



# COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPT.,  
TREASURY GARDENS,  
MELBOURNE. C.2.

## PHILATELIC BULLETIN

This Bulletin and subsequent issues will be distributed to Philatelic Societies in Australia and New Zealand and to Editors of Philatelic journals in Australia and overseas countries. Other Philatelic organisations and individual collectors and dealers who wish to be included in the mailing list should advise the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, Treasury Gardens, Melbourne, C.2, Victoria, in writing as soon as possible.

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The Bulletin will be published at intervals of approximately two months.

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## PROGRAMME FOR PHILATELIC SERVICE.

With the concurrence of the Postmaster-General (Hon. H.L. Anthony), who is keenly interested in the efforts which are being made by the Department to improve the standard of designs of postage stamps and to provide stamp collectors with facilities in keeping with those adopted by other leading Postal Administrations, a Philatelic Section has been set up by the Department.

With the recent establishment of a Philatelic Bureau at the General Post Office, Melbourne, and of Philatelic Sales Sections at the General Post Offices in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart, the Department is now equipped to handle promptly and efficiently the requirements of stamp dealers and collectors.

The Philatelic Bulletin will bring to the notice of collectors the facilities offered at the Philatelic Sections. It will also include information supplementing the necessarily brief announcements contained in press releases and will provide other news of philatelic interest concerning current and obsolete Commonwealth stamps and postal stationery.

The Department believes that the stamps of the Commonwealth are held in high regard generally amongst philatelists the world over and that in recent years they have become one of the most popular of all collecting groups. Standards will continue to be improved.

It is hoped that the Departmental innovations will prove of considerable benefit and assistance to stamp collectors generally and will play an important part in the future development of Australian philately.

*G. L. Shippindall*

DIRECTOR-GENERAL.

## PHILATELIC SALES FACILITIES.

Philatelic Sections at which collectors may purchase specially selected postage stamps suitable for philatelic purposes have been opened at the General Post Offices in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart.

Any Section will provide on application a list of stamps available and a copy of the terms of sale. Each Section will also handle orders by post within the respective State.

Similar facilities are provided at the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Spencer Street, Melbourne, C.1. In addition, the Bureau will handle all overseas orders as well as direct orders by post from collectors anywhere in Australia.

A list of stamps which may be purchased at all Philatelic Sections is included in this issue. The terms of sale, which are also shown, are particularly applicable to the Melbourne Bureau, but in suitably modified form the same terms of sale are also in operation at the Philatelic Sections in other States.

## SHEETS CONTAINING STAMPS OF TWO OR MORE DESIGNS.

The Postmaster-General, in referring recently to the two 3½d. stamps which will comprise part of the series to be issued in September, 1953, to commemorate the Sesquicentenary of Tasmania, said that the stamps will be issued as a pair within the same sheet.

However, this decision is not intended in any way as a gesture to philatelists. The practice was instituted with previous issues specifically to facilitate production. When two stamps are to be printed together the necessary plates can be made and the stamps produced much more quickly than would be the case if they were treated separately. This factor is of considerable importance in view of the heavy commitments of the Commonwealth Note Printing Branch, where Australian stamps are printed.

## THE 1953 STAMP PROGRAMME.

Placed on sale on the 11th February, 1953, the first new postage stamps of this year comprised the Food Production series.

The first replacement in the general series affected the  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. denomination. A new  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp, red in color, portraying Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, was issued on the 21st April, 1953. This stamp replaced the  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. King George VI stamp, first issued on the 28th November, 1951.

The new  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp is of the same overall size (20.25mm. x 24.05mm.) and in the same sheet formation (sheets of 160 divided into two vertical panes of 80) as the stamp it replaced, and it is also printed on watermarked paper. This stamp was issued in booklet form on the 8th July, 1953.

The recent coronation of Her Majesty was commemorated by three stamps of double size (40.5mm. x 24.05mm.) issued on the 25th May, 1953, and which were on sale for approximately two months from that date. Denominations comprised  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. (scarlet),  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. (violet) and 2/- (slate green). The stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper and issued in sheets of 80, divisible into two vertical panes, each of 40 stamps. The new size of these stamps was adopted to facilitate production. The design common to all denominations comprised, at the right, a portrait of Her Majesty and, at the left, superimposed upon an outline of St. Edward's Crown, a six-line commemorative inscription.

Two other denominations in the general series which are being replaced are the 1d. and 3d. stamps. The two new stamps are of the same size, design and sheet formation as the recent  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. Queen Elizabeth the Second stamp but are printed on unwatermarked paper. The 1d. stamp is violet in color and the 3d. is green.

The latter stamp was issued at all post offices on the 17th June, 1953, and the 1d. stamp will appear on the 19th August, 1953. The stamps being replaced are the 1d. portraying Her Majesty as The Princess Elizabeth (first issued on the 20th November, 1947) and the 3d. portraying King George VI (first issued on the 14th November, 1951).

The new 3d. stamp will also be issued in coil form in due course for use in stamp vending machines. However, as very few 1d. vending machines are in use, and considerable stocks of 1d. stamp coils are held, the new 1d. stamp will not be made up into coils for some time.

The next commemorative stamp to appear will be issued on the 3rd September, 1953, and will mark the 25th anniversary of the official establishment of Young Farmers' Clubs in Australia. Clubs of this kind, and variously named; were in existence considerably more than 25 years ago but they were not organised on a State basis until 1928. The first State organisation (N.S.W.) was established on the 23rd July, 1928, and in other States shortly afterwards. In 1952 the several State bodies became associated in an Australian Council of Young Farmers.

The stamp will be of  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. denomination and will be printed in two colors, the border in green and the centre in red-brown. It will be the first Australian bicolored commemorative stamp and will typify the Young Farmers' Clubs movement with a design showing a boy and girl with a calf. Overall size of the stamp will be 28.5mm. x 23.5mm. and it will be issued in sheets of 100.

Late in September, 1953, three stamps will appear to commemorate the Sesquicentenary of Tasmania. The series will comprise two  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps and a 2/- stamp. The two lower denominations will be of small size (20.25mm. x 24.05mm.) and will be issued as a pair within the same sheet. They will portray respectively Lieutenant-Governor D. Collins and Lieutenant-Governor W. Paterson. The 2/- stamp will be of double size (40.5mm. x 24.05mm.) and will depict a view of Sullivan Cove, Hobart.

A further stamp, of 3d. denomination, to be issued in November, 1953, will also be associated with Tasmania. This stamp will commemorate the centenary of the issue of the first Tasmanian stamps. These, issued in November, 1853, comprised 1d. and 4d. denominations and were inscribed "VAN DIEMEN'S LAND". The new stamp design will incorporate a reproduction of the first 4d. stamp, which portrayed Queen Victoria.

No other new adhesive postage stamps are to be issued during 1953 but three new postage due stamps (7d., 2/- and 5/-) will be brought into use on the 26th August, 1953. These will generally conform in pattern to that of current postage due stamps.

Changes are also being made in postal stationery. Postcards and lettercards with impressed stamps portraying Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second were issued on the 1st July, 1953, and newspaper wrappers on the 5th August, 1953.

New 10d. Aerogrammes, formerly termed Airletters, were issued on the 29th July, 1953. These bear an impressed stamp depicting an aeroplane superimposed upon a globe. Later in the year further postal stationery with impressed stamps portraying Her Majesty will be available.

#### FOOD PRODUCTION SERIES, 1953.

Six postage stamps were issued on the 11th February, 1953, to draw attention to the need for increased food production in Australia.

The series comprised three 3½d. stamps, red in color, all prominently inscribed "PRODUCE FOOD" and with designs associated respectively with Butter, Wheat and Beef, and also three 3d. green stamps bearing similar wording and designs. These denominations were chosen so that they would be utilised on the maximum number of postal articles during their period of sale, approximately 2½ months.

In respect of each denomination the three stamps were included in the same sheet, this course being adopted for ease of production and to obviate post office staffs handling three separate sheets of the same denomination in different designs.

Overall measurement of each stamp, including perforations, is 23.5mm. x 28.5mm. and they were printed at the Commonwealth Note Printing Branch, Melbourne, by the letterpress process on unwatermarked paper, perforated 14½ x 15, and issued in sheets of 100, divided horizontally into two panes of 50 (5 rows of 10 stamps).

The group of 50 was the basic unit for each denomination and in each group or pane the three designs occurred in sequence of Butter, Wheat and Beef, the two former designs being repeated 17 times each and the Beef design 16 times. Thus, in each issued sheet there were 34 stamps with the Butter design, the same number with the Wheat design and 32 stamps with the Beef design.

To make the printing plates, black and white drawings were prepared and duplicated photographically. These were laid down in sets of 50 for each denomination and line process engraved copper blocks were made. These copper blocks were then used to make the printing plates (or electrotypes), eight of which were made up in a type high printing forme. Nine 3d. plates and nine 3½d. plates, each containing 50 replicas, were used for printing the stamps.

Quantities issued comprised 574,995 sheets of the 3d. stamps and 963,790 sheets of the 3½d. denomination.

STAMPS AND POSTAL STATIONERY AVAILABLE AT THE PHILATELIC BUREAU AND PHILATELIC SALES SECTIONS.

(This list is subject to change without notice.)

General Series (sold at face value).

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	orange, Kangaroo.
1d.	purple, Queen Elizabeth the Second (as The Princess Elizabeth).
$1\frac{1}{2}$ d.	green, Queen Elizabeth (Mother).
2d.	green, Queen Elizabeth (Mother).
$2\frac{1}{2}$ d.	purple-brown, King George VI.
3d.	green, King George VI.
3d.	green, Queen Elizabeth the Second.
$3\frac{1}{2}$ d.	red-brown, King George VI.
$3\frac{1}{2}$ d.	red, Queen Elizabeth the Second.
4d.	green, Koala.
$4\frac{1}{2}$ d.	red, King George VI.
$5\frac{1}{2}$ d.	slate-blue, Emu.
6d.	brown, Kookaburra.
$6\frac{1}{2}$ d.	brown, King George VI.
$6\frac{1}{2}$ d.	green, King George VI.
$7\frac{1}{2}$ d.	blue, King George VI.
$8\frac{1}{2}$ d.	brown, Aborigine.
9d.	umber-grey, Platypus.
1/-	green, Lyrebird.
$1/0\frac{1}{2}$ d.	deep blue, King George VI.
$1/3$ d.	brown-purple, Hereford Bull.
$1/6$ d.	grey-black, Hermes and Globe.
2/-	chocolate, Aboriginal Art.
$2/6$ d.	brown, Aborigine.
5/-	red, Coat of Arms.
10/-	purple, Coat of Arms.
£1	blue, Coat of Arms.
£2	green, Coat of Arms.

Notes.

- (a) Stamps of denominations of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 3d. inclusive are printed on unwatermarked paper. Other stamps are on paper watermarked small mult. crown over C of A.
- (b) Stamps of denominations  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1/- are in sheets of 160;  $1/0\frac{1}{2}$ d. to  $2/6$ d. in sheets of 120 and 5/- to £2 in sheets of 60.
- (c) Stamps of  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d.  $5\frac{1}{2}$ d.  $8\frac{1}{2}$ d. and  $1/3$ d. denominations, as well as the  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. brown, are obsolescent and will be available until existing stocks are exhausted.

Commemorative Stamps etc. (sold at face value).

- (a) Pan-Pacific Scout Jamboree, 1952-53. Issued, 19th November, 1952. Sheets of 160.  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. red, Boy Scout.
- (b) Food Production. Issued 11th February, 1953. Sheets of 100.
- |                   |              |                               |              |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 3d. green, Butter | } Included   | $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. red, Butter | } Included   |
| 3d. green, Wheat  |              | } within the                  |              |
| 3d. green, Beef   | } one sheet. | $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. red, Beef   | } one sheet. |

- (c) Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second. Issued 25th May, 1953.  
Sheets of 80, 3½d. scarlet, 7½d. violet, 2/- slate green.

Postage Due Stamps (sold at face value).

(These stamps are not valid for ordinary postage purposes). Numeral types, carmine and green, watermarked paper (in sheets of 120). ½d. 1d. 1½d. 2d. 3d. 4d. 5d. 6d. 1/-.

Stamp Booklets.

- (a) Booklet containing twelve 3½d. King George VI stamps - 3/6d. (These booklets are available with or without tropical interleaving).  
(b) Booklet containing twelve 3½d. Queen Elizabeth the Second stamps - 3/6d.

Specimen Sets.

These sets comprise a complete range of Commonwealth postage stamps current at the time they are made up. Stamps of a face value of ½d. to 5/- are lightly postmarked. Those of 10/-, £1 and £2 denominations are overprinted "SPECIMEN". Price - 10/- per booklet.

Coil Stamps.

- (a) Available in complete coils at the prices indicated.

½d. Kangaroo, containing 720 stamps	£1 10 .
½d. Kangaroo, containing 960 stamps	£2 . .
1d. Queen Elizabeth the Second (as The Princess Elizabeth) containing 960 stamps	£4 . .
2d. King George VI, containing 720 stamps	£6 . .
2d. King George VI, containing 960 stamps	£8 . .
3d. King George VI, containing 960 stamps	£12 . .
3d. Queen Elizabeth the Second containing 960 stamps	£12 . .

- (b) Available in sheet form (with special coil perforation) under usual conditions.

½d. Kangaroo, 2d. Queen Mother.

Cancelled to Order.

All current Commonwealth postage and postage due stamps are available, at face value, lightly postmarked singly or in sheets.

Postal Stationery.

Airletter form bearing impressed 10d. stamp ("Constellation" plane)	10d. each
Aerogramme bearing impressed 10d. stamp (Plane and Hemisphere)	10d. each
Envelope, buff, bearing embossed 3½d. King George VI stamp	4d. each
Envelope, ordinary, bearing embossed 3½d. King George VI stamp	2 for 7½d.
Envelope, registered, bearing embossed 1/0½d. King George VI stamp	1/1½d. each
Lettercard, bearing impressed 3½d. King George VI stamp	4d. each
Lettercard, bearing impressed 3½d. Queen Elizabeth the Second stamp	4d. each
Postcard, bearing impressed 3d. King George VI stamp	3d. each
Postcard, bearing impressed 3d. Queen Elizabeth the Second stamp	3d. each
Newspaper wrapper, bearing impressed 2½d. King George VI stamp	2½d. each
Newspaper wrapper, bearing impressed 2½d. Queen Elizabeth the Second stamp	2½d. each.

TERMS OF SALE OF STAMPS AT THE PHILATELIC BUREAU.

(These conditions are also operative, as applicable, at Philatelic Sales Sections.)

Availability.

Stamps and postal stationery listed will be supplied subject to their being in stock at the time of the order and the relevant remittance being received.

Counter Sale.

Stamps for philatelic purposes may be purchased at the Philatelic Bureau, Ground Floor, G.P.O., Spencer Street, Melbourne.

Orders by Post.

- (a) All orders and correspondence should be addressed to the Director, Posts and Telegraphs, G.P.O., Melbourne, C.1., Victoria, to whom remittance must be made payable.
- (b) Remittances must accompany orders and those from Australian clients should be in the form of bank draft, money order or postal note.
- (c) Remittances from clients outside Australia should be made by bank draft or international money order.
- (d) If orders accompanied by money orders are sent by airmail, arrangements should be made with the Post Office concerned to send the money order advices by the same means, otherwise the filling of orders will be delayed.
- (e) Clients ordering by mail must remit a sufficient amount for return postage (and, where necessary, registration) in accordance with the following scale of charges -

Surface Transmission.

Australia, and countries to which the British Empire rates apply -  
3½d. first oz., 2½d. each additional oz.  
Other countries -  
7½d. first oz., 4½d. each additional oz.

Airmail.

In Australia and to Papua-New Guinea, Nauru and Norfolk Islands -  
3d. per ½ oz. in addition to ordinary postage.  
To New Zealand -  
8d. each ½ oz.  
To India, Ceylon, Hawaii and Hong Kong -  
1/3d. each ½ oz.  
To Pacific Islands, Malaya and Indonesia -  
1/- each ½ oz.  
To Central America and West Indies -  
2/6d. each ½ oz.  
To South America -  
3/- each ½ oz.  
To United Kingdom, U.S.A., Canada, Europe, Africa and most of Asia -  
2/- each ½ oz.

Registration.

Where the amount of the order exceeds 10/- a registration fee of 9d. must be paid in addition to other postage charges.

- (f) If the remittance forwarded with any order is insufficient to cover pre-payment of postal or other charges on the filled order such order will be reduced by the amount necessary to cover such charges.
- (g) Postage stamps of any kind are not accepted in payment or part payment of any order.
- (h) In the case of orders which cannot be filled, or only partly, so any necessary refunds will be made by the most convenient means.

### Position Blocks.

In view of the limited number of position blocks which can become available, designated position blocks cannot be supplied, except under the following conditions -

- (a) In respect of postage stamps in sheets of 160 ( $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1/- denominations) - Full panes of 80 are to be purchased.
- (b) In respect of postage stamps in sheets of 100 - Full panes of 50 are to be purchased.
- (c) In respect of postage stamps in sheets of 120 or 60, the minimum number of stamps to be purchased is as follows -

<u>Denomination.</u>	<u>No. of Stamps.</u>
1/0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1/6d.	48
2/- and 2/6d.	36
5/-	24
10/-	16
£1	12
£2	6

- (d) In respect of postage due stamps -  
 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 5d. 48  
6d. to 1/- 24
- (e) In respect of postage stamps in sheets of 80 - Full panes of 40 are to be purchased.

### Centring of Stamps.

Every effort will be made to furnish well-centred stamps, and sheet stocks are selected from the best available. Coil stamps cannot be selected for centring. However, well-centred stamps are not always obtainable so that all sales are final and no exchanges or refunds can be made.

### Standing Orders.

Overseas dealers may place standing orders for new stamps and postal stationery as they appear. Conditions of acceptance of standing orders may be obtained on application.

### First Day Covers.

- (a) Clients who desire to receive first day covers on the occasions when new stamps are issued are required to forward self-addressed covers to reach the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Melbourne, C.1., at least three days prior to the date of issue. All covers must contain "Fillers" and must be sealed or have the flaps turned in.

(Note: Envelopes for use as first day covers will not be provided by the Department or purchased from outside sources on behalf of clients, nor can the Department undertake to address covers forwarded in blank form.)

- (b) All covers will be returned by ordinary mail unless it is specifically requested that they be returned by registered or airmail.
- (c) Clients must forward remittances to cover the cost of postage stamps required to be affixed to the covers, in accordance with the rates indicated in paragraph (e) of the Section "Orders by Post" on Page 7, and their own requirements.
- (d) Sufficient space should be allowed on first day covers if blocks of stamps are ordered.

### Limitations of Service.

- (a) The Bureau does not supply stamps of Papua-New Guinea, Nauru or Norfolk Island and all orders for such stamps should be sent direct to the Chief Postmaster in the Territory concerned.
- (b) The addresses of collectors cannot be supplied, nor can any exchange of correspondence or stamps between collectors be arranged.
- (c) The Bureau cannot undertake the valuation of stamps of any kind.