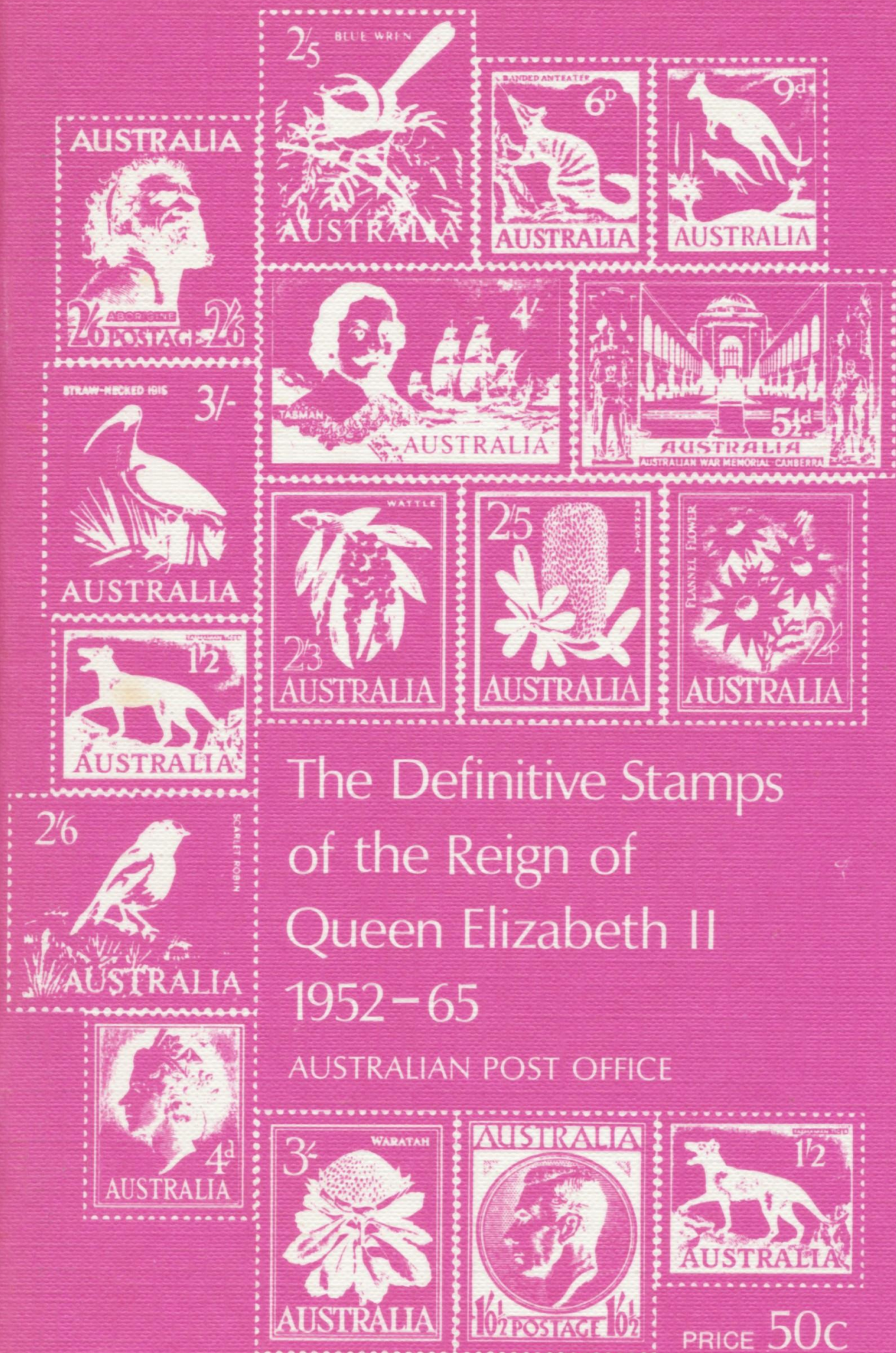




The Definitive Stamps of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth II 1952-65

AUSTRALIAN POST OFFICE

PRICE 50C



AUSTRALIAN POST OFFICE

The Definitive Stamps of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth II 1952-65

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of Australian postage stamps)*

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The Definitive Stamps of the Reign
of King George VI

(Price: 50 cents each)

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Introduction

This booklet is intended to survey in broad detail a very significant period in Australian Commonwealth philately. Particularly, the period was one of tremendous advance in stamp production methods. It was concerned not only with the introduction of the highly complex multi-colour photogravure process but with other exacting requirements consequent upon the adoption of electronic mail handling equipment.

Over the whole time, also, the Post Office Stamp Advisory Committee maintained an important role in the advancement of design standards, being equally much concerned with many stamp production aspects. Especially, the Committee encouraged the engagement of leading Australian artists to prepare many of the designs. The attention which it paid to paper standards led to a wider use of unwatermarked papers and the introduction of papers of enhanced whiteness brought about the improved appearance of stamps generally.

The early part of the period saw also the introduction by the Post Office of new philatelic facilities, these including special selling points in the several States. Perhaps this move, initiated about the time that the first Queen Elizabeth II portrait stamps were appearing, assisted in the very evident increase of interest in Australian stamps, so manifest at the time. And, undoubtedly, the philatelic selling points were able to provide for purchase items which otherwise might not have become readily available.

All the definitive stamps described in this booklet were printed at the Note Printing Branch, which earlier was part of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and from January 1960 became attached to the then newly-formed Reserve Bank of Australia.

Three of the Appendices provided contain summaries of particular groups of stamps, as indicated. A final Appendix illustrates various unadopted designs.

The 1952 to 1956 Period

Chapter One

At the time of the accession of Queen Elizabeth II, on 6 February 1952, the Australian Post Office had four new postage stamps almost ready for issue. Three depicted the head of King George VI and the other an Australian aborigine, the respective values being 4½d, 6½d, 1/0½d and 2/6d. The need for stamps of those denominations had come about by reason of increases in postal rates on 9 July 1951.

The 4½d was primarily intended to meet the charge for a postcard to foreign countries and the 6½d to cover the air mail rate for a ½ oz. letter in Australia. The Post Office had announced in December 1951 that these two stamps would be issued late in February 1952.

The 1/0½d stamp was required mainly to pay the combined postage and registration fees for an ordinary letter and the 2/6d for parcels and telegrams, and the overseas air mail rate for second class mail.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

Although some consideration was given to proposals that the three stamps depicting King George VI — the 4½d, 6½d and 1/0½d — should not be issued because of the accession of Her Majesty, it was decided that as they were ready, or almost so, for issue, and were needed as quickly as possible to meet public requirements, no purpose could be served if they were withheld.

The 4½d and 6½d (Figs. 1 and 2) were issued on 20 February 1952, and the 1/0½d and 2/6d (Figs. 3 and 4) on 19 March 1952. The 6½d stamp was brown in colour and after having been placed on sale it was found

that it was sometimes confused with the contemporary 3½d reddish brown stamp of similar design. To overcome the situation, it was decided to alter the 6½d to a green colour and it appeared in this form on 9 April 1952.

While these five stamps might be regarded, in one sense, as a part of the King George VI group, and be collected as such, they were issued after the accession of Queen Elizabeth II and, therefore, are the first Australian stamps of her reign.

Of the five stamps, the 4½d and 6½d brown had short lives, supplies ceasing to be distributed after 31 July 1953. The 6½d green was replaced in June 1953 by a stamp of the same denomination portraying Her Majesty and the 1/0½d was similarly replaced in the following year. The 2/6d Aborigine stamp survived for a longer period, as will be related.

There were, of course, a number of other stamps of the reign of King George VI currently available at the time of Her Majesty's accession and with the exception of one of these, the ½d Kangaroo, all were discontinued or replaced by 1964. The ½d stamp, although in very small demand, was maintained and did not disappear from the scene until the advent of decimal currency. For convenience, a table setting out the changes made is shown at Appendix I.

Supplementary issues in 1952-53 included booklets containing King George VI stamps, these being on sale at some post offices in June 1952 although the intended date of issue was 1 July 1952. The first booklets of Queen Elizabeth II stamps did not appear until a year later. Surplus stocks of the 1d The Princess Elizabeth stamp in sheets with the distinctive 'coil' perforation were being disposed of through post offices from about September 1952 and later on in 1953 supplies of these and of other stamps in sheets with the 'coil' perforation were being sold through philatelic selling points which the Post Office established early in 1953 and, in some instances, also at post offices. All of these items, while belonging basically to the King George VI period, did not become available until after the accession of Her Majesty. They are listed in Appendix II.

The First Queen Elizabeth II Stamps

Immediately following the accession, the Australian Post Office moved to obtain approved photographs of Her Majesty to enable stamp designs to be prepared. These, taken by the Royal photographer, Dorothy Wilding Ltd., were received from London early in April 1952. After various designs had been prepared and considered and desired modifications made, it became possible, late in June 1952, to forward recommended designs for Her Majesty's consideration. Four of the designs which were prepared are illustrated in Appendix IV at Figs. 52 to 55.

A design was approved by Her Majesty, subject to the substitution of a new form of crown. Following the required modification, work on cutting the first die, for a 3½d stamp, was commenced early in October 1952. It had been agreed that the same design would be utilized for 1d and 3d stamps, with the initial effort concentrated on the 3½d, intended to be the first of the series.

At this time the policy of the Post Office was that unwatermarked paper should be used in the printing of all definitive stamps of values lower than that of the current base letter rate, then 3½d, and it was arranged therefore, that the 3½d would be on the usual watermarked paper and the 1d and 3d on unwatermarked paper.



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

The date of issue for the 3½d stamp (Fig. 6) was 21 April 1953, the Queen's birthday. The stamp became available in booklet form on 8 July 1953. The 3d stamp (Fig. 7) was issued on 17 June 1953, and was also obtainable in coil form from that date, 2d stamp vending machines being converted to 3d usage. Later in that year it was available in 'coil' sheet form. The 1d stamp (Fig. 8) appeared on 19 August 1953. It was not issued in coil form because of the large coil stocks then held of the earlier 1d The Princess Elizabeth stamp.

The Note Printing Branch was asked in September 1953 to furnish proofs for new 2½d and 6½d stamps in the same design as utilized for the 1d, 3d and 3½d. At this time also the Stamp Advisory Committee had under consideration a proposal for a sculptured head presentation of the Queen for a new 1/0½d stamp, and eventually the Note Printing Branch was asked to prepare such a design, this to be based on the sculptured head of Her Majesty as it appeared on the new £1 bank note. Earlier, the Note Printing Branch had proposed for the 1/0½d stamp a female aborigine

head design but this idea was not favoured. The form of this suggested design is shown in Appendix IV at Fig. 56.

Colour proofs for the new 2½d and 6½d stamps were approved late in November 1953 and the date of issue for both stamps (Figs. 9 and 10) determined as 23 June 1954. The design for the 1/0½d stamp (Fig. 11) was approved in August 1954 and it was issued on 9 March 1955.



Fig. 9



Fig. 10



Fig. 11

Unwatermarked Paper

The Post Office decided early in 1956 that the practice of utilizing unwatermarked paper would be extended to all postage stamps up to and including the 2/6d denomination. This rule was later extended to embrace all stamps below the value of 5/-. At the time of the first decision, stocks of printed stamps, up to the 2/6d denomination on watermarked paper, were generally quite substantial and it was seen that some time would elapse before the newer supplies would be readily available. It was also decided that there would not be specific dates of issue for any of the earlier stamps when they appeared on the unwatermarked paper.

Of the new Queen Elizabeth II portrait stamps, the only values affected were the 3½d and 6½d. The Note Printing Branch commenced the distribution of the 3½d on unwatermarked paper in sheet form on 21 May 1956, and in booklets on 24 July 1956. Supplies of the 6½d were first distributed on 22 August 1956. The 1/0½d, had it been continued, would also have been affected by the new policy. However, the requirement for this denomination disappeared by reason of postal rates changes which became effective on 1 October 1956.

Additionally, the change in watermark policy affected the 2/6d Aborigine stamp of 1952 and various stamps on watermarked paper issued during the King George VI period which had been continued. These were the 4d Koala, 6d Kookaburra, 9d Platypus, 1/- Lyrebird, 1/6d Mercury and Globe and 2/- Aboriginal Art. The Note Printing Branch effected initial distribution of all these stamps, printed on unwatermarked paper, on various dates between May and December 1956 and they became available at post

offices as supplies of the earlier watermarked stamps became exhausted, this generally being in the later part of the year, when the public demand for stamps was heavy. The exact dates of initial distribution have been noted in Appendix I.

Summary

(New Designs)

Designer: The 4½d, 6½d and 1/0½d King George VI stamps, the 2/6d Aborigine and the 1d, 2½d, 3d, 3½d, 6½d and 1/0½d Queen Elizabeth II stamps were all designed by F. D. Manley, the 1/0½d Queen Elizabeth II stamp design being based on a bas-relief sculptured head by W. L. Bowles.

Engravers: The 4½d and 6½d King George VI stamps and the 1/0½d Queen Elizabeth II stamp were engraved by G.Lissenden. The 1/0½d King George VI stamp and the 1d, 2½d, 3d, 3½d and 6½d Queen Elizabeth II stamps were engraved by D.Cameron. The 2/6d Aborigine stamp was engraved by E.R.M.Jones.

(Stamps of the Reign of King George VI)

Designers: The 4d Koala, 6d Kookaburra, 9d Platypus, 1/- Lyrebird and 1/6d Mercury and Globe stamps were designed by F.D.Manley; the 2/- Aboriginal Art by G.Sellheim.

Engravers: The 4d, 9d, 1/- and 1/6d were engraved by F.D.Manley. With respect to the 6d the bird and stump were engraved by F.D.Manley and the background and lettering by T.C.Duffell. The 2/- was jointly engraved by G.Lissenden and F.D.Manley.

Recess-printed

(A) Watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 5)

1952. Types as Figs. 1 to 4

Perf. 14¾ x 14

4½d red — King George VI

6½d brown — King George VI

6½d green — King George VI

Perf. 14½ x 14¾

1/0½d dark-blue — King George VI

2/6d sepia — Aborigine

1953-56. Types as Figs. 6, 10 and 11

Perf. 14¾ x 14

3½d brown-red — Queen Elizabeth II

6½d orange — Queen Elizabeth II

Perf. 14½ x 14¾

1/0½d deep greyish blue — Queen Elizabeth II

(B) On unwatermarked paper

1953-56. Types as Figs. 4, 6 to 10

Perf. $14\frac{3}{4} \times 14$

1d purple — Queen Elizabeth II

2½d mid-blue — Queen Elizabeth II

3d deep green — Queen Elizabeth II

3½d brown-red — Queen Elizabeth II

6½d orange — Queen Elizabeth II

Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{3}{4}$

2/6d sepia — Aborigine

1956. Types of the Reign of King George VI

Perf. $14\frac{3}{4} \times 14$ or $14 \times 14\frac{3}{4}$ (9d)

4d green — Koala

6d brown — Kookaburra

9d chocolate — Platypus

1/- grey-green — Lyrebird

Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{3}{4}$

1/6d grey-black — Mercury and Globe

2/- chocolate — Aboriginal Art.

The 1956 Postal Rates Changes and New Stamps

Chapter Two

New postage rates which became effective on 1 October 1956, increased the base letter rate by ½d for some categories of mail. The new general requirement for a 4d stamp was met immediately by greatly increased printings of the 4d Koala stamp and the intention to issue in lieu, as early as practicable, a 4d stamp bearing a royal portrait.

The Post Office took the opportunity at this time to indicate other contemplated stamp changes, the general plan incorporating or modifying in part the details of an announcement made in the early part of the same year regarding intended new stamps.

While the new rates did not affect the surface foreign letter rate, which remained at 7½d and was being met by usage of the 7½d King George VI stamp, the intention was that although this denomination and design would be continued for the time being, eventually it would be replaced by a new design illustrative of some aspect of Australian life and development.

The current ½d and 2d denominations were also to be continued, but to accord with stamp issuing policy new designs portraying Queen Elizabeth II were to be introduced for both stamps in due course. The 3½d stamp booklet was to be replaced by another containing 4d stamps.

Early in 1956, it had been announced that, in view of the increasing use of the 6½d stamp on air mail letters in Australia, it was proposed to utilize for this denomination a design significant of communications by air. However, by reason of the postal rates changes the role of the 6½d had changed and it now met the postage rate for ordinary first class articles within the second rate range. For this purpose the overall demand for the denomination was much less than before and the proposal to change the 6½d design was accordingly abandoned.

It was also indicated that a new stamp of 7d denomination would be provided to meet the combined postage and air mail fees for air mail letters in Australia and, additionally, in connection with a new Certified Mail Service which was introduced on 12 November 1956, a 10d stamp to cover the combined certified mail and postage rates. The 1/0½d stamp was to be discontinued and one of 1/7d introduced in lieu to cover the increased registration and postage charges for an ordinary letter. Stamps of denominations of 6d, 9d, 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 5/-, 10/-, £1 and £2 were to be maintained.

As it was not practicable to alter the 3d stamp vending machines to sell 4d stamps, they were converted back to 2d usage, as had earlier been the case, the coils initially available containing the current 2d Queen Mother stamp, 1951 type. The ½d stamp vending machines continued in use unchanged.

In anticipation of the increase in postal rates, the Note Printing Branch had prepared a new design for a 4d stamp, the royal portrait being based on the bas-relief sculptured head by W.L.Bowles which had been adopted for bank notes. The subsequent engraving of the die resulted in a head closely resembling that on the 1/0½d Queen Elizabeth II stamp although the frame was different and the lower part of the background was unshaded. By early October it was possible to commence plate making for both 4d and 10d stamps, the same design having also been chosen for the latter.

The new 1/7d stamp was in the design of the 1/0½d, which it replaced. In



Fig. 12



Fig. 13



Fig. 14

accordance with existing policy the three stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper. The 10d (Fig. 12) was issued on 6 March 1957, and the 4d (Fig. 13) in both sheet and booklet form, together with the 1/7d (Fig. 14), on 13 March 1957.

The 4d stamp booklets contained two small panes, each of six stamps, and represented a new departure in booklet make-up. Each stamp was imperforate on one or two sides and, in any pane, two stamps were imperforate at right, two imperforate at left, one imperforate at right and base and one imperforate at left and base. This new method, adopted to facilitate booklet manufacture, was found to be quite successful and was continued with successive booklet issues.

The Post Office had announced, early in 1956, that the Royal Flying Doctor Service was being considered as a stamp design subject. Proposals for such a stamp had been made to the Post Office as early as 1951 by the Flying Doctor Service — the prefix "Royal" was not granted until 1953 — and in subsequent years by other organizations and individuals.

The subject was first contemplated as a replacement design for the 6½d stamp and was transferred to the 7d when the need for this denomination developed. A design by James E. Lyle, submitted through the Royal Flying Doctor Service, together with a number of other designs received from members of the public following a general invitation to submit designs, were examined by the Stamp Advisory Committee. Of these, the Lyle design was judged to be the most suitable. This design is illustrated in Appendix IV at Fig. 57, together with three unadopted designs prepared at the Note Printing Branch (Figs. 58 to 60).

Over the next few months various minor modifications of the original design were considered and the final design, approved in 1957, preserved the concepts of the original. This depicted a winged caduceus, the shadow of which, projected upon a map of Australia, formed the outline of an aeroplane, symbolizing wings of healing over the vast areas of Australia's hinterland. The 7d stamp (Fig. 15) was issued on 21 August 1957.



Fig. 15



Fig. 16

The intention to issue a new 7½d stamp in a design significant of some facet of Australian life and development had been in mind for some years. A design prepared by the Note Printing Branch late in 1953 and interpretative of the theme depicted a shearing scene. The design was considered on several occasions but ultimately was put aside in favour of a new proposal that a small-sized stamp was desirable, and for this reason it would be preferable to adopt the form of sculptured head which had been so successful for the 1/0½d stamp. The unadopted design is shown at Fig. 61.

Early in 1954 the Note Printing Branch was asked to prepare a design accordingly. After some slight modifications, a final design was approved in June 1954 and the die proof a few weeks later. While the same bas-relief as later used as the bases of the 4d and 10d stamps was utilized for the head presentation of the 7½d, the background hatching was very much less, leaving a greater white area than was the case with the 4d and 10d, engraved more than two years later.



Fig. 17

Fig. 18

At the time the die proof was approved, in August 1954, substantial stocks of the 7½d King George VI stamp were on hand and it was decided that the printing of the new stamp would be deferred for the time being. Eventually, when it was decided to issue the 7½d Queen Elizabeth II stamp (Fig. 16) on 13 November 1957, there were still stocks of the earlier stamp available and both were on concurrent sale for some time.

It was decided in 1957 that a 5½d stamp should be added to the general series to meet the postage rates for second class mail in the second weight unit, covering commercial papers, circulars and the like. At that time the Post Office had under consideration a suggestion that a stamp depicting the Australian War Memorial at Canberra should be issued. The Post Office was also aware that Melbourne artist Napier Waller was preparing at that time mosaics significant of the Services for incorporation in the Hall of Memory at the Memorial. Additionally, the Post Office had been asked to issue a postage stamp in connection with a British Empire Service League Conference to be held at Canberra early in 1958.

At first, a short-term 4d commemorative stamp was contemplated but because of the need for a 5½d stamp it was decided to provide a definitive which would be issued about the time of the Conference. This was intended to portray an aspect of the War Memorial, including the Waller mosaics.

Preliminary designs had shown that it was impracticable to include representations of Napier Waller's four symbolic figures in the one stamp. It was thereupon decided that there would be two stamps side by side in the sheet, as had been the case with earlier commemorative stamps, each to incorporate two of the figures. Two developments of the design are included in Appendix IV, Figs. 62 and 63. As will be seen from these, and from the illustrations of the issued stamps (Figs. 17 and 18) both have the same central design, the courtyard of the Australian War Memorial. The figures

flanking one stamp are those of a sailor and airman and on the other a soldier and servicewoman.

The stamp was issued on 10 February 1958, a week before the opening, by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, of the 14th Conference of the British Empire Service League, at Canberra.

Summary

Designers: The 4d, 7½d, 10d and 1/7d Queen Elizabeth II stamps were designed by F.D.Manley. The 7d Royal Flying Doctor Service stamp was designed by J.E.Lyle and the modifications thereto by B.Stewart. The two versions of the 5½d Australian War Memorial stamp were designed by G.Lissenden.

Engravers: The 4d, 7½d and 10d Queen Elizabeth II stamps were engraved by F.D.Manley and the 1/7d by G.Lissenden. The 7d Royal Flying Doctor Service stamp was engraved by D.Cameron and the two versions of the 5½d War Memorial stamp by G.Lissenden.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper

1957-58. As Figs. 12 to 18

Perf. 14¾ x 14

4d claret — Queen Elizabeth II

7½d violet — Queen Elizabeth II

10d grey-blue — Queen Elizabeth II

Perf. 14¼ x 14¾

1/7d red-brown — Queen Elizabeth II

Perf. 14¼ x 14

5½d brown-red — Australian War Memorial (two versions)

7d blue — Royal Flying Doctor Service.

New Portraits and the 1959 Postal Rates Changes

Chapter Three

During the latter part of 1956, arrangements were made to obtain from London a new series of photographs of Her Majesty. When received, these photographs, the work of Baron Studios, provided the bases for a first group of nine designs prepared by the Note Printing Branch. This group of preliminary designs is illustrated in Appendix IV at Figs. 64 to 72.

Following consideration, six of these designs were tentatively selected for adoption; subject, however, in most instances to small modifications. In their final forms, as illustrated at Figs. 73 to 78, they gained Royal approval

in November 1957. The figures of value appearing on these designs were not intended at the time to represent final denominations and as will be seen, from the illustrations of the relevant stamps, they were varied in most instances.

It was decided that the first of the new portrait stamps would comprise 1d and 4d denominations and would appear on a date to coincide with the opening of the Australian National Philatelic Exhibition 1959, being held in Sydney.

The portrait of Her Majesty shown on both stamps was derived from the same Baron photograph, but as one stamp shows a head and shoulders presentation and the other a three-quarters length study the two stamps appear very different at first glance. There was, in fact, an earlier experimental engraving of the 1d, with ornamental top left and right corners, as illustrated at Fig. 67, but this version had been dropped in favour of the plainer presentation. A photograph of the die proof of the unadopted version is shown at Fig. 79.

It was also decided that the new 4d stamp would be included in postage stamp booklets, thus preserving the concept of uniformity then being maintained. There was at that time a fairly small demand for 1d stamps in coils and as adequate stocks in coil form of the 1d The Princess Elizabeth stamp, type of 1948, were available no consideration was given to providing coils of the new 1d stamp.



Fig. 19



Fig. 20



Fig. 21

Both the 1d and 4d (Figs. 19 and 20) in sheet form were issued on 2 February 1959, and the 4d in booklets on 18 March 1959. In accordance with the practice initiated in 1957 the panes of stamps in the booklet were partly imperforate.

The next stamp of the series was the 3½d (Fig. 21). As will be seen from the illustration a horizontal presentation was adopted, this being in marked contrast to the usual vertical form adopted for portraits of the reigning sovereign. The stamp was issued on 18 March 1959.

To prepare the way for the issue of the next stamp of the group, 3d, the Note Printing Branch had been asked, early in December 1958, to distribute as fully as possible, as requisitions were received, all stocks of the 3d

green Queen Elizabeth (Mother) stamps, 1953 type, including the stocks in sheets of 320, these having been specially printed for manufacture into coils.

By the early part of 1959 it became practicable to determine the date of issue of the new 3d stamp (Fig. 22) as 20 May 1959. As with the new 3½d stamp, a horizontal presentation was adopted. In this instance, as will be seen, there is a decorative panel at left, comprised of conventionalized forms of briar rose and wattle. Subsequently, from August 1960, this stamp appeared in coil form and 'coil' sheets were placed on philatelic sale from December 1961.



Fig. 22



Fig. 23

At the time this new portrait stamp series was in course, the Post Office had also in preparation two other stamp series, one illustrative of Australian flowers and the other of Australian animals. The issue of stamps of the flora series extended over 11 months from April 1959 to March 1960 and of the fauna series over 18 months, from October 1959 to March 1962 while, within those periods, the further royal portrait stamps also appeared.

It will be more convenient, therefore, to complete the descriptions of the portrait series and then to deal with each of the further series as groups, rather than to describe single stamps on a chronological basis.

The next stamp of the portrait series was of 5d denomination (Fig. 23), this value being occasioned by reason of new postal rates effective on 1 October 1959, upon which date the stamp appeared. The particular design had been intended for a 2½d stamp and the die had actually been engraved but no printings were made. A photograph of the relevant die proof is shown at Fig. 80.

Because of the short time available, when it was seen that the 5d stamp would be required, the 2½d die was adopted for 5d usage by the burnishing off of the expression of value and the engraving of '5d' on two supplementary dies made for the purpose. Impressions from these dies were then taken up on the transfer roller used to lay down the master plate. It happened that the '5d' impressions were engraved separately on the two supplementary dies, and when the stamps appeared the minute differences in the two engravings of '5d' became apparent to the special-

ist. The most readily distinguishable aspects are that in one instance there are four short lines of shading inside the lower loop of '5', while in the other there are five short lines of shading. (Figs. 23a and 23b).

The stamp was issued in booklet form, with stamps partially imperforate as before, on 23 March 1960. Commencing with this type of booklet, commercial advertising was included on inset pages. Changes in the advertising content from time to time, and the issue of the booklets in several editions to meet advertising requirements, as well as a special category of booklet without advertisements, brought about an interest in the collecting of intact booklets evidencing the many minor changes. The new 5d stamp became available in coil form early in 1960 and later, from November 1961, in 'coil' sheets.

The final stamp of the portrait series was the 2d (Fig. 24), this not appearing until 21 March 1962. Die proofs of the engraving had been approved as early as November 1958 and authorization was given in July 1959 for the manufacture of the plates. The main reason for the delay in the stamp's appearance was in great part the onset of the 1959 postal rates change, the printing of other stamps then gaining priority. Added to this there were ample stocks of the 2d Queen Elizabeth (Mother) stamps on hand. The new stamp appeared in coils later in 1962 and in 'coil' sheets in the following year.



Fig. 23a

Fig. 23b



Fig. 24

Postal Rates Changes

The postal rates changes of 1 October 1959, provided for a base rate of 5d, in lieu of 4d, bringing about the requirement for the 5d portrait stamp already described. To meet the varied schedules of the new rates structure it was contemplated, at the time, that there would be new stamps of 11d, 1/2d, 2/5d, 4/- and 7/- denominations. All but one of these were subsequently issued, the 11d and 1/2d in the fauna series, the 2/5d in the flora series and the 4/- in the Navigators series. A 7/- stamp was not provided.

By reason of the incidence of the new rates, stamps of 2½d, 3½d, 4d, 5½d, 7d, 7½d and 1/7d values were not required. By early 1960 stocks of the 3½d had been withdrawn from post offices and by 31 May 1960, those of 2½d, 4d, 6½d, 7d, 7½d and 1/7d denominations. The 5½d stamp was continued because a pair of the stamps met the new 11d rate. The usage of 5½d stamps was maintained until an 11d stamp appeared in May 1961.

A further effect of the postal rates changes was that a number of stamp vending machines were converted to 3d usage and placed in association with existing 2d machines so that stamps to the value of 5d could be obtained.

It was also envisaged that the ½d stamp was likely to be withdrawn within the following twelve months. However, no general withdrawal of the stamp took place, some small stocks remaining on sale at some offices until the advent of decimal currency. No ½d stamp vending machines were in operation after 1 November 1961. Perhaps the main reason which prevented complete discontinuance of the stamp was the existence of a little-used rate of ½d per 2 oz. for printed papers posted to their homeland by United Kingdom Forces in Australia.

Summary

Designer: The 1d, 2d, 3d, 3½d, 4d and 5d stamps were designed by G.Lissenden.

Engravers: The 1d, 3½d, 4d and 5d stamps were engraved by P.E.Morriss, the 3d by D.Cameron and the 2d by F.D.Manley.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper

1959-62. Types as Figs. 19 to 24

Perf. 14¾ x 14 or 14 x 14¾ (3d and 3½d)

1d slate-purple — Queen Elizabeth II

2d reddish brown — Queen Elizabeth II

3d blue-green — Queen Elizabeth II

3½d dark green — Queen Elizabeth II

4d lake — Queen Elizabeth II

5d deep blue — Queen Elizabeth II

The Flora and Fauna Series

Chapter Four

The Post Office had had in mind from the early 1950s the practicability of issuing stamps illustrative of Australian flowers. But faced with the limitations of the stamp printing process then available at the Note Printing Branch — one-colour recess — the concept suffered continuous deferment.

However, late in 1956, it was decided that despite the obvious printing limitations such a series should be attempted. It was considered also at this time that the use of coloured or tinted paper stock, in lieu of the usual white, might also serve to achieve desirable two-colour effects in some instances. Experiments were later carried out with several tinted

papers and a yellow or maize coloured paper was ultimately selected for the printing of some of the stamps.

So that the representations of the flowers would be as accurate as possible, the Post Office approached Miss Margaret Stones, regarded as an outstanding botanical artist, to prepare the several flower drawings required. Miss Stones, an Australian, was then resident in London.

The six designs commissioned from Miss Stones were of selected varieties of the Flannel Flower, Christmas Bells, Wattle, Banksia, Waratah and Sturt's Desert Pea. The design of the latter, although prepared, was not adopted for use as it was found, after some experimentation, that it could not be treated adequately in one-colour recess printing.

The six designs were received from Miss Stones in July 1957. Three were accepted without change and three returned for slight modifications. Of the final forms of the original designs, as illustrated in Appendix IV, Figs. 81 to 86, all but one show '10d' as the expression of denomination, this being included purely for design completeness, actual denominations not having been selected.

Subsequently, artists of the Note Printing Branch inserted the required values and also effected modifications of the lettering and the positioning of the flowers within the frames. Consideration was given to quite a number of versions of frame arrangements, so that the subjects could appear to best advantage. Typical examples are shown at Figs. 87 to 89. The denominations first selected for the stamps were: 1/7d, Christmas Bells; 2/-, Flannel Flower; 2/3d, Wattle; 2/6d, Banksia and 3/-, Waratah.

The 1/7d stamp was to replace the similar value in the Queen Elizabeth II type, but as the 1959 postal rates changes removed the requirement for this denomination, the Christmas Bells design appeared as a 1/6d stamp. The 2/- Flannel Flower replaced the 2/- Aboriginal Art stamp. Some time earlier, it had been announced that the latter would be replaced by a 2/- stamp significant of Postwar Immigration and although this project was developed to an advanced stage it was finally dropped in favour of the Flannel Flower design.

The need for a 2/3d stamp had arisen by reason of a revision of air mail fees, effective from 14 July 1958, which set 2/3d as the rate for postage and air mail charges to certain overseas countries. The intended 2/6d stamp became 2/5d, there being a new requirement, because of the 1959 postal rates changes, for a stamp of that denomination to meet the combined postage and registration charges for an ordinary letter. The 2/6d die had actually been engraved before the change became manifest and an illustration of the die proof is shown at Fig. 90.

As earlier mentioned, the issue of the five stamps extended over some 11 months and they are listed below in order of appearance. All were of the usual medium size.

8 April 1959. 2/- Flannel Flower (Fig. 25). The particular species depicted is *Actinotus heliantha*, the well-known flannel flower of New South Wales.

15 July 1959. 3/- Waratah (Fig. 26). The species shown is *Telopea speciosissima*, a native of New South Wales.

9 September 1959. 2/3d Wattle (Fig. 27). The species is *Acacia melanoxylon*, frequently known as 'Blackwood', which grows widely in eastern Australia.



Fig. 25



Fig. 26



Fig. 27



Fig. 28



Fig. 29

3 February 1960. 1/6d Christmas Bells (Fig. 28). The species depicted is *Blandfordia grandiflora*, a native of New South Wales and Queensland.

16 March 1960. 2/5d Banksia (Fig. 29). The species shown is *Banksia serrata*, one of the original two species discovered by Sir Joseph Banks (after which it is named) at Botany Bay in 1770.

Of the above stamps the 2/3d, 1/6d and 2/5d were printed on maize-tinted paper. Some years later, the 2/3d was printed on white paper, the circumstances being related in Chapter Seven.

The Fauna Series

The Post Office decided, in 1957, that a new series illustrative of Australian fauna should be provided and that the stamp designs would include representations of animals not previously depicted. To this end, well-known artist Miss Eileen Mayo of Sydney was commissioned to prepare eight preliminary designs which were to show respectively the Rabbit Bandicoot, Banded Anteater, Sugar Glider, Feathertail Glider, Tiger Cat, Tasmanian Tiger, Platypus and Kangaroos. The last two subjects had appeared on previous stamps but the remainder were new as stamp subjects. All but the two Glider designs were eventually adopted.

The first completed final design depicted an underwater presentation of the Platypus. The subject was first intended to be utilized for a 10d stamp but as at that time large stocks of the 10d Queen Elizabeth II stamp were held it was decided that it should appear as a 1/- value. The design proved particularly difficult from the engraving viewpoint and no less than three separate dies were made before acceptable proofs were obtained.

The next design to reach completion was that for the 9d Kangaroos stamp. Some stages of the development are illustrated at Figs. 91 and 92.

The design showing a Tiger Cat seemed fated to change from the outset. In October 1958 it was listed for use on a ½d stamp but by July 1959 it had been allocated to a 6d denomination. Shortly after this time, when it was seen that an 8d stamp would be required because of the proposed rate changes, it was transferred to meet that need.

The first die which was cut did not prove acceptable as regards definition. A second die had therefore to be made, this with 'fuzzy' indefinite outlines and darker sky tones so as to emphasise the nocturnal habits of the animal. The differences in the renderings can be seen in the illustrations of the die proofs at Figs. 93 and 94.

A further unfortunate happening was the development of faults in the plates and an entirely new set had to be made. This caused the date of issue of the stamp, intended for April 1960, to be postponed by five weeks. This second set of plates also developed unsatisfactory features after a very short period of usage and had to be replaced.

The next stamp of the series was the 6d Anteater, the preliminary design for which is shown at Fig. 95. It was arranged that this stamp would first appear during the period of the South Australian Philatelic Exhibition (29 September-1 October 1960). The final designs of the other two stamps, the 11d Rabbit Bandicoot and the 1/2d Tasmanian Tiger, were approved in August 1960 and the relevant die proofs by the end of that year.

The Post Office at this time decided that because of the imminence of the photogravure stamp printing process those two stamps, the 11d and 1/2d, would complete the series. The 11d was required because of the

new postal rates and the need had been met initially, as mentioned, by the use of the 5½d Australian War Memorial stamp in pairs. No printings of the latter were made after March 1961. The preliminary design and some stages of the development of the 11d stamp are shown at Figs. 96 to 98.

Due to the pressure of other stamp commitments, the production of the 1½d stamp was considerably delayed, even though it was also needed to meet certain air mail charges for greetings cards and other rates under the 1959 tariffs. It appeared in March 1962, at the same time as the last of the Queen Elizabeth II portrait series. The preliminary design for the 1½d stamp is illustrated at Fig. 99.

As earlier stated, the issue of the six stamps of the fauna series extended over 18 months. They are listed below, with some general notes, in order of appearance. All were of the usual small size.

9 September 1959. 1/- Platypus (Fig. 30). One of the most unusual of Australian animals, it is a web-footed egg-laying mammal of semi-aquatic habits found in streams and rivers of Tasmania and the southern and eastern portions of the Australian continent.

21 October 1959. 9d Kangaroos (Fig. 31). A particular species was not designated. The two animals are shown against a background depicting *Xanthorrhoea*, the 'grass-tree', known also as 'blackboy', there being a number of species in Australia.

11 May 1960. 8d Tiger Cat (Fig. 32). This animal is the largest and most powerful of the marsupial cats and is found in Tasmania and on the mainland from south-eastern South Australia to northern Queensland.



Fig. 30



Fig. 31



Fig. 32

30 September 1960. 6d Banded Anteater (Fig. 33). This animal, sometimes also called the Numbat, is a marsupial about the size of a large rat. Although probably never very abundant, and now comparatively scarce, it was once distributed across the continent from the south of Western Australia to inland New South Wales.

3 May 1961. 11d Rabbit Bandicoot (Fig. 34). There are two species of this marsupial, sometimes known as the Bilby. Once quite widely distributed, it is now generally found only in the inland and more arid regions of the continent and in parts of the south-west of Western Australia.

21 March 1962. 1/2d Tasmanian Tiger (Fig. 35). Also called Tasmanian Wolf and Thylacine, it is found only in Tasmania. Probably the largest flesh-eating marsupial ever evolved, it is now verging towards extinction.



Fig. 33



Fig. 34



Fig. 35

Summary

Designers: Stamps of the flora series were designed by Miss Margaret Stones and those of the fauna series by Miss Eileen Mayo.

Engravers: The five stamps of the flora series and the 6d, 8d, 9d and 1/2d stamps of the fauna series were engraved by B. Stewart. The 11d stamp was engraved by P. E. Morriss and the 1/- by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper.

1959-62. Types as Figs. 25 to 35

Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{3}{4}$

1/6d red on maize — Christmas Bells

2/- blue — Flannel Flower

2/3d green on maize — Wattle

2/5d brown on maize — Banksia

3/- rose-red — Waratah

Perf. $14\frac{3}{4} \times 14$ or $14 \times 14\frac{3}{4}$ (1/2d)

6d brown — Banded Anteater

8d red-brown — Tiger Cat

9d sepia — Kangaroos

11d deep blue — Rabbit Bandicoot

1/2d purple — Tasmanian Tiger

New Stamps of the Recess-Printed Series, 1961-64

Chapter Five

The proposal that a postage stamp be issued to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development of South and South-East Asia posed some difficulty when it was first considered in 1959.

Post Office policy at the time was unfavourable to the issue of stamps commemorative of anniversaries of less than 50 years but in view of Australia's continued interest in the technical and cultural advance of Asian nations of the Colombo Plan group, and the considerable expenditure to that end, it was found practicable to meet the request to the extent of including a stamp significant of the Colombo Plan in the definitive series.

The denomination selected, 1/-, represented an air mail letter rate applicable to several of the nearer Colombo Plan countries. The adoption of this denomination necessitated the replacement of the 1/- Platypus stamp, which had been in use for a comparatively short period.



Fig. 36

The design of the issued stamp (Fig. 36) was based on the emblem of the Colombo Plan Bureau at Colombo, Ceylon, and signified Planning for Prosperity. A number of different designs embodying the theme were prepared at the Note Printing Branch and two of the unadopted versions are illustrated in Appendix IV, Figs. 100 and 101. Originally, it was intended that the stamp appear in 1960 but it was arranged later, as being more appropriate, for it to be issued on 30 June 1961, a date which represented the close of ten years of operation of the plan.

Cattle Industry

The provision, also in 1961, of a stamp significant of the cattle industry in the Northern Territory was a further outcome of discussions, much earlier, which had led to the issue in September 1960 of a stamp commemorative of the centenary of exploration of the Northern Territory.

The cattle industry, long a mainstay of Territory economy, employed many aborigines and it was decided that the design of the stamp should depict an aboriginal stockman at work. Two preliminary designs prepared by the Note Printing Branch early in 1960, these being illustrated at Figs. 102 and 103, provided the bases for the subsequent development. Because of the number of minor modifications required, a final design did not gain acceptance until late in 1960.



Fig. 37

It was arranged that the stamp be of 5/- denomination (Fig. 37) and become part of the definitive series, replacing the 5/- Coat of Arms stamp which had been in use since 1949. In accordance with policy, it was printed on watermarked paper and was issued on 26 July 1961.

New Watermarked Paper

The Post Office had for some time considered that the off-white or cream surface tone of the watermarked stamp paper then in use did not do justice to the appearance of the stamps. For that reason, it had requested the Note Printing Branch, when lodging new orders for watermarked papers with the British manufacturers, to require that the surface appearance be as white as possible. Stocks of the new paper were first received at the Note Printing Branch early in 1964.

The 5/- Cattle Industry stamp was initially printed on the cream paper. Following arrival of supplies, printing then took place on the new paper, the first distribution from the Note Printing Branch being made on 17 June 1964.

At about this time also new stocks of unwatermarked paper, of a greater degree of whiteness than before, were obtained.

5d Queen Elizabeth II

Photographs taken by Anthony Buckley in London in July 1962 and approved by Her Majesty for stamp designs were utilized for Royal Visit commemorative stamps issued by the Australian Post Office in February 1963.

The availability of the new photographs provided an opportunity to replace the current 5d definitive stamp design. The Note Printing Branch was requested in March 1963 to prepare a group of new designs based on the portrait utilized for the 5d Royal Visit stamp and suited to the

smaller regular size. Following various minor modifications, a final design was approved in June 1963 and final die proofs in the following month. Some developments of the design are illustrated at Figs. 104 to 106.

The stamp (Fig. 38) was issued in sheet form on 9 October 1963, during the period of the Melbourne International Philatelic Exhibition. It became available in booklets on 17 June 1964, and in 'booklet' sheets at philatelic selling points about July 1964. It was not made into coils as sufficient stocks of the 5d stamp, 1959 type, in that form were on hand.



Fig. 38

The Navigators Series

Following the decision to issue a series of stamps significant of the more important navigators in Australian waters, it was arranged that designs would be prepared by a Sydney artist, Walter Jardine. Copies of the portraits to be used as references, and drawings of the relevant ships, were obtained for the artist by the Post Office. The sources of the basic material are subsequently indicated while illustrations of several of the preliminary designs appear at Figs. 107 to 111. All the original designs underwent considerable modification while the final forms of the lettering were prepared by Post Office artists.

The first stamp of the group, 4/-, was issued in October 1963 during the period of the Melbourne International Philatelic Exhibition. The remaining five stamps appeared at intervals during 1964. The 4/- was unwatermarked and the others were printed on watermarked paper. The initial printings of the 10/- and £1 stamps were on the cream paper and of the 5/-, 7/6d and £2 on the new white paper. Later printings of the 10/- and £1 were made on the white paper, the respective dates of first distribution being 14 January 1965, and 16 November 1964.

The Navigators series was intended to replace the remaining stamps of the Coat of Arms series, 10/-, £1 and £2, and also the 5/- Cattle Industry stamp. The two new values of 4/- and 7/6d were introduced as a final implementation of the 1959 revision of postal rates, the latter being in place of the earlier proposed 7/- stamp.

9 October 1963. 4/- Abel Tasman (Fig. 39). A Dutch navigator who discovered Tasmania in 1642 and who later explored parts of the northern and north-western coastlines of Australia. The portrait shown was derived from a painting, the present whereabouts of which is not known. About 1894 the portrait was owned by a Mr Cockhead of Hobart and was then photographed by a W. A. Beattie. The stamp design was based on the Beattie photograph. The vessel depicted on the stamp is typical of the period. The representation of this ship was from a pen and ink drawing by Mr R. Serle of the Ship Modelling Society of Victoria. Mr Serle also prepared the pen and ink drawings utilized for the ship or boat representations on the 5/-, £1 and £2 stamps of the series.

26 February 1964. 10/- Matthew Flinders (Fig. 40). An English naval officer who, with George Bass, made a number of explorations of the eastern coastline in 1795-98. Subsequently, in 1801, Flinders in the 'Investigator' charted the southern coastline and in 1803 circum-navigated the continent. The representation of Flinders on the stamp was after a portrait, now in the Commonwealth Art Collection, Canberra, which had been painted by Mr W. A. Bowering of Sydney. The ship shown, the 'Investigator', was from an etching by Mr G. C. Ingleton of N.S.W.



Fig. 39



Fig. 40



Fig. 41

26 February 1964. £1 George Bass (Fig. 41). A ship's surgeon and companion of Flinders in various explorations of the

eastern coastline and Tasmania, 1795-98, these proving the existence of Bass Strait. The portrait of Bass was copied from an original, by Mr A. D. Colquhoun of Melbourne, now in the Commonwealth Art Collection, Canberra. The vessel shown represents the whaleboat in which he entered Bass Strait.



Fig. 42



Fig. 43



Fig. 44

26 August 1964. 7/6d James Cook (Fig. 42). The English naval officer and explorer who first discovered and charted the eastern coasts of the Australian continent in 1770. The representation of Cook is after the well-known Nathaniel Dance portrait, painted in 1776.

26 August 1964. £2 Philip Parker King (Fig. 43). Born in Norfolk Island in 1791, King was one of Australia's most thorough early marine surveyors. A naval officer, he conducted lengthy surveys in the 'Mermaid' of many parts of the Australian coast from 1817 to 1825. The 'Mermaid' is depicted on the stamp. The portrait of King was derived from a painting in the Mitchell Library, Sydney.

25 November 1964. 5/- William Dampier (Fig. 44). An English seaman who first visited northern Australia in 1688. In the following year in the ship 'Roebuck', which is represented on the stamp, he made explorations along the north-western coasts. The portrait was after an engraving in the possession of the National Library, Canberra.

Summary

Designers: The 1/- Colombo Plan stamp was designed by G. Lissenden; the 5/- Cattle Industry by B. Stewart and the 5d Queen Elizabeth II by P. E. Morriss. The six stamps of the Navigators series were designed by W. Jardine.

Engravers: The 1/- Colombo Plan stamp was engraved by G. Lissenden and the 5/- Cattle Industry, 4/- Tasman and £1 Bass by B. Stewart. The 5d Queen Elizabeth II, 5/- Dampier, 7/6d Cook and £2 King were engraved by P. E. Morriss and the 10/- Flinders by E. R. M. Jones.

Recess-Printed

1961-64. Types as Figs. 36 to 44

(A) Unwatermarked paper

Perf. $14\frac{3}{4} \times 14$

5d green — Queen Elizabeth II

Perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{4}$ or $14\frac{1}{4} \times 14$ (4/-)

1/- red-brown — Colombo Plan emblem

4/- blue — Tasman

(B) Watermarked Paper (As Fig. 5)

Perf. $14\frac{1}{4} \times 14$

*5/- purple-brown — Aboriginal stockman and cattle

7/6d olive-green — Cook

*10/- maroon — Flinders

Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{3}{4}$

5/- red-brown — Dampier

*£1 purple — Bass

£2 blackish-brown — King

*Printings on cream and white papers

The Photogravure Process and the Multicoloured Bird Series

Chapter Six

The provision of postage stamps printed in more than one colour became an Australian Post Office desideratum immediately after World War II, when overseas trends increasingly favoured the issue of multi-coloured stamps.

The practicability of issuing such stamps was one of the many aspects of stamp production considered by the Post Office Stamp Advisory Committee following its establishment in 1947. The stamp-printing facilities in Australia were then limited to the production of unicoloured recess-printed stamps and in the circumstances which prevailed at the time the introduction of an additional method of stamp printing could not be immediately advanced. Necessarily, new stamps required had to be designed to meet the requirements of the existing process.

Despite the limitation then imposed by the situation in Australia, the Post Office did not by any means lose sight of the objective. In 1955 it took the unprecedented decision to have printed overseas, by the multicolour photogravure process, two of the stamps of the series being planned to commemorate the XVIth Olympiad at Melbourne in 1956.* So that there would be an adequate basis for comparison, it arranged that one of the stamps would be printed by Harrison and Sons, Ltd., in Britain and the other by Courvoisier S.A. in Switzerland.

The experiment firmly convinced the Post Office that there was a place for multicolour stamps in Australia, not only in the area of short-term commemoratives but also as groups within regular definitive series. From that time it became a definite policy to provide such stamps, to be printed by the photogravure process.

To that end, it was necessary for the Note Printing Branch of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia to obtain and install the required equipment. Because of the very considerable financial outlay involved, and the need for extensive structural alterations to be made to accommodate the new machinery, some time was to elapse before it became practicable to commence the printing of multicoloured stamps on a regular basis. The first such stamp, issued in September 1962, was commemorative of the Australian Inland Mission.

By 1958, when the move to obtain photogravure printing equipment had been advanced to the stage that firm orders for the printing press and ancillary equipment had been lodged with Chambon Ltd. of London, the Stamp Advisory Committee initiated work on the long-standing project to provide a series of stamps illustrative of Australian birds in colour.

*These, and other commemorative stamps briefly mentioned in this Chapter, are described as appropriate, in booklets concerned with commemorative stamps over the 1952 to 1965 period.

By the following year, a number of designs based on early Gould illustrations had been prepared by artists of the Note Printing Branch and these, with designs obtained from other sources, were then subject to critical examination and experimentation. Amongst the second group was a design commissioned from Mrs H. Temple Watts of Canberra, the subject being a Black-backed Magpie. Early in October 1959, the Postmaster-General first announced that stamps produced by the photogravure process were to be printed in Australia.

By the end of 1959 certain of the experimental designs had been taken to advanced stages and in 1960 two of these were selected and utilized for experimental printings made by Chambon Ltd. in London, this firm then being actively engaged in completing manufacture of the new press and the associated equipment. Officers of the Note Printing Branch were also sent to Chambon's in 1960 to undertake studies of the photogravure printing techniques.

By September 1960, sheets of the experimental London printings had been viewed by the Stamp Advisory Committee and it was then practicable to move further ahead with the project. A new list of selected Australian birds was evolved and early in 1961 Mrs Watts was commissioned to prepare eight further designs, these to depict the Scarlet Robin, Golden Whistler, Galah, Straw-necked Ibis, Magpie-lark, Yellow-tailed Thornbill, Blue Wren and Rainbow Lorikeet.

Of those subjects all except the Magpie-lark and Rainbow Lorikeet subsequently appeared in stamp form. The Black-backed Magpie design was also redrawn for inclusion in the series.

The installation of the Chambon photogravure printing press and the associated plant at the Note Printing Branch took much longer than had been anticipated. However, by late 1961 and over 1962 it became practicable to initiate a long series of experimental printings. The 5d Australian Inland Mission commemorative stamp already mentioned was a first fruit of this testing period, while other commemoratives which appeared in 1963 may also be regarded as being on the experimental level.

One of the difficulties encountered very early in 1961-62 concerned paper suitability. The Australian Inland Mission stamp was printed on a hard surfaced paper, the only kind of paper stock available at the time, and it was seen that the use of this paper failed to do justice to the design and to the printing process.

In 1962 also, the Post Office had placed an order with Harrison and Sons Ltd., London, for the printing by the photogravure process of two large-sized stamps commemorative of the 7th British Empire and Commonwealth Games to be held in Perth in November 1962. The Post Office had hoped earlier that it would have been practicable to have these stamps printed by the Note Printing Branch but because of time aspects, and the fact that the Branch was still experimenting with the photogravure process, the Post Office was unwilling to take the chance of the stamps not being available at the time required. In the event, the Post Office was fully justified in placing the overseas order, because at

that point in time the equipment available at the Note Printing Branch permitted only the printing of photogravure stamps of one size, that of the Australian Inland Mission stamp, with overall measurements of 30 mm x 25 mm.

The additional equipment to enable stamps to be produced in the larger overall size of 37.5 mm x 25 mm, which approximated the measurements of the two Empire Games stamps printed by Harrison and Sons Ltd., did not become available until early in 1963.

The important aspect of the two Empire Games stamps, from the view of further photogravure stamp printing in Australia, was the fact that they were printed on a very white coated paper which enabled adequate machine treatment to the advantage of the designs.

The latter concept had been disappointing in the Australian Inland Mission stamp and as suitability of paper was obviously of major importance, the Post Office quickly took action to obtain some small quantities of the Harrison paper for test purposes. The small trial printings then made amply demonstrated the point and firm orders for substantial supplies of the paper were placed.

During 1963, after stocks of the new paper had been received, further experimental printings were made of several of the bird stamps, and it was then decided that as far as circumstances permitted printings of all stamps of the bird series would be made on coated paper.

The initial issues of several stamps of the series were on the Harrison paper. Subsequently, a coated Wiggins Teape paper was developed and brought into use. This make of paper was slightly less white than the Harrison. There was also a release, in July 1965, of a 1962 printing of the 2/5d stamp on uncoated paper. These aspects are described at greater length later in this chapter.

The introduction of the Wiggins Teape coated paper came about because of a new Post Office requirement — the need to include a luminescent substance, known as helecon, in stamp papers generally so as to facilitate automatic letter sorting. As it was not practicable to arrange for helecon to be included in Harrison paper, Wiggins, Teape and Co., Ltd., undertook to manufacture the type of paper required.

The means by which helecon in stamps serves to actuate mail sorting equipment is described at length in Chapter Seven so will not be detailed here.

The first Wiggins Teape coated papers with helecon content, and made in reel form for use on the photogravure press, were tested experimentally at the Note Printing Branch in July 1964. Because of the helecon content the papers were not as white as the Harrison paper and there was not quite the same clarity of appearance in printed stamps. The quality of whiteness of photogravure stamp paper was subsequently improved as the manufacturer included more effective 'whitener' substances.

It is not practicable, within the ambit of this booklet, to detail or to illustrate examples from the very large number of small (and unissued) printings made of the several denominations of the bird series. For instance, there were in May 1963 no less than seven experimental or trial printings, mainly in different colour combinations, of the 9d Magpie stamp and there were many other earlier, and later, trial printings of other stamps.

Again, much earlier, at the design level, many trial arrangements of lettering presentations were considered, much of this preliminary work being carried out by Post Office artists. The design artist, Mrs Watts, had a particularly difficult task as a very large number of alterations were found necessary, as work progressed, to meet technical requirements of the photogravure process.

The relevant illustrations in Appendix IV (Fig. 112 to 119) are confined to an example of the experimental London printing of the first Black-backed Magpie design, with the value shown as 5d, and to some of Mrs Watts' preliminary designs for the other stamps of the series. Included are representations of the unadopted Magpie-lark and Rainbow Lorikeet designs.

Further notes in respect of the design subjects, and other information, are as follows:



Fig. 45



Fig. 46

- 11 March 1964. 9d Black-backed Magpie (Fig. 45). Colours: black, grey and pale green. This bird (*Gymnorhina tibicen*) is widely distributed over most of eastern Australia. It is well-known for its beautiful song. The initial definitive printing of this stamp was made on Harrison coated paper. A subsequent printing was made on Wiggins Teape coated paper with heleon content, distribution thereof commencing from the Note Printing Branch on 25 February 1965. In this printing the pale green colour seen in the original printing inclined to a yellow-green tone.
- 11 March 1964. 1/6d Galah (Fig. 46). Colours: pink, grey, dull purple and black. The galah (*Kakatoe roseicapilla*) is com-

mon over most of Australia and usually moves in flocks. Its normal food is grass seeds, although it may damage crops at times.

A printing of this stamp was made on Wiggins Teape hard-surfaced paper early in 1962 but was not distributed. The first printing to be distributed, and issued, was on Harrison coated paper. Subsequently, from 25 June 1965, distribution was commenced of a printing on Wiggins Teape coated paper with heleccon content. In this the pink and purple colours appear duller than in the original issue. Consideration was given in June 1965 to the practicability of issuing the stamps of the 1962 printing but as the background colour in those stamps was blue, as contrasted with the grey background of the issued stamps, it was decided that the whole of the printing should be destroyed.



Fig. 47



Fig. 48

- 11 March 1964. 2/5d Blue Wren (Fig. 47). Colours: bright blue, yellow-orange, grey and black. This bird (*Malurus cyaneus*) frequents most of eastern Australia, inhabiting forest and bush areas. Its diet comprises insects and the like. A printing of this stamp on Wiggins Teape hard-surfaced paper was made late in 1962 but was not then distributed. The first issued printing was on Harrison coated paper. Following exhaustion of this stock in 1965, it was decided that stamps of the 1962 printing should be issued. This course was taken because the photogravure press was then fully engaged in the printing of stamps of the 1966 decimal currency series so that a new printing of the 2/5d stamp could not be undertaken. Distribution of the 1962 printing was first commenced on 7 July 1965, when supplies were sent to Brisbane. The 1962 printing comprised a total of 2,100,000 stamps and

those unsold were destroyed following the introduction of decimal currency. Stamps from the 1962 printing are readily distinguishable, as the paper has an off-white or cream appearance.



Fig. 49



Fig. 50

- 19 August 1964. 6d Yellow-tailed Thornbill (Fig. 48). Colours: olive-brown, yellow, black and bluish green. The bird shown (*Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*) is one of the 11 known Australian species. Ranging over most of the southern two-thirds of Australia and extending in Queensland to the Gulf of Carpentaria, it is an insect and seed eater.

The first supply of stamps was on Harrison coated paper. Distribution of the printing on Wiggins Teape coated paper with helecon content was first commenced on 2 June 1965. The use of this paper affected the visual appearance of the colours to some extent, the original green tending to appear more emerald in tone.

- 21 April 1965. 2/- Golden Whistler (Fig. 49). Colours: yellow, black, grey and pink. This bird (*Pachycephala pectoralis*) is quite common and is widely distributed in Australia, favouring forest and bush areas. It has many varied whistling calls.

The stamp was issued only on Wiggins Teape coated paper with helecon content.

- 21 April 1965. 2/6d Scarlet Robin (Fig. 50). Colours: scarlet, black, grey and green. This species of robin (*Petroica multicolor*) occurs from central Queensland to Tasmania and southern South Australia, with some isolated stock elsewhere. It is a very silent species with little song and displays pronounced seasonal movement. The stamp was issued only on Wiggins Teape coated paper with helecon content.

21 April 1965. 3/- Straw-necked Ibis (Fig. 51). Colours: black, pink, yellow and green. The species of ibis depicted (*Threskiornis spinicollis*) is one of three to be found in Australia and the only one confined to Australia itself. It is to be seen in flocks on swamps and waterways in many parts of the continent. The stamp was issued only on Wiggins Teape coated paper with heleon content.



Fig. 51

The overall size of stamps of the series is 25 mm x 30 mm for those of vertical format, and 30 mm by 25 mm for those of horizontal format. The respective design sizes are 22 mm x 27 mm and 27 mm x 22 mm.

As a final note regarding printing by the photogravure process, other experiments made during 1964-65 were directed to the production of 5d stamps in continuous coil form. However, because of the impending change to decimal currency, and the pressure of work on the photogravure press, the project was deferred and did not reach completion until the issue of the decimal currency stamp series. Stamps from one of the experimental printings are illustrated in Appendix IV, Fig. 120.

Summary

Designed by Mrs H. Temple Watts. Photogravure-printed on unwater-marked paper; multicoloured. As. Figs. 45 to 51.

1964-65 Perf. $13\frac{1}{4}$ x $13\frac{1}{2}$ (6d, 2/6d)

Perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$ x $13\frac{1}{4}$ (9d, 1/6d, 2/-, 2/5d, 3/-)

6d — Yellow-tailed Thornbill

9d — Black-backed Magpie

1/6d — Galah

2/- — Golden Whistler

2/5d — Blue Wren

2/6d — Scarlet Robin

3/- — Straw-necked Ibis.

Paper, and Further Changes in the Recess-Printed Series, to 1965

Chapter Seven

From the late nineteen fifties, several overseas postal administrations were actively experimenting in the development of advanced mail sorting equipment to enable the automatic facing up and cancelling of letters.

The objective was that as letters moved along a conveyor path or belt, an electronic detecting device would 'sense' a luminescent substance embodied in postage stamps affixed to letters and would thereupon actuate the postmarking machine and finally channel the cancelled articles in a 'faced-up' position ready for the next sorting process.

To that end, specially prepared postage stamps had been introduced for public use in Great Britain in 1957 and over the next few years in a number of other countries.

The Australian Post Office had likewise commenced experimenting on very similar lines and by the early nineteen sixties had designed and arranged for the construction of automatic cancelling and facing machines intended for installation in the larger mail exchanges, commencing in 1965.

The Australian experiments with regard to treatment for adhesive stamps were centred around the use of substances which are usually inert but which when excited by ultra-violet rays emit light within a particular frequency range, such emission being detected by electronic sensing mechanism in the machine. The substance adopted for Post Office experiments, and subsequently permanently, is of the zinc sulphide group, being commercially known as 'helecon'.

Helecon becomes luminescent in the orange-red spectrum when subjected to ultra-violet rays, and retains the luminescence for a fraction of a second after the ultra-violet light is removed. This property, known as phosphorescence, allows the machine to differentiate between a 'tagged' stamp and the envelope paper which quite often has been treated by the paper manufacturer with a whitening agent that may also glow under UV light. However, the whitener ceases to emit light when the UV source is removed, it being fluorescent only without residual phosphorescence, so that a 'tagged' stamp is detected during a period of UV lamp black-out. The lamp is used on a rapid on-off cycle while the electronic sensing device nearby is continuously alert.

The incorporation of helecon into adhesive stamps presented some initial difficulties. In the first instance, steps had to be taken to ensure that future supplies of stamp paper would include an acceptable level of helecon. The paper manufacturer concerned, Wiggins, Teape and Co. Ltd., had not hitherto encountered this requirement so that it was not practicable to order adequate quantities of the new paper until small trial lots, containing varying quantities of helecon, had been made and tests carried

out in Australia to ascertain the most suitable paper. Because of the incorporation of helecon in the printing surface, these papers were less white than the non-treated papers and for that reason the colours of the stamps later issued appeared much duller.

It was important that the helecon be embodied in the substance of the printing surface of the paper during manufacture. If helecon were contained in the area subsequently subjected to gumming, it would not have any effective value so far as adequate reaction to ultra-violet light is concerned.

A second factor was that the Note Printing Branch had on hand large quantities of ordinary stamp paper which could not be further treated to contain helecon. It was necessary, therefore, to arrange usage of this class of paper to the best advantage. To this end, over a great part of 1964, the Note Printing Branch carried out many experiments with printing inks containing helecon. It was found that to secure adequate signal strength the ink needed to be in red or orange colours with a very high helecon content. The tests also revealed that the presence of helecon in the ink resulted in greater abrasive effects on printing plates and doctor blades while helecon in paper similarly affected perforation pins.

The first recess-printed stamp to be distributed on paper with helecon content was the 11d Rabbit Bandicoot, in December 1963. This came about because a trial shipment of paper received from Wiggins, Teape and Co. Pty. Ltd. required to be machine-tested and it was convenient, therefore, to make a trial printing. As this proved sufficiently successful, the stamps were issued, the quantity being about four millions. The next printing of the 11d stamp, first distributed in September 1964, was on ordinary paper.

The many tests which were made had shown conclusively that it was necessary, so far as usage of ordinary paper stocks was concerned, for the current 5d stamp to be changed from green to red colour and a decision was made in July 1964 to effect that change. Further experiments were then made to select the particular shade of red, taking into account the percentage of helecon required to be incorporated with the printing ink.

The overall stamp position at this time, and in 1965, was complicated by the fact that in respect of some values of stamps, considerable printed stocks on ordinary paper were held while regard had also to be paid to the impending introduction, early in 1966, of a full range of decimal currency stamps, this latter requirement placing a very heavy strain on the available stamp printing facilities.

In the circumstances, comparatively few values of the current recess-printed stamps appeared on paper with helecon content and, apart from postal stationery items, only the 5d stamp in its new red colour had the helecon embodied in the printing ink.

There were a few other changes in the 1964-65 period not directly attributable to a helecon requirement and these are included in the outline which follows.

2d Queen Elizabeth II (Fig. 24). A printing on paper with helecon content was first distributed in sheet form on 26 March 1965, and in coils on 31 March 1965. The brownish colour is somewhat duller than before.

3d Queen Elizabeth II (Fig. 22). Distribution of a printing on paper with helecon content, in sheet form, was commenced on 8 April 1965, and in coils on 31 May 1965. The colour tends to dull green rather than to the blue-green of the earlier printings.

5d red Queen Elizabeth II (Fig. 38). This was a colour change of the 5d green of 1963. Printed in red colour, with or without helecon in the ink, it was issued on 30 June 1965.

(a) Without helecon in the ink:

Printings were distributed to States other than New South Wales and Victoria where, at the time, electronic mail handling machines had not been installed. While it had been intended that all 5d red stamps made into booklets would contain helecon in the ink, due to inadvertence a quantity without helecon in the ink, thought to have been about one million stamps, were printed from the booklet plate. To avoid wastage, these were made into booklets and distributed in the normal way and, as far as practicable, to States other than New South Wales and Victoria.

(b) With helecon in the ink:

Printings in sheets were first distributed to New South Wales and Victoria. The initial distribution of booklets containing the stamps was commenced on 17 June 1965, but because of a requirement that supplies of the earlier booklets containing the 5d green stamp should first be used, the new booklets did not become available in all States on a determined date. They were first sold on 13 July 1965, at a few points. The 5d red stamp in coil form was first distributed on 29 June 1965.

As earlier explained, the printings made with helecon in the ink were designed to utilize stocks of ordinary untreated paper. However, it became necessary to use also a considerable quantity of helecon-treated paper which inadvertently had been gummed over the helecon-treated surface. Printings on this paper were made with helecon in the ink.

8d Tiger Cat (Fig. 32). The initial printing on helecon paper was distributed on 5 April 1965. The reddish brown colour lacked the brightness of the previous printings.

11d Rabbit Bandicoot (Fig. 34). The experimental 1963 printing on helecon paper was mentioned earlier in this Chapter. The colour shade in that instance was a slate blue and quite distinct from the dark blue of printings on ordinary paper. The initial normal printing on helecon paper was distributed on 4 June 1965, and in this instance the colour tended to an indigo shade.

1/- Colombo Plan (Fig. 36). Distribution of the initial printing on helecon paper was commenced on 22 April 1965. The colour was generally duller than before.

1/2d Tasmanian Tiger (Fig. 35). The initial distribution on helecon paper was commenced on 23 April 1965. The colour was not as bright as before.

2/3d Wattle (Fig. 27). This stamp was subjected to two changes in 1964-65. When first issued, in September 1959, it was printed on a maize-coloured paper. By the end of 1963, when it was seen that stocks of that paper would be exhausted by August 1964, it was decided, because there would be little or no future use for this class of paper, that no further supplies would be ordered.

At that time it was also contemplated that the stamp might be redesigned and photogravure-printed but subsequently this plan had to be abandoned because of other heavy stamp printing commitments in the latter part of 1964.

So that there would be no interruption in supply of the 2/3d denomination, it was decided, in August 1964, that the stamp would be printed on ordinary white paper. It was first issued in that form on 28 October 1964. Later on, it was printed on paper with helecon content, stamps from this printing being first distributed on 29 April 1965. The green colour then appeared slightly duller than before.

2/6d Aborigine (Fig. 4). This stamp, recess-printed on unwatermarked paper, was current from January 1957 until replaced by the 2/6d Scarlet Robin photogravure-printed stamp in April 1965. Supplies of the latter stamp were becoming exhausted late in 1965 and while, normally, the situation would have been met by a further printing, this could not be done as the single photogravure press was fully engaged in printing various stamps of the decimal currency series. So that the denomination could be maintained for the remainder of the £.s.d. period, a new printing was made of the 2/6d Aborigine stamp on the recess press, there being still available in store at the Note Printing Branch some of the earlier printing plates.

This printing was made on the new whiter paper, unwatermarked and without helecon content, which was mentioned in the early part of Chapter Five. This paper was different in appearance to that used for the earlier printings of the 2/6d Aborigine stamp on unwatermarked paper. The printed colour of the stamp, a light sepia tone, can also be distinguished from the previous dark sepia shade. The quantity issued of this emergency printing was less than one million stamps. The Aborigine depicted, known as "One Pound Jimmy", died in March 1965.

As a final note to the stamp changes of the period, it should be mentioned that philatelists have discovered small quantities of the 5d green Queen Elizabeth II stamp of 1963 (Fig 38), from sheets and booklets, apparently printed on paper with helecon content. It is presumed that some quantities of sheets of this class of paper were inadvertently included by the manufacturer amongst ordinary stamp paper then being supplied to the Note Printing Branch where the slight difference passed unnoticed at the time the printing took place.

While it may be practicable in some instances, by visual comparison of colour shades and papers, to separate stamps of similar types with and

without helecon content, the only certain method of positive identification of stamps containing helecon, either in ink or paper, is to subject them to ultra-violet light within the 3,000-4,000 Angstrom range, preferably viewing through a suitable filter to retard visible blue light. Under proper viewing conditions, stamps containing helecon will fluoresce brightly in orange-red colours.

All postage stamps with values expressed in £.s.d. were withdrawn from Post Office sale immediately before the introduction of the decimal currency series on 14 February 1966, and stocks were subsequently destroyed. Such stamps held by members of the public remained valid for postage, however, for a further two years. Thereafter, and until 13 February 1971, they could either be exchanged for decimal currency stamps of equivalent value or handed in for repurchase under the applicable conditions.

Summary

*Designers and engravers as listed in earlier Chapters.
Recess-printed on unwatermarked papers.*

1963-65. Types as Figs. 4, 22, 24, 27, 32, 34, 36, 38.

A. Ordinary paper

Perf. $14\frac{3}{4} \times 14$
5d red — Queen Elizabeth II
Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{3}{4}$
2/3d green — Wattle
2/6d sepia — Aborigine

B. Ordinary paper with helecon in printing ink

Perf. $14\frac{3}{4} \times 14$
5d red — Queen Elizabeth II

C. Paper with helecon content

Perf. $14\frac{3}{4} \times 14$ or $14 \times 14\frac{3}{4}$ (1/2d)
2d reddish brown — Queen Elizabeth II
3d green — Queen Elizabeth II
8d red-brown — Tiger Cat
11d blue — Rabbit Bandicoot
1/2d purple — Tasmanian Tiger
Perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{4}$
1/- red-brown — Colombo Plan
Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{3}{4}$
2/3d green — Wattle

APPENDIX I

*A Summary showing details of discontinuance, changes and replacements of postage stamps current in 1952**(Unwatermarked)*

<i>½d orange — Kangaroo</i>	<i>Discontinued upon the introduction of decimal currency, 14.2.1966</i>
<i>1d purple — The Princess Elizabeth</i>	<i>Replaced by 1d Queen Elizabeth II stamp, 19.8.1953</i>
<i>1½d green — Queen Elizabeth (Mother)</i>	<i>Distribution discontinued 31.7.1953</i>
<i>2d yellow-green — Queen Elizabeth (Mother)</i>	<i>Replaced by 2d Queen Elizabeth II stamp, 21.3.1962</i>
<i>2½d brown — King George VI</i>	<i>Replaced by 2½d Queen Elizabeth II stamp, 23.6.1954</i>
<i>3d green — King George VI</i>	<i>Replaced by 3d Queen Elizabeth II stamp, 17.6.1953</i>
<i>(Watermarked)</i>	
<i>3½d brownish red — King George VI</i>	<i>Replaced by 3½d Queen Elizabeth II stamp, 21.4.1953</i>
<i>4d green — Koala</i>	<i>Issued on unwatermarked paper, Aug. 1956**;</i> <i>replaced by 4d Queen Elizabeth II stamp, 13.3.1957</i>
<i>*4½d red — King George VI</i>	<i>Distribution discontinued, 31.7.1953</i>
<i>5½d slate-blue — Emu</i>	<i>Distribution discontinued 31.7.1953</i>
<i>6d brown — Kookaburra</i>	<i>Issued on unwatermarked paper, Aug. 1956**;</i> <i>replaced by 6d Banded Anteater stamp 30.9.1960</i>
<i>*6½d brown — King George VI</i>	<i>Distribution discontinued 31.7.1953</i>
<i>*6½d green — King George VI</i>	<i>Replaced by 6½d Queen Elizabeth II stamp, 23.6.1954</i>
<i>7½d blue — King George VI</i>	<i>Replaced by 7½d Queen Elizabeth II stamp, 13.11.1957</i>
<i>8½d brown — Aborigine</i>	<i>Distribution discontinued 31.7.1953</i>
<i>9d chocolate — Platypus</i>	<i>Issued on unwatermarked paper, Dec. 1956**;</i> <i>replaced by 9d Kangaroos stamp, 21.10.1959</i>
<i>1/- grey-green — Lyrebird</i>	<i>Issued on unwatermarked paper, Dec. 1956**;</i> <i>replaced by 1/- Platypus stamp, 9.9.1959</i>
<i>*1/0½d dark blue — King George VI</i>	<i>Replaced by 1/0½d Queen Elizabeth II stamp, 9.3.1955</i>
<i>1/3d brown-purple — Hereford Bull</i>	<i>Distribution discontinued 31.7.1953</i>
<i>1/6d grey-black — Mercury and Globe</i>	<i>Issued on unwatermarked paper, Dec. 1956**;</i> <i>replaced by 1/6d Christmas Bells stamp, 3.2.1960</i>
<i>2/- chocolate — Aboriginal Art</i>	<i>Issued on unwatermarked paper, July 1956**;</i> <i>replaced by 2/- Flannel Flower stamp, 8.4.1959</i>
<i>*2/6d sepia — Aborigine</i>	<i>Issued on unwatermarked paper, Jan. 1957**;</i> <i>replaced by 2/6d Scarlet Robin stamp, 21.4.1965;</i> <i>Aborigine stamp re-issued (on unwatermarked paper), Oct. 1965**</i>
<i>5/- carmine — Coat of Arms</i>	<i>Replaced by 5/- Cattle Industry stamp, 26.7.1961</i>
<i>10/- purple — Coat of Arms</i>	<i>Replaced by 10/- Flinders stamp, 26.2.1964</i>
<i>£1 blue — Coat of Arms</i>	<i>Replaced by £1 Bass stamp, 26.2.1964</i>
<i>£2 green — Coat of Arms</i>	<i>Replaced by £2 King stamp, 26.8.1964</i>

*Although prepared during the reign of King George VI, these stamps were not issued, as mentioned in Chapter One, until after the accession of Queen Elizabeth II.

**There were no determined dates of issue in these instances. The dates of first distribution of supplies of the unwatermarked stamps from the Note Printing Branch in 1956 were as follows:
4d Koala, 10 August 1956; 6d Kookaburra, 31 July 1956; 9d Platypus, 26 November 1956; 1/- Lyrebird, 31 October 1956; 1/6 Mercury and Globe, 23 November 1956; 2/- Aboriginal Art, 27 June 1956; 2/6d Aborigine, 19 December 1956.

Issues of Coils and Booklets and 'Coil' and 'Booklet' Sheets, 1952-65

APPENDIX II

Coils

The 'coil' perforation introduced in 1942 was arranged in horizontal line to show, in respect of each stamp, holes larger than normal in the centre and of normal size at each end. Gauge was 14.

Some of the earlier coils in this list contained either 720 or 960 stamps. Later, contents were standardized at 960.

- (a) Of types of the King George VI period:
 $\frac{1}{2}$ d orange — Kangaroo; 1d brown-purple — Queen Elizabeth (Mother);
 1d purple — The Princess Elizabeth; 2d bright purple — King George VI;
 2d green — Queen Elizabeth (Mother).
 2d green — Queen Elizabeth (Mother).
- (b) Of Queen Elizabeth II portrait types:
 2d reddish brown (Fig. 24); 3d dark green (Fig. 7); 3d blue-green (Fig. 22);
 5d deep blue (Fig. 23); 5d red (Fig. 38).

'Coil' Sheets

- (a) Of types of the King George VI period:
 $\frac{1}{2}$ d orange — Kangaroo; 1d purple — The Princess Elizabeth;
 2d green — Queen Elizabeth (Mother).
- (b) Of Queen Elizabeth II portrait types:
 2d reddish brown (Fig. 24); 3d dark green (Fig. 7);
 3d blue-green (Fig. 22); 5d deep blue (Fig. 23).

Booklets

These were normally available with and without tropical interleaving. Commencing with the booklet containing the 4d claret Queen Elizabeth II stamp (Fig. 13), stamps included were partly imperforate. The booklets listed below each contained 12 stamps.

(Watermarked paper)

- June 1952. $3\frac{1}{2}$ d brownish red — King George VI
- 8 July 1953. $3\frac{1}{2}$ d red-brown — Queen Elizabeth II (Fig. 6)

(Unwatermarked paper)

- July 1956. $3\frac{1}{2}$ d red-brown Queen Elizabeth II (Fig. 6)
- 13 March 1957. 4d claret — Queen Elizabeth II (Fig. 13)
- 18 March 1959. 4d lake — Queen Elizabeth II (Fig. 20)
- 23 March 1960. 5d deep blue — Queen Elizabeth II (Fig. 23)
- 17 June 1964. 5d green — Queen Elizabeth II (Fig. 38)
- 13 July 1965. 5d red — Queen Elizabeth II (Fig. 38)

'Booklet' Sheet

- July 1964. 5d green — Queen Elizabeth II (Fig. 38)

The quantities printed of certain of the items listed above are contained in Appendix III.

APPENDIX
III

Quantities Issued

A. Of various stamps of the King George VI period currently available during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II.

Distinction is not made between printings on watermarked and unwatermarked papers.

Stamp	Initial Date of Issue	Number of stamps issued	
1d The Princess Elizabeth	20-11-47	Sheets:	131,445,760
		Coils:	422,400
1½d Queen Elizabeth (Mother)	19-6-50		98,544,020
2d Queen Elizabeth (Mother)	28-3-51	Sheets:	194,334,240
		Coils:	43,934,320
2½d King George VI	23-5-51		37,380,160
3d King George VI	14-11-51	Sheets:	414,940,000
		Coils:	6,408,960
3½d King George VI	28-11-51	Sheets:	420,223,000
		Booklets:	64,492,160
*4½d King George VI	20-2-52		5,297,386
*6½d brown King George VI	20-2-52		6,874,306
*6½d green King George VI	9-4-52		55,217,760
7½d King George VI	31-10-51		8,774,560
8½d Aborigine	14-8-50		5,959,154
*1/0½d King George VI	19-3-52		13,978,320
1/3d Hereford Bull	16-2-48		15,880,228
1/6d Mercury and Globe	1-9-49		123,202,320
2/- Aboriginal Art	16-2-48		137,185,440
*2/6d Aborigine	19-3-52	(to 30-4-65)	85,813,200
5/- Coat of Arms	11-4-49		31,255,920
10/- Coat of Arms	3-10-49		10,617,890
£1 Coat of Arms	28-11-49		7,417,160
£2 Coat of Arms	16-1-50		3,925,410

*Although prepared during the reign of King George VI, these stamps were not issued until after the accession of Queen Elizabeth II.

B. Of stamps of Queen Elizabeth II (21.4.53 to 13.2.66).

Distinction is not made between printings on watermarked and unwatermarked papers.

As Fig.	Stamp	Initial Date of Issue	Number of stamps issued
8	1d Queen Elizabeth II	19-8-53	111,523,680
19	1d Queen Elizabeth II	2-2-59	99,560,368
24	2d Queen Elizabeth II	21-3-62	Ordinary paper: Sheets: 24,739,200 Coils: 15,968,640 Helecon paper: Sheets: 4,532,310 Coils: 1,736,973
9	2½d Queen Elizabeth II	23-6-54	61,058,240
7	3d Queen Elizabeth II	17-6-53	Sheets: 973,667,700 Coils: 22,313,280
22	3d Queen Elizabeth II	20-5-59	Ordinary paper: Sheets: 110,893,760 Coils: 23,065,280 Helecon paper: Sheets: 11,038,178 Coils: 1,237,558
6	3½d Queen Elizabeth II	21-4-53	Sheets: 1,445,554,600 Booklets: 307,609,488
21	3½d Queen Elizabeth II	18-3-59	115,399,360
13	4d Queen Elizabeth II	13-3-57	Sheets: 600,353,920 Booklets: 201,090,240
20	4d Queen Elizabeth II	2-2-59	Sheets: 178,092,000 Booklets: 51,181,776
23	5d Queen Elizabeth II	1-10-59	Sheets: 1,659,878,080 Booklets: 583,547,424 Coils: 1,764,437
38	5d Queen Elizabeth II	9-10-63	Sheets: 678,945,600 Booklets: 166,583,520
38	5d Queen Elizabeth II	30-6-65	Ordinary ink: Sheets: 48,234,471 Helecon ink: Sheets: 105,990,332 Booklets: 91,210,476 Coils: 518,400
17, 18	5½d War Memorial (two types se-tenant)	10-2-58	2,984,600 of each type
33	6d Banded Anteater	30-9-60	64,839,840
48	6d Thornbill	19-8-64	Ordinary paper: 8,649,000 Helecon paper: 8,347,318
10	6½d Queen Elizabeth II	23-6-54	85,763,680

15	7d R. F. Doctor Service	21-8-57	65,869,920
16	7½d Queen Elizabeth II	13-11-57	9,791,520
32	8d Tiger Cat	11-5-60	Ordinary paper: 88,872,160
			Helecon paper: 14,141,709
31	9d Kangaroos	21-10-59	14,215,680
45	9d Magpie	11-3-64	Ordinary paper: 1,517,940
			Helecon paper: 816,203
12	10d Queen Elizabeth II	6-3-57	11,969,442
34	11d Rabbit Bandicoot	3-5-61	Ordinary paper: 22,537,440
			Helecon paper: 7,158,103
30	1/- Platypus	9-9-59	24,490,720
36	1/- Colombo Plan	30-6-61	Ordinary paper: 50,167,200
			Helecon paper: 7,873,143
11	1/0½d Queen Elizabeth II	9-3-55	8,737,080
35	1/2d Tasmanian Tiger	21-3-62	Ordinary paper: 18,271,840
			Helecon paper: 4,271,432
28	1/6d Christmas Bells	3-2-60	12,492,000
46	1/6d Galah	11-3-64	Ordinary paper: 2,514,000
			Helecon paper: 1,864,676
14	1/7d Queen Elizabeth II	13-3-57	13,032,000
25	2/- Flannel Flower	8-4-59	105,460,440
49	2/- Golden Whistler	21-4-65	12,145,567
27	2/3d Wattle (Maize paper)	9-9-59	46,286,760
27	2/3d Wattle (White paper)	28-10-64	Ordinary paper: 6,953,280
			Helecon paper: 6,162,914
29	2/5d Banksia	16-3-60	13,159,560
47	2/5d Blue Wren	11-3-64	3,279,487
4	2/6d Aborigine (from 1.5.65)	—	856,064
50	2/6d Scarlet Robin	21-4-65	3,726,000
26	3/- Waratah	15-7-59	38,755,680
51	3/- Ibis	21-4-65	5,358,353
39	4/- Tasman	9-10-63	5,199,052
37	5/- Cattle Industry	26-7-61	10,314,280
44	5/- Dampier	25-11-64	4,789,317
42	7/6d Cook	26-8-64	303,687
40	10/- Flinders	26-2-64	2,190,145
41	£1 Bass	26-2-64	1,388,153
43	£2 King	26-8-64	501,165

Some Unadopted Designs

Appendix IV



Fig. 52



Fig. 53



Fig. 54



Fig. 55



Fig. 56



Fig. 57



Fig. 58



Fig. 59



Fig. 60



Fig. 61



Fig. 62



Fig. 63



Fig. 64



Fig. 65



Fig. 66



Fig. 67



Fig. 68



Fig. 69



Fig. 70



Fig. 71



Fig. 72



Fig. 73



Fig. 74



Fig. 75



Fig. 76



Fig. 77



Fig. 78



Fig. 80



Fig. 79



Fig. 81



Fig. 82



Fig. 83



Fig. 84



Fig. 85



Fig. 86



Fig. 87



Fig. 88



Fig. 89



Fig. 90



Fig. 91



Fig. 92



Fig. 93



Fig. 94



Fig. 95



Fig. 96



Fig. 97



Fig. 98



Fig. 99



Fig. 100



Fig. 101



Fig. 102



Fig. 103



Fig. 104



Fig. 105



Fig. 106



Fig. 107



Fig. 108



Fig. 109



Fig. 110



Fig. 111



Fig. 112



Fig. 113



Fig. 114



Fig. 115

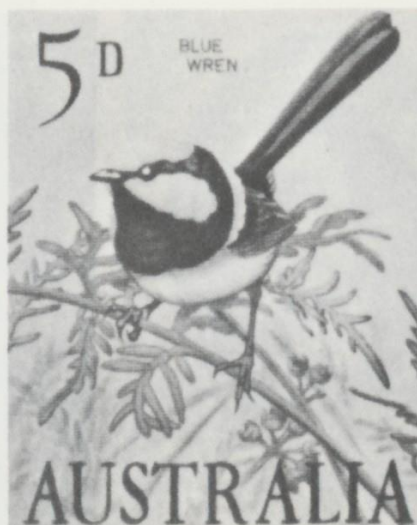


Fig. 116

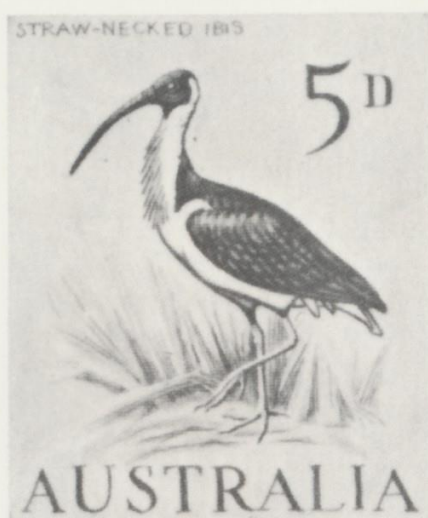


Fig. 117



Fig. 118



Fig. 119



Fig. 120

