



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 hobby and calendar items 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

Contents

Meetings	3
Philas Connection.....	3
Monthly Display	4
German Corner	4
Australia Corner – some variations	5
The Prancing Horse.....	7
United Kingdom Corner - Abnormals	7
Tasmania Corner	8
Salvation Army.....	9
1919.....	9
1926.....	9
Australian Stamp Monthly 1974	12
German Corner- Konrad Adenauer (former	
West German Chancellor).....	13
Aden.....	14
Telegraph Stamps	15
The First Telegraphic Message	15
Aegean Islands.....	17
AIF overprint on King George V stamp	19
Frontpage.....	20

Meetings

All meetings can be found at

[Wyong and District Philatelic Society \(philas.net.au\)](http://philas.net.au)

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.

2024 Meeting Dates

Evening meetings at Toukley 7.00 pm

17 April

Uwe Kruger: Computing and stamps

15 May

David Watts: Queen Victoria

19 June

Dennis Sonter: My only Stamp: ½ d orange Roo

17 July

AGM

21 August

18 September

16 October

20 November

18 December

Daytime meetings 2024 at Lakehaven 1.00 pm

3 April

Exchange & KGV study group

1 May

Exchange & KGV study group

5 June

Exchange & KGV study group

3 July

Exchange & KGV study group

7 August

Exchange & KGV study group

4 September

Exchange & KGV study group

2 October

Exchange & KGV study group

6 November

Exchange & KGV study group

1 December

Exchange & KGV study group

Philas Connection

All meetings can be found at

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Monthly Display

Peter van de Ven provided a display regarding KGV shades and confirmed that this particular collecting speciality is one of the most researched.

Brian Calcott displayed early postal envelopes and all members expressed their gratitude for a well organised and informative collection.

German Corner

Fighting the right started a long time ago. Glen Stephen comments to the following are:

Adolf Hitler "FUTSCHES REICH" (Ruined Empire) 12pf red

Propaganda Forgery, Stamp Miniature Sheet of 4 flat MUH:

Flat mint unhinged and fully imperforate. The then current Hitler German 12pf letter rate stamp design lampooned with smiling Hitler 'Death Mask'. Originals were part of the World War 2 USA Office Of Strategic Services (OSS) "Operation Cornflake" propaganda campaign to undermine and demoralise the German public.

Details of this wide ranging stamp propaganda campaign were not found until shortly after the death of wartime USA President Franklin D. Roosevelt - whose stamp collection was sold at auction, and official letters outlining this issue, and examples of the Hitler stamp forgeries, were discovered among it.



The original "Skull" stamps were key part of a

¹ Editors collection

high-level clandestine plan to undermine the morale of the average German citizen. The Allies felt that if many German people started receiving Anti-Nazi propaganda in their morning mail delivered punctually at breakfast time by the mailman, they would feel that their "German Empire" was falling apart from within.

They were the brainchild of General "Wild Bill" Donovan, head of the OSS - the U.S. espionage agency during World War II (that later became the CIA) who ordered the original stamps printed by OSS operations in Switzerland.

The OSS decided that the best way to smuggle the mail into the regular German postal system was to bomb mail trains. In addition to the bombs possibly destroying the trains, the bombers each dropped sacks of normal looking addressed mail, containing Anti-Nazi propaganda. During the confusion of cleaning up the wrecks, the false mail sacks were mixed with the damaged genuine German mail.

The OSS re-created all aspects of the German Postal system, from real business return addresses, to many thousands of names and addresses pulled from the existing telephone directories. They even replicated the mail bags, postal markings, and every other detail of the postal system. Every letter was franked with fake "Hitler" stamps. On opening the letter, they would find it filled with anti-Nazi propaganda, often including a block of the 12pf red "Futsches Reich" Death Skull stamp. See link below.

"War is Hell" as we all know, and Donovan wrote to President Roosevelt: "Every fortnight approximately 500 to 1200 copies of the 'Frankfurter Zeitung' newspaper are likewise sent into Germany, where they are mailed to individuals whose addresses appear in the death notices of soldiers who are reported to have died for the Fatherland."

Roosevelt was a keen stamp collector, and was mailed copies of the Hitler forgeries for his own collection, and the website below even contains his "Thank You" letter for them being sent to him.

The original forgeries are fully catalogued in Michel, and of course are rare and expensive, and seldom are offered on the market. A huge amount of detailed info on this amazing propaganda campaign, and the Hitler forgeries and reprints and all correspondence, can be found here:

<http://www.psywarrior.com/Cornflakes2.html>

I bought a small quantity of these mint unhinged reprint/forgery Miniature Sheets of 4 stamps, about 40 years ago, in my first year of stamp dealing, from an old dealer of Jewish background who lived in Bondi, and have not seen them since until cleaning up this month! I have no idea of their origin, but they are obviously way over 40 years old, that you have my written guarantee on.

Surely be a useful sideline addition for Judaica or Germany or USA or forgery collectors?

Australia Corner – some variations

Kangaroos - third watermark: telegraph punctured high values: 10/- perf. OS, £2 and £1 grey



Some more:



Kangaroos - third watermark: £1 chestnut & bright blue 'CA' monogram single. Fine & fresh mint example. Extremely rare. Australian commonwealth specialist catalogue 2021: 52bza - cat. \$80,000



Kangaroos - small multiple watermark: 9d violet, perforated OS, ash imprint blk.(4) [bw:28(4)z] with variety "die 2 substitution" at position 4r49. Probably unique thus. Attractively used April 1933 with "law courts - Melbourne" cds's. The notes accompanying this entry in BW suggest that perf. OS items are worth double the normal. This would suggest a value of \$3,000 for this previously unrecorded block.



KGV heads – C of A watermark; 3d blue, ash imprint block (4, N over A) from plate 8.



1928 3d kookaburra miniature sheet, attractively cancelled in red and blue at the exhibition, cto.



1938 (SG.177) 10/- coronation robes, authority imprint blk.(4)

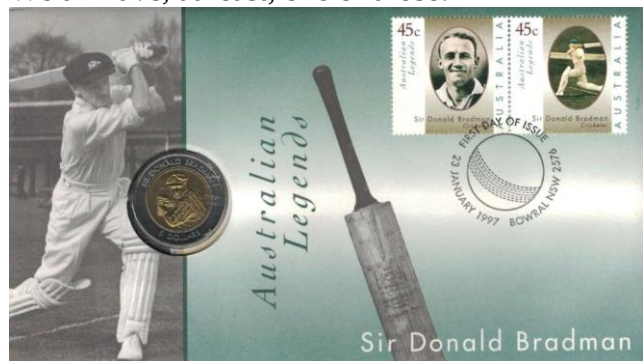


1966 Decimal Currency, 40 c Tasman:²



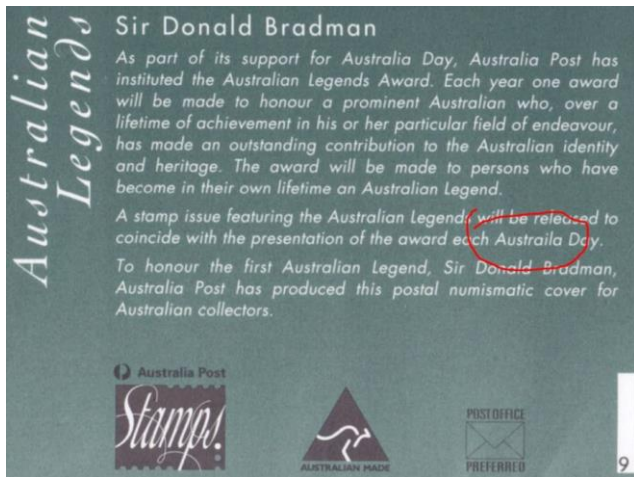
Poorly inked plate.

We all have, at least, one of those:



But, did you have a look at the back (?):
Australia spelled 'Australa'

² [Australian Stamps And Covers Forum At Stamp Community Forum](#)



The Prancing Horse

Not quite King George V but will return some pocket money if sold.



United Kingdom Corner - Abnormals³

Stamps with rare and valuable differences produced by Thomas De La Rue & Co during the first 20 years of their contract to print British stamps (1853-73).

De La Rue submitted to the Board of Inland Revenue the first six sheets of stamps produced from each new printing plate. These stamps were unperforated, on gummed and watermarked paper. The board kept one sheet as the imprimatur, or official copy, and the other five sheets were either destroyed, or perforated and put into circulation.

Normally the stamps would be exactly the same in colour, number and watermark as those later produced from the same plate. But it could happen that the plate was modified before use, or a delay occurred between registration and the production of stamps resulting in the use of

paper with a different watermark. Where this happened, stamps from the five original sheets differ from later stamps of the same issue. When they do, they are called **abnormals**, with values varying between £200 and £1,500.

Only 12 types of abnormal have been discovered, while there are a further nine registered plates for which stamps have never been recorded. The maximum number of any abnormal stamp could never have been more than 1,200, with 240 stamps to each of the five sheets. As these abnormals were produced at a time when collecting was in its infancy, it is not surprising that so few have come to light.

Although the term abnormals is usually reserved for the oddities of the De La Rue mid-Victorian series, there are two examples of so-called abnormals among modern British stamps. The 21d in the 1935 Silver Jubilee series was normally released in bright blue, but abnormals are known in Prussian blue.

Similarly, a few examples of the 1964 Shakespeare 2s 6d Stamp have been found in black instead of deep slate-purple. In Both cases it is thought that colour trial sheets were accidentally perforated and then issued in the normal way.

Spotting abnormals is an exacting specialisation. The earliest of the De La Rue stamps, for example, lacked the small figures seen in their design of later issues, and the various plates were distinguished only by minute differences in the engraving. For instance, plate 3 of the rose-coloured 3d of 1862 was distinguished from plate 2 by small white dots at each end of the word POSTAGE, just below the acanthus leaf ornament (shown in detail below).

The third plate of the bistre 9d of May 1862 was distinguished from the second plate by fine hairlines across the corners. The 3d dots and 9d hairlines rank as abnormals because neither of these plates was put to press. Of the hairlines, about 27 copies are believed to exist and they are highly prized by collectors.

In the 1862 issue plates 1 and 2 of the is denomination were registered as 2 and 3, plate 3 not being used. Stamps with the minute number 2 at the sides are also abnormal. The 9d plate was not put to press either, and stamps from this plate differ from other abnormals; they come

³ New International Encyclopedia of Stamps, Part 1 Vol 1, page4 &5

from a part of the actual imprimatur sheet which was perforated by De La Rue and Co for insertion in albums presented to members of the Stamp Committee an advisory body set up to examine the problems of design.

In 1873, the imprimatur sheet and perhaps one other were the only sheets produced of the is green, printed from plate 14 on spray watermarked paper. When the plate was eventually used in 1881, the colour of the is stamp had been changed to brown, and the watermark showed a crown.

No copies of the plate 14 stamp in green were discovered until 1915, and since then

Stanley Gibbons does list those stamps and even provides details.

SG 78:

No pearls	
	
With pearls	
	

SG 82:

No hair lines	
---------------	--

	
With hair lines	
	

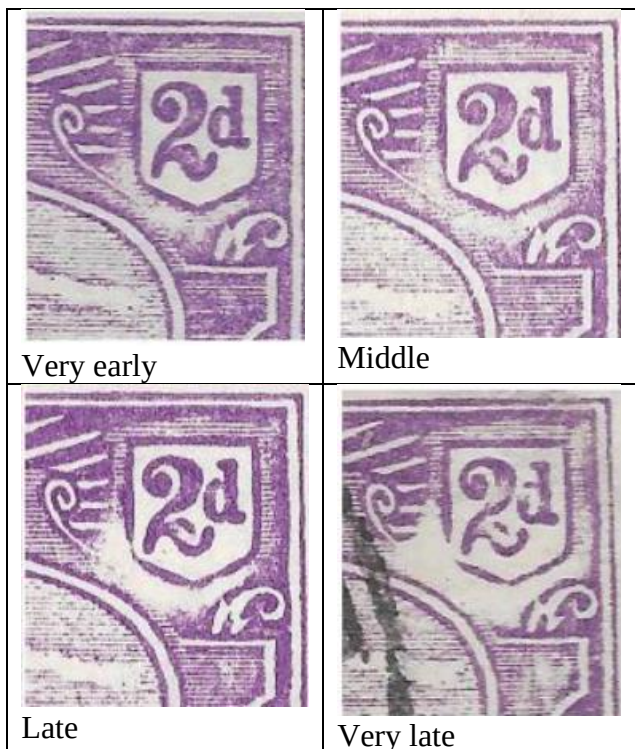
Tasmania Corner⁴



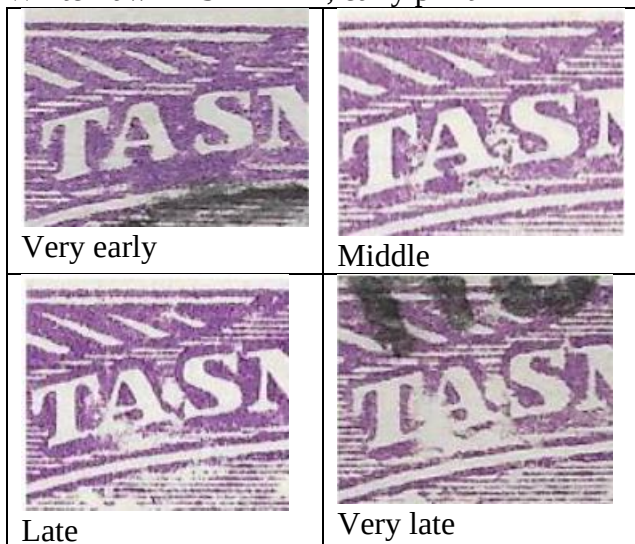
The stamp is from the 1911 Stereotype print and can be plated as 2-32.

Value shield right white area increasing; early print

⁴ [Tasmanian Pictorial With Interesting Flaws - Stamp Community Forum](#)



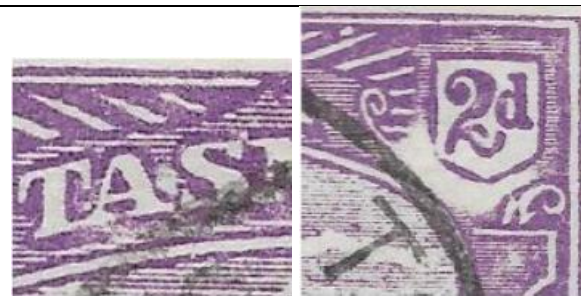
White flaw TASMANIA; early print



Late printing



flaw 'A' & between 'A' & 'S'; white under shield



flaw 'A' & between 'A' & 'S'; white under shield

Salvation Army

1919

This 1919 issued label publicised the Home Service Fund which was, most probably a fore runner of the Red Shield Appeal.

A MAN MAY BE DOWN BUT HE'S NEVER OUT!



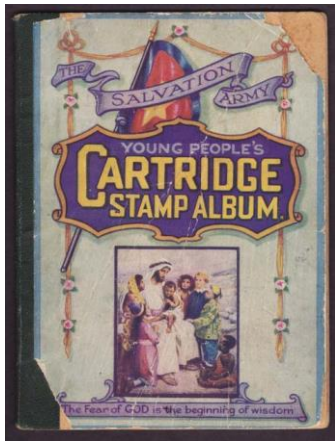
1926⁵

Mark Snotgras

Mark was approached by a collector at our last stamp fair and researched the topic and solved the puzzle (the editor).

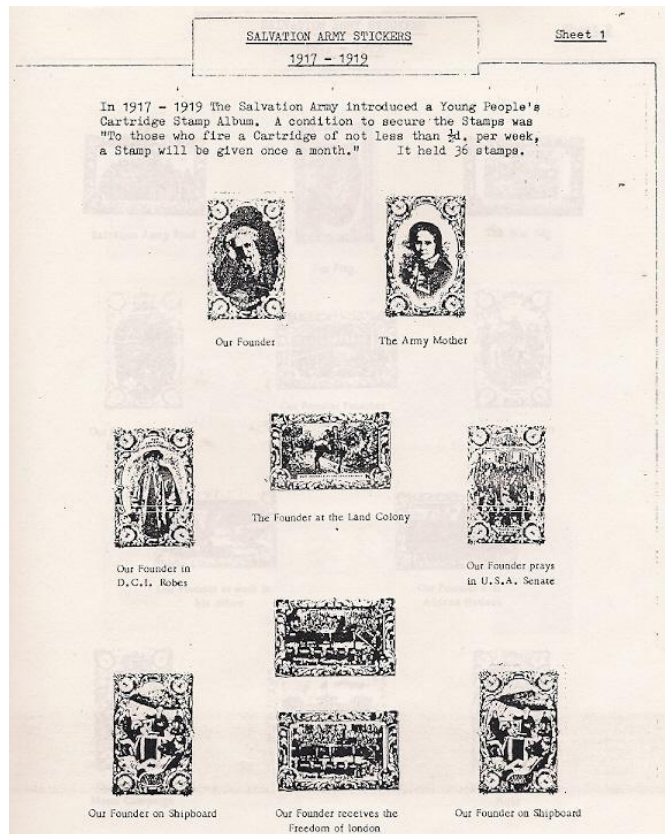
A 12 page book (it measures 4 x 5.25 inches), published by the Salvation Army, dated 1926, on inside front cover with the name Mrs. Merryweather, Carleton St. Fredericton written is known.

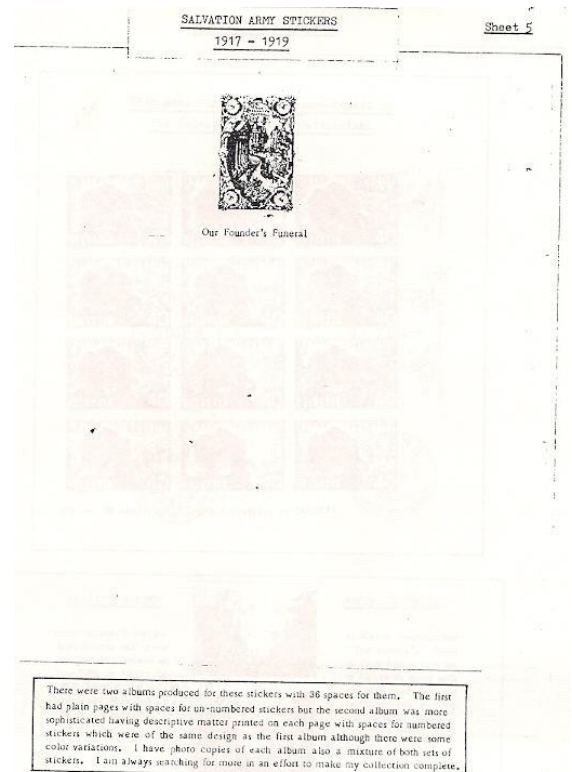
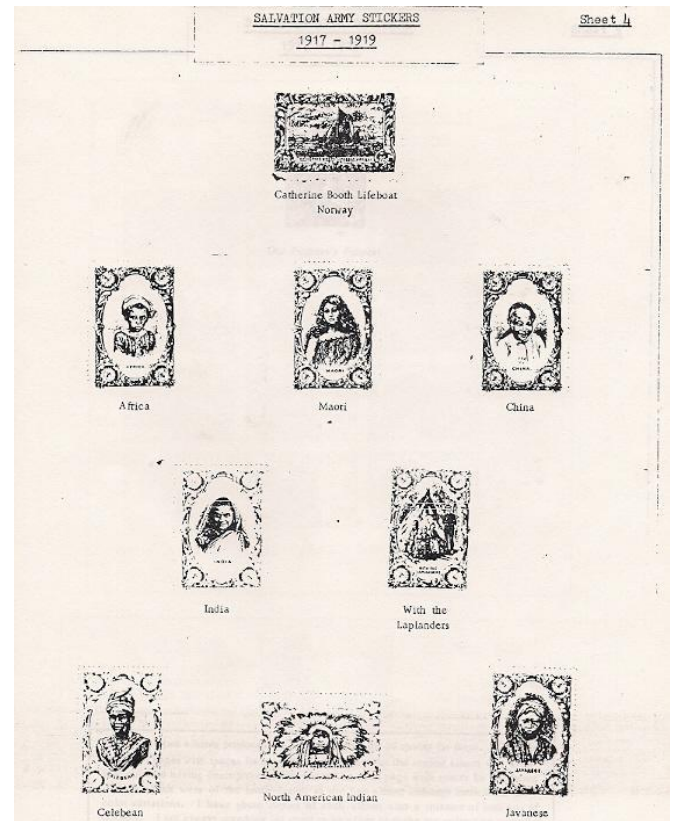
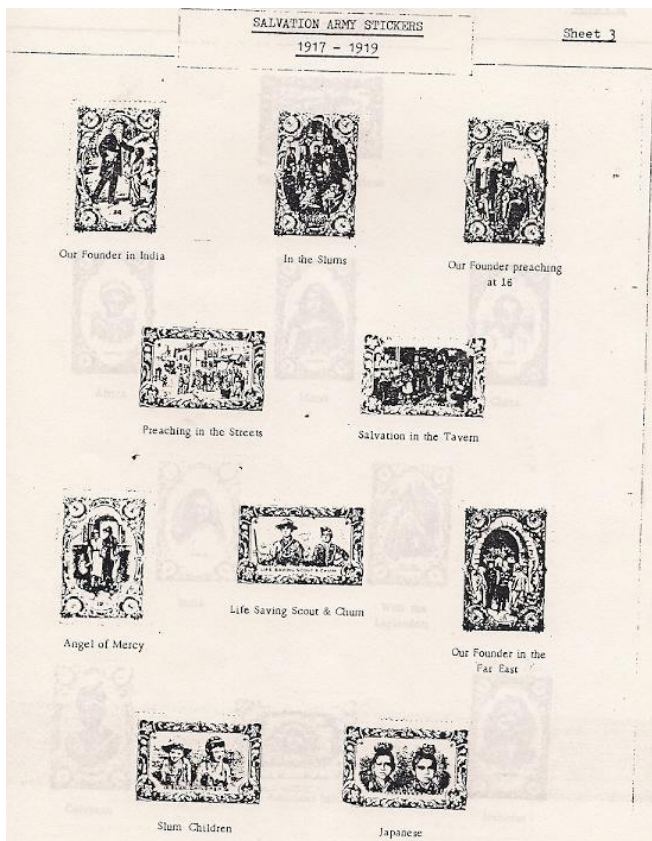
The book contains the history of the Salvation Army written for children, and there are spaces for the kiddies to stick 36 labels.



1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12
13	14	15

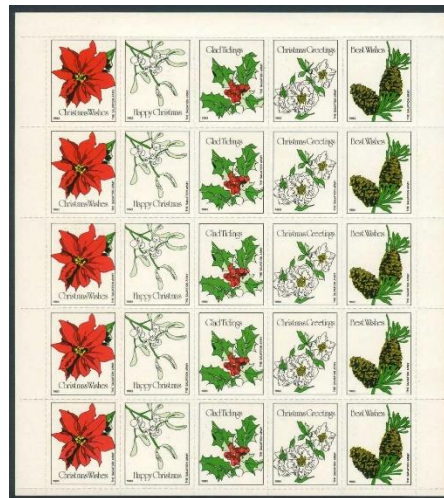
16	17	18
19	20	21
22	23	24
25	26	27
28	29	30
31	32	33
34	35	36







Christmas Seals



Australian Stamp Monthly 1974

BLOOD AND FIRE

By
WALTER
PARKER

The aim, according to its Magazine, "The War Cry", was "to carry the Blood of Christ and the Fire of the Holy Ghost into every part of the world." And this aim has been carried out ever since the Salvation Army was formed.

Although given its name in 1878 it had started thirteen years earlier with the Christian Mission meetings held by the Rev. William Booth, helped by his wife Catherine, in the East End of London. The founder devoted his life to the under-privileged.

Social work soon grew. Practical help accompanied spiritual ministrations. To make more effective the "warfare" against social evils, the organisation developed in a military form, with uniforms, brass bands and religious songs. Salvationists were often persecuted; mobs assaulted them; magistrates often punished them although they were not the aggressors.

In 1965 three countries commemorated the Centenary of the Salvation Army. Great Britain issued two stamps. The 3d stamp shows two bandmen with a banner as background; the 1/6 stamp shows three Salvationists in uniform — two men and a woman — and a banner.

Jamaica also issued two stamps. The 3d stamp shows the uniform cap worn by men; the 1/6 stamp shows a flag-bearer and a drummer marching, with the globe in the background. U.S.A.'s 5c stamp is inscribed "1865-1965 Salvation Army. One hundred years of service".

The Army is headed by a General, elected by a High Council of Officers, holding office until death or resignation. William Booth was the first General, and his son Bramwell and his daughter Evangeline are among his successors.

In 1890 General Booth published a survey entitled "In Darkest England and the Way Out", describing the terrible conditions in the slums. From then on the Army was accepted and authorities made use of its facilities. Today its spiritual and social activities have spread to countries all over the world.

SELVEDGE (Continued)

jammed on that number for quite a long time.

COLOUR BARS

Finally there are the collectors of blocks showing the old "colour bars" and, more recently, the "candy bars". In the latter case it should be borne in mind with the small definitive that there are two panes of 100 with the "candy bar" and that the colour combination under any particular block will vary between the two panes.

The collector who wishes to collect only stamp 4 of row 3 of every issue must be free to do so, just as much as the two people I have heard of who collect cto stamps. One insists that they have selvedge attached and the other that they have full original gum! However, if you are going beyond a "straight" collection why not choose something which is philatelic significance?

Switzerland's 1958 "Publicity Issue" contains four stamps, one of which — the 40c. — commemorated the "75th Anniversary of the Salvation Army in Switzerland". It shows the familiar bonnet which was worn by women Salvationists. In 1967 Denmark issued a single stamp commemorating "The Salvation Army", the stamp bearing a rose with, behind it, what appears to be a source of light.

To salvationists, everyone, of whatever class, colour or creed, is a "brother for whom Christ died".



This selection of stamps featuring the Salvation Army represents Denmark, Jamaica, Switzerland, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

The Australian Stamp Monthly, March, 1974

21

German Corner- Konrad Adenauer (former West German Chancellor)

The West German 10 pfennig stamp, printed in drab grey and embossed with the head of a prisoner crossed by strands of barbed wire, upset the East Germans.



Mail bearing it was roughly handled there, the normal practice being to blot out the stamp by smearing the envelope with black ink. Covers bearing the defaced stamp are now prized. The East German authorities then produced a six-line overprint for their contemporary Stalin memorial issue.

Label used in a propaganda offensive by the East German Communist authorities in retaliation for a West German stamp of 1953 which commemorated German prisoners-of-war still held by Russia.

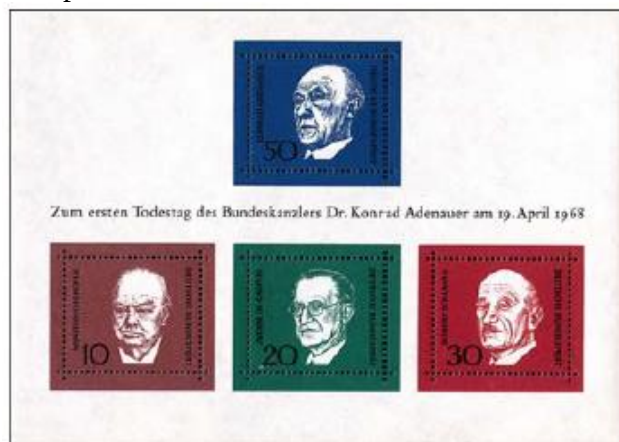


The overprint stated in German: REMEMBER OUR IMPRISONED PEACE FIGHTERS LANGUISHING IN ADENAUER'S JAILS referring to communists allegedly imprisoned on the orders of the then West German Chancellor, Dr Konrad Adenauer. It became known as the Adenauer stamp.

This overprint, produced on greyish paper of the same format, perforation and watermark as the Stalin stamp, was in use for a few days only on mail destined for West Berlin and West Germany. This was one of the more dramatic incidents in the postal campaign waged as part of the Cold War confrontation between East and West Germany.

Note: Michel states that the label was not used as intended (fastened over stamp) but used on the back as seal by government institutions. Fakes have been produced.

Adenauer (1876 – 1967) stamps:
19 April 1968



148 mm x 105 mm

Also 148 mm x 111 mm

19 July 1968



Also known printed on gum side.

5 January 1976



14 January 1988



12 March 1992



Several countries have issued Adenauer stamps.

Aden

The British occupied the port of Aden in January 1839. Aden received the status of a British Crown Colony in 1937. In 1964, Britain promised independence by 1968, but hastily withdrew her forces in late 1967. Formerly administered as part of the Indian Empire.



1854 -1937: Indian stamps used

When Captain S. B. Haines of the Indian Marine, the East India Company's navy, occupied Aden on 19 January 1839, mail services were immediately established in the settlement with a complement of two postal clerks and four letter carriers. An interim postmaster was appointed as early as June 1839. Mail is known to exist from 15 June 1839 although a regular postmaster was not appointed until 1857; one of the officials of the Political Agent or the civil surgeon performed the duties of postmaster for a small salary.

1937 – 1965: Aden stamps used

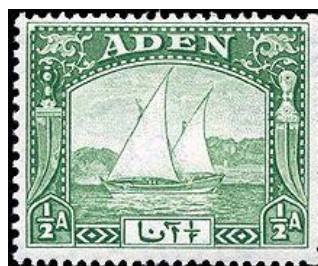
By the Indian Post Office Act of 1837 (Section XX) all private vessels were required to carry

letters at prescribed rates for postage. A handstamp was applied to pre-adhesive ship letters in Aden; although these handstamps were used until 1867, examples are rarely seen.



Dhow Issue

In 1937, the Settlement was detached from India and became the Colony of Aden, a British Crown colony. The new colony received a series of twelve definitive stamps depicting a dhow, produced by De La Rue & Co.



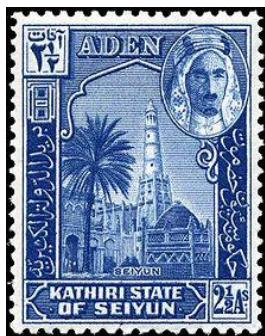
George VI

In 1939, a new definitive issue with the effigy of King George VI was issued.



The sultans of the two major states in the Hadhramaut (part of the Aden Protectorate) objected to this since they were sovereigns in their own right and were not subjects of the King of the United Kingdom. Therefore the British government issued separate stamps in 1942, with the additional inscriptions *Kathiri State of Seiyun* and *Qu'aiti State of Shihr and Mukalla* (later *Qu'aiti State in Hadhramaut*), with portraits of the respective sultans replacing the effigy of

George VI. All of these types were valid in Aden and in the Aden Protectorate.



In 1951, the definitive issue of 1939 was overprinted with shilling denominations when the British East African shilling replaced the Indian rupee as the legal currency of Aden.



Stamps inscribed Aden were used until 31 March 1965 when all were withdrawn.

1 April 1965:

Stamps of Aden, except those of Kathiri and Qu'aiti were replaced by stamps from the Federation of South Arabia.

See South Arabia and People's Democratic Republic of Yemen

Numeral Postmark:



Currency:

12 pies = 1 Anna

(1937) 16 Annas = 1 Rupee

(1951) 100 cents = 1 Shilling

Telegraph Stamps⁶

Telegraph stamps were created solely for the pre-payment of telegraph fees. A customer would complete a telegraph form, and give it to the clerk along with payment. The clerk would then apply and cancel the stamp to show that the fee had been paid.

The First Telegraphic Message



US #924 was issued on the 100th anniversary of the first telegraph.

On May 24, 1844, Samuel Morse sent the first message over telegraph. While in the Supreme Court chamber of the US Capitol, he sent the message "What hath God wrought!" over the telegraph to his assistant in Baltimore, Maryland.



US #16T103 – Western Union Telegraph stamp picturing Samuel Morse

Born in 1791, Samuel F.B. Morse initially embarked on a career as a painter. In 1825, he was painting Marquis de Lafayette when he

⁶ [2T2 - 1888 5c bl,perf 13,"Atlantic tel" - Mystic Stamp Company](#)

received a letter by horse messenger from his father telling him that his wife was very ill. The next day, he received another letter saying that she had died. By the time he returned home, she'd already been buried. Morse was distraught over the loss and upset that he hadn't received the news of her poor health sooner. He then resolved to find a faster means of long-distance communication.



US #890 from the Famous American Inventors issue

In 1832, Morse met an expert in electromagnetism. After witnessing his experiments with electromagnets, Morse developed the idea of the single-wire telegraph. Though other inventors in Europe were also working on their own telegraphs, Morse continued to work on his own. In January 1837, US Naval Captain Samuel C. Reid petitioned Congress to establish a national telegraph system. A month later, Congress asked Secretary of the Treasury Levi Woodbury to investigate the possibility of creating such a system. Woodbury issued a request for suggestions and received more than a dozen responses. Nearly all these responses were for optical telegraphs. The only one that wasn't, came from Morse, who suggested an "entirely new mode of telegraphic communication" – an electromagnetic telegraph.



US #R19P4 – 1862-71 3¢ Telegraph stamp

In his enthusiastic letter to Woodbury, Morse said this his telegraph could work day or night in any weather, better than any other form of telegraph. He also said it would be able to record messages; messages could be received even if there wasn't a person present to receive it. Morse also pointed out that because telegraphs were "another mode of accomplishing the principal object for which the mail is established, to wit: the rapid and regular transmission of intelligence, [it seemed] most natural to connect a telegraphic system with the Post Office Department."



US #1T5 – Stamp issued by the American Rapid Telegraph Co.

Morse received his patent in 1837, and sent his first telegram on January 11, 1838, across two miles of wire. Morse and his assistant Alfred Vail created Morse Code, a "dot and dash" system used to send information through the telegraph's clicking sounds. Together they continued to refine the system over the next few years.

In 1843, Congress granted \$30,000 to test "the capacity and usefulness" of Morse's telegraph. Morse then went about constructing the telegraph line between the US Capitol in Washington, DC, and the train depot in Baltimore, Maryland. On May 24, 1844, he transmitted his first message – "What hath God wrought," a quote from the Book of Numbers in the Bible.



US #2T2 – Stamp issued by the Atlantic Telegraph Company

The announcement of Morse's success fascinated the nation. One reporter stated that it "commences a new era in the process of correspondence... Information will be literally winged with the rapidity of lightning." Morse and his assistant then spent several months sending messages across the telegraph day and night, showing how it could be used in a number of ways. The telegraph line was officially opened to the public on April 1, 1845. Morse was made superintendent of the system and an employee of the Post Office Department. The new service had a postage rate of one-quarter of one cent for each character of the message, paid by the sender. Once the messages were received at the other end, they were written down and given to postmen for delivery.



US #3T3 – Stamp issued by the Baltimore & Ohio Telegraph Company

The telegraph service was unprofitable in its first year, so Congress didn't want to pay to establish more lines. However, Morse and others recognized the importance and usefulness of the telegraph, so they formed their own company and built their own lines from their own funds. By late 1846, telegraph lines connected Washington and New York City, while other lines stretched to Boston and Pittsburgh. Eventually, the private company took over operation of the Washington-Baltimore line, authorized to do so if they didn't charge the government for their service. From then until World War I, telegraph service would remain in private hands. Telegraph service remained in use through the end of the century, but would come to an end in 1913.

Aegean Islands

Group of small islands in the Aegean Sea. They are also known as the Southern Sporades ('sporadic', derived from this, indicates the way

the islands are strewn across the sea), or the Dodecanese (Greek for twelve islands). They can however, total any number up to 15, depending on how they are counted.

The islands were successively under the rule of the Romans, Saracens, Venetians, Genoese, Arabs and the crusading Knights of St John of Jerusalem. The knights were ousted from Rhodes by the Turks in 1522 and for almost four centuries the Aegean Islands formed part of the Turkish Ottoman Empire.

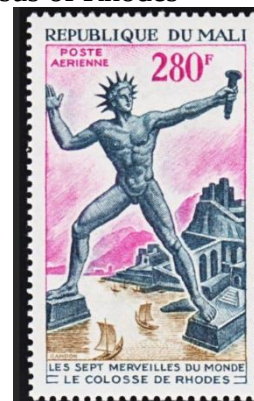
Italy took advantage of Turkey's difficulties in the Balkan Wars to stage her own campaign of 1911-12. The resulting victory brought her the Aegean Islands. Large garrisons of Italian troops remained on them for 30 years.

Each island has at least two names, one Greek, and another given by the Italians and familiar to collectors of overprinted Italian issues used there.

The islands have always been inhabited by people of Greek race. Historically famous for their sculptures – the statue of the Laocoön



and the Colossus of Rhodes



being the best known examples - they were also the birthplaces of Hippocrates, the Father of Medicine, and of Cleobolus, one of the seven sages of ancient Greece.

To philatelists, the term Aegean Islands covers only those of the islands which had their own stamps during the 33 years of Italian occupation (1912-45).

The Italian occupation was marked by the release of 25 centesimi and 50 centesimi stamps in September 1912 overprinted simply EGEO (Aegean). This was modified the following December when the contemporary Italian definitives from 2c to 50c were overprinted



Stamps of Italy were o/p EGEO in 1913, and separate o/p issues for the chief islands followed in 1915:

[Calimno](#),



[Caso](#),



[Castelrosso](#),



[Cos](#),



[Karki \(Charchi\)](#),



[Leros](#),



[Lipso](#),



[Scarpanto,](#)



[Nisiros,](#)



[Simi,](#)



[Patmos,](#)



[Stampalia.](#)



[Piscopi,](#)



See also [Dodecanese.](#)

British stamps o/p 'M.E.F.' (Middle East Forces) were in use by British occupation troops 1945-47.



[Rodi \(Rhodes\),](#) (1932)



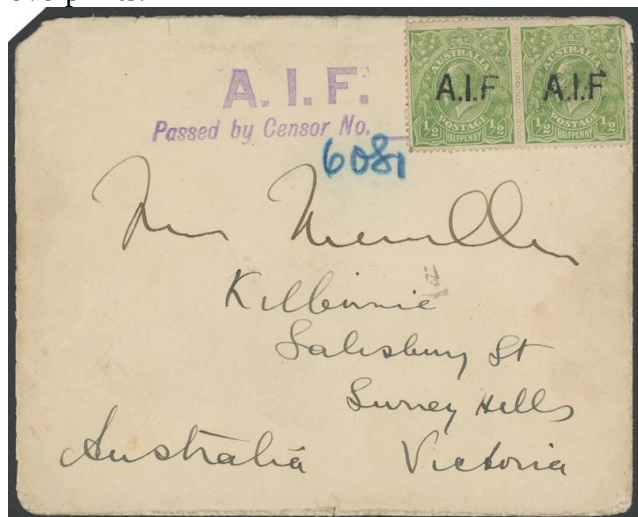
Currency:

100 centesimi = 1 Lira (Italian)

AIF overprint on King George V stamp⁷
1916 (circa) Orient Line of Royal Mail Steamers envelope to Victoria posted by an Australian serviceman on board troopship with

⁷ Abacus auction No 253, lot 567

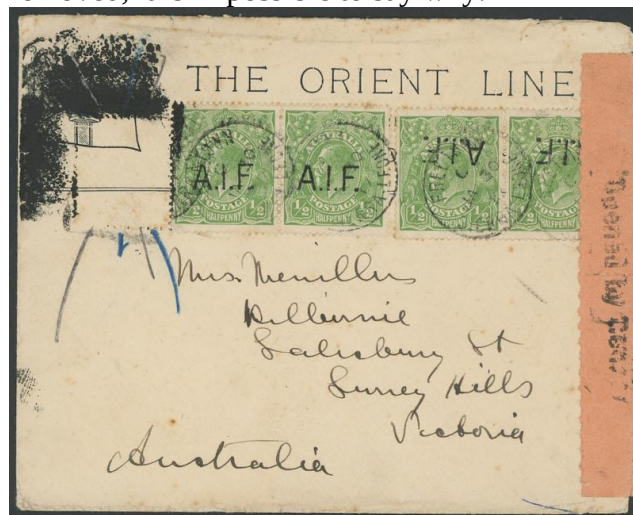
'A.I.F./Passed by Censor No. ["6081"]' cachet (number added in blue pencil) and KGV ½d green 'A.I.F.' Overprint pair affixed but not cancelled, the cover with minor edge faults & the left-hand stamp with perf faults at upper-right. [These private unauthorised overprints were purportedly 'issued' for use on troopship and military mail, but did not have any postal validity. From February 1915 onwards, Australian servicemen overseas were afforded free letter (up to 4oz) postage privilege, so no action was taken in respect of the bogus overprints.



1917 (Jan 30) The Orient Line illustrated 'Flag' envelope to Victoria presumably posted by an Australian serviceman on board troopship with KGV ½d green 'A.I.F.' Overprint horizontal pairs x2 the right-hand pair both with the Overprint Inverted, the cover off-loaded en route along the African coast with the stamps tied by four light strikes of 'FREETOWN/SIERRA LEONE' cds plus a very fine backstamp, another stamp affixed alongside initially invalidated with pencil 'X' then blacked-out with ink and finally removed entirely, censored with a pair of 'G. [Arms] R./Officially sealed' black/pink labels handstamped 'Opened by Censor' (as James Drummond 'Official Seals of the World' OS1 but on pink instead of cream paper) affixed at right, a couple of very minor aging marks.

These private unauthorised overprints were purportedly 'issued' for use on troopship and military mail, but did not have any postal validity. From February 1915 onwards, Australian servicemen overseas were afforded free letter (up to 4oz) postage privilege. The Sierra Leone postal clerk appears to have

accepted the overprints as valid, but taken issue with the other stamp (label?): having been removed, it is impossible to say why.



1917 (Jan): The Orient Line of Royal Mail Steamers illustrated 'Flag' envelope to Victoria presumably posted by an Australian serviceman on board troopship with KGV 1d red 'A.I.F.' Overprint affixed but not cancelled, the cover off-loaded en route with South Africa KGV 2½d blue added tied by 'PIETERMARITZBURG/12JA17' postmark.



Frontpage

Denmark: 1851 Genuine Essay by M.W. Ferslew in negative black recess printing on carton paper. Only three known in private possession.