



The stamps as printed at the exhibition.



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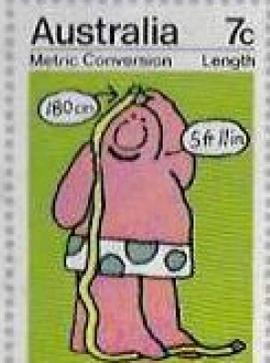
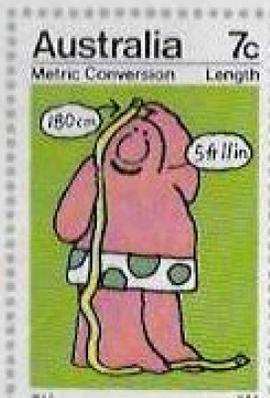


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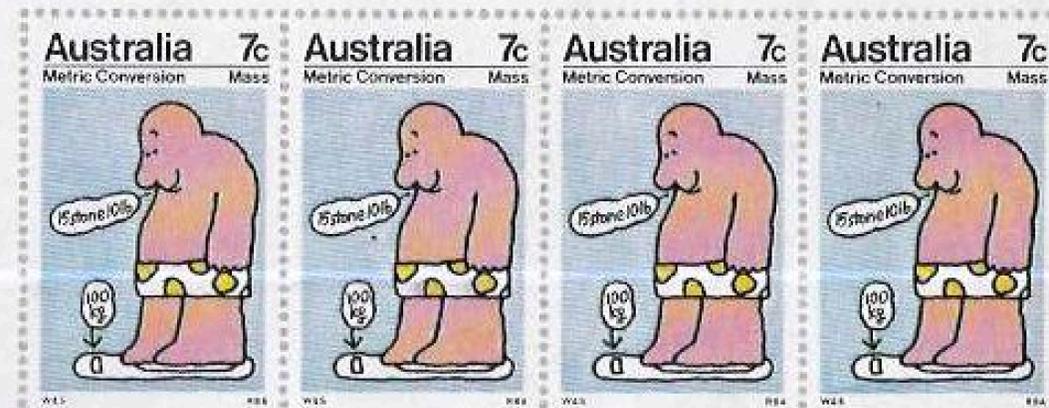
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Metric Conversion Stamps

Four 7c stamps to commemorate Australia's change to metric measurements were issued on 7th March, 1973.

The stamps are intended to create public awareness of the changes now taking place, and to focus on four aspects of the metric system which most Australians will encounter frequently — length, volume, mass and temperature.

The series was designed by the Melbourne firm of Weatherhead and Stitt, Pty. Ltd., who also prepared the official first day cover. After considering a number of approaches to the subject, Bruce Weatherhead and Alex Stitt adopted a cartoon style to emphasize forcefully and humourously how metric conversion affects people's daily lives.

The stamps will be on sale at post offices for about four weeks, and at philatelic sales centres for about six months. A souvenir pack containing the four stamps and priced at 28c is also available.

Printing was carried out on the new Rembrandt photogravure machine at the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne, on Shoalhaven KP5D unwatermarked coated paper incorporating helecon. Sheet format is similar to that of the 7c 1972 Christmas stamps, as explained in the December Bulletin—each of the four Metric Conversion stamps was printed in sheets 300-on, in six panes of 50, and then guillotined into sheets of 100 for post office sale. The perforated size of the horizontal-format Temperature stamp is 37.75 mm x 24.15 mm, and 24.15 mm x 37.75 mm for the vertical Volume, Mass and Length stamps. Diagonal marginal markings occur on one-third of the issued sheets, for the reasons outlined in the previous Bulletin.

Colours, in printing order, are: Length — pink, green, yellow, grey, black; Volume — pink, green, red, black; Mass—pink, yellow, blue, black; Temperature—yellow, green, pink, black. Five cylinders were used for the Length stamp, and four for each of the others.

The decision to change from the complex imperial system of weights and measures to the decimal-based metric system was announced in 1970, to be implemented over the following ten years. The decision resulted from a unanimous recommendation by the Senate Select Committee on the Metric System of Weights and Measures, which made extensive enquiries in all States into the desirability

of adoption of metrication and received support for the change from every sector of the community. The Metric Conversion Act was passed in 1970 and made provision for a Metric Conversion Board to facilitate planning and implementation of metric conversion with a minimum of inconvenience to the public; the board was appointed on 1st July, 1970.

Already 90% of the world's population uses the metric system, and besides Australia, fifteen countries including the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Canada are in the process of conversion.

The benefits accruing to Australia from conversion to the internationally-accepted metric system will increase efficiency in all walks of life. All operations involving weighing or measuring will be vastly simplified by the decimal nature and simple relationship between units and will enable Australians to take full advantage of the successful changeover to decimal currency. In the area of education, the use of the metric system will simplify and unify the teaching of mathematics and science, reduce errors, save teaching time and give a better understanding of basic physical principles.

The change will also provide a unique opportunity to rationalise and modernise industrial practices, to avoid unnecessary diversity in manufacturing products and to bring Australia's technical standard specifications in accordance with those adopted internationally, which will be of significant advantage to Australia's export trade.

The metric system was conceived as early as 1585 by a Flemish mathematician, Simon Stevin. It was further advanced during the seventeenth century and in 1670 Gabriel Mouton, vicar of St. Paul's Church, Lyons, France, proposed a comprehensive system having as a basis the length of an arc of one minute of a great circle of the earth. It was not until the 1790s, however, after the French Revolution, that a metric system was adopted in France. By 1799 ten nations were using the metric system and in 1875 an International Bureau of Weights and Measures was established to maintain and improve the units on which the metric system is based. Australia joined the Metric Convention, which is the governing body of the International Bureau, in 1947.

In 1948 the General Conference of Weights and Measures moved to establish "a practical system of units of measurement suitable for adoption by all signatories of the Metric Convention". This led to the adoption by the General Conference in 1960 of



UN PHOTO

A doctor examining a child at the village of Kajupulo, near Hollandia, West Irian, during a WHO/UNICEF health care campaign.

WHO started a malaria eradication campaign in 1955 and today the disease has largely disappeared from big areas of South-east Asia, Europe and the Americas. The photo (above right) shows an entomologist member of an anti-malaria team.



UN PHOTO



Postage Stamp for 25th Anniversary of World Health Organization.

A 7c stamp to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the United Nations World Health Organization will be issued on 4th April, 1973. It will be sold at post offices for about two weeks, and at philatelic sales centres for up to six months.

The stamp depicts a stylised caduceus, which has signified medicine from ancient times, and the United Nations emblem. The design is the work of Mr. H. Williamson, of Sydney, who also designed the two official first day covers.

The stamp measures 37.5 mm x 24.15 mm and was printed by multicolour photogravure at the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia, on unwatermarked paper with luminescence, on the Rembrandt machine. Like the 7c Christmas stamps, the WHO stamps were printed 300-up, and issued in sheets of 100.

The World Health Organization of the United Nations came into permanent existence on 7th April, 1948, when its constitution had been ratified

the International System of Units, commonly known as SI.

The SI system was chosen for adoption in Australia by the Commonwealth Government. Unlike the rather arbitrary measurements of the imperial system which evolved before the effects of science and technology were felt, and had many diverse origins—the inch was originally a thumb's breadth and by tradition the yard is supposed to have been the measurement of the distance from the tip of Henry I's nose to the end of his thumb—the SI metric system is scientifically based on a fixed measure, the metre.

There is no single M-day for the start of metrification. Conversion will occur at different times and at different rates in the various activities in which measures play a part. Already many sectors of the community are well advanced towards conversion; the pharmaceutical industry changed in 1965 and much of our electronics and chemical industries work in metric terms. The Australian Post Office plans to convert its postal services to the metric system towards the end of 1973.



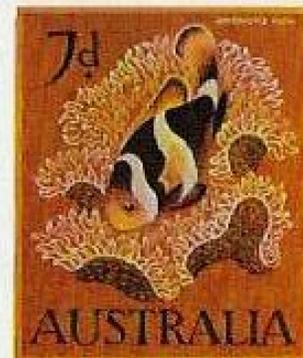
by twenty-six member states; April 7th is now celebrated throughout the world as World Health Day.

WHO is a specialized agency which promotes and co-ordinates international research in the field of health and advises member states (at present numbering 135) on public health and the control of disease. Its objective, stated in Article I of its constitution, is "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health". WHO is active in combating communicable mass diseases such as malaria, yaws and tuberculosis and in 1955 undertook a world-wide campaign for malaria eradication and one for smallpox eradication in 1967.

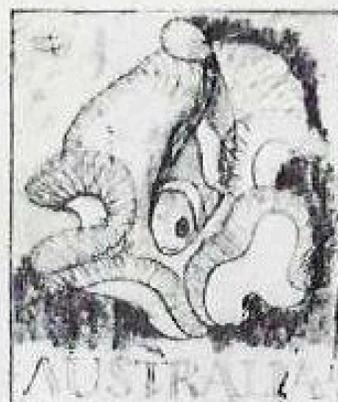
WHO is prominent in the field of medical education where it encourages and assists many nations in the training of health personnel, including the granting of about 3,000 fellowships each year, mainly to qualified health workers for post-graduate studies. In late 1972 the Australian Government arranged with WHO for the establishment of a regional training centre for health personnel of the Western Pacific area to be set up within the University of New South Wales. WHO also supervises the International Health Regulations 1969 which encourage the use of modern public health methods to stop the spread of dangerous diseases.

Australian Stamp Artists: Miss Eileen Mayo

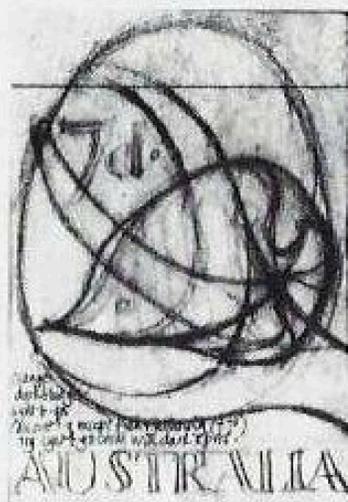
The New Zealand Post Office recently issued a series of four stamps showing alpine plants, designed by Miss Eileen Mayo. Australian collectors will recall Miss Mayo as the designer of the Fauna and Barrier Reef series of stamps for Australia.



Early versions of the Barrier Reef designs, submitted by Miss Mayo to the Post Office in August 1961. The selected subjects were later developed to the forms shown in the issued stamps.



Three stages of development of the Anemone Fish design, before submission of colour artwork



Developmental sketch for the Coral Fish Design.

The Fauna series depicting six Australian mammals was issued between 1959 and 1962. The series comprised the 1/- platypus, 9d. kangaroos, 8d. tiger cat, 6d. banded anteater, 11d. rabbit bandicoot and 1/2 Tasmanian tiger stamps, all produced from engraved dies.

At about the same time, Miss Mayo was also working on an Australian Post Office commission to prepare a series of designs showing marine life, for multicolour photogravure printing. Developmental work on the designs (and on the gravure press itself) extended over a period, and ultimately six Mayo designs were adopted, showing a humbug fish, a coral fish, a hermit crab, an anemone fish, a barometer crab and a clam and starfish. The first four were used on the 7c, 8c, 9c and 10c stamps issued on 14th February, 1966, as part of the decimal currency series. The other two designs were not used, mainly because it was not possible to find places for them, in view of the principle that existing designs and values should be converted as far as practicable, so that stamp users would still be familiar with designs and rates.

Miss Mayo is an accomplished artist in many techniques. She trained at the Slade School, London, specializing in wood engraving at the Central School and in lithography and sculpture at

Chelsea Polytechnic. She later studied at the Academie Montmartre in Paris. Her prints, for which she has won many prizes, have been exhibited at the Royal Academy, London, with the Royal Society of British Artists, and at many Australian galleries. Institutions which have bought her work include the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Contemporary Art Society, English, Scottish and American galleries, and the National Galleries of most Australian States.

Miss Mayo's work in Australia extended to many fields. She designed a mural for the C.S.I.R.O. in Sydney, and collaborated in another mural for the Australian Museum, Sydney. She did illustrative work for many organisations, and was illustrator and guide-lecturer for the N.S.W. Department of Education, as well as teaching at the National Art School, Sydney. She is also well-known in the field of tapestry design, which she studied at the Tabard Ateliers, Aubusson, France.

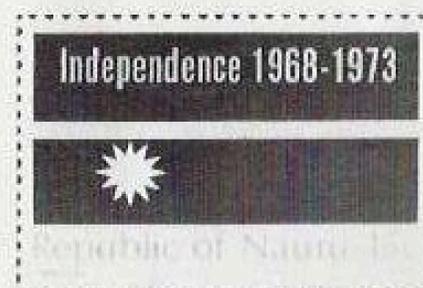
Miss Mayo moved to New Zealand some years ago for family reasons. There, she has designed several New Zealand stamps, including the 1969 Cook Bicentenary issue and the 1971 Antarctic Treaty and UNICEF stamps.

Stamp for Sesquicentenary of Australian Independent Newspapers

The Australian Post Office will issue a special postage stamp in 1974 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of independent newspapers in Australia.

Announcing this, the Postmaster-General, Mr. Lionel Bowen, said that the earliest independent newspaper in Australia was "The Australian" which was first published on 14th October, 1824, by William Charles Wentworth and Dr. R. Wardell. The few journals which began before 1824 were Governmental publications.

Other independent newspapers commenced publication following the lifting of restraints on publishers by the Imperial Government in 1825. Today there are many hundreds of newspapers and periodicals printed in Australia catering for a wide variety of community interests. Collectively, the Australian press provides an invaluable contribution



to communications throughout Australia.

Details of the denomination, design and date of issue of the stamp will be announced later.

Republic of Nauru—Fifth Anniversary Stamp and New Definitive Issues

The Government of the Republic of Nauru issued a commemorative stamp on 31st January, 1973, to mark the fifth anniversary of the Republic's independence.

The commemorative stamp is the current definitive 15c Flag stamp with the words "INDEPENDENCE 1968-1973" overprinted in gold lettering by the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne. The stamp design shows the Republic's blue and gold flag. Stamp size is 37.5 mm x 25 mm (including perforations), with a sheet content of 100.

The day of issue, 31st January, is a day of historical significance to the Nauruan people. It was on 31st January, 1946, that Nauruans who survived their exile by the Japanese to Truk during World War II were returned to the island. Twenty years later on 31st January, 1966, the establishment of a Legislative Council marked the beginnings of self-government, and on 31st January, 1968, full independence was achieved.

Australian collectors may obtain mint and post-marked stamps from the philatelic sales centres of the Australian Post Office until 31st May, 1973.

The Nauru Government has also announced details of the gradual replacement of the 1968 provisional definitive stamp series overprinted "Republic of Nauru" by a new definitive stamp series of fourteen denominations.

The new stamp subjects are based on designs by local artists and were selected from among entries for a local design competition held in 1971.

The series is being issued in three stages. The first issue of six stamps which includes a set of five flower stamps is taking place on 21st March, 1973, and the second and third issues of four stamps each will be on 23rd May and 25th July, 1973. Subjects and denominations of the first group of new

definitives are: 1c Ekwenababae (lotus); 2c Kauwe lud; 3c Rimone; 4c Denea; 5c Erekoogo (Beach Morning Glory); and \$1 Artifacts and Map of Nauru. The five flower stamps comprising the 1c to 5c values measure 23 mm x 28 mm and values from 7c upwards measure 25.5 mm x 38.5 mm. The subjects and denominations of the second group which depicts traditional skills are: 8c Catching flying fish; 10c Itsibweb (Nauruan ball game); 15c Nauruan wrestling; and 20c Snaring frigate birds. Subjects and denominations of the third group are: 7c Ikamago (angel fish); 25c Nauruan girl; 30c Catching noddy birds; and 50c frigate birds.

Finished artwork for the stamps was prepared by G.L. Vasarhelyi and the stamps were printed by Format International Security Printers Ltd., London, by four-colour lithography in sheets of 25.

It is anticipated that the new definitive issue will remain in use for approximately five years.

Australian collectors will be able to purchase the new definitives from Australian Post Office philatelic sales centres, as the various dates of issue occur. All first day cover orders should be forwarded to the Philatelic Bureau, Republic of Nauru, Central Pacific. Collectors resident outside Australia should forward orders for stamps to that address also.

Australian Post Office Selling Fiji's Stamps

In accordance with an agreement concluded between the Australian Post Office and the Government of Fiji, sales of Fijian mint and post-marked stamps and mint postal stationery were commenced by the Australian Post Office on 20th November, 1972—the date on which Fiji issued two stamps to mark the Royal silver wedding. The Government of Fiji also issued two special surcharged postage stamps on 4th December, 1972, to aid victims of hurricane Bebe, which on 26th October, 1972, caused widespread damage in Fiji. Fijian commemorative stamps are sold at Australian Post Office philatelic sales centres for six months from the dates of issue and definitive



stamps continue on sale until replaced by new stamps. Fiji follows a conservative stamp-issuing policy with a regulated programme of three or four commemorative issues a year, each issue comprising a set of three or four values, and occasional replacements of definitive stamps.

The first issue for 1973 is a set of three commemorative stamps on 9th March to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Fiji Rugby Union. Two commemorative issues are planned for the second half of 1973. In July/August, a set of four stamps will feature development projects and four stamps will be issued in October depicting religious festivals.

Fiji has a dollar and cents decimal currency and under the terms of the agreement the Fijian stamps available at philatelic sales centres are sold in Australian currency for the face value shown on the stamps in Fijian currency, thus avoiding currency conversion problems.

All orders for first day covers must continue to be addressed direct to the Philatelic Bureau, Sava, Fiji.

The current definitive stamps, comprising eight bird subjects and eight flower subjects, were designed by G. Drummond and printed in England by lithography by Questa Colour Security Printers. Stamp sizes are 1c to 20c, 21 mm x 24 mm; 25c to \$2, 26 mm x 39 mm. Sheet content is 100 stamps.

"FLOWERS" DEFINITIVE SERIES:

- 1c *Cirrhopetalum umbellatum*
- 3c *Calanthe furcata*
- 4c *Bulbophyllum* sp. nov.
- 6c *Phaius tancarvilleae*
- 10c *Acanthephippium vitiense*
- 15c *Dendrobium tokai*
- 30c *Dendrobium gordonii*
- \$2 *Dendrobium platygastrium*

"BIRDS" DEFINITIVE SERIES:

- 2c Cardinal honeyeater
- 5c Grey-backed white-eye
- 8c Blue-crested broadbill
- 20c Slaty flycatcher
- 25c Kandavu honeyeater
- 40c Yellow-breasted musk parrot
- 50c White-throated pigeon
- \$1 Collared lory

To commemorate the Royal silver wedding, Fiji issued two stamps with a common design consisting of colour portraits of Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Philip surrounded by a frame printed in silver. The stamps also show a conch shell and Tabua (ceremonial whale's tooth) symbolic of welcome to the islands, and the traditional flowers for festive occasions, the orchid, hibiscus and tagimaucia. The stamps are of 10c and 25c denominations and were designed and printed by Harrison and Sons Ltd, of London by multicolour



photogravure. Stamp size is 49 mm x 32 mm and sheet content is 50 stamps.

The two stamps issued by Fiji to aid hurricane relief are both from the 1969 definitive series: they are the 15c Sun Birds stamp which has a surcharge of 5c and the 30c Golden Cowrie Shell stamp which has a 10c surcharge; the total cost of the two stamps is 60c. Both stamps were over-printed "Hurricane Relief" by letterpress at the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne.

The hurricane was the worst in Fiji in 20 years, with damage estimated at millions of dollars; thousands of homes and buildings were damaged and destroyed, nineteen people were killed and several injured. The Fijian Government will use the money received from the surcharges on the stamps for much-needed hurricane relief work in the islands.

A \$1 South Pacific Festival of Arts souvenir pack also went on sale in Australia on 20th November, 1972. It contains single mint 2c, 4c and 50c South Pacific Commission stamps, two mint 10c Festival of Arts stamps and a Festival of Arts souvenir cover. The following postal stationery items are also available: 5c aerogramme, 8c aerogramme, 20c stamp booklet, 12c registered envelope, 13c registered envelope, 3c embossed envelope.

The early history of Fiji rugby is very sketchy but it appears that the first game was played by British soldiers and native police in about 1884. The first club competition was played in 1904 and Fijians began to play in earnest in 1905.

The Fiji Rugby Union was formed by a New Zealand plumber named Paddy Sheehan (a former Otago forward) in 1913.

It is the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union which is commemorated on March 9, 1973.

The Fijian Rugby Union is the administrative body for the game. Its control extends over 100,000 square miles of the Pacific encompassing 300 islands, 100 of them inhabited. There are about 600 teams and 11,000 players.

Western Samoa—New Issues

On 29th January, 1973, Western Samoa issued a set of four commemorative stamps in honour of the Boy Scout Movement in Western Samoa. The series was designed by G. Drummond and printed by lithography by Format International Security Printers of London; stamp size is approximately 42.4 mm x 28.44 mm.

The Samoan Boy Scout movement was founded in the 1930s but later lapsed until it was re-activated by the formation of the First Anglican Chaplaincy Troop in November, 1943. This troop was founded by the Anglican Chaplain at that time, now Venerable Archdeacon Whinsbon-Aston, C.B.E., who has enjoyed a long and interesting association with the Scouting movement; he is the oldest holder in the Pacific of the Wood Badge which he gained in 1928.

The Boy Scout movement in Western Samoa now comprises three troops—the Anglican, Mormons and Marist Brothers—and each individual troop is depicted on a stamp with the fourth design showing a combined gathering of all the troops. Stamp denominations, descriptions and Australian selling prices are: 2 sene, Samoan Boy Scouts saluting the flag, (3c); 3 sene, First Aid Demonstration (4c); 8 sene, Erecting a Tent, (10c); 20 sene, Samoan Action Song, (25c).

Aircraft associated with Western Samoa's international airport are featured on the four air mail definitive stamps issued on 9th March, 1973. The denominations are in addition to the existing series of four air mail definitives issued on 27th July, 1970. The stamps were designed by Mr. E.W. Roberts of Adelaide, and were printed in five-colour photogravure by Helio Courvoisier of Switzerland. Stamp size is 51.5 mm x 36 mm, and sheet content is 25.

Details of values, subjects and Australian selling prices are: 8 sene, a Polynesian Airlines' Hawker Siddeley 748 taking off from the international



airport, (10c); 10 sene, the aircraft in flight, (13c); 12 sene, the aircraft in front of the terminal building, (15c); 22 sene, a B.A.C. One-Eleven and other international aircraft with the international airport's control tower in the background, (28c). The international airport of Western Samoa is situated at Faleolo, which is approximately 32 kilometres from Apia, capital of Western Samoa.

These stamps and the Boy Scout commemoratives are available to Australian residents from Australian Post Office philatelic sales centres. Clients resident outside Australia should send all orders and remittances to the Philatelic Bureau, Apia, Western Samoa. The Boy Scout commemoratives will be withdrawn from sale six months from the date of issue.

Three other issues for 1973 have been announced by the Western Samoan Government—a new \$2 definitive depicting a green turtle to replace the present \$2 Mao bird stamp is listed for issue on 18th June; a set of four commemoratives to mark the 25th anniversary of the World Health Organization of the United Nations due for issue on 20th August; and a set of four Christmas stamps and a miniature sheet to be issued on 15th October.

A special postmarker was used by the Western Samoa Post Office on 19th December, 1972, to commemorate the splashdown of the American moon astronauts in Apollo 17. Souvenir covers franked with the 20 sene moon astronauts stamps were also available. Apollo mission astronauts are usually flown from their recovery vessel to Samoa by helicopter and then complete their homeward journey to the U.S. by aircraft.

Papua New Guinea Bird of Paradise Stamps

On 30th March, 1973, Papua New Guinea is releasing a new flora and fauna conservation series of four stamps featuring Birds of Paradise. The

stamp values are 7c, 14c, 21c and 28c. Serious concern is being expressed by people of all sectors of the community about the survival of Papua New Guinea's world-renowned Birds of Paradise and the Government recently directed that a Bird of Paradise Conservation Programme be undertaken over the next two years.

The stamps were designed by Mr. William T. Cooper and printed in multicolour photogravure by Helio Courvoisier S.A. of Switzerland. Stamp size of the 7c and 14c values is 25.7 mm x 41.4 mm and of the 21c and 28c stamps, 20.5 mm x 51.5 mm. Sheet content is 50. Mint and postmarked stamps are available to Australian collectors from the philatelic sales centres of the Australian Post Office until 30th June, 1973. Clients outside Australia should send orders direct to the Philatelic Bureau, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

7c *Parotia carolae*: The altitudinal limits of this somewhat rare bird are between 1150 and 1850 metres where extensive conversion from natural forest to agriculture will occur in the near future making its survival particularly vulnerable. One of the five Flag Birds of Paradise, this species is found in pockets in the mid-mountain rain forests from the Weyland Mountains in West Irian through the central ranges to the Bismark Range and Mount Wilhelm in Papua New Guinea. Commonly called Queen Carol's Bird of Paradise, it performs its mating displays and dancing on the ground.

14c *Paridisaea decora*: This species is found in country above 350 metres on the Normanby and Ferguson Islands of the d'Entrecasteaux Archipelago. With its lavender grey breast, it is a particularly beautiful specimen of the true Birds of Paradise. Its display is a simple dance: the bird with wings fluttering hops along the branches in the top of a tree, and at the same time extensive display plumes are slightly raised and spread over the back.



21c *Astrapia mayeri*: Commonly called the Ribbon-tailed Bird of Paradise, this species is found in a very restrictive range which extends from Mt. Hagen west to the mountains of the Wabag and Strickland regions; it is also found on Mount Giluwe. It occupies high mountain forest areas from about 2400 to 3300 metres above sea level. The male has two long ivory-white feathers as a tail, with which he makes flicking noises as he trails the plumes after him through the air.

28c *Astrapia stephaniae*: The pair of long central tail feathers of the male Princess Stephanie Bird of Paradise is highly valued for adornment by the people of the thickly-populated Highlands of New Guinea. The very extensive areas where this species occurs has allowed it, so far, to withstand the ever-increasing hunting pressures. A medium-size bird, with tail up to 660 mm long in the male and 360 mm in the female, it ranges throughout the central mountains of the south-east New Guinea mainland and west to the north-eastern slopes of the Mt. Hagen range.

Christmas Island Ships Series

Christmas Island issued the third group in the ships definitive series of stamps on 6th February, 1973, in the denominations of 4c, 5c, 9c and 50c. The stamps were printed in multicolour photogravure in sheets of 50, by Harrison and Sons, Ltd., London. Stamp size is 37.72 mm x 25.40 mm.

The series depicts ships which have figured in the history of the island. The stamp subjects are:—
4c "Pigot". During December of 1771 Captain George Richardson of the "Pigot" spent three days searching unsuccessfully for an anchorage at Christmas Island, and finally sent a cutter ashore where the men collected crabs and birds.

5c S.S. "Valetta". This vessel is a modern bulk carrier built in 1968 at Landskrona, Sweden. She



is on charter to the British Phosphate Commissioners and regularly carries cargoes of rock phosphate and phosphate dust between Christmas Island and New Zealand ports where superphosphate works are situated; voyages are also made to Australian ports. The vessel can carry up to twelve passengers.

9c *H.M.S. "Imperious"*. Captain Henry William May of H.M.S. "Imperious" landed at Flying Fish Cove in June 1888, and formally declared Christmas Island to be part of the British Empire. The first settlement on the island was established in November of the same year by George Clunies Ross at Flying Fish Cove.

50c *"Amethyst"*. The first attempt to explore Christmas Island was made by Captain Grenfell of the frigate "Amethyst" in 1857, when a party of men tried to reach the summit of the plateau which has several prominent rises, the highest being 356 m. No way was found up the inland cliff and the ascent was abandoned.

Australian clients may obtain mint and post-marked stamps from the philatelic sales centres of the Australian Post Office.

Clients outside Australia should order stamps from the Philatelic Officer, Christmas Island, Indian Ocean.

New Philatelic Handbooks

Two further handbooks in the series dealing with the history of Australian postage stamps have been published.

"The Definitive Stamps of the Reign of King George VI" describes 46 different definitive stamps, from the ½d Kangaroo of 1938 to the 6½d Royal Portrait stamp of 1952. A chapter relating to the 1946 stamp design competition is also included.

The story of Australian definitive stamps is continued up to the introduction of decimal

currency in the other booklet, "The Definitive Stamps of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth II 1952-65". Both publications contain illustrations of unadopted designs of the period.

Both books are available at 50c each, post free by surface mail, from all A.P.O. philatelic sales centres.

Australian Stamp Programme for 1973

The stamp programme for 1973 was announced recently by Mr. Lionel Bowen, Postmaster-General in the Whitlam ministry formed following the December 1972 Federal elections. Sir Alan Hulme, Postmaster-General in the previous government, had earlier announced his intention to retire and did not contest the election.

The first 1973 stamps, the Metric Conversion and World Health commemoratives, are described on other pages in this Bulletin. Other 1973 commemoratives will mark the 50th anniversary of Legacy, an organisation which cares for dependents of deceased ex-servicemen, and for the 50th anniversary of the first regular radio broadcasts in Australia.

In the definitive series, there will be four further stamps in the Famous Australians series; some of the lower values will be replaced by multicolour photogravure designs; and the 1966 Antarctic series will be replaced.

Architecture, National Development and Australian Paintings series are also planned, Mr. Bowen said.

The Famous Australians series of four basic rate stamps will depict Dame Mary Gilmore, writer and poetess; Sir Isaac Isaacs, jurist and first Australian-born Governor-General; Marcus Clarke, author of "For the Term of His Natural Life"; and William Charles Wentworth, who made (with Blaxland and



Lawson) the first Blue Mountains crossing, in 1813, and was later prominent in the affairs of colonial New South Wales. This series will appear about May, 1973.

The third series of four National Development stamps, scheduled for June, will probably occupy (as short-term definitives) the denominational range of the Aboriginal Art series.

Eight long-term definitive stamps featuring Australian gem stones and sea life, to replace the lower value Queen Elizabeth II designs, will be issued about July.

The current Antarctic Territory stamps will be replaced by a new definitive series featuring explorers' aircraft and the food chains which link tiny plankton and shrimps with seals, birds and whales. The series will appear about August or September, to enable stamps and first day covers to be despatched with the annual relief ships later in the year.

The Legacy stamp will be a basic rate commemorative, for issue in September.

The Architecture series will take over the slot now filled by the Rehabilitation series, and will appear in October. The annual Christmas stamps will also be issued in that month.

The Radio Anniversary stamp, a basic rate commemorative, is expected to be released in November.

The Australian Paintings stamps are planned to replace the remaining three Navigators series stamps. As they are scheduled towards the end of the year's printing programme, and as their nature will require particular attention to the production of accurate facsimiles of the original paintings, the date of issue is still tentative at this stage.

Full details of designs, values and dates of issue will be announced progressively through Stamp Preview and this journal.

San Gabriele Award to A.P.O.

The 1972 San Gabriele International Prize for Philatelic Art, given annually to the nation which issues the best postal item on a religious subject, was awarded to the Australian Post Office's 1971 Christmas aerogramme.

The aerogramme, issued on 1st December, 1971, featured the 1971 Christmas stamp design, slightly enlarged compared with the same design in sheet form, and a decorative "star" motif on the left-hand side of the address face. The stamp was designed by Mr. John Lee and the aerogramme by Mr. Ray Honisett.

The San Gabriele panel of judges included sculptor Giacomo Manzu, artist Armando Testa, Monsignor Giovanni Fallani, President of the Pontifical Commission for Sacred Art, and other prominent personalities. Mr. G. Pretymann, First Secretary, Australian Embassy, Rome, accepted the gold medal award and diploma on behalf of the Australian Post Office, at a ceremony in Verona. A gold medal and diploma were also awarded to the Norwegian postal administration for a series of two stamps commemorating the founding of the diocese of Oslo.

New Pictorial Postmarker for Mildura Arts Centre

A new pictorial postmarker, featuring the equestrian sculpture on display at the entrance of the Mildura Arts Centre, was introduced at the Mildura Post Office on a continuing basis from 19th December, 1972. The cast iron sculpture which won the 1967 Mildura Triennial Sculpture Competition is by Sydney artist Mr. Herbert Flugelman. All mail posted in the letter receiver located outside the entrance to the Arts Centre is taken to the Mildura Post Office and processed

with the pictorial postmarker. The new postmarker replaced the old postmarker which had been in use since 4th October, 1970.

Australian and overseas collectors may obtain serviced philatelic covers impressed with the postmarker by forwarding an order for 9c for the philatelic cover, plus the cost of the stamp/s to be affixed, to the Officer-in-Charge, Philatelic Sales Centre, Box 9000, G.P.O. Melbourne, Australia 3001.

Collectors in Australia desiring postmarker impressions on private covers should forward fully stamped and addressed covers, under paid outer covers, to the Postmaster, Mildura, Victoria 3500. Overseas collectors should forward 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.

Another Australian-designed U.N. Stamp

Further to notes in the June 1972 Bulletin, the United Nations Postal Administration has announced the issue of another U.N. stamp designed by Mr. George Hamori, of Sydney.

The stamp, to be issued on 13th April, 1973, has the subject "Stop Drug Abuse". It is being printed in photogravure by Heraclio Fournier S.A., Spain, in 8c, 15c (U.S.) and 0.60 francs (Swiss) values.

Mr. Hamori is well-known for his stamp designs for Australia, United Nations, Papua New Guinea and other countries.

Short Notes

The 7c stamp issued to commemorate the Tenth International Congress of Accountants, Sydney, on 16th October, 1972, was printed on Wiggins Teape coated unwatermarked paper incorporating heleon. The colours in printing order were orange, blue, green and black. A new blue cylinder was utilized midway through the printing.

The seven Pioneer Life Series stamps issued on 15th November, 1972, were all printed on Wiggins Teape coated unwatermarked paper incorporating heleon. Five cylinders were used for each value (except for the 40c stamp which required the replacement of the grey cylinder midway through

the initial printing, due to damage of the original cylinder) and colours in printing order, were: 5c—grey, yellow, red, blue, black; 10c—grey, yellow, brown, sepia, black; 15c—grey, yellow, green, brown, black; 40c—grey, yellow, red, mauve, black; 50c—grey, yellow, red, brown, black; 60c—mushroom, yellow, tan, charcoal, black; 80c—grey, yellow, blue, red, black.

During the Twelfth World Rehabilitation Congress held from 27th August to 1st September, 1972, the special postmarker illustrated in the September Bulletin was used at the Potts Point Post Office, N.S.W., to cancel 4,326 articles including 40 registered.

Further to reference in the December 1972 Bulletin, the special postmarker provided for the Fifth World Conference on General Practice held at East Melbourne, Victoria, from 2nd to 6th October, 1972, was used to cancel 4,923 articles including 24 registered. Previous publicity gave the dates of this facility as 3rd to 10th October but the date was later changed by the conference organizers.



Further to reference in the December 1972 Bulletin, the special postmarker used on a continuing basis at the Post Office Museum, Hobart, Tasmania, is shown in the accompanying illustration.



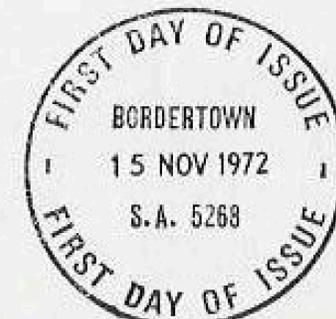
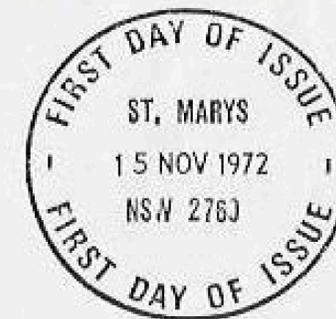
A special postmarker was provided at the Toombul Post Office, Queensland, from 9th to 11th November, 1972, during the three-day stamp display presented by the Combined Committee of the Brisbane Philatelic Societies at the Toombul Shoppingtown. The design for the postmarker was similar to that used during the 1971 display. A total of 3,342 articles were postmarked, including 15 registered.



A temporary post office was provided at the Town Hall, Perth, during Wapex '72, the Western Australian Philatelic Exhibition held from 9th to 15th October, 1972; 5,841 articles including 139 registered were postmarked with the special postmarker shown.

Six cylinders were used in the printing of the 7c Christmas 1972 stamp issued on 29th November, 1972. The five colours in order of printing were grey, yellow, red, blue, brown. During printing a new grey cylinder replaced the original one which

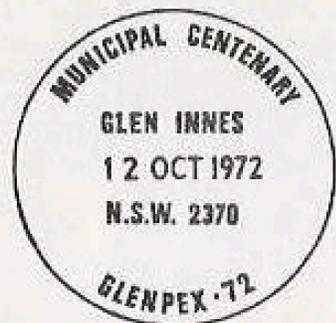
had been used for approximately half of the printing. For the 35c Christmas 1972 stamp issued on the same date, the colours in printing order were yellow, magenta, dark blue, black, cyan, from five cylinders.



First day of issue postmarkers were introduced at post offices at Hamilton and St. Marys, N.S.W., and Bordertown, S.A., on 15th November, 1972, the date of issue of the Pioneer Life stamps.

These additions bring the total of post offices with first day of issue facilities to 400, of which 74 are philatelic sales centres.

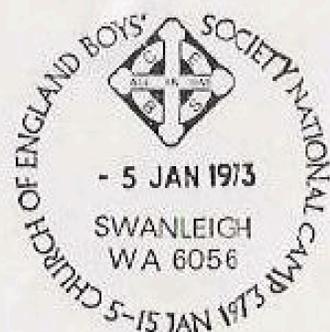
The postmarker used at the temporary post office located at the venue of the Tenth International Congress of Accountants, 16th to 21st October, 1972, was applied to 7,656 articles including 26 registered.



A special postmarker was provided at Glen Innes Post Office, N.S.W., for "GlenpeX '72" philatelic exhibition, held between 12th and 14th October, 1972, as part of the Glen Innes municipal centenary celebrations. The postmarker was used on 2,553 articles, including 30 registered.



A special postmarker was used at the Samford, Qld., non-official Post Office for the Third Australian Senior Scouts Venture, over the period 27th December, 1972, to 6th January, 1973. A total of 4,279 articles, including 144 registered, were postmarked with the special postmarker.

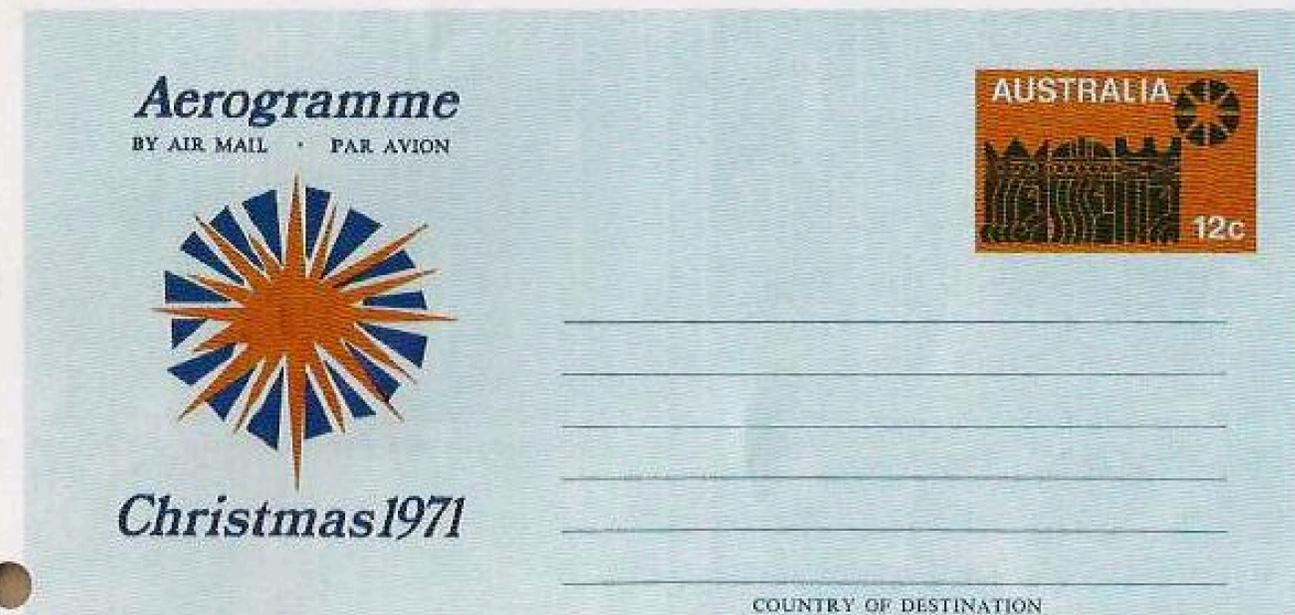


A postmarker was used at a temporary post office at the Church of England Boys' Society National Camp at Swanleigh, W.A., over the period 5th to 15th January, 1973, to cancel 3,562 articles including 20 registered.

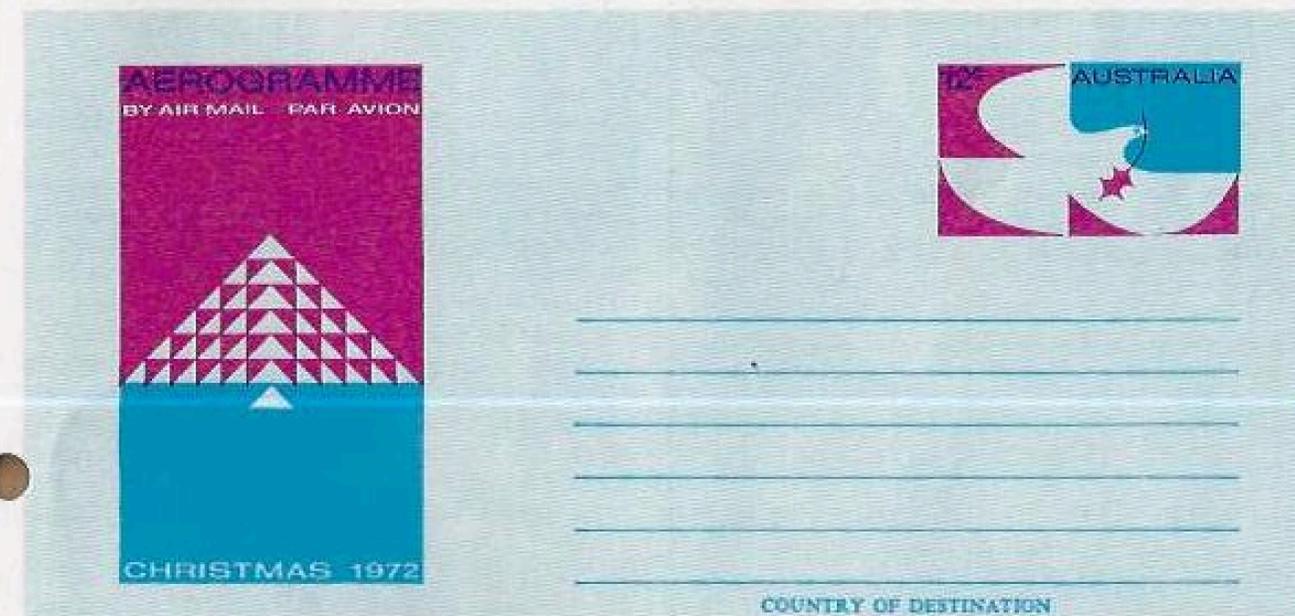
Erratum: In the article "Stamp Design Competitions (3)" on page 15 of the September 1972 Bulletin, the expression "1st May, 1971" should read "1st May, 1911."

We are frequently asked why Antarctic and Cocos stamps are valid for use in Australia, whereas other Territories' stamps are not. The position is that the provisions of the Australian Post and Telegraph Act apply also to the Australian Antarctic Territory and to Cocos (Keeling) Islands, and the Australian Post Office is thus responsible for all postal matters—including the design and printing of stamps—in both Territories, and their stamps and those of Australia have interchangeable validity.

Conversely, Papua New Guinea, Christmas Island and Norfolk Island have their own postal ordinances, and each is responsible for its own postal affairs, including the design and printing of postage stamps. For geographical and historical reasons, philatelists regard and collect Commonwealth and Territories stamps as a group, but because of the legal position Australian stamps are not valid for postage in Papua New Guinea, Christmas Island or Norfolk Island, nor their stamps in Australia, nor has the Australian Post Office any jurisdiction over these three Territories' postal services or stamp programmes.



The 1971 Christmas aerogramme, the subject of the San Gabriele award (page 53).



The address face of the 1972 Christmas aerogramme.

Stamp Design Competitions (5)

THE 3d KOOKABURRA STAMP AND THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, MELBOURNE, 1928

During 1927, the Committee of the International Philatelic Exhibition which was then being organized for the period 29th October to 1st November, 1928, had been in communication with the Postmaster-General's Department regarding a proposal

that a competition be conducted for the best design suitable for a Commonwealth postage stamp.

The Department concurred in the suggestion that the Exhibition Committee conduct such a competition and agreed to make available the services of an officer to act as one of the judges of the submitted designs. The Department also promised to give adequate consideration to the winning design, and if it were then accepted, to award a special premium.

The rules of the competition were subsequently

announced by the Exhibition committee and were as follows:

- (a) The competition is for a design suitable for an Australian Commonwealth stamp;
- (b) Designs may be submitted in any size convenient to the competitor, but a reduced illustration roughly the size of the proposed stamp must also be shown;
- (c) All designs must include the words "AUSTRALIA", "Postage" and value in figures and words, or in figures only;
- (d) Any denomination may be designated, but it is suggested that the value 1½d be selected;
- (e) The design is to be suitable for reproduction in one colour only;
- (f) Prizes offered for the winning designs are gold, silver and bronze medals suitably inscribed;
- (g) In addition, the Commonwealth Postal Department undertakes to consider the winning design, and in the event of its adoption will pay an additional premium of £25 to the successful designer;
- (h) All entries must be made under a nom-de-plume, the name and address of the designer being enclosed in a sealed envelope on the outside of which shall be written the nom-de-plume as endorsed on the back of the design;
- (i) All entries must be accompanied by an entrance fee of 2/6d, which fee shall permit of the submission of three separate designs. For any design over this number, an additional fee must be paid. Such fees may be paid in post-office money orders, Australian postal notes, or cash. Unused stamps will not be accepted;
- (j) No entry will be accepted as bona fide unless accompanied by the appropriate entrance fee;
- (k) All designs will become the property of the Exhibition Committee until the close of the Exhibition. Subsequently they will be disposed of as desired by the competitor;



The unissued 1/- stamp.



The 1½d design modified as described in the text.

- (l) Entries for this competition close on July 1st, 1928;
- (m) All entries must be addressed to 'Hon. Secretary, International Philatelic Exhibition, Box 1657N, Melbourne, Australia', and must be in his hands by that date."

The Exhibition Committee hoped that if a suitable design were selected, it would be possible for the Postmaster-General's Department to arrange for the stamp to be issued at the time of the Exhibition.

The Department found, however, that because of the time factor—entries did not close until 1st July, 1928—it would not be practicable to adopt this course; in any event, it had to consider the possibility that the competition might not yield any suitable designs.

Consideration was then given to other means by which the Department might become associated with the Exhibition in a practical manner.

One proposal given serious attention was that the printing of the then-current 1½d stamp be demonstrated at the Exhibition but this was discarded in favour of a suggestion that more interest would be aroused if the printing exhibit was of a new stamp.

In developing this suggestion, in conjunction with the General Manager, Note Printing Branch, Commonwealth Bank of Australia (Mr. John Ash) it was agreed that a stamp printing exhibit was practicable. As a tentative subject for a new stamp, Mr. Ash then provided a proof of an unissued 1½d stamp bearing a "Swan" design to which had been added the words "International Philatelic Exhibition Melbourne 1928".

The Department felt, however, that as a swan was typical of Western Australia, the modified design was scarcely suitable, nor was it perhaps desirable to refer specifically to the Exhibition on a stamp.



Mr. Harrison's winning design.

Finally it was decided to utilize the design of the 6d Kookaburra stamp which had been issued in 1913. The original die had been retained and from this was prepared a new die expressing the denomination of 3d. At the same time opportunity was taken to modify and improve the form of lettering. It was also agreed to issue the stamp in blue colour, to conform to Universal Postal Union requirements.

Attention was also given to the composition of the stamps in sheets. It was decided that the sheets to be printed at the Exhibition should be made up of blocks of four stamps, with selvedge on all four sides, contained within large sheets of 60 stamps; each such sheet would then comprise fifteen blocks arranged in three rows each of five blocks of four. A proposal that an inscription to be associated with the Exhibition be printed on the marginal paper surrounding each block of four stamps was seriously considered but not adopted.

The normal sheet formation of 120 stamps was adopted for that part of the issue which was to be printed at the Note Printing Branch.

The original approval for the stamp provided that 1,000,000 should be printed in blocks of four within sheets of 60, to be sold (as far as practicable) at the special post office to be established at the Exhibition, and for 4,000,000 stamps to be issued in ordinary sheets of 120, to be sold at Australian post offices generally.

The date of issue fixed for the stamp at the Exhibition post office was 29th October, 1928, on which day the function was opened.

The stamp was not issued at other post offices until 2nd November, 1928, and in this connection specific instructions were given that the sale of ordinary 3d (King George V type) stamps was to cease when the 3d Kookaburra stamps became available and was not to be recommenced until stocks of the latter were exhausted.

Resumption of sales of ordinary 3d stamps commenced in South Australia on 29th January, 1929, in Western Australia on 20th February, 1929, in Tasmania on 25th February, 1929, in Victoria at the end of the same month, in Queensland on 23rd March, 1929, and in New South Wales on 16th April, 1929.

All stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper and perforations gauged 11. Four steel plates, two of 120 and two of 60 impressions, were used for the printing and issued sheets contained either 120 or 60 stamps, except that there was also a small issue of sheets of 30, these being originally part of larger sheets.

The total printing was 5,043,000 stamps which were issued in the following sheet form:

Sheets of 30	— 6,800	(204,000 stamps)
Sheets of 60	— 16,700	(1,002,000 stamps)
Sheets of 120	— 31,975	(3,837,000 stamps)

Of the total issue, 20,400 stamps were punctured with the initial letter "OS". A proportion of these was distributed to members of the Federal Parliament at the time of issue.

The first sheet of stamps printed at the Exhibition was not perforated and after being displayed in an exhibition frame was subsequently presented by the Department to His Majesty King George V for inclusion in the Royal collection.

As the total sale of the new stamp at the Exhibition post office was only in the vicinity of ten per cent of the quantity printed at the Exhibition, the balance of such sheets was taken into ordinary stock and sold, concurrently with stamps in sheets of 120, at post offices generally.

The printing of the stamps at the Exhibition was effected on a small Hoe machine and the Note Printing Branch staff fully demonstrated each phase of printing and perforating.

The special postmark used at the Exhibition was of circular pattern, 30 mm in diameter. As a departure from normal practice, postmarks were applied either in red or green colour. A distinctive registration label was also employed.

The stamp design competition conducted by the Exhibition Committee resulted in 108 designs, the work of 60 competitors, being received. The jury which considered the entries comprised Mr. P.T. Berry, F.R.P.S.L., Mr. Jas. Murray, Postmaster-General's Department; Mr. John Ash, General Manager, Note Printing Branch, Mr. J.S. MacDonald, art critic, and Mr. A.A. Rosenblum, philatelist.

The first prize, a gold medal, was awarded for a King's Head design entered by Mr. R.A. Harrison, engraver at the Note Printing Branch. Subsequently the design was accepted by the Postmaster-General's Department and a cheque for £25 was presented to Mr. Harrison by the Lieutenant Governor of Victoria (Sir William Irvine) following upon the opening of the Exhibition by His Excellency on the evening of 29th October, 1928.

Mr. Harrison's winning design was not subsequently utilized for a postage stamp.