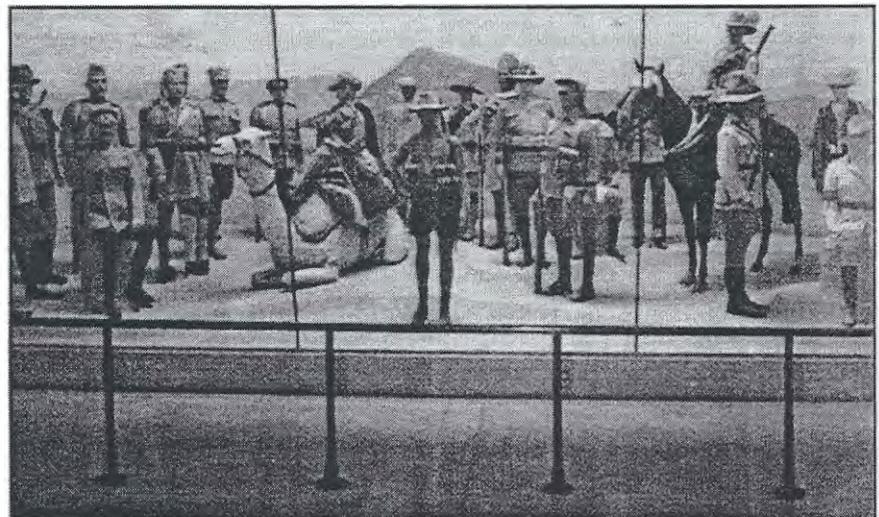


The attack on Mont St. Quentin, France in 1918

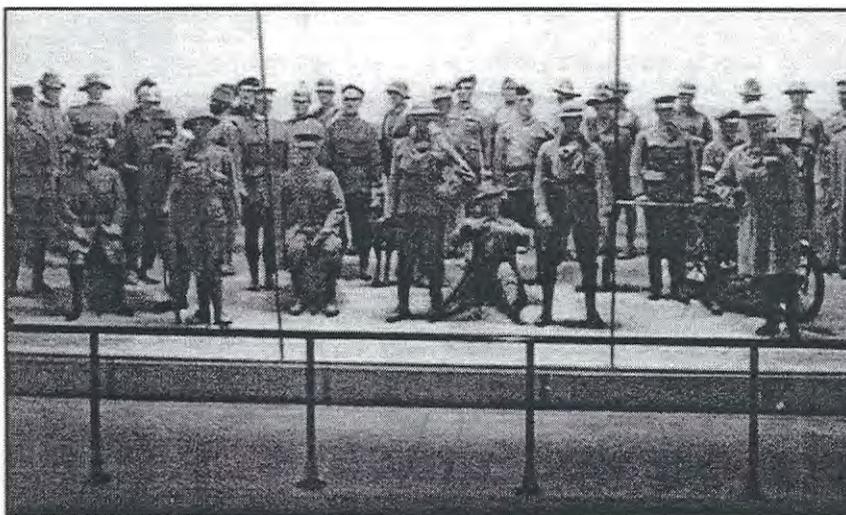
MODEL DEPICTING ATTACK ON MONT ST. QUENTIN, FRANCE, 1918.

## UNIFORMS

The only original artefacts shown on the postcards were a selection of uniforms, the upper card showing examples from the eastern campaign, and the lower the western.



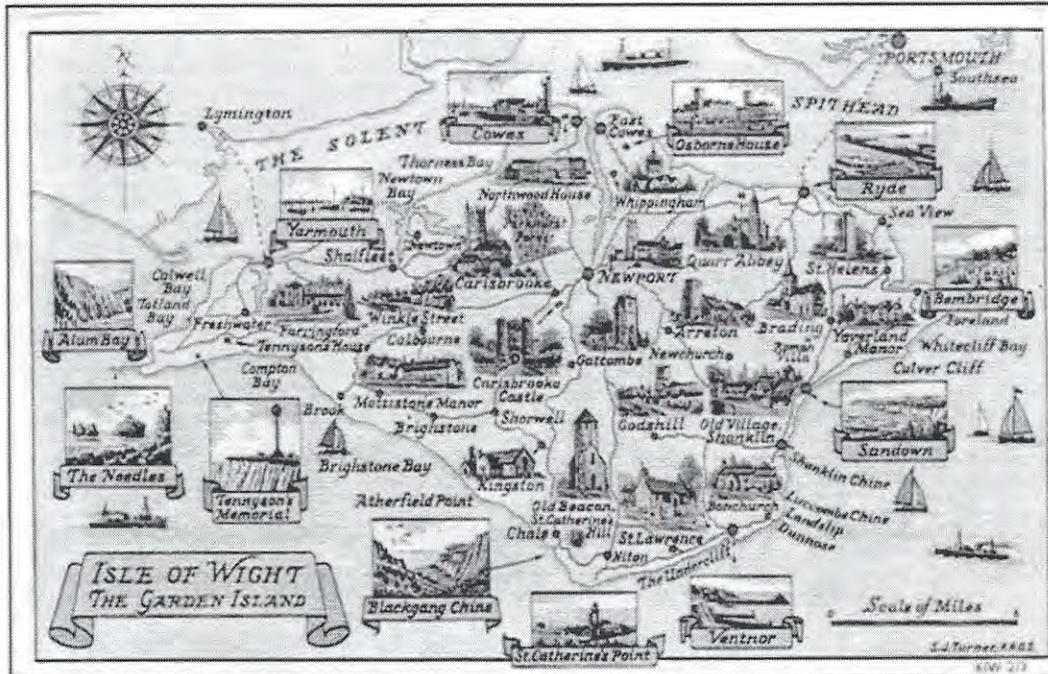
UNIFORMS WORN IN EASTERN CAMPAIGNS, 1914-18.



UNIFORMS WORN IN WESTERN CAMPAIGNS, 1914-18.

# THE ISLE OF WIGHT

From the Collection of Bernard Van der Meer  
Text by Graeme Broxam



## The Isle of Wight (and environs)

Glazed multicoloured photolithograph, Nigh (Ventnor IOW) PU 24 AU 1960

The Isle of Wight lies on the far south-eastern end of England, separated from it by the Solent. It has been inhabited since prehistoric times, and was the site of several forts and villas during the Roman occupation of the first to fourth centuries A.D. Over the ensuing millennium it became of some strategic importance, being immediately south of the great English naval port of Portsmouth, and suffered numerous sacking by French invaders between the 1300s and the 1500s, when Henry VIII greatly improved fortifications. King Charles I sought refuge there during the Civil War a century later.

The Isle of Wight remained largely a rural backwater until the late 1700s, when increasing numbers of wealthy holiday makers began to frequent its growing beach resorts. Its prestige increased dramatically with the foundation of the Royal Yacht Club at Cowes in 1812 and Queen Victoria building Osborne House nearby in the late 1840s.

By the Grand Era of the Picture Postcard, c1900-1914, the Isle of Wight was well established as arguably England's premier resort location. Numerous coastal villages swelling to many thousands with holiday makers enjoying their beaches, while the yachting fraternity enjoyed the facilities at Cowes, scene of many of the world's major events such as the America's Cup. However, one did not have to go far from the coastal bustle to find rustic villages and ancient castles unchanged in centuries. All these aspects of the Isle of Wight and more featured in a prodigious number of cards produced by local publishers, examples of which from c1903 to c1960 make up this brief introduction.

**BRADING & YARMOUTH**

The village of Brading lies on the Yar River on the island's west coast, dating from Roman times (the remains of an extensive Roman villa were discovered in 1880 and later excavated),



**Brading Church showing the cemetery and old sun dial**

Three-coloured screen print on B/W Letterpress, Peacock "Autochrom" (Regd.) Postcard by The Pictorial Stationery Co., Ltd., London. PU Brading 10 AU 1906

According to legend, Brading Church was established by St. Wilfred in the late 700s after his conversion of the native Jutes. The pillars of the nave date from around 1150 and the pointed arches from about a century later – the chapel on the south side was rebuilt about 1500.



**Little Jane's Cottage, Brading, Isle of Wight**

Multicoloured screenprint (?with hand retouching) on B/W Photolithograph, Printed in Germany  
PU Ventnor 14 AP 1905

The quaint "Little Jane's Cottage" takes its name from the girl who, before her death at the age of fifteen, managed to impress the local evangelical clergyman with her ability to memorise the poetry on the tombstones in the church graveyard. The epitaph on her grave is said to have been written by the Rev. Legh Richmond, non-resident vicar from 1797 to 1805.

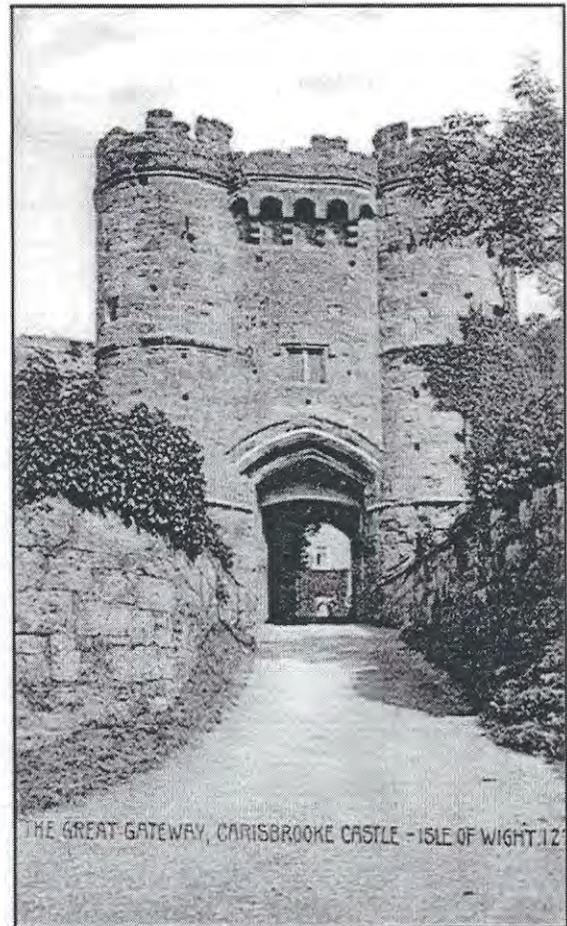
**THE QUAIN HINTERLAND**

During the grand era of the picture postcard, one did not have to go far inland from the bustling coastal resorts to find England's untouched rural charm, with quaint village streets and the odd castle, largely unchanged since the Middle Ages.

**Carisbrooke Castle**

Sepia photolithograph, The Ideal Series.  
PU St. Helens IOW 30 SP 1910

Carisbrooke Castle is believed to have been built on the remains of a Roman fort – it was progressively added to between the Norman conquest and the reign of Elizabeth I. However, it did not take on a prominent role in history until the Civil War, when King Charles I sought refuge there between 22 November 1647 and 6 September 1648. His children Henry and Elizabeth were housed there after his execution, Elizabeth dying there on 8 September 1650.



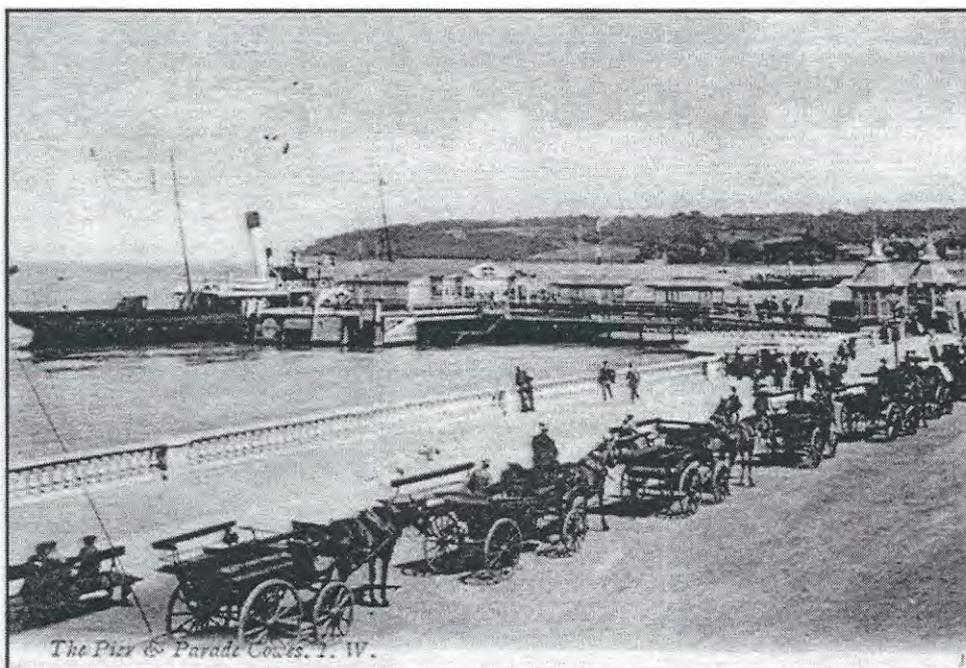
**Shorwell Village**

Sepia toned photolithograph, Photochrom Co. Ltd., Royal Tunbridge Wells, UU (c1920)

The village of Shorwell lies on the main road from Newport to the south-west coast, about four miles south of Carisbrooke Castle. Its church is believed to date from the reign of Edward III, probably on the remains of an older building dating from the early 1200s. It also contains a number of mid-1400s frescoes. A neighbouring building is the Leigh family's mansion *Northcourt*.

**COWES**

Cowes lies on the Isle of Wight, at the mouth of the Medina River on the islands central north coast. It owes its fame and popularity to the Royal Yacht Club founded in 1812, with its headquarters at Cowes Castle, centred around a fort built by Henry VIII to guard the Solent.



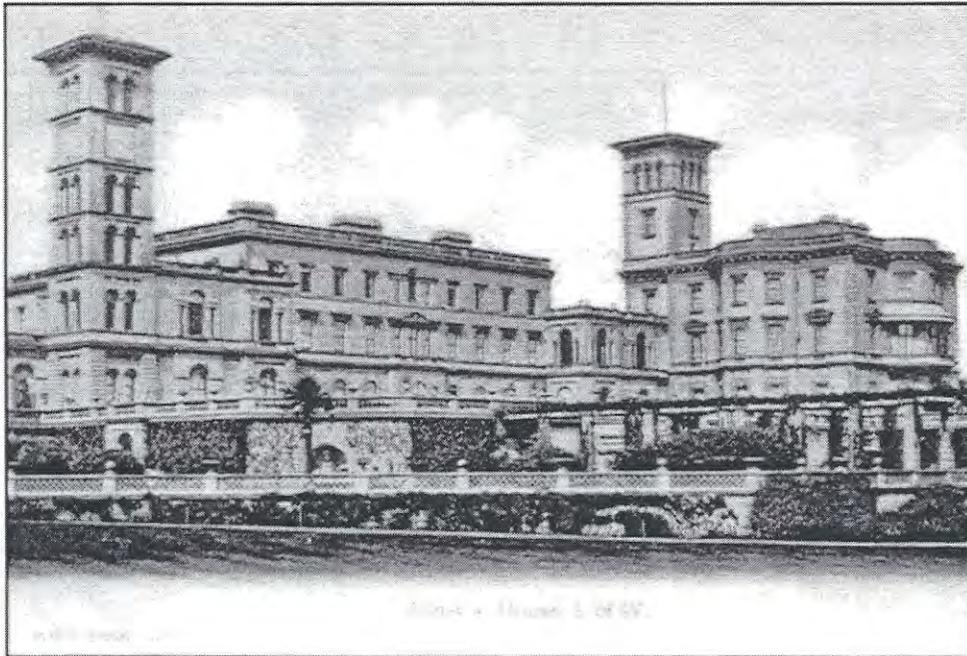
**The Pier (showing paddle excursion steamer) and Parade, Cowes Isle of Wight**  
Three coloured screen print on B/W photolithograph, JWS Series No. 742, PU Portsmouth 18 AU 1905  
The Solent-side beachfront at Cowes is called The Parade, with the Victoria Pier at eastern side (the entrance to the Medina) and Cowes Castle at the west.



**Cowes Week: The King going aboard**  
B/W Photolithograph, anonymous publisher, PU Ventnor IOW 8 AP 1905  
During Cowes Week before the First World War Royal Yachts from most of the Great Houses of Europe were present. Here King Edward VII takes the tiller of a gig heading offshore, probably to the Royal Yacht *Victoria & Albert III* or perhaps his son's racing yacht *Britannia*.

**OSBORNE HOUSE**

One of the most famous buildings on the Isle of Wight is Osborne House, the Royal Family's estate at East Cowes. Queen Victoria purchased the site in 1845 and the Palladian type residence was subsequently built there to a design by Thomas Cubitt and Prince Albert. Following her death there on 22 January 1901, Edward VII approved its use as a convalescent home for the services and part of the Royal Naval College, although parts of the Royal Suite were opened for public viewing.



**Osborne House**

Three colour screenprint on B/W Photolithograph, F. G. O. Stuart No. 170, PU Bournemouth 29 SP 1906



**Dining Room, State Apartments, Osborne House**

Sepia Real Photograph, H. M. Office of Works, PU Ryde 30 AP 1935

The dining room is decorated with paintings of Queen Victoria's immediate family, with large family portraits in the centre and to the right.

**SEAVIEW**

Seaview lies on the island's extreme north-eastern end, almost directly due south of Portsmouth on the mainland and just east of Ryde. During the 1930s it had a normal population of about 1,000, expanding by some 3,000 during the holiday season.



**Chain Pier, Sea View, Isle of Wight**

Sepia Photolithograph, anonymous publisher (from a tear-apart booklet), PU Ryde IOW 14 AU 1934

The rather unique Chain Pier at Seaview was built in 1880, extending approximately 1000ft. from the shore to give sufficient room for three excursion steamers to berth alongside.



**Mixed Bathing at Seaview**

B/W Letterpress, J. W. & S., publishers, PU Ryde 4 AU 1903 to Sydney 10 SP 1903

During the 1930s bathing tents at Seagrove Bay could be hired from W. Bull of The Briars, while Bathing Tickets could be had for 6d. from the Seagrove Bay Toll Gate.

SHANKLIN AND ENVIRONS



**Shanklin, showing the pier and bathing machines.**

Sepia glazed letterpress, Valentine Series "British Manufacture" PU Shanklin 4 OC 1920

The seaside resort town of Shanklin lies on Sandown Bay on the island's south-east coast. During the 1930s, when the "native" population was about 5,000, it boasted a popular mixed bathing beach and a jetty for visiting excursion steamers on its Esplanade. The main part of the town, however, is built on the high seaside cliffs behind the beachfront.

**Shanklin Chine**

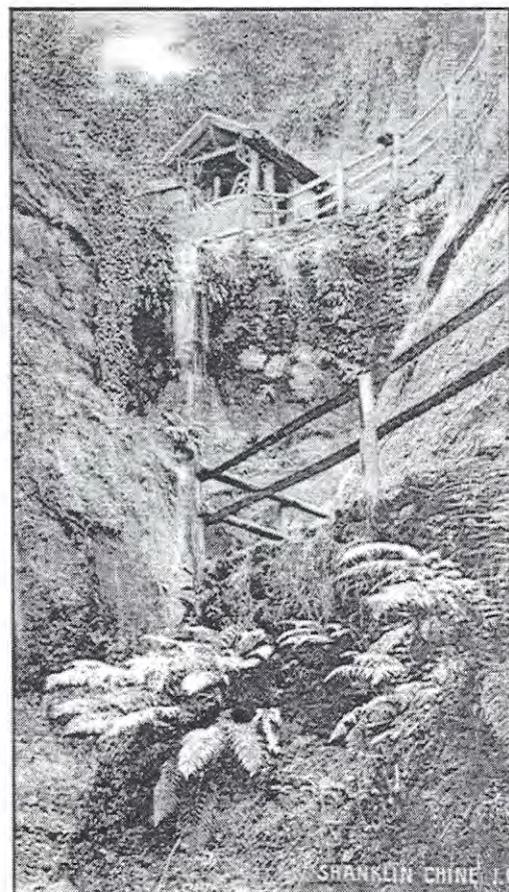
B/W Photolithograph, Postcard Palu? Co.,  
PU Portsmouth 28 AU 1903

Shanklin's most famous attraction is The Chine (from the Anglo Saxon *Cine*, a chink or fissure), the narrow, winding gully narrowing from its 300ft. base to a narrow stream commencing right in the middle of the town.

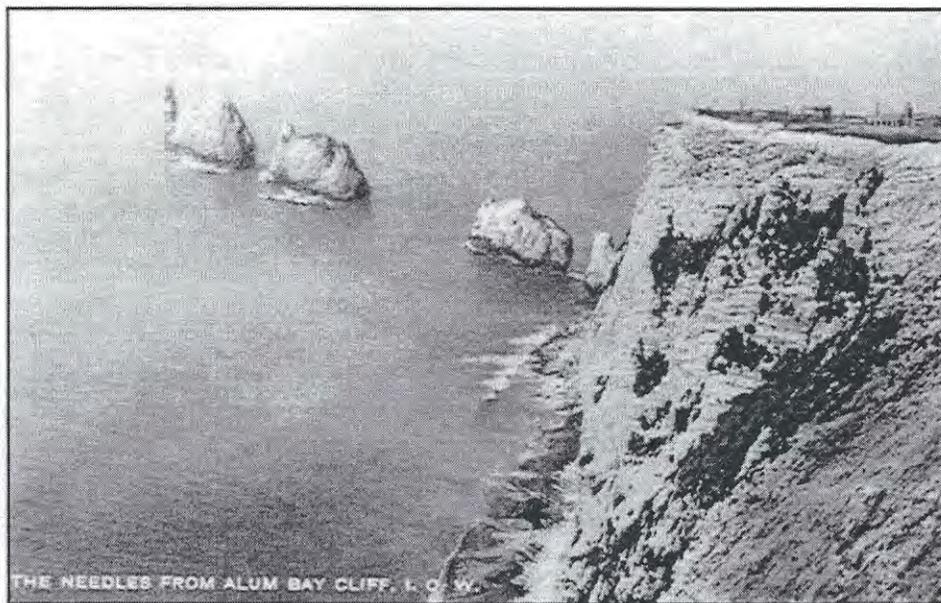


**Sandowne**

Above: Detail of bathing machines at Sandowne, two miles north of Shanklin. It was slightly larger than Shanklin in the 1930s, with a population of 6,500, swelling to double that over the holiday season.



**THE NEEDLES & TOTLAND BAY**



**The Needles and Lighthouse from Alum Bay Cliffs.**

Sepia tone real photograph, anonymous publisher, PU Ryde IOW 23 MR 1929

One of the Isle of Wight's most famous marine features are The Needles, a series of jagged chalk rocks jutting into the sea from a narrow promontory at its extreme western end. A fourth, slender rock some 120ft. in height and known as "Lot's Wife" or "The Ghost" collapsed in 1764. The lighthouse on the outermost rock was built in 1859.



**Totland Bay, views from the east and west, the beach, the pier, and Christ Church**

Sepia tone real photograph, "Sunshine Series" E. A. Sweetman & Son, Tunbridge Wells.  
PU Totland Bay 24 MY 1933.

The northern side of the promontory forms Alum Bay, while just further to the east lies Totland Bay, a typical resort town with a privately-owned beach and a jetty for visiting excursion steamers.



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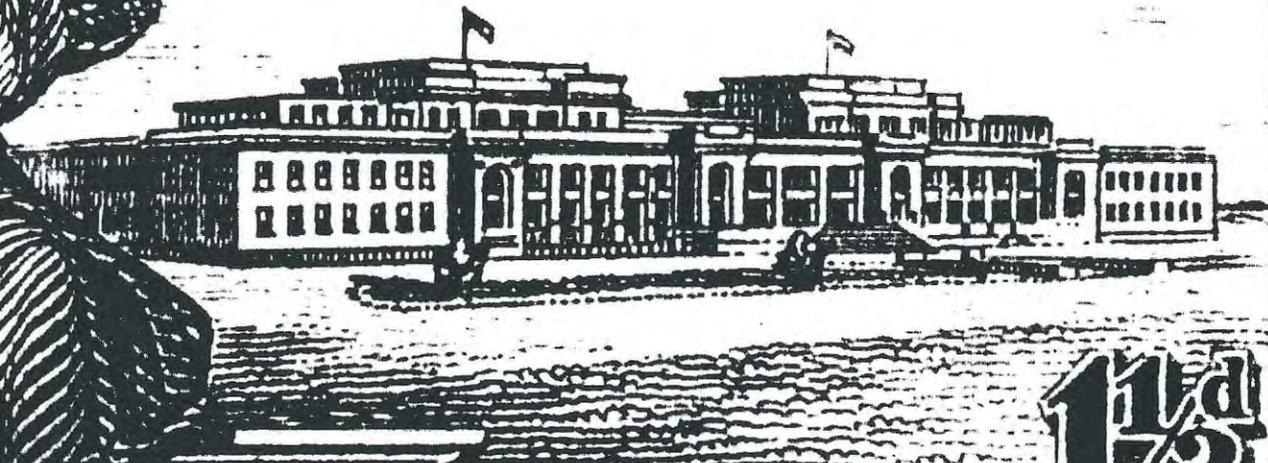
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