



Australian Postage Stamps

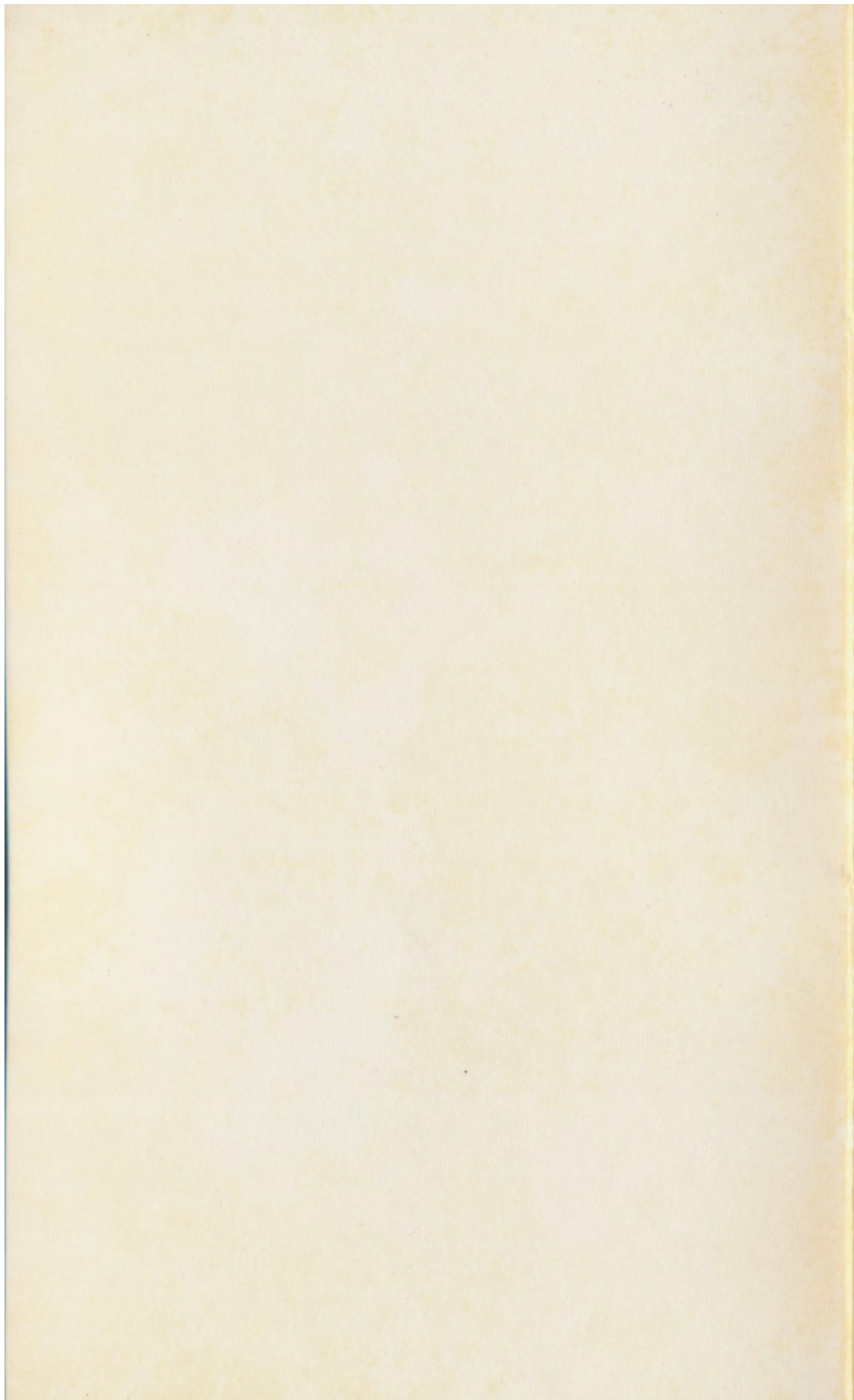


THE EARLY COMMONWEALTH PERIOD AND THE KANGAROO AND MAP SERIES



Australian Post Office

**50
cents**



FOREWORD

The purpose of this small volume is to provide an outline of the main events which preceded the introduction of a uniform series of postage stamps for the Commonwealth of Australia and to describe the development of the well-known Kangaroo and Map design. A short account of the several series in this design is also given.

This work is the first of several which the Post Office proposes to publish from time to time with the purpose of providing a general background and outline of all Australian Commonwealth stamps.

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AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH STAMPS

The Early Commonwealth Period

CHAPTER ONE

Until the beginning of 1913, six separate series of postage stamps were in use in the Commonwealth of Australia, this practice being a continuation of that in force prior to Federation, when each of the six Australian colonies was responsible for its own postal affairs.

The separate Colonial postal and telegraph departments had been amalgamated into the (Commonwealth) Postmaster-General's Department as from 1st March, 1901, and thereafter the control and issue of postage stamps became a responsibility of the new authority.

In the earlier years of Federation, by reason of the continuance of temporary financial clauses in the Constitution designed to avoid the dislocation of States' finances, the postal revenues were maintained on State bases. Originally, the "book-keeping provisions", as they were called, were intended to continue for five years after Federation but circumstances necessitated extensions and they did not end until 1910.

To enable the book-keeping system to function readily, so far as the Post Office was concerned, the separate series of postage stamps bearing the names of the States had to be continued and such stamps could only be used in the appropriate State.

However, despite the necessity of maintaining the separate postage stamp series, it was practicable to make various subsidiary changes towards uniformity. One of these was the adoption in 1902 of a modified form of the N.S.W. postage due stamp series for use in all States except Victoria. Stamp papers bearing the pre-Federation colonial watermark devices, which had differed in each Colony, were also gradually replaced by new forms of watermark papers of Commonwealth significance, although not on a uniform pattern. Some revisions of stamp denominations were also made and the printing of four of the stamp series — those intended for sale in South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania and Western Australia — were centralized in a Stamp Printing Branch in Melbourne. The New South Wales and Queensland series continued to be printed in those States.

The situation was completely altered by the passage through the Federal Parliament of the Surplus Revenue Act 1910. The book-keeping clauses disappeared and all postal revenue was appropriated directly to the Commonwealth. It then became possible to effect immediately a minor degree of uniformity by authorizing the use of the separate series of stamps in any part of Australia, as from 13th October, 1910. The Act cleared the way to a major extent for the provision of a uniform series of stamps and the final difficulty was

resolved when by the Postal Rates Act 1910, it was practicable, for the first time since Federation, to introduce uniform postal rates, which came into effect on the 1st May, 1911. As an immediate consequence, the denominational ranges of the six separate adhesive postage stamp series were reviewed and various changes effected.

The necessity of providing uniform postage stamps had, of course, been foreseen well before the inception of the Postmaster-General's Department but, as explained, the earlier circumstances prevented this objective being reached for over a decade. As early as 1907, in anticipation of a removal of the constitutional barriers, the Postmaster-General of the day had appointed a Board of Experts to consider and report on the best methods to be adopted to ensure a suitable issue of postage stamps.

The report of the Board, laid before the Senate on 20th November, 1907, contained numerous valuable recommendations, including the proposal that competitive designs should be called for the stamp series. Because of the prevailing circumstances, the only part of the report which could be then implemented related to a uniform series of postage due stamps which was introduced in 1909, replacing the temporary series first issued in 1902, and the separate Victorian series.

Following the passage of the Surplus Revenue Act 1910, and in anticipation of the introduction of standard postal rates for the whole of Australia, the Government took immediate steps to act upon some of the recommendations made by the Board of Experts in 1907. The Federal Cabinet decided, late in 1910, that there should be but one design for the new stamp series and agreed that an amount of £150 should be offered in prize money for designs, £100 for the first and £50 for the second design in order of merit. Earlier, in August, 1910, the Treasurer (Sir John Forrest) had decided that the electroplate process should be used to produce all stamps although in his recommendation some months before concerning the method of printing, the Commonwealth Stamp Printer (Mr. J. B. Cooke) had recommended that the denominations of ½d to 9d be printed from electrotypes and those of 1/- to £2 from steel plates.

The competition for stamp designs was announced in the Commonwealth Government Gazette of 21st January, 1911, as follows:

"COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Postmaster-General's Department, 13th January, 1911

DESIGNS FOR COMMONWEALTH POSTAGE STAMPS

Skilled artists are invited to submit competitive designs for a uniform Postage Stamp for the Commonwealth.

The size of the stamp for which designs are invited will be $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $\frac{7}{8}$ in. oblong.

Designs must not exceed 4 times the measurements specified for the stamps, and should be accompanied by photographic reductions to the sizes required for the stamps.

Two premiums, one of £100 and one of £50, will be paid for the designs which are adjudged by the Board, to be appointed for the purpose of adjudicating on the designs submitted by competitors, to be first and second respectively in order of merit, provided such designs are deemed worthy of being awarded a premium.

In selecting the designs preference will be given to those which best lend themselves to engraving on the reduced scale.

The designs must contain features characteristic of Australia, and also the words "Australia" and "Postage" as well as the stamp value in Arabic figures, or in both figures and letters.

The treatment of the designs should not be made too photographic or realistic, and it must be in accordance with the more formal designs to be found in the best postage stamps. The premiated designs will become the sole property of the Postmaster-General.

Designs will be received up to noon on the 31st day of May, 1911, and must be addressed to the Secretary, Postmaster-General's Department, 51 Spring Street, Melbourne. They must be endorsed "Designs for Commonwealth Postage Stamp", and if sent by post must be registered and the postage thereon prepaid.

The designs should not be signed with the name of the designer, but should bear only a nom de plume or private mark for purposes of identity, and the accompanying letter containing the designer's name and address, as well as a copy of the nom de plume or private mark on the designs, should be enclosed in a separate sealed envelope, which will be opened after the designs have been adjudicated upon.

The Postmaster-General does not bind himself to select any design and designs not selected will be returned.

JOSIAH THOMAS,

Postmaster-General."

The same notice was also placed in the principal metropolitan newspapers throughout Australia and also in suitable journals in the United Kingdom and United States of America.

THE KANGAROO AND MAP DESIGN

CHAPTER TWO



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

In the meanwhile, with the purpose of lessening the printing burden, the Post Office took active steps to introduce new postal stationery items, postcards and lettercards, which were to replace the six separate issues printed for sale in the several States.

By this course, it came about that the first uniform Australian postage stamps, portraying His Majesty King George V, appeared unobtrusively upon postcards and lettercards. Not being adhesive stamps, however, they did not excite very much attention at the time.

The stamp, in the form illustrated (Fig. 1) was designed in the Stamp Printing Branch, Melbourne, and the original die was engraved by Samuel Reading, a local private engraver, of whom more will be said later. Single postcards were first issued in April, 1911, and single lettercards a month or so later. In October, 1911, reply lettercards were introduced in a variety of colors. A special postcard series was also issued in May, 1911, to commemorate the Coronation of His Majesty.

This group of postal stationery, bearing stamp impressions of the type illustrated, has been noted here not only because it represented an important development in the advance towards a uniform stamp series, but because when the stamp design was initially prepared it was considered seriously as a possible basis for the adhesive stamp series. After the die was cut, however, and because stamp designs had been invited from the public, the idea was abandoned. Other impressed or embossed stamps associated with subsequent issues of postal stationery, within the limits of this handbook, are listed and illustrated in the appendix.

The stamp design competition aroused a good deal of public interest, and when the competition closed on 31st May, 1911, the Postmaster-General's Department had received the massive total of 1,051 designs from 533 entrants.

The Postmaster-General (Hon. J. Thomas) had appointed, as members of the adjudicating board, Messrs. Bernard Hall, Director of the National Gallery of Victoria, J. B. Cooke, Commonwealth Stamp Printer, and A. S. A. Whelan, representing Philately. The Board was faced with a big task, but well before the end of June, 1911, was able to recommend that the first award be made to Herman Altmann of St. Kilda, Victoria, for the design illustrated (Fig. 2). The conditions of competition provided for a second award and the Board recommended that this be divided between Messrs. Edwin A. Arnold, of Annerley, London, England, and Donald Mackay, of North Finchley, also in England. The Arnold design, entered under the nom-de-plume of "Baldy", depicted a Kangaroo and the Australian emblems and is shown at Fig. 3. The Mackay design featured the Commonwealth Coat of Arms and is depicted at Figure 4.



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

The conditions of competition did not stipulate that any designs received or awarded prizes would necessarily be adopted, and the Department reserved the right of adopting other designs or combinations of designs from those which had been unsuccessful.

After the three prize winners had been announced, the competition designs were placed on exhibition for a time in Federal Parliament House, Melbourne. Subsequently, the prize-winning designs and a select group of the other submitted designs were carefully reviewed by the new Postmaster-General, Hon. C. W. Frazer, who took office on 15th October, 1911.

It was then decided that further designs should be sought and the Victorian Artists Association was asked to nominate an artist. Mr. Blamire Young was selected and the Postmaster-General asked him to prepare a group of designs typically Australian in character.

Mr. Young submitted 10 designs to the Department in January, 1912, and they were then photographically reduced to stamp size to enable them to be considered in correct perspective. In a statement to the press at that time, the Postmaster-General said, "If a picturesque stamp can be provided in which an outline of Australia is a feature, I am certainly favourably inclined towards it".

Most if not all of the Blamire Young designs are believed to have shown scenes within an outline map of Australia but none of the designs proved acceptable as submitted.

However, one of the Young designs picturing two kangaroos within an outline map of Australia, a Departmental design which had a similar theme but showed only one kangaroo, and certain of the competition designs, were then viewed with the purpose of having prepared a new model design. This model became the basis of the final approved design.

The original pilot design does not appear to have survived, nor is the artist responsible known. However, the illustration at Fig. 5 is believed either to represent the pilot design or the first development therefrom. Whilst this design accorded generally with the Postmaster-General's wishes, he desired that further modifications be effected and in March, 1912, briefly instructed the Stamp Printer as follows:—

"1. Get coastline of Aust.; 2. Insert Baldy's 'Roo.; 3. Produce in colors for different denominats."

Separately, instructions were given for the removal of the top right value tablet. The several alterations resulted in the design illustrated (Fig. 6). It will be seen that not only has the continental outline been improved but Tasmania has been included. The kangaroo also more closely resembles that shown in the Arnold ("Baldy") design (Fig. 3).

An interesting aspect of these designs is that they were reproduced in an apparent stamp form by means of ordinary printer's illustration blocks, that shown in Fig. 6 being one of a group encompassing the range of denominations and the

proposed colors. This work was carried out by Rudolph Steel, a lithographer, artist and designer, then in business in The Block, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne. These proofs were in both imperforate and perforated forms.

The Department distributed copies of the design (Fig. 6) in either proof or photographic form on 2nd April, 1912, and subsequently, with the intimation that it was the approved design. The Postmaster-General (Mr. Frazer) also gave copies to his Cabinet colleagues on 3rd April.

It is important to note here that the contemporary lay and philatelic press credited the Postmaster-General and Blamire Young as being singly or jointly responsible for the design, but the Department did not at any time name the artist. Indeed, on 12th April, 1912, the Department informed the editor of a prominent metropolitan newspaper of the day that "the approved design is a combination of ideas, and is not the work of any one person in particular".

Despite the announcement that the design had been approved, further alterations were subsequently made before actual production work on the stamps was commenced.

The Postmaster-General had decided, later in April, 1912, that the word "POSTAGE" should be introduced and suggested that the figure of denomination might be placed at the bottom of the stamp under the Australian Bight and the word "Postage" under "Australia".

This new request reached the Stamp Printer on 18th May, 1912, and three days later he submitted the further block proofs shown at Figs. 7 and 8 and which were alternative presentations. These block proofs were made in the same manner as those earlier described. The form shown at Fig. 8 was approved by the Postmaster-General on 26th May, 1912, subject to the removal of the tuft of grass in front of the kangaroo.



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

THE PRODUCTION OF THE KANGAROO SERIES

CHAPTER THREE

The Commonwealth Stamp Printer, J. B. Cooke, was faced with several difficulties concerning the production of the stamps. One immediate problem was the engraving of the dies, there being no engraver on his small staff.

Early in April, 1912, Mr. Cooke sought information from the Government Printer in Sydney concerning the practice which had prevailed in New South Wales, and also asked for his colleague's opinion as to the advisability of having dies made in London.

The New South Wales Government Printer promptly informed Mr. Cooke that the work could be done in Australia and in his reply also referred to a competent engraver (unnamed) who had been with Sands and McDougall Pty. Ltd., and to another local engraver named Cousens who was stated to have done "stamp work" for New Zealand, Tonga and Samoa.

On 30th April, 1912, the Commonwealth Stamp Printer was able to report to the Postmaster-General's Department that he had secured a quotation from a Melbourne engraver, Samuel Reading, for cutting an interchangeable die for the new stamp. In providing this information, Mr. Cooke wrote:

"I followed the same course with regards the cutting of the die for the present Papua stamps, which is very creditable. Mr. Reading engraved the steel dies for the present 20/- and 40/- Victorian stamps."

Samuel Reading was at that time in business in Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, as a commercial engraver and die sinker. He had earlier engraved the dies for a number of Victorian stamps and he had been an entrant in the 1911 Stamp Design Competition.

The specification which had been drawn up, and upon which Mr. Reading tendered, read as follows:

"Specification for engraving interchangeable steel die for the Commonwealth Stamp.

Sizes of the design when cut to measure 6/8 of an inch by 1 inch.

The design can be seen on application to the Commonwealth Stamp Printer, Melbourne.

The steel die is to be engraved in relief in the best possible manner for surface (typographic) printing. The denominations required are as follows:— ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, 10/-, 20/-. Outside, and surrounding the design or plain line, the die is to be provided with a shoulder 1/16th of an inch wide and of suitable depth, to form a margin for perforation. The die is to be type high, and made to accurately fit a collar to be provided by the contractor. The engraving is to be completed within one month from the

receipt of the order, and is to be performed under supervision in the Commonwealth Stamp Printing Office and, when completed to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth Stamp Printer, the steel die is to be hardened and tempered by the contractor at his own risk.

The work is to be completed within four weeks from the date of issuing the order. A fine of 20/- per day will be paid by the contractor by way of liquidated damages for each and every day that the work remains uncompleted beyond the term specified."

A quotation was also secured from another Melbourne firm but as Mr. Reading's tender was lower, and he was regarded as a very skilled engraver, he secured the contract, varied to the extent that he would supply the dies for the $\frac{1}{4}$ d. and 1d. stamps within one month and for the remainder within two months of the date of commission.

Advice of the acceptance of the tender reached Mr. Cooke on 15th May, 1912, but as the final form of the design was not approved until 26th May, 1912, it was not practicable for work on the die to be commenced until early in June, 1912.

Mr. Reading duly set about his task and early in August, 1912, the Commonwealth Stamp Printer was able to advise that the main die and two interchangeable denominational dies of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. and 1d. had been completed and that the plate for the 1d. stamp was almost ready.

On 22nd August, 1912, Mr. Cooke submitted to the Postmaster-General a series of plate proofs illustrative of the suggested colors for the various denominations. The proofs for the 5/-, 10/-, £1 and £2 stamps were in bicolored forms. However, as only the 1d. plate had been made, all proofs of this group showed the 1d. denomination. The colors of the submitted proofs were approved without variation, advice to this effect being furnished on the 23rd September, 1912. By this time, all dies had been completed and electroplates were in course of manufacture.

The 1907 report of the Board of Experts, referred to in an earlier chapter, had recommended that steel plate printing be adopted but, as mentioned earlier, the electroplate process had been decided upon, mainly on the score of economy, and all planning for the series had consequently been based upon this latter method.

In May, 1912, the Post Office had decided that the denominations should be $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 1/-, 2/-, 2/6d., 5/-, 10/- and £1. However, through an error on the part of the printer, a 2/6d. stamp was not included in the specification and in a later effort to correct this a £2 stamp die was made instead of one for 2/6d. In the circumstances then prevailing the position was allowed to stand.

The intention of the Government was that the stamps should be issued throughout Australia on 2nd January, 1913, and the Commonwealth Stamp Printer was sufficiently advanced with his plate making to assure the Postmaster-General's Department that this would be practicable if the terms of the contract to supply stamp paper were met.

As early as 20th March, 1911, the Stamp Printer had pointed out to the Treasury that as the new stamps were to be larger than most of those in use, it would be necessary to enter into a fresh contract for stamp paper, and to have a new dandy roll made.

The printer was authorized in July 1911 to take action to secure the necessary supply of paper. A contract to supply 2000 reams of paper watermarked with the device of a crown over A, which necessitated the manufacture of a new dandy roll, was subsequently arranged with Messrs. Joynston and Son, London, through the Australian High Commission.

The contract provided that 100 reams of the paper should reach Melbourne by 4th October, 1912, and when Mr. Cooke received advice in August 1912 that this date had been advanced to 4th November, 1912, he felt compelled to inform the Post Office that it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to have the whole series of stamps available for issue on 1st January, 1913.

The paper position became even more critical when advice was received in November 1912 that, following inspection in England, the first supply of paper was rejected and that the initial consignment would not reach Melbourne until 23rd December, 1912.

Despite the great difficulties which were posed by the arrival in Melbourne of the paper at this late and inconvenient date—actually supplies were not received at the Stamp Printing Office until 30th December—Mr. Cooke was able to produce a quantity of 1d. stamps for delivery to the Post Office (in Melbourne) on the next day and by the end of January 1913 had also printed and delivered initial quantities of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 1/- and 2/- denominations, others following up to April 1913.

The dates which are shown below in respect of the various denominations represent delivery and not issue dates, although it was practicable in some instances for the stamps to be placed on sale on the days of receipt.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., January 4, 1913	9d., January 29, 1913
1d., December 31, 1912	1/-, January 21, 1913
2d., January 11, 1913	2/-, January 25, 1913
$2\frac{1}{2}$ d., January 17, 1913	5/-, January 20, 1913
3d., January 22, 1913	10/-, March 20, 1913
4d., February 12, 1913	£1, March 20, 1913
5d., January 16, 1913	£2, April 8, 1913
6d., January 14, 1913	

The actual dates of issue of the different denominations varied considerably all over Australia. In South Australia, for instance, as late as 15th April, 1913, there were still substantial stocks of the South Australian series on hand and none of the new Kangaroo stamps had up to that time been placed on sale at Post Offices in that State.

The full range of denominations is illustrated by Figures 9 to 23 inclusive. The form of watermark normally found in each stamp is illustrated at Fig. 24. This is usually upright but some inverted and sideways positions are known. As previously indicated, the stamps were produced from electrotypes plates, a process usually known as letterpress printing but also called surface or typographical printing. The stamps were normally issued in sheets of 120 stamps divided vertically into two panes each of 60 stamps (6 x 10), the paper being ready gummed. Perforations gauge 12. Some color variations exist, these usually being the result of further printings. The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. stamps were also available in coil form in July 1913. Until 1931, Australian postage stamps punctured with the letters "OS" were used in government departments. Stamps of this Kangaroo series may be found with those letters in both large and small forms.

In the list which follows only the original official color designations are indicated.

1913 First Kangaroo Series.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. veridine green
1d. red
2d. grey
2½d. dark blue
3d. olive-green
4d. deep orange
5d. burnt sienna
6d. imperial blue

9d. violet
1/- sea-green
2/- dark brown
5/- grey and chrome yellow
10/- grey and pink
£1 brown and blue
£2 black and carmine



Fig. 9



Fig. 10



Fig. 11



Fig. 12



Fig. 13



Fig. 14



Fig. 15



Fig. 16



Fig. 17



Fig. 18



Fig. 19



Fig. 20



Fig. 21



Fig. 22



Fig. 23

THE SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT KANGAROO SERIES

CHAPTER FOUR

The second series of the Kangaroo stamps may be classed as provisional in that, due to shortage of stocks of watermarked paper of the type described in the previous chapter, it became necessary for some denominations to be printed on the different class of paper being utilised for stamps of the King George V portrait series.

Stamps of the latter series were slightly wider and the watermarks in the appropriate paper were more widely spaced. Usage of this paper for the Kangaroo printings resulted in considerable displacement of watermark in relation to the stamp design. A further aspect was that the watermark differed in detail, although conforming to the principle, earlier set, of showing a crown above "A".

The stamps contained in the provisional series were printed and issued over the period 1914-15. However, only seven denominations of the original range were represented; the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 4d., and 5d. having been replaced by stamps of these values in the King George V portrait series. The 3d., 10/-, £1, and £2 also did not appear in this series because sufficient stocks from earlier printings were on hand. Some shade variations occurred. The stamps were also punctured "OS", in small letters only, for official use. The sheet arrangement in this, and subsequent Kangaroo series, did not differ from that of the first series.

1914-15. Second Kangaroo series. Letterpress-printed on paper watermarked as Fig. 25. Perf. 12.

2d. grey, 2½d. indigo, 6d. ultramarine, 9d. violet, 1/- blue-green, 2/- brown, 5/- grey and yellow.

THIRD SERIES

Late in 1915, new supplies of paper with watermarks spaced to accommodate the narrower Kangaroo stamps were received and printings on the Georgian class of paper discontinued. It was found that the form of the watermark again differed, although still according with the pattern of a crown over "A". Most stamps of this series continued on issue for some years and the various printings exhibited many shade variations. These came about because of difficulties in securing the correct inks during and subsequent to the war period. Differences in paper quality are also attributed to the same set of difficulties. An interesting feature of this series is that printings of many of the values were made during the regimes of four different Commonwealth Stamp Printers which printings were identifiable by the several forms of sheet marginal imprints. As previously, stamps were punctured "OS" in small letters for official use.

1915-28. Third Kangaroo series. Letterpress-printed on paper watermarked as Fig. 26. Perf. 12.

2d., grey, 2½d. indigo, 3d. yellow-olive, 6d. ultramarine, 9d. violet, 1/- blue-green, 2/- brown, 5/- grey and yellow, 10/- grey and pink, £1 brown and blue, £2 black and rose.

FOURTH SERIES

This series comprises, simply, three color changes. These were brought about by a decision of the Universal Postal Union at the Madrid Congress of 1920 that certain postage stamps of member-countries should conform to a revised color pattern based on the major international postage rates. An associated factor was a reduction in postage rates effective from 1st October, 1923.

The U.P.U. Convention designated blue as the color to be used for stamps intended to meet the first unit foreign letter rate. In Australia, the rate was met by an appropriate stamp in the Georgian portrait type and it was decided that Kangaroo stamps printed in blue color should be changed to avoid confusion. Opportunity was taken to drop the 2½d. indigo, which was no longer required, leaving the 6d. blue and £1 for attention, although the latter as a bicolor was in brown and blue colors.

The color of the 6d. stamp was, therefore, altered to brown and it was so issued in December, 1923. As the 2/- value of the series was also brown, a consequential change became necessary here and a maroon color was selected. The £1 stamp ceased to be a bicolor and appeared printed in grey only. These stamps issued on 1st May, 1924. During this period also, the 2d. and 3d. denominations were lost to the Kangaroo group, being transferred to the Georgian portrait series. As was the practice, the three stamps were punctured "OS" for official use.

1923-24. Fourth Kangaroo series. Letterpress-printed on paper watermarked as Fig. 26. Perf. 12.

6d. brown, 2/- maroon, £1 grey.

FIFTH SERIES

The several moves which resulted in denominations in the Kangaroo series being transferred to the Georgian series sadly depleted the former so that by 1925 the Kangaroo series had been reduced to but eight stamps—6d., 9d., 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, 10/-, £1, and £2.

During 1925 the Postmaster-General's Department decided to adopt a revised specification for stamp paper in which it was provided that "... each sheet is to bear watermarks containing small crowns over A's set close together but spread over the whole sheet ...".

The first order for this new paper was placed in January 1926, and delivery was completed by 19th August, 1926. At that time there were still considerable stocks of the earlier Kangaroo paper on hand but when the question of renewing the order came up, it was decided, in August 1928, that the Kangaroo stamps should also be printed in future on the new paper. Printings were made accordingly, except in regard to the £1 stamp, of which adequate stocks on the earlier paper were on hand. As previously, all stamps of this series were

punctured "OS" in small letters. Additionally, the 6d. stamp was issued in March 1932, with the overprint "OS".

1929-30. Fifth Kangaroo Series. Letterpress-printed on paper watermarked as Fig. 27. Perf. 12.

6d. brown, 9d. violet, 1/- green, 2/- maroon, 5/- grey and yellow, 10/- grey and pink, £2 black and rose. Official (over-printed as Fig. 28) 6d. brown.

SIXTH SERIES

A change of watermark was also the basis of the sixth series. During 1930, the Department decided to vary the watermark specification by including the letters "C of A", instead of "A" below the crown, maintaining this in an overall pattern. By the time printing of the Kangaroo stamps on this paper was commenced, the series had been further depleted by the replacement of the 1/- stamp by another depicting a lyrebird.

Just prior to the appearance of this series it had been decided that the issue of stamps punctured "OS" would cease. However, the form of overprint referred to earlier was continued in connection with the 6d. denomination only.

1932-35. Sixth Kangaroo series. Letterpress-printed on paper watermarked as Fig. 29. Perf. 12.

6d. brown, 9d. violet, 2/- maroon, 5/- grey and yellow, 10/- grey and pink, £1 grey, £2 black and rose. Official (over-printed as Fig. 28), 6d. brown.

SEVENTH SERIES

During 1937, the Department commenced the issue of stamps of a new recess-printed series and, as a consequence, all remaining values of the Kangaroo series up to the £1 stamp, except the 2/-, were replaced. As substantial supplies of the £2 stamp were then on hand, no effort was made to include a £2 stamp in the 1937-38 series at the time so that it remained in use. Actually, it was not replaced until 1950, when a £2 stamp in the Coat of Arms design appeared.

A steady demand continued for a 2/- stamp and it was found in 1945 that the earlier printing plates required replacement. In the process of making the new die and plates, various minor differences developed and when issued it was found that the stamp now differed in detail from the previous 2/- stamp, major differences being as follows:—

OLD

- (a) Two background lines between the value circle and words of value.
- (b) Right lower member of "R" of "AUSTRALIA" is curved.
- (c) Thin crossbar to "H" of "SHILLINGS".
- (d) In "G" of "POSTAGE" there is large horizontal bar and downwards serif.

NEW

- (a) One background line between the value circle and words of value.
- (b) Right lower member of "R" of "AUSTRALIA" is straight.
- (c) Wide crossbar to "H" of "SHILLINGS".
- (d) In "G" of "POSTAGE" there is trace only of bar and no serif.

The 2/- stamp remained in use until it was replaced by the 2/- Aboriginal Art stamp in 1948 and it shares, with the £2 stamp already mentioned, the distinction of being the last of the Kangaroo and Map stamps, a design which had been maintained for more than 35 years.

1945. *Seventh Kangaroo Series. As Fig. 30. Letterpress-printed on paper watermarked as Fig. 29, Perf. 12.*
2/- maroon.



Fig. 24



Fig. 25



Fig. 26

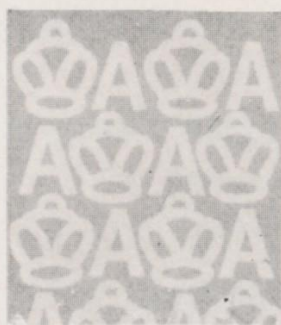


Fig. 27



Fig. 29



Fig. 28



Fig. 30

SHORT SUMMARY OF POSTAL STATIONERY IMPRESSED WITH STAMPS OF THE KING GEORGE V FULLFACE PORTRAIT TYPE AND KANGAROO AND MAP TYPE

I. STAMP TYPE AS FIG. 1

(A) Postcards:

- (i) 1911. 1d. red. With instruction "ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE".
- (ii) 1911. 1d. red. With instruction "The left half of this side may be used for correspondence".
- (iii) 1911. 1d. various colors. A series commemorative of the Coronation of King George V and portraying members of Royal Family on left side, framed and unframed.
- (iv) 1912. 1d. red. As (ii) above but with vertical dividing line.

(B) Lettercards:

- (i) 1911. 1d. in various colors and with different views on back.
- (ii) 1911. Reply lettercards in various colors. 1d. (each half).

NOTE:

These cards were subsequently issued separately with "Reply" blocked out.

II. STAMP TYPES AS FIGS. 9, 10 AND 14

(A) Postcard:

1913. 1d. red.

(B) Lettercard:

1913. 1d. various colors. With different views on back.

(C) Ordinary envelopes:

1913. 1d. red (Two sizes), (145 x 90 mm and 152 x 90 mm).

(D) Registration envelopes:

- (i) 1913. 4d. yellow. With "REGISTERED" on address face (146 x 88 mm).
- (ii) 1914. 4d. yellow. With "REGISTERED LETTER" on address face (152 x 95 mm).
- (iii) 1914. 4d. yellow. As (ii) but 228 x 103 mm.
- (iv) 1914. 4d. orange. With "REGISTERED LETTER" and price (4½d.) on address face (152 x 95 mm).

(E) Newspaper wrappers:

- (i) 1913. ½d. green.
- (ii) 1913. 1d. red.

