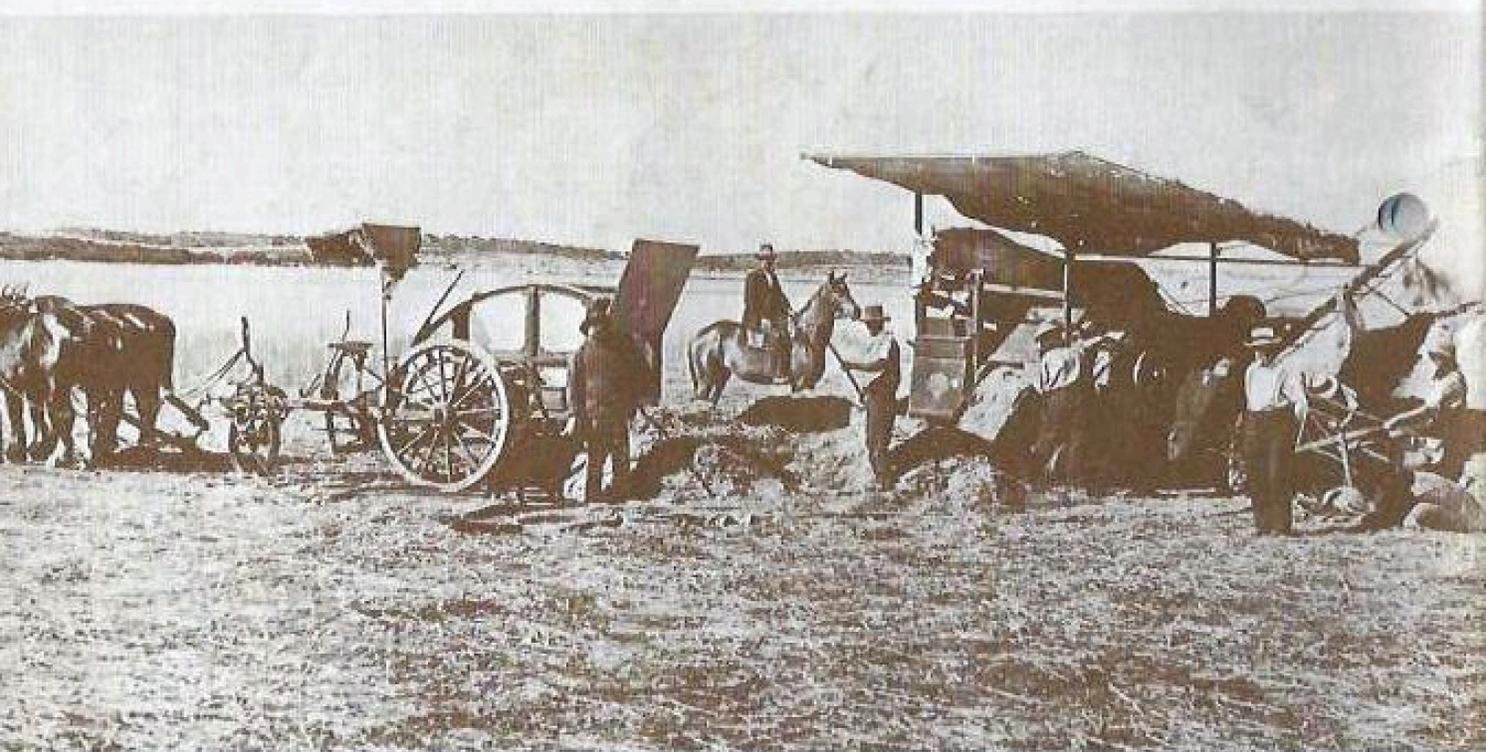


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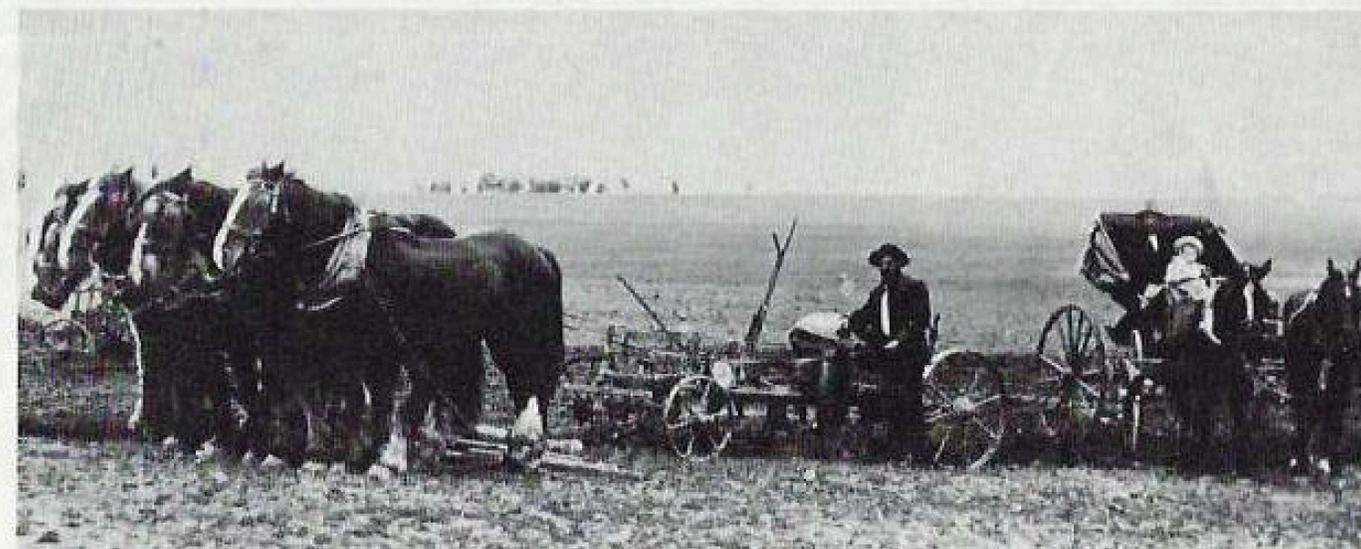
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Pioneer Life Series

"So much of human history deals with the glamour of great men and women, that we are apt to forget those who gave form and strength to our society: those who established our industries and institutions. In some cases, the very names of such men are forgotten..."

Robert Ingpen

The thousands of men and women who contributed so much during the formative years of the establishment of the Australian nation are the subjects of the Pioneer Life series of definitive stamps issued on 15th November, 1972. The series comprises 5c Pioneer Society, 10c Pioneer Water, 15c Pioneer Food, 40c Pioneer Shelter, 50c Pioneer Transport, 60c Pioneer Communications, and 80c Pioneer Commerce. Designed by Mr. Robert Ingpen, of Melbourne, they were printed in five-colour photogravure in sheets of 100 on the Chambon machine at the Note Printing Branch, Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne, on unwatermarked luminescent paper. Each stamp measures 25 mm x 37.5 mm, including perforations; the 5c, 10c and 60c stamps are in vertical format and the remainder are horizontal.

The seven designs relate to aspects of pioneer life in an agricultural environment of about 100 years ago. The Pioneer Society design shows a typical family, posed as for one of the group photographs so popular then, and typifying the family as the centre of activities. These activities are represented on the designs of the other stamps. Water, food and shelter are basic needs of every society, and these are depicted on the 10c, 15c and 40c stamps. With these primary needs satisfied, the pioneers moved to more sophisticated developments such as transport, communications and commerce, depicted on the 50c, 60c and 80c stamps.

In the first fifty years of Australian settlement, grazing rather than agriculture was predominant. Though vast tracts of land were opened up by early explorers it was mainly squatters and over-

landers who followed, renting land cheaply and grazing flocks and herds without elaborate buildings or fences.

In the mid-nineteenth century the colonies began to legislate to encourage agricultural settlement. This, combined with the vast influx of settlers lured to Australia by the gold rushes (the population of Victoria alone increased from 77,000 to 538,000 during the decade 1851-1861) caused thriving farming communities to spring up.

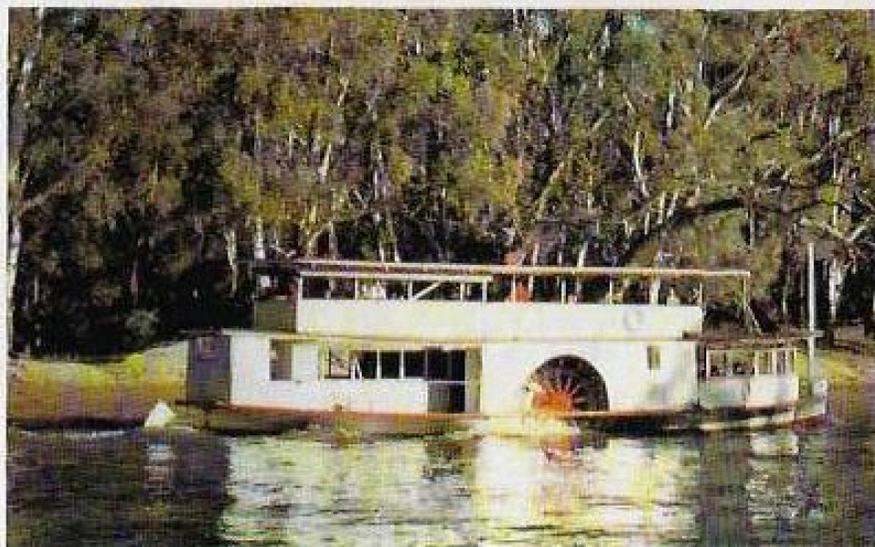
As the farmers became more secure, they established dwellings more permanent than their original wattle and daub or bark huts. Early settlers had an eye for selecting good dwelling sites—trees for shade and weather protection, close to water, and fertile soil for vegetables. The houses were built from locally-available material — "slabs" (roughly-split timber), bluestone, sandstone or mud bricks. In some cases stone was imported as ships' ballast.

The style of larger colonial houses was an adaptation of the clean line and proportion of Georgian architecture, influenced by Australian climatic conditions. More often a typical homestead (as shown on the 40c stamp) was of log or timber slabs, single storied, with a passageway through the house to allow cooling draughts to circulate. High-pitched roofs aided summer cooling, and when of corrugated iron collected rainwater, which ran down into tanks. Roofing materials also included bark, slate, shingles and thatch. Kitchens were often set yards distant from the main dwelling, to isolate cooking fumes and heat from the wood stove.

A wide verandah was an important part of every house, often up to 10-12 feet wide to accommodate beds, tables and chairs, during the summer months.

Around the house were out-buildings—store-houses, barns, stables, shearing shed, smithy and cottages for men employed on the farm or sheep run; often there was an orchard and vegetable garden, fenced to protect the garden from domestic and wild animals. Before wire became available, fences were of wood—post and rail, or "dog-leg"—or of stone, if this was plentiful.

Within the homestead, the women lived a busy



and often hard life. Alone for weeks while the men were away clearing land, fencing, droving or shearing, the women had little contact with the outside world except for a trip, perhaps every three months or so, to the nearest town for supplies. These were ordered in bulk—bags of sugar, salt and flour, bolts of cloth, chests of tea and general supplies.

So the trip to town was exciting; a chance for men to discuss crops; for the women, other feminine company; and for the children, a treat—boiled lollies; besides these, the store stocked whips and saddles, perfume and silk, scythes and hoes, kegs of tobacco and molasses, patent medicines, quart pots and kerosene lamps...a hundred and one things.

But when they could, the women on the homesteads made their own supplies—candles and soap, butter and cheese, preserves, bread, and cloth woven from homespun wool. These tasks they fitted in between endless rounds of meals, and trying to teach the children the rudiments of education. Only the most prosperous and largest stations could afford governesses. Schools were few, and although by the 1860s some small subsidies were granted to licensed schools, parents still paid fees, and many could not afford these or were too far distant from schools.

Many had to be their own doctors, too, using simple home remedies and patent medicines. A book of home medicines and cures was almost as important as the family Bible.

An occasional hawker might happen along, with a dazzling array of trinkets—reels of cotton, buttons, needles, ribbons and laces, and a cart festooned with jangling tin pots and pans. The hawker was often an Indian, with a doggerel verse of "Turkey lolly good for Polly, makes the baby fat" and he would present the children with sticky Turkish delight.

Sometimes a swagman or "sundowner" might arrive, with his inevitable billy, waterbag and swag, and ask for "rations" or do some odd jobs in return for meals. But opportunities for diversions were limited; each family was its own social unit, often reading from the Bible at night, or enjoying a family

musical evening.

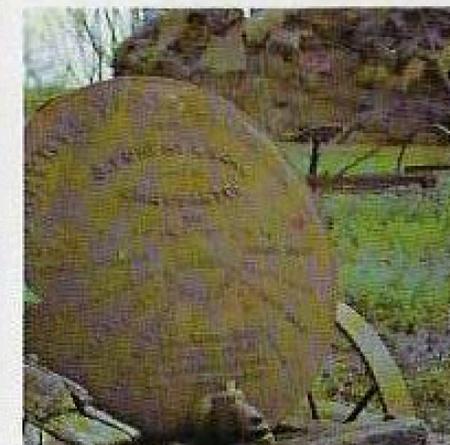
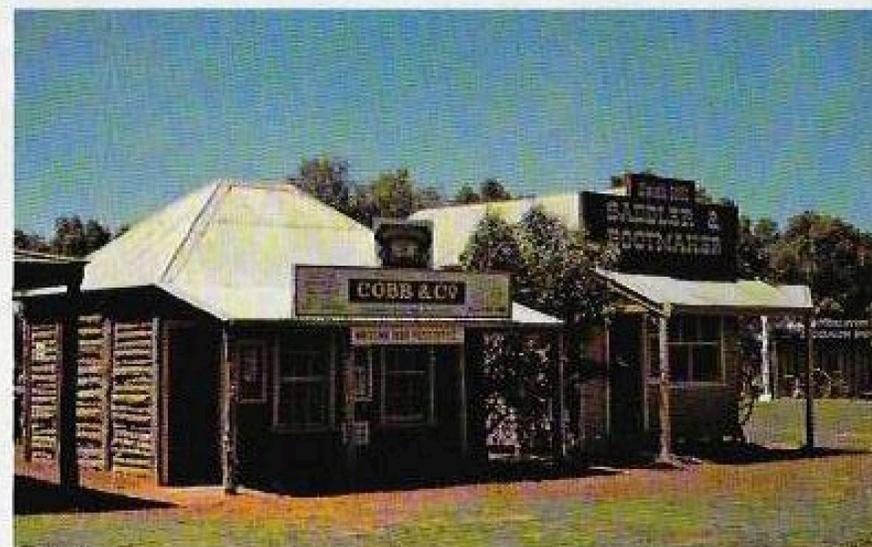
A few itinerant photographers plied their profession in the bush, and towards the end of the 19th century most towns had a photographic studio. The first practical process was that of Louis Daguerre, invented in 1837, and by 1841 daguerreotypes were being made in Sydney. By the 1850s the wet plate process had been developed, and was used for almost all photographs in Australia from 1855 to 1880.

Once the country became more populated, and towns began to grow, churches, halls, Mechanics' Institutes, agricultural showgrounds and band rotundas were built to meet community social needs. People went to woolshed dances at the end of shearing, and picnic race meetings became annual events. Football and cricket clubs sprang up. Theatrical entertainment ranged from small side-shows to travelling companies which included famous overseas actors and actresses like American Edwin Booth and Lola Montez, from Europe.

But in the main, life was constant hard work and struggle against the environment. Water was always a problem, except along the coast. Inland streams often dried up in the summer, and men had to dig dams and channels. Water was carried from creeks in barrels on horse-drawn sleds, in iron tanks on wheels (Furphy carts) and by buckets suspended from shoulder yokes, an idea introduced by Chinese on the goldfields. Wells were sunk, and water raised in windlass buckets or by hand pumps. The 10c stamp shows a typical cast iron pump. In the 1870s, geared windmill pumps came into use, enabling water to be drawn from deep wells.

Underground water was often brackish, and was purified by filtering through a mixture of charcoal and lime. Dome-shaped limestone filters were often inserted inside water tanks.

In the beginning, tools were primitive, often fashioned on the owner's anvil and forge. But as methods of growing wheat in the drier areas were developed, where the climate was more suited for this crop than the wetter coastal plains, ingenious pioneers invented methods of clearing and working



the land. Heavy log rollers were dragged along by horse teams, the scrub thus broken down was burnt off, and the ground was ploughed with the stump-jump plough, an Australian invention in 1876 designed to slide over stumps or roots in newly-cleared land.

In 1843, a South Australian, John Ridley, built a stripper which stripped the wheat heads and threshed out the grain by revolving beaters, thus making possible larger-scale wheat farming. Wheat acreage in South Australia increased from 273,000 acres in 1860 to 1,730,000 acres in 1880.

Stripping and threshing were combined with winnowing by H.V. McKay, who at the age of 18 in 1884 constructed at Drummartin, Vic., the first successful machine to strip, thresh, winnow and bag wheat in one continuous operation. With further adaptation, the harvester was able to pick up badly-lodged or weather-damaged crops. An Australian-built harvester, symbolising food crops and the farming implement industry, to which Australians have made some outstanding contributions, is shown on the 15c stamp.

Concurrently, men like William Farrer were developing new breeds of wheat which resisted rust and other diseases.

Harvested wheat was taken to a flour mill; in the early days, this might be up to 40 miles away, and the wheat was carried in large wagons, drawn by bullocks or horses. The first flour mills were wind-driven, later replaced by water-powered and then machine-powered mills.

Passenger transport developed rapidly in the 1850s, during the gold rushes. During this period, an American, Freeman Cobb, and his associates commenced a coaching service which was to become famous. In the 1860s Cobb and Co. expanded its operations into New South Wales and Queensland, and eventually to every colony. By 1870 the company was harnessing 6,000 horses a day and its coaches travelled 28,000 miles a week. A Cobb coach is illustrated on the 50c stamp.

Australian railways began in 1854, and the rails spread slowly, pushing the coaches out further to

serve the more isolated areas. Roads were gradually improved, replacing the old cart and bullock tracks. Even further out, camels played an important part; they were employed by Burke and Wills in their 1860 expedition to the Gulf of Carpentaria, and in 1866 122 camels, with drivers, were landed at Port Augusta, S.A., from India. Especially suitable in the arid inland, they were used for more than forty years in Central and Western Australia, carrying stores and mail.

When railway construction began, the colonies were all separate entities, and unfortunately constructed lines of different gauges, which presented problems when the lines eventually met at colonial borders.

Concurrent with railway development was steam navigation on Australia's largest river, the Murray, and its tributaries. In 1852 Francis Cadell made an exploratory canoe trip 1,300 miles downstream from Swan Hill, Vic., to Goolwa, S.A., and in the following year launched his paddle steamer "Lady Augusta". As an inducement to river transport the South Australian government had offered monetary rewards for the first steam navigation from Goolwa to the Murray-Darling junction, 557 miles upstream. Heading upstream, Cadell encountered another steamer, the "Mary Ann", built by William Randell, and an exciting and famous race ensued.

River traffic developed quickly, and the Murray-Darling-Murrumbidgee river system served as the principal outlet for the produce of a rich and extensive area. Towing barges of wheat, wool and other goods the skilful rivermen navigated the sand bars and snags, often spending the summer moored in a deep pool far up a dried-up stream, waiting for winter rains to float the vessel out. Typical river steamers were of very shallow draft, and it was said facetiously of many a resourceful captain that he could cross a paddock of long grass, provided there was a heavy dew.

By the 1890s there were more than 200 paddle steamers on the Murray, but from that date, faced with railway competition, river traffic gradually



declined. The 80c stamp pays tribute to the important part played by the river steamers in their colourful heyday.

Railways, coaches, riverboats, camels and pack-horses were all used to carry Her Majesty's mail, as communications systems developed. Telegraph services, like railways, began in 1854, providing a rapidity of communication which far surpassed horses and railways. By the time the Overland Telegraph Line was finished in 1872, providing a link with Europe, all Australian colonies were connected telegraphically except Western Australia. A Perth-Adelaide line was completed in 1877.

In the succeeding years, each colony greatly extended the telegraph channels within its borders, until in 1901, with Federation, the colonial services became amalgamated within the Commonwealth Post and Telegraph Department. The developing years of Australian telegraph systems are symbolized by the Morse key on the 60c stamp.

The 5c Queen Elizabeth II stamp, the 7c and 10c values of the National Development series, the 15c Tasmanian Blue Gum, the 40c Tasman and the 50c Dampier stamps were withdrawn from philatelic sale on 14th November, 1972. Any remainder stocks of these values and designs held by post offices will be sold until stocks are cleared. The 60c and 80c Pioneer Life stamps are new values, more related to current rate requirements than the existing 75c Cook stamp, and no more printings of the latter will be made. It will be continued on sale until stocks are exhausted.

Mr. Ingpen also designed the official first day cover for the Pioneer Life series. All seven stamps are available in a souvenir stamp pack, priced at \$2.60.

Norfolk Island Commemoratives

Further to reference in the September Bulletin, Norfolk Island's 7c 1972 Christmas stamp was designed by Harrison & Sons Limited from a suggestion submitted by Mrs. M.M.J. McCoy of Norfolk Island. Printed by five-colour photogravure, with red, blue and gold predominating, the stamp is 27.94 mm x 43.06 mm, perforation to perforation, in sheets of 50 on white unwatermarked PVA gummed paper.

The stamp features detail from a stained glass window in All Saints Church, Norfolk Island; the window is the work of Sir Edward Coley Burne-Jones (1833-1898), one of the "Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood" of nineteenth century English painters. The church was originally the commissariat store of the convict settlement.

A stylized design was used to achieve a stained glass effect on the 12c stamp issued by Norfolk Island on 20th November, 1972, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first church erected by Pitcairners on Norfolk Island.

On arrival in 1856 on Norfolk Island, the Pitcairner descendants of the "Bounty" mutineers conducted church services in the former barracks buildings. In 1872, the Pitcairners completed the erection of their own church in Kingston by Rooty Hill Road.

Printed by Harrison & Sons Limited of London in five-colour photogravure, the stamp is in sheets of 50. Stamp size is 27.94 mm x 43.06 mm.

The 35c Norfolk Island stamp to commemorate Cook's crossing of the Antarctic Circle will be issued on 17th January, 1973. Printed by Harrison & Sons Limited, in four-colour photogravure, it will measure 27.94 mm x 43.06 mm perforation



to perforation, in sheets of 50.

Withdrawal date for the Christmas stamp is 16th February, 1973; for the Pitcairner stamp, 16th March, 1973; and for the Cook Antarctic Circle Crossing stamp, 18th May, 1973. Mint and post-marked Christmas and Pitcairner stamps are available from Australian Post Office philatelic sales centres. The Cook stamps will become available as from the date of issue.

New Definitives from Western Samoa

The Government of Western Samoa issued ten new definitive stamps on 18th October, 1972.

The values, subjects and the Australian selling price of the stamps are as follows:—

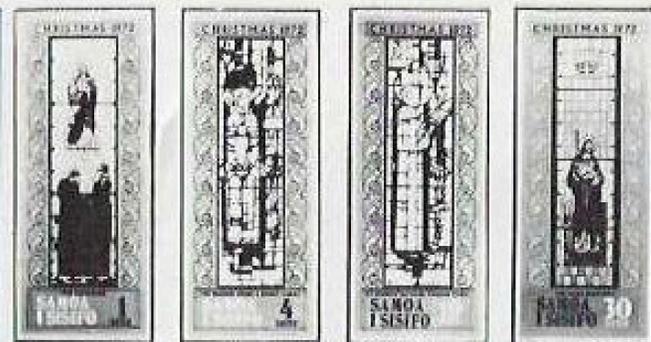
1 sene Bull conch—Australian selling price	2c
2 sene Rhinoceros beetle—	3c
3 sene Skipjack — " "	4c
4 sene Painted crab — " "	5c
5 sene Butterfly fish — " "	7c
7 sene Samoan Monarch — " "	9c
10 sene Triton shell — " "	13c
20 sene Jewel beetle — " "	25c
50 sene Spiny lobster — " "	63c
\$1 Hawkmoth — " "	\$1.25

The stamps were designed by Waddington's Studio and were printed by lithography in sheets of 25 by Questa Colour Security Printers Ltd. The stamps incorporate the usual "kava bowl" watermark and their sizes are 44.45 x 27.94 mm for the one sene to 50 sene values and 31.75 x 48.26 mm for the \$1.

Mint specimens of the stamps are available to Australian clients from the philatelic sales centres of the Australian Post Office. Supplies of post-marked stamps were expected to be available shortly after the date of issue. Clients resident outside Australia should forward orders to the Philatelic Bureau, Apia, Western Samoa.

Western Samoan Bird stamps replaced by the new series will remain on sale at Australian philatelic centres for a further three months from 18th October.





Western Samoa 1972 Christmas Stamps

The four 1972 Western Samoa Christmas stamps issued on 1st November, 1972, and announced in the September Bulletin, are illustrated above.

Featuring stained glass windows from churches in Apia, capital of Western Samoa, the titles of the stamps are:— 1 sene "The Ascension", 4 sene "The Blessed Virgin and Infant Christ", 10 sene "St. Andrew Blessing Samoan Canoe", and 30 sene "The Good Shepherd."

The stamps were designed by Pad Studios of England and printed in sheets of 25 by Harrison & Sons Limited of London, using the lithographic process. Stamp size is 24.13 mm x 60.96 mm (the same size as the Myths and Legends issue of 1971). Mint and postmarked stamps will be available at Australian Post Office philatelic sales centres until 30th April, 1973.

1972 Christmas Stamps



The 1972 Christmas stamps were issued on 29th November, 1972. The denominations are 7c and 35c. This year, the scope of the stamp designs has been extended to include wider reference to the meaning of the birth of Christ, as indicated by the Postmaster-General at ANPEX.

The 1972 designs have been based on texts from the New Testament; the passages illustrated are "Suffer the little children to come unto me" (St. Mark 10: 13-16) and "I am the light of the world" (St. John 8:12).

The 7c stamp pictures Christ with a group of children. Final artwork for this stamp was prepared by Australian Post Office artists incorporating an original pastel drawing by Miss Wendy Tamlyn, of Sydney.

Mr. Lance Stirling of Melbourne prepared the 35c stamp design, which shows a dove of peace and colours radiating from darkness to light.

A 12c Christmas aerogramme designed by Mr. Stirling was also issued on 29th November.

The 9c official first day cover, also Mr. Stirling's work, featured motifs from the 7c and 35c stamps. A 42c souvenir stamp pack, containing both stamps, was prepared. The stamps, souvenir pack and aerogramme will be sold at post offices until the end of December, and from philatelic sales centres for up to six months from the date of issue.

Each value was issued in sheets of 100, printed by five-colour photogravure by the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne. The 35c stamp measures 25 mm x 37.5 mm, including perforations, and was printed on the Chambon press. The 7c stamp measures 37.5 mm x 24.05 mm including perforations, and was the first stamp to be issued from the new Rembrandt photogravure press recently acquired by the Note Printing Branch.

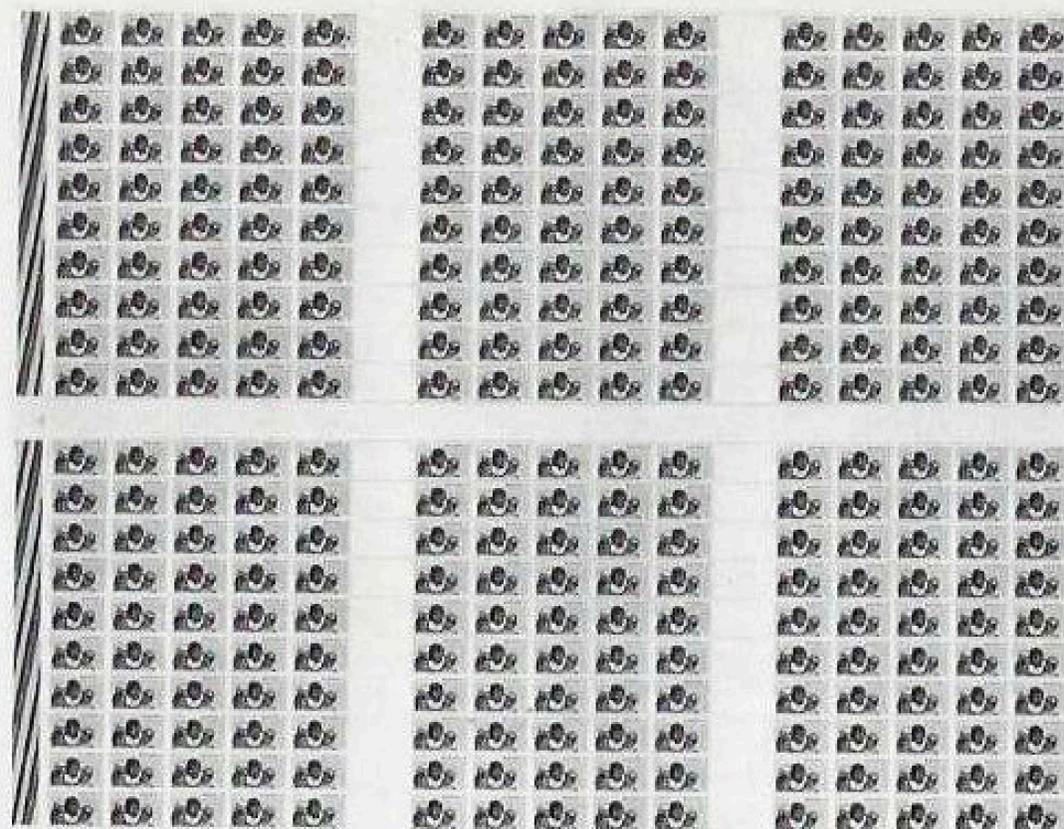
Like the Chambon, the Rembrandt machine—built by Koenig and Bauer, Germany—is a five-colour photogravure press, and generally may be said to be much like the existing press in principle. However, it differs in detail; it is much bigger, its output is greater, and it is sheet-fed.

All stamps of the 7c value are on KP5D paper, the same as that used on a trial basis for part of the printing of the 1971 Christmas stamps. Results then were satisfactory, and a further quantity was ordered. The new paper, which is slightly whiter and with a finer surface than the previous gravure paper, was used in sheets measuring approximately 53.8 cm x 75 cm for the 1972 7c printing on the Rembrandt. Each sheet accommodates 300 impressions of the large commemorative size, in six panes of 50. After printing and perforating, the 300-on sheets were guillotined into sheets of 100 each, comprising upper and lower panes of 50.

There is no perforator fitted to the Rembrandt, and stamps printed on it are perforated on the Grover perforator machines, exactly as for intaglio-printed stamps. Thus, the 7c stamp size accords with that of the larger engraved stamps, e.g. \$1 Flinders.

Wiggins Teape paper was used for the 35c stamp. Marginal markings on the Rembrandt-printed 7c sheets are of a form previously unseen on Australian gravure stamps. As shown in the illustration, they consist of a vertical band approximately 17 mm wide and running the full depth of the left-hand margin on each 300-on sheet, with a break at the central gutter. Within this vertical band, bars of each of the five colours used (grey, yellow, red, blue and brown) are repeated diagonally. The main purpose of this band is as a check against missing colours.

Because of the large size of the sheet, a missing colour occurring in say only one or two rows, or part thereof, might be overlooked in scanning a full sheet. However, by rapidly "flipping" the left-hand edges of stacked sheets under a thumb and viewing only the margin, any missing colour shows



up as an easily-discernible gap in the marginal markings. They also provide other useful technical information in this early and still somewhat experimental stage of Rembrandt printing.

As the diagonal colour lines are on the left-hand side only of the 300-on sheet, they occur on only one sheet of every three 100-on, after guillotining. On issued sheets, after trimming of selvedge, the band is somewhat narrower than as originally printed.

The autotron bars and serial numbers which appear on Chambon-printed sheets are not shown on Rembrandt printings; the only other marginal markings are T-shaped centre-line marks.

Overland Telegraph Centenary and Australian National Philatelic Exhibition.

Centenary celebrations for the Overland Telegraph Line highlighted the opening day of the 1972 Australian National Philatelic Exhibition held from 22nd to 27th August, 1972, at the Hotel Australia, North Adelaide, where more than 450 entries from Australia and overseas were on display.

Visitors to the exhibition enjoyed a unique opening ceremony shortly after noon, when the Postmaster-General, Sir Alan Hulme, officially opened the Exhibition with a morse code message sent from the Alice Springs Old Telegraph Station direct to the exhibition. As the message was recorded, in handwriting on an 1872 type form, by the receiving telegraphist at ANPEX it was simultaneously displayed on a closed-circuit TV screen so that all those present could see it.

Sir Alan's message to the ANPEX President read: "Congratulations and my thanks to members of ANPEX for their active participation in the Overland Telegraph Centenary celebrations stop I have pleasure in declaring the Australian National Philatelic Exhibition officially open and extend my best wishes for a most successful display."

As indicated in the September Bulletin, the Alice Springs OT station became operative again on the actual anniversary, 22nd August, for that day only, and was the centre for a commemorative ceremony attended by the Postmaster-General, the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, South Australia (Mr. J.R. O'Sullivan) and a large crowd of Territorians and visitors.

A morse circuit was set up between the old OT station and the ANPEX venue for the Minister's official message. Facilities were also provided for souvenir telegraph messages to be transmitted from the Alice Springs OT station to the Chief Telegraph Office, Adelaide, where they were received on specially-printed forms, and enclosed in first day covers bearing the 7c OT commemorative stamps before postal despatch to addressees. The postmarker applied to the 2,567 messages received at Adelaide telegraph office is illustrated.

The Australian Post Office's participation in the Exhibition included the usual postal facilities associated with national philatelic exhibitions. A temporary post office was set up within the exhibition area, and a pictorial postmarker with an Overland Telegraph motif was used to cancel all articles lodged there. Impressions on the opening day were in red ink, impressions for intervening days were in black, and green was used on the



The Postmaster-General (Sir Alan Hulme) presents the Championship Trophy of ANPEX 1972 at the Awards Dinner held in Adelaide on 25th August to the joint winners Mr. L. Franks (centre) and Mrs. Franks of New Zealand. The Grand Award was donated by the Australian Post Office.



closing day. Special registration labels were provided. The opening day was also the issue date of the OT commemorative stamp, and Mr. John Copeland, designer of the stamp and the two official first day covers, was a guest at the ANPEX opening ceremony.

Other visitors to ANPEX included Lt.-Cdr. Barry Todd, R.N., great-grandson of Sir Charles Todd; Misses E. and K. Gillen and Mr. S. Gillen, whose father, Francis James Gillen, was associated with the OT from 1875 onwards, including a term as postmaster at Alice Springs; Mr. C. Knuckey, nephew of Richard Knuckey, leader of one of the OT construction parties; and Misses I. and E. Tohill, grand-daughters of Dr. Renner, medical officer for the central construction parties in 1872.

From its philatelic archives, the Post Office provided a display of historical material with emphasis on stamps with South Australian and Northern Territory associations, including large blocks of the £10 and £15 values of the 1886-96 "long series"; designs and proofs of the 1929 3d Air Mail Service, 1936 2d South Australian Centenary, 1954 3½d Telegraph Centenary, 1968 5c Namatjira, and 1961 5d Mawson issues, and the approved design and separation drawings for the 1972 OT commemorative stamp.

The Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia also provided an interesting exhibit, showing the original engraved die for the 1957 4d stamp for the Centenary of Responsible Government in South Australia, and various technical aspects of photogravure.

The ANPEX organizers ran two special mails for the Exhibition. On 23rd August, 1972, a hovercraft mail on the Torrens River, Adelaide, carried 3,887 souvenir covers commemorating the 10th anniversary of the world's first hovercraft mail; the covers were afterwards lodged at the ANPEX post office where they were cancelled with the ANPEX postmarker. At Alice Springs, N.T., a camel mail service, commemorating the Overland Telegraph and recalling the former practice of carrying mail by camel, was operated by the ANPEX organizers with the mail being lodged and

3,763 covers cancelled at the Alice Springs Post Office on 27th August.

At the ANPEX awards dinner on 26th August, the Postmaster-General, Sir Alan Hulme, presented the championship trophy, donated by the Post Office, to Mr. and Mrs. Laurie Franks of Auckland, N.Z., whose collection of stamps of Greater China was considered by the ANPEX judges to be the outstanding entry in the competitive displays.

Sir Alan also announced that the winner of the Australian Post Office's 1971 Christmas stamp design competition was Mrs. Jill Lee, of Adelaide. The competition was open to final year art students at selected schools. Mrs. Lee (then Miss Jill Barclay) was attending the South Australian School of Art when she submitted her entry. Presenting Mrs. Lee with her prize, a cheque for \$200, Sir Alan said that there were 42 entries, which were looked at by the Stamp Advisory Committee, and eventually reduced to a short list of six, all of a high standard. Of these, Mrs. Lee's entry was ultimately selected. It showed a stylised angel with a trumpet.

Sir Alan added: "We felt that Christmas is a time when people remember not only the birth of Christ, but also his life and teachings and their meaning in today's complex and troubled world. Quite some time ago, therefore, we commissioned some of our experienced stamp artists to prepare designs based upon a wider interpretation of the meaning of Christmas.

"Because we wished to develop this broader concept for Christmas stamps, we had not planned to utilise any competition designs as we did last year, and thus the winning design will not be used as the 1972 stamp. However, the competition results are encouraging to date, and we shall be holding further such contests in the future."

Articles postmarked with the ANPEX postmarker during the period of the Exhibition, 22nd to 27th August, 1972, totalled 20,852, including 681 registered.

Postage Stamp Quantities

Further to earlier notes, stamps of the 1970/71 period were delivered by the Note Printing Branch to the Australian Post Office as follows:

Denomination	Subject	No. of Stamps
6c	RAAF Jubilee	18,458,900
6c	ANA Centenary	20,508,900
6c	Rotary Jubilee	19,358,900
6c	RSPCA Centenary	20,104,000
6c	Stock Exchange Centenary	20,008,900
7c	Australia-Asia	4,705,050
15c	Australia-Asia	8,858,950
20c	Australia-Asia	6,958,950
12c	Animal Science	5,668,900
18c	Fauna Conservation	4,628,900
24c	Animal Aid to Man	2,168,900

During the financial year 1st July, 1971, to 30th June, 1972, the following items were delivered:

Denomination	Subject	No. of Stamps
1c	Queen Elizabeth II	49,290,000
2c	Queen Elizabeth II	14,965,000
3c	Queen Elizabeth II	4,377,500
4c	Queen Elizabeth II	5,200,000
5c	Queen Elizabeth II	1,800,000
6c	Queen Elizabeth II	97,337,500
7c	Queen Elizabeth II	716,108,900
7c	Country Women's Assoc.	18,296,400
7c	National Development	1,017,500
7c	Australia-Asia	4,820,150
7c	Christmas 1971	99,218,900
7c	Christmas 1971 (KP5D Paper)	10,867,000
8c	National Development	4,740,000
9c	National Development	3,630,000
10c	National Development	13,375,000
12c	Rehabilitation	125,000
12c	Animal Science	10,400,000
13c	Pink Heath	650,000
15c	Australia-Asia	1,275,000
15c	Tasmanian Blue Gum	3,950,000
18c	Rehabilitation	125,000
18c	Fauna Conservation	10,220,000
20c	Aboriginal Art	8,233,900
20c	Primary Industry	3,008,900
20c	Desert Pea	4,650,000
20c	Australia-Asia	2,950,000
24c	Rehabilitation	125,000
24c	Animal Aid to Man	5,710,000
25c	Primary Industry	3,008,900
25c	Aboriginal Art	4,868,900
25c	Cooktown Orchid	4,470,000
30c	Primary Industry	3,008,900
30c	Waratah	9,850,000
30c	Aboriginal Art	11,333,900
35c	Primary Industry	5,508,900
35c	Aboriginal Art	14,283,900

40c	Tasman	7,980,000
50c	Dampier	11,757,500
75c	Cook	1,430,000
\$1	Flinders	5,739,500
\$2	Bass	2,035,000
\$4	King	400,000

Postal Stationery, Coils and Booklets

6c Wrappers	608,000
6c Letter Cards	546,500
6c Envelopes, small	1,415,000
6c Envelopes, large	494,000
7c Envelopes, small	5,654,050
7c Envelopes, large	1,392,050
7c Letter Cards	331,100
10c Aerogramme	5,852,000
12c Aerogramme	18,334,100
12c Christmas Aerogramme	2,118,000
2c Desert Rose Coil (500)	4,574
2c Desert Rose Coil (1000)	11,853
5c Golden Wattle Coil (500)	4,508
5c Golden Wattle Coil (1000)	10,853
6c Desert Rose Coil (1000)	1,900
7c Desert Pea Coil (500)	1,399
7c Desert Pea Coil (1000)	3,103
\$1.20 Booklets (Famous Australians)	802,000
60c Booklets (Famous Australians)	2,000
\$1.40 Booklets (Prime Ministers)	2,848,100
70c Booklets (Prime Ministers)	58,100

Special Postmarker for Post Office Museum

A special postmarker will be used on a continuing basis on mail posted at the Post Office Museum, Hobart, Tasmania, from the scheduled date of opening on 22nd November, 1972. The Australian Post Office is providing an official souvenir cover which will be available to collectors and visitors to the Museum at a cost of 9c each.

The Museum, which contains displays of historical items associated with the Post Office, is situated on Castray Esplanade and was originally built as an ordnance store in the 1830s.

Australian collectors may obtain the postmarker impression on the souvenir cover by forwarding 16c to the O.I.C., Philatelic Sales Centre, Hobart, Tasmania, 7000.

Collectors who wish to obtain the postmarker impressions on their own private covers should forward fully stamped and addressed envelopes under prepaid cover to the above address.

Overseas collectors should forward an order for 9c for the souvenir cover, or fully addressed, but unstamped private covers, with a remittance to cover the costs of the Australian stamps to be affixed, to the Philatelic Bureau, 374 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3000.



Postage Stamp for Tenth International Congress of Accountants

A 7c postage stamp to commemorate the Tenth International Congress of Accountants, Sydney, was issued on 16th October, 1972. The stamp was available from all Australian post offices for approximately two weeks, and will continue on sale from philatelic sales centres for up to six months.

The design was the work of Mr. Gordon Andrews of Sydney, and features an abacus and a computerised circuit linked by ciphers, symbolising the growth of accountancy from simple calculation to its present-day importance and complexity.

Mr. Andrews also designed the two official first day covers for this issue.

The stamp measures 37.5mm x 25mm and was printed in sheets of 100 by multicolour photogravure at the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne, on unwatermarked paper with luminescence.

A special postmarker was provided from 16th to 21st October, 1972, at a temporary post office at the Congress venue.

Stamp Pack Wins World Award

The Captain Cook Bicentenary stamp pack issued in April 1970 has won a World Packaging Organisation Worldstar award -- the ultimate in the packaging competition field, and the first to an Australian entry in world-wide competition.

Representatives from the Asian, European and North American Packaging Federations selected the Australian pack from 21 entries from 16 countries.

The judging panel in Tokyo described the pack as "an excellent merchandising package, the concept of which is capable of use in other fields; provides excellent protection and presentation with graphic excellence."

The Captain Cook pack won the Australian National Packaging Association's award and the Department of Trade Gold Medal award for the best export pack last year and these successes were followed by the Asiastar award at Bombay in January this year.

Special Postmark and Souvenir Covers for Sovereign Hill Gold Mining Township

A pictorial postmarker and two types of souvenir covers depicting Sovereign Hill, a reconstructed gold mining township on 26 acres of land at Ballarat, Victoria, were introduced at Ballarat on 19th September, 1972, for continuing use.

The covers, which cost 9c each, are on sale at Sovereign Hill and also at the philatelic sales centre at the Ballarat Post Office. All mail posted in the letter receiver located outside the entrance to the township is taken to the Ballarat Post Office and processed with the special postmarker.



Collectors in Australia may obtain serviced souvenir covers featuring the special postmark by sending orders and remittances (16c per cover inc. postage) to the Officer-in-Charge, Philatelic Sales Centre, Box 9000, G.P.O. Melbourne, 3001. Clients should indicate their preference of cover. Cover A shows a prospector and pioneer woman. Cover B shows a prospector and mining shacks. Clients who wish to use other covers should forward them, fully stamped and addressed, under prepaid outer cover to the Postmaster, Ballarat, Vic. 3350.

Overseas collectors should send their orders and remittances to the Officer-in-Charge, Philatelic Bureau, 374 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 3000.

Brisbane General Post Office Centenary

During centenary celebrations of the Brisbane General Post Office on 28th September, 1972, a pack-horse carried a special philatelic mail. Traveling under mounted police guard, the pack-horse travelled along a two-mile route between the South Brisbane Post Office and the Brisbane G.P.O. After being lodged at a special posting box in the Postal Hall of the G.P.O., all mail carried on the run, 9,653 articles (including 28 registered) was marked with a special cachet and postmarker as illustrated, and 627 articles received too late to be included on the pack-horse mail were cancelled with the postmarker only.

Brisbane G.P.O. was built by John Petrie, the first mayor of Brisbane, in 1872. Constructed from local porphyry and sandstone on the former site of a women's prison factory, the two-storeyed building is of colonial architecture with Italian influences; its graceful lines, in pleasant contrast to surrounding modern development, provide an important link with the pioneers of colonial times. Long-range plans for the site include retention in perpetuity of the front portion, as built by John Petrie, as a national heritage.



Short Notes

A special postmarker, as illustrated, was provided at a temporary post office at the Masonic Centre, Albert Street, East Melbourne, during the Fifth World Conference on General Practice from 3rd to 10th October, 1972.

The dates of the initial distribution of postal stationery issued as a result of the rates change of 1st October, 1971, are as follows:—

7c embossed envelope (5¼" x 3½") issued to all States on 30.9.71.

	7c Embossed Envelope (9" x 4")	7c Lettercard
N.S.W.	4.10.71	5.4.72
VIC.	1.10.71	7.4.72
QLD.	4.10.71	11.4.72
S.A.	4.10.71	13.4.72
W.A.	1.10.71	2.5.72
TAS.	6.10.71	5.4.72
	7c Wrappers	12c Aerogrammes
N.S.W.	7.8.72	13.10.71
VIC.	20.7.72	15.10.71
QLD.	18.7.72	19.10.71
S.A.	7.9.72	14.10.71
W.A.	4.7.72	19.10.71
TAS.	2.8.72	13.10.71

The letter receiver at the summit of Mount Kosciusko is being re-opened on 11th December, 1972, and will continue in operation until 2nd April, 1973. Clearances will operate once weekly during the periods 11th to 31st December, 1972, and 29th January to 2nd April, 1973; and twice weekly from 1st to 28th January, 1973. Collectors in Australia wishing to obtain impressions of the special postmarker should forward fully stamped and addressed envelopes under prepaid outer cover, to the Postmaster, Cooma, N.S.W., 2630, with an appropriate request. Overseas collectors should forward fully addressed but unstamped envelopes to the Officer-in-Charge, Philatelic Bureau, 374 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 3000, together with a remittance to cover the cost of the Australian stamps to be affixed.



A special postmarker was provided at Canberra from 22nd to 30th August, 1972, during the 14th International Congress of Entomology.

A temporary post office was established at the Australian National University in Canberra. The Congress adopted for its symbol the red "bulldog" ant, which was shown on the postmarker. The red "bulldog" ants (*Myrmecia gulosa*) are probably the most spectacular of all Australian ants and are certainly the largest known, ranging in size from ½ to 1½ inches. They derive their common name "bulldog" from their tenacious biting grip on victims and are armed as well with a large and powerful sting; any approach of their nests is met with immediate attack, the ants frequently following intruders for many feet from their nest.

The postmarker illustrated was used to cancel 6,954 articles, including 42 registered.

The 6c and 30c Australian Antarctic Territory stamps, which were issued on 23rd June, 1971, to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty, were first placed on sale at the four Antarctic bases as follows: Macquarie Island, 23rd November, 1971; Mawson, 27th December, 1971; Davis, 13th January, 1972; Casey, 17th January, 1972.

Letter receivers are being re-opened at the Penguin Parade and at the Nobbies, Phillip Island, on 18th December, 1972, for the receipt of mail during the 1972-73 tourist season. The two posting boxes will remain in operation until 30th April, 1973.

All mail posted at these two points is cancelled with a special penguin postmarker which was introduced on 24th December, 1970, and illustrated in the February 1971 Bulletin. Collectors in Australia may obtain impressions by forwarding fully

stamped and addressed envelopes to the Postmaster, Cowes, Vic., 3922. Overseas collectors should forward fully addressed but unstamped covers to the Officer-in-Charge, Philatelic Bureau, 374 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 3000, with a remittance to cover the cost of stamps to be affixed.

Further to reference in the September 1972 Bulletin to several special postmarkers provided in connection with the centenary celebrations of the Overland Telegraph Line, at the Overland Telegraph Line Centenary Exhibition at John Martins, Adelaide, 10,773 articles were cancelled; at Frews Ironstone Ponds, 9,149 articles; and at the Old Telegraph Station, Alice Springs, 8,888 articles.



A special postmarker was used at the Canberra City Post Office during the 6th Biennial Conference of the Australian Road Research Board, 14th to 18th August, 1972, to cancel 2,306 articles, including 16 registered. The conference held at the Australian National University was concerned with road construction, transport planning, traffic engineering and road safety.



Temporary post office facilities were provided at the University of New South Wales from 14th to 18th August, 1972, for the 44th Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science Congress. A total of 4,174 articles were postmarked there with the special pictorial postmarker, including 23 registered.

Stamp Design Competitions (4)

Construction of the Australian federal capital, Canberra, began in 1913, but the 1914-18 war delayed progress, and the national parliament and many government departments were still located in Melbourne in the 1920s. In 1925, when it was planned to inaugurate the new capital two years hence, it was proposed within the Postmaster-General's Department that the occasion be marked by a commemorative postage stamp. It was decided that designs be sought by public competition, and the Commonwealth Gazette of 1st July, 1926, published details:

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Postmaster General's Department

DESIGNS for a POSTAGE STAMP to commemorate the OPENING of PARLIAMENT at CANBERRA are hereby invited under the following conditions:—

1. The occasion to be commemorated is the opening of the first Federal Parliament at Canberra the Capital of Australia, on the 9th May, 1927.
2. The size of the stamp is to be 1¼" x 7/8", excluding the margin reserved for perforation.
3. Process of printing is to be steel engraving.
4. The denomination of the stamp is to be three half-pence.
5. The stamp may be printed in one or two colors.
6. If a single color is adopted, it must be of carmine red with suitably graded tones.
7. If two colors are adopted, one of them must be carmine red.
8. With these stipulations, the artist should indicate the precise colorings and tones recommended.
9. The wording on the stamp must include the word "Australia" or "Canberra", the year "1927", as well as the face value of the stamp in Arabic figures, or in both figures and letters.
10. A special Board will be appointed to adjudicate on the merits of the designs submitted.
11. A premium of £100 will be paid for the design first in order of merit, and £50 for the design in the second order of merit.
12. Apart from the design which may be selected for the Canberra commemorative stamp, the Postmaster General reserves the right to utilise the whole, or any portion of any design at any subsequent time within a period of two years, and should he exercise this right, the payment of £100 will be made to the person who submitted the selected design.
13. The premiated designs will become the sole property of the Postmaster General.
14. Each design should bear a nom-de-plume, and if two or more designs are submitted by one person, the same nom-de-plume should be used in each case, and the designs should be numbered consecutively.
15. The designs should be accompanied by a statement giving the name and address of the person submitting them, referring to the nom-de-plume and the numbers of the designs forwarded,

together with a brief description of each design, which would ensure identification.

16. The object of this procedure is to permit of the designs being referred to the adjudicating Board without any reference to the name of the designer.
17. The designs and statement should be enclosed in a sealed cover, the outside of which should be marked "Design for Commonwealth Commemorative Stamp".
18. This cover should be enclosed in a second sealed cover addressed to the Secretary, Postmaster General's Department, Treasury Gardens, Melbourne, Australia.
19. The packet should then be sent by prepaid registered post so as to reach the address given not later than the 14th September, 1926.
20. The Postmaster General does not bind himself to adopt any design submitted.
21. Designs not adopted will be returned if request has been made for that to be done.

W. G. GIBSON
Postmaster General

The competition details were circulated to Australian newspapers and broadcasting stations, and were also forwarded to Australia House, London, the Australian Commissioner in New York, and to the postal administrations of New Zealand, South Africa, India, Ceylon and Fiji, with the intention of having the design competition publicized widely.

It will be noted that bi-colour designs could be submitted. This was apparently the outcome of discussions on 25th June, 1926, between Messrs. A. J. Mullett and Ronald A. Harrison, of the Commonwealth stamp printing office, and senior postal officials, who then indicated that the Postmaster-General would like the stamp to be in two colours. Mr. Mullett was somewhat concerned about production; there would be difficulty in obtaining sufficient output from the perforating machines, and also Mr. Thomas Harrison (father of Ronald Harrison) whom he considered the only engraver capable of cutting a die, had just left for England. The work would therefore depend upon his return, in time to complete the die, and to make plates and print and distribute to meet the issue date timed to coincide with the opening of Canberra in May 1927.

A plan was evolved, therefore, to have the engraving done in England. The conditions were to be published immediately (and cabled overseas); designs were to be selected by 15th October, 1926; the selected design was to be sent to London to reach there about 21st November, 1926; and the completed engraving should leave London by 29th December, reaching Melbourne by the end of January, 1927. Plate-making would take about a month; printing, gumming and perforating would be done as quickly as possible, and Mr. Mullett expected stamps to be available for sale early in May, 1927.



"Poverello" (Miss B. Waldron, London)



"Lion Passant" (C.A. Huston, Washington, D.C.)

A cable was sent on 25th June, 1926, asking the High Commissioner in London to consult the British Post Office about a suitable engraving firm, and by early July it had been decided to employ Waterlow and Sons, Ltd., the well-known stamp printing firm, on the basis that one or two dies might be required, depending on the number of colours in the design. Waterlows guaranteed delivery of the die 45 days from receipt of the design.

Considering how the competition designs were to be evaluated, the Post Office recalled that the three private members of the 1907 Board, Messrs. Bernard Hall, W.A. Hull and T.T. Paterson, had been paid 1½ guineas per day. Mr. Hall had received 13 guineas, Mr. Hull 15 guineas, and Mr. Paterson £25, including travelling expenses from Queensland. In 1911, Messrs. Bernard Hall and A.S. Whelen were paid six and three guineas respectively for adjudicating upon designs; at that time, the board of three members had taken only three days to deal with 460 designs.

For the Canberra competition, a list of prominent philatelists was compiled, for selection of a member to represent philately. Mr. A.S. Whelen was included, and Mr. A. J. Derrick, who had been invited to adjudicate in 1911, but had been unable to accept because of an interstate trip. Other leading collectors of the day were also listed.

The board as finally constituted comprised Mr. Derrick, chairman; Mr. L. Bernard Hall, of the National Gallery of Victoria; Mr. A. J. Mullett, Commonwealth Note and Stamp Printer; and Mr. James Murray, of the Post Office. Invitations were sent to the non-Departmental members, and acceptances were received, in late August, 1926.

Having in mind the tight production schedule, the Department also considered the possibility of alternative action should none of the competition designs prove suitable. Mr. Bernard Hall was asked, in August, to suggest possible subjects, and it was also envisaged at that time that the adjudicating board might have to consider a composite design, amalgamating motifs from several entries.

On 1st September, 1926, the Postmaster-General,

Mr. Gibson, issued a press statement reminding intending competitors that the closing date for entries was 14th September, 1926. On 11th September, two anxious New Zealand entrants cabled asking for a day's grace, as the N.Z. mail was not due in Melbourne until 15th September, and arrangements were then made to accept these and other late entries.

The board members, Messrs. Derrick, Hall, Mullett and Murray, met at 10 a.m. on 15th September, 1926, in a room on the 7th floor of "the new Post Office building, Post Office Place" and 286 packets of designs were handed over. The board report stated that "these packets contained in all 600 designs; each bore a distinctive number, and with a few exceptions, a 'nom-de-plume'. The board received a further parcel of 35 packets of designs at 10 a.m. on 16th September, and later in the day a final lot of nine packets reported to have been delayed by a mishap to a mail train.

"Full consideration was given to every design and while the board was able unanimously to reject at the first examination a large number as possessing little or no merit, the remainder (about half the total) were examined repeatedly during the process of gradual elimination.

"Many well-drawn designs of considerable merit failed to indicate a sufficient connection with the event...and the board regrets that in these cases, and for this reason, it had no option but to discard them.

"Having in mind the necessity of adhering as closely as possible to the objects of the competition, as per number 1 of the conditions, the board awards the first prize to design numbered 2(2), nom-de-plume 'Neptune', and the second prize to the design numbered 103, nom-de-plume 'Tiger'.

"The board unanimously suggests as to colour, that the stamp should be printed in a full rich carmine, but is equally divided on the question of employing two colours."

Members attended on 15th, 16th and 17th September, from 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. While a majority decision was handed down, there had



"4529" (A. V. James, Ipswich Qld.)



been some divergence of opinion; Mr. Hall felt that the "Neptune" design was "commonplace... I think No. 260(4) 'Pro Patria' is far better, equally relevant and has a more traditional and stamp-like make-up..."

"Neptune" was found to be Mr. Ronald A. Harrison, of the Note Printing Branch. His design was accepted, and advice of his success went to him on 22nd September. The second prize went to "Tiger" – Mr. J.O. Lyons, of Prospect, S.A., who was also notified.

Messrs. Derrick and Hall received honoraria of ten guineas each for their assistance. A press statement released in late September indicated that 354 packets had been received, containing in all 1,055 designs (some of these may have been late arrivals, as the board report mentioned 331 packets totalling 1,025 designs). Eighty-seven packets were from overseas – England, 48; Scotland, 6; Canada, 1; U.S.A., 2; India, 2; Ceylon, 1; New Zealand, 20; South Africa, 5; and France, 2; and 267 packets from within Australia – N.S.W. 60; Victoria 125; Queensland 32; S.A. 20; W.A. 18 and Tasmania 12.

The winning design was despatched to London for engraving, and the decision was taken for a one-colour printing. Instructions to the engraver, prepared by Mr. Mullett, read (in part) "The process...is to be the intaglio steel plate method, but the printer's plates will be made in Australia... the colour (one only) to be used is carmine red... this should be borne in mind by the engraver...the die should not be hardened as this will be done in Australia. Sufficient margin should be left on the steel to obviate any possibility of trouble during transferring operations. Suggest size of steel to be 6 inches x 3½ inches." The design was despatched by registered mail, No. 7363, to arrive in London on 23rd October. It was handed to Waterlow and Sons on 24th October, 1926, and that firm promised that the completed die would be ready for the Australian mail closing in London on 9th December. The project was thus about three weeks ahead of the timetable originally planned.

On 5th November, Waterlow's chief engraver

suggested a slight modification to the design – to take out some of the streaks of white in the drapery of the female figure, which he felt were unduly prominent at stamp size. This was agreed to by Australia House, London, and confirmed by the Postmaster-General's Department.

The completed die was despatched from London on 9th December, 1926 (registered mail No. S.388) together with the original design, and one proof mounted on card. Waterlow and Sons' charge for the engraving was £125. The die was handed to Mr. Mullett on 10th January, 1927. The date of issue of the stamp was then fixed for 9th May, 1927. The die was numbered 11286.

On 21st January, 1927, the Department requested Mr. Mullett to provide a die proof for each member of the adjudicating board (Mr. Derrick had suggested this in October 1926) with a printed inscription on the proof margin, indicating that it was presented as a memento of the work of the recipient as a member of the board. These proofs were passed on to the gentlemen concerned on 7th February, 1927.

Meanwhile, postal authorities in each State were asked to advise when they would require stamps for distribution to their most remote offices, to enable sales to commence on 9th May. As an indication of the difficulties – and anomalies – of surface transport of the time, it may be noted that although the die reached Australia from London in one month, Adelaide advised that for stamps to reach Daly Waters, N.T., by 9th May, they would need to go by ship from Sydney to Darwin by 1st March! Accordingly, the Note and Stamp Printer was asked to provide 11,520 Canberra stamps (144 sheets) as quickly as possible for Northern Territory offices, and did so, on 17th February.

On 21st February, the Department instructed Mr. Mullett regarding the stamps to be issued in booklet form: "Pages 2 and 3 are to contain the postage rates, thus reserving pages 1 and 4 for the description of the contents and a photographic block respectively." The photograph on page 4 was to be a picture of H.M.S. "Renown", with a



"Philatelist" (D. McKay, London)



"Granite" (A. Sheldon, Cambewell Vic.)



"Flies" (J. McWilliams, Carlton Vic.)

caption reading "H.M.S. 'Renown' which conveyed their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York to Australia for the opening of the first Federal Parliament at Canberra, 9th May, 1927." Photographs of the warship were sought from the Melbourne Public Library and also from the Melbourne "Herald", and it appears that the photo from the latter source was used. As issued, the caption read "H.M.S. 'Renown' leaving Portsmouth, England, with the Duke and Duchess of York aboard."

In February, also, there were calculations of the total quantities which might be required. In 1926, total sales of 1 1/2d stamps were 422,666,400, and at this rate, 30,000,000 Canberra stamps would last about 3 1/2 weeks. The paper specially purchased might permit up to 35 million stamps to be produced, but the last five million would not be available before 9th May. Annual sales of 2/3d booklets containing 18 1 1/2d King George V stamps were 408,000, but Mr. Mullett could not guarantee more than one month's supply of Canberra booklets of 16 stamps. On 8th March, Mr. Mullett advised that the spoilage rate was high, mainly due to perforation methods; four sheets were being perforated at one time, involving 20 operations, and "success depended upon the accuracy with which they were gauged on each of those 20 occasions under the perforating teeth prior to applying foot pressure."

Despite these difficulties, the stamps were issued on the due date, 9th May, 1927. Final production figures were 31,058,480 stamps in sheet form, of which 18,800 were punctured "OS" for Government use; and 1,155,200 in booklet form. It had been planned from the beginning that the stamps, as commemoratives, would be sold for only a short period, and by June stocks were being moved from State to State to clear out remainders.

On 20th June, 1927, Mr. John Ash, the new General Manager of the Note Printing Branch, advised that the printing instruments had comprised the original Waterlow die, two duplicate dies (used only for preparing proofs), two transfer cylinders,

and twelve plates each of 80 stamps.

Most of the competition designs were returned to the entrants, and only a few now remain in Departmental archives. Some of these are shown in the accompanying illustrations.

Mr. R.A. Harrison, the winner, died at Sorrento, Vic., in 1968. His father, Mr. T.S. Harrison, came to Australia from England in 1912 to organise the Note Printing Office then being set up by the Commonwealth, and managed the establishment until his retirement in 1926.

R.A. Harrison was also employed from about 1912, and later engraved many Commonwealth stamps, retiring in 1951.

Two final footnotes may be added: the High Commissioner in London at the time of negotiations with Waterlow and Sons was Sir Joseph Cook, a former Prime Minister, who was depicted on a 7c stamp issued on 8th March, 1927; and the room used by the adjudicating board later became a classroom for telegraphists, in which many trainees (including the Bulletin editor) spent laborious hours without any knowledge of its philatelic history...



Christmas greetings to our readers.



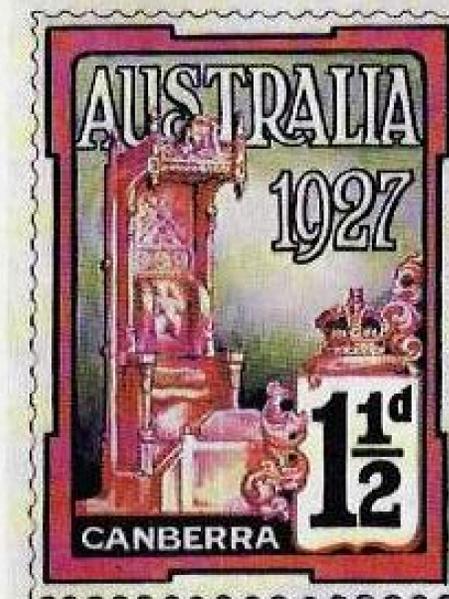
"Neptune" (R.A. Harrison, Melbourne)



"Pro Patria" (J.E. Wilby, Malvern Vic)



"Arrebnac" (C.H. Hunt, Sydney)



"Telopia" (F.R. Stelling, Roseville N.S.W.)



"Telopia" (F.R. Stelling, Roseville N.S.W.)



"Tiger" (J.O. Lyons, Prospect S.A.)