



Philatelic Review Bulletin

Wyong & Districts Philatelic Society

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Produced in Australia by

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Dear members,

The content of this bulletin aims at informing about items and topics relevant to our hobby and club.

It is hoped that errors and omissions are kept to a minimum.

All members are invited to submit articles that they like to share with others. Articles can be short or long and the editor will decide to publish those in one or more than one bulletin.

The editor

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Meetings

Evening Meeting:

The **third Wednesday** of the month at 7.00 pm
(at Canton Beach Sports Club).

Daytime Meeting:

The **first Wednesday** of the month at 1.00 pm

(at Masonic Village Centre, Lakehaven).

George V Study Group

The **first Wednesday** of the month following the daytime meeting.

2025 Meeting Dates:

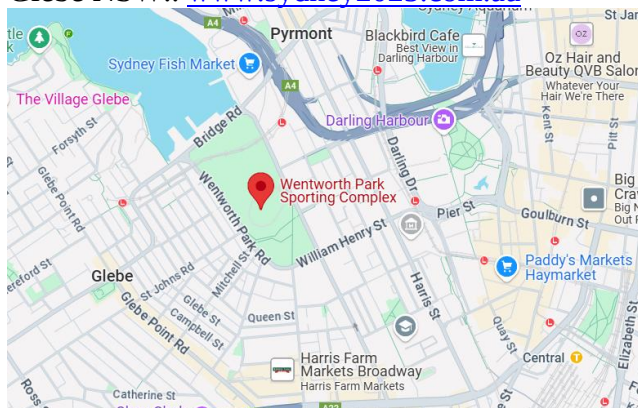
Evening meetings at Toukley 7.00 pm

Daytime meetings 2025 at Lakehaven 1.00 pm

Philas Connection

[Philatelic Association of NSW \(philas.org.au\)](http://philas.org.au)

The Sydney Stamp & Coin Expo 2025 will be held on 20 – 23 March 2025 at the ground floor of the grandstand of the Wentworth Park Sporting Complex 5 Wentworth Park Road, Glebe NSW.. www.sydney2025.com.au



Monthly Display

Monthly display for all member provided a vast array of interests.

Technical Details – printing

On first glance the printing techniques used to produce stamps could not be such a difficult topic. However, after some research this proved to be wrong.

Collotype¹

Collotype is a gelatine-based photographic printing process invented by Alphonse Poitevin in 1855 to print images in a wide variety of tones without the need for halftone screens. The majority of collotypes were produced between the 1870s and 1920s. It was the first form of photolithography.

¹ Wikipedia.org



Collotype using green ink, 1908

Collotype and typography

A combination of collotype and typography

Digital printing

Digital printing refers to methods of printing from a digital-based image directly to a variety of media. Meaning: It goes directly from your PDF file, for instance, straight to the digital printer. There is no need to create any plates, and setup time is a fraction of the time offset printing would take.

Digital printing usually refers to professional printing where small-run jobs from desktop publishing and other digital sources are printed using large-format and/or high-volume or inkjet printers.

This Bulletin is printed using the digital printing process.

The first Australian stamp using digital printing was used during the Olympic Games 2000, Sydney. 2000 Olympics Gold medallist 45c digital print sheetlet ESSAY of Herb Elliott (winner of 1960 1500m), perforated & also with simulated printed perforation. Created for testing the digital printers prior to production of Gold Medallist sheetlet. Superb fresh MUH. Great rarity as only 1 sheetlet perforated is recorded & another sheetlet has been split into singles, so this is a unique item.



Digital printing and Screen print

Combination of digital and screen printing

Digital printing and thermal printing

Digital printing combined with thermal printing

Embossed

The stamp paper being distorted by pressure between matched (male and female) dies.

When paper is run through two engraved cylinders it will show a light imprint of this engraving. The design will be in low relief in relation to the surface of the paper.

This technique has often been used for the production of postal stationery. In most cases an embossed print was used together with normal prints. This to give the envelope or card a sort of official look.

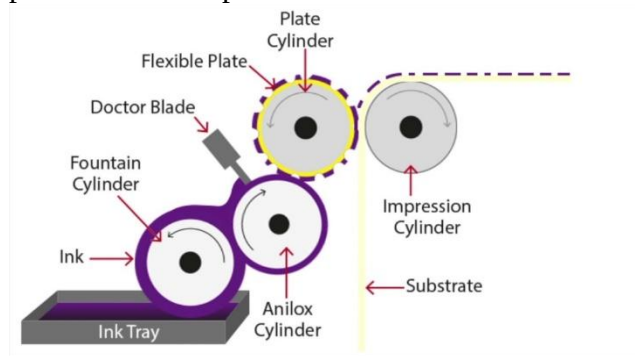
Embossing has not been used on stamps a lot, because stamp paper is thinner than paper used in the production of postal stationery. Embossing will cause distortion of the paper, which will make perforation very difficult.

Flexography

The ink is applied to the plated images. The substrate is then pressed against the plate, with an impression cylinder applying appropriate

² Uwe Kruger listings (AUS & Sport)

pressure, to transfer the image onto the surface. A series of UV lamps or IR dryers dry the ink prior to the next process.



Hot stamping

A thin foil is pressed on the paper by a heated embossing plate. Pressure and heat cause the relevant sections of the coloured foil to become detached from the carrier material and become bonded with the printing surface.

Hot stamping and embossed

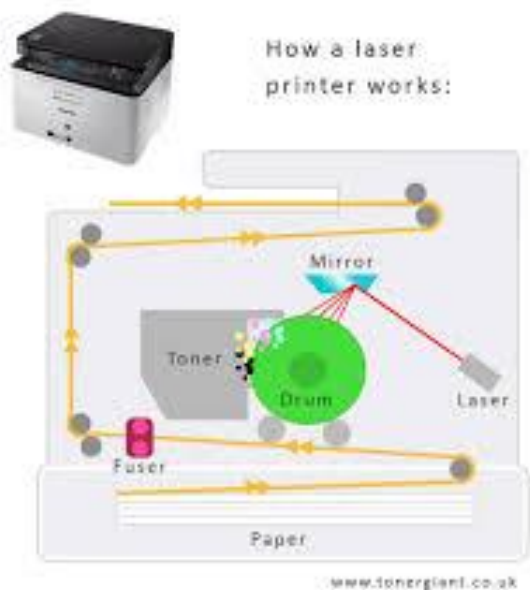
A combination of hot stamping and embossing

Inkjet with gold foil

Used by Australia Post for postmarks and some stamps.

Laser-print

The printers laser beams your print onto a metal drum. The drum uses static electricity to attract powdered toner to the drums cylinder. The drum rolls the toner onto the paper in the form of your print. The toner is melted & pressed onto the paper by heat from a fuser as it passes through its rollers.



Lenticular

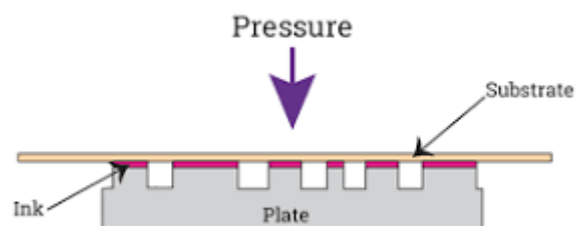
Lenticular print combines a clear plastic lens front layer with a printed backing layer. The print may be onto conventional paper which is then carefully aligned and laminated to the plastic lens material, or it may be directly printed (often by UV inkjet) onto the smooth rear face of the clear plastic.

New Zealand: 2004 Olympic Games. Unused set of four (by lenticular process). SG 2727/2730.



Letterset

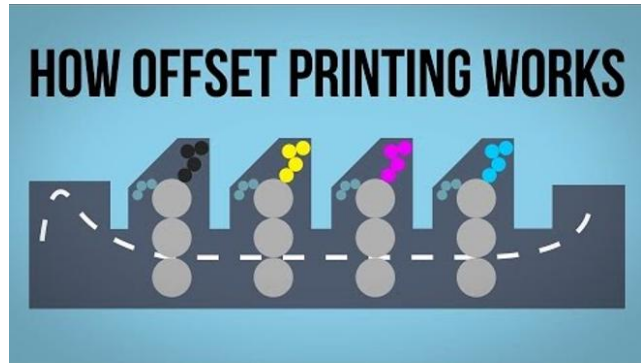
The substrate to be printed is positioned on the top bed and the forme/plate is locked onto the bottom bed. The inking rollers traverse down the face of the plate and the plate or type is inked. The top and bottom bed come together pressing the substrate against the inked plate thereby producing the printed substrate.



Lithography

Lithography is a unique art form where artists draw with greasy materials on a stone. The stone is then chemically treated to establish where

water and ink will go. The drawing is replaced with ink, creating a beautiful print.



Combined printing technics:

- Offset lithography
- Offset lithography and die-stamping
- Offset lithography and digital printing
- Offset lithography and embossed
- Offset lithography and flexography
- Offset lithography and gold foil
- Offset lithography and hologram
- Offset lithography and hot stamping
- Offset lithography and photogravure
- Offset lithography and recess
- Offset lithography and screen printing
- Offset lithography and thermal printing
- Offset lithography and thermographic relief
- Offset lithography and typography
- Offset lithography, hot stamping and photogravure
- Offset lithography, hot stamping and screen printing
- Offset lithography, photogravure and typography
- Offset lithography, recess and hot stamping
- Offset lithography, recess and screen printing
- Offset lithography, screen printing and embossed
- Offset lithography, screen printing and hologram

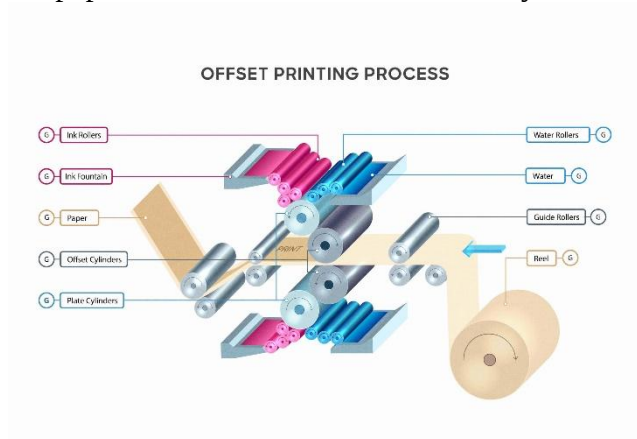


Combined printing technics:

1. Lithography and embossed
2. Lithography and recess
3. Lithography and typography

Offset

Modern offset printing is done on a press composed basically of three rotating cylinders: a plate cylinder, to which the metal plate is fastened; a blanket cylinder covered by a sheet of rubber; and an impression cylinder that presses the paper into contact with the blanket cylinder.



Photogravure

A positive transparency of a photographic image is used to control the etching of a specially prepared metal plate. After etching in an acid bath, the plate is inked and the surface wiped, leaving ink behind in the etched pits. A sheet of damp paper is then placed on the inked plate and printed.

Combined printing technics:

- Photogravure and embossed
- Photogravure and hologram
- Photogravure and hot stamping
- Photogravure and recess
- Photogravure and thermographic relief
- Photogravure and typography

Recess

Recess printing is the exact opposite of typography. The ink is applied to the grooves in the printing plate. Any ink remaining on the surface is carefully removed, before the image is then printed onto soft, highly absorbent paper which has been moistened.

Combined printing technics:

- Recess and embossed
- Recess and hot stamping
- Recess and screen printing
- Recess and typography
- Recess, photogravure and embossed
- Recess, photogravure and offset lithography
- Recess, photogravure and typography
- Recess, typography and embossed

Screen printing

Screen printing is a method in which a squeegee is used to force ink through a fine mesh onto a flat surface. A stencil can be used to block areas of the surface from receiving ink, creating a design.

Thermal printing

In order to print, the thermal (coated) paper is inserted between the thermal head and the platen and pressed against the head. The printer sends an electric current to the heating elements of the thermal head. The heat generated activates the paper's thermochromic layer, causing it to turn a certain colour (for example, black).

One of the disadvantages of this process is that the image created fades over time.

Thermographic relief

Thermography involves sprinkling powdered resin onto wet ink, before heat-fusing it onto the chosen paper stock. The finished effect is a textured, high-gloss impression that feels bold and precise. Thermography is a 3 part process, connected by a conveyor belt.

Typography

The invention of the typographic printing press, in 1440, the work of the German Johannes Gutenberg, triggered a revolution in the dissemination of culture and the beginning of the printing industry.

The origins of the printing press can be traced back to China almost 500 years earlier when movable wooden types were already in use.

However, the breakthrough attributed to Gutenberg was the assembly of single letters and the adaptation of a grape press for printing sheets of paper. He is considered the father of typography. His technique of individual types, which could be combined at the printer's will, gave an unexpected boost to book printing. These are the key elements in typographic printing:

- The plate formed by the pieces or types engraved with the reliefs to be printed.
- The ink with which the types are soaked.
- The print substrate, where the design is transferred by pressure.

The gaps between the pieces are the non-printable surface.

The technical principle on which typographic printing is based is very simple: the substrate is placed between two plates, and when the necessary pressure is exerted, the inked relief is printed on it.

Gutenberg and his contemporary printers used metal plates made of lead and wood types. In fact, printing plates can be made from a wide variety of materials, as long as they are able to withstand the pressure required for the transfer of text and images. Nowadays, they can be made of photopolymers, wood, magnesium-impregnated metal, among other options.

Typographic presses come in three main types:

Flatbed: this is what the original presses were like. Both the plate with the type composition and the substrate are placed on flat surfaces known as platen and tympan. The plate is inked either by hand or by a system of cylinders that run across the plate before each printing.

Plano-cylindrical: the substrate is coupled to a cylinder that runs over the plate, which is placed on a static flat surface. They allow more freedom of movement than flatbed machines, in addition to the cutting and finishing process.

Cylinder presses: the plate is placed on a cylindrical surface, while the substrate is pressurised by the printing cylinder. They can be sheetfed machines, which print one sheet at a time; or rotary machines, in which the paper is supplied by a continuous reel. They provide faster, double-colour printing.

Combined printing technics:

- Typography and embossed
- Typography and hot stamping
- Typography and screen printing

New Zealand: 1947-52: KGVI. 2d (horiz. mesh). UHM corner block of six with strong offset on two stamps (selvedge perfs have separated). Unlisted. CP M6b, SG 680.



Offset on back

First Day of Issue Postmarker

Ordinary First Day of Issue postmarker were issued to Post Offices all over the country. However, the astute collector of First Day Covers has noted that all of a sudden those postmarkers disappeared. Australia Post is now using imprints that look like a postmark on the issued First Day Covers. The question is, 'When did this happen'.

The editor did some research on another topic and stumbled across this short note in the Australian Bulletin No. 175, Nove. – Dec., 1984, page 13:

As from 16 January 1985, all permanent first day of issue pictorial postmarkers in Western Australia will be withdrawn from use and replaced with non-pictorial first day of issue postmarkers. The last stamp issue date the postmarkers will be in use on will be 19 November 1984.

Now we know. Well, at least for Western Australia.

A Brief History of Australia's Postal Service

Between 1809 and 1900 postal services were operated by the Colonies:

New South Wales



Queensland



South Australia



Western Australia



Those Colonies are now Australian States.

Tasmania



Between 1901 and 1975 Postal services operated Australia-wide by the Postmaster General's Department.



1 May 1951 50th Anniversary of Federation

Since 1 July 1975 the postal service has been operated by the Australian Postal Commission, commonly called Australia Post.

Victoria



In other words, 2024 was the 215th year of postal services in Australia and the 50th Anniversary of Australia Post.

The Postal Commission was established by the Postal Services Act 1975 passed by Parliament on 27 May 1975.



1 July 1975 New Communications Commission



16 September 1999 Designs Australia (set of 4)

For stamp collectors the eras over this time period are usually divided into the stamps issued during the colonial and the Commonwealth periods. The Commonwealth period again split into Imperial and Decimal times.

Pre-decimal differentiates in the issue of engraved stamps and the early trials using different printing techniques. The first multi-coloured one shilling stamp issued to commemorate the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne.



Example of engraved Australian stamp



First Australian multicoloured stamp

Mail transport was a significant factor in colonial times. The issues usually safety for the transported mail going from horse-back to horse carriages to railway transport.



Horseback Mail Carrier

The discovery of gold required an expansion of the mail system as mail volume increased. By the early 1860s coaching firms such as Cobb and Co. carried the nation's mail.



6 July 1955 Pioneer50s of Coaching Era in Australia

Mail was usually not marked for mode of transport and view remainders are known for mail carried by rail. In 1855 mails were carried by rail for the first time.





16 May 1979 Australian Steam Locomotives

International mail went from sailing ships to large ocean-going vessels to air transport. Weight was always a problem for air mail. However, the aerogram solved part of the problem.



1931/32 light weight air mail letter (ANA)





Kingsford Smith Air Mail Issue 20 May 1929



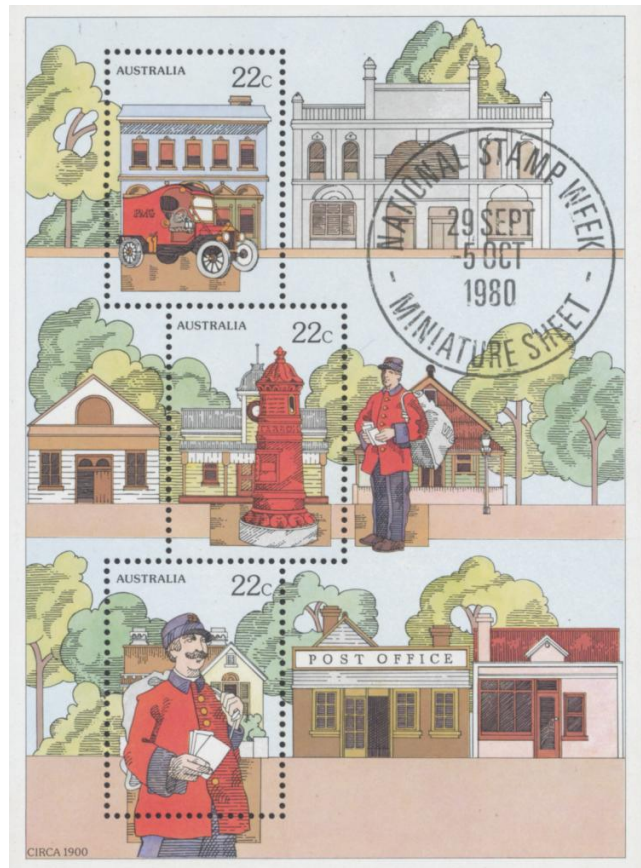
Air Mail Lettercard (1944 renamed Airletter; 1954 renamed Aerogramme)

During the progression from one transport system to another the amount or volume of mail increased significantly. In colonial times the small amount of mail could be handled by sorting mail into sacks to be delivered to Main Post Offices and from there to the local post office. Well trained post men delivered mail up to three times a day to recipients.

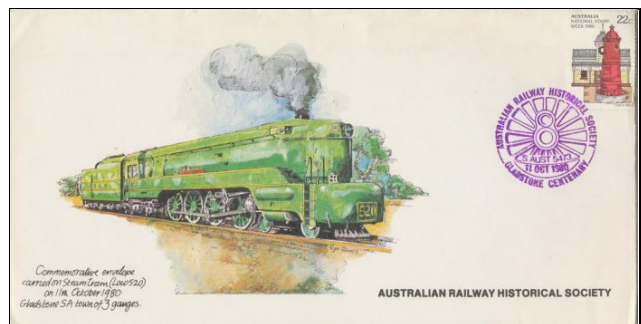


25 March 2009 Australia Post – 200 Years

Postman and historical letterbox:



29 September 1980 National Stamp Week
Note Bell Type posting post, cast in 1856. The vertical slot assisted posting from horseback.



11 October 1980 Gladstone
Cachet: Australian Railway Historical Society
Gladstone Centenary
Postmark:

Purple ink: 30000
Black ink: 100
Red ink: 100
Green ink: 100



13 October 2009 Australia Post – 200 Years

Cost pressures saw the development of Automatic Letter Sorting and Distribution Centres having the ability to automatically postmark standard size envelopes. The first centre in New South Wales commenced operation in Newcastle in 1977, followed by similar centres in Canberra, Bathurst, Gosford, and Wollongong. In Victoria 12 permanent mail centres were operating in 1974. There were seven in Melbourne and five in the country, Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo, Seymour and Morwell.

Mail Centres in Queensland were located in Toowoomba, Cairns, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Mackay, Townsville Rockhampton and Stafford (Brisbane).

Mail Centres for Tasmania were located in Hobart and Launceston.

The Northern Territory had one Mail Centre in Darwin.

Since 1974 Mail Centres have been renamed, closed or opened and the editors current list reflects the following:

ACT:

CANBERRA MC ACT 2610

New South Wales:

BATHURST M.C. NSW 2796

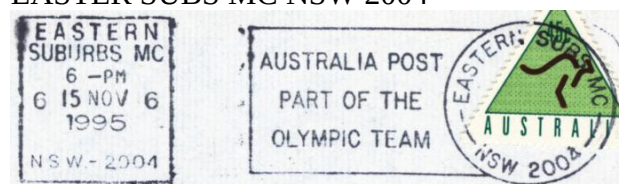
CENTRAL COAST NSW 2251 (Gosford; in use September 1991 until late June 1992)

CENTRAL COAST MC NSW 2252 (Gosford)

CENTRAL WEST M.C. NSW 2796 (Bathurst; from 8 June 1992)

City Private Box Centre

EASTERN SUBS MC NSW 2004



GPO Sydney

GOSFORD MAIL CENTRE NSW 2252

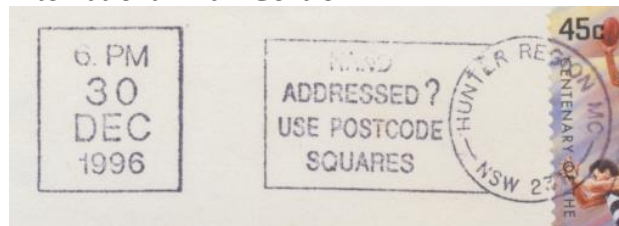


GOULBURN MC NSW 2580

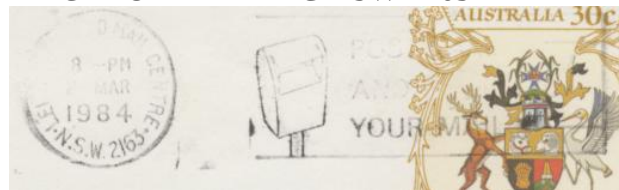


Eastern Suburbs Mail Centre (formerly Rushcutters Bay MC)

HUNTER REGION MC 2310 (Newcastle; using No 2 & 3 from 4 May 1992)
International Mail Centre



LEIGHTONFIELD MC NSW 2163



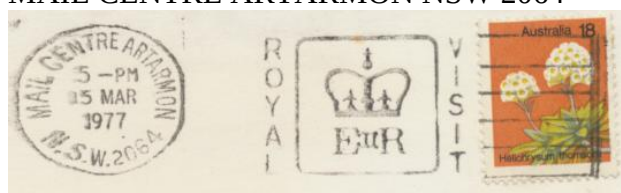
LEIGHTONFIELD MC NSW 2169



LEIGHTONFIELD MC / SOUTH WEST
SUBS MC NSW 2169



MAIL CENTRE ARTARMON NSW 2064



MID NORTH COAST M.S.C. NSW 2442
(Kempsey; mail sorting)

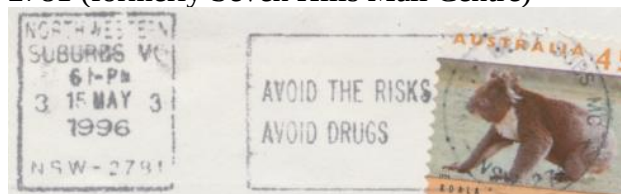


MURRAY REGION Mail Sorting Centre
(Albury)

NEW ENGLAND M.S.C. NSW 2348
(Tamworth; mail sorting)



NORTH WESTERN SUBURBS MC NSW
2781 (formerly Seven Hills Mail Centre)



NORTHERN RIVERS (Casino; mail sorting)

NORTHERN SUBURBS MC NSW 2058
(formerly St Leonards MC)



RIVERINA Mail Sorting Centre 2678
(Wagga Wagga)

RUSHCUTTERS BAY MC NSW 2004



SEVEN HILLS M.C. NSW 2125



SEVEN HILLS MAIL CENTRE NSW 2147



SEVEN HILLS M.C. NSW 2781



SOUTH COAST M.C. NSW 2521
(Wollongong; from 8 June 1992)



SOUTH WESTERN SUBS MC 2169
(formerly Leightonfield MC)
S

SOUTHERN
SUBURBS MC
6.44 PM
1 9 FEB 1
1998
NSW-2215

7c
AUSTRALIA
GOOD & GOLD
HERN SUBS MC
2215

CFCP 451
2.18 06h48

SWLF CRCP 459
19.07.18 20h45

SWLF CFCP 460
19.06.18 10h06

SWLF CFCP 461
02.07.18 21h38


ST HEDWIG VILLAGE
"Caring for the aged is our commitment"

2906 00005504
00

PAID BY THE POST
18-07-2018 18:38

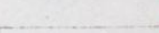
SWLF CFCP 462
17.08.18 22h16

Postage
Paid
Australia

SYDNEY NSW 2000

SYDNEY
18 PM
1 28 DEC 1
2000
N.S.W.-2000

AUSTRALIA POST
50c
australia
BANK BOUTHE 2006
NEW
PART OF THE TEAM
Cathy Jordan MBE



A photograph of a 1987 Australian postage stamp featuring a platypus. The stamp includes a circular postmark from 'MILLER' dated '8 - PM 22 OCT 1987' and a slogan 'child safety is NO accident'.

MACKAY MC QLD 4741

MARYBOROUGH M D C QLD 4650

NOBBY BEACH MAIL CENTRE QLD
4218 NMC CFCP



NORTHGATE MAIL CENTRE QLD 4013



STATE MAIL CENTRE QLD 4000

SUNSHINE COAST QLD 4560



TOWNSVILLE MC QLD 4810

ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700

STAFFORD (Brisbane) QLD 4053

UNDERWOOD MC QLD 4119 (earliest 5
June 1992)

South Australia:

Adelaide MC SA 5000

Tasmania:

Hobart MC TAS 7000



11 February 1980 - Official opening Hobart
Mail Centre

LAUNCESTON MAIL CENTRE TAS –
7250

LAUNCESTON BUSINESS CENTRE TAS
7250



LAUNCESTON DELIVERY CENTRE TAS
– 7250



Victoria:

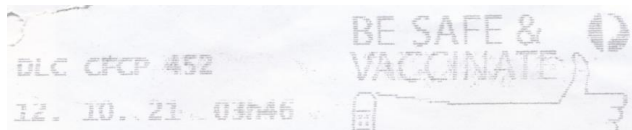
BALLARAT VIC

BENDIGO VIC

BLACKBURN VIC 3130

DANDENONG LC (LETTERS CENTRE)
VIC 3175

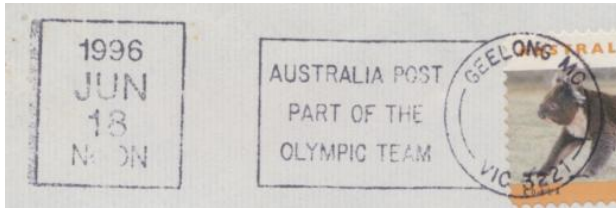
DLC CFCP 452



EASTERN MC VIC 3110 (formerly
Blackburn Mail Centre 3130)

EASTERN SUBURBS PARCEL CENTRE
VIC

GEELONG MC VIC 3221



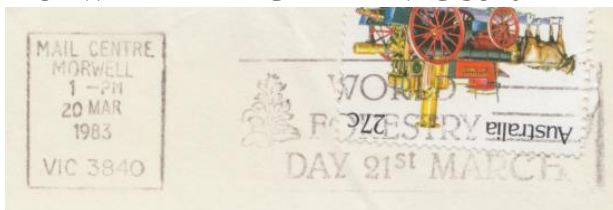
MELBOURNE CITY VIC 3000 (Melbourne
Mail Centre)



MAIL CENTRE MILSTON VIC 3072

MELBOURNE CITY MC 3000
(Operates on OCR)

MORWELL MAIL CENTRE VIC 3840



NORTHERN MAIL CENTRE (formerly

PRESTON MAIL CENTRE VICTORIA
3072)



PRESTON MAIL CENTRE VIC 3072

SEYMOUR VIC 3660, MAIL CENTRE



SOUTH EASTERN MC VIC 3176

SOUTHERN MC VIC 3109 (formerly
Clayton South Mail Centre)
SOUTHERN SUBURBS PARCEL CENTRE
3169

SPENCER STREET MC 3000

STATE MC 3207

WESTERN MC VIC 3012 (formerly
Footscray West Mail Centre)

Technological developments did speed up the
delivery of messages. One of those innovations
was the telephone.



10 March 1976 Centenary of then first Effective
Telephone Transmission.





1 April 1936 Issue of telephone cable between Tasmania and the Australian mainland



3 December 1963 Opening of a Pacific telephone cable

However, the telephone developed from the wall mounted device to the mobile phone requiring satellites:



10 May 1965 Centenary of the International Telecommunications Union



18 May 1983 World Communications Year



24 January 1986 AUSSAT

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

In colonial times the Australian Colonies were represented at the UPU by Great Britain since 1891.

As described in Bulletin 12 – 2024 Australia became a member of UPU in the exchange of international mails.

³ [Home - Richard Juzwin Stamps](#)



9 October 1974 Centenary of the UPU

Above stamps were issued to mark the Centenary of the UPU.

Post Offices

The first post office was opened in New South Wales on the 25 April 1809 when Isaac Nichols was appointed in charge of incoming sea mail.



Post office located in George Street, Sydney (from left, first house with veranda)

The location was situated where in the past George Street North turned into Barton Street (Circular Quay). When Nichols died in 1819 he was succeeded by George Pantom.

There was no change in the postal arrangements until 1825 when “*An Act to Regulate the Postage of Letters in New South Wales*” was passed by Parliament. Its purpose was to empower the Governor to establish other post offices in Sydney.

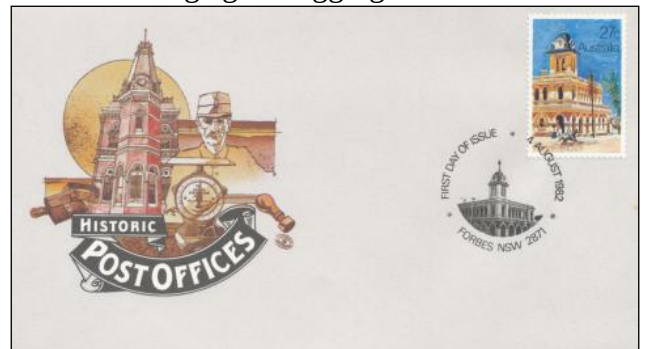
The first post offices, and Postmasters outside Sydney were at Bathurst, Campbelltown, Parramatta, Liverpool, Newcastle, Penrith and Windsor.



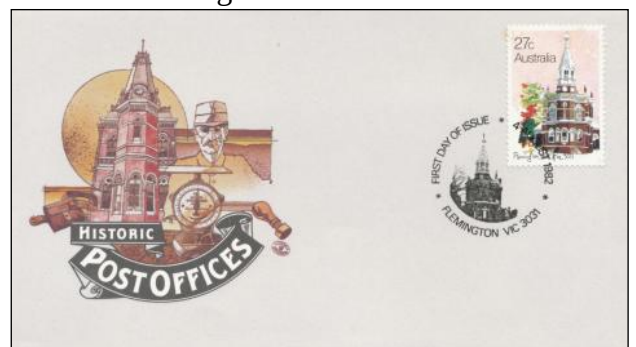
4 August 1982 Historic Post Offices

Seven Post Offices were chosen for the set of stamps. Six post offices are still functional. The Seventh (Alice Springs) is a licensed post office.

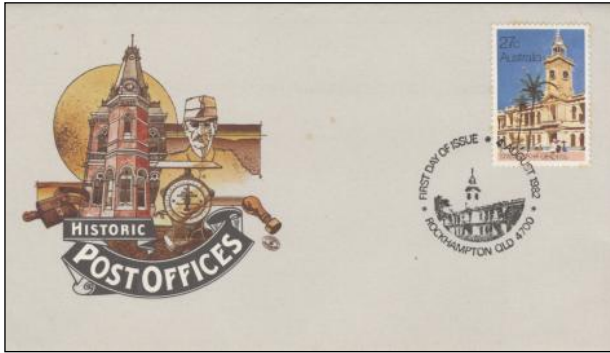
The **Forbes** (2871) post office building was built in 1881, replacing earlier offices that had served the Black Ridge gold diggings.



Flemington (3031) was constructed 1889 to 1890 and is notable for its elegant tower and delicate stained-glass roundels.



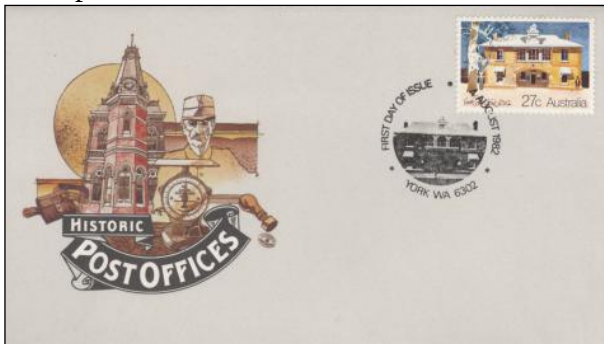
Rockhampton (4700) Post Office was erected in 1892 with a tender price of £14,368.



Kingston SE (5275) was restored around 1982 to recapture much of the original charm when constructed using local hand-shaped stone in 1869 to 1870.



York (6302) house the Post Office and the York Post Office Museum. The double storey building was opened in 1893.



Launceston (7250) built in 1889, on a site formerly occupied by the Royal Olympic theatre. The three-storey high tower was added in 1903. Old Post and Telegraph Station,



Alice Springs (5750) was opened in 1872.



Another Post Office was depicted on the 17 September 1992 Desert Gold issue.



45c Kalgoorlie Post Office

Reference

SYDPEX 80; catalogue

Souvenir of 175 Years of Postal Services in Australia; compiled by the N.S.W. Historical Officer, Australia Post, G.P.O. Sydney