

# PAPUA NEW GUINEA CALLING

Official Journal of Papuan Philatelic Society

\* The font used in the banner is inspired by the corporate letterhead used by Burns Philp & Company Limited, a trading and shipping company whose history is intimately intertwined with PNG and the wider Pacific region.

## FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE



### Chairman's Report *by Mark Robinson*

*Symbol of the Chair:  
The Sepik Haus Tambaran  
Orator's Stool*

PAGE 2

### A Study of the PNG Stamp Booklets 1970-73 Part 4

*by Sid Dikes*



PAGE 3

### More PNG Stamp Discoveries In The 2014 High Value Overprints

*by Philip Mullins*



PAGE 5

### Found: A Hoard Of New Guinea Stamps Part 2

*by Phillip Blakeney*



PAGE 6

### A study of KOKOPO Postmark Powell Type 15 including a NEW TYPE

*by Phillip Blakeney*



PAGE 8

### MELBOURNE PPS STUDY GROUP

PAGE 7

### MODERN MATTERS

PAGE 10

### The collection of Papua & New Guinea Auction (Part 2)

PAGE 11



### PNGC Special Notices

Papuan Philatelic Society  
Officers and contacts

PAGE 2

PPS Membership  
invitation

PAGE 2



## PAPUAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OFFICERS

### Chairman:

**Mark Robinson – Australia**  
[robbo\\_robinson60@hotmail.com](mailto:robbo_robinson60@hotmail.com)

### Vice Chairmen:

**Tony Griffin – Australia**  
**Roger Lee – UK**  
**Frank J. Wilson – UK**  
[f.j.wilson@btinternet.com](mailto:f.j.wilson@btinternet.com)  
**Richard Muller – Australia**  
[richard@muller.id.au](mailto:richard@muller.id.au)

### Hon. Secretary:

**Ted McPheat – Australia**

### Honorary Treasurers:

**Lorraine Fitzwater – UK**  
[lorraine@highexpert.com](mailto:lorraine@highexpert.com)  
**Maurice Clark – Australia**

### Advertising & Promotion:

**Mark Robinson – Australia**  
[robbo\\_robinson60@hotmail.com](mailto:robbo_robinson60@hotmail.com)

### Editor:

**Richard Muller – Australia**

### Assistant Editor:

**Jeff Marks – Australia**

### Librarian:

**Michael Ryan – Australia**

### Australian Contact:

**Maurice Clark**  
[margck5@bigpond.net.au](mailto:margck5@bigpond.net.au)

### PPS Auctioneer:

**Frank J. Wilson – UK**  
[ppsauktion@btinternet.com](mailto:ppsauktion@btinternet.com)

### Advertising & Promotion

**Mark Robinson**  
[robbo\\_robinson60@hotmail.com](mailto:robbo_robinson60@hotmail.com)

### Distribution:

**R Jones (EU)**  
**S. Zirinsky (Americas)**

Please note all Officers of the PPS and the Publisher may also be contacted through the following email address:  
[papuanphilatelicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:papuanphilatelicsociety@gmail.com)

## Chairman's Report

*Dear PPS members,*

I would like to congratulate Frank Wilson and thank the PPS members who got behind the last auction. Frank has informed us that it was a fantastic result and that total sales were 40% over estimated values. The next auction of the second part of this wonderful collection will have a closing date of July 2018 and can be viewed at the following web address: <http://www.mailbyrail.com/ppsauktion2/>. There are 380 lots of fantastic material to be sold and I for one will be bidding strongly.

Frank spends 100's of hours arranging and describing. Also remember that a portion of the sales is passed back to the PPS for use on future development of our society.

Also with note, we have had even more new members join in March/April and a big welcome to all. It's great to see that we are still growing on a monthly basis.

The 2018 National Papuan Philatelic Society meeting to be held in Queensland has now been confirmed for the 12th of May. Our Society Secretary, Ted McPheat, has sent out an email with all the details for the day. The response from members planning to attend has been strong. Please... if you have not received any details by email on the AGM and National meeting, please contact Ted ([ted.mcpheat@bigpond.com](mailto:ted.mcpheat@bigpond.com)) so that we can make sure that we get it to you.

We will have several special guests including Gary Watson to discuss the future of auction houses and talk about their new company Abacus Auctions and how it is different from the old days.

Richard Muller will also outline how the new website is going and talk about the new-look Papua New Guinea Calling Magazine which is well under development. I am very excited about it and hope all members will be as well.

We look forward to seeing you in Brisbane in May.

*Cheers! Mark (Robbo) Robinson*

PPS Chairman (Australia)



Chairman's symbol:  
A 1930s Sepik  
Orator's Stool (Teket)\*.  
Museum of Victoria

## PAPUAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Papuan Philatelic Society (PPS) membership is open to anyone who collects or has an interest in the stamps and postal history of 'Papua New Guinea'. The PPS covers all periods from the early days of British New Guinea (later Papua) and German New Guinea in the 1880's, to modern PNG with its many colourful stamps and cards. The membership is international with links in Australia, USA, UK & Europe, New Zealand and PNG itself. It is one of the strongest and most active philatelic societies.

**MEMBERSHIP? Simply contact: [papuanphilatelicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:papuanphilatelicsociety@gmail.com)**



# A STUDY OF THE PNG STAMP BOOKLETS

## 1970-1973 (Part 4)

By Sid Dikes

*Sid Dikes follows Part 3 of his study of the 1970-1973 stamp booklets of Papua New Guinea with further details on "what's out there" for the alert PNG booklet specialist*

Note to readers: Figure numbers continue in sequence from Part 3

Issued 14.02.1972 with numbers stated as 50,000, again with a new cover design. This 70ct. booklet contains 10 x 7ct. Constitutional Development stamps Sg.212/213, with a selvedge both sides (Figure 18). Four different attaching methods are possible. Known in sizes 120mm x 55-57mm.

Shown at right (Figure 19) is Affixing Method 4 inverted.

A number of booklets are observed with poor guillotine cutting and/or mis-aligned printing, affecting the Orange colour of the front cover, ranging anywhere from 1mm - 6mm misplacement (Figure 20).

Figure 18



Figure 19



Figure 20



Figure 21  
Top: Red Orange  
Bottom: Orange



Figure 22



Figure 23



There is a noticeable difference in the colour, i.e. Orange or Red Orange (Figure 21), and the intensity of the black varies greatly (Figure 22).

This booklet has advertising in black print similar to SB3, except the inner back cover advertisement is for Sparkola Bottling Co.

This booklet is also known with the insertion of a block of Sg.224 National Day stamps, as shown at left (Figure 23).

It has also been reported where the booklet contains stamps of the Sg. 227/230 Missionary Issue.



# abacus auctions

Stamps & Postal History, Coins & Banknotes, Postcards & Collectables

## NEW GUINEA, PAPUA and TP&NG

Whether you are buying or selling, Abacus Auctions (incorporating Prestige Philately) is the preferred option for discriminating collectors of stamps and postal history from all the Australian Territories. In addition to our comprehensive library of reference books and auction catalogues, our almost four decades of unrivalled experience in these areas are at your disposal. Our website links to [www.prestigephilately.com](http://www.prestigephilately.com) which is an outstanding online resource for our clients. Here you can have unrestricted access to check on our past auctions and results including for:

- 06.10.2001 New Guinea and Papua of Colonel Harrie Evans (UK)
- 09.11.2002 Papuan Postal History and Postmarks of Roger Lee (UK)
- 05.12.2003 German New Guinea of Fred Pearson (UK)  
Papuan Stamps of Peter Gold (UK)
- 26.04.2008 New Guinea, Papua and TP&NG of Tim Rybak (NSW)
- 17.10.2008 New Guinea and Papua of Harold Gough (UK)
- 14.03.2009 GRI New Guinea of Erich Schlieper (Germany)
- 28.07.2009 Large Gold Medal Papua Lakatois of Peter Troy (Qld)
- 25.03.2011 North West Pacific Islands of Barry Gribble (Vic)  
Papua of Dr Raymond Biggs (United States)
- 12.10.2012 German New Guinea of Michael Courtis (WA)  
GRI New Guinea of Peter Moverley (Vic)  
Papua of Paul Zatulove (United States)  
Papua Proofs & Essays ex EC Harris (Qld)  
Territory of Papua & New Guinea of John McNabb (Vic)
- 08.05.2013 Australian Occupation of New Guinea
- 07.02.2014 "Five Settings" Collection of NWPI Formes of 30
- 15.08.2014 New Guinea and Papua of Yasuo Seki (Japan)
- 06.03.2015 New Guinea especially Mandated Territory and Papua of RAD Heward (UK)
- 29.11.2016 Papuan Postal History of Dennis Leonard (NSW)
- 04.04.2017 New Guinea and Papuan Air Mails of Tom Frommer (ACT)

When it comes to New Guinea, Papua, & Papua New Guinea, you really can't go past Abacus Auctions, Australia's only world-class philatelic auction house, where you can count on us for exceptional standards of professionalism and service, including beautiful catalogues of the highest caliber.

Office: 19A Hampshire Road, Glen Waverley, 3150  
Postal: Post Office Box 296, Mount Waverley, 3149  
Phone: (03) 8513 0595; Overseas +61 3 8513 0595

Email: [info@abacusauctions.com.au](mailto:info@abacusauctions.com.au)  
Web: [www.abacusauctions.com.au](http://www.abacusauctions.com.au)



# MORE PNG STAMP DISCOVERIES IN THE 2014 HIGH VALUE OVERPRINTS

By Philip Mullins

The 2014 High Value Overprints have turned out to be treasure trove of new discoveries for the many keen PNG stamp collectors. While it is some years since these stamps were overprinted for legitimate postal needs, it is still quite amazing the stories that are now coming to light from of our many eagle eyed collectors.

Certainly there are minor variations but quite frankly some discoveries constitute totally new

stamps and really should be listed separately in catalogues. Although Scott and Stanley Gibbons have already listed a good number of these stamps, they certainly have not listed all of the more recent discoveries as yet.

I will now show three of the more recent finds that are not mentioned in any of our catalogues to date and you can decide if they are new stamps or simply minor variations.

## K15 on 85t Black Bellied Bat Overprint.

Stamp on the left (Figure 1) shows a smaller overprint block and the stamp on the right (Figure 2) shows a larger and wider overprint block over the original value.

The PNG Stamp Bureau states that two sets of artwork were sent to the printer and this is the reason for the totally different stamps. It has been stated by many collectors that the smaller overprint block was printed prior to the larger block becoming available.



Figure 1



Figure 2

## K40 on K6.00 Oil Palm Collection Overprint.



Figure 3



Figure 4

Stamp on the left (Figure 3) you can clearly see the K40 is thinner and the stamp on the right (Figure 4) the value is much thicker.

It is reported from the Bureau that a different font size was used by the printers when these stamps were being overprinted. Certainly the easiest way to spot the difference is by looking at the size of the 0 in the K40 value.

## K25 on K6.30 Tigerfish Overprint.



Originally this stamp was to have a single line overprint as shown on the left. However as you can see by the upwards shift in the original overprinted horizontal line on many of these stamps, it resulted in the original K6.30 value being clearly evident. Therefore the printers decided to overprint the sheets a second time with a diagonal line in an attempt to hide the original stamp value.

This is the only 2014 Overprint where this was done and it has resulted in many variations. However the one line overprint is clearly a different stamp as some stamps are thought to have missed the double overprinting run. As a result the single line overprint should be listed separately and I would assume much scarcer than the many double line variations seen to date. I have a feeling more variations may still come to light in the future.



# FOUND: A HOARD OF NEW GUINEA STAMPS

## Untouched for 90 years (Part 2)

■ By Phillip Blakeney – Australia ■

Note to readers: Figure numbers continue in sequence from Part 1

My other task was to learn about the postmarks of New Guinea in this era. I discovered J.H. Powell's publication "The Postal History of the Territory of New Guinea From 1888 to 1942" which first documented the postmarks of New Guinea,

Powell's original work from 1964 provided commentary on over 130 different postmark from The Territory. Each postmark was given a Type Number (with several subsequent discoveries being given "a, b...etc" designations). The numbering is quirky, being grouped by date for each post office first in order of PO opening. Post office by post office. Thus, the numbering is not correlated with overall sequential postmark dates.

Andrew Loughran updated and reset the monograph in April 2007 (and I understand is working on a new revision currently). This revision also included a compilation of "first recorded dates" ("ERD") and "latest recorded dates" ("LRD").

The cover of Loughran's monograph is shown at **Figure 6**.

Max Bulley contributed a scarcity rating for all the postmarks. Starting from

"A"-"C" with 500 to 1000s of postmark examples known;

"D" – 250-500 copies;

"E" – 50-250 copies;

"F" – 11-50 copies; and

"G" – 1-10 copies.

With this information and whatever else I was able to google up in auction realisations, I could get a clearer assessment of which stamps were most interesting.

There is a total of 23 different POWELL postmark types in the hoard. Most are common Rabaul postmarks (Type 58). The frankings were all on either the 1921-22 "new colours" KGV NWPI overprints both as issued or perforated OS (SG 120-124 or O17-21); or the 1925 definitives "Huts" (lower values 1/2d to 4d- SG 125-129) and a couple of OS overprints.

British historian James Morris observed that regular mail service to the colonies "strongly appealed to the British sense of far-flung order". New Guinea was still very wild in the period and mails

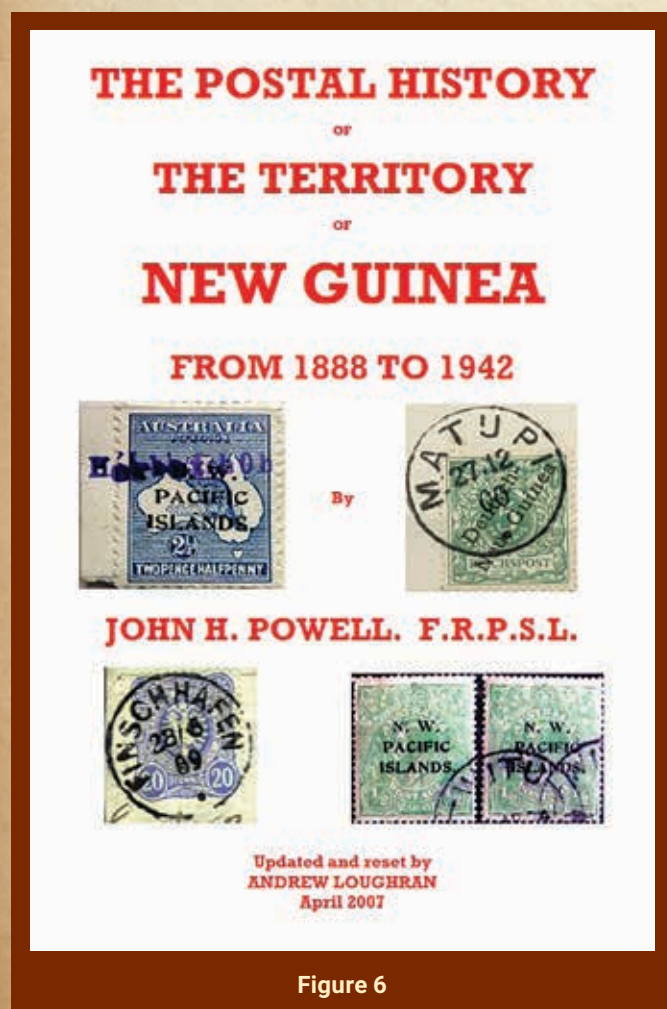


Figure 6

Figure 6a





relied on irregular boats between the small settlements: the hoard shows an interesting “survey” of the volumes of commercial and government mail

circulating in the Territory in the mid-1920s.

Some of the pieces are shown on the lovely 1950s school map of Papua New Guinea.



TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE

## MELBOURNE PPS STUDY GROUP

Meeting held 23 February 2018, and was attended by 10 members.

We were fortunate to have Robert Binner (PPS member) visiting from Munich, Germany.

Robert is the Munich City Council librarian for the Council's Philatelic Library, which has an unbelievable 60,000 volumes.

Max Bulley displayed his WWII Censorship Mail, which is also Robert's specialty.

We saw some amazing covers with all the recorded censorship markings, a collection which Max has put together over 40 years.

Alan Grey (ajgrey@bigpond.com) New Convenor elected in absentia.



# A study of KOKOPO Postmark Powell Type 15 including a NEW TYPE

By Phillip Blakeney

*This continues Phil Blakeney's series started last issue*

Kokopo is a township on the Gazelle Peninsula centred on a rich plantation area on New Britain island, about 18 kilometres by road from Rabaul. Kokopo was known as Herbertshohe (Herberts Heights) during the German New Guinea administration which controlled the area between 1884 and formally until 1919, and was the capital from 1899 to 1910 (before administration was transferred to Simpsonhafen – now called Rabaul – which had a superior Harbour.)

On 11 September 1914 a landing party from HMS Sydney raised the Union Jack (mistakenly thinking Herbertshohe was still the capital). The town declined as Rabaul grew as the capital of New Britain and main centre until 1994, when major eruptions of the volcanoes Tavarvur and

Vulcan forced the relocation of the capital back to Kokopo. The population increased from 3,150 in 1990 to the current 27,000.

Powell's 1964 monograph *"The Postal History of New Guinea from 1888 to 1942"* updated by Andrew Loughran in 2007 is a study of all the known postmarks for the period from German New Guinea and the Mandated Territory of New Guinea through to Japanese occupation in 1942. The Herbertshohe Post Office opened in 1891 and several postmarks are noted including temporary marks during the war years (Types 9 to 13). The first Kokopo postmark was Type 14, well known for the initial erroneous inclusion of "Queensland" in the postmark. This was obliterated with a soft metal bar which gradually wore away before being removed entirely leading to Po-



Figure 1: Kokopo Type 15 (this image courtesy of John Rayward)

well Types 14A and 14B.

The next postmarker introduced on 12 January 1922 was Type 15 another interesting CDS. Powell's original example shows a pristine pair of concentric circles with 'POST OFFICE' and 'P.O. KOKOPO' as shown at Figure 2.

Type 15 seems to be quite common (scarcity rating "C" - 500-100 copies) on NWPI KGV issues but strangely rare on The Mandated Territory of New Guinea Native Huts Definitive Issue of January 1925 with just a handful of the latter seen at auction in the last decade. This is odd given a last recorded use date of 25 October 1926 allows a 20-month window of usage.

Perhaps the small Kokopo PO had an excess of NWPI issues in stock through 1925 and 1926? The recently discovered *Rabaul Times* hoard has no less than **thirty-eight** identifiable strikes of Type 15 on the lower value Huts, which corrects significantly the paucity of known Huts strikes. An article elsewhere in PNG Calling chronicles the discovery of this 1920s New Guinea material found at a garage sale in 2016.

The Addenda added by Loughran comments on a 'crumbling' of the inner circle evident on one of the rare Huts cancels from



"Queensland" was removed and the space left blank, and with short, thick bars only before and after "Kokopo". (Type 14B.)

Type 15, a c.d.s. in rubber, was in use during 1923 and 1926. It consisted of two concentric circles of 31.5 mm. and 21.5 mm., inscribed between the circles, "POST OFFICE," above, and "P.O. KOKOPO" below, flanked by five-pointed stars. This type had been seen only on "N.W. Pacific Islands" issues, struck generally in violet until a commercial cover bearing a 2d. "Huts" stamp cancelled 20<sup>th</sup> June 1925 with this c.d.s. appeared at auction

in the year 2000. (acquired by the editor).

Figure 2: Powell / Loughran's commentary on Type 15

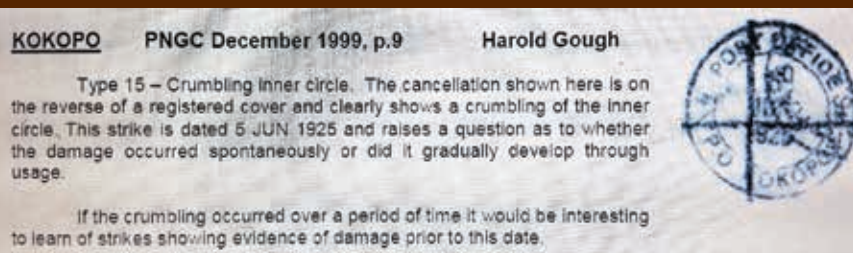


Figure 3: Loughran's addenda on the crumbling inner circle of Type 15



June 1925 (see **Figure 3**) and calls for further analysis of the flaws in the postmark.

The sheer number of strikes in the *Rabaul Times* hoard now enables an examination of the evolution of the faults on the Type 15 postmark. The key is

to find strikes that have **both** a clear date and clear faults on display. A number of bullseye or partial strikes obscure these details, but there are about a dozen useful pieces that allow this typology of the “crumbled inner circle” to be attempted.

## The Type 15 Crumbled Inner Circle

### State 1: Circle intact and even

As seen in Powell’s illustration in **Figure 2**.

### State 2: Circle unbroken; wavy at top

Sometime in mid 1924 the postmark developed some damage that resulted in several ‘wobbles’ in inner circle below the “O” and “F” in POST OFFICE. This is shown in **Figure 4**.



**Figure 4:**

State 2 – September 1924

### State 4:

#### Open break in frame

By early 1926 the break in the circle had opened out and the constant ‘dot’ had fallen out. The wobbles at the top are still evident. **Figure 6** illustrates this State.



### State 3: Break in inner circle with ‘dot’

Early in 1925 a substantial pair of inward bends on the inner circle with a constant ‘dot’ appeared in the inner circle located between the star and the P of POST. Within the break, the wobbles are still evident at the top. **Figure 5** shows an example of this State from May 1925 and a retroreveal scan of the same stamp to highlight the break. This State is also evident in **Figure 1**.

**Figure 5:** State 3 – May 1925



**Figure 6:** State 4 – June 1926



**Figure 7:** The new version of Type 15 (and a new last recorded date)

### NEW POWELL TYPE:

The story of Type 15 takes an exciting twist because amongst the *Rabaul Times* hoard was a new last recorded date that is totally reworked and would appear to be a new Type. The current LRD is 25 Oct 1926. A clear postmark dated Nov 9 1926 has two distinctive revisions: The quote marks and letters P.O. have been **removed** and the date slugs have been reordered from D/M/Y to M/Y/D. There were three examples of this in the hoard all dated the same day. Two are shown in **Figure 7**, where it can be seen that the postmarker is still otherwise State 4.



# Modern Matters

By Philip Mullins

**A**s a long term resident and PNG collector, I wish to comment on the Modern Matters column in your magazine No 68. This article is glaring, in its blatant negativity towards the PNG Philatelic Bureau in Port Moresby. By no stretch of my imagination is it the first negative article I have read on this Bureau, but I think it is time someone talked facts.

I therefore contacted the Bureau Manager Banian Masiboda, as I have always found him to be most helpful and refreshingly progressive. Firstly this article mentions that Oliver, son of Michael Ryan, visited Port Moresby but never obtained a face to face interview with Banian Masiboda. Banian on reading this said "Yes I remember Oliver he was going to drop by the Bureau when he was here, however unfortunately changed plans as time he reasoned was against him". I understood from your article that Banian was unavailable to see Michael which appears not to be the case.

The next major point made is the lack of "a schedule of upcoming issues simply not available (one gets the feeling it is as much a surprise to Postal staff as it is to us)". Banian's reply "I deliberately held back to avoid misleading/frustrating our collectors especially if they are to later find out that some of the scheduled issues fail to release (which is still the case now)". Banian then goes on to say "the untimely release of postal rates has always been a contributing factor in slowing our planning progress. However with the ICCC now giving us the green light to suggest postal rates, we are hoping to be able to better plan for new issues, which will in turn give greater confidence to all stakeholders, collectors & agents".

This is interesting as he mentions stakeholders and the ICCC. The major stakeholder is Kumul Consolidated Holdings formed by the PNG Government as an Independent Public Business Corporation in 2015 replacing what was previously known as the IPBC. Other pub-

lic Companies under their portfolio are Air Niugini, Post PNG, PNG Ports, and Telikom among others. Kumul Holdings was created to ensure Government Enterprises are returning a profit and acting in the best interests of the PNG people. The ICCC is the Independent Consumer Competition Commission and they are the principal watchdog for consumers. They are there to protect the long term interests of the people of PNG with regards to price, quality and reliability of significant goods and services. They set prices for Post PNG in regards to stamps, rental of private letter boxes and private mail bags. Both the ICCC and Kumul Consolidated Holdings ultimately still report to the PNG Government and the respective minister.

If anyone would like to understand why it is difficult for Post PNG and hence the Bureau to plan ahead, they should read **Post PNG – Analysis of current business challenges and policy options** compiled by Deloitte Access Economics 11th Feb 2015. It has 28 pages of quite informative comment and compares Post PNG to other Postal Administrations. Most importantly it shows that the Philatelic Bureau represents only 2% of the Post PNG sales revenue.

The other document that I think is essential reading is the **Postal Services Regulatory Contract Jan 1st 2017 to Dec 31st 2021**. The contract is 17 pages of comprehensive information and also sets out the dates (on or before 30th September each year) Post PNG can apply for price increases and the formula they must use. When you read both documents and see the timing and also take into account the Government accountability, it is easier to understand the difficulties in obtaining quick answers from the Bureau.

With PNG having an average CPI per annum of around 6% and an exchange rate of only AUD\$0.39 to the Kina, it places enormous pressure on the ICCC to make pricing decisions that assist all stakeholders let alone a few overseas stamps collectors.



**CLOSING DATE  
JULY 31 2018**

**View at <http://www.mailbyrail.com/ppsauction2/>**



*PNG Calling, Issue 277, May 2018 – Page 11*



# PAPUA NEW GUINEA CALLING

## THE BACK PAGE

**I**t would be nice if this issue comes out before the AGM and Australian meeting in mid-May. Despite best intentions, the time just seems to slip by. Perhaps the electronic version, if not the printed version.

There has been a positive response to the new-look of the journal, with some helpful comments as well. As mentioned, it is still evolving and your suggestions are always welcome. I'm also pleased with the improved quality of the paper (also using a new printer).

It's wonderful to see Phillip Blakeney's article (second in the series, in this issue). For one thing, he's not even a member (we need to remedy that!) yet has made a really valuable contribution. I know he has put a huge amount of research effort into preparing the article. We are fortunate indeed that John Rayward and Andrew Loughran assisted in checking the facts – a great example of the benefit of society networking.

Perhaps the most intriguing part of Phillip's story is how he acquired the material – via a garage sale (see the initial instalment, last issue). I think every philatelist dreams of a similar find. While I have not struck it yet, I do live in hope.

And just to confirm that it does indeed happen now and again, a couple of years ago I met a local ebay seller who sold books and stamps on a casual basis (more hobby than profession). He mentioned that he 'haunted' garage sales – "you never know what you might find". The material I was buying came from a dog-eared Chinese album filled with 'kids pictorial stamps' he bought on spec. And in the very back page was the 'gold dust' – a trove of Papua material. There was one absolute gem that I offered to buy and he declined. The value would have paid for many more garage sale purchases. To my knowledge he still holds it and has since moved overseas. Maybe it will be my turn to make a similar find one day!

It's encouraging to see new members coming on board, with a diverse range of interests. We're delighted to welcome:

- John Woods (Aust) stamps, FDC, postal history and cancellations of German NG, British NG, NWPI, Papua & QLD

- Guy Potts (Aust) stamps, postal history, & FDC
- Greg Devine (UK) stamps, postal history & FDC and NWPI
- Bernard Wallace (Aust) stamps, postal history, & cancellations, Morobe Province/ Lae
- John Woolven-Allen (UK) Lakatois 1901-32, New Guinea
- Duncan Findlay (Aust) Lakatois, cancellations
- Shawn Carpenter (Aust) stamps, FDCs, postal history, cancellations

For those interested in current PNG material, we do try to get updated information (see Philip Mullin's comments –no disrespect to the Philatelic Bureau ever intended) and would be pleased to include it, if made available. For those keen on postmarks, I suggest you could check Steve Zirinsky's website ([zirinskystamps.com](http://zirinskystamps.com)). He has provided information in the past to this journal and seems to have a good selection of interesting material on offer.

And speaking of the philatelic trade, it is great to see that out of the Mossgreen debacle, Abacus Auctions has emerged. Philately can ill afford to lose any of the dealers and auction houses, especially one that was so involved in handling material of interest to PPS members. We wish them well for the future.

You will have seen Robbo's comments in the Chairman's Message. He, along with Ted McPheat, has done a terrific job in putting together the mid-May meeting in Brisbane. For someone who was laid up in a hospital bed only a few months ago, he's put together a fabulous event. And he's promised perfect weather for the weekend. I hope to have pictures to share in the next issue.

Oh, and while we're thinking about that next issue – how about sending along a small contribution. If not a lengthy article (!), then how about sending along a postmark – an unusual one (odd date, spelling, layout, etc) – or maybe one you have not been able to identify – or maybe where the postmark does not reconcile with the listed usage dates – or.....

*Cheers, Richard*

([richard@muller.id.au](mailto:richard@muller.id.au))