



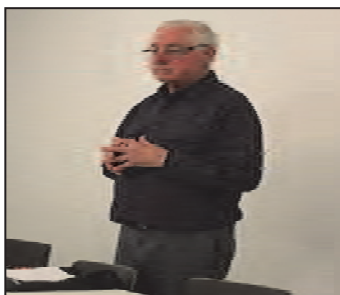
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Ian McMahon FAP FRPSL



Welcome to the second Newsletter of the Postal Stationery Commission for 2023.

I was pleased to meet some of you at IBRA 2023, held in May at Essen, Germany. The Exhibition also provided a welcome opportunity to meet with postal stationery collectors from around the world including members of the Berliner Ganssachen-Sammler-Verein [Berlin Postal Stationery Collectors Society] which had a Society booth at the Exhibition as well as Wayne Menuz, Editor of Postal Stationery, Journal of the United Postal Stationery Society [USA]. Wayne hosted a meeting of postal stationery societies to discuss a postal stationery society booth at Boston 2026 which would be funded by the UPSS.



Wayne Menuz (UPSS), top, and Members of BGSV at the meeting of Postal Stationery Societies

The next FIP exhibition will be Thailand 2023 in Bangkok. I am hoping that we can have a

In this Issue:

In this Issue:	Page
Message from the Chairman	1
Message from the Secretary	2
IBRA 2023 and Report on Commission Meeting and Seminar	2
Administrative Matters	3
Review of the Postal Stationery Guidelines	3
Commission Website & Facebook Pages	4
News from the Delegates	5
Postal Stationery Results for FIP and Continental Exhibitions	8
Future International Exhibitions	10
<i>Colonial And Commonwealth of Australia Postal Stationery Packet Bands</i> Dingle Smith	11
Literature	
Contents of Postal Stationery Society Journals	19
Reviews, Books and Catalogues	
<i>New South Wales Postal Stationery Catalogue and Handbook: Envelopes</i>	21
Book Review: <i>British India – Queen Victoria Postal Stationery</i> Wayne Menuz	24
Books	25
The Bureau	29
The Commission Delegates	30
FIP Jurors and Team Leaders	33

commission meeting/qualifying seminar at Bangkok and further details will be emailed to you once they are known. I look forward to seeing many of you at the exhibition.

With EFIRO 24 (in Bucharest, Romania) now a FIP exhibition, there are now two FIP exhibitions in 2024 with a second exhibition, PhilaKorea 24, to be held in Soeul, South Korea. Planned international exhibitions are listed on page 11. Please double check the exhibition details regularly.

MESSAGE FROM THE
SECRETARY

Michael Smith FRPSL



I would like to thank all of the contributors to this newsletter and would encourage others to do so. I was particularly interested to read Dingle Smith's article in this newsletter on the *Colonial and Commonwealth of Australia Postal Stationery Packet Bands*. I have always tried to pick up examples for my own area whenever I can, which is of course rarely! One problem, is that many smaller countries, whose stationery was printed by De La Rue, used generic packet bands with no indication of the country name. It is therefore, very hard to be sure that a particular band, wrapped around one or more cards or envelopes, actually belong to the particular issue. The same is also true of what Dingle calls "Buddle Tops", I acquired one for 120 Letter Cards that was said to come from South Africa, in the auction description, but on the reverse there is a pencil note saying "Falkland Islands"!



Your thoughts and comments on Dingle's article or any others in this newsletter would be most welcome.

On a personal note, I was a member of the PS Jury in Essen, together with Lars Engelbrecht, Emil Minnaar and Juan Reinoso, where we had a very enjoyable time judging a number of superb Postal Stationery exhibits. I also attended the FIP Jury Academy prior to the exhibition, which was without doubt the most enjoyable and useful juror training that I have ever undertaken. To those FIP Jurors who have not yet attended a Jury Academy, I would highly recommend it.

IBRA 2023 WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION



IBRA 2023 was a world exhibition held from 25-28 May 2023 at Messe Essen, Essen, Germany. It was the first full world exhibition held in Germany since IBRA 1989. The postal stationery judging team (Emil Minaar, Juan Reinoso and Mike Smith are shown above, Team Leader, Lars Engelbrecht, is not shown). The postal stationery class included 25 exhibits with three Large Gold medals. The literature section of the Exhibition which also included a number of postal stationery books, two of which are included in the literature section of this issue of the newsletter. The best exhibit in the class was Behruz Nassre-Esfahani's *Persia, Qajar Postal Stationery Issued 1876-1925* while Michael Ho also received a Large Gold medal for *Honduras Postal Stationery*. In addition, there were six Gold medals awarded.

REPORT ON POSTAL STATIONERY
COMMISSION MEETING AND SEMINAR AT IBRA
2023

The Commission held a qualifying seminar at IBRA 2023 in Essen, Germany in May. Ian McMahon gave a Report of the Postal Stationery Commission Bureau activity. Mike Smith then gave a presentation on the Current Trends in the Postal Stationery Class, which was followed by an excellent presentation on "Postal Stationery Treatment" by Bureau Member, Sam Chiu from Canada.

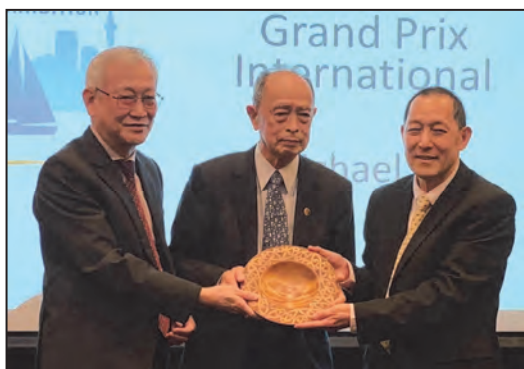
12 delegates attended, despite the seminar taking place on the last afternoon, as the exhibition was closing.

NZ 2023, 38TH ASIAN INTERNATIONAL
PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

NZ 2023 was a FIAP held 4-7 May 2023 in Auckland. The Exhibition had 14 multi-frame, two one-frame, and a youth postal stationery

exhibit. Michael Ho's exhibit of *King Willem III Netherlands East Indies Postal Stationery 1874-1904* received a Large Gold award as well as the International Grand Prix. There were Gold medals for Raymond Todd's *The Postal Stationery of Paraguay 1881-1928* and Rishi Kumar Tulsyan's *The Postal Stationery of Nepal, (1887-1959)*.

A meeting of the FIP Postal Stationery Commission held jointly with the Postal Stationery Society of Australia, was held at NZ2023 with Frank Pauer presenting *Aerogrammes of Australia*. The three pictures from the Exhibition show the Frank Pauer presenting at the Commission meeting (right), postal stationery judging team (Glen Stafford, Jeff Long, Ian McMahon (team leader), and Mohammed Islam) with Jeff Long Chairman of the Exhibition, Michael Ho (centre) receiving his Grand Prix International.



ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

On page 29 is a list of all of the Commission Delegates and their contact details.

If there are any changes to the delegate list or of contact details, please let me know. My email is mikesmith.philatelist@gmail.com.

It is important that our email contacts are up to date. Email addresses which appear to no longer work are marked by '(?)' in the list. If you know of the correct email address for these delegates, please let me know.

Reports and other material for the newsletter are welcome from all Commission Delegates. Also, I would urge all delegates to contribute to the newsletter with reports of their country's activities as well as book reviews and articles on postal stationery. I would be especially interested in hearing from you how you promote the exhibiting and collecting of postal stationery as well as the results of postal stationery exhibits at Exhibitions in your country.

Finally, a reminder for delegates to pass on this newsletter and other information from the Commission to postal stationery judges, exhibitors and collectors in your country and to generally promote exhibiting and collecting postal stationery.

REVIEW OF THE POSTAL STATIONERY GUIDELINES

Purpose: Review the SREVs to ensure that they align with the guidelines of the other classes (eg in the description of judging criteria) following the 2022 revisions of these guidelines. Most commissions have updated their guidelines – and used the 2012 version of the postal stationery guidelines as a model.

The Postal Stationery commission will review the new guidelines and suggest a minor update in 2023 including examining the definitions of Postal Stationery to ensure that they are clear noting the Study by the FIAF Postal Stationery Commission and other comments. Comments welcome: ian.mcmahon4@bigpond.com.

FIP POSTAL STATIONERY COMMISSION WEBSITE

The website of the FIP Postal Stationery Commission has been converted to a site on the FIP website. The new address is postalstationery.f-i-p.ch. My thanks to Ross Towle for his work in setting up the new website.

FIP POSTAL STATIONERY COMMISSION FACEBOOK PAGE

- THE FIP POSTAL STATIONERY COMMISSION HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE
- CURRENTLY HAVE OVER 900 MEMBERS
- WE UPDATE IT WITH NEWS ON EXHIBITING AND JUDGING POSTAL STATIONERY

- YOU ARE ALL INVITED TO JOIN THE PAGE – SEARCH ON FACEBOOK FOR: "FIP POSTAL STATIONERY"
- PLEASE USE THE PAGE TO SHARE PHOTOS, COMMENTS AND ASK QUESTIONS



AUSTRALIA

By: Ian McMahon

IBRA 2023

IBRA 2023 was a world exhibition held from 25-28 May 2023 at Messe Essen, Essen, Germany. Australian awards included a Large Gold medal to Malcolm Groom from Australia for his exhibit, *Tasmanian Embossed Stationery 1883 to 1912*, a Gold medal to Philip Levine for his exhibit, *Gold Coast Postal Stationery* and a Large Vermeil to Frank Pauer for his exhibit, *Australian Air Letters & Aerogrammes – The Note Printing Branch Era. The Postal Stationery Collector*, the Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia, received a Large Vermeil. Malcolm Groom and family are shown in front of the frames (right).



NZ 2023 – 38th Asian International Philatelic Exhibition

NZ 2023 was a FIAP exhibition held 4-7 May 2023 in Auckland, New Zealand. Raymond Todd's *The Postal Stationery of Paraguay 1881-1928* received a Gold medal.

Hobart 2023 and Toowoomba 2024 National One-Frame Exhibitions

Hobart 2023 was a National one-frame exhibition held 19 – 21 May 2023 at Hobart. There were three postal stationery exhibits. Mark Diserio won a large gold medal for his exhibit *Queensland 1d Letter Card and Reply Letter Card* as well as a Gold medal for Australia - Post Office Letter Sheets 1961 to 1969. Allen Shatten won a Gold medal for *Tasmania: Unframed Queen Victoria Postcards*.

The National one-frame exhibition in 2024 will be Toowoomba National One-Frame Exhibition to be held 11 - 13 October 2024.

Perth 2023 National Stamp Exhibition

The next national postal stationery competition will be held at Perth 2023, a national philatelic exhibition which will be held 2-5 November 2023 at Gloucester Park Racecourse in Perth. The exhibition will include an international postal stationery challenge. Further details can be found at <https://www.perth2023stampshow.com/>.

Canberra Stampshow 2024

The National exhibition in 2024 will be Canberra Stampshow 2024 to be held 13-15 September 2024 at Thoroughbred Park (the Canberra racecourse). Canberra Stampshow 2024 will be a full National exhibition including the Postal Stationery Class. For further information view the website at <https://canberrastamps.org/canberra-stamp-show/>. The exhibition's theme is the 150th anniversary of the Universal postal Union.

Postal Stationery Society of Australia

Last year the PSSA established prizes for the best article in the *Postal Stationery Collector* for each calendar year. The first year of publication to be considered for the prize is 2022. The winners of the 2022 prizes for the best articles in the PSC are:

Best Article: Mark Diserio - *Inseparable Jonathan Bear PSC* February, May 2022

Runner up to the Best Article: Judith Kennett - *Hungary Postcards used in Romania PSC* May 2022

Best Short Article (up to 1 page): Peter Tozer - *[Australia] 18c Die 8 PSC* May 2022

Runner-up Best Short Article: Dingle Smith - *Book Review Analysis of Worldwide Wrappers by John Courtis PSC* May 2022

The Society's website hosts the *Handbook of New South Wales Postal Stationery*. The most recent addition to the website has been the section on envelopes which I discussed in the literature section of this newsletter. In addition, a number of articles on the Postal stationery of Queensland can be found on the website.

JAPAN

By: Fumio Yamazaki

Japanese Postal Stationery collectors are very active in exhibiting their collections. In Stampex Japan 2023, which was held at the Postal Museum Japan located at Tokyo Skytree Town “Soramachi” from 25th March to 27th March this year, there was one Postal Stationery Exhibit:

1. *Postal Stationery under Japanese Naval Occupation* exhibited by MORIKAWA, Tamaki who got a Gold Medal (88)

We had a national philatelic exhibition “All Japan Philatelic Exhibition” held at Sumida Industrial Hall 8th Floor from 15th July to 17th July. There was only one exhibit which was as follows:

1. *Koban Postal Cards* exhibited by TANAKA, Akio who got a Silver medal. (67)

As for the international exhibitions, there was one exhibit in New Zealand 2023 (FIAP) which

was held in Auckland from 4th May to 7th May this year. It was 1 frame collection.

- 1 *Summer Postal Greeting Cards of Japan 1950-1951* exhibited by SUDANI Nobuhiro. (83)

Unfortunately, there were no exhibits at IBRA 2023. There is one exhibit at Taipei 2023 which will be held at Taipei World Trade Center, Taipei from 11th August to 15th August this year which is as follows;

- 1 *Commemorative Postal Cards of Japan 1936-1962* exhibited by SUDANI, Nobuhiro, 8 frames.

We do hope that he will get a nice medal.

In November, we will have a national philatelic exhibition annually called “Japex 2023”. There was no entry of Postal Stationery Exhibit for Thailand 2023.

That is all.

UNITED KINGDOM

By Michael Smith

The Postal Stationery Society (PSS):

Future meetings of the society will take place at The Royal Philatelic Society London on 7 October 2023 and 23 March 2024. The meeting in October will include the Tony Chilton Competition and a “live” auction with almost 600 lots of postal stationery.

Anyone interested in membership, should contact John Barker (email: johnbarker@btinternet.com) or visit the website www.postalstationery.org.uk. The facility to receive the Journal, Auction List and other publications and notices by email is now available to members living outside the UK to reduce the cost of membership.

National Exhibition:

York Northern National Exhibition 2023 (21-22 July)

The Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS) held its only National Exhibition of 2023

at York Race Course Grandstand in July. There were three postal stationery exhibits:

- Jon Aitchison - *The Postal Stationery Envelopes of Egypt and Preceding Essays* - 87 Points - Gold
- Dr Dinar Athale - *Postal Stationery of British India 1856 – 1947* - 75 points - Vermeil
- Dr Brian Callan - *Downey Head Postal Stationery* - 78 points - Vermeil

Future Exhibitions in the UK:

STAMPEX Autumn 2023 (27 – 30 September)

There will not be a nationally organized competition at this event, so there will not therefore be an opportunity to qualify for international competitions.

London Spring Exhibition 2024 (28-30 March)

A National Exhibition of 146 frames is planned for March 2024 to be held at the Royal Philatelic Society London. This is particularly aimed at those seeking to qualify for forthcoming

international competitions. Look out for further details.

Europhilex 2025, Birmingham (7-11 May)

For the first time ever, Britain has decided to move its international exhibition out of London. Birmingham is the country's second city, which is located in the centre of England, surrounded by a massive population and several other large cities.

The exhibition has FEPA patronage and FIP recognition of all classes, with 2,000 frames. With the excellent air and rail links and excellent car parking it's sure to be an attractive destination. Further details, the IREX and entry forms are available now on the website: www.europhilex2025.co.uk

POSTAL STATIONERY RESULTS FOR RECENT FIP AND CONTINENTAL EXHIBITIONS

IBRA 2023, Essen Germany (FIP) 25-28 May 2023

von Scharpen, Rainer	DE	Ganzsachen Französische Zone 1945-1949	85	LV
Reiners, Clemens	DE	Die amtlichen Ganzsachen mit Wertstempel "Bundespräsident Heuss" und ihre Verwendung	81	V
Nilsson, Lars-Olof	SE	Postal Cards before GPU 1874	87	LV
Ahmad, Ghias	PK	The Kingdom of Italy Postal Cards 1872-1929	86	LV
Christiansen, John Buur	DK	Aerograms of Denmark 1949-1988	86	LV
Keßler, Andreas	DE	Denmark - postal stationery - 10 Öre coat of arms type	87	LV
Dünki, Joos	CH	Postal Stationery of the Principality of Liechtenstein from 1918	85	LV
Lienert, Otmar	CH	The System of International Reply Coupons	90	G
Ljubicic, Nikola	RS	Stationery of Serbia 1873 - 1900	91	G
Martinez Hernandez, Manuel	ES	Postal stationery type "Matrona" 1931-1936	88	LV
Frazão, Luis	PT	The first postal stationary issue of the Portuguese Colonies. King Luis general issue (1885-1903)	91	G SP
Kahrammanlar, Yalcin	TR	Postal Stationary of Ottoman Empire (1862-1916)	86	LV
Chivers, Stephen	NZ	Leeward Islands Postal Stationery	86	LV
Ho, Michael	CT	Honduras Postal Stationery	95	LG
Meri, Pedro	VE	Venezuela: Postal Stationery, New order	88	LV
Jaiswal, Sandeep	US	British India KGVI Postal Stationery	92	G
Jhingan, Madhukar	IN	The Indian Aerogrammes	83	V
Tan, Roger	SG	Netherlands East Indies Postal Envelope 1878 - 1939	88	LV
Nassre-Esfahani, Behruz	US	Persia, Qajar Postal Stationery Issued 1876-1925	96	LG SP
Al Attar, Hatim	OM	Postal Stationery of Zanzibar 1893 - 1964	83	V
Levine, Philip	AU	Gold Coast Postal Stationery	91	G SP
Pauer, Frank	AU	Australian Air Letters & Aerogrammes – The Note Printing Branch Era	87	LV
Groom, Malcolm	AU	Tasmanian Embossed Stationery 1883 to 1912	95	LG
Malmgren, Richard	US	Hawaii Postal Cards	90	G

NZ 2023, Auckland New Zealand (FIAP) 4-7 May 2023

Todd	Raymond	Australia	The Postal Stationery of Paraguay 1881-1928	90 G
Munir	M M Salman	Bangladesh	Postal Stationery of Natal 1885-1912	75 LS
Ho	Michael	Chinese Taipei	King Willem III Netherlands East Indies Postal Stationery 1874-1904	96 LG+GPI
Huang	Chen-Huei	Chinese Taipei	Postal Stationery of German Post Office in China	90 G
Liu	Li-Chi	Chinese Taipei	Chinese Taipei: Domestic Postal Stamped Envelopes of 2012-2016	78 LS
Biswal	Avipsa	India	Postal Stationery of "Gwalior State" (Twin Cobra Overprint & Snake Cancellations)	71 S
Jhingan	Madhukar	India	The Registered Envelopes of India 1950-2010	85 LV
Shet	Prashanth	India	Indian Aerogrammes 1948-2010	75 LS
Bang	Sun Ho	Korea	Letter Sheets of Korea: 1952-2007	70 S
Huo	Hui Xiao	Macau	Macau Postal Cards of Kings (1886-1920)	86 LV
Tulsyan	Rishi Kumar	Nepal	The Postal Stationery of Nepal (1887-1959)	92 G+SP
Kodwawala	Muhammad	Pakistan	Postal Stationery of Pakistan 1947-1957 (Dominion to Islamic Republic of Pakistan)	77 LS
Seow	Shin Horng	Singapore	Postal Stationery of the Federation of Malaya 1948-1957	86 LV
Toe	Kyaw Kyar	Singapore	British Burma Postal Stationeries 1857-1937	85 LV
Rupesinghe	Harsha Feriz	Sri Lanka	The Internal-Rate Post Card of Ceylon 1872-1948	80 V

Taipei 2023, Taipei Chinese Taipei (FIAP) 11-15 August 2023

Australia	McMahon	Ian	Australia	Envelopes and Postcards of Canada	91	G SP
Bangladesh	Ferdaus	Shahrier	Bangladesh	Postal Stationery of Bangladesh	73	S
Bangladesh	Bin Salam	Syeed	Bangladesh	Aerogrammes of Bangladesh	72	S
Chinese Taipei	Lin	Yen-Hao	Chinese Taipei	Field Postal Cards and Envelopes of Taiwan (1951-1990)	81	V
Chinese Taipei	Chen	Yi Fu	Chinese Taipei	Postal Stationery of North Korea: The First Decade 1944-1954	87	LV
Chinese Taipei	Lin	Shyang Jinn	Chinese Taipei	Letter Cards with Wheat Stalks Figure or Dr Sun yet Sen Portrait of ROC (1918-1940)	87	LV
Japan	Sudani	Nobuhiro	Japan	Commemorative Postal Cards of Japan 1936-1962	83	V
Oman	Al Attar	Hatim	Oman	Postal Stationery of Zanzibar 1893-1964	83	V
Pakistan	Ahmad	Ghias	Pakistan	Postal Stationery of Argentina 1876-1908	81	V
Saudi Arabia	Alharbi	Nadir Jiza	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabian Aerogramme	72	S
Singapore	Seow	Shin Horng	Singapore	Postal Stationery of the Federation of Malaya 1948-1957	88	LV
Singapore	Chua	Eu Tiong	Singapore	Postal Stationery used in and of the Straits Settlements in the Victorian Era	85	LV
Singapore	Tan	Kah Sheng	Singapore	Straits Settlements QV Postal Stationery	85	LV

FUTURE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

Planned international exhibitions with a Postal Stationery class. Please note that not all exhibitions are confirmed. The dates shown are subject to change.

12-16 September 2023	Uruguay, Montevideo	Uruguay 2023	FIAF	
29 September -2 October 2023	Dhaka	Bangladesh 2023 (FIP sponsored)	FIP	https://bangladesh2023.com/
27 November – 2 December 2023	Thailand, Bangkok	Thailand 2023	FIP	https://www.thailand2023wsc.com/
16-19 April 2024	Romania, Bucharest,	EFIRO 2024	FIP	http://www.efiro.ro
15-19 August 2024	South Korea, Seoul	PhilaKorea 2024	FIP	
17-20 October 2024	Denmark, Copenhagen	Hafnia 24	FEPA	https://www.hafnia24.com
7-11 May 2025	United Kingdom, Birmingham,	Europhilex Birmingham 2025	FEPA	https://europhilex2025.co.uk
Late 2025	Australia, Melbourne	Melbourne 2025	FIAP	https://melbourne2025.com.au /
23-30 May 2026	USA, Boston	Boston 2026	FIP	http://www.boston2026.org/

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY OTHER EXHIBITIONS THAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED, PLEASE CONTACT THE SECRETARY.

COLONIAL AND COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA POSTAL STATIONERY PACKET BANDS*Dingle Smith*

This article describes the paper bands used to assist with the delivery and sale of postal stationery items. Some studies refer to these as 'wrapper bands' but, as proposed by Sargent (2020), this account prefers the term 'packet bands' to avoid confusion with the term 'newspaper wrappers'. Packet bands were used by British stamp printers, such as De La Rue, for a variety of forms of postal stationery. Such bands comprised a long strip of paper gummed at one end and wrapped around a number of the items to enable easier handling and accountancy. Printing on the bands often includes information on the number of items, a summary of the type of postal stationery and sometimes an indication of purchase price. De La Rue provided essays and proofs of such items to clients who ordered postal stationery from them. They were remarkably attractive for packaging that essentially ended up as wastepaper. As described below at various times British printers supplied postal stationery items via the Crown Agents in London to some of the Australian colonial postal authorities. The packet bands were often used to accommodate relatively small numbers of items, typically a dozen or twenty-five. Sargent (p.111-118, 2020) illustrates over fifty different wrapper bands used for British postal cards from 1870 to the issue of decimal currency. Many of the earlier packet bands were produced by De La Rue and by McCorquodale & Co. Similar illustrated accounts for other types of British postal stationery packet bands do not appear to be readily available. Dagnall (p.211, 1985) mentions and illustrates that, in addition to the packet bands, De La Rue also used an additional form of packaging label, termed a 'Bundle Top'. These were of a larger size, on thin card and placed on the top of container housing several Packet Bands. To date, Bundle Tops have not been recorded for any of the postal stationery items sent by De La Rue to the Australian colonies.

The first items of printed Australian colonial postal stationery were the New South Wales newspaper wrappers issued in 1864 and progressively Australian colonial postal authorities introduced additional postal stationery items. Some of the earliest issues were printed in London by De La Rue and despatched to Australia; Tasmania and Western Australia are examples. For other colonies the dies were manufactured in Great Britain and the printing undertaken in the colonies or the whole design and printing process was undertaken locally. The procedure for local production was for the General Post Office in each Colony to request the Government Printer to print the appropriate postal stationery items, in some cases with packet bands, and forward these to the GPO for distribution.

Standard postal stationery catalogues such as Higgins & Gage or Ascher do not list packet bands and all the handbooks that describe Australian Colonial/State and Commonwealth postal stationery stress that packet bands are rare. The question then becomes to decide when and if packet bands were issued for the differing classes of postal stationery. A summary of the situation re packet bands for the Colonies/States and later for the Commonwealth is given below. This is based in the available literature and information kindly made available to the author by Australian postal stationery collectors. However, the survival rate of any form of packet bands for Australian and Commonwealth issues is extremely small although overseas studies note that there is a growing interest in such items.

This account is limited to packet bands that incorporate printed information related to the items enclosed. Various literature accounts mention the sale of various types of postal stationery in bundles with differing numbers of items. This is often associated with reductions in price per unit of stationery when the number purchased is larger. These details are not discussed in this account which is restricted to packet bands that incorporate printed information related to the items enclosed.

Packet Bands for Newspaper Wrappers

An exception is that packet bands were rarely used for newspaper wrappers. To date, no packet bands for use with Australian Colonial newspaper wrappers have been recorded. This is not unexpected as the two recent and comprehensive accounts of world newspaper wrappers, by Kosniowski (2019) and Courtis (2021), stress the lack of information for such items. Kosniowski (p.14, 2019) comments for Great Britain '... there is no known published information on this subject and there is nothing in official records'. He does however, illustrate a number of packet bands for British newspaper wrappers and these can be used to link the decorative features to the British printers De La Rue and McCorquodale. Courtis (p. 644, 2021) in his 2-volume 900-page study of world newspaper wrappers devotes a single page to packet bands and concludes '... this is an aspect of postal stationery which has been understudied'. So, if a reader can provide a scan of an Australian newspaper packet band they are assured of a place in philatelic history! In part the lack of packet bands for newspaper wrappers may be due to their size and for many of the colonies they were often offered for sale in sheets of several wrappers and the guillotined to meet the number purchased. Archival sources for New South Wales mention the use of blue and green packaging for newspaper wrappers but it not known if these were printed packet bands.

Packet Bands and the Australian Colonies

The descriptions of the packet bands that follows commenced with the Australian Colonies that initially relied on the British printers either to print and package the postal stationery items including the possible use of packet bands, or to provide the dies and associated equipment for the manufacture to be undertaken in the colony. In some cases, the early orders for postal stationery were printed in Great Britain and the dies were later sent to the colony for the printing to be undertaken locally. This was the procedure followed by Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia. For Victoria and New South Wales the design, dies and manufacture were undertaken in the colony. There are no known examples of packet bands for Queensland. After Federation the administration of postal matters became a federal government responsibility and progressively the printing of postal stationery was transferred to Melbourne.

Tasmania



Figure 1 Tasmania, De La Rue packet band , circa 1882 (from Groom & Shatten, 2021, p.13)



Figure 2 Tasmania De La Rue packet bands for illustrated letter cards (from Groom & Shatten, 2021, p.114 & 116)

A recent, detailed and well-illustrated account of Tasmanian Postal Stationery is available in Groom and Shatten (2021). The earliest postal cards were produced and printed in Hobart, and it is thought unlikely that packet bands would have been produced for these. The first major order for postal stationery items printed by De La Rue in London consisted of 100,000 postal cards issued in Tasmania in 1882. A packet band for these reads '12 Inland Post Cards' and is illustrated in Groom and Shatten (p.13, 2021) and reproduced here as Figure 1. The decoration and format of these bands is comparable to that widely used by De La Rue at this time although, unlike the cards issued for Great Britain, the band does not include the price of the card, perhaps because the price to be charged had not yet been decided. The name of the colony is not given. The Groom and Shatten study also illustrate several other packet bands. These include the 1d postal cards printed

locally, after 1893 when the dies had been received from De La Rue, with a plain white packet band with the cards separated by blue interleaving; the only example of this style of packaging described from the Australian Colonies, see Groom and Shatten (p.19, 2021). Tasmania also issued a range of illustrated letter cards, those for the issue in 1900 were printed by De La Rue with a simple packet band again with no country name or price but with a change in the decoration. In 1901 De La Rue supplied a new series of illustrated letter cards with a similar decoration but with the added wording 'View of Mines'. These two bands for illustrated letter cards are illustrated in Figure 2.



Figure 3 Tasmania, Packet band for halfpenny envelopes, Groom & Shatten (2021, p. 40)

Of particular interest is the packet band for two penny envelopes, illustrated here as Figure 3. The first stamped envelopes for Tasmania, with a 2d green embossed impression of the Queen's Head, were printed by De La Rue in London and were issued in the Colony in early 1883. This style of band does not match that normally used by De La Rue and has the unusual description of 'Duty Two Pence'.

It is uncertain if this packet band was produced by De La Rue or printed in Tasmania. However, an example is known with the band still enclosing twelve 2d envelopes. In 1893 a small number of registered envelopes were printed by McCorquodale & Co. in London but it thought unlikely that these involved the use of packet bands.

Western Australia

A detailed priced catalogue for the postal stationery of Western Australia was produced by Pope (2002). In a similar way to Tasmania, early items of postal stationery were designed and printed by De La Rue in London. The first issue was of postal cards printed in London and issued in the Colony in early 1880. Pope (p.18, 2002) provides illustrations of the De La Rue essays for the packet bands for ½d and 1d postal cards both for bundles of 12 cards and for 240 cards. These are reproduced here as Figure 4. Examples of the issued packet bands for the ½d and 1d cards are shown in Figure 5. The illustrations were kindly provided by John Dibiase.

It is of note that the issued bands, in contrast to the essays, do not give any indication of the price of the cards but in contrast to the Tasmanian cards the name of the colony is included. Commencing in 1902 the printing of postal cards was undertaken in Melbourne initially by the Victorian Government Printer and later by the Commonwealth Stamp Printing Office. A much wider range of classes of postal stationery were issued, these included envelopes, letter cards, registered envelopes and newspaper wrappers. However, no packet bands for the post-1902 period were recorded by Pope or by other collectors of Tasmanian postal stationery. Pope (p.17, 2002) is the only writer to have provided a monetary valuation for packet bands. He lists both the Half-Penny and One Penny bands illustrated in Figure 5 as: 'Complete band \$200; Reduced band \$50' at 2002 prices.



Figure 4 Western Australia, De La Rue essays for packet bands, Pope, (2002, p.18)

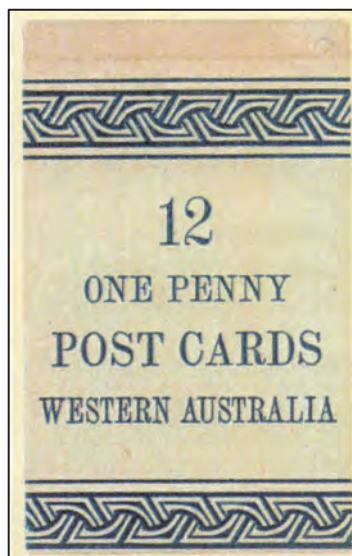
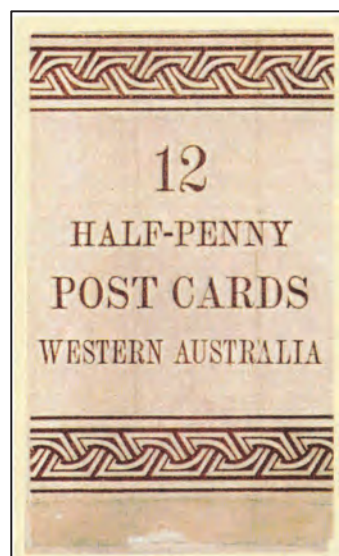


Figure 5. Western Australia, De la Rue Half-Penny and One Penny postal cards packet bands, Pope 2002, p.19).



South Australia

The information for South Australia is based on photocopies of an exhibit of Postal Stationery of South Australia shown some years ago and by information supplied by Martin Walker. This includes several examples of packet bands all related to postal and postal reply cards. Three are for 1d and 1d + 1d cards used prior to 1890. Such cards were only sold in packs of 12 (1d) or 6 reply (1d + 1d) cards. The packet bands read ONE DOZEN POST CARDS /Price One Shilling This is known in two styles with a differing form of 'g' in shilling. The other reads 'HALF-DOZEN REPLY POST CARDS/Price One Shilling', these are shown in Figure 6.

In 1893 a new style of postal and reply cards with a different stamp design and size were produced by the printers in Melbourne. The size and printing on the packet bands remain unchanged for these later cards although the length of the band was extended for use with the larger size cards. The final style of packet band was for 'ONE DOZEN POST CARDS, PRICE – ONE SHILLING' but including the words 'South Australia', the Royal Coat of Arms all enclosed in a differing shape of margin to the earlier wrappers, see Figure 7.

The dies used for printing the stamps and the postal stationery items were not produced in South Australia, however it is thought that the wrapper bands were printed locally. In part because the same bands were used for items printed within the State and later in Melbourne. It assumes that the printing of the postal stationery items prior to the Commonwealth period was undertaken in the colony with the dies produced in Great Britain by Waterlow and later by De La Rue. As background the first South Australian postal cards were issued in 1876, newspaper wrappers 1882, reply cards 1883, stamped envelopes and registered envelopes in 1911.

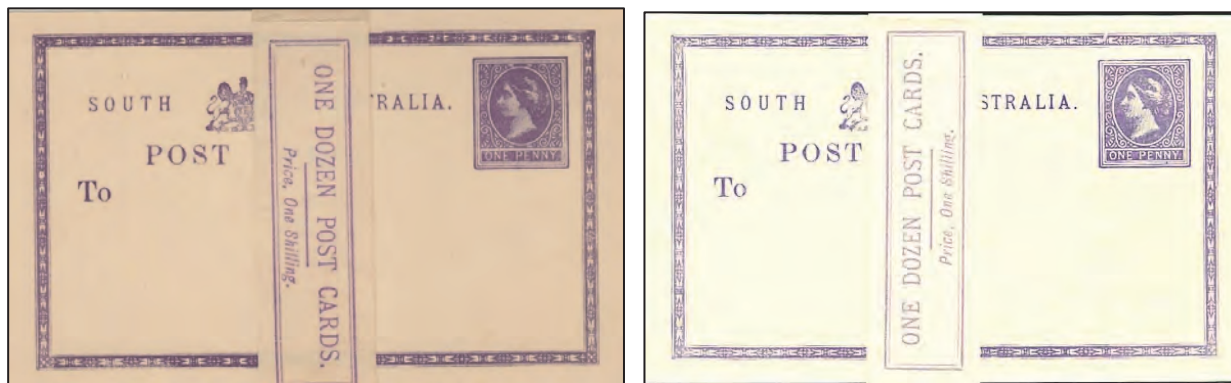


Figure 6 South Australia, packet bands for 1d and 1d + 1d reply cards.

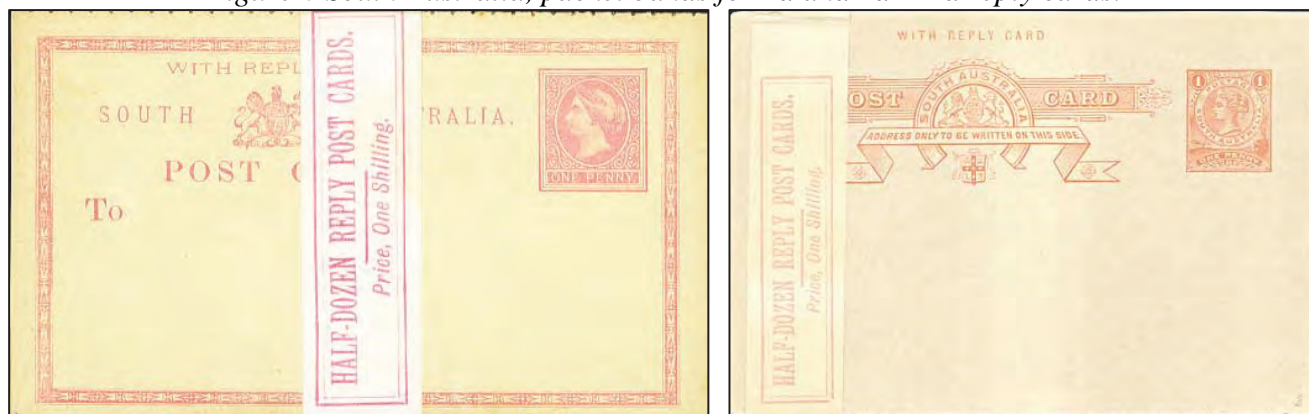


Figure 6 (Continued) South Australia, packet bands for 1d and 1d + 1d reply cards.



Figure 7 South Australia, later style package bands for 1d postal cards.

Victoria

The remaining colonies relied on their government printer to supply both adhesive postage stamps and postal stationery items. For these jurisdictions information on the production and use of packet bands is sparse. For Victoria neither the comprehensive study 'Victorian Postal Stationery 1869-1917 of Victoria' by Stieg (2001) nor the account of postal stationery by Breckon in 'The Stamps of Victoria' (Kellow, 1990) have other than the briefest mention of the packaging of postal stationery items. Stieg (p.11) mentions that postcards 'were cut into single cards and tied in £1 bundles for delivery to the Post office' and that envelopes were 'banded in lots of a dozen for sale to the public'. Examples of the only known two examples of pre-Commonwealth packet bands for Victoria, shown in Figures 8 and 9, were kindly made available by Mark Diserio. Figure 8 is for the first Victorian registered envelope with a 4d embossed lilac stamp issued in June 1881, see Stieg (p.102, 2001). This packet band is printed in red on blue paper with the value for one dozen at 4s 3d, the registered envelopes were also sold at 2 for 8½d or a single envelope for 4½d. The practice of

charging 3d per dozen in addition to the stamp value continued throughout the issue of Victorian registered envelopes. The first Victorian 1d embossed envelopes were issued on 1 January 1890 and a simple packet band for 'ONE PENNY EMBOSSED/ 1 DOZ. 1s 3d.' is illustrated in Figure 9, this has an additional ¼d charge for each envelope in excess of the value of the stamp impression.

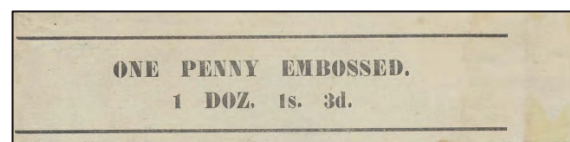


Figure 8. Victoria, 4d embossed registered envelope issued 1881. Figure 9. Victoria, 1d embossed envelope issued January

1890

New South Wales

To date the only two packet bands are known for New South Wales are for 1d and 2d envelopes produced in the early 1890s. These are described and illustrated in *The Postal Stationery of New South Wales*, Envelopes p.12, Smith, Blinman & Kowald (2023) and shown here as Figure 10. The bands are for '25 ONE-PENNY POSTAGE ENVELOPES/Value 2s 3d' and '25 TWO-PENCE POSTAGE ENVELOPES/Value 4s 6d'. Detailed archival printing records are available for this period and indicate that all the envelopes produced were forwarded to the Post Office in bundles of 25. However, for both the 1d and 2d envelopes there were two sets of prices. The bundles of 25 1d envelopes were priced at either 2/1d or 2/3d and the 2d envelopes at 4/2d or 4/6d. The printing records indicate that the 4/6d rate was reduced to 4/4d in February 1894. The envelopes could only be purchased in packs of 25, the reasons for the dual price structures remain unclear. It is possible that the cards priced solely at the rate of the impressed stamps may have been printed to private order. The detailed printing records cease in January 1896.

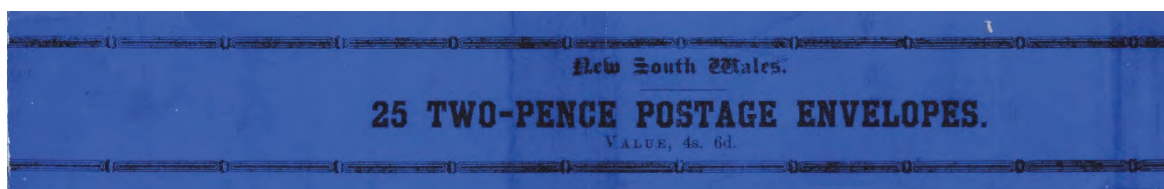


Figure 10 New South Wales, packet bands for 25 1d and 2d envelopes first issued early 1880s.

The Handbook of the Postal Stationery of New South Wales (see Postcards, 03 International Cards p.10; Smith, Blinman and Kowald, 2023) notes from internal archival correspondence that the 2d and 3d international postal cards were '...packed as requested, the 2d in blue and the 3d in green paper.' No known examples of this packaging have been reported.

Commonwealth Issues

With Federation in 1901 the administration of postal matters became a federal responsibility and progressively the production and printing of postal stationery was transferred to Melbourne, a process finally completed in 1913. Details are given in 'The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue' by Kellow (2018). Commonwealth packet bands are only recorded as used with envelopes and the price of Commonwealth envelopes always included a charge for the envelope that was more than the value of the impressed stamp. Initially the Note Printing Branch banded the envelopes into packets printed with the number of items and price. Kellow remarks that '... relatively few of these printed bands survive, and the practice ceased from about 1918'. The first issue of penny envelopes in 1912 were only sold in packs of 25 at 2/3d. From July 1913 this was changed to packets of 2 at 2½d, 5 for 6d and 30 for 3/-. Kellow (p.190, 2018) notes that prior to early 1930 it was not possible to purchase single envelopes. Examples of one penny envelope packet bands, taken from Kellow (p.191, 2018) and others supplied by Mark Diserio, are illustrated in Figure 11.

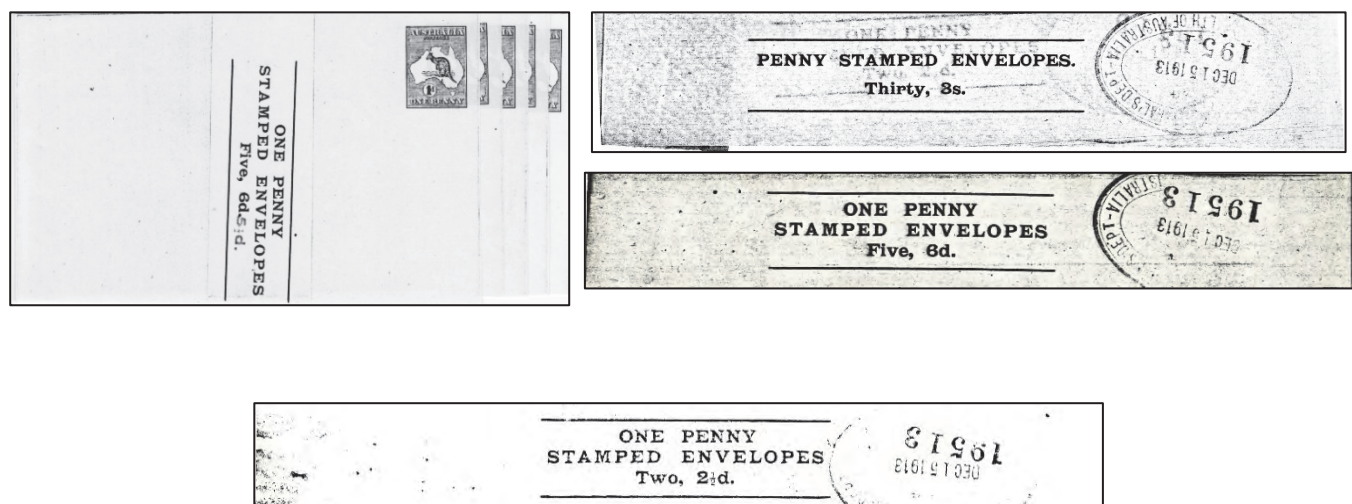


Figure 11 Commonwealth postal stationery, examples of packet bands for 1d envelopes.

Summary of the Use of Packet Bands

Packet bands are thought to have been introduced early in the development of postal stationery items by the British Post Office and later by various colonial postal authorities throughout the British Empire including the Australian Colonies. The General Postal Union, after 1878 known as the Universal Postal Union, at its 1874 Congress held in Berne was concerned with defining the provision of postal stationery for international mail services. These matters are discussed in detail in the 2-volume study, 'The Postal History of the Universal Postal Union, The Postal Card Worldwide 1869-1974' by Gough (2019). The Berne Congress decided that the cost of the postal cards was '... to be included in the impressed stamp's value and there was not to be a separate or additional charge to the value of the impressed stamp'. Gough (fig. 3.6, p.222, 2019) illustrates a Great Britain packet band enclosing 12 Foreign Post Cards each at the value of 1¼d and originally priced at 1s 4d. and issued shortly before 30 June 1875. This was an error as it included an extra 1d for the cards and prior to issue the packet bands were handstamped with 1s 3d in red to comply with the Berne decision. The rather unusual value of 1¼d was because the Congress had recommended that the international postal card rate should be half the international letter rate which for the UK was 2½d. Although the text in Gough does not comment, the style and decoration of the packet band is clearly that used by the London printer De La Rue and later for some of the Australian colonies.

It is thought that packet bands were probably included with all the early postal stationery items supplied by De La Rue to Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia, the only likely exception was for newspaper wrappers. The situation for the other colonies is less clear and the paucity of bands recorded may indicate

that bands were not always issued. Postal stationery envelopes may be an exception and packet bands are thought to have been used for envelopes well after 1918. A reason for the extended use for envelopes could well be because envelopes were normally charged at a rate that exceeded the value of the impressed stamps, until the 1930s it was not possible to purchase single envelopes from post offices. The packet bands listed the number of envelopes and the price to be charged. The charge per envelope in excess of the value of the stamps decreased with the number of envelopes enclosed. For example, in 1915 at 30 envelopes for 2s 8d, 5 for 5½ d and 2 for 2½d. While in New South Wales for many years in the 1890s envelopes were only sold in packets of 25. Where available the packet bands for envelopes provide a useful check on the prices charged for envelopes.

This review of the packet bands used for Australian postal stationery confirms the statement often expressed in the literature that such items are rarely seen. Indeed, the packet bands for the Australian States described and illustrated in this account are in most cases the only known copies. This article only covers packet bands up until about 1920 and makes no attempt to list more recent packet bands which exist to this day, many are plain paper bands with no printing although the first pre-stamped envelopes (the 1979 bird series) came in colourful packets and there have been printed bands for definitive 'postage pre-paid envelopes' (PPEs).

It is a feature of many articles submitted to the *Postal Stationery Collector* to invite readers to add any additional information they may have. The author and the editor of the *Postal Stationery Collector* would be delighted for readers submit additional information or scans of Australian packet bands.

The author would especially like to thank the following postal stationery collectors Michael Blinman, John Dibiase, Mark Diserio, Malcolm Groom, Geoff Kellow, Peter Kowald, Ian McMahon and Martin Walker for their help in assembling the information above and for permission to reproduce many of the illustrations.

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LITERATURE – CONTENTS OF POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY JOURNALS

L'Entier Postal [France] No 118 Decembre 2022

- Behind the scenes in the making of postal cards or when margins mark milestones (analyses four different issues from 1976 to 1989)
- Postal stationery by balloon, or relating to balloon events
- Adolphe Schoeller before L'ACEP (he had a busy, productive life in French philately before he started L'ACEP in 1923)
- The 'return' of postal stationery (some designs from earlier years re-issued in a souvenir pack of postal cards for Philex-Paris in June 2022)

Postal Order News (Journal of the Postal Order Society, UK)

- Video of Mal Tedd's postal note collection including Australia, Queensland, Tasmania etc
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xrECeLKZisU>

Postal Order News (Journal of the Postal Order Society, UK)

- Trinidad and Tobago Inland Postal Orders
- One of only 300 Four Shillings (1½d) New South Wales postal notes overprinted for the Territory of Norfolk Island.

Postal Stationery Notes [BNAPS] Volume 32 No. 3 February 2023

- The 7¢ 1971? Postettes—notes
- A New Set of #10 Envelopes from Canada Post
- Some thoughts on the Animals and Birds, Flag, and Flower Issue #10 Envelopes 2012-2022
- CPR Expenses and Earnings cards in French
- The 2022 Canada Post Official Christmas cards
- #8 Private Order Envelopes prepared in the 1920s for Anaconda American Brass Limited—Dominion Envelope and PPS printings.

Postal Stationery Notes [BNAPS] Volume 32 No. 4 June 2023

- Banff post cards with added views
- Precancelled Update
- PCF Corner
- More Santa material
- Election Envelope Forerunner
- Canada Veiling Cards.

Ganzsachensammler [Switzerland] February 2023

- Obituary for Ueli Heiniger, 1938-2022
- Farewell to Olivia Strasser
- The unknown postcard GSS No 132: Losungen
- What can be stuck on a postcard?
- A postcard and its reverse
- Franking and Taxing of International Reply-Paid Postal Cards
- Swiss stamps on picture postcards
- Book Review: Swiss Postal Stationery Handbook Vol III

Die Ganzsache [Germany] 2/2022

- New Issues
- 150 years of German postcards. Early use of the P1 postcard
- Postcard with Berlin airlift stamp.
- Chilean envelope with 'SPECIMEN'
- Pneumatic Postal Stationery
- Liechtenstein Postal Cards 1939-44
- 'Krone/Adler' Lettercards 1897-1900
- P301 and P307
- Internet shopping scams are rampant;

Postal Stationery Collector Volume 29 No 2: Issue No 114 May 2023

- Queensland Pastoral Supplies Pty Ltd
- Queensland: 1909-1912 1d Single Postal Cards
- NSW Scenic View Postal Cards – Part 2
- 18-Cent Embossed PSE Reverse Designs (Part 5): Envelope Contract ATB 18420/75 – Post Office Preferred (POP)
- Symbol Top Right
- Canada Military Formular Airletter Used in Fiji
- Listing Of Australian Decimal STO Envelopes
- "Not Seen and Rare" Used Post Office Wrappers: A Worldwide Sample
- PSSA Forum
- Listing of Australian Non-Denominated Postal Stationery

Postal Stationery Collector [Australia] Volume 29 No 3: Issue No 115 August 2023

- Australian Commonwealth Lettercard Production Folding and Perforating Machines
- The 4-Cent Plain Stamped-To-Order
- Envelope Contract ATB 18420/75 – Post Office Preferred (POP) Symbol Top Right
- 18-Cent Embossed PSE Reverse Designs (Part 6) Long Standard Envelopes
- Colonial And Commonwealth of Australia Postal Stationery Packet Bands
- Hydatids – You, Too, Can Be Infected
- Victoria Crown And Garter Flap Seals on The Envelopes of Victoria
- "Elephants Trampling The Grass": Wrapper Realizations of USD100 And Above
- Practical Philately Making Your Own Stationery Watermark Detector
- PSSA Forum
- Listing of Australian Non-Denominated Postal Stationery

Postal Stationery Society Journal [UK] Vol 31 No 1 February 2023

- Society information and news
- Postal stationery for a purpose – Charity issues Part 3 (Germany in the 1930s)
- GB Postal Stationery News [new items reported]
- GB postal stationery [change of use for an item]
- British Guiana GVI postal stationery [a study, well-illustrated]
- Notes on Hungarian charity cards – follow-up to Part 1 of Postal Stationery for a purpose. Current issue cards were overprinted to raise funds for the Austro-Hungarian war effort in World War 1 [Judy Kennett's cards]
- Postal stationery at exhibitions [by our member Michael Smith]
- Table of the dates of issues of the PSS journal (from issue No 1 in 1993 to date)

Postal Stationery Society Journal [UK] Vol 31 No 2 May 2023

- A couple of registered envelope finds
- Argentina 1892 Bernardino Rivadavia series of wrappers in four formats for different denominations (by our member John Courtis)
- Thoughts about the S.T.O. airletter sheet
- GB Postal Stationery news
- These should not exist; what was issued was not quite what was intended
- The first airletter
- Book review – 'Postal stationery of India: the use of cut-outs as adhesives'
- Postal stationery with a purpose, with destination defined

Postal Stationery [USA] Vol. 65 No.2 Whole No. 449 March-April 2023

- Gibraltar, the Provisional Issue of January 1, 1886
- The First Postal Cards of Iceland
- The Originator of the Airmail Postal Card
- Executive Branch vs. Legislative Branch
- South African Republic Postal Order Master Plate
- Postal Cards: 150th Anniversary; New Finds; Auction News, Piedmont Postscript
- Envelopes: First Nesbitt Envelopes; Changes to Catalogs
- An Early History of the Envelope
- Lewandowski's LAVA Company
- Guatemalan Waterlow Specimen Card.
- Turkish Formular Cards
- New Edition of U.S. First Postal Card Book
- Is it a UXC1a?
- ERP Report for UPSS 903-7 / Scott W301
- Dr. Ascher's Collection
- Forgery of 10c Nesbitt
- LITERATURE REVIEWS: Ceylon Postal Stationery. Another Look at King George V Postal Stationery Envelopes; World War II British Military Postal History: Air Mail Letter Cards and Air Letters; British WWII Prisoner-of-War Air Mail Stationery: The Exhibit; The Stamps and Postal Stationery of Guatemala
- Transvaal 7/6 Postal Order

Postal Stationery [USA] Vol. 65 No.3 Whole No. 450 May-June 2023

- Non-denominated Commemorative Stationery of Guatemala
- 1898 Tasmanian Scenic Envelopes: Numbers Issued
- The 1871 First Issue Essay Die That Never Was
- The June 1942, 3-kuruş Surcharged Postal Cards
- The 1877 Postal Card Contract, Bill Falberg160
- February 20, 1962 – John Glenn's Manned Orbital Space Flight
- USA Stationery Feature Columns Envelopes: Watermarks, Advertising printed before envelope folding, Nesbitt thin paper envelopes, U618 proof, Postal Cards: Vermilion Postal Cards - S41d, S44-15a and S44-42a, Recent Auction Results; Supplementary Mail with Ship's Sea Post Offices in the 1890s
- British Central Africa Surcharged Registration Envelope, S37E's 'unruly hair' variety
- 2-cent oval die with additional 2-cent surcharge
- Advertising Collars on Embossed stamp
- Mexican 10 centavos Envelope
- US Reply Card to Canada
- Panama Post Office Official letter sheet
- USA S3a Postal Card?
- Literature Reviews: Handbook and Catalog, The Picture Postal Cards and Picture Letter Cards of the Americas; British India – Queen Victoria Postal Stationery; Peru, The Scenic View Cards 1898-1901; Postal Stationery of India, Cut-Outs Used as Adhesives
- Postal Cards and Covers, Vol II No. 6
- Hybrid Palestine Registration Envelope
- Ceylon Print Color Test
- Barbados Aerogram Essays

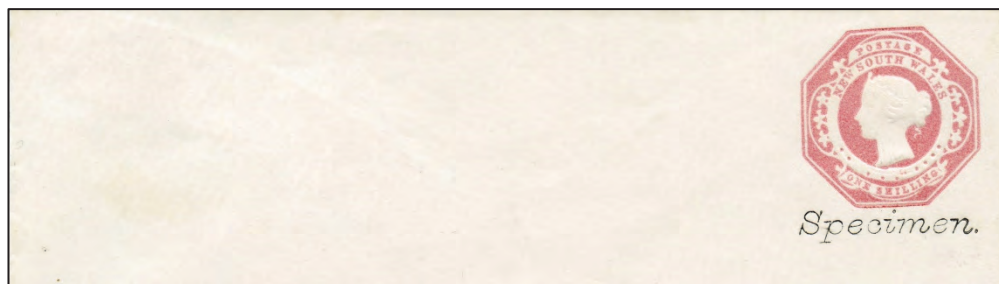
Note to editors of Postal Stationery Journals – If you would like your journal included on these pages, please send me the contents pages from your journal.

**THE NEW SOUTH WALES POSTAL STATIONERY CATALOGUE AND HANDBOOK:
ENVELOPES**

Michael Blinman and Dingle Smith

The catalogue and handbook sections for New South Wales envelopes are now on the Society's web site <https://postalstationeryaustralia.com/postal-stationery-of-new-south-wales-handbook/>.

The production of stamped envelopes was first proposed in 1855 and dies etc were ordered from London. These duly arrived but it was then decided that the production of stamped envelopes was uneconomic. However, embossed essays for the 1d, 2d, 6d and 1/- values were produced and are illustrated in the handbook. The 1d dies were later used in 1864 for the newspaper wrapper and the 2d value for registered envelopes in 1880. In 1869 it was decided to issue 1d envelopes and these were available to the public on 1 January 1870. A 2d envelope followed in September 1881 and the first ½d in July 1882, these values remained in use until the adoption of Commonwealth stationery in 1913. The stamps associated with the envelopes changed over time broadly in step with the issue of new designs of adhesive postage stamps – all are listed and illustrated in the catalogue.



1855 Essay for 1 Shilling envelope

The early envelopes for the 1d 1870 issue are distinguished by an embossed seal on the flap. These are known as 'tresse' and it is clear that at this time the Government Printer purchased blank envelopes from wholesale stationers. Such envelopes with adhesive stamps added were also used by the public. Some 14 different tresse are known on New South postal stationery envelopes. Victoria first produced postal stationery envelopes in 1869 and for issues in 1870, Stieg (2001) lists 46 different tresse including many of those used in New South Wales. The widespread use of tresse, which were a purely decorative item, on commercially available envelopes seems to have ceased in the early 1880s.

For this early period, it is clear that the New South Wales printer did not manufacture envelopes. It is recorded however, that the Government Printer had machinery for printing envelopes but the degree to which this was used remains unknown. The situation becomes more complex when in September 1881 the Post Office offered a stamped to order (hereafter 'STO') service. This term is now used in preference to the 'printed to private order (PTPO)'. The service was modelled on that used in Victoria which commenced in 1869. 'STO' is particularly appropriate as the Government Printer's role in New South Wales was strictly limited throughout to adding the stamp impression to envelopes or other postal stationery items submitted by business clients who placed orders with the Post Office. The material was then passed to the Government Printer who added the appropriate stamp impression and returned the items to the Post Office. All other printing such as addresses, advertising, illustrations and the like were undertaken elsewhere.

The study had available the detailed archival Printing Office records for the period up to early 1896 assembled by the late John Bell, much of it not previously published. These show that about half of the early printings of 40,000 1d envelopes available in January 1870 were still in stock in December 1879. There was a marked increase in the use of 1d envelopes when the 2d envelopes were issued in September 1881 likely linked to the introduction of the first New South Wales STO facility at that time. Details are given in the Handbook, for the year 1889 the Post Office issued 502,185 1d envelopes and 94,700 2d envelopes.

The problem is how to distinguish STO envelopes from those envelopes printed for issue by the Post Office to the public. This is especially difficult when the submitted STO envelopes are devoid of return addresses, advertising, illustrations and the like.

Another approach to is to suggest that envelopes sent to the UPU as 'specimens' represent items sold to the public, they would not have included STO material. New South Wales formally became a UPU member in 1891 but is known to have supplied material to the UPU before that date. There is no record of ½d envelopes being sent to the UPU and not all stamps sent to the UPU had specimen overprints! Details of the printing of specimen stamps on envelopes are given in the Handbook.

All earlier accounts struggle to convincingly address the question of which envelopes were post office issues and which were STO and this is equally true of this account. Collector interest has also changed over the years. Basset Hull (1911) commented that '...it would be hopeless to attempt to describe all varieties of these [NSW] impressed to order envelopes, and as interest in such stationery is of the slightest, any further reference to them may well be omitted'. The current situation is that of growing interest in the STO envelopes of New South Wales and of the other Australian States. These envelopes some with eye-catching coloured illustrations have become popular and are attracting high prices. The catalogue section of the current study includes a list describing the sizes and shapes and, where known, users of a range of STO covers. This is far from complete and STO envelopes will, it is thought, continue to attract collector interest.

Other aspects of STO envelopes that have in recent years attracted interest include envelopes submitted for STO production, but which were incorrectly stamped by the Printing Office. There are two main types, one when a 2d stamp was requested but was inadvertently stamped with a single 1d impression. On return to the printer a second 1d stamp was added. The other was when the stamp added was of a higher value than requested, on return the original stamp impression was obliterated and the correct value added. The handbook and catalogue list these items together with collared stamps and examples of windowed STO envelopes. The usage of the STO envelopes progressively increased and by the late 1890s was more than a quarter of a million each year.

Numbers Printed

Students of New South Wales philately are fortunate in that prior to January 1896 detailed archival printing office records are available. These include the dates and numbers of stamps and postal stationery envelopes of differing values that were printed. The records also include notes on the number of items overprinted 'specimen'. For postal stationery envelopes information on size and style of the items is not given nor is their information on the type of specimen overprints. It is also difficult to distinguish between the printing of STO items and those for sale by the Post Office. However, the information on dates and numbers printed provides an exceptionally detailed background to the popularity and use of the items. Much of this information is incorporated into the Handbook section and in many instances is the first time this has been published.

Postal Rates

The Handbook also provides the background to postage rates charged for differing classes of mail. First class mail was for sealed letters containing private or commercial written communication with the base

rate not exceeding ½ oz. Second class mail was for unsealed envelopes with the contents defined as ‘... papers and documents not wholly printed which have not the character of actual or personal communication’. The base rate for second class mail within the Colony was ½d for up to 2oz. In July 1892 a new Printed Paper rate of ½d for ‘circulars’ of up to 2oz was introduced together with the first ½d envelopes. This rate was applicable if at least 20 copies were posted at the one time.

Tables of the rates for the differing classes of mail to various destinations are provided. First class mail to ‘local’ destinations in New South Wales was charged at the favourable rate of 1d per ½oz, to other parts of New South Wales and other Australian colonies the rate was 2d. The first of the local rates was declared in 1873 for within 10 miles from the Sydney GPO. By 1899 the local rate applied to addresses within radius of 13 miles of the local post office for 17 major towns throughout the State. Tables also give the First-Class letter rate for overseas destinations and separately for Empire destinations.

Overseas rates were more complex initially with preferential Empire treatment and after October 1891 at the 2½d rate for mail to UPU member nations. It is perhaps surprising that envelopes impressed with stamps that corresponded to the overseas rates were never produced. It was permitted to make up the envelopes to the overseas rate by adding adhesive postage stamps. However, the use of postal stationery envelopes to overseas destinations appears to have been limited.

The handbook describes the printing of packs of 25 envelopes for both the 1d and 2d values, these were provided complete with wrapper bands by the printer and are separately listed in the printing records. Separate bands were used for supplying 25 1d envelopes at 2/1d or at 2/3d, and for the 25 2d envelopes at 4/4d or 4/6d. The differences in the price may reflect supplies to post offices or to authorised stamp vendors. Other envelopes printed at the same time were charged at the face value of the stamps. The survival rate of the wrapper bands is exceedingly small!

At the time of writing the catalogue section on envelopes does not include prices. Pricing is currently being undertaken and will be included on the website in the near future.

Assembling and organising the handbook and catalogue for the New South Wales envelopes was a much more difficult task than for any of the other classes of postal stationery. As described, this is linked to the complications arising from the prolific use of STO material for much of the period. The Handbook does not fully answer these problems but additional background information is presented, in many cases for the first time. The authors hope that this may provide a starting point for others to continue the task.

The advantages of using the PSSA web site to present the handbook and catalogue are several. The alternative of publishing the material in colour in hard cover book format would be extremely expensive and there are limits on the number of illustrations that can be included. The other advantage is that it is relatively easy to update the material on the web as new information comes to light or to update the catalogue prices. The authors and editor of the *PSC* would welcome comments, corrections and additions to the text.

So please enjoy the study and we would encourage enthusiasts to take on the task of improving the story line. Lastly, publishing on the web mean that the information comes free of charge!

BOOK REVIEW: BRITISH INDIA – QUEEN VICTORIA POSTAL STATIONERY, PUBLISHED 2022 BY THE GLOBAL PHILATELIC NETWORK (CORINPHILA, JOHN BULL, HEINRICH KÖHLER, AND H. R. HARMER) AS EDITION D'OR® 65, EDITED BY SANDEEP JAISWAL.

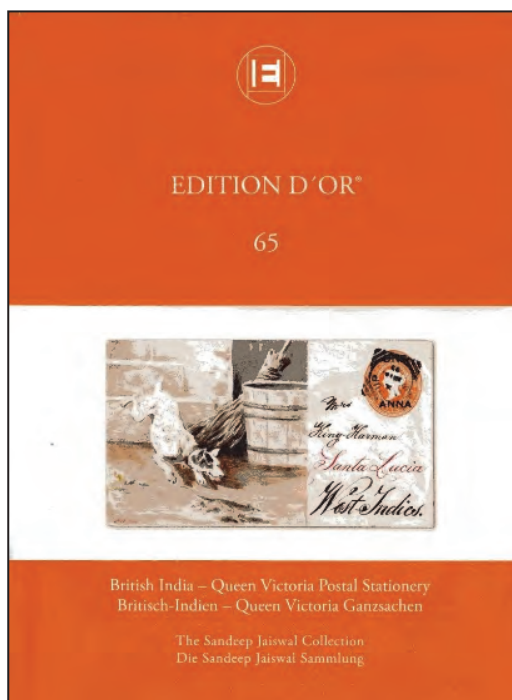
Wayne Menuz

Perfect bound hardcover, 9.7 x 13 inches, 230 pages, colour illustrations, unpriced. The introduction and Table of contents are bilingual, English and German. Available from publisher www.heinrich-koehler.de for €99 plus postage. Credit cards accepted. Contact at info@heinrich-koehler.de, and English is ok.

The D'OR ("OF GOLD®") series of books are meant to provide a paper record of Large Gold medal international exhibits. Most achieved top-of-class awards. While showing eye-catching rarities, an exhibit is limited in the amount of information written on each page. "Reduce the writing by being more concise" is a common refrain from judges when asked how an exhibit can be improved. Thus, "coffee table" books of collector's exhibits that are simply scans of the pages do not achieve handbook status. This book is different. Each exhibit page was reformatted from standard 8.5 x 11 size to this book's larger page size. Much additional text has been added to provide background information, and more detailed explanations.

Another outstanding feature is that the book shows dozens of original Indian government documents pertaining to postal stationery, from orders to the printers in London, to public announcements about new issues and rates, none of which would be possible in an exhibit.

The first 18 pages provide the human-interest background to Mr. Jaiswal's journey to the top tier of Indian postal stationery collectors. A remarkable list of his many India and Indian States stamp and postal stationery exhibits shows all achieved gold or large gold, and it notes he also received UPSS single as well as multiple-frame Champion of Champions awards.



A two-page table of contents is followed by a two-page synopsis of the exhibit. The book/exhibit is divided into sections by type of postal stationery: envelopes, letter cards, postal cards, etc. The first illustrated item is unique in two senses of the word. It is a die proof of an Indian one anna brown embossed die by De La Rue & Company, and is the only example known. More impressively, the sheet of paper also contains an embossed green die proof of a two pence die of Ceylon. This is, to my knowledge, the only instance of any British area stationery proof containing impressions of two countries.

The book provides details not found elsewhere, even though there have been several specialised studies of India Queen Victoria postal stationery published in the past. Mr. Jaiswal shows dozens of new discoveries, many unique, and provides enlarged scans when needed to easily see the variety. For example, many of the embossed working dies have tiny numbers cut into the base of Queen Victoria's effigy, which are also colourless and thus difficult to see. Another is that the different knife shapes are illustrated by small drawings, rather than being described as others have done, enabling them to be quickly differentiated.

As with any modern exhibit, the arrangement of each issue is: archival material (if available), mint, followed by used examples. The latter are mostly showpiece usages, including out of the ordinary destinations, supplemental usages such as registration, and used in combination with an Indian State's

adhesive stamp when the item originated or terminated there. The reply cards used back from abroad are probably the largest group ever assembled. Many of the mint stationery items are accompanied by the packing bands that DLR placed around each packet. These were printed with the type of stationery contained, the denomination, the quantity in the bundle, and the price of each item. These are elusive, and I was amazed to see such a high percentage of issues that included them. Again, probably the most complete showing that has ever been attempted.

The sections devoted to official envelopes and to registration envelopes contain many new discoveries, especially overprint types of the former, and archival items of the latter. But probably the most original study concerns the one anna blue embossed letter sheets of 1856. They were printed from different working dies, have several types of colourless embossings (with De La Rue's name), paper and watermark types, and a special, colourless embossed imprint in either an octagon, or an oval. These letter sheets attract philatelists because of their complexity, and they are from the earliest days of prepaid postage. Mr. Jaiswal shows the five working dies (four with numbers under the bust), but also shows that die 2 exists in three distinct states. He provides a table relating all the above attributes, and there are three entries that have not previously been reported. This includes the "die 0" type which has no number, and he shows specimen and mint examples, which are unique. He shows "one of six known" used examples.

The book includes the postal notes. These are usually omitted from Indian stationery books because they are formulars. However, the post office applied specially overprinted adhesive stamps to each form before sale, and thus they are postal stationery.

The stationery overprinted C E F for the China Expeditionary Force includes many scarce usages and unadopted essays. The book concludes with two unique items: an official postal card and an official envelope, each with a black mourning border to honor Queen Victoria's death in 1901.

This, in summary, is no mere coffee table book of pretty stationery, but approaches the level of a handbook. If you collect the area, you certainly need to obtain a copy. [Right: Sandeep Jaiswal with Bernard Beston].



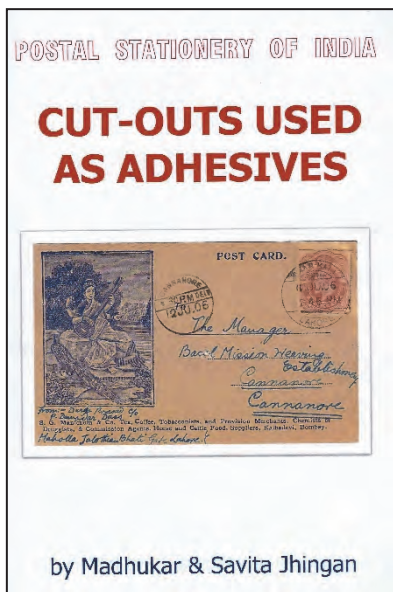
BOOKS

Indonesian Postage stamp Catalogue 2023

For some countries, listings of postal stationery can be found in one-country stamp catalogue, often published annually. This is the case for the Indonesian Postage Stamp Catalogue 2023 which lists the postal stationery of Indonesia from 1945 including the provisional issues on Netherland Indies postal stationery. The listing is priced in Indonesia Rupiah and are in colour. Also included are the issues of Netherland East Indies from 1874-1945 as well as the issues of UNTEA (United Nations Temporary Executive Authority in Netherlands New Guinea).

Schweizer Ganzsachen Handbuch Band III [Swiss Postal Stationery Handbook Volume III] by Martin Baer

The last volume of the Handbook which catalogues postal cards from 1934-2022. Includes picture postcards, many varieties, postcard books and many cards with private additional printing. Hardcover, 580 pages, CHF 65.00. plus postage.

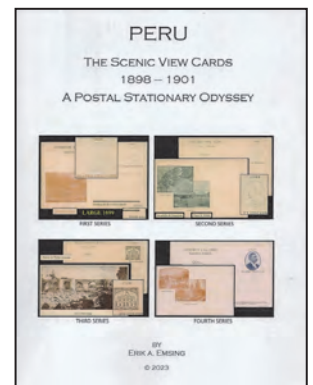


Postal Stationery of India Cut-Outs Used as Adhesives by Madhukar & Savita Jhingan, 40 A4 colour pages, Limited Edition of 100 individually numbered copies. 40 pages, colour, softbound. Covers and illustrates the use of cut-outs from Indian postal stationery from 1856 when postal stationery was first issued, through 1869 when they were first prohibited, through their acceptance in 1905 and their prohibition in 1907.

The use of cut-outs of postal stationery stamps is an interesting sideline of postal stationery collecting. The study of the use of cut-outs and their acceptance to pay postage requires a detailed knowledge of the postal regulations for each country studied. As this work demonstrates the regulations for each country vary over time with cut-outs allowed for a period and then prohibited. In addition, in some countries, envelope stamps may be accepted for postage while postcard stamps are not. In British India after 1907, envelopes could be used as wrappers for newspapers etc. Often cut-outs will appear to have been accepted even when prohibited by the regulations. This work covers the regulations of

British India during this period. Many examples are illustrated of cut-outs legally and illegally used including examples where the cut-outs have not been accepted and the cover taxed. **USD\$35** For orders and enquires please Email mj@stampsofindia.com <https://stampsofindia.com/shop/distribute.html>

Peru, The Scenic View Cards 1898-1901, A Postal Stationery Odyssey, edited by **Erik A. Emsing** Perfect bound softcover, 8.5 x 11 inches, 210 pages, colour illustrations, unpriced but with a rarity guide. Available from The Philatelic Bibliopole, <https://pbbooks.com/newfor.htm>, for USD\$85 plus postage. The book is divided into two main sections: The Book and The Catalogue. The Book covers the history and background of the Scenic View Cards of Peru 1898-1902 (including the different issues and an inventory of known view cards) as well as the background to the preparation, printing and issuance of the cards and how the issues came about. The Catalogue provides a listing of the cards. The book received a Large Vermeil at IBRA 2023.



The Picture Postal Cards and Picture Letter Cards of the Americas, edited by **Michael Bockisch** DVD with two pdf files of 1,333 (Handbook) and 515 pages (catalogue), colour illustrations, priced in euros. Available from Am Osterberg, 11, D-21266 Jesteburg, Germany, post@bpk-kataloge.de. More information at www.bpk-kataloge.de. PayPal to michael@bockisch.de. This book covers the postal cards and lettercards with views on the reverse from North and South America. It is divided into two parts: Handbook and Catalogue. The book covers all officially issued picture postal cards that were issued and were freely available to the public. The Catalogue section lists all picture postal cards of the American countries except for Cuba. It includes images of both the

front and reverse of the cards. The handbook section excludes many commemorative cards issued after 1970 or those issued with political propaganda, issued for seasonal events, such as Easter, Pentecost, and Christmas, issued for Mother's Day, Father's Day, teacher's day etc and those unrelated to the country itself and are issued for commercial purposes, such as Disney or WWF motif cards. Most STO and formular cards are excluded but some are described as exceptions or examples. The handbook's first part contains background information about each country and its cards, as well as a table of each issue. The table columns include the indicium, the author's catalogue number, interactive check boxes for mint/used, year, number of different views, Remarks, concordance table of other catalogues, and an example of the

front and back illustration from the series. The second part has background information, sources of illustrations, quantities printed, etc, illustrations of the views, maps showing locations of the sites, and similar. For those who wish to keep track of which items they have, a copy of the catalogue pdf file on an electronic device will enable easy tracking, since the tables have the “click to check” boxes for each item. This catalogue has been an enormous undertaking, and the author is to be congratulated. The proliferation of postal cards with views on the reverse in recent years, especially in countries such as Canada and Cuba (as has also been the case in Australia), has made the task very difficult. Many of the Modern cards of Canada have been prepared in conjunction with a private company, The Postcard Factory, while most of the Cuban cards have been produced for sale overseas to raise foreign currency. The Editor has done any amazing job in finding information about the cards. The book received a Large Vermeil at IBRA 2023.

Malayan Postal Stationery to 1936. Len Stanway FRPSL Published by the Malaya Study Group, 2023.

This is the definitive work on Malayan Postal Stationery. It fills the gap from the first stationery in the time of the East India Company until the period covered by the MSG's book 'Malayan Postal Stationery 1937 – 1947'. For KGVII collectors, an appendix to the new book provides recently-discovered additional information for the period covered by the latter book. It is the result of many years research and Mr Stanway has been helped by many other members of the Malaya Study Group around the world. 171 pages, hardbound £30 plus postage, From: Peter Cockburn FRPSL pcockburn@aol.com . For more information about the Malaya Study Group and its publications visit <https://www.malayastudygroup.com/>



Estudo Dos Aerogramas do Brasil: Nacionais, Internacionais e Serviço 1974-2015 by Reinaldo R Macedo, Miguel R Magalhães and Ygor P Chrispin 2nd Edition



This book now in its second edition and published for Project Filigrana, covers in detail the aerogrammes of Brazil issued from 1974 to 2015. It covers aerogrammes for national, international and official use and provides for each aerogramme provides details of the date of issue, the indicium, the value, dimensions, printer and other information. Both the front and rear of each aerogramme are illustrated in colour. In Brazil, aerogrammes were first issued in 1974 and were initially printed by the Casa da Moeda do Brasil. From 1977 until 1999 they were designed in the post office's own graphics section in Rio de Janeiro. Many of the aerogrammes depict Brazil's wildlife including macaws and monkeys. A presentation on Brazilian aerogrammes given by Reinaldo Macedo can be found on the Mi Oficina Philatelic Society YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJGLc_GHgiM . Published 2023, 179 pages, hardbound, in Portuguese with an English summary and

preface provided by Lars Engelbrecht RDP, Chairman of the FIP Postal Stationery Commission from 2012-2018.

The second edition has ten additional pages due to new fluorescence studies and the inclusion of new images to make the identification of the aerogrammes easier. For aerogrammes included in the first edition, all additional information is highlighted with the use of a new type of letter.

If you are interested in this book, please contact Reinaldo Mace reinaldo_macedo@uol.com.br ‘

Philately From Australia On-Line

Many Societies have in recent years made their Journals available on line. In some cases, only for members (as is the case of the Postal Stationery Collector, Journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Australia) and in other cases older issues are available publically with only the more recent issues being restricted to members. This has proved a great boon for collectors especially those engaged in philatelic research. A recent addition to the Journals available on-line is *Philately From Australia*, the Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. While issues from the last six years are restricted to members, earlier issues are publically available at <https://www.rpsv.org.au/archived-journals/>. This is particularly important for collectors of Australian colonial and Commonwealth postal stationery as many important research articles have been published in this Journal. Many of the articles, even though published over 30 years ago, remain relevant to the modern collector. A good example of this is Bill Walton's articles on Queensland lettercards published in 1989 and 1990 which remain the definitive work on the Queensland lettercards. They include a listing which remains current and should be used rather than the Higgins and Gage listing. His articles can be found in the September 1988, December 1988 and March 1990 issues with the listing of the lettercards in the March 1990 issue.

**THE POSTAL STATIONERY COMMISSION
BUREAU 2022-2026**

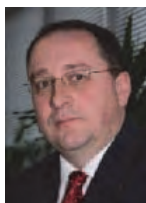
Chairman

Ian McMahon, Australia
ian.mcmahon4@bigpond.com



Secretary

Michael Smith, UK
mikesmith.philatelist@gmail.com



FIAP Representative

Frank Li Zhifei
frankli_phila@188.com



FEPA Representative

Igor Pirc, Slovenia
ipirc711@gmail.com



FIAF Representative
& Commission Webmaster

Ross Towle, USA
rosstowle@yahoo.com



Appointed by the
Chairman

Juan Reinoso, Costa Rica
filarqui@yahoo.com



Appointed by the
Chairman

Sammy Chiu, Canada
chiusam@hotmail.com



FIP Board Member
responsible for postal
stationery

Reinaldo Macedo, Brazil
reinaldo_macedo@uol.com.br



Honorary Members of the Commission

Alan Huggins



Raymond Todd



Stephen D. Schumann



The Postal Stationery Commission Newsletter
Edited by Ian McMahon and Mike Smith

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website.

Please send comments, articles and change of
delegate's addresses to:

Mike Smith mikesmith.philatelist@gmail.com

THE COMMISSION DELEGATES

Country	Name	Address	Email
Albania	Rudolf Nossi	c/o Federation des Collectionneurs Albania, P.O. Box 2972, Tirana, Albania	lameartan@yahoo.com
Argentina	Alberto Villaronga	Phone: +54 91144400470	villarongaar@gmail.com
Armenia	Samuel Ohanian	Union of Philatelists of Armenie, POB 50, Yerevan-10 37010, Armenia	tass@arminco.com (?)
Australia	Ian McMahon	PO Box 783, Civic Square ACT 2608, Australia	ian.mcmahon4@bigpond.com
Austria	Wolfgang Weigel	Hockeg. 88A, 1180 Wien, Austria	drwweigel@hotmail.com
Bangladesh	Mohammed Monirul Islam	6/205 Lady Gowrie Drive, Largs Bay SA 5016, Australia	bpf_bd@yahoo.com
Belgium	Luc Selis	H. Baelskaai 12 – 13.01 b-8400 Oostende Belgium	luc.selis@telenet.be
Bolivia	Martha Villarroel de Peredo		marthadeperedo@gmail.com
Brazil	Reinaldo Estêvão de Macedo	Rua Guarara, 511 - apto 2704 cep 01425-001 São Paulo SP, Brasil	reinaldo_macedo@uol.com.br
Bulgaria	Orlin Todorov	Union of Bulgarian Philatelists, PO Box 662, 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria	todorov_1@abv.bg
Canada	Sam Chiu	7 Zaharias Court, North York, Ontario, Canada M2L 2H5.	chiusam@hotmail.com
Chile	Martin Urrutia	c/o Sociedad Filatelica de Chile, Casilla 13245, Santiago de Chile, Chile	martinurrutia@sociedadfilatelica.cl (?)
China	Frank Li Zhifei	Box 39, Xi Chang An Street Post Office, Beijing, 100031, China	frankli_phila@188.com
Colombia	Mario Ortiz	Carrera 7 No 47-11, Bogota, Colombia	ortiz-mario10@yahoo.es (?)
Costa Rica	Juan Reinoso	PO Box 8-6690, San Jose 1000, Costa Rica	filarqui@yahoo.com
Cuba	A. R. del Toro Marreo	P.O. Box 2222, Havana-2 10200, Cuba	ffc@enet.cu?
Cyprus	Charalambos Meneleau	Sina St. 7 A, CY-1095 Nicosia, Cyprus	chmenel@cytanet.com.cy
Czech Republic	Milan Cernik	P.O. Box 243, CZ-16041 Praha 6, Czech Republic	icernik@volny.cz
Denmark	Lars Engelbrecht	Bistrupvej 53, 3460 Birkerød, Denmark	postalstationery@gmail.com
Ecuador	Teddy Suárez		aquacorp@hotmail.com
Finland	Tuomo Koskiahho	Työppäläntie 11 B, 40250 Jyväskylä, Finland	tuomo.koskiahho@pp.inet.fi
France	Jacques Foort	140 Rue de Roubaix, 59240 Dunkerque	jacques.foort@orange.fr
Germany	Hans-Peter Frech	Am Hinterhof 30, 77756 Hausach, Germany	hpfrech@web.de
Greece	Neoklis Zafirakopoulos	23 Dafnomili Str., 114-71 Athens, Greece	neoklis@zafeirakopoulos.info
Hong Kong	Malcolm Hammersley	GPO Box 446 Hong Kong	hammersleymalc@netvigat.com
Iceland	Halfdan Helgason	Bodathing 1, 203 Kopavogur, Iceland	halfdan@halfdan.is

India	Ajeet Singhee	464-A, Road no. 19, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad 500033, India	ajeetsinghee@hotmail.com
Indonesia	Gita Noviandi	Jl. Kiara Sari V No. 18-20, Perum Kiara Sari Asri, Bandung 40286, Indonesia	gitanoviandi@gmail.com
Iran	Massoud N. Farahbakhsh	1399 Valie Asr Ave., Amirakram, Tehran 11336, Iran	f_n_farahbakhsh@yahoo.com
Israel	Tibi Yaniv	I.P.F.- POB 4523, Tel Aviv 61045, Israel	ipf@netvision.net.il
Italy	Flavio Pini	Via Mercato 45, 26013 Crema	flaviopini@libero.it
Japan	Fumio Yamazaki	1-22 Koyo 3-chome, Fukui-shi, Fukui-ken, 910-0026, Japan	fymzk@angel.ocn.ne.jp
Korea (Rep. of)	Kim Young Kil		ksm0957@daum.net
Kuwait	Waleed Al Saif		wnam_alsaif@yahoo.com
Latvia	Raimonds Jonitis	Brivibas Gatve 234, LV 1039 Riga, Latvia	raimonds.jonitis@gmail.com
Malaysia	Fiona Chin Bitt Nyuk	20, Jalan 49/26, Taman Sri Rampai, Setapak, 53300 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.	cbnsly@hotmail.com
Malta	Hadrian Wood	52, St. Dominic Street, Sliema SLM 1405, Malta	hadywood1@gmail.com
Mexico	Alberto Jimenez Cordero	Rogelio Bacon 2301-3, Jardines Independencia, CP 44240, Guadalajara, Jal. Mexico	jimcor77@hotmail.com
Nepal	Deepak Manandhar	Kha 1/68 Kupandel, Ward no.1 Laiitpur GPO Box 12970, Katmandu, Nepal	deepakmdhar@yahoo.com
Netherlands	P. Joosse	Bondsbureau KNBF, Nieuwe Schaft 23, 3991 AS HOUTEN, The Netherlands	knbf@knbf.nl
New Zealand	Stephen Chivers	62 Gurney Rd, Kelson Lower Hutt 5010 New Zealand	chives@xtra.co.nz
Norway	Tore Berg	Guristuveien 51, N-0690 Oslo, Norway	toreberg@online.no
Pakistan	M Arif Balamwala	18A/1, 2nd Gizri Street, Phase-4, DHA, Karachi, Pakistan	arifco@gmail.com
Paraguay	Marta Brun		
Peru	Willem de Gelder		wdegelder@yahoo.com
Poland	Jan Hefner	Ul. R. Dmowskiego 5/5, PL 45 365 Opole, Poland	jheff@uni.opole.pl
Portugal	Hernâni António Carmelo de Matos	Rua de Santo André 1, 7100-453 Estremoz, Portugal	hernanimatos@gmail.com
Qatar	Yacoub Jaber Sorour	c/o Philatelic Club, P. O. Box 10933, Doha, Qatar	qstamps@qatar.net.qa (?)
Romania	Mihai Ceuca	Str. Cremenea no.2 sc.C ap.4 500152 Bacau, Romania	mihaicuk@yahoo.fr
Russia	vacant		
Saudi Arabia	Mohammed E. Alzahrani	P.O. Box 240, Riyadh 11411, Saudi Arabia	mzahrany@saudistamps.com (?)
Serbia	Nikola Ljubičić	Žanke Stokić 46 11000 Beograd, Serbia	koljaljubcic@hotmail.com
Singapore	Henry Ong	41D Simon Place, Singapore 544849	ong.henry.sg@gmail.com
Slovenia	Igor Pirc	Ptujska 23, SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia	ipirc711@gmail.com
South Africa	Emil Minnaar	PO Box 131600, 1504 Benoryn, South Africa	emil@minnaar.org
Spain	Carlos Rodríguez Gómez	Pl. de Guipúzcoa, 9-1º, 20004 San Sebastián	CAR_RO_GO@hotmail.com

Sweden	Lennart Daun	Bävergränd 4, 507 32 Brämhult, Sweden	lennart.daun@gmail.com
Switzerland	Peter Bamert	Heilbronnerstrasse 13, 4500 Solothurn, Switzerland	bamert@sunrise.ch
Chinese Taipei	Chen Yu-An	1F. No.3, Ln. 7, Baogao Rd.Xindian Dist., New Taipei City 23144	yu_an_chen@ablerex.com.tw
Thailand	Khun Nuntawat Eurchukiati	454/2 Soi Lardprao 71, Klong Chaokhun Singh, Wang Thonglang, Bangkok 10310, Thailand	nuntawat.pv@gmail.com
United Arab Emirates	Ali Abdulrahman Ahmed	P.O. Box 546, Dubai, United Arab Emirates	aarybaa@hotmail.com
United Kingdom	Mike Smith	9 Rainham Close, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG22 5HA, United Kingdom	mikesmith.philatelist@gmail.com
United States	Ross Towle	400 Clayton Street, San Francisco CA 94117, USA	rosstowle@yahoo.com
Uruguay	Carlos Hernandez Rocha	Colonia 926 - Local 045 - Gal. Libertador, 11000 Montevideo, Uruguay	carloslh@geocities.com (?)
Venezuela	Pedro Meri	CCS 4010, P O Box 025323 Miami Fla. 33120, Venezuela	pedromeri@gmail.com
Honorary Member	Alan K Huggins	Briar Lodge, 134 Berkeley Avenue, Chesham, Buckinghamshire HP5 2RT, United Kingdom	
Honorary Member	Ray Todd	P.O. Box 158, Dunsborough 6281, Australia	retodd@netserv.net.au
Honorary Member	Stephen D. Schumann	2417 Cabrillo Drive, Hayward, CA 49545, United States	stephen.schumann@att.net

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FIP ACCREDITED JURORS AND TEAM LEADERS

COUNTRY	TL NAME *	EMAIL	FIP EXHIBITION**
Australia	TL Raymond Todd	retodd@netserv.net.au	Helvetia 22
	TL Bernard Beston JF	bernardbeston@gmail.com	London 22 TL
	TL Ian McMahon JF	ian.mcmahon4@bigpond.com	Indonesia 22
	David Smith	dsm30722@bigpond.net.au	
	Darryl Fuller JF	djbsfuller@inet.net.au	China 19
Brazil	Reinaldo Macedo JF	reinaldo_macedo@uol.com.br	Korea 14
Canada	Sammy Chiu JF	chiusam@hotmail.com	London 22
China	Frank Li Zhifei JF	frankli_phila@188.com	Brasilia 17
Costa Rica	Enrique Bialikamien	ebialik@racsa.co.cr	Singapore 15
	TL Juan Reinoso JF	filarqui@yahoo.com	IBRA 23
Denmark	TL Lars Engelbrecht	postalstationery@gmail.com	IBRA 23 TL
Ecuador	Teddy Suarez JF	aquacorp@hotmail.com	Brasilia 17
Finland	TL Juhani Pietila	juhani.pietila@dnainternet.net	
	Jussi Tuori	jussi.tuori@pp.inet.fi	Efiro 08
Hong Kong	Malcolm Hammersley	hammersleymalc@netvigator.com	China 19
India	TL Ajeet Raj Singhee JF	ajeetsinghee@hotmail.com	Indonesia 22 TL
Indonesia	Harsono Suwito JF	suwito66@rad.net.id	Bandung 17 A
New Zealand			
Portugal	TL Manuel Portocarrero	manueleduardoportocarrero@gmail.com	Portugal 10
	Hernani Matos	hernanimatos@gmail.com	Espana 06 A
Serbia	Nikola Ljubicic		Thailand 18 A
Singapore	Henry Ong JF	ong.henry.sg@gmail.com	Brasilia 17 A
Slovenia	Igor Pirc JF	ipirc711@gmail.com	New York 16 A
South Africa	Emil Minnaar JF	emil@minnaar.org	IBRA 23
Spain	TL José Manuel Rodriguez JF	josen@augustinclarke.com (?)	Helvetia 22
	German Baschwitz	german@basch.e.telefonica.net	Singapore 15
Chinese	Michael Ho JF	mike350822@mail2000.com.tw	Thailand 13
Taipei	Chen Yu An JF	yu_an_chen@ablerex.com.tw	New York 16
	Lin Chang-Long JF	ufofin@ctci.com.tw	China 19
UK	TL Alan K. Huggins		
	Brian Trotter	briantrotter@btinternet.com	Jakarta 12
	Michael Smith JF	mikesmith.philatelist@gmail.com	IBRA 23
USA	TL Stephen D. Schumann JF	stephen.schumann@att.net	London 10 TL
	Ross Towle JF	rosstowle@yahoo.com	New York 16
	W. Danforth (Dan)	danforthwalker@comcast.net	Helvetia 22
	Walker JF		
	Darrell Ertzberger JF	mteton@aol.com	China 19 CA

*TL: TEAM LEADER

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