

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.

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The Sepik Haus Tambaran
Orator's Stool*

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Chairman's Report

Dear PPS members,

Several members have notified us of new discoveries that will no doubt find their way into the next few issues of our magazine. I myself have a new exciting one and I am just awaiting the return of the stamp and certificate. As soon as it's in my possession I will update everyone via an article in the PNG Calling.

Member John (Drifty) Rayward was instrumental in arranging with Stanley Gibbons the re-write of their Native Huts Shades section several years ago.

Via the PPS he has submitted for consideration updates to the Deutsch-New-Guinea Overprint issues, with several important flaws in the issue.

The date and venue for the 2019 AGM is being finalised and will be held in Sydney to run in conjunction with the Sydney Stamp Expo. This is an important AGM as all PPS officers will be up for re-election. Nomination and Voting forms will be sent out mid-next year.

The website has been updated, with added Michael Ryan's 'Papua Catalogue'. This is an excellent source of information on the issues and real world sales prices attained at auctions around the world. Also in the Website library is the first of the PNG Calling back issues from 1955 (!). More will be uploaded to the site. Remember that all you need to access the library is your email address as the Log In and your membership number is the Password.

This issue has some more fantastic material submitted by Phillip Blakey and a wide range of material from Gilbert Naiser's modern to Rod Buschko's New Guinea area and much from other members as well.

The society would also like to thank Rod Perry for his new column that helps answer the query, "how can I put together a specialised collection that won't cost the earth"

If anyone has anything interesting to share or questions looking for answers then this is the place where you need to have it. The PNG Calling is not only for 'right now' but also likely to be used for many years to come, by new and old members alike as a valued reference source.

Also a big welcome to all new members that have joined in the last 3 months.

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.

For information about joining the PPS, please contact us at papuanphilatelicsociety@gmail.com

DECIPHERING THE UNUSUAL DATE-LINES OF SELECTED NEW GUINEA DATE-STAMPS (ca. 1921 – 1926) Part 2

By Rod Buchko (Canada)

TYPES OF NEW GUINEA DATE-STAMPS – 1914 to 1926

Australian involvement in German New Guinea began in August 1914 with the military occupation and seamlessly continued in 1921 with the civil administration during the Mandate period. Classification of cancellers seen struck on letters and articles, mailed during the entire military occupation and partly into the civil one, fall into basically three not too distinct periods with the second overlapping the two administrative governments. In chronological order they are: Provisional, Permanent (metal) and Permanent (rubber). The Permanent (metal) can be separated into three phases and one anomaly.

1. Provisional

The somewhat hasty ad hoc (see Gibbs¹) decision to assemble a military force to occupy several Pa-



Figure 1 Provisional date-stamps Prepared in situ²



Figure 2
Captured German handstamps
modified as cancellers³

¹ R.M. Gibbs, 'GRI – The Postage Stamps of the German Colonies Occupied by the British 1914-1918', 1987, p. 7 – 10.

² Black and white illustrations taken from John H. Powell's 'The Postal History of The Territory of New Guinea From 1888 to 1942'.

Shown are Powell's '049b' and '49c' x 2. First & third strikes from author's collection; second strike from Abacus' Auction 229, part of lot 926.

³ Black and white illustrations taken from John H. Powell's 'The Postal History of The Territory of New Guinea From 1888 to 1942'.

Shown are Powell's '89', '11', '51', '21', '65' and '54'. All strikes are from author's collection.



Figure 3
1st Phase Permanent date-stamps
All District Offices
(Post Offices) shown⁴

cific island groups, ultimately culminating in the occupation of Germany's extensive New Guinea territory, left the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (ANMEF) administration unprepared for a lengthy foray that was initially deemed to be of a temporary duration. For instance, it's apparent the handling of any outgoing mail, in terms of the sale of postage stamps and cancelling the outgoing mail, was poorly planned - no date-stamps/cancelling devices were assigned or taken with the troops and there was a scarcity of available stamps for postage.

The first date-stamps used at Rabaul in October 1914 were on-site configured rubber handstamps of the type shown in **Figure 1**. As the more remote German outstations were occupied and garrisoned during the first year (August 1914 - July 1915) the military officers resorted to the use of a combination of altered or modified, captured German steel and rubber postal and other official paraphernalia to cancel letters and articles sent from their district offices and outstations or district administration centers. Selected representative examples from the author's collection are shown in **Figure 2**.

2. Permanent date-stamps (metal)

This period can be divided into three phases based on the design of the lower portion of the date-stamp notwithstanding irregular and unusual issue dates and some one-off aberrant designs.

2.1 Permanent date-stamps - 1st phase - July to October 1915 & 1920

Beginning in mid-1915 the first type of permanent date-stamps (metal), intended to supersede the provisionals, were introduced. They were circular with the District Office (post office) name at the top, a centered single date-line in the format of day, month year (ddmmyy) and two short arcs separated by a dot in the lower half as seen in **Figure 3**.

The earliest dates are seen with Kieta strikes (possibly proofs or 'per favour') with the first usages at Rabaul; and subsequently (in no particular order) at Madang, Herbertshöhe, Kawieng and Kieta. Later the more remote offices at Eitape, Manus and Morobe received their date-stamps. Oddly, the last one of this group was allocated to Talasea in 1920 - a gap of some 4½ years. A list of the earliest known usages (from the author's collection) is documented in **Table 1**. Ultimately these dates will prove to be significant.

1 st phase permanent date-stamps					
Location	Powell Number	Earliest usage	Location	Powell Number	Earliest usage
Rabaul	P055	31 July 1915 (12 May 1915)	Eitape	P028	Aug 1916 (16 Aug 1915)
Kieta	P066	1 July 1915 (15 Feb 1915)	Morobe	P090	7 Oct 1915 (7 Oct 1915)
Madang	P022	Nov 1915 (15 Apr 1915)	Herbertshöhe	P013	Aug 1915 (23 June 1915)
Kawieng	P039	1 Aug 1915 (9 Jan 1915)	Talasea	P092	11 Jan 1920 (11 Jan 1920)
Manus	P084	1915 (7 Jan 1915)			

Table 1 Earliest dates of usage of 1st phase permanent date-stamps⁵

⁴ Shown are Powell's '13', '22', '28', '39', '55', '66', '84', '90' and '92'. All strikes are from author's collection.

⁵ In the 'Earliest usage' column the unbracketed dates are from the author's collection and the bracketed dates are taken from A.B. Loughran's update of John H. Powell's *The Postal History of The Territory of New Guinea From 1888 to 1942*. Note the numerous earliest dates published by Loughran must be erroneous. These are either 'per favour' strikes, incorrectly rotated wheels or improperly read strikes.

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE

BENEFIT FROM OUR EXPERTISE & PRESENTATION



Australia KGV 2d red '21' flaw "extremely rare in red"
Estimate A\$1250, Sold for A\$2875*



Victoria BN 436 Wombat Creek
Estimate A\$750, Sold for A\$3115*



New Guinea SG1 with FDI cancel
Estimate A\$600, Sold for A\$958*



Papua SG57 Wmk Upright Reversed
Estimate A\$1500, Sold for A\$1917*



Australia 1924 KGV 1 1/2 Lettercard with 'Burrinjuck Dam In Flood' view
Estimate A\$4500, Sold for A\$4792* (world record for scenic lettercard)



New Zealand Coronation artwork
Estimate A\$750, Sold for A\$1078*



Australia 1928 from Malaya with 'FORWARDED BY AIR MAIL' cachet
Estimate A\$500, Sold for A\$1318*



Western Australia 1882 'KOJONUP' unframed oval and numeral '29'
Estimate A\$1500, Sold for A\$6859*



Norfolk Island 1960s Photographic Essays etc.
Estimate A\$600, Sold for A\$1258*



South Australia three-volume Picture Postcard collection
Estimate A\$800, Sold for A\$3474*

* at Public Auction on 19 May 2018 (prices include Buyer's Premium)

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Torsten Weller

Gary Watson

PAPUA NEW GUINEA PERSONALISED STAMPS

□ *Doug Spencer (Australia)* □

You are welcome to submit varieties or designs that are not shown here. Generic items should always be accompanied by Post PNG authentication. Items that are customer initiated and are of a personal nature (usually where the tab is on the left) are outside the scope of this presentation.

GENERIC ISSUES

Generic stamps are usually those designed in-house and available over the counter or by request from samples provided by Post PNG.

I have included in the first series those commissioned by Christoph Gärtner because of the numbers of sheets printed (many hundreds and sometimes more) and their general availability in the market.

The First Series sheets were pre-printed in New Zealand with



blank tabs. The tabs were then printed in PNG either using in-house designs or those provided by customer initiated orders.

Minor "design creep" is noticeable on many of the sheets – the tab printing forms usually, but not always, being aligned to the top left stamp but with an upward shift to the right.

The last column of stamps will thus show the top tab design intruding into the background and the bottom tab with an unprinted area at the base.

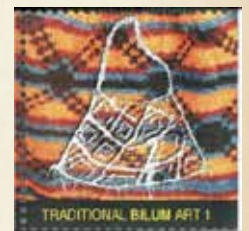
FIRST SERIES

85t – domestic standard letter rate up to 50g for the period 01/01/2007 to 31/12/2009.

Issued in sheets of 40, comprising 20 stamps and 20 adjoining tabs of various designs.



First day of issue 21/08/2007



2014 printing – no applicable postage rate at that time.
Commissioned by Christoph Gärtner.

K1 – domestic rate 51 - 150g for 2002 year, standard 50g domestic rate for 2010 year.
 Issued in sheets of 24, comprising 12 different stamps with adjoining tabs.



First day of issue 21/08/2007
 – no applicable postage rate



2014 printing – no applicable postage rate
 (Gärtner issue).

K3 – Domestic rate for 51 - 150g



First day of issue 21/08/2007

2014 printing – no applicable postage rate
 (Gärtner issue).



K3.35 – International Zones 1 & 2 up to 50g

First day of issue 21/08/2007



TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE



ROD PERRY'S WOODCHIP FREE ZONE PART 2

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

used off cover retails at \$14). Many common philatelic items sell for much more.

The 1966 Elema Art quartet were supplementary denominations to the Butterfly set. None are easy to find on cover; the 60c is a rarity. **Figure 2** has the 7c and 2c, together with Butterfly 1c to make up the 10c Aerogramme rate, utilizing a *John Dickinson* formular permit "Air Letter", from Madang 19 Nov 1967 to U.S. **Valuation : \$60** (used set off cover \$1.50).

Perusing a widely accepted retail list, from which my "used off cover" prices are taken, I could not help but be unpleasantly surprised at how poorly the mint and used stamps of this period have fared. For example, the



Figure 5. Regular stamp adaptation for Postage due purpose

face value of the 1967 Pacific War set is 77c, yet the retail price today is but \$2 mint or used, 43 years after issue! The wholesale price? I won't go there. One would hope that collectors of mint/used have derived pleasure from ownership of such material.



Figure 6. Only intact se-tenant pairs seen

PNG DECIMALS. STAMP USAGE BEFORE SELF-GOVERNMENT.



Figure 7. Rightly, a popular thematic

in Figure 4. Here the 20c from the 1967 Territory Parrots, actually a designated Christmas series, pays for registration fee uprate for 5c Envelope used from Lae to Samarai 30 Nov 1967. **Valuation : \$60** (used set off cover \$3).

The 1968-69 Sea Shells were a worthy replacement definitive series for the Butterflies; another striking set of designs. The 12c of the series was

for it has been a lousy financial investment. The Trade also must question the viability of handling such material; I know some regard it only as a necessary service. Enough depressing comment, however, **back now to commercial covers**. The 2c, 20c and 50c denominations are very scarce on cover; I've seen but two covers bearing the 50c. **Figure 3** is one, the only solo franking, for 50c combined airmail/registration fee to Germany, from Goroka 1 May 1968. **Valuation : \$100** (used set off cover \$2).

Postal stationery uprated for a specific purpose is a desirable field in its own right, and so much more a delight when a gorgeous stamp performs the uprate, as

amongst the last denominations to appear, and is the scarcest on cover of the sub-dollar stamps. **Figure 5** is a particularly rare usage of a 12c, as a Postage due on an underpaid cover from Australia. Arriving



Figure 8. Coil pair a little gem

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE

MAJOR PRINTING ERRORS OF THE 1897 - 99 DEUTSCH-NEU-GUINEA OVERPRINT ISSUE SG 1 - 6

By John Rayward (Australia)



Figure 1

Introduction

For the first time, the Stanley Gibbons (SG) 2017 Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue, Western Pacific, lists the basic stamps of German New Guinea. However, the listing does not include the five important printing errors that occur in the 1897 - 1899 Deutsch-Neu-Guinea Overprint Issue, as follows :

- Four major printing errors, in the form of broken letters within the overprint, that occur on all six denominations of the issue;
- a single sheet of the 25pf denomination with the overprint inverted; and
- the same four major printing errors that also occur on the single 25pf sheet with the overprint inverted.

Printing Errors

The four major printing errors that occur on all sheets of the six denominations are shown at Figure 2.

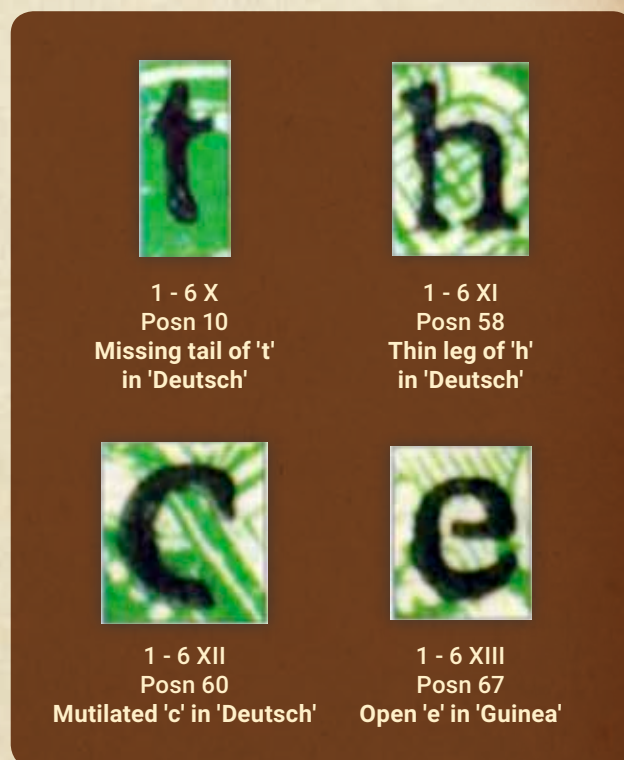


Figure 2



Figure 3

Inverted Overprint

The 25pf denomination was printed in two different shades: yellowish-orange (1897) and dark-orange (1899). The former shade is listed by SG; the latter, scarcer shade is not.

One single sheet of 100 stamps of the 25pf dark-orange shade was printed with the overprint inverted as illustrated at Figure 3. These stamps are very rare but are not listed by SG.

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE

PROFILE OF THE PNG PHILATELIC BUREAU MANAGER

By Philip Mullins (Australia)

Like most PNG stamp collectors I have dealt with the Philatelic Bureaux of many countries throughout my years of collecting. Seldom do you meet the staff or managers except perhaps occasionally at International Stamp shows.

I thought readers maybe interested in knowing a little more about the Manager of the Post PNG Bureau.

Banian Masiboda shown right was born 25th July, 1964 in the village of Kumwagea on Kitava Island in the Trobriand Group of Islands.

He first learned to speak English at the Kitava Primary School and later attended High School at Cameron Provincial School in Alotau, the capital of Milne Bay Province.

High School was a major shock for him coming from a small remote village and having to mix with students who were from vastly larger towns like Alotau. Academically he admits, he did not do as well as he had hoped at High School, but was then to face an even greater cultural shock with a shift to Port Moresby in 1981. Here he attended Port Moresby Technical College where he completed a sign writing and painting course achieving with hard work and dedication, top honours in his class.

On finishing his course, he like most Papua New



Banian Masiboda
Manager
Post PNG Philatelic Bureau

Guineans found it very difficult to find a position in Port Moresby. At the end of 1982 after searching for a job for several months he obtained a position with Steamships Trading as a graphic artist in their advertising department.

Working for Steamships he learnt all aspects of their business as they were a large trading house who placed great emphasis on training national staff.

Banian joined Post PNG in April 2007 as a graphic artist and was promoted several times before being appointed to Manager Philatelic Bureau 6th June 2011. He had little if any knowledge of the world of stamp collecting and admits it has been a steep learning curve ever since his appointment.

However thanks to his many negotiations with collectors and dealers as Manager Philatelic, he has learned a great deal in his years at the helm.

His responsibilities also mean he has several overseas engagements each year and has to date, visited Australia, Japan, Thailand, Philippines, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, France, Spain and the United Kingdom. His longest stay overseas was for six months in Seville Spain for the World Expo in 1992. This is quite extensive world travel for anyone let alone someone from Kumwagea Village.

A PNG 'BULLET HOLE' By Sid Dikes (Australia)

Note the 'bullet hole' in the top left red border of the registration label on the 7ct 75th Anniv of Papua New Guinea stamps (SG.262). Asking the same question raised by Maurie Clark in his article in the Sept. issue - is it an inking flaw or a print variety? Comments welcome to sidneydikes@gmail.com.



PAPUA NEW GUINEA CALLING

PROFILE OF THE PNG PHILATELIC BUREAU MANAGER

Banian works long hours as he is managing all Philatelic customer orders and is also responsible for the planning and production of PNG postage stamps. He points out that with other postal administrations this is often handled by other another department.

Post PNG has a mandate to look after the postal service for the citizens of PNG and Banian is acutely aware that this is sometimes at odds with their loyal PNG stamp collectors. He states that he understands the frustrations with his departments shortcomings but at all times endeavours to meet

the expectations of collectors.

To this end they have appointed a new management team and have also moved to provide a better service with an innovative online shopping site.

Apart from their standing order customers, an ever increasing number of collectors worldwide are now clicking onto the online shopping, something he feels is the way of the future.

In the world of computers and technology. how refreshing is it to know a little more about the people we deal with?



PNG INKING FLAW OR PRINT VARIETY?

By Sid Dikes (Australia)

Here is the PNG 10c 1969 Folklore (SG 154) showing an extra "O" in the word "Luvuapo" (R5/2) - inking flaw or print variety? Comments to: sidneydikes@gmail.com.

2019 PPS AUCTION

Material Now Being Accepted

We're delighted that Frank Wilson has offered to manage another PPS auction, scheduled for later this year.

He is now looking for all members to support the auction by submitting material - closing date June 1st.

His contact details are:

57A Bourne Road, Spalding, Lincs.

PE11 1JR. U.K.

Email: ppsauktion@btinternet.com

