



Capital Philately

Incorporating PASTCARDS and Machinations.

Published by The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.

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Worlds to choose from

Parcel Cards in Europe

Forms for Heavy-Weight Mail

Sydney's Middle Harbour

and Clifton Gardens too

Prestige Booklets Since
2000

Pricing in Proportion

The new Machin Direction



Mr S. Saurus-Claws,
C/- Philatelic Society of
Canberra,
AUSTRALIA.



The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.

(Founded 1932)

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CAPITAL PHILATELY

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EDITORIAL

Well you philatelists seem to be a contented lot! Only one challenge has arrived for Santasaurus so far, so unless there are future entries lost somewhere in the post, accidently sent in as Stampshow entries or eaten by a hamster - we have a winner!

We also have an apology to make... in our last issue (page 13 of Vol 24, No.1) I erroneously credited the sheet of 50 Christmas seals for 1981-1982 to Jenny Nyström. The sheet was actually designed by the artist Björn Berg (not to be confused with a famous tennis player), whom we can say was inspired by Jenny's work, which does feature on complete sheets of 25 seals for each of 1979 and 1980.

So on to business... This issue is timed to coincide with Canberra Stampshow 2006 - welcome to all new readers of Capital Philately (and to the rest of you as well, obviously) - and we have a smorgasboard of offerings to tempt you. Although there is no Camel-Mail (nice idea though...) we do look at transporting parcels and small rodents. A brief contribution about catalogues follows up on a request from our librarian. We step across to Sydney and take a scenic trip up Middle Harbour in our PastCards segment, and catch up with all the latest news on the Machin front too.

Now this combination reminds me of something - Sydney Harbour, Camels, England, letters... Our most recent attempt to promote tourism to our shores has given rise to great controversy with the UK Censorship banning the wording of our latest slogan. I know it really is a bit much given all the language you hear at the local school or shopping centre, let alone on TV, I mean give us Little Aussie Bleeders a chance! I could understand them going for misleading advertising - we don't all look that attractive all the time, and I've never even heard of a camel being shampooed (and wouldn't want to try it either - much worse than wet dog). So I'll ask the question - "Where The Bloody Hell Are You?" Or for philately's sake - what's the most Okker letter/postcard you've seen, or the most unusual sending location? Have you actually seen the words used in the slogan on a philatelic item? I'd love to share your thoughts on this, but until next time - tuck in!

WHICH CATALOGUE?

Bruce Parker

This note is written as a response to our Librarian's request for members to indicate catalogue preferences and needs for the Society's Library. Until recently, the Society had a policy of not purchasing current general catalogues for the Library, but with substantial increases in catalogue prices, and the proliferation of new issues, many members are finding it a financial burden to keep up-to-date with catalogues covering their collecting needs. While Australian catalogues have not been exempt from the general prices increases, particularly the Brusden-White specialist series now only available in hard-bound format, the more general Australian and Territories catalogues are not prohibitively priced. It is not my intention to cover the Australian region in this note.

In general, World stamps are catalogued by Stanley Gibbons (published in the U.K.), Scott (U.S.A.), Michel (Germany) & Yvert (France). Michel & Yvert are written in German and French respectively, but don't require a great language knowledge to use. Michel & Yvert are published in geographical areas and also include specialist volumes for some countries. Some Michel catalogues come with an English insert translating philatelic terms, colours, abbreviations etc. The coverage of some Michel catalogues is, again, somewhat different, and also includes 3 volumes of postal stationery – Germany, East and West Europe. The publishing frequency varies.

Stanley Gibbons publishes a whole world catalogue ("Stamps of the World", previously called "The Simplified") as well as more detailed catalogues of either political groups (British Commonwealth) or geographical regions such as South East Asia (non-Commonwealth countries). "Stamps of the World" is published annually (now in five volumes) as is the first part of the British Commonwealth (up to about 1952 – the end of the King George VI period) the frequency of publication of the non-Commonwealth regional catalogues depends on the perceived (in the eyes of Gibbons) use/demand for the area; South East Asia is only updated at about five yearly intervals.

The crux of the topic is the content – "Stamps of the World" does not make reference to perforations or watermarks, and has only, in the latest issue, included references to miniature sheets. The Gibbons regional catalogues (and the British Commonwealth volume) include perforation and watermark varieties. The Scott catalogue (available in either hard copy (6 volumes plus the US Specialised) or about fourteen CD's (also including the specialised USA catalogue) includes details of perforation and watermark although perforations are only given to the half unit. I have looked in some detail at two countries I collect – Bermuda and Indonesia and compared the listings looking at issues I know to have a range of varieties. Scott gives a separate section for issues with charity surcharges (many Indonesian issues) but this is not a problem once one is accustomed to the idea. Special issues such as Air, Express, Postal use of fiscal (one Bermuda stamp) etc are also given separate sections in the Scott listings. A little more disconcerting is Scott not detailing the watermark for each issue but indicating continuity until a change is noted! There are some discrepancies between the stamps listed, for example, Gibbons catalogues two perforations for two top values of the 1954 Indonesia Merapi volcano eruption charity issue, but these are absent from Scott. Scott excludes many of the early Indonesian independence issues from the individual islands (Java & Sumatra) and only gives a brief list of the Japanese occupation issues compared to Gibbons.

The "key plate" high values of both King George V and VI have many of their varieties listed by Gibbons but, in spite of a large collector base (published books) in the U.S.A., none are listed in Scott. Similarly, none of the varieties in the early Elizabethan overprints (Three Power Conference & Yacht Race) are listed in Scott. Detailed dates of issue are often not given in Scott (and Gibbons "Simplified") particularly for definitive issues. Of more concern in Scott's Bermuda listing is some difficulty in deciding which are horizontal and which are vertical designs and the perforations for each.

In spite of some criticisms of the Scott listings, the catalogue has much to recommend it – not the least if one is a user of the "Album Pages" listings available from the web and on CD rom, which, being prepared in the U.S.A., use Scott as their basic reference. The U.S.A. Specialised volume of Scott is a true specialised catalogue

and includes revenues, postal stationery, local stamps, and varieties as well as U.S. Territories and the United Nations. Volume 1 of Scott has a “standard” listing of the U.S.A.

The size of the individual volumes of both Scott and Stamps of the World means that Australian prices include substantial freight or postage costs. For general users who need to know some details of perforation and watermark, it is probably hard to go past the Scott catalogues in spite of our traditional “allegiance” to Britain.

One or two year-old Scott catalogues can be purchased quite reasonably from the internet, but remember that postage also needs to be paid! Another advantage of the Scott catalogues is that it is the most common reference to stamps being sold on “eBay”.

Gibbons have made it rather difficult for Commonwealth collectors of Elizabethan issues since stopping production of what was always known as “Part 1” and only producing (as referred to above) the 1840-1952 listings. Some one country or regional catalogues have recently been produced (such as a volume for Ascension, St.Helena & Tristan da Cunha) listing all issues up to the present but it is not known what the frequency of issue will be (probable depending on the popularity of the area). If one only collects one or two areas, these sectional catalogues may be financially acceptable, but Scott on CD’s may be a more viable catalogue if one collects a number of countries.

Not being a thematic collector, I have not dwelt on the relative merits of these two catalogues from this point of view – I guess it depends on how much philatelic detail the collector needs! One can search the CD listing for thematic key-words such as “dinosaur” or “goat” – this is a little tedious, I believe, but can be done. Gibbons and Afinsa in Spain publish some thematic catalogues. The Gibbons “Collect Mammals” volume does not include domestic mammals (at least in the edition I have). There is a good “Prehistoric and Dinosaurs” catalogue in the Afinsa range and one should not forget the Gibbons “Motor Vehicles” prepared by one of our own members.

The Society has some Scott catalogues, as well as Stamps of the World, and Gibbons British Commonwealth, although not the latest editions. There are also some older Michel and Yvert catalogues, but not complete sets. The Society also has a small range of specialised catalogues for a number of countries, as well as one or two thematic catalogues.



Now, without a catalogue are you going to be able to tell which stamps these are, or what they are worth? Choose your weapon of choice and have a go: a helpful hint I suppose - the original stamps are olive green and carmine on yellow paper (or something very similar).



PARCEL CARDS IN EUROPE

Robert A. M. Gregson

Within Europe, leading into the 20th century, when you sent a parcel through the post, you did not put the stamps on the parcel but rather on a card that accompanied the parcel on its travels between countries, or within its home country. The card was delivered to the addressee, but the parcel waited at the nearest post office for one to come and collect it, and there pay any customs or delivery charges. Something a bit similar applies today in parts of rural Australia, or in cities when one is not at home to accept a registered packet.

Europe in this context includes Iceland, the Faroe Islands, and Russia both in Tsarist and in USSR times. Such cards are obviously scarcer than covers, as many more letters than parcels are posted, and can be rare in their complete state, as they may have been cut into two parts before arrival or at their destination. I have checked on the web for USA dealers selling postal history covers, in one case there were 64 covers for one parcel card, in the other there were 306 covers and not one parcel card. One very well organized dealer lists 110,000 covers but only 214 of these are parcel cards, and most of them are incomplete. European dealers are rather more promising, but one in 30 items offered would be a generous estimate. The earliest used international parcel card I have seen recently offered was from the Netherlands to Germany in 1883, various sources give 1881 as the year of their introduction within Europe, and the most numerous examples from before the second World War were from Germany and Austria. Cards to Belgium seem to be frequent but from Belgium rare. The same holds for Turkey. Austrian post offices in the Levant used international parcel cards before 1918; that was probably the best way to send a parcel from Turkey to central Europe at the time. Outside Europe, Canada has used the same format, possibly the only country that has cards simply bilingual in English and French. Japan used a similar parcels form before World War I and that was inscribed in Japanese, French and English. The Union of South Africa had cards of a similar design but inscribed 'Dispatch Note', in English, Afrikaans and French.

The regulations governing the rates charged for parcels varied between countries, the first convention of the UPU on parcels was signed in 1881, but Great Britain and the USA declined to participate. Britain dragged its feet until 1886, and later, on handling parcels. Rules and were extensively revised internationally in 1921 in a UPU agreement. The introduction of C.O.D. parcels became possible in 1886. Express delivery became more readily available after 1913, but that only refers to transshipment after the parcel had got to its destination country.

Cards for use within one country are simpler, for one reason they do not transit customs posts, and are inscribed in only one language, though ones in Finland are in both Finnish and Swedish (the two national languages), whereas cards for mail between countries are more complicated, including French to meet UPU regulations, and hence more interesting. Later cards are often inscribed 'address card' and not 'parcel' or 'packet card', but can be recognized because they have spaces for weight and contents. Most of this article is about international cards, but for contrast first I show an unused internal card from Bavaria, obviously before 1918.

Figure 1: The panel on the left headed Coupon is a space for the name and address of the sender of the parcel, this feature is also standard on most international cards. This panel is often cut off as a record; cards that are incomplete are obviously less interesting, because significant information can be lost to the philatelist that way. Many cards are pre-printed in this panel with the name of the sender of the parcel, if the sender is a company that does a lot of postal trade. For example I have seen one that tells us that the sender is a maker of straw hats. The back often has long instructions on the proper use of the card, and space for the recipient to sign, and may carry more postmarks or stamps.

The postage may be paid in full or in part in various ways, some countries (such as Hungary) had a stamp image as part of the design, which pays a basic charge and the rest is added by the sender. Payment may be in stamps, or in cash in which case it is annotated in handwriting. Some cards can be sent Insured (doing the same task as Registration has done in Australia), and if a card is wrongly addressed, it may be forwarded to the right address and more postage collected as postage due. It seems that this additional postage for the second journey, from

Post-Paketadresse. Bayern.	
Coupon.	Anbei
Name und Wohnort des Absenders.
.....
.....	An
Bemerkungen.
.....
.....	Bestimmungsort
.....	Wohnung des Adressaten :
.....	Postgewicht: <i>g</i> Gr. Post-Expeditions-Merk:
.....

Figure 1

the wrong post office to the right post office, is at a single deficiency rate and not double deficiency rates, at least within one country. These practices and rates may change over time, and between countries, so there is still much scope for research.

Parcel cards carry much more information than a typical cover of a letter, and provide us with opportunities to see high denomination stamps postally and not merely philatelically used by over-franking. They are printed in a standard format, about 11 by 15 cms, in most European countries, and carry a great deal of information that enables us to identify rates, routes, journey times, customs duties, and often actual contents of the parcel. It is possible to find examples where the parcel was sent cash on delivery, and extra labels, usually triangular in shape, may be affixed to denote this if the card itself does not say so.

Let us start by making a point with a contrast between a simple cover and a parcel card, involving use of the same stamp design, the German 20 mark (then the top denomination) of 1921 and 1922. It is artistically important because it was a complete break with traditional artwork for a German stamp, depicting a horse and ploughman, and designed by E. Scharff. That stamp is Michel #176 and #196, with different watermarks, and for the first printing (September 1921) an interesting variety exists with an inverted background. The postal rate for a foreign letter during the short period 1. 10. 22 to 14. 11. 22, for the first 20 grams, was 20 marks, about 100 times what it had been in 1914.

Figure 2: This cover was sent from Berlin on 25 10 1922 and backstamped at Stockholm 5 on 31 10 1922. All we can deduce is the journey time, not the route taken, and from the handwriting the address is in Swedish but in German handwriting. (I am cheating a bit here, as the letter survives too and confirms that the writer was German.)

A parcel card bearing the same stamp design, sent in March 1922, is a more complicated affair, and we need to look at both sides, as in **Figures 3 and 4**. Note that it is in both German and French, to meet UPU regulations, and it is a complete card. Often the left hand side is torn off, and is perforated for that purpose; here in German it is called Abschnitt which can be translated as Counterfoil. Quite commonly there was a need in inflationary times to go over to the back and stick on more stamps to make up high rates. This card started at the village of Markersdorf near Leipzig on 22 3 1922, see the label at the top of the front of the card, and was consigned to



Figure 2

Luzern in Switzerland. It transitted Lindau on Lake Conzanz (as an entry point to Switzerland), where it got another label, and was taxed by the Swiss customs office in Luzern. It weighed 4 ½ kgs but there is no clue to what was in it. The stamps are one 5 Mk, one 10 Mk and 5 of the 20 Mk horse and ploughman, making a total postage of 115 Mk, paid in Germany, the customs duty of SFr 38.20 charged by the Swiss was receipted by the Luzern postoffice but no more stamps affixed.

Abschnitt. 591 * Markersdorf | 1741
 Deutsch (Bz. Leipzig).

Zum Aufleben der Freimarken.

Paketkarte. — Bulletin d'expédition.

Anbei 1 Paket # 11344 Anzahl der Inhaltseinheiten
 Ci-joint Nombre de

Wertangabe
 Valeur assurée

An
 A *Herrn Dr. C. J. Erbacher*
Luzern

in
 i. d. Schweiz

Postgewicht / Poids: 4 kg 500 g
 Sollgebühren*) / Droits de douane: 38.20

Lindau Bodensee

*) Von der Grenz-Eingangs-Postanstalt des Bestimmungslandes aus
 Cadre à remplir par le bureau d'échange d'entrée du pays de destina

Figure 3

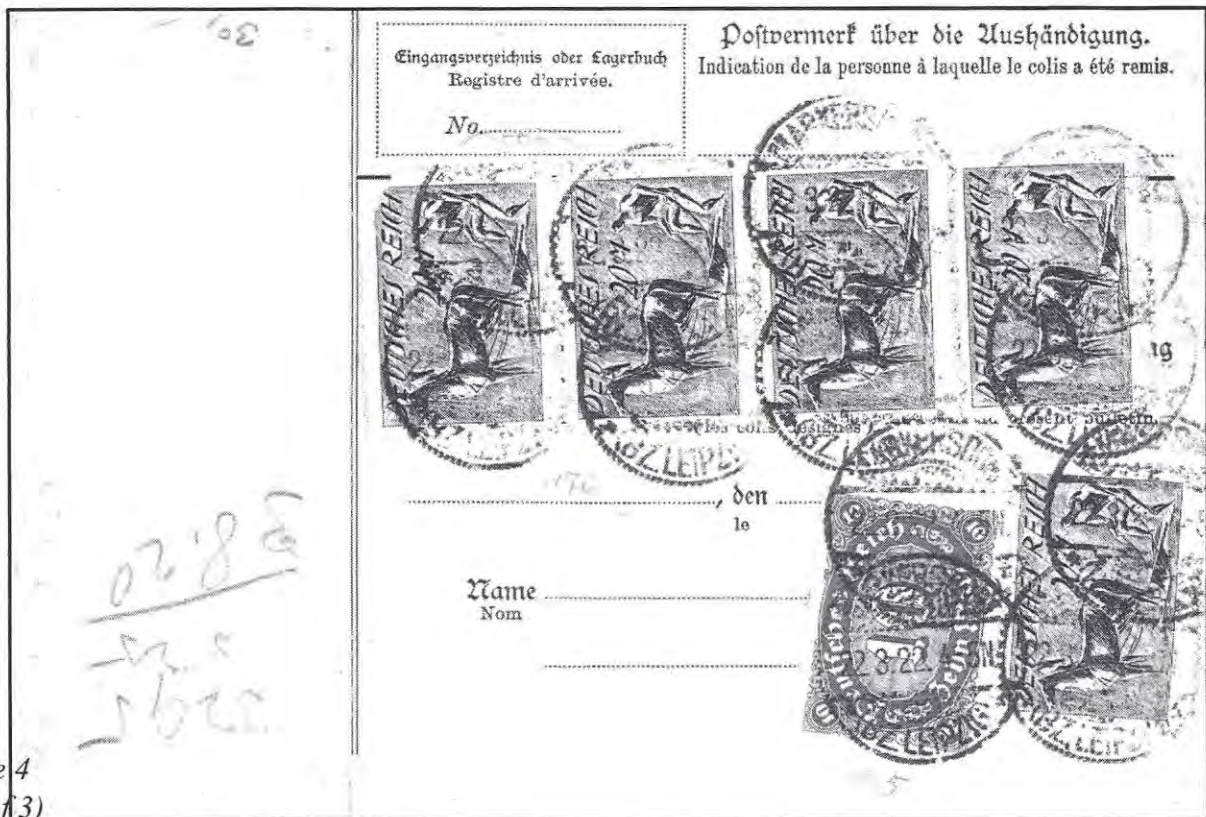


Figure 4
(back of 3)

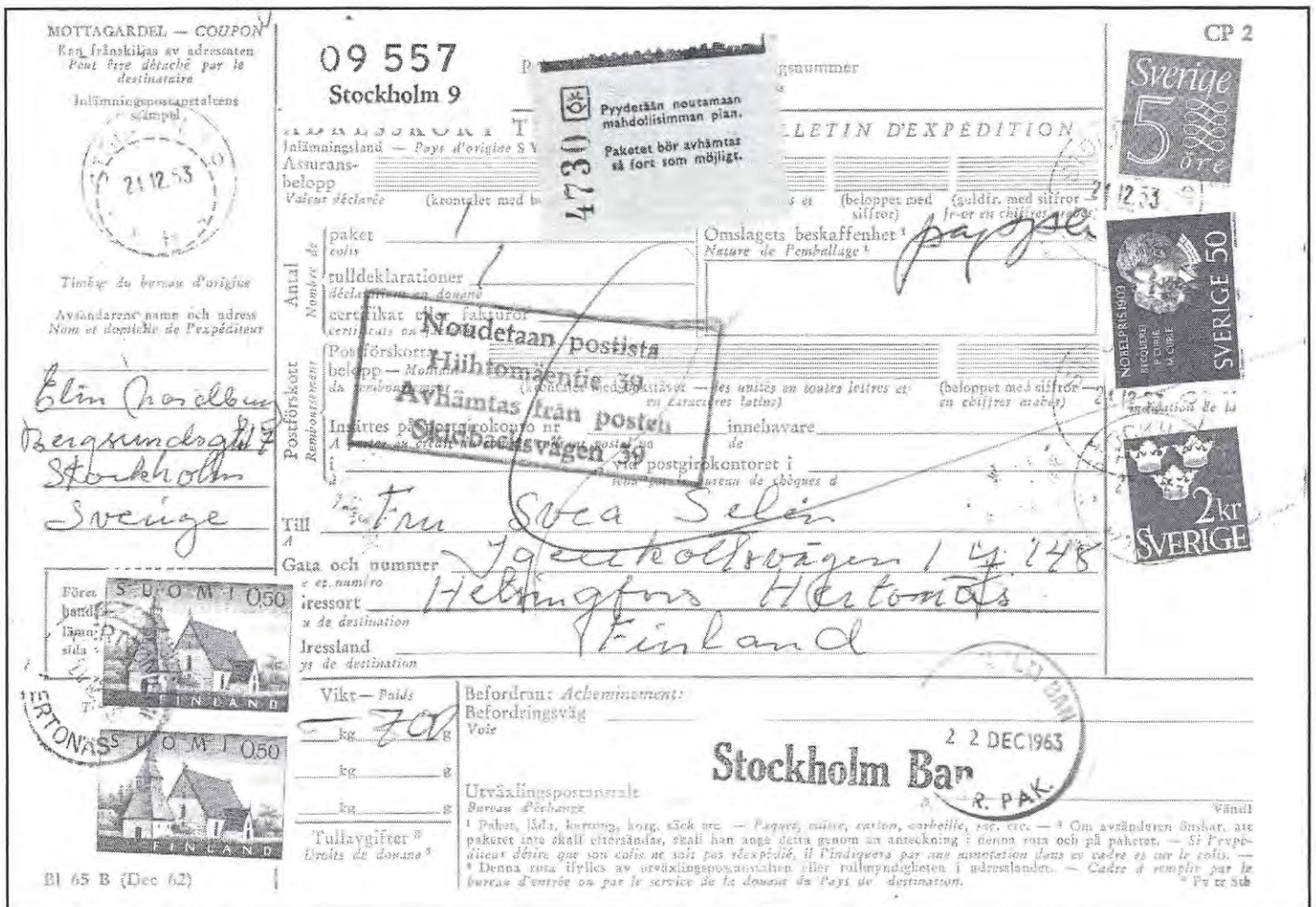


Figure 5 (90%)

Figure 5: This card from Sweden to Finland in 1963 illustrates the use of stamps of two different countries on one card, which is not rare. It also involves three languages, because what starts in Swedish, with French, also gets into Finnish as well on arrival. It starts at a suburban post office, Stockholm 9 on 21 12 63, and goes to the main post office Stockholm Ban on 22 Dec 63, which obviously handles mail going abroad. It arrives in Helsinki on 27 12 63 (backstamped) and collects a bilingual label 4730 which says 'the parcel shall be taken home as soon as possible. Clearly Mrs Selén, the intended recipient of what was probably her Xmas present, collected it from a sub postoffice in Helsinki at Skidbacksvägen 39 in the suburb of Hertonäs (backstamped again) and she signed for it there. But she also had to pay 1 mark in Finnish currency as a fee for collecting it, which was receipted by the two Finnish stamps. It was a very small packet, the description of the contents suggests that it might have been a pie; that would account for the unusual instruction label 4730 to take it away

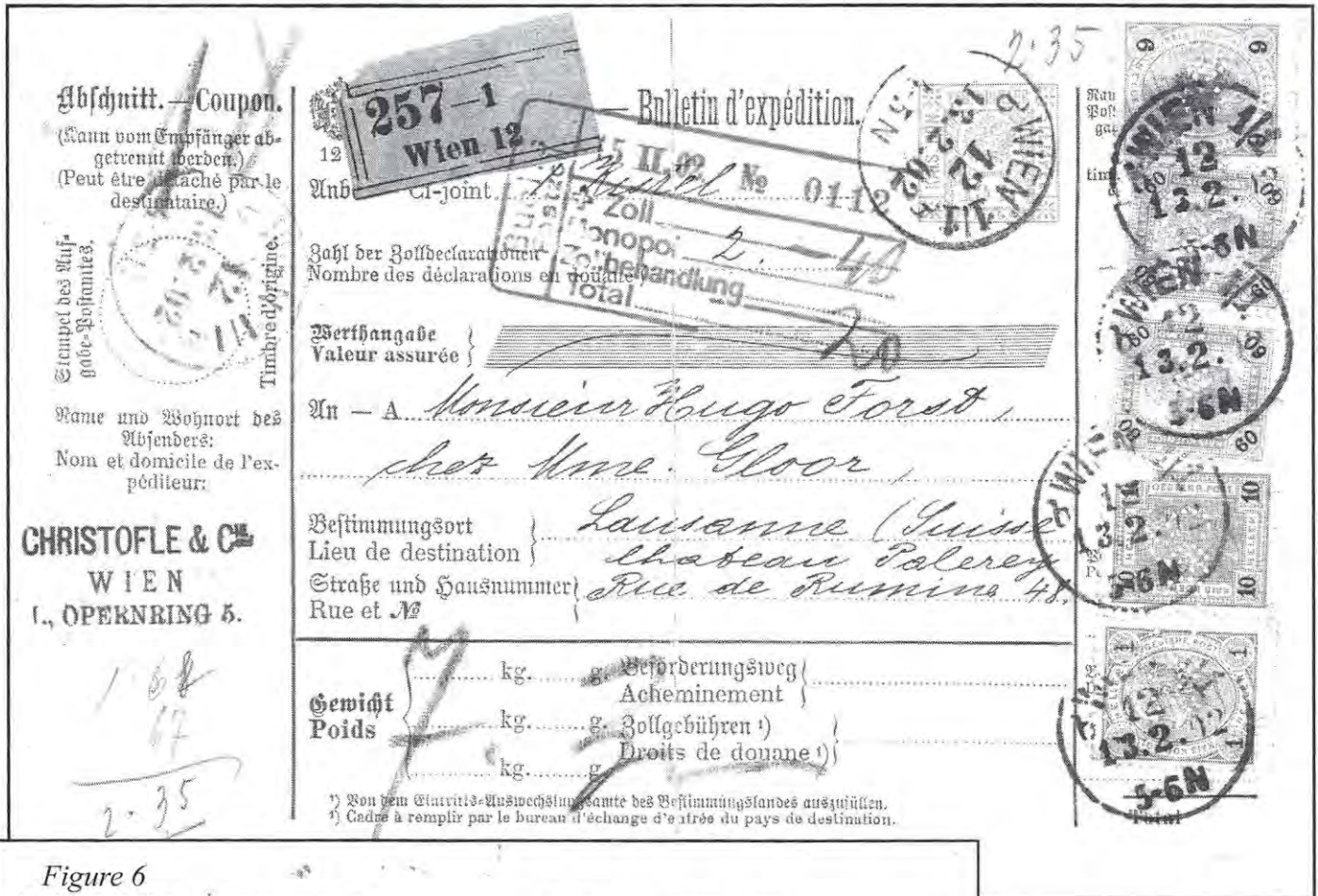
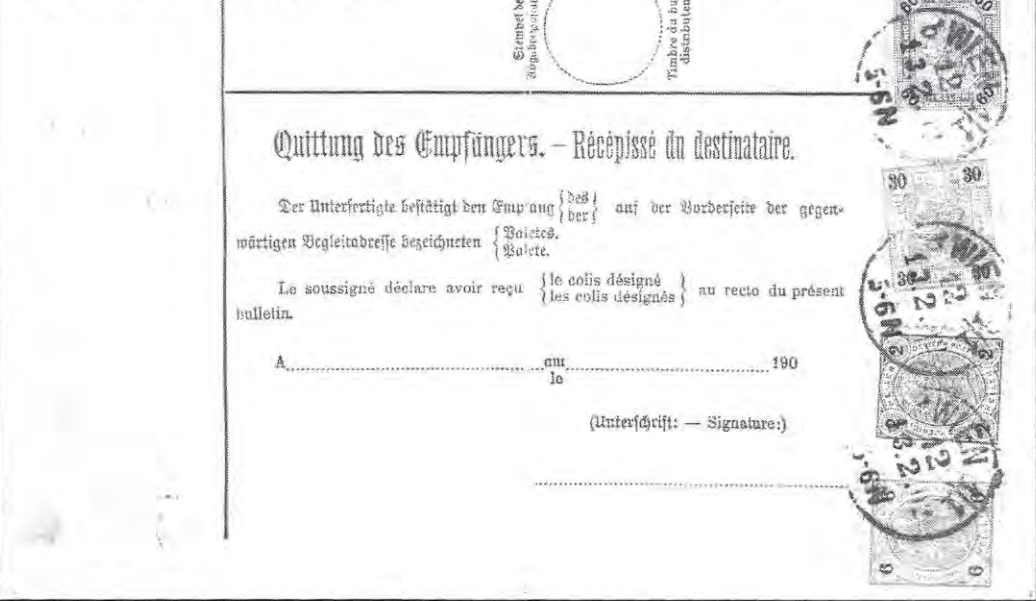


Figure 6 (& back 75%)



as soon as possible. **Figure 6:** Parcels that have been insured or are valuable unsurprisingly attract different tariffs and different endorsements on the card. This example from Austria to Switzerland, that is from Vienna to Lausanne in 1902 is heavily franked front and back with a selection of all the stamps, those on the front perforated with C & Co for the clerks' use at

the offices of the sender, Christoffle and Co who has their business in Oprenring. Those on the back are normal, not with perfins, which almost certainly indicates that they were added later at the post office. Most but not all the stamps have the diagonal varnish bars that were introduced about that time, as a security precaution against cleaning and reuse illegally.. The total postage was Kr 2.35, made up of heller denomination stamps 1, 2, 2 x 6, 10, 30, and 3 x 60. This suggests that the contents might have been jewellery, clothing or porcelain from a luxury business, given the firm's location. The weight is 7.3 kilos, yet the packet is apparently not insured , it doesn't say but the Swiss charged customs duty of a total of about SFs 60 when it entered Switzerland at Buchs, still the frontier station when one travels by train from Vienna. The Wien 1/1 12 postmarks are all dated 13 2 02, the entry to Switzerland is on 13 II 02, but oddly there is no arrival cancellation at Lausanne and the parcel was never signed for. Perhaps something was going on between M Forst and Madame Gloor that we had better not ask about.



Figure 7: The parcel card from Switzerland to Sweden in 1978 is inscribed in all the three main languages of Switzerland. The detachable left hand panel has shrunk in the design. It has a pretty multiple Swiss franking of the four evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in ascending order of 3, 5, 10 and 20 francs , (SG #655-658 of 1961, the top denominations available), and 40 centimes, totaling 38.40 francs, and a Swedish stamp of 6 Kr for customs collected on delivery. In Australian currency this all adds up to about \$40. The packet was sent airmail, weighing 10.8 Kgs, there is no clue as to what was in the packet, and the absence of that declaration may explain why both countries' customs were so interested. Its route began at Paudex on 24 5 78, next to Geneva on 25 5 78 where it cleared Swiss customs and would begin its flight. It then flew to Malmö where it was received by Swedish customs on 26 5 78, and backstampd at the main office foreign parcels section on 26 5 78 and cleared there by customs on 30 5 78. It then went to Klippan (not far away from Malmö, in the next province) where there is a paper works which got the parcel. The card was stamped in Swedish 'customs payment card does not accompany this', the 6 Kr stamp is canceled at Klippan on 31 5 78, and a separate form for the recipient

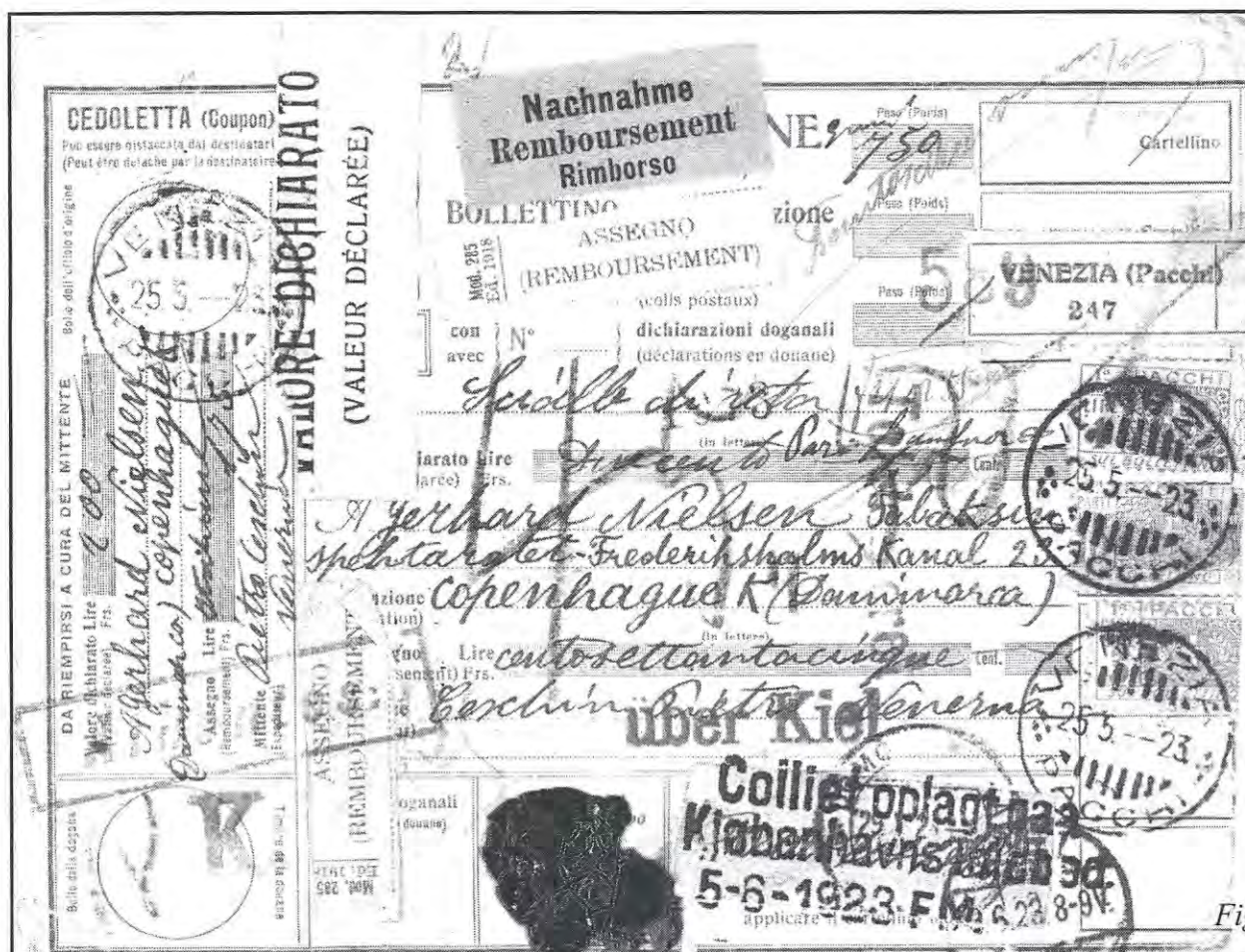


Figure 9

many cards as reserved for a customs clearance stamp. There is also a Danish mark indicating a small customs charge was imposed. The stamps are all Italian parcel post issues, 1 2 and 10 Lire. I can't decipher what was in it, it weighted 7½ Kgs..

Figure 10: Since the United Nations set up Peace Keeping Forces in areas such as the Middle East, UN field post offices have been able to send parcels from soldiers in the field back to relatives at home. These cards are obviously also of interest to collectors of military mail. There have, for example, been Canadian and Irish soldiers and Australian Police in such UN contingents, and they may have sent parcels home via the UN post offices.

Here someone called Fennich working in a field hospital in the UN station in Lebanon in 1981 send this parcel on 10 09 81 to a relative at Bodafors in Sweden where it arrived on 21 9 81 The weight was 1.3 Kgs and the postage Kr 16.5, I suspect that it was sent airmail at a special reduced rate for the UN peacekeepers. It cleared Stockholm customs on 18 Sep 1981 and was stamped as exempt from customs declaration and with no charges to be imposed by the post office.

I have one example of an intact parcel card from Sweden to New Zealand in 1928 from Stockholm to Dannevirke, but I have only seen one of any European country to Australia, a 1920s damaged example from Germany; if anyone has more examples please tell the editor. I do not know the earliest date of surviving examples to Australasia, but they could be from before the First World War. The special 5/10 labels (strictly not a card, but doing the same job) for Myer emporium gift parcels from (Melbourne) Australia to Europe in the 1940s now seem to be competitively sought after.

The USA seems to have had a similar form like a parcel card, a tie-on label for international insured parcels. This sort of parcel tag card was also used by Norway to send parcels to the USA. As private organizations such as Federal Express have taken over some of the work of post offices, parcel cards are becoming rarer, but increasingly sought after by collectors of postal history materials. Even if it is in bad taste to mention it, I note

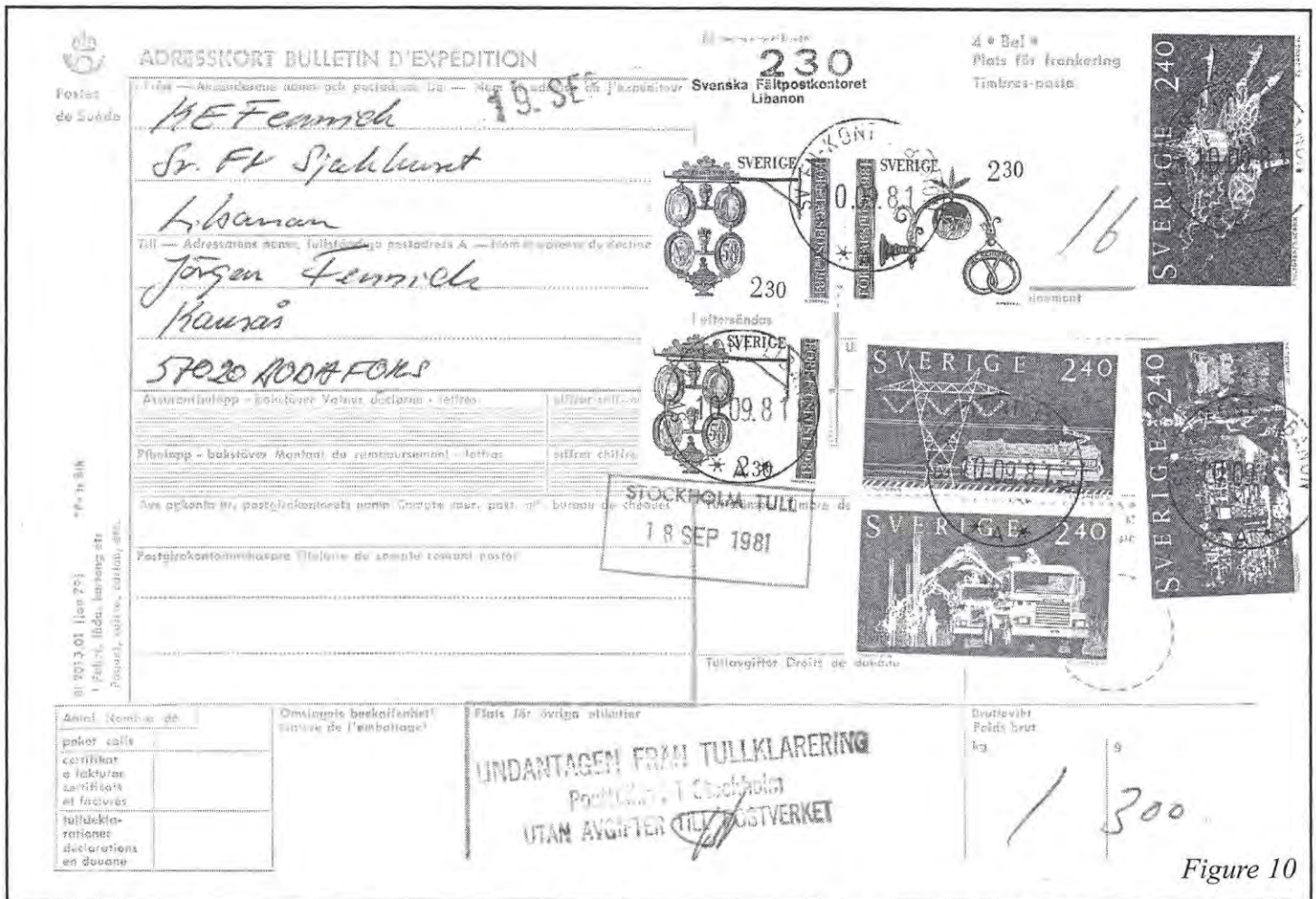


Figure 10

that at present parcel cards in good condition will be offered for sale at between \$20 and \$150, ones to Russia before 1918 are bid for at auction, and if they still exist ones from places like Liechtenstein or San Marino they should be treated as very rare. The Baltic States used parcel cards with inscriptions in their own languages in the inter-World War period, I have not seen complete examples and those are also rare.

It is interesting that parcel cards are a neglected topic in modern philately, relatively speaking. They are elusive outside Europe, they require for their deeper study a knowledge of three or four languages, and at the same time they combine information about stamps, about postal stationery, and about postal history in the same objects, to say nothing about what might be called social philately because of the evidence they furnish about what people put into parcels and sent to one another across frontiers, changing over the last century.

References

There are very few sources about parcel cards, the only one in our club library I know of is Andersson, Sören. Postens paketrörelse 1885-1920. Postryttaren 1990, vol 40, pp 107-172.

I would be happy to translate parts of that for any member who is interested.

There is some sparse information in English if you enter Google on the internet and type 'parcel cards' Those cards that have a stamp image in their design can be found listed in some postal stationery catalogues.

CAMBRIDGE TWO FINED FOR POSTING HAMSTER

Press Association - Tuesday January 17, 2006 - Guardian Unlimited

Two Cambridge University students "let their college down" by sending a hamster through the post, a court heard today.

David Jordan and James Cole, both 19 and second year students at Churchill College, claimed to have undertaken the bizarre prank in revenge upon a man who had threatened Jordan four months earlier.

Magistrates sitting in Ely, Cambs, heard that the pair carried out the cruel practical joke after getting "plastered" at a college garden party.

Jordan and Cole both admitted abandoning a hamster in circumstances likely to cause the animal unnecessary suffering, when they appeared before magistrates today.

Jordan was fined £750 and ordered to pay £100 towards costs. He was banned from keeping animals for the next 10 years.

Cole was fined £500 and ordered to pay prosecution costs of £100. He was also banned from keeping animals for the 10 years.

The court heard that Jordan and Cole went to Petsessories in Cambridge on June 22 last year and asked to buy a hamster.

Michael Taylor, prosecuting on behalf of the RSPCA, said the manageress, Josephine Rusby, recognised the pair because they had been in a week earlier and had tried to buy a hamster, but they had been refused on that occasion because they were drunk.

On their second visit, they appeared sober and she agreed to sell them a Syrian hamster for £5.99 after they told her they had the necessary equipment, Mr Taylor said.

He said Jordan had provided a false name and address when he bought the animal. Cole had lent him the money.

The court heard Jordan bought an envelope and a first class stamp. The pair then went into a public toilet where they sealed the hamster in the envelope before posting it.

The animal was discovered by a postman, Robert Maher, as he was emptying a postbox in Market Square

in Cambridge on June 22. It had chewed through the envelope, and its head was peeping out.

Mr Maher took the hamster to a vet in Cambridge, Patrick von Heimendahl, where it was found to be unharmed.

The hamster has since been adopted by Rachel Thompson, a nurse at Mr von Heimendahl's practice. She has given it the name First Class.

Magistrates were told the animal had had a lucky escape.

In a statement, another vet, Jillian Pearson, told the court the animal had had no access to food or water and could have been crushed.

She said that, if the hamster had not been spotted by Mr Maher, it would have gone to the sorting office where letters are mechanically sorted in a spinning drum and sent to other sorting areas.

"If the envelope had been mechanically sorted, she very much suspects the hamster would have been seriously injured or killed," Mr Taylor said.

The court heard that an investigation by the police and RSPCA led to Jordan and Cole. The pair were interviewed and admitted posting the hamster.

When asked why he gave a false name and address when purchasing the hamster, Jordan said: "Because I thought it would be a bit suspicious posting a hamster if I got caught.

"I knew I could get into trouble for it. I do not think it crossed my mind that it was morally wrong."

EducationGuardian.co.uk © Guardian Newspapers
Limited 2006

Dear Santa

Firstly can I wish for an efficient postal system which can arrange delivery of *Capital Philately* to arrive before December 31st 2005 when it has been posted - according to the postmark - in Canberra on January 3rd 2006.

For my collection I would ask for a cover bearing the Western Australian 4d. blue with the frame inverted and showing a Commissariat puncture. I am sure your workshop could knock one up.

To enhance my Nicaragua collection I would ask for the artist's drawing of the first postcard. This would make a good item for the Introductory page.

Now for the real challenge I would ask for the Waterlow records of North Borneo to be discovered, which are stated to have been destroyed in the London Blitz but no doubt are currently at the bottom of some tea chest in your warehouse.

Could all exhibition judges be given rose coloured spectacles which blank out the errors in my write up and enhance the importance of my exhibits whose esoteric nature make them glossed over due to a total unfamiliarity with the material shown.

Finally I would ask that all of Australia Post's stamp production unit goes on long service for 12 months to enable the youth collectors to become enthralled in stamp collecting as a hobby rather than a subsidizer of the postal service. This would enable us to encourage the youth with the joys of collecting those lovely old dirty pieces of paper and assemble them into a meaningful album of which they can be proud and maintain that interest into their adult lives.

Best wishes to Rudolph and his mates hoping their passage across the world doesn't produce too much methane to add to our greenhouse gases.

From

Well who else collects WA, N. Borneo, Nicaragua and sundry other esoteric areas like Railway Parcel Stamps.

Dear Child (at heart),

There is much to be said with regard to celebrating the esoteric nature of life, the universe and everything - after all the meaning of which is undoubtably 42! Although our workshops have commenced production of many pairs of the requested eye-wear, I am afraid the OHS testing means a delay in supply until next Festive Season - hope you can endure until then.

With regard to the major items from your letter - the first has been forwarded downstairs to our "manufacturing" supervisor, and will be completed when he has finished work on the snowplough he plans to drive through the doors of his overly hot, stuffy office. The other requests are, I'm afraid, a little out of my league and have been sent up to our "Pie in the Sky" department, and should be dealt with once the staff member(s) have overcome their identity crises and learnt the power of positive thinking - to believe in one's self - noone else will do it if you can't.

Please don't be too displeased with the results - we have a bonus on the way to you by special courier - as soon as I can put the saddlebags on the porcine aviator. Remember - It doesn't happen overnight, but it will happen!

Warm Regards, Santasaurus

Letter to the Editor:

FOLLOW-UP ON EDITH CAVELL.

Derek Pocock

Congratulations on an excellent edition of CP and especially on Marilyn Gendyk's article on Nurse Edith Cavell.

As someone who also collects the theme of her life story, one can add a few more details some of which appear in a small monograph by Noel Burton of Norwich Cathedral (not dated). he states that the German firing squad were so moved by her courage that they fired over her head; she then fainted upon which the German Officer in charge shot her himself with a bullet to the head.

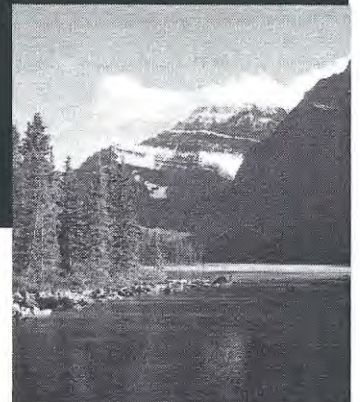
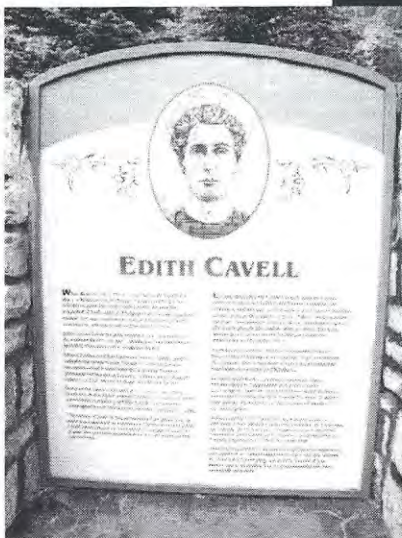
One member of the firing squad refused even to shoot and was afterwards promptly executed himself. His name is stated to be Rammler. His body was exhumed after the war and there are several postcards showing his corpse in a crude coffin.

A memorial to her was erected in Brussels in 1918, made of plaster and took only a few days to make.

Edith Cavell is commemorated in many places additional to those quoted by Marilyn in her article. A mountain near Jasper in Canada is named Mt Edith Cavell as is their memorial tower at the church there; there is a street in Port Louis, Maritius named after her; also a bridge in Queenstown, NZ and a public house outside Norwich Cathedral in England.

Finally I was told a ghost story by someone who had stayed at the Swardeston Rectory describing a grey, misty lady as a wraith like figure who appeared from Edith Cavell's bedroom and drifted across the room before passing through the opposite wall.

Hope the above adds a little more to this important episode of WWI which is not forgotten as evidenced by the enthusiasm for items on Edith Cavell on ebay.



Above & Right - Mount Edith Cavell and Lake Cavell.

Left - One of interpretational signs in Jasper National Park, Canada, below the mountain.

PASTCARDS

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Middle Harbour - At Speed!



For more information on this Australian Tourism Award winning experience visit www.harbourjet.com - or just get out there and do it!

Editorial	Jenni Creagh	16
Sydney's Middle Harbour and Clifton Gardens	Bruce Parker	17

EDITORIAL

Mmmmm, my last impression of Middle Harbour.... Wheeeeeee! WET! Now that's probably not in the same way you might think - normally boats go nicely along on top of the water - but in the amazing Harbour Jet Boat experience (which I've now done twice with the same two intrepid companions as features in last issue's photos) a fair amount of the wet stuff ends up on you and in the boat!

This trip certainly gives you a different perspective on Sydney Harbour, and with the Middle Harbour Adventure (top right) you get a little history thrown in - much like that provided by this installment's postcards. Of course, you get much more adrenaline!

There's also the bonus of living right on the edge and playing tag with the Manly Ferries on the way out - power brakes, spins and wake surfing... "Look out! That's the Freshwater!!" This is seroius fun, but not for the faint of heart. Oh, they do give you waterproof jackets... they don't really help much though.

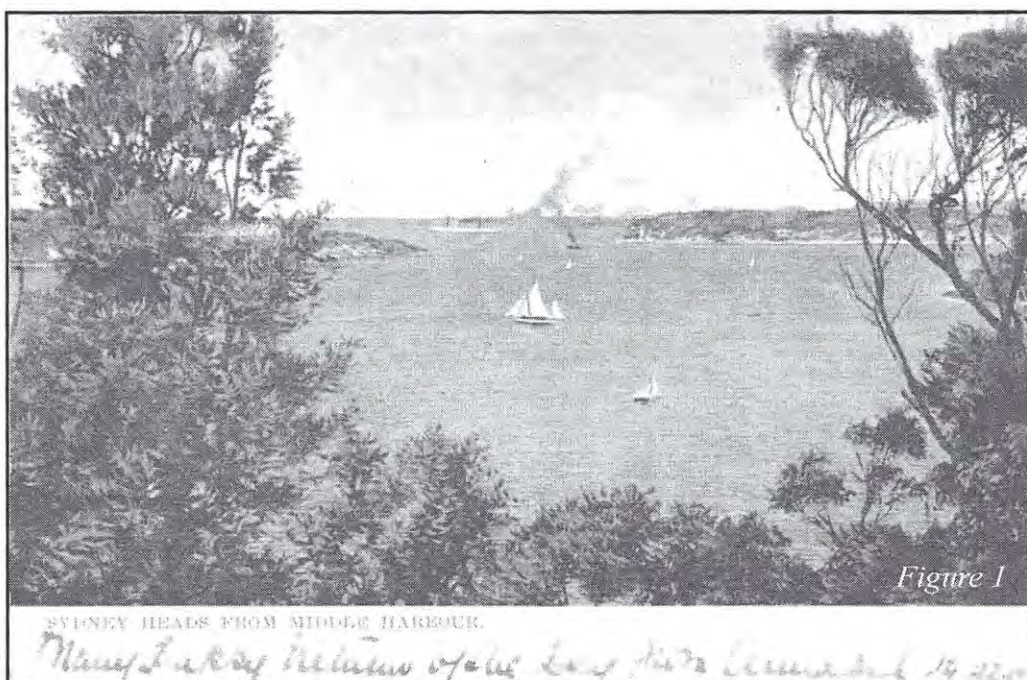
So if you'd like the armchair alternative, jump into these postcards - come on, really, the water's fine, "we've taken the sharks out of the pool", well mostly....

SYDNEY'S MIDDLE HARBOUR AND CLIFTON GARDENS

Bruce Parker

Sydney's Middle Harbour is, geographically, in the middle between the very short North Harbour at Manly and the Main Harbour fed by the Parramatta & Lane Cove Rivers. No major rivers feed into Middle Harbour, but it is a complex of long and twisting bays fed by numerous creeks carrying rainfall runoff from both urban and bushland regions. There are still many areas of bush (generally rather scrubby, but some areas carry dense stands of large eucalypts) forming a number of National Parks and reserves (now mostly known as Sydney Harbour National Park). There are also a number of open flat areas, often developed as playing fields; many of these have been formed by reclamation of the swampy or mangrove areas at the mouths of the creeks flowing into Middle Harbour. I have included Clifton Gardens in this article as its early development as a recreational centre is closely tied to the Middle Harbour resorts, being on the same "weekend" ferry route.

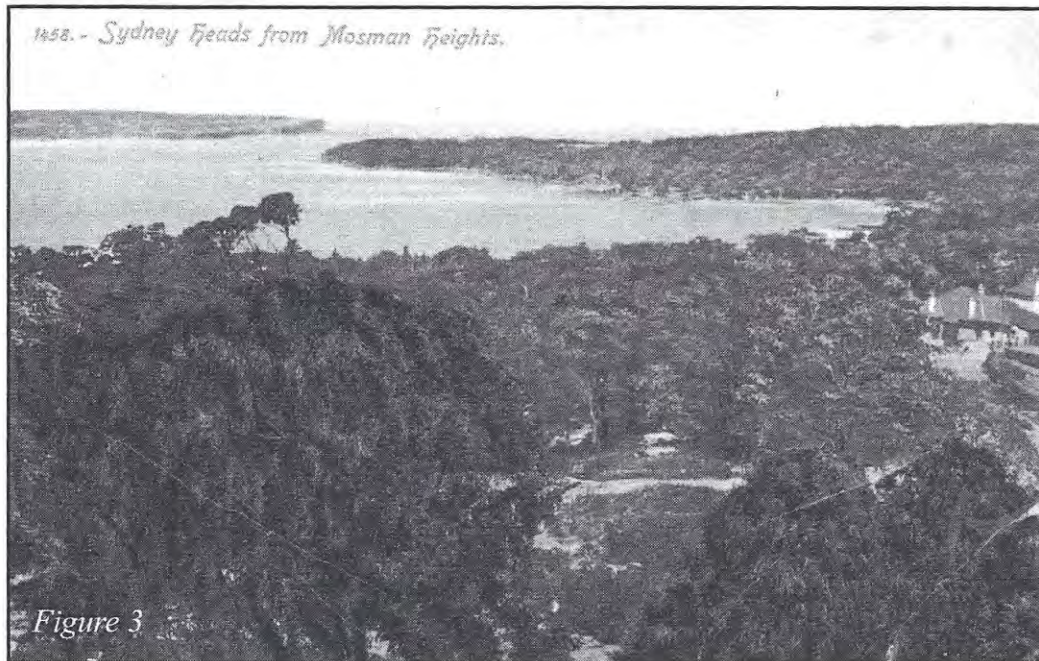
Middle Harbour opens onto Sydney Harbour at The Heads (the access to the open sea) between Grotto Point on the North and Middle Head on the South, shown in *figure 1*, an undivided back "Private Post Card" from an undeclared publisher. In spite of the caption the card does not show Sydney Heads, unless South Head is hidden behind the smoke of the steamer! Grotto Point is on the left and Middle Head is on the right; North Head is hidden by the tree in the foreground. The card



is endorsed 14:12:00 (1900!) and shows the generally scrubby nature of the bushland. North Head is, however,

shown on *figures 2 & 3* which are both titled "Sydney Heads...". The Kerry card, *figure 2*, shows Chinaman's Beach in the foreground then Grotto Point in front of North Head, while *Figure 3* (from the "Nature" series) looks over Balmoral to Middle Head (now a Naval Depot) in a view rather similar to *figure 1*.





1452. - Sydney Heads from Mosman Heights.

Figure 3

While not having the same attributes as Manly or the bays of the main harbour, Middle Harbour, nevertheless, plays a prominent role in Sydney's History. Firstly, it provided a barrier to land transport to the Manly region requiring people and goods to be either carried by water, or on a long roundabout land route. Secondly, it was (and still is) a major recreational centre; and thirdly it provided a remote and safe

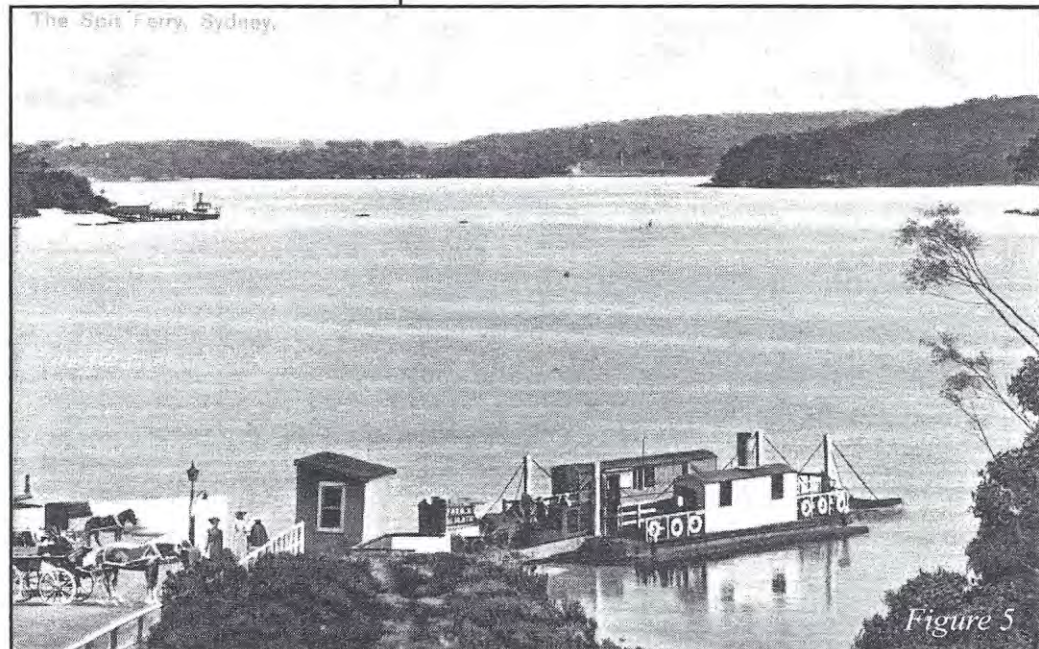
location for the storage of explosives for both civil and military purposes.

Middle Harbour was crossed at The Spit initially by a hand punt established by the Ellery family about 1860, this was later taken over by the Government (probably in 1871) and then replaced by a steam driven punt in 1889. Many cards exist showing this punt, and figures 4 & 5 both show it at the Northern (Manly side) landing. The



Spit Punt, Middle Harbor, Sydney

Figure 4

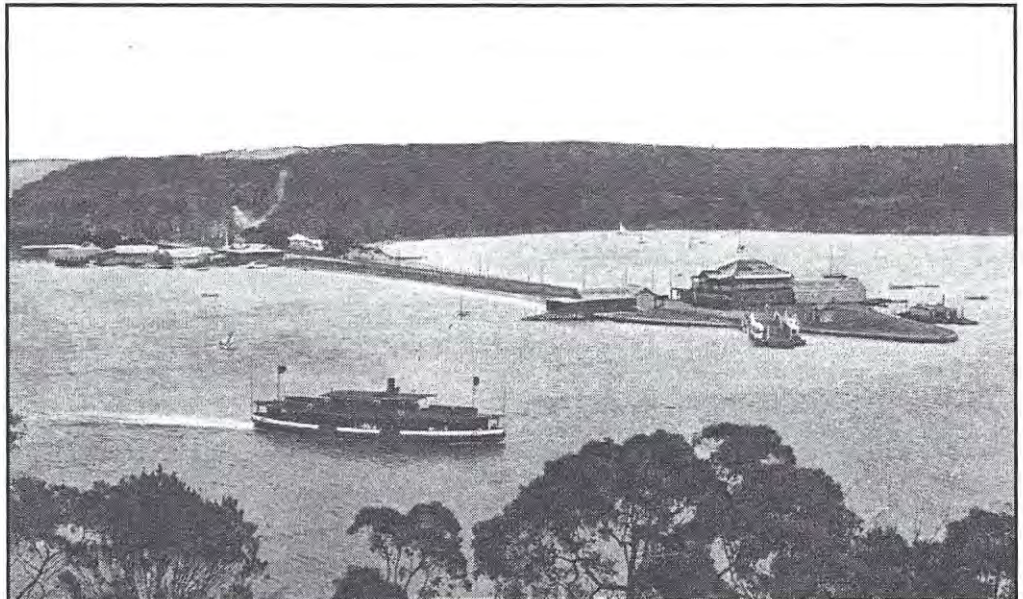


The Spit Ferry, Sydney.

Figure 5

vessels shown are not the same – note the funnel and the pedestrian shelter on the opposite side to the engine house. Indeed, it seems there was more than one punt present at the same time, as a close look at the further side of The Spit in figure 6 reveals a second punt!

The Spit, *figure 7*, was reached by electric trams on 7th October 1900 with the single track line being duplicated in March 1912. The single track descending Parriwi Road is shown in *Figure 8* which shows a “C/D” combination ascending the hill from The Spit, a very undeveloped Balgowlah and Clontarf is on the opposite side of the harbour. As can be seen from *figure 7*, The Spit was indeed a long narrow sandy piece of ground, not much above high



The Spit, Middle Harbour, Sydney.

Figure 6

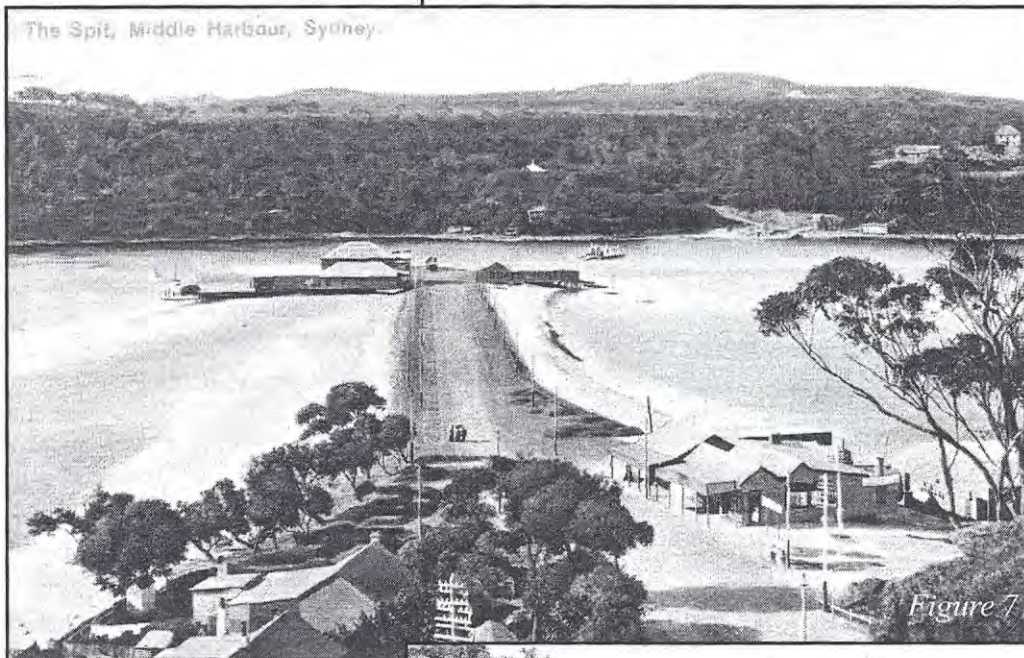


Figure 7

tide level. A large area was reclaimed from Pearl Bay on the Western side in the 1920's when the Department of Public Works constructed the “Middle Harbour Submarine Syphon” to carry the North Shore's waste to the ocean outfall at Blue Fish Point, Manly. The excavated sand was used to fill the area now used for recreational purposes as can be seen in *figure 9*. The towers for the works can be seen as massive

rectangular white buildings, one each side of the water.

On the Manly side, a single tram track from Manly reached the Northern side of the punt crossing in January 1911 and the first trams were ferried over on temporary tracks on the vehicular punt to enable the service to be commenced on 9th January 1911. A purpose built punt was completed later in 1911 and it and the loading ramp on The Spit side were used to



Figure 8

Spit Road, Middle Harbour, Sydney

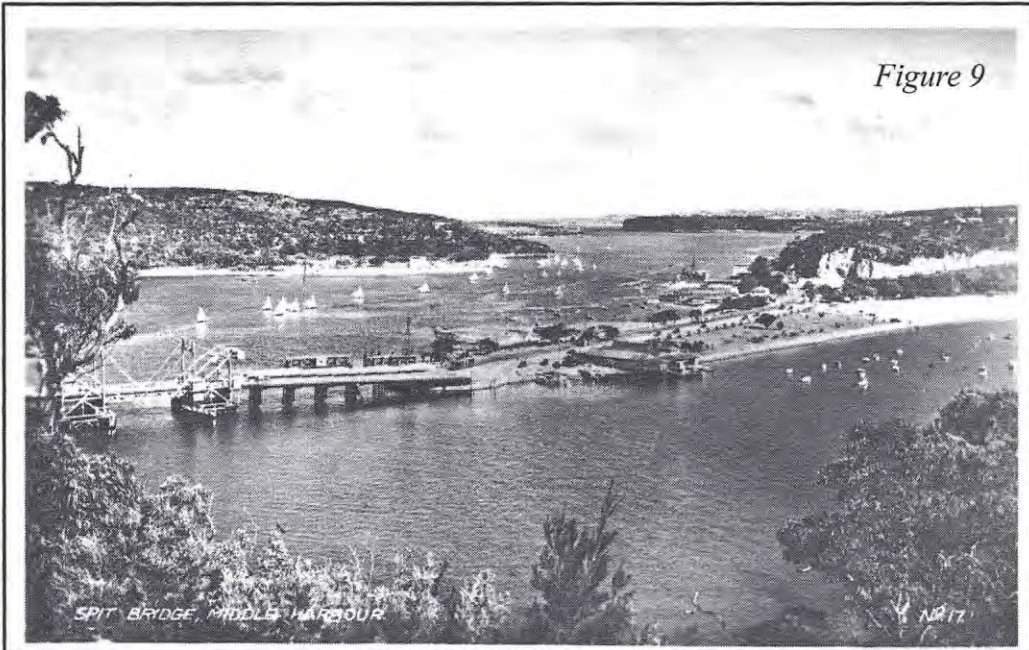


Figure 9

move trams back and forth to the isolated Manly system. Following the completion of the bridge at the end of 1924, tram passengers going to Manly had to walk across the bridge using the covered footway. Tram tracks were never laid across the bridge and trams continued to be moved back and forth the tram-punt. The ramp and punt can be seen just behind the bridge approach span in figure 9.

Both Balmoral – figure 10

(closer to Middle Head) and The Spit (on the Southern side) and Clontarf (on the North, and closer to Grotto Point) together with Clifton Gardens, were popular weekend recreational places. Indeed, Clontarf received some unwelcome publicity in 1868 when there was an assassination attempt on Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh – he survived. Early ferry maps show services to all these localities

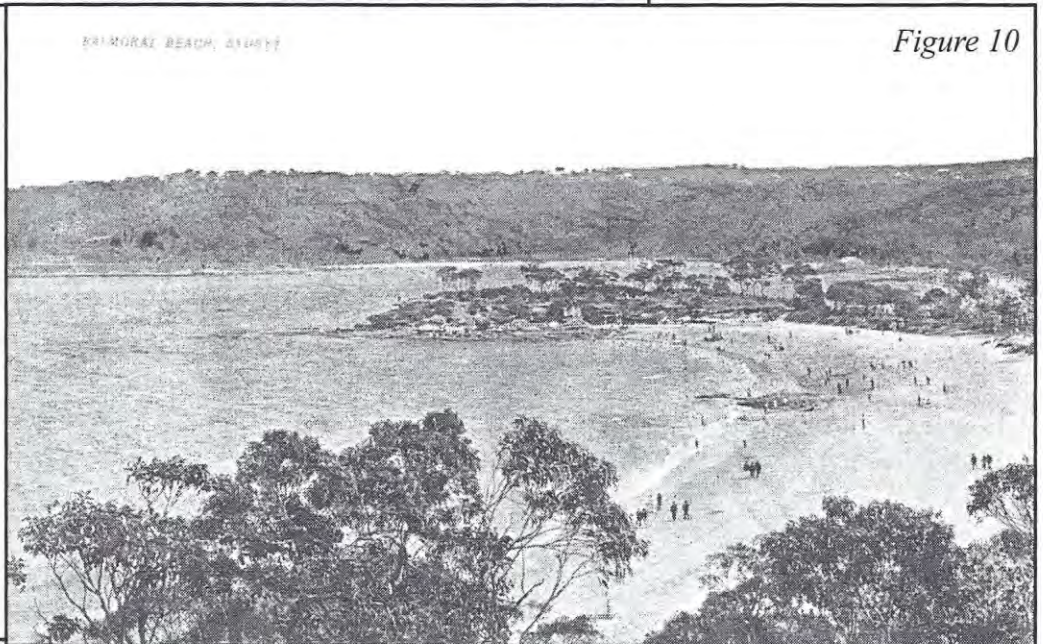


Figure 10



Figure 11

as well as Clifton Gardens, located on the Eastern (main harbour) side of Middle Head. The Swains card, figure 11, shows ferries at both Clontarf and The Spit. Note the number of boat sheds, swimming baths and tea rooms on The Spit. Apparently there was a second ferry wharf at The Spit as figure 12 shows a ferry berthed at or near the tie-up position of the second vehicular ferry previously shown in figure 6. Not

only were there picnic trips to these locations, but ferry trips were made considerably further up middle harbour, either with the normal passenger ferries such as the Watsons Bay & South Shore Steam Ferry Co. Ltd's King Edward (somewhat away from home!) , *figure 6*, or possibly the Lady Rawson (or one of her two sister ferries) *figure 13*. For many years after World War II, the Showboat "Kalang", *figure 14* provided this service note also the (red) double deck

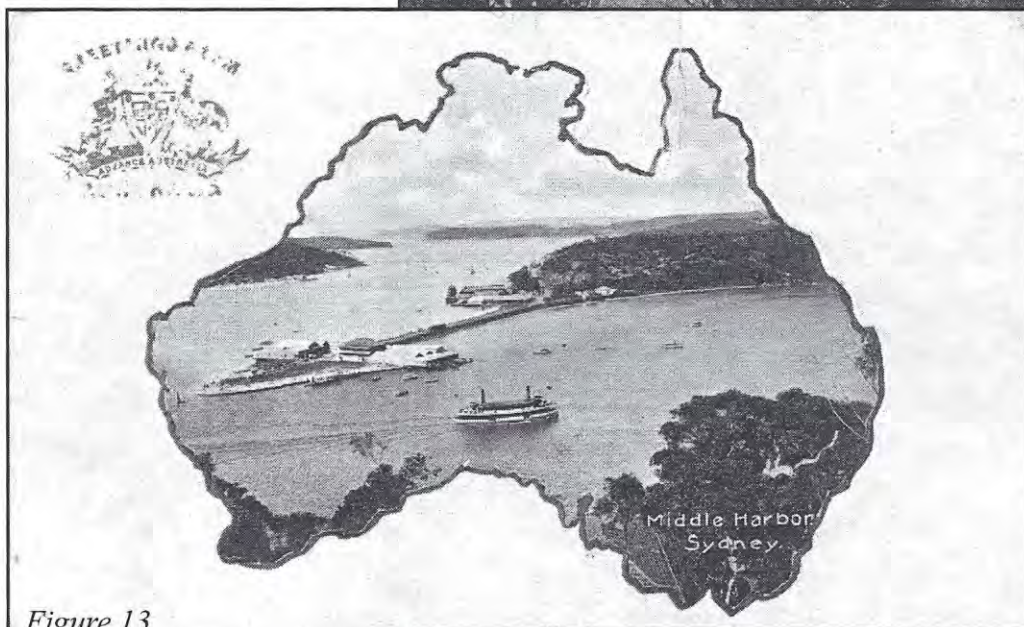
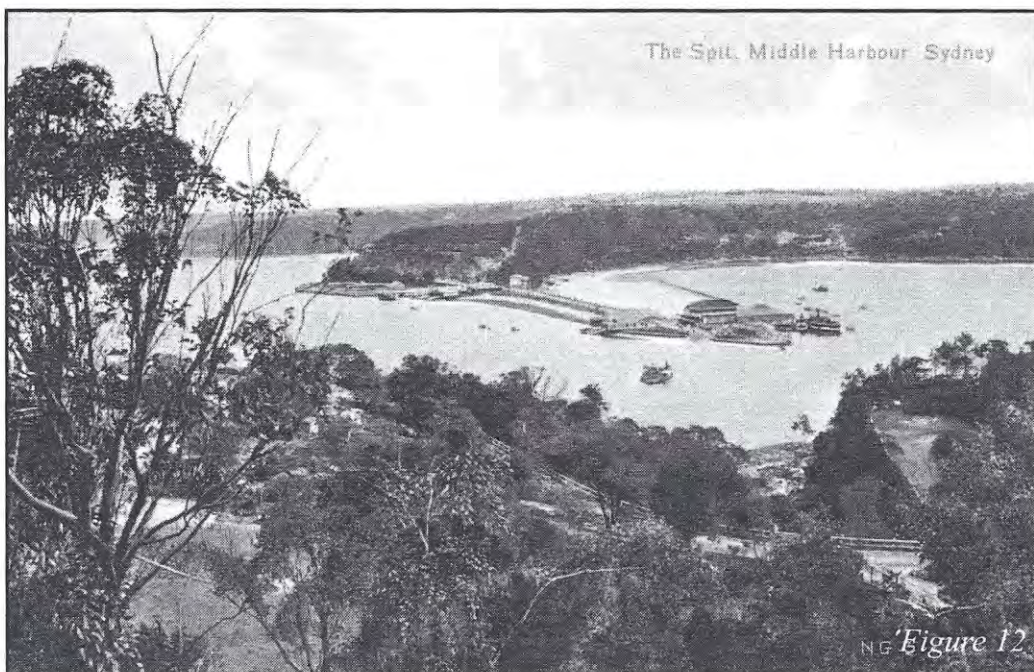


Figure 13

bus on the bridge approach span. In recent times, there has been a reversion to the use of the normal ferries as shown in (a much reduced) *figure 15* which shows the Lady Wakehurst about to pass under/through the open span of the second bridge (opened on 19th November 1958).

We have already had a passing look at Pearl Bay on the Western side of The Spit,

it is interesting to contrast the early view in *figure 16* with the later panorama shown on *figure 15*. Further upstream, the harbour divides to form Long Bay heading South and West and the Northern upper reaches to Powder Hulk Bay with the explosive storage ships, *figure 17*, these storages were later moved further up Middle Harbour to Bantry Bay and placed on land in a restricted access area. Explosives were moved by tug and barge.

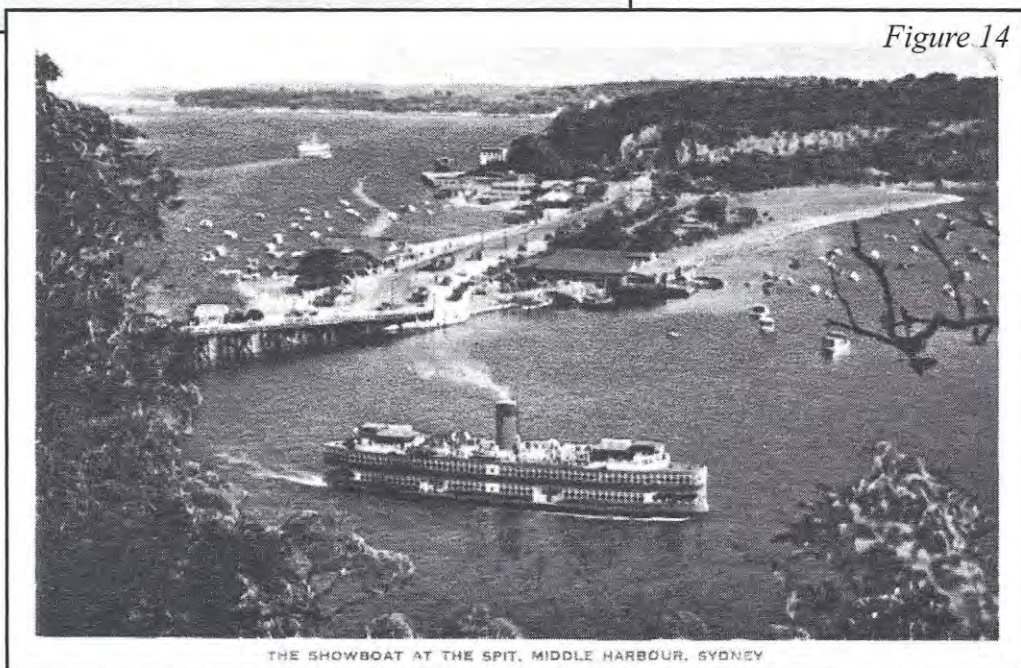
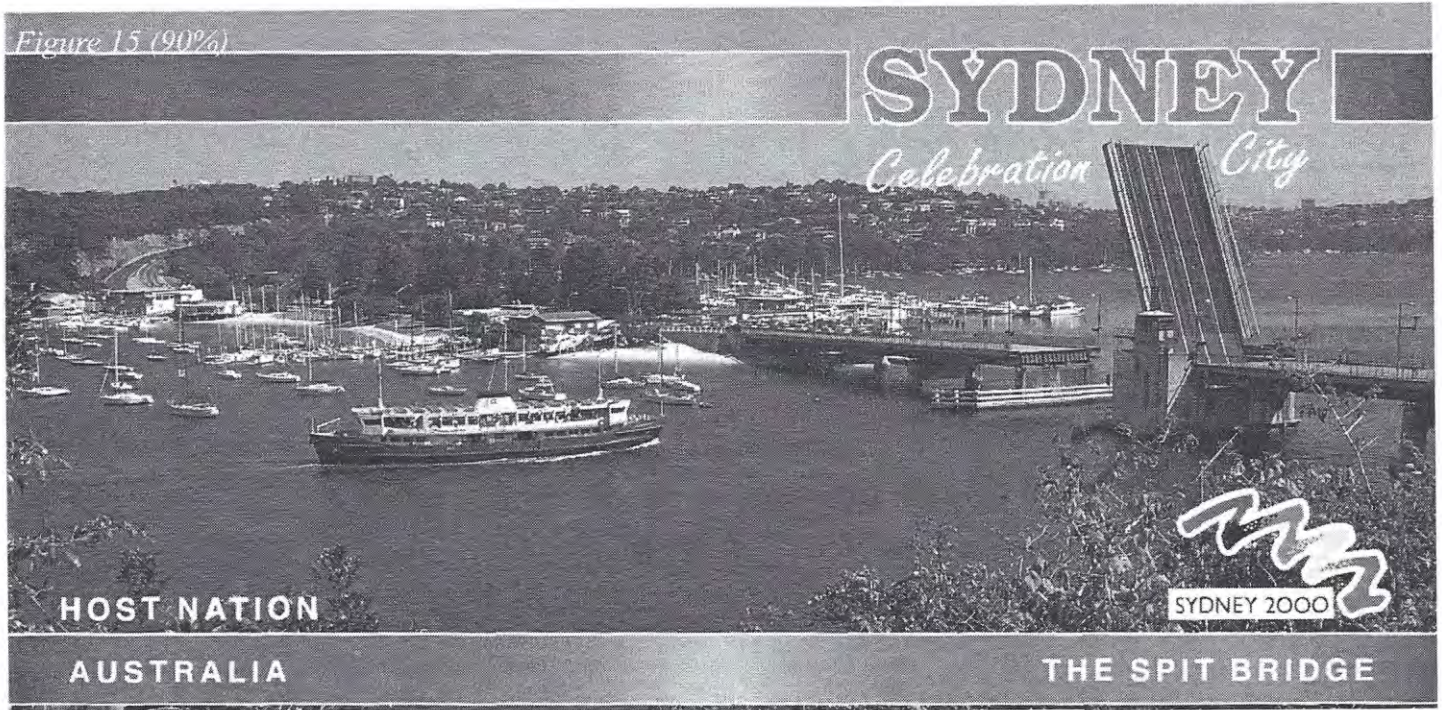
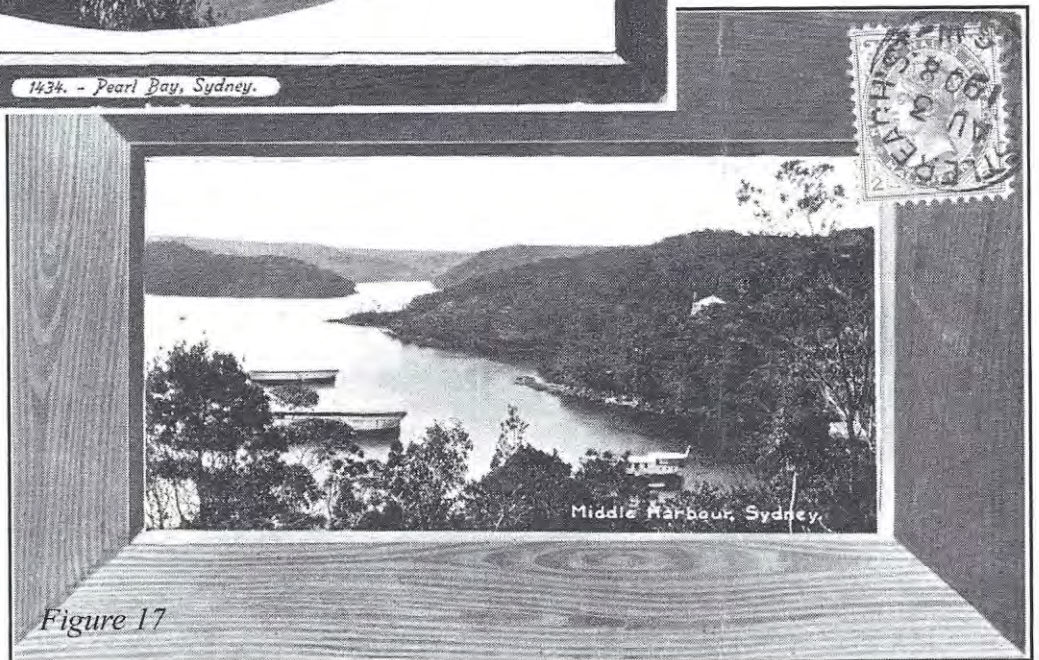


Figure 14



At the upper reaches of Long Bay, one can find one of Sydney's engineering marvels, the Suspension Bridge at Willoughby, *figures 18 & 19*. Built in 1891, the bridge was replaced by a concrete arch span in 1939 as a result of structural faults, although the four towers were retained for decoration.

One has to conclude with a brief mention of the history of one of the parks in the upper reaches of Long Bay – Primrose Park was named after the 1926/32 Mayor of North Sydney, but it is the site of the North Shore's sewage processing plant, and by all reports, when operating, was anything but sweet smelling. It was to enable the closure of this and other treatment



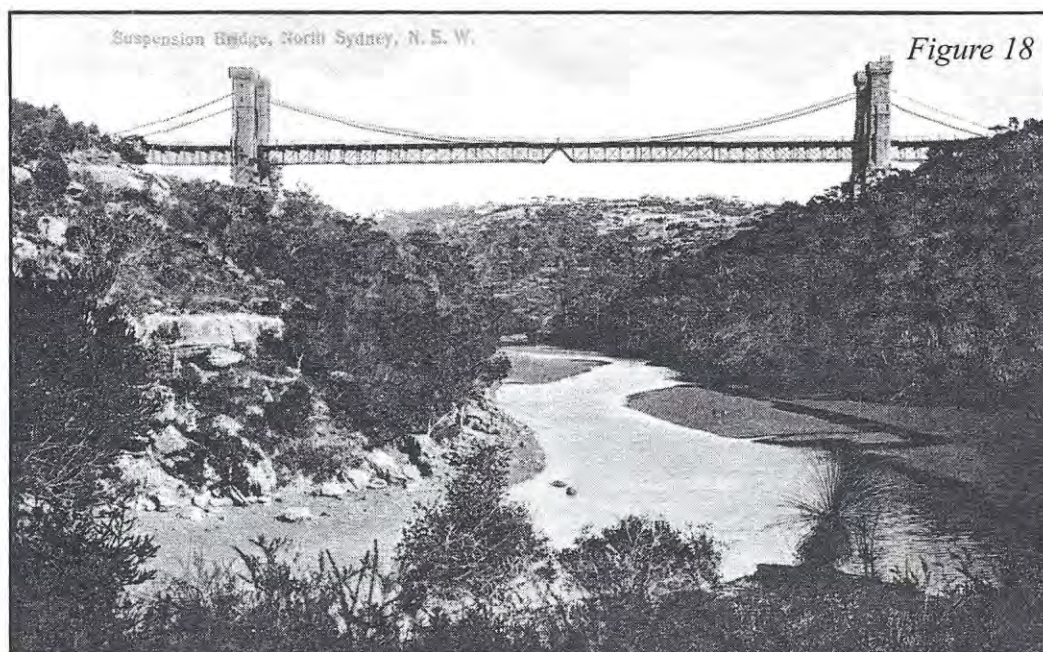


Figure 18

works that the syphon and associated works at The Spit was constructed with the ultimate aim of pumping the sewage into the ocean at Bluefish Point, Manly. As a boy, the author played prep-school cricket at Primrose Park, and football at Rawson Park overlooking Clifton Gardens, *figure 20*. This card shows the unusual circular swimming pool on the left and the buildings used by the submarine Miners Corps - who were

expected to “lay mines with rapidity and precision, to be of use in time of necessity”.



Figure 19

Kerry & Co. (Copyright), Sydney

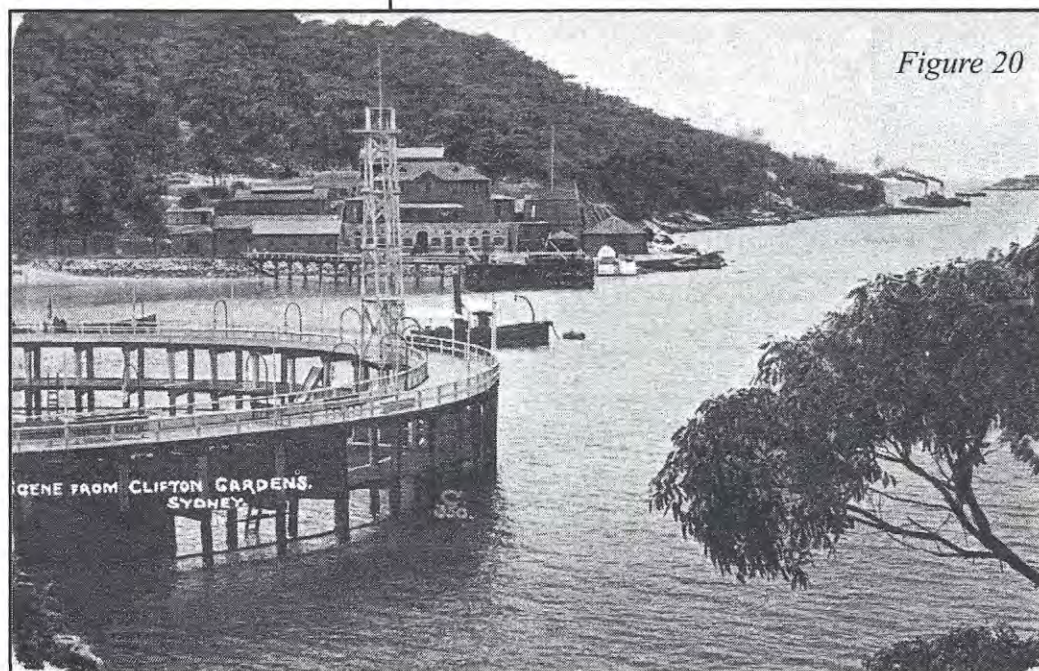


Figure 20

MACHINATIONS

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Prestige Booklets Since 2000	Tony Luckhurst	25
Pricing in Proportion	Tony Luckhurst	31
New Machins and Regionals for Rate Increase	GB Stamps	32

Well it seems some interesting changes are afoot for the Royal Mail and the dedicated band of enthusiasts who collect all things "Machin". It will be interesting to see how the PIP turns out, and if the standardisation of design gives these stalwart philatelists the "pip" in return: however I am sure that even with relatively few new issues there will still be many varieties worth collecting.

Resources for Machin Collectors from B. Alan :

- Regular Price lists of Machin and related material – all offers numbered according to the Connoisseur Catalogue issued by the same company . A wealth of material for all levels of Machin collectors. The Specialised List for 1997/98 covers issues from the inception of elliptical perforations, and includes useful annotations describing features such as phosphors, coil leaders etc. Not just a price list – more like a mini-catalogue.
- The *Variety Club News* containing a wealth of articles on many aspects of modern GB philately, including Machins. Questa gravure machine books
- The Speed Prestige booklet

Machinations thoroughly recommends these publications – get your material from an expert in the field

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PRESTIGE BOOKLETS SINCE 2000 -

How to locate that elusive Machin or Commemorative?

Tony Luckhurst

Royal Mail is still releasing Prestige Booklets in the new millennium. They have been a source of some elusive stamps. Can we remember the ½ p side band left from the first Wedgwood booklet or the 10p with the thin zero on the Christian Heritage booklet? They tend to put commemoratives in these recent series of booklets. Australia Post has also jumped on the Prestige Booklets “bandwagon”. Let’s examine the Prestige Booklets released by Royal Mail over the last five years or so.

The year 2000 was a busy year. Three booklets were released. The first finished off a series of booklets on the definitive issues and the printing process used for British stamps.

FEBRUARY 2000 “SPECIAL BY DESIGN”

Face Value of booklet: £7.73

The booklet was printed in gravure by Walsall. Perforations 13.75 x 14

- PANE 1: 8 x 1st NVI Millennium Machin design and 1 label (DP 303)
- PANE 2: 3x Scotland 1st Machin NVI, 3x Wales 1st Machin NVI and 3x N. Ireland 1st Machin NVI. (DP 304)

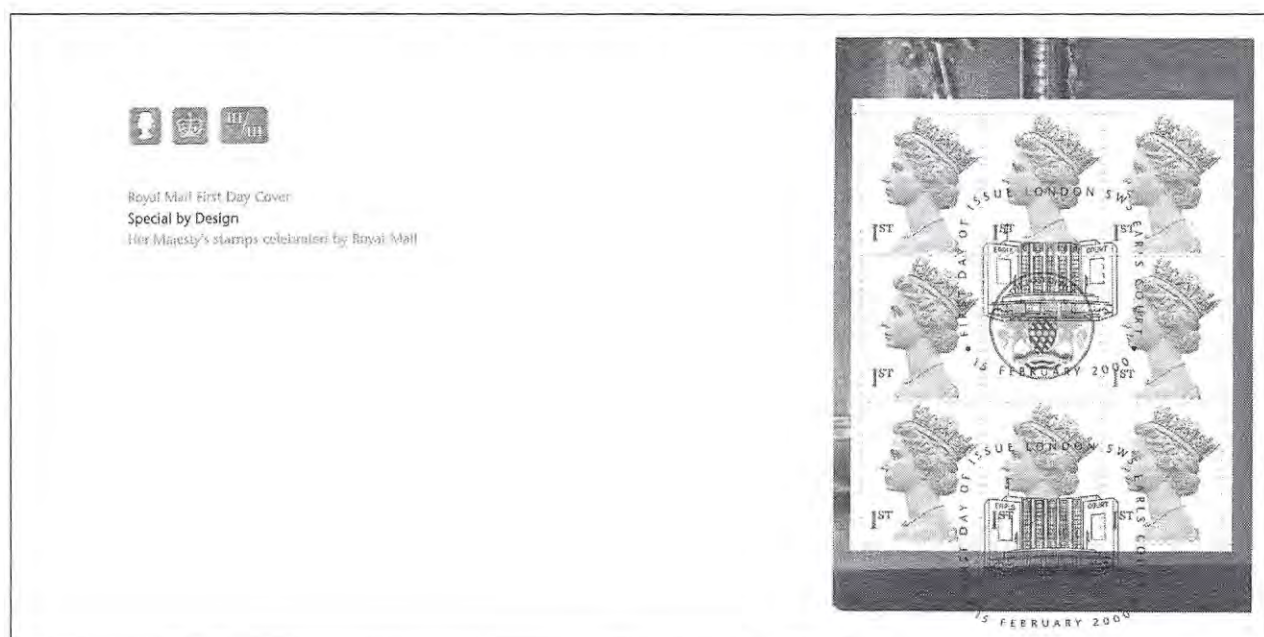
This issue was released in this format. The pictorial designs for Scotland and Wales had replaced the standard Machin designs.

- PANE 3: 4x 19p, 2x 38p Machin design (DP 305)

The images of the stamps on this pane are smaller than normal

- PANE 4: 6x 1st NVI Double Heads design (DP 306)

This is the first time this design has been used as an NVI



AUGUST 2000 "LIFE OF THE CENTURY"

Face value of the booklet: £7.03

The booklet was printed in gravure by Questa. Perforations 14.75 x 14

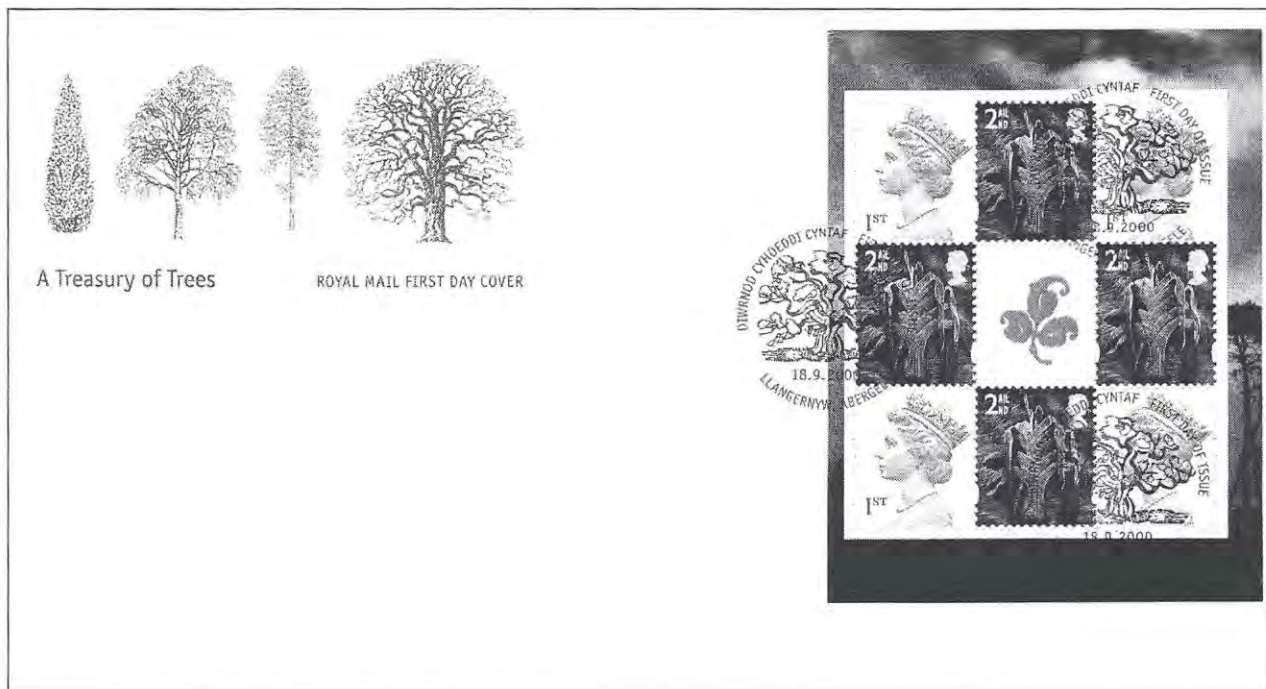
- PANE 1: 9x 1st Millennium Machin NVI (DP 316)
- PANE 2: Contains Scotland pictorials 6x 2nd NVI, 2x 65p and 1 label (DP 315)
- PANE 3: Mini sheet containing 4x 27p Royal Family stamps
- PANE 4: Contains 4x 27p Queen Mother stamps

SEPTEMBER 2000 "TREASURY OF TREES"

Face value of the booklet: £7.00

The booklet was printed in gravure by Walsall. Perforations 13.75 x 14

- PANE 1: 4x 1st Millennium Machin NVI, 4x 2nd Welsh Pictorial NVI and 1 label (DP 323)
- PANE 2: 2x 65p Bluebell Wood Commemorative
- PANE 3: 4x 2nd NVI Tree Roots Commemorative
- PANE 4: 2x 65p Forest for Scotland Commemorative
- PANE 5: 4x 45p Sycamore Seeds Commemorative



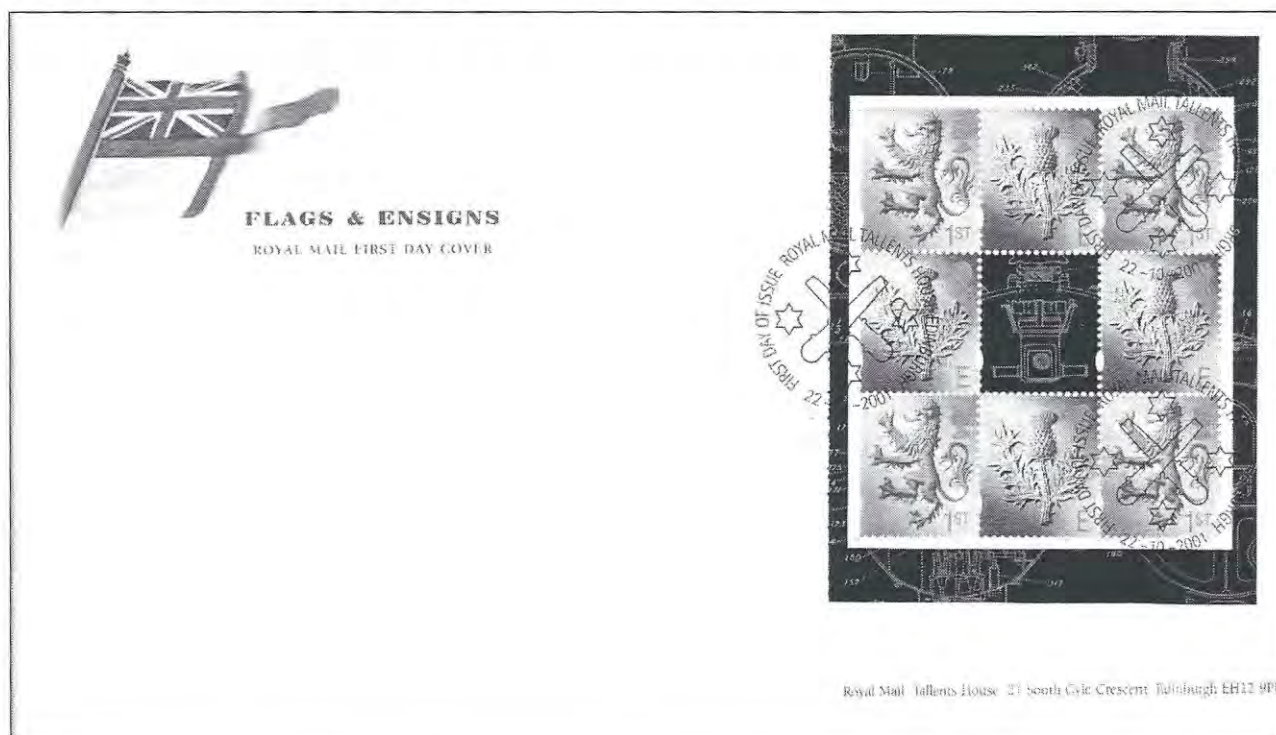
OCTOBER 2001 “UNSEEN & UNHEARD”

Face value of contents: £6.76

The booklet was printed in gravure by Questa

- PANE 1: 4x 1st NVI, 4xE NVI and 1 label. The stamps are Scotland Pictorial NVI (DP 330)
- PANE 2: 2x 1st NVI Submarine Commemorative & 2x 65p Submarine Commemorative
- PANE 3: 2x 2nd NVI Submarine Commemorative & 2x 45p Submarine Commemorative
- PANE 4: 4x 1st NVI Flags & Ensigns Mini sheet

The Submarines stamps have perforations 15.5 x 15. The stamps from the sheets have perforations 15 x 14. This creates another variety to collect.



FEBRUARY 2002 “A GRACIOUS ACCESSION”

Golden Jubilee of QEII Accession

Face value of contents £7.29

The booklet was printed in gravure by Enchede

- PANE 1: 4x E NVI Machin, 4x 2nd NVI Machin design with King George VI label (DP 331)
- PANE 2: 4x 1st NVI Wilding designs, 4 x 2nd NVI Wilding design, 1 colored label with no design. There was another second class Wilding stamp set at an angle. This stamp pane was watermarked (“50”). Its orientation produced what we know as a “wonky Wilding”! (DP 334)
- PANE 3: 2nd NVI, 1st NVI, E NVI, 45p Golden Jubilee Commemorative stamps
- PANE 4: : 1st NVI, E NVI, 45p, 65p Golden Jubilee Commemorative stamps

SEPTEMBER 2002 “ACROSS THE UNIVERSE”

Face value of contents: £6.83

The booklet was printed in gravure by Questa

- PANE 1: 4x 2nd NVI England pictorials, 4x 1st NVI England pictorials, 1x 1st NVI Scotland pictorial (DP 335)
- PANE 2: 4x 1st NVI Gold Machin, 4x E NVI Machin and a label (DP 337)
- PANE 3: 4x 1st NVI National Space Centre Commemorative

This was originally issued as a 26p stamp in the Millennium series of Commemoratives

- PANE 4: 4x 1st NVI Astronomy Commemoratives

This was also released as a miniature sheet. It is the same as Pane 4

FEBRUARY 2003 “MICROCOSMOS”

Face value of contents is £6.99

The booklet was printed in lithography by Enchede

- PANE 1: 5x 2nd NVI Northern Ireland pictorials, 4x 1st NVI Northern Ireland pictorials (DP 339)
- PANE 2: 4x 1st NVI gold Machin stamps, 4x E NVI Machin stamps and a label (DP 340)
- PANE 3: 2x 2nd NVI Secret of Life Commemoratives, 2x 1st NVI Secret of Life Commemoratives
- PANE 4: 4x E NVI Secret of Life Commemoratives

JUNE 2003 “A PERFECT CORONATION”

Face value of contents is £7.46

The booklet was printed in gravure by Walsall

- PANE 1: 4x 1st gold Machin NVI, 4x 2nd Machin NVI and a label (DP 343)
- PANE 2: 2x47p, 2x68p Wilding designs and £1.00 Coronation stamp (DP 346)
- PANE 3: 4x 1st NVI(all different) Coronation Commemorative stamps
- PANE 4: 4x 1st NVI (all different) Coronation Commemorative stamps

Pane 1 was on unwatermarked paper. The other panes used the special “50” watermarked paper used with the Golden Jubilee issues. The £1.00 Coronation stamp has been issued before in a Mini sheet (2000). That stamp was not watermarked. The £1.00 stamp from the booklet is making this booklet a most elusive item. The £1.00 Wedgwood is still better (if you have one with good perforations!)

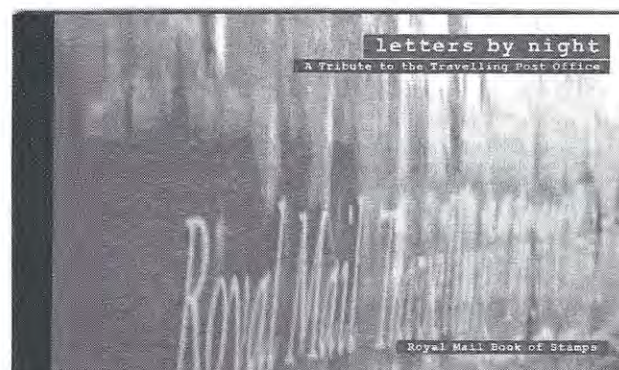


MARCH 2004 "LETTERS BY NIGHT"

Face value of contents £7.49

The booklet was printed in gravure by De La Rue except Pane 3

- PANE 1: 3x 2nd NVI Scotland pictorials, 3x 68p England pictorials
- PANE 2: 28p, E NVI and 42p Locomotive Commemoratives
- PANE 3: 4x 1st gold NVI Machin, 4x 37p Machin and a label
- PANE 4: 4x 1st NVI Pub Signs Commemoratives (printed in lithography)



MAY 2004 "THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN"

Face value of contents £7.23

The booklet was printed by Enchede

- PANE 1: 4x 1st gold NVI Machin, 2x 42p Machin, 2x 47p Machin and 1 label
- PANE 2: 2nd NVI, E NVI, 42p, 68p Royal Horticultural Society Commemoratives
- PANE 3: 4x 1st NVI Flowers Greeting Stamps (2 different designs)
- PANE 4: 2x 1st NVI, 2x 47p Royal Horticultural Society Commemoratives



FEBRUARY 2005 "BRONTE SISTERS"

Face value of contents £7.43

The booklet was printed by Walsall

- PANE 1: 4x 2nd NVI Machin, 2x 42p, 2x 39p and 1 label
- PANE 2: 2x 2nd NVI England pictorials, 2x 40p England pictorials and a 2 stamp sized label
- PANE 3: 2x 1st NVI Jane Eyre Commemorative stamps, 2x 2nd NVI Jane Eyre Commemoratives
- PANE 4: 40p, 57p, 68p and £1.12 Jane Eyre Commemorative stamps



The commemorative stamps were printed in lithography while the definitives were gravure printed

OCTOBER 2005 "BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR"

Face value of contents £7.26

- **PANE 1:** 3x 1st NVI "White Ensign" stamps
- **PANE 2:** 4x 1st NVI Machin, 2x 68p, 2x 50p and 1 label
- **PANE 3:** 1st NVI, 42p, 68p Trafalgar Commemoratives (Type 1)
- **PANE 4:** 1st NVI, 42p, 68p Trafalgar Commemoratives (Type 2)

The Deegam Report states that the 50p Machin has a different value setting

Later in 2006 there will be booklets to commemorate the Brunel (in February) and the Victoria Cross (in September). It seems the pattern is now to have one pane of Machin stamps (for us traditionalists!), one of the new country pictorial stamps and two panes of commemoratives. You should be aware of any differences between the printings of the stamps in these booklets. As a variety of printers were utilized to produce these booklets and the sheet stamps there may be subtle differences. These differences may create a scarce stamp (did I mention the £1.00 Coronation stamp??)

REFERENCES

The Complete DEEGAM Machin Handbook Volume 1

Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Concise 2001

Stanley Gibbons Collect British Stamps 2004

Gibbons Stamp Monthly (various issues)

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Pricing in Proportion (PIP) - New plans from Royal Mail

Compiled by Tony Luckhurst 2006

In 2006 the British mail service will be opened up to competition. It is also rumored that Royal Mail will have to pay VAT on stamp sales. Reports have also indicated that Royal Mail is losing 5p on each First Class letter and 8p on each Second Class letter. Fortunately the regulator (PostComm) will ensure rates will not jump by that much. It is rumored a 2p rise is on the cards. On 21st August 2006 Royal Mail will change the way it charges items of mail. It will adopt a similar method to Australia Post-standard and non standard mail. Royal Mail will classify the mail as "Letters", "Large Letters" and "Packets". They will charge accordingly for each classification. First and second class rates will still exist but there will not be as many weight steps. For all mail there will be 10 prices (instead of 16 in first class and 13 in second classes). Let's look at the pricing structure (the table below is based on the existing tariff)

Format	Size	Weight	PIP First Class	PIP Second Class	Existing First Class	Existing Second Class
LETTERS	Max 240 x 165 mm, 5mm thick	0-100g	30p	21p	30-46p	21-35p
LARGE LETTERS	Max 353 x 250mm, 25mm thick	0-100g	42p	35p	30p-£2.71	21p-£2.12
		101-250g	61p	53p		
		251-500g	85p	72p		
		501-750g	£1.23	£1.05		
PACKETS	Min 353 x 250 mm, 25mm thick	0-100g	94p	80p	30p-£3.64	21p-£2.12
		101-250g	£1.19	£1.04		
		251-500g	£1.59	£1.32		
		501-750g	£2.06	£1.66		
		751g- 1kg	£2.53	£1.99		

How does this relate to Machins? Apparently there is talk of creating new NVI stamps to pay for the first weight step for regular and large letters. The stamp for larger letters will have "Large" written on it and it will be a new size for definitives.

Whether they use these stamps or similar ones it will lead into confusion. Alternatively with the rumored increases there will be more new value Machins to look forward to in 2006.



On a different topic they are reprinting the current definitives on a new cream paper. This will give the specialists a new set of Machins to collect.

REFERENCES:

Royal Mail web page www.royalmail.com

Deegam Report No. 64 (D.G.A. Myall 2005)

NEW MACHINS AND REGIONALS FOR RATE INCREASE

The April 3 rate increase requires several new definitive stamps. The new stamps will be issued March 28 and are described below.

Description	Color	Phosphor	Printer	Service
37p Machin	Olive Green	1 center band	De La Rue	Second class 60g to 100g (second step)
44p Machin	Ultramarine	2 bands	De La Rue	Europe airmail postcards and letters to 20g
49p Machin	Rust	2 bands	De La Rue	First class 60g to 100g (second step)
72p Machin	Red	1 center band	De La Rue	Worldwide airmail 20g to 40g (second step)
44p Pictorial Regionals	Multicolor	2 bands	De La Rue	Europe airmail postcards and letters to 20g
72p Pictorial Regionals	Multicolor	2 bands	De La Rue	Worldwide airmail 20g to 40g (second step)

The basic (first weight step) UK first and second class rates (letters to 60g), which are now 32p and 23p respectively, will continue to be paid by non-denominated (non-value indicated or NVI) definitives. The make-up amount of 9p between those two rates continues to be paid by the 9p orange issued last year.

The first weight step (letters up to 10g and postcards) for worldwide airmail, now 50p, is paid by the sand 50p Machin that remains on permanent sale as a basic value.

The phosphor band layouts shown above are tentative because the announcement I read didn't include that information. However, there is no reason for Royal Mail to change the phosphor patterns now.

All of the stamps will be printed by gravure except the Northern Ireland regional stamps, which will continue to be printed by lithography because that is the best method to reproduce those designs. (Posted February 11, 2006)

FROM THE GB STAMPS webpage www.gbstamps.com

Note: when Pricing in Proportion is introduced in August more Machin values may be needed (unless they use different NVI's)



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