

*Nordisk*  
**FILATELI** ETABLERAD 1937

FRIMÄRKEN - POSTHISTORIA - VYKORT - CINDERELLA

HANDOUT • THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON • 7 SEPTEMBER 2021  
Zoom presentation by Jonas Hällström RDP FRPSL at 1500hrs BST kindly arranged by Vice President Mike Roberts FRPSL



**Jonas Hällström RDP FRPSL**



# THE NAVIGATORS

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA HIGH VALUES 1963-1974

**Preview of Forthcoming Meetings: Season 2020–2021**

7 September 2021 at 3.00 pm: by Zoom:  
Jonas Hällström RDP FRPSL

*The Navigators: Australia High Values 1963-1974.*

The Navigator High Values series was in use during Australia's conversion from Sterling to the Australian Dollar. During 1963-1964, the Australian Post Office replaced the previous, long-lived, Coat of Arms high values with a new series honouring the early navigators who explored Australian waters in the period before colonisation.

The conversion date from Sterling (Pre-decimal) to Australian Dollar (Decimal) currency was 14 February 1966. To help the public, the existing designs would be the equivalent of the pre-decimal denominations.

The presentation is a traditional philately study of this interesting period, with many high-denomination stamps used on commercial postal articles.

Pre-decimal stamp issues remained valid for postage until 14 February 1968, two years after the official conversion date. After that date all Australian Commonwealth issues from 1913, and those Colonial issues (which had still been valid for postage), were demonetised. Pre-decimal stamps could be offered for exchange or refund at the post offices until 13 February 1971, after which these stamps became invalid. Examples of mixed currency Navigator frankings are very unusual.



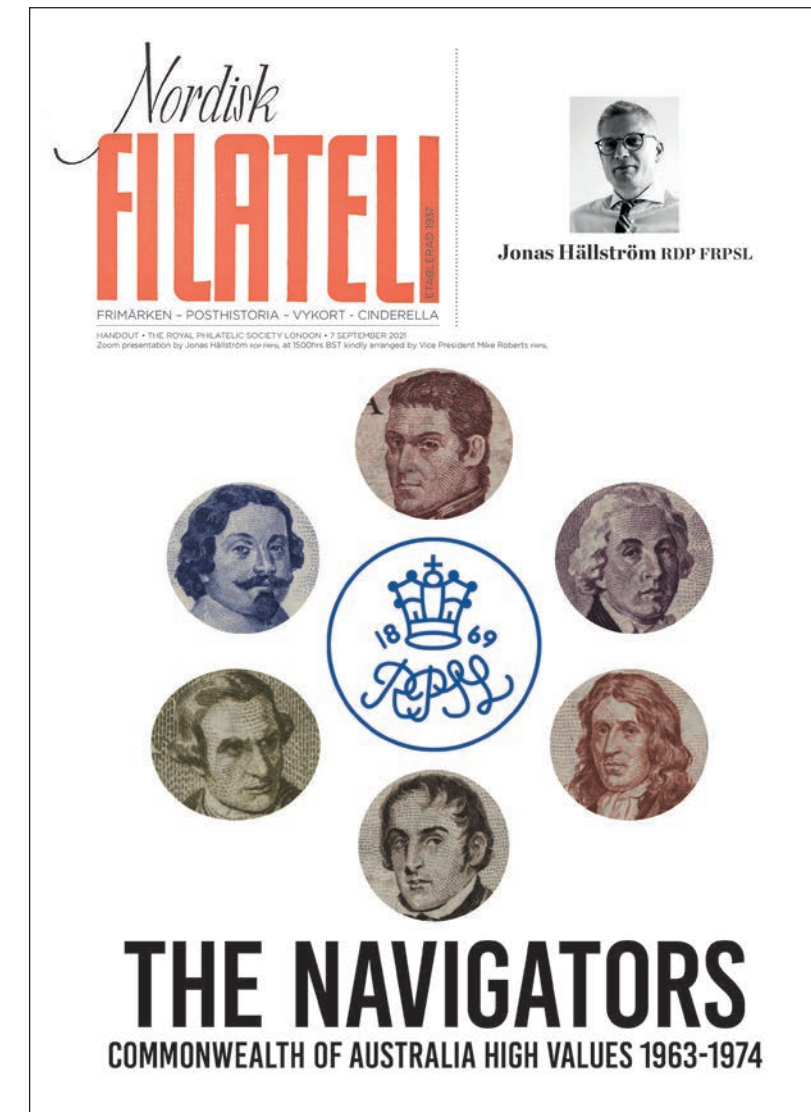
Top. *The Navigators: Abel Tasman (1603-1659), Matthew Flinders (1774-1814), George Bass (1771-1803), James Cook (1728-1779), Phillip Parker King (1791-1856) and William Dampier (1651-1715).*

Middle. *The six different Pre-decimal adhesives were issued on four different occasions.*

Bottom. *All of the Pre-decimal stamps were revalued to Decimals on the currency conversion date 14 February 1966.*



*A very rare mixed franking use on a 4th weight step (6 to 8 oz) printed matter airmail cover, dated 9 March 1966, to Italy.*



**MEETING DAY HANDOUT**  
DIGITAL PUBLICATION

A LIMITED PRINTED EDITION (50) IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



**THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON**  
**7 SEPTEMBER 2021**

Zoom presentation by Jonas Hällström RDP FRPSL at 1500hrs BST  
kindly arranged by Vice President Mike Roberts FRPSL

This handout contains the pre-announcement of the meeting (inside cover), the Power Point Presentation slides (page 4-23) and the article published in 'The London Philatelist' (page 24-38).






## The Royal Philatelic Society London

### THE NAVIGATORS

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA HIGH VALUES 1963-1974

7th September 2021

a Zoom presentation by Jonas Hällström RDP FRPSL at 1500hrs BST  
kindly arranged by Vice President Mike Roberts FRPSL

## Philatelic Collections Overview



Jonas Hällström (b. 1972)

**THEMATIC PHILATELY**

- 'The History of the Square-Rigged Sailing Vessels' FIP Large Gold retired in 2015
- 'Maneuver Warfare - Viewed Through Theories about the Nature of War'

**POSTAL HISTORY**

- 'Swedish Postal History 1951-1972' FIP Gold + FEL retired in 2019
- 'The Gothenburg Parcel Post Experiment 1970-1976' NAT Vermeil
- 'A Treatment on the Rates and Destinations within Gothenburg' retired in 2019
- Phonopost and Voice Mail - A Worldwide Coverage

**POSTAL STATIONERY**

- 'Denmark 1927-1952 - The Caravel Postal Stationery' FIP Gold + FEL


**TRADITIONAL PHILATELY**

- 'King Carl XVI Gustaf & Queen Silvia - Swedish Definitives 1974-1997'
- 'Commonwealth of Australia High Values 1963-1974 - The Navigators'

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## The Navigators


During 1963-1964, the Australian Post Office replaced the previous, long-lived, 'Coat of Arms' high values with a new series honoring the early navigators who explored Australian waters in the period of pre-colonization.



- ABEL TASMAN (1603-1659)**, the Dutch navigator who discovered Tasmania in 1642, sailing with his vessel being a typical Galleon of the time.
- MATTHEW FLINDERS (1774-1814)** who undertook considerable exploration and charting of the southern and eastern coastlines, and in 1803 became the first navigator to circum-navigate the Australian continent.
- GEORGE BASS (1771-1803)** was a companion of Flinders in various explorations of the eastern coastline and Tasmania, and in doing so demonstrated the existence of the Bass Strait.
- JAMES COOK (1728-1779)** was the English naval officer who first discovered and charted the eastern coast of Australia in 1770.
- PHILLIP PARKER KING (1791-1856)** was a naval officer who conducted lengthy surveys of many parts of the Australian coast in the ship "Mermaid" between 1817 and 1825.
- WILLIAM DAMPIER (1651-1715)** was an English explorer who first visited northern Australia in 1688, the stamp design also featuring his ship "Roebuck".

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## Pre-Decimals (in use 1963-1966)



- 'The Navigator High Values' were the series in use during Australia's conversion from the £ (Pound) to the \$ (Dollar).
- This presentation will develop a traditional philately perspective on the 'Navigator' issues, and examples of their postal use.
- The presentation will give examples on the rarest use, particularly solo frankings, and some selected 'Aristocrats of Philately' with mixed frankings as the series was intended to be used in multi-rate combinations.

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## One Australian Pound



- The Pound (£) was not a decimal currency.
- One Pound was divided into 20 shillings.
- Making 240 pence to the Pound.
- "£sd" is spoken as "Pounds, shillings and pence".
- The symbol for the Pound was "£" [Latin *libra pondo*, *libra*, meaning scales of balance]
- The symbol for the shilling was "s" [Latin *solidus*].
- The symbol for the penny was "d." [Latin *denarius*].
- The solidus and denarius were Roman coins.
- A mixed sum of shillings and pence, such as 7 shillings and 6 pence, is herewith written as **7/6d**, while for example 4 shillings is written **4/-**.

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## The Presentation Sheets



Navigator 'Publicity Cards' from the four different occasions, when the six pre-decimal denominations were introduced. Ex. Arthur Gray (1939-2015).

- The 'Publicity Cards' were prepared by the Australian Post Office to illustrate new stamp issues, consisting of a printed card headed by the Australian Coat-of-Arms, and with a short text related to the new stamp at the base.
- The issued stamp, taken from the normal perforated stock, is affixed in the center of the card.
- Occasionally, a block of four or a larger multiple was used. It is not known exactly how many sets were made, but it is certainly less than 50.
- These 'Publicity Cards' were sent to Australian embassies, and overseas trade missions, and placed on public display. When removed, the large majority were thrown away.



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## The Presentation Die Proofs



When the Presentation Die Proofs were given to the recipients, they were presented in this envelope. Ex. Arthur Gray (1939-2015).

- Until 1964, the Australian Post Office produced up to 10 presentation die proofs per new issue.
- From 1964 and onwards, the quantity decreased.
- The presentation die proofs would be cut down and sunk into matting. Unfortunately, the glue that was used would cause extensive staining over time.
- The die proofs presented here were saved from heavier staining by being removed from the matting.
- The first 10 recipients (decreased to 9 for the four following, and 8 for the last issue) of the presentation die proofs were:

- Queen Elizabeth II
- The Governor-General of Australia
- The Postmaster-General
- The Director-General of the Postmaster General's Department
- The Deputy Director-General of the Postmaster General's Department
- Five different members of the Stamp Advisory Committee.

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## The six Different Die Proofs



**4/-** of which 10 were produced.  
**10/-** of which 9 were produced.  
**£1** of which 9 were produced.  
**7/6d.** of which 9 were produced.  
**£2** of which 9 were produced.  
**5/-** of which 8 were produced.

Ex. Arthur Gray (1939-2015).



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## The Unique Pair of the 7/6d. James Cook Die Proof



Other than the 9 recorded Presentation Die Proofs of the 7/6d. James Cook, sources identify one further die proof identical to the presentation proof. The stains are from tape when attaching this proof on a presentation card.

*The presentation here is the public discovery of this unique pair.*

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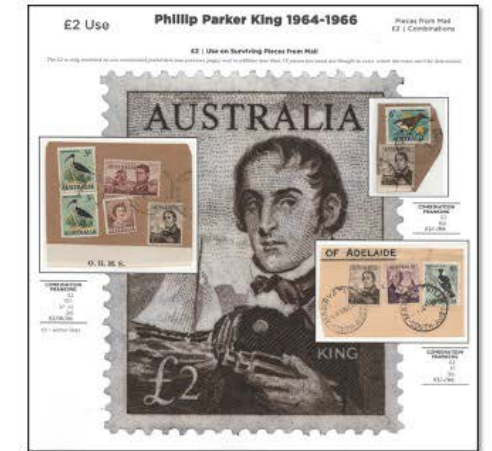
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## Manufacturing and Use

- The 'Navigator' issues were manufactured by intaglio printing from nickel electrotype plates. This process produced fine quality stamps in large quantities.
- The stamps were printed by the 'Commonwealth Stamp Printer' in Melbourne, i.e. the 'Note Printing Branch' of the 'Reserve Bank' of Australia.
- The 'Navigator' series was intended to be used in multi-rate combinations, which implies that commercial solo frankings are rare.
- As a reference, when the 'Navigator' issue was released, the domestic basic (letter) rate was 5d.
- The six different denominations correspondence with the basic rates at the time:

4/-	= 48d.	(i.e. 9.6 times the basic rate)
10/-	= 120d.	(i.e. 24 times the basic rate)
£1	= 240d.	(i.e. 48 times the basic rate)
7/6d.	= 90d.	(i.e. 18 times the basic rate)
£2	= 480d.	(i.e. 96 times the basic rate)
5/-	= 60d.	(i.e. 18 times the basic rate)



*The £2 is only recorded on one commercial postal item, and in addition less than 10 pieces (cut-outs) are thought to exist. Page from my collection.*

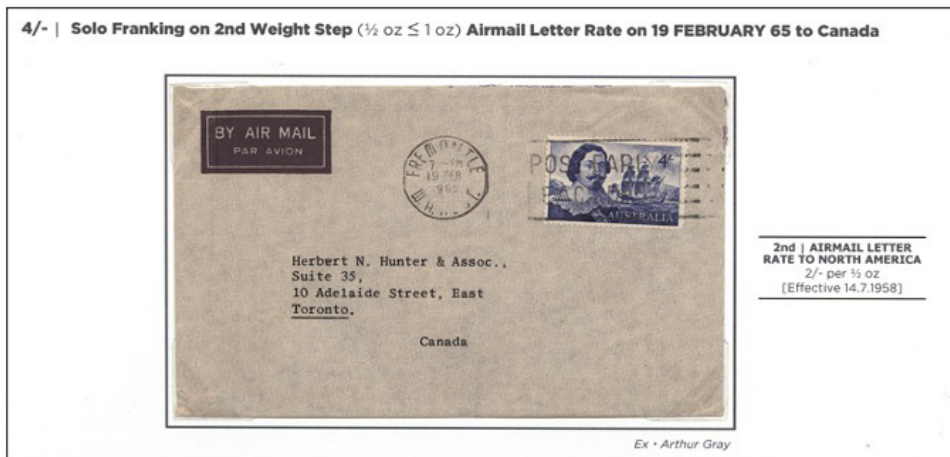


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## 4/- Solo Use



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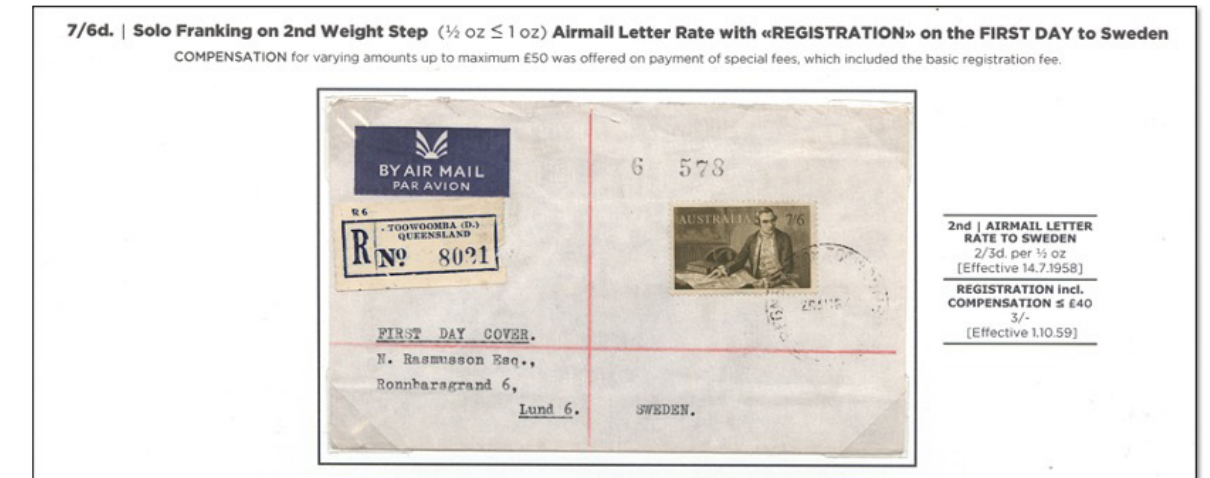
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## 7/6d. Solo Use



*The 7/6d. on any contemporary commercial item is of great rarity. Less than 10 are recorded.*



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## £1 Solo Use

*The £1 on any contemporary commercial item is of great rarity. Less than 10 are thought to exist.*

**£1 | Solo Franking on «PARCEL TAG» (7 lbs. ≤ 11 lbs.) on 18 NOVEMBER 64 to the UK**

MISS. L. JEYDEN.  
13 THE TWITTENS BUNGALOW.  
WEST GREEN.  
CRAWLEY.  
SUSSEX  
ENGLAND.

PARCEL TO THE UK  
£1 @ 7 lb. ≤ 11 lb.  
[Effective 1.10.59]

Ex • JP Gough

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## Mixed Franking

**5/- | Use on 2nd Weight Step (½ oz ≤ 1 oz) Airmail Letter Rate with «REGISTRATION» on 24 SEPTEMBER 65 to the USA**  
COMPENSATION for varying amounts up to maximum £50 was offered on payment of special fees, which included the basic registration fee.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS  
345 EAST FORTY-SEVENTH STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

2nd | AIRMAIL LETTER RATE TO THE USA  
2/- per ½ oz  
[Effective 14.7.1958]  
REGISTRATION incl. COMPENSATION ≤ £40  
3/-  
[Effective 1.10.59]  
COMBINATION FRANKING  
5/-  
1/6d.  
2x 3d.  
= 9/-

Ex • Arthur Gray

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## Mixed Franking

**10/ | on 6th Weight Step (2½ ozs ≤ 3 ozs) Airmail Letter Rate with «REGISTRATION» on 8 JUNE 65 to the United States of America**

DR. A.G. BRODIE  
ORTHODONTIC DEPARTMENT  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
808 SOUTH WOOD ST,  
CHICAGO,  
ILLINOIS,  
U.S.A.

6th | AIRMAIL LETTER RATE TO THE USA  
2/- per ½ oz  
[Effective 14.7.1958]  
REGISTRATION  
2/-  
[Effective 1.10.59]  
FRANKING  
10/-  
4/-  
= 14/-

Ex • JP Gough

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## Mixed Franking

**£1 | Use on Postmaster General's Department «COLLECTING PAYMENT ON SURCHARGED MAIL» in Requested Amount £1/15/6**  
This request for payment of postage was addressed to the account at RDBANK Ltd. payment was accepted by the affixing of a variety of high value denominations.  
The £1 on any contemporary commercial parcel article is of great rarity. Less than 10 contemporary parcel items are thought to exist.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT  
Postoffice  
Abbotsford, N.S.W.  
25th March 1964.

The Accountant,  
RDBANK Ltd.,  
25th March 1964.

Dear Sir,

The details of surcharged mail delivered to your agent for the period 17th March 1964 to 25th March 1964 is as follows:  
256 articles, total value £11/15/6.  
Would you kindly forward your cheque for the above amount at your earliest convenience, please.

Thanking you  
Yours faithfully,  
JP Gough

Ex • JP Gough

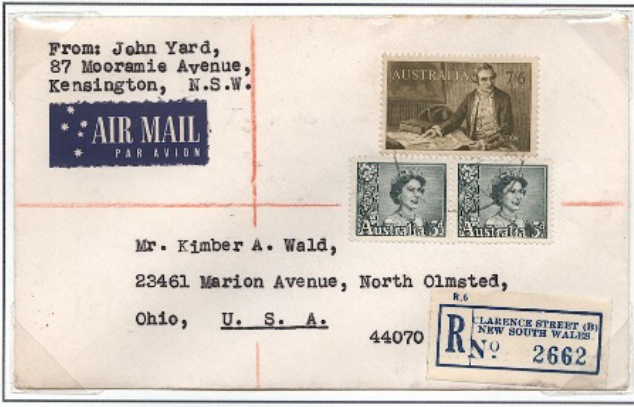
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*The £1 on any contemporary commercial item is of great rarity. Less than 10 are thought to exist.*



## Mixed Franking

**7/6d. | Use on 3rd Weight Step (1 oz ≤ 1½ ozs) Airmail Letter Rate with «REGISTRATION» on 4 NOVEMBER 65 to the United States of America**



<b>3rd   AIRMAIL LETTER RATE TO THE USA</b>
2/- per ½ oz
[Effective 14.7.1958]
<b>REGISTRATION</b>
2/-
[Effective 1.10.59]
<b>COMBINED FRANKING</b>
7/6d.
3d. x2
= 8/-

From: John Yard,  
87 Mooramie Avenue,  
Kensington, N.S.W.

Mr. Kimber A. Wald,  
23461 Marion Avenue, North Olmsted,  
Ohio, U. S. A. 44070


LARENCE STREET, (B)  
NEW SOUTH WALES  
R N<sup>o</sup> 2662

*The 7/6d. on any contemporary commercial item is of great rarity. Less than 10 are recorded.*

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## Mixed Franking

Use on St. Sydney Stock Exchange Postal Stationery Wrapper taken into account.



<b>3rd   AIRMAIL PRINTED MATTER RATE TO THE USA</b>
2/9d. per 2 oz*
[Effective 14.7.1958]
<b>COMBINATION FRANKING</b>
7/6d.
2d. x2
5d.
= 8/3d.

\* Other Articles (printed matter, newspapers, circulars, etc.)

SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE  
OFFICIAL GAZETTE  
Registered at the G.P.O. Sydney,  
for transmission by post as a periodical

Mr. U. F. Baker,  
910 Carmel Street,  
HERRO BAY,  
CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.

If not claimed within 14 days please  
return to Box 2885, G.P.O., Sydney.

Ex - Arthur Gray

*The 7/6d. on any contemporary commercial item is of great rarity. Less than 10 are recorded.*

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## \*\*\* The Only Recorded Commercial £2 Use \*\*\*

### Gloucester Soldiers Club

On 16 March 1965, when the Returning Officer at Gloucester Soldiers' Club (in Gloucester, NSW) received a business reply envelope returned unfranked as intended. 'Business Reply Post' allowed businesses to pay the postage on replies received through printed, addressed envelopes and cards, provided by the business for use by its customers. In addition to the normal postage, the business concerned paid a fee for each reply received.


On this specific reply envelope, postage was collected with mixed 'Navigators': 2x £2 + £1 + 10/- and combined with Arms £2 and Birds 6d.. The collection was to pay for 5d. domestic letter rate plus 1d. business reply fee on 301 similar articles, comprising a bundle of postal votes for the Gloucester Soldiers' Club. The votes addressed the elections to the club and were now collected from the post office, and the fees paid for the 'Business Reply Post' service, hence the high value franking at 7 Pounds 10 Shillings 6 Pence.

*An 'Art of Philately' item, and a discovery item for this presentation, displayed for the first time ever to the philatelic audience !*

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## \*\*\* One of the Most Important Items in Modern Australian Philately \*\*\*

**£2 | Double Use on Domestic «BUSINESS REPLY POST» @ 301 SIMILAR ITEMS on 12 MARCH 65**



<b>BUSINESS REPLY POST</b>
1d. per item
<b>POSTCARD RATE</b>
5d. per item
[Effective 1.10.59]
<b>COMBINATION FRANKING</b>
£2 x2
£2
£1
10/-
6d.
= 7/10/6d.
<b>COUNTING</b>
1d. x301
5d. x301
1,806d. = 7/10/6d.

No Postage Stamp Required  
If Printed in Australia

The Returning Officer,  
Gloucester Soldiers' Club,  
Box 50, P.O.,  
Gloucester.

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## The Transition of Currencies



- o The Australian Government announced already on 19 September 1963 that the name of the new decimal currency unit would be the 'Dollar'.
- o To ease public understanding of the value equivalents of the stamps, the Decimal stamps would adopt existing designs and monetary equivalents to the Pre-Decimal stamps.
- o The conversion date from the £ to the \$ was 14 February 1966: Thus, although 7 February was the first date of sale of the decimal stamps.
- o The conversion from Pre-Decimal to Decimal was set at 1 shilling/10 cents \$0.10 (or 1.2d. = \$0.01).
- o For public convenience the existing 'Navigator' Pre-Decimal issues would be the equivalent Decimal denominations.

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## Mixed Pre-Decimal & Decimal Franking

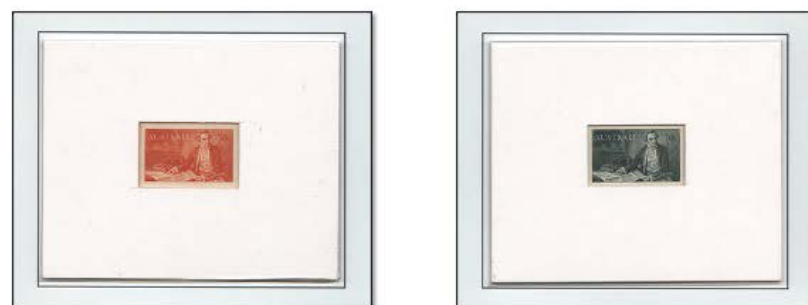
- o £sd stamp issues remained valid for postage until 14 February 1968, two years after the official conversion date.
- o After that date, all Australian Commonwealth issues from 1913, and those colonial issues (which had still been valid for postage), were demonetized.
- o Pre-Decimal stamps could be offered for exchange or refund at the post office until 13 February 1971, after which these stamps became invalid.
- o Mixed currency 'Navigator' franking appearances are very unusual.



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## The Decimal Progressive Die Proofs



- o Following the conversion process from Pound to Dollar, the 'Navigator' high denominations were altered to reflect the new money's values. But neither the actual denominations, nor the colors, were finalized until the very last moment.
- o A decision was made during 1968 that the \$0.70 denomination would be more useful than the \$0.75 James Cook stamp, and the Note Printing Branch was asked to prepare the necessary printing instruments. From a \$0.75 cylinder from which the denomination was cut away, a steel die was laid down and the \$0.70 denomination added. Proofs were pulled from the steel die between September 1968 and March 1969.
- o Six different insets exist: orange-red, deep blue (two items), bright magenta, brown, orange-red and deep grey green, the last must be regarded as the most important of all seven, as it represents the issued color (same color as from the original issue). One set exists in private hands, and a second set in the Australia Post archival collection.

Two of the six progressive die proofs are presented here. Ex. Arthur Gray (1939-2015).

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## The \$1 Progressive Die Proof



Virtually no essay or proof material of the Decimal period was in private hands. In the early 2000s, a quantity of die proofs appeared, which are believed to derive from the estate of a former Note Printing Branch Engraver. Such proofs should not have been in the engraver's possession, given the strict regulation and security in which they worked.

- o The only progressive die proof in a denomination as issued is the \$1 presented herewith.
- o No other progressive 'Navigator' Decimal die proof, in any denomination, are thought to exist. The other example of the Dollar is held by Australia Post in their archival collection

Ex. Arthur Gray (1939-2015)

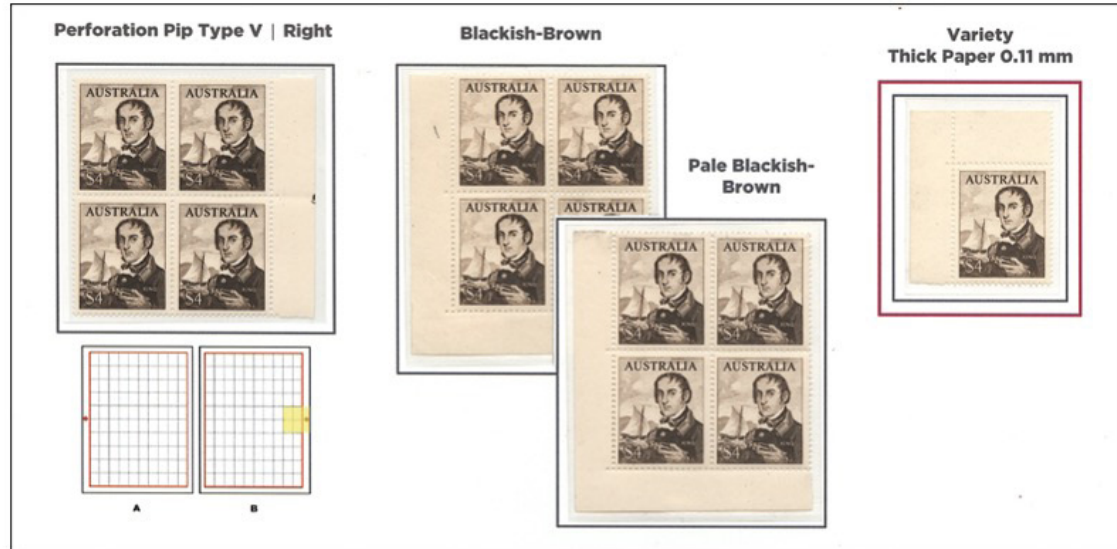


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## Studies • Printing



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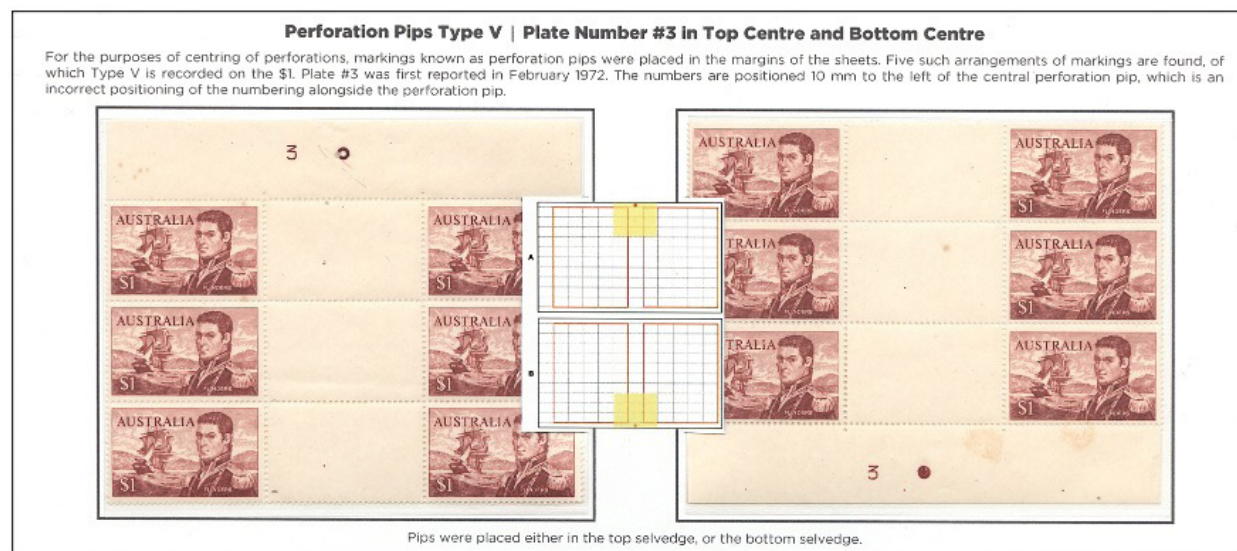
## Studies • Printing Varieties



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## Studies • Manufacturing

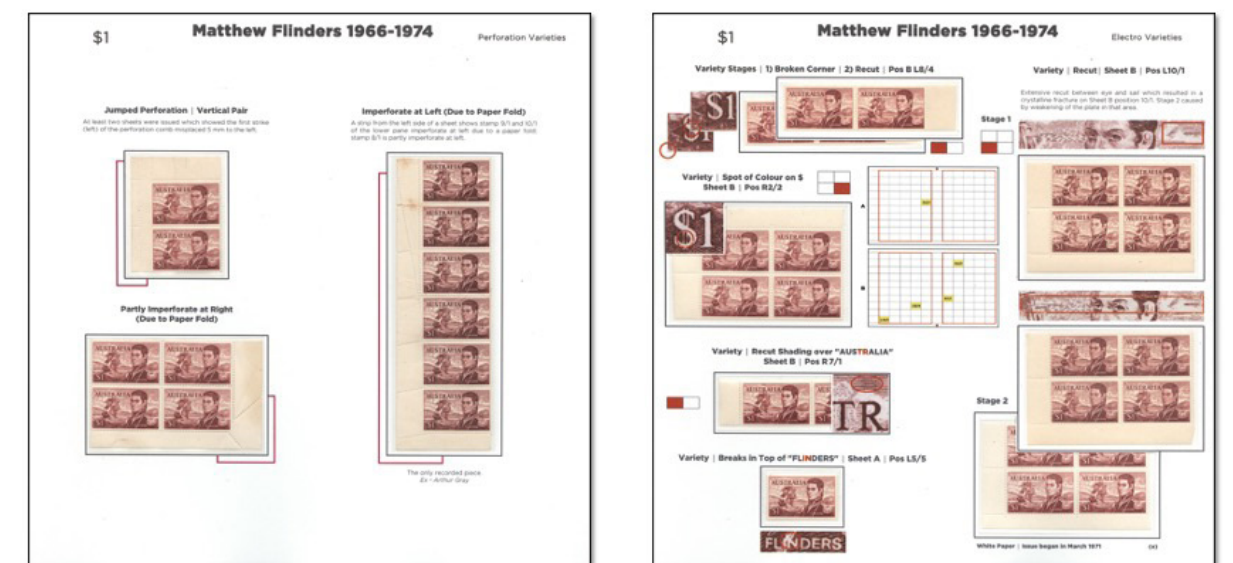


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## Studies • Plate Varieties



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# Treatment • The Stamps

**\$0.75 James Cook 1966-1974** Perforation Pips Plate Numbers

Complete (folded left and right) Top and Bottom Blocks of 20 | Perforation Pips Type V | Plate Numbers #3 Left and Right

Complete (folded left and right) Bottom Block of 20 | Perforation Pip Type V | Plate Numbers #1 Left and Right

PRODUCTION	PERFORATION	PLATES	COLOR	QUANTITY ISSUED
History Records Printed	14.40 x 14.00 mm	1000000	Light Green	14,000,000

**\$0.75 James Cook 1966-1974** The 1969 Vertical Cut

The 1969 Vertical Cut | Complete Block of 10 | Vertical Gutter Pairs

In late 1969 it was found that one plate had stretched to such an extent that full sheets of 200 could not be perforated without excess wastage, hence these were cut vertically and perforated sheets of 100 in order and later sheets of 50 and issued in this format in 1970. Stamps from these sheets are recognized in vertical gutter pairs (instead of normally horizontal) and if not all appear to have been folded prior to distribution to post offices.

The 1969 Vertical Cut | Bottom Block of 10 | Perforation Pip Type V | Left Plate Number #3

# Treatment • The Use as Intended

**\$0.75 Use James Cook 1966-1974** \$0.75 | Solo Franking \$0.75 | Solo Franking

**\$0.75 | Solo Franking on 1st Weight Step Domestic Letter Rate with «MESSENGER DELIVERY» on 20 FEBRUARY 75**

The Express Delivery Service provided for the delivery of urgent correspondence by telegraph messenger from its period of the delivery and office to the addressee. The service was available within Australia and to selected overseas countries. Officially the service was known as Express Delivery. These letters as well as Messenger Delivery were often used interchangeably even the service was identical and the additional fee charged was the same. A variety of labels and endorsements were used to indicate postage by this service.

**\$0.75 | Solo Franking on Domestic «ARCEL TAG» on 1 MARCH 67**

The rate \$0.75 implies a Scale 3 (from Victoria to Tasmania (i.e. adjoining states) Surface Parcel @ 3 lbs. x 7 lbs.

**\$0.75 Use James Cook 1966-1974** \$0.75 | Solo Franking \$0.75 | Solo Franking

**\$0.75 | Solo Franking Paying for the «REGISTRATION» on O.A.M.S. Postmaster-General's Department Official Mail «FREE OF CHARGE» on 9 JULY 74**

**\$0.75 | Solo Franking on 2nd Weight Step (1st or 2nd) Airmail Letter Rate with «REGISTRATION» on 13 FEBRUARY 69 to the United States of America**

# Mixed Franking

**\$4 | Use on Preserved Wrapping | 24th Weight Step (7th or 12 oz) Airmail Letter Rate with «REGISTRATION» on 11 JUNE 70 to the UK**

W. CARMICHAEL,  
DIRECTOR OF ORGANISATION  
GAMES HQ  
1 COCKBURN ST.  
EDINBURGH, E.M.1  
SCOTLAND.

*A representative of 'Art of Decimal Philately'. The \$4 on any commercial use is scarce.*

# Mixed Franking



**\$2 | Use on 67th Weight Step (65g to 67g) Airmail Letter Rate on 20 MARCH 74 to the USA**

GOODYEAR INTERNATIONAL CORP.  
1144 EAST MARKET STREET  
LAKEDON, OHIO,  
U.S.A.

*A representative of 'Art of Decimal Philately'. The \$2 on any commercial use is scarce.*



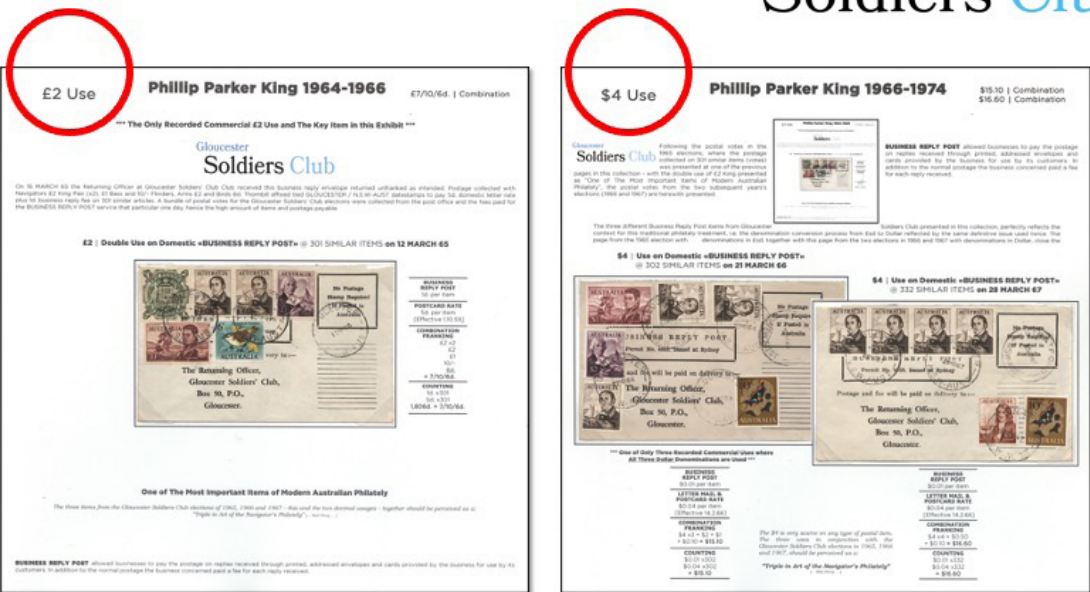
## Mixed Franking

One of only three commercial uses where all three Dollar denominations are applied.


**COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA HIGH VALUES 1963-1974**  
 • Jonas Hällström RDP FRPSL • Presentation to The Royal Philatelic Society London • 7 September 2021

## The Continuation from the Gloucester Soldiers Club



**COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA HIGH VALUES 1963-1974**  
 • Jonas Hällström RDP FRPSL • Presentation to The Royal Philatelic Society London • 7 September 2021


## Collectors' Set



- Another interesting presentation was made by the Australian post with the decimal "Collectors' Set" which was placed on sale on 31 May 1966.
- The set contained all six 'Navigator' denominations. In the set, the denominations of \$0.01 up to \$0.50 were cancelled-to-order with the G.P.O. MELBOURNE c.d.s., but the high values \$0.75 to \$4 were over-printed SPECIMEN.
- The SPECIMEN sets were produced to provide examples of the stamps in mint condition to collectors with modest means. 10,000 stamps supplied by 'Note Printing Branch' were over-printed with SPECIMEN, and remained the only Australian Decimal stamps until 1975 overprinted accordingly.
- The sets were withdrawn from sale already in October 1970.

**COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA HIGH VALUES 1963-1974**  
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## SPECIMEN



SPECIMEN on \$0.75. \$1 measured 15.5 x 2.5 mm, and on \$2 and \$4 SPECIMEN measured 15.5 x 2.5 mm.

There is a variant on the \$0.75 and \$1 measuring only 15 mm long, occurring once in the over-print form of 50 stamps only. Ex. Arthur Gray (1939-2015).

Six examples with the very variant 'Double SPECIMEN' have been recorded. Ex. Arthur Gray (1939-2015).

**COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA HIGH VALUES 1963-1974**  
 • Jonas Hällström RDP FRPSL • Presentation to The Royal Philatelic Society London • 7 September 2021



# Post Office Training School SPECIMEN Stamps

Five types of SPECIMEN handstamps are known on definitive issues of 1966 to 1968 for use by trainees at Post Office Training Schools. Three types are documented here.



**Type 1.**  
SPECIMEN ONLY in sans-serif capitals, 41 x 5 mm. Found in red and violet.

**Type 2.**  
SPECIMEN ONLY in large italic serifed capitals, 77 x 7 mm. Found in violet only.

**Type 4.**  
CANCELLED SPECIMEN ONLY in thin sans-serif capitals, 32 and 45 x 5 mm. Found in violet, and blue.

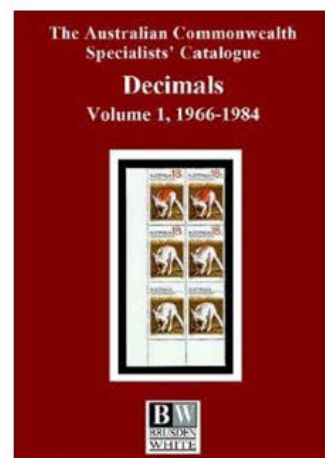
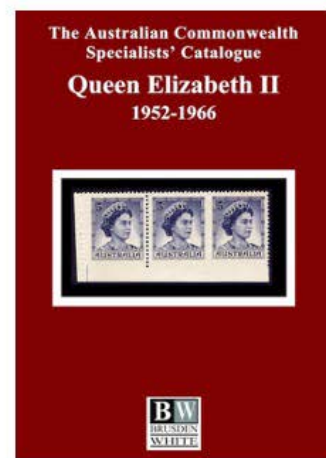
# Acknowledgements



1 2 3 4 5

1. JAMES PETER GOUGH RDP FRPSL, who gave me the heads-up to explore the 'Navigators';
2. ARTHUR GRAY (1939-2015), whose collections came to sale by SPINK twice, the Pre-Decimals in 2017 and the Decimals in 2019;
3. TORSTEN WELLER at ABACUS Auctions in Australia, who not only deals with stamps, but also has a great passion to orientate all of us who collect stamps from Australia;
4. ROD PERRY (1948-2020), who I never met, but who is recognized as being "the Robson Lowe of Australian postal history", has educated collectors with his research and publications that 20<sup>th</sup> century postal history many times is at least as important as the 19<sup>th</sup> century postal history;
5. PATRIK LARSSON FRPSL, who taught me to look carefully for large-sized postal items when developing different postal history collecting scopes.

# SOURCES



**BW BRUSDEN WHITE** Publishers of The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue Established 1926



The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogues published by 'Brusden White', with Geoffrey Kellow RDP FRPSL as editor, they are excellent handbooks on the subject.

# \*\*\* EPILOGUE \*\*\*

## Around the Houses

News of recent and forthcoming auctions around the world

**Abacus Auctions**  
In scenes reminiscent of the late-1970s stamp boom, dealers and collectors fought it out to win ownership of numerous items on offer at Abacus Auctions' sale on 1 September.

The top price of AU\$34,220 was paid for a block of eight of the E2 Admiral King stamp from the 1963-65 Navigators set on an unaddressed cover (presumably a bulk postage receipt) – a world record price for any Australian cover, proof or stamp issued in the past 60 years.



### AUSTRALIA 1965 High-value franking

Abacus sold a 1965 cover franked with 10 stamps from Australia's 1963-65 Navigators definitive series: a block of eight of the E2 along with E1 and 10s values, making up the dizzying total of £17 10s. Cancelled in Granville, New South Wales, but not addressed, this wasn't a postal cover, but a means of paying for bulk postage or perhaps settling a telephone bill. Even so, its modest estimate of around £550 was left in tatters as the lot was hotly contested.

SOLD BY ABACUS £16,051



**ROD PERRY'S WOODCHIP FREE ZONE**

The remarkable sales result for a single cover at Abacus Auctions, September 1 2018, sets my phone and email in to overdrive, for a couple of weeks after the event \$34,220 for an Australian 1965 cover was bound to set tongues wagging.

**Figure 1. New record for an Australian usage article.**  
The spectacular franking in Lot 75 (Figure 1), a block of eight in lots of Navigators E2, and singles of E1 and 10s, and the tantalising pre-sale estimate of just \$500, was a recipe for the Perfect Storm, in terms of realization potential.

So what was it that made this item so sought after? And sought after it indeed was. For the auction house advised the underbidder for the lot that there were five other bidders beyond the \$20,000 threshold. Clearly, those in the know recognized this as a very special opportunity – in one-ownership. A £2 Navigator commercial postal article, suitable for exhibiting, has eluded most of us for over 50 years. In fact, I know of not one other item suitable for Usage exhibition purposes.

This was the first £2 article to be offered publicly, and that handful of collectors anxious to exhibit their QED 1952-66.

Pre-decimal Usage collections, were well aware that this item was the key ingredient, were they to mount a successful exhibit. A second chance might not be forthcoming for decades, if ever. Until this new "£2", the best an exhibitor could provide was a £2 FDC, or other philatelic usage, which is very demanding for a usage pursuit, and does nothing for an exhibit.

**MSD**  
IF NOT CLAIMED WITHIN 7 DAYS, PLEASE RETURN P.O. BOX 79, GRANVILLE, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA

**Figure 1. New record for an Australian usage article.**



## 'The Navigators': Commonwealth of Australia High Values 1963-1974

Jonas Hällström RDP FRPSL

READERS WILL BE AWARE FROM THIS ARTICLE, that I have become very fond of high denomination twentieth century stamps used on commercial postal articles; not just high denominations of the Australian 'Navigators', but those of other countries as well. Such items can represent spectacular examples of 'Philately as Art,' while others qualify as candidate's for 'Aristocrats of Philately'. I have learned that these analogies were used by Rodney 'Rod' A. Perry (1948-2020), one of the great innovators of philately in Australia. Unfortunately, I never met him in person, but only corresponded with him by email. But I learned and enjoyed much by reading his 'Woodchip Free' articles in *Stamp News Australasia*.

The focus of this article is Australia's high denomination 'Navigators'. 'The Navigator high values' were the series in use during Australia's conversion from £ (Pound Sterling) to \$ (Dollar) currency. During 1963-1964, the Australian Post Office replaced the previous, long-lived, 'Coat of Arms' high values, with a new series honouring the early navigators who explored Australian waters in the period of pre-colonization. This article will develop a traditional philately perspective of the 'Navigator' issues and illustrate examples of their intended postal use.

While the stamps are beautiful in their design and execution, this article will give examples of the rarest uses, particularly solo frankings and some selected 'Aristocrats of Philately' with mixed frankings, as the series was intended to be used in multi-rate combinations.

All examples shown are from my own collection. I was inspired by James Peter Gough RDP FRPSL, to commence collecting the 'Navigators'. As he knew my previous fascination for 20th century postal history and philately, he drew my attention to this issue as it reflects several things which are connected with the fascinations of our hobby: high denomination stamps and their use generally. Usage was of more specific interest in this case as this particular issue also reflects a monetary reform, philatelically and postally. In addition, I have always been interested in large-sized postal items, which many others dislike because of their size. For me, however, I believe that their size reflects certain postal importance.

### The Pre-Decimal Issues

The pound Sterling (£) was not a decimal currency. One pound was divided into 20 shillings, and each shilling into 12 pence, making 240 pence to one pound. "£sd" is the abbreviation for Pounds, shillings and pence. The symbol for the shilling was 's' [Latin *solidus*]. The symbol for the penny was 'd' [Latin *denarius*]. The *solidus* and *denarius* were Roman coins. A mixed sum of shillings and pence, such as seven shillings and six pence, was often written as '7/6d', but for the purposes of clarity it will appear in this article in the form '7s 6d'.

The 'Navigator' issues were produced using intaglio printing from nickel electrotype plates. This process produced fine quality stamps in large quantities. Few printing varieties are recorded from the pre-decimal issues. The stamps were printed by the Commonwealth Stamp Printer in Melbourne, i.e. the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia. The pre-decimal issues commenced in 1963, and 1964, when the six different 'Navigators' values were issued on four different occasions.

### 9 October 1963.

4s (Figure 1). Abel Tasman (1603-1659), the Dutch navigator who discovered Tasmania in 1642, depicted with his vessel, a typical galleon of the time.



Figure 1.

### 26 February 1964.

10s (Figure 2). Matthew Flinders (1774-1814) explored and charted the southern and eastern coastlines and in 1803 he achieved the first circumnavigation of the Australian continent.



Figure 2.



Figure 3.

£1 (Figure 3). George Bass (1771-1803) accompanied Flinders on various explorations and demonstrated the existence of the Bass Strait.

### 26 August 1964.

7s 6d (Figure 4). James Cook (1728-1779), the English naval officer, discovered and charted the eastern coast of Australia in 1770.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.

£2 (Figure 5) Phillip Parker King (1791-1856), a naval officer who conducted lengthy surveys of many parts of the Australian coast in the *Mermaid*, between 1817-1825.

### 25 November 1964.

5s (Figure 6). William Dampier (1651-1715) was an English explorer who first visited northern Australia in 1688. The design also features his ship *Roebuck*.



Figure 6.



Figure 7.

Figure 7. From 1956 watermarked paper was used for all high values of 5s and over. Type 6C watermark (Figure 7) was used for the corresponding values of the pre-decimal issue.

### The Presentation Die Proofs

Until 1964, the Australian Post Office produced up to ten presentation die proofs per new issue. From 1964 onward, the quantity decreased, which also affected the number of die proofs produced on the four different occasions when the 'Navigator' values were issued. The presentation die proofs were cut down and matted. Unfortunately, the glue that was used for this purpose would cause extensive staining over time. The die proofs presented in this article (ex. Arthur Gray 1939-2015) were saved from heavier staining by being removed from the matting. The original ten recipients of the presentation die proofs were: HM Queen Elizabeth II, The Governor-General of Australia, The Postmaster-General, The Director-General of the Postmaster General's Department, The Deputy Director-General of the Postmaster General's Department and five different members of the Stamp Advisory Committee.



Figure 8. Presentation Die Proofs were presented to recipients in this envelope, which was used for the original presentation.

Figure 9. The 4s Presentation Die Proof of which ten were produced.

Figure 10. The 10s Presentation Die Proof of which nine were produced.

Figure 11. The £1 Presentation Die Proof of which nine were produced.

Figure 12. The 7s 6d Presentation Die Proof of which nine were produced.

Figure 13. Other than the nine recorded Presentation Die Proofs of the 7s 6d, sources identify one further Die Proof identical to the Presentation Proof. The stains are from tape, used when attaching this proof on a presentation card. This is the first publication of this unique pair.

Image 14. The £2 Presentation Die Proof of which nine were produced.

Image 15. The 5s Presentation Die Proof of which eight were produced.



Figure 8.



Figure 9.



Figure 10.



Figure 11.



Figure 12.



Figure 13.



Figure 14.



Figure 15.

**Solo Frankings of Pre-Decimals**

The 'Navigator' series was intended to be used in multi-rate combinations, which implies that commercial solo frankings are rare. Two such rare examples are presented herewith.

Figure 16. 4s solo franking on second weight step (½-1 oz), airmail letter on 19 February 1965 cover to Canada. The airmail letter rate to North America was 2s per ½ oz (effective from 14 July 1958). Ex Arthur Gray.

Figure 17. £1 solo franking on parcel tag (7-11 lbs) on 18 November 1964 cover to England. The £1 Navigator on any contemporary commercial postal article is of great rarity. Less than ten commercial postal items are thought to exist of the £1. Ex James Peter Gough.



Figure 17.

Figure 16.

**Mixed Frankings with Pre-Decimals - 'Aristocrats of Philately'**

The intended use of the 'Navigators' was for mixed frankings for high denomination rates. For this article, three examples have been selected:

Figure 18. 10s plus 4s mixed franking on sixth weight step (2½-3 oz), airmail letter with registration on 8 June 1965 cover to the USA. The airmail letter rate was 2s per ½ oz (effective from 14 July 1958) and the registration fee was 2s (effective from 1 November 1959). Correct rate 14s.

Figure 19. £1 and 4s Navigator used together with various other issues, totalling £11 19s 6d, on a Postmaster General's Department 'Collecting Payment on Surcharged Mail' notice for a requested amount of £11 19s 6d (Postmaster Abbotsford 25 March 1964). This request for payment of postage was addressed to the accountant at Kodak Ltd; payment was received by the affixing of a variety of high value denominations. The £1 Navigator on any contemporary commercial postal article is of great rarity. Less than ten commercial postal items are thought to exist with the £1. Ex James Peter Gough.

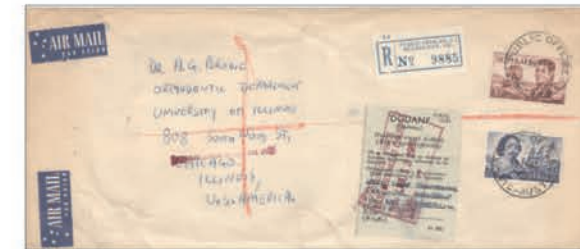


Figure 18.



Figure 19.



Figure 20. 7s 6d. on mixed franking (with 2 x 2d plus 5d postal stationery wrapper), on third weight step (4-6 oz) Printed Matter airmail, sent on 20 October 1965 to the USA. Airmail printed matter rate was 2s 9d per 2 oz, for articles such as printed matter, newspapers, circulars, etc. (effective from 14 July 1958). Correct rate of 8s 3d paid. The 7s 6d on any contemporary commercial postal article is of great rarity. Less than ten commercial items of mail are recorded with the 7s 6d. Ex Arthur Gray.



Figure 20.

**The Decimal issues and the conversion of currencies**

The Australian Government announced on 19 September 1963, that the name of the new decimal currency unit would be the Dollar. To help public understanding of the value equivalents of the stamps, the Decimal values would adopt the existing designs and monetary equivalents of the Pre-Decimal stamps. The currency conversion date was 14 February 1966. The conversion rate from Pre-Decimal to Decimal was set at 1s to 10 cents (i.e. 1.2d = \$0.01). For public convenience the existing 'Navigator' Pre-Decimal issues would represent the equivalent Decimal denominations as follows (where the stamps' value in pence was divided by 1.2 - the sterling rate for 1 cent - to give the decimal equivalent):

Figure 21. Originally 4s (or 48d/1.2) = \$0.40 equivalent; Figure 22. Originally 10s (or 120d/1.2) = \$1 equivalent; Figure 23. Originally £1 (or 240d/1.2) = \$2 equivalent; Figure 24. Originally 7s 6d (or 90d/1.2) = \$0.75 equivalent; Figure 25. Originally £2 (or 480d/1.2) = \$4 equivalent and Figure 26. Originally 5s (or 60d/1.2) = \$0.50 equivalent.



Figure 21.



Figure 22.



Figure 23.



Figure 24.



Figure 25.



Figure 26.

By the introduction of decimal currency, it was apparent that the days of intaglio printing were numbered and that multicolour photogravure would be the process of choice in the future, shortening the life of the series. Following the currency conversion, the 'Navigator' high denominations were altered to reflect the new currency's values. But neither the actual denominations, nor the colours, were finalised until the very last moment. However, the original colours were retained.

From the beginnings of the conversion process, seven different progressive die proofs (all of them using the James Cook design with a \$0.70 denomination) were produced in six different insets: orange-red, deep blue (two items), bright magenta, brown, orange-red and deep grey green, the latter must be regarded as the most important of all the seven as it represents the issued colour (that of the original issue). Two of these six progressive die proofs are illustrated here. The only progressive die proof in the issued denomination (\$1) is also shown. No other progressive 'Navigator' Decimal die proofs, in any denomination, are thought to exist.

Figure 27. Progressive die proof with James Cook \$0.70 in orange-red. Ex Arthur Gray.

Figure 28. Progressive die proof with James Cook \$0.70 in the issued colour. This must be regarded as the most important of the six different progressive die proofs in existence. Ex Arthur Gray.

Figure 29. The new Dollar high value in die proof form in the accepted colour. The only die proof in private hands of a decimal denomination, as issued. The other example of the Dollar is held by Australia Post in their archival collection. Ex Arthur Gray.



Figure 27.



Figure 28.



Figure 29.

Sterling (£sd) value stamp issues remained valid for postage until 14 February 1968, two years after the official conversion date. After that date, all Australian Commonwealth issues from 1913 and those colonial issues which had still been valid for postage, were demonetised. Pre-Decimal stamps could be offered for exchange or refund at the post office until 13 February 1971, after which these stamps became invalid. Mixed currency 'Navigator' frankings examples are very unusual.

Figure 30. A very rare mixed franking of Pre-Decimal and Decimal stamps, depicting the context of this fascinating postal reform. Commercial use on fourth weight step (6-8 oz) Printed Matter airmail on 9 March 1966 to Italy. This rate was \$0.35 per 2 oz, making \$1.40 the correct fee. £sd franking: 2s 6d x 2 + 4s = 9s, equivalent after conversion to \$0.90. Decimal franking: \$0.50. Correct rate: \$0.90 + \$0.50 = \$1.40.



Figure 30.



**Production and varieties**

As traditional philately deals with the designing process of stamps, the stamp issues and their production, the study thereof and finally the correct use of the issued adhesives, this collection is no different. It is only given space in this article to show a few examples from the production, but certainly the 'Navigator' high denominations are no exception in making a traditional philately study complete, interesting, and enjoyable. The Decimal issues in particular provide a number of printing, perforation and plate varieties.

For the purpose of aligning perforations, markings known as 'Perforation Pips' were placed in the margins of the sheet. Different arrangements of such markings are found. Plate numbers are also positioned in combination with the 'Pip'. Stamps with a perforation variety of 14.78 x 14.19 were issued in the latter part of 1973, because the usual comb became unserviceable. At that time, the only intaglio stamp still in production was the \$1 Matthew Flinders. Three different electros have been identified with this perforation, including plate 3. The comb was used for at least one printing of the \$1, although its existence was not recognised until 1976.

Figure 31 a-c. A study of how the 'Perforation Pip' and plate number appears on the \$1 perforated 14.78 x 14.19, together with a diagram showing how they appear in the sheet.



Figure 31a.



Figure 31b.

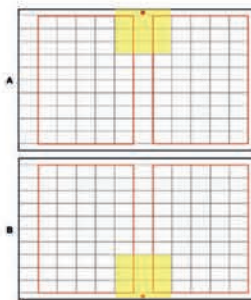


Figure 31c.

Figure 32. \$0.40 single with pre-printing paper fold variety.

Figure 33. \$0.40 block of four with offset variety.



Figure 32.



Figure 33.

Figure 34. \$0.40 block of four with misplaced perforations variety.

Figure 35 a. In late 1969, it was found that one plate of the \$0.75 James Cook had stretched to such an extent that full sheets of 200 could not be perforated without excess spoilage. Hence, in 1970, these were cut vertically and perforated in sheets of 100, in upper and lower panes of 50 and issued in this format in 1970. Stamps from these sheets are recognisable in vertical gutter pairs (instead of the normal horizontal version). These full sheets appear to have been folded prior to distribution to post offices. This is an excessively rare complete block of ten with vertical gutter pairs.

Figure 35b. The diagram shows how the vertically cut sheets, resulted in sheets of 2 x 50 panes with vertical gutter pairs.



Figure 34.



Figure 35a.

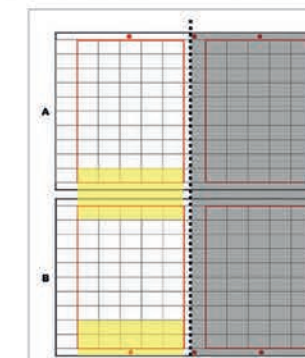


Figure 35b.

**Solo frankings of Decimals**

As previously noted, the 'Navigator' series was intended to be used in multi-rate combinations and so commercial solo frankings of the Decimal issues are also rare. Three examples are presented here.

Figure 36. \$0.40 solo franking on eighth weight step (3½-4 oz) paying the concessionary airmail letter rate on 19 November 1970. Concessionary postal rates were available to Australian Forces serving in the Vietnam conflict. The rate was \$0.05 per ½ oz (effective from 14 February 1966).





Figure 36.

Figure 37. The Express Delivery Services provided for the delivery of urgent correspondence by telegraph messenger from its arrival at the delivery post office to the addressee. It was available within Australia and to selected overseas countries. Officially, the service was known as Special Delivery. These terms, as well as Messenger Delivery, were often used interchangeably since the service was identical and the additional fees charged were the same. A variety of labels and endorsements were used to indicate carriage by this service. This is a \$0.75 solo franking on first weight step domestic letter with MESSENGER DELIVERY label on 20 February 1975. The domestic letter rate was \$0.10 up to 20 g (effective from 1 October 1974), and the special delivery fee was \$0.65 up to 500g (effective from 1 October 1974).



Figure 37.

Figure 38. \$0.50 solo franking on fourth weight step (1½-2 oz) paying a concessionary airmail letter, with registration on 16 July 1971. Concessionary postal rates were available to Australian Forces serving in the Vietnam conflict. The rate was \$0.05 per ½ oz (effective from 14 February 1966) and the registration fee was \$0.30 (effective from 1 October 1970).

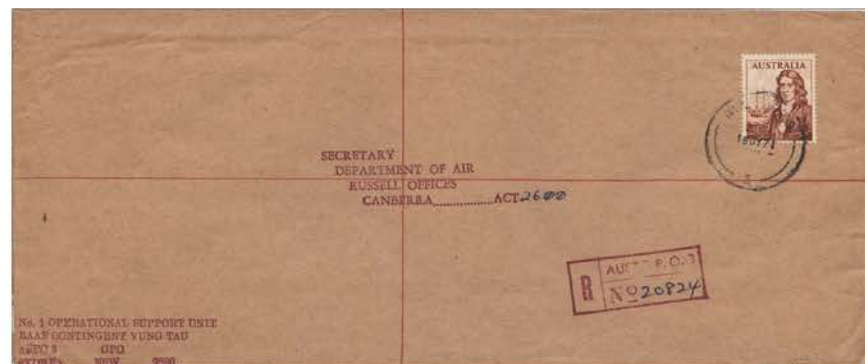


Figure 38.

**Mixed frankings of Decimals**

The Decimals' intended use were in mixed frankings, combining to pay high denomination rates. For this article, three examples have been selected. It is important to know that the \$2 and the \$4 denominations are very scarce when used on any type of postal item. In one of his 'Woodchip Free' articles (*Stamp News Australasia*, June 2012) Rod Perry states that such uses should be perceived as representing the 'Art of Decimal Philately.'

Figure 39. \$4 + 3 x \$1 combined in a mixed franking at \$7.45, as a commercial use on a 24th weight step (11½-12 oz) airmail letter with registration on 11 June 1970 to Scotland. The airmail letter rate was \$0.30 per ½ oz (effective from 1 October 1968), and the registration was \$0.25 (effective from 1 October 1968). The correct rate was \$7.45.

Figure 40. \$4 + 2 x \$2 + \$1, one of only three recorded commercial uses where all the three dollar denominations are used, combined in a commercial mixed franking of \$11.20 on a 32nd weight step (15½-16 oz) airmail letter dated 21 April 1972 to England. The airmail letter rate was \$0.35 per ½ oz (effective from 1 October 1971). The correct rate was \$11.20.

Figure 41. 6 x \$2 + 4 x \$1 + \$0.75 on a mixed franking of \$16.75, on a commercial cover paid at the 67th weight step (661-670 g) airmail letter sent on 20 March 1974 to the USA. The airmail letter rate was \$0.25 per 10g (effective from 1 October 1973). Paid at the correct rate of \$16.75.



Figure 39.





Figure 40.



Figure 41.

**One of the most important items in modern Australian philately**

Figure 42. Logotype of Gloucester Soldiers' Club.

One of the most fascinating things about philately is when several items can be put together in their correct philatelic and postal context by research, treatment and presentation. Then these items can tell a complete story, providing evidence of many different philatelic and postal applications. The following three items comprise such an example. Spanning three consecutive years, they illustrate the philatelic impact of the currency change between 1965 and 1966.

On 16 March 1965, when the Returning Officer at Gloucester Soldiers' Club (in Gloucester, NSW) received a Business Reply envelope, returned unfranked as intended. Business Reply Post allowed businesses to pay the postage on replies received through printed, addressed envelopes or cards, provided by the business for use by its customers. In addition to the normal postage, the business concerned paid a fee for each reply received.

On this specific reply envelope, postage was collected with mixed 'Navigators': two £2 values, one £1 and one 10s, combined with an Arms £2 and a Birds 6d. The collection was to pay for the 5d domestic letter rate, plus 1d business reply fee, on 301 similar articles comprising a bundle of postal votes for the Gloucester Soldiers' Club. The votes were for elections to the club and were now collected from the post office. The fees paid were for the 'Business Reply Post' service, hence the high value franking of £7 10s 6d.

Figure 43. The only recorded commercial £2 use and one of the most important items in modern Australian philately. A discovery item, presented in this article for the first time ever to a philatelic audience!

The subsequent two annual elections to the Gloucester Soldiers' Club, in 1966 and 1967, produced two different Business Reply Post items. Both are illustrated here. They together perfectly reflect the completeness in this traditional philately treatment, i.e. the denomination conversion process from the Pound to the Dollar, their mixed use and the commercial application requiring the payment of high denomination rates.

Figure 44. Postage was collected on 21 March 1966 with mixed 'Navigators' 3 x \$4 + \$2 + \$1 combined with \$0.10. The collection was to pay for the \$0.04 domestic letter rate plus \$0.01 business reply fee on 302 similar articles, comprising a bundle of postal votes for the Gloucester Soldiers' Club. Hence the correct high value franking of \$15.10.

Figure 45. Postage was collected on 28 March 1967 with mixed 'Navigators' 4 x \$4 + \$0.50 combined with \$0.10. The collection was to pay for the \$0.04 domestic letter rate plus \$0.01 business reply fee on 332 similar articles, comprising a bundle of postal votes for the Gloucester Soldiers' Club. Hence the correct high value franking of \$16.60.



Figure 42.



Figure 43.



Figure 44.

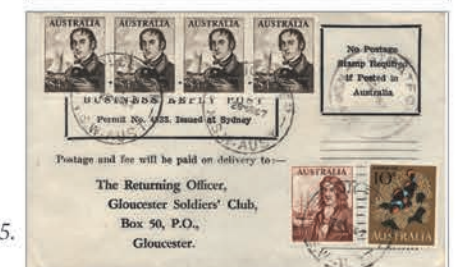


Figure 45.



**The Navigator Publicity Cards**

In conjunction with the traditional philatelic treatment of the 'Navigators', one needs to also present the 'Publicity Cards' prepared by the Australian Post Office to illustrate new stamp issues. They consist of a printed card headed with the Australian Coat-of-Arms and with a short text related to the new stamp at the base. The issued stamp, taken from the normal perforated stock, is affixed in the centre of the card. Occasionally, a block of four or a larger multiple was used. It is not known exactly how many sets were made, but it is certainly less than 50. The 'Publicity Cards' were sent to Australian embassies and overseas trade missions and placed on display there for publicity. When removed, the large majority were thrown away.

Figure 46 a-d. The 'Navigator' 'Publicity Cards' from the four different occasions, when the six pre-decimal denominations were introduced. Ex Arthur Gray.



Figure 46a.



Figure 46b.



Figure 46c.



Figure 46d.

**The 'Collectors' Set' and the 'SPECIMEN' Overprints**

Figure 47a-b. Complete 'Collectors Set' at a retail selling price of \$2.

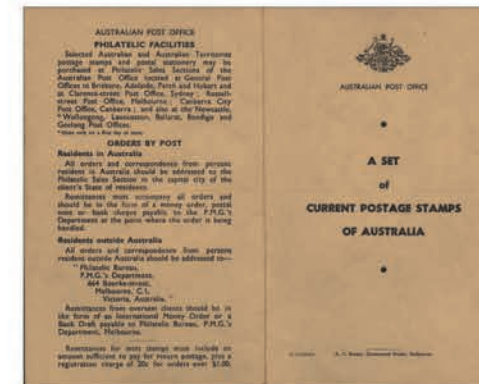


Figure 47a.



Figure 47b.

Another interesting presentation was made by Australia Post with the decimal 'Collectors' Set, which was placed on sale on 31 May 1966. The set contained all six 'Navigator' denominations. In the set, the denominations of \$0.01 up to \$0.50 were cancelled-to-order with the G. P. O. MELBOURNE cds, but the \$0.75 to \$4 high values were over-printed SPECIMEN. The SPECIMEN sets were produced to provide examples of the stamps in mint condition to collectors with modest means. 10,000 stamps supplied by the Note Printing Branch were over-printed with SPECIMEN and remained the only Australian Decimal stamps until 1975 overprinted accordingly. The sets were withdrawn from sale in October 1970.

Figure 48 a-d. The SPECIMEN overprint on the \$0.75 and \$1 values measures 15.5 x 2.5 mm. On the \$2 and \$4, the overprint measures 13.5 x 2.5 mm.



Figure 48a.



Figure 48b.



Figure 48c.



Figure 48d.

Figure 49 a-b. There is a variant on the \$0.75 and \$1 values, where SPECIMEN measures only 15 mm. This variety occurs once in the overprint form of 50 stamps only. Ex Arthur Gray.

Figure 50. Only three examples with the very rare variant 'Double SPECIMEN' have been recorded. Ex Arthur Gray.



Figure 49a.



Figure 49b.



Figure 50.



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Original Pre-Decimal Rate Tables from Australia Post and Decimal Rate Tables compiled by and available digitally from Torsten Weller.





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