

# *Capital Philately*

*Incorporating* PASTCARDS.

Published by The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.



90th Anniversary 1932 - 2022

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The Philatelic Society of  
Canberra

90th Anniversary

*Capital Philately*

40th Anniversary

Snapshot of PSC Souvenirs

Canberra Picture Postcard  
Collectors 1995-2022

Acton Federal Capital  
Postcard

Machins: The End of an Era  
*and more.*



Australasian Challenge  
Winning Team  
Canberra Stampshow 2004



## The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.

(Founded 1932)

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CANBERRA ACT 2601

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Further information on the Philatelic Society of Canberra may be found on our web page:

<http://www.canberrastamps.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/CanberraPhilatelic>

*Capital Philately* is published three times a year and supplied free to members of the Society.

Enquiries regarding membership are welcome and should be addressed to The Secretary:  
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Enquiries regarding subscription rates for *Capital Philately*, advertising rates, purchase of back issues etc. should be addressed to The Editor at Email: capital.philately@canberrastamps.org

Advertising rates are: full page \$45, half page \$25, quarter page \$15.

There is a 20% reduction on all rates for 3 consecutive issues.

Articles, letters and other contributions to *Capital Philately* should be sent to the Editor; either by mail to the Society address, or C/- The Editor at the above e-mail.

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ISSN 0729-8765

# CAPITAL PHILATELY

Volume 40, Number 3.

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## November 2022 – Editorial

This year, the 90th Anniversary of the PSC, has been a busy one for the Society starting with the Stampshow in March. The fact that the Society was the last to hold a physical Stampshow in Australia in 2020 and the first in 2022 to open up again was of great significance for the organisation. The latter was also the beginning for restoring other familiar activities such as face to face gatherings, auctions and market days. Also this year, new members have been offered the opportunity to attend workshops to assist with their collecting interests. I am also pleased to announce that the President of the Society, Ian McMahon, has been approved as a Life Member of the PSC in addition to his Australian Philatelic Order award of Fellow. Also during the year the Society's Constitution has been under review to fit in with more recent changes under the *Association Incorporation Act 1991*. You will hear more about this soon.

The 90th Anniversary coincides with the anniversaries of other famous landmarks – the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the ABC. This emphasises the longevity of the Society and we are reminded of its history in this issue. The event was celebrated with a lunch on 20 November, and the souvenir minisheet has been included in this journal for those of you who were not able to attend.

This year is also the 40th anniversary of Capital Philately. The first issue celebrated the Stampshow, while the July issue was honoured with a guest editorial by Frank Pauer, President of the Australian Philatelic Federation. This time the guest editor is the Society's President.

My time as Editor of 'CP' has now come to an end. I took on the role temporarily for 2022 in partnership with Jenni Creagh who has been the designer and publisher for the year. Jenni has been involved as editor and designer over the years and I would like to thank her for this year. The Society is still looking for someone else to take over these roles so if you have an interest, the Society would like to hear from you.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a wonderful festive season, happy holidays and a bright 2023.

**Gatherings – check the website for future events and activities of the Society.**

**JANUARY 2023**

- 5th - Meeting & Group Display: MEMBERS' NIGHT, bring items from your collection.  
10th (Tu) - Postcard Group: Bring & Buy (All Members)  
26th - Council meeting (ZOOM)

**FEBRUARY 2023**

- 2nd - Display: An Exploration of Australian 'Back to' Cinderella Labels and Covers  
-Vito Milana (Presentation by Zoom)  
9th - AUCTION (Room 8)  
14th (Tu) - Postcard Group: Arms & Armour - Elspeth Bodley  
16th - Exchange Night  
23rd - Council meeting (ZOOM)

**MARCH 2023**

- 2nd - Display: Ceylon -Alberic Rozario  
14th (Tu) - Postcard Group: Any Countries beginning with B - All Members  
16th - Exchange Night  
25th (Sat) - Swap Afternoon (2pm - 4pm)  
30th - Council meeting (ZOOM)

<http://www.canberrastamps.org>

**Wanted – Capital Philately Editorial Team**

**Editor, Publisher**

Capital Philately is the journal of the Philatelic Society of Canberra and part of the membership package. It is currently published three times per year. It is separate from the Society's Newsletter which may be inserted occasionally.

The journal is in its 40<sup>th</sup> year and to continue in its current format, needs an Editorial Team of volunteers to produce and distribute the journal starting 2023. At the end of 2021, CP was without an Editor. I took over the Editorship this year temporarily for the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Philatelic Society and the anniversary of the journal with the help of Jenni Creagh as graphic designer.

The Editor is responsible for sourcing articles relevant to the journal and editing as required as well as contributing articles when necessary; and ensuring envelopes are available. The publisher puts the journal together ready for printing, this could be combined with the Editor. An assistant would obtain addressed labels from the membership secretary, prepare journals for posting, and take them to post office.

If this interests you, please contact Marilyn Gendek, [capital.philately@canberrastamps.org](mailto:capital.philately@canberrastamps.org) or Ian McMahon, President, [president@canberrastamps.org](mailto:president@canberrastamps.org)

## Guest Editorial

Ian McMahon

Welcome to the last issue of Capital Philately for 2022, a very special year for the Philatelic Society of Canberra.

In the Saturday Canberra Times dated 5 November 1932, a notice appeared advising that *A meeting for the purpose of forming a Philatelic Society in Canberra will be held at Hotel Canberra on Wednesday evening next at 8 o'clock. A large number of stamp collectors are known to reside in Canberra and Queanbeyan, and all are asked to attend the meeting.* A reminder of the meeting appeared in the Canberra Times the following Wednesday (9 November) while a report of the meeting appeared on 12 November. The report read that *The Philatelic Society of Canberra was formed on Wednesday evening. The Hon. Archdale Parkhill was elected Patron, with Rev. H W Woodhouse president, Dr. C. Finlay and Prof. Haydon, vice-presidents, Messrs. H. C. Deane, E. H; Harvie, and J. Hopkinson, general committee, and Mr. J. W. Shakespeare secretary and treasurer. The meeting decided to hold monthly meetings on the third Tuesday in each month and fixed the next meeting for Tuesday, December 20, at Hotel Canberra when Mr. W. C Weale will display his collection of British Colonials and Balkan States. Further displays have been promised by members.*



Fig.1: Canberra Times Saturday 5 November 1932, page 3

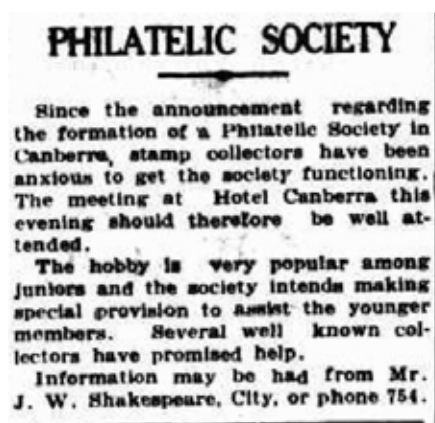


Fig.2 (Left): Canberra Times Wednesday 9 November 1932, page 4

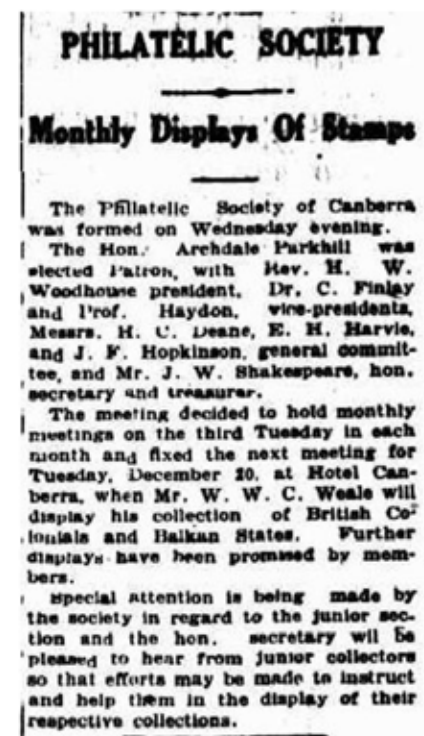


Fig.3 (Right): Canberra Times Saturday 12 November 1932, page 3

This year therefore marks the 90th Anniversary of the Philatelic Society of Canberra and this issue of *Capital Philately* commemorates the occasion. The Society has already marked the occasion with a commemorative postmarker, cover and Mystamps produced in conjunction with Canberra Stampshow 2022 and will also mark the occasion with a lunch and commemorative souvenir in November 2022.

*Capital Philately* is an appropriate vehicle to commemorate the Society's achievement as it commenced in 1982, in the year of the 50th anniversary of the Society. The first editor was Alan Salisbury MAP who was nationally well-known for his column "Commonwealth Corner:" in *Stamp News*. In his first editorial Alan wrote

*The Fiftieth Anniversary of the foundation of the Society in November 1932 seemed to be a propitious event which might well justify a commencement of publication, so here is what the Council presents to its members. The Society's president at the time, Elspeth Bodley, wrote This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Society's founding, and the launching of our Journal is an important milestone and a mark of our "coming of age. Philately is sometimes spoken of as a "selfish" hobby and certainly it is one which allows everyone to follow his or her own particular interests and methods of writing up and displaying stamps. But at the same time, members of our Society know how much pleasure there*

is in sharing their interests, and the Society's many activities provide opportunities for acquiring both stamps and knowledge. This Journal now provides another opportunity and becomes a forum in which we can share our interests and knowledge with all members of The Philatelic Society of Canberra and with philatelists and collectors outside the national capital. "Capital Philately" has been launched with the same faith in the future as that shown by the few people who called a meeting to form the Society in November 1932, when the world outlook was perhaps even gloomier than it is today.

Time passes and 2022 marks 40 years of Capital Philately. Past issues of Capital Philately (other than recent years) are available on the Society's website <https://canberrastamps.org/capital-philately/> (a medium in 1982 known only to a select group of scientific researchers) along with indices to the first 20 volumes.

During its 90 years the Society has been one of the most active Societies in Australia and has been responsible for many innovations.

Fig.4: Souvenir from the Canberra Philatelic Exhibition held at the Albert Hall in 1963.

Fig.5 (Far Right): Canberra Times 23/11/1963.



The Society's first exhibition was a non-competitive exhibition held in 1963 at the Albert Hall. However, the Society in 1980 began a series of philatelic exhibitions which have continued every two years to date. The exhibitions have included two full national exhibitions (Austamp 90 and Natstamp 98) along with specialised and part-national exhibitions. Amongst the innovations at the exhibitions there has been the Australasian Challenge, a competitive challenge between the Australian states and the ACT and the two islands of New Zealand which was the brainchild of Dr Ed Druce FAP, a noted Canberra Philatelist who was an international judge, and a keen supporter of social philately, frugal philately and postal history. The Challenge continues to this day with the most recent Challenge being held in Wellington, New Zealand in November 2022 with a full ACT team competing (results on page 5). The trophy the teams compete for is known as the Ed Druce Memorial Trophy. Ed Druce along with Bernie Beston also promoted a French Challenge which gave us displays of French Colonial material, New Caledonian dancers and an unusual awards dinner. The Canberra shows have been well received by the

Australian philatelic community resulting in Canberra 2022 being held in March against all the odds as the restrictions due to the pandemic being lifted.

The Society's achievements over 90 years have been the result of the contributions and hard work

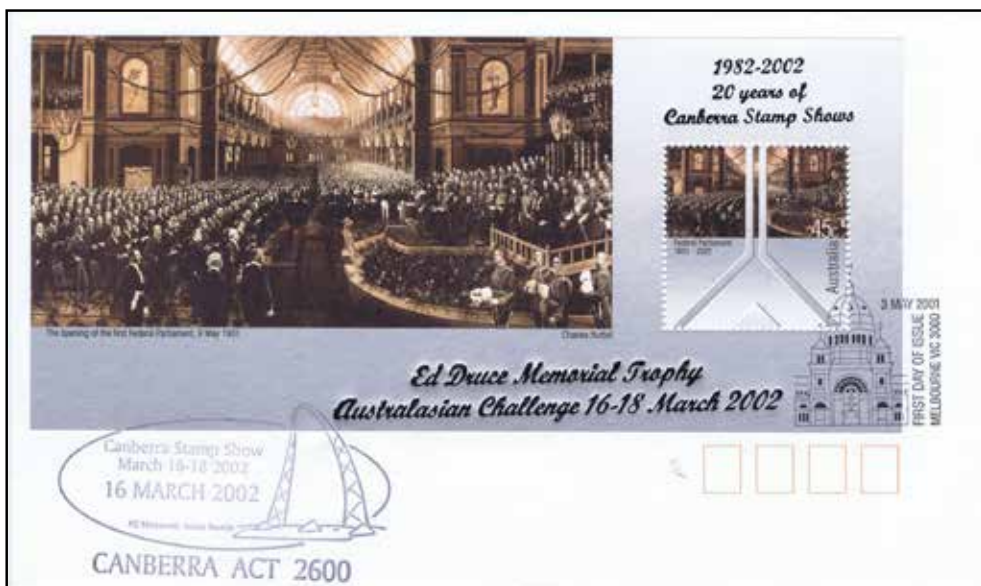


Fig.6: Cover with special overprinted Miniature Sheet from the inaugural Australasian Challenge for the Ed Druce Memorial Trophy, March 2002

Saturday, November 23, 1963

The Canberra Times

Page 21

Saturday Features

# Stories Of The Stamp Forgers

By Marjorie Belesiss

A 24-hour police guard is keeping watch over a priceless collection of oddities during the Philatelic Exhibition this weekend.

Hemley, Jackson and Elderfield, who pleaded guilty, were charged with fraud. Jackson and Elderfield, who pleaded guilty, were imprisoned for 12 months; Hemley was acquitted.

The stamps, which then were regarded as worthless forgeries by the postal authorities, have now become valuable items on the collector's market.

The King George V forgery is worth about £10, and the Harbour Bridge, is more highly priced at £20-£30.

Another forgery, that of the second Victorian stamp, is on show at the exhibition.

The stamp, known as Queen on Throne, features a full length portrait of Queen Victoria, and was on sale in Victoria from 1852-54.

Stamp forgeries, according to the president of the Canberra Philatelic Society, Mr. R. Hyeronimus, are divided into several groups.

**Genuine**

The first, the genuine group, is usually composed of stamps which have been forged in order to defraud the postal authorities, and are of considerable value as collector's items.

The second group comprises stamps which have been forged with a view to defrauding collectors.

These items do not have the same of the first group and scrupulous collectors refrain from adding them to their collections unless they are clearly marked as imitations.

The third group is an offshoot of the second, and is known generally as forged forgeries, which mean, roughly what it implies.

Forgeries exhibited at the Albert Hall being strictly to the first group, and are known to the Australian stamps.

Portion of the Australian G.P.O. archives collection on show at the exhibition includes a sheet of 20 King George V forgeries.

**Colourful**

The story behind this forgery is particularly colourful.

In 1931, two Sydney men, Hemley and Jackson, set up a sub-agency for the Irish Free State Lottery.

They answered letters at Hemley's house, and Jackson posted the outward letters containing receipts and results of the lotteries.

Unknown to Hemley, Jackson conceived the idea of saving postage, and approached a process engineer called Elderfield, a man of previously good character.

The resulting forgeries were of the 2d King George V and 2d Harbour Bridge issues.

Jackson was arrested at the Sydney G.P.O. in April, 1932, and was found to be carrying letters franked with lotteries.

Interrogation revealed that Elderfield had been paid £1 per thousand for making the stamps.

**Imprisoned**

A total of 1,200 sheets of forged stamps were found, those of 30 and 45, and the Bridge in sheets of 50.



Two stamps issued by Queensland during the Boer War to support the patriotic fund.



A design for a commemorative stamp which was not issued.



Part of a sheet of 2d. forgeries on show at the exhibition.



The attractive Birds of Israel airmail issue on display.



The first letter to be franked at the special post office at the Albert Hall.



The attractive Birds of Israel airmail issue on display.

great concern to the authorities.

Their circulation was the result of a Printing Office theft by an employee.

The sheets of stamps had been run off the printing machine as trials before the genuine article, and had been discarded as printers' waste.

The employee, however, with a view to defrauding the authorities, collected them and proceeded to use them on mail.

The stamps were characterised by such qualities as unperforated edges, unwatermarked paper, and paper of slightly different colour to the authentic item.

**Unorthodox**

As well as genuine forgeries, a stamp which has received unorthodox treatment and has passed through the mail undetected is often highly prized by philatelists.

An example of this was the 1d stamp of Lord Howe Island.

When the postal rates rose from 1d to 2d on the island in 1930, the postmaster found himself without a supply of the 2d stamps.

He solved his problem by selling the old 1d stamps for 2d, and indicated the fact by writing 2d paid over the stamp.

All stamps that are worth their salt have a story to tell, and it is the digging out of this story that occupies much of the philatelist's time, says Mr. Hyeronimus.

The hobby offers an almost limitless scope of activity.

Perhaps the cheapest field of philately is thematic collecting—the building up of stamps displaying a common theme, of, say, flowers, birds or animals.

While pretty, these collections are usually regarded disdainfully by the more scholarly philatelists as requiring little brainwork.

One of the latest trends in philately is postal history.

In this field, the philatelist selects an area and proceeds to collect postmarks, stamps and any other material which might have a historical bearing on the development of the area.

Calling for a considerable amount of patience and skill, this type of amateur detective work is increasing in popularity.

Postmarks to be sought out by postal historians would include such examples as "Ainslie, N.S.W."

Another item of historical importance is Australia's first commemorative stamp celebrating the opening of Parliament in Canberra in 1927.

This stamp, along with the 1963 issue commemorating Canberra's Golden Jubilee, is on display at the exhibition.

The high price set by philatelists is indicated by the 400 stamps displayed by the London Post Office.

The stamps, which were brought to Canberra for the exhibition by a special courier, are so valuable that they cannot be insured.

The stamps are contained in four sheets which are the registration sheets of 1860 Western Australian stamps.

Israel has contributed eight panels of stamps, each dealing with different aspects of the country's life and history.

Among the themes of the panels are the rebirth of the nation, fauna and flora, development and science, and the Bible and antiquities.

## 2022 Australasian Challenge

The Australasian Challenge was held in conjunction the WPS100 Stamp Show in November. This was a New Zealand National Exhibition run by the Wellington Philatelic Society to celebrate the centenary of their founding in 1922.

The anniversary cake was cut at the Palmers by long standing members.

Exhibitors all received a medal of the same design and colour of the logo (and cake) in place of the traditional colours of different award levels.



### 2022 ACT Entrants and Australasian Challenge team

Christopher Smith	Postal History 2c	Pitcairn Island - Philately supporting the community	72
Alberic Rozario	Traditional	George V Imperium Keyplate issues of Ceylon	71
Lyn Hayes	Traditional	King George V One Penny Green 1924-1937	81
Paul Barsdell	Postal History	Indo-China Postal History	81
David Ingle Smith	Postal Stationery	The Postal Stationery of Jamaica	90
Richard Gurevitch	Aerophilately	Haiti Airmail 1923-1946	88

of many people, far too many to mention all of them here. They range from the 'quiet workers' such as Bernard van der Meer (the circulation of exchange books) and Bernard Murtaugh (Stamps for the Guide Dogs which has been continued by John Davis), to people who have made our Stampshows a success such as Darryl Fuller MAP, Judy Kennett, Dingle Smith FAP (Balloon Mail and other cinderellas, research, exhibiting and an international judge), Elspeth Bodley, Paul Barsdell and many others, to those who have run the Postcard Group and edited Pastcards (Chris Puttock, Elspeth Bodley and Graeme Broxam), maintained the Exchange Branch (currently Tim Cowley and John Davis but also Hans Karman who produced the exchange branch software and Meera Rajendran), our long serving Sales Coordinator (Bruce Parker), previous editors of Capital Philately such as Jenni Creagh, Darryl Fuller, Andrew Alwast and Paul Barsdell, coordinators of our Junior Clubs such as Jenni Creagh and the many people who have been on the Society's Committee with John Vassallo and Tony Luckhurst being particularly long serving members.

The Society thanks them as well the very many other members of the Society who have made the Society one of the most active philatelic societies in Australia.



*The souvenir chosen for the 90th Anniversary of the PSC highlights the role of the ACT's Hall Village as the proud home of the National Sheep Dog Trial Championships. The 2023 Championships will mark the 80th anniversary of the event being held at Hall in the 150 years or so farmers and others have been lining up to prove that their dog is the best in the district. One of the prizes for the winner of the National Open Champion is the Duke of Gloucester Sash, presented to the National Sheep Dog Trial Association in 1945 by Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester during his tenure as Governor General of Australia from 1944 to 1947.*

There is no doubt that the Society faces many challenges in the years to come. Our hobby is in the process of transforming from a mass hobby in which most children participated at some time in their life and many continued (or returned to) later in life, to an adult specialised hobby and the society will have to adapt to that change. We have in recent years developed a website and a limited social media presence, and on-line purchasing has become the predominate source of material for our collections. However, the personal contact and the ability to sort through material in person continue to be important in our hobby.

My thanks and congratulations to Marilyn Gendek as editor of this issue of Capital Philately and for arranging our 90th Anniversary celebrations.



## Letter to the Editor: West Goulburn Postmark - Response

**Tony Curtis**

*Ref: At the end of his article published in Capital Philately 40(2):12, July 2022, Gary Croker requested "If anybody has a postmark from Goulburn West between 1947 and 1955, I would like to know which type it was. That would help tie down use dates for this relief marker."*

Bob Tobin (Hopson & Tobin) writing in the June 2001 edition of the ACCC Bulletin, Article No. 3115 – POSTMARKS OF NSW (Chapter Two – RELIEF DATE-STAMPS) identified the NSW cut-down relief GA as been seen in the 1940's/50's and as having been derived from the redundant RAAF P.O. WAGGA WAGGA N.S.W-AUST date-stamp. This entailed removal of all the name letters except for GA in the first WAGGA of the name, WAGGA WAGGA.

New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory RELIEFS – Tim Cowley and Richard Peck 2015, records the date-stamp being used at WEST GOULBURN 17 May 1948. This would suggest that there was probably a very lengthy delay in providing the post office with its new date-stamp. It was not uncommon for relief date-stamps to be used for such purposes. Whilst I have examples of each of the date-stamps I don't have any from the period you are seeking examples.



### **Australia's premier FREE Philatelic event** incorporating coins and other collectables

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**PERTH 2023** website: [www.perth2023stampshow.com](http://www.perth2023stampshow.com)

**Deadline for Entry Applications 28 July 2023**

Contact, Glen Stafford: [stafford@southwest.com](mailto:stafford@southwest.com)

## 90th Anniversary of The Philatelic Society of Canberra

The Philatelic Society of Canberra was established on 9 November 1932 at a meeting held at the Hotel Canberra, now the Canberra Hyatt.

### The Society's First Year

On the evening of the ninth of November 1932, eleven men and women met at the Hotel Canberra. The meeting appointed Mr Shakespeare as chairman. Dr C Finlay moved a motion calling for the formation of a Philatelic Society which was seconded by Professor J Haydon. With the carriage of this motion the Philatelic Society of Canberra came into being. Those present were: Dr C Finlay, Rev. H W Woodhouse, Prof J F Haydon, E.H. Harvie, H Chapman, H C Deane, J F Hopkinson, W C Weale, J W Shakespeare, Mrs F Finlay and Miss E Rowe. In addition seven people sent apologies. These eighteen people (Table 1) then became the foundation members of the Philatelic Society of Canberra.

The meeting went on to elect a patron (Hon Archdale Parkhill, the Postmaster-General) and the first committee. The first president was H Woodhouse, the first vice-presidents were Professor Haydon and Mr Finlay while the first Secretary/Treasurer/Exchange Superintendent was Mr Shakespeare. (How did one person ever handle all of this?) Messrs Kendall and Weale were appointed the first auditors. Other members of the first committee were Messrs Deane, Hopkinson and Harvie.

<b>Table 1</b>	<b>Foundation Members of the Philatelic Society of Canberra (based on Salisbury 1992)</b>
Dr C Finlay	Medical practitioner, Kingston
Rev. H W Woodhouse	Minister, Methodist Church Forrest
Prof J F Haydon	Professor of Modern Languages, Canberra University College (the Haydon-Allen Building and the Haydon-Allen Tank are named after him).
E H Harvie	Dentist, Kingston
H Chapman	
H C Deane	Solicitor Queanbeyan
J F Hopkinson	Storeman, Causeway
W C Weale	Public servant, Barton
J W Shakespeare	Canberra Times
F Finlay	From Braddon
E Rowe	Nurse, Canberra Community College
Hon. A E Green	MHR for Kalgoorlie, PMG 1931
Hon J A Perkins	MHR for Eden-Monaro
L H Kendall	First Society auditor
C Brinkman	From Griffith
Dr J A James	Medical practitioner (the John James Hospital was named after him)
H B Dickson	Solicitor
Rev Dr J Walker.	Presbyterian minister

The subscriptions for the Society were set at 5/- for ordinary members, 3/6 for associate members and 1/- for junior members with a 2/6 application fee. The society's first constitution was also presented to the meeting. The stated aims of the society were:

- the cultivation, study and advancement of Philately in all its branches
- to hold meetings for exchanging information, reading papers, delivering lectures on Philately and for discussion thereon.
- to provide a medium for the exchange and/or sale of stamps
- to transact other business as may promote or facilitate the study of philately

Other business conducted at the first meeting of the society included the exchange superintendent being asked to make up the first exchange book and the members present being asked to indicate their collecting interests - seven gave their area of collecting as 'General' (although Mr Weale collected 'General and Balkan States') while the remainder collected British Empire (Professor Haydon also collected post-war Europe). The meeting concluded by deciding that future meetings should be held on the third Tuesday of each month.

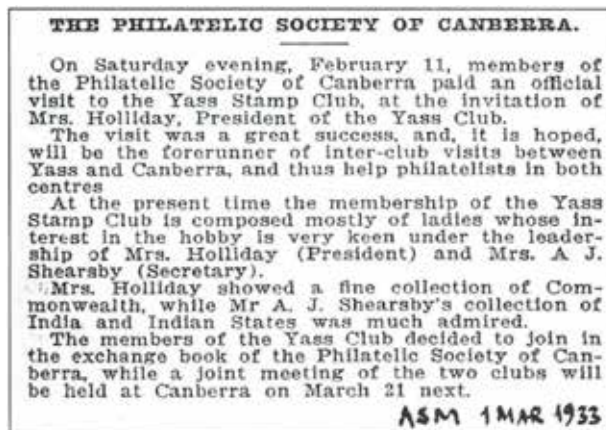
The second meeting of the society was held at the Hotel Canberra on 20 December 1932. Nine members attended. Three new members were accepted (Messrs Kendall, Rosenbloom and Oxbarrow). The Hon A Parkhill had indicated his acceptance of the position of patron and had enclosed a donation of one guinea. At this meeting the secretary was requested to write a letter to Mr Parkhill requesting that Philatelic Bureau be set up in each capital city.

At the Society's third meeting (which was held at the residence of Mr E Harvie at Kingston on 21 January 1933), members present were treated to a display by Messrs Shakespeare and Weale and were also informed of a invitation from the Yass Stamp Club for Canberra members to visit one of their meetings. No meeting was held in February 1933 through the lack of a quorum although a number of Canberra members did visit the Yass Stamp Club in that month. The next meeting then was held in March at the Central Methodist Church Hall at Forest. Mr Walker displayed his collection of West Indies and the Pacific. In correspondence a letter had been received from the Postmaster-General's Department saying that the Department would not consider opening philatelic bureaus in capital cities as this would be in direct competition with stamp dealers. Six visitors from the Yass Stamp Club were present including the President Mrs Holliday. Mr Shearsby from the Yass club showed one of the designs he had submitted to the PMG Department for the 1927 Canberra issue and a design he had prepared for the new pictorial issue. Mr Woodhouse suggested that the latter design, featuring a "native", be sent to the Society's patron with a request that it be considered for inclusion in the new pictorial issue.

At the June meeting of the Society the Exchange Superintendent complained that members had not been circulating the exchange book properly (- have things really changed?) and he advised that the second exchange book was in preparation. At the July meeting, which was held at the Methodist Hall Reid, Mr Woodhouse spoke on 'The History of Stamp Collecting'. This talk was written up the next day in the Canberra Times. Also at this meeting members present decided that future meetings would be held on the second Wednesday of the month. At the October meeting the exchange superintendent reported that he had broken up the first exchange book. The book had a value of £8/9/5, sales were £4/8/7 (almost 50%!) and there was a net profit to the society of 8/8.

He also reported that the second book was being circulated. Dr Walker displayed his collection of New Zealand and Samoa.

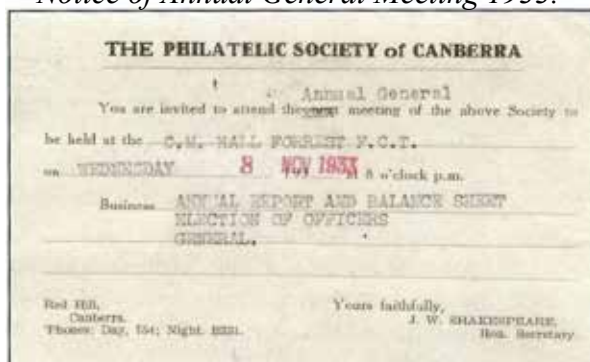
The first annual general meeting of the Society was held on 8 November 1933. The annual report showed a surplus for the year of £1/7/7 and that the Society now had 25 members. The report also suggested that attempts be made to encourage juniors to the society. Members were also requested to adhere to the two day rule in passing on the exchange books. The report noted that there had to date been no meetings of the committee during the year but it was hoped that these should start shortly. The meeting elected Professor Haydon, from the Canberra University College (now part of the ANU), as the new president, Rev Woodhouse and Rev Walker as Vice-Presidents and Messrs Finlay, Deane and Harvie as committee members. Mr Shakespeare remained as Secretary/Treasurer/Exchange Superintendent. Mr Shakespeare worked at the Canberra Times and was a stalwart of the Society for many years.



*Early report of a Society meeting in Australian Stamp Monthly.*



*Notice of Annual General Meeting 1933.*



## The 1930s and 40s

The Society continued to meet regularly until 1939. In 1934 meetings continued to be held at the Methodist Hall at Forrest as most members lived on the south-side with an occasional meeting at the Canberra Times building. However, by 1938 most meetings were being held at member's homes. Meetings were originally on the third Tuesday of the month but were later changed to the second Wednesday. Reciprocal visits with the Yass and Goulburn Clubs were a feature of the Society's meetings during this period. Goulburn and Cooma stamp clubs formed in 1935. By the 1936 AGM, membership stood at 12 adults and 4 juniors.

Meetings generally comprised Society business followed by a display. At the 1936 AGM, the notion of a 'Syllabus' for the forthcoming year was introduced. Displays concentrated on Australia and British Commonwealth material. Mr J Halligan of the Postmaster General's Department gave a talk on the First Official New Guinea-Australia Air Mail at the October meeting. The 1938 Syllabus lists 'displays' including: 5 minute papers; Papua New Guinea, Nauru, British Solomon Islands; other Pacific Islands; Airmails; Juniors Competition; Adult Competition, British Colonies, Visit to Yass. An 'exchange' session was held after the Display.

Generally one exchange book was circulated each year, with constant pleas for more material. In 1935 the exchange book was lost with members being compensated with duplicates provided by another of the Society's members. In 1936 the Society formed the 'Southern Tablelands Exchange Club' in conjunction with the Goulburn Stamp Club.

The first notions of a 'library' began with the Society subscribing to the UK magazine *Stamp Collecting* in 1934 and to *Stanley Gibbons Monthly* in 1935 and purchasing a copy of Stanley Phillip's book *Stamp Collecting* in 1936.

Throughout this period, considerable emphasis was placed on younger members, with special efforts made to recruit and train juniors. In 1937 there was a junior competition, A Philatelic Alphabet, which was won by Master Ray Hollins.

For 1939 a full syllabus was proposed but it seems likely that it was not followed through due to the war. As a result of the war, the Society met only sporadically with a meeting in April 1941 electing Mrs Holliday as President, the Society's first female president. Meetings were held in members' homes. It was not until May 1946, however, that the Society was again put on a more regular footing.



*Christmas Card envelope produced by the Society in 1946*

*(same design as blank FDCs).*

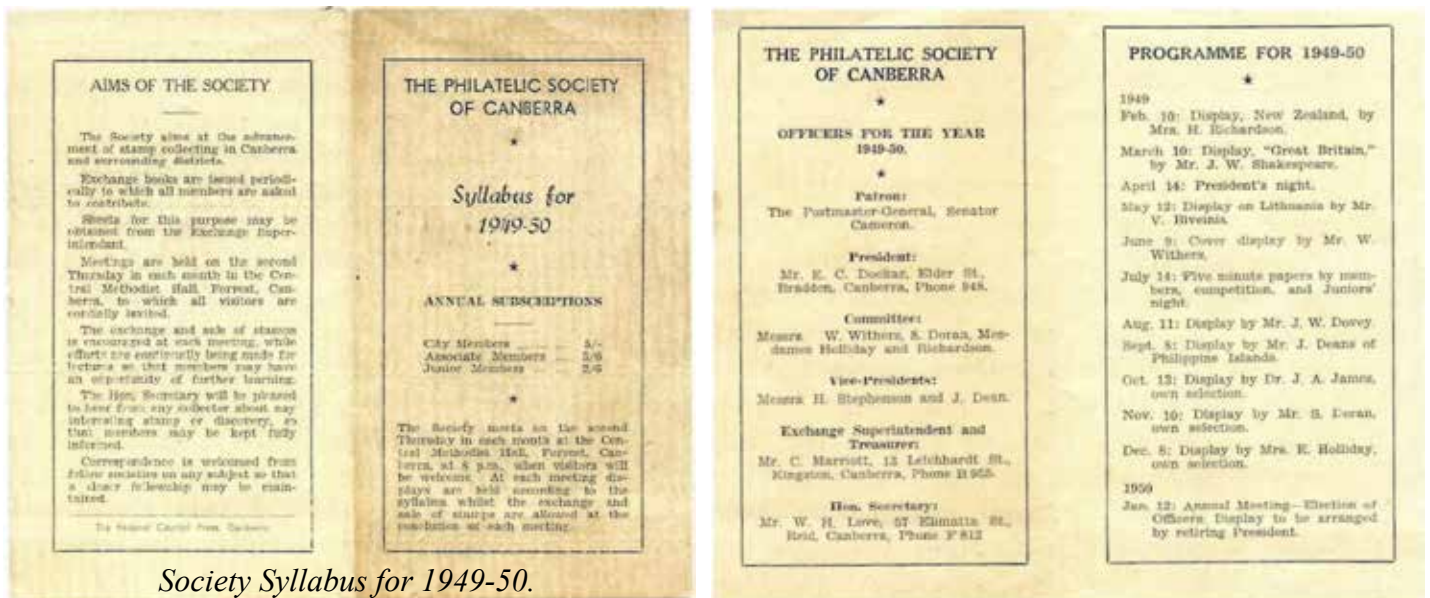
*Details of Christmas Card.*



*Farrer issue FDC requested by the Queanbeyan Chamber of Commerce.*

The Society was reasonably active during the period 1946 until 1949 with meetings held in members' homes or the Methodist Hall on the third Thursday of the month. Visits were made to Yass and attempts made to revive the exchange circuit. By the January 1948 AGM, the Society had 29 members and 4 juniors and a number of books had been purchased for the 'Library'. One initiative during this period was the production of blank first day covers with the Canberra coat-of-arms for use by members in 1946. In the same year the Society produced Christmas cards for members' use receiving £1/4/- from their sale. This was repeated in 1947.

In 1948 the Society agreed to a request from the Queanbeyan Chamber of Commerce and the West Queanbeyan Progress Association for the production of a FDC to be used with the William Farrer commemorative stamp, which was issued on 12 July 1948. The Society sold 3,000 serviced FDCs as well as many unserviced covers. The 1949-50 program provided details of meeting displays including New Zealand, Great Britain, President's night, Lithuania, Cover display, and Philippines as well as two displays which were the displayer's 'own selection'.



*Society Syllabus for 1949-50.*

## 1950s

The 1950s did not start well for the Society with meetings again becoming irregular. By 1952 meetings began to be held in the YMCA building in Civic. At the October meeting, Dr John James showed his exhibit of Kangaroos.

In October 1956 a special meeting was held to set the Society on a more secure footing with J W Shakespeare being elected President. This meeting succeeded in providing a sound basis for the Society's future with the Society meeting regularly ever since. The October 1956 meeting was held at the Phillips Building in Civic. The meeting decided that in future the Society's year would begin on 1st October. 19 members attended including Fiori Rinaldi and Bernard van der Meer. During 1957



*November 1956 meeting of the Society - who do you recognise?  
(A very young Tom Frommer - middle of the back row.)*

meetings were held at the Manchester Unity Rooms before settling on the YWCA where meetings were held until the move to the Griffin Centre. (The 1959 Annual Report thanked the YWCA for the 'log fires'). The 1958 syllabus included Bill Shakespeare's Great Britain, Doug Ross's Great Britain, Cliff De Goede's German States, and Dr James' British Commonwealth, discussions on collecting and writing up, a display from PSNSW, and participation in the Annual Hobbies Exhibition in Albert Hall. Two exchange books were circulated in 1958.

## 1960s, 70s and 80s

In contrast to the first thirty years of the Society when the venue for meetings changed regularly, during the second thirty years the Society became more 'settled'. In 1966 the Society commenced holding meetings at the Griffin Centre and has continued to do so ever since establishing a clubroom at the Centre, (initially on the Volume 40, No. 3.

ground floor, moving in 1982 to the first floor). The Clubroom has enabled the Society to house and expand its library while the Griffin Centre became the focal point for the Society and its activities. The Society had created the post of Librarian in 1961 with the first holder of the post being Mr A Haldane. Other Librarians have included Frank Martin, Bill Baskerville, Steve Wilson, Ralph Lawton, Derek Brennan, Ian Faber and Ian McMahon.

The late 1960s and early 1970s were a period of consolidation for the Society. In 1966 the Society had almost seventy members and the annual subscription was £1 for adults and five shillings for juniors becoming \$2 and 50c respectively on the change to decimal currency. This remained unchanged until the inflation prone days of the late 1970s when it rose to \$5 for adults and \$2 for juniors. The pattern of formal meetings of the Society was very similar to that of the present. Among the well known visitors to give displays at these meetings were Colonel F Thompson (Cook Islands), Peter Jaffe (St Vincent), H Chisholm (Historic Air Mails) and J Gartner (Western Australia). In 1969 the Society experimented with holding an informal meeting in addition to the display nights. These meetings proved a success and have continued ever since. Over the years other types of meetings have been introduced including discussion nights, auction nights and afternoon meetings.



*The Society's display frames were a little different back then.*

Ron Hyeronimus took over as President of the Society in 1958 for two years, returning for a second term in 1962 with Laurie Higginson serving as President over the period 1960-62. Ron had a very distinguished philatelic career being a leading expert on Australian Postage Dues and a life member of the Society. His research into Australian postage dues culminated in the publication of his book 'The Postage Due Stamps 1902-1963'. Under his leadership the Society held its first exhibition in 1963 at the Albert Hall (*see image page 5*) which is described in Alan Salisbury's article in the Exhibition Catalogue of the 7th National Philatelic Convention. Alan Salisbury will also be remembered by many current members of the Society. He had a very distinguished philatelic career and became known to all Australian collectors through his columns in 'Stamp News'. Alan has served the Society in many positions since 1959 including President (1964-66, 1967-69, 1971-73) and Treasurer (1974-81), was a life member of the Society and a Member of the Australian Philatelic Order. Cliff de Goede was President in 1966-67. He was well known for his collections of the Netherlands and colonies and Queensland. Aubrey Simmons was President over the period 1969 to 1971. In his obituary in *Capital Philately* it was noted that 'He was an expert Philatelist of the old school, with a knowledge of every aspect of the hobby which was quite phenomenal'. His collecting interests included British postal history.

Since 1973 the Society has had many presidents each of whom has served about two years as the Society had an unwritten convention limiting the terms of presidents to that period. The Presidents would be well known to most members of the Society: Derek Brennan, Steve Wilson, Brian Darke, Ed Druce, Elspeth Bodley, Dingle Smith, Paul Barsdell, Peter Wood, Judy Kennett, Ian McMahon, Richard Gurevitch, Albert Farrugia, Robert Gregson, Paul Barsdell and Darryl Fuller. Steve Wilson was particularly noted for his interest in thematic collecting and his comprehensive collection of bird stamps while Brian Darke was a keen postal stationery collector and author of a catalogue of Australian postal stationery.

While Presidents have come and gone, the other major office bearers have tended to serve for much longer periods. Ron Hyeronimus served as Secretary from 1967 until Ian Hay took over in 1977. When he left Canberra for Manila in 1978 Trish Hyland became Secretary. She was followed in 1981 by Bruce Parker who served for many years until replaced by Peter Oldham. Two long serving Treasurers were Paul Magi (1967 to 1974), and Alan Salisbury (1974 to 1981). Exchange Superintendents have been particularly long serving with Doug Ross holding the position from 1959 until 1972. Doug Ross will be remembered by many members. He was responsible for designing quizzes which challenged even the most knowledgeable of our members. When Ian McMahon joined the Society in 1978, Don Gray was exchange superintendent and Ian remembers receiving

his first book from him. Don was followed by Phil Saxby and in 1981 by Hans Karman, then by Karl Mueller and Meera Rajendran. Hans, Karl and Meera were ably assisted by Bernard van der Meer. As the Society grew, the number of office bearers increased to lighten the workload with positions of Assistant Secretary and Clubroom Manager being created. These positions have often served to introduce new members to Council.



*Judges from the 1982 convention including Derek Brennan, Ed Druce and Alan Salisbury with Ian Sinclair the Minister for Communication at left.*

The late 1970s and the early 1980s were exciting times for the Society and history will most likely record this period as the Society's heyday. During this time the Society's membership reached over 270, average attendance at meetings was 40-50, the Society won the 'Stamp News' most active society competition on no less than four occasions and was runner up on two others, the Society celebrated its 50th anniversary and commenced holding its national conventions and publishing Capital Philately. This was also the time when stamp collecting was booming with many investors entering the market who had not previously been involved in stamp collecting.

*I joined the Society in 1978 and can remember the vitality of the meetings, the competition for lots, especially Australian material, at the auction run by Ray Sullivan. One highlight for me early on in my membership was a visit to the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank in their old premises in Melbourne in October 1979. Members of the Society were treated to a tour of the stamp printing facilities and to the sight of sheets of \$50 dollar notes. - Ian McMahon*

Notable visitors to the Society during this period were Colonel F Thompson and the Philatelic Society of New South Wales in 1977, P Collas in 1980 (POW mail from the second world war) and John White (Queensland).



*The Society was very active in the late 1970s and early 1980s.*

The Society first won the 'Stamp News' Most Active Society Award in 1975 with the Oxley Club from Brisbane coming second. 'Stamp News' said that 'Canberra probably won the trophy for a slightly wider spread of activities and for the unusual school of philately.'. The Society was also very active in promoting philately with Post Office and school displays. The School of Philately which the Society organised on a number of occasions involved a series of lectures on topics such as mounting and displaying a collection, printing processes and the techniques of collecting. It won the award again in 1977, 1983 and 1984 and was runner-up in 1982 and 1985. The late 1970s and early 1980s also saw the staging of National Stamp Week usually in October of each year. The Society participated actively in these events holding public displays and on one occasion producing a souvenir sheet.

The Society held its first Convention in 1980 and has held them every two years since. Initially these were termed 'National Philatelic Conventions' but the advertised title has changed to Canberra Stampshow and, in small print, the National Philatelic Convention. Except for the First Convention, all later Shows were held during Canberra Week and many included the Canberra Day Public Holiday. On all occasions Australia Post has produced illustrated commemorative postmarkers.

The 50th anniversary of the Society was in 1982 and was celebrated with an anniversary dinner and by the Society presenting each of its members with a small stockbook engraved with the Canberra coat of arms and the name of the Society. The anniversary also saw the first issue of *Capital Philately* with Alan Salisbury as the founding editor. After Alan, the editorship passed to Ed Druce and then Dingle Smith. The first issue included articles by Alan Tippett ('Kadavu - Fijian Port of Entry'), Ed Druce ('Stamps of Ireland'), Alan Salisbury ('5/- Harbour Bridge') and the popular 'Phil Litt' ('Reading about Stamps'). While a copy of a Society newsletter exists from the very earliest days, the newsletter was revived in 1978 by Steve Wilson and Elspeth Bodley and has been produced ever since. In 1988 it was awarded first prize in the Newsletter class of the 'Stamp News' 1987-88 Journal competition.



*Dingle Smith, Darryl Fuller and Matthew Baas-Becking in the Studio at the old Griffin Centre at a display night. [Not a Convention at Dickson College as previously published.]*

No mention of this period of the Society's history would be complete without a mention of Alan Tippett. Alan was a life member of the Society and a very knowledgeable philatelist whose main interests were Fiji and postal history. He had a very personal touch to his displays which added considerably to their interest. Before coming to Canberra he had been a Methodist missionary in Fiji and a professor of anthropology. At Sydrex 88 he won the Grand Prix International for his Fiji and a Vermeil for his book 'Dynamic Roots of Postal History'.



*Elspeth Bodley in the Clubroom at the old Griffin Centre.*

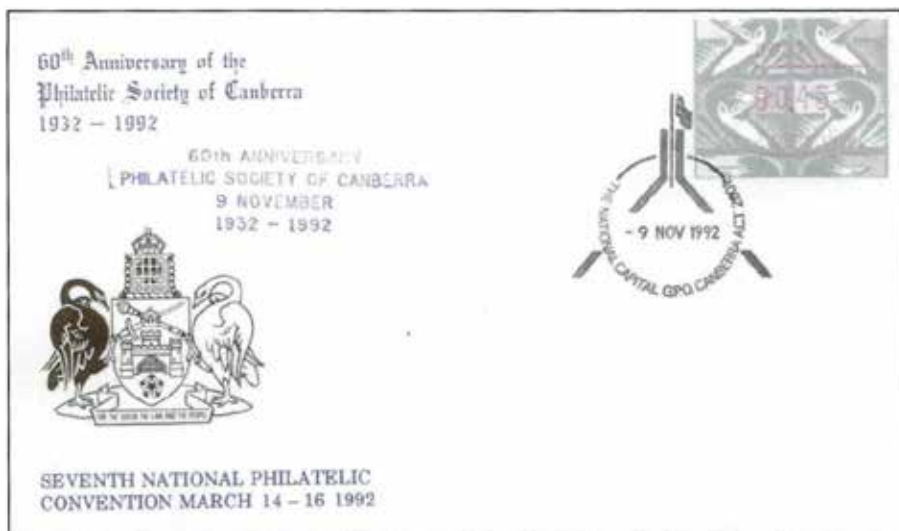
After the boom period of the early 1980s, the Society consolidated in the late 1980s. By 1985 the Society was smaller, had a new clubroom and auctions only at the third meeting of the month; which have since been replaced by three or four auction nights during the year. Members were no longer as interested in decimal Australian stamps whose value had dropped rapidly after the investors left the market in the early 1980s. One major change in the late 1980s was the

incorporation of the Society on 25 May 1988. The innovations of the 1970s and 1980s including the Journal, the newsletter, the library and the Conventions have continued as valuable services to our members and philately in Canberra.

## 1990s

The 60th anniversary of the Society in 1992 was marked by a cocktail night at the Hyatt Canberra (the former Hotel Canberra where the first meeting of the Society had occurred) and by an evening of memorabilia.

The 1990s saw the Society experiment with a branch in Tuggeranong, conduct junior meetings (in Tuggeranong run by Mathew Bass-Becking and at the Griffin Centre continuing the



*Souvenir Envelope from the 60th anniversary in 1992.*



## Stamp group turns 60

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Philatelic Society of Canberra, which first met on the evening of November 9, 1932, at the Hotel Canberra, now the Hyatt Hotel.

Arrangements have been made to hold a special get-together of past and present members of the society at the Hyatt Hotel on Monday, November 9.

Subscriptions in 1932 were set at 5/- for ordinary members, 3/6 for associate members, and 1/- for junior members with a 2/6 application fee.

Meetings were held on a regular basis, and apart from a dormant period during

the latter part of the Second World War, the society has remained active.

The society's first 60 years has seen it grow from a small group of enthusiasts to one of the largest and strongest societies in Australia.

A number of events are planned to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the society including a special issue of its journal *Capital Philately* in November, and a historic display at a meeting late in 1992.

Those wishing to attend the function contact Judy Kennett on 251 6997 AH.

*Article on the 60th anniversary in Stamp News.*

work of Allan Wells and Elspeth Bodley), commence a monthly stamp fair, establish a picture postcard branch (commenced by Chris Puttock and now ably chaired by Elspeth Bodley), commence focus group meetings and establish a Machin study group. The Postcard Branch and the Machin Study Group both commenced publishing a newsletter, bringing many members from outside Canberra. These newsletters were incorporated into Capital Philately.

The 1990s also saw the introduction of the Australian Philatelic Order by the Australian Philatelic Federation. The first award dinner for the Order was held in Canberra at Parliament House in 1994. Many members of the Philatelic Society of Canberra attended. In 1995, Alan Salisbury became a member of the Order. Ed Druce was made a Fellow in 1998 followed by Dingle Smith (Member, 1996) and Tom Frommer (Member, 2002).

### Into the Twenty-First Century

The Twenty-First Century has seen the Society move onto the Web and its members increasingly using the web for contact with other philatelists, buying and selling and for information. The Society initially established its own website with Hans Karman as webmaster.

2001 saw the passing of Dr Ed Druce, who had become one of Australia's best-known philatelists, well-known and respected by philatelists across the world. A member of the FIP Board and a former president of Australian Philatelic Federation, Ed had an extraordinarily wide range of collecting interests including postal stationery, postal history, social philately, aerophilately, frugal philately, thematics, one-frame, traditional and maximaphily. He also "invented" two new exhibiting classes - social philately and frugal. The former, first introduced at Austamp 90 in Canberra, became an experimental FIP class at Melbourne in 1999 and became sub-class of Postal History; Class 2C - Historical, Social and Special Study exhibits.

In September 2005, the Society moved into its new premises in the new Griffin Centre, across the road from the old Griffin Centre. The new Clubroom is located adjacent to the Society's meeting room and has allowed easier access to the Library.

The Society continued to strongly support Junior collectors, with a club run by Jenni Creagh at the National Dinosaur Museum, and support provided to schools as well as Juniors' activities at Canberra Stampshow.

Although in the 21st century stamp collecting is not the mass hobby that it once was, the Society continued as a strong and vibrant club, continuing with its regular meetings, maintaining a strong library and publishing Capital Philately (including Pastcards and Machins).

The Philatelic Society of Canberra has always 'pulled above its weight' in national philately. It continues to include members who are national and international exhibitors and judges (winning the Second Australasian Challenge), philatelic writers and has contributed three Presidents of the Australian Philatelic Federation, and Volume 40, No. 3.



*Doug Ross inspects the 60th Anniversary cake at the Hyatt Hotel in 1992.*



*2009 Shakespeare Award presented to Alan Salisbury*

a member of the FIP board as well as three fellows and three members of the Australian Philatelic Order and two recipients of the Australian Philatelic Research Award. One of the enduring traditions of the Society is that it caters for all stamp collectors and philatelists and its members are only too willing to provide assistance and advice to new collectors.

### **2010s**

The second decade of the new millennium saw the Society continue to build on the strengths of the late twentieth century with a strong program of monthly displays, postcard evening, a strong exchange branch and a wide range of other activities. The Junior Club continued to operate in the earlier part of the Decade with meetings held in the National Dinosaur Museum – were the stamps or the dinosaurs the greater attraction? The decline in young collectors, however, meant the closure of the Junior Club.

The Society recommenced organising Stamp Markets in 2015, this time at the Kingston Baptist Church organised by Christopher Wigram. These have continued to date being organised by John Crathern. Society members participated in regular Judges and Exhibitors Seminars.

The Society continued to run Stampshows every second year. The innovation of previous years continued with the introduction of the Australasian Challenge at Canberra Stampshow 2002. The inaugural Challenge was won by Western Australia. The second Challenge was held at Canberra Stampshow '04 and was won by the ACT. Stampshow 2006 included the MECCA Challenge, a competitive challenge of exhibits of Middle Eastern countries. The Exhibitions during this period also included experimental classes such as Postcards (now a full international class), Polar and First Day Covers.

The Society's website was redeveloped by Peter Allan and the content was expanded to include on-line copies of the back issues of *Capital Philately* as well as other philatelic reference material. In addition, the Society also took its first steps into social media with the creation of a Facebook page by Jenni Creagh. While not extensively used by members, Facebook provides a useful means of promoting the Society.

An unexpected occurrence during this period was that, at the request of the Mauritian High Commission the Society put on a display of Mauritian stamps provided by Jenni Creagh and on Mauritius-Australia links at the High Commission's open day as part of Windows on the World. The display was presented again at a Mauritian High Commission function at the National Museum of Australia. Other displays were held at the Polish Embassy and at function of the Alliance Francaise. The Society also participated with a special display in a number of functions associated with the Centenary of Canberra as the national capital in 2013.

One change in stamp collecting that became very apparent in this decade was the growth in enquires as to how to dispose of stamp collections. With the decline in interest in stamp collecting by the young with many younger people not seeing or using stamps on mail and the decline in the number of stamp dealers, the Society is continually receiving requests about how to dispose of stamps. This was highlighted at a number of ACT Government sponsored community expos at which the Society had a stand with many requests for advice but few people interested in taking up stamp collecting.

### The New Roaring 20s

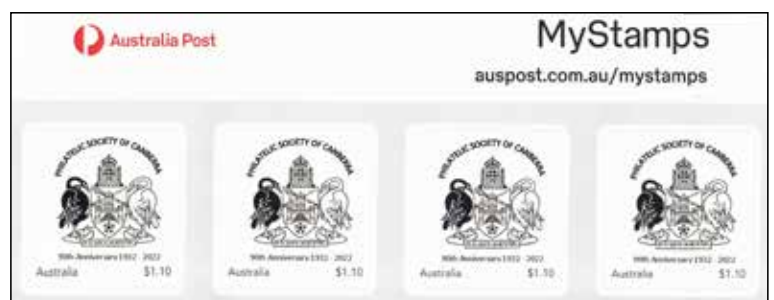
2020 was a time of great change and evolution for the Society. With the spread of the COVID-19 virus, a global pandemic had begun. Stampshow 2020 was the last exhibition to be run for many months in the face-to-face manner we were all accustomed to. With rising concern, we learned to greet each other with masks on and elbow nudges. It became obvious that our hobby would need to evolve to survive.

So new ways to meet and exchange information were incorporated into our normal everyday activities. These built upon skills many of us began to use while working from home. Meetings moved to Zoom or other platforms and we looked to websites (including our own) more and more. Even exhibitions became virtual - which actually made them more accessible. Websites began to be incorporated in exhibitions, as part of the promotion, and as participants in competitive classes. The internet became an increasingly important part of our hobby as the pandemic stretched on to impact months and then years.



*Above: Canberra Stampshow 2020 Awards Dinner.  
Elspeth Bodley, Ian McMahon and Marilyn Gendek [L-R]*

2022 saw the Society set to host the 22nd National Philatelic Convention - Canberra Stampshow 2022 including the Canberra Stamp and Coin Show. Planning was full of contingencies and the highest hopes that the philatelic community would once again be able to meet face-to-face. The theme of Resilience and Recovery said everything about the past two years, with Australia facing natural disasters as well as the COVID-19 pandemic. With relief, it was deemed safe to go ahead with the Stampshow the first event of the year that celebrates the 90th year of the Society. The Stampshow 2022 catalogue was replicated in part as *Capital Philately* Volume 40, No.1. This had been done previously in 2020 and brought the exhibition facet to non-competitive members of the Society and wider distribution of the many articles within it. Significantly the article “*Social Distancing 101 - Baby Elephants and Handshakes*” by Jean Wang, is recommended as an overview of the impact of the pandemic socially and philatelically. *Capital Philately* is celebrating with the 40th anniversary edition - looking back at the past and to where the future might lead as well as the major impact of this year, the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.



*MyStamps for the 90th Anniversary of the Society.*

***This article was compiled from the following sources and input of various members.***

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*75th Anniversary of the Philatelic Society of Canberra, Part 1* Ian McMahon Capital Philately Vol.26,No.1 pp 2-9  
*75th Anniversary of the Philatelic Society of Canberra, Part 2* Ian McMahon Capital Philately Vol.26,No.2 pp 2-5  
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Canberra Stampshow 2022 Exhibition Catalogue March 2022

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**PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANBERRA**

**OFFICE BEARERS 2021-22**

President: Ian McMahon                      Vice President: Marilyn Gendek                      Secretary: Tony Luckhurst  
Treasurer: Wal Collins / John Vassallo                      Publicity Officer / Stamp Markets: John Crathern  
Membership Secretary: Lyn Hayes                      Circuit Books: John Davis                      Website: Christopher Smith  
Sales Coordinator: Bruce Parker                      Librarian: Paul Barsdell                      Exchange Branch Coordinator:  
Capital Philately Acting Editor And Publisher: Marilyn Gendek & Jenni Creagh

**OFFICE BEARERS 2022-23**

President: Ian McMahon                      Vice President: Christopher Smith                      Secretary: Tony Luckhurst  
Treasurer: John Vassallo                      Publicity Officer: John Crathern                      Librarian: Marilyn Gendek  
Exchange Branch Coordinator: John Davis                      Sales Coordinator: Michael Kludass  
Council Members: Howard Morris, Mark Thoener, Bruce Parker

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**Hotel Canberra - location of the first meeting of the Philatelic Society of Canberra**



*Above: Hotel Canberra, 1930s including Commonwealth Avenue and Albert Hall.*

*Picture - Frank H. Boland, (Taken from roof of West Block building).*

*National Library of Australia  
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-146770422>*



*Above Right: Postcard - The Lawns at Hotel Canberra*

## The Philatelic Society of Canberra - Roll of Honour

### Life Members

Ian McMahon  
 Darryl Fuller  
 Bruce Parker  
 Bernard Van der Meer  
 Elspeth Bodley  
 David Ingle Smith  
 Hans Karman  
 Alan Salisbury  
 Alan Tippet  
 Bernard Murtaugh  
 Ron Hyeronimus

### Patrons

Hon Archdale Parkhill 1932-33  
 Sen A McLachlan 1934-38  
 Hon A G Cameron 1939, 1947-8  
 R Rodda 1994 - 2007



*1934 Hermes.*

*This was the first stamp to be issued after the PSC was formed.*

*A chocolate likeness featured on the 90th anniversary cake.*

### Presidents

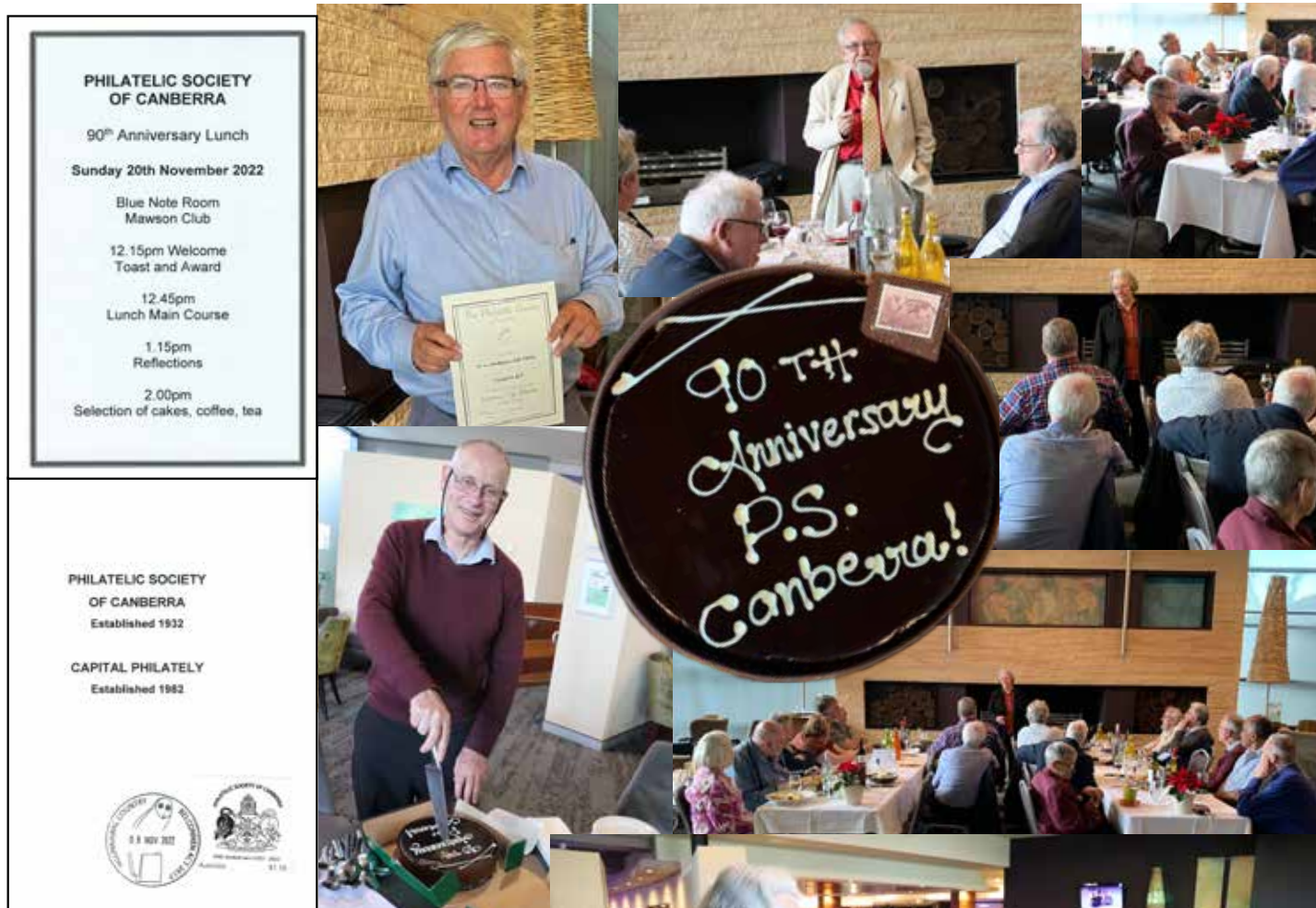
H Woodhouse	1932	S Wilson	1975-76
J Hayden	1933, 1938	B Darke	1977-78
H Deane	1934	E Druce	1979-1980
S Kingley	1935	E Bodley	1981-1982
J Ewans	1936	Dingle Smith	1983-1984
E Harvie	1939	P Barsdell	1985-1986
E Holliday	1941, 1946	J Kennett	1987-1988, 1991
C Marriott	1947	P Wood	1989-90
E Dockar	1949, 1949	I McMahon	1991-93, 2008 - present
J Dean	1951, 1952	R Gurevitch	1994-95
JW Shakespeare	1956, 1957	D Fuller	1996-98
R Hyeronimus	1958 - 63	A Farrugia	1999-2000
A Salisbury	1964 - 65, 1967-68, 1971-72	R Gregson	2001
C de Goode	1966	P Barsdell	2002 - 2005
R Simmons	1969-70	D Fuller	2006
D Brennan	1973-74	P Barsdell	2007

## 90 Years Young!

On Sunday 20 November, a celebration was held to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of the Philatelic Society of Canberra including 40 years of Capital Philately. There was a good representation of members who have been active in the Society over its many years and some newer members who have regenerated their interest in philately. The lunch started with a nod to 1932 and traditional toasts by Dingle Smith to the Monarchy and the recent changes which herald a new era for philately, and to the Society and its members. This was followed by the presentation to Ian McMahon of his Life Member certificate by another Life Member – Elspeth Bodley. Opportunity to reflect on personal experiences with the Society was followed by cutting of an Anniversary cake by Christopher Smith.

The event was organised by Marilyn Gendek, who was unable to attend at the last minute due to catching the dreaded lurgi (Covid-19) at the WPS100 exhibition in New Zealand. Thanks to her efforts at organising the function it was a wonderful opportunity for members to share stories and gather socially without the pressures of a formal meeting, exhibition or stamp market.

Here are some photos from the event, shared by Ian McMahon, Tony Luckhurst and Elspeth Bodley.



*Above: Souvenir program for the lunch with MyStamp commemorating 90th anniversary of the Society on reverse and ACT postmark dated 9 November – the date of the first PSC meeting.*

*The Belconnen postmark features the Powerful Owl sculpture located at the Belconnen & Benjamin Way intersection.*



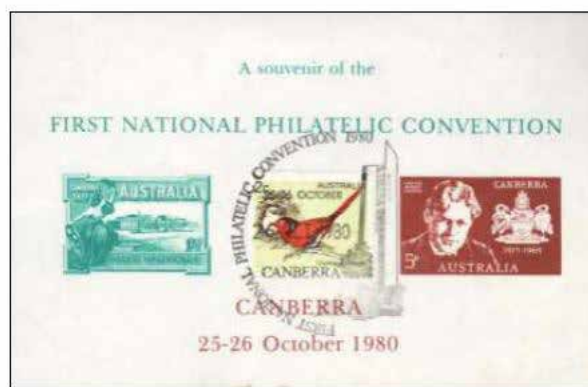
## A Snapshot of Society Souvenirs

Jenni Creagh

Over the 90 years since the founding of the Philatelic Society of Canberra, many philatelic souvenirs have been produced by the Society. In the preceding pages there have been examples of many of these items, and a quick look back through the 40 years of Capital Philately will illustrate many more, together with details on their purpose and history - the majority of these are described by Dingle Smith in Society publications.

*"The rather pretentiously named First National Convention was held in October 1980. At that time the Society had such stalwarts as Alan Salisbury and Ron Hyeronimus among its members together with younger philatelists some to later become leading figures in Australian philately. The aim of the initial Convention was to gain experience for a major show planned for 1982, the 50th Anniversary of the Society..."*

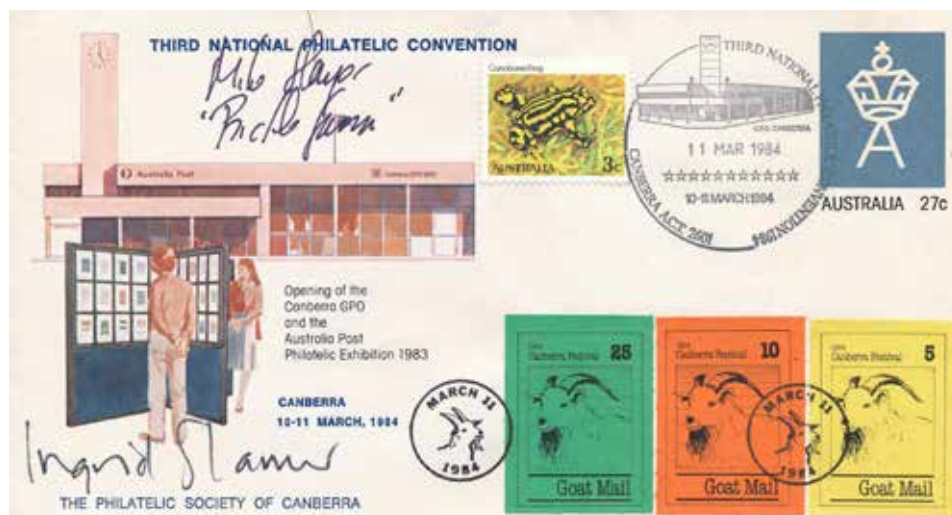
*The Society Celebrates its 21st Biennial National Convention - Dingle Smith  
- Stampshow 2020 Catalogue*



*Above Left: 1980 Souvenir Cover - First National Philatelic Convention*

*Above Right: A souvenir sheet printed by pink Panther Press, Canberra in quantities of 2000 to 3000, 500 sheets being used and a large number destroyed. The design of the sheet was left to the printer. They choose the 1927 Canberra Stamp (printed in bright green) and the 1963 Walter Burley Griffin stamp (printed in red). The sheets were used as admission tickets.*

*"...Earlier shows featured delivery of mail in a variety of ways. These include Goat Mail (1984) complete with police escort across the city centre, Hot Air Balloon Mail (1988 and 1992) dropping mail bags onto a target, a parked Australia Post van. Pony Mail (1986) carried to the GPO from early post offices in the region by teams drawn from local Pony Clubs."*



*Left: Goat Mail – 3rd National Philatelic Convention cover signed by Mike Hayes, (owner of the goat and well known as the 'Prickle farmer'), and Ingrid Slamer (designer of the goat stamps).*



An important thing to consider when looking back at these items is the debt we owe to the photographers and others who recorded these events and made sure that the information survived into the future. For example, in the photo on the left we have recorded information on the name of the goat and owner, and a reasonable idea of the location. I can take a guess at the identity of the figure on the right, but perhaps they would prefer that their 1984 style remains anonymous.

Each event needed to be marked philatelically, and ideas for novel transport of convention covers went from hoof to hot air. Then we see different types of mail that did not need to be entirely funded by the Society or the Event.

Overprints and cachets (including foil colours and intended errors), Postmarks and Replica Cards: here are some examples.

Above: Mike Hayes, Prickle Farmer, ABC compere and writer with the goat cart and June the goat for the cross city goat mail. Photo taken in the basement of the then new Canberra GPO while chatting with a young fan (who might also be an autograph seeking philatelist).



"Cinderella" stamp issued for the completion of the Trans-Australian Railway. Conversion to Standard Gauge was completed in 1970 - only 50 years ago.





Some of the oldest souvenirs produced by the Philatelic Society of Canberra are in fact intended for general use. Michael Moore shares some insight into their origins.

*Surprisingly few Australian philatelic societies have published their own “general purpose” or generic first day envelopes. The Philatelic Society of Canberra produced one in 1947... The cachets were printed in only black and white...*

*Specialist collectors of FDC cachets recognise variations (e.g. of colours and typefaces) as different cachets. There are at least two varieties of this PSC cover.*

*As can be seen in the illustrations, the text “First Day Cover” was printed in two similar but different fonts, which may be styled “thin” and “bold”. In these examples, the thin text varieties show the left swan in black; the bold text varieties show both swans in white. I am uncertain whether this is a constant correlation.*

*[The colours of the swans on the Canberra Coat of Arms is interesting. They were submitted for approval as both black. When the Arms were granted in 1929, the right swan was changed to white to avoid repeating a device recently granted to Perth.]*

*Philatelic Society of Canberra First Day Covers - Michael Moore*

*- Capital Philately*

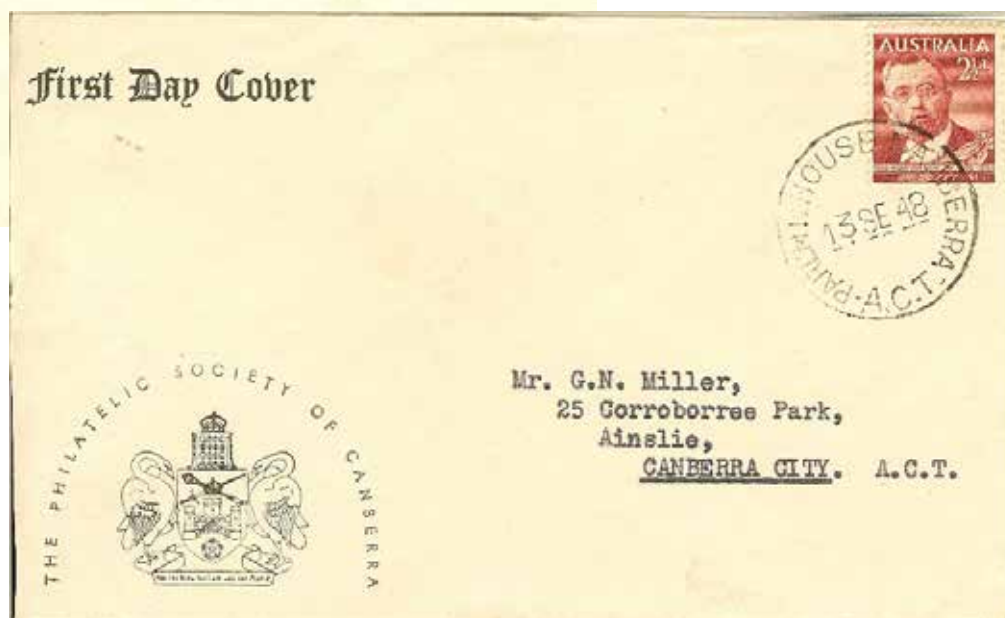
*Vol. 26 No.1*

*Left & Below:*

*PSC 1947 FDC*

*Thin Type (left)*

*Bold Type (below)*



As a final note: Philately is fundamentally about history. It is a documentary hobby and often compiled after the fact. Preservation of information is vital and while we may now be used to tagging photos on social media and google image searches, that does not help all of our philatelic investigations.

***In that light if you can provide more information on images used in this Journal, or have hidden gems of PSC history under your bed, please share them with us by using the [capital.philately@canberrastamps.org](mailto:capital.philately@canberrastamps.org) email.***

Several photos in this Issue are missing caption details and there are now many ways to augment a physical publication when it is made digital - like hyperlinks to further information. I'd like this to be a legacy that endures as sadly we mortals don't. As we research (and detour down internet rabbit-holes,) there is so much we realise we didn't know - and need to share. I've been a fan of dinosaurs and Palaeontology for almost 50 years and didn't realise I shared that interest with Dr Ed Druce until writing this issue.



## **VOLUNTEERS**

Exhibitions require lots of people to run efficiently. At your society discuss volunteering and register on the NZ2023 website.

## **FINANCIAL HELP**

Please consider these options

### ***Patrons' or Supporters' Club***

Patrons will have benefits which include participation in functions, specific souvenirs, and access to a lounge for refreshments.

### ***Frame sponsorship***

Societies and individuals can sponsor frames at \$10/frame which will be acknowledged with labels at the top of those frames.

### ***Donations***

Donations from \$10 upwards are welcome.

Society donations of \$500 give that Society an advertisement in the exhibition catalogue.

More details are on the website

## **PLAN to VISIT**

Take advantage of having an international stamp exhibition here in NZ by visiting the venue to look at the exhibits, checking what's on offer at the trade stands, meeting old collecting friends and making new ones.

## **COLLECTABLES**

Over the coming months and during the exhibition NZ2023 will have collectable products available for purchase. These products and how they can be obtained will be advertised on the NZ2023 website.

## **ELLERSLIE EVENTS CENTRE AUCKLAND**

**4 to 7 MAY, 2023**

Under the patronage of the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP)

<https://nz2023.nz>  
for more information

**We look forward to seeing you**

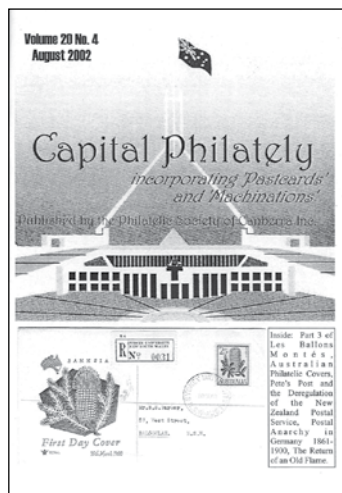
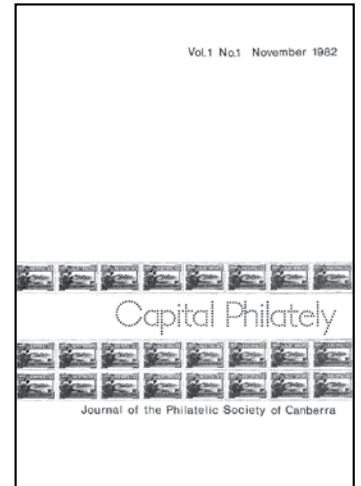
## The First 25 Years of Capital Philately - from Capital Philately Vol. 26, No. 1

Ian McMahon

The Society commenced publishing Capital Philately in 1982, the 50th anniversary of the Society. The first issue came out in November 1982 with Alan Salisbury as the founding editor and included articles by Alan Tippett ('Kadavu - Fijian Port of Entry'), Ed Druce ('Stamps of Ireland'), Alan Salisbury ('5/- Harbour Bridge') and the popular 'Phil Litt' ('Reading about Stamps'). Alan was supported by an Editorial Committee which also included Alan Tippett and Ed Druce. All members of the editorial committee were active in contributing articles. Not surprisingly given the membership of the committee, the first 5 volumes included many articles on postal history, especially of Australian States and Fiji.

Ed Druce became Editor from the May 1987 issue (Volume 5 No 3) of Capital Philately. From Volume 7 the format of Capital Philately was changed from B5 to A4, allowing larger illustrations. The focus on articles on postal history continued but revenues and postal stationery articles also dominated with Dingle Smith and Ian McMahon becoming major contributors.

With Ed's departure for Canada, Paul Barsdell became Acting Editor from the August 1989 issue until Dingle Smith took over in May 1990. Dingle continued as Editor until the November 1998 issue (Volume 8 No 3). Included during his time as Editor was a series of Member Profiles in addition to many articles on postal history, postal stationery and revenues with major new contributors including Hans Karman, Darryl Fuller and Robert Gregson. Jill Grant became Business Manager for Capital Philately in 1990.

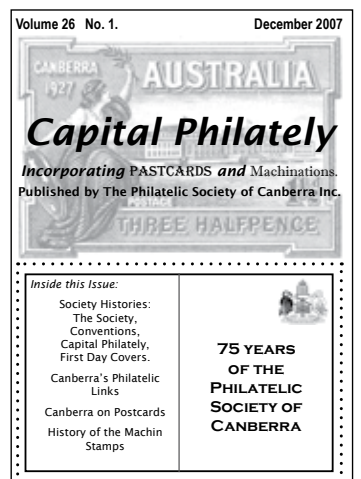


Darryl Fuller took over the editorship from the November 1998 issue (Volume 17 No 1). A major innovation during his editorship was the incorporation of the Society's two specialised Journals, Pastcards and Machinations into Capital Philately, initially as quite separate publications bound in Capital Philately but maintaining their own volume numbering and with their own editors (Graeme Broxam for Pastcards and Albert Farrugia for Machinations). Pastcards was first incorporated from the November 2000 issue (Volume 19 No 1) and Machinations from the following issue. This proved to be a successful move with the two continuing as an integral part of Capital Philately and allowing a considerable broadening of the readership base of Capital Philately. New major contributors to the Journal during this period included Albert Farrugia, Graeme Broxam and Sheryll Oswald.

From the November 2001 issue (Volume 20 No 2), Robert Gregson took over as Chair of the editorial Committee with Jenni Creagh as Copy-Editor. The first issues under this arrangement had guest editors including Bruce Parker, Robert Gregson and Albert Farrugia.

Jenni Creagh took over the full editorship from the November 2004 issue (Volume 23 No 3) until the August 2007 issue. Jenni has introduced a number of innovations including the introduction of full colour.

With issue 26.1 Darryl Fuller returned as Editor. Capital Philately in its first 25 years has provided the Society with a public face beyond the bounds of Canberra with the Journal consistently receiving Silver medals at National Exhibitions and enabling it to attract and retain non-Canberra members. It has also introduced many members to the joys of philatelic writings enabling them to share their hobby with others. Capital Philately has enabled the Library to build its holding of other Club Journals through an active exchange program. We look forward to its second 25 years.

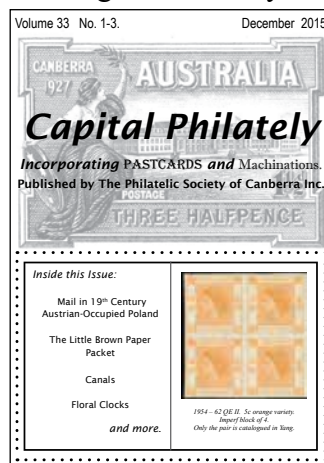


## Capital Philately: The Next 15

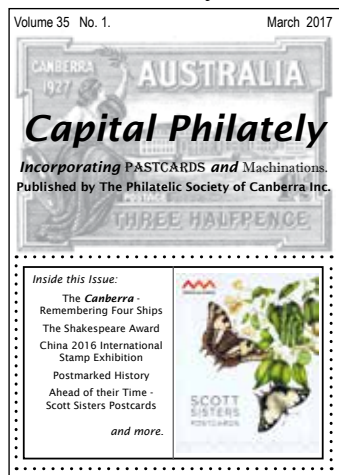
Jenni Creagh

Capital Philately has continued to provide a variety of informational and entertaining articles since the 25th anniversary in 2007. There have been individual articles on niche areas of philately and long series that continued across multiple issues. The table on the right shows the number of issues per volume, a handy reference for those looking for a missing issue which may not actually be missing. Between volume 25 and 30 we have a couple of combined issues, which led the editorial team to reduce the number of issues from 4 to 3 per year. Volume 33 was a single volume for the year, and paved the way for the shift to each volume being from a single calendar year, rather than the original #1 being the November issue on the society (and Capital Philately) anniversary.

Volume 26, as mentioned previously, was the beginning of Darryl Fuller's second long term as Editor - until 2015 (Vol. 33). I stepped in to assist with the publication of that issue when Darryl became ill and had to step back from his huge participation in organised philately including running stampshows and his personal collecting. One thing noted in his final editorial is that almost all the content published in Capital Philately was original new material, with relatively little published from other sources; uncommon for a society journal. I would like to point out that a huge percentage of that is due to the editors own individual efforts. One only has to look at the contents pages for the journals and see how many are penned by the editor. In part this is expedience, and more so the bounty of having such eminent philatelists as editors, that they can draw from their expertise to deliver new and interesting content.

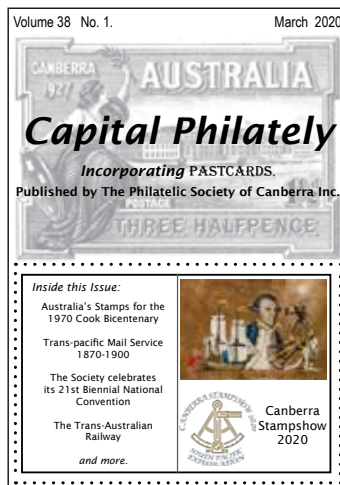


4 issues per volume				
Volume	#1	#2	#3	#4
1	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	✓	✓	✓	✓
14	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	✓	✓	✓	✓
20	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	✓	✓	✓	✓
24	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	✓	✓		✓
26	✓	✓	✓	✓
27	✓	✓	✓	✓
28		✓	✓	✓
29	✓	✓	✓	✓
30	✓	✓		✓



Andrew Alwast picked up the reins in 2016 and immediately took us to the skies with a look at mail carried by Balloons. I continued as copy-editor and enjoyed pulling together the diverse content into an eye-catching journal. Changes in printing costs and techniques allowed us to be more liberal in the use of colour in the journal, and this is hugely beneficial to the philatelic subject. Descriptions of Machin shades for example would be much more difficult in greyscale print (although exact colour matching would be very difficult).

2017 saw another milestone for Capital Philately with volume 35 rounding out the decade, and me back in the driving seat. The next few volumes had regular contributors, for which I was very grateful, as I am sure were the readers. There were still times I contributed more than just the editorial introduction, but my collecting interests and scope were not as diverse or learned as my predecessors, so I was always excited at the prospect of a fresh idea and new author. I learned a lot too, and took on the challenge of researching material that was provided for a series of fun Pastcards articles on the Circus. The "Canberra Covered" series by Michael



3 issues per volume			
Volume	#1	#2	#3
31	✓	✓	✓
32	✓	✓	✓
33		✓	
34	✓	✓	
35	✓	✓	✓
36	✓	✓	✓
37	✓		✓
38	✓		✓
39	✓	✓	✓
40	✓	✓	✓

Moore was an insightful and educational read, and Frank Adamik's "Postmarked History" likewise. I learned a lot about Machins as well and managed to fill in some gaps in regular content, but in 2019 the decision was made to include Machins in the regular content if material was forthcoming, but to discontinue the masthead. Volume 38 was my last term as editor, beginning with the 2020 Stampshow and the onset of COVID-19.

In these difficult times for us all, as the global pandemic took hold, philately had to look for new ways to operate and these would see us relying heavily on the world coming to us through the mail or internet. In this chaos, Tony Curtis became editor in 2020 for Volume 39 published in 2021. A great variety of new and informative material was included in these issues, and this is reflected in the award of a Silver medal at *CAPEX 22 International One Frame Stamp Championship Exhibition*, Toronto, Canada.

Now in 2022, Marilyn Gendek has taken up the mantle and guided Capital Philately to another wonderful volume. Scope for the future again hangs in the balance of needing material, authors and most importantly an Editor. As I have stood in the shoes, I know the size of the role, but also how important this contribution to philately is; I hope someone will continue the legacy!

Please raise a glass to those below who guided Capital Philately through 40 amazing years.

### Capital Philately Editors

EDITOR	YEAR
Alan Salisbury	1982 - 1987
Ed Druce	1987 - 1989
Paul Barsdell	1989 - 1990
Dingle Smith	1990 - 1998
Darryl Fuller	1998 - 2002, 2007 - 2015
Robert Gregson	2002 - 2004
Jenni Creagh	2004 - 2007, 2017 - 2020
Andrew Alwast	2016
Tony Curtis	2020 - 2021
Marilyn Gendek	2022

### Incorporating


Pastcards	Graeme Broxam
	Bruce Parker
Machinations (now ceased)	Albert Farrugia
	Derek Butterfield
	Danny Howard
	Tony Luckhurst
	Daniel Tangri

## Hobart Stamp Show 2023

19 – 21 May 2023

### National One Frame Exhibition

Entries now open



**What:** the Hobart Stamp Show 2023 is the only One Frame exhibition being held in Australia next year  
**Where:** Hobart Town Hall Macquarie St, Hobart  
**When:** 12:00 Friday 19th May - 3:00 pm Sunday 21 May  
**Entries Close:** Mon 27 Feb 2023  
**Website:** <https://hobartstampshow2023.com>

#### Important Changes to One Frame Guidelines

Recent changes to One Frame Guidelines have removed some previous restrictions on what can be shown and made the class more approachable for new exhibitors. The changes are explained here [hobartstampshow2023.com/about/](https://hobartstampshow2023.com/about/)

There have also been changes to most other classes so make sure you check the Class guidelines on the APF website for updates <https://apf.org.au/classes/>

**New to Exhibiting?**

The One Frame class is a good starting point for new exhibitors as not too much material is needed to make a 16-page exhibit. However getting the narrow scope right can be tricky. We have provided some basic information on the class here <https://hobartstampshow2023.com/about/>


**More information about the Hobart Stamp Show 2023**

Check the website for details of the exhibition and other events including the joint meeting between the Royal Victorian Philatelic Society and the TPS on Thurs evening 18 May and the Awards Dinner on Sat 20 May. <https://hobartstampshow2023.com>

**Contact Us**

Contact the Exhibition Committee:

- **Website** <https://hobartstampshow2023.com/contact/> or
- **Email the Exhibition Secretary:** - [hestperus@netspace.net.au](mailto:hestperus@netspace.net.au)
- **Mobile** 0419 344 121



Exhibition Venue Hobart Town Hall

# PASTCARDS

Journal of

CANBERRA PICTURE POSTCARD COLLECTORS

a branch of the Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.

No. 111

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November 2022

ISSN 1326-9941

## CANBERRA PICTURE POSTCARD COLLECTORS

1995-2022

Elsbeth Bodley

Christopher (Chris) Puttock was the driving force in setting up the Canberra Picture Postcard Collectors. The first group of eight people met on 10th October 1995, according to the first issue of "Pastcards", also written and printed by Chris. The Attendance Book began on 12th March 1996, but we have had meetings almost every month since then (only the Covid lockdowns caused a few cancellations) – nearly 27 years ago. We celebrated our Silver Anniversary with a picnic meeting in Weston Park in December 2020 – a meeting which also celebrated one of the early lock-down periods. For the occasion, each member was given an overprinted postcard which had

been produced earlier for the Canberra Stamp Show 2018 which had "Nursing" as a theme.

### OUR FIRST MEETING

The newly formed Canberra Picture Postcard Collectors met for the first time on October 10th, 1995. Eight collectors were present and all brought along an fascinating array of collecting interests. Even with such a small group the diversity of interests was astounding. Amongst the galaxy of material were examples of the very first cards, some British colonies such as Gibraltar, the historical development of Australian towns such as Sandgate and Canberra, and the thematics of lilacs, ocean liners and gollywogs.

*Fig.1 (Left): Announcement of the formation of the Canberra Picture Postcard Collectors Group.*

Membership of our Group has always been rather small, some members have moved away from Canberra, others have died, but very few have lost interest in postcards. Chris himself moved to Hawaii and then onto mainland USA in 1998. After his departure "Pastcards" continued, but as a separate section of every issue of "Capital Philately", the journal of the Philatelic Society of Canberra.

I believe Chris's hopes were that the number of Postcard Collectors joining the Group would increase sufficiently to create an autonomous society. This has not happened and we are now happily a group of the Philatelic Society.



*Fig.2: 2018 Souvenir Postcard from the 20th Biennial Canberra Stamp Show.*

In those early days we held a number of postal auctions of postcards. Lists were typed up and circulated throughout Australia and a modest commission was earned from sales. A number of our members used to visit the Postcard Fairs in Sydney, though Covid has affected that, along with so much more. In the

meantime, eBay and Delcampe visit us in our homes at the click of a couple of buttons and today the whole world of postcards is available to us.

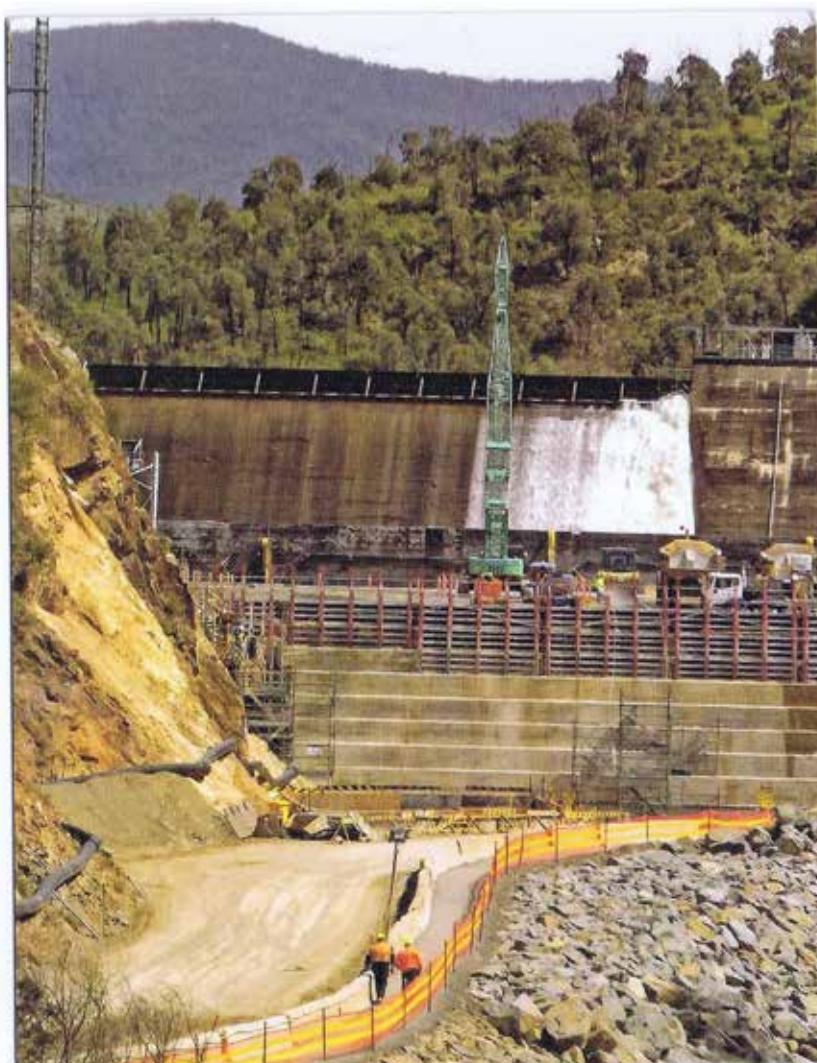
Looking at the first issue of Pastcards, I note that eight people attended that first meeting, bringing along some of their collections. "Amongst the galaxy of material were examples of the very first cards, some British colonies such as Gibraltar, the historical development of Australian towns such as Sandgate and Canberra, and thematic of lilacs, ocean liners and gollywogs." Our diverse interests continue to grow and expand!

Our annual programme is set in about October each year. We have a regular "Bring and Buy" evening for the January meeting, and the July meeting is for "Other collectables".

For the rest of the year, we can usually find 4-6 members who will provide a display, and the other meetings are for members to bring along a contribution of cards relating to a given topic, such as: "Islands", "Early cards, pre-1902", "People at Work" or "Royalty". This way all members are usually able to contribute and share their enjoyment of postcards.

We are all enthusiastic collectors and would love to share that with new members, so come along on the second Tuesday of each month to the meetings in the Griffin Centre in Civic Centre.

*Fig.3a&b: 2012 Canberra Stampshow Cotter Dam Postcard overprinted for the Silver Anniversary of the Postcard Group.*




Canberra Stampshow 2012, 16-18 March

THE POSTCARD GROUP  
1995 - 2020

**Silver Anniversary**

Philatelic Society of Canberra



<http://postcardpics-sydney.com.au>

**Cotter Dam, Canberra, ACT**  
**1912:** Centenary of commencement of construction of the first dam; 1951 wall raised to 26.8m (88 ft.)  
**2012:** Enlarged Cotter Dam due for completion, new 80m wall being constructed 80m downstream from the first one. Storage will increase from 4GL to 78GL. Picture shows the old wall with water flowing and the new wall growing in front of it. (10 October 2011)

Published by the Philatelic Society of Canberra, Inc. Photo: E Bodley

## Acton Federal Capital Postcard - Mount Darragh R.O. to Dalton NSW

Tony Curtis PSM

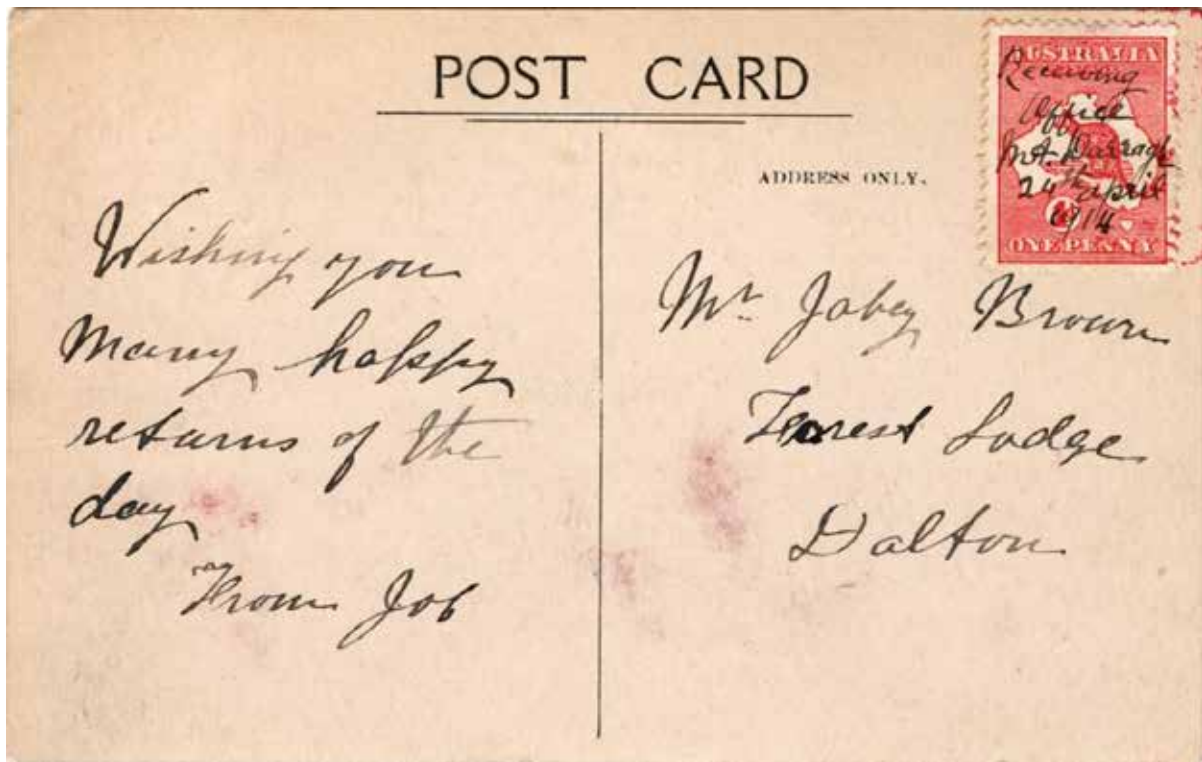


Figure 1

The circa 1913, postcard depicted (See Fig's.1 & 2), is undoubtedly, one of the more intriguing items of local postal history that I have been fortunate to acquire in fifty years of collecting material from the Australian Capital Territory and surrounding regions.

Depicted on the face of the card, addressed to Mr Jabez Brown, Forest Lodge, Dalton, is an image of very early Canberra, identified as 'ACTON. FEDERAL. CAPITAL'. The reverse of the postcard bears a 1d red kangaroo stamp, cancelled in black ink manuscript, 'Receiving Office Mt. Darragh, 24th April 1914'. The stamp is tied to the postcard by an unidentified partial red ink circular date-stamp.

There are no other discernible transit markings, other than a very faint depression/impression of a N.S.W circular date-stamp strike to the face of the card, above Black Mountain (upper right), in which the 'N' of 'N.S.W.' is visible under strong light. There being no ink visible on the face of the postcard and the impression being barely visible, it is likely that the postcard lay under another mail item, at the time of the strike being applied to that item, resulting in the impression appearing on the card. Additionally, the printer's identity is not discernible. However, it may well lie on that portion of the card hidden by the stamp.

### Location and brief history

Mount Darragh, depicted on the attached extract of a period map (See Fig.3)<sup>(1)</sup>, is a small rural area located 28 kms northeast of *Bombala* and approximately 220 kms south southeast of Canberra. Dalton is a further 80 kms to the north of Canberra.

The settlement of Mount Darragh drew its name from that of the nearby mountain which was named in honour of the man who discovered and first ascended it, surveyor, Henry Charles Darragh who passed away at Burwood, N.S.W. in August 1939, aged 87<sup>(2)</sup>. Mount Darragh is approximately 890 meters above sea level.

Dairying, gold & silver mining, and a timber industry that once boasted three mills, all featured in the past life of the Mount Darragh settlement.



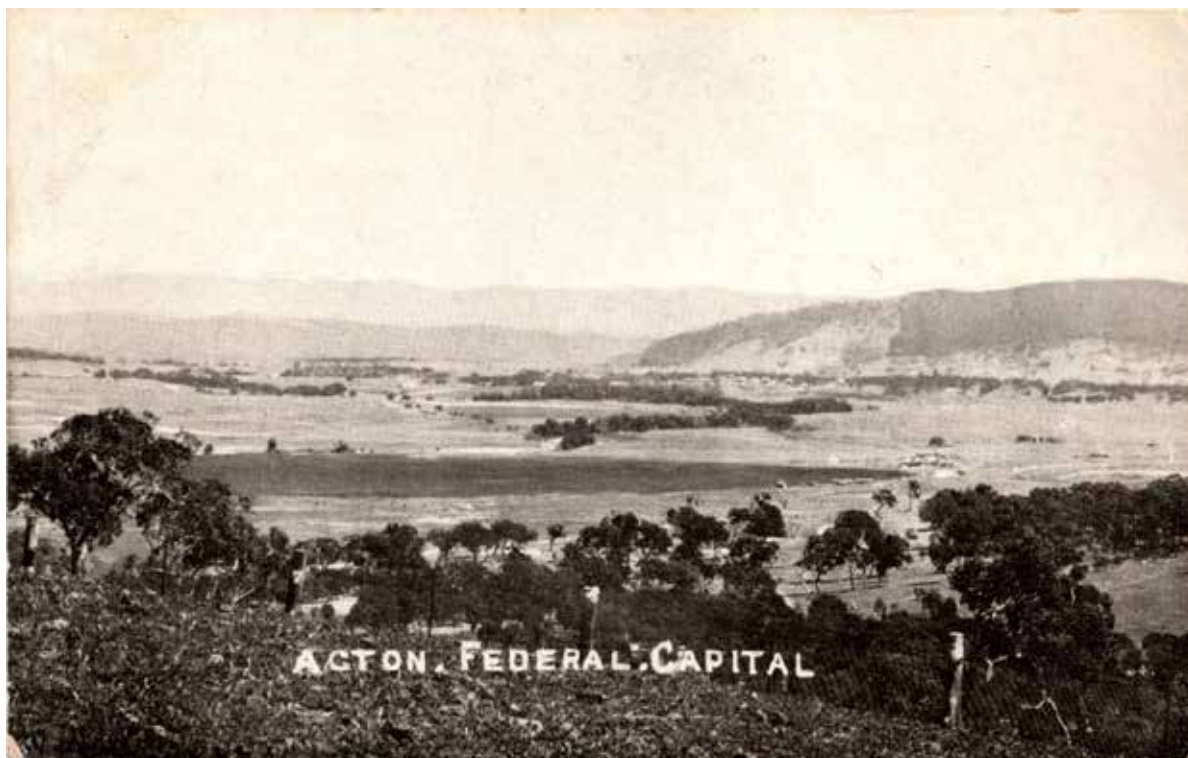


Figure 2

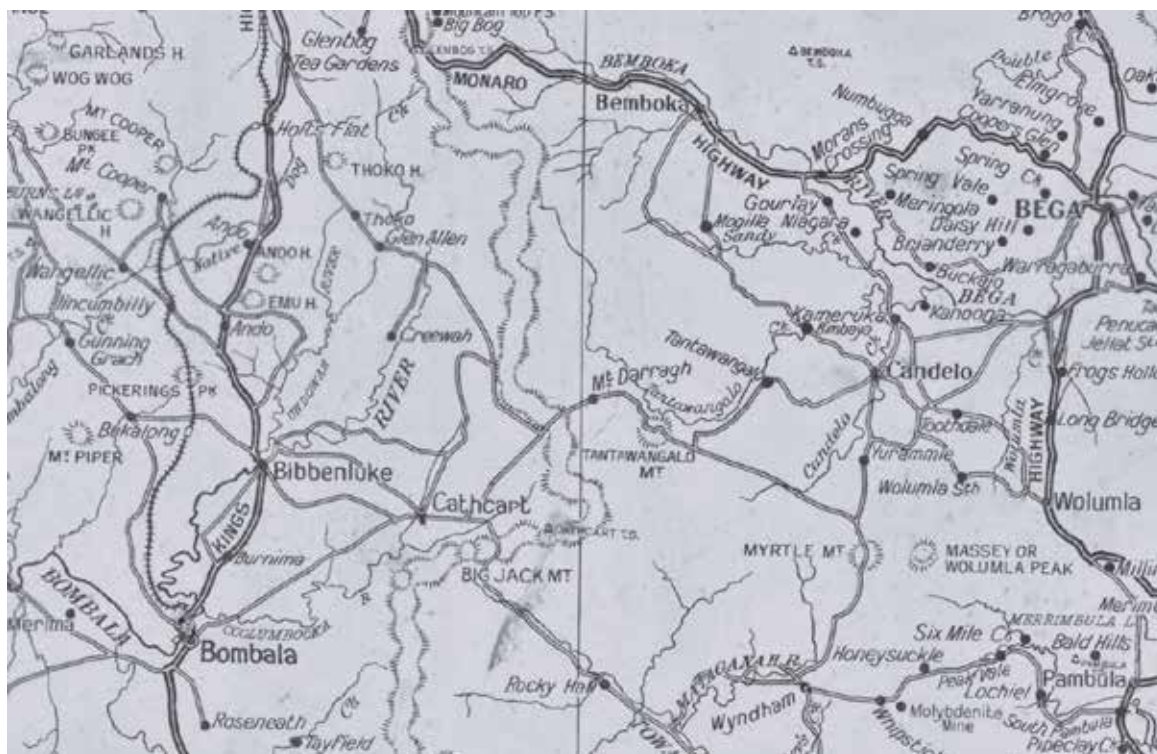


Figure 3

In 1913, timber was being conveyed to Canberra by horse and dray teams, from various locations, with reportedly over 1,055,000 ft of suitable timbers either purchased or contracted<sup>(3)</sup>. In later years an estimated 1,000,000 feet of timber was being held to dry and season in a yard within the Eastlake Industrial Estate.

In 1924, Colonel Owen, Commonwealth Director-General of Works, travelled to Mount Darragh to inspect the sources for a timber supply for works at Canberra, there apparently being unlimited supplies at that location<sup>(4)</sup>. Whilst some timber for the building of Canberra was sourced from Mount Darragh, by 1926 the Bruce Government had decided to import American oregon, to the detriment to the Mount Darragh mills<sup>(5)</sup>.

## PASTCARDS

### Mount Darragh Receiving Office

Mount Darragh opened as a receiving office on 1 November 1910 and was designated a Telephone Office on 3 February 1915<sup>(6)</sup>.

Duncan Nicol Stove, a farmer and former miner, was appointed Receiving Office Keeper and contracted to carry the mail to and from Cathcart once a week on Saturdays<sup>(7)</sup>. The nearest post offices to Mount Darragh were *Cathcart* to the southwest and *Tantawangalo* to the east.

Stove passed away at Bombala in 1915.

### Manuscript cancellation

Hopson & Tobin recorded the use of a manuscript cancellation at Mount Darragh in 1914<sup>(6)</sup>.

Examination of documentation on the official post office file confirms the manuscript to be in the hand of the then Receiving Office Keeper, Duncan Stove.

It is likely that the unidentified date-stamp is that of the Cathcart Post Office, applied to the card upon receipt from Duncan Stove on Sat. 25 April 1914, or alternatively, it could have been a receipt mark applied on arrival at the Dalton Post Office.

Of the few examples of manuscript cancellations that I have on cover or postcard, the absence of transit markings is most noticeable, ensuring that the task of researching their history is made even more difficult.

### Postcard Sender & Addressee

Research to identify the sender and addressee, confirmed the postcard to have been mailed by Job Brown (*Fig. 4*)<sup>(8)</sup>, a sheep grazier who, at the time of its mailing, was resident at the property '*Holmwood*', in N.S.W., near Hall, on the F.C.T. & N.S.W. border. The postcard was mailed to his nephew, Jabez Brown, who as previously mentioned, was a farmer, at '*Forrest Lodge*', *Dalton*, N.S.W.

Job Brown, born at Wesley Vale, Oolong Creek, Dalton, NSW, in 1859, was the youngest brother of Stephen Campbell Brown, the father of the postcard addressee, Jabez Archie Brown.

In 1887, Job Brown married Hannah Southwell, daughter of Thomas and Mary Southwell (nee Rofe), who resided at '*Parkwood*', Ginninderra. Living at Dalton, they later moved to the Hall District in 1894<sup>(8)</sup>.

Job Brown passed away at Queanbeyan on 13 January 1937.

The addressee, Jabez Archie Brown was born at Dalton in 1859 and passed away at the same location on 17 January 1922. He too was married to a member of the Southwell family, Sarah, eldest daughter of Thomas and Eliza Southwell.

Identification and confirmation of Job Brown being the sender of the postcard was affected by a comparison of the handwriting on the postcard, with that of samples contained in correspondence on the official service record of his deceased son, Morley Brown. Morley Brown died in France as the result of wounds received in action and his service record is held in the National Archives of Australia<sup>(9)</sup>.

In 1913, there were only 9 people registered on the Mount Darragh Electoral Roll, 6 of whom were members of the Stove family, including Receiving Office Keeper, Duncan Stove<sup>(10)</sup>. There does not appear to have been any Browns or Southwells resident within the general locality, which might have explained Job Brown's presence at Mount Darragh at the time.

However, land was being offered to potential settlers at Mount Darragh and cleared land had revealed deep and rich chocolate coloured soil, producing high yields, particularly for dairy farmers.



Figure 4

'Holmwood', Job Brown's Hall property, comprised 260 acres, of which 15 acres were under cultivation. Additionally, the property was running 258 sheep, 3 cattle and 5 horses<sup>(11)</sup>. For Brown to have left the property for a period, to travel to and from Mount Darragh, would have been possible, facilitated by the proximity of his property to those of close relatives.

I think it unlikely that Brown would have travelled to Mount Darragh to purchase timber, as other sources closer were available. However, he may well have travelled to the area to inspect property. Under any circumstances, the trip would have been a difficult one, particularly as winter approached and the roads around Mount Darragh, were reportedly in very poor condition, evidenced by representations from the Progress Association.

As to how and why the postcard came to be mailed from Mount Darragh Receiving Office, will probably forever remain a mystery.

### Provenance

Acquired by me in 2012, contained in the collection of John Edwards (South Australia), my understanding is that John sourced the postcard from Stonehaven Woolshed Antiques, Goulburn, N.S.W.. John never resided in Canberra. However, he was an occasional visitor, with an interest in the Canberra Region's postal history. John passed away in 2016 and his wife, Gwen, also a collector, in 2018. They were members of the Salisbury Philatelic Society Inc. John was proud to have won a trophy at club level for Best Australian Exhibit with his '*Post Offices of the A.C.T.*'

I am pleased to have fulfilled my undertaking to John, to research and document this extraordinary piece of local postal history. However, if I have one regret, it is that I did not do so earlier.

Additionally, I extend my sincere thanks to Alastair Crombie, Honorary Curator, Hall School Museum and Heritage Centre, Hall, A.C.T.

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# MACHINATIONS

**Journal of**  
**THE MACHIN INTEREST GROUP**  
 of the Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.

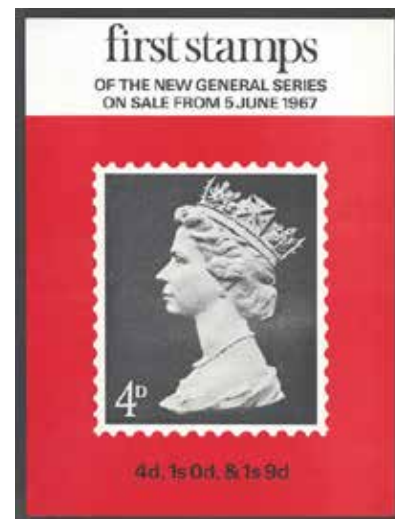
November 2022

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## End of an Era

The death of Queen Elizabeth II in September this year, in the 70th anniversary of her reign, was met with a resounding sadness around the world. With this was also the knowledge that the familiar UK stamp definitive, the Machin, depicting a cameo of her profile and the value of the stamp, would come to an end.

Starting in 1967, the series is named for the artist, Arnold Machin, RA, OBE, who produced the bas-reliefs used as the basis for the stamp's image artwork. It advanced the concept of 'stamp-as-interactive-device' in support of mail processing automation. The long running Machin series which maintained its basic design and produced thousands of catalogued varieties, reflects the longevity of the reign of the late Queen Elizabeth. In the 1990s the Philatelic Society of Canberra established a Machin Study Group with its core interest obviously in this definitive series which continued for over a decade.



CANADIAN  
 STAMP NEWS

OCTOBER 12, 2022

## British Machin definitives to feature Charles III

The U.K.-based Royal Mail has announced the current image of Queen Elizabeth II used on its "Machin" definitive stamps will soon be updated to feature King Charles III.

The newly named king, whose coronation will likely take place next spring or summer according to a recent Telegraph report, will also appear on the Royal Mail's forthcoming first- and second-class definitive stamps.

The postal service's commemorative "Special Stamps," launched in 1965, will also feature a silhouette of the king. Postal officials will unveil the image and issue schedules of the new definitive stamps and the new silhouette "in due course," according to a Sept. 27 statement from the Royal Mail.



Following guidance from the royal family to minimize the environmental and financial impact of the change of monarch, existing stocks of definitive stamps featuring the late queen plus Special Stamps depicting her silhouette will be distributed and issued as planned.

"New stamps featuring King Charles will enter circulation once current stocks of stamps are exhausted."

The Royal Mail also confirmed all stamps bearing Queen Elizabeth II's image remain valid for use. All existing postboxes will also remain unchanged, according to the postal service, which added any postboxes already in production or ready for installation will retain the queen's insignia.

Once these have been installed, new postboxes will feature the cypher of King Charles III."

## History of the Machin Stamps - from *Capital Philately Vol. 26, No. 1*

Tony Luckhurst



In November 1965 Arnold Machin was invited, with four other artists, to create a profile of the Queen to be used on a new series of definitive stamps to gradually replace the Wilding designs that had been used since 1952. He was an artist and sculptor and not a stamp designer. However he had already sculpted an effigy of the Queen to be used on the upcoming Decimal Currency coins. Initially the design had to include the emblems of the parts of the United Kingdom as well as the words "Postage" and "Revenue". Later on they decided to emulate the simplicity of the Penny Black design. Because of this they decided to have the stamps with the portrait and the denomination and no other text. Machin had said himself that the Penny Black was one of the finest stamp designs and the effect of having a light head on a dark background would be replicated on these issues.

Machin worked with a plaster cast based on his sculpture. An alternative photograph by John Hedgecoe with the Queen wearing the diadem was also submitted. The Stamp Advisory Committee preferred the Machin design with the diadem added. So there we have it, the Penny Black design was based on an engraving done in 1837 for the Wyon medal and similarly the Machin design was based on his coinage design and original sculpture.



½ d orange brown (5/2/68)

1d yellow and ochre (5/2/68)

2d lake brown(5/2/68)

3d spectrum violet (8/8/67)

4d olive sepia (5/6/67)

4d vermilion (6/1/69)

5d Stewart blue (1/7/68)

6d purple (5/2/68)

7d light green (1/7/68)

8d scarlet (1/7/68)

8d duck egg blue (6/1/69)

9d Winchester green (8/8/67)

10d light olive brown (1/7/68)

1/- aconite violet (5/6/67)

1/6 turquoise & garter blue (8/8/67)

1/9 orange & olive brown (5/6/67)

2/6 peat brown (5/3/69) \*

5/- raspberry red (5/3/69) \*

10/- deep ultramarine (5/3/69) \*

£1 brownish black (5/3/69) \*

In January 1967 a series of essays (shown on the mini sheet above,) were created showing the possible colour combinations to be used on the stamps. The Queen quite liked the base rate stamp (4d at the time) being printed in olive brown sepia reminiscent of the original Penny Black. The table (left) shows the colours used for Machin issues 1967 - 1970.

All the low values were printed in photogravure. The image was created as a photograph and repeated by a step and repeat camera to create the film of the printer's sheet. This was etched onto the surface of the gravure cylinder in the form of tiny square cells-the deeper the cell the darker the colour printed. The higher value stamps (\*) were printed in a larger size and by a different printing process - intaglio by engraving. Other printing companies, starting from the 1980's used offset litho for printing some values.



## Machinations

During this period all low-valued stamps were printed with phosphor bands. The second class rate (initially 3d but changed to 4d in 1968) had one centre band. All the other stamps had 2 bands. The colour of the 4d was changed in 1969 as it was hard to read the postmarks on the stamps. They have still used the black colour in the decimal stamp series. In 1990 when they brought out special issues for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Penny Black they used black for the first class rate and blue for the second class rate. They also used red postmarking. Once the celebrations were over the colour of the first class stamp reverted to red. It is now gold.



For vending machines that accepted the 1/- coin (upon decimalisation this was 5p) there was a multi-valued coil. This consisted of 5 stamps: 2d-2d-3d-1d-4d. As this was issued in August 1969 it contained the 4d vermilion. It should be noted that all these stamps were printed on paper with gum Arabic (The sheet stamps were first on PVA gum then gum Arabic). All stamps had one centre phosphor band. This created more varieties.

Also in this period the first of the many Prestige Booklets were released. This was the £1 "Stamps for Cooks". This contained 4 panes: pane 1 of 15 x 5d (2 bands); panes 2 & 3 of 15 x 4d (centre band) and pane 4 with 6 x 4d, 6 x 1d, 3 x 5d. The 4d stamps have one side band (3 left and 3 right). This would be a common feature for many years having unique Machin stamps in Prestige Booklets. 10 000 of these booklets were stapled and 374 902 were sewn. The text had various recipes to try! It was released on 1st December 1969

The first Machin issues in Decimal Currency were the large format high values. They had values of 10p (2/-), 20p (4/-) and 50p (10/-). The 10p and 20p were in new colours-cerise and olive green. The 50p was an equivalent to the 10/- value so it retains the same colour. It may probably explain why the 10/- Machin is worth more than the £1 value in both mint and used.

When Decimal Currency finally arrived they had a postal strike. The first day covers had the message "delayed by postal strike". Initially there were 9 values ½ p, 1p, 2p, 2 ½ p, 3p, 4p, 5p, 7 ½ p, 9p. During the 1970's on inflation meant there were many different values and some new colours used. The variety of paper, gum, phosphor, perforation, head and value type meant there are 450 different types of Machins to collect. In the mid 1980's there was talk of replacing the Machins. This idea was rejected and we will have the Machins with us until the end of the Queen's reign.

*Some small edits were made by Jenni Creagh to the original article, including choosing alternate images to better illustrate the content.*



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# CAPITAL PHILATELY

November 2022 – VOL. 40, NO.3.

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Articles, letters and other contributions to *Capital Philately* should be sent to the Editor; either by mail to the Society address, or C/- The Editor's email.