November Meeting—Christmas breakup

Christmas Island and Cocos Island minisheets and Bedford stickers and Australia Post Christmas issues promotional items

Christmas postcards with different themes

November Meeting—members items

While our President was in Wellington for a stamp exhibition, he purchased 8 postcards of ships in the Antarctic.

Beautiful cards, amazing prices and will definitely enhance his next exhibit.

The grey-headed flying fox, which I assume this is, is native and common throughout all of eastern Australia. They live in colonies hanging upside down in trees at night, flying out at dusk to their food, sometimes in orchards to the inconvenience of farmers. I doubt they live on the edge of open farmland as shown here, usually preferring more densely vegetated situations. Although there was a colony in Sydney Botanic Gardens which caused much damage, and were persuaded to move on.

The card was drawn by Oscar Stahl, whose signature appears at the bottom right (use the zoom function of your viewer). His cards were published by Crown Studios of Sydney and different versions by NSW Bookstall Co. as the Art Series. The series was released in 1906.

From Des Beechey

January Meeting

Display on Broken Hill - Silver City. This 5 frame display was originally owned by Betty van Tenac, then purchased by Ray Garlick and was part of one of the Australasian Postcard Challenge entries. This display has achieved an international Gold medal.

Members items from David Figg. 16 post cards of Radio Personalities of a by-gone-era, 1940's—50's (the start of his entry into the Empire Trophy competition)

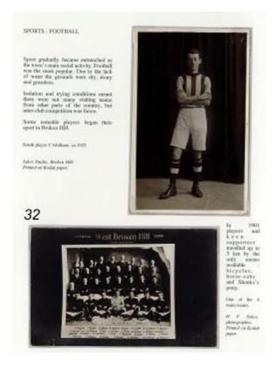Also 10 cards of Barardos Homes. (also the start of his Betty Cornish entry.

POSTCARD AUCTION

Postcard auction of postcards from the Ray Garlick collection. All cards will have trains, trams etc on them. There is also ephemera related material as well. For more scans check out our APS website

Viewing of lots will be at the Feb and March 23rd meetings. Also Neville is looking at organising a general postcard auction for October/November, if you are interested reserve for lots is min $10. for more information see Neville at the Feb and March meetings.

Early History of the Postcard cont.

1865

At the Karlsruhe postal conference, <u>Heinrich von Stephan</u> proposed the creation of *offenes Postblatt* (or, *open post-sheets*). The goal was to simplify the etiquette of the letter format, but also to reduce the work, paper and costs involved in the sending of a short message.

He suggested the introduction of a rigid card, roughly the size of an envelope, which could be written on and mailed without the need for an envelope, having the postage pre-printed.

The idea was not so well received in Germany: the post office feared the complexity and cost of implementing the scheme in all the different states, each emitting their own stamps.

Despite this setback, Von Stephan was a prominent figure in the history of postal services in Germany. Beginning his work as a postal clerk in 1849, he was successively promoted until he reached the post of Minister of Postal Services in 1895. He focused on the standardization and internationalization of postal services, and later helped establish the Universal Postal Union.

1869

In Austria-Hungary, <u>Dr. Emanuel Herrmann</u> (a professor of Economics from Vienna) wrote an article in the Neue Freie Presse pointing out that the time and effort involved in writing a letter was out of proportion to the size of the message sent. He suggested that a more practical and cheaper method should be implemented for shorter, more efficient communications.

His recommendations impressed the Austrian Post, who put them to practice on **October 1st 1869**, resulting in the *Correspondenz-Karte*, a light-brown 8.5x12cm rectangle with space for the address on the front, and room for a short message on the back. The postcard featured an imprinted 2 Kreuzer stamp on top right corner, costing half the price of a normal letter.

Early History of the Postcard cont.

1869

The postcard was born!

It is not known whether Dr. Herrmann had any knowledge of Von Stephan's earlier proposal for a very similar card. Seeing the immense popularity of this new means of communication, Switzerland, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom and some states of Germany quickly followed suit, issuing postcards less than a year after the initial launch.

Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Norway, and Canada issued cards in 1871, and the following year also Russia, Chile, France, and Algeria added postcards to their offers. In 1873, France, Serbia, Romania, Spain, Japan and the United States issued their own postcard offerings. By 1874, Italy, Romania and Serbia had also began to issue theirs

1874

The General Postal Union (later renamed Universal Postal Union) was created in Bern, Switzerland. One of its first postal treaties fixed a standard postage for letter mail sent to the members of the Union, and determined that half that rate should be applied to postcards.

This made sending postcards abroad much cheaper, and less complicated.

Today, the UPU is a specialized United Nations agency that coordinates postal policies among its 192 members, standardizing procedures and making international mail delivery much simpler. Prior to its establishment, each country had to organize separate treaties with every single country to engage in international mail delivery with them.

In 1894, twenty years after its inception, an estimated 1.7 billion postcards were exchanged between UPU member countries.

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