

## CAPITAL PHILATELY

May-August 2007 – VOL. 25, NO. 3&4.

### *Capital Philately*

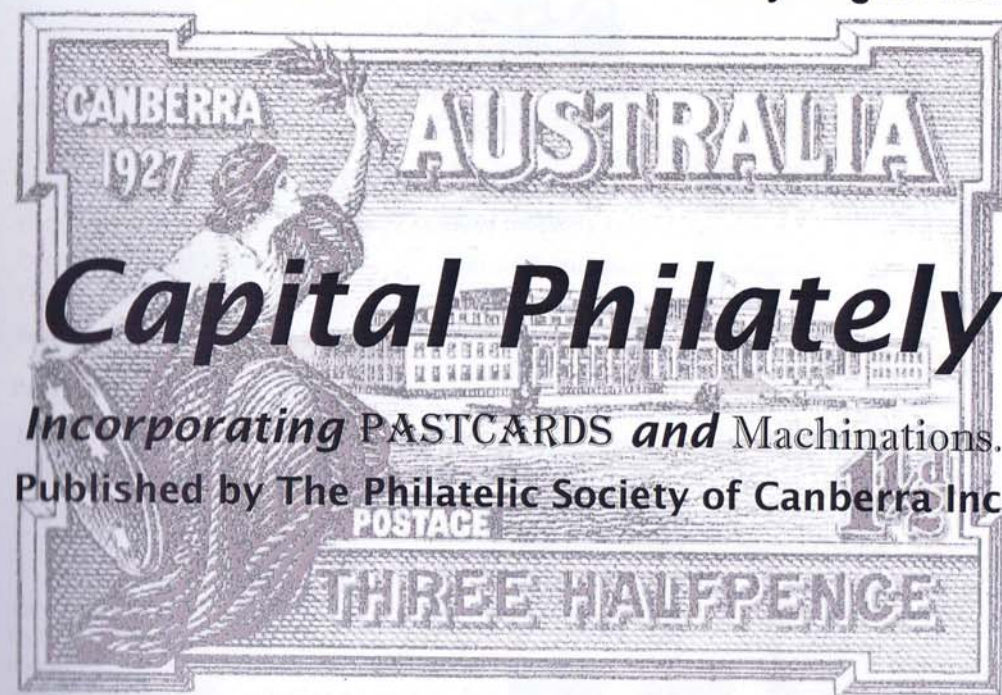
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Old cards from the Orient.

The Thames - Part II  
From Palace to Castle.



**SILVER JUBILEE -**

25 years of  
*Capital Philately.*





## The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.

(Founded 1932)

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### EDITORIAL

As you may have noticed, this issue is a bumper one combining May and August, and makes way for Capital Philately to move into a slightly different format, due in part to the difficulties of production and supply of material, and also to allow for the special anniversary issue due in November.

\* \* \*

Beaten to the punch... It appears that a review of Blue Mauritius has been printed in the NAPE Journal, so rather than covering the same material, I thought I'd highlight a new discovery that illustrates the phrase "Everything old is new again".

On a recent shopping trip to purchase some pink ink (an obscure quest that granted unexpected rewards, but not really relevant to this topic) I happened upon a few very interesting items that I thought people might be intrigued by. Pepe's Paperie (Canberra Centre) had not only ink in just about every colour imaginable, but also a few "philatelic" items I wasn't expecting. The first thing I saw were rubber stamps, alphabet characters etc, and I didn't take much notice, quickly distracted by a basket of Postcards. These turned out to be replicas produced by Cavallini & Co, San Francisco, (more details of which I'll talk about in the Pastcards Editorial), and hiding amongst them were some







sheets of “stamps”. These self-adhesive reproductions of a French classic (see image on the previous page) are overprinted with various letters, and have a wave-like border similar to modern Australian Peel & Stick stamps. Now I was curious to see what else there might be of a philatelic nature, so I looked again at the other items on the table, and discovered the most awesome set of rubber stamps - and so totally Philatelic I don't know how I missed them the first time.

These are also produced by Cavallini & Co, and although I may never find the excuse to use them in a constructive way, are going to be fun to try out on some mail. I'll break out the fountain pen, find some nice stationery and see what I can create: then I might even post it and see what happens...

THE 1975 AUSTRALIAN RARE FLORA DEFINITIVE ISSUE

Bruce Parker

Australia Post proposed a definitive issue in the 1970's to show some of Australia's rare plants. In the event, only the 18 cent *Helichrysum thomsonii* and 45cent *Callistemon teretifolius* were issued – Figure 1 shows an autographed first day cover(also designed by Frank Knight). I was fortunate to be working, not only in the same Division of The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (C.S.I.R.O.) as the designer, Frank Knight, but my office and laboratory adjoined the Drawing Office where Frank was the Divisional Illustrator.

Frank knew of my interests in stamps and showed me his drawings as they progressed. When they were issued I made him an offer for the preliminary art-work and show some of it here. It should be noted that this was the last occasion when Australia Post Artists were permitted to privately dispose of preliminary art-work. I was unable to obtain any material relating to the 1981 Australian Animals definitives or the three lettercards issued between 1982 & 1985.



Figure 1. Australian Wildflowers First Day Cover. Autographed by Frank Knight.

100%

This article shows some of the preliminary work for the issued stamps and also some other values which were not proceeded with.





Left: Figure 2.

Preliminary Cover Design  
featuring *Hibbertia miniata*,  
also featured in figures 11a-e  
and 12.

Below: Figure 3.

Original pencil sketch ideas  
for the 18c stamp featuring  
*Helichrysum thomsonii*.

The Plants illustrated are:

*Helichrysum thomsonii*,  
"Thomson's Everlasting".  
A dwarf perennial herb  
(Asteraceae) with white flower  
heads (1cm across) at the ends  
of the stems. It grows in rock  
crevices and escarpments of  
arid ranges in central Australia.  
May have been reascribed to  
*Cremnothamnus* in 1994.

*Callistemon teretifolius*,  
"Flinders Ranges Bottlebrush".  
A small to medium sized shrub  
(Myrtaceae) growing to 3m  
high by 4m across. Leaves  
10cm long, and circular in cross  
section. The flower spikes are  
red and up to 9cm in length.  
Found in rocky areas of Flinders  
Ranges, South Australia.

*Hibbertia miniata*, "Orange  
Hibbertia". Small semi-erect  
shrub growing from 10cm to  
1m tall with bright orange-red  
flowers. It grows in iron-rich  
gravelly soils, of SW Western  
Australia.

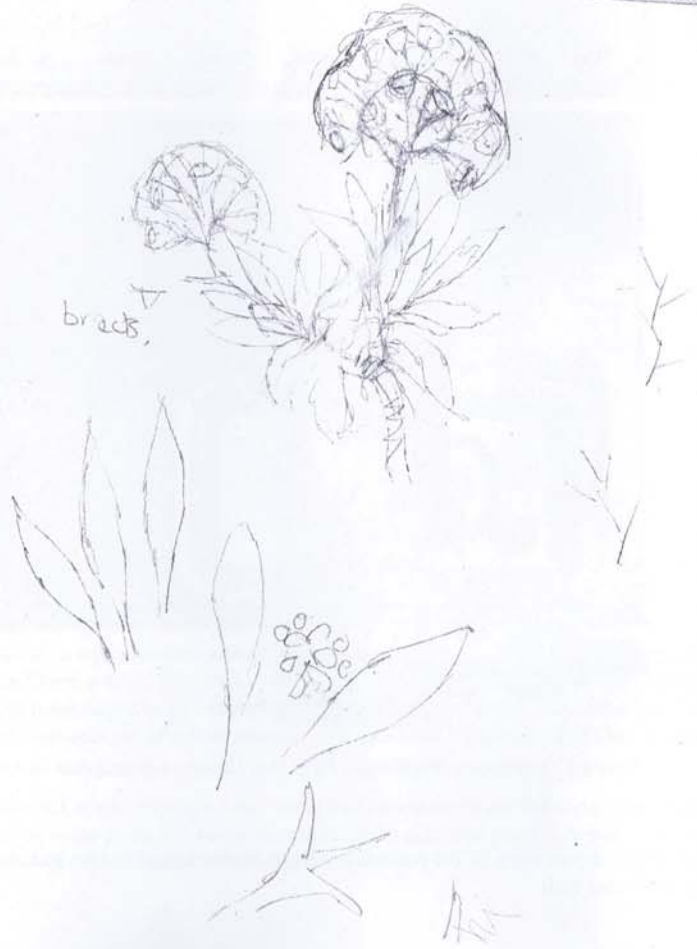


Figure 4. Intermediate paintings with notes.

100%



Figures 3, 4 & 5 show stages in the preparation of the 18cent stamp from an initial pencil sketch to a "close-to-final" painting. Figure 6 is also close to the final design for the 45 cent stamp but is in a vertical format – note how the artist has changed the main stem to come from the corner of the stamp and put the seed pod on the same stem.





Left: Figure 5.

Close to final design for the 18c stamp. The artist's note on the same illustration suggests he was also considering illustrating the cycad *Macrozamia macdonnellii* but it is not shown on any of these images.



Right: Figure 6.

Close to final design for 45c stamp featuring *Callistemon teretifolius*.



Figure 7



Figure 8

These both appear to be the same plant, but are not identified and have no flower illustrated. Figure 8 does appear to bear seeds or gumnuts, and reminds me of the juvenile leaves of *Eucalyptus globulus bicostata* (Southern Blue Gum).



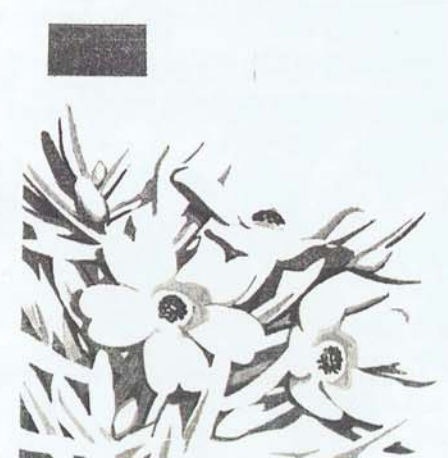
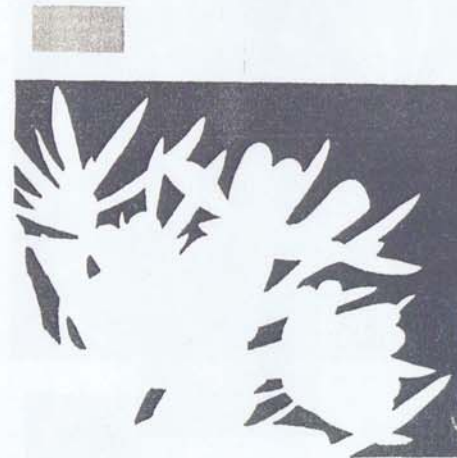
Figure 9



Figure 10

Figures 7-10 are four designs of three different plants, none of which are identified, note the similarities in figures 7 and 8.

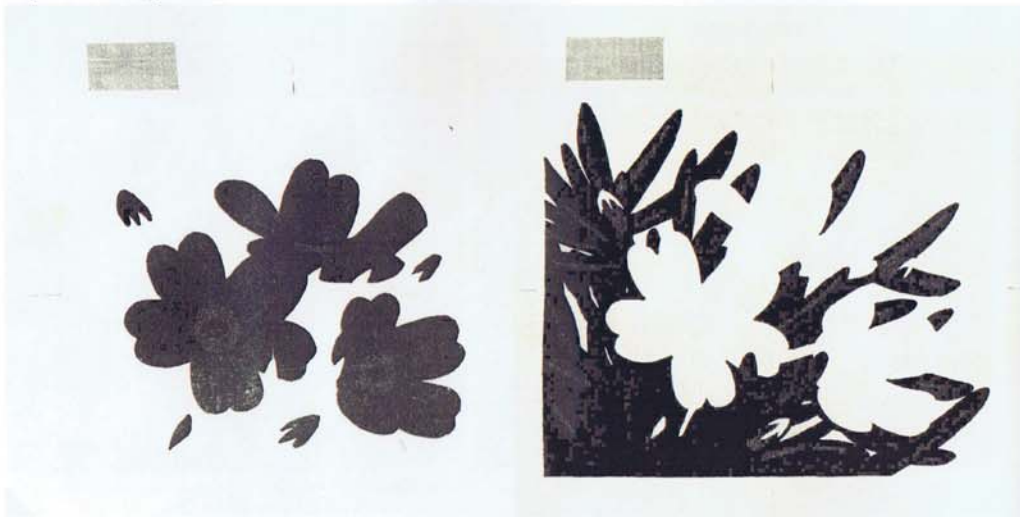
The production of these stamps was from colour separations prepared by the artist – that is, separate drawings were prepared from the final design for each colour to be printed. Figures 11a-e are taken from copies prepared on transparent drafting film from the original design, figure 12.



Figures 11 a-b. Colour separations for the proposed issue featuring *Hibbertia miniata*.

100%





Figures 11 c-e. Colour separations for the proposed issue featuring *Hibbertia miniata*. 100%



Below: Figure 12.  
Final design illustration for the unissued *Hibbertia miniata*.  
This flower was incorporated into the design for the First Day Cover instead.



References:  
The Australian National Botanic Gardens website which includes illustrations of Australian flora on stamps - [www.anbg.gov.au/stamps/stamp.633.html](http://www.anbg.gov.au/stamps/stamp.633.html)  
<http://florabase.dec.wa.gov.au/>  
<http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/>

COMMEMORATING ST VINCENT'S HOSPITALS IN AUSTRALIA

Marilyn Ann Gendek

This year, 2007 marks the Sesquicentenary of St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney and Catholic healthcare in Australia. This commemorative PSE was issued on 10 July by Australia Post.



In the beginning - St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin, 1834.

Mary Aikenhead, founder of the Irish Sisters of Charity was the heritage from which St Vincent's hospitals in Australia were drawn. Mary's religious convictions influenced her choice of a life of service to the poor from an early age. However, there was no convent in Ireland that allowed its members to move outside the enclosure. When Mary was asked to take responsibility for a new order of nuns to look after the poor, she undertook her religious training in York and returned to Dublin to visit the poor and sick in their own homes.

In 1816 the order of the Sisters of Charity was officially established. Ten years later, a school was set up by the order following the belief of Mary that education was an effective way to combat poverty. Mary also planned to open a hospital where the poor could receive free care. A property was bought to establish St Vincent's Hospital in 1834 opening its first ward the following year.

Ireland issued a stamp to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St Vincent's Dublin.



Mary Aikenhead (1787-1858)  
(Ireland 1958)



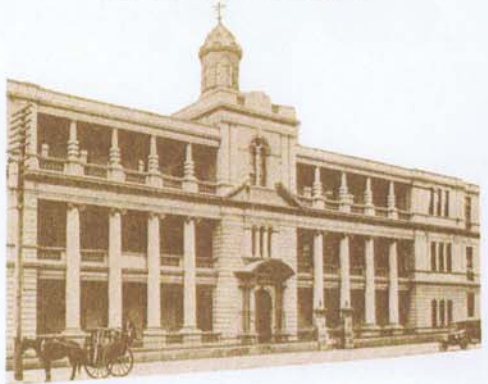
St Vincent's Hospital Dublin  
(Ireland 1984)



St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, 1857.

The ministry of the Sisters of Charity began in the colony of NSW at the "Female Factory" at Parramatta. In 1838, a group of five Sisters had arrived in Sydney from Dublin to provide care for the poor and needy. Three of the original five had undertaken nursing instruction in France. With the closure of the Factory in the late 1840s and the sale of their convent to the Sisters of Mercy, the Sisters returned permanently to Sydney. Tarmons, the former home of the first vice-chancellor of Sydney University, became the building in which St Vincent's Hospital was established, with the treatment of its first outpatient occurring on 25 August, 1857. Sister Baptist de Lacy was the matron and the first trainee nursing Sister commenced the same year. The Hospital was relocated to its current site in Darlinghurst in 1870. It was here that the first heart transplant in Australia took place in 1968.

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL, SYDNEY  
125th Anniversary



90%

125th Anniversary of  
St Vincent's Hospital  
Sydney.

Special postmark  
dated 25 August  
1982. Cachets of the  
original hospital at  
Potts Point and  
hospital at its  
Darlinghurst site.



The original St Vincent's Hospital  
"Tarmons", Potts Point, Sydney

90%



RPPC, Sydney Postcard Co. Late 1890s /early 1900s.

Not postally used but the message on the reverse side explains, "Bert has had a poisoned foot. But he started to work again today. He was off 5 shifts with it." Perhaps Bert was treated at St Vincent's.

Sacred Heart Hospice, located at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

Sacred Heart Hospice, opened 15 August 1890 by the Sisters of Charity, was the first hospice in Australia.



CENTENARY OF HOSPICE  
CARE IN AUSTRALIA 1990



PSE and postmark, Centenary of Hospice Care in Australia 1990.

95%



**St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne, 1893**

The hospital in Melbourne was founded by Mother Mary Berchmans (1860-1924) in 1893.

Anne Daly emigrated from Ireland with her family to Jembaicumbene, near Braidwood, NSW in 1865. Anne was appointed Assistant at Braidwood Catholic School aged 17, and entered the Sisters of Charity St Vincent's Convent at Potts Point four years later. Sister Berchmans was appointed to the First Foundation of her Order in Melbourne in 1888 becoming Superior of the Sisters of Charity in Melbourne a few years later. Her role was teaching but Mother Mary Berchmans' major work, the establishment of hospitals run by the Sisters of Charity, began with St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne. In 1920, when she was elected Superior-General of the Order in charge of the Sisters in Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales, Mother Berchmans returned to St Vincent's, Potts Point.

**Centenary of St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, 1993**

Special postmark, Fitzroy, dated 6 Nov 1993.

"A Century of Caring" and coat of arms.

1993 was also the year that the last St Vincent's hospital-based trainee nurse graduated.

**Postcard of the St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne centenary tapestry.**

90%

Donated to the Sisters of Charity by the St Vincent's Hospital senior medical staff, the tapestry hangs in the front entrance to the Hospital. (Designed by Murray Walker and woven by the Victorian Tapestry Workshop)

**Other St Vincent's Hospitals.**

Mother Mary Berchmans also founded the St Vincent's Hospitals in Lismore in 1921, Bathurst in 1922, and Toowoomba in 1922. St Vincent's Hospital in Launceston was established in 1944.

**St Vincent's Hospital, Bathurst.**

Formerly "Hathrop", a private home.



RPPC, circa late 1920s. Unused. Published by Central Newsagency, Bathurst NSW. Printed in France.

**Bibliography**

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- Mother Mary Berchmans: see Australian Women Fact File: Mother Mary Berchmans (Anne Daly) (1860 – 1924) Jessie Street National Women's Library (March 2004), and Daly, Anne (Mother M. Berchmans) (1860-1924) Australian Dictionary of Biography.  
<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A080220b.htm>
- Our Ministries, Sisters of Charity. <http://www.sistersofcharity.org.au/ministries/health.html#01>
- Religious Sisters of Charity. <http://www.rsccaritas.org/bio/s8p.htm>
- St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney. <http://www.svh.stvincents.com.au/>



## POSTMARKS OF EARLY NEW SOUTH WALES

Robert A. M. Gregson

Recently a Gold-Mal collection of the pre-stamp postmarks, on cover, from towns in New South Wales, came up for sale at the auction house of Pfankuch & Co in Braunschweig in Germany. Their web page is [www.KARL-PFANKUCH.de](http://www.KARL-PFANKUCH.de), and the listings contain a lot of information that I think collectors would like to have in a check list. I give some details, therefore, from lots 2775 to 2820 in the catalogue, it is clear that the collector wrote up the cover in German. At the period covered, parts of what became Victoria were still in NSW. The illustrations are very small but the postmarks involved are often of the type in a rectangle with rounded corners, and two lines of lettering in capitals, as

TOWN NAME

POST PAID

or occasionally like

AT MAITLAND

POST PAID

- 2775 Missionary letter from Parramatta SYDNEY NSW 0 17 1829, INDIA LETTER PORTSMOUTH to London
- 2776 Western Australia 28 Feb 1832 in handwriting to SYDNEY 3 March 1832
- 2777 SYDNEY S.W. J 22 1830 and SYDNEY POST PAID and INDIA LETTER PORTSMOUTH to London
- 2778 SYDNEY S.W. A 3 1830 and SYDNEY POST PAID and INDIA LETTER COWES to London
- 2779 (1830) SYDNEY in a circle and SYDNEY POST PAID and INDIA LETTER COWES to London
- 2780 (1832) FREE with a crown sent free post to Van Diemen's Land
- 2781 PARRAMATTA N.S.W. 27 Oct 1832 to SYDNEY on the same day, earliest known letter from Parramatta
- 2782 (1832) BURST N.S.W. to Sydney
- 2783 Business letter from Sydney 31 Jan 1833 INDIA LETTER DEAL by the ship 'City of Edinburgh' to London, then forwarded to Rotterdam
- 2784 PAID SHIP LETTER 2 7 1842 and REGISTERED SYDNEY to Glasgow. Registration of letters was possible in 1835
- 2785 YASS POST PAID 18 March 1836 to London. INDIA LETTER FALMOUTH
- 2786 POST PAID SHIP LETTER SYDNEY 13 JY 1836 and INDIA LETTER PORTSMOUTH to London
- 2787 (1837) PARRAMATTA N.S.W. and PARRAMATTA POST PAID and MID- DAY MAIL to Sydney
- 2788 LIVERPOOL to Sydney, received GENERAL POST OFFICE SYDNEY 18 NO 1837
- 2789 A petition from Wingello 7 Nov 1838 to the police magistrate in Berrima, BERRIMA N.S.W. No 8 1838
- 2790 (1838) WINDSOR N. S. W. and WINDSOR POST PAID from Lower Hawksbury to London and INDIA LETTER FALMOUTH
- 2791 (1838) Australian markings, INDIA LETTER WEYMOUTH

- 2792 POST PAID SHIP LETTER SYDNEY 26 AP 1839 to Hobart-Town Tasmania SHIP LETTER at Hobart
- 2793 LIVERPOOL POST PAID to Sydney GENERAL POST OFFICE SYDNEY 6 Fe 1839
- 2794 PAID SHIP LETTER SYDNEY SE 14 1839 and INDIA LETTER MARGATE to Scotland
- 2795 PAID SHIP LETTER SYDNEY 28 DE 1840 to London
- 2796 BUNGONIA POST PAID letter sent 3 3 1841 and crown postmark BUNGONIA 7 March 1841 PAID SHIP LETTER SYDNEY 13 Aug 1841 to Edinburgh [Bungonia is about 20 km southeast of Goulburn]
- 2797 (1842) GOULBURN POST PAID from Jaradale 16 Oct 1841 to England
- 2798 (1842) PAID AT MELBOURNE from Melbourne 9 March 1842 to England
- 2799 (1842) MELBOURNE PAID to England, backstamped MELBOURNE N.S.W, the earliest cancellation of Melbourne used from Nov 1837 to June 1842
- 2800 PAID AT MELBOURNE from Melbourne 10 March 1842 ship letter to England
- 2801 PAID AT MELBOURNE from Melbourne 11 June 1842 ship letter to England
- 2802 (1842) POST PAID with crown cancellation QUEANBEYAN from Gundaroo 23 9 42 to England
- 2803 PAID SHIP LETTER SYDNEY 10 AU 1843 to London
- 2804 PAID AT KILMORE and REGISTERED to Melbourne and KILMORE PORT PHILIPP 16 June 1845
- 2805 FREE 22 SEPT 1845 at the AUSTRALIAN ASSURANCE OFFICE SYDNEY
- 2806 PAID AT ARMIDALE and PAID SHIP LETTER 16 JY 1845 to England [Armidale was only founded in 1840]
- 2807 (1845) POST PAID AT SYDNEY and 2 O'CLOCK
- 2808 (1846) Tax free letter from Melbourne 16 Oct 1846 to Goulburn N. S. W., with FREE MELBOURNE, FREE 6 NOV 1846 and TOO LATE and crown cancellation MELBOURNE, SYDNEY
- 2809 (1846) POST PAID AT SYDNEY and 2 O'CLOCK
- 2810 (1847) Town council post envelope marked Colonial Secretary FREE 6 DEC 1847 and 6 O'CLOCK
- 2811 (1848) PAID AT PORTLAND on 7 DEC 1848 to London
- 2812 PAID AT KIAMA and KIAMA 11 May 1848
- 2813 (1849) Handwritten 'Four Posts Inn 9<sup>th</sup> June 1849' and MELBOURNE 14 June to England
- 2814 (1849) PAID AT PORT FAIRY and REGISTERED and OVERLAND MAIL and crown cancellation PORT FAIRY, PORTLAND
- 2815 (1850) WOLLONGONG POST PAID to Sydney, with WOLLONGONG and SYDNEY
- 2816 (1850) PAID AT KILMORE 12 Aug 1850 to Melbourne
- 2817 (1850) PAID AT UPPER GLENELG on 23 July 1850 to Melbourne
- 2818 (1851) PAID AT CAMDEN 17 July 1851 to Sydney, and crown cancellations CAMDEN and SYDNEY
- 2819 (1851) PAID AT EAST MAITLAND to Sydney, SYDNEY JA 27 1851
- 2820 (1855) Letter from London to Ballan, FREE from Melbourne 22 Feb 1855 and BALLAN 23 2, further to BACCHUS MARSH 13 March and BACCHUS MARSH and MISSENT TO BALLAN.



# OBSCURE PHILATELY

Robert A M Gregson

Various ideas have been floated to enliven our hobby, such as social philately, frugal philately, maxicard collecting, and even phantasies such as the Alice in Wonderland "stamps". I want to suggest a new one, that can be the focus of an occasional column in this magazine. The British occupation of Batum, flimsy messages tied to carrier pigeons' legs in New Zealand, fiscals of Italian cities, even passports bearing revenue stamps of a range of countries that issued visas; they all have their following, and the dedicated collector may wait up to twenty years or more for something to turn up and fill a gap. Things one never knew existed now turn up depicted on web pages helpfully set up by collectors all over the world.

I will start off obscurity with a card from a parcel from Germany to Austria in January 1897. The postal services of German and Austria were closely linked within the framework of a treaty going back to 1850. According to clause §11a of the then current Regulations, one could, from 12<sup>th</sup> March 1883, send living animals, plants, fish

spawn and similar things by the most rapid possible means to a remote destination. As a packet with an express supplement charge paid, an extra charge for bulk (Sperrgutgebühr) was also imposed, and one for priority (Dringend).

This example left Duderstadt on 31 01 1897 for Villach in the Carinthian district of Austria. It is declared as containing one living bird, what sort of bird is not clear but I suspect it could have been a homing pigeon used for racing. It is the wrong time of the year for a Martinmass goose.

The labels read 'if not immediately collected, send it back', 'paid for by express', 'priority' and 'express'.



85%

The total postage paid was made up of four components:

Postage	50 pfennigs
Express charge	25 pfennigs
Surcharge for bulk	40 pfennigs
'Dringend' tax	100 pfennigs
making a total of 215 pfennigs, or 2 marks and 15 pfennigs.	

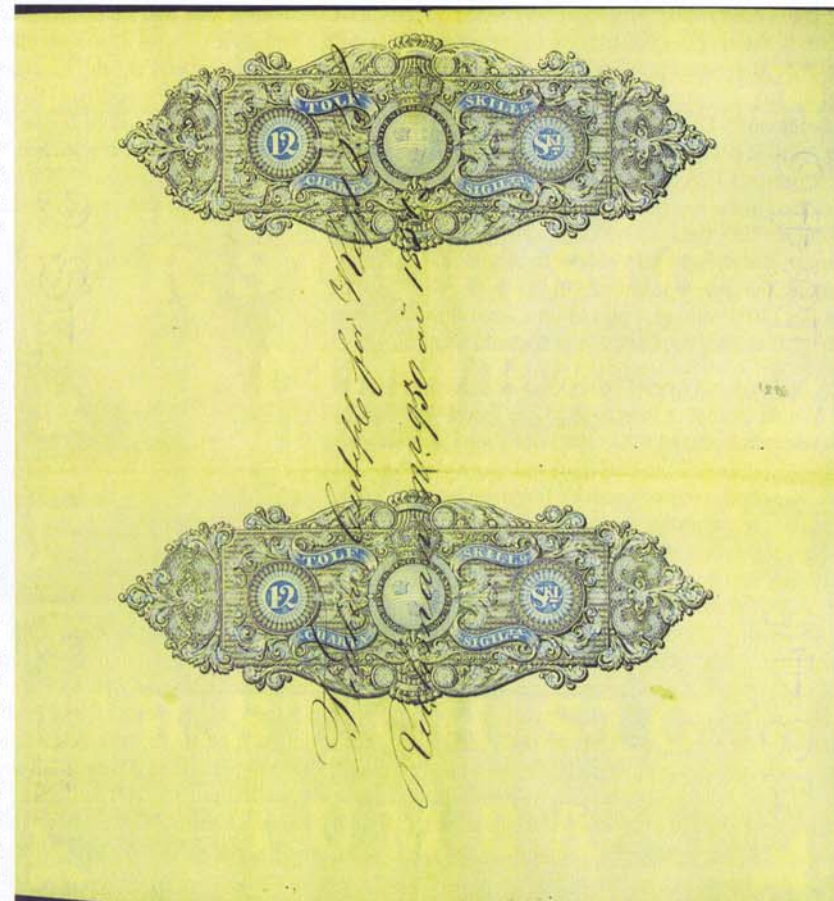
The stamps are a 2 Marks parcel stamp of 1890 (Michel 37e) and 10 + 5 pfennigs (Michel 46c and 47d).

Who knows, some of the descendents of that pigeon may still be flying today, unless it ended up in a pie. I have seen cats and rabbits travelling by train in southern Germany, but I don't know if it is still possible to post yourself a bird.

Our second example is a used pair of two of the things that were issued in Sweden between 1845 and 1881, before they were replaced by revenue stamps that look like stamps; that is small, perforated and adhesive. They are uniquely Swedish, and are sometimes called Charta Sigillata, which can be translated from the Latin as Stamped Paper, but that is itself a bit confusing as stamped paper was also in use, with a printed design that looks like one of these documentary stamps but without the curlicue ornamentation on two or on all the sides.

They are now listed in the Facit specialised catalogue, over 75 varieties of design exist and there are various watermarks indicating the year of issue. Some are so rare that they are mentioned in official records as existing but have not yet been seen by collectors.

They were printed in sheets of six, in a 2 x 3 format, but used multiples are unsurprisingly rare. I have only seen three examples of pairs. They were only pen-cancelled, and affixed to documents by a little sealing wax wafer. The watermark reads R. ST. CH. SIG. TUMBA. by thickening of the paper, and the year date down the right-hand side by thinning. Tumba is the



75%

place where the state paper mill was situated. The overall paper format is 21 x 11 cms, the printed design is 14.5 x 5.5 cms. They are sometimes trimmed a bit when affixed to documents, and affixed usually at the left-hand margin. Often the purpose of their use is written by hand on the design, such as for an apprenticeship or a house mortgage, or a document granting probate on an estate..

An article about them appeared in the 'American Revenuer' for January 1979.

## References:

<http://www.arge-krone-adler.de/archiv/aktuell001.html>



## SECRETARY IN SINGAPORE

Tony Luckhurst

Last May I was able to go overseas with my family. We went to Singapore, the Philippines and Malaysia. I was fortunate enough to get examples of the stamps and coins (and a few year albums from these countries). Here is a brief summary of philatelic developments in these countries:

As you would expect Singapore was much organised. It was very much like Australia Post. At a branch post office in the shopping district we found a post office with a Philatelic counter. It sold stamps, first day covers, presentation packs and year books. It also had stamps from other countries for sale. I picked up a year album for Singapore stamps of 2006 and some presentation packs. They also have Personalised Stamps—they call them "My Stamps". These were similar to our P-Stamps. The amount of stamps released by Singapore has grown over the years. It costs 26c to post a letter within Singapore and \$1.10 to post a letter overseas. The Australian dollar is worth about \$1.20 in Singapore. The next day on our travels we went to the Singapore Philatelic Museum. This is similar to the Australia Post Philatelic Centre in Melbourne. It had a shop and postal museum. It had displays showing the background behind various Singapore stamps. It also had a very nice collection of old postcards plotting the development of Singapore from the turn of the last (20<sup>th</sup>) century. I picked up a local Singapore and Malaysia catalogue at one of the dealers I went to.

The Philippines General Post Office was deep in the city of Manila. It took a long time to get there. We went by tricycle, minivan and MRT. The MRT train is a good idea. It travels above all the traffic. Its trains are clean and the fares are cheap (unlike Sydney). It can get busy at certain times of the day. After that we needed to catch a jeepney to the Post Office. After asking a few people where the philatelic section was we located a woman sitting behind a desk. She produced this big display book and said "What do you want?" There were no 2006 year albums this time. I tried to compile as many 2006 issues as I could. There may have been some 2005 and 2007 issues. Like Australia they also did minisheets, sheetlets of 8 and 10 and gutter pairs. It was familiar territory! The postage within the Philippines is 7 peso (There are 38 peso to the Australian dollar). A letter to Australia is 24 peso. Relying on the mail service may be a problem. A few weeks later I was able to get to a stamp dealer who showed me the 2006 issues that the post office failed to supply. The interesting thing I collected was the definitive issue. It showed butterflies. These small-format stamps range from 1 peso to 26 peso. There are two high valued larger stamps 30 peso and 100 peso. Here is the catch. Some values were printed in blocks of 10 (fortunately only the letter rate stamps). Some other values were printed as blocks of 4. These were the common airmail rates. Catch number two: there were two printers for these stamps. They created entirely different stamps. Catch 3: Each stamp has a year date on it so you can get some stamps with 2005 or 2006 (I did not see any 2007 yet!!). Who thought Machins were confusing!!! There used to be a local stamp catalogue for these stamps, it hasn't been updated since 2002. The original catalogue was 1997 with annual supplements made. The value of the peso changing and the scarcity of some of these stamps mean a catalogue would be useful. The Gibbons South East Asia catalogue isn't bad.

Finally we spent 3 days in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It is a developing city with lots of interesting architecture. The Main Post Office again was an adventurous trip. This time by taxi in the "rush hour". The Philatelic counter was organised like Singapore. They had stamps, miniature sheets and year albums. As there were 3 Malaysian Ringgit (dollars) to the Australian dollar the albums worked out cheap. So I got the 2004 and 2005. The 2006 was not out yet. Postage in Malaysia is only 30 sen. Overseas air mail was RM 1.80. Stamp issues were mostly in values of 30 sen, 50 sen, RM 1 and sometimes a RM2 miniature sheet. The stamps were nicely designed.



No. 67

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## PASTCARDS

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## EDITORIAL

A funny thing happened on the way back to London... We made it to the next installment, but for some reason we're going via Penang.

Our two contributors for this issue provide some very different images, but the influence of the UK can be seen in quite a few of the Penang cards. I found the Variety of Fruits postcard especially interesting as you will see...



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# OLD PENANG - REVISITED

Peter Cheah

Located nearly 5° north of the Equator, Penang is the only island state of Malaysia. It has also been known as the Pearl of the Orient. The State of Penang comprises both the island of Penang and Province Wellesley, a strip of land situated on the mainland of Malaysia opposite Penang island. Penang's capital is George Town and its present population exceeds 1.25 million and growing. The population is multi-racial and its composition is about 55% Chinese; 35 % Malay, and 10 % Indian and others.

Penang is well known not only to Australian tourists who have visited the island in droves, but also to RAAF personnel and their families. Various RAAF squadrons were based at Butterworth, Province Wellesley, at varying times between the 1950s to the early 1980s.

In 1998, this presenter gave a display of an initial collection Penang postcards, some of which were reproduced in "Pastcards" No. 32 June 1998. In that display, there were a few cards of 1930s vintage: the rest were mostly modern ones. The present display is just of some old postcards of Penang, collected during the intervening period.

A 2003 publication, *PENANG Postcard Collection 1899—1930s* by Khoo Salma Nasution & Malcolm Wade is a useful 'bible' of old Penang postcards. More than 700 postcards of old Penang & Province Wellesley are reproduced in that publication. Many aspects of Penang history and anecdotes accompany each of the postcards illustrated: highly recommended reading for anyone interested in this subject.

Because of limitations of space, old postcards of the more popular tourist destinations and sites of Penang, viz. Penang harbour and port area, the Penang Hill funicular, the Snake Temple and the Kek Lok See (Pagoda) Temple, are not featured in this article. Some of the cards that are shown are of obscure Penang subjects. Also included are some that do not appear to have been reproduced in publications relating to old Penang postcards (see bibliography). That does not mean to say they are not in other people's or institutions' collections.

**F.M.S. Railway Station, Penang:** This building, with its prominent clock tower, was Penang's only railway station (FMS stood for Federated Malay States). Intending passengers bought their tickets here, walked to the nearby railway pier, crossed the Straits of Malacca by ferry to the mainland and boarded the train. This station was probably the only one in the world that did not have a rail line anywhere in sight and its railway platform was separated by a sea. The building now houses the Customs Department, being situated very close to the quay side.



**Town Hall, Penang:** This is Penang's former Town Hall, built in 1880. The building was restored a few years ago and serves as a popular venue for social events and other public activities. A similar looking building in the distance is the former Municipal Building, sometimes known as the Public Works Department, completed some 20 years after the Town Hall.

This postcard shows the *Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee Memorial Clock Tower* built and presented to the State of Penang by a Chinese millionaire. The gesture was to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> year of Queen Victoria's reign. It also shows former government offices and a policeman's shelter (hut). This particular postcard is described by Nasution and Wade as "one of a series



of cards produced during the Japanese Occupation, which are rather rare" There are Japanese characters printed on the reverse side of the card.

**Dagoba and Temple, Penang:** This is a very early pictorial representation of the Siamese Temple in the suburb of Pulau Tikus. In its present form, the Siamese Temple is now a must see place on the tourist circuit. None of the structures seen in the card are extant.



**Penang Road:** The Chinese-styled road arch was erected over Penang Road opposite the Police Barracks, to commemorate the visit to Penang by Queen Elizabeth II in 1972. (Note the age and types of motor vehicles)



**Chinese Temple, Joo Tock Road, Penang:** The unusual card features a number of Buddhist deities of this temple.

**Chinese Temple, Penang:** This card features 3 large Buddha statues and numerous smaller ones. The temple is not known to the presenter and enquiries made in Penang have not thrown light on which temple it is. It may be that the temple no longer exists.



**Campbell Street, Penang:** Well known now as Penang's most 'Chinese' street, it was once notorious as the red light district of Penang. The postcard features a multitude of rickshaws waiting for patronage. Not a motor vehicle is in sight. The street is now a one-way, narrow 'sculptured' roadway to slow down traffic and provide for more road side car parking spaces.

**Chinese Cemetery on a Hillside, Penang:** Large burial sites with elaborate tombstones are highly favoured by rich Chinese Buddhists.

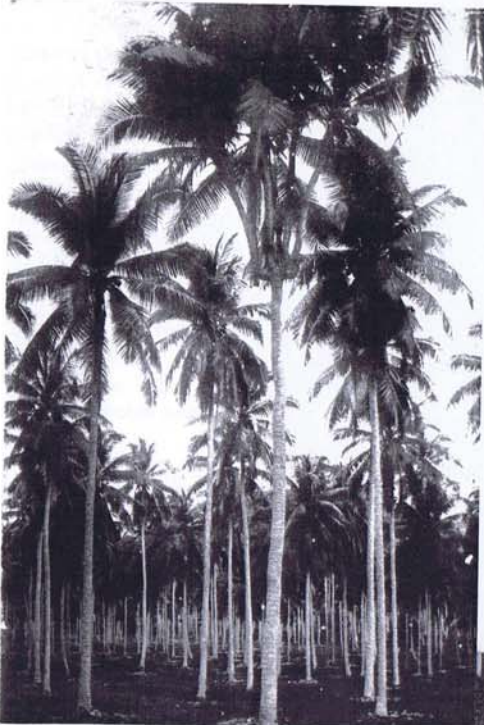


British Empire Series



**Botanical Gardens, Penang:** These gardens, also known as the Waterfall Gardens (or monkey gardens), were developed over the last 20 years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In 1890, a municipal band was formed in Penang. The card shows the raised bed of the bandstand. The band played from time to time to popularise the gardens.





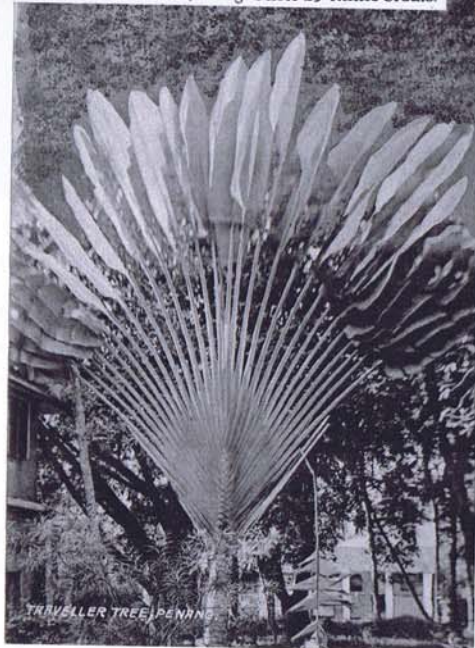
(A37) Six Branches Coconut Tree, Penang. Photo by NIKKO Studio.

**Six Branches Coconut Tree, Penang:** Penang still has coconut plantations. This particular pre-World War II postcard features a freak of nature with the development of 6 branches of a coconut tree. (See close up on postcard below)

**Specimen of Coconut Tree, Penang:** Close-up of the six branches of a coconut tree, a freak of nature.



**Traveller Tree Penang:** This variety of palm tree is seen in many parts of south-east Asia. When seen for the first time, it is quite a revelation and breath taking.



**Native dwelling boats:** This card shows a number of native dwelling boats on the Prai River, Province Wellesley. The gantry pulley and chain shown on the card were used to pull small vessels across the river. Nasution & Wade say this place is still called 'Chain Ferry' to this day.

**Hutton Lane Station, Penang:** This station served as an early police station. It was demolished many decades ago. Hutton Lane begins at Penang Road and ends at Larut Road.



**Ballroom Runnymede, Penang:** The Runnymede Hotel was built in the

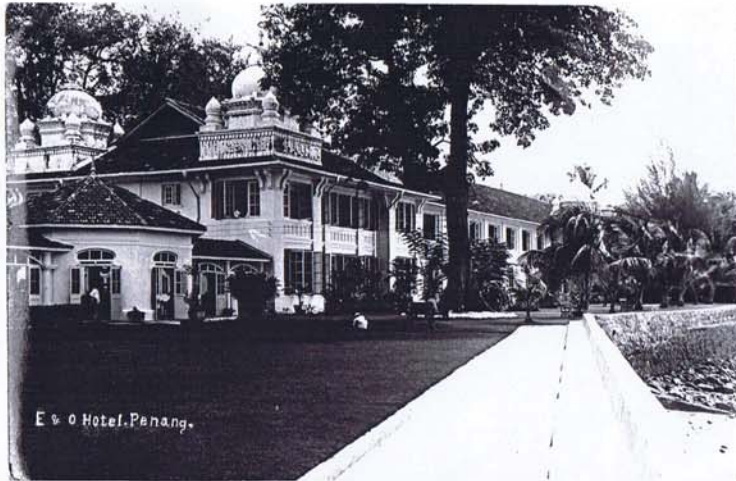


1930s. It was Penang's 2<sup>nd</sup> best known hotel to both the local and visiting British and European population after the E & O Hotel. Its ballroom could accommodate 150+ persons and social dances were regularly held there. That was the hotel's appeal. The 'hotel' building still stands but is now used as a rest and recreation venue for Malaysian military personnel.



## PASTCARDS

**E & O Hotel, Penang:** The card show the former Victory Annex of the Hotel built in 1922 to commemorate the British victory in the first World War. The "E & O" as the hotel is affectionately known by, is Penang's counterpart to the Raffles Hotel, Singapore. About 5 years ago, the E & O was substantially refurbished and rebuilt. During that process, a number of the hotel's significant elements were demolished.



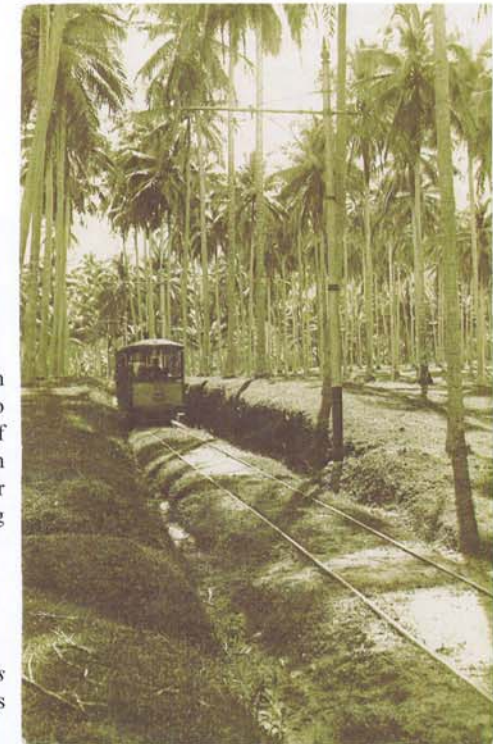
**Indian Coolies drying Copra, Penang:** Copra production is the raison d'être of the coconut plantation industry. Coconut oil and a multitude of other modern food and cosmetic products are derived from the dried white kernel of the coconut. Wikipedia says copra meal is used as fodder for horses and cattle. Its high oil levels and protein are very fattening for stock and it is popular among horse enthusiasts.

**Penang, Variety of Fruits:** At first glance this may look like an example of an outdoor fruit market with large jackfruit for sale (foreground) and bunches of bananas (at rear), but there is more to this card than can be seen at first.

The small pieces of paper on some of the items are the first clue, the second is the absence of people in the photograph, and the third is the neat arrangement



of items and their strange grouping. If you look at the enlargement on the left, the answer is revealed... The card has the words "2nd Prize" and "Class" in nice bold text: This is not a market, but an agricultural show, with entries and displays just as you might at a show here. The layout on the prize card is remarkable similar to that used by the RNCAS for the Royal Canberra Show (amongst others). The other intriguing aspect of this card is the message on the reverse addressed to lady in Sydney: "The fruit out here is not as good as it looks you need to train yourself to their tastes". Today we have access to all kinds of tropical fruits, but they would have been quite novel to the correspondants of this card, yet even now the Durian still takes a lot of getting used to. [-Ed]



[No caption]: **Tramway in a coconut plantation:** Although there is no caption on the front or reverse of the card to say it is one of Penang, there are other representations of this scene in postcard publications of Penang, albeit in horizontal format. This scene would not have been too far out of George Town to be featuring a tramway running through a coconut plantation.

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THE THAMES – Part II

From Palace to Castle – the Royal Thames (but with a break at Teddington)

Elsbeth Bodley

The first part of our postcard journey up the Thames, for mouth to source, appeared in Capital Philately in August 2006 (Vol.24 No.4). It concentrated on that part of the river on which London stands but ended at Westminster Bridge. We now resume our travels:

The Palace of Westminster is now known as the British Houses of Parliament. In the 700s Benedictine monks first settled on a piece of high ground near the Thames, King Canute developed the site further and held court there and Edward the Confessor made it his home and built a church which over successive centuries became Westminster Abbey. Edward died four days after the consecration of the new Abbey and his became the first burial within its walls. (Fig 1.)

The nearby Palace of Westminster was the court of kings for centuries but, except for the great hall, was destroyed by fire in 1834. (Fig 2.) The surviving Westminster Hall has been incorporated into the Houses of Parliament. (Fig 3.)

Figure 1: Edward the Confessor's Tomb in Westminster Abbey

(published by Golden Shield, printed in Spain)

90%



Figure 2:  
The Burning  
of the Houses  
of Lords and  
Commons,  
October 16,  
1834 by J M W  
Turner  
(1775-1851)

(published by  
Cleveland Museum  
of Art)

75%

90%

Figure 3: The Houses of  
Parliament and Westminster Hall  
(published by J J Samuels, London)



Figure 4: County Hall &  
Westminster Bridge  
(no publisher named)

On the southern side of Westminster Bridge we see County Hall to the east and St Thomas' Hospital to the west. (Figs 4 & 5) Still on the south bank but further upstream we come to Lambeth Palace, one of London's major medieval survivals, the home of the Archbishops of Canterbury since the 12th century. Normally, Archbishops live within their diocese, but the Archbishop of Canterbury is the most senior of the Church of England appointments and in earlier centuries he played an influential part in British politics and needed to be close to where the action was taking place. (Fig 6.)



90%

Figure 5:  
Westminster Bridge & St Thomas'  
Hospital  
(published by The Photochrom Co,  
Celesque series)



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Figure 6: Lambeth Palace from Suspension Bridge  
(no publisher, postally used to Australia in 1903)

In 1932 a new bridge, Lambeth Bridge, was opened to relieve traffic pressure on Westminster Bridge. (Fig 7.)

Figure 7: Lambeth Bridge  
(published by Valesque)

On the northern bank of the river we soon come to the impressive buildings of the Chelsea Hospital. This Royal Hospital was founded by Charles II 'out of a tender and deep compassion for the sad and deplorable condition of many loial (sic) and brave men', former soldiers. Christopher Wren was the architect and the building opened in 1692. The Chelsea Pensioners, all of them old soldiers, wear distinctive uniforms: formal dress consists of a long red coat with a cocked or tricorne hat or, for the less formal 'walking-out' dress a black peaked cap. The 'undress'



and winter uniform is a similar coat but in dark blue. (Fig. 8)

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Figure 8: The Colonnade, Chelsea Hospital  
(published by RA (Postcards) Ltd)



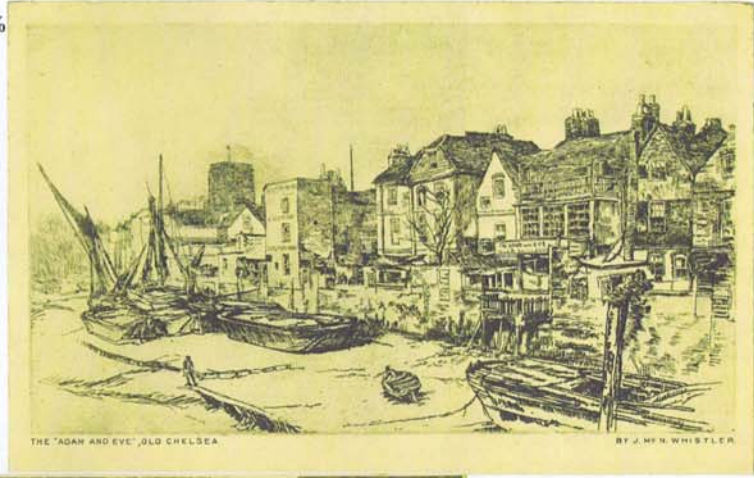
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Figure 9:  
The "Adam and Eve",  
Old Chelsea  
by J M Whistler

(published by T & R Annan & Sons, Glasgow)

Chelsea itself is now a fashionable area but has also been home to many artists over the years. The American, James McNeill Whistler, was one of these. (Fig 9).



Cheyne Walk is a name one often meets in books set in London. (Fig.10). The Chelsea bridge, opened in 1934, replaced an earlier one dating from 1858. It spans one of the widest parts of the Thames. (Fig. 11)

Figure 10: Cheyne Walk, Chelsea  
(published by Judges Ltd)

90%

Figure 11:  
Chelsea Bridge  
(published by Judges Ltd)

90%





P 80%

Figure 12: Old Battersea Bridge on Thames

(published by Raphael Tuck & Sons, Artist Series)

Battersea is the next familiar name we come to, on the south bank. The Battersea Power Station, a 1930s building designed by Gilbert Scott, is a familiar landmark – unfortunately, I have not yet come across a postcard showing it! However, I have a lithographed card published by Raphael Tuck in the 1890s showing Old Battersea Bridge – four and a half



miles upstream from London Bridge (Fig 12). This is one of a series of cards showing bridges and scenes along the Thames. They pre-date the picture postcard and the back has a printed description. While not strictly a postcard, it is certainly a forerunner. The Battersea area must have been occupied for a very long time; a shield of the Early Celtic-Iron Age was found in the river here in 1857 and is now in the British Museum. (Fig 13)

Figure 13: Bronze facing of a shield found in the Thames at Battersea, 1857

(published by The British Museum, 1977)

P 80%

The annual Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race was first held upstream at Henley in 1829, but since 1845 has been rowed from Putney to Mortlake over a distance of four and a quarter miles. The winding course adds some technical difficulties for the rowers and attracts many spectators. (Fig 14)

Figure 14: Putney, the bridge to Fulham

(published by The Photochrom Co. Ltd)

P 90%



P 90%

Figure 15: Kew Bridge

(published by Raphael Tuck & Sons, Artist Series)

A mile upstream from Mortlake we come to Kew Bridge. (Fig 15) Kew, of course, is famous for the Botanical Gardens which have grown from the two adjoining royal gardens of Kew House (Fig 16) and Richmond Lodge. The



Royal Botanic Gardens were officially established in 1840 and remain pre-eminent in the fields of research and education. (Fig 17) The Chinese Pagoda was originally part of the Kew House garden while the Long Lake was part of the Richmond Lodge grounds. (Fig 18)

Figure 16: Kew Palace

(published by Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew)



P 90%

Figure 17: Kew Gardens, Refreshment Pavilion

(published by Gale & Polden, postally used 1910)



P 90%



90%

*Figure 18: Kew Gardens**(published by Raphael Tuck & Sons, Oilette)*

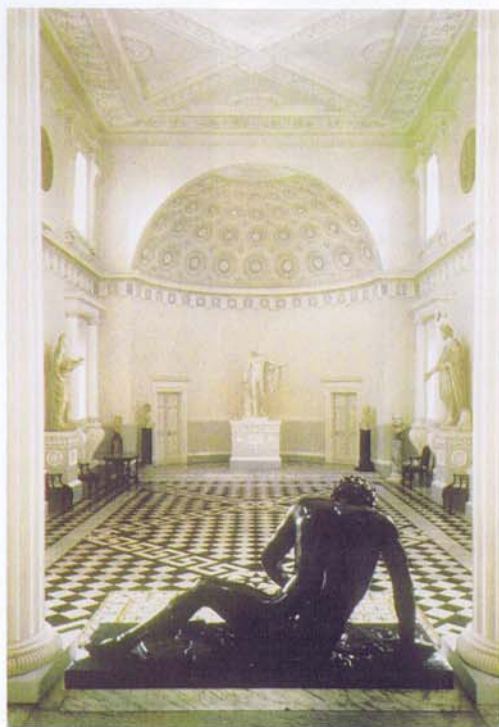
One of many tributaries of the Thames, the Brent, joins the river at Brentford. (Fig 19) Syon House at Brentford is one of England's stately homes. It was here Lady Jane Grey ascended to the throne for her nine day reign as Queen in 1554, but the building was remodelled by Adam in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. (Fig 20)

*Fig 19 River Brent and Uxbridge Road Bridge**(published by T Brinn, West Ealing)*

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*Figure 20: Syon House, the Great Hall**(published by English Life Publications Ltd, Derby)*

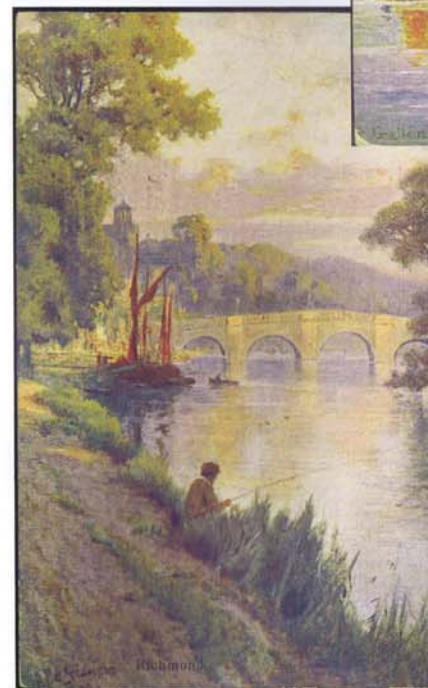
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*Figure 21: Twickenham on Thames**(published by Raphael Tuck & Sons, Oilette, used 1904)*

We now pass Isleworth and Petersham before reaching Twickenham, 11½ miles above London Bridge. This is the site of one of the oldest ferries on the river. (Fig 21) The curiously-



named Eel Pie Island is nearby (Fig 22), apparently the Island was a popular stopping-off place for day-trippers from London who refreshed themselves with eel pies! But we must keep on upstream to Richmond. (Fig 23) The graceful five-arched bridge was built in 1777, replacing a horse-ferry (i.e.



one capable of carrying horses and a carriage or cart). The bridge is still in use but was widened in 1937. The view from Richmond Hill has long been famous, and the subject of many paintings and photographs. (Fig 24)

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*Figure 22 (Above): Eel Pie Island**(published by S Hildesheimer & Co, Famous Thames Inns series, used 1909)**Figure 23 (Left): Richmond Bridge**(published by C W Faulkner & Co, postally used 1912)*

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Our next stop will be Teddington, the tidal limit of the Thames, about 92 miles or 147 km from its mouth. In the past the tide trickled on even further upstream to Staines, but it is now stopped by the Teddington Lock.(Fig 25)





90% *Figure 24: The view from Richmond Hill*

(LL - Louis Levy - photographer)

A favourite legend is that the name derives from "Tide-end-town", but etymologists disagree, believing it comes from the name 'Toding' or 'Tudda'. High water at Teddington Lock is 1 hour 25 minutes later than at London Bridge, 19½ miles downstream.

The Port of London Authority controls the Thames from the mouth to this point, and the Thames Conservancy had responsibility

for the 177 miles of river from Teddington to the source. In 1974 the Thames Conservancy was abolished and the Thames Water Authority became responsible until the National Rivers Authority took over in 1990, only to be swallowed up in yet another re-organisation in 1996. The Thames Region of the Environment Agency now manages all navigational and recreational matters on the non-tidal Thames as well as all environmental matters relating to the whole of the River Thames.



Teddington Bridge.

*Why did you not send me on a line and tell me how you are. I should like to know. With love from*



90% *Figure 25 (Above): Teddington Bridge*

(no publisher, postally used 1903)

*Figure 26 (Left): Teddington Bridge*

(published by Misch & Co., postally used 1907)

"What lies astern is new, commercial, measurably tinged with brine: it is urban and international. What waits ahead is old, pastoral, and without trace of salt water; it is rural and English." (J H B Peel, *Portrait of The Thames*, 1967).

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(To be continued)



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