

1. November 2013 minutes & the treasurer's report
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version (but not on the pdf edition)

The NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COIN AND STAMP CLUB INCORPORATED

28th JANUARY 2014
ISSUE #143



Web page: www.philas.org.au/orange

WELCOME
TO 2014,
OUR
CLUB'S 49TH
YEAR

OUR END-OF-YEAR & CHRISTMAS FUNCTION IS THIS FRIDAY, 29th NOVEMBER, at the ORANGE BOTANIC GARDENS

Our Club's Christmas & end-of-year function was held at Clover Hill Centre at the Orange Botanic Gardens, on Friday evening, 29th November 2013.

18 members and their partners enjoyed what turned out to be a pleasant night. The predicted rain held off.

Because this Council-owned venue is now managed by Byng St Cafe, we had to bring along the Club's trestle tables. The tables & chairs at the Centre were booked out to another venue. Attendees also needed to bring their own chairs. The upside was we didn't have to pay the \$90 hire fee for the forecourt.

Howard Lyons spoiled us with great raffle prizes, especially the three Christmas hams. Thanks to Howard for all the preparation involved.

Thanks to Geoff Henry for organising the booking & the BBQ part of the evening and to Aaron Henry for bringing along his BBQ.



Howard Lyons with customers at the 2013 October Spring Fair

NEXT MONTHLY ORANGE COIN & STAMP FAIR TO BE HELD IN THE ORANGE CULTURAL CENTRE ON SATURDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2014

Our next monthly Coin & Stamp Fair will be held on **Saturday 1st February 2014**.

The Fair runs from **9am till about 3pm**.

The venue for our monthly fair is the **Orange Cultural Centre**. It is held on the **1st Saturday of each month**

The Orange Cultural Centre is the white-stuccoed building, with trees out the front on the right as you enter the Woolworth's car park from Sale St. If you make your way past the junior ballet dancing classes you will find us in the room on the south side of the building.

OUR NEXT CLUB 'NIGHT' MEETING, AFTER THIS ONE, IS ON TUESDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2014

Our next nighttime general monthly meeting is to be held on **Tuesday 25th February 2014** at 7.30pm.

The Club always meets on the last Tuesday of each month, except in December at the Orange Community Information & Services Centre (Woolworth's Car Park side door), 79 Kite St, Orange. There is no access from the Kite St front door.

NEXT DAYTIME MEETING IS ON MONDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2014

Our next lunchtime meeting will be on **Monday 10th February 2014** at midday in the meeting room in the Orange Community Information & Service Centre, Kite Street.

If you haven't been before, please come along. It's an opportunity for swapping, for asking questions and for information.

BATHURST CLUB'S BATHEX IS BACK IN 2015

Bathurst Club have announced that **Bathex stamp, coin, bottle, collectables & lapidary fair** is back! This event is planned for 19 & 20th September 2015.

SCDAA PETERSHAM STAMP & COIN FAIR FOR MARCH 2014 HAS BEEN CANCELLED

Because of building renovations at the Petersham Town Hall, the Petersham Stamp & Coin Super Fair for March has been cancelled. The Petersham Show is normally held on the 5th Sunday of the month. There are only 4 fifth Sundays in a year. The other 2014 Petersham dates are Sunday 29th June, 31st August and 30th November.

ITEMS FOR THIS NEWSLETTER AND CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CLUB

Items for this newsletter need to be posted to the Secretary at the Club's postal address: -PO Box 324 ORANGE 2800. They can always also be e-mailed to: - ddolstra@bigpond.net.au

-Or phone 63 614 872.

The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the editor & are not necessarily the Orange Coin & Stamp Club Inc.

TURN YOUR STAMPS INTO CASH! PREPARE SOME PAGES READY FOR THE CLUB'S EXCHANGE BOOK

Turn your unwanted stamps into cash! Pages are needed for our next Exchange Book.

Tony Richards, the circuit book manager, can be contacted by phone on (02) 6361 7681 and at 1/62 Cox Avenue, Orange 2800.

DEALERS WHO ATTENDED OUR EXPO 2013

Dealers who attended Expo 2013 & deserve your support were - -

A. Byrne Coins (Tony Byrne from Canberra – PO Box 53, MITCHELL, A.C.T. 2911, ph (02) 6255 4044)

Leo Jakimow
PO Box 1082, CANBERRA ACT 2601;
phone (02) 6241 5292. E-mail: -
leojakimow@yahoo.com.au

Wynyard Coin Centre 7 Hunter
Arcade, Sydney, 2000 – Lower
Concourse, Wynyard Railway Station; Ph
(02) 9299 2047 & Fax (02) 9290 3710

Orange Stamps and Coins (Howard
Lyons) PO Box 9288, ORANGE NSW
**2800; Ph/fax (02) 6362 2368; E-
mail: - howard.lyons@bigpond.com**

**Conrad & Jane Silvester (operators of
the Orange East Licenced Post Office)**
Buy your new-issue stamps from this long-
time supporter of our Club

THANKS TO EXPO 2013 SPONSORS - PLEASE SUPPORT THEM IN RETURN

- Conrad & Jane Silvester of East Orange LPO
- House, in Orange
- A.B.C. Shop / Boomers Books
- *Australasian Coin & Banknote* magazine
- *Australian Stamp Professional* magazine
- Apple City Paper, for A4 paper

- M.R. Roberts & the Wynyard Coin Centre
- Seven Seas Stamps
- Orange Odeon5 Cinemas

DATES FOR 2014

Club general meeting, Tuesday 28th February 2014, at 7.30pm, Orange Community Information & Services Centre

Monthly Orange Coin & Stamp Fair at the Orange Cultural Centre, Sat 1 February 2014, 12-3pm

Next Club lunchtime meeting, midday 10th February 2014 at the Community Information & Services Centre, Kite St

PHILAS Open Day, Saturday 15 February 2014, 9.30-4.00, PHILAS House, 17 Brisbane St, Surry Hills (stamp dealers, sale-by-tender, advice on exhibiting, exhibits, circuit books)

PHILAS Stamp Auction, Saturday 8th March 2014, PHILAS House, 17 Brisbane St, Surry Hills

Club general meeting, Tuesday 25th March 2014, at 7.30pm, Orange Community Information & Services Centre

Orange EXPO 2014, Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th April 2014, Kenna Hall, 90 Hill St

Orange 2014 Spring Fair & Auction, Saturday 11th October 2014, Kenna Hall

PHILAS Open Day, Saturday 21st June 2014, 9.30-4, PHILAS House, 17 Brisbane St, Surry Hills (stamp dealers, sale-by-tender, advice on exhibiting, exhibits, circuit books)

THE NEXT LUNCH-TIME MEETING is at midday
Monday 10th February 2014, at the Orange Community
Information & Services Centre, 79 Kite St.

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**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2013-14 CLUB MEMBERSHIP
SUBSCRIPTION?.....**



Thanks to **Australian Stamps Professional Magazine** for their kind donation of back
copies EXPO 2013. Pick the current issue up at your newsagent or email
info@zoi.com.au. Most Orange newsagents now keep it.

www.australianstampspr

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Thanks to
Orange's ODEON5 Cinema
for their kind donation of prizes for the Expo 2013 youth competition



*Orange Club members at the Mudgee Coin, Note & Stamp Fair held at Club Mudgee on 17 November 2013: -
Aaron Henry, Tegan Hildenbuettel, Betty Henry, Geoff Henry, Judy Binns, Norm Binns, Howard Lyons & Tony Read [photo from
Geoff Henry]*

THE ORANGE COIN & STAMP CLUB:-

IT'S ORIGINS.

by the Late Les Warburton.

This article is the transcript of Les Warburton's speech to the dinner held to mark the Club's 30th Anniversary in 1995. Les Warburton was the Club's first President. He was made an Honorary Member of the Club

It gives a person a lot of satisfaction & pleasure to know that a club which he was partly instrumental in forming is still functioning strongly after 30 years. Although the original & early minutes of meetings are lost, I can still remember the formation of the club.

I don't remember how I met Col & Eileen Davidson, but I do know it had something to do with coins, and it was from this meeting that the Orange & District Coin & Stamp Club came into being.

At the time there were more people interested in getting a collection of Australian coins together "than you could poke a stick at", as it was less than half a year away from the Decimal change-over" of 14 February 1966.

We thought that it would be interesting to know just how many were interested, so we decided to place an advertisement in the local paper with the view of forming a Coin Club.

As the result of the advertisement we received many calls from interested people. We found that among the callers were also stamp collectors who inquired if we intended to include philately as part of the club's interests, and, as you can see, this eventuated.

The inaugural meeting was held at Allcorn's Star Ballroom (New Patmos) on 29 July 1965. As I remember, 23 people attended. They were as follows:- Philip Barrow, Robert Bartlett, Veronica Cameron, Ray Cantrill, Perce & Mrs Curall, Colin & Eileen Davidson, Geoff Floyd, Ray Flynn, Lal Hansen, Frank Hazzard, Geoff Hennessey, Des Morrissey, Ray Norman, Tom Robards, Mrs Rowe, Keith & Lionel Stewart, Lee Serisier, Barry Tate, Les & Dot Warburton. If I have forgotten anyone, I apologise.

We held two or three meetings at this venue before moving to the old Town Band Hall in William Street. We stayed there for quite some time before moving to Gryliss' Cafe next to the Strand Theatre in Summer Street.

The Foundation Office bearers were:-

President: - Les Warburton,

Secretary: - Geoff Hennessey,

Treasurer: - Veronica Cameron.

At the inaugural meeting a name for the club was settled on. I remember well that Col. Davidson moved that the club's name be the Coin & Stamp Club (not the Stamp & Coin Club). This was carried.

I can remember that at one early stage we boasted a membership of 94.

Such was the enthusiasm that we held our meeting fortnightly & held auctions which drew people from Sydney, Dubbo, Narromine, Bathurst and other district towns.

At one of these auctions I recall bidding \$300.00 for a 1930 penny, but, as the reserve was \$350.00, I missed out. Three hundred dollars then would be the equivalent of about \$2 000.00 now. This coin currently sells for in excess of \$6 000.00.

Well after the decimal coinage change-over of February 1966, interest dropped off quite dramatically. It was mainly due to the efforts of Phil. Nichols, as Secretary, that we survived a quiet period. After a while, Col. Davidson took over as President, and guided the Club to its present stage.”

Les Warburton

**Orange Coin & Stamp Club Inc
Welcomes you to their**

COIN & STAMP EXPO 2014

Saturday 12th April 2014

9am to 5pm

& Sunday 13th April 2014

9am to 4pm

In the **Kenna Hall,**

90 Hill St, Orange

(Just off Byng St, behind St Joseph's Catholic Church & part of Catherine McAuley School)

**Interstate & NSW dealers in attendance, offering
a wide range of Australian & World stamps, coins
& accessories, and buying**

Stamp & coin displays

Valuations

Admission is \$2, accompanied children free

For further information contact Derek on (02) 63614872, or Howard on (02) 6362 2368



Illawarra Numismatic Association

ABN 84 910 066 010

P.O. Box 468

The Illawarra Numismatic Association is pleased to announce the production of a medal to commemorate the Bicentenary of the Holy Dollar. This is the third medal that the INA has produced marking another milestone in history.



The Holy Dollar medal has been struck on bronze with an Antique Silver finish, the dimensions are 38mm in diameter by 3mm thick and weighing 30 grams

The cost of the Medal is priced at \$15.00 each plus postage within Australia at \$2.50 or \$6.00 Registered. Payment can be made by Cheque, Cash or Direct Deposit, - Illawarra Numismatic Association. BSB 814-282 Account No. 10780946 (Please use your Surname as the payment reference).

Enquiries regarding this Medal can be directed to the ..

Illawarra Numismatic Association
P.O. Box 468
Fairy Meadow NSW 2519

or email

johnv1691@gmail.com

alternately, you can call John Veltmeyer on 0418 230 653

Medal Order Form

Email orders to

johnv1691@gmail.com

Phone Orders are accepted,
call John Veltmeyer on 0418 230 653

Send this completed Order Form to ..

Illawarra Numismatic Association
P.O. Box 468
Fairy Meadow NSW 2519

Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____

State: _____ Postcode: _____

The Holy Dollar medal	Qty. required _____	Price per Medal	\$15.00	\$
	Packing and Postage (1 or 2 Medals) regular mail within Aust.		\$2.50	.
		Registered Mail	\$6.00	\$
		Total		\$

MINT UNCIRCULATED

Things that come out with a clear up

In the last week of 2013 I started/continued with a tidy up of my home 'office' and inevitably found items I had not seen for many years. Among the items found is a brochure on an institute for numismatic studies in India, essentially to study Indian coins. The brochure was printed about 20+ years ago and one numismatist at the time remarked that a third world country was doing something that put a first world country like us to shame. One could argue that India has a much longer and varied numismatic history than Australia but another brochure uncovered in the same clean-up reminded me of a more recent numismatic institute in Australia, the 'Australian Centre for Ancient Numismatic Studies', based at Macquarie University. To the best of my knowledge it is still the only centre for numismatic research with an academic basis anywhere in Australia. All other Australasian research is still very much the province of amateurs.

Who uses stamps?

Reviewing my mail over the past year reveals that most of my mail with stamps is associated with Christmas cards. Other mail with stamps comes from some smaller scientific societies to which I belong and on small packages from coin dealers. The latter are commonly half covered with old but still valid issues, presumably bought at some discount from disappointed philatelic speculators. All other mail is in prepaid envelopes and often arrives without even postmarks.

Storing a collection

Storing a coin collection is a matter of individual preference but how I store mine may be of comparative interest. My earliest collection, back in my school days, was stored loose in a jar or small box. This was not good for coins acquired in EF or better, although few items I could afford in those days were much better than VG. Dansco albums did not appear until about the time I finished school and were comparatively expensive, not to mention utterly unsuited for hammered coins which is the case with all ancient coins. I soon started keeping notes on my collection and started storing the coins in plywood trays which I made myself with a 'biscuit cutter' saw attached to a power drill. This allowed coins to be displayed but was inconvenient for storage of an increasing number of coins. By the time my collection amounted to a few hundred items I switched to my current system of storing coins in individual 50mm x 50mm paper envelopes. This enabled me to write a description of the coin on the envelope as well as details of when and where the coin was acquired, usually from a dealer by purchase but sometimes by swapping. The only problem I have with this system is that it cannot cope with coins over 50mm in diameter, although I doubt that more one or two items in my collection exceed that size.

The information on the envelope includes details of the weight and for hammered issues the inscription also. There is sufficient space to include details of previous owners. This is not an issue for me but coins from famous collectors seem to attract a premium in many auctions. The paper is also acid free, the downside being that I have to order the things from overseas suppliers. The envelope size fits nicely into some airtight sealed food containers which keep the coins safe from moisture. Small packs of silica gel, a drying agent commonly packed with electronic equipment, I keep to pack with my coins for added security in drying. Another advantage of these plastic containers is that they are easily stored in safe deposit boxes. As an added record of what might be stored in a distant vault I keep a record of everything in my collection in an XCEL file.

Lawrence Sherwin

From the Australian Stamp Monthly for January 1933, price 6d: -

Air Mail Notes.

(By "Flight.")

Reorganisation of Australian Air Mail Services.

For some time an Inter-Departmental Committee has been considering the whole question of Australian air mail services, with a view to recommending possible improvements, particularly in regard to the early establishment of a service to Singapore to connect with the proposed extension of the Imperial Airways service from London.

Its report was completed early in December, and, with slight modification, was adopted by Cabinet for inauguration.

Briefly, the services, for which tenders will be called immediately, are as follows:—

1. Darwin to Singapore.
2. Darwin-Katherine (N.T.)-Derby-Perth.
3. Darwin - Katherine - Cloncurry - Charleville - Dubbo-Cootamundra.
4. Normanton-Cloncurry.
5. Charleville-Brisbane.
6. Melbourne-Hobart.
7. Ord River-Wyndham.

The mails for Brisbane will be distributed from Charleville. Those for Sydney from Dubbo, and those for Melbourne, Adelaide and Hobart, from Cootamundra.

Mails for Western Australia will be distributed by the Derby service. A time-table has been proposed, and is given below.

It is hoped that the first official flight to usher in the new air era will be made in about 12 months' time.

A high official of the Air Force or the Civil Aviation Department will go to Singapore by steamer in a few weeks with a view to joining a British airman who is about to leave England on a flight to Australia.

On the flight from Singapore the air official will make a detailed report on landing grounds and the route generally for guidance of tenderers.

A feature of the scheme will be the use of wireless direction finders, and special investigations

have already been set in train to ascertain the points at which transmitting stations should be installed. This equipment will make night flying possible as a regular part of the service, and will practically eliminate all risk on the hitherto dangerous Timor Sea section of the route.

The proposals have been very favorably received, and are regarded as ushering in a new period of development. Great things are looked for from the new service, which will not only provide a permanent and regular link with the Mother Country, but will greatly speed up and improve existing air services within Australia.

"For example, it now takes practically a week for a letter in Melbourne to reach Darwin, as it has to go by rail to Brisbane.

"When the new plan is operating it will go direct to Darwin by air in two or at the most three days.

One of the conditions of the tenders already decided upon is that the contractors must provide their own machines. The Government has no intention of purchasing machines and equipment, as it did in establishing the National Broadcasting Service.

Wide latitude will be allowed the tenderers in submitting their proposals to the Government.

There would be no stipulation as to the type of machines to be used or where they were to be made. The terms were being left very open so that the Government would have the best opportunity of selecting the most suitable service.

No minimum period within which flights were to be made would be fixed, nor would the terms specify for the provision of passenger accommodation as the Government's primary requirements was a mail service.

If the contractors care to carry passengers and can do so without impairing the efficiency of the air mail service, so much the better. The tenderer who submits the offer generally most attractive and suitable to the requirements of the Department will be awarded the contract."

Special Offer Of Covers Out of My International Correspondance !

Lot ALPHA—100 covers from many different countries, fine values for net only	£0 10 0
Lot BETA—100 different covers of Overseas, some registered, etc. Very fine values for net only	£1 0 0
Lot GAMMA—100 different covers of Europe, mostly new issues and rare copies, for net only	£1 0 0
Lot ZETA—100 covers, nearly all registered, with high values, airmail, tele-boche, etc., for net only	£1 15 0

FREE with every Order, a fine used copy of the HALF-CROWN King George.

GENERAL COLLECTION.

Think of the time it will take to build up a collection of 10,000, all different, and you pay for 10 stamps ready mounted only as much as the time cost you to classify the stamps not sorted in your albums. My price for such a collection of guaranteed 10,000, all different, in finest condition is only £16.

ASK at the same time for my special approval books which are my speciality. FREE Postage with the NEW, wonderful issue of PRO JUVENTUTE of Switzerland.

Please mail your order to-day and be sure that it will find all my personal attention.

CHARLES SEKULA, Lucerne, Switzerland

January 1, 1933

THE AUSTRALIAN STAMP MONTHLY

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Time-Table for New Service.

Details of the proposed time-tables and estimates of costs for the Australian-England air mail service are set out in additional sections of the Inter-departmental Air Committee's report.

The Committee points out that the services would be truly international in character, and afford facilities for accelerated postal transport to a far greater number of countries than any other air mail service yet established.

"Actually every country in Europe, Africa, Asia and Australasia could utilise the service with some advantage," states the report.

The time-table for the main Australian section of the service proposed is:—

Inwards.

- Darwin, 170 miles. Depart Friday after arrival of overseas mail plane.
- Katherine, 113 miles. Arrive Friday, dropping mail for Western Australia. Depart Friday.
- Birdum, 631 miles. Arrive Friday. Depart Saturday.
- Mt. Isa, 429 miles. Arrive Saturday. Depart Sunday.
- Longreach, 271 miles. Arrive Sunday. Depart Sunday.
- Charleville, 478 miles. Arrive Sunday. Depart Monday.
- Dubbo, 175 miles. Arrive Monday. Depart Monday, with ample margin to connect with train departing for Sydney.
- Cootamundra. Arrived Monday with ample margin to connect with express departing for Melbourne.

Outwards.

- Cootamundra (653 miles).—Depart Monday after arrival of express train from Melbourne to Sydney.
- Charleville (271 miles).—Arrive Sunday. Depart Sunday—picks up mail from Brisbane.
- Longreach (429 miles).—Arrive Monday. Depart Monday.
- Mt. Isa (308 miles).—Arrive Monday. Depart Monday.
- Brunette (323 miles).—Arrive Monday. Depart Tuesday.
- Birdum (113 miles).—Arrive Tuesday. Depart Tuesday.
- Katherine (170 miles).—Arrive Tuesday. Depart Tuesday—picks up Western Australian mail.
- Darwin.—Arrive Tuesday. Mails transferred to overseas service.

Annual Mileage 871,000.

Under the new services proposed by the Committee there would be an annual route mileage of 871,000 miles at an estimated net subsidy cost of 1/11 a mile compared with 551,216 miles covered by existing services at a net subsidy cost of 2/11 a mile.

The present subsidy payments amount to £93,381 a year, and the Committee estimates that the new services proposed will cost approximately the same amount.

	Frequency in each direction.	Route mileage.	Annual mileage.
Eastern Trunk Services . . .	Weekly	2,267	235,758
Western Trunk Services . . .	Weekly	2,300	239,200
Charleville-Roma.—Weekly,		160	16,640.
Clonerry-Normanton.—Weekly,		215	22,360.
Ord River-Wyndham.—Weekly,		158	16,432.
Tasmanian Service.—Twice weekly,		475	98,800.
Total Internal Service.—		5,575	629,200.

Air Mail Fees.

The Committee recommends that an air mail fee of 1/6, including postage, should be fixed for correspondence from Australia to the United Kingdom and Irish Free State, and that the fees for correspondence for other countries should be on the following scale:—

- Countries in Europe other than the United Kingdom and the Irish Free State, 1/7 a 3 oz.
- Countries in Northern Africa and West Asia, 1/7 a 3 oz.
- India and Ceylon, 1/- a 3 oz.
- Federated Malay States and Burma, 1/- a 3 oz.
- Far Eastern countries, via Singapore, 10d. a 3 oz.
- Singapore and British Possessions in the Far East, via Singapore, 9d. a 3 oz.
- Netherlands, India, 9d. a 3 oz.

The Committee expresses the belief that the extra traffic which might be secured if a lower scale of fees were fixed would not nearly equal the revenue likely to be derived if the above scale were adopted.

The bulk of the traffic would come from business interests, and it is not anticipated that such traffic would be influenced appreciably by any lower charge that might be practicable.

The average weekly load from Australia to London in the first year of the service is estimated at 191 lbs., and from London to Australia at 201 lbs. In the sixth year it is estimated that these figures will have grown to 415 lbs. and 435 lbs. approximately.

Bertram Mails.

Mails have been carried unofficially by Capt. Hans Bertram in his Junkers Monoplane "Atlantis" during his stay in Australia. Practically without exception, all these were autographed, and show in addition a black cachet inscribed "BERTRAM ATLANTIS EXPEDITION," and a propeller. Although no exact records have been kept, it is known that the following flights have been covered. In all cases, letters were posted on arrival at destination:—Wyndham-Perth, Melbourne-Sydney, Sydney-Brisbane, Brisbane-Sydney, Sydney-Melbourne, Melbourne-Alice Springs, Melbourne-Darwin.

In some cases, very few covers were carried, the scarcest being to Alice Springs (4 covers). In all, about 80 Australian covers exist.

On the flight from Australia to England, a small parcel of 27 covers was taken. These were postmarked by favor at Darwin before leaving there, and were posted, with British stamps, on arrival in London. Such covers, which have the cachet and autographs of both Bertram and Allan, the co-pilots, will prove most desirable items.

On both the flights from and to Germany, a

small number of covers was carried by Bertram. These were stamped at each stopping place en route, and duly postmarked. Although by no means official, these are very interesting, particularly that to Australia, which bears a special cachet setting forth details of the loss of the expedition for 53 days in the North-West. We understand that a dozen of these covers have been reserved for Australian collectors.

Papuan Air Mail Flights.

(Contributed by E. C. Harris, Chief Postmaster, Port Moresby.)

Questions have been frequently asked concerning the Air Mail service from Port Moresby to the New Guinea Goldfields, and as the subject appears to be one of interest to philatelists, it would perhaps be useful if I recount a short history of the service from its inception for the benefit of your readers, should you care to publish it.

In 1928, soon after the introduction of aeroplanes to carry cargo and passengers between SALAMAUA, the seaport nearest to the goldfields of New Guinea, and WAU and BULOLO, the air ports on the fields, two planes, one a "Bristol Fighter," and the other a de Havilland 9, owned by Bulolo Goldfields Aeroplane Services Ltd., and in charge of Pilots C. D. Pratt and Ray Parer, were landed at Port Moresby, and after trials, were flown to LAE, the airport near SALAMAUA, which is about 180 miles by air from Port Moresby, on January 12, 1928.

Those two planes were the first to fly across. There is no record of a mail being made up at the Port Moresby Post Office for despatch by either plane, but it is quite likely loose letters were carried by the courtesy of a pilot.

The next flight was made by "L'Oiseau de Troïcane" piloted by Captain P. H. Moody, who had just relinquished his position of Chief Pilot of "Qantas" to take over the management of Gold Air Transport Ltd., engaged in the Goldfields service. Captain Moody took off on March 10, 1928, and carried a mail from the Port Moresby Post Office. No special Air Mail postage fee was charged in addition to ordinary postage.

No further mails were despatched until Ray Parer, who had flown from SALAMAUA in the D.H. 9, returned there on October 24, 1928. Parer made another trip with mail on December 4, 1928.

An interval elapsed until Parer, who was now with the newly-formed "Morlae Airline Service" took off with a mail on April 15, 1929. From then until the end of 1929, Parer and others made fourteen (14) flights with mail to SALAMAUA.

There followed a slackening off in 1930, when only three (3) mail flights were undertaken, but

the service revived in 1931 with twenty-four (24) flights with mail by planes of various owners.

Guinea Airways Ltd. inaugurated a regular service to meet the three-weekly steamers arriving at Port Moresby from March, 1932. This company's planes, as well as planes of other owners, provided mail facilities on thirteen (13) occasions, until the end of September, 1932.

All the foregoing mails were carried gratis by plane owners, and the public was not called upon to pay an airmail fee.

On September 30, 1932, Guinea Airways Ltd. performed the first service to SALAMAUA under a contract entered into with the Papua Government, by which it receives a proportion of the Air Mail postage charged, which was fixed in the case of first-class mail matter at 3d. per half ounce in addition to ordinary postage. The contract provides for the transport only of mail matter originating in Papua, i.e., bearing Papuan postage stamps. Provision was made, however, for the despatch of mails by any plane leaving Port Moresby, and already several mails have been despatched by other-owned planes, and payment made at the same rate as paid to Guinea Airways Ltd.

Summed up, it will thus be seen that the "First Flight" was performed on March 16, 1928, insofar as it affects the carriage of mail, but that this mail and all succeeding mails until September 30, 1932, were carried gratis by the pilot, and no Air Mail fee was charged to the public. The mail of September 30, 1932, was the "First Flight" for which the public was asked to pay an airmail fee in addition to ordinary postage, and for which the carrier was paid for his service.

Soon it is expected that the P.M.G. of the Commonwealth will make arrangements to use these plane services for the transport of Australian mails to the goldfields via Port Moresby, which can be delivered at SALAMAUA in about two hours, and about an hour or two more at WAU or BULOLO, as against a week or more by sea according to the route taken by the mail steamer.