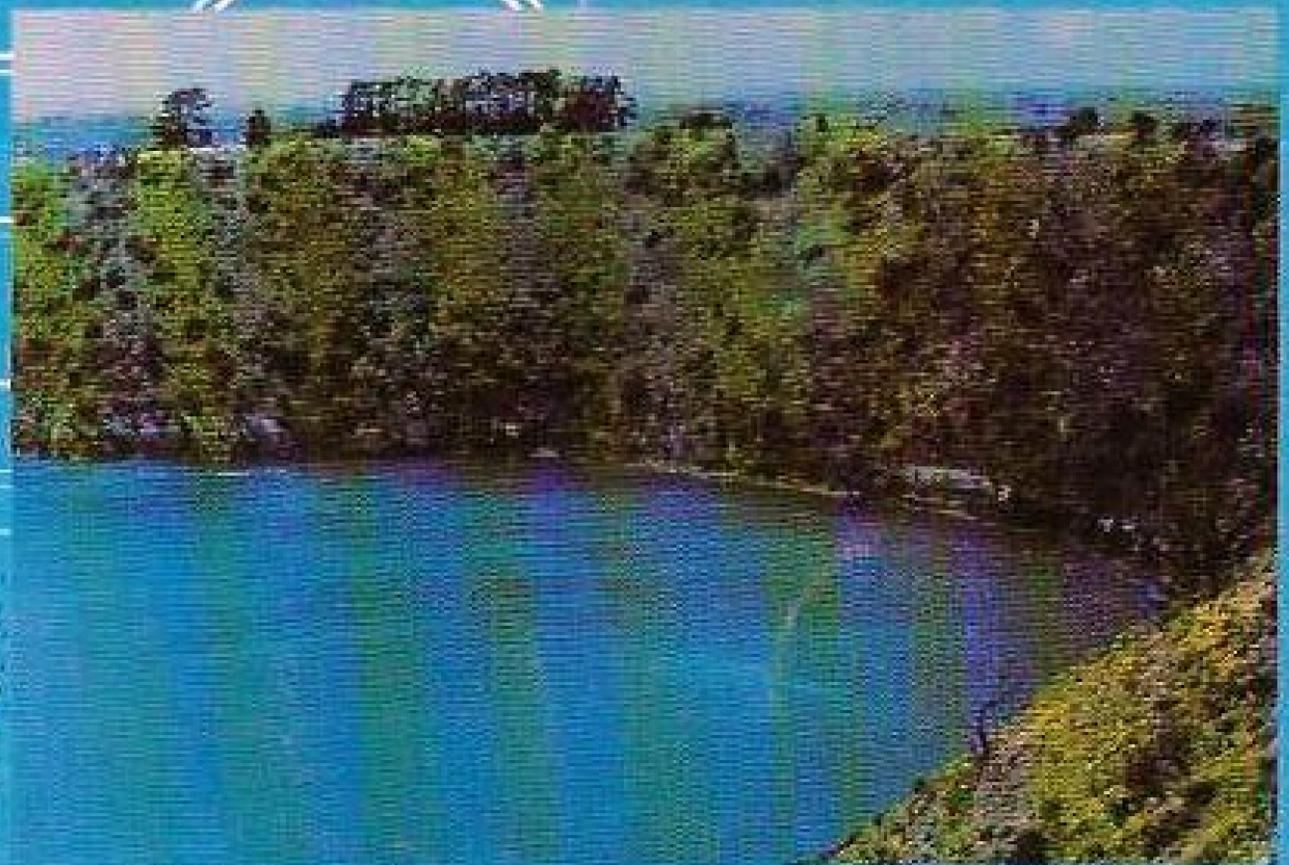
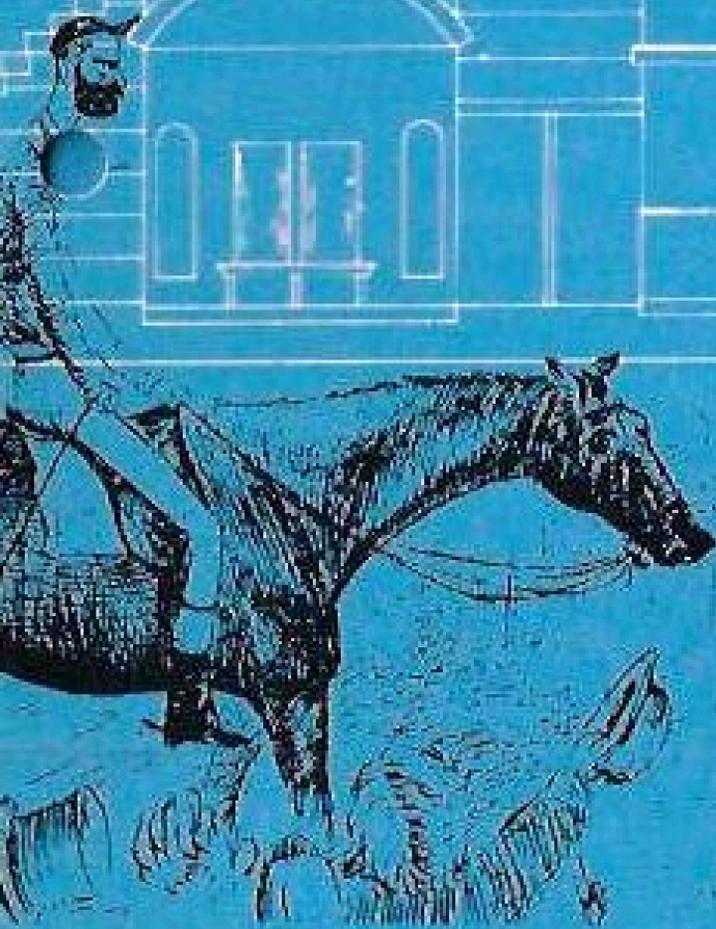
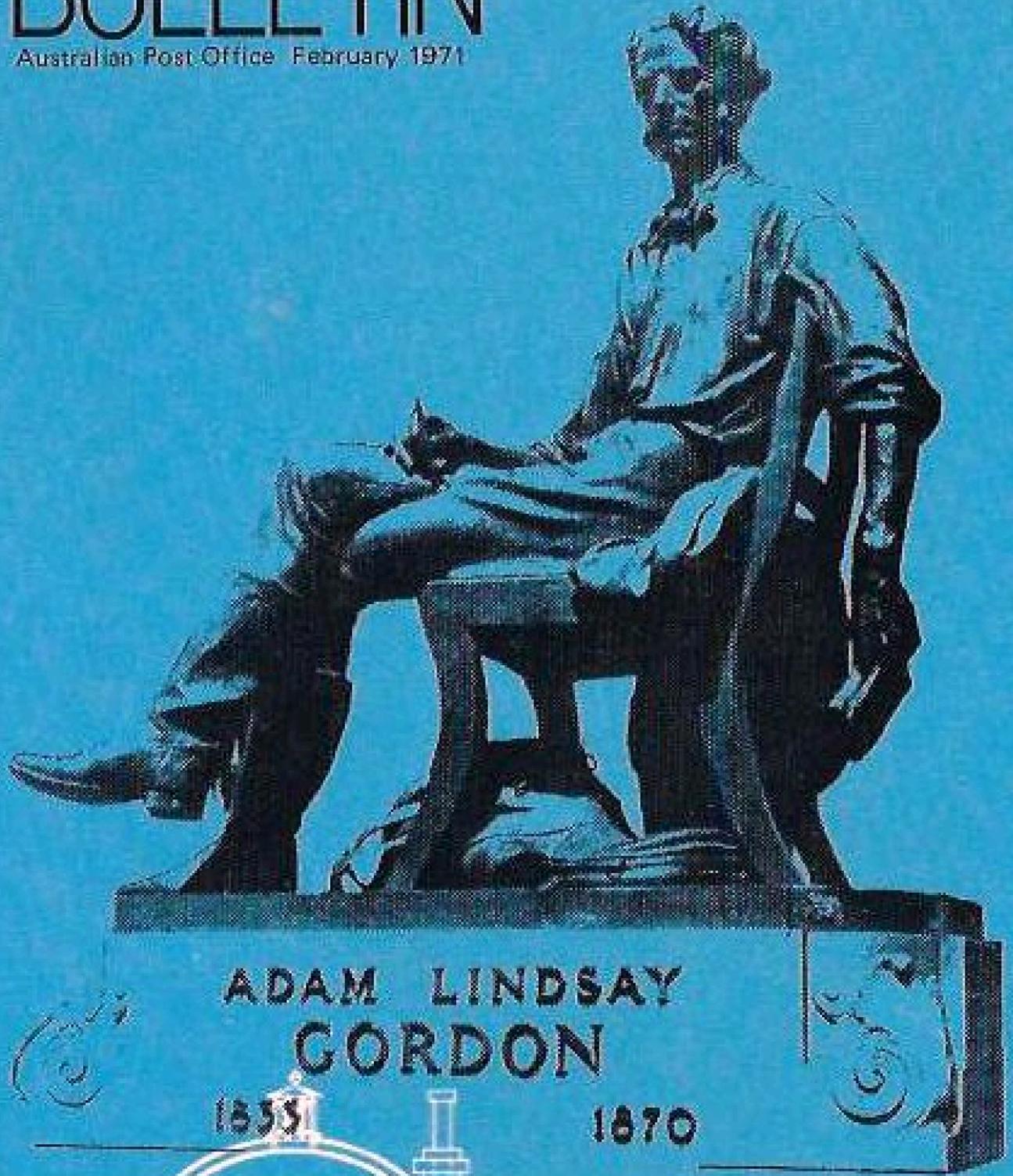
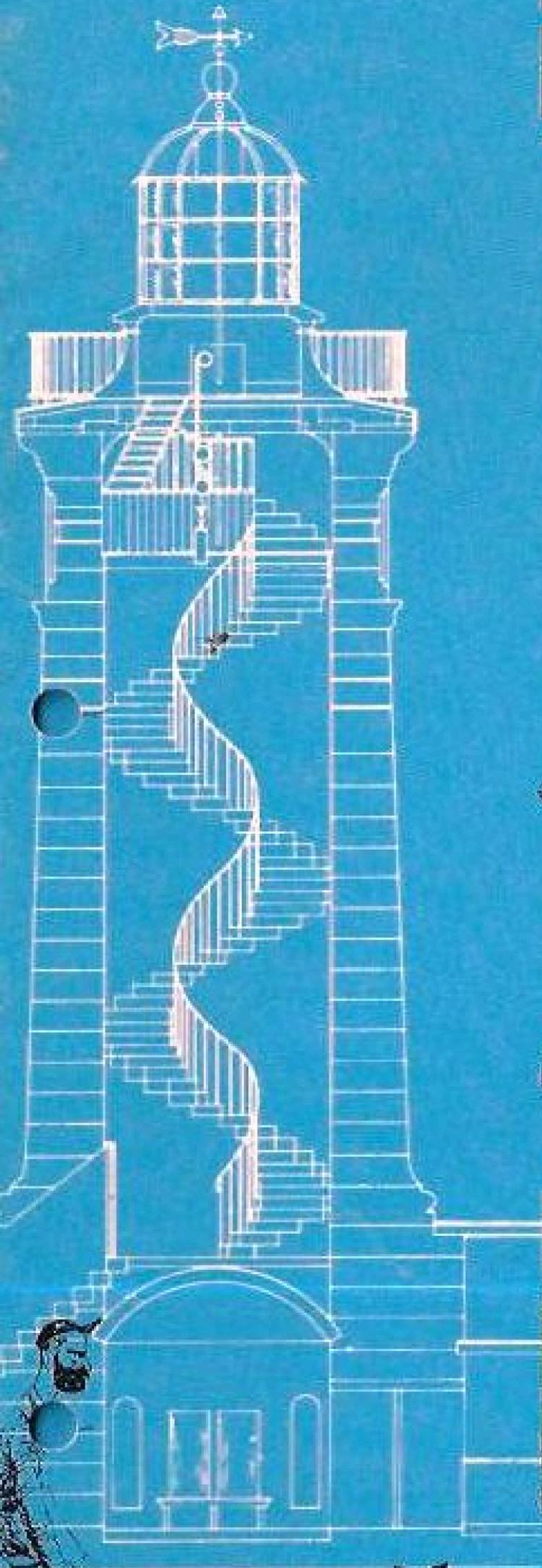


PHILATELIC BULLETIN

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COVER:

*The design shows some aspects of the lives and times of Lachlan
Macquarie and Adam Lindsay Gordon. The components are:*

- Gordon — Statue in Spring Street, Melbourne; A contem-
porary sketch of Gordon on his favourite steeple-
chaser "Cadger" (from a biography by Humphris
and Sladen); The Blue Lake, Mount Gambier,
scene of his spectacular jump;*
- Macquarie — Architectural drawing of Macquarie Lighthouse
(courtesy of Department of Shipping and Trans-
port); A "holey" dollar (courtesy of M. Stern);
St. James Church, Sydney (courtesy of Ure Smith).*

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FORTHCOMING AUSTRALIAN COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

The Postmaster-General, Sir Alan Hulme, recently announced particulars of three 6c commemorative stamps to be issued in April and May. The stamps will mark the centenary of the Australian Natives' Association, the centenary of the Sydney Stock Exchange, and the 50th Anniversary of Rotary in Australia.

On 21st April, 1971, a 6c stamp will be issued for the centenary of the Australian Natives' Association. The A.N.A. is a friendly society which has been in the forefront of many national movements, and was prominent in the campaign for Federation. It was formed in Melbourne on 24th April, 1871, as the Victorian Natives' Association. The horizontal-format stamp design, by Mr. Richard Beck of Melbourne, features the Southern Cross, and the predominant colours of the design, red and blue, suggest Australian landscape colours.

The second of the new stamps will mark the centenary of the Sydney Stock Exchange, the oldest existing stock exchange in Australia. Monad Design and Visual Graphics, of Sydney, designed the stamp, which will be issued on 5th May, 1971. The design, in vertical format, shows diagonal bands, in various yellows, reds and blues, which represent market movements, on a silver background.

Rotary is well-known as an international body whose aim is to promote community service. The first Australian Rotary club was formed in Melbourne in April 1921 and the second in Sydney in May 1921. The first international Rotary convention to be held in Australia will take place in Sydney from 16th-20th May, 1971, and the 6c Rotary stamp will be issued on 17th May, 1971. Mr. Harry Williamson, of Sydney, prepared the design, which features the Rotary emblem, in horizontal format and blue and green shades.

All three stamps are being printed by the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne, in the large photogravure size, and each will be on sale at post offices for approximately two weeks from the relevant issue date. In accordance with the new policy detailed elsewhere in this Bulletin, philatelic sales will continue for six months, provided stocks last.

As usual, special official first day covers will be provided for each of the new stamps.

PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA 1971 PROGRAMME

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Port Moresby, has announced its stamp issue programme for 1971. In all, five issues will be released: one commemorative and four special stamp issues.

The first 1971 series was the fourth set of the annual National Heritage series, which appeared on 27th January, 1971. This set, of 5c, 7c, 10c and 40c values, showed Territory dwellings, and was described in the December Bulletin.

On 31st March, 1971, the fifth series of annual Flora and Fauna Conservation stamp issues will be released. This set will depict five mammals unique to the Territory of Papua and New Guinea. The subjects and denominations are:

- 5c — Spotted cuscus
- 10c — Brown and white striped possum
- 15c — Feather-tailed possum
- 25c — Spiny anteater
- 30c — Goodfellow's tree-climbing kangaroo

Mr. R. J. Bates prepared the designs for this issue which was printed in four and five colour photogravure by Helio Courvoisier. Stamp size is 26 mm x 36 mm (and vice versa) and sheet content is 50.

To mark the Fourth South Pacific Games to be held in Papeete, French Polynesia, 8th-19th September, four stamps will be released by Papua and New Guinea on 9th June, 1971. This set will depict, in stylised form, four sporting activities which will be represented at the Games — track events, boxing, sailing, and basketball. Designed by Mr. George Hamori, these stamps will be printed in four colour Delacryl by Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd. of England.

On 18th August, 1971, the annual Development series will be released. Designed by Mr. Graham Wade and printed in multi-colour photogravure by Helio Courvoisier, this set of four stamps will depict traditional agricultural and trading methods.

Details of the final stamp issue for 1971 will be announced at a later date.

Mammals — Flora and Fauna Conservation Stamps

The 5c stamp of this series shows *Phalanger maculatus*, or the spotted cuscus, the largest, most strikingly coloured of the



phalangers of New Guinea. Inhabitants of the lowland rainforests, the males of the species are covered with spots and irregular patches of colour ranging from light brown to black; the females are usually solid coloured, rarely having spots. Entirely white individuals are also known. Large males may reach a head and body length of 26 inches. The highly prehensile tail is heavily furred for over half its length.

The spotted cuscus is nocturnal and arboreal in its habits, a slowmoving feeder on the leaves and fruits of trees.

Female phalangers have capacious pouches with two pairs of teats. However, two young are but rarely found.

Dactylonax palpator is shown on the 10c stamp. Found only in New Guinea, this brown and white striped possum with an elongated finger on each "hand" lives in the mountain forests from 3,000 to 9,000 feet.

A white stripe, beginning on the nose, divides on the head and runs the entire length of the body. The relatively short, hairy tail (8½ inches) is tipped with white. The head and body length averages about nine inches. The female has a well-formed pouch partially divided into two parts, each furnished with a single teat. Only one young is born at a time.

The insect food of *Dactylonax* is found beneath the bark of rotting trees. Such "feeding trees" are often extensively scarred with bite marks. Once an insect is located the animal needs only a few seconds to tear open the bark cover with its specially-adapted and powerful incisor teeth. The long finger (the fourth, up to two inches long) then extracts the insect.

The 15c stamp shows *Distoechurus pennatus* a small arboreal marsupial. This lovely feather-tailed possum ranges over the whole island. The altitudinal distribution is from sea level rain forests to the mid-mountain forests at 6,000 to 7,000 feet.

The horizontal placement of the long hairs on the tail is similar to that of the flattened tail of the pygmy glider of Australia, and

gives this acrobat of the tree tops one of its common names, feather-tailed phalanger. Unlike its Australian relative, however, it does not have gliding membranes. The female has a pouch with two teats; the usual number of young in the pouch is one.

The soft woolly hair of the body is warm brown in colour (lighter below), and the striking head pattern has a central white stripe bordered on each side by a wide black stripe. The cheeks are white. The eyes are large and adapted for nocturnal life in the trees.

Little is known of the details of the life history of this tiny marsupial (head and body 4½ inches, tail 5½ inches).

Zaglossus bruijnii, the long-beaked echidna or spiny anteater, is shown on the 25c stamp.

Zaglossus, and *Tachyglossus*, its short-beaked relative of Australia and New Guinea, together with the platypus of Australia form a separate and very primitive order of egg-laying mammals, the Monotremata. Members of this order have some anatomical characteristics of reptilian nature. Female monotremes carry the egg in a seasonally-developed infolding of the abdominal skin which has been called an "incubatorium"; it does not resemble the spacious pouch found in many marsupials. There are two areas in the pouch where mammary glands are concentrated; the young imbibe the milk by sucking. The female carries the pouch young for several weeks; the young are then left in a burrow and are suckled at intervals by the mother.

The echidna *Zaglossus* has no teeth. A set of horny spines at the base of the tongue grind against sets of spines on the palate. The details of its diet are not well known, but it is beautifully designed anatomically to feed on termites and ants. This large echidna (weight up to 25 pounds, length to 30 inches) is covered with coarse black hairs which almost conceal the white-tipped spines. The tongue can be extended beyond the tip of the beak several inches and is sticky to the touch, useful features for termite feeding. The front feet are armed with powerful digging

AEROGRAMME
BY AIR MAIL • PAR AVION



COUNTRY OF DESTINATION

claws.

On the 30c stamp is shown *Dendrolagus goodfellowi* — Goodfellow's tree-climbing kangaroo, distinguished from other species of tree-climbers by its rich mahogany-brown coat. In addition, Goodfellow's has two yellow stripes on the nape and rump, and a mottled yellow and brown tail.

The herbivorous tree kangaroos are found in the mountain forests of the mainland of New Guinea, and the big scrubs of Cape York, Queensland. Goodfellow's kangaroo is widely distributed in the central mountain ranges of the eastern half of New Guinea from 3,000 to 8,000 feet.

Tree kangaroos are less nocturnal than many other marsupials, and appear to be most active during early morning and late afternoon. Adaptations for an arboreal life include shortening of the hind feet and roughening of the pads for a better grip on branches; enlargement of the fore limbs and the sharp, strongly curved claws which are used in climbing; and a long muscular tail used for balancing. When alarmed on the ground, tree kangaroos hop like other macropods, front paws held clear of the ground.

One young is born at a time, spending many weeks in its mother's large pouch. Even after it is able to leave the pouch the joey stays close to the female and retreats to the pouch to nurse or to hide when danger threatens. The joey remains with the family group well into adulthood.

As usual, Australian residents may obtain mint and postmarked stamps of this series from Australian Post Office philatelic sales centres. Overseas clients should order stamps direct from the Philatelic Bureau, Port Moresby, Territory of Papua and New Guinea. The same address should be used for all first day cover orders, whether from within Australia or from overseas.

NEW STYLE AEROGRAMME

A new, improved aerogramme was placed on sale at general post offices and at some other larger offices on 8th January, 1971. As stocks became available, sales were extended to other post offices.

The new aerogramme provides nearly 40 per cent more writing space — 130 square inches compared with 95 square inches on the form which it replaces. The price remained at 10c per form.

The previous design, the first with three sealing flaps, was introduced on 1st October, 1968, to replace the two-flap type which tended to 'balloon' in mechanised processing, with consequent damage to itself and blockages in belt systems. Similar difficulties were encountered in overseas mail handling, and coincidentally the British Post Office introduced an aerogramme similar to the Australian form, for the same reasons.

However, as then-current international legislation limited the folded size of aerogrammes to 4¼ inches x 5⅞ inches, the consequent limitation on writing space was a source of dissatisfaction to users. As a result of efforts by the Australian delegation at the Tokyo meeting of the Universal Postal Union, the rules governing dimensions were amended, and the way was cleared for a larger size, as foreshadowed in the February 1970 Bulletin's report on the Tokyo Congress results.

The Australian Post Office then conducted an extensive customer survey, in which more than 300 individual aerogramme users took part; the Federated Association of Australian Housewives, the Consumers' Association of Victoria, the Victorian Employers' Federation and the Printing and Allied Trades Federation were also associated with the survey. This threw up useful points such as adding an extra line to the



address panel, and spacing the address lines to accord with usual typewriter spacing, but users' main requirement was for additional writing space.

Concurrently with the survey and consultation with some other postal administrations about developments overseas, there was the continuing need to maintain production of the existing form, and of the Qantas commemorative aerogramme. It was therefore decided not to produce a Christmas 1970 aerogramme, as this would necessarily have been in the unpopular smaller size, and would have delayed introduction of the larger form.

The new form is of the same general layout as its predecessor, but measures approximately 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches deep by 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide, as against the old form's 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches by 5 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches. The larger aerogramme is virtually a sheet of A4 paper (a standard size) with flaps added, and thus has the additional advantage of conforming with carbon copying and filing systems in offices. It has a deeper top flap, with cut-back corners, to facilitate opening, and the folding and other instructions at the base of the return address panel have been arranged in four lines to outline the area later covered by the top flap, thus preventing users from inadvertently writing on this portion, and losing some lines of writing when the flap is sealed.

Production of the smaller form has ceased, but it will continue on sale at philatelic sales centres until 7th July, 1971, providing stocks last.

The new aerogramme was printed by letterpress at the Note Printing Branch, Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne, on the usual blue paper. The main area of the stamp design and the word AEROGRAMME are in orange, and the remainder of the printing is blue. The orange ink contains heleccon.



TIMBER STAMPS FOR WESTERN SAMOA

On 1st February, 1971, Western Samoa released a set of four stamps featuring the establishment of the country's new timber industry.

The designs are derived from original sketches by Potlatch-Samoa Incorporated. The stamps were printed by the lithographic process by Questa Security Printers in England, on Kava Bowl watermarked paper.

The issue comprises four values: 3 sene, 8 sene, 20 sene and 22 sene. The 3 sene stamp shows a Samoan holding a power-operated saw beside a large tree. On the 8 sene stamp a Samoan girl is depicted watching modern machinery being operated in a forest clearing. A blade slices through a log in a sawmill in the 20 sene stamp, and the 22 sene stamp shows logs in the foreground and a steamer berthed at a wharf in the background.

The timber industry is being established in Samoa on the island of Savaii where, until now, there have been few attempts to capitalise on the wide variety of timber which exists in the rain forests.

Following an agreement with the Samoan Government, Potlatch-Samoa Inc., a United States firm, carried out surveys on Savaii which showed more than 30 varieties of timber.

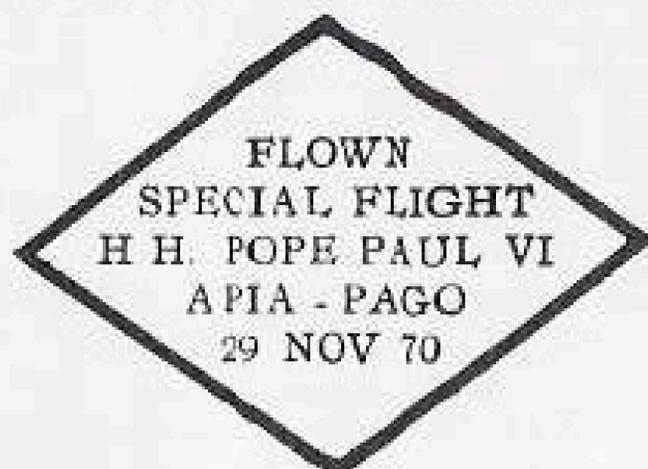
The firm's headquarters is at the Savaii port of Asau. A wharf has been built and the channel is being dredged for use by deep sea shipping. Thousands of tons of equipment have been towed into the area by barges from Apia.

Even in the islands of the Pacific there is a trend of migration to the larger towns or administrative centres. This has happened in Samoa, with people leaving Savaii to live in Apia where they cannot be fully absorbed in the local employment. The new industry will thus provide employment opportunities on Savaii, where previously not much development was taking place.

Papal Visit Stamps

As indicated in the December Bulletin, Western Samoa issued 8 sene and 20 sene stamps to mark the visit of His Holiness Pope Paul VI to Polynesia. The official announcement of the visit was made in Apia on 29th October, and despite the short time available, the stamps were prepared and placed on sale on 29th November, the day of the visit.

Both stamps were designed by J. E. Cooter, and printed by lithography by Format International, England, on Kava Bowl watermarked paper. Stamp size is 1.1 inches x 1.75 inches, and sheet content 25.



The Western Samoa Post Office also arranged a philatelic air mail despatch, flown on the Pope's aircraft from Western Samoa to Pago Pago. The mail comprised 575 covers, each impressed in red with a special cachet which is illustrated in this Bulletin. The mail was backstamped on arrival at Pago Pago on the same day.



Interpex Commemorative

Further to earlier reference, it is expected that the Interpex commemorative stamp will be issued on 12th March, 1971, in the form of a miniature sheet. Face value will be 70 sene. The design is by Mr. E. Roberts, of Adelaide, and printing is by Helio Courvoisier.



AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC TERRITORY COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

Special Australian Antarctic Territory postage stamps will be issued this year to mark Australia's participation as a signatory to the Antarctic Treaty. During 1971, member countries will commemorate the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty.

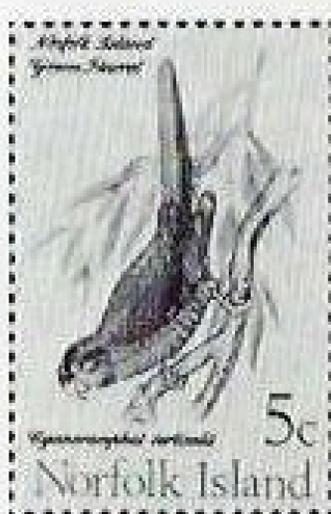
Announcing this recently, the Postmaster-General, Sir Alan Hulme, said that the main provisions of the Treaty were concerned with the peaceful uses of Antarctica, freedom of scientific investigation there, "freezing" of territorial claims and prohibition of nuclear explosions and disposal of radioactive waste in the region.

Other Treaty member countries are Argentina, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Russia and the United States. The issue of commemorative stamps was recommended by the Treaty countries at their Fifth Consultative meeting in Paris in 1968.

Special Australian Antarctic Territory postage stamps will also be issued in 1972, to commemorate Captain Cook's voyage during the years 1772-1775 when he became the first navigator to circumnavigate Antarctica.

Cook crossed the Antarctic circle in January 1773. After exploratory work in the South Pacific Islands areas, he sailed southward again in 1774 to complete his voyage around Antarctica. He returned to England in 1775.

Further particulars of the Treaty and Cook stamps will be announced nearer the respective dates of issue.



NORFOLK ISLAND BIRDS SERIES

The accompanying illustrations show the 2c, 5c, 15c and 50c Norfolk Island stamps of the current definitive series scheduled for issue on 24th February, 1971. Like the previously-issued stamps of this series, the latest group measure 25 mm x 38 mm, printed by photogravure in sheets of 50 by Harrisons, London.

Subject to availability of stocks, the new stamps are being sold by Australian Post Office philatelic sales centres, mint or post-marked — the latter are expected to become available some time after the date of issue. Overseas collectors should order direct from the Chief Philatelic Officer, Norfolk Island, South Pacific, 2899.

EXCHANGE OF OLD CURRENCY STAMPS CEASES

As indicated in earlier Bulletins (December 1965 and December 1967) the legislation associated with the introduction of decimal currency provided that £.s.d. postage stamps remained valid for postal purposes until 13th February, 1968. For five years after C-Day, unused £.s.d. postage stamps could be exchanged, upon request at post offices, for decimal currency stamps of equivalent value, provided that the old stamps were tendered in multiples of 6d. £.s.d. stamps could also be handed in at General Post Offices for re-purchase, under the applicable conditions, which included a discount upon face value.

In accordance with the provisions of the legislation, exchange and re-purchase of £.s.d. stamps ceased on 13th February, 1971, and all such stamps no longer have an official postage value.

STANDARD PHILATELIC SALES PERIODS FOR AUSTRALIAN STAMPS

In future, philatelic sales of Australian commemorative stamps will not be continued for more than six months after the date of issue.

In the past the Australian Post Office sold stamps at philatelic sales centres while stocks lasted. In some cases, this resulted in obsolete stamps being on sale for a year or

more after ordinary postal sales ceased. Under the new arrangement, any remaining stocks of commemorative stamps and short-term definitive stamps will be withdrawn after the set period of philatelic sale. Long-term definitive stamps will be withdrawn when replacements are issued.

To give dealers and collectors an opportunity to adjust their purchasing arrangements to the new sales periods, withdrawal of current 'over-age' stamps will not take place immediately.

The 1970 commemorative stamps and the replaced stamp booklets, coil stamps and Barrier Reef definitive stamps and the available stamps of the Primary Industries short term definitive series will be withdrawn from sale on 31st March, 1971.

Remainder stocks of the 6c Christmas 1970, 6c Parliamentary Conference, 6c Dairy Congress, 6c United Nations and 6c and 30c Qantas commemorative stamps will be withdrawn on 30th April, 1971.

After the issue of the Australia-Asia stamps, the Australian Post Office is discontinuing the practice of including with mail orders cancelled stamps to the value of the registration and/or air mail fees involved in returning the items ordered.

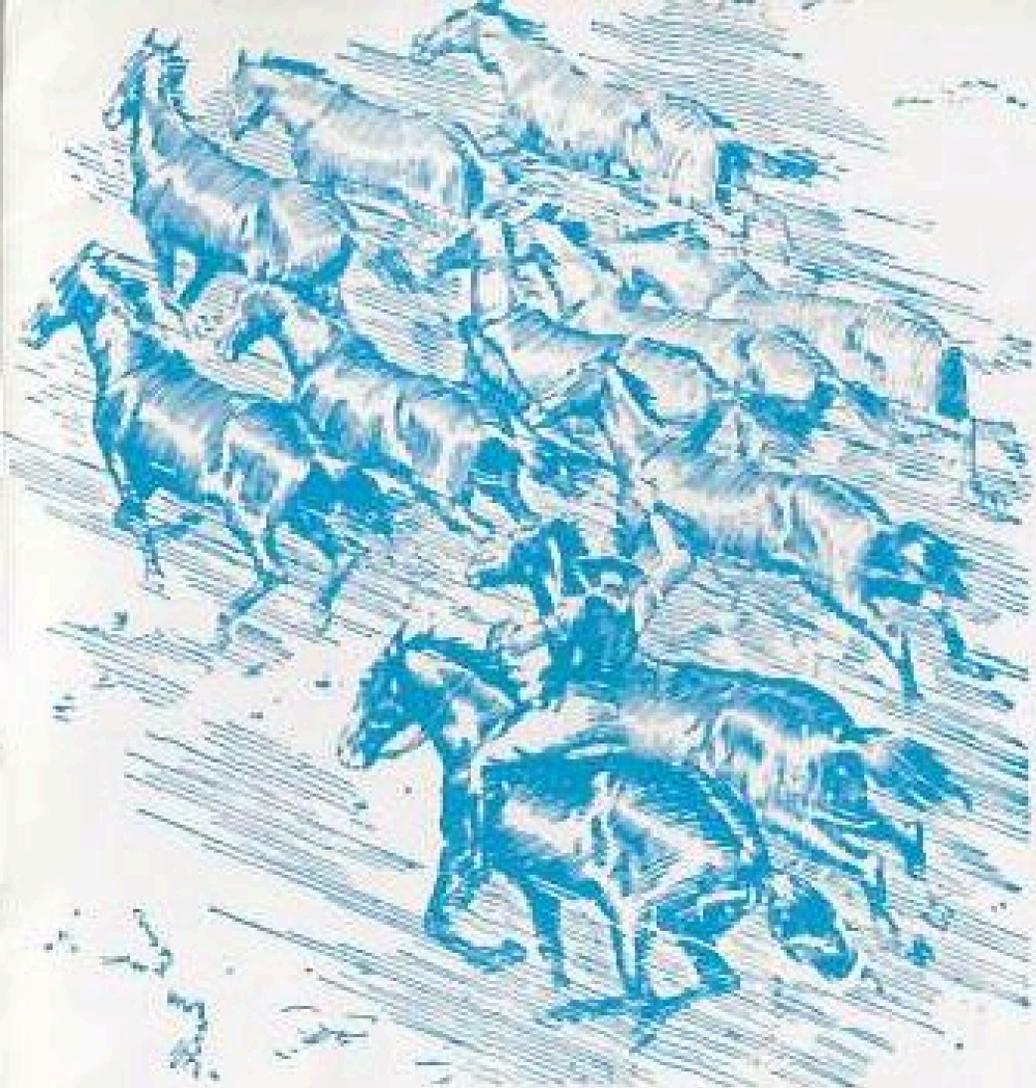
FAMOUS AUSTRALIANS STAMP BOOKLET

In the December Bulletin, biographical notes on E. J. Eyre and the Duigan brothers were published. The details below cover the two remaining subjects in the current Famous Australians booklet.

Adam Lindsay Gordon

The son of an army officer, Adam Lindsay Gordon was born at Fayal in the Azores on 19th October, 1833, and was educated in England; his academic studies suffered because of his preference for boxing and horse-riding — the latter was to remain his great interest in life. After three years at Woolwich military academy, Gordon was withdrawn from the school, and a wild and aimless life led him into debt. His father decided upon a fresh start, and thus Adam Lindsay Gordon disembarked at Adelaide in 1853.

He immediately joined the mounted police, and served at Mount Gambier and Penola.



At Mount Gambier, he performed a spectacular riding feat, jumping his horse over a safety fence onto a narrow strip of earth overlooking a 300-ft. drop down almost sheer sides to a crater lake, and then jumping the animal out again. The feat appeared so unlikely that, with the passage of years, it began to assume a legendary character, until duplicated by another great horseman, Lance Skuthorpe, before many witnesses.

Gordon left the police force after two years. In 1857 he became friendly with Rev. J. T. Woods, a priest with literary and scientific interests, and Gordon's interest in poetry was re-awakened, and he began to write again. Meanwhile, his reputation as an excellent rider and trainer of horses continued to grow; however, due to his defective eyesight he had a number of falls. After one such accident at Robe he was nursed by Margaret Park, whom he later married.

Gordon invested in properties, but the ventures failed. In 1865 he became a member of the South Australian Parliament, but had no talent for politics and resigned the following year. About this time his writings were being printed in Australian magazines, and in 1867 he published two works — "Ashtaroth, a Dramatic Lyric" and "Sea Spray and Smoke Drift". In that year he took over a livery stable at Ballarat, Vic., but this business also proved unsuccessful. Gordon's fortunes, previously ill-starred, now seemed worse — he sustained two bad riding accidents; his baby daughter died; and he learned that his claim to a family inheritance was disallowed. In Melbourne, he was well-known as a rider, and made a little money, and made friendships amongst other members of a literary club. But bad health and melancholia began to prevail in his mood. On 23rd June, 1870, his last book "Bush

Ballads and Galloping Rhymes" was published. Although commended by well-known authors Henry Kendall and Marcus Clarke, Gordon realized that he was unable to meet the publishing expenses, and committed suicide the following day.

Gordon's bush ballads have lived on, and attained a permanent place in Australian literature, reflecting as they do the lives of bushmen and the swinging gait of their horses.

Lachlan Macquarie

Lachlan Macquarie was born on Ulva in the Hebrides on 31st January, 1761. He served in the British army during the American War of Independence, and later in India and Egypt, reaching the rank of major-general in 1813.

Meanwhile, in the far-away penal colony of New South Wales, Governor William Bligh had been deposed by some of his own officers, and the British Government appointed Macquarie (commanding the 73rd regiment) to restore order as the new Governor. He reached Port Jackson on 28th December, 1809.

He found the colony in chaos, divided by factional disputes. Macquarie brought together the warring sections through official gatherings and community functions, regularised public administration, and undertook to end the "rum traffic" — a barter system in which spirits took the place of currency, resulting in many abuses. Eventually, Macquarie established a coinage, and the first bank (commemorated by the 150th Anniversary of Banking stamp of 1967).

His efforts for the extension of settlement and the improvement of agriculture largely removed the threat of famine, and his encouragement of exploration resulted in the discovery of the long-sought route across the Blue Mountains and the opening up of the interior. Road-building schemes brought about much-improved communications and transport, and public works and building activities — many under the direction of his architect Greenway — resulted in many fine public and private edifices. The Blue Mountains crossing and one of Greenway's designs, the Macquarie lighthouse, have also been featured on stamps.

Other amenities introduced by Macquarie were a library, the first schools, the regularisation of the first post office, and a more humane and liberal attitude to convicts who had completed their sentences. However, Macquarie's attempts to place emancipated convicts on terms of equality with free settlers resulted in much friction, and led eventually to open differences between Macquarie and many of the prominent citizens.

Finally, after three requests, the aging Governor was permitted by the home government to resign. He returned to England in 1822, and died on 1st July, 1824.

Despite his conflict with certain sections, Macquarie was farewelled by a very large group of colonists when he left Australia, and the news of his death was received with general sorrow in Sydney. Historical perspective has vindicated his efforts for the colony and its people.

(Further references to Macquarie and his times may be found in the following Bulletins: February and April, 1959 (establishment of a post office); June, 1963 (Blue Mountains); April, 1967 (Bible Society and Banking); October, 1968 (Macquarie Lighthouse).



SHORT NOTES

A postmarker showing penguins is being used on letters posted in two letter receivers on Phillip Island, Victoria, located at the "Penguin Parade" beach and at The Nobbies. Envelopes handed in at the Cowes, Phillip Island, post office will also receive the special cancellation on request.

The design refers to the unique natural history event which occurs at Phillip Island — the return, at dusk, of fairy penguins from their feeding grounds in Bass Strait.

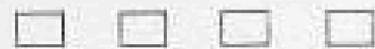
The facility commenced on 24th December, 1970, and will operate until 30th April, 1971. Collectors in Australia may obtain impressions by forwarding fully stamped and addressed envelopes to the Postmaster, Cowes, Vic., 3922, under pre-paid cover. Overseas residents may order from the Philatelic Bureau, 374 Bourke St., Melbourne, Vic., Australia 3000, by forwarding fully addressed but unstamped covers, plus remittances to cover the cost of the Australian stamps to be affixed.

A number of covers were postmarked at Cowes on the first day of use of the postmarker, and are being sold from the

Philatelic Bureau while stocks last. Collectors desiring these covers should forward orders to the Bureau, with remittances at 10c per cover (4c for the envelope and 6c for the stamp affixed).



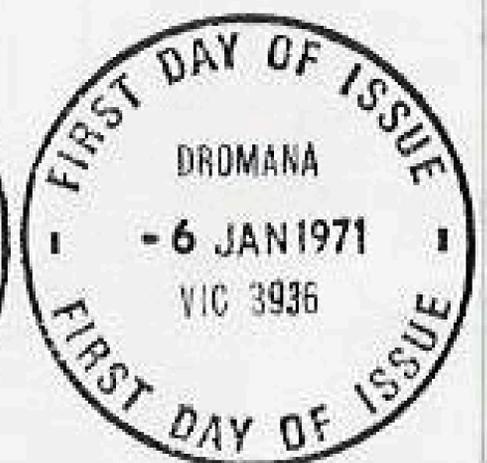
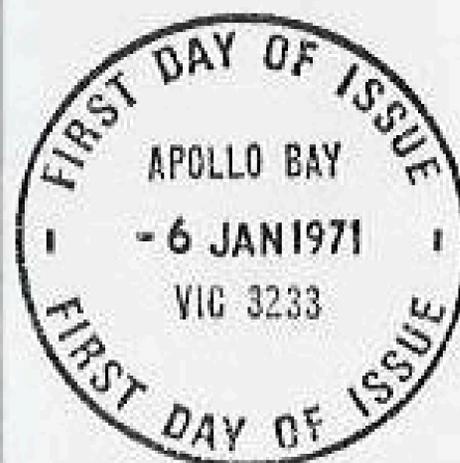
The 5c and 30c Royal Visit stamps were printed on Wiggins Teape coated unwatermarked paper incorporating helecron, and four cylinders were used for each. The 5c colours were orange, grey, light brown and brown; and the 30c colours were grey, blue, light red and gold.



The annual Melbourne Moomba Festival is being held over the period 26th February to 8th March, 1971, and the usual Victorian Philatelic Association Stamp Display will be a feature of the festival, with an associated temporary post office. When copy for this Bulletin was closed off in mid-January, final arrangements for the post office site were not complete, but it was expected that the special postmarker to be used would have the same design as last year's postmarker for the same event.



Mail orders from clients in Victoria, formerly handled at the Philatelic Sales Centre, Russell Street Post Office, Melbourne, are now processed at the Philatelic Bureau, 12th Floor, 374 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Vic. 3000. Victorian clients should direct future mail orders to the Bureau. The change of address will be incorporated in Stamp Preview order forms and Sales Lists, as further printings are made. Counter sales will continue as usual at Russell Street Post Office.



A total of 345 Australian post offices are now equipped with first day of issue post-markers. The facility was extended to a further 69 offices, many in holiday resort areas, as from the issue of the Australia-Asia series. Thirty-one of the latest first day post-marker offices are in New South Wales, 16 in Victoria, 11 in Queensland, five in South Australia and one in Tasmania. A list of these post offices appeared in Stamp Preview No. 9 of 1970.



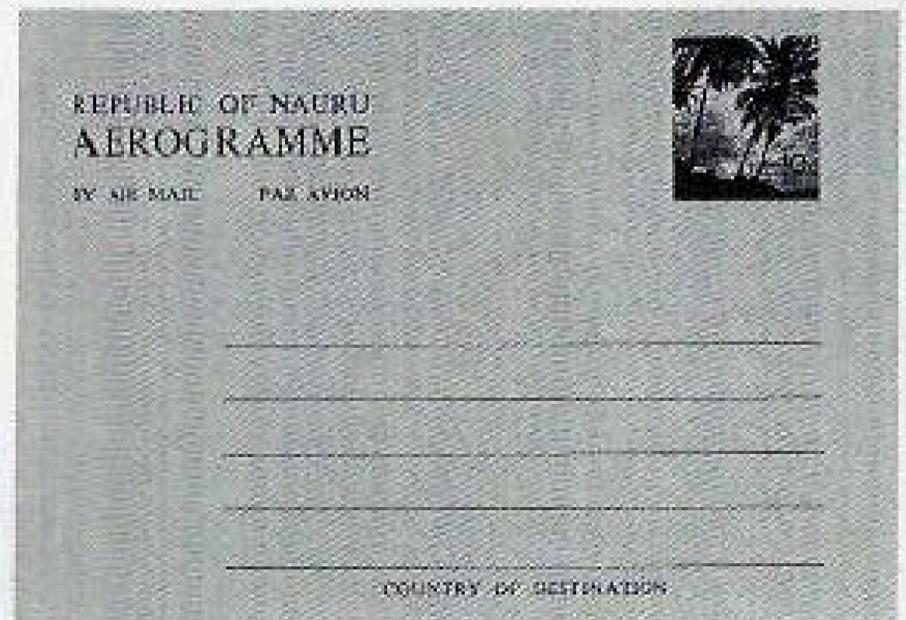
The Norfolk Island 5c Christmas 1970 stamp was withdrawn from sale on 26th February, 1971.



Further to earlier references, the accompanying illustrations show the postmarkers for the 28th International Congress of Orientalists and the Fifth Commonwealth Education Conference.



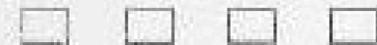
The first railway service in Tasmania commenced on 10th February, 1871, and was operated by the Launceston and Western Railway Co., on a 5 ft. 3 inches gauge line from Launceston to Deloraine, a distance of 45 miles. The original train was hauled by a 4-4-0 T tank engine built by Robert Stephenson and Co., England. The company disposed of its assets to the Tasmanian Government in 1873. To mark the centenary of the railway, a vintage train re-enacted the journey from Launceston to Deloraine on 10th February, 1971, departing Launceston at 11 a.m. and stopping en route at Western Junction, Longford and Westbury. The train was hauled by two steam locomotives, classified "CCS" and "M" respectively. A philatelic mail was carried and all covers were postmarked with a special cancellation.



The Nauru aerogramme announced in the previous Bulletin is illustrated in this issue. It was produced by the Note Printing Branch, Reserve Bank of Australia, utilizing the then-current Australian layout. Printing is in only one colour, dark blue, on the light blue paper used for Australian aerogrammes. There is no heleon content in the ink.



Following delivery of initial supplies of the 5c Floral Emblem stamp in coils of 1,000 stamps, the Note Printing Branch was requested to make up coils of the stamp in strips of 500, to expedite further supplies. Subsequently, 2,270 coils of 500 were made up.



As indicated elsewhere in this Bulletin, the inscription on the return address face of the new aerogramme is set out in four lines. Previously, the equivalent wording on the 1968-type form was changed from two to three lines, and distribution of the modified forms to all States took place between 5th and 11th September, 1969.

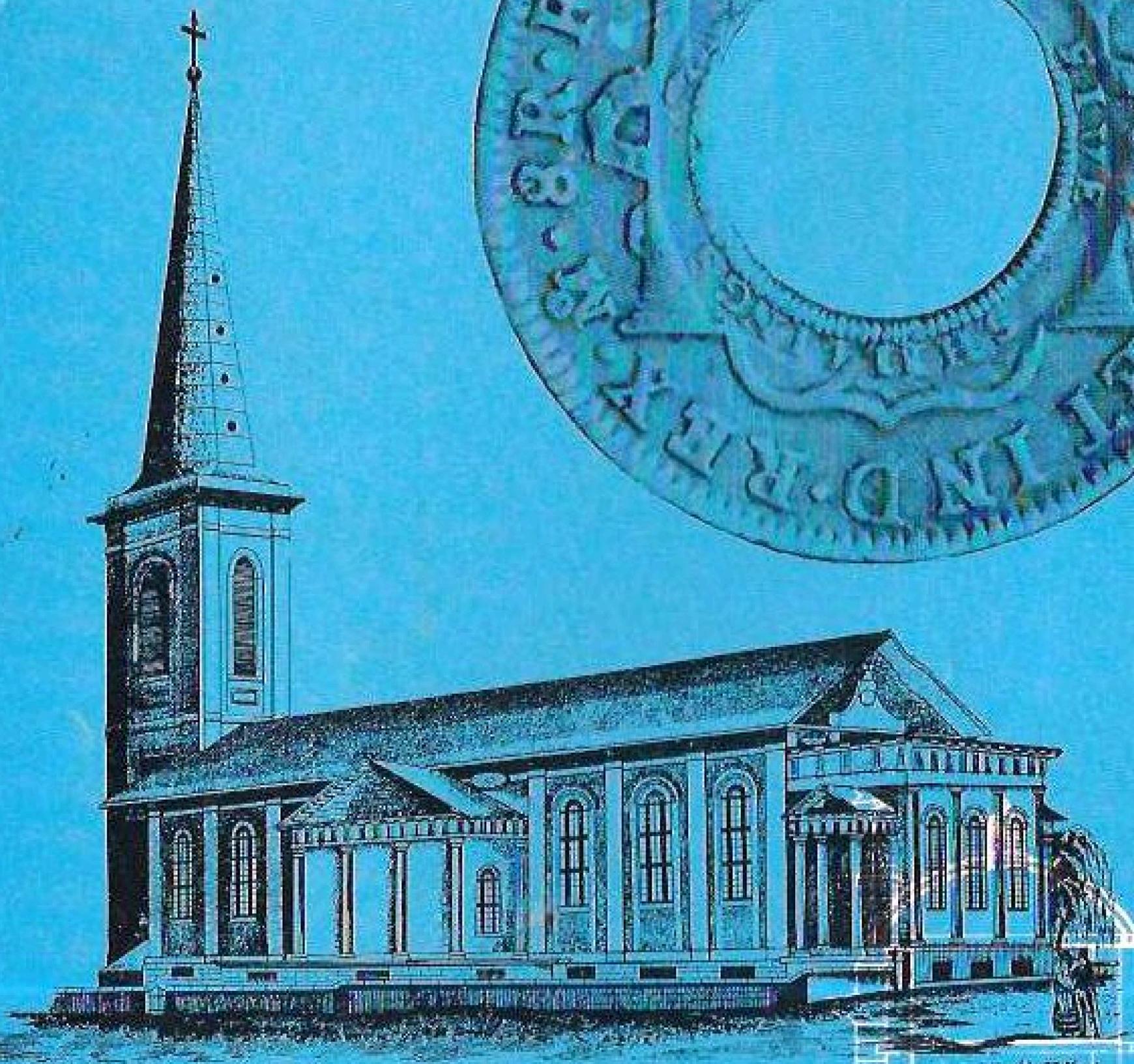


Following the 1970 rate changes, 6c lettercards and 6c general purpose wrappers were first distributed as follows:

	6c Lettercard	6c Wrapper
N.S.W.	30 Nov., 1970	30 Nov., 1970
Vic.	20 Nov., 1970	1 Dec., 1970
Q'land	30 Nov., 1970	1 Dec., 1970
S.A.	3 Dec., 1970	9 Dec., 1970
W.A.	30 Nov., 1970	30 Nov., 1970
Tas.	17 Dec., 1970	17 Dec., 1970



Further to the notes on printing in the June 1970 Bulletin four cylinders were utilized for the production of the 5c Cook Bicentenary stamps. The same number of cylinders, four, were used for the 6c Christmas 1970 stamp, which was printed on Wiggins Teape coated unwatermarked paper incorporating heleon in yellow, red, blue and black.



Drawn by J. Powell

ST JAMES' CHURCH SYDNEY.

By W. H. Harris

